

leschinews

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



You're just starting to fix dinner for your family and removing the ingredients from the refrigerator and ZAP! The power goes out! Not again! Why is it always Leschi?

Let's find out! The Leschi Community Council has invited a speaker from Seattle City Light to explain it all to us! Join us **December 1 at 7pm** by Zoom for an "enlightening" program!

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS ON INSIDE BACK COVER

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SAVE THE DATE

**JANUARY 19
VIRTUAL LESCHI
SCHOOL TOUR! 7PM**

President's Message

Dear Leschi Friends and Neighbors,

Here we are at the completion of another interesting year. Reflecting, it seems to be smoothing out and people seem to be more engaged in day-to-day life.

Generosity is something that can be freely given and returns 10-fold, but most importantly it's how we feel in our hearts when we do. Being generous in kind gestures, a smile, a sweet comment, help with shopping bags, or just speaking the words of thanks you only might have been thinking. When our hearts open, we see our similarities, not our differences. Our differences are like a beautiful flower garden with variety.



We invite you to our December meeting on Wednesday, December 1st at 7pm. The Zoom invitation is located on the inside back cover this newsletter. Seattle City Light will be discussing power outages, services, things being done and how we can assist.

Board news: Check out the traditions your LCC Board grew up with in this newsletter. Also, Ashley Martin is our Communications Director and our Facebook page, other social media, and our website will be updated in the coming months.

Happy Holidays to all of you and your families from all of us at the Leschi Community Council. If any of you are going to be alone, need a ride, something picked up, or whatever, please reach out to us. 'Community' in our name reflects how we operate.

Kind regards,
Janice Merrill Brown
President, LCC Board

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



Recent home sales in Leschi reinforce it's still a *Seller's market*. Sale prices are up 26% and inventory is down 47% vs September 2020.

Leschi homes continue to sell quickly (7 day average) adding both pressure and risk to buyers, who are waiving financing and inspection contingencies to stay competitive.

Please reach out if you'd like to discuss the market and strategize how to sell your home or find the one you've been looking for.

206.604.2828 | Scott.Lennard@Compass.com

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

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HAVE A HYGGE HOLIDAY SEASON!

Whether you celebrate Hannukah, Kwanzaa or Christmas, you can enhance your experience with the customs of Hygge. This is a Danish term which does not translate easily into English; the best description is "comfy."

Keep warm! Cozy socks and sweaters, pants that are warm but loose enough to be comfy (probably not something you would want to wear out of the house) and curl up by the fire with a throw over your legs and a hot drink in your hand... be it coffee, mulled wine, hot cider or cocoa... whatever your preference. And make sure your circle includes close friends or relatives. Most of us gather with family for the holidays so it may be a bigger group (including dogs), but you may be able to incorporate some of the Hygge tips to make it a "comfy" get-together.

The best example of Hygge that I experienced was when we were transferred to the East Coast and our closest friends were a Jewish couple we already knew from earlier days in California together. They invited us for Hanukkah and we invited them for a traditional Christmas. They had 2 girls the ages of our son and daughter so getting together was a good experience for all. One year, the husband rented a (sight unseen) "chalet" on Lake Champlain in Vermont that would hold all of us comfortably. Ruth (the wife) was Danish, and she made me appreciate Hygge long before I ever heard the word. Their family arrived at the "chalet" before we did; I assume there was no stopping to read historical markers as was the tradition in our family. Ruth took one look at the chalet and broke into tears. They quickly drove to the nearest town where she found a full-service grocery with French goodies from Quebec. She bought flowers, scented candles, imported cheeses, French bread, croissants, and

lots of chocolate to place in little dishes everywhere. When we finally arrived, we saw the flowers, the candy and a nice appetizer tray all laid out. We didn't really notice the dinginess of the chalet when we arrived as her touches made it so very welcoming. It wasn't until the next morning that we realized the shower water drained out the back of the building following a defined course from the bathroom to the lowest spot in the building where the water joined the swamp below in the "backyard."

We were campers and used to roughing it, but poor Ruth was used to very nice hotels. "Suffering" with friends made it easier as did Ruth's attempts to create a "comfy" environment and we all survived with lots of laughs and our friend Harry's protestations that he found the ad in The New Yorker made us laugh even harder! It's one thing to be misled by the word "chalet" but another thing to lose faith on one of your go-to favorites!

-Diane Snell



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Neighborhood and Beyond



HOLIDAY GIFT TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD—A BEAUTIFULLY REBUILT SOUTH LESCHI MOORAGE

The new facility is built by a private firm—Marina Management—which is official manager of both the North and South Leschi Moorages, as well as Lakewood Moorage, under a contract with the Seattle Parks Department. The South Leschi Moorage is to be operated primarily for small boats, especially sailboats, and lease fees are to be kept at competitive rates to ensure affordability by most boat owners.

-John Barber



The work in progress as the old dock was removed. Photo credit: Janice Brown.

HOLIDAY TRADITIONS IN LESCHI

We asked the Board to tell us about their own holiday traditions:

“I grew up in Edmonds and every year, I got on the roof and strung lights everywhere. Also, I had license with trees in our house, so I created a totally green one, a flocked yellow with gold lights and orange satin balls. I love the smell of Christmas trees and a fire in the fireplace. Our family celebrated on Christmas Day.

The worst was the year I unwrapped and then re-wrapped my presents. Nothing is harder than trying to fake surprise.

When I was 16, I decided I needed to cook Thanksgiving dinner to practice for one day when I would be married. Dinner was great and we also used to invite people who were customers of our pharmacy that didn't have family close, to those dinners.

I love lights, laughter, smells and the delight in children's faces.

Happy Holidays to you and your family.”

-Janice

“Unfortunately, my Christmas traditions are incompatible with our home insurance. I miss lighting the Christmas tree or rather the candles on the tree, a German tradition. Strings of lights are a poor substitute for the candles' warm glow. No, Germans aren't pyromaniacs. We put up the tree on Christmas Eve so it's still fresh and hasn't become a fire hazard yet. Fresh yes, but we also miss out on some holiday spirit before Christmas day. I guess you can't have it both ways.”

-Matthias

“My fiancé's birthday is on Christmas Day. My family has designated Christmas morning as his birthday time, with a delicious brunch (with croissants and mimosas) and a round of Happy Birthday before we roll into our non-birthday Christmas festivities. Even my young niece happily supports birthday time, even though it means she waits a little longer for gifts.”

-Ashley

“We spent 10 years in the Baltimore-Washington area celebrating the holidays with friends so when we were transferred to Seattle, it seemed appropriate to get together with family again, California seeming so much closer to Seattle than it did to the East coast. We didn't realize the Siskiyou's could seriously hamper our plans. After a trip which resulted in being snowbound on I-5 all night, we took those mountains more seriously. It was a cold night; VW campers do not produce any heat unless you are barreling down the road which we were not. We put the dog on top of us and when she started shaking from the cold, we piled on

her. We had purchased a down jacket for our son and gave it to him early; for years he referred to it as the jacket that saved his life!"

-Diane

HOLIDAY GIVING OPTIONS

Leschi Elementary School's annual Giving Garland. We featured this last month but there is still time to give to the fund that helps the needy families at Leschi. Checks made out to "Leschi PTA", in the memo add "Giving Garland". Make donation via PayPal (go to the school website listed below)

- **Donate Gift Cards** for the most frequently requested stores: Safeway, Grocery Outlet, Costco, Target, Ross Dress for Less, Old Navy
- **Mailing address** for checks and gift cards (please ensure denomination is labeled): Giving Garland, 135 32nd Ave, Seattle WA 98122
- **School website:** leschies.seattleschools.org/school_involvement/fundraising/giving_garland

-Benson Wilder

LESCHI MARKET has a GoFundMe page to raise donations to provide holiday meals for in-need families at the school and folks who use the Rainier Valley Food Bank. Unfortunately, readers are assuming that Leschi CC is handing out food baskets. Please refer any confused readers to the Rainier Valley Food Bank if they are in need. Leschi Community Council donates to both the School and the food bank but does not create food baskets.

-Diane Snell

CENTRAL AREA SENIOR CENTER ANNUAL MEETING

SLATE OF SELECTED BOARD MEMBERS ELECTED

The Annual Meeting was held November 17 at 1pm at the Senior Center which is still following covid precautions. Wear a mask and be prepared to have your temperature taken! This is a vulnerable population.

Director Dian Ferguson explained that this was the first annual meeting since the Center was able to get their own 501 (c) 3 as they had been operating as a program under Sound Generation prior to that. There is still a relationship with Sound Generations as both the Dining program and Enhanced Fitness are programs that are considered as Sound Generation property.

The Center seems to be in good financial shape; no written figures were disbursed, and it was difficult to keep with the rapid fire presentation, but the bank account has \$483,848 in the bank and other generously endowed restricted funds. Restricted funds specify grants and donations made for a specific purpose and cannot be spent on day-to-day expenses. Dian has been writing grants to keep the Center financially able to continue.

Their achievements during these difficult times of a pandemic have been considerable. Rather than just shut the doors, the Center kept lunches going in the form of take-out only.

They identified seniors who needed help obtaining groceries, prescriptions, etc. and staff was identified to assist these families with deliveries and pick-ups.

When the vaccine became available, the Center partnered with Safeway and First AME church to offer clinics to seniors. It was a massive undertaking, and 4200 seniors were vaccinated. Another clinic was held recently offering booster shots and seasonal flu shots. Thanksgiving baskets with turkeys were being prepared that afternoon after the meeting.

There is no doubt that the Center is doing good work and addressing the needs of seniors, but there were concerns. **NOTIFICATION:** Many of the attendees had not been notified of the meeting and only heard of it through the grapevine. There is no way to know how many members might have attended should there have been the individual notice that was given in the past. We would receive a letter each year giving the date and time of the annual meeting but not this year. Concerns were expressed and met with excuses like using the newsletter to give notice. The newsletter has not been published in about two years. However, the Center does have email addresses and used that method to advertise the vaccine clinics. That seemed to work well given the enthusiastic response.

Non-profits have specific laws the Center needs to adhere to under the revised code of Washington. The RCW is the compilation of all permanent laws now in force. One needs to compare the RCW with the current by-laws of the Senior Center to understand the concerns.

Notice of meetings is defined under the law RCW 24.03.080:

(1) Notice, in the form of a record, in a tangible medium, or in an electronic transmission, stating the place, day, and hour of the annual meeting and, in case of a special meeting, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called, shall be delivered not less than ten nor more than fifty days before the date of the meeting, by or at the direction of the president, or the secretary, or the officers or persons calling the meeting, to each member entitled to vote at such meeting. Notice of regular meetings other than annual shall be made by providing each member with the adopted schedule of regular meetings for the ensuing year at any time after the annual meeting and ten days prior to the next succeeding regular meeting and at any time when requested by a member or by such other notice as may be prescribed by the bylaws.

(2) If notice is provided in a tangible medium, it may be transmitted by: Mail, private carrier, or personal delivery; telegraph or teletype; or telephone, wire, or wireless equipment that transmits a facsimile of the notice. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail addressed to the member at his or her address as it appears on the records of the corporation, with postage thereon prepaid. Other forms of notice in a tangible medium described in this subsection are effective when received.

(3) If notice is provided in an electronic transmission, it must satisfy the requirements of RCW 24.03.009.

Additional information on notices is given in RCW 24.03.009, too long to cite here but it may be Googled.

A question was asked about what is a quorum?

The RCW 24.03.090

Quorum. (Effective until January 1, 2022.)

The bylaws may provide the number or percentage of members entitled to vote represented in person or by proxy, or the number or percentage of votes represented in person or by proxy, which shall constitute a quorum at a meeting of members. In the absence of any such provision, members holding one-tenth of the votes entitled to be cast represented in person or by proxy shall constitute a quorum. The vote of a majority of the votes entitled to be cast by the members present or represented by proxy at a meeting at which a quorum is present, shall be necessary for the adoption of any matter voted upon by the members, unless a greater proportion is required by this chapter, the articles of incorporation or the bylaws.

Greater voting requirements. (Effective until January 1, 2022.)

Whenever, with respect to any action to be taken by the members or directors of a corporation, the articles of incorporation require the vote or concurrence of a greater proportion of the members or directors, as the case may be, than required by this chapter with respect to such action, the provisions of the articles of incorporation shall control.

Central Area Senior Center Bylaws re: quorum for annual meetings: All Members—Senior, Associate, Lifetime and Honorary and designated members of Business/Corporate Memberships—may vote. All Members present at an annual meeting make a quorum and may conduct business.

DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN SENIOR CENTER BYLAWS AND ACTIONS TAKEN: The bylaws of the Senior Center specify a written ballot but there were no ballots at the meeting; hands were raised and counted at this meeting rather than a written ballot. The bylaws specify that up to 9 Board

members may be elected; at this meeting 10 members were voted onto the Board. No nominations were accepted from the floor. The bylaws specify a term of one year, but these Board members were voted in for a 2- or 3-year term.

It appears that the center's bylaws do not agree with the laws of Washington State for non-profits and the center's bylaws as written were not adhered to at this meeting. This raises concerns for the members and for the greater community as non-adherence may jeopardize their non-profit status with the IRS.

This would be a tragedy as we know the Center does good work for the senior community; we would hope that the proposed revision of the bylaws will bring them into compliance with the laws. The RCWs are being changed and tightened for January 2022 so it is a good time to make the necessary revisions.

-Diane Snell

IT'S ALL POLITICS, ALL THE TIME

Everything is political. I as well as persons more knowledgeable than I have said this for years. I do not recall when I realized what I label a truth became apparent. It may have been in 1970 when I first read a Hemingway story entitled "Old Man at the Bridge." As troops approach the city, the old man character is too tired to cross the bridge. He tells the soldier trying his best to help him, "I can go no further." The man explains, "I am without politics." The line always causes me to pause because I know the old man is sincere; I know his saying he is without politics means nothing, will not keep him safe. I believe most, perhaps all, of the people whose lives are impacted by war would say, "I am without politics." Most of the people do not want to leave their countries; they certainly do not wish to die. Yet, the war machine moves them. According to Wikipedia, as of July 22, 2021, the refugee count is "82.4 million forcibly displaced people worldwide in 2020, 26.4 million refugees under United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees mandate, 20.7 million under United Nations UNHCR's mandate, 5.7 million under United Relief and Works Agency's mandate, 48 million internally displaced, 4.1 million asylum seekers, 3.9 million Venezuelans." These numbers do not include the most recent victims of the weather nor the 1000s of Afghans who escaped and those wishing to escape. Syria, Iraq, Somalia, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Yemen, Myanmar, etc: these are some of the countries whose citizens live with the impact of policies made by others.



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Politics in varying degrees plays a huge role in lives, often without our being aware. Birth certificate? Death certificate? Between those two certificates are countless other mandates. Politicians decide where schools, colleges, and universities are, their sizes. They set up medical care rules, who gets how much when. They ban abortions. The minimum wage is their call. They make laws about drug and food safety. All modes of transportation safety are in their hands, planes and boats and trains. Politicians determine where freeways go, whether and when streets are repaired and with what, whether the repairs will last a few months or fifty years. Politicians decide what we need permits for and when, how much we pay. They select sites for landfills. Politicians choose not to get the lead out of water supplies or clean bodies of water. They build dams that benefit some people and devastate others. They legislate wars. When a person gets Social Security and how much is the province of the politicians. Politicians, despite the voice of the majority of their constituents, decide about gun control or safety. They tax us and provide loopholes for the wealthy.

My list of things political could, of course, be longer. However, I have said this to say though much is controlled by the politicians, must stop saying everything is political. Public health is not political. Granted, distribution of medicine, who gets the medicine when and where is political, but public health itself is not political.

As of September 2021, there have been 229,297,085 coronavirus cases and 4,705,586 deaths. Scientists, physicians are certain these numbers should be higher because of misdiagnoses and the time it took for the virus to be identified. I wonder how many of the unvaccinated know these numbers. Thankfully, 205,937,008 recoveries have been reported. Doctors have only begun to see the long-term results of the disease. How long will the results affect a body? Why is the effect different on different bodies? Viruses know no borders. Viruses do what viruses do. This virus has been all over the world, is all over the world. It kills without discriminating. The older, weak persons with underlying medical conditions are easier targets for the virus. It strikes whenever and wherever. It mutates. We have no idea when it will stop mutating nor how many versions will exist by the time it stops. Some scientists think it will always be present maybe less deadly, but always present.

We have been told repeatedly what has happened to the world is unprecedented. For me this means, the scientists have not had this kind of battle on this scale. They have often tamed epidemics, but this is a pandemic. Scientists all over the world, some far better equipped than others, are doing everything they can to control it, stamp it out if possible. But they need our help. All they ask of us is to get vaccinated and wear masks, give each other space, six feet. But millions of us choose not to comply.

Public health is not political. The virus cares nothing about the scores of ways we categorize each other. We must wear helmets, seatbelts. We have designated smoking areas; we can no longer smoke on planes. Car manufacturers, for example, must meet certain standards to protect drivers and their passengers. We are punished for driving while drinking. All these actions are mandated to protect health. Not one of these mandates has in one year killed the number of persons that the coronavirus has killed, not one. Yet most, we automatically accept. But these, you say, have nothing to do with injecting anything into my

body! About 50% of us got the flu shot last year. We get tetanus shots, shingles shots. Traveling abroad often requires that we get a variety of shots. Before our children go to school, they must be immunized. We comply because we want people to be safe.

We are called upon to get vaccinated for the good of the world. We should make this move and do our best to convince others to do the same. The longer it takes the peoples of the world to get vaccinated, the longer we'll see and hear of persons dying because of the virus. And perhaps we ourselves can avoid being in the pandemic statistics.

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.



*Omar Akkari, John Baldwin, and Kate Winston, celebrating.
Photo credit: Daniel Collins.*

MASSACHUSETTS STREET END: AN OCTOBER PLANTING EVENT

Restoration at our/your Massachusetts Street-end on Lake Washington included native plants and mulch after October rains. In this phase, we at Friends of Street End s FOSE planted conifers, smaller deciduous trees, shrubs, and ground cover using Seward Park as a reference site for our plant choices. Reference sites are places with little to no disturbance that reflect a healthy native plant mix that can guide the decisions of restoration ecologists based on where similar landscape characteristics exist.

Our aim is to create wildlife habitat and enhance the beauty of the shoreline. The theory among a select few ecologists is that a restored riparian landscape will excite landowners to do the same and create larger swathes of native plant, bird, and animal habitat. These landscapes take lower maintenance, less irrigation, and result in higher biodiversity.

SDOT provided the plants and we got to work on a bright Saturday morning after much rain. FOSE invites the community to enjoy this reopened space. In the future, we will be constructing a pathway to the shore.

-Daniel Collins, project lead

MT. BAKER VIEWPOINT READIED FOR THE HOLIDAYS

A spectacularly beautiful sunny fall day greeted five hearty volunteers as they conducted the annual Mt. Baker Viewpoint Park Work Party. Brogan Thomsen brought a weed blower, tools and garbage bags for everyone and sorted through the overflowing garbage can to conduct an inventory, finding 52 QED paper cups (will be talking to the owner) as well as dozens of green poop bags – all of which we carted away. Mike Rosen helped Brogan haul a heavy orange rental bike up and over the railing from where it had been thrown way below and swept and weeded the site. Kim Kemp brought her magic brooms and weeding tool and tackled the weedy pavers with enthusiasm. Matt Cohen planted lavender plants at the north garden and picked up a load of garbage from the lower area. And Karen Daubert picked up garbage, weeded and did an overall tidy-up. Chocolate covered cherries were the day's treat and a fun time was had by all.

-Karen Daubert

A brief history: The Mt Baker Ridge Viewpoint started when a few neighbors gathered at the chain link fence then in place, looked at the overgrown blackberries and blocked view, and thought that really this should be a park for the benefit of all.

At the time, 1999, the city was filling in quickly, and there was great concern over preserving open space and park access for all citizens. An ad hoc group formed which later became the Friends of Mt. Baker Ridge Viewpoint.

Washington Dept. of Transportation owned the land, a legacy of the I-90 tunnel construction. Urged on by the Mt. Baker/and Leschi communities, the city of Seattle negotiated and purchased the Viewpoint property.

Then it was time for design and construction. The community began the demanding process of raising awareness, applying for grants, finding a designer, and facilitating the



Removal of a rental bike from slope. Photo credit: Karen Daubert.

design process in collaboration with Seattle Parks. After three public meetings a design was chosen, created by two young designers with the firm of Jones & Jones.

There was further grant writing and other activities to raise construction funds, including a hugely successful auction and Mt. Baker's first garden walk. There were many setbacks throughout this entire process, overcome through the efforts of many souls.

The Park was dedicated on the spring Equinox in 2009, ten years after the effort started. It was a stormy day, but miraculously the skies cleared for the event and everyone at the large community party of more than 250 folks cheered the wonderful view.

The Viewpoint preserves an expansive sunset view overlooking the Rainier Valley, the city and Olympic Mountains, and creates a gathering place at the top of the Mt. Baker Ridge. It came about because many people from the Mt. Baker and Leschi communities gave of their time and energy, all of whom deserve profound thanks and gratitude.

More information about how the Viewpoint operates as a sunset-tracking instrument through the year, marking the Solstice and Equinox and points in-between, can be found on signage at the park, and also on the Viewpoint's website, <https://mtbakerridgeviewpoint.com>, along with other details of the project history.

-David Berger
Chair, Friends of Mt. Baker Ridge Viewpoint



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LIFE AND TIMES IN LESCHI

How many among us have heard of Lucile McDonald? Very few, I would guess, aside from those who read to the very bottom of my June 2021 article, where I gave a *Seattle Times* column of hers as a reference. She was a pioneering woman journalist, in these parts and around the world, for seven decades, including a 37-year tenure at the *Times*.

In 1955-56, McDonald wrote a series of 22 articles about our beloved neighbor, Lake Washington, in the *Times* Sunday Magazine. Many, but not all, can be found by searching the *Times* on-line archive for her name. Those columns were collected and expanded upon in her book “The Lake Washington Story” (1979). Included in her writing are several narratives touching on Leschi.

She had her quirks, some of them frustrating to future historians. She rarely cited her sources, and if she wasn't certain about something, she wrote what sounded good to her. Nor did she seem overly concerned about grammatically correct composition. Nevertheless, she provides a wealth of information about early Seattle, much of it gleaned from her mid-century interviews with old-time settlers.

Her files are at the UW Library for anyone who might want to look further into her work.

Coal mining was a significant factor in Seattle's early growth, as McDonald writes – to power nascent industries and heat homes, as well as for export. It was first discovered around here in 1853, in present-day Renton. Anyone who has noticed the names of communities such as Black Diamond, Newcastle, and Coal Creek might have suspected that coal had something to do with local history. As late as the 1940s, many homes here had coal furnaces. Typically, there was a window or door to the basement for coal deliveries. My father told me that, like many other people, he had to shovel coal at the house he and my mother rented at 31st and East John when they moved to Seattle in 1946.

McDonald notes several Leschi connections to the coal business. Until the 1870s, at the bare beginnings of the coal industry, the only means for lake travel were Indian canoes, which pulled up at Leschi's waterfront. About this time, the first engine-powered boat on Lake Washington carried passengers from the end of Yesler Way to the coal mine landing at Hazelwood, across the East Channel from Mercer Island, a bit south of Factoria. But this boat's stay on the lake lasted only two years.

Travel on the lake remained haphazard into the 1880s. Several boats built late in that decade took passengers from the East Side to Leschi or McGilvra's Landing, at the foot of Madison Street.

By this time, roads were improved and extended, leading to more population along the lakeshore. Stages (probably horse-pulled conveyances) brought hunters to Leschi, from where they crossed the lake on expeditions. Eastside farmers began bringing their crops to market in the growing city. McDonald cites the close of the 1880s as “the end of the pioneering period,” after which shoreline communities grew larger.

In September 1888, the Yesler Way cable car route began service, leading to much more development around the present-day Leschi Park. We'll look into that episode in a coming segment.

Coal burning has, fortunately, long-since ended around here. The last coal mine in the area, the John Henry mine, near Black Diamond, operated until 1999, but its owner obtained a permit to reopen it a few years ago. This July, however, a settlement was announced that requires its permanent closure, after it was shown that the company had been discharging industrial stormwater to Green River tributaries without a valid permit for nearly seven years, had failed to implement required pollution controls, and was violating water pollution limits for phosphorous, manganese, and copper. Many thanks to Puget Soundkeeper, 350Seattle.org, and others for their work to shut down the mine forever.

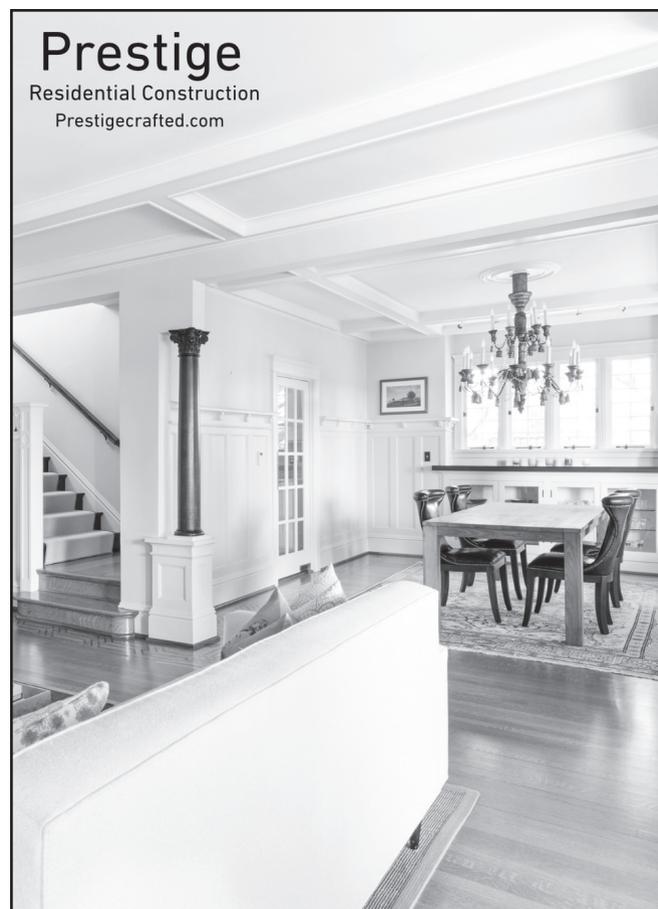
Books by Lucile McDonald, available at the Seattle Public Library:

- *The Lake Washington Story*, 1979
- *The Look of Old Time Washington*, 1971
- *A Foot in the Door—The Reminiscences of Lucile McDonald*, 1995

John Henry coal mine closure: <https://pugetsoundkeeper.org/2021/07/01/black-diamond-coal-mine-agrees-to-permanent-closure/>

-Roger Lippman

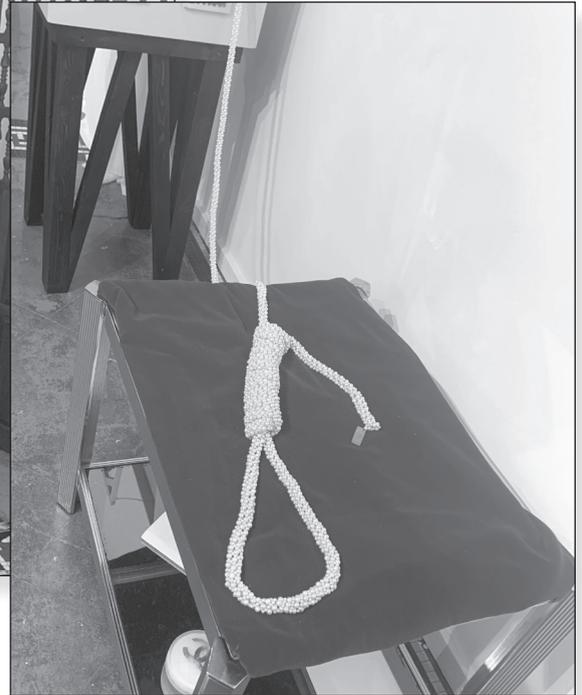
The author writes monthly about Leschi history and his experiences over his 46 years in the neighborhood.



Culture Corner



Installation view, Morgan Friedman, "Born of Our Culture, American Express" Method Gallery



"WORLD-AS-RESOURCE" WINS WHILE WE LOSE

Op 26 was a failure, and the reporting on it was shocking. Only "Democracy Now!" focused on the 100,000 youth and others protesting in the street. If we want to know why COP 26 was a failure, we don't have to go any further than Amitav Ghosh's newest book, *The Nutmeg Curse*. It starkly lays bare the ideology of "world-as-resource."

Ghosh traces the centuries long devastation of the planet for commerce. He starts with the nutmeg and the Dutch so called Venerable East India Company (VOC). VOC arrived on a remote Indonesian island, the only place where nutmeg grew in the early 17th century, to force the inhabitants to give them a monopoly, a product that the residents had been trading with other islands for centuries. When they refused to do that, they were all killed. When the price of the spice fell in the 19th century because it was suddenly considered "harmful to the moral fiber of the body," VOC decided to keep the price up by eradicating nutmeg trees to create scarcity.

The VOC was the embodiment of early capitalism, it was run by stolid burghers who prided themselves on their rationality, moderation and common sense. Yet they pursued a policy that perfectly illustrates the unrestrainable excess that lies hidden at the heart of the vision of the world-as-resource—an excess that leads

ultimately not just to genocide, but an ever greater violence, an impulse that can only be called "omnicide, the desire to destroy everything."

We can draw a straight line from the VOC to the British control of India, to the conquest of the Americas for profit that "justified" the genocide of Native Americans, the slave trade, and today, the extracting of coal and oil, all examples of domination in the pursuit of "world-as-resource."

He goes on to discuss the "role of fossil fuels in war-making" and military power. And now we come to why there can be no climate agreement: "The Pentagon is the single largest consumer of energy in the United States. . . but the job of the world dominant military establishment is precisely to defend the most important drivers of climate change, the carbon economy, the systems of extraction, production and consumption that it supports." In other words, it isn't just about the military as a profligate consumer of fossil fuels and generator of eco destruction, but **its purpose** is to be the protector of global energy flows, so we can maintain global hegemony.

Ghosh states "To be 'civilized' was to accept the Earth as inert and machine-like, and that no aspect of it can elude human knowledge. A defining characteristic of 'savagery' . . .

was 'the belief in the vitality of natural and celestial objects.' ... Vitalism, savagery, and extinction were a series in which each term implied the next." Subduing "savages" seeks to destroy their belief in the sacredness of nature. Fortunately Indigenous peoples are still with us and perhaps our only hope of survival.

So now I turn to two art exhibitions, briefly, that connect to these themes. "Frisson" at the Seattle Art Museum is a recent donation of 21 Abstract Expressionist works from the estate of Richard E. Lang and Jane Lang Davis. These are benchmark artists from the post World War II era, when America dominated the "free" world. Jackson Pollock, Willem De Kooning, Clyfford Still, Franz Kline, and others, were championed by critics as giving us "universal truth" and circulated by the government as propaganda for "freedom." The only human figures appear in the distortions of Francis Bacon, and one work by Philip Guston, a biting satirist who accepted abstraction only briefly (the collection includes an example). One sculpture by Giacometti presents a deeply emaciated female.

If we look at the two Rothkos, we see domination at work. In Untitled 1945, Rothko explores surrealist imagery drawn from mythology. The intricate spiny lines reach out of the depths of darkness to suggest growth in a substrata of the earth. The second work, also Untitled, 1963 has only the dark horizontal bands of color without any indication of life.

In contrast to these "universal abstractions," we have Morgan Friedman at Method Gallery. In "Born of Our Culture, American Express" she lays bare examples of power and control, racism and classism intertwined with drugs and murder. One installation features a glass platform with large oxycodone pills, and other drug paraphernalia. It references Martin Shkreli who raised the price of life saving drugs from 13. to 750. per pill. Nearby is a music box with a gallows, and lynch rope woven from pearls (think about that). In a second installation, Fred Hampton's iconic chair references his horrific murder by police just after Charles Manson's effort to link Black Panthers to multiple murders by his cult members in 1969 in order to start a race riot. These historical events clearly demonstrate Ghosh's thesis of the brutal manipulations by people in power.

That same brutality emerged at the COP 26 as the thousands of youth asking for a future were ignored by both the participants and most of the media, and the focus on the need of powerful world leaders to maintain their control took center stage.

-Susan Platt, PhD
www.artandpoliticsnow.com

MOUNT RAINIER NATIONAL PARK, AN ARTIST'S TOUR BY MOLLY HASHIMOTO; SKIPSTONE

Molly Hashimoto has done it again! She has created a beautiful book on Mount Rainier that will appeal to all who see this mountain as **the** icon of our environment. I first learned about the expression "the mountain is out" during my years of trekking across 520 to

my job in Bellevue. When it was sunny and the eastbound traffic slowed significantly, I soon learned the reason was that the mountain was "out!" Not shrouded in clouds, but there in all its glory!

Molly visits Mt. Rainier in all the seasons; she sees her visits as pilgrimages, "a Northwest version of El Camino de Santiago in Spain." And Molly captures what she experiences in lovely watercolors. She visits the main areas, portraying the landscape, the flora and the fauna. She spends little time on the larger buildings, except for some small historical cabins one might otherwise overlook.

Molly feels that Rainier has restorative powers and cites Quaker Floyd Schmoë's stay there in the 1920's to recover from what he had experienced as a pacifist worker with refugees from the first world war. As Schmoë went on to live to the age of 105, one might give credit to these restorative powers, although he credited his good choice of ancestors!

One of my first trips to Paradise was with a friend visiting from the East Coast and I was surprised to see snow still on the ground in the summer, but on our walk, we spotted flowers poking through the snowdrifts heading toward the sun; they were avalanche lilies. Molly paints these hardy flowers and others more colorful that bloom at high elevations.

One learns about the volcanic origins of Mount Rainier and lest you think as I did, that the volcanic action was all those many years ago, she cites more recent lahar events when slurries of rocky debris and water swept violently down from the mountain to areas outside the park! The mountain lives.

I have not seen many animals there except for the chipmunks and the shy pika, but we did have a deer crash through our campsite one evening as I was preparing dinner. It happened so fast that the dog was caught without a bark! Molly, however, takes solitary hikes and has been able see the red fox, mountain goats and the hoary marmot which she faithfully reproduces in color.

She gives us a glimpse of the importance of the area to the first people who would gather for two weeks in the summer to gather the abundant blueberries to dry and store in baskets for use in the winter, reconstituting with water. The mountain goat was hunted for its coat, which provided much needed warmth during harsh winters.

My most recent Mount Rainier experience came on a plane heading home from the East Coast. My seat mate at the window had never been to the West Coast and was anxious to see Mt. Rainier; he had been assured that he would be able to see it from the plane. He kept querying about lesser peaks, and I finally said I think you will know when you see it and went back to my book. It wasn't more than ten minutes later, when I heard him gasp and whisper Oh my god! I looked up and said "Yep, that's it!" And put my book aside. You can never get too much of it!

This beautiful book will make a delightful holiday gift to our enthusiastic friends and relatives.

-Diane Snell



Seeking Sustenance...

GIFT OF WINE

Happy Holiday Season Leschi! Giving the gift of wine can be equally as fun for the gift giver as it is for the recipient. When choosing a bottle of wine (or two) to gift, keep a few basic ideas in mind. Know what the recipient tends to like and have a rough estimate of what you would like to spend. Many great wines can be found across all ranges of price points. When in doubt—ask an expert—like US! Leschi Market will be well staffed with wine experts throughout the month to assist you with all of your wine questions.

A comment that I will never forget, was said to me one of my first holiday seasons at the Market. “Giving wine just seems so last minute.” We have discussed the art of gift giving many times before. As we embark on the biggest gifting season of the year, let me offer some ideas on putting a little meaning behind those gifts. Trust

me, in general, everyone loves to receive wine as a gift, and if you put just a tiny amount of thought into it, it won't seem so last minute at all. Personally, I anticipate quite a bit of wine gifting this year!

We've explored several options in the past of theme based wine gifts. These definitely show some amount of thought. They are just as fun to assemble as they are to receive. All you need to do is choose your price point and choose your theme. Here are some of my favorites from recent years.

For the bicyclist on the list, for example, a “Tour de France” package can include a wine from several different regions in France: Alsace, Beaujolais, Bordeaux, Burgundy, Champagne, Chateaufort du Pape, Gascogne, Languedoc-Roussillon, Loire, and Rhône are great starting points. These regions are so diverse themselves that you could easily choose a few wines from within each region.

With the increased hope of future travels in 2022, the “Around the World” packages might be a great way to anticipate those far off destinations. Focusing on one country, or several, is easy enough to do. Rieslings from Germany, Barberas from Italy, Tempranillos from Spain, Bordeaux style wines from South Africa, Malbecs from Argentina or our unique “stamp collection” section that houses wines from Georgia, Greece, Mexico and Morocco.

Domestic sets can be great too. Walla Walla, Willamette Valley or Napa would provide great themed packages. The possibilities and spin-offs are endless. From an “Italian Getaway,” to an all-organic grouping, from all under \$10 wine, to an all animal themed label, use your imagination and creativity, and most of all, have fun with it.

This brings me to Champagnes and Ports. These are ultimate gift wines, if not for the sole fact that people rarely buy them for themselves. Who knows why, but I've seen the trend that we tend to put off splurging for these special wines for ourselves, yet are ecstatic when we are gifted them. When in doubt, look to the Port and Champagne sections. Many of these wines

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...in the Wilds of Seattle

are discounted during holiday months, and great finds can be had for under \$40. Vintage Champagnes and Vintage Ports are more expensive and harder to find, however “Colheita” Ports (years of ports not designated as “vintage”) can be found for a lesser dollar amount and for nearly every year; a great idea when trying to match birth years, anniversary years, and other significant dates in one’s life.

Finally, let’s conclude with highly sought-after wines that are in fairly limited supply. Collectors, cellar builders, and new winos alike will appreciate getting their hands on some of these rarities!

These are just a few of our offerings. Take a look at our lockbox, located next to the Champagne in the wine aisle. It is full of treasures as well!

2011 Dow’s Vintage Porto (\$200) **99-points**,
Wine Spectator

2013 Quilceda Creek Cabernet Sauvignon Columbia Valley (\$159.99) **99-points**, *Robert Parker*

2018 Vieux Telegraphe Chateaneuf du Pape (\$89.99) **96-points**, *Robert Parker*

2011 Muga Prado Enea Gran Reserva (\$79.99) **99-points**, *James Suckling*

2005 Bouchard Pere & Fils Gevrey-Chambertin Burgundy (\$75) **90-points**, *Wine Spectator*

2015 Collemattoni Brunello di Montalcino (\$59.99) **95-points**, *Vinous*

2018 Cadence Camerata Cara Mia Vineyard Red Mountain (\$55.99) **98-points**, *Wine & Spirits*

Champagne Pommery Brut Royal NV (\$39.99) **93-points**, *Decanter*

A2017 Querciabella Chianti Classico Toscana (\$27.99) **92-points**, *Vinous*

2016 Chateau Magnol Haut-Medoc Bordeaux (\$24.99) **95-points**, *Decanter*

Still unsure what gift to give the wine lover on your list? One of my favorite reminders is that accessories like wine glasses and decanters rarely need a gift receipt! Have a safe and memorable holiday season and we’ll see you next year!

CHEERS! ENJOY!

Kenneth Benner, a Seattle area native, is a trained chef and has worked in such restaurants as Barbacoa, B.O.K.A. Kitchen + Bar and 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.



We did not receive a restaurant review for this month, but we can subscribe to a tradition mentioned in the Board holiday traditions: croissants and Mimosas for a festive breakfast. And we hope the croissants came from Bakery Nouveau! I love the French breakfast, so simple and yet so good. I was depressed by English breakfasts on our travels... the undercooked bacon, the runny eggs, the cold toast in its beautiful silver server (and Sun Blest bread yet!). Viva La France!

-Diane Snell

LESCHI CC BOARD MEETING 11/08/21

Present: Janice Brown, Diane Snell, John Barber, Ashley Martin, Trevor Lalish-Menagh, Matthias Linnenkamp, Tracy Bier, Yun Pitre
Absent: Lawrence Pitre

December Leschi News

- Newsletter items due to Diane by November 15
- Short paragraph on each board member's Holiday tradition—submit item to Diane by November 15

Leschi New Production Cost

- Membership dues cover postage; Leschi News ads cover printing cost
- It cost around \$573/mo to print newsletter. Ads bring in \$580/mo. Need one or two more ads to keep up with printing costs
- Membership dues have gone down.
 - Diane will send membership due reminder
 - Action item: Mathias will look for ways to accept digital payment; Ashley will update LCC webpage with where to send mail in membership payments
- Digital distribution options—topic tabled for now.

Giving Garland at Leschi Elementary

- By giving donation in November, it will give the school more time to shop for kids needing gifts for the holidays.
- For more information, contact Katie Busby (katiebusby@gmail.com), Jennifer Marquardt (206-423-2781 / jrmarquardt1@gmail.com) or check the Leschi School website.

- Action Taken—voted to donate \$500 to Giving Garland in November

LCC Board Meeting Notes

- Board meetings will be posted in <https://www.leschicommunitycouncil.org/articles/categories/the-council/executive-board-minutes> starting now.
- Past recorded general LCC meeting; will look into how to upload past meetings to You Tube

December general meeting topic

- Waiting to hear back from CM Morales' office on Lake Washington Boulevard closures
- Seattle City Light on Power Outrages

January general meeting topic

- Leschi school wants to co-host January meeting with LCC.

LCC General Meeting Outreach Strategies

- Start with something simple
 - Each board member email meeting announcement/reminder to their neighborhood listserv
 - Ashley will email meeting announcement/reminder to Leschi News subscribers
- Continue to explore flyers, inserts, etc.

Upcoming meetings

- LCC General Meeting: December 1st @ 7pm.
- LCC Executive Board Meeting: December 6th @ 6pm.



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	Income	Expenses	Balance 10/31/21
General Fund			
Ad Revenue	\$5,201.00		
Dues	\$1,140.00		
Donations	\$1,380.00	(\$500)	
Reimbursement	\$120.00		
Insurance		(\$581.00)	
Printing and postage		(\$5,349.05)	
Other Expenses		(\$1,085.43)	
Totals	\$7,941.00	(\$7,515.48)	
Restricted Funds			
ArtWalk			\$2,447.32
Cherry Street Corridor			\$635.76
Flo Ware Park			\$686.53
Friends of Powell Barnett			\$1,068.06
Friends of Street Ends		(\$775.25)	\$2,710.34
Frink Park	\$50.00		\$2,117.60
King Street			\$1,270.00
Leschi Gateway Project			\$51.03
Leschi Natural Area			\$6,345.39
Officer Brenton Fund		(\$176.00)	\$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	\$200.00	(1,400.08)	\$649.92
Whitebear DreamCatcher			\$201.64
Totals	\$8,191.00	(\$9,866.81)	\$43,245.91
Certificate of Deposit	\$0.94		\$11,256.23

Support your community by joining the Leschi Community Council!

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

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

LCC supports the Instrumental Music Program at Leschi Elementary

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

LCC supports the Central (Central Area Senior Center)

LCC produces the Leschi News 10 times a year

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All donations are tax-deductible as we are a non-profit 501(c)(3).

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

\$15 student/low income/ senior membership

I am making an additional donation for LCC work

Mail to:

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LESCHI COMMUNITY COUNCIL MONTHLY MEETING

Dec 1, 2021 7pm
Pacific Time (US and Canada)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83283699619?pwd=Unp6U0ZadFNGMTZzMnVoTjIjMmMlJudz09>

Meeting ID: 832 8369 9619

Passcode: 183992

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1/2 page, \$140. Contact Diane Snell
at 206-726-0923 to advertise to
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leschinews

The next Leschi News deadline is **DECEMBER 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

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CHRISTMAS IS NOT AVAILABLE—PLEASE TRY LATER

By now we're all aware that Christmas may have to be postponed due to all the ships full of containers full of stuff from China which can't get unloaded because all the West Coast ports are full of ships full of containers full of stuff from China. There are even some anchored round the far side of Whidbey Island and at the entrance to Rich Passage—maybe they're on their way to Bremerton with Chinese drones for the US Navy?

Unfortunately, the Ballard Locks aren't big enough, so we won't have them blocking our view of Bellevue. Imagine, if we could imagine, that behind the giant stacks of containers there was pristine wilderness instead of just more high-rises full of more techies.

Whenever I see someone in the street or at an airport (remember going there?) carrying a guitar case, I always wonder what sort of guitar is in it: Fender or Gibson? Fancy or beat-up?

So: Next time you're downtown or on the Bainbridge ferry (remember going there?), look over to Harbor Island and try to imagine what's in all those containers:

Exercise bikes? Patio furniture? Even bigger-screen TV's? Christmas decorations for next year?

Then take a walk along the lake and enjoy the view. There's no screen big enough to beat that—even if Alexa insists (pleasantly but authoritatively):
“Christmas is not available: please try later.”

-Malcolm Harker

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