CAN YOU STUMP THE EXPERT?

Learn the Basics before the Fines Kick In!

Bring confusing recycling items to our April meeting. Marcia Rutan, Community Recycling Program Manager for Seattle Public Utilities will answer our questions big and little! Her presentation will focus on “Where Does It All Go?” with refreshments and door prizes.

Leschi Community Council, April 1 at 7 pm.
CENTRAL AREA SENIOR CENTER, 500 30TH AVE S.
(1 BLOCK SOUTH OF JACKSON)

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SAVE THE DATE
Sept 12: Leschi ArtWalk
A t our March meeting, a small group of dedicated recyclers viewed Annie Leonard’s clever video “The Story of Stuff.” After the video, we played a game of “Where Does It Go?” with an assortment of odd household items that need to go somewhere, but where? We shared resources that we knew about and Janet Oliver brought a cardboard Techno-Trash box that can be used to recycle old CDs that no local recycler takes at the moment. What we didn’t do is tackle the larger problem that Annie Leonard poses: stopping the excess at the source. We will address this at our April meeting when Marcia Rutan, Seattle Public Utilities, is our speaker. She will answer the ten questions that we compiled for her. Meanwhile, we need to be conscious of what we throw away. Annie Leonard says: “There is no such thing as away. When we throw something away, it has to go somewhere.”

Some of the local resources we discussed included the Columbia City BikeWorks, where you can donate an old bike to be repaired by local kids under supervision. When a participating kid has put in a certain number of hours at the shop, s/he is eligible to select a free bike for their use.

At our March Board meeting, we voted to give a donation of $200 to the JazzWalk on Jackson. Jazz on Jackson St. is part of the city’s heritage. At a time when black musicians could not perform in downtown clubs, small clubs sprang up on Jackson to offer a venue to talented black musicians who could not get into the white musicians union. Paul de Barros wrote “Jackson Street After Hours,” a history of the era. Leschi CC brought DeBarros and a quartet of Garfield Jazz musicians to one of our monthly meetings to celebrate what we hoped would be a rebirth of jazz on Jackson. Ernestine Anderson Place is staging monthly concerts to keep the tradition alive and the JazzWalk folks have collaborated with the Seattle Neighborhood Group as fiscal agent to give us an evening of eight venues along Jackson. A worthy cause to support!

Th ere are many activities planned for the summer months: Return of the Hopscotch event on June 6, which starts at Flo Ware Park and meanders through the Central District with many kids’ activities and music venues, culminating at Union & 23rd. Our annual Flo Ware event will take place June 13th; the planning committee consists of Katie Busby, John Barber and Diane Morris. More volunteers are definitely needed! Leschi’s ArtWalk had to be moved to September 12 to avoid conflicts with marathons and the Fremont Fair where many of our artists will be going. Interested persons are invited to join the planning groups on all events. The ext ArtWalk meeting is April 23, 3pm, at BluWater Bistro.

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

-Diane Morris & Diane Snell
New Senate Face Inspires Renewed Hope

W hen our new Senator, Pramila Jayapal, was running for the Senate position, I have to admit I was quickly impressed with her grasp of the issues and her passion around some of my pet issues: transportation and affordable housing. But from past experiences, there is always that doubt, that concern, that the person running is not always the same person once in office.

Not true in this case! This woman has the courage of her convictions and is proving herself to be a voice for the underserved. And she writes a good newsletter! One can actually learn something about the inner workings of Olympia. Typically, the newsletters one gets from legislators are what I call “puff” pieces: not much substance, but they do serve to let you know that your legislator is alive and still breathing. Which is important, I guess, as our two legislative representatives have been notoriously difficult to meet with when the legislature is not in session. (Our new Senator and her predecessor have been gracious about district meetings.)

Her first newsletter explained the poison pill aspect to the proposed transportation bill. If the governor pursues carbon limits, the multi-modal part of the transportation package will be dropped and those funds will go into highway construction. The multi-modal is the part that funds transit, and safe streets with bicycle and pedestrian improvements. She chose not to vote for the bill with this provision and due to the funding, a gas tax increase rather than a high polluter tax. She was slammed by The Seattle Times for daring to put children ahead of a much needed transportation bill. Sadly, carbon pollution hurts all of us, not just children. But then The Seattle Times tends to have the short-term view of all things political.

Her most recent newsletter noted that at this halfway point, the Senate was finished with their bills and would begin hearings and votes on bills passed from the House. She also pointed out the philosophical differences between the Senate and the House by listing the bills passed in the House only to be blocked in the Senate:

- Raise the minimum wage,
- Provide statewide sick and safe leave for workers,
- Ensure equal pay for women,
- Enact the Washington Voting Rights Act, and
- Implement strong oil transportation safety legislation.

When I was in Olympia for Senior Lobby day, one of my fellow State Council on Aging members was sitting next to a man who questioned why women should have equal pay; she pointed out that if she had been able to earn what men earned in the same job, her Social Security benefits would be higher and that’s what she was now living on….as best she could.

Olympia is a microcosm of the other Washington. Poison pills abide there as well; witness the current bill on human trafficking, which should be a no-brainer, but wait! What is abortion funding doing in that bill? Is this related? It seems that if we could have a resolution that prohibits slipping unrelated items into major bills, it would go a long way to resolving impasses. But then we wouldn’t get any museums in Iowa dedicated to the art of crocheting.

~Diane Snell
LESCHI NATURAL AREA KICKS OFF FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

The Friends of Leschi Natural Area (LNA) are beginning a major fundraising project led by Jim Bushyhead, along with a grant submission to the Patagonia Company. Friends of Leschi Natural Area is a very small group of regular volunteers who sponsor monthly work parties and several major volunteer ‘days of caring’ (United Way, Green Seattle, and Seattle Works) throughout the year with the express purpose of restoring, maintaining and improving the Leschi Natural Area. Funds raised will help facilitate restoration, maintenance and enhancement of the Leschi Natural Area by increasing the native plants and wildlife in this area, preventing soil erosion and providing appropriate land management in a unique inner city green space.

This space is heavily used and enjoyed by the general population of the surrounding neighborhoods, city of Seattle and other visitors from outside the greater Seattle area. This greenspace provides a temporary sanctuary from the stresses of everyday life for many and encourages a sense of peace and well-being whether by simply walking the trails, sitting quietly on one of the many boulders or joining with friends in a quiet setting with wonderful views. All who pass through and encounter us during our work parties are thrilled by the park’s existence and the work we do - but few actually participate either in the maintenance of it or by supporting it financially.

A major new addition to this greenspace by the Parks Department has taken place and demolition of the house in that space is now underway. This area will be incorporated into the overall Leschi Natural Area providing a contiguous area of greenspace, which will be maintained by the Seattle Parks Department and Friends of the Leschi Natural Area.

If successful in our submission, Patagonia’s grant will allow us to not only hire a professional work crew – Earth Corps or a similar group – for a substantial amount of time but also allow us to purchase several large boulders for use on one of our outlooks, an on-site toolshed and additional plants for the area. Patagonia’s policy statement includes the following: “We give at the grassroots level to innovative groups mobilizing their communities to take action. We fund activists who take radical and strategic steps to protect habitat, oceans and waterways, wilderness and biodiversity…. This is our niche: supporting people working on the frontlines of the environmental crisis…. Since the program began, we have given over $61 million in grants and in-kind donations to more than 1,000 organizations.”

If we are successful in our fund-raising and grant submissions, results that we hope to accomplish at the Leschi Natural Area over the next year include:

Remove and prevent spread of invasive species that limit growth of native vegetation.

Replace invasive plants with native species with the goal of increasing their numbers and encouraging increased wildlife through restored and improved food and shelter.

Prevent soil erosion by planting native species that develop strong and extensive root structures to hold soil in place, particularly on the steep slopes found within the Leschi Natural Area.
Hire a professional work crew for a substantial time period to assist with invasive plant removal and replant with native species, particularly on the steeper slopes and hillsides within Leschi Natural Area and, as time and funding permit, in other neglected areas as well.

Raise awareness and increase level of volunteer participation either by hands-on experiences at monthly work parties or by increasing fund-raising efforts to support monthly maintenance work parties, for the purchase of native plants and boulders and hiring professional services to assist in removal of major overgrowth areas throughout the park but particularly on the steeper slopes in this area that we are not able to access or are prohibited from maintaining due to Parks Department restrictions.

We invite you to join us in this effort.

To make a tax-deductible contribution, send a check to Leschi CC with Leschi Natural Area in the memo line. Leschi CC maintains a restricted fund (the funds cannot be used for any other purpose) for the Leschi Natural Area. Address: 140 Lakeside Ave., Ste A, #2, Seattle WA 98122.

-Betsy Zickler

TOWN HALL MEETING FOR 37TH DISTRICT

Our 37th District legislators held a well-attended Town Hall meeting on March 12 at the Rainier Valley Cultural Center. The format was geared toward answering questions of constituents after a very brief intro by each legislator. Sharon Tomiko Santos spoke first, citing her 17 years in the legislature and her current assignments to the Business/Financial services, Technology and Economic Development committees. Eric Pettigrew is on the Appropriations Committee as well as Public Safety and Agriculture & Natural Resources. Pramila Jayapal is the newcomer to the Senate after the retirement of Senator Adam Kline. She serves on the Accountability & Reform, Health Care and Transportation Committees.

Questions were chosen from different categories where attendees had written their questions before the introductions. It appeared that there was an attempt to ask one question from each category and not repeat questions so more ground was covered than with the typical open mike routine where questioners often repeat a question with a slightly different cast to it, but the answers tend to be the same…numbing the audience, if not the speakers.

Environment: Question re Cap & Trade. Senator Jayapal said it didn’t happen in the Senate; she offered an amendment to replace part of the proposed gas tax with a Cap & Trade tax but that was not accepted. Rep. Pettigrew said he had just heard about C & T, and Rep. Tomiko Santos is not on the committee to hear this bill.

DHS concern re: a proposal to cut the reimbursement rate for facilities caring for the elderly; the cuts would be devastating to organizations trying to provide quality care. Rep. Tomiko Santos said the bill had died in the House and remarked that there needs to be a bump in reimbursement rates.

Quality Child Care Funding: Rep. Pettigrew said the legislature had passed an Early Learning bill. He pointed out that most childcare subsidies are far behind. Senator Jayapal said the Senate worked on a bill; she had added a cultural competency review into the bill. Rep. Tomiko Santos expressed concern about what she called the mobile population in schools, not only homeless children, but families who move often (such as military families) creating a large turnover in schools.

Aging infrastructure and no regulatory oversight: Senator Jayapal said there were a good oil train bill and a bad bill that didn’t offer adequate protection and side steps clean-up costs. The ill ignores safety standards and there is no disclosure. She felt we needed a more accountable bill.

Education (particularly the splitting of the Seattle School District): Rep. Tomiko Santos said the bill was in the Rules Committee and not eligible for consideration. She spoke of the inequity of resources for the south end schools. Two grievances: inequity and School Board not responsive to concerns. There is still disparate achievement with the lowest performing schools in the Southeast. She understands the public did not like the proposal and they are trying a different approach: asking for a fact-finding study from the Office of the Educational Ombudsman. Rep. Pettigrew said the
proposal had been a learning experience. He felt the public had misunderstood their proposal; they were not suggesting that the district be split in half north and south as he heard from constituents.

Payday loans proved to be the biggest issue of the event. Senator Jayapal is opposed to the legislation and urged folks to watch the 2 1/2 hour debate on TVW. Only 16 states allow payday lending. The interest rates need to be capped as in 2009. She favors a cap on loans as well as the interest rates. This bill was proposed by MoneyTree, and she felt it would take Washington backward. Rep. Pettigrew said he was initially on the opposite side but he is rethinking his position. Rep. Tomiko Santos said as a former banker, she understands that tight regulations benefit the consumers, but wants folks to have choice.

Concern was expressed about our tax system, which is regressive. The middle class pays 10% of their income, the lower class pays 17% and the upper class pays 1-2%. We are one of only seven states with no income tax. The speaker favored the tax on financial transactions, a tax on carbon pollution and the elimination of loopholes. Senator Jayapal said that political will was needed. At least the attempt to impose a 2/3 rule on votes was declared unconstitutional; according to the state constitution, a simple majority is needed.

After the program formally ended, the three legislators were mobbed by audience members whose questions were not chosen. Even if one’s question is not answered, this is a good opportunity to see your legislator beyond the campaign role. What they support and what they don’t support and the reasons for their decision give you a more complete picture. Invaluable civics lesson. I know we never liked civics in high school, but we’re all adults now and could spend 2 hours in a productive setting that helps us vote intelligently.

~Diane Snell

CELEBRATE EARTH DAY ON A STAIRWAY!

Now that winter is officially over, we are scheduling our monthly stairway cleaning projects again. On April 18, we’ll meet at 10am at the top of the King Street stairs that run from 30th (by the Senior Center) down to 31st Ave. We have bags, gloves and grabbers. This is an area that seems to attract litter, so we will probably fill some recycle bags as well as green bags. We work until noon. We bring goodies to eat and drink, and it’s always encouraging to attract some neighbors to help. We love meeting new people, and you have the ears of your Community Council while we work! We are there to listen and work.

SHORELINE PARK MAINTENANCE

Editor’s Note: John Barber has long been concerned about the maintenance of the shoreline parks we call The String of Pearls. Maintenance has been haphazard with John calling on some regular volunteers at times, but nothing is regularly scheduled. He feels optimistic about a new plan for two of these “pearls.”

Joyce Moty, Ned Gulbran and John gave two SDOT staffers a walk-through of the S. Judkins and S. King shoreline street ends on March 11, and it was an excellent exchange. John says “We discussed much about our concepts and goals for these street ends, including the balancing of conflicting goals and possible modifications and improvements. We described feedback from neighbors and site visitors and discussed how to address them.”

South Judkins

Ned Gulbran, volunteer who is the original landscape architect for this site, will revise the plans with a focus on making the area more sustainable and less needy of routine maintenance and submit them in a few weeks for review by Shane De Wald. Volunteers are unable to continue mowing and request that SDOT take over that task. Volunteers will contact Graffiti Action Line about the defacing of the basaltic bench sculpture.

SDOT will remove the alder on the north edge of the property, remove piles of cuttings and weeds after notified by volunteers, and, depending on future availability of maintenance staff, need of volunteers, assist with pruning and control of invasives. We would like to plant conifers on the northwest edge to help control spread of invasive plants.
Aggressive spread of Nootka roses is an ongoing problem to monitor, but for time being volunteers can control.

South King

This is a native habitat project and the intent is to balance CEPTED concerns with maintaining the natural character, controlling weed growth through shade, and providing a level of psychological enclosure for visitors (sense of being embraced by nature, while having some see-through from the street/sidewalk.) Solution is cutting “windows” through the shrubs.

We discussed how we are screening the view of built structures (apartments, I-90, large pleasure boats, and docks), by dense native shrubbery. Volunteers would like to have a visit at site by Shane De Wald to discuss issues and potential for seating at main view area.

SDOT, depending on availability of maintenance staff and on the needs of volunteers, will assist in pruning. Volunteers request application of herbicide to the cut back blackberries and request SDOT to ask WSDNR to trap nutrias. The erosion of shore by powerboats is an ongoing problem and SDOT should explore remedies.

I offered thanks for the get-together and for the cooperative spirit. We look forward to working with SDOT about site issues as they arise.

~John Barber

NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATES

METRO UPDATE

We are hearing that folks missed our announcement about the #27. We have learned from one of Kshama Sawant’s aides that the City Council voted for full restoration of route #27; this will occur in June. Many thanks to all of you who worked hard on this issue and to the community organizations that wrote supporting letters to the Mayor and City Council. I personally felt that I was living and breathing the 27 until this was resolved! Transit should be like our utilities; we should all have access to it. (D Snell)

23RD AVE. PROJECT

A contractor has been selected and work should begin in mid-April on the first phase: Jackson to Cherry. Northbound traffic will be moved to Martin Luther King Jr. Way. Southbound traffic remains in the right lane on 23rd. Work will involve replacing an ancient water main. The #48 bus will follow a detour route. Construction is expected to take eight months. SDOT hotline for questions: 206 727.8857 (D Snell)

MOORAGE UPDATE

The Parks Department wants to contract marinas out to a private developer/manager like Foss. Many in PAT (Project Advisory Team), especially the Lakewood group, are very disappointed because this will mean huge rate increases. The eading Leschi team members are weary of the delay and want to speed up improvements to S. Leschi marina, regardless of the long-term issues. I remain with a minority opinion to downscale to only human-powered craft. Note: Visit the website to see a list of common Q & A’s related to moorage and to read the latest City Council correspondence on this issue.

~John Barber

LESCHI ELEMENTARY UPDATE

We are proud to announce we raised $47,000 in this year’s annual ask. We use money raised to provide classroom assistants in all K/1 classes, scholarships for after-school enrichment programs such as chess and karate, purchase art, classroom and PE supplies for the building to name a few. We will always take donations! Drop by any time to learn more about our school.

Henrietta Price, our beloved crossing guard, received the Humanitarian award for her dedication and community service for over 30 years: Washington Education Association awarded Mrs. Price the “2015 WEA Human & Civil Rights Elaine Akagi Cultural Awareness Award”.

Mrs. Price has been a milliner for over 30 years and owns Henrietta’s Hat Shop in Madison Valley, with loyal customers all around the United States. She is also the president of Nurses’ Corps Auxiliary and the National Missionary Baptist Convention of America. She works with all the health fairs in the community to recruit volunteers. She served on the board of the Bailey Boushay House for 10 years from its inception.
She is a long-standing member of the Seattle Masons, Order of the Eastern Star, Prince Hall (female side of Freemasons). She helps feed and cook for the homeless downtown with the Eastern Stars and the Masons.

She has been the crossing guard at Leschi School for 20-plus years and is active in the Leschi school community, attending school PTA meetings and family nights. She has volunteered at Leschi’s Central Area Senior Center for years and continues to be active in her service there.

She received a community award from the Black Press: 50 Great Women that have been trail blazers in the community professionally and non professionally, from all walks of life. She is featured in an article in The acts in March.

She is a watchful eye, mother, mentor, advocate and watch dog for all people, young and old, that cross her path at the intersection of 31st and Yesler.

Thank you for all you do, Henrietta Price!  

~Katie Busby

NEW VISION, NEW TIME

What’s More Fun than a Barrel of Monkeys?

The longest, shortest parade on earth!

Leschi Art Walk has some exciting additions including a kids’ parade with costumes and musical instruments of your choosing, marching along the Leschi business district and playing their favorite songs. The parade will open the art walk and kids of all ages are encouraged to participate. The theme is “more fun than a barrel of monkeys.” Say WHAAAT!

Leschi’s Art Walk has been moved to September 12, 2015. The date avoids marathons, graduations and other crazy events.

We are looking for artists! Artists who wish to have a booth should contact Ann Conroy at annconroy@travelsmallworld.com. The cost is the same as last year: $15 per booth, which includes a table, 2 chairs and a canopy to protect you and your art from the sun which we have specially ordered for the event. The magic Boats will be there to offer rides and music events are in the works.

Check for more details in upcoming newsletters. We encourage everyone who wishes to join the planning committee to come to our next meeting that is April 23 (3-4 pm) at BluWater Bistro. Just look for a long table of folks laughing hysterically at wild ideas thrown out with abandon.

~Kim Murillo
GARDENING 101

I f you have dandelions, buttercups or other spreading weeds in your garden, it’s a perfect time to get after them. With the warm winter weather we’ve enjoyed, everything has been growing like weeds! I have a triangle shaped hoe and find it perfect for uprooting these bullies, because the sharp point goes deep into the moist soil.

It’s also time to cut back ferns if you have not yet done so, but be careful not to cut the emerging young ferns. (March is a better time for this, but better late than never.)

For a wonderful book, get Easy Answers for Great Gardens. Written by a local syndicated garden author, Marianne Binetti, she provides “500 tips,” techniques and outlandish ideas to make gardening more fun and less work!

~Diane Morris

WHAT’S NEW AT THE SENIOR CENTER?

- Editor’s Note: Member meeting on 3/18/15 will be reviewed in the May issue due to lack of space.

Matter of Balance (FREE WORKSHOP SERIES!)

Fridays starting April 24 thru June 12: 10AM-12PM

Many older adults experience concerns about falling and restrict their activities. A MATTER OF BALANCE is an award-winning workshop series designed to manage falls and increase activity levels. Through this free workshop series, participants will learn to view falls as controllable, set goals for increasing activity, make changes to reduce fall risk at home, as well as learn about exercises to increase strength and balance. Anyone who is concerned about falls, has fallen in the past, or has interest in improving their balance, flexibility and strength should take this workshop! This is an 8-session series that meets two hours each week starting on Friday, April 24 until June 12th from 10AM-12PM. To sign up, please call 206-726-4926. *Please note, for the first class on April 24 please arrive at 9:15am for a 30-minute survey. Each participant will receive $15 for completing this survey.

Green Dolphin Street Lounge: Deems Tsutakawa

Friday, April 17: 6PM-9PM

Join the Central Area Senior Center for our Green Dolphin Street Lounge with dancing, live music, a no-host bar and appetizer foods. April’s Green Dolphin night features local favorite, Deems Tsutakawa! Deem’s musical style is contemporary soul jazz that is accessible, not harsh or frantic with a smooth groove. His music comes across as peaceful and will make you feel good. Admission is $20 for non-members and $15 for lifetime members. To make a reservation, please call 206-726-4926.

Blood Pressure Screenings

Every Thursday from 11AM-12PM, last Thursday of each month from 2-3PM

Stop by the Central Area Senior Center to get your blood pressure tested and learn about ways to lower your blood pressure. Free for anyone, drop-ins are welcome!

~Joie Hsu, Program Coordinator

LESCHI CHILDREN’S GARDEN

Leschi Elementary garden education kicked off the spring garden season with Leschi’s 4th/5th grade classes by building pea trellises in preparation for our first planting. Using bamboo, twine and sticks, the students worked together in groups to create the strongest possible trellises to give lots of support to our pea vines. We talked about how pea vines climb up a trellis using tendrils. By the end of class, our trellises were ready to install in the bed where peas will be planted in just a few days. In our end-of-class discussion, students said the keys to building a good trellis were “tying strong knots,” “building a good frame,” and teamwork!

Our garden education program is a wonderful school enrichment program that counts heavily on volunteers and donations. If you have interest in volunteering or providing donations, please contact garden coordinator Kim Blakemore at kblakemo@uw.edu.

~Kim Blakemore

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INDIGENOUS ARTISTS OFFER A WAY FORWARD AS THEY LOOK BACK

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

Right now we are incredibly lucky in Seattle to have three special exhibitions that feature Indigenous artists, both historical and contemporary, who are steeped in reverence for the natural world and all of its inhabitants, a perspective that is so badly needed today as the extinctions multiply and the extractions deepen.

For a sheer visual thrill visit the Seattle Art Museum’s “Indigenous Beauty: Masterworks of American Indian Art from the Diker Collection.” We first see delicate wooden Yup’ik masks from Alaska that honor each creature that had been killed during the hunting season. They were given away each year, unlike so many other works in the exhibition that were made specifically for sale to tourists. Many of the art works are really early, unusual survivors of our efforts to obliterate these cultures. A Yup’ik curator explained, on a video in the gallery, that his tribe had to relearn everything starting only in the 1980s.

The exhibition includes works from the Western Arctic through to the Woodlands of the East Coast, organized as clusters of different expressions, such as baskets (Plateau), Katsina dolls (Hopi), beaded regalia (Plains), pottery (Southwest). Historical continuity mixes seamlessly with innovation. A nineteenth century carving from the Columbia River Basin Tribes (Washco/Wishram) incorporates the “She Who Watches” figure from the wall painting near The alles that dates back thousands of years. An exceptionally large pot by Hopi artist Nampeyo from 1900 was built with coils rather than on a wheel. It features a mixture of archeological references and contemporary inventions. Nearby is an anonymous water jar from 1150 painted with a large hand in the midst of abstract patterns, an absolutely unique object.

Also included are contemporary artists like Preston Singletary who transforms a raven rattle from wood into glass, adding his own interpretations that are steeped in respect for tradition as well as contemporary life.

The Seattle Art Museum partnered the visiting Diker collection with “Seattle Collects Northwest Coast Native Art,” which is also filled with surprises. Look for the unique argillite piece collected by Bill Holm, the eminent and groundbreaking art historian of Northwest Coast Indian Art.

The large painting by Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas stands out in “Seattle Collects.” It combines Japanese Manga style and native Haida art motifs. Yahgulanaas dynamically explained his work in terms of form, history and storytelling (Red: a story of the punishment that results from a life lived for revenge). The artist is also one of the original Haida to resist logging on ancestral lands in the 1960s.

Equally thrilling is the Burke Museum’s “Here and Now: Native Artists Inspired” subtly installed by the museum’s designer Bridge Calzeretta. Based on the unusual concept of a living museum collection in which contemporary artists are encouraged to interact with specific objects, the exhibition marks the 10th Anniversary of a program at The Hall Holm Center that provides financial support for native artists to visit the collections. They don’t just look, they handle the art works, and they feel its energy transmitted to them. As Alison Bremmer put it, “I was hit by the energy I got from the piece. I think the artist who made it would be really proud to know that it still carries that feeling all these years later.”

The Burke discovered that, after their visit, the artists’ work changed. In a dramatic demonstration of the impact of a program, they are pairing the work that most inspired a specific artist with a corresponding contemporary work. The result is a subtle and fascinating conversation between traditional techniques and contemporary art. The contemporary works range from close copies of older works in order to keep the traditions alive, to use of the same materials to make something different, to contemporary works that connect to our culture as well as the past.

David Boxley did a copy of a Feast Dish. He declares “The original artist was really really good. It’s always been an inspirational piece for me . . . we all follow the same two dimensional design rules and what makes one artist different from the next is how he interprets his style into that strict set of rules.”
Lou-ann Ika’wega Neel created a contemporary art work of felt, suede, copper and abalone buttons, all traditional materials, inspired by a traditional wool cloth, one of the earliest acquisitions of the Burke Museum.

Sonny Assu starts from historical regalia to create an abstraction that incorporates iPods: “Having my great-great-grandfather Chief Billy Assu’s Chilkat regalia placed on my shoulders was part of the inspiration for this painting. This piece compares chiefly nobility – embedded with the knowledge and wisdom of his years as a chief – to how we formulate social status today through consumerism, branding, pop culture, and social media.”

Alison Bremmer based a work on the traditional copper Tinnah, an object exchanged at potlatches as a sign of generosity and status. She painted it with the “all seeing eye” of Satan from our dollar bill, marking it with the money economy that supplanted its historical purpose.

Nothing could be more apt to “Here and Now” than the original Eagle mask that inspired the Seahawks logo in the mid 1970s, borrowed just for this exhibition. The wooden mask would have been worn in a ritual dance. In the midst of the dance, it opened to reveal the ancestor of a family group. The ogo connects one of the most popular rituals of our contemporary world to one of the fundamental rituals of the indigenous Northwest.

As a finale of “Here and Now,” a woven work by Tommy Joseph incorporates the logo of Idle No More, the crucial environmental activist movement based in Canada.

From the Yup’ik mask, honoring the animals killed in a hunt, to Idle no More, honoring the earth by resisting its rape, this cluster of exhibitions provides the continuity of indigenous cultures over thousands of years, its compulsions and rituals, its complex techniques, and its extraordinary creativity. They underscore that this creativity is embedded in a reverence for the interconnected spirits of the natural world that provides us with a crucial way forward in our current environmental crisis.
Seeking Sustenance in the Wilds of Seattle

APRIL WINE ~ THE BEST OF THE REST

Last month, as addressed in this column, was Washington Wine Month. We collectively now move on to April’s longer days, clearer skies, the smell of fresh cut grass, and the faint “pop” of a baseball shaking winter’s dust off baseball gloves. Here is a lucky list of seven of the best wines you may have missed over the last month!

2010 Pauillac de Lynch-Bages Bordeaux Rouge ($56)
In 2010, for only the second vintage ever, Chateau Lynch Bages has produced a third wine: Pauillac de Lynch-Bages. Produced from the Chateau’s younger vines and treated with the same care as the estate’s first and second wines, this wine expresses the best of the historic 2010 vintage. A fresh and elegant wine with notes of red fruit, spice, wood and a silky well-rounded mouthfeel to finish it off. —Winery notes.

2011 Round Pond Estate Rutherford Cabernet Sauvignon Napa Valley ($28)
77% Cabernet Sauvignon, 18% Petit Verdot, 3% Malbec, 2% Merlot. “Herbs, tobacco, cedar, iron, smoke and incense emerge from the glass. A gorgeous, savory and totally expressive wine, the 2011 impresses for its balance and pedigree. This is without question one of the most beautiful wines of the year. The profile is decidedly European-influenced in its aromatics and structure, but the fruit is pure Napa Valley. There are only a handful of values left in first-class Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon; this is one of them.” - Antonio Galloni, 94-points.

2009 Queen Anne Cabernet Sauvignon Champoux Vineyard ($26)
Grapes grown in the Champoux Vineyard have been used to produce some of the most critically acclaimed Washington wines. “An aromatic bouquet of exuberantly deep flavors, hints of dry cherry with a stiely protracted finish, accompanying a generous leather rich mouthfeel. Aged, released 12/1/14. 125 cases produced. Best now through 2018.” - Ben Ridgway, Winemaker.

2013 Jour de Soif Cabernet Franc Bourgueil Loire Valley ($18)
Five generations of winemaking. The wine is raised entirely in stainless steel, with the 2013 offering up a bright nose of black cherries, dark berries, cigar smoke and a lovely base of soil. On the palate, the wine is medium-full, complex and bouncy, with a succulent core, a wide-open personality, tangy acids and lovely balance and grip on the impressively serious finish. Organic. The “Jour de Soif” (Day of Thirst) is meant to be drunk young. -Importer notes.

2014 Giraudon Blanc Aligoté Bourgogne ($13)
The terroir at Giraudon is particularly well suited for the Aligoté grape, which makes up 40% of the vines planted in the area. The wine goes through a malolactic fermentation, which adds a lovely middle palate to its vibrant fruity and mineral qualities. This wine is as famous as a refreshing summer quaffer, as it serves the original base of the wine cocktail, Kir—just throw a half-ounce (or to taste) of crème de cassis in your glass and top up with this Aligoté—voila! -Importer notes.

Leschi Lakecenter and Yacht Basin

Moorage, offices, shops and restaurants where Lake Washington Blvd. meets Lakeside Ave. - www.leschlorlakecenter.com

Leschi Lakecenter is a Leavitt Capital Companies development. www.leavittcap.com
2013 Frisk Prickly Riesling Victoria Australia ($9)
This zippy Riesling is floral and weighted, with notes of lime sorbet, rose petals and a hint of fennel. With its racy verve, subtle complexity and just a tinge of sweetness, it’s a perfect companion for both sweet and spicy dishes, or simply on its own. Refreshingly complex on the palate, it will make you wonder how you emptied your glass so quickly and have you reaching for another. -Winery notes.

2014 Seven Hills Dry Rosé Columbia Valley ($14)
As the port congestion eases, more import pinks will be showing up, but until then, the domestics reign supreme! You didn’t think we’d do a “Hot-7” list without including ONE rosé did you? “In the tradition of the classic French Rosés, ours is delicate and refreshing, pale in color, and bone-dry. Primarily Cabernet Franc, with small amounts of Petit Verdot for additional structure and Malbec for expressive fruitfulness, this wine exhibits flavors of peach, grapefruit and papaya along with fresh herbs, white flowers, and a hint of spice.” – Winemaker notes.

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 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.

IT’S ALL GREEK
(AND NO PASSPORT NEEDED!)

VIOS CAFÉ & MARKETPLACE
903 19th Ave E; 329-3236

For a delicious Greek lunch or dinner, try Vios on Capitol Hill. I was treated to a birthday lunch there and I can vouch for the fact that the food is delicious and that it is all Greek!

It was such a wonderful experience that I treated my friend, Hope, to a belated birthday lunch a few weeks later. Despite the extensive menu, I ordered lamb souvlaki on both occasions. All sandwiches come with a choice of soup, salad or Greek fries. I chose the wintergreens salad both times; it’s crisp and lightly dressed and perfectly complements the sandwich, which comes wrapped in a tender, moist house-made pita. The amb is garnished with tzatziki.

On the first occasion, my daughter Marina ordered the Greek fries. Th ey were thin and light, not at all greasy, and lightly salted along with a sprinkling of green herbs. Th y may even change my attitude about fries!

Vios may become my favorite go-to restaurant. Th re are many delectable Greek classics offered and I’d like to try them all. That is, if I can convince my taste buds to forego the lamb souvlaki! Just writing about it makes me hungry!

Vios offers a small selection of Greek food items, catering and take-out. Diane Snell recommends the take-out, but suggests leaving the dogs at home. She and Jim had the “girls” in the car when they picked up their take-out order, and said they weren’t sure they’d get their food safely home. Th e mells were incredible and the “girls” went wild!

~Diane Morris

Spring is here! Time to get out and dig around in the dirt and plant those bargainista blooms! You will find everything you need from garden tools to seeds at Grocery Outlet.

Check out www.groceryoutlet.com to see this week’s specials and read up on the Bargainista Blog!

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Grocery Outlet
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CANDC MEETING 3/12/15
Madrona residents came to express concern about a possible proliferation of pot stores in the Union/23rd Ave. corridor and asked CANDC to write a supportive letter to the State Liquor Control Board. Members voted in favor with suggested changes to the letter as there are not two stores at present: just one. The Lass Shop does not sell any marijuana. The and Use Review Committee requested support of a letter to the City requesting that the Swedish-Sabey plan limit building height due to the residential nature of the area. (Leschi CC has already sent a letter supporting the neighborhood concern about height.) The vote did not carry. Speaker from SDOT said contractor had been chosen for 23rd Ave. project and work would begin mid-April.

~Diane Snell

EASTPAC MEETING 2/26/15
Captain Pierre Davis reported that armed robberies were up and urged caution around ATMs. Burglaries, car prowls and car thefts are down.

Pete Holmes from the City Attorney’s office was guest speaker. He said that Seattle is the 21st largest city in the country, but the fastest growing city. His objective was to explain the various programs within the office, but the overflowing audience wanted to report on problems in their neighborhoods, particularly problem houses that seem to take forever to resolve. Many spoke of years of gunshots and open drug sales related to a house near 27th & Spring Street. Others expressed concern about getting a busy signal when trying to call 911. One easily got the impression that our resources are not keeping up with our growth. Rather than an overview of the City Attorney’s office, it might be helpful to limit the discussion to the office’s responsibilities that would address the community’s concerns.

~Diane Snell

LCC COMMUNITY MEETING 3/4/15
Covered in this month’s President’s message; no formal minutes were taken.

LCC EXEC BOARD MEETING 3/9/15
Attending: Diane Morris, Diane Snell, Janet Oliver, John Barber, Kim Murillo, Amy Fink, Tracy Bier.
Excused: Jeffloor

Treasurer’s report
Kim will be sending the monthly check to the senior center. She will begin the invoicing this month. We received $470 from ads/membership recently and current debits are small. Diane S. took care of the bulk mail postage.

Flo Ware Day
The arget date is June 13. John will try to submit a grant to get some funding. Kim asked if we should use some of the funds we already have set aside for Flo Ware Day instead of applying for a grant. Diane M., John and Katy need to meet to discuss Flo Ware Day Details. Diane S. asked about having a pre-paid food truck attend, but noted that the food would have to come out of our savings, not out of the Sparks grant.

Programming
The recycling program will continue. The utilities want to come and discuss ongoing work. Bob Santos is coming in May.

Broadband Project
Tracy and her group have been working on a campaign since 2005 to offer more broadband choices. They want to work with a smaller company – Isola – that specializes in multi-family dwellings and charges less than larger companies. Tracy’s group is looking for ideas for developments that could use this service. Tracy’s group wants to know if the LCC wants to become involved.

Neighborhood Park & Street Fund
The mall project applications want Diane and John to make a presentation on 3/12/15.

Art Walk 2015
Currently the date is projected for Sept. 12. Kim is hosting a planning meeting 3:00-4:00pm on the 12th at BluWater. Kim will apply for a grant to fund the event. Kim would like to do a ‘kiddies parade’ and hopes to get the Dragon boaters involved in the Art Walk.

East Precinct Board
The last Precinct Board wants a representative from each community council. Tracy will be the LCC representative; Diane M will be her back up.

Thunderbird Statue Update
Diane M. has done the research in old Leschi News issues and Diane S. contacted the artist and the Seattle Arts Commission to see if there were any restrictions to selling the artwork. The potential buyers are currently travelling so we’re on hold until they return.

Jazz Walk on Jackson March 28
Diane wants to donate $200. The motion was carried.

Leschi Natural Area Fundraising
Diane M reported that $450 has been raised. The unds have been raised for plants and tools, supplies, etc. Betsy Ziegler is working on the Patagonia grant; they hope to get a tool storage facility with the grant (to be situated at Rachel’s old place).

~Respectfully submitted by Amy Fink
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

Name________________________________ Phone____________________
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City________ State____ Zip________ Email________________________

All donations are tax-deductible as we are a non-profit 501-C3.

My check is enclosed:  ☐ $35 family membership  ☐ $25 individual membership
☐ $15 student/low income/ senior membership
☐ I am making an additional donation for LCC work

Mail to:
Leschi Community Council • 140 Lakeside Ave. Suite A #2 • Seattle WA 98122-6538
Leschi News advertising rates:
business card, $30; 1/4 page, $60;
1/2 page, $120. Contact Diane Snell
at 206.726.0923 to advertise to
your community.

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

Leschi Community Council
140 Lakeside Ave Suite A #2
Seattle WA 98122-6538
Address Service Requested

April 2015 | Calendar

APR 1 Leschi CC meeting, 7pm Central Area Senior Center, 500 30th Ave. S

APR 4 Leschi Natural Area work party 9am-3pm. Lunch & tools provided, 36th Ave & Terrace St.

APR 6 Leschi CC Executive Board Meeting, 7pm, 128 30th (Diane Morris’s)

APR 9 Garfield Orchestra Pops Concert, Quincy Jones PAC, 7-9pm

APR 9 Central Area Neighborhood District Council, 6pm, The entral, 500 30th Ave S.

APR 11 Seattle Neighborhood Coalition 9 is at The entral (Breakfast: $14)

APR 11 The piphany Project at Ernestine Anderson Place, 7:30pm. John Hodian on piano, son Jack Hodian on percussion and Bet Williams, vocalist. FREE

APR 17 Green Dolphin Street Lounge, 6-9pm, featuring Deems Tsutakawa. Admission is $20 for non-members and $15 for lifetime members. Refreshments and no host bar.

APR 18 Leschi CC stairway cleanup at King St. stairs, 30th to 31st. Meet at 10am at top of stairs by the Central Area Senior Center. Bring tools (broom, rake, pruners.) 10am-Noon.

APR 23 Art Walk planning meeting; 3pm at BluWater Bistro

APR 23 EastPAC meeting, 6:30pm, Chardin Hall, Seattle U. Parking off efferson past 12th on right.

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

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