

leschinews

February 2015 Issue No. 319

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

JOIN US FOR A PRESENTATION BY OUR ART CRITIC, SUSAN PLATT

“Reflections on India: Ancient cultures, Contemporary Lives”

A brief look at the highlights of India, ancient Varanasi fire rituals, the ethereal Taj Mahal, grand palaces of Rajasthan approached on elephants, and the mysterious painted and carved caves of Ajanta and Ellora, interspersed with photos of the vibrant and beautiful people of India today, as well as their sacred cows. Slide show and lecture begin at 7:30pm.



At 7pm, DPD speaker, Nick Welch, will bring us up to date on the updated rules and regulations for the protection of our environmentally critical areas.

inside the news

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**SAVE
THE DATE**

**MARCH 4:
next LLC meeting**

Presidents' Message

February 14 is not only Valentine's Day, this year it is Neighbor Appreciation Day. We two Dianas immediately thought of our Board as neighbors to appreciate; we have a group of hard-working volunteers, each person with their own skill set, but all with a dedication to Leschi.

The entire community knows of **John Barber**, our Parks and Greenspace chair, and the work he has done to not only preserve our parks, but to create new spaces for the public to enjoy. Our Vice-President, **Janet Oliver**, is passionate about public transit and has many creative ideas for improving access within neighborhoods. We are blessed with a secretary, **Amy Fink**, who takes great minutes but adds so much more: she has worked on providing programming ideas and adds a creative element in problem-solving. **Kim Murillo** bravely stepped forward to take on the tasks of treasurer, a position which usually sends folks in the other direction. She has also been the mastermind behind the annual June Arts walk and the creator of the Leschi calendar two years ago. (We had folks asking if we had done a calendar for 2014 so it seemed to be a popular project.) **Jeff Floor** agreed to be our representative to the Seattle Federation of Community Councils, but then quickly joined LURC, the Land Use Review Committee for the Central Area. He has not only been very active with that group, but he takes the time to write excellent articles for the newsletter to keep us up to date on the various projects in the greater neighborhood. **Tracy Bier** has been our Public Health and Safety Chair for several years, and it was she that organized the community wide meeting with the police last year following the disturbing gang shootings in the area. Tracy is an active Block Watch member and is quick to pass on safety information from our community police officers.

We appreciate the neighbors who came to our Holiday party and added ideas to our list of goals for 2015. We can't enact them all, but we appreciate the input. We would like to continue the stairway cleanings; it has given us a chance to meet new neighbors and for many of us, it has exposed us to parts of Leschi we were not familiar with. We want to move forward on the living wall originally planned for the Lake Dell retaining wall. Although many have suggested a mural for that space, murals are no longer supported by the city due to the maintenance involved. See page 4 for a list of the goals we want to pursue for 2015.

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

-Diane Morris & Diane Snell

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and visit our website: leschinews.com

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The State We're In

The Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy recently released a report that shows Washington State as the most regressive state in the union as far as its tax policy is concerned. The report was reprinted in the Washington Post and so now the entire country knows what we already knew but tended to keep quiet. Apparently some were surprised at this, feeling that Washington is so progressive. In truth, Seattle is progressive but the rest of the state not so much. And of course, the whole East Coast thinks of the state as Seattle, the place where you can buy recreational pot.

If the entire state were progressive, we would be taxing fairly and we would be able to pay for our schools and our highways and crumbling bridges and good transit systems. The report found that even though we were the most regressive, the other states didn't do all that well in assessing taxes fairly. The bottom 20% of wage earners pay about twice as much as a share of their income as the top 1% does. In Washington State, we rely heavily on a regressive high sales tax.

In addition to poor tax policy, our state grants about \$45 billion in state and local tax exemptions and when the budget comes up short, our legislators are more willing to cut public programs that serve the most people rather than close the loophole exemptions that benefit the few. So what are these exemptions?

In 1935, an agriculture exemption was passed to benefit producers of poultry, fur, birds, fish, animals and eggs because these industries were "depressed." I would argue that everything was depressed in 1935. Twenty thousand of our current producers are below the limit of the B&O credit and pay no B&O taxes anyway. It is the largest of these producers that are over the limit, but are able to eliminate their taxes due to this exemption. It seems like this is a much different world than 1935 and maybe we could end this exemption and bring in another \$27 million for the needs of all in the state.

Newspapers were exempted from sales tax in 1935 as the papers only cost 5 cents at that time and it would have been hard for paperboys to collect the tax. Newspapers cost much more now and are typically billed by mail. I know I have a paper "boy" because I find the paper each morning but I have never seen him and the New York Times charges my credit card every 3 months. If this tax exemption were eliminated, it would raise \$12 million for the state and \$3 million for local governments.

Pleasure boats are exempt from property taxes! This was done in 1931 when there must have been very few pleasure boats still privately owned, but this tax has persisted. The purpose of this

tax exemption is listed as "unknown" by the Dept. of Revenue. I'll bet if it were known, it would be rather embarrassing. The state would gain \$5 million in taxes per year, but local entities would gain \$21 million if we could deep-six that exemption.

These are just a few exemptions that could be eliminated; some exemptions are given to individual companies but these are confidential and the public has no awareness of them. Some exemptions go back to 1860 and are never reviewed in the ensuing years. Will this group of current legislators look at these exemptions? It seems unlikely. All our deficit problems would not be solved if we close these exemptions, but it would help and it would help even more if we didn't grant future exemptions that were of benefit to a select few. Something like the exemption of tax on food benefits the entire state and would create hardship on low wage earners if we closed that loophole, but it is an example of the kind of loopholes that make some sense.

~Diane Snell

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Neighborhood and Beyond

LESCHI COMMUNITY COUNCIL GOALS FOR 2015

The LCC Executive board discussed goals for the New Year and decided on the following 7 goals, one of which is a continuing goal:

1. Continue to work on the many stairways in Leschi, cleaning the steps and removing growth that inhibits sightlines. This has been a community building experience and the efforts, before and after, are gratifying.
2. Install a Living Wall for the Lake Dell retaining wall. This is the choice offered by SDOT that we voted on before the wall was built; it offers protection against taggers and yet can be removed and put back if work is needed on the wall. A netting supports the plants and allows access to the wall behind it when it is pulled back. Murals are no longer supported by the city due to ongoing maintenance.
3. Improve LCC's relationship with Parks Dept. and establish a working relationship with Tree Ambassadors. Parks is building trails in Frink Park that detract from its wilderness experience; this has created a less than desirable working relationship. We need to repair this relationship while maintaining our plans for our parks. Compromise may be necessary.
4. Keep Metro bus #27 as an ongoing goal. Although we have been promised restoration of service, we know that promises are just that and we need to be vigilant as plans move forward toward the June bus route changes.
5. Hold a musical event in the summer on the Leschi pier. Residents asked for more events that are musical and the merchants are supportive of a concert on the pier. Although the rental costs are high, it can be a BYOC (Bring Your Own Chair) event and costs would be limited to rental, musicians and publicity. It is doable and given our recent summers, the weather could be cooperative too.
6. Increase membership in LCC. Why doesn't everyone belong? We all want a better quality of life in Leschi, so let's support it!
7. Publicize LCC events on 'NextDoorLeschi'. Jeff Floor has come forward to add this to his already long list of tasks for LCC. Thank you, Jeff!

If any residents want to help with any of these goals, just email leschinews@comcast.net.

~Diane Snell

NEIGHBOR APPRECIATION DAY

This day of appreciation goes back to 1994 and has been celebrated in many different ways. Leschi has not had a party in the past (February seems a dreadful time to meet in a park!) but we would like to acknowledge some of the unsung heroes who make our community richer. We often think of good neighbors as someone we can borrow a cup of sugar from, but there's another level of neighborliness that goes beyond, that has an impact on the whole community.

The first item that comes to mind for me is the Leschi News which consumes about 10 days out of every month for me, but wouldn't be possible without many helping hands. I'd like to appreciate **Ken Benner**, who writes our wine column and **Susan Platt** who contributes an art review each month. **Katie Busby** keeps us up to date on what's happening at Leschi Elementary and **Joie Hsu** reports on activities at the Central Area Senior Center. **John Barber** contributes parks news, **Jeff Floor** reports on development in the Central Area and **Diane Morris** often reports on the Member meetings at the Senior Center. Next, **Carolyn Walden** proofreads each submission and suggests corrections. She is an excellent speller and the Queen of Commas. After those corrections, the written material and any photos are sent to **Kirsten Hopperstad**, our layout person. We appreciate her hard work and her creativity in finding photos and graphics to enhance the written word. Kirsten is a Leschi resident and has the same appreciation for our public spaces as the Board members. Once I have done a final proof, Kirsten sends the file to the printer. Meanwhile neighbor **Julia Hsieh** updates the mailing labels, adds new folks and notes when dues are paid. **Jim Snell** helps with the heavy work of picking up the newsletters at the printer and then **Diane Morris** meets us back at the house to help put the labels on, sort the newsletters by zip code and bundle them for the post office. Jim helps me carry the newsletters into the bulk mail center for mailing and we both hold our breath(s) until we know we've passed the various hurdles of postal regulations. Then the fun begins; we play newsboys and deliver newsletters to the various businesses in Leschi and Diane Morris distributes in Madrona. **Jim Snell** also helps post the newsletter in the kiosk by BluWater; it goes much faster with two sets of hands. Finally, in this category, **we'd like to thank all our advertisers**; there would not be a newsletter without them! If you patronize one of our advertisers, please thank them for advertising in the Leschi News.

We appreciate **Allan Fink** for uploading the Leschi News to our website and getting all those black and white photos posted in color. **Jim Snell** puts the events on our Facebook

page and now **Jeff Floor** has agreed to post those events on NextDoorLeschi (<https://leschi.nextdoor.com>), which probably has a wider readership than the Facebook page.

Although we have a program committee (**Amy Fink**, **Tracy Bier** and **Diane Snell**), we often find ourselves in the position of having to react quickly to a city group, which needs to communicate important information and wants to be a part of our meeting. Flexibility is the key here. We appreciate **Gwen Rench** who puts out the sandwich board signs announcing the meetings and we appreciate **Cornelius Bolton**, Senior Center staff, who has set up for our meetings for many years. We appreciate **Dian Ferguson** for negotiating a manageable rent for the room each month.

We appreciate **Darrell Howe** and **Darcy Thompson** for their stewardship of Frink Park and their help when we clean their local stairway. We appreciate the dedicated crew that consistently works the first Saturday of each month at the Leschi Natural Area: **Fran and Bunny Wood**, **Diane Morris**, **Betsy Zickler**, **Rich Appleton** and **Alan Grenon**.

Two blocks immediately north of Leschi Park is the Leschi Gateway Project, a stretch of native landscape along the north edge of Lake Washington Boulevard. This part of Lake Washington Boulevard is especially scenic for its line of overarching Madrona trees leading up to the historic Cable Car Bridge. This boulevard space was renovated in a large neighborhood effort in 2003, planning with the help of UW landscape design students, removing invasive plants, installing hundreds of native plants along with log terraces to help hold up the steep banks, and watering and spreading wood chip mulch to keep the new plants alive. Maintaining the landscape has only been successful due to a corps of volunteers.

Neighbor **Roger Young** has focused many of his efforts on keeping clear the visibility for motorists who need to make the sharp turn at Huron and Lake Washington Boulevard, as well as cutting and pruning. Neighbor **Jim Snell** has been a long-term assistant in spreading mulch, planting and cutting back the blackberries, consistently helping at short notice. **Darrell Howe** has lent his forest steward skills towards new planting, pruning trees and overall guidance.

Neighbor **Jeff Thomas** has seen to it that the sidewalk along Huron is clear by trimming adjacent vegetation, installing new plants and steam cleaning the sidewalk. Neighbor **Carlos Arriola** has kept neatness to the block just north of the Cable

Car Bridge by clearing out downed branches and shoveling back the debris that falls over the pavement.

It "takes a village" to keep our neighborhood beautiful and we have some "angels" to thank for it. Over the years, there have been setbacks. City road crews have leveled plants we installed next to the pavement, thereby letting invasive plants take over; there have been three instances of this damage. After the latest instance, the City sent in a crew to replant section of damage between Erie and Huron, but that did not take hold. Late last year, the project was added to the Green Seattle Partnership, and more City assistance through the Park Department is expected. No matter what, volunteer effort and contributions will be essential to keep making this special part of our neighborhood the jewel that it is. (**John Barber**)

We appreciate those who contribute their Red Apple receipts to the cause: **Elie Smith**, **Lazelle Johnson**, **Hope Hensley** and **Joan Marshall**, down at Marshall's Cleaners.

We appreciate **Jan Tracy** who put her post-accident convalescent period to good use by sticking our new address labels on our old printed envelopes.

Jeff Floor appreciates "all my thoughtful neighbors on 30th avenue who park carefully and in the most efficient pattern so that more of us can find curb space for our individual chariots. (Only interlopers seem to take up two spots)."

We appreciate all who have helped in the monthly stairway clean up, those who help at the String of Pearls and the Gateway project and those who quietly clean the gutters and keep the storm drains clear on their own street. And we all appreciate those who scoop the poop of our canine population.

Last but definitely not least, we appreciate all the neighbors who add an extra amount when they renew their membership; this little pot of gold has enabled us to make some worthy donations. We won't name you; being a donor has its downside when the rest of the world discovers your generosity. It's our secret but we DO appreciate all of you!

-John Barber, Jeff Floor, Diane Morris and Diane Snell



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23rd & UNION

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TOUR LESCHI ELEMENTARY

Leschi Elementary is busy preparing for upcoming tours, wrapping up our annual “ask” fundraiser and looking for volunteers to support the work of our fantastic teachers.

Here are the dates for the upcoming tours and open house. Our upcoming daytime tours and evening open house give families an opportunity to find out more about our current programs, our proposed blended-model program for next year, excellent teachers and staff, and exciting before/after school activities. Join us!

Evening Open House and Potluck

Thursday, January 29th 5:30 to 7:30. This is an open house night for all Leschi families, and we are inviting prospective families to join us. Meet staff, teachers and current families and take a look into the classrooms and around the school.

Daytime Tours

See classrooms in action and hear from staff and parent and student guides all about Leschi Elementary. Check in at the library. Please call the school office at (206) 252-2950 to reserve a spot!

Wednesday, February 4 8:45-10:00 am

Thursday, February 12 8:45-10:00 am

Tuesday, February 24 8:45-10:00 am

Leschi Elementary is located just off Yesler at 135 32nd Ave. For more information about Seattle Public Schools enrollment visit www.seattleschools.org, then click on Enrollment under Schools at the top right of the page.



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Leschi Elementary school raises money year round to support our teachers in the classroom, provide scholarships for after-school programs, cover tuition and tournament fees for our chess team, purchase PE equipment and art supplies, to name a few supports.

If you are interested in donating money, please send checks to Leschi Elementary, 135 32nd Ave, Seattle, WA 98122.

Coming this spring, you can sponsor a student during the jog-a-thon. It's a healthy fundraiser that is a lot of fun for the students and staff.

Finally, we are looking for volunteers to help support our teachers. Do you have an extra hour a week you want to spend helping a student with reading, phonics, writing or math? Please contact Katie Busby at katiebusby@gmail.com if you would like more information. It's a rewarding activity!

In February, we will be hosting guest speakers every Monday at the morning assembly to highlight Black History Month. The assemblies start at 8:50 am. Community members are welcome to attend.

We also want to thank the community for participating in the Chinook Book fundraiser and helping with our yearly giving garland project. We raised \$1045 from the sales of the books and were able to provide gifts and grocery gift cards to 26 families over the holidays. Our generous community donated nearly 300 gifts in total.

-Katie Busby

DAY OF CARING

Various groups take on projects on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, and this year was no exception. The Leschi Natural Area was delighted to greet 13 U. W. students to help with mulching and the ongoing battle with invasive plants. There was an enormous pile of mulch, which needed to be transported down the Terrace Street stairs (sixty steps in all) and spread around the plantings.

During the lunch (which is provided), the regular crew got to know the students better. It was quite an international group with a young student from Kuwait, a woman from Morocco and several students from China. Some students plan to continue working on the regular first Saturdays and they would be much appreciated. Ah, the energy of youth!

-Diane Morris

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NEIGHBORHOOD DISTRICT COORDINATOR RETIRES

WELCOME OUR NEW COORDINATOR

Our neighborhood coordinator, Stan Lock, retired on January 21. He has been a valued support to this community by offering guidance to the Central Area Neighborhood District Council and to your own Leschi Community Council in negotiating the various labyrinths of city government. Stan worked for the city for 31 years, and in the capacity of Neighborhood Coordinator, he served many districts within the city. When he came to the Central District, it was like coming home for him. He said he was born in an apartment at 23rd & Jackson where the Promenade parking lot is now located. He attended schools in the Central Area and had little trouble adjusting to serving this area.

Succeeding Stan in this position is Yun Pitre, who has worked as a neighborhood coordinator for the past ten years. Yun was born in Korea and moved to Washington State with her family at age 10. She has been here ever since, graduating from UW with a Bachelor's degree in Psychology. She lives in the SeaTac area and has served many neighborhoods in her coordinator position: Southwest (Delridge area), Southeast, Duwamish and Fremont. Until May when Stan's position can officially be filled, Yun will be serving three districts but will be attending our CANDC meetings. When asked about the job and what she likes most about it, she said meeting the neighbors and establishing relationships. This is not the job for an introvert and it's obvious that Yun is a people person. She has family in the Leschi area, so she is familiar with our community. We discussed some of the

issues in Leschi, the traffic problems, transit (or lack of it) and the ongoing need for volunteers. She publishes the CNN (the online Central Neighborhood News) weekly and urged us to use that as a vehicle for communicating our volunteer needs. She said she is continually amazed at the strong leadership in community councils and amazed at the number of volunteer hours that folks contribute to making their community better. We are looking forward to having a good working relationship with Yun as we seek her out to help solve our community problems.

-Diane Snell

MONTHLY MEMBER MEETING AT SENIOR CENTER

Members heard that when Dian Ferguson accepted the permanent director position, she agreed to stay for 7 years. Some of the big decisions on her plate have to do with the possible purchase of the building by Senior Services to keep as a senior center permanently. Dian has applied for a grant to do a total assessment of the building, both structurally and what is needed for renovation. The purchase is a decision that must be made by 2017. One big need is window replacement; the loss of heat through the old windows makes for a dramatically high heating bill.

It costs \$45,000 per month to operate the Senior Center at full staff (as they are currently.) Utility bills run about \$1000 per month. Expenses were not quite met in December; \$43,000 was brought in. Green Dolphin generates about \$300 per month; more attendees could increase that revenue. February's performer is CT Thompson, who is a favorite as he sings the old R & B

Leschi Lakecenter and Yacht Basin

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goodies. A Zydeco group performs in March and a gumbo/cornbread offering is planned.

Some trips had to be cancelled in December due to lack of drivers. Drivers need a good driving record, but not a chauffeur's license.

New programs are being pursued on aging and caregiving; the Mayor's Office has inquired whether the Center would be interested in doing a Kinship Center again.

The downstairs of the Center has been rented at \$1000 per month for July and August to an elementary youth group: BEAN.

Some fundraising ideas were shared: A Super Bowl event on the big screen. The Center would need Cable for that and Dian was not sure it could be installed in time. A movie night with dinner and wine was also suggested.

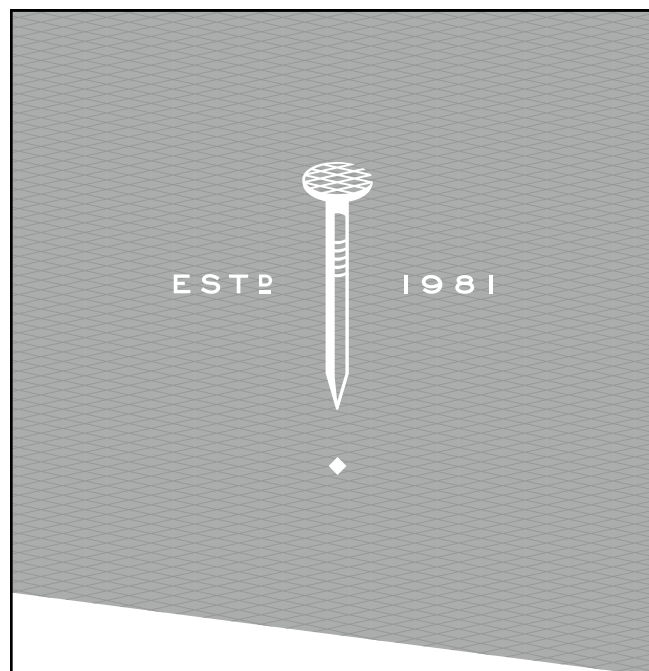
~Diane Morris

FEBRUARY EVENTS AND CLASSES AT THE SENIOR CENTER

Drunk on Beads Class at the CASC

Wednesdays from 1-4PM

Have you ever wanted to learn how to create your own beautiful bracelets, rings, necklaces and earrings? The Central Area Senior Center hosts a jewelry making class every Wednesday from 1-4PM and participants have created beautiful jewelry items to share with friends and family, make as gifts, and even sell! Cost is \$2 for members and \$3 for non-members.



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Green Dolphin Street Lounge

Friday, February 20: 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. February's Green Dolphin night features local favorite, CT Thompson! If you want to hear some sweet, soothing and soul inspiring music, just listen to CT's singing and songwriting, and you will know you have found the spiritual remedy! He will entertain you with mostly R & B and Top 40 songs. A local crowd favorite! CT Thompson's dream began from listening to his favorite music on The Hossman's radio show on WLAC in Nashville. The show played rhythm and blues and Gospel. CT was only nine years old but he knew then he wanted to be a singer and songwriter. Admission is \$20 for non-members and \$15 for lifetime members. To make a reservation, please call 206-726-4926.

Health Insurance Counseling

2nd & 4th Tuesdays each month – Feb 10 & Feb 24

SHIBA (State Health Insurance Benefits Advisors) are available by appointment for health insurance counseling at the Central Area Senior Center. Learn about your health care coverage options, find affordable health care coverage, as well as evaluate and compare health insurance plans. This is a free resource with appointment times at 10am, 11:30am and 1pm. Please call 206-726-4926 to sign up.

~Joie Hsu, program Coordinator at Senior Center

LITTLE LEAGUE SIGN-UP

Seattle Central Little League offers tee-ball, softball and baseball for girls and boys from 4 to 16 years old. On-line registration and additional information can be found at www.seattlelittleleague.org. Email inquiries can be directed to: seattlelittleleague@yahoo.com.

Affiliated with Little League International headquartered in Williamsport, PA, Seattle Central Little League serves kids from all neighborhoods between I-90, the ship canal, I-5 and Lake Washington. Practices start in March, with games continuing into the first weeks of June. Tournament play, which ultimately leads to the Little League World Series, begins in July. Get your kids and their friends together and let's play ball!

Registering before the skills days beginning on February 21 will ensure the best experience for you and your child.

~Tom Niccoli

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PLANS FOR POWELL BARNETT PARK

Diane Morris, John Barber, Hope Hensley and Diane Snell met with Maisha Barnett and representatives from The Trust for Public Land and Momentum, a fund raising organization to discuss plans for adding some fitness equipment to Powell Barnett Park. The plan would be to add 4 pieces of equipment near the playground so that parents could use the equipment and still keep an eye on their child. Directions for use of the equipment would be displayed. The equipment would be designed for ages 13 through seniors.

Fitness equipment has already been installed in some area parks and is meeting with public approval. It primarily serves folks who may not be able to afford a gym membership or find time away from the kids to go to a gym. Fundraising for the project is done by the Trust's fundraiser in collaboration with Momentum, so it is not a burden on the neighborhood. The hope is that this can be completed by 2016 in time for the ten-year anniversary of Powell Barnett Park.

Maisha Barnett (granddaughter of Powell and the moving force behind the original renovation) said that more chips would be added to the playground and there is a plan to plant some native species on the east slope, which is experiencing some erosion.

~Diane Snell

DATE CHANGE FOR 23RD AVE. RE-DO

We expected work to begin at the end of this month and we were ready to add extra minutes to our trips, but we learn now that work on this project of reducing lanes on 23rd Ave. is more likely to start at the end of March or the beginning of April.

M. Suzanne Heidema *Certified Public Accountant*

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COYOTE CENTRAL CLASSES

Register now for classes at Coyote Central! You can sign up for a multitude of classes from Acting to Glass Blowing! Or maybe Mom isn't the best cook in the world; you can learn to cook from a pro and present your family with gourmet meals.

Coyote classes are open to students from 10-14 years and there is a generous scholarship program, including a bartering system. A contribution to the annual auction of homemade goodies could contribute to your tuition.

Classes are held at various locations throughout the area, including the school itself at 23rd & Cherry. Check out the range of classes and how to register at the website:

coyotecentral.org

~(D. Snell from a Coyote Central Press release)

THIRD ANNUAL STAIRWAY WALK

Join FEET FIRST on a city stairway walk February 7 at 10am-12pm. There will be 14 simultaneous walks throughout the city; you may be able to explore a part of the city you don't know all that well!

Each stairway walk is limited to 35 persons and you must register: feetfirst.org

See the Community Meetings minutes to learn about another Feet First activity: ensuring that the Light Rail station at I-90 is accessible for pedestrians.

~Diane Snell



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CULTURE CORNER

MIGRATION NOW! A PORTFOLIO OF PRINTS

UW School of Social Work Gallery

First Floor Gallery, 4101 15th Ave NE Seattle WA
Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm

By Susan Noyes Platt
www.artandpoliticsnow.com

With newly elected Republican politicians immediately trying to reverse Obama's actions to reduce deportations and enable more migrants to stay in this country legally, this portfolio exhibition of 30 dynamic original prints could not be more timely. In addition, with the uproar about free speech currently erupting over the murder of the cartoonists in Paris, this portfolio compellingly justifies freedom for artists to express their views. Free speech in the art world is a relative concept, framed by social contexts and both external and internal political and economic pressures. Artists often unconsciously eliminate specific references to world events and settle for obscure metaphors or personal insights, if they address politics at all.

That is not true for the artists in Migration Now! Migration intersects with climate change, free trade, drug trafficking, human trafficking, workers issues, gay rights, civil rights, and much more. These prints dramatically highlight those issues.

I am going to include the articulate statement by the portfolio organizers here in order to elaborate on the meaning and significance of the portfolio.

"Migration is a phenomenon, not a problem, something that simply is. The right to migrate and to move freely is our human right. When societies restrict or choke off the movements of their citizens, they end up doing the work of a dam—they generate power and control floods, but in doing so they destroy life and wreck the surrounding space.

We want to re-imagine migration as an inevitability, as a social practice that is not to be prevented but to be related to, like weather. All migration starts with social relationships. When people move, they are going towards either their families or communities, or more often, away from them. They move to help their relatives, or support them by leaving. People migrate

because their homes stifle them, because those homes become burdens they need to shed in order to have full lives. They move in search of

opportunity, or to escape their past, or to simply survive. They move because of lies they are told and that they come to believe, and they move to fulfill the most beautiful and fragile of dreams. Migration is fundamentally about our right to move freely across planet Earth, in search of our fullest and best selves.

As the neoliberal model of globalization has extended its reach across the globe, it has come to embody some glaring contradictions: in the modern system, capital can move freely and unhindered across borders, while people cannot. The crude sweep of globalization has affected how we survive; what we eat, breathe, drink; how we access the common resources that for centuries have helped us thrive. Globalization has destroyed and displaced the livelihoods of millions around the globe, and when millions seek to follow the money to where they might build new lives, they are branded illegal, alien, and unwanted, cast out or subjected to second-class citizenship. The same forces that displaced migrants now open up prisons to warehouse those who break migration laws - laws that are designed to criminalize, punish, and deport.

Walls go up in the desert to stop the free flow of humans and other living beings, but building walls on the borders between nations will never stop people from moving. Appealing to notions of security does little but make people fear their neighbors and ignore the real dangers that they face: a rapacious economic system that values profits over people, a vanishing natural world, and the distance between all of us that grows with every fearful glance.

Art and culture are the realm of ideas, images, and stories; it is where people make sense of the world, where they find meaning and forge community. History shows that when the culture changes, politics follows. Art has a crucial role to play in transforming, redefining and reimagining the global phenomenon of migration. When it comes to migration, the



discourse rarely focuses on the stories of real people trying to succeed; instead, the frame is dominated by criminality and punishment. We believe that when we share our images and tell our stories, we illustrate the human struggle and win over broad audiences. Art drives ideas home in a way that is unmatched by any other medium-movements soaked in art can bloom, grow more powerful, and establish deeper roots. Many of the artists involved in the Migration Now portfolio are students of the great traditions of political printmaking, such as Mexico's Taller de Grafica Popular and the inflammatory street graphics of revolutionary France in 1968 - graphic traditions which inform the works included here.

Migration is a lens through which we can interpret contemporary society and the focal point around which so much turns: race and culture, gender and sexuality, class and representation, economics and the natural world; new ideas, bad ideas, the harshest cruelty and the most open arms - all are there, spinning in tight orbit around people's innate desire to move.

In addition to the members of Justseeds (like Mexican Anarchist block-printer and muralist, Santiago Armengod,

Bay-Area Xicana activist and printmaker, Melanie Cervantes, curator and propagandist, Josh MacPhee, and Indigenist University of Michigan professor, Dylan Miner), participating artists include former Minister of Culture for the Black Panther Party, Emory Douglas; Undocumented DREAM Act agitators, Julio Salgado and Felipe Baeza; and Chinese-American visual artist and designer Imin Yeh. Others involved include renowned cartoonists, labor organizers, street-art provocateurs and culture workers from across North America. More than half of the participating artists are members of the Justseeds Artists' Cooperative."

- Co-organizers, Favianna Rodriguez and Roger Peet

If you can't make the exhibition at the University of Washington, there will also be a showing at April 6 - May 8 at the M. Rosetta Hunter Gallery, Seattle Central College right off the cafeteria in the main building at Broadway and Pine. (9:30-3:30 M-F; 5-7 Tues and Wed evenings). That exhibit will include an installation honoring those held in detention.

You can see the work on their website as well.

www.migrationnow.com

"ANTONIO GUERRERO 'I WILL DIE THE WAY I'VE LIVED'"

Guest Gallery Columbia City Gallery

4864 Rainier Ave S, Seattle WA 98118, 206-760-9843

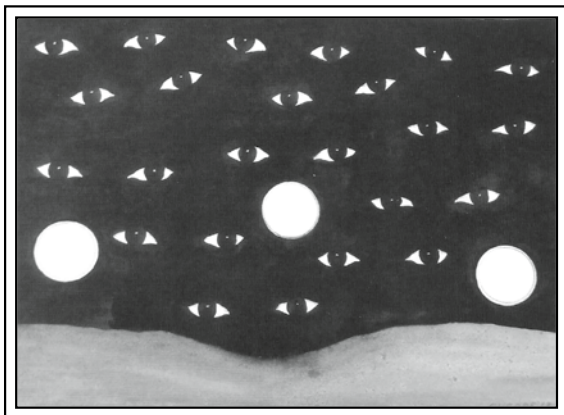
Jan 14 - Feb 22, Wed-Sat: 12-8pm; Sun 10am-6pm

Antonio Guerrero has finally returned to Cuba with the other Cuban Five following resumption of diplomatic ties with Cuba. The Cuban Five had been gathering information on Cuban American organizations including paramilitary groups who were repeatedly bombing and assaulting Cubans over fifty years. Almost 3500 Cubans had been killed. These rightwing groups were operating with impunity and the encouragement of the US government.

The Cuban Five were attempting to prevent such attacks.

They were incarcerated for fifteen years in a federal penitentiary, accused of espionage and murder. Guerrero learned to paint in prison, and made these exquisitely simple and potent watercolors. Each one comes with a story about the circumstances in prison and how they managed to survive.

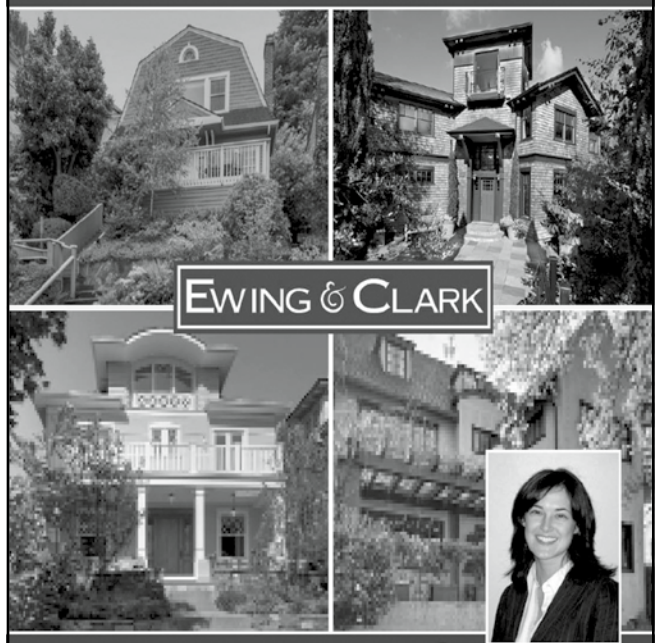
For example, this image called "The Night Watch" talks about the frequent checks by guards anytime in the day or night:



Although the Cuban Five have been freed, the "Free the Five Committee" continues to work to have the sanctions lifted. See www.freethethefive.org and www.thecuban5.org for more information.

-Susan Noyes Platt
www.artandpoliticsnow.com

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



Kristine Losh

klosh@ewingandclark.com | 206.953.6786



Seeking Sustenance in the Wilds of Seattle

PADRINO'S PIZZA AND PASTA

3756 Rainier Ave. S., 206.971.0099

Sun-Thurs 11am-midnight; Fri and Sat, 11am-1am

A welcome email from a friend suggested that I review Padrino's for the newsletter; we agreed to meet for lunch...but as I struggled to find the place, I wondered if I would have to stand her up! Padrino's is located right where it should be according to their map, but their sign is insignificant.



Their emblem, a handsome shield-like logo, is more prominent, but if you're not familiar with it, it doesn't help. Padrino's address is on Rainier but it really faces the side street, Charleston, which leads into the big Safeway parking lot on Rainier. Padrino's is right next to Emerald City Fish and Chips, which occupies a more prominent spot at the corner. My friend was already there and commiserated with me on my struggles; she has been telling the management that they need to make their name more prominent on the sign.

The establishment is a small storefront space with big windows; the sun was pouring in on this winter day and although one does not like to ever complain about sun in Seattle, I did wish they had some blinds. Ambience is minimal, but the service is good.

Orders were taken promptly; my friend went for the pizza and salad special at \$5.95. It's a small pizza (which sells for \$10.95 according to the dinner menu) and the salad is a choice of Caesar or house. One has a choice of two toppings on the pizza (which means on top of the cheese), and she chose garlic and sausage. They were very generous with the sausage. The salad is good-sized for a lunch salad.

I decided to try a pasta dish so we would have a more complete review of the food offerings: Baked Fettuccine Formaggio which came with meatballs; they left off the meat for me. Salad and bread accompanied the pasta. Unfortunately, I wasn't thinking and ordered the Caesar too, so I can't review the house salad. The Caesar is good with a wedge of lemon and freshly grated Parmesan on top. My friend pointed out the large salad bowl at another diner's table. It would feed a family.

My friend enjoyed the pizza and couldn't believe she ate it all! The fettuccine dish was very good, creamy but not overly rich. It looked as though one of the cheeses could have been cottage cheese. I would try this place again but probably for dinner; pasta is more a dinner choice for me than for lunch. My dinner was just a salad and some herbed green beans that night.

-Diane Snell

LESCHI MARKET WINE AWARDS

Throughout the months of November and December, the wine industry is seemingly inundated with lists: Top 100s, Best Buys, Gold Medal this, and Double Gold that. Many of the wines featured within these hefty catalogs tend to be outdated, past vintages, sold out or never available to begin with. Enough already! This past year seemed to be quite frustrating in this regard. It got this wine guy to thinking: "Why doesn't Leschi do one?" Oh, how one idea can spiral!

I love numbers. I love looking at them, analyzing them, predicting them. I could have been a math teacher. I'm sure my AP Calculus teacher; Mr. O'Leary could vouch for that. So, I began running numbers and reports for the hallowed wine aisle. Spreadsheet after spreadsheet I went, pouring over the days, months and quarters of 2014, scratching and marking them up with a No. 2 pencil, sometimes a Sharpie, whatever was nearby. Through the course of the process I developed a scoring system: points for monthly best sellers, bonus points for quarterly best sellers, points for a white wine selling in a predominantly red-wine drinking season, points for the price range a particular wine is in, and so forth. I think it ended up being some 20 different, unique, measureable categories in all. Now, yes, some of it is arbitrary, but all of the wine is going against each other within the same system, which seemed quite a fair way to do it.

I would like to thank anyone that purchased as little as one bottle of wine during 2014, because you in some way helped to shape the data that has become these awards.

The results are IN! I am proud to showcase the first-ever **Leschi Market Wine Awards**: the accurate and relevant, customer- and community-driven and sales-based **Top-10 Wines of 2014**. Enjoy!

10 2012 Ryan Patrick Rock Island Red Wahluke Slope (\$15)

I would also give this The Newcomer Award. This wine was a spring addition to the wine set, missing most of the whole 1st Quarter. Since its arrival, it has taken off and not looked back! I would look for this wine to be a perennial contender towards the top in the future. 58% Merlot, 35% Syrah, 5% Petite Sirah, 2% Primitivo.

9 Roederer Estate Brut Anderson Valley NV (\$19)

Also a recipient of Best Bubbly Award. "Focused and vibrant, with aromas of creamy apple, cinnamon and hazelnut leading to complex, layered flavors of lemon custard, mineral and almond. The finish lingers. Drink now through 2015." -Wine Spectator, 91 points. New release.

8 2013 Dashwood Sauvignon Awatere Valley Marlborough New Zealand (\$11)

Also checking in as the Best New Zealand Wine of 2014 "Aromas of green tinged fruit typical of the Awatere Valley. Fresh herb and lychee characteristics on the palate with good length. A pleasing mineral note leads to a long lingering finish. A wine to be shared. Stainless steel fermented. This is a well-balanced, fruit driven Sauvignon Blanc." -Winemaker notes.



7 2013 L'Ecole No 41 Chardonnay Columbia Valley (\$20)

Proud to also award Best Washington Wine! "This beautifully expressive Chardonnay offers an enticing mix of tropical fruit, apple, and old world characters of flint and slate. The rich structure of this wine is finely balanced with texture and minerality, adding complexity on the full, lingering finish." -Winemaker notes.

6 2013 Domaine de Triennes Rosé Vin de Pays de Méditerranée (\$15)

I know what you're saying: He's broken his own rule! Well, yes, kind of. This vintage is no longer available, but the exception is that I'm being very up front about it and not sending the masses out looking for something that they'll never find! Spoiler alert: this is the first of two exceptions. Both being Rosé. The demand for great rosé has reached an all-time high and now sells nearly all year long. The two pinks that make our Top-10 would oftentimes dwarf all other wine in sales for months and months. It would be a misrepresentation to not include them. Now we wait patiently for the release of 2014!

5 2013 AIX Rosé Coteaux d'Aix en Provence (\$14)
An award-winning wine from one of the region's largest and most prestigious wineries, Domaine de la Grande Séouve, who have established AIX as perhaps the definitive Provence rosé. They can add Leschi Market's Best Rosé 2014 to their list of accolades, as it narrowly beat out #6 on our list. A blend of Grenache, Syrah-Shiraz and Cinsault, and is still available as of the time of this deadline.

4 2013 Oisly et Thésée 'Les Gourmets' Sauvignon Blanc Touraine (\$7)

Year in and year out this is one of the very best buys in the entire store. Fresh grapefruit, lime, slate and floral notes make for an astoundingly complex "little" wine that delivers the Loire's classic Sauvignon character at a remarkable price for the quality. -Winemaker notes.

3 Estrella Proprietor's Reserve Lot #3 California (\$4.99)

This could be a contender for a Lifetime Achievement Award in the not so far future. Long-time customers will remember that for years, the Estrella would battle Distant Bay for top honors among our monthly Best Seller lists. Years have passed, the Distant Bay is but a distant memory and yet the little red that can, remains up towards the top. The current offering of the Proprietor's Red is a blend of Shiraz and Petit Verdot. "Layers of blackberry fruit, plum, and black cherries. Softly structured tannins round out the delicate balance and lingering hints of vanilla and smoke finish off this medium-bodied red wine. Pair this wine with grilled meats and pastas with red sauces. Chocolate cheese cake and dark chocolate brownies complement it well." -Kip Lorenzetti, Winemaker.

2 2013 Wente Vineyards Riva Ranch Chardonnay Arroyo Seco Monterey County (\$15)

Now we are down to Number 2 on our list! Also: Best White Wine 2014, as well as, Best Chardonnay under \$20. Let the awards pour in for this perfect balance of tropical fruit, acidity and creamier notes of butter, vanilla and subtle oak. This Chardonnay has a round mouthfeel and a crisp, long finish. This will contend for years to come.

1 2012 Excelsior Cabernet Sauvignon South (\$8)

Sad but true. If this South African Cabernet came from California, it would be twice as expensive. South Africa has managed to steal some of Australia's thunder with bargain buys like this gem from the Excelsior Estate's De Wet family. A deliciously fruit-forward style of Cabernet, the Excelsior offers copious plum and licorice notes on a soft, full-bodied frame. Try it solo or have a glass with your sausage pizza, roast chicken or grilled Portobello burger. -Winemaker notes.

There you have it. **Leschi Market's Top-10 Wines of 2014** with several awards mixed in as well. We'll continue to tweak the system, and strive to taste and add new wines and new awards in the future. Thank you for being a part of it. Not bad for a first go at it!

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.

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CENTRAL AREA NEIGHBORHOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL 1.18.15

Feet First representative John Stewart spoke at the CANDC meeting about the need for a coordinated effort to get Sound Light Rail to address pedestrian access to the planned I-90 light rail station. Although they do an excellent job of addressing access and ADA issues inside the station, there is little thought given to the outside access. This station will be in a difficult area for pedestrians with freeways all around, the lid to the park and no lighting at night. The City shares these concerns; Feet First plans a walk-through to point out the concerns. There is a need to have these issues addressed before construction of the station, as it will take much longer if it isn't incorporated at that point.

Neighborhoods were requested to submit project applications for park/street funds, as there is \$800,000 set aside for this. Applications are due February 9.

Stephanie Tolliver-Johnson, representative of the NW African American Museum, reported that a community engagement director has been hired and will be announced soon. Plans for the Jimi Hendrix Park go to bid this month. There is a new bus shelter at 23rd & Massachusetts. Current exhibit by artist Anastacia Tolbert honors the ratification of the 13th Amendment.

We had the opportunity to meet our new DON neighborhood coordinator, Yun Pitre, who will carry on while Stan Lock is busy enjoying his retirement.

EASTPAC MEETING 1.22.15

Precinct Captain Pierre Davis briefed us on the current crime situation: car prowls have skyrocketed astronomically in our precinct with the QFC on Broadway as a favored spot. From the culprits that have been caught, the motive seems to be feeding drug habits and the preferred items to steal are laptops and cell phones, those easy to sell on the street items.

Traffic/pedestrian issues seemed to take up the rest of the meeting with some situations around schools and the few school buses left. I reported that blowing through the stop sign AND blinking red light at 32nd & Yesler is still a favored activity. Surely, these transgressors can't be our neighbors! This is a school area and there are TWO stop cues: the octagonal sign and the blinking red light. Captain Davis indicated he has ways to put a stop to this behavior which isn't even a California rolling stop...these cars are just breezing through on a left turn (hopefully looking, if not stopping.)

The East Precinct now has a Seattle University intern who is looking at the collected data and they hope to use informational sites on the Internet to get data communicated between monthly meetings.

Lighting was another issue discussed; Captain Davis urged communities to request the LED lights from SDOT as they are brighter and last longer than our old streetlights.

-Diane Snell

LCC EXEC. BOARD MEETING 1.12.15

Attending: Diane Snell, Diane Morris, Kim Murillo, Jeff Floor, Amy Fink, John Barber

- Feb 14th is neighbor appreciation day. Board members are encouraged to submit names of neighbors they would like to appreciate and why.
- Kim – Treasurer's Report – Please see Kim's spreadsheet for details. Kim would like to concentrate on membership and dues in 2015. Diane S. will write letters to new and existing members. Misc. bookkeeping notes: the \$10 filing fee for January; one item not showing on the spreadsheet is insurance \$340/year; we have \$3000 in Pay-Pal; some of the businesses advertising in the newsletter are behind in paying their ad fees.
- Jeff – LURC Report – The Bangasser property issue is on hold until the next City Council hearing on Jan. 23rd. Things are beginning to move on property kitty-corner to the Bangasser property. LURC will be meeting with the developers, Lake Union Partners.
- John – Parks and Greenspace Report
 - 1) Frink Park – trails 'renovation' issue not yet resolved. This has been very frustrating for John and some of the park's most ardent supporters. Diane asked about the grant going forward.
 - 2) Per Diane S., the Dept. of Neighborhoods representative came to the CNDC meeting and encouraged neighborhoods to apply for the Transportation and Parks matching grant. These are due Feb 9. We could use this for the 'living wall' project on the Lake Dell retaining wall.
 - 3) King Street Park – There have been some complaints as to the 'upkeep' of this pocket park. This is a native plant habitat area. Diane S. suggested we could apply for a grant to pay for a sign showing that this is the designation for this park so visitors/neighbors understand why it looks as it does.
- Amy – February General meeting – we've invited Garfield's BSU students to share their experiences of participating in recent marches and demonstrations.
- Diane Snell – Bus update – We're supposed to get bus 27 back in June; that is, back to the regular schedule. Janet deserves credit for her circulator route idea.
- Diane Morris – CASC – The Central has a new wood floor and the walls have been painted. The feel is much warmer in the dining room. John says, "it glows." Dian Ferguson, who is now the permanent director, has agreed that we can't schedule a wine tasting there on Feb 14. Diane Morris noted that Ms. Ferguson has brought the facilities' debt down from \$60,000 to \$2,000.

Support your community by joining the Leschi Community Council!

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

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

LCC supports the Instrumental Music Program at Leschi Elementary

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

LCC supports the Central (Central Area Senior Center)

LCC produces the Leschi News 10 times a year

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

☐ \$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



2015 GOALS

- Jeff would like to continue the stair cleanings and work on the Lake Dell retaining wall;
- John wants to improve LCC's relationship with Parks Dept. and get a working relationship going with Tree Ambassadors;
- Diane S. suggested inviting Parks dept. to a general meeting;
- Diane S. wants to keep bus 27 as an ongoing goal;
- A Musical event for the summer – Diane M. and Diane S. will coordinate – on the pier;
- Amy has some ideas for increasing membership;
- Jeff will publicize events on 'NextDoorLeschi'.



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leschinews

The next Leschi News deadline is **FEBRUARY 16**. Mail all articles, comments, letters, advertisements, and membership dues to this address:
Leschi Community Council, 140 Lakeside Ave Suite A #2, Seattle WA 98122-6538
or email Diane Snell at leschinews@comcast.net

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February 2015 | Calendar

FEB 4 Leschi CC meeting, 7pm, The Central Area Senior Center, 500 30th Ave. S

FEB 7 Leschi Natural Area work party 9am-3pm. Lunch and tools provided. 36th & Terrace.

FEB 7 12 noon. Garfield Jazz at Bellevue CC

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

FEB 10 & 24 Health Care insurance counseling with SHIBA at the Senior Center; call for appointment 206.726.4926. FREE

FEB 12 Central Area Neighborhood District Council, 6pm, The Central, 500 30th Ave S

FEB 14 Seattle Neighborhood Coalition, 9am, The Central, 500 30th Ave S (Breakfast: \$14)

FEB 20 Green Dolphin Street Lounge, 6-9pm. Admission \$20 for non-members and \$15 for lifetime members. Refreshments. No Host bar. CT Thompson performs.

FEB 22 Garfield Jazz Jam, 6:30pm, The Royal Room, 5000 Rainier Ave. S

FEB 25 Garfield Symphony Orchestra Foyer Concert, 7-9pm, Quincy Jones, PAC

FEB 26 EastPAC meeting, 6:30pm, Chardin Hall, Seattle U.
Parking off Jefferson past 12th on the 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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