Leschi Community Council Meeting

Our June 3rd meeting features City Councilmember Kshama Sawant and Senator Pramila Jayapal, 37th District. Two women in their first terms in political office will share their reflections on their time in office: the challenges, frustrations and victories, including a Q&A period.

The discussion will be preceded by a brief announcement from Luis Ramirez, SDOT, on the planned sewer relining and replacement along Lake Washington Blvd. this summer.

June 3rd, 7pm – Central Area Senior Center
500 30TH AVE. S (ONE BLOCK SOUTH OF JACKSON)

inside the news

5 The Future for Leschi Marina?
7 Winning Municipal Broadband?
12 Kayactivists Take on Polar Pioneer
13 Join the Battle of the Chardonnays!
Presidents’ Message

At our June meeting, SPU’s Luis Ramirez will explain what is involved in the sewer work planned on Lake Washington Blvd. this summer. There are two sections that need relining, one north of the Leschi business district and one south, but the section that runs through the business district needs replacing, which sounds more complex (and disruptive).

Following at 7:30pm, both City Councilmember Kshama Sawant and Senator Pramila Jayapal have confirmed that they will be present to reflect on their experiences in office as new public representatives and to answer your questions. This is not a campaign event, but a retrospective on how a new politician finds our political system easy or difficult to work in.

The day meeting was devoted to Bob Santos speaking about his new book, “The Gang of Four.” But we heard more about Bob’s own exploits in the housing arena than we actually did about the gang of four. (Perhaps we have to read the book!) Santos has led an interesting life and did some innovative things as HUD Director here in Seattle, such as opening the building to homeless women in the evenings. LIHI Director Sharon Lee was present, and the two of them reminisced about the time during the WTO when they were asked to peacefully talk a large group of anarchists out of a building they were occupying. Santos, who is not a large man, entered the building with trepidation, but they were able to work out a compromise and no police action was required. Sharon Lee (who is a Leschi resident) told us about some of the newer LIHI buildings (Low Income Housing Institute) and also about our closest LIHI building: Ernestine Anderson Place. They offer monthly FREE concerts at the facility as part of the movement to bring jazz back to Jackson. We don’t always have the concert information by our deadline so we encourage you to check their website: Google Ernestine Anderson Place.

We tackled problems on the Dearborn steps in May: 30th down to 31st. Jeff Floor did a great job of scraping moss off the steps and risers, Janet Oliver swept up the scrapings, Diane Morris used a long-handled lopper to remove some overhanging branches, Jim Snell removed ivy and blackberries, and Diane Snell bagged and bagged the debris. No neighborhood helpers this time. The crew was fortified by a Blueberry coffee cake (courtesy of Diane Morris.) The blackberry invasion at this site could keep us all working for many years! See Diane Morris’ article on the Stairway project and plans for summer work parties in this issue.

This is the last issue of the Leschi News until September, so we encourage you to remove the insert on summer activities and save it for reference; does your refrigerator have space to display it? Please check your mailing label to see if your dues are current!

The EST NEWS of all is that Metro has confirmed that the #27 bus will come back on its regular schedule on June 6!!

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

-Diane Morris & Diane Snell
Guest Editorial

Putting Public Natural Areas on a Firm Path to the Future

On June 11, the Park Board will take testimony to determine the future of how our city residents use, or do not use, natural areas. In many ways, the primary concern has to be how to protect the natural areas from abuse and misuse. After all, if we don’t have “nature”, the very reason for restoring natural areas is erased.

Seattle began the Green Seattle Initiative in 2005 as a 20-year restoration effort. Right now, we are at the half-way point, and thanks mainly to volunteers, the restoration is right on target. Nearly 1300 acres of public natural area lands have been restored by removing invasive weeds, planting native vegetation, and building new trails. Forest stewards and greenspace volunteers are avid lovers of nature and are obviously willing to make great sacrifices of time and effort to create an experience of nature for us urban residents.

Natural areas and green belts are part of the visual fabric of the city — bands of green that can be seen for miles away, like the Alki greenbelt seen from Downtown, or the greenbelts looking east or west across Lake Union. We walk, bike, and drive past and through natural areas greenery as part of daily lives. And we hike or walk through the woods or along natural shore areas when we need to relax.

The primary use and value of natural areas are to create nature within the city and to provide an experience of nature for urban residents. Natural areas provide incentives to walk freely and improve our health. The reenery and ambiance reduce the stresses of our busy lives.

The challenge comes when new recreation groups want to use natural areas, such as mountain bikers, disc golfers, zip-liners, to name a few. How should the Park Department respond to the challenge of new demands for use?

There should be criteria: is the new use safe? For instance, the standard Parks Department path is crushed gravel, designed for pedestrian use. Bicycles slip and slide and cannot stop quickly.

Is the new use distracting to visitors who want to enjoy and learn from nature? Does the new use bring in the potential of abuse, such as off-trail trampling of vegetation or compaction and erosion of soil? Are new recreation users quiet and respectful of others, or more likely disturb the focus on observing nature? Do the new uses require taking significant space from the natural area?

Can the Parks Department enforce the rules that are appropriate to assure protection of vegetation, soil, walkers, and hikers?

The June 11 public hearing is an opportunity to discuss our personal concerns and explore possibilities for the future. The public hearing will be held at 6:30 p.m. in the Kenneth R. Bounds Board Room at Seattle Parks and Recreation headquarters, 100 Dexter Ave. N.

~John Barber

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WELCOME BACK BUS #27 AS NORMAL ROUTE RESUMES ON JUNE 6!

Many thanks to all of you who worked hard on this issue and to the community organizations that wrote supporting letters to the Mayor and City Council. I personally felt that I was living and breathing the 27 until this was resolved! Transit should be like our utilities; we should all have access to it.

~Diane Snell

EVENTS TO KEEP YOU HOPPING

Practice your hopping skills at the Third Annual Hopscotch event which takes place on June 6 and will follow pretty much the usual course, starting at Flo Ware Park at 10am.

Juneteenth: June 5, 6 and 7 are the dates for the annual Juneteenth event at Pratt Park. June 5 features an ice cream social, June 6 features jazz and blues, and the final day (June 7) will focus on children’s activities.

The Madison Valley Community Council is hosting a candidate forum at the Bush School on June 8 at 7pm. It will feature the candidates running for the District 3 council position as well as the two open seats for the City Council. The Bush School is located at 3400 E Harrison.

Flo Ware is featured again on June 13 as we cater to the young ones. This event was moved from a busy May to June. Organizer Katie Busby says: Join us for the Flo Ware Park Celebration on June 13th from 10am-2pm. This is a community event with a dunk tank, kids’ activities, food, cotton candy and games. We look forward to seeing you there.


And finally, closing out summer on September 12, will be the 4th Annual ArtWalk with a Children’s Parade kicking off the event. The Dragonboat folks will be offering rides again this year. Local artists and craftspersons will show their wares, and we’ll be entertained by music throughout the 11am-4pm time frame. Artists who wish to display their wares need to get a registration form from Ann Conroy at annconroy@travelsmallworld.com. Musicians wishing to perform should contact Kim Murillo at kim2938@gmail.com.

~Diane Snell

BEACH MESS

A few weeks ago, Leschi resident Joe Gast reported on a bunch of logs that appeared on a beach area near the end of Jefferson. The logs had metal spikes sticking out which made for an unsafe (and unsightly) area.

Joe sent photos which were put on our website and on NextDoor Leschi and prompted a flurry of emails to Parks and Jean Godden, the City Councilmember overseeing parks. Parks did arrange for the logs to be removed, and neighbor Carlos Arriola sent us important information for such situations: Army Corp of Engineers, City of Seattle Contractor/Vendor Office at 206-684-0444 or 13TH Coast Guard District West 32 at 206-220-7257. Thanks to these residents and our communication networks for a fast resolution to this problem.

Carols has also posted on Next Door:

Neighbors and friends, please remember and honor leash laws in Leschi Park. Leschi Park is not an off-leash facility. Signs are posted, please honor our community and adhere to the municipal code. Thank you all.

TRAFFIC TRIBULATIONS

Whenever I try to go to a place I need to be these days, I feel like all of Seattle is under construction. I have several favorite ways to get to Seattle Center but now find they are all problematic. So it makes me very happy that Bus #27 is returning to Leschi on the old pre-September schedule. It has been enough to make a girl (OK; an aging girl) want to stay at home.
First it was April, then May, and now it’s June 8 that will see the start of the 23rd Ave. changes between Jackson and Union. The ig trees that will be saved are wearing green ribbons and the old water lines have been replaced. But this phase of the 23rd Ave. diet will take 8 months, so it will go into 2016. Meanwhile northbound 23rd Ave. traffic will be rerouted to MLK, Jr. Way. No pedestrian improvements will be made until the end of the project which is a concern with so much traffic being diverted to new areas.

In addition to 23rd Ave issues, there will be frequent marathons during the summer which will disrupt traffic around I-90 and south. The first of these is the Rock ‘n Roll Marathon scheduled for June 13. Watch the website leschinews.com for future disruptions as we learn about them.

We will learn the work schedule for the sewer replacement project on Lake Washington Blvd. at our June 3rd meeting and post that on the website.

~Diane Snell

**HONORING KATIE WILSON**

I was invited to a luncheon sponsored by The Northwest Asian Weekly to honor “Rising Stars”, women who make a difference, and one of my favorite activists was honored: the Transit Riders’ Union’s Katie Wilson. Katie co-founded the Transit Riders’ Union in 2011; this group has fought to maintain Metro bus service and successfully won a reduced fare for low income folks. The group has been very supportive of Leschi in our (now successful) attempts to bring back the #27. I feel hope for the future when I see young people taking on big fights against the establishment. They are well organized, creative and so energetic in their pursuits. Katie is now involved in co-founding a worker cooperative landscaping company called Black Cap Cooperative Landscaping.

~Diane Snell

**WHAT LIES IN THE FUTURE FOR LESCHI’S PUBLIC MARINAS?**

The Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation has announced its intent to turn over the renovation and operations of the North Leschi Moorage and the South Leschi Moorage to private developers and is preparing a competition for the contract. (see “Moorage Update” on our website leschinews@comcast.net)

This means the rents must provide payback to the developers, and that seems guaranteed if the public marinas are increasingly occupied by large luxury craft and speedboats. So, why is a parks and recreation agency providing space for luxury craft and speedboats, when recreation is the mission, not public parking?

Speedboats are a hazard to swimmers and anyone in a small boat. Speedboats also create wakes that cause the shore to erode. Luxury craft are often the places of partying — not much positive recreation — and are a source of lake pollution.

To support these kinds of boats, the Parks Department uses park land to accommodate parking spaces exclusively for the boaters.
We can have greatly scaled-down marinas that serve small boaters — sails or paddles — in a much less costly way; in fact, the costs are such that they could be affordable with the public funds that the Parks Department has access to. Why bring in the developers?

This process will play out over the next couple of months. Let’s make sure that the public is involved in decision making, not just well-placed (politically astute) insiders who have a special interest to protect. Th re. I said it!

- Note: The Parks update for May and another neighbor opinion will also be posted on our website under Moorage.

—John Barber

THANK YOU FROM THE FRIENDS OF LESCHI NATURAL AREA (LNA)

We want to thank all of you who took the time to read our article in the April newsletter and contributed to our fundraising campaign. Because of your generosity, we will now be able to purchase a Parks Department-approved toolshed to place on-site at LNA and reassign the money requested in the Patagonia proposal to other important needs such as increased time for Earth Corps (or similar work crew), plants and the purchase of large rocks to be placed throughout the site.

We’re also very excited about the Parks Department’s progress with the house removal and the on-going conversion back to nature in the newly acquired space and look forward to including it as part of our beautiful natural area. Imagine how lucky we are to have this wonderful space only steps from our own homes with some of the best views in a city that cherishes green and open land.

However, we still need your help - both manual and monetary - and continue to invite you to join us in any way you can. No amount of time or money is too small - or too large! We meet the first Saturday of the month from 9:00am to 3pm. You’re welcome to join us for any part of it that you can, and you don’t have to be a master gardener - we have lots of weeds that need pulling or mulch that needs spreading and folks who are ready to show you how - just wear sturdy boots. Bunny Wood packs a pretty impressive picnic basket for those joining our work parties, Fran Wood provides the jokes, Diane Morris the historical commentary, and Rich Appleton is always somewhere over the hillside finding more for us to do!

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

Many thanks to all of you who have joined us in this effort to date and to the Leschi Community Council for their sponsorship and on-going support.

—Betsy Zickler

THE STAIRWAY PROJECT

The May work party at Dearborn and 30th was a success even though we had a rather small group. We managed to cut back overhanging English laurel branches that made the steps quite dark. We made a big dent in the moss on the steps and a small dent in the omnipresent blackberries. We will return to the same area on June 20 to eliminate the grasses threatening to take over the steps. Please join us from 10-noon! And look for our July and August stairway projects on our summer activity insert.

—Diane Morris

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NEW AT CENTRAL AREA SENIOR CENTER

MORE BREATH, LESS STRESS WORKSHOP
Wednesdays from 10:30-11AM

Join this class at the Central Area Senior Center to learn about various breathing and meditation techniques to minimize stress in your life. Participants will work to maintain a whole body peace and awareness with the resources in this class. Class includes a $2 suggested donation and drop-ins are welcome! (Class in session now; can join any time).

GREEN DOLPHIN STREET LOUNGE
Big Luv on Friday, June 19: 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. June’s Green Dolphin night features Big Luv! Big Luv’s musical style includes Top 40 Rock ‘n’ Roll and Motown - get up and dance music. If you want a lively and fun dancing atmosphere, then this band is for you! Admission is $20 for non-members and $15 for lifetime members. To make a reservation, please call 206-726-4926.

AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM
Monday, June 29 & Tuesday, June 30: 9AM-1PM

If you are 50+ and would like to save money on your car insurance, sign up for this AARP Driver Safety Program. You must attend both sessions and the cost is $15 for AARP members and $20 for nonmembers. Please call 206-726-4926 to register.

Joie Hsu, Program Coordinator,
Central Area Senior Center

LESCHI ELEMENTARY UPDATE

The 5th annual jog-a-thon was a success. Kindergarteners through 5th graders ran their hearts out. Each class dressed in theme, from the Smart Teachers to Ralph the Mouse to Team Skittles. All money raised by the 4th grade class goes to cover the cost of camp next year. Drop by the office if you are interested in supporting our students or send a check to the Leschi Elementary PTA, 135 32nd Ave. Seattle, WA 98122.

Our wonderful crossing guard, Henrietta Price, has a birthday on June 11!

Finally, Jump Start Week for incoming kindergarteners is the week of August 17th. This is a great way for students to get to know their teachers and fellow students. We strongly encourage you to participate!

~Katie Busby
Residents, and businesses. Municipal broadband can be a powerful lever against the digital divide that condemns people to the isolation and reduced economic opportunities experienced by many of our low-income, disabled, and people of color community members.

Municipal broadband operations would be accountable to us and subject to public oversight and scrutiny. Service and price changes would require public input and democratic approval. Priorities for public utilities are entirely different than for corporate entities: municipal broadband would mean resources could be used to build carrier redundancies into the system to prevent mass outages, instead of high executive salaries.

Municipal broadband can create quality union jobs and keep the money paid by customers in the local economy instead of paying millions each month towards corporate profits. Super high-speed universal connections are also extremely attractive to businesses looking for a place to open shop.

Precisely because of what municipal broadband means, though, we should expect a fierce opposition from Comcast and CenturyLink. With their vested interest of billions in profit, they will not acquiesce simply because municipal broadband is a rational policy for Seattle. If all their other lobbying fails, Comcast will come with a Trojan Horse offer of a “public-private partnership” which usually means using taxpayer money to assist in accumulating private profits.

It helps to learn how other cities have been able to win municipal broadband. Chattanooga is the largest success story to date, serving a population of 150,000. It offers a 1 Gig fiber optic internet connection with upload and download speeds that are 200 times faster than the current national average, and at far lower prices.

Chattanooga’s publicly owned electricity company, EPB, spearheaded the move to municipal broadband. Like Chattanooga, we have a publicly owned electricity company, Seattle City Light. According to Christopher Mitchell, a leading nationwide expert, Seattle should begin thinking of City Light not merely as an electricity utility, but as a technology utility – a publicly owned one-stop-shop to deliver reasonably priced electricity and internet service equitably and affordably to all.

Chattanooga succeeded because the city stood up to systematic attempts by Comcast to defeat the effort. Comcast ran 2,600 fearmongering commercials on television attacking the idea of municipal broadband, and filed four legal challenges against the city of Chattanooga.

Seattle would be the largest city in the country to implement municipal broadband. We should expect Comcast and CenturyLink to go to every length to keep their unchallenged duopoly in Seattle. Countering them will require a mass citywide movement, much like the one we needed to win $15/hour last year by successfully overcoming the financial and political clout of fast food and retail giants.

As chair of the Seattle City Council Energy Committee, which oversees Seattle’s public electricity utility, I encourage Seattle residents to get involved in this year’s process of appointing a new general manager for Seattle City Light and provide their input on whether a commitment to municipal broadband should be a selection criterion for the job.

It is up to us working people to build a strong enough grassroots movement for municipal broadband to force elected officials to put Seattle’s need for universal, affordable high speed connectivity over Comcast and CenturyLink’s insatiable drive for profits.

Come to Town Hall Seattle on June 18th to Get Involved!
- Kshama Sawant, Seattle City Councilmember, member of Socialist Alternative
Dental Care During Pregnancy

Since 2006, dental care for pregnant patients has been considered safe, effective, and recommended. Before then, mostly due to lack of accurate information, women who were pregnant avoided dental procedures and many dental professionals avoided treating pregnant patients.

But in 2006, guidelines were changed to promote dental care for pregnant women. If at all possible, tell your dentist that you are planning on becoming pregnant. Having a regular checkup and getting your teeth cleaned before you are pregnant is the best plan.

Pregnancy itself can often cause swollen, bleeding gums (pregnancy gingivitis) which can trap particles of food and, left untreated, can lead to periodontal disease. Yet a simple cleaning can alleviate the problem as well as prevent others that may occur during pregnancy. Any infection in the mouth should be regarded as an emergency situation and treated promptly so it does not spread to other parts of the body or to the fetus itself, which can cause periodontal disease and sometimes premature birth or low birth weight.

Additionally, pregnancy can also cause pregnancy granuloma, an uncomfortable, red growth that usually occurs around the upper line of the gums. It sometimes bleeds and sometimes crusts over, but usually subsides after the birth of the baby. Pregnancy can also cause enamel erosion from morning sickness vomiting, which contains acid. Lastly, pregnancy can cause dry mouth.

All these conditions can be addressed by your dentist.

The fetus’ organs are developing during the first trimester, so dental work that can be delayed should wait until after the fourteenth week. The second trimester is the safest time to have necessary dental work done. Anesthesia and antibiotics (Category B) can safely be administered in most cases, and consultation with your OB-GYN can be made as necessary. Lidocaine, the most often prescribed anesthesia, does cross the placenta, so the amount administered should be as little as possible. Still, if you are experiencing pain, more anesthesia should be administered until you, and consequently your baby, are comfortable. Antibiotics in Category B to prevent infection after dental work are safe and, left untreated, can lead to periodontal disease. Yet a root canal or tooth extraction should not be delayed. Delaying emergency care can put you and your baby at risk. Proper dental care, as proper dental hygiene, is a necessary, recommended part of healthy pregnancy care.

-Dr. Michael Bilikas, DDS
32 Pearls, 200 Lake Washington Blvd.
Our art critic Susan Platt has taken a different slant on culture this month. She looks at the spa culture as experienced at the Central Area Senior Center and at Seattle's own unique culture in the Paddle on Seattle, a work of living protest art.

BIG HEARTS FOR HUMANITY
SOCIAL SERVICES!

And now for a different kind of culture column!! On a beautiful sunny Sunday afternoon, I joined the Pampering Spa Day at the Central Area Senior Center. I arrived with the ladies of Hearts for Humanity who were donating their talents as beauticians to the Senior Center for that afternoon. They were a cheery, beautiful group. As I walked in with them, carrying the tools of their trade, I felt my spirits rise already. They set up their various skills, haircuts, facials, manicures, hair braiding. We each chose two services for our contribution. Not only were the Hearts for Humanity women incredibly uplifting to just be around, all the people waiting for services were also delightful. And the Senior Center put out a big spread of food that kept us all busy while we waited for our turn.

But, the spa service was definitely more than the nails, hair and facials that they offered to people who were on the down side of society.

They offered a sense of joy!

As I sat with the masque over my face and the cucumbers on my eyes, the low hum of conversation around me was soothing. When I left with my renewed and refreshed face, people bid me farewell as though we were old friends. I had come with low spirits and left with a sense of community and contentment. And of course, the Central Area Senior Center view over the water on that beautiful day was an added bonus.

Here is the vision of Hearts for Humanity Social Services: “We want to bring our Self-esteem and Therapeutic Salon package to as many needy people that utilize shelters, convalescent homes, and schools as we can. We are interested in touching the lives of the people that are overlooked by society and often taken for granted by most people; the broken, the weary, the abused and the forgotten.”

When I inquired who came to the Senior Center, they sent me this statement

“Our names are Gina Vaughns, McKenzie Brown, Corin Brown, Queenie Bradford, Zonie Brown, Lucretia, Jackie Juarez and Virginia. We are Case Managers, Chemical Dependency Professionals, Medical Assistants, Domestic Violence Advocates and Licensed Hair Stylists. The Director, Corin Brown, also works at the Downtown Seattle YWCA and Catholic Housing Services. We all have many years of volunteering for food banks, shelters, schools and convalescent homes. Our “Grooming for Success Program” builds self-esteem inside and out for those in educational training programs and low income elementary and junior high students. We cater to all individuals and families that reside/utilize drop in centers, shelters of all types, the mentally/physically ill, etc. We love our work and our 100 volunteers.”
Hearts for Humanity is truly generous spirited. The people on the margins do not have luxury in their lives in any form. This offers them an opportunity to feel special for an afternoon.

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

SEATTLE’S SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

We received gift certificates to the Shakespeare Company for Christmas and chose Othello as our production. Although the company flats around using whatever stage space they can find, we were fortunate to be in the Cornish Theater, formerly Intiman/Playhouse. I love this space with its comfy chairs and art deco bar, and the theater is a good size. One can both see and hear well from any seat.

Othello seemed to be a little shortened (2½ hours) and somewhat modernized, as I can’t imagine the Bard having one of his characters say “Oh, come on now!” The production was well cast with a tall, handsome, well-muscled Othello and a devious Iago. Desdemona was lovely, petite and obviously enamored of her man, even if he began to doubt it. In a modern twist, she offered us full frontal nudity as she descended into an onstage sunken bath…something the family of three young boys directly in front of me will probably savor for some time.

There was lots of action…fights, swordplay and a four-death conclusion. This was the final performance of their season, but you can catch the Shakespeare Company in the parks this summer with Henry IV and As You Like It. Seattle performances are at Volunteer Park and the Fisher Pavilion at Seattle Center. Check out dates and times under the name Wooden O for their summer schedule. (I have tried to get them to use Leschi Park…unsuccessfully.)

One of our first Seattle experiences after moving here in 1989 was an outdoor performance at Volunteer Park on a lovely summer evening. It was a ridiculous piece about outer space and featured the very talented Lori Larsen. Seattle won our hearts!

~Diane Snell

STONE SOUP THEATRE’S SUMMERSTAGE 2015

June 22 – August 28

Wondering how to keep your budding young performer occupied during summer vacation? Sign them up for Stone Soup’s popular week-long youth drama camps at Mt. Baker Community Club.

The any new camps this year include: Musical Moves and The Maze of Mother Goose camps for ages 4 and 5, Curious George and 12 Dancing Princesses for ages 5-7, and for ages 6-9 and 8-13: The Frozen Queen (for Frozen fans), Crafting Mines (for Minecraft fans), Disney’s Cinderella, and Through the Looking Glass. In addition to tried-and-true story-time favorites like Lion, Witch, Wardrobe and No Damsels in Distress, a special Crafting Mines (for Minecraft fans) for teens will be scheduled at 12pm-5pm (allowing for sleeping in). Also musicals, Greek myths and MUCH more!

-britta.souhrada@gmail.com
KAYACTIVISTS TAKE ON POLAR PIONEER

On Saturday May 16, over 300 kayaks, as well as rowboats, canoes, rubber rafts, and 5 Duwamish long canoes filled with dozens of Native paddlers, swarmed across Elliott Bay in a powerful statement against new Arctic oil drilling. Once close to the giant Shell Oil platform parked at Terminal 5 on Harbor Island, the kayakers joined arms and raised massive banners protesting the Shell plan to drill in the environmentally supersensitive Chukchi Sea of the coast of Alaska. They also carried individual protest flags attached to light-weight bamboo rods. Backbone Campaign, Greenpeace, Rising Tide and 350.org were all represented and led by the Duwamish people, on whose land the entire Harbor Island stands. Even the Raging Grannies were on the water. After the swarm of water fl tilla, there was a party in Jack Block Park, a tiny green spot attached to Harbor Island, surrounded by high hurricane fences.

The tiny boats against the massive rig made a powerful statement against capitalism and exploitation of the environment, and it was a demonstration of the power of the people.

The demonstration was carried on news media around the world.

The Washington Youth Climate Change Challenge sued Washington State Department of Ecology for dereliction of duty. On Sunday, some of these same youth were raising funds with the international group Plant for the Planet to plant trees and go to a climate change conference in Germany to help draft language to convince the G8 in December this year in Paris to make international policy to save Mother Earth from a climate catastrophe.

The art that was part of these events creatively adapted to the water, in terms of the giant scale of the signs, created on webbed supports so they wouldn’t blow the boats away, the small flags with light-weight bamboo holders, with great logos. Denise Henrickson made wind sock salmon that created a fleet of salmon.

On Monday, mass direct action shut down work at Terminal 5 with dance and song and art. A giant parachute painted to show the earth with the arctic at the center is fl ating around as people hold it, seagull costumes, sea turtles, oil rig signs, and many other creative graphics. Art, song, dance, poetry, puppets, music, chanting are all part of Seattle’s protest traditions. Duwamish and other tribal groups provide deep resonance to the demonstrations with their profound understanding of the natural world.

The northwest from British Columbia to Oregon is on the front line of stopping Arctic drilling as well as the coal trains, the tar sands, and the rest of the disastrous outdated ideas of these oblivious corporations. Virtually all of these resources are being plundered to ship to China. Already 4 of 6 coal ports have been cancelled. The ar Sands Pipelines are disrupted. Native tribes are successfully winning battles in the courts in Canada.

The people are winning a future for our planet. The three days in May are a magnificent manifestation of direct nonviolent activism.

~Susan Platt
SUMMER WINE CHALLENGE, AND ROSÉ

The Leschi Market tasting panel proudly boasts over 200 combined years of tasting wine from around the globe. We agree, we disagree, and sometimes we agree to disagree about the merits of a particular wine that we taste. Recently, the panel came across two very different tasting Chardonnays from the same winery. The panel’s preferences were split. The rape varietal is the same, the price is the same, the winery is even the same. One has been a perennial best seller at Leschi Market, while the other has not previously been offered. What would we ultimately decide?

In unprecedented fashion, Leschi Market is passing the challenge on to you, the customer! Both wines are being offered side by side, on the shelf and in the chilled case. Both are $14.99. Sales numbers will tell the tale, and by the end of the summer, we’ll announce the winning wine. Try one, try both; your continued support of one or the other will help decide.

Here is the challenge: Which Wente Chardonnay Do You Prefer?

2013 Wente Chardonnay Riva Ranch Single Vineyard Monterey

“Deep, rich soils allow for vines with deep roots, which help to deliver rich fruit flavors. In addition to the classic Chardonnay aromas of apple and pear, Arroyo Seco consistently delivers aromas of tropical fruits and stone fruits. This is distinctly a California style of Chardonnay, but is consistently well balanced with ample acidity.” -Winemaker notes.

2013 Wente Chardonnay Morning Fog Livermore Valley San Francisco Bay

“A great expression of Livermore Valley Chardonnay, with diverse alluvial fans of soil consistently creating Chardonnay with beautiful and lingering minerality, which coupled with the natural acidity from the long and cool growing season, creates a beautiful wine.” –Winemaker notes.

Now, going into summer, how could we not offer up a few tasty rosés for your reading pleasure? Have a fun and safe summer Leschi!

Rosé

2014 Miraval Rosé “Mis en bouteille par Jolie-Pitt & Perrin” Côtes de Provence ($25)

Third vintage by the Perrin family of Château de Beaucastel and Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt, who in 2008 purchased Château Miraval (150 acres of vineyards) for $60 million. The Hollywood pair has, by all accounts, been fairly hands on. The estate is cultivated 100% organically. On the nose, there are delicate notes of raspberries, peaches and white flowers. The expression of the soil is revealed on the palate by its impressive freshness bringing minerality and salinity.

2014 Gerard Bertrand Gris Blanc Rosé Pays d’Oc Languedoc Roussillon ($12)

An original Rosé with a very pale pink color plus grey and whitish tints. The bouquet reveals delightful red berry scents. A slight sparkle on the palate gives the wine all its freshness and brings out its fruit to the full. The elegant finish is pleasantly fresh and mineral. 100% Grenache Gris. An absolute unanimous favorite among the Leschi Market tasting panel.

2014 Domaine Saint Nabor Gris Rosé Vin de Pays du Gard ($9)

This Rosé is bright and glistening with a raspberry pink tint. It has a bouquet of red fruit aromas and honeysuckle with linden-tree nuances. The wine has a fresh acidity. It is light, crisp and easy drinking, with acidulous red fruit flavors of wild strawberries and blueberries with mineral nuances. A blend of Tempranillo, Grenache, Cinsault.

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@leschimarke.com and follow the wine department directly on twitter at twitter.com/leschimarket.

BREAD AND CIRCUSES FOOD TRUCK

A new food truck at Chuck’s Hop Shop, 2001 E Union, on Sundays 11-4, offers a Slammin’ Salmon Reuben Sandwich for $12. A little pricey, but it’s big enough to share. Pastrami-cured salmon generously piled on a grainy wheat bread is slathered with fennel sauerkraut, gruyere cheese and 1000 island dressing. A Northwest feast! The service is faster than most of the food trucks and the server actually brings your order inside Chuck’s right to your table; no waiting round outside for your name to be called. They have some interesting sides: a roasted Brussels sprout salad to round out the nutritional content of your gastronomic experience.

-Jason Snell
**Attending:** Diane Morris, Diane Snell, John Barber, Kim Murillo, Janet Oliver, Jeffloor, Tracy Bier

**Kim/Budget:** Please see Kim’s revised budget spreadsheet. There are additional items, primarily community initiatives and misc. categories (see the April spreadsheet for comparison). Diane mentioned that we still have money held at PayPal.

**Jeff/LURC:** The city has been looking at extending Pedestrian Overlay zones in several locations throughout Seattle, including one leading east from Rainier Avenue along South Jackson Street. The one would stop before 23rd Avenue, where there’s a higher density of pedestrians. LURC has put a lot of work into arguing for extending the pedestrian overlay through 23rd. The owners of the Promenade area didn’t like the idea, but the full City Council agreed that the overlay should extend through 23rd/Jackson.

**John/Diane M./FloWare Day:** There are parents in the neighborhood who’ve discussed setting up an adventure playground. Katie has researched pricing info on a dunk tank. The vent is tentatively scheduled for June 13th. The group is working on a flyer. An application for a parks permit has been completed and is being processed.

**John/Parks:** There’s been a major shrub pruning at Leschi Park. The parks dept. sent letters about it to residents closest to the park. Regarding Frink Park; John wrote letter complaining about trail work. Regarding King Street; there’s been good cooperation from SDOT. A soft fir needle path is being laid down.

**Diane S./Programming:** The une general meeting is with local politicians: John is working on questions about park space in Seattle. Diane asked the group to brainstorm over the summer about programming for the fall meetings.

**Lake Dell Retaining Wall:** The landscape architect Janet contacted thinks the wall’s location may not leave enough soil between the wall and the curb to grow Boston Ivy. Diane M. asked if instead of planting in front of the wall we could plant along the back of the wall and train the foliage to grow over the top and down the front. Jeff aid since this is actually a ‘catchment’ wall – meant to prevent the spoils of a landslide further up the hill from impacting the street – building the soil level up higher at the backside would defeat its purpose. Also, we need to know whether we’ll need netting for the project.

**Next Stair Clean:** Saturday May 16th 9:30-noon at Dearborn Street. Park at 30th/Dearborn.

**Kim/Art Walk:** Current event date is 9/12/15. We’ll need a Sparks grant. The group discussed having a table about local parks at the art walk.

**East Precinct:** Tracy and Diane S. are trying to schedule a meeting with concerned neighbors around Powell Barnett Park and Peppi’s Park. Also, the East Precinct will discuss what might be done to solve some of the nuisance and criminal activities.

**Exec Board matters:** 1) In view of the fact that our positions are term limited and up next May (2016), we should be thinking about who might want to serve. We will need to recruit some new folks. 2) The CC Exec. Board meeting for June has been moved to June 10th.
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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june 2015 | calendar

JUNE 3 Leschi CC meeting, 7pm, The Central Area Senior Center, 500 30th Ave. S

JUNE 3 Garfield Orchestra at the Paramount, 7-9pm. CANOCHE Benefit performance

JUNE 6 Leschi Natural Area work party 9am-3pm. Lunch and tools provided. 36th & Terrace.

JUNE 6 Central District HOPSCOTCH, 10am-8pm. See Hopscotch website for details.

JUNE 9 Garfield Orchestra 7-9pm. Graduation concert. Quincy Jones PAC

JUNE 10 Leschi CC Executive Board Meeting 7pm PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN MEETING DAY; 128 30th (Diane Morris’s)

JUNE 11 Central Area Neighborhood District Council, 6pm, The Central, 500 30th Ave S.

JUNE 13 FLOWARE EVENT

JUNE 13 Seattle Neighborhood Coalition, 9am, The Central (Breakfast: $14)

JUNE 14 Garfield Jazz: Farewell to Seniors, 7-9pm, Quincy Jones PAC

JUNE 19 Green Dolphin Street Lounge, 6-9pm, featuring Big Luv! Big Luv’s musical style includes Top 40 Rock ‘n’ Roll and Motown - get up and dance music. Admission is $20 for non-members and $15 for lifetime members. Refreshments. No Host bar.

JUNE 20 Leschi CC stairway cleanup at Dearborn St. stairs, 30th to 31st. Meet at 10am at top of stairs just south of Grace Methodist Church. Bring tools. 10am-noon.

JUNE 25 EastPAC meeting 6:30pm. Chardin Hall, Seattle U. Parking off 12th on right.

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

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