

leschinews

It's that time again. Help us elect a board of officers for Leschi CC. You can read about those who have come forward on page 4 and we will take additional nominations from the floor. All paid members of LCC are eligible to vote.

Katie Sheehy of the Office of Planning and Development will join us to discuss the Comprehensive Plan which is updated every 20 years. Does it cover all the issues? What would you like to see? And what category of neighborhood does Leschi fall in? Why are some neighborhoods exempted from any zoning changes?

Wednesday, May 1 at 7pm

Grace United Methodist Church (lower level hall)
722 30th Ave S, Seattle, WA 98144

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SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 5
Last Meeting Before
Our Summer Break!

President's Message

Dear Fellow Leschi Dwellers,

As I write this, I thought we were fully into Spring. Alas, it's cold and gray again today. Such a trickster is Mother Earth... almost got overly excited about sunshine.

The May meeting is on May 1, so it is coming up quickly. The Comprehensive Plan updates will be discussed. For those of you who are unaware, counties had to file a CP covering 20 years. It's coming up for review/renewal. We will have a city representative at the meeting, and should you have any specific questions for that meeting, I suggest writing it out and sending to us before the meeting.

This will be the last time I write to you as the President of the LCC. I am termed out and at the May meeting, a new slate of Board members will be voted on and I will bow out. It has been an interesting 5 years—COVID and all. I have enjoyed my time and will continue this year to co-chair the 12th Annual Leschi ArtWalk.

I have lived in Leschi almost 21 years and have no plans to leave. Our neighborhood is so unique... a little boutique beach community, 10 minutes from the hustle and bustle of downtown Seattle.

If you are new to our area, I urge you to become involved in the Leschi Community Council and also shop in our commercial area with local businesses. There are a variety of choices of involvement—a little to more.

As I leave you today, I continue to encourage you to look out for your neighbors, those you know who might be alone and afraid to reach out for help. It was heartwarming for me to see a post from someone who had been homeless and was placed in stable housing in our area. She was looking for furnishings for her new place and the outreach was immediate and very generous. This was done through Next Door Leschi.

Remember that you can use the *Find It, Fix It* app from the city. Also, should you need to report something, even if it seems minimal or you have difficulty reaching the SPD, you still need to fill out a report. This helps them in allocating officers to our area.

Finally, please take care. Smile and laugh often. Enjoy the flowers, the chirping birds, and the little things we all have to be grateful for daily.

Warmest 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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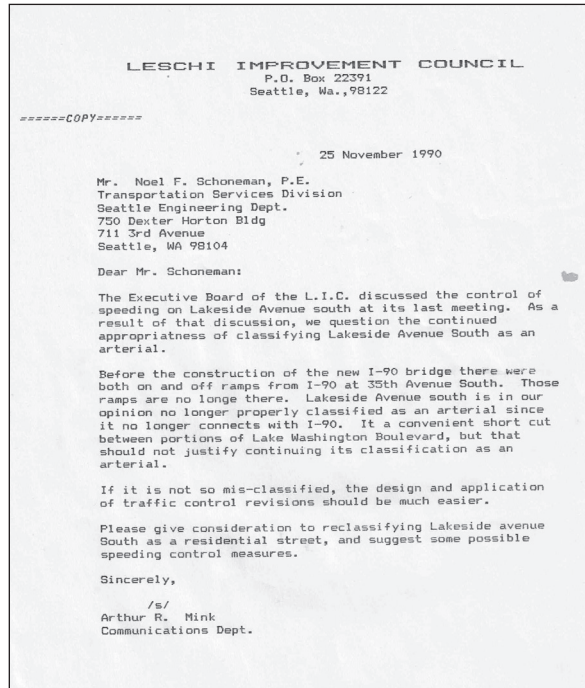
HE THAT CAN HAVE PATIENCE CAN HAVE WHAT HE WILL

Seeing that Benjamin Franklin said this, it must be right. After all, Franklin was a practical man who preached good sense in his Poor Richard's almanac. However, there was that one silly diversion when he urged that we consider the turkey for our national bird. Let's face it, the turkey, is a rather comical bird. Even the country of Turkey does not want to be associated with this bird. And given our current stature in the world and our "exceptionalism," perhaps our bird should be the peacock, proud and somewhat intimidating. But I digress.

Patience is what we have had for more than a decade of my life and I was to learn recently in looking at old Leschi CC documents, our goal of curbing the speed of traffic on LWB/ Lakeside Ave has dated back even further.

Discouraging, eh? And there was no response to this letter. I might have given up then but at our April meeting, I saw a glimmer of hope. The group working on the first phase of changes to the Lake Washington Blvd update is recommending a STOP SIGN!

That sign will be placed at the point where Lake Park Dr S runs into Lake Washington Blvd. Just north of that, there is a big curve, and the sight line is limited. But this is exactly the same situation where E Alder St dead ends into



Lake Washington Blvd, and this is where we asked for a stop sign only to be told that SDOT doesn't like to interfere with the flow of traffic. Any time a pedestrian wants to cross this street, their body will interfere with the flow of traffic!

Stopping traffic on Lake Washington Blvd and E Alder would help the #27 bus which often waits for 5-6 southbound cars to pass before turning left up the hill. Metro would be better able to keep to their schedule if there were a stop sign. I've decided to stretch my patience a while longer and perhaps we can go back to the tactics we used over a decade ago: put petitions in the retail businesses and get our neighbors to sign and then present them to SDOT

with a plea to remedy this situation. Give us stop signs for both north and southbound with another sign facing southbound traffic that says "You are entering the village of Leschi 20 mph."

And that small glimmer of hope grew stronger when we learned that our District 3 Representative Joy Hollingsworth had included the issue of Lake Washington Blvd traffic calming in the proposed levy. She heard our concerns!

-Diane Snell



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COMPASS

Hi Neighbors,

Homes sales in Leschi, Mt Baker, Madrona, Madison Park and Seward Park have been very slow since October.

That's about to change, as Sellers prepare their homes for the busy Spring market and Buyers grow tired of sitting in the wings waiting for new inventory and rates top drop.

If you'd like to strategize how to maximize the sale of your home or bid and win the one you've been looking for, please reach out. I'd love to help.

SCOTT LENNARD

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Scott Lennard is a real estate broker affiliated with Compass. Compass is a licensed real estate broker and operates by Equal Housing Opportunity laws.

Neighborhood and Beyond

MAY MEETING: ELECTION OF OFFICERS & COMP PLAN

At the time of publication, the Leschi News has learned of four candidates for Board member positions, but there is still an opportunity to nominate yourself or someone else at the meeting.

Ashley Martin has stepped forward as a candidate for President. She has been our Communications Chair for the past few years and has made significant changes to improve communication on the website and a monthly email reminder of events.

Allen Urness is running for Vice-President. He has lived in Leschi for one year along Lakeside Ave and is well aware of the traffic issues there. He has passionately jumped into Public Safety issues and attends all the community meetings that fall into that category.

Trevor Lalish-Menagh has been our Vice-President for the past 5 years, graciously serving another year past the two terms when the state asked that elections be held in even years. Trevor has been the emcee for many of our candidate meetings. He has stepped up to be secretary.

Matthias Linnenkamp would like to serve another term as our Treasurer. He has made changes to streamline the reporting process and developed a procedure for our Restricted Fund policy.

After the election process (all paid members are eligible to vote), we welcome Katie Sheehy from the Office of Planning and Development to talk about the city's new Comprehensive Plan. If you have any questions, please send them to leschicouncil@gmail.com.

REPLACING THE LESCHI PIER

The pier between the Bluwater Bistro and Leschi Park will be demolished and replaced sometime, maybe in 2026. The pier is a popular sunbathing platform and lake-gazing platform during much of the year. Due to deterioration, it will be eliminated in favor of a longer, skinnier walking surface—16-foot wide for 200 feet, narrowing to 12-foot wide over the 500-foot long breakwater.

Some improvements to the design, which was without community input four years ago by the Seattle Parks Department, have been made recently to better accommodate use for public access and enjoyment. Namely, some benches will be added. A small platform and storage rack for kayaks and canoes will be retained. Greater improvements, especially for more width, are unlikely because of the complicated permitting process which gathers approvals from several government agencies including local tribes.

Electrical services will be underground, possibly requiring trenching under Lakeside Avenue.

Left out of the process thus far is a name for the new structure. Right now, the name is Leschi South Marina Wave Attenuator and Facility Improvements, but the intent is to provide public access to the waterfront. Maybe we can have a contest.

-John Barber

DOUGLASS-TRUTH LIBRARY

Due to budget deficits all libraries will reduce some hours. Douglass-Truth will be closed on Saturday from 4/20-6/4.

LESCHI SCHOOL UPDATE

Please visit our website at leschipta.org for updates and to support our work on behalf of educators, students and their families. We are gearing up for Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week May 6-10, with lots of goodies and plans in store for the much appreciated Leschi team.

Our Annual Giving Campaign will wrap up this month and 10% of the funds raised will be shared with other low income school communities in central and south Seattle. Please check with your employer as many will make matching contributions for charitable donations!

And our final fundraiser of the year will be our Move-a-thon on May 15! If you would like to sponsor a student jogger/mover or make a direct contribution please visit <https://app.99pledges.com/fund/moveathon49>.

-Benson Wilder

STRING OF PEARLS SPRING INTO SUMMER!

Leschi's four String of Pearls (shoreline street ends) look great—but volunteers and stewards are always welcome! Walking by and see some trash? Please pick it up. Looking for a place to weed or prune for a couple hours? Please check them out. Wanting to lead a spring clean project? Please consider these gems.

As a reminder, we are referring to where these streets run into Lake Washington: King, Dearborn, Charles, and Dearborn. And for bonus credits, Judkins Street in the Mt. Baker neighborhood is also a great target.

Thank you Leschi volunteers—for your work and spirit!

-Karen Daubert

APRIL PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING

The April community meeting was packed with important topics and guests, including representatives from SDOT, Seattle Police, and Council Member Joy Hollingsworth.

SDOT kicked off the meeting by presenting the Lake Washington Boulevard Renovations Project (Proposed Design Concepts), focusing on traffic calming from Lake Park Dr S to S Orcas St. Although this project doesn't directly affect Leschi neighborhood, it was insightful to see the ongoing work to the south and their commitment to continue along the boulevard as resources allow.

Following SDOT's presentation, they fielded questions from the group, sparking a lively discussion mainly centered around traffic calming efforts in Leschi, even though we knew it wasn't the primary focus of their presentation. Both SDOT and Council Member Hollingsworth encouraged everyone to review the "One Seattle Comprehensive Plan" and provide feedback to shape the city's growth and investment strategies for the next two decades.

Next, Council Member Hollingsworth addressed the community, discussing traffic safety concerns. She highlighted the Transportation Levy Proposal, urging us to review and give feedback by April 26 to influence the final proposal. She also mentioned her efforts to install "No Parking" signs in the Lake Washington business district and ended by sharing a new email address to use when sharing questions or concerns to her office (d3help@seattle.gov), and is seen by her whole staff which ensures it gets addressed in a timely manner.

In the final segment of the meeting, SPD Crime Prevention Coordinator, Joe Elenbass, fielded questions from the community, particularly regarding how to contact the police effectively. He reiterated that for any serious situation or emergency to call 911, but for anything that is not an emergency to use either the non-emergency number (206.625.5011) or the Online Crime Reporting portal and you will receive follow up contact. He also did share if 911 is called, and it's not a serious situation or emergency, individuals can request a call back from a member of the Telephone Reporting Unit, who will follow up as soon as they are able.

A big thank you to all who attended the meeting and to those who shared their projects and insights.

-Allen Urness, Leschi resident

A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF ROGER MELVIN LEED 1939-2024

Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, April 4, 2024
Two friends of the Leed family, Kenneth Edmonds and Anna Rudd offered remembrances of Seattle attorney Roger Leed.

As Anna described herself—"I was an anti-freeway activist over 50 years ago." She asserted, "You know how to stop freeways in Seattle? You have dedicated citizen activists and you have attorney Roger Leed, working in tandem."

In a recent conversation with him, Anna says Roger's goal in his 1980s-era work on Interstate—90 in Seattle was to slow the project enough so that public opinion and public officials could be enlightened by citizens whose intent was to save their neighborhoods and the city from harmful freeway impacts.

-Submitted by John Barber

GARFIELD JAZZ AT THE TRIPLE DOOR

Support our prize winning jazz ensemble May 31 at 7pm. Triple Door is located at 216 Union St Funds raised go to instrument purchases, lessons, guest clinicians and travel expenses.

Garfield Jazz Flyer

LIHI TO BUILD 160 UNIT U-DISTRICT BLDG

The Low Income Housing Institute is planning to build a 12 story building with street level retail and an Urban Rest Stop about 2 blocks from the U-District rail station.

There will be a mix of incomes: 30%, 50% and 80% of AMI (average median income). One third of the units will be 2 and 3 bedroom units to accommodate families. This will be much needed relief in a district that has seen high rents and displacements.

MADRONA FARMERS MARKET

The Madrona farmers' market will open on May 17. Mark your calendar now! You can find plant starts for your garden, artisan breads, fish, cheese, and those beautiful flowers! Hours are 3-7pm in the parking lot of Grocery Outlet, MLK Jr Way and Union St.

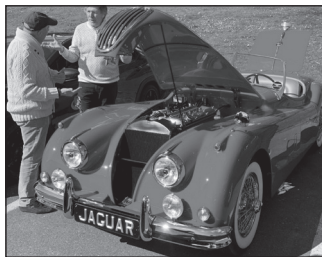


FRINK PARK WORK PARTY

Meet Janet Munger at the tennis Court on May 18. Work from 10am-12pm. Dress appropriately!

CARS & COFFEE

The Leschi Beach parking lot was buzzing on Easter Sunday, but it wasn't just caffeine. The star of the car show was a red Jaguar C Type.



Tesla CyberTrucks have also started to appear in the neighborhood. "Chalk and cheese" is a phrase which comes to mind. (NOTE: Cambridge dictionary says this phrase means the 2 items in question are nothing like each other.)

The 3 young tech bros drinking coffee seemed unimpressed with all this.

"Electric Scooters are much cooler."

But Coffee & Scooters just don't cut it—at least for this old guy.



-Malcolm Harker, Madrona resident

THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

From February 16 to 19, global citizen scientists counted bird species in their respective regions. More than 7,920 species were spotted around the world. The closest birding "hotspot" to Leschi was the Arboretum's Foster Island and Marsh Island where volunteers braved the winter weather and recorded 49 species of winged wonders.

Thank you to the avid and discerning birders for letting us know what flies and floats amongst us. (More info is available at birdcount.org):

American Coot, American Crow, American Robin, American Wigeon, Anna's Hummingbird, Bald Eagle, Belted Kingfisher, Bewick's Wren, Black-capped Chickadee, Brown Creeper, Bufflehead, Canada Goose, Canvasback, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Common Goldeneye, Common Merganser, Dark-eyed Junco, Double-crested Cormorant, Downy Woodpecker, Eurasian Wigeon, European Starling (Exotic: Naturalized), Gadwall, Glaucous-winged Gull, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Great Blue Heron, Green-winged Teal, Hooded Merganser, House Finch, Lesser Scaup, Mallard, Northern Flicker, Northern Shoveler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Pacific Wren, Pied-billed

Grebe, Red Crossbill, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Red-winged Blackbird, Ring-billed Gull, Ring-necked Duck, Rock Pigeon (Exotic: Naturalized), Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Short-billed Gull, Song Sparrow, Spotted Towhee, Steller's Jay, Trumpeter Swan, Varied Thrush, Wood Duck.

-Anne Depue

BIRD FEEDING 101: SUET | EARTHCARE NORTHWEST

Feeding wild birds is one way to attract a variety of species to your balcony, yard, or window. If you are new to feeding birds, seed and nectar feeders are common choices, but suet feeders can be a wonderful alternative. Suet is particularly attractive to woodpeckers, bushtits, nuthatches, chickadees, jays, and starlings. In many ways, suet is less messy (and therefore attracts fewer rodents), and some models of feeders can be very easy to clean.

So, what is suet? Suet is technically defined as the hard fat around the kidneys and loins in beef and mutton, but other types of beef fat, as well as vegetable fat alternatives, are commonly used and are still safe for birds. Tasty, bird-friendly morsels such as seeds, nuts, nut butter, cracked corn, corn meal, oats, dried fruit, bugs, or meal worms are then packed into the fat to create an appetizing suet "cake." The suet cake is put into a wire cage feeder, allowing the bird to peck at a solid chunk of food.

What suet recipe is right for your birds? Whether you decide to go with a bug-filled suet cake or a peanut one will depend on what type of species you want to attract.

Nature Shop volunteer Karen Shea tells us that, "any suet will work for chickadees and starlings, but if your goal is to attract woodpeckers and nuthatches, then a suet cake that includes peanuts is a better choice."

Making your own suet using plastic ice cube trays is another great option for those who want to custom mix suet treats. Try this recipe from National Audubon using a few ingredients you may already have around your house: audubon.org/news/make-your-own-suet.

What time of year should I use suet? Because of the high fat content of suet, many people opt to feed suet in the winter months to help wild birds get more calories and fat during the coldest months of the year. However, spring and early summer are also a good time to provide easy calories to brooding females and young nestlings. If weather conditions allow, late summer and fall suet feeders can offer extra calories to birds that are preparing for a long migration.

With generally mild summers in the Puget Sound, we sometimes have the option of feeding suet all year long; however, suet should never be used in hot weather because the suet cake will melt,



*Downy Woodpecker on a suet feeder.
Photo credit: Michael Tatman*

cause a mess, and increase the chance of the fat going rancid or molding. If using beef fat, temperatures over 90 degrees will cause suet to melt. Vegetable oils have lower melting points of 75-77 degrees.

Where to put your suet feeder? Because of the risk of melting, suet feeders should not be placed in direct sun, but morning or partial sun can be okay. Because the fat can go rancid or moldy, your suet cake should be replaced and thrown away after about a week (or a little longer in the winter) if birds are not eating it. As with all feeders, it may take birds some time to find your suet feeder when you put one out for the first time.

If you make the choice to feed wild birds it also comes with the responsibility to keep them safe while visiting your yard or balcony. One common hazard is cats, so be sure to keep your cat indoor or in a catio if you are attracting birds through bird seed. Feeder placement is another important safety measure. Place your suet or seed feeder less than 3 feet or more than 30 feet from any reflective windows to prevent fatal bird-window collisions. Thirty feet is a safe distance away and under 3 feet doesn't allow the bird to build up enough speed for a fatality.

-Birds Connect Seattle

ST. SPIRIDON, PART OF OUR PACIFIC NORTHWEST ORTHODOXY

With the purchase of Alaska from Russia in 1867 (for the bargain price of \$7.2 million) the Orthodox Church in North America was set adrift. Formerly a Russian mission, it was now part of the turbulent, changing United States. The first Orthodox church on our West Coast was at Fort Ross, California, founded in 1812. Later, amid dreams of the California Gold Rush, Serbs, Greeks, Syrians, and Russians streamed into nearby San Francisco. A kind of ecumenical orthodoxy resulted, setting a pattern for North American Orthodox churches, including Seattle's.

Founded as a Greek-Russian parish in 1892, the first St. Spiridon in Seattle was built in 1895. (St. Spiridon was a Cypriot shepherd who became a bishop. His remains are venerated on the Greek island of Corfu.) During the 1890s a large influx of Greek men arrived in Seattle and many other American communities. A local Greek club was founded in 1909. While the old St. Spiridon was shrinking, a new St. Demetrius was established in south lake union.

A Greek couple donated land at 817 Lakeview Ave to establish a new house of worship. The original building rested on wooden pillars at a poor angle against Capitol Hill. When the old building began to lean, parishioners became alarmed. In fact, when Bishop Nicholas visited Seattle in 1896, he refused to consecrate the shaky structure. It didn't help that parishioners argued about the location of the altar, future repair costs, and the site itself.

Contributions were sent to aid immigrants after the abortive 1905 Russian Revolution. St. Spiridon also sent aid to those fleeing the 1917 Revolution, while Father Alexander Vyacheslavov met immigrants at boats from eastern Russian and Chinese ports, found jobs for many, provided others with shelter, and helped qualified students get placed at the University of Washington.

Immediately after the 1917 Russian Revolution membership fell, mostly as a result of protests by older parishioners who opposed the Bolsheviks anti-religious fervor. After White Russian emigres arrived in Seattle, the church rolls increased, AND a brief renaissance seemed to be underway. However, many of the immigrants soon left for other American cities and towns.

St. Spiridon Cathedral, once Greek, then Russian, now part of the Orthodox Church of America, found itself caught in 1920s international politics. The building was seized by court order when the communist government in Russia gained control, following a communist procedure with all American Orthodox churches that had not been taken over by their membership.

Before the Russian government took full possession of the church angry parishioners removed religious articles in the dark of night and set up temporary services in the basement of a nearby Roman Catholic church.

The struggling little cathedral was turned into a shoe repair shop, and allowed to deteriorate until much of Lakeview Boulevard, including St. Spiridon, was obliterated by Interstate 5 construction. Later, a new independent St. Spiridon rose on nearby Yale Avenue in South Lake Union. The new church's blue onion-bulb towers remain a landmark in the old Cascade neighborhood.

Following the confusion of road-building and other local changes, many parishioners migrated to St. Demitrios, the impressive Greek orthodox church in Montlake on Boyer avenue east. This modern building was designed by Paul Thiry,



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one of the principal architects of century 21, known as the 1962 Seattle world's fair. The new church also became familiar to Seattleites and beyond for its bazaars and festivals. Another unusual result of the merger, later a tradition, was the hiring of bi-lingual priests.

—Junius Rochester

Previously published in POST ALLEY News

LIFE AND TIMES IN LESCHI Frink Park: Carlos Bulosan, Part 1

Overlooking hills and valleys, where trees dance and birds sing under the splendor of the sun in summertime. Where leaves turn gold and the world becomes a carpet of dreaming cloud under the enchanted moonlight in autumn. When the night warms the otherwise trembling world in winter. Where flowers bloom and dance in the sweet-smelled soft tides of spring.

That's how the renowned Filipino writer Carlos Bulosan characterized Frink Park in a poem written for the political activist Josephine Patrick, his beloved, who lived nearby, at the top of Huron Street. He spent many days in the early 1950s walking in Frink Park, sometimes stopping to sit on a bench to write.

Born in the Philippines, Bulosan immigrated to the US in 1930, landing in Seattle at barely 18. He worked on farms around Yakima for a while and eventually made his way to California, to return here three decades later, ending his days in Leschi.

As a worker in the fields and shops of California he experienced the full weight of the racist oppression felt by thousands of Filipino immigrants. That led him to union activism, and he became an experienced organizer. He wrote prolifically. His first published work, in a poetry magazine in June 1934, consisted of ten poems written when he was still a laborer at a fish cannery in San Pedro, California.

His work was all the rage in that era. By the mid-1940s he had authored six published books, along with shorter works contained in a dozen anthologies. Several of his short stories were published in *The New Yorker* from 1942 to 1944. Others were printed in *Harper's*, *Saturday Review*, and *The New Republic*. His most enduring book was his memoir "America Is In The Heart," published in 1946 and re-published several times since. It relates the exploitation and poverty experienced by the first generation of Filipino immigrants to the U.S. While the book was autobiographical, it was later referred to as "a novel," since parts of it are fictionalized. A former head of the University of Washington libraries described Bulosan as "a fine literary artist" "a dreamer" who didn't always write the literal truth.

He wrote to give a literate voice to the voiceless 100,000 Filipinos in the US, Alaska, and Hawaii. "I want to interpret the soul of the Filipinos in this country," he told a *Seattle Times* reporter. Much of his writing exudes a life of sadness, from his impoverished childhood to the mistreatment of Filipino workers by employers in this country and widespread discrimination against Filipinos, as well as his own health struggles.

The *Saturday Evening Post* commissioned Norman Rockwell, its cover artist, to paint representations of each of the Four Freedoms that were the subjects of President Roosevelt's January 1941 State of the Union speech. The paintings were published in the *Post* in early 1943, each along with an accompanying essay. Remarkably, Bulosan was selected by the magazine to write of "Freedom from Want." For this assignment, the editors wanted someone who had experienced physical want. Bulosan's essay was incongruously accompanied by Rockwell's painting of a white family partaking of a sumptuous Thanksgiving dinner. The immigrant low-wage worker and labor organizer was in distinguished company among the other three authors: Will Durant, Booth Tarkington, and Stephen Vincent Benet. In the article, Bulosan wrote, in part:



Photo credit: University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections

Our march to freedom is not complete unless want is annihilated. The America we hope to see is not merely a physical but also a spiritual and an intellectual world. We are the mirror of what America is. If America wants to be living and free, then we must be living and free. If we fail, then America fails.

What do we want? We want complete security and peace. We want to share the promises and fruits of American life. We want to be free from fear and hunger.

If you want to know what we are—we are marching!

By the late 1940s, with a conservative trend and the advent of McCarthyism, he was blacklisted in the publishing world and his work fell out of favor. He later estimated that he had about a million words in print, and another million not published. A substantial amount of that unpublished work is to be found in the Special Collections of the University of Washington library. Perhaps a million more words have been published by others about Bulosan and his work.

Continued next month.

—Roger Lippman

The author writes monthly about Leschi history and his experiences over his 48 years in the neighborhood.

QUESTIONS & CONSIDERATIONS 4/15/24

Space in the *Leschi News* is more limited than usual, so I have decided to share some of what I am working on, what I am considering, and what I am thinking. I am making my list in no particular order:

- Surely you know I have problems with books being banned. If you do not approve of the book, don't read it! Don't let your children read it. But why should you want to prevent the rest of us from reading a book, any book? Check out the list of "Top 100 Most Banned and Challenged Books in the Last Decade." (italics mine) I am sure *Leschi News*

readers have read some of these books. Sometimes I can understand why a person may not wish to read the book; I can never understand why a person wants to keep others from reading the book.

- Our country has many fads. Among them are affirmative action, standardized tests, Reconstruction, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) immediately come to mind. I call these fads because for a short time, some people want to “fix” a situation by stopping or starting something. Then the urge passes. Persons for whom the fad originated are left by the wayside with a small number still pursuing the cause. I have pointed out before, for instance, that slavery was the order of the day from 1619 until a few years AFTER 1865. (The Emancipation Proclamation freed only those persons enslaved in Confederate states.) Reconstruction lasted from 1865 until 1877. The repercussions of slavery continue to harm the US, but many Americans strongly disagree.
- Our country has money to repair war-torn areas—often damage done by the US to protect us, they tell us—but few or no funds to provide in this country what I call the Basic Five: food, clothing, shelter, medical/health care, and education.
- The military-industrial complex grows. Depending on the source of the information, the US has “just over 1000” sites “with installations and facilities.” Another source says “750 military bases.” Various names are used for places where US troops reside.
- The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act looks great on paper, but many of those funds are where funds are before the states get them. In the meantime, roads and bridges continue to deteriorate.
- The US continues its amazing public relations advertising. More people want to come to the US than any other country. Some of these people are more welcome than citizens who were born here; they can get assistance that citizens cannot always get.
- Why does the sexual orientation of anyone other than the person whose orientation it is concern anyone other than that person? It seems to me that as long as an individual does not come into my bed, that person’s sexual orientation should not concern me.
- Did you notice that the persons who died while working on the Francis Scott Key Bridge were immigrants? Do you notice that immigrants are not equally welcomed nor treated the same? Do you have any idea how often immigrants are cheated of their wages but do not report the abuse because they fear being deported?
- This one is almost always on my mind. According to the Brennan Center, almost 100 laws have been passed to further restrict voting rights since the Supreme Court

drastically altered the Voting Rights Act. Have you ever had to wonder if you could vote or if your vote would be counted?

- For almost two years I have been gathering information about health/medical disparities. At least one hospital has hired a doctor whose only job is to examine these disparities. Though I have spoken to doctors and nurses, I have not been able to contact this person. If you read much during the worst time of the COVID pandemic, you must have read how low-wage persons suffered the greatest risk and many persons of color lost their lives. Closely related is the cost of medicine. There are wide differences among companies for the same drug. Remember the cost of insurance. Do you know how much you pay for insurance? Do you not go to the doctor because you can’t afford the cost?

I am fast approaching my 750-word limit. Executive Orders, reparations, and education are on my list. I hope you give my musings thought and that you and our representatives always work under the premise that ours is a government “of the people, by the people, and for the people”—all the people.

-Georgia S. McDade, Ph. D.

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. Many poems are inspired by artists. Georgia writes for South Seattle Emerald and Leschi News. She also does interviews for KVRU (105.7) and KBCS (107.3).

The advertisement features a dark background with the 'FOS' logo at the top, where the 'O' is a stylized globe. Below the logo is the text 'Real Estate. Real Service.' and the name 'FIONNUALA O'SULLIVAN' in large, white, sans-serif font. To the right of the name is a vertical 'COMPASS' logo with 'GBK' in a small box below it. A black and white photograph of Fionnuala O'Sullivan, a woman with her arms crossed, is positioned below the text. At the bottom, contact information is listed: '206.779.4643', 'f.osullivan@compass.com', and 'www.fos-re.com'.

Culture Corner

COUNTERING VIOLENCE WITH CREATIVITY

Winston Wachter Gallery, 203 Dexter Ave, ph 206.652.5855
Tues-Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 11am-5pm

Henry Art Gallery, 15th Ave NE & UW, ph 206.543.2280
Thurs 10am-7pm; Fri-Sun 10am-5pm, Free 1st Thursday

ARTS at King Street Station, 303 S Jackson St, Top floor
Wed-Sat 11am-5pm; First Thursdays 11am-8pm (Octavia
Butler show until May 23.)

This article responds to Georgia McDade's column last month "Rage on the Page" in which she advocates reading and writing and creativity in general as a way forward from so much violence in our society. She cites the example of "Pongo" a poetry writing program for teens that reaches out to youth in prisons and foster care, among other places.

Last month I briefly mentioned Barry Johnson and Hank Willis Thomas, both making art in response to the deaths of young men in their families. Here I give a little more detail on these two artists, followed by a comparison with an exhibition dedicated to Octavia Butler at King Street Station by Mia Imani Harrison and Mayola Tikaki "Dream Temple (for Octavia):"

Who can afford to dream? Given the systemic racism and racial trauma that Black people often face in society. "Dream Temple" aims to counteract the exhaustion and stress that is carried intergenerationally while also creating a portal of healing and imagining.

These three artists all address ways of healing from violence.

Barry Johnson's "Never Leave without saying goodbye" exhibition (Winston Wachter Gallery) consists of a series of paintings in which the artist is grieving for the loss of family members to drugs, especially his brother. Each painting is a stage of grief. In the first image, the artist is sitting on the branch of a huge tree leaning against its trunk. He sits meditatively. The caption says, "First Cry in 20 Years."

"More than a Tree" expanded to a larger frame.

I leaned against the rough bark of the tree, the weight of Black History on my mind, particularly the horrific legacy of lynchings. Despite that burden I place my hands behind my back and looked up slightly, my gaze hopeful. It was a stance of resilience, a declaration that I refused to be defined by fear or worry about the future.

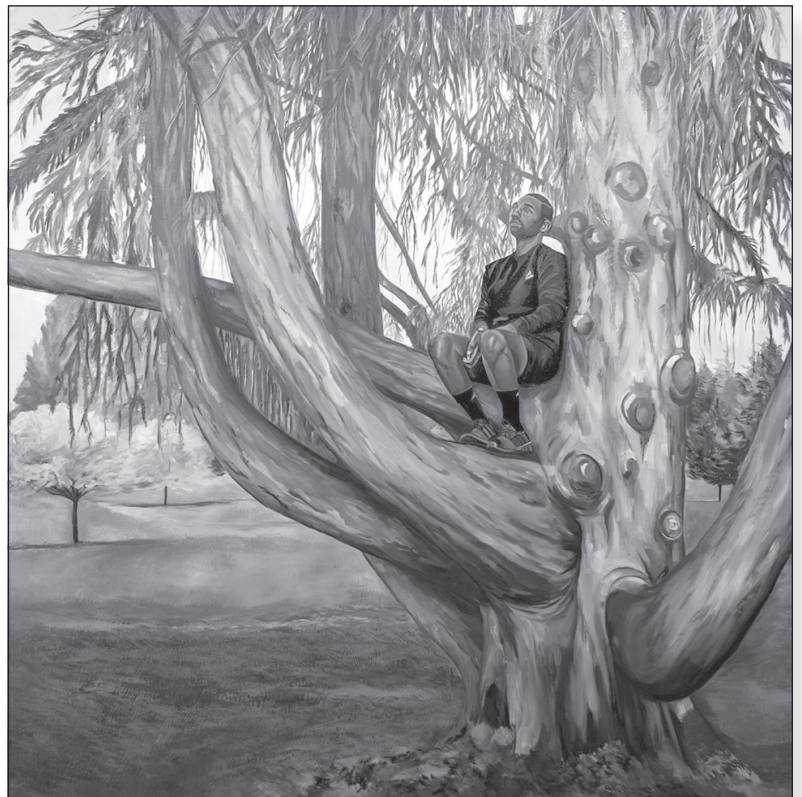
In contrast to the personal exploration of grief by Barry Johnson, Hank Willis Thomas in "Loverules" (Henry Art Gallery) addresses major features of society that produce racism and violence particularly in advertising.

After his cousin was murdered in a vigilante attack in 2000, apparently to take a gold necklace that his partner wore, Thomas found it obscene that the murder occurred basically to obtain a commodity. Commodities for status are deadly.

In two series of photographs titled "Unbranded" he removes the original text and replaces it with brief phrases that highlight their sexism and racism. "UnBranded" one with the subtitle "Reflections in Black by Corporate America," the other "A Century of White Women." In "Farewell Uncle Tom," we see two beautiful black people in the style of the 1960s, one of them smoking. In "A Century of White Woman" racist and sexist images become obvious with new captions like "The Hardened Snowman."

His flag with over 20,000 stars representing black men lost to violence in ten years emphasizes the catastrophic violence we accept as a daily reality.

Enter Octavia Butler. We all know Butler as a science fiction writer, but she fills her fantasies with spirituality and emphatic political statements. In Mia Imani Harrison and Mayola Tikaki's "Dream Temple (for Octavia)," we are



Barry Johnson, First Cry in Twenty Years, 2024, oil on canvas



“Choose your leaders
with wisdom and forethought.
To be led by a coward
is to be controlled
by all that the coward fears.
To be led by a fool
is to be led
by the opportunists
who control the fool.
To be led by a thief
is to offer up
your most precious treasures
to be stolen.
To be led by a liar
is to ask
to be told lies.
To be led by a tyrant
is to sell yourself
and those you love
into slavery.”

~Octavia E. Butler,
“Parable of the Talents” (1998)

invited to lie down and listen to Butler’s blunt wisdom: videos present Butler reading short invocations from her 1998 *Book of the Talents*. They are astonishingly pertinent to our present moment, undoubtedly the reason for their choice by the artists. Octavia Butler “prophesied 2024 as the year society in the United States grows unstable.” The artists continue:

DREAM TEMPLE (for Octavia) features an enclosed resting space with low lighting that contains resting mats, an altar, and projections featuring imagery of Black rest and contemplation of Octavia Butler’s work. Over the course of the exhibition, the space will feature rest rituals, interviews, and performances by the artists.

Butler was amazingly clairvoyant in her books to the point where her science fiction feels like a description of our present condition. Her writing opens our eyes to new possibilities for moving beyond violence, as do Barry Johnson and Hank Willis Thomas. She died prematurely in 2006.

~Susan Platt, PhD
www.artandpoliticsnow.com

OUT OF TIME

The Shattered Glass project presents the New Works Festival May 9-19. There will be 4 new works; we are describing one: Out of Time. This play looks at three women dealing with disaster and its aftermath in two events: The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire in 1911 and a century later, the World Trade Center in 2011. This play can be seen on May 16 at 9:30pm at 18th and Union. Suggested ticket price is \$15.



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Seeking Sustenance...

SPRING WINES

Ten tantalizing wines to try this spring! White and red wine for now, as the new vintage pinks begin rolling in. The Rose Garden will be ever expanding this month, but until then, check these out.

White Wine

2022 Damsel Sauvignon Blanc Horse Heaven Hills \$14.99

Notes of ripe apples and pears with white flowers and light nuances of honey. Medium-bodied, juicy and vivid with crunchy acidity and notes of lemon pith and zest. Flavorful, floral finish. –*James Suckling, 90-points*

2022 Sant'Angelus Sophia Umbria \$19.99

Refreshing, balanced and delicate, with stone fruit on the finish. With the initial aging in French oak, one can better taste the minerality and natural flavor typical of clayey soils. Sophia goes very well with white meat, fish, oysters and cheeses. –*Winemaker notes*

2022 Top Source Sauvignon Blanc Columbia Valley \$19.99

This pure expression of Sauvignon Blanc (100%) from the magnificent Columbia Valley, the largest AVA in the Pacific Northwest. This wine pairs with all sorts of culinary delights thanks to its beautiful combo of exotic fruits and fresh minerality. –*Winemaker notes*

2021 Sant'Angelus Canonica Umbria \$23.99

Fresh, delicate and balanced flavor of yellow flowers and ripe fruit with a typical hint of vanilla on the finish. With refinement in oak, one can better taste the terroir and the minerality typical of clayey soils. Very drinkable wine which goes very well with richer fish-based, white meat or pasta dishes and cheeses. –*Winemaker notes*

Red Wine

2022 McKinlay Pinot Noir Willamette Valley \$22.99

Pure, unadorned Pinot Noir in its prettiest form, with a slightly plumper than normal heart of red fruit pulsing through the finish. –*Winemaker notes*

2022 Orr Grenache Royal Slope \$26.99

Ripe red strawberries macerated with rose hips and orange peel. The palate is ripe and jammy but with plenty of acidity. Warming with powder-fine tannins and a lingering sweet fruit character. I enjoy how much this wine shouts New World, warm-climate Grenache. –*Winemaker notes*

2022 Illahe Pinot Noir Willamette Valley \$28.99

Aromas of ripe plum, nutmeg, cigar box, and vanilla bean leap out of the glass. Cherry torte, tamarind paste, strawberry jam, anise, nutmeg, and cinnamon spice, help develop a balanced and weighted mouth feel with good acidity and smooth velvet tannin that lingers. –*Winemaker notes*

2022 Cristom Mt. Jefferson Cuvee Pinot Noir Eola-Amity Hills \$41.99

Dried flowers, incense, rosemary and dried strawberries. Wonderfully fresh, crunchy in feel, with stimulating acidity offsetting its tart red fruits and hints of sour citrus that pucker the cheeks. Finishes with youthful tension, lightly structured, leaving suggestions of tart raspberry. –*Vinous, 93-points*

2021 Aubaine Pinot Noir Eola-Amity Hills \$46.99

Aromas reminiscent of a fresh mixed berry cobbler: blueberries, black cherries compete together with hints of nutmeg, rose petals and lavender notes, and fresh earthy notes. Smooth and refined on the palate with a nice velvety texture. –*Winemaker notes*





...in the Wilds of Seattle

2021 Nicolas Jay L'Ensemble Pinot Noir Willamette Valley \$71.99

Fresh pine, ripe cherry liqueur, and toasted spice. Supple and medium to full-bodied, with ripe tannins, it delivers elegant freshness and wonderful purity through its long, mouthwatering, seamless finish. —*Jeb Dunnuck, 95-points; 93-points Wine Enthusiast; 93-points Decanter*

—*Kenneth Benner*

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 Dablia 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.



WHERE'S THE BEEF?

*Dingfelder's Jewish Delicatessen, 1318 E Pine, 98122; ph 206.403.1365
Sun-Thurs 7am-7pm, Fri-Sat 7am-9pm*

You don't have to wonder if you follow in Ruby Holland's footsteps.

Dingfelder's Hot Pastrami Sandwich. I had to break my meat fast for this one.

But I took out most of the meat to freeze in 3 bundles that will satisfy 3 separate Pastrami cravings. The meat left in the sandwich was more than enough and the Rye Bread was delicious. You can purchase a Seattle Style sandwich with less meat and less expensive, but who wants to do that?

—*Ruby Holland*



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1368 31st Ave S, 98144; ph 206.325.3347; Hours: 7am-3pm Daily

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—*Karen Daubert*



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LESCHI COMMUNITY COUNCIL

LESCHI CC BOARD MEETING MINUTES, APRIL 9, 2024

Attending: Janice Brown, Diane Snell, Yun Pitre, John Barber, Allen Urness

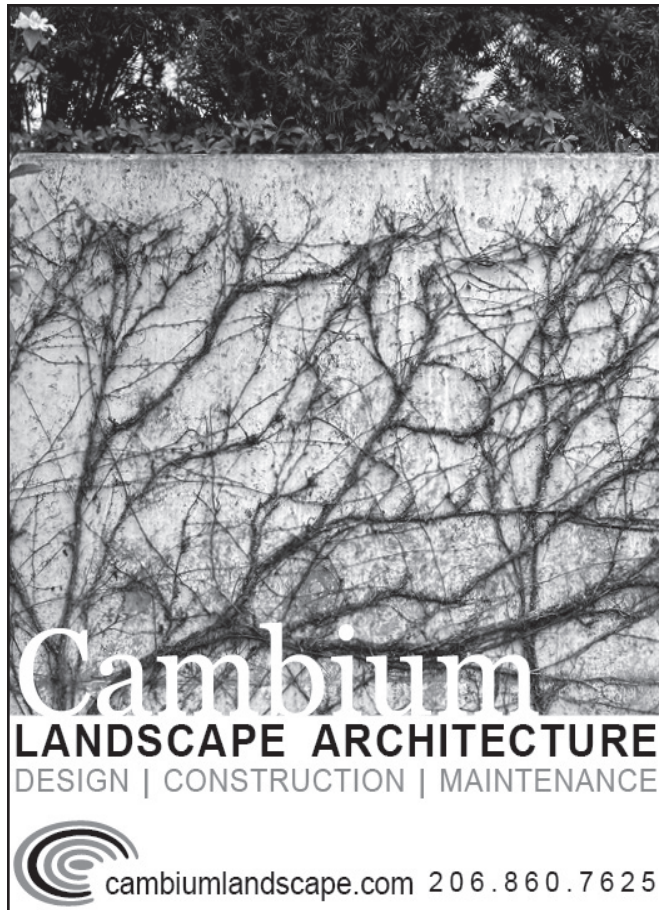
Leschi News

- Submittal date (Diane): April 15th
- Nominees for LCC Board positions:
 - Ashley Martin- President
 - Allen Urness- Vice President
 - Trevor Lalish-Menagh- Secretary
 - Matthias Linnenkamp- Treasurer

Board business

- Committee Update
 - Public Safety
 - Few people signed up to be part of the committee.
 - Waiting to find out if City would support speed sign installation if the community paid for the sign.
 - East Precinct Action Coalition (EastPAC)- If there are key neighborhood areas the community would like SPD to focus on, let SPD know.
 - Open Space and Parks
 - Will need to schedule work parties for King and Dearborn street ends.
 - Leschi pier: Committee will provide project information in Leschinews
 - Artwalk
 - New meeting time is 4:30@ Bluewater.

- Vendor fee increase to \$35.
- Created an Instagram for account.
- Treasurer Report: No new update
- Old Business
 - Status update from LCC Board Election Nominating Committee
 - A Nominating Committee member will introduce the at the May 1st meeting.
 - Website revamp progress update- no new update
- New Business
 - May LCC General meeting
 - Comprehensive plan update from City staff
 - LCC Board Election
 - June LCC General meeting
 - TBD
 - Powell Barnett rededication and concert at Leschi Elementary School
 - It is on April 27th. Rededication at Noon and free concert at 1pm. Contributions encouraged to support our local school. Board members and the community are invited to attend.
 - Central Area Neighborhoods District Council (CANDC) position on the Comprehensive Plan Update
 - The plan does not address the unhoused issues.
 - A few neighborhoods such as Seward Park, Magnolia, and Laurelhurst are exempt from the growth target.



	Income	Expenses	Balance 3/31/24
General Fund			
Ad Revenue	\$3,611.00		
Dues	\$1,022.62		
Donations	\$640.68		
Reimbursement			
Insurance			
Printing and postage		(\$2,788.56)	
Room Rentals		(\$360.00)	
Other Expenses		(\$297.18)	
Totals	\$5,274.30	(\$3,445.74)	\$17,145.76
Restricted Funds			
ArtWalk	\$175.44		\$648.84
Cherry Street Corridor			\$635.76
Flo Ware Park			\$686.53
Friends of Powell Barnett			\$1,068.06
Friends of Street Ends			\$4,546.31
Frink Park			\$1,979.43
King Street			\$1,270.00
Leschi Gateway Project			\$51.03
Leschi Natural Area			\$6,345.39
Officer Brenton Fund			\$2,527.27
Steve Shulman Memorial			\$65.00
String of Pearls			\$2,130.38
W. Vaughn Memorial Fund			\$1,200.00
Wading Pool			\$3,006.13
West Sheridan Street End		(\$278.27)	\$371.65
Whitebear DreamCatcher			\$201.64
Totals	\$5,449.74	(\$3,724.01)	\$43,879.18
Certificate of Deposit			\$11,258.68

Support your community by joining the Leschi Community Council!

The Leschi Community Council works with the community to make Leschi a great place to live and visit. Your financial support helps us bring this mission to life.

- LCC produces the *Leschi News* to keep you informed. You can find all past issues and many other resources on our website, leschicommunitycouncil.org.
- LCC puts on monthly community meetings, providing opportunities to engage with public service organizations, the city and our lawmakers to address local issues of concern and make change.
- LCC also uses these monthly meetings to connect you with local artists, historians and indigenous culture, honoring Leschi's heritage.
- LCC organizes and provides a conduit for volunteer efforts, from park maintenance to local events. One of our major events is the popular annual ArtWalk in September in the Leschi business district.
- LCC supports the Leschi Business Association, Leschi Elementary School, and the Central Area Senior Center.
- LCC sponsors committees dedicated to pursuing local causes on an ongoing basis, such as parks and public safety.
- LCC supports our local schools and the Senior Center.

Name _____ Phone _____

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

\$15 student/low income

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Search for [@leschicc](https://www.paypal.com/leschicc) or use <https://paypal.me/leschicc>. In the notes, please include your mailing address and let us know if the amount paid is for dues, a donation or both. Pay LCC dues now!



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Leschi News advertising rates:
business card, \$35; 1/4 page, \$70;
1/2 page, \$140. Contact Diane Snell
at 206-726-0923 to advertise to
your community.

leschinews

The next Leschi News deadline is **MAY 20**. Mail all articles, comments, letters, advertisements and membership dues to this address:
Leschi Community Council, 140 Lakeside Ave Suite A #2, Seattle WA 98122-6538
or email Diane Snell at leschinews@comcast.net

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

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MAY CALENDAR

- » **May 1, 7pm**
Leschi CC meeting. Election of officers and the Comprehensive Plan: What is it? Does it meet our needs? Grace United Methodist Church 722 30th Ave.
- » **May 5**
Cinco de Mayo
- » **May 7, 6pm**
Leschi Board meeting by Zoom
- » **May 12**
Mother's Day
- » **May 17, 3-7pm**
Madrona Farmers' Market, Grocery Outlet parking lot
- » **May 18, 10am-12pm**
Frink Park work party. Meet Jan Munger at the tennis court.

- » **May 18**
There are 2 events close to Leschi; both are in Powell Barnett Park 10am-12pm morning event and 12-2pm afternoon event. Google "Seattle One Day of Service" for online link to register.
- » **May 27**
Memorial Day
- » **May 31, 7pm**
Garfield Jazz at The Triple Door. 216 Union St.

I sing of brooks, of blossoms, birds,
and bowers: of April, May of June and
July flowers.

–Robert Herrick

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