

# leschinews

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

## LESCHI'S ANNUAL MEETING

**Wednesday, May 4 at 7pm**

Join us on May 4 for our annual meeting! Meet the Board and hear what is planned for the coming year. Now that things are opening up, we plan to resume some of our usual activities and begin some new projects. Learn about the changes to the website and how you can become more connected to events. We will meet at 7pm by Zoom!

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS ON INSIDE BACK COVER

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**SAVE  
THE DATE**

**June 1 at 7pm**  
**SO MANY STARS  
IN LESCHI!**

# President's Message

Dear Leschi Neighbors,

Well, two years later we are starting to ease up on Covid restrictions. It has been a time of reflection, of getting to know people in our households better, a time of loss, a time of cleaning and organizing our lives and again reflecting on our own humanity. It will go down in history for sure. 100 years from now, it would be interesting to peek and see what gets recorded.



Spring may be on its way. Being a great lover of warmth and sun personally, I cannot wait! Geraniums are in but, as I write this, it is too cold for them.

Our May meeting on May 4th, will be our annual meeting with discussions from your Board of Directors, what we have accomplished this past year and what lies ahead for the 2022-2023 year. Some newer readers may not know the Leschi Community Council monthly meetings are on hiatus in July and August.

John Barber, a LCC Director, is involved in many landscape projects, clean-ups, etc. and has lots of projects underway or coming up. Volunteers are always welcomed with open arms.

The Annual Leschi ArtWalk is resuming this year, September 10th. We are very excited and would love to have volunteers—no matter how little you can give. Our next meeting is May 12th, where we will align the number of booths we can offer. There is a Brazilian jazz band on tap, some great artists, the cotton candy lady and much more to come. Our volunteer meeting is at BluWater, May 12 at 3pm. Please join us.

Warm regards and wishes for a Happy Spring,  
*Janice Merrill Brown*  
*President, Leschi Community Council*

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

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1100 Dexter Ave N #275  
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## **Leschi Community Council**

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

### **President**

Janice Merrill Brown  
[janicemb@comcast.net](mailto:janicemb@comcast.net)

### **Vice President**

Trevor Lalish-Menagh  
[trev@trevreport.org](mailto:trev@trevreport.org)

### **Secretary**

Lawrence Pitre  
[lpitre113@gmail.com](mailto:lpitre113@gmail.com)

### **Treasurer**

Matthias Linnenkamp  
[leschitreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:leschitreasurer@gmail.com)

### **Program Chair**

Diane Snell, [leschinews@comcast.net](mailto:leschinews@comcast.net)

### **Communications Chair**

Ashley Martin  
[aem98144@gmail.com](mailto:aem98144@gmail.com)

### **Parks and Greenspace**

John Barber, 206-324-1548  
[barber-osa@comcast.net](mailto:barber-osa@comcast.net)

### **Land Use Chair**

Jeff Floor, [jsfloor@gmail.com](mailto:jsfloor@gmail.com)

### **Public Health and Safety**

Tracy Bier  
[atbier@msn.com](mailto:atbier@msn.com)

### **Leschi Business Associate**

Yousef Shulman  
[yousef@leschimarket.com](mailto:yousef@leschimarket.com)

### **Newsletter Editor and Advertising**

Diane Snell, 206-726-0923  
[leschinews@comcast.net](mailto:leschinews@comcast.net)

### **Production Designer**

Rachelle Abellar  
[rabellar@gmail.com](mailto:rabellar@gmail.com)

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# WALKING with TEN YEARS of ARTWALK

Newer residents who have not experienced our ArtWalk may wonder what the fuss is about. Twelve years ago, a Leschi CC Board member came up with the idea that we should recognize our local artists and show off our local businesses at the same time by an event that put the two together. Kim Murillo was a photographer in her free time and knew how hard it is to find a venue for one's work. Several of us felt this was an idea worth pursuing and gathered at monthly meetings at BluWater to plan something we had never done before. Ann Conroy was a Leschi business owner at that time and she stepped forward to be one of Kim's assistants.

Our first ArtWalk was in June, but we received many disappointed comments as it interfered with June activities: weddings, high school and college graduations and the ongoing summer art shows across the region. We moved the event to September after Labor Day and after the first day of school. Families were back in town, and we attracted more vendors as the usual slate of regional art events was dwindling.

We have had many repeat vendors including our candy man, Lanier's Fine Candies. One taste compelled you to part with your credit card number to purchase gifts for others and a secret stash of your own to satisfy those chocolate cravings. The artwork ranges from pottery to handmade jewelry, graphic art, photography, handmade clothing, leather purses and beautiful wooden bowls. And let's not forget food products! We have had barbecue sauces and homemade preserves as well as chocolates and cotton candy.

We have music throughout the event. Our favorite Brazilian jazz band is coming back this year. Our first year, we had a Marimba band, and that hypnotic music seems to pull folks out of their houses and down the hill to see what's happening. Marimba bands are harder to find these days!

There are many pieces to putting this together from permits to small tasks on the day of the event. Seattle's Special Events office handles the permit for the booths along the business side of the street on the east and Parks permits use of Leschi Park where we put the stage and


children's activities. Seattle Parks will give us equipment from the stage to the many tables, chairs and canopies for the vendors. Parks crew sets it up in the morning at 9am and comes back at 4pm to take it down and cart it away. We usually have a few tables in the park, and we have our own canopies (6) for those tables. We do need help setting those up in the morning.

We need some young folks to pass out the water to vendors and pick up recycling and trash throughout the day. Community service hours are given to students who come forward to help! If you have a few hours to give, sign up for a task!


NEXT ARTWALK MEETING IS MAY 12 AT 3PM. AT BLUWATER!

*-Diane Snell*

**SUBMIT YOUR STAR NOMINATIONS BY MAY 10TH**



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# Neighborhood and Beyond

## REDISTRICTING

After our April presentation on redistricting, The Board met to look at the choices and decided that our long history with the Central District should be the primary decision-making factor. Our relationship with the Central District goes back to the time the Leschi Community Council was formed and has continued over the years. This is the letter we sent to the Commission:

### To: Redistricting Commission

#### REDISTRICTING SEATTLE'S DISTRICT 3

*Redistricting map Draft 1 has the least drastic effect on the Leschi community which has a long history with the Central District. The Leschi community Council was formed in 1958 by black activist, Powell Barnett, who sought to improve the schools and address redlining. Leschi neighbors started a branch of CORE (Congress of Racial Equality) here, a group that actively worked on exposing the real estate redlining practices and to end discrimination in hiring practices. ("Seattle in Black and White" by Bettylou Valentine, Joan Singler, Jean C. Durning, Martha (Maid) J. Adams)*

*Leschi has historical ties to another Central District black activist, Florasina Ware. She worked tirelessly to improve the programs at local schools, brought Meals on Wheels to the seniors in the area and organized a group of citizens to head to the other Washington for the Poor People's Campaign. In 1982, the Seattle Parks Department dedicated a small neighborhood park in her name. This park at 28th and Jackson fell into disrepair and the Leschi Community under the guidance of our Parks Chair, John Barber, raised half a million dollars to completely renovate this park, adding safe playground equipment and a half basketball court.*

*Leschi has worked with other communities in the Central District to bring jazz back to Jackson St. Our monthly community programs have often celebrated some aspect of the Central District history and current projects. We have had Paul de Barros talk about his book "Jackson Street After Hours" and more recently, Wyking Garret talking about the plans for Africatown at 23rd and Union to celebrate the heritage of the black influence on the Central District.*

*Our monthly publication, Leschi News, is now in its 39th year. Our Art Critic frequently reviews the local artists at WaNa Nari and has covered the James Washington Jr. house and its artist in residence program. The Leschi News was the first to sound the alarm about black sculptor, James Washington, Jr's Fountain of Triumph and its fate once the Bangasser property at 23rd and Union was sold to a developer. The arts group at the James Washington Jr. house took up the challenge and oversaw the move and renovation of the fountain which is now installed at the southwest corner of 24th and Union.*

*Moving Leschi to another district would be divisive; we cherish our links to the Central District and have supported programs such as the Seattle Music Partners which gave young students a chance to learn an instrument and compete for spots in Middle School music programs. The Leschi Community Council has long supported programs at Leschi School, an integrated elementary school that serves many Central District youngsters as well as Leschi's own children.*

*A current Board member, Lawrence Pitre, is a talented artist who was born in the Leschi/Central Area and has a series of paintings, called "We Are One" which celebrates the history and diversity of the Central District. Lawrence is also the President of the Central Area Chamber of Commerce whose mission is to guide, inspire and enhance the economic, cultural, educational, and recreational opportunities within the Central Area for its businesses and community members including the Leschi Area.*

*We ask you to consider the history of the communities in the Central District when making this decision. Establishing new relationships is always difficult and slow. We hope to continue and strengthen our ties to the Central District.*

*Sincerely,*

*Leschi Community Council Board*

We urge Leschi residents to look at the Draft maps and respond to the Commission with your comments and your preference. If you no longer have the April Leschinews, you can access it on our website. Access the website by Googling Leschinews or Leschi Community Council; both will work. You will see choices at the top; select Our Council and the drop-down menu will give you the option of choosing archives. Or better yet, sometimes Google gives you an Archives option. Study the article on redistricting; this column has comments on what the maps actually do. Send your comments to: Redistricting Commission, 600 4th Avenue, 4th Floor, Seattle, WA , 98104 if you are mailing a letter or send an email to [Elsa.Batres-Boni@seattle.gov](mailto:Elsa.Batres-Boni@seattle.gov).

*-Diane Snell*

## SEATTLE'S DAY OF SERVICE

The LCC is the proud sponsor of a Seattle Day of Service on May 21! We will be working at one of our String of Pearls at S Judkins Street and Lakeside Boulevard. Join other generous Seattleites from 10 to 2 at this special shoreline street end. Remember to bring gloves, water and your favorite tools! If you have any questions, please contact Karen Daubert [karendaubert@msn.com](mailto:karendaubert@msn.com) and 206.310.1792.



## LESCHI SCHOOL UPDATE

The Leschi Elementary PTA is closing out our Annual Giving Campaign to support our budget for the 2022–2023 school year. Our annual Jog-a-thon will also take place on May 25 and information will be posted soon. To make a donation, please use the links to our Facebook page or fundraising page below. Thank you, as well, to our Garfield Golden Grads, who are continuing to raise fund to support our families and staff.

Though this spring has not yet marked a return to ‘normal,’ the school community does look forward to some potential in-person events before the summer, including a revival of our Taste of Leschi potluck and a celebratory ribbon-cutting in our new rain garden facing Yesler Way.

In traffic safety news, you may also notice that nearly three years after starting the process, there are finally traffic calming measures (speed bumps and new stops signs) in place along 31st Ave near the school, to help keep our families safe.

Keep up to date on upcoming events and news by visiting [leschies.seattleschools.org](https://leschies.seattleschools.org) or our Facebook page: [facebook.com/leschischool](https://facebook.com/leschischool).

To support our school, classrooms, and community programs please see: [leschies.seattleschools.org/school-involvement/fundraising](https://leschies.seattleschools.org/school-involvement/fundraising)

~Benson Wilder

## ROOTING OUT CAMAS

// I am verry Sick to day and puke which relive me.” Wrote William Clark in 1805. A few days later many of his traveling companions were also suffering: “Capt Lewis Scercely able to ride on a jentle horse which was furnishd by the Chief,” Clark wrote. “Several men So unwell that they were Compelled to lie on the Side of the road for Some time others obliged to be put on horses.”

The cause of the malady? Most in the exploration group pointed to their recent feast of camas root, the plants of which used to blanket the meadows of the northwest United States and are still seen today, looking like a sea of blue at this time of year.

According to the *Slow Food Foundation for Biodiversity*, “many traditional First Nations languages had words for this local food, but the Chinook names, camas or lecamas, came to be the most popularly used. Camas bulbs may come from two related species of lily, *Camassia quamash* and *Camassia leichtlinii*. When the bulbs are cooked slowly over time, their major carbohydrate, which is a largely indigestible complex sugar, breaks down into fructose, a sweet and digestible sugar. Until the 20th century, camas bulbs were an important part of the diet of indigenous peoples in the area, and the second most traded item, after salmon.

In the past, First Nations families would tend to the areas where camas grew from year to year. Traditional First Nations’ harvesting practices involved selecting only the larger bulbs, usually those that were 5–8 years old with several leaves. They left the smaller, younger bulbs intact to grow for next season. Camas plants have grass-like leaves,

with flowers varying from dark to light blue or occasionally white. The edible bulb has a chestnut brown membrane with darker skin that is easily rubbed off. Care must be taken not to mistake the edible camas bulbs for the bulbs of the highly toxic Death Camas (*Zigadenus venenosus*), which has more compact, cream-colored flowers, and bulbs with a white membrane. Camas bulbs should be cooked and immediately consumed or dried for winter use or trade. Steaming the bulbs is the most common method, usually for over 24 hours and up to 70. Bulbs can also be boiled and mashed into a thin paste or roasted. The cooked camas have a sweet taste, and a flavor described as similar to a baked pear, prune or sweet chestnut. Dried flattened bulbs would historically be served with seal, whale or fish oil. Harvesting, preparing and consuming camas transmitted culture and knowledge between generations. Cooked camas were commonly served at First Nations’ celebrations until only a few decades ago, when the tradition of cultivating, harvesting, and cooking were almost lost completely, as the bulbs were replaced by potatoes and other introduced root vegetables. The bulbs are still sold in gardening stores as ornamental flowers. Some individuals harvest camas in small amounts for consumption on special occasions, and some First Nations community gardens are starting to grow it. Camas bulbs are threatened by invasive species crowding growing grounds and the loss of cultural knowledge between generations. Camas is classified as a rare species and today wild harvest is discouraged and cultivation encouraged.”

Here is More on Common Camas (*Camassia quamash* (Pursh) Greene) by Russell Holmes from the Plant of the Week column on the USDA Forest Service website:

Common Camas is in the Liliaceae (lily Family), which contains 478 species in North America and approximately 4200 species worldwide. Liliaceae is a diverse plant family that has been divided into as many as 30 separate families, includes numerous important ornamentals, a number of important agricultural crops, and has been the source of valuable pharmacopoeia. By the 1850s, common camas was being shipped to the east coast and as far away as England for use in ornamental gardens.

Bulbs of common camas are 1 to 5 centimeters (0.4 to 2 inches) in diameter. Leaves are usually less than 10 and are 1 to 6 decimeters (4 to 24 inches) long. The scape is 2 to 7 decimeters (8 to 28 inches) tall and typically longer than the leaves. The inflorescence is a loosely, many flowered raceme. Flowers are usually zygomorphic (bilaterally symmetric), sometimes actinomorphic (radially symmetric), blue to bluish violet, with 12 to 35 millimeter (0.5 to 1.4 inches) long tepals. The fruit is a capsule 6 to 19 millimeters (0.2 to 0.7 inches) long. Common camas is highly variable across its range and tends to be divided into distinct geographical subspecies.

The range of common camas extends from British Columbia south to California and east to western Montana and Wyoming. Habitat is typically seasonally moist meadows that dry out by late spring.

Common camas bulbs were considered a delicacy by the Native American tribes within the range of the species including the Blackfoot, Cree, and Nez Pierce. Bulbs would be steamed or pit cooked for one to three days breaking

down complex carbohydrates into ample amounts of the sugar fructose. A full one third of a bulbs cooked weight becomes fructose when prepared in this fashion. Native Americans would dry out the cooked bulbs and grind them into a meal. The meal was used in variety of ways. At times it would be mixed with water to form a batter and then cooked like a pancake. Often the meal would be mixed with water and formed into large bricks and then cooked and stored for future use.

The Nez Pierce at Weippe Prairie, Idaho introduced Lewis and Clark to common camas in September 1805. At their first meeting, the Nez Pierce gave members of the expedition buffalo meat, salmon and various roots including what the Nez Pierce called quamash. Clark wrote that evening in his journal, "I find myself very unwell all the evening from eating the fish and roots to freely." Lewis wrote a detailed description of the plant, one of the most detailed accounts of any plant he collected on the entire expedition, while camped at Weippe Prairie. (The description can be found at [lewis-clark.org/sciences/plant/camas](http://lewis-clark.org/sciences/plant/camas).)

*-Submitted by Anne Depue*

## LESCHI PARKS STATUS

John Barber, Chair of Parks and Greenspace assessed our parks and the need for maintenance. The following letter was approved by the LCC Board to send to the Parks Department. It is printed here with the response from Parks printed in italics and bold.



1. Repair the Frink Park waterfall and deck. The waterfall has broken down and no longer responds to the original function of this historically important feature of the park boulevard system envisioned by the Olmsted Brothers. John Charles Olmsted designed the waterfall, and the Parks Department followed through almost a hundred years ago with building it by hand labor. The pedestrian deck over the waterfall was installed in 2001 as part of the half-mile trail system provided at community-incentive to encourage equity in enjoyment of the natural area. A large Neighborhood Development Grant was utilized. Trail safety is an element of need for this repair.

***This work will fall under our MPD Strategy "Restoring Trails and Improving Access to Open Space" depending on funding levels and we will keep in touch with the status.***

2. Support development of a landscaping plan of Leschi Park that includes groundcover, shrubs and trees, considers installation of a picnic shelter, and revises path system. A plan to replace the great trees of this park has special urgency because several elms, an English crab apple, a noble fir, and two Garry oaks are among the trees that have perished in the last few years and were not replaced; some of the remaining conifers are now showing signs of stress. Also, there is much interest in constructing a picnic shelter in honor of Steve Shulman who was a long-time supporter of community interests and well known as the Leschi Mart's owner.

***We need to respond to tree replacements and will get you a schedule. We will have to figure out a way to fund a broader landscape plan and this seems very appropriate for an NMF grant.***

3. Complete the construction of the breakwater/public access platform at the South Leschi moorage. The breakwater was fully funded several years ago by City Council. It was the chief promise to the community by the Parks Department as part of the community process of providing the public-private management of the Leschi moorages.

***We are in for permitting with the ACE (Army Corps of Engineers) and extending our contract with Reid Middleton. I don't think we will see construction until 2023.***

4. Provide vegetation maintenance for the waterfront edge of Leschi Park and of south Madrona Park. Two years ago, a poorly executed machine mowing of the landscaping in Madrona Park between the North Leschi Moorage and the parking lot for Madrona Beach shredded shrubs and ground cover that had been installed ten years earlier by Parks. Also, complaints about the proliferation of weeds along the shore area next to the South Leschi Moorage were ignored. The weeds are getting out of hand.

***Grounds maintenance is ramping up hiring after being down 80 staff. We will get traction on this work in the summer.***

5. Provide adequate maintenance support of the natural area of Frink Park and upper Leschi Park. These areas are losing ground with invasive plant control. The Green

Seattle Initiative has withdrawn much of the maintenance resources for controlling invasive growth in Frink Park and upper Leschi Park. The invasives are winning, threatening the past success of two decades of volunteer and Natural Areas Crew work. Please do not let the condition of these natural areas go backwards.

***I am waiting to hear back from Lisa Ciecko on this question; but I would love to meet you out there sometime!***

6. Flo Ware Park is a heavily used Central Area playground which serves a broadly diversified neighborhood. It needs a middle-sized tree to replace the glorious catalpa tree the was destroyed a few years ago by a windstorm.

***I will work with our urban forestry work group to make this happen w/in a couple of months.***

7. Powell Barnett Park, located across MLK Jr. Drive from the Central Area, provides a regional playground with state-of-the-art play equipment and basketball courts with professional quality surfacing. Please continue the use of the wading pond in Powell Barnett Park and keep on schedule with renewing the bark in the playground and surfacing of the professional quality surface of the basketball courts.

***We keep a watchful eye on this facility. The wading program at Powell Barnett will resume this year on 6/25.***

*Letter by John Barber and responses by Andy Sheffer, Parks*

## LIFE AND TIMES IN LESCHI

Early last October I went to Martha Washington Park, on the lakeshore a bit south of Seward Park, to admire the Garry Oaks (Oregon White Oaks) in their fall colors. These trees can also be found in Seward Park and at Oak Manor, on Capitol Hill. At one time the oaks grew from Seward Park to Pritchard Island. They historically grew on prairies in these parts – lands cleared for cultivation by Native Americans with the use of fire to provide the conditions for harvestable plants and game. The oaks, which don't do well when shaded by the taller evergreens so common here, were valued by the Indians for their acorns, which are edible by humans and also attract wildlife.

At the park I noticed a sign referring to Native settlements along Lake Washington up to the 19th century. Hoping to find a Leschi connection, I contacted the Friends of Martha Washington Park to see what they know.

I was already interested in the settlements from a mention in the Wealth Walk, which I took in early September. Readers can look it up and take the walk (find "The Williams Project"); you can download the sound-track guide, which provides interesting history of the Mt. Baker area, along with a story of the stratification of wealth in the neighborhood. In episode 7 of the narrative there is mention of 24 Indian longhouses, as much as 1500 years old, that ranged from Renton to Leschi. Curious, I contacted the organizer of the walk, who, eventually, conceded that the claim of a reach to Leschi was a bit of poetic license.

I got more solid information from my Martha Washington contact, who referred me to written history of longhouses that goes back to the book *Puget Sound Geography*, by T.T. Waterman. It was published as a fairly raw manuscript sometime in the 1920s. The author, a University of Washington professor for two years, was trained as an anthropologist. He had done extensive investigation among the Native populations, learning their languages and recording place names and descriptions. Scholarly as he was, though, he was a product of his times, considering the Indians to be intellectually inferior.

Waterman had a sense of humor. He mentioned someone who had admired his work and remarked that the person should be preserved in alcohol. Or perhaps, he said, the person was already preserved in alcohol when he issued his praise.

Waterman's book was revised and re-published in 2001 with a lot of clarity added by a team led by Vi Hilbert (1918–2008), an Upper Skagit Indian storyteller, linguist, and fluent speaker of Lushootseed, also known as Puget Salish, the language of Puget Sound-area Native Americans. (She honors Waterman's work and does not express concern about the backward character of some of his ideas.)

The new version had the benefit of certain documents that had emerged in the interim. Most valuable was a map that was produced as part of the 1927 court case *Duwamish et al vs. United States*, in which Jennie Davis, a member of the Duwamish tribe, testified to 14 settlements around Lake Washington, with a total of 34 longhouses. The size of each structure, as described in Davis's testimony, was about 50 by 100 feet. None was near Leschi. The closest were at Union Bay and a place of uncertain location referred to as Taylor Creek. The latter could have been down the lake between Pritchard Island and Bryn Mawr, which are still on the map, or else at Wetmore Slough, subsequently a garbage dump, then a massive parking lot for the hydroplane races, and now known as Genesee Park, near the Stan Sayres pits.

Davis's information, which had been transcribed for submission to the court in 1927, was reproduced and elucidated in another book I was pointed to, *Wild Isle in the City: Tales from Seward Park's First 100 Years*. This recent volume, lovingly and attractively assembled, is a production of the Friends of Seward Park and well worth a

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Hi Neighbors,

SCOTT LENNARD

Spring has sprung in Leschi and the busiest season for residential real estate is upon us.

Good news for Buyers is more inventory has come to market, which should continue for a few months.

And, the good news for Sellers is demand is still very strong and prices continue to climb despite slight increases in interest rates.

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

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look. The book's Appendix 10 lists the 14 settlements, shows their probable locations, and provides pronunciation and translations of their Indian names.

It appears, on balance, that there were not Native wooden structures in or around Leschi in the memory of anyone in the last 150 years. All I can do is speculate about the reason, so I will. Could it be that the cultural memory of the great earthquake and landslide in this vicinity around 1100 years ago, attributed to the Leschi-resident earth-shaking spirit A'yahos, was a disincentive to build permanent lodging hereabouts? Perhaps the Indians were onto something, given the massive landslide that occurred in 1898, when 75 acres of hillside between Charles and Judkins streets fell into the lake, knocking 16 houses off their foundations and sweeping away a lakefront sawmill.\* I had attributed this landslide to clearcutting of the hillside, but maybe A'yahos had something to do with it.

Rather than a fixed settlement, the vicinity of Leschi Park was a seasonal campground from April to October, when the warmer and dryer weather was suitable for departing the longhouses and spreading out around the countryside from campsite to campsite to collect and preserve food for the winter months. Later, Indians gathered to barter with settlers who lived, traded, and operated manufacturing facilities in the area. Camping at Leschi lasted to about the time of the lowering of Lake Washington, 1916. At that time, over a thousand acres of wetlands around the lake were lost as a result. The cattails that attracted Indians to Leschi from far and wide are now rare, with some to be found in Andrews Bay at Seward Park.

Next month: more on Native American longhouses and on the outcome of the Duwamish lawsuit.

\* *Seattle Times*, January 22, 1956, page 10

—Roger Lippman

*The author writes monthly about Leschi history and his experiences over his 47 years in the neighborhood.*

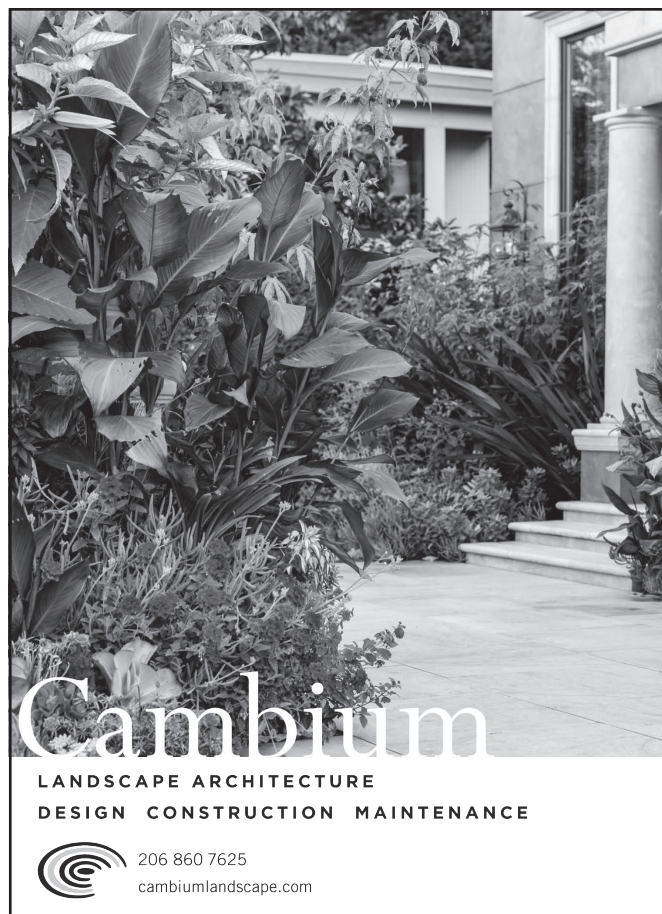
## QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Some questions have plagued me for decades, kept me awake at night, prevented me from doing work I needed or wanted to do during the day. Some of these questions I have asked only myself. Some I have asked persons whom I know well. Others I put to strangers—because they were strangers!

Hoping I could perhaps forever get some of the questions out of my head, I decided I would share these questions. I wrote them as I thought of or was reminded of them. Occasionally I have arrived at or been given an answer, but usually there are no answers, only questions.

You should know I'm excluding two huge questions: why do bad things happen to good people, and why do we have to die? This does not mean none of my questions are of a religious nature, just that I've heard and read enough to think there may not be a final answer to some of my questions.

1. What would this country look like, be if all elections had been fair?
2. What would the country look like had there never been voter suppression? (A woman in a Thom Hartmann audience yelled, "Call it stealing. That's what it is!")
3. Why is it ok for some students—not developmentally disabled—to be enrolled in classes of 9, 10, 15 students but other students in classes with 30 or more?
4. What would the world look like if all the Europeans had stayed home? Dr. Ali Mazrui asked this question in 1986 when he wrote the book *The Africans: A Triple Heritage* and hosted the television show of the same name.
5. What would the country look like if household duties were more evenly shared?
6. How big would the population be if men were the ones who had to be pregnant?
7. How prevalent would abortion be? Would *Roe v. Wade* have been such a problem, be such a problem if men were the pregnant ones?
8. What would the world look like if all children got excellent pre-school education?
9. What if everyone had quality food, clothing, shelter, education, and medical care? (You realize this is five questions! And dental and vision care are medical care to me.)
10. What if everyone who needs mental health care could get it immediately? (Although I included mental health as a part of medical care, I realize many do not.)



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11. What would the world look like if the American government had not interfered in other countries' political affairs?
12. What if everyone read well?
13. How many people—men and women—would get married, stay married if pay were equal and both could live in the fashion to which they were accustomed or want to become accustomed?
14. How different would the country be if Andrew Yang could have seen that each household—**that needs it**—could get \$1,000 a month? (You have heard what a positive effect the child credit had on low-income families?)
15. What if the poverty level were not some artificial number selected by bureaucrats who have never had to live with such financial restrictions but based on the actual cost of living?
16. What if there were a fund that allowed an individual, a couple, maybe two or three friends to borrow three months' rent so they could rent a place or buy a house? After one year the non-homeless would have two, maybe three years to repay the loan.
17. Why haven't we voters always known the value of the provisional votes? (Most such votes never get counted.)
18. What if prison systems operated for the purpose of rehabilitation rather than punishment?
19. What if prisons were operated by the state rather than private companies?
20. What if NO ONE could lose a home because of failure to pay, read "afford," property taxes?
21. What if the business masters made cars that do the least damage to the environment? (When the government mandates a change, the companies come through! Why don't all companies exercise care about the environment?)
22. Why aren't there more people with more resources to save the animals that can't save themselves—the monarch butterflies, orcas, elephants, tigers, sharks, polar bears, etc.?

23. Why do I never hear a gun rights person talk about a militia?
24. What would the country look like if the Congress and Senate represented us, the great majority of the citizenry rather than the wishes of the 1%? (For instance, the public overwhelmingly wants background checks, at least 60% want assault rifles banned, but the National Rifle Association and gun manufacturers continue to tell us "Guns don't kill people.")

I really do feel better now that you know some of my secret thoughts. I wonder if any of my questions have crossed your mind. Many everyday citizens and politicians may answer as I and, perhaps, you would. This America envisioned could eliminate some questions. I wish the answers were forthcoming soon and I could patiently wait for these answers.

~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. Many poems are inspired by artists. Georgia writes for South Seattle Emerald and Leschinews. She also 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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# Culture Corner



Tuan Andrew Nguyen, *"The Arrival of The Boat People,"* 2020, pigment print on Habnemunle paper, 27 x 48 in. © Tuan Andrew Nguyen 2021.  
Photo courtesy of the artist and James Cohan, New York, still from video.

## "OUR BLUE PLANET"

### Seattle Art Museum

1300 First Ave, Seattle, WA 98101; 206.654.3100

Hours: 10am–5pm, Wednesday–Sunday

**"Our Blue Planet: Global Visions of Water"** runs until May 30, 2022; in other words, go right away!

Tickets: Adult \$29.99, Senior (65+) \$27.99, Military (with ID) \$27.99, Student (with ID) \$19.99, Teen (15-18) \$19.99, Child (14 and under) Free

Last month I introduced you to "Our Blue Planet: Global Visions of Water" at the Seattle Art Museum including almost one hundred art works from all over the globe in textiles, embroidery, ceramics, painting, photography, video, and much more. It encompasses mythology, ritual, law, and science fiction.

I was able to discuss only five of the ten themes of the exhibition in April. So now I will touch on the second five themes:

**"Future Waters Through the Eyes of Women and Children"** has some of the most provocative imagery in the exhibition. Tuan Andrew Nguyen's video "The Boat People" imagines a future world in which children collect the detritus of what we have left behind and create rituals with them.

Also, in this segment a still and a film by Ethiopian Aida Muluneh, reenacts the process of getting water for survival in Dallol, northern Ethiopia, one of the hottest and driest places on Earth. As Muluneh explained: "While travelling across Ethiopia for my work, I often encounter streams of women traveling on foot and carrying heavy burdens of water... women spend a great deal of time fetching water for the household."

**"Where Water is Law in Northern Australia"** highlights four works on found aluminum by well-known aboriginal artists, a dramatic departure from traditional eucalyptus, also included nearby. The abstract patterns refer to law, ritual, myth, ancestral power, clan designs, and, of course, the patterns of water.

**"Sea Creatures that are Honored and Endangered"** includes a bronze turtle called *Dadu Minaral* (turtle), 2007 by Dennis Nona from the Torres Straits. Here it is impaled on poles, referring to an historic initiation rite, but today the Torres Straits indigenous peoples are pioneering ecological partnerships to preserve this huge marine ecosystem.

**"Tragic Memories of Global Trade"** features a dramatic re-installation of Marita Dingus's intense homage to the slave trade—*200 Women of African Descent and 400 Men of African Descent*. The artist created each headless body over



year and a half as a meditation on the atrocities of slavery. The work has been reinstalled to correspond to the diagram of *The Brooks*, a slave ship on the late 18th century.

**“Mythic Vision from Water’s Creation to Regulation”** includes Raghu Rai’s two haunting images of flute players playing on the banks of the Ganges at Viranasi, the site of cremation rituals.

**“Desecration of Our Troubled Waters”** features another Indian River, the Yamuna. It surrounds Delhi, but is entirely blocked from view. We see the artist Atul Bhalla immersing his head gradually in the toxic waters.

John Feodorov’s *Desecration no. 2*, represents pipelines spilling pollution on native lands. Master Weaver Tyra Preston created special white Navaho rugs for the artist on which he painted with some trepidation, given the rugs’ powerful importance as metaphor of land and culture.



John Feodorov, “Desecration #2,” 2017, acrylic, graphite, and conté on wool rug, 50 1/4 x 44 1/4 in. Ancient and Native American Art Acquisition Fund, 2020.2.2 © Artist or Artist’s Estate.

**“We are Changing the Tide: Community Power for Environmental Justice”** (through Feb 19, 2023) Wing Luke Museum, 719 S. King St. 98104 (206) 623-5124

Hours: Thurs.-Sun 10-5pm; Tickets Adult 17.00, Senior (62+) 15.00, Student (with ID) 12.50, Youth 5-12 10.00

To see more resistance to degradation, go to “We are Changing the Tide: Community Power for Environmental Justice” at the Wing Museum. As they explain:

*“Communities of color exist at ground zero in the fight for environmental justice. These communities, especially those of Black, Indigenous, and migrant populations worldwide, bear the highest burden from the negative effects of climate change, pollution, environmental degradation, and exploitative industries.”*

The display includes photographs, videos, and texts featuring activists saving the ecosystems in which we all live. We heard from the Oahu Water Protectors in Hawaii protesting against the US Navy Base at Pearl Harbor spilling massive pollution into the sea. Locally, Maria Batayoli called attention to the poor air quality on Beacon Hill in Seattle leading to 40,000 cases of respiratory illness from fine particles and the fact that expanded flights at SeaTac will increase the noise as well as the pollution. Also nearby are members of the Quinault nation resisting flooding.

These are people who are truly making a difference.

The exhibition at the Seattle Art Museum also raises up people who are resisting climate crises. You will see that most clearly if you scan the QR codes in the exhibition. The short videos tell us of the resistance by people such as Toya LaRuby Frazier.

Climate crisis is real as we read in the newspaper every day. I am so glad that museums and artists and activists are collectively addressing it. Spend time with these two shows, and get involved in some way yourself, even if it is only to avoid plastic packaging as much as possible. Try to do three actions each day.

~Susan Platt, PhD

[www.artandpoliticsnow.com](http://www.artandpoliticsnow.com)



At the Wing Luke opening “We Are Changing the Tide: Community Power for Environmental Justice,” Pamela Bond Sea Monster and Donald “Duck” Long Soldier. People of Land Council [www.yehow.org](http://www.yehow.org). Photograph used with permission.





# Seeking Sustenance...

## SPRING WINE

Pandemic induced supply chain issues continue to hit the wine industry in all facets. Local wineries delaying new releases because of the glass shortage. Imports delayed due to shipping container shortages. The list goes on. In fact, many of the Champagnes that had been ordered in July that were supposed to arrive in October for the holidays, just arrived in the last month! So, for this month's installment, we have 10 wines that have recently hit the shelves that can't miss! Enjoy!

## Champagne

### Larmandier Bernier Extra Brut 'Longitude' Blanc de Blancs (\$59.99)

If you love clean, mineral driven, brisk, mouth-watering acidity, look no further. Larmandier Bernier is one of the top biodynamic producers in the Cotes des Blancs. The wines are intense, complex and incredibly long in finish. A Champagne lover's dream. *-Importer notes*

### Pierre Peters Champagne Cuvée de Réserve Grand Cru NV Blanc de Blancs (\$53.99)

Always one of my personal absolute favorite Champagnes available. Fragrant, with floral and mineral accents, this vibrant blanc de blancs shows tropical hints of passion fruit and guava layered with salted almond and honey notes. Finely knit, featuring a lasting, delicate finish. *-Wine Spectator, 92-points*

### Pol Roger Reserve Champagne NV (\$46.99)

A Best Seller at Leschi Market in 2021. A classy, balanced expression of the three grape varieties allowed by law. Plenty of rich apple fruit along with a streak of lemon zest and just a hint of juicy tangerine. The palate is round but fresh, and has a long, steely finish which leaves you wanting another sip. *-Decanter, 91-points*



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### Pierre Gimmonnet Premier Cru Blanc de Blancs NV (\$46.99)

Fresh and minerally, with a delicate overtone of spring blossoms and a fine, chalky mousse, this lively blanc de blancs offers notes of crunchy pear, pineapple and blanched almond. *-Wine Spectator, 90-points*

## Red Wine

### 2018 Domaine Leon Boesch Les Jardins Pinot Noir Alsace (\$24.99)

This would have made the Best Seller 2021 list for Leschi Market, until it was suddenly unavailable. We have waited months for the return, and now it is finally back! Biodynamic? Check! Restrained use of oak? Check! Insanely delicious? Check! Domaine Leon Boesch was founded in 1640 and is currently in its 11th generation of winemakers. Dry, balanced, food friendly wines that over deliver every year. *-Distributor notes*

### 2018 De Martino Cinsault Chile (\$20.99)

A Cinsault from South America? You will not be disappointed! Native yeasts. Dry farming and plugging with horses practiced in vineyards. Perfumed and fresh aromas of red and dark cherries with a violet note joined by a slight spicy hint. Palate is fresh and intense with ripe red berries, crisp acidity, soft tannins, depth and lingering finish. *-Winemaker notes*

### 2009 Siglo Gran Reserva Rioja (\$19.59)

The price alone for a Gran Reserva warrants a try. The wine melds tannins from oak, fruit skin and seeds in notes of caraway and walnut, with a vegetal anise scent adding complexity. The texture is plump and silken, with a ping of fruit that accelerates those tannins into a savory power drive. *-Wine & Spirits, 93-points*

### 2017 Mary Taylor Buzet (\$15.89)

I feel like Mary Taylor gets brought up a lot in these columns, but for good reason. The wines way over-deliver on the quality to price ratio! Upstream from Bordeaux along the Garonne River lie the vineyards of Buzet, just north of Armagnac and southwest of Cahors. An 80/20 blend of Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon that will remind you what it's all about. Beaming nose of tiny berries and silky, velvety tannins. An absolute delight. Vinified without oak. *-Importer notes*

# ...in the Wilds of Seattle



## Local

These next 2 wines are from Thurston Wolfe Winery out of Yakima. Leschi Market has long been a supporter of their wines, in fact, as one of the first retailers the winery every had. Here are 2 single varietal wines that are really something. Not every day you see a single varietal wine made of Petit Sirah, or Zinfandel from Washington, for that matter. With the Thurston Wolfe PGV and Dr. Wolfe's Family Red both making the Best Seller list last year, we thought it a great idea to offer up some of TW's other offerings that really deserve to be praised. Check these out.

### 2019 Thurston Wolfe Petite Sirah Horse Heaven Hills (\$15.89)

Rich blueberry, chocolate, mineral cedar, tea leaf and pepper. Plenty of fruit yet balanced with acid and a subtle backbone of chewy tannins. *-Winemaker notes*

### 2019 Thurston Wolfe Zinfandel Horse Heaven Hills (\$13.99)

The vines were planted back in 1998 using cuttings sourced from the Foundation Plant Material Services at UC Davis. It has aromas of bright fruit (cherry, raspberry, and strawberry), plum and oak spice with fully body moderate tannins and a rich finish. *-Winemaker notes*

*-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 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](http://www.LeschiMart.com) or to request to be added to email updates at [wine@leschimarket.com](mailto:wine@leschimarket.com).*

## EATING ON THE RIDGE

Karen Daubert tells us that businesses are thriving on Mt. Baker ridge as neighbors return to support them. All of these eateries are within a few blocks of each other on 31st Ave S:

**Iconiq** is featuring their fabulous Neah Bay Black Cod.  
1421 31st Ave S  
Wed-Thurs 5-8 Fri-Sat 5-8:30pm

**Heyday** has added their three-taco special to their daily menu and has some nice new spring cocktails; their Sunday brunch is superb. 1372 31st Ave S  
Tues-Sat 4-9 Sunday brunch 9:30-2pm.

**QED** has added back their inside tables and their daily grab and go sandwiches are excellent.  
1418 31st Ave S Coffee shop with some noshes.

**Mika's Sweet Coffee Shop** just celebrated their one-year anniversary! 1368 31st Ave S 7-4:30pm.

**That's Amore's** new Spring menu and outside colorful decorations are worth a detour to bring a smile to your face! 1425 31st Ave S 5-9pm weeknights 4-9pm weekends.  
Closed Tues and Wed.

*-Karen Daubert*



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# LESCHI COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## LESCHI CC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 4/11/22

### May LeschiNews: Diane

- Submittal deadline: April 18

### Board Business: All

- 2022 LCC General Meeting Topics
  - May—LCC Annual Meeting
    - Report on Board member activities during the past year and goals for next year.
    - Share the work of the By Laws committee
    - Announce Leschi Artwalk coming back after a 2-year hiatus
    - Changes made to treasurer's duties
  - June
    - State representative Kirsten Harris-Talley unable to attend the June Meeting. She is also not seeking re-election after her term ends
    - June meeting will focus on Star awards winners.
    - Diane to send past Star awards winners
  - Sept
    - Invite 2 to 3 artists participating in the Artwalk
- Treasurer's Report: Matthias
  - As expected, donation and dues tapered off in March, as many renewals happen early in the year.
  - Microsoft now recognizes LCC as a non-profit organization, which means we can obtain their software and services for organizational purposes at a steep discount or for free. This now gives us the opportunity to setup our emails on their exchange service under our [leschicommunitycouncil.org](https://leschicommunitycouncil.org) domain name, without any significant cost.
  - March expenses mostly for Leschi news.
  - For Restricted Funds, Friends of the Street Ends requested reimbursement for \$300
  - Treasurer to research if Adobe has non-profit benefit like Microsoft
- In-person meetings for board meeting
  - Members agreed to meet virtually for board meetings
    - Convenience
    - Cost savings
  - Members agreed to in person meetings 2x/year
  - If Trevor is available, members agreed to move future board meeting to 2nd Tuesday of the month
  - Matthias to check with Trevor if the propose new board meeting date works for Trevor
- Board meeting recordings: Matthias
  - Purpose for recording the board meeting recording
    - Have the meeting available for members who could not attend
    - Have the meeting for Secretary to refer to if needed
    - Recording is for our convenience.
    - Is for internal use
  - Recording kept between one to three months.
- Redistricting
  - Members discussed pros and cons of redistricting map alternatives
  - Members prefer redistricting map 1. It keeps Leschi and Madrona in District 3 and in the Central Area. It also keeps together more neighborhoods in District 3 than other map options.

- Diane to draft response to the City Council Redistricting map stating LCC's preference and list of reasons
- Update from Artwalk Committee
  - Next meeting, April 14th at 3pm at Bluwater
  - Janice has put in the equipment order with the Parks Dept
  - Once Parks Dept has confirmed equipment is available for the event, can start inviting table vendors such as Rainier Valley Historical Society
  - Diane received confirmation from couple of vendors already—Queen of Cotton Candy, Brazilian Jazz.
  - Committee is still looking for additional volunteers for the event. If interested, please contact committee chair Janice Merrill Brown at 206.679.4004 or [janicemb@comcast.net](mailto:janicemb@comcast.net)
  - Board members encouraged to leverage personal relationship in the neighborhood to recruit ArtWalk volunteers
- Update from Bylaws Committee
  - Members met the last two Saturdays
  - Members working on revising the bylaws to meet new State regulation and LCC's current circumstances.
- Letter to the Park Dept
  - Flo Ware Park bullet item, remove reference to Seattle Girls School. School will be moving.
  - Members voted to approve the letter on LCC letterhead.
  - John to provide a final copy of the letter to board members.

–Yun Pitre

	Income	Expenses	Balance 3/31/22
<b>General Fund</b>			
Ad Revenue	\$2,946.00		
Dues	\$1,368.31		
Donations	\$919.61		
Reimbursement	\$546.57		
Insurance			
Printing and postage		(\$2,808.06)	
Other Expenses		(\$141.01)	
Totals	\$5,780.49	(\$2,949.07)	<b>\$16,554.12</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
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	\$444.53	(\$300.00)	\$4,254.87
Frink Park			\$1,979.43
King Street			\$1,270.00
Leschi Gateway Project			\$51.03
Leschi Natural Area			\$6,345.39
Officer Brenton Fund			\$3,111.85
Steve Shulman Memorial			\$65.00
String of Pearls			\$2,130.38
SW Frink Park			\$1,233.08
W. Vaughn Memorial Fund			\$1,200.00
Wading Pool			\$3,006.13
West Sheridan Street End			\$649.92
Whitebear DreamCatcher			\$201.64
Totals	\$6,225.02	(\$3,249.07)	\$46,890.51
<b>Certificate of Deposit</b>	\$0.28		\$11,256.70



# Support your community by joining the Leschi Community Council!

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

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

LCC supports the Instrumental Music Program at Leschi Elementary

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

LCC supports the Central (Central Area Senior Center)

LCC supports the Leschi Business Association, Leschi Elementary School and the Central Area Senior Center

LCC produces the Leschi News 10 times a year

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☐ \$15 student/low income/ senior membership

☐ I am making an additional donation for LCC work

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Search for @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!



## LESCHI COMMUNITY COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

**May 4, 2022 at 7pm**

Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Please join us online at <https://zoom.us/join>

Meeting ID: 894 9853 2632

Passcode: 282803

If you can only join us by phone dial **+1 (253) 215 8782** and enter the meeting ID and passcode above at the prompt.



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# leschinews

The next Leschi News deadline is **MAY 16**. Mail all articles, comments, letters, advertisements and membership dues to this address:  
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or email Diane Snell at [leschinews@comcast.net](mailto:leschinews@comcast.net)

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## Spring is Sprung

*Spring is sprung*

*The sap is riz*

*I wonder where the birdies is*

*The bird is on the wing?*

*But that's absurd!*

*I always though the wing was on the bird*

Spring sometimes springs other unexpected surprises—like when a pipe springs a leak. In our case, the leak had flooded our basement before we realized spring had sprung.

The young plumber who came to check it out explained exactly what the problem was - and that \$716 would fix it. A plumbing job for less than \$1,000 seemed a modern day miracle, so we signed up.

The older plumber and his mate who showed up later in the same day—another miracle?—said that it was much more complicated and that the young guy didn't have 25+ years' experience like he did, that some cabinets would have to be removed and a big area of ceiling cut out.

We said that was exactly what the young guy said.

The old plumber muttered something then cut out a section of ceiling just about big enough to get his head and shoulders in and yelled instructions to his mate outside. Mike the mate said he had a 2-year old son, so was used to lots of yelling.

Just over an hour later, the water was back on. The old guy said run the bath first to clear any debris. So, I did as he said, then sat in it for another hour, just to be sure.

Two days fetching water in a bucket from our neighbor's hose bib was a good reminder of how many folks in the world have to do this every day.

Anyone who would like to help those less fortunate than us should check the great work done by a local Seattle charity, Water 1st International: [www.Water1st.org](http://www.Water1st.org).

They can make \$716 go a lot further than here in Seattle!

*~Malcolm Harker*

Join us on Facebook: LESCHI or see our website: [leschicommunitycouncil.org](http://leschicommunitycouncil.org) or [leschinews.com](http://leschinews.com)