

leschinews

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

LESCHI COMMUNITY COUNCIL PRESENTS: *PANDEMIC VOTING!*

Meet our candidates by Zooming in at 7pm to our June 2nd meeting!

If any of you have not yet come forward, this is your chance! Just attend the meeting and we will announce candidates for each office. Throw your hat in the ring! Each candidate will talk about themselves and why they would like to be President, Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer and what they would like to see for the future of the community.

We will take a hand vote as we need to meet by Zoom; restrictions still in place until June 30. The results of the vote will also be posted on Facebook for the public and on the kiosk by BluWater Bistro.

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS ON INSIDE BACK COVER

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10 Seattle is More Dynamic All the Time!



**SAVE
THE DATE**

**CANDIDATE
FORUMS
PLANNED** *see page 5*

President's Message

Dear fellow Leschi Residents,

Here we are a year later and a world away from the extraordinary year we have just experienced. I remember thinking last early April, "After all these years, is this what it has come to?" Fortunately, we continue a steady forward movement towards a new normal.

As I sit here on this spring day in May, this is our last issue before our summer break. The Board continues to meet during July and August however, but those meetings currently are on Zoom and take about an hour. What brings me to this is...

Our LCC election is upon us, and I want to give a little explanation as to what the positions do, so if you are so inclined, you might step up. What it is: an opportunity to serve the community, it entails a monthly Board meeting and nine monthly public meetings (via Zoom or in person), an hour and hour and a half respectively. (There are no public meetings in January, July, and August.) This is a non-partisan group offering our community a vast array of history, candidate views during election time, and we do run the Leschi Art Walk and the Halloween Spooktacular. (Personally, I am better at this as community involvement than volunteering at hospitals.)

The roles:

COMBINED GROUP: plan monthly meetings, allocate donations to various organizations and work together on our normal events like the Art Walk

PRESIDENT: oversees meetings, signs letters and writes The President's Message

EX. VP.: backs up the President, makes suggestions and helps organize

SECRETARY: compiles notes, writes letters when asked, keeps us in non-profit guidelines

TREASURER: the money person is always necessary and our outgoing Treasurer Janet Oliver, has created an efficient system to keep us organized

This is a brief overview of what the Board does. We will be electing the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer positions. There are some candidates already, including myself, but please feel free to step up.

As a closing thought, something kept me up a lot of the night recently. It is the word "responsibility." One can add respect to this thought, but I wonder why, as a society we don't stress that anymore. It saddens me to watch the division, even among families, that exists today. I wonder who taught people to deface property and feel they have no responsibility to function as a citizen of this planet working together. There is no one answer, just thoughts for contemplation.

Also, we bid goodbye to beautiful Kate Barber, whose artistic talents and grace even in passing, leaves a beautiful legacy. John, her husband, and steward of our parks and greenspace projects, has been an integral part of the LCC for years. Our love to you, John.

Best regards,

*-Janice Merrill Brown
President, Leschi Community Council*

"The best way to predict the future is to invent it." Frank Maguire



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and visit our website: leschinews.com

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Please share with a friend.



Trillium Thief in Frink Park

The Forest Service calls it poaching! Darrell Howe, Frink Park steward, tells us that someone dug up a trillium plant and stole it! One could see the marks of a spade but no trace of the missing plant. We are asking for donations to the Frink Park fund to purchase more trillium; make your check out to Leschi CC and put Frink Trillium in the memo line.

It is hard for me to write about this kind of theft, having been brought up NOT to take flowers from anyone's yard even if Mother's Day was looming and Frink Park is the "yard" of all the citizens. We should all have the privilege of walking through the park and coming across one of these rare flowers in an unexpected spot. So, the thief has stolen from all of us!

The following information from the Forest Service is in a category called "Ethics." This is probably a lesson that our thief has never absorbed but it's never too late to learn.

"Unfortunately, the Forest Service is experiencing increased poaching of native wildflowers; even some that are listed as endangered species. Many people desire species that are not available commercially because these plants are difficult to grow or take too many years to reach maturity; and some people desire the rarest of the rare bringing those precious jewels ever closer to extinction. Consequently, some people are illegally removing wildflowers and other native plants from their natural habitats. In some cases, entire populations of a species have been stolen.

There are four main consequences to this illegal activity:

1. All living organisms need to reproduce. Digging up wildflowers, picking wildflowers, or collecting their seed will reduce a plant's ability to reproduce and will adversely affect its long-term survival in that location;
2. Removing wildflowers from the wild can adversely affect pollinators and other animals that depend on that species for food and cover;

3. Removing wildflowers from our national forests and grasslands prevents other visitors from enjoying our natural heritage; and,
4. Most wildflowers when dug from their natural habitat do not survive being transplanted.

There are legal ways to collect native plants from national forests and grasslands that will allow their use but still sustain them for future generations.

Remember, respect and protect wildflowers and their habitats, leave only footprints, and take only memories and photos so that future generations may enjoy our precious natural heritage."

-Diane Snell

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?



The Leschi News needs your help!

We are looking for a graphic designer to layout our monthly newsletter and update our website.

Please contact Diane at 206-726-0923 or email leschinews@comcast.net for more information.

Neighborhood and Beyond

LESCHI CC JUNE MEETING

By unanimous approval of the Board (at our May Board meeting), we will be opening our meetings by acknowledging that we are on the land of others. The entire opening is as follows:

“We respectfully acknowledge that we live on the land of the Duwamish Nation. We ask all in our community, including our governing bodies, to respect the Duwamish people and to learn the true history of the lands on which we reside. We resolve to work with the Duwamish people to build a shared, sustainable future for all.”

We will be meeting the candidates for Leschi CC offices in June. Please see the cover for details.

THE LOSS OF A MULTI-TALENTED WOMAN

Katherine Keleher “Kate” Barber passed away in her sleep on May 10 at home with her husband, John, and rescued dogs, Oscar and Jax, beside her.

She was life-partner to John since their wedding on April 29, 1967, dog-mother to many lovely pets, watercolor painter, urban sketcher, gardener, traveler, spinner and knitter, bicycle commuter, iPad painter, Electric Slider, information retrieval specialist/librarian, and inspiration to many friends.

Kate was born on August 26, 1940, in Norfolk, Virginia. The family soon moved to the Beverly neighborhood of Chicago, Illinois. She graduated from Morgan Park High School, Knox College, and the University of Chicago.



After finishing her master's degree in library science in Chicago, she worked as a librarian for the American Library Association and the American Medical Association. In Seattle, she was librarian for the King County Medical Society for 35 years.


As a watercolor painter her works were shown in exhibitions of the Northwest Watercolor Association, the National Watercolor Association, and the American Watercolor Association. She taught in Palo Alto at the Mobile Digital Arts Creative Summit. In her later years, she took to heart urban sketching, keeping many journals and attending international conferences. Samples of her paintings and sketches are in several textbooks, and on her Facebook page.

A memorial service will be announced later. Donations in her honor are encouraged to Old Dog Haven, P.O. Box 1409, Oak Harbor, WA 98277-1409.

DREAMCATCHER

Leschi's May program covered the story of how Leschi lost its Thunderbird to the current Dreamcatcher. The Thunderbird is “a legendary creature in certain North American indigenous peoples' history and culture. It is considered a supernatural being of power and strength.”

The artist, Lawney Reyes, was not satisfied with his work on the Thunderbird and proposed a new memorial to his brother Bernie Whitebear and sister, Luana Reyes. He contacted Ross Bond and Jill Marsden along with Leschi resident, Joan Singler who lived only a few houses from the proposed location for the new memorial. Lawney designed the Dreamcatcher which has become the new memorial. Dreamcatchers began with the Ojibwe tribe as simple spider webs which one placed near an infant's crib to catch the bad dreams. The Dreamcatcher concept has been adopted by many tribes and as with Lawney's example, there are figures that denote good dreams. Both Bernie and Luana followed their dreams to build the native community.



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The group of presenters gave us a picture of a Bernie Whitebear who was a dynamic personality that soon took command of any crowd he walked into. Jill was his assistant director at the Indian Health Services, and she attended many events with him. On their way to a prominent politician's house for such an event, he told Jill that at these affairs, a (white) woman would come up to him and tell him that she was descended from a Cherokee princess. Sure enough, they had been inside the house only a few moments when the wife of the host approached Bernie with her secret of being a descendant of a Cherokee princess!

Bernie was involved in the occupation of Fort Lawton and instrumental in obtaining land for an Indian Cultural Center. Lawney Reyes designed the Daybreak Star Center and Bernie was the executive director of the United Indians of All Tribes Foundation.

The installation of the Dreamcatcher was a notable event with County Councilmember Larry Gossett reading a proclamation and former governor Mike Lowrey praised Bernie and Luana for their work. There were drummers, native dancers and singers! It was a memorable ceremony in a rather small area.

The Dreamcatcher not only features the good dreams but also denotes the interconnectedness so perfectly described by Chief Seattle many years before:

“Humankind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect.”

-Diane Snell

SAVE THE DATES

The Central Area Neighborhood District Council (CANDC) is hosting a series of candidates' Forums. The tentative dates are as follows:

June 10: City Council District 8

June 15: City Council District 9

June 21: Port/City Attorney/School Board

July 10: Mayoral Candidates

All the forums are via Zoom and will generally run from 6:30–9pm.

Dates may change so watch our Facebook page, website, your local telephone pole and NextDoor group for more information. FB: <https://www.facebook.com/Central-Area-Neighborhood-District-Council-103746784774430>.

You may also email John Stewart at stewartj@seanet.com. Thanks for staying tuned in!

-Mary Pat Dileva, CANDC

THE LESCHI STREET BEAT

Bike Lane Update: Protected Bike Lanes (PBLs) Coming Our Way (as of May 2021)

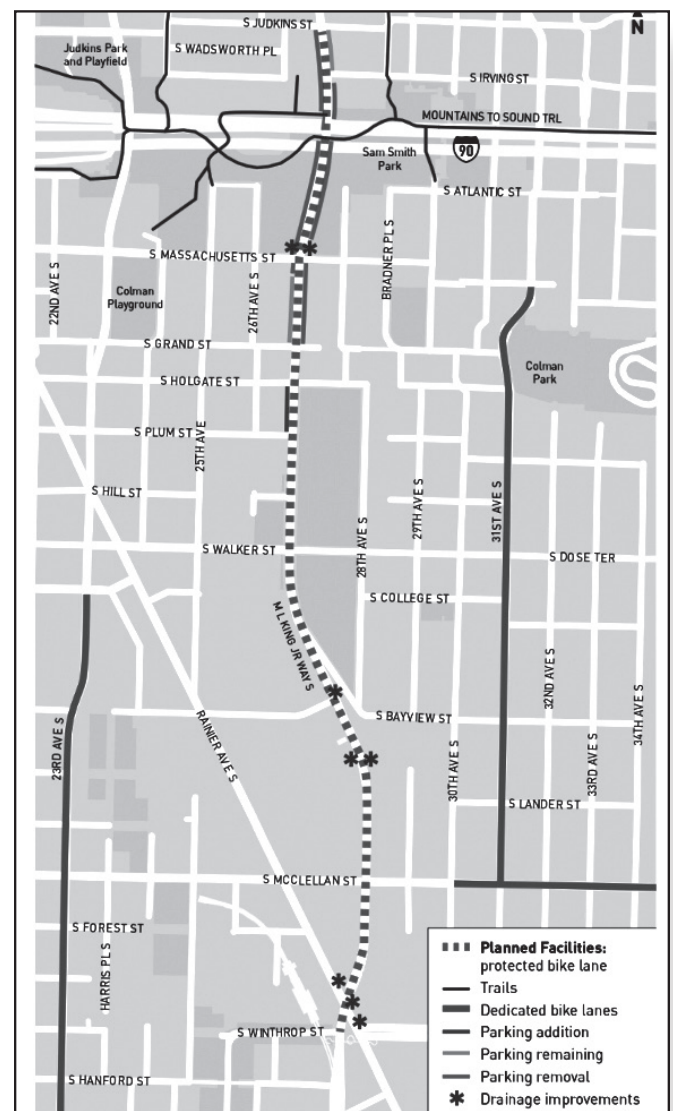
Your opinions and voices are needed in planning the future of bike lanes to Leschi. It's happening here and now in Leschi!

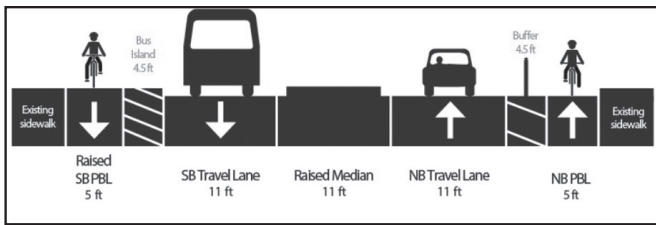
In 2015, Seattle voters approved the Levy to Move Seattle, a \$930 million transportation levy that included extensive upgrades to street, utility, and bicycle infrastructure. Now as we look at the results to date, the plan was extremely optimistic. Cost for all projects have come in way over original budgets. Bike lanes and center piece projects have become very expensive because codes and specifications require street rebuilds adding drainage, lighting, and utility costs. The result is a reduced scope of the Seattle Bike Master Plan (BMP).

One area where the plans fall short is here in our neighborhood. In terms of connections, Southeast Seattle is getting left behind. Many other projects are underway in the city and north of the bridges.

However, there are plans to provide a protected bike lane on Martin Luther King Jr. Way S between the existing Mount Baker Station and the under-construction Judkins Park Station. Construction is anticipated to start in 2023 and this will be one of the key connections of our neighborhood to connect Southeast Seattle to Downtown and other neighborhoods beyond.

Please find the link to the plan below and take the survey. The plan is 60% complete and all opinions matter.





This is big investment and a complex project. Go to: <https://www.seattle.gov/transportation/projects-and-programs/programs/bike-program/protected-bike-lanes/mlk-protected-bike-lane>.

Please take time to get involved and share your ideas! Thanks.

-Daniel V. Byrne, PE

SCHULMAN MEMORIAL

A concept is taking form to honor Steve Schulman by building a picnic shelter in the southeast edge of Leschi Park, close to the South Leschi Moorage. There is no design yet, but the location under consideration is between Lakeside Avenue South and Lake Washington, up on the level part of the ground (between the sidewalk and Lakeside South).

This location has several advantages, beginning with proximity to parking and a good view of Mt. Rainier (on those days when the mountain is “out”).

Little is known yet about the City Code requirements or Shoreline Management requirements, but presumably the shelter would be integrated with new landscaping and trees and pedestrian access across Lakeside South and the rest of the park.

Public outreach and planning meetings will take place later in the year. Steve Schulman’s family, through the leadership of Yousef Schulman of the Leschi Market, is highly committed to the success of the memorial and intends for it to be a significant contribution to the community value of the park.

The Leschi Community Council will be thoroughly involved, through the participation of the Parks and Greenspace Committee and financial sponsorship. If you wish to be involved in the planning, please contact me at barber-osa@comcast.net.

-John Barber,
Leschi CC Chair of Parks and Greenspace

LESCHI SCHOOL UPDATE

A school year like no other is coming to a close. Through it all, our staff, educators, families and above all our students have persevered with grace, humor, and care for one another. We would like to thank the Leschi community once again and our partners for all the support you have provided in ways large and small. In the hope and expectation that next school year will be something much closer to ‘normal,’ the Leschi PTA is currently raising funds to provide a budget for our full breadth of programs, including classroom support, tutoring, after-school enrichment, scholarships for the Fifth-grade camp, family support, equity and anti-racism work, and community-building events. Please see info at bottom if you would like to help.

Congratulations to our very own Michelle Reese for winning the 2020 Leschi Star Award! Though the award ceremony was postponed due to Covid-19, we would like to recognize her achievement by sharing a portion of her nomination from last spring below:

Michelle is a community care coordinator for Odessa Brown Children’s Clinic and has been assigned to Leschi Elementary for the last two years. Her youngest child also attends Leschi Elementary, where Michelle is an active member of the Parent Equity Team and the PTA.

Michelle’s life is dedicated to service and improving the lives of others. As a community care coordinator for Odessa Brown, she helps ensure that students at Leschi, particularly those from lower-income families, have access to medical, dental and mental health services, and she is a key part of a team promoting social and emotional learning at the school. Michelle also runs a girls’ group at Leschi called the Leschi Queens, helping female students develop new relationships and build self-esteem through enrichment and community-based activities. She is also a community



organizer for GirlTrek (<https://www.girltrek.org>), a civil rights-inspired health movement that uses organized walking teams to inspire healthy living and community mobilization.

Keep up to date on upcoming events and news by visiting leschies.seattleschools.org or our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/leschischool>.

To support our school, classrooms, and community programs please see: https://leschies.seattleschools.org/school_involvement/fundraising.

-Benson Wilder

LIFE AND TIMES IN LESCHI

Last month I wrote about my third Leschi rental and how I was displaced by developers for the second time in a row. Now that I had a steady job and a little money in my pocket, and I was pushing 40 years of age, I started looking in earnest to buy a house. I was hoping for a two-bedroom place in the Dell for around \$80,000, but I didn't find anything to my liking. I fell in with a very decent real-estate agent along the way, and he found me a three-bedroom house, plus a backyard cottage, plus a view, for about \$120,000. Another advantage, not recognized right away, was its location in a more built-up part of the neighborhood, away from the heartbreak of the ongoing slaughter of Leschi's wilderness. Getting a mortgage took some creative financing, but I succeeded with the purchase and have now lived there for 34 years.

Change continues as well in this part of Leschi, south of Frink Park, and has been going on for a long time. In the 1880s, Guy Phinney established the Lake Washington Mill at Charles Street, near the old lakeshore, before the lake was lowered. In 1898, a mudslide began at 30th Avenue South and Judkins Street, extending north to Dearborn, just south of my present home. Covering 75 acres, it swept 16 houses off their foundations and pushed the mill out of business. A witness later related that 100 feet or more clear-cut earth dropped away from the hilltop. Heavy rains the preceding winter had led to other neighborhood landslides as well, including one in Lake Dell, where three houses were "twisted" by a slide, according to the Seattle Times.

When the Ship Canal opened in 1916, lowering Lake Washington nine feet, 35th Avenue South ended at Dearborn Street, pretty much as it does now. Continuing south, where we now find Lakeside Avenue South, there was just a narrow dirt path, little used because of underground tunnels through sawdust that was left behind by the old mill. People were afraid of falling into one of the tunnels, which had happened. As the sawdust, formerly underwater, was exposed to the air, it dried out and occasionally ignited from spontaneous combustion.

Not long after I moved in, late in the 1980s, the city undertook a renovation of Lake Washington Boulevard South, from Frink Park to Colman Park. The Boulevard is largely within the purview of the Parks Department, which sent representatives to relate its ideas to the local residents. On my block, north of Dearborn, a sidewalk was

established on the east side of the street, taking away chunks of people's front yards (which were, in fact, partially on city right-of-way). The roadway was pushed to the west, removing parts of those people's yards or embankments, also on the right-of-way. The project also included planting of street trees, chosen for their limited height and for root systems that wouldn't wreck the pavement.

There was a lot of complaining. On one occasion I hosted a gathering for neighbors to meet with the Parks people and give them what for. More than one householder, probably fearful for their scenic views, declared "I hate trees." We wore down some of the rough edges of the city's plan and got a good look at unfeeling bureaucracy at work. Thirty-some years on, the Boulevard doesn't look so bad. One neighbor across the street confided to me that she had cut down a tree the city planted, and I'm sure some others did the same. When I went to put in a garden along the sidewalk, I discovered that the contractor had dumped a massive amount of gravel in the dirt. The project of straining that rock from the dirt was the city's legacy to me.

-Roger Lippman

The author writes monthly about Leschi history and his experiences over his 45 years in the neighborhood. (Sources: "Big Landslide in 1898 Closed Pioneer Sawmill," by Lucile McDonald, Seattle Times Sunday Magazine, January 22, 1956, page 10; Wade Vaughn, Seattle—Leschi Diary; Bill Schaefer, Living It up in Leschi)

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TO THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES IN MY LIFE

Congratulations!

I'm proud of you. It never occurred to me that you would not graduate.

I decided to write you a letter, a letter I wish someone had written me all those years ago when I graduated from high school.

Life is full of good! Get all you can as often and for as long as you can. You can do this without being irrationally selfish; I agree with Dr. Wayne Dyer and his call for being rationally selfish. Savor. Share. Thank often. And, yes, there is the unpleasant, sad, bad in life. But, based on my experience, all the unpleasant, sad, and bad cannot be avoided. Just be governed by a promise found in religions practiced by millions around the world: treat individuals as you wish to be treated.

Morals matter. Nobody is perfect, but all of us can work toward perfection. What we do today may indeed matter fifty years from now, possibly much earlier, much longer. There are many people who will agree with me. So much of what we do cannot be undone; apologies won't erase everything despite our sincerity. One thoughtless action ought not define us, but sometimes it does.

You'll find that a lot of the cliches are true. I want you to know that they are true for a reason; repeatedly, all over the world, people have seen and do see proof. What is not a cliché and should be is this: think critically. Some proverbs must be, and ought to be qualified. For instance, when we know better, we do better. Not necessarily. For when we know better, we OUGHT to do better.

The physical aspect of life may be the best place to begin simply because it may be the easiest to practice. Eat well. Exercise. Take care of your health. It is easier to stay healthy than it is to work your way back to good health. Select an exercise, sport; do it regularly. You do not have to be good at it, but like it. Do it regularly to get the greatest benefits, one of which is feeling good.

Feeling good can lead to perfecting the mental aspect of your life. Academic, yes. You have had a taste of education: maybe kindergarten, definitely elementary, middle and high school. Never underestimate your ability. Delve into your interests. A certificated program? A four-year degree? I am

partial to the community colleges—you get a chance to explore without losing ground. Many persons don't know what they want to do, where they want to go, what they want to be when they finish high school.

Being scattered here can spill into the emotional aspect of life, another part of the mental side of life. Understand who you are, what's important. Give yourself time to get a life partner if you choose. A partner should enhance your life. You're still growing! Know who you are, what you want before you select someone. Avoid trying to be what he/she wants you to be. Most of us want to please, but sometimes pleasing costs too much. Changing for someone else rarely sticks; change for yourself—if you choose. Take time. Read, travel. Connect. Keep a journal! List statements your mom, dad, grandparents, teachers, persons whose comments you value said often. The comments may have different meanings as you mature. Chances are you'll discard some of what you learned, make discoveries of what you never imagined, and reaffirm some of what you long believed.

Not forgotten nor ignored is the financial aspect of life. Remember: money is not the root of evil; love of money is the root of evil. Always take care of yourself. Too many persons, women especially, have tolerated horrible abuse so that they can regularly receive the basics or continue to live in the fashion to which they have become accustomed or want to live. Save a minimum of 10% of your income EVERY MONTH. Devote time to becoming financially literate—the sooner, the better. Saving is good discipline, but do not save so much that you yourself live in poverty. You deserve the best, especially after working for it. Consider being an entrepreneur.

Finally, never forget the spiritual aspect of life. Spiritual development is essential if you are to be a healthy individual. For me, the spiritual permeates everything despite my not always seeing it, especially not seeing it immediately. As a result, I always attempt to make connections. Connecting makes it easier for me to negotiate the twists and turns in life. Try to put yourself in the minds of others if only for a little while. Our views, where we stand can make such a difference in perception. I think all of us have a perch from which we see the world. But I know we do not have the same perch: low, high, in-between, large, medium, small. However, our perches are always miniscule. We must work to get better views and then do our best to help others do the same.

I have done some of what I want to do in this piece. I hope it helps. I hope you have a long, fruitful, enjoyable life.

-Georgia S. McDade

Georgia S. McDade, a charter member of the African American Writers' Alliance, began reading her stories in public in 1991 and credits the group with making her write poetry. Georgia writes for South Seattle Emerald and Leschinews. She does interviews for KVRU (105.7) and KBCS (107.3). Outside the Cave is the name of four volumes of poetry; Observation and Revelations: Stories, Sketches, and Essays is the name of her volume of prose.

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OUT DAMN IVY!

(with liberties from Lady Macbeth)

English ivy (*Hedera helix*) is a woody, evergreen, perennial vine commonly seen in urban and suburban forests in King County. It was first introduced in the United States by European settlers as ornamental plants. Since then, it has spread throughout various regions across the country, including King County. There are four cultivars of English ivy (*Hedera helix*) that are listed as a non-regulated Class C noxious weed in King County. They are Baltica, Pittsburgh, Star and Hibernica. Although landowners are not legally required to control these plants, the King Conservation District (KCD) strongly recommends controlling, or at least containing them, as well as discourages planting them.

English ivy vines have tendencies to spread horizontally and climb vertically. They don't directly poison trees but do negatively affect tree health and increase the likelihood of the tree becoming hazardous to surrounding areas. The thick vines decrease light exposure and make trees vulnerable to tree bark disease and rot. Physically speaking, the sheer mass and surface area that English ivy adds to a tree can make it more susceptible to falling over during high winds.

To contain English ivy and promote tree health, KCD recommends creating a survival ring. Although it may be tempting to remove ivy by pulling it off a tree, KCD advises against that practice due to the likelihood of potentially damaging the tree or creating hazardous falling debris.

First, to remove the ivy from the tree and its surrounding area:

1. At about shoulder height, cut the ivy around the tree (making a ring), severing its connection to the roots.
2. Strip the ivy down from the ring that was initially cut. Clear and remove the ivy within a 5 to 10 foot radius of the tree to prevent regrowth back up the tree.
3. Make sure ivy roots are removed by cutting and pulling them out.

-Submitted by Anne Depue from the King Conservation District, <https://kingcd.org>.

COVID CHAOS CONTINUES

Just when we're told that things are getting back to normal—if we can remember what that was—more chaos erupts. The culprit this time?

2 x 4's!

That's right: the Mighty Stud—the lumber equivalent of the mighty US Dollar—now costs almost eight mighty US Dollars. For those of you not familiar with lumber pricing, that's more than double what it used to be back in the wood old days.



But wait, there's more: a 2 x 4 is not what it seems! Their dimensions are actually 1 1/2 x 3 1/2—kind of like those 12 oz. "pints," which coincidentally now cost about the same. Is there a beer shortage too? Now that really would be serious.

And it gets worse—Lowes on Rainier are out of stock (of studs as well as beer).

Fortunately, for those of you willing to go all the way to SoDo, the Home Depot on Lander have "999+" according to their website—or at least they did when I checked. By the time you read this, they may be out, too—making them the Homeless Depot?

And what, you may ask, is the culprit?

Outside dining!!

That's right: all those street-side canopies need holding up—and that's what 2 x 4's do.

And, unlike pretty much everything else we need more of now, 2 x 4's don't come from China—they come from trees. The US still has lots of them and BC even more, but the lumber mills were so busy shredding them to make toilet paper, that they stopped producing the formerly mighty stud. So that fancy new backyard retreat, formerly known as Shed, may have to wait until things get back to normal.

If we can remember what that was.

-Malcolm Harker

Editorial note: we needed to replace two boards in one of our raised veggie beds. We did find them at Lowe's for \$46 for two "2x4s". Makes one wonder if we are saving any \$ by planting our own veggies!

Fionnuala O'Sullivan

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Culture Corner

SEATTLE IS MORE DYNAMIC ALL THE TIME!

Exciting exhibitions are coming to both Seattle and Tacoma this summer.

will begin with the Frye Art Museum and “Black Refractions: Highlights from the Studio Museum in Harlem.” (May 22–August 15). The Studio Museum has long been a nationally recognized anchor of culture of the African diaspora, led by a succession of dynamic curators and directors. Their permanent collection features benchmark artists from the last fifty years including people such as Faith Ringgold and Alma Thomas (a pioneering abstract artist from DC). The eighty artists in the exhibition are a who’s who of artists of African descent.

Kenyan American Wangechi Mutu, one of the artists in the Studio Museum/Frye exhibition, created the larger-than-life bronze sculpture “The Seated IV” for a Metropolitan Museum of Art commission to temporarily fill empty niches on the façade. Amazingly it now stands on the UW campus in front of the Hans Rosling Center for Population Health on Stevens Way just east of 15th Ave.

The queenly figure clothed in coils sits regally on a base. The large disc on her forehead, inspired by the lip plates worn by elite women of the Mursi tribe of Ethiopia, reflects and

receives light and energy from the sun. SAM Curator Pam McCluskey called it “a perfect monument to the African DNA of our species on the planet, and how we need to balance our human instincts with celestial insights...” In its original setting, in the neoclassical niches on the façade of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Mutu redefined the burdened caryatid that held up a building. Now these women



Wangechi Mutu (Kenyan, Born Nairobi 1972), *The New Ones, will free Us: The Seated IV*, 2019, Bronze 80 ½, x 33 3/8 x 36 ¾, (detail) in front of the Hans Rosling Center for Population Health on Stevens Way just east of 15th ave. Collection University of Washington, Gift of Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Photograph: Susan Platt

(we got one of four) are independent and in the world on their own terms.

The Wing Luke Museum features Gerard Tsutakawa’s sculpture “Stories Shaped in Bronze,” starting on June 11. (He is the son of George Tsutakawa). We see many of Gerard’s public art works in Seattle. My personal favorite is Urban Peace Circle Memorial, 1994 in the I-90 lid park that I wrote about last spring. It is dedicated to children killed by gun violence. The Wing also takes on the impact of Covid-19 on the Asian community in “Community Spread How We Faced a Pandemic.” With anti-Asian violence escalating every day, this timely exhibition looks back at the roots of the disturbing wave of anger since the beginning of the pandemic.



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The just-released graphic novel *We Hereby Refuse*, by Frank Abe and Tamiko Nimura, illustrated by Ross Ishikawa partners with a new permanent exhibition at the Washington State Historical Society Museum in Tacoma “Remembrance, the Legacy of Executive Order 1066 in Washington State,” that opens on June 17. It explores the “intergenerational impacts and legacy of the incarceration of people of Japanese ethnicity during WWII as a result of Executive Order 9066.”

Washington State Historical Society Museum also has initiated an exhibition on a groundbreaking topic!

“Crossing Boundaries, Portraits of a Transgender West,” (May 29–December 12) explores the idea of moving west to free oneself from prior identities. While the term “transgender” did not exist until recently, curator Peter Boag author of *Re-Dressing America’s Frontier Past*, explores the ways in which people freed themselves from gender norms as they went West. The exhibition explores the narratives of people who came into the public eye in newspapers between 1860 and 1940 with the themes “visibility, identity, acceptance, and history.” Peter Boag will give an online presentation on June 10.

Perfect for the summer, the Seattle Art Museum exhibition “Monet at Étretat” (July 1–October 17), features eleven paintings by Monet built around the museum’s only Monet Fishing Boats at Étretat. Monet is a seductive painter, no question about that, and his Étretat paintings featuring the famous chalk cliffs draw us in with their magic. The show also includes work by his contemporaries, videos, postcards and more.

I wish I had more space to write about Seattle’s exciting creative events in literature, poetry, dance, opera, and film (for example the opera *Flight* filmed at the Museum of Flight!!). Pay attention to an edgy series of events called “Murmurations: A Seattle-Wide Arts Collaboration,” going on all summer. Some are already online, such as the radical trans everything Sadiqua Imam’s moving interpretation in the Frye Exhibition of Anastacia-Reneé’s (*Don’t be Absurd*) *Alice in Parts*. Anastacia-Reneé is Seattle’s current Civic Poet—you can also see her performing online.

An upside of the pandemic has been the online interviews with individual performers that supplemented streamed performances. Now we know them as people, not just as distant musical geniuses. I particularly like the chamber music group Byron Schenkman and Friends for that reason.

Finally, it was a thrill to go to Pike Place Market last Sunday and see real people having fun, poets performing (we heard Raven Saint Reeves), and Rick Williams, Eagle Son, an eighth generation descendent of the famous Williams Family, carving totems. I bought a small totem, and he gave me a bag of cedar carvings. Take a look at their excellent website at Williams Family Carvers (<https://williamsfamilycarvers.com>) to learn more and buy your very own artwork.

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

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

The Shattered Glass Project presents “Much Ado About Nothing.” A recipe for hilarity and disaster: love and trust, truth and lies, gossip, fake news, and unwilling romance, dissolved in social media, and baked in a Zoom box for 120 minutes.

Opening May 28, 2021, and running for three performances, The Shattered Glass Project presents a digital take on the Shakespeare classic, “Much Ado About Nothing”, streaming live on YouTube. Performances take place at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 28 and Saturday, May 29, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 30th. All tickets are Pay-What-You-Will. Tickets are available at <https://www.shatteredglassproject.org/much-ado-about-nothing>.

The Shattered Glass Project is a theatre company with a mission to amplify the voices of theatre artists who have been marginalized based on their gender or sex by offering unique opportunities to create and to grow professionally. All The Shattered Glass Project performances are pay-what-you-will to ensure that theatre is accessible to all interested parties. Additional information is available at <https://www.shatteredglassproject.org>. For any questions, please contact theshatteredglassproject@gmail.com.

Editor’s note: This theater project offers plays almost monthly, but they rarely fit our publishing schedule. We usually get notice a week ahead and the performances happen before our in-home date for the news. This month we are mailing early so we’re printing their schedule in the hope that you might be able to view one of the performances.



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Seeking Sustenance...

SUMMER WINE TOUR

Hello and welcome to the summer edition! If your personal travel plans are still on hold, let Leschi Market be your guide to a world tour. The wine aisle regularly stocks wines from every inch of the globe. From Uruguay to Morocco and South Africa to Maryland, and everywhere in between!

Take the world tour on your own, peruse the aisles at your leisure, and find the wines that call to you. Leschi Market also boasts the best, most knowledgeable and helpful staff in the city. Let them assist you on your worldly wine travels. Finally, don't forget, we are still Zooming to far off places twice per month, and will continue to do so all summer long. Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, we hop on a Zoom call for our "Educational Happy Hour Virtual Tasting Series," at 5:35pm on the designated day. There are often winemakers or importers as guest speakers to discuss the wines that are made available a week or two prior to tasting. Just this year we've visited Argentina, Italy, Hungary, Austria, France, and the Columbia Gorge, just to name drop a few. One summer tasting includes a Virtual Tasting Trip to Mexico!

Here are a few wines from around the world to whet your palate! Have a safe and fun summer, and we'll look forward to being your one-stop shop all summer long. Cheers!

2020 La Puerta Malbec Famatina Valley Argentina \$11.19

From vineyards nestling high in the foothills of the Andes in the Famatina Valley. Ancient soils, clear mountain air, hot sun and cool breezes combine to create the perfect conditions in which to grow and ripen grapes. -Winemaker notes

2020 Villa Wolf Pinot Noir Rose Germany \$12.19

With beguiling fruit aromas, delicate and light at the same time, this is the ideal summer wine. The grapes grown on sandstone soils produce a perfectly balanced wine, with the necessary concentration and a fruity acidity. -Winemaker notes

Ramos Pinto Fine Ruby Port Portugal \$13.99

Aromas of cherry, blackberry, plum, and raspberry. Fresh, vibrant and fruity; its attack is much more voluminous than the Tawny's, due to its youthfulness. The finish is persistent and aromatic, leaving the opulent fruit flavors reverberating on the palate. -Winemaker notes

2017 Terenzi Cesanese del Piglio Velobra Italy \$14.99

Deep ruby color with violet hues; fragrant bouquet of red cherries, currants, crush white pepper and red flowers. Well-structured flavors, with ripe tannins and bright acidity through its lingering finish. -Winemaker notes

2018 Evesham Wood Pinot Noir Willamette Valley Oregon \$20.59

Aromas of cocoa powder with brambly berries and cherries in behind, as well as forest-wood notes. The palate has a very fresh, fine and crisp feel with dark-berry, cherry and chocolate flavors holding sway over a fresh, chiseled-tannin finish. -James Suckling, 92-points and Wine Enthusiast, 92-points





...in the Wilds of Seattle

2018 Romuald Petit Saint-Amour Beaujolais France \$20.99

100% Gamay from one of the less-seen Crus of Beaujolais. Beautiful, rich color, with ripe raspberry and blackberry notes, herbal tones, and complimented by punchy acidity and lighter tannins for terrific pairings with roasted chicken or pork, grilled veggies and salmon, and especially burgers. ~Distributor notes

2019 Old Westminster Petillant Naturel Chardonnay Maryland, USA \$26.99

Aromas of ripe rainier cherries, yellow pears, buttered croissant. Tastes like bubblegum, lemon curd, and pineapple core. ~Winemaker 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 monthly column is intended to inspire and explore new choices in wine, learn about wine with his readers, and share his knowledge and experience in the wine world. Check out the latest at www.LeschiMart.com or to request to be added to email updates at wine@leschimarket.com.

COMMUNION RESTAURANT AND BAR

And congratulations to Kristi Brown whose Communion restaurant in the Liberty Bank Building on Union has been named one of the top twelve new restaurants in the world by Conde' Nast! See <https://www.communionseattle.com> for more information.

-Seattle Times

MICA'S SWEET COFFEE NOW OPEN ON 31ST AVE S

Micaela Trujillo has opened a new café at 1368 31st Avenue S! You will find Mica—as in Mica's Coffee—as well as her daughter Ashley and her son Erick behind the counter serving up delicious pastries, tamales, soups, and fresh-every-day bread! Those who have spent time at

the Golden Wheat Bakery on Cherry Street will recognize Angel's delicious bread, muffins, danishes and superb (best in the city) croissants! Angel is still making pastries, but it is Mica who is making the coffee and Mexican delights. Favorites also include the breakfast sandwiches and lunch wraps.

The family heritage—and where Mica grew up—is Oaxacan—from the town of Independencia six hours south of Oaxaca City—where (as my husband and I discovered) the food is innovative and amazing. We recognized the unique painted octopus as a trademark of Oaxaca.

And how delicious to note that the coffee is also from the State as we recall its rich flavorful cappuccinos! You won't want to miss it!

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-Karen Daubert

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LESCHI BOARD MEETING, 5/10/21

ATTENDING: Janice Merrill Brown, Trevor Lalish-Menagh, Janet Oliver, Tracy Bier, Ashley Martin, Matthias Linnenkamp, Diane Snell

UPCOMING MEETINGS: June: presentation of candidates and instructions on how to vote by Survey Monkey. September program to be decided at summer Board meetings.

ARTWALK: it is not possible to plan an art walk in this short time even if all restrictions are lifted tomorrow. Janice will announce plans to look at holding the Art Walk again in 2022.

WEBSITE: Ashley is pursuing some concerns such as better promotion of the meetings and solving the communication problems (Q&A feature). She plans to send questions to the Board to find out what features are desired.

VOTING PROCESS FOR ELECTION: Survey Monkey was agreed upon. Janice would like to include a question about ideas for future programs.

CITY LIGHT PETITION: It was agreed that a letter be sent to the young man who is attempting to get City Light to put our wiring underground to avoid the ongoing problem of outages. Board support will be given to project. Businesses along the lake have signed the petition.

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS: link to meeting used by most but Diane needs both the meeting ID and passcode as she uses an iPad due to lack of microphone on her desktop. Janet feels that we don't need to print all the phone numbers; most folks who call in will know their appropriate phone number. We can offer to send the list to those who request it through Leschinews.

DONATION POLICY PRESENTED; it includes our community resources Leschi Elementary School, the Seattle Partners Music program which we helped establish and our Senior Center. Other places we support due to current homelessness situation are Low Income Housing Institute and two food banks: St. Mary's and Rainier Valley Food Bank. It was agreed to send \$250 each to Leschi school for their summer food backpack program and to Seattle Music Partners, who held their annual fundraising program in April. Any requests shall be handled by the Board at their next meeting.

Darrell Howe, resident who does important work in Frink Park reported the theft of trillium plants from the park. There are rare plants that take a long time to bloom, and it is a serious theft. He wants to ask for donations to the Frink Park fund to replace the plants. Janet said donations should be made to the Frink Park fund and designated for trillium.

The proliferation of Leschi CC records is presenting a problem for some Board members. Both the Treasurer and the Secretary were given boxes of old records when we assumed these positions. Janet said we should use the cloud to scan and safeguard the records we need to keep. No decision on who would do this.

Diane suggested that we open our meetings with an acknowledgement that we are on land that belonged to the Duwamish nation. This was enthusiastically accepted, and much discussion followed about ways to support the Duwamish people. Perhaps supporting the tribe in its efforts to be recognized. Trevor has contact with a group and Tracy volunteered to talk to the tribal officials. Janice would like to see a program devoted to the history. Diane would like to put information in the newsletter. More to come on this project.

-Respectfully submitted by Diane Snell

	Income	Expenses	Balance 4/30/21
General Fund			
Ad Revenue	\$1,015.00		
Dues	\$680.00		
Donations	\$1,155.00		
Insurance			
Printing and postage		(\$2,876.59)	
Totals	\$2,850.00	(\$3,205.99)	\$13,534.37
Restricted Funds			
ArtWalk			\$2,447.32
Cherry Street Corridor			\$635.76
Flo Ware Park			\$686.53
Friends of Powell Barnett			\$1,068.06
Friends of Street Ends		(\$500.00)	\$2,985.59
Frink Park			\$2,067.60
King Street			\$1270.00
Leschi Gateway Project			\$51.03
Leschi Natural Area			\$6,345.39
Officer Brenton Fund			\$3,287.85
Steve Shulman Memorial			\$65.00
String of Pearls			\$2,130.38
SW Frink Park			\$1233.08
W. Vaughn Memorial Fund			\$1200.00
Wading Pool			\$3006.13
West Sheridan Street End	\$200.00	(1,400.08)	\$649.92
Whitebear DreamCatcher			\$201.64
Totals	\$3,050.00	(\$5,106.07)	\$42,865.65
Certificate of Deposit			11,255.66

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

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LESCHI COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING ON ZOOM

Jun 2, 2021, 6:45pm, Pacific Time
(US and Canada)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84543219436?pwd=VDVLTjB4NG40clNaaUpRVINMeEppdz09>

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leschinews

The next Leschi News deadline is **MAY 17**. Mail all articles, comments, letters, advertisements, and membership dues to this address:
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or email Diane Snell at leschinews@comcast.net

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

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The Leschi News does not publish in July and August. Check out our Facebook page and visit the Leschi CC kiosk in front of BluWater Bistro for news and work party notices. The kiosk was designed for Leschi Community Council by Dennis Mortenson (Leschi resident).



We'll continue to post historical photos, so we all know what we missed by not being born 100 years earlier!

Join us on Facebook: LESCHI or see our website: leschicommunitycouncil.org or leschinews.com