

leschinews

December 2016 Issue No. 337



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

Leschi's Holiday Party

Join us for an evening of classical music by talented Garfield students! No boring speeches, no "death by power point," just beautiful music! With refreshments to follow.

See page 4 for more information.

December 7 at 7:30pm

CENTRAL AREA SENIOR CENTER, 500 30TH AVE. S



inside the news

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President's Message

HAPPY HOLIDAYS EVERYONE!

I would like to announce that we have our nonprofit status back. The IRS has reinstated the status back to when it was revoked. We have a lot of work to accomplish in the community, so I am encouraging everyone to please donate. One of those many items is figuring out how we can help Leschi Elementary with their growing homeless student population.

The Halloween Spooktacular went great. It was great to see the community come out for this event. Pictures will be posted on Facebook shortly. I would like to thank all the volunteers for their help. We need to give a huge thanks to a couple of people. Dr. Michael Bilikas from 32 Pearls for the use of his tent and Blu Water Bistro for bringing over hot cider for all the volunteers and families that came by.

I have been a little behind with finalizing the website. I am hoping in the next couple of weeks to have it up for everyone's use. The online archives will have back issues from September 2014. We are setting up a service with Mail Chimp. With this service, we will be able to send out updates to you very quickly. I am encouraging everyone to please send in his or her name and e-mail address.

I have some very important news to talk about next. It has been a great pleasure and honor to serve as your president, as well as a very good learning experience. This Council provides a great service to our community. Unfortunately, I will be resigning my position as president effective December 1, 2016, due to professional and personal obligations. I will continue to serve as Vice President and attend meetings as my schedule allows. I will see that the website continues to be updated.

Thank you all for the support you've provided me these past few months. I hope you can attend our Holiday party on Dec. 7 where I will introduce our new President, Yuki Igarashi. Continue to send in your concerns via the Leschi

News and we will work together to make Leschi an even more livable community!



Like us on Facebook: **LESCHI**
and visit our website: **leschinews.com**

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You too can be an Hidden Hero!

Last month we featured several hidden heroes: Katie Wilson, who works tirelessly on our transit issues and the trio of Dexter Mitchell, Paul Gray and assistant Eric who collaborated to give haircuts to kids at Leschi School just before picture day. I know we don't often meet one of these natural "helping" opportunities, but there are so many needs in the community that we all can give what we can to help meet these needs.

We recently learned that there are 70 students at Leschi School who are either homeless or in transitional housing. This is more than double the number from last year. Here's how you can help: Every December, Leschi Elementary offers a giving garland for our families in need. We invite community members to come to the school to pick up a gift tag. This year we are helping over 30 families. Kids are asking for clothes, games, toys and bedding. We also provide Target, Safeway and Grocery Outlet gift cards to all the families. (Thanks to Leschi resident and PTA member, Katie Busby.)

Leschi Market offers a great price on 4 pound hams for the food bank: \$8. Protein with little waste. And the Market takes the hams to the food bank for you! Quick and easy!

If green space is your passion, you may want to donate to the Leschi Natural Area. We were unable to take any donations while our non-profit status was under review, but we are now reinstated by the IRS back to the suspension date. So no interruption; if you made a donation during the last year, it is tax deductible. Checks can be sent to Leschi CC with the Natural Area in the memo line.

The Central Area Senior Center serves many low-income seniors who participate in the noon meals and avail themselves of the health services. The Director Dian Ferguson is familiar with the needs and a holiday donation would help purchase a needed item for a low-income senior.

We know homelessness is a critical issue here and we know that folks are living in our parks...just not openly.

Living outside in this wet climate is not healthy and it looks as though we will have a colder winter. One of my favorite organizations is the Low Income Housing Institute that built the Ernestine Anderson Place on Jackson and the new 68 unit workforce facility (Abbey Lincoln Court) just to the east of it. LIHI coordinated building the tiny houses with other groups: very small, but off the ground and each house has a door that locks. You can see a small settlement of these structures on 20th off Union beyond the Lutheran Church. They are fast and cheap to build (\$2200 each) and a good transitional solution when we are looking at the large numbers needing help. LIHI has three Urban Rest Stops where homeless individuals may shower and wash their clothes. You may donate to any of LIHI'S projects at their website.

Just Google Low Income Housing Institute and select the Donate button.

Take the first tiny step toward becoming a hidden hero and help meet someone's needs!

-Diane Snell



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LESCHI CC HOLIDAY PARTY

For the past few years, we have moved away from our long traditional potluck party to a musical gathering. We treat residents to a concert performed by Garfield Symphony students and offer post-concert refreshments (wine and munchies) while you meet and greet your council members and neighbors. No need for you to make a dish to feed eight folks; just come and enjoy!

Our performers this year are The Garfield Cello Quartet! The group is comprised of Ryan Friesz, Savannah Helming, Sho Kiami and Carmelita Ro-Mendez, all whom are freshman at Garfield High School. Savannah, Ryan and Sho all previously studied cello privately with Suzuki cello teacher Barbara Balatero, and currently study with Rajan Krishnaswami. They have all participated in the Seattle Young Artist Music Festival each year since 2013. Sho was a runner up in the Junior Concerto competition in 2016. They joined talents at Garfield in 2016 to form the first ever Garfield cello quartet.

HOLIDAY PARTY "FUN...RAISER"

A black tie catered dinner will be held on December 3 at 6pm at the Central Area Senior Center. Entrée choices are ham, chicken or vegetarian. Cost is \$40 per person or one can reserve a table of eight for \$700. CT Thompson and band provide the entertainment; if you haven't heard CT before, you are in for a surprise! There will be a 50/50 raffle and a raffle with prizes. And there will be an "ask" for resurfacing the parking lot. If you don't have a black tie, don't despair! Your usual Northwest gear will be acceptable; we are not known as black tie folks here. Call 206 726-4926 to reserve.

A LESCHI PASSAGE

We are saddened to report the loss of a Leschi resident this year whose loss is felt far beyond Leschi: Charles Z. Smith. A graduate of the University of Washington Law School, the Judge achieved many "firsts" in his career. He was the first African-American lawyer to clerk at the Washington Supreme Court, as well as the first to be appointed to the King County Prosecutor's Office. He was chosen by Robert F. Kennedy to serve as a special prosecutor investigating the abuses at the Teamsters' Pension Fund.

Upon his return to Washington State, he was appointed the first African-American municipal court judge in Seattle, and later became the first to be appointed to the King County Supreme Court. In 1988, Gov. Booth Gardner appointed him to another first: the first African-American Washington Supreme Court judge. He remained there until his retirement at the age of 75, the mandatory retirement age for Supreme Court judges in this state.

All who worked with Judge Smith noted his passion for civil rights; his family noted that his life was based on three principles: truth, justice and freedom.

I read a tribute to Judge Smith by a person of Japanese descent; the Judge had worked long and hard for reparations for the Japanese-Americans who were relocated to detention camps during WW II. The writer recounted an incident when

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Judge Charles Z. Smith

Henry Miyatake, asked Judge Smith “Could this happen again?” The Judge explained that “The President has unlimited authority to issue an Executive Order to do anything.” He noted the steps a President would have to take but basically, it can happen again. Should it happen again? No. He then quoted Thomas Jefferson; “Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.” We must stay involved, we must question, we must ask for commitments. These wise words are even more important in today’s political climate.

-Diane Snell

VULCAN’S PLANS FOR PROMENADE 23

The Leschi Community Council invited Vulcan representatives Pearl Leung and Pete Aperico to attend our November meeting. We learned a few days before the meeting that the Red Apple would not be leaving until the fall of 2017. Vulcan has not yet obtained all their permits and cannot begin construction until that is accomplished.

This delay brings us more time to make an alternative plan for non-driving residents to obtain fresh foods during the 2-year construction period when no grocery store will be on the site.

Development will start on the south side of Jackson, the space where Red Apple is currently. Although Vulcan also purchased the Promenade site on the north side of Jackson, these stores have longer leases and will stay put for the near term.

Vulcan will be putting some non-profit groups into the empty spaces by Red Apple during this construction delay.

They are working with Hewitt for landscape design and Runberg for architectural design. They do plan a grocery presence on the site, which is designed to be larger than the current Red Apple. They do NOT have arrangements with a grocery business yet. The goal is to work with a grocery business that will cater to local tastes as Red Apple does now.

There will be four floors of underground parking, the lower two for residents and the upper two for retail. Access to

parking will be on S Jackson. There will be about 580 units of residences above the store; 114 will be available under the MFTE (Multi-family tax exemption) plan and will rent for 65 to 80 % of the average median income in King County.

Pearl asked folks to email her with suggestions for accommodating non-driving folks during the construction and start-up period. She will be sending out a survey, which should help Vulcan understand the community needs. We will see that the survey is available at Red Apple and the Senior Center when it is complete.

-Diane Snell

IT CAN HAPPEN HERE

We received a report from a concerned Leschi resident that a hate sign had appeared on a utility box in usually peaceful Leschi.

It was not clear who owned the property and we contacted Leavitt and the marina managers. It was determined that the box was on city property and the city was alerted.

We urge everyone to report graffiti when they see it and if you are uncertain of ownership, just send an email to Leschi News (leschinews@comcast.net) or call 206-726-023 and we will track it down.

-Diane Snell



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LESCHI SCHOOL UPDATE

The staff at Leschi Elementary is committed to their students. Just after the election, this letter was sent home, signed by every staff member.

To Our Dear Leschi Community,

In the aftermath of this very close and highly contentious election, the Leschi Elementary staff wants to reaffirm our commitment to creating and nurturing an inclusive, diverse and welcoming community for every student and family. We love and honor all of our students and families, and feel blessed to have you in our community. We support our Muslim families, our Latino families, our African American families, our GBLTQ families and any group that has been marginalized during this election and throughout our nation's history. We are committed to being strong on behalf of all of us and will continue to support, honor and love you in every way that we can. We stand in support of each and every Leschi student and family. We MUST show our students a path that fully embraces all individuals, and we are determined to do so at Leschi Elementary.

*With love,
The Leschi Staff*

~Submitted by Katie Busby

WHAT TYPE OF WEATHER WILL WE SEE THIS WINTER?

Over the past two winters, warmer-than-average sea-surface temperatures in both the Northeast and Tropical Pacific have had a large impact on our weather. During the snow-starved winter of 2014-2015, we had a massive "Blob" of warm, nutrient-poor water in the Northeast Pacific, giving us much warmer-than-average temperatures and wreaking havoc on a variety of marine life. Then came the "Godzilla" El Nino of 2015-2016, vanquishing Mr. Blob and giving the Pacific Northwest one of its wettest winters on record. El Nino dramatically weakened once we sprung into April, and La Nina, El's little sister, started to make her presence known in the Tropical Pacific.

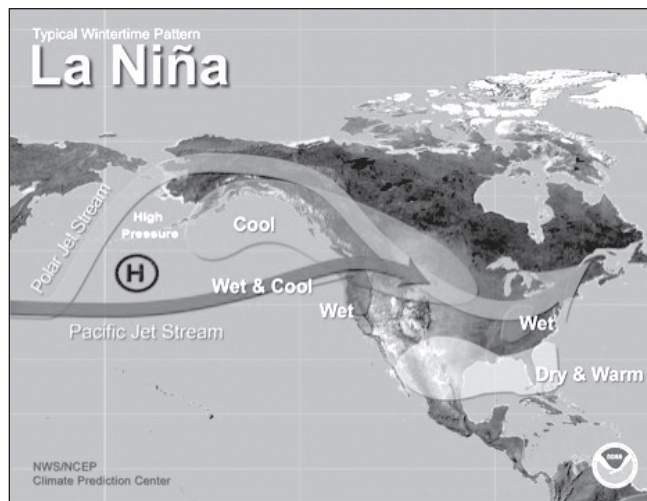
However, as the summer months rolled on, our burgeoning La Nina began to stumble, and for a while, it appeared as though neither El Nino nor La Nina would lay claim to the Tropical Pacific for the coming winter. All the while, the dreaded Blob began to grow once again in the Northeast Pacific with the help of a strong and resilient ridge of high pressure. But one of the stormiest Octobers in recent memory helped smite the Blob, and La Nina has regained her footing over the past month.

Given that we have a dead Blob and a weak La Nina in store for the winter of 2016-2017, what can we expect with regards to our weather?

During La Ninas, we often see a ridge of high pressure develop on the North Pacific. This bumps the jet stream northward into higher latitudes. The jet then sinks down from the NW into the Pacific Northwest, bringing us cooler-than-average temperatures with above-average rainfall.

On occasion, the ridge weakens and the jet stream comes straight across the Pacific into the Pacific Northwest, giving us milder and even wetter conditions.

Elsewhere around the nation, La Ninas tend to bring above-average rainfall to the central/southern Great Plains, the Lower Mississippi



Valley and the Ohio Valley while bringing below-average rainfall to the Gulf Coast, Atlantic Seaboard and Southern California. They also tend to bring cooler weather just about everywhere due to more frequent outbreaks of cold, arctic air from Canada. Additionally, these arctic outbreaks often occur a tad further west than usual, meaning that Montana and North Dakota are hit with the brunt of cold air rather than the Upper Midwest.

Strong La Ninas tend to bring well above-average snowfall to the mountains, but weak La Ninas generally bring closer-to-average snowfall amounts. With residual warmth from last winter's El Nino still in the atmosphere, it seems like we could expect a near-average snow year for the mountains. However, the moderate-strong La Nina winter of 1998-1999 following the massive El Nino of 1997-1998 brought record snowfall to North Cascades, with Mt. Baker ski resort notching 95 feet of snow for the season. Such a result doesn't appear likely

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Kristine Losh
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this winter due to our La Nina being weaker, but I would be happy to be proven wrong!

I'm not going to make any specific projections about snowfall for the lowlands, but our lowland snow chances look better than the past two years due to the dissolution of the Blob and our most recent El Nino. Fingers crossed!

- 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 forecasting wind energy along the Columbia River Gorge. Check out his weather website at weathertogether.us.

THE PEARLS PROJECT

Readers may remember that we decided in August to halt our stairway project and give some help to the tiny handful of folks who struggle to maintain the String of Pearls, the mini-shoreline parks at the street ends along Lake Washington. October's work party was a repeat of September; we were back at Judkins street end completing what we started in September.

We had been dreading this particular work party as the long range forecast had predicted rain all week, weekend and more. The sun shone brilliantly that morning and lifted our spirits as we tackled the obnoxious bindweed...much easier to pull after a week of rain. We clipped the dead branches off the flowering red currant bush, a native plant that attracts hummingbirds.

We discussed the pros and cons of Prop I, the Sound Transit 25 year levy, and we told political jokes. These are not just work parties; there is much to be gained from neighborly conversations. Joyce Moty, our leader, gave us some fresh marionberries for a midway pick-up and Ken Kamm took the final photo with folks behind the brush pile.



Photo courtesy Ken Kamm. From left to right: Diane Morris, Jeff Floor, Janet Oliver, Joyce Moty, Ken Kamm and Jim Snell. (The other Diane was hiding out in the car composing this article).

We moved to the Dearborn street end for November with a much smaller work party, but a huge effort resulted in another giant pile of brush, mostly the dreaded blackberry. We are not planning a work party for December, but check the January issue for another chance to "polish a pearl"!

-Diane Snell

LESCHI NATURAL AREA UPDATE

The Friends of Leschi Natural Area (LNA) continue to hold 1st Saturday of the month work parties with volunteers from the UW International Club, neighborhood 'drop-ins', and a large group of volunteers from Zillow during United Way of King County's Day of Caring on Friday, September 23rd. Zillow volunteers helped move 10 cubic yards of mulch to the lower trail, then spread it throughout the area. This is a very difficult process to perform with smaller work groups and we are always grateful for two or three of these groups coming throughout the year to help us with it.

At our September work party, friends of Mike Keating who passed away recently joined us. They worked as hard as Mike did during that work party and we ended up moving and raking in 5 cubic yards of mulch throughout the upper area before 11:00am - a record setting time for us! Mike was a great friend of the park and joined us regularly to 'play in the dirt' and enjoy Bunny Wood's lunches. As a friend of his said, "...it was a special place and monthly opportunity to see you that kept Mike coming back. He loved the lunches!" Mike's friends and neighbors have asked to plant trilliums in his honor at the park and will be doing so in the near future. Mike was a great friend of LNA and will be deeply missed.

Rich Appleton has ordered 225 plants to be delivered and planted in our active restoration areas adjacent to the upper and lower trail areas. Plants will be delivered in late October/early November and need to be put in the ground during our November work party in order to become established over the winter. Our work party signs will be posted to notify every one of the date. Lots of volunteers will be needed to help get everything planted in time!

Steering committee members met with Seattle Parks, EarthCorps and Forterra representatives in late August to



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discuss some major upcoming projects in the LNA. These include: Toolbox installation (completed); major new plantings in late Fall of this year in the area where the residence was located (this work began in late October and will continue until completed); major work by EarthCorps in Spring/Summer of 2017 on the steep slope areas known as the 'east terrace bowl' and 'west facing slope'.

In order to accomplish the EarthCorps project we are continuing our fundraising efforts to be able to hire them for 5 - 7 days of continuous work. They charge \$1250.00/day so we are looking at a substantial sum needing to be raised in order to have them for the full week. (As a reminder from the Parks Department, volunteers are not permitted to work on slopes greater than 40%. This is for the safety of the volunteers, and also because of the erosion issues that often come with work on steep slopes. Professional crews are required to install erosion control when working on steep slopes that are prone to slides and don't have good canopy cover. This work can only be done between April and October each year and they need to be scheduled in advance.) Donations are tax deductible and checks should be made payable to the Leschi Community Council with a note that the funds are for use in the LNA. Donations may be sent to the Leschi Community Council, 140 Lakeside Ave, Suite A, #2, Seattle WA 98122.

We have had another very good year at the Leschi Natural Area with both individuals and groups volunteering and continuing to work hard to maintain this special place. We hope to see more of you joining us during the coming year whether it's as a volunteer at one or more of our work parties or contributing a donation to help us hire EarthCorps. It all helps make the Leschi Natural Area an even greater space!

-Betsy Zickler, Steering Committee Member

DR. MIKE'S DENTAL TIPS

Good oral hygiene for children should begin even before the first tooth erupts. This surprises many parents but for your new baby, it is essential to oral health. Within a few days of birth, you should begin to gently wipe your baby's gums with wet gauze or a soft washcloth twice a day. By the time the first tooth comes in (at around 6 months of age), your baby will be used to oral care.

That first little tooth is as vulnerable to tooth decay as your own are, but cavities are preventable with the right attention. Using a soft toothbrush, gently brush all the surfaces of the tooth twice a day. Use only a smear (about the size of a grain of rice) of fluoride toothpaste until the child is old enough to spit. Then graduate to an amount the size of a pea. Fluoride toothpaste should not be swallowed.

As soon as two teeth touch, flossing should begin. It may be easier to use a floss holder to facilitate cleaning between teeth. Flossing twice daily after brushing is an essential part of oral hygiene and if started early will become second nature to your child.

Watch between meal snacks. Opt for fruit or vegetables and avoid starchy foods that tend to leave sugar in the mouth. A child who eats often throughout the day may not have enough time for saliva to wash away the acid that food leaves on the teeth, so encourage your child to drink water after snacks.

Never let your baby go to sleep with a bottle of anything but water. Don't nurse your baby to sleep, either, because breast milk also contains sugar and can cause damage to baby teeth. This is especially true of juice drinks.

Once your child is able to brush alone, at around 6-8 years of age, you should still watch to be sure that the job is being done properly. Until then, allow your child to brush but follow up by brushing his or her teeth yourself.

Regular dental appointments for checkups and cleanings should begin by the time your child reaches his or her first birthday. A child's dentist should be one who understands the special needs for treating children. You are the child's best chance for good oral health, so be sure you are practicing what you preach and taking good care of your own teeth. Brushing and flossing can be a happy, bonding time. Enjoy the time together and know that you are contributing to your child's healthy habits.

*Dr. Michael Bilikas, DDS
32 Pearls*

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CULTURE CORNER

“ARTISTS ENGAGE THE WORLD”

As we think about a way forward after the election, I want to introduce some artists who are already making a difference. They have committed their art practice to exposing issues that are kept invisible.

Now that so many core beliefs and accepted social practices may be systematically undone by the new administration, support for artists who engage issues with compassion and intelligence is more important than ever.

Part I

An exhibition that I co-curated with anthropologist Mark Auslander titled “Liberty Denied: Immigration, Detention and Deportation” is at the Museum of Culture and Environment at Central Washington University (until December 10; Wed to Fri 11-4 and Sat 10-3). It features fourteen artists who address the almost invisible detention and deportation system.

Currently, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) identify undocumented immigrants, often as a result of a minor traffic violation or racial profiling, and then put them in detention. Over 30,000 immigrants are detained at a time in 200 detention centers nationwide. With over 1500 beds, the Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, run by the for-profit GEO Corporation under a contract with ICE, is one of the largest in the country. The detainees live in inhumane and illegal conditions with no privacy, poor health care and terrible food. They are forced to do the work of the center for one dollar a day.

Since lack of documentation is a civil offense, detainees have none of the rights provided by our criminal justice system. Deportees are taken to buses often in the middle of the night and returned to countries in which they have often never lived or left many years ago, leaving behind families in the US.

The artists in this exhibition explore some of these experiences starting with socio-economic and political forces that lead to migration, such as US government free trade agreements that bankrupt farmers, and globalized companies that steal land from indigenous people. Some address the terrifying border crossing. Eroyn Flynn details life inside a detention center in her fold out book. Others speak directly of the suffering of families.

In contrast, Blanca Santander’s beautiful painting “Daughters of Immigration” celebrates the strength of women who survive immigration.

Three works were originally commissioned by the Wing Luke Museum of the Asian-Pacific Experience in Seattle when the old Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) building in Seattle was vacated for the draconian facility in Tacoma. Dean Wong’s haunting photographs document the empty, eerie building. Robb Kunz provides interviews with immigrants about their experiences. Christian French gives us the “INS Game,” the arbitrary process of acquiring legal status, still embedded in the floor of the INS building, made into a card game for “Liberty Denied.”

We even had artwork from a detainee at the Tacoma Detention center. Pavel Bahmatov sent purses and other objects woven from ramen and candy wrappers and cut with dental floss.

Deborah Lawrence gives us the facts about the toxic location and toxic treatment of the detention center itself, in one of her incredible collage works called “Welcome.”

Her one-person exhibition “Open Carry” at King County’s 4 Culture Gallery just closed on December 1. One of the most



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political artists in Seattle, her art at 4 Culture addressed many issues including the Standing Rock protest, the problems with the Second Amendment, fracking and the exploitation of national parks, hate crimes, and even the Pledge of Allegiance.

Part II The Artnauts

On another inspiring note, I recently met the “Artnauts” a collective of about 20 artists led by the dynamic George Rivera, a Professor of Art at the University of Colorado, Boulder. The Artnauts have been traveling the world since 1995, going to zones of conflict and offering art, communication, dialog, and mutual understanding. In their words: “The collective uses the arts as a tool for addressing global issues while connecting artists from around the world.” They have created exhibitions with local artists in Palestine, Bosnia, the Amazon, Colombia, Mexico, Guatemala, Peru, South Africa, Russia, China and many more. As they go to these places, they are also immeasurably enriched by the experience.

They invited me to speak at their twentieth anniversary exhibition at Red Line Gallery in Denver, Colorado. In addition to the anniversary exhibition, which highlighted ten of their previous exhibitions, they held a special exhibition of new works, “Rally Round the Flag,” curated by Linda Weintraub. All of the works are critiques, with the flag as an abstraction, a metaphor, a source of irony. Of course, we immediately think of the US flag as the subject, but there were many types of flags.

For example, Trine Buhmiller, inspired by her Artnaut exhibition in Sarejevo last winter, created a tent like shape with prayer flags to honor the nightmare of the Bosnians; on the flags she painted the image of the Sarajevo roses superimposed on photographs of the still visible ruins of the city. Red “Sarejevo roses” were painted on sidewalks where sniper’s bullets landed.

Andrew Connor featured a queen size bed with the US and Israeli flags sewn together, “in bed together” and under the transparent sheet we could see the Palestinian flag barely visible.



Blanca Santander's beautiful painting “Daughters of Immigration” celebrates the strength of women who survive immigration.

The group has visited Palestine many times, and collaborated with Palestinian artists, most recently this summer in “Art and Resistance,” an exhibition for which I wrote a catalog essay.

We can look to these artists and others to inspire us as we plan our resistance to the national nightmare currently unfolding like a slow, long-lasting earthquake.

—Susan Noyes Platt

www.artandpoliticsnow.com

MEANINGFUL MOVIES

We had been meaning to see Michael Moore’s “Where to Invade Next?” and were glad to see that Mt. Baker Community Club was presenting it in their Meaningful Movies series. The film depicts a non-military invasion of a selection of countries that seem to have solved thorny issues that we continue to deal with and disagree about.

One of the most interesting features was the visit to Norway to learn about their prison system. It’s a relatively open system and the “inmates” each have their own room with bed, desk, books, radios, posters on the wall...much like your teenager’s

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room. Moore visits the kitchen where inmates are preparing the next meal; he makes some jokes about the large knives being handled by a convicted murderer. In Washington State, meals are contracted to an outside service and although the inmates are supposed to get job training, the only “skill” they develop is heating the food in a microwave, not exactly a skill to tout on one’s resume.

Inmates are helped to find apartments before their release and support in finding employment. Recidivism is low. None of the prison sentences came anywhere near the draconian length of sentences given in this country (unless it’s a white collar crime).

The differences with our system are glaring, as our prison system seems based on some Dickensian punishment and dehumanization approach. Other segments looked at Finland’s educational system, Italy’s workers’ benefits and Iceland’s refusal to bail out the banks. A very interesting film; highly recommended!

The December film comes rather early in the month on Dec. 1 at 6:30. It’s “What Would Jesus Buy?” a topical film for the hectic Christmas season as “Reverend Billy” travels the country in an effort to stop the SHOPOCALYPSE. And I am avoiding Black Friday by sitting at my computer working on the December Leschi News!

~Diane Snell

A 100-YEAR REVIEW OF AMERICA’S FOREIGN AFFAIRS

“That little Kennedy... he thought he was a god,” and then the storm passed and the genial old gentleman was himself again’.

So begins our introduction to Allen Dulles, the primary figure in David Talbot’s *The Devil’s Chessboard*, a 100-year review of America’s foreign affairs. And this is not the most damning quote. Dulles is revealed to have been not just a nasty man, but also a dangerous one.

This is a book for those who want to understand how we have come so far since the pre-WWI days when Woodrow Wilson won on a campaign promising to keep us out of foreign wars. It is a big book, packed with footnotes and references ranging from Dulles’ papers and daily calendars to hundreds of interviews and private letters. These include those of Dulles’ wife, mistress and children. It has also greatly benefitted from the continuing release of government documents based on legislation requiring that all information relating to the JFK assassination be released by October 2017.

And yet, it is a page-turner. Don’t let the book’s heft discourage you. If you like foreign intrigue, this book will grab you from the first page. Just try the first chapter and I’ll bet you will continue on. You might ask, “If this book is so great why haven’t I read raves about it?” Unless you are a regular web crawler or YouTube enthusiast, you will not have found reviews because there are practically none. I have found just two newspaper reviews (a short negative one, in the San Francisco Chronicle and a light-weight one in the San Jose Mercury) while there are many, many positive ones on the Internet. The best and most extensive one appeared in the Huffington Post of January 11, 2016, by a young historian.

For a quick sense of the book’s value, look up the comments on Amazon and our public library staff recommendations. This is the book to read to fully understand how the world has come

to be run during the past century, the American Century. To my mind, a salient clue that the book touches some very sensitive nerves within Washington circles of power is that there is clearly a concerted refusal in the major print press to review it, though Talbot’s two recent earlier works were enthusiastically received. Talbot has said that his publisher was informed by the Washington Post and New York

Times that they would not be reviewing the book.

If your curiosity is teased by this and you want to quickly learn more, you might look up the YouTube Devil’s Chessboard interviews with David Talbot. There are many, but if you try this, I’ll bet you will find you’ll want to listen to the longer ones. What he has uncovered you will find fascinating. That is, if you are willing to face this jarring description of how the world works.

~Jim Snell

The Devil’s Chessboard

**Allen Dulles,
the CIA,
and the
Rise of
America’s
Secret
Government**

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Seeking Sustenance...

GIFT OF WINE

Happy Holiday Season Leschi! Giving the gift of wine can be equally as fun for the gift giver as it is for the recipient. When choosing a bottle of wine (or two) to gift, keep a few basic ideas in mind. Know what they tend to like, and have a rough estimate of what you would like to spend. Many great wines can be found across all ranges of price points. When in doubt- ask an expert- like US! Leschi Market will be well staffed with wine experts throughout the month to assist you with all of your wine questions.

A comment that I will never forget was said to me one of my first holiday seasons at the Market. "Giving wine just seems so last minute." We have discussed the art of gift giving many times before. As we embark on the biggest gifting season of the year, let me offer some ideas on putting a little meaning behind those gifts. Trust me, in general, everyone loves to receive wine as a gift and if you put just a tiny amount of thought into it, it won't seem so last minute at all.

We've explored several options in the past of theme based wine gifts. These definitely show some amount of thought was taken into account. They are just as fun to assemble, as they are to receive. All you need to do is choose your price point and choose your theme. Here are some of my favorites from over the years.

For the bicyclist on the list, for example, a "Tour de France" package can include a wine from several different regions in France: Alsace, Beaujolais, Bordeaux, Burgundy, Champagne, Chateaufort du Pape, Gascogne, Languedoc-Roussillon, Loire, and Rhône are great starting points. These regions are so diverse themselves that you could easily choose a few wines from within each region.

"Around the World" packages are great for those fresh off of a journey, or for those about to embark on one in the

coming year. Focusing on one country, or several, is easy enough to do. Rieslings from Germany, Barberas from Italy, Tempranillos from Spain, Cabernet Sauvignons from South Africa, Malbecs from Argentina or Carmeneres from Chile.

Domestic sets can be great too. Walla Walla, Yakima, Columbia Valley, Willamette Valley and Napa all provide great themed packages. The possibilities and spin-offs are endless. From an "Italian Getaway," to an all organic grouping, from all under \$10 wine, to an all animal

themed label, use your imagination and creativity, and most of all, have fun with it.

This brings me to Champagnes and Ports. These are ultimate gift wines, if not for the sole fact that people rarely buy them for themselves. Who knows why, but I've seen the trend that we tend to put off splurging for these special wines for ourselves, yet are ecstatic when we are gifted them. When in doubt, look to the Port and Champagne sections. Many of these wines are discounted during holiday months, and great finds can be had for under \$30. Vintage Champagnes and Vintage Ports are more expensive and harder to find,

however "Colheita" Ports (years of ports not designated as "vintage") can be found for a lesser dollar amount and for nearly every year; a great idea when trying to match birth years, anniversary years, and other significant dates in one's life.

Finally, let's conclude with highly sought after wines that are in fairly limited supply. Collectors, cellar builders and new winos alike will appreciate getting their hands on some of these rarities!

**2011 Corliss Cabernet Sauvignon
Columbia Valley (\$80)**

95-points Stephen Tanzer

2014 Reynvaan 'In the Hills' Syrah Walla Walla (\$70)
94-points Wine Advocate





...in the Wilds of Seattle

2012 Gaja Promis Toscana Italia (\$50)

92-points James Suckling

Pol Roger Brut Champagne Reserve NV (\$47)

92-points Wine Spectator

2013 Chateau Fortia 'Tradition'

Chateauneuf du Papes (\$36)

91-points Wine Spectator

2015 Mollydooker 'The Boxer' Shiraz Australia (\$28)

93-points Wine Spectator

2009 Chateau Cote de Baleau Saint-

Emilion Grand Cru (\$28)

93-points James Suckling

Still unsure what gift to give the wine lover on your list? One of my favorite reminders is that accessories like wine glasses and decanters rarely need a gift receipt! Have a safe and memorable holiday season and we'll see you next year!

CHEERS! ENJOY!

Kenneth Benner, a Seattle area native, is a trained chef and has worked in such restaurants as Barbacoa, B.O.K.A. Kitchen + Bar, and Dahlia Lounge. Ken is the wine buyer at Leschi Market. He has a passion for learning, a meticulous palate, and a tenacity for searching out the best for his customers while offering some of the most highly coveted wines in the area. His wine column is intended to inspire and explore new choices in wine, learn about wine with his readers, and share his knowledge and experiences in the wine world. Check out the latest at 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.

FAT'S CHICKEN AND WAFFLES

We came here for a late breakfast/early lunch on 10/27 when we had a power outage in lower Leschi. I missed my coffee mostly, but ended up with a hearty veggie scramble breakfast as well. Onion, mushroom and spinach provide the veggie part and the result is delicious. Breakfast (fried) potatoes are served with the eggs. There are three bottles of hot sauce on each table but I asked for ketchup. We immigrants from Michigan need ketchup for French fries and fried potatoes (but not on cottage cheese; not sure where Richard Nixon got that habit.) The coffee was excellent; they serve Café Vita.

My better half ordered Chicken and Waffle, two words I had never thought to use in the same sentence. Basically, it's a chunk of deep fried chicken breast served atop a tasty looking round waffle along with a small pitcher of syrup. He pronounced it delicious!

The place is very modern looking, but with attractive wood on lower half of walls and wooden tables and benches, which tends to add some warmth. Our server, Michelle, was welcoming and appropriately compassionate about our power outage. She lives nearby and is amazed at the changes now and soon to come. The projected density on the arterials is a big change from the single-family residences we have been used to. We talked a little about the developments at 23rd & Union and the coming Red Apple development. I would go back here, if only to talk to Michelle again!



FAT'S CHICKEN AND WAFFLES

2726 E Cherry St. 98122 206.602.6863

Tues-Thurs: 9am-9pm; Fri: 9am-10pm; Sat 9am-3pm & 5pm-10pm; Sun 9am-3pm & 5pm-9pm, closed Mondays

-Diane Snell

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LCC BOARD MEETING 11/9/16

ATTENDING: Yousef Shuman, Yuki Igarashi, Amy Fink, Jeff Floor, John Barber, Diane Snell and guest from Iora, Brian Aylward

TREASURY: Amy to meet with Diane on ArtWalk funds before sending us an emailed Treasury report for October.

SENIOR CENTER: report from Diane on current issues

- Rent Increase to \$75; Board agreed. Diane has asked for agreement in writing.
- Annual fundraiser? Yousef will discuss with Dian Ferguson
- Holiday Fair this Saturday: The two Dianas will staff the table, with Diane S. to pay the \$15 fee.
- Dian F. asked that LCC reserve a table at the Holiday Gala. Board agreed to the \$700 option. Not all Board members free to come due to workplace holiday events. Agreed to offer unused seats to Center members who might not be able to afford the cost.

PARKS: JOHN

- Leschi Park will get a Noble Fir to replace one of the removed diseased trees. Scheduled to get two more trees next year (possibly Gerry Oaks, native species)
- Camping issue: Need to have safe and sanitary facilities for homeless folks with easy access to services. Requested that we meet with CM Sawant as she favors opening up parks, etc. Diane to contact CM Sawant re: invite to next Board Meeting.

- Shoreline Parks: now 139. Some adjacent homeowners have a different view from the original one. They would prefer to keep the public out. Karen Daubert who worked on the Leschi Pearls wants to come back as a supporter. Shoreline parks may be seen on SDOT interactive online map.

LAND USE: Jeff: The Central Area Design Guidelines Coalition is working on drawing up design guidelines unique to the Central Area. They have just hired a consultant (through the city) to assist in the visioning process and to write the document that will eventually become city ordinance. The Coalition consists of several groups: 23rd Avenue ACT, the Central Area Collaborative, HCAACD, LURC and the African-American Veterans.

WEBSITE: Yousef approved using WIX; he has already learned it for updates. Diane responsible for calendar and ads. Website costs to be decided by email.

DECEMBER PROGRAM: Garfield student concert with refreshments. Decision that raffle items not picked up after ArtWalk can be given away at Holiday party.

NEWSLETTER: Deadline 11/21. Kirsten plans to continue through June. Suggestion: talk to Chris at Park Postal. Dues letter can be sent now that IRS issue resolved.

-Respectfully submitted by Diane Snell



Support your community by joining the Leschi Community Council!

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

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

LCC supports the Instrumental Music Program at Leschi Elementary

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

LCC supports the Central (Central Area Senior Center)

LCC produces the Leschi News 10 times a year

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1/2 page, \$120. Contact Diane Snell
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leschinews

The next Leschi News deadline is **DECEMBER 19**. 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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december 2016 | calendar

DEC 3 Holiday Party at Senior Center; see page 4

DEC 3 Leschi Natural Area work party CANCELLED

DEC 7 Leschi CC Holiday Party, 7:30pm, Central Area Senior Center, 500 30th Ave. S

DEC 14 Leschi CC Executive Board Meeting 7pm at Iora Primary Care, 306 23rd Ave. between Yesler and Jackson, the driveway entrance on Main.

DEC 15 Central Area Neighborhood District Council meeting, 6pm, The Central 500 30th Ave. S

DEC 16 Green Dolphin Street Lounge, 6-9pm, featuring Triple Treat Band with R & B, funk, fusion, Top 40 and original music. Admission is \$20 for non-members and \$15 for lifetime members. Refreshments. No Host bar.

DEC 17 Seattle Neighborhood Coalition, 9am, The Central (Breakfast: \$14). You might check with the Senior Center (206-726-4926) to make sure this event actually happens this December.

No stairway or String of Pearls work party this month; we know you are all too busy!

CANCELLED December EastPAC meeting



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

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