

leschinews

February 2020 Issue No. 369

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

Area Safety Meeting

Join us for an evening with our Crime Prevention Officer, Joseph Elenbaas, to learn the answers to our safety questions on February 5th at 7pm. Why do statistics show the crime is at an all-time low when there are so many complaints in social media about package thefts and car prowls as well as car thefts?

February 5, 7pm

**CENTRAL AREA SENIOR CENTER,
500 30TH AVE. S, ONE BLOCK S OF JACKSON**

inside the news

5 Horse Girl in Argentina

7 The Imperfect Art of Forecasting Snow

8 Not Nutria!

12 Valentine's Wines and Cocktails

SAVE THE DATE

MARCH 4 MEET A SUFFRAGETTE! COMING IN MARCH

March is Women's History month and this year we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment which gives women the right to vote. We want to celebrate that auspicious and hard-fought victory with a special program honoring those suffragettes who worked tirelessly for the benefit of all the women to follow. The early suffragettes lived in New York and were quite familiar with the Haudenosaunee tribe (part of the Iroquois nation). The Haudenosaunee women had equal rights and a voice in the decisions of the tribe. They were not considered property of their husbands. This native group was inspiring as the suffragettes fought for the right to vote.

We have invited a talented actor, Tams Alan, to depict what it was like to be a suffragette; Tams has acted at the Ashland Shakespeare Festival and performs locally in the living history series.

VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED: CONTACT LESCHINEWS@COMCAST.NET

APRIL 1 TAX ASSESSOR JOHN WILSON

MAY 6 LESCHI CC ANNUAL MEETING: OFFICER ELECTIONS & STAR AWARDS

President's Message

Hello fellow Leschi neighbors,

Well here we are moving quickly into the new year. Judging from all of the messages from the year end, 2019 was not the best for most people. I believe we are all excited about the opportunities 2020 will bring.

A note of caution that is making its way around, when signing checks, do not just put 1/24/20 but spell out the whole year: 1/24/2020. It would be too easy to change a date if you just use the two number abbreviation we all typically use (this is for people who still write checks).

This month's program will feature the Crime Prevention Officer of the Seattle Police Department's East Precinct, Joseph Elenbaas, who will be discussing various issues community members have been curious about and a synopsis of the types of activities seen by the East Precinct in our area. Questions have been submitted varying from who to call for Wellness Checks to how to restart the Neighborhood Watch program. If you have not submitted questions, please prepare and send to Diane Snell or me and we will present. Our next meeting is February 5th at 7:00p at the Central Area Senior Center, 500 30th Ave. S.

We will have to reschedule the presentation of the proposed mural for 31st and Jackson. Due to the snow, this was postponed.

A special thank you to Bart Evans who had patrons of BluWater contribute to the Giving Tree at Leschi Elementary. As you can see from the article in this publication, \$7500 was raised and gifted to them. A tremendous boon to the school and exceptional kindness and generosity from our community and BluWater's clientele. Bart has always been supportive in so many ways of both the commercial community and the Leschi Community Council.

And a special thanks to Leschi Market for their support of Leschi schools' needy families with gifts of 80 hams and the fixings for a holiday meal!

As the days get longer and the spring flowers are around the corner, we encourage you reach out if you need help, look for opportunities to make a difference in someone's life—a sincere smile can have rippling effects you may never see. All of us have struggled with a variety of life's challenges and we have also enjoyed life's wins—large or small.

Be safe, be in joy and I wish you a Valentine's Day where someone wishes you love.

Warm regards,

Janice Merrill Brown

President, Leschi Community Council



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Leschi Community Council

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

President

Janice Merrill Brown
janicemb@comcast.net

Vice President

Trevor Lalish-Menagh
trev@trevreport.org

Secretary

Diane Snell
leschinews@comcast.net

Treasurer

Janet Oliver, janetoliver@seanet.com

Program Chair

Diane Snell, 206-726-0923

Parks and Greenspace

John Barber, 206-324-1548
barber-osa@comcast.net

Land Use Chair

Jeff Floor, jsfloor@gmail.com

Public Health and Safety

Tracy Bier, atbier@msn.com

Leschi Business Associate

Yousef Shulman
yousefshulmanlcc@gmail.com

Events Chair

Position open

Marketing Chair

Yuki Igarashi, YElgarashi@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor and Advertising

Diane Snell, 206-726-0923
leschinews@comcast.net

Production Designer

Kirsten Hopperstad
khopperstad@msn.com

Staff Photographer

Position open

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Please share with a friend.



Volunteers Make a Strong Community!

I received an email from the editors of the Madrona News which has not been able to produce the desired 10 issues per year due to lack of volunteers. The editors are working folks and they depend on volunteers to help fill an issue. I remember when I first took over the Leschi News and there were few contributors. I was still working, ostensibly retired and only filling in when someone else was on vacation. My first fill in was for someone who worked full time and was taking a 6-month sabbatical! And here was my first stint as editor! The next 6 months were terribly busy with most of the paper being written by me, a trend I did not appreciate! A community newspaper should be a diversity of voices as the community is made up of many personalities, not just one. It took a while to get others to step forward and commit to monthly contributions. One help was a suggestion by John Barber that we devote a section of the paper to culture and that began the Culture Corner. Susan Platt who is an art critic was delighted to take on the review of new shows and new venues for artists and living in the Central District, she was quite familiar with local artists and smaller venues that don't get mentioned in the larger publications. Susan has been writing this column for years now and we appreciate her immensely. She does travel but has seen that her column is filled by others in the art world. Her husband, Henry Matthews, is a lover (and former professor, now retired) of architecture, and Esther Ervin, a Madrona artist, is familiar with our local art scene and works closely with local arts groups.

Leschi Market has graciously lent us the voice of Ken Benner, a wine enthusiast, with an extensive background in wine and "wine talk." I love to eat out and felt that restaurant reviews should be a part of the Seeking Sustenance column. But it has not been easy to get folks to submit their own reviews and there are months when I don't get out (as much as I had hoped). Karen Daubert has sent us some good reviews; she is appreciative of good food and gets to more Mt. Baker eateries than we do. Susan Platt has also sent us some reviews of Madison Valley restaurants; and she recommended Malcolm Harker to us. Malcolm's British wit is not to everyone's taste, but he does know good food and deals when he meets them! We are now receiving not full reviews but tidbits, such as best cookies and best croissants, but of course that does not a meal make so we urge our Leschi neighbors to forward reviews when you eat out and remember it's not just the food, it's the whole scene. Could you hear your dinner partner talk or was the noise too great to converse? Was there ample room and comfortable seating? I remember one of my early reviews of Trattoria Mitchell, a now defunct eatery in Pioneer Square. The tables were close and the floor had a definite slant to it; I was present when a waitperson lost control of his many dinner plates and as one plate tipped, the pasta slowly slid off the plate and down the back of a female diner just one table away. I had many experiences there and it was always an adventure trying to eat there.

We are pleased to have such contributors as Georgia McDade who brings us an African-American voice, although I chose to

see it as a voice for justice and equality; Charlie Phillips who has studied climate change and can often explain the anomalies of our curious weather patterns here. We appreciate Benson Funk Wilder for his reports on Leschi School and Selah Brown who keeps us tuned in to the activities at the Senior Center. Jennifer Romo has come forward in recent months to tell us about the Garfield Community Center classes and activities which appeal to youth as well as to Seniors.

We appreciate the voice of Anne Depue, book maven, for her lucid reviews of the most difficult tomes and her recent forays into the flora and fauna of the area. Her daughter Cello Lockwood is our intrepid traveler sending reports back from various spots around the globe in her year-long study of the effect of climate change on hoses.

We appreciate the monthly financial reports from our treasurer who gives us the skinny on the costs of doing what we do and our attempts to make meaningful donations to keep Leschi institutions alive and well. It is a task of the Leschi CC president to write a message to the community each month and Janice Merrill Brown encourages us with positive words in even the bleakest of months.

And of course, we appreciate John Barber, long time Chair of Parks and Greenspace for his close watch on all things green and his careful scrutiny of the budget as far as Parks is concerned. Kudos to Julia Hsieh for keeping our mailing list current and producing the labels each month. Her efforts keep us from the postal fees which occur when you move and don't let us know and we find out the hard way...ouch! \$4.48 per returned newsletter! Thanks to Kirsten Hopperstad who manages to survive the cumbersome changes often required to keep our production costs low as possible and still meet post office requirements. And thanks to Gwen Rensch who puts out the sandwich board signs for our general meetings, no matter what the weather!

I appreciate Brandon Macz, Madison Park Times editor, as he is the most active editor I have seen in a long time. He is everywhere and gets the scoop ahead of everyone else. He often fills us in through NextDoor Leschi.

As residents, all of you have a voice and should contribute. We do avoid political discussions due to our non-profit status. Comment on local issues and not personalities. It takes a lot of volunteer work to make a strong community; we wish Madrona the best in their efforts to keep the newsletter going and we encourage Leschi to keep our community strong!

*-Diane Snell
Editor*

Neighborhood & Beyond

PCC TO CENTRAL DISTRICT:

As a PCC member since 1978, I was delighted to learn that the expected New Seasons store at 23rd and Union was not to be—it will be a PCC! There had already been neighborhood signs expressing negativity toward New Seasons which had a non-union workforce. PCC employees are union protected and PCC has wonderful organic produce and an excellent choice of cheeses. How nice to be able to run into a nearby PCC for a few items instead of waiting to accumulate a list to make the trek to Columbia City!



We have new stop signs on Yesler at 32nd! This should make it safer for both the students and our intrepid crossing guard, Henrietta Price! Thank you SDOT! Benson Funk Wilder, our liaison to the school, admitted that he had assumed the role of Pesterer-in-Chief to make this finally happen! We had heard previously that persistence in the form of pestering made the crosswalk on Lake Washington Blvd. a reality as well. Remember that tip and sharpen your “pester skills” when taking on the city!

We are still searching the community skies for Leschi Stars. If you have a nomination, the form is on page 6 of the January issue, available on our website Leschinews.com in the archives section. We will publish the form again in the March issue.

Officer elections coming in May at our annual meeting. We will publish job descriptions next month. If you are considering running for an office, consider attending the LCC Board meeting to get an idea of what

is involved. The next Board meeting is Feb. 10 at 6pm at the Central Area Senior Center in the technology room; meetings usually last about one hour.

-Diane Snell

CITY RESOURCES

The Seattle Find it, Fix It app (<https://www.seattle.gov/customer-service-bureau/find-it-fix-it-mobile-app>) which can be downloaded at the Apple App Store, or Google Play Store, at no cost is a very useful way to get information to the city about problems in your neighborhood at the tip of your fingertips. I have used it to get light bulbs replaced on streetlights, get trash cleaned up in the local park, and report suspicious behavior, like car prowls. I have been impressed with how responsive the city has been with the use of the app. For example, within two days of reporting the streetlight was out next to our house, it had been replaced. The Find It, Fix It app is a must have if you live in Seattle. It is nice to see the city modernizing how it connects with us who live here.

-Trevor Lalish-Menagh.

9TH ANNUAL ARTWALK

Planning will start early this year for our annual ArtWalk in September. We begin meeting on the 2nd Thursday of each month at BluWater Bistro at 3:30pm. We need folks with ideas for publicity, for attracting artists and musicians, grant writing and willing hands to help on that special day. Meetings are fun and delicious with appetizers provided by BluWater.

-Diane Snell

PEPPI'S WOODS

An unfortunate tree-cutting episode by Parks with heavy equipment resulted in much damage to the narrow space in Peppi's Woods where many volunteer hours have been spent over the years to create the space that Liz Ohlson had envisioned. Liz said it was gratifying to receive a letter from Parks detailing the steps they will take to repair the damage.



Lisa Eaton, DPT, OCS
Julie Grove, MPT

120 Lakeside Ave
Suite 210
Seattle, WA 98122
206-925-3762
Fax: 206-324-3600

Parks will replace wood chips, combine log debris, place logs to improve stability, remove small branches and limbs to preserve native vegetation, and replant 100 plants in highly impacted areas.

HORSE GIRL GOES GLOBAL

Cello Lockwood sends her final blog from Argentina which we will reprint in two issues: February and March.

Doma India: curso de caballos y la vida

In the past months I have been willingly swallowed by the pampas, happily swept off grid by these wild and welcoming gauchos. The second episode of my Argentine adventure began at a prominent Gaucho event in the Congreso in Buenos Aires. I had been invited to attend by Cristobal Scarpatis, who I would be studying with. I stood on my tip toes in the packed assembly, peering over traditionally dressed gauchos and gauchas to the stage where I saw Adolfo Cambiaso (the polo player) was being recognized and then Oscar Scarpatis (the father of Cristo). Oscar is famous in Argentina, and beyond, for his unique approach to taming horses. The Scarpatis are not working gauchos, but they are the heart of Argentine equine tradition. Every single gaucho in this country knows their name.

We spent the next day at a polo club where German filmmakers were shooting for a documentary on the Scarpatis. Oscar, Cristo, and Painé (Oscar's second eldest son) worked with rebellious polo horses until they allowed the barefoot men to nimbly spring onto their backs and lie beneath their bellies. Even the professional polo players stopped practice to watch.

On Sunday we set off on a 10-hour road trip to the Scarpatis homestead in the mountains of San Luis province (a desert region in the north-west corner of Argentina). My time with the Scarpatis unfurled like soft smoke from an asado: timeless, shapeless, fluid, transformative. Life exists in a separate dimension here. The day is formulated by presence, not by time. There is no Argentine translation for "what's the plan?" Also, difficult to communicate is "when?", "where?", "with who?". A full 180 from my earlier travels, I had *zero* agency in what we did during the day. During the first week I alternated between deep peace and pre-panic attacks. The complete lack of structure was like walking on the moon; no matter how hard I tried to place one foot in front of the other, I kept floating away from the path I was desperate to remain on. It took me many weeks to realize that the line I was trying to follow only existed in my head.

The first 9-hour family lunch brought me close to tears... The exhaustion of not being able to understand the adults (or the crying kids), combined with the effort of trying to squash the feeling that no matter how welcomed I felt, I was still an outsider.

The next family lunch lasted 36 hours. (I learned that when with the Scarpatis, it is essential to keep a toothbrush in my purse.) This gathering was hosted by Oscar in his home 2 hours away from Cristo's. His house spawns out of the desert, natural and unassuming amid the dry brush and sturdy cacti. A living museum, rusted relics of the past decades decorate every surface of the modest open-plan house. Horseshoes hang on the walls like crucifixes.

It is amazing to me that humans can live in harmony with the land here, the harsh climate so unwelcoming after the soft, lush pampas of the east.

I watch in awe as the kids run around unsupervised—everything poses danger to their soft flesh. Cacti with 4-inch-long pricklers, tarantulas as big as my hand, rattle snakes of all sizes (a special kind that don't have rattles). But they brandish grandpa's old shotguns against these trivial evils and race across sand in their alpargatas. Oscar scoops up a tarantula in his hands. The kids squeal as they admire it, then he gently places it down where he found it and the game of tag continues. I pick up my feet, suddenly inspired to sit cross-legged on my bench.

Later in the day the fire from our asado licks the night sky. I chew on some thick juicy carne (doing my best to ignore my true vegetarianism). Mumbles of Spanish spice the air, millions of stars sprawl above us. Except for the nano-puff jacket wrapped tightly around my chest, this



EPIPHANY MUSIC ACADEMY

**Are you curious to learn more
about the music that you love?!**

Group courses for high school students and adults are now on-going at the Epiphany Music Academy in Madrona! The Academy is offering courses in music appreciation, music theory, and sight singing.

Each course is offered in 6-week sessions for \$180. For more information about the different courses, schedules, instructors, and the Academy, please visit the website!

www.EpiphanyMusicAcademy.org

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moment could exist in any decade. Time isn't linear here. Not in this place, not in this house, not in this family. Conversations don't fade until the embers have long extinguished themselves.

Still unaccustomed to the 2am bedtime, I excuse myself, gingerly picking my way among the rocks and cacti to the small structure where a bed has been laid on the floor for me. I realize I no longer feel lonely. I am beginning to feel that I belong.

Despite the Argentine wine it takes me a long time to fall asleep, my ears alert for the silent movements of tarantulas and rattle-less rattlesnakes.

-Cello Lockwood

LESCHI ELEMENTARY NEWS

Thank You to Our Community Partners! A special thank you for our neighborhood partners, Bluwater Bistro and Leschi Market for all the recent support and fundraising during this holiday season. Bluwater collected donations and offered \$100 gift cards to customers who donated \$100 to the school—a true win-win! The restaurant raised \$7500 to fund assistive technology for literacy.

Scholars who need more reading practice will now have increased access to tools such as C-pens, iPads, audio books, and more. Leschi Elementary is excited to have a community partnership that focuses on the educational support of our schools and we look forward to continuing in the coming year.

Leschi Market has also been outstanding in supporting our PTA, helping to collect donations more than \$5000 so far from patrons, and through the generous provision of holiday meals to families in need. Over the course of Thanksgiving and the winter holidays, working with our family support office, Leschi Market provided 80 delicious baked hams with all the fixings for our families. Thank you, and thanks to all the community members who donated!

ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

The 2019–2020 Annual Giving Campaign launched in early December. Our financial goal this year is to raise \$80,000 and we always value the support of the larger Leschi community. You can mail or drop off cash or check at the front office of the school, or make an online contribution here: https://leschies.seattleschools.org/school_involvement/fundraising.

The Annual Giving Campaign is our biggest fundraiser of the year and the money raised pays for the following and more:

- Tutors, subject specialists & recess aide to lower adult-student ratio
- Writers in The Schools (WITS)
- In-class snacks: healthy, fresh & whole foods
- Professional development & supply reimbursement to teachers
- Instrumental & vocal music instruction
- Technology software & hardware maintenance
- Library maintenance & improvement
- Family Support: assistance for students & families in need
- Scholarships: field trip & enrichment tuition
- Art curriculum, supplies & resources

SENIOR CENTRAL ACTIVITIES FOR FEBRUARY

- Tulalip Casino & outlet shopping mall Monday, February 10, departs CASC at 10:30am; \$12 members; \$15 non-members
- The Central will be closed February 17, 2020 in observance of President's Day
- CASC membership meeting; February 19, 1:15–2:30pm
- Green Dolphin Lounge: February 21, 6–9pm featuring CT Thompson and DJ Mr. Cliff, delicious appetizers and fun!
- \$15 lifetime members; \$20 annual members (before 2/21); \$25 at the door
- Muckleshoot Casino & Auburn outlet shopping mall February 24; departs CASC at 10:30am; \$12 members; \$15 non-members
- Women's personal safety workshop; February 26, 1:30–3:30pm, sponsored and taught by Seattle Police Department crime prevention unit; free
- Birthday lunch celebration; February 28, 12–1pm

-Selah Brown



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GARFIELD COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS AND EVENTS

Garfield Community Center is proud to offer a wide range of free and low-cost classes and activities for our neighborhood! Registration for the Winter Quarter classes and events can be registered for online at www.seattle.gov/parks or by calling Garfield CC at 206-684-4788. Classes below are listed with an Activity Number so you can search for the class quickly in our database.

- **FREE Stroke Awareness Class:** Wednesday, February 12 at 11am. Learn about hands only CPR and how to recognize the signs of stroke! You will come away with the ability to recognize serious medical emergencies, and to communicate and collaborate with 9-1-1 dispatchers. This is a general education course for adults 50+ and is not a certification class. Pre-registration is required. Brought to you by King County EMS. Class #25663.

Free Drop-In Programs:

Our Center offers free drop-in programming for all ages! To take advantage of our drop-ins, please visit your nearest Community Center to register for a free “Quick Card.”

- Fitness Room (18 and older), Daily during operating hours
- Pokémon Club (All Ages), Thursdays, 1/2–4/9 from 4–5:30pm
- Soul Line Dancing (18 and older), Saturdays, Ongoing from 11am–1pm
- Tot Gym (Walkers–5 yrs), Mondays and Wednesdays, Ongoing from 10am–1pm

If you have any questions about programming at Garfield Community Center or any other SPR park or facility, please call us! We want to hear from you: 206-684-4788.

-Jennifer Romo

Assistant Coordinator at Garfield Community Center

COMMUNICATING A SNOW FORECAST

The Pacific Northwest is a tough place to forecast the weather for in general, but nothing is tougher here than forecasting snow. This was particularly true this past January, with two events that wreaked havoc across some locales while leaving others unscathed. The first—an arctic front and associated Puget Sound Convergence Zone—occurred on 1/12–13 and brought blizzard conditions to Bellingham while dropping over 6 inches of snow to parts of Snohomish County. The second—a persistent band of snow that dropped 2 feet of snow over Port Angeles—occurred on late 1/14–15 and was not even forecast until 12 hours prior to the start of

the event. In both events, south Seattle saw much less snow than north Seattle; Sea-Tac only received 0.7 inches of snow for the month, while the Seattle NWS forecast office near Magnuson Park saw 3.8 inches.

But as tough as forecasting snow is—communicating a snow forecast, particularly in an area with as many micro-climates and local terrain features as our own—is even harder. And unfortunately, social media allows eye-catching but incorrect forecasts (such as a blizzard from a cherry-picked model run) spread like wildfire, giving people the impression that “Snowmageddon 2020” is imminent and that they need to head to their nearest PCC to stock up on fresh fruit and vegetables!

Models hinted at the potential for a cold and snowy mid-January more than a week before our events. However, these models (particularly the American model) showed much colder temperatures than the ones that verified. The American model showed highs staying in the teens and lows dropping to the single digits, and while the long-range forecasts spit out by weather apps recognized this as an outlier, they were still calling for mid-January to be the coldest period since at least early February 2014.

As the event approached, the models (as expected) backed off on the cold, but there was a tremendous amount of uncertainty in snow forecasts due to (1)



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temperatures being on the fringe for snow, especially from Seattle southward and (2) uncertainty in the location and amount of precipitation. Meteorologists can interpret and visualize this uncertainty using “ensembles,” which is a suite of many slightly different forecasts from a given model. Ensembles will play a bigger and bigger role in forecasting as computers become faster and faster—they take massive computational resources but are more exact and better convey uncertainty than just a single model run.

Communicating uncertainty to the public is not an easy task—a consumer would much rather hear how much rain they are going to have to deal with on their evening commute than hear that there’s an “80% chance of rain” while they are driving home. But a forecast that doesn’t communicate uncertainty is a very dangerous one indeed—one only needs to go back to the infamous “Ides of October” 2016 windstorm forecast bust to see how focusing on the worst-case-scenario can come back to bite you! In recent years, the National Weather Service and media outlets here in the Pacific Northwest have pivoted their forecasts to talk in terms probabilities and multiple, potential outcomes rather than a single, in-depth forecast to align their forecasts more closely with the probabilistic nature of forecasting as a whole while still providing easy-to-digest information to the public.

So, here’s my challenge to you, my fellow Leschi News readers! Next time you hear about snow in the forecast through a weather app, weather model, or social media, see if you can find out the amount of confidence is in a potential event and what the reasonable range of outcomes are. In a city that can be crippled by an inch of snow, it’s important to be prepared for any flake that might fall!

~Charlie Phillips

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

NOT NUTRIA!

Not all wildlife is welcome in our neighborhood. You may see this unwanted guest if you walk along the lake or make a circle around Seward Park. Is it a beaver? A muskrat? Or, the dreaded nutria? The latter has wreaked havoc in Chesapeake Bay and denuded natural levees along the Mississippi and is busy chomping its way through the ecosystem here.

Nutria are largish rodents native to South America. They were imported to the Pacific Northwestern part of the fur farming industry in the 1930s (think hats and muffs from glossy brown fur, and later coat linings). But not all nutria stayed on the farm. Escaped populations became feral and, because they can produce two to three litters a year of 11 or so offspring, they quickly multiplied. Nutria live along the shores of freshwater lakes and ponds. According to the Washington State Species Council, they consume up to 25% of their weight daily, each weighing 12 to 40 pounds. They eat roots and stems of plants, destroying about ten times more plant matter than they eat. “Nutria have been known to turn riparian areas into muddy bogs, destroying marshes that provide protection for flooding and habitat for other animals, birds, and fish. Nutria often construct circular platforms of compacted vegetation, which they use for feeding, birthing, resting, and grooming. Nutria are known to construct burrows in levees, dikes, and embankments, causing bank collapse and erosion. They also are host to a variety of parasites and pathogens.” Yuk.

Warming winters are contributing to their geographical spread. One pair of nutria can, with the environmental right opportunity, jump start a population of 15,000 in three years (and that’s with a life span of approx. 3 years.) According to a 2015 Modern Farmer magazine profile, 20 nutria were introduced to Louisiana in 1938 and two decades later the population had reached 20 million.

Friends who saw what they believed was a nutria along the UW shoreline said it was large and absolutely fearless despite their German Shorthair Pointer locking eyes with it. The chief nutria predators in this area are coyotes and raccoons.

Fionnuala O'Sullivan

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If you see one along Lake Washington—or anywhere else as they travel overland—you can report it to www.invasivespecies.wa.gov. If you are a property owner, you can call a wildlife trapper who can capture the animal(s) which will then be euthanized as it illegal to release it elsewhere in the state. Of course, you could eat it...The meat is allegedly packed with protein and tastes somewhat like rabbit. Most chefs have trouble getting past its rat-like appearance. A good hot barbecue—perhaps with a honey mustard sauce—is said to destroy any pathogens.

Nutria are often mistaken for beavers or muskrats. Size-wise, they fall in between the two. The tail is the key for identification: nutria tails are rat-like, thin, round, with little hair, and pointed at the tip. And these tails can be upwards of 12 to 18 inches in length. (A muskrat's tail is hairless and flat.)

—Anne Depue

REPARATIONS

Reparations is not a word I use often. There were years when I neither heard nor said the word. Then in June 2014 Ta-Nahesi Coates wrote that exceptionally lengthy article, “The Case for Reparations” in The Atlantic. No way could I not think about reparations: the making of amends for wrongs, injury done, according to the dictionary. For many persons, especially those of African descent, “reparations” is the payment of 40 acres and a mule promised persons freed by the Emancipation Proclamation, Special Field Orders No. 15 by William T. Sherman, the Union Army general. About two years after Donald Trump became president, I heard a commentator say, “All Democrats have to do is continue talking about privilege and reparations, and they will lose in 2020.” Though the statement caught me off guard, it has since crossed my mind often. I’m in that group who believe though many sat out the 2016 election for assorted reasons, many others voted to teach the Democrats a lesson: no black person should be President of these United States—ever. Never should Barack H. Obama have been president. And there are those who will do everything in their power to prevent such an anomaly from repeating itself. Regardless of actions that helped many whites, especially those in lower-income brackets, Obama’s blackness was unwelcome and unwanted by a great many Americans. Composing this article makes me realize how I found myself thinking about reparations and the gentleman’s statement more often than I cared to. Surprisingly, the word continues to show up, come up. Not surprisingly, I agreed with the commentator although I cannot recall previously connecting the terms “privilege” and “reparations.”

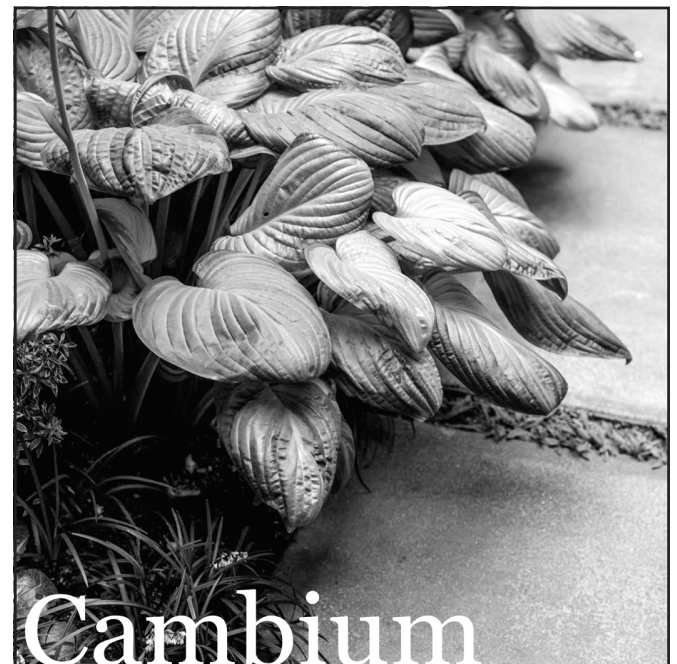
I do not remember the first time I heard the word “reparations,” but I do recall the first time I went to Washington, D.C., 1967, and saw a glaring instance of inequity. I was a college student taking part in a conference at Howard University. Of course, we toured the highlights of the city. But what I remember most is all is the black persons at every site: in uniforms as guards. I’m sure I had never seen so many people in uniform, people who spent their days protecting the country’s invaluable wealth and directing tourist traffic. I remember being told that the first wealthy blacks were Pullman porters—they received good.

The November rejection of Washington State’s Referendum 88 and my first visit to the World War II Museum in New Orleans combined returned the term to my immediate consciousness. Leaving Seattle shortly after a bill the entire legislature supported was rejected by 50.56 % of the voters coupled with learning so much more about the role of African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, Native Americans in World War II triggered more thoughts of reparations. Never had I seen so much information, much of it a revelation, in one place!


Passage of Referendum 88 could have been a degree of reparations. Maybe volunteers who worked so hard to get it passed will be willing to undertake the task once more.

—Georgia S. McDade, Ph. D.

This article is the first of three on this issue.



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Culture Corner

SEATTLE ASIAN ART MUSEUM REOPENS!

We are having another thrilling museum opening in Seattle this month! The renovated Asian Art Museum opens to the public on Saturday February 8 after three years of remodeling. The museum's stunning 1933 Art Deco building has been restored to its former glory, along with the glass doors in the entrance, and outside, the original fountains and Olmstead pathways.

I went to a preliminary presentation by Ping Foong, Foster Foundation Curator of Chinese Art; Xiaojin Wu, Curator of Japanese and Korean Art who created the inaugural installation *Boundless: Stories of Asian Art*, a complete rethinking of the museum that took three years.

They started with asking "What do we mean by Asia? Where is Asia? Who is Asia?" Rather than follow traditional geographical designations, they created twelve themes from ancient to contemporary. They brought in Darielle Mason, an outside expert on East Asia from the Philadelphia Museum, as well as working with senior scholars and community groups in advisory sessions.



They divided their twelve themes into two larger ideas: the South Galleries focus on the sexual and the spiritual and the North Galleries on the material world. Since the themes are based on so much creative thinking, I think it is worth recording them all here.

In the South, the themes are "Awakened Ones" (in a darkened room with several Buddhas, as a meditative pause), "Divine Bodies," "Sacred Places" "Bringing Blessings," and "Spiritual Journeys." In the North, the themes are "Are We What We Wear?," "What is



Precious”, “Color in Clay”, “Writing Images, Painting Poems”, “Picturing Nature”, Sharing Stories” and “Fashioning Eternity.”

Needless to say, the critics listening to this idea were skeptical that the general public would be lost without the geographical identities of the different works highlighted. They cautioned that the diversity would be flattened. The curators said that they were not tied to these themes, they could be changed, but they wanted to try a new approach. I was dubious at first, given the great failures I have seen at the Museum of Modern Art when thematic approaches were used. But those were big obvious themes, like still life and portraits, while these two young curators, based on three years of hard work, have produced a brilliant group of ideas that will be thrilling to experience. I will elaborate on this theme once the Museum actually opens.

In the Garden Court they installed a work by Kenzan Tsutakawa the grandson of our famous George Tsutakawa, composed of LED lights. It creates a delicate canopy and connects to the outside world.

Finally *Belonging: Contemporary Asian Art*, the installation of contemporary Asian Art includes 12 artists from 7 countries, all of whom work outside Asia, many from the Museum’s permanent collection and familiar to us, such as Shirin Neshat (the stunning videos) and Do Ho Suh (that big piece with dog tags). The 5000

square foot gallery will enable changing traveling exhibitions. It is also the new space projecting into our beautiful Volunteer Park, causing great concerns on the part of park lovers. We will see if it enhances or intrudes once it opens.

Also, impressive will be new Asian Paintings Conservation Center, led by Nicholas Dorman, SAM’s Chief Conservator, which the press release claims to be the only such center in the Western United States.

Seattle’s commitment to young museum goers stands out nationally, and at the Asian Art Museum there will be an expanded community and student learning center. Also reaching out to all ages is a smart phone tour, and interactive multimedia in the galleries. Hopefully, the smart phone tours won’t be too distracting from looking at the physical work.

Our Asian Art Museum reflects an exciting and innovative era of Seattle collecting, especially by its founding director, Richard E. Fuller; the collection includes over 8500 works!

The deep ties of our contemporary city to Asia makes this exciting new expanded Asian Art Museum particularly timely.

~Susan Noyes Platt
www.artandpoliticsnow




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WINE WE LOVE

Leschi Market's monthly Wine Newsletters always includes two special features: Staff Selections and Best Sellers. The first, Staff Selections, consists of favorite wines that the staff is currently excited about, new arrivals to the wine aisle, or old favorites that deserve remembering. Many times, customers find a particular steward whose palate matches theirs, making the "monthly picks" more of a shortened, condensed personal shopping guide. The second feature is the Best Sellers List, a very straightforward list of the previous month's best-selling wines by number of units sold, broken down by different parameters: Red, White, Bubbles, Rose or Greater than \$20, for example. Personally, I've always viewed the Best Seller list as the Customer Selections list. Fun, right? A newsletter that features both employee favorites alongside customer favorites!

Love is in the air all month long, and what better way to celebrate than compiling many of our favorite wines. Following is a Top-10 List from the last several months, combining Staff Picks and Customer Picks, to create *Wine We Love*. Pablo Picasso may have said, "Love is the greatest refreshment in life," however, this list may challenge that!

Red

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

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

2017 Sarrazin Bourgogne Rouge Vieilles Vignes (\$21.99)

"The finest wines from the Cote Chalonnaise are known for their effortless beauty, delicate aromas, fruit-driven flavors and silky textures. The winery's family history of growing grapes in this valley dates back to the seventeenth century." -Winemaker notes.

2016 Querciabella Toscana Mongrana (\$21.49)

Lovely aromas of plums, cherries and currents with a hint of flowers and undertones of dried flowers. Full body, round and silky tannins with a bright, fresh finish. A blend of Sangiovese, Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon. Biodynamic and Vegan." 95 points, James Suckling.

2017 Rainoldi Alpi Retiche Nebbiolo (\$19.99)

Early drinker produced with Nebbiolo grapes coming from the vineyards of the DOC area, vinified as a whole together with other grapes gently pressed for must. It is characterized by utter freshness, fruitiness and rich aromas. Mellow, round taste, recommended with starters, first courses and fresh uncured cheeses. An instant Leschi Best Seller!

2018 St. Cosme Côtes du Rhône (\$13.99)

"Lively savory, lavender, cherry and black currant notes mix in this friendly, open-knit wine, which reveals a tug of dark earth at the end. Drink now through 2020. Smart Buy." -*Wine Spectator*, 89 points.

2017 Glaze Cabernet Sauvignon Ross Andrew Winery (\$13.99)

"Rich, lush, and delicious. This wine blends the power of Red Mountain Cabernet with the perfect amount of Merlot, Petit Verdot and Malbec, resulting in layers of enjoyment. A fantastic everyday wine, but also big enough for your dinner party." -Winemaker notes.

White Wine

2017 àMaurice Cellars Chardonnay Conner Lee Vineyard (\$29.99)

"Hand-picked, hand sorted and whole cluster pressed at our winery in Walla Walla. The end result is rich and creamy with well-integrated French Oak. The lively bright acid makes the mouth water for more." -Winemaker notes.

2018 Domaine Paul Cherrier Blanc Sancerre Loire Valley (\$20.59)

"Sancerre Blanc is sleek and crisp, with citrus, mineral and herbal aromatics and a good backbone of acidity. The soils in and around the village of Verdigny consist of a mixture of marl and gravel which produces elegant, well-balanced wines with a good fruit character. Stainless steel tanks. Sancerre Blanc is a joyful, lively wine." -Winemaker notes.

2019 Bodega Garzon Reserve Albarino Uruguay (\$18.69)

"Pale yellow with greenish reflections, this Albarino is intense in the nose with peach and citrus. The freshness and minerality in the mid-palate are superb. Remarkable acidity and a round, crisp finish." -Winemaker notes.



...in the Wilds of Seattle

2018 Pascal Jolivet 'Attitude' Sauvignon Blanc Loire (\$13.99)

"Made with the same attention to detail as Jolivet's great Sancerres, this wine is made from grapes grown outside the appellation. The wine offers expressive floral and fruit aromas, freshness and minerality in the mouth. This is textbook Sauvignon Blanc from the Loire." ~Importer notes.

Kenneth Benner, a Seattle area native, is a trained chef and has worked in such restaurants as Barbacoa, B.O.K.A. Kitchen + Bar, and Dahlia Lounge. Ken is the wine buyer at Leschi Market. He has a passion for learning, a meticulous palate, and a tenacity for searching out the best for his customers while offering some of the most highly coveted wines in the area. His 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.

EATING OUT

No one seemed to eat out in January; perhaps it was the abundance of the holidays that kept us home...or maybe the threat of that white stuff. But the following class might make for an interesting Valentine weekend.

SWEETHEARTS FORAGED COCKTAIL WORKSHOP

Make Valentine's weekend extra special by learning the art of making succulent and sultry cocktails using northwest native plants! We'll learn about native and wild plants our region offers us for seasonally foraged cocktail ingredients, which we'll use in this interactive class to create unique herbal, nut and fruit liqueurs, which you'll make for yourself. This will be followed with a 'happy hour' in the historic manor enjoying classic cocktails made with foraged cocktail ingredients. You'll take home recipes and your own holiday-themed liqueur. You must be 21 years of age, or older, to attend this workshop, and singles, couples, and friends are welcome!!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2020, 2:30-6PM
Adults ages 21 and up; \$55; Advance tickets required
<https://sewardpark.audubon.org/events/sweethearts-foraged-cocktail-workshop>

BREAKFAST TREATS

My husband has always had a boring birthday and often forgotten due to the fact that it comes two days after Christmas when everyone has had too much of everything.

But this year, we were just starting to enjoy our morning coffee, when our grandson came in with a bag of goodies from Bakery Nouveau! What a feast!

There were twice baked chocolate croissants, an apricot pastry, a cranberry-filled pastry and a very unusual selection: a pastry with butternut squash filling and pumpkin seeds on top.

We cut everything into fourths so we could each sample the different tastes, but we couldn't make it through this embarrassment of riches. I would like to recommend the apricot and the butternut squash pastries.

~Diane Snell



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JANUARY 6, 2020 LESCHI EXEC. BOARD MEETING

Attending: Janice Merrill Brown, Trevor Llish-Menagh, Tracy Bier, Diane Snell

JANET: sending treasury report by email

JANICE: Review of Feb and March programs for her message in newsletter. We agreed to produce questions for our Crime Prevention Officer (February). Diane will send background info on actor presenting the March program.

Janice has planned to meet with Randy & Buzz at Bluwater to give them their Leschi Star awards.

TREVOR: Plan for mural discussion on Jan 15. He agreed to moderate. Artist Lawrence Pitre will present his plan and then there will be Q and A with audience.

Review of programs for rest of year; we had only made plans through June, but further discussion gave us some thoughts about the fall. Our District 3 rep, Kshama Sawant, should be asked to come in Sept. as the Council will be getting the budget to respond to and it is a chance for us to have some input on budget items. Nothing definite but perhaps something on ecology for October. Janice proposed an Eco-Corner in the news. Discussed helpful tools from the city like Find It Fix It and graffiti hotline; perhaps mention this in newsletter so folks use it more often.

JOHN: Although unable to attend this meeting, John had sent some good news. In reviewing the parks budget for 2020, it looks as though wading pools will be open two days each week.

Tracy expressed some concern about the February program. She felt it seemed rather quiet in the neighborhood. Diane suggested that folks are not reporting to the police, so data doesn't show reality. NextDoor still seems full of pkg theft and car prowls. We felt that sending some questions would supply more substance to the program.

DIANE: Feb. Newsletter deadline: Jan. 20

PEPPI'S PARK: the Parks Dept. has sent a letter to the volunteers of Peppi's outlining the restoration they plan to do following the mess created by the cutting of some trees and the introduction of

big equipment in that restricted area. We hope to cover it in the Feb. newsletter.

Diane suggested that we donate to Seattle Music Partners, the group that supplies music instruction after school to Leschi students. We helped them get started by funding a bus to take the students home after the extended day and we later gave them the proceeds of our annual Big Book Sale, but we have neglected to continue helping. It was agreed that we would send \$250 to SMP.

Diane will apply for a Small Sparks grant to fund the March program. Janice said that she did not get the grant for the ArtWalk this year and Diane suggested that she try the Small Sparks grant later in June.

ARTWALK: Diane asked that Janice set a February date for the first ArtWalk meeting so we could publish it in the Feb. news.

Janice suggested we invite folks to the Board meeting so they will have a better idea of what we do and realize it is not that demanding to be on the Board. She will invite Eva to next Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7pm.

-Respectfully submitted by Diane Snell

	Income	Expenses	Balance 12/31/2019
General Fund			
Ad Revenue	\$4,836.80		
Dues	\$2,200.00		
Donations	\$2,450.00		
Insurance		(\$757.00)	
Printing and postage		(\$7,452.87)	
Totals	\$9,799.30	(\$12,211.86)	\$10,365.39
Restricted Funds			
ArtWalk	\$4,860.00	(\$2,361.99)	\$2,447.32
Cherry Street Corridor			\$635.76
Flo Ware Park		(\$337.45)	\$686.53
Friends of Powell Barnett			\$1,068.06
Friends of Street Ends	\$300.00	(\$124.82)	\$885.59
Frink Park			\$2,067.60
King Street			\$1270.00
Leschi Gateway Project			\$347.39
Leschi Natural Area			\$4,845.39
Officer Brenton Fund		(\$176.00)	\$3,287.85
String of Pearls	\$200.00		\$2,130.38
SW Frink Park			\$1233.08
W. Vaughn			\$1200.00
Memorial Fund			\$3006.13
Wading Pool			\$201.64
Whitebear DreamCatcher			\$201.64
Totals	\$15,159.30	(\$15,212.12)	\$35,678.11
Certificate of Deposit			\$11,254.16



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february 2020 | calendar

FEB 5 7pm. LCC Meeting; See Cover. Central Area Senior Center

FEB 8 9am–12pm. SNC Breakfast meeting at Central Area Senior Center; \$14 for hearty breakfast.

FEB 8 8–10am. Seward Park Audubon Center Adults & kids age 8 and up; \$5; advance registration required for Bird Focus | Arctic Visitors, Winter Waterfowl. Lead Naturalist Ed Dominguez highlights the intricacies of winter birds.

FEB 9 1–3pm. Adults and kids ages 10 and up; \$5, Free to students. Advance tickets required. Dr. Tiara Moore will share how findings gleaned from examining the DNA from our forests helps researchers tailor their forest management practices in order to restore them to a more healthy state., Learn more and register

FEB 13 3:30pm. 9th Annual ArtWalk planning at BluWater Bistro. All welcome.

FEB 20 6:30–8pm. EastPAC; Room 142, Chardin Hall, Seattle University, 1020 East Jefferson (enter campus at 11th and East Jefferson). bring your license number into the meeting so we can register your vehicle

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business card, \$35; 1/4 page, \$70;
1/2 page, \$140. Contact Diane Snell
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leschinews

The next Leschi News deadline is **February 17**. 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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INVITATION FROM THE LESCHI COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Join us for an evening with our Crime Prevention Officer, Joseph Elenbaas, to learn the answers to our safety questions on February 5th at 7pm. Why do statistics show the crime is at an all-time low when there are so many complaints in social media about package thefts and car prowls as well as car thefts?

February 5, 7pm

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