

leschinews

November 2023 Issue No. 406

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

Meet Tom Fay, the Director of the Seattle Public Libraries. Learn about his background and the versatile system he leads. There are programs for all ages and special programs for those with special needs. What does this impressive system need? And how do we protect it against calls for banning books?

November 1 at 7pm

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

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President's Message

Happy Fall Leschi Dwellers,

Well, as we move forward into chillier and wet weather, it's time to bid a fond farewell to our summer clothes and bring out the jackets. The leaves are very pretty this year, reflecting the gorgeous summer we had.

For those of you who missed the Candidate Forum for City Council District 3 this month, it was well attended. Both candidates; Joy Hollingsworth and Alex Hudson, were articulate, hold similar views on several things and are much more congenial than what one normally sees. As one audience member said, "can't we have both of you." Please go onto leschicommunitycouncil.org to hear the full recording of the meeting and decide for yourself. Regardless of who you choose, choose someone and exercise your voting rights.

Our program on November 1 will be a presentation by Tom Fay. He is the Director of the Seattle Library System and will be sharing all the benefits, programs, and resources our libraries offer.

November brings holiday plans with friends and family to the forefront of our minds. Do you have plans? Do you need someone to assist you? Are you looking for volunteer opportunities? Get involved. Be neighborly and if you know someone who will be all alone, consider including them. Very few people are brave enough to say they need something. One of the beautiful things about Leschi is the community feeling our little village has and how we support our businesses.

Mark your calendars for our Holiday Party this year. We will be meeting in the lower meeting room at the Grace United Methodist Church on 30th Ave. S. Watch our calendar—the first Wednesday of the month, December 6 at 7pm.

As I close this month's message, I cannot continue without encouraging a vision of peace. Whether it be by prayer, thoughts, mantras, meditation or however you commune with life force, please keep the people of Israel and Palestine and the Russian/Ukrainian war in your mind. They are like you and me. They want safety for their families. They want to provide for their families. They breathe the same air we do. They are our human family. Visualize great peace washing over this beautiful planet we call home.

Kind regards,
Janice Merrill Brown
President, Leschi Community Council

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



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LIFE WITHOUT LIBRARIES?

The Director of Seattle Public Libraries, Tom Fay, will visit us November 1st and tell us what the library offers and what obstacles it faces in today's world. This topic made me think of what libraries meant to me growing up and how I came to treasure them.

I did have a rather strange childhood: my father was at war, my mother and I were living with an elderly woman and her daughter who was older than my mother, but childless and what I still see as very strict. My younger sister lived with an older couple that had no children. There were many rules but the one that seemed meaningless to me was the Sunday rule. As it was the Sabbath, one could not play loudly or actively in the yard: no jump rope, no roller skates, no bikes. I was expected to quietly play with my dolls. I was clueless. I only had one doll that someone had given to me despite my never asking for one. I tested (of course) and discovered that books were fine and much more interesting than dolls. I would load up at the school library as I was not familiar with any larger libraries and got through Sundays transported to other worlds with different rules.

Before I had to reread the school library books three times, my world changed. The war ended, the marriage ended as well, the elderly woman who cared for me during the day died, I went to live with my grandparents and gained a sister as she also came to live with these grandparents. My sister had little use for books but even less for dolls. She loved riding her bike and this was to be a big help later on. My mother remarried and we relocated to a suburb of Detroit. The "rules" and the doll did not make the trip to the new home.

I discovered there was a county library 2 miles from our house. My mother let my sister and I ride our bikes to this little house that served as a library for the community. I read everything I could get my hands on, including the series that boys loved. They seemed to have more exciting adventures than the girls' series.

When I had children of my own, trips to the library were common. Each child would pick out books for bedtime reading as well as general enjoyment. Long before Harry Potter, *Where*

the Wild Things Are was a favorite and I had a special fondness for the Lorax. My husband preferred Yertle the Turtle. After we moved to Leschi and were raising a grandchild, I grew to appreciate Douglass-Truth with its reading hour for children and the occasional "special" program. I remember sitting in one aisle in the children's section and spotting a huge tortoise waddling toward us. The Reptile Man had come to visit!

My appreciation of libraries grew during the pandemic when I learned to adjust to a Kindle despite my preference for actual pages to turn; I could always have a book ready so if I finished one at midnight, I just had to open another in my checked out group. My husband who has macular degeneration and his vision worsens gradually each year, enjoys the audible books he can download.

My love affair with books has never ended. The most horrifying book I ever read was Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451*. So it came as a shock to me that people were actually trying to ban books and succeeding in some states. A group calling themselves Moms for Liberty has been harassing PTA leaders and librarians in order to ban the books they don't want their child to read although the word Liberty would suggest a different take altogether. Even Seattle has had to deal with book banners!

This is a problem that Tom Fay will address and hopefully we will learn what steps we can take to turn around this unhealthy trend. I cannot imagine a life without a library. And the librarians are impressive. I remember going into the Pratt library (Baltimore) and asking for a book a friend had recommended. Unfortunately, she did not remember the title or the author. I explained that the story was about the last surviving Indian of his tribe who stumbled into a community half starved. Not having any more details, I added lamely "It's a little green book". The librarian signaled me to wait, and she went to retrieve a little green book about Ishi written by Theodore Kroeber. A terrific read. (*Ishi in Two Worlds*)

-Diane Snell

COMPASS



Hi Neighbors,

Homes in Leschi, Mt Baker, Madrona and Seward Park are in high demand.

Limited inventory has made for some quick sales and a return of Buyer competition.

The good news for Sellers is the market is very strong for quality homes that are priced right.

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

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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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Neighborhood and Beyond

OCTOBER LESCHI MEETING

We used our October community meeting to host a forum with the candidates for representing District 3 on the City Council. The meeting was well attended. Joy Hollingsworth and Alex Hudson graciously took the time to answer questions on how they may address homelessness, public safety, affordable housing, and park maintenance. You can access a video recording of the event on our website, leschicommunitycouncil.org. We encourage you to check it out!

And please don't forget to vote. Ballots can be mailed without a stamp or dropped off at a ballot box. The closest ballot box for Leschi residents is on 2323 E Cherry Street in the parking lot of the Garfield Community Center that borders the Garfield High School grounds. If you mail your ballot, we suggest you put it in the mail by November 6th, one day before election day, to make sure it is actually picked up on or before election day.

-Matthias Linnenkamp

THE GIVING GARLAND

The Giving Garland is geared towards the children, providing families with support during the winter holidays in gift cards and gifts...some items are fun: toys, bikes, art supplies, board games, balls, books and some are basics: clothing, bedding, warm coats or diapers. And every family receives gift cards for easily accessible grocery stores. In 2022 we distributed nearly \$12,000 in gift cards for groceries, clothing, and specific gifts and approximately 700 gifts! Over the last 13 years, the Giving Garland has supported nearly 2,000 children and their families during the winter holidays. It is made possible by the Leschi school and neighborhood communities, sponsored by the Leschi PTA.

HOW CAN YOU HELP THIS YEAR?

Please go to the school website for specific actions you can take to support Leschi Bullpup students and their families: https://leschies.seattleschools.org/school_involvement/fundraising/giving_garland

For more information, contact Katie Busby (206.251.3411, katiebusby@gmail.com), Jennifer Marquardt (206.423.2781, jrmarquardt1@gmail.com) or check the Leschi School website.

LETTER TO PARKS RE: CONCERNS

At the initiation of the Parks and Greenspace Committee, the Leschi Community Council followed up by letter to the Superintendent of Parks and Recreation about the September 6 general meeting that asked questions and heard answers from staff representatives of the Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation. There were concerns about lack of

effective maintenance, understaffing or resource utilization, and lost time in replacing trees that have fallen. Another letter about the replacement of Yesler Pier will be sent later.

This letter was unanimously approved by the Board and sent under the President's signature.

Dear Superintendent Diaz,

On September 6, the Leschi Community Council met with Jordan Merriam, Lisa Ciecko, and Sai Fang of your staff to discuss the maintenance of Leschi Parks and other shoreline parks, the neighborhood natural areas, and the future of Yesler Pier.

We will write to you separately about the replacement of Yesler Pier.

The common thought that streams through the discussion of maintenance for both the landscaped parks and natural areas is the realization that there is a lack of resources to effectively manage these public assets.

Control of weeds in the landscaped parks is especially important to efforts to reduce weeds (invasive plants) in nearby natural areas. The result of not improving management of invasive plants is unsustainable because lack of control of the invasives quickly too often leads to the costly removal of existing landscape plants and replacement with new plants.

We are concerned about the inability to continue maintenance and restoration of natural areas in our community due to the lack of parks staffing/crew times availability as well as the lack of approved Forest Stewards. There are areas that have no designated forest stewards. And we have been told that the natural areas program will not be conducting training for a year and even then our neighborhood does not qualify for any of the open training spots. Parks needs to approve a process of allowing community members to participate in restoration without being trained as a forest steward, so that community efforts can continue to maintain these areas. In a similar vein the policy of not allowing volunteers on steep slopes has contributed to many areas of steep slope restoration going backwards and seeing high levels of invasive regrowth. Without continued parks support, or some other program, all of restoration work that has been accomplished will become meaningless and there will be a need to start over.

The replacement of downed trees is far behind schedule, and the planting program requires better watering during droughts. We want to see larger trees; in fact, please give us giant trees for Leschi Park to continue the Park's tradition of tall trees and a vigorous environment.

We support any proposals to re-allocate department resources and provide in the Mayor's budget that will:

..... upgrade the staffing levels of qualified gardeners, crews, and (properly supervised) maintenance contracts.

..... restore training programs for forest stewards and maintenance staff,
..... proceed with robust tree replacement and watering program.
We look forward to meeting in the future to monitor progress.

Sincerely,
Janice Brown, President, Leschi Community Council

LESCHI MARINA PHASE II REDEVELOPMENT

The plans for the last phase of the marina redevelopment, entitled “Wave Attenuation & Public Access Facility,” have suddenly come to light. The big takeaway from a review of the plans is that the existing 47-foot wide pier, which functions as a community gathering place, is eliminated, and is not replaced by any structure with any capacity for community gathering!

The proposed “public access” consists of a gangway leading to a 16’ wide x 130 long float with a metal grated deck that leads to a series of connected 12-ft wide grated floats all along the east side of the boat basin. These floats function as breakwater, short term moorage for visiting boats, and access to and from the shore for the visiting boats.

This begs the question, public access to what? Public access to the opportunity for a closeup view of the visitors’ yachts and other watercraft? What is the nature of public access now that there would be no pier or deck area that would be a magnet for people to congregate and hang out? Or to hold yoga classes? Who wants to sit on or sunbathe on a metal grate even if it provides enough room to stretch out, which it does not?

This development is located within the Yesler Way right of way. The policy pursued by the Leschi Community Council has historically been to use the street ends at the lake shore for public access to enjoy the shore and the water. What they have accomplished within a half dozen street ends between here and the I-90 bridge is called “The String of Pearls.” That initiative has been very successful. This design clearly represents a missed public access opportunity.

In sum, the proposal provides public access to the boat owning public but essentially no public access for the residents of the Leschi community or for the non-boat owning public at large. Indeed, it actually reduces public access for the community. There is an opportunity for the Parks Dept to do better if the Leschi Community gets together and forces it. That’s because the building permit for the last phase has expired and the Parks Department will need to repeat the public notice and review process in order to reinstate the building permit.

Here’s a simple solution that could be offered up in the public review process: Widen the 16-ft floats at the bottom of the gangway to 30 feet and place them off-center with the 10-ft wide gangway (shifting them to the north) so that the circulation route does not bisect those floats as it does in the present design. The 135-ft long float is designed as a series of 16’x20’ linked floats. Not all of them need to be widened, however. Just the 3 floats at the very end that connect to the breakwater floats. That would provide a 20’x60’ area for

community activity outside the 10-ft wide circulation path. The decking in that area could be spaced plastic lumber planks instead of open grates, which would articulate it as an activity area and provide a more appropriate surface for activity. Fixed benches could be provided there, as well. This would go a long way to restoring the historic community gathering function of the pier without making major changes to the plans.

~Randall Spaan

LESCHI NEWS DISTRIBUTION PROBLEMS

Two of our businesses that normally carry the *Leschi News* each month had some issues recently, mostly affecting the September issue. Grocery Outlet was the biggest one.

New larger cash registers were installed at the checkouts leaving even less room for bagging your groceries. It was determined that written material could no longer be placed on the check stands and it took a while to come up with another convenient spot. A wire rack has been installed between the first and second check stands to carry the publications and sales information. We will try to keep this space filled with newsletters until we run out toward the end of the month and are truly sorry for the inconvenience.

The other problem was at Leschi Market where one reader looked for the *Leschi News* and was told by an employee that they didn’t get that! Actually, there has been a plastic holder for the *Leschi News* at the right when you enter the store; it replaces the one that used to be on the meat counter as the shield that was installed during Covid prevented the use of that space. We asked Yousef to spread the word and hopefully all the employees now know that the *Leschi News* is delivered there each month. Both Leschi Market and Grocery Outlet have been long time advertisers and supporters of our activities. We do try to promote our advertisers and ask our readers to thank them for advertising in the *Leschi News*. They help pay for the printing of the paper with their ads! Please let us know whenever you have any difficulties finding the news. It is also at the Douglass Truth Library in the alcove where the books on hold can be picked up. We also leave the paper at the Madrona library and the laundromat in Madrona .

The easiest way to ensure you get a paper is to subscribe: the form is on the inside back cover of the paper.

~Diane Snell



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STRING OF PEARLS FALL UPDATE

The String of Pearls—Leschi's beautiful shoreline street ends—continue to be well used and well maintained. If you have interest in helping out, please let us know! John Barber is the lead steward at S King Street and S Dearborn St. Karen Daubert leads S Charles. Jed Fowler is our lead on S Norman Street. And Karen helps coordinate S Judkins. Two new Mt. Baker street ends are also being beautifully improved with Kate Winton and John Baldwin taking the lead at S Atlantic and Daniel Collins at S Massachusetts.

Karen Daubert karendaubert@msn.com

J BARBER barber-osa@comcast.net

CENTRAL AREA SENIOR CENTER (CASC) FALL NEWS

Fall is here! We are gearing up for the Holiday Season with Thanksgiving on the horizon. CASC will partner with First African Methodist Episcopal Church (FAME), and the Marvin Thomas Fund to provide grocery totes to four hundred seniors and families for Thanksgiving. We have sought out donations of food from Food Lifeline, Northwest Harvest and Farmer Frog and have ordered food from Safeway/Albertson's to serve seniors, members, and families. We will pick up food and have it delivered to us on November 15 and 16. We need Volunteers to assist with packaging grocery totes for delivery to seniors and families on Friday, November 17 2-8 pm and for delivery on Saturday,

November 18, 12-3pm. Please call us at 206.726.4926 to sign up for volunteering to help package grocery totes and to assist with deliveries.

There will not be a Green Dolphin on Friday, November 17th. The dining hall will be in use for packaging groceries for Thanksgiving deliveries. Feel free to come out and help!

The date for this year's Holiday Gala (HG) will be Saturday, December 2, 5:30-9:30pm and will feature Dee Daniels.

The Holiday Gala will feature Dee Daniels on vocals and keyboard for entertainment. We will serve a Family Style Dinner of excellent quality, delicious and a little outside the scope of what we may normally eat, more upscale with fresh local ingredients. The food will be enjoyable. The atmosphere is upscale and elegant. Our finest tablecloths, seat covers and ribbons wrapped around the chairs featuring magnificent center pieces. We will provide an ambiance of elegance through decorations, candles, and flowers. To make it a successful event we will augment the HG with Six Prize Basket raffles, a 50/50 raffle, a Silent Auction, a Dessert Dash, and portraits by Flyright Photography.

-Dian Ferguson

SOUTH KING COUNTY AFRICAN-AMERICAN NW PIONEERS RECOGNIZED WITH SPECIAL BUS SHELTER PHOTO MURAL

The legacy of John Newington Conna extends from Texas to Alaska, with a lasting impact in what is now the state of Washington, known then as Washington Territory when John arrived with his wife and family. The descendants of Conna gathered to celebrate his life as a African-American Northwest pioneer at a location near the homestead Conna and his wife purchased in what is now the City of Federal Way.

A collaboration between Conna's descendants and King County Metro was unveiled at the bus shelter celebration, which displayed a timeline of John Conna and his family.

Great-granddaughters Maisha Barnett, Karen Jones and Beverly Kelly, and Great-Great granddaughter Ghanya C. Thomas helped unveil the photo display of Conna and his family. The display chronicles Conna's life as well as his family's trek west to a region where many of his descendants still call home.

"We are excited to unveil the Conna Family Photo Mural and are forever grateful to King County Metro for making this a reality," said Barnett. "As first landowners of a 157-acre Homestead in the City of Federal Way, John N. and Mary L. Conna were Northwest Black Pioneers helping to forge a community. With this installation, we acknowledge their extraordinary lives and contributions in the State of Washington and beyond."

"As a descendant of John N. and Mary L. Conna, it was deeply inspiring curating their lives for this mural project. My grandmother Beth P. Wilson didn't talk about her grandfather John Conna, so I really didn't know about him, said Thomas. "On many occasions it felt like their spirit was guiding me."

Real Estate. Real Service.

Today's Real Estate market is challenging and complex. Mary and Fionnuala have the experience to help you successfully navigate the process of buying or selling your home. As professional Realtors with almost 30 years in the PNW real estate industry, we have been through many housing cycles. We take great pride in our personalized boutique service complemented by the power of the Compass brand and its' national network.

Our client base is predominantly referral based
- a reflection of how we conduct business.

COMPASS



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Conna was born into slavery in 1843 in San. Augustine County Texas and left Texas for New Orleans in 1859. Conna received his freedom when he enlisted in the First Louisiana colored infantry regiment when Union soldiers captured New Orleans in 1863.

After the war, Conna worked on getting the education he was denied while a slave. He gained employment as a porter, an engineer, and an insurance agent while simultaneously advocating for the advancement of Black people.

In 1883 John, his wife Mary Louise, and their children traveled west from Kansas City, Missouri via the Northern Pacific Railroad to the Washington Territory, becoming one of the first Black families in the city of Tacoma. Conna was a real estate broker hired by Allen C. Mason, and a landowner of Conna's Addition, Conna's Lake Tracts, and an owner of lots in the Park Boulevard Addition.

He continued his political involvement, served as a leader within various civil rights organizations, and was unanimously appointed sergeant at arms by the inaugural state Legislature in 1889.

The Connas used the Homestead Act to purchase a 157-acre farm in what is now Federal Way. Mary, who gave birth to 14 children, homeschooled her kids and managed the farm which included: a log cabin house, two wells, a chicken house, horses, fruit trees, vegetables, and over two and-a-half miles of road.

Mary Louise Conna passed away in 1907, and is buried in Oakwood Hill Cemetery in Tacoma, WA.

John Conna's adventurous spirit led him to Alaska to be part of the gold rush, where he passed away in 1921.

The bus shelter photo displays were designed by the Conna's descendants, Barnett and Thomas, in collaboration with artist Juan Aguilera. King County Metro reached out to the Conna family in hopes of adding the Conna's story to the Metro's Bus Shelter Mural Program, a program designed to beautify neighborhoods and connect communities to public art.

"We are honored that the Conna Family Legacy Project has brought such a beautiful telling of John and Mary Louise Conna's story to a Metro Bus Shelter," said Metro Project Coordinator Dale Cummings. "Despite the immense challenges that John faced in his life, he rose to become a leader in the post-slavery era, creating a life of hope and inspiration for all of us in our quest for a more equitable world."

For Ghanya Thomas, the photo display is the start of informing the people of this region of the proud legacy of this Northwest Black pioneer family.

"We, The Conna Family Legacy Project did our best to capture the highlights, but honestly, there is so much MORE of their story to tell. Historically the mural offers a fresh look at their journey before they arrived in Tacoma," said Thomas. "At each location you see John's footprint politically and socially, directly confronting racism and discrimination toward the advancement of Black people. His transition from slavery to becoming Washington State's first Black political appointee, and successfully lobbying for the state's first public

accommodations act is truly remarkable. I hope this mural lends itself to more dedicated spaces in honor of John N. and Mary L. Conna; it's long overdue. "

-Maisha Barnett

HIRING HOUSEHOLD HELP

I t felt very strange to hire a housecleaner. I didn't grow up in a family that hired domestic workers, and thought of it as something that rich people did. I also thought that it was my responsibility to keep my house clean, and work full-time, and care for my child. That if my partner and I couldn't do all of that ourselves was a sign of our lack of capability or effort. At the same time, before the pandemic, when we were both working long hours outside of our home, and also shuffling our kid to school, childcare, and a growing list of activities, the cleanliness of our home definitely suffered. We wanted to spend the weekend food shopping and spending family time, not deep cleaning. So we hired a housecleaner who was recommended by a friend. The person that we hired was a Spanish speaker, and my partner and I spoke as much Spanish and she did English, which was not very much on either of our parts, but enough to get by. Having never hired someone before, we followed her lead about how much to pay, what supplies to provide, how often to schedule, and what to expect to be cleaned. We tried to be good clients. We always straightened up before she came, because it seemed obvious that she wouldn't be able to clean if the house was messy, in addition to being dirty. We didn't expect her to do things like wash our dishes, fold our laundry etc, and made sure to do that before she came. I had worked as a Nanny and a home health aide when I was younger, so I knew that sometimes the expectations of the household exceed what I would consider the job, but often it was so informal the duties would seem to endlessly stretch. We thought that we were pretty good employers, respectful and appreciative, but there were so many things about the job that we never considered or discussed. We didn't have a contract, we would sometimes have to cancel and just reschedule and not offer to pay for the day that was missed or think about how that impacted her week. I'm sure, now, that there were other things that we could have done better.

At some point in 2018, I learned about the campaign for the Seattle Domestic Worker Ordinance, from the organization Hand in Hand. Hand in Hand educated employers of domestic workers about being fair employers, and invited us to support worker rights. At that point I signed the Fair Care Pledge and filled out an employer checklist. Through filling out the checklist I learned that there were many things that I hadn't considered about creating a fair work environment in my home for a housecleaner, and the occasional nannies that we hired! I became involved and joined the Seattle Domestic Workers Standards Board, and became a member of Hand in Hand. Through the standards board I met incredible local domestic workers and rights activists at Casa Latina, Working Washington's Nanny Collective, and ALA Garifuna. I learned about the history of anti-blackness, gender oppression, anti-immigrant, and ableism that surrounds and devalues the field of Domestic Work. I learned about the ways in which Domestic Workers

have been excluded from basic labor laws, and also heard firsthand from many workers about the exploitative conditions that they often face, even in liberal Seattle. In many cases these conditions were not deliberate but are a result of a lack of knowledge and resources for employers about the laws and best practices. Things like providing paid time off, overtime, and rest and meal breaks! We often don't think of ourselves as employers when we hire workers in our homes to support us and our families, and don't realize the power and responsibility that come with it.

I now work for Hand in Hand as the Washington Organizer, educating employers, supporting workers' rights, and advocating for fair care policies, like long term support and services through WA Cares. If you employ someone in your home, or you want to learn more about how you can support these issues, contact me at dana@domesticemployer.org. We will all need or provide care in our lifetimes, let's build a world that values it!

~Dana Barnett

WILY COYOTES

It was somewhat disconcerting to walk up the path to the front door of our home last week and see at the top of the steps, where the cat usually waits for us, a young, crouching coyote. Shouts and arm waving sent the juvenile into the nearby green space. Our cat, Mootzie, was inside, alert and happy to see us. It wasn't the first time we had caught sight of the visitor, but the close sightings have been growing increasingly frequent. A few days later the coyote was four feet from the kitchen window. The cat seems to be on high alert though we are not sure if that is enough to give her safe passage to the cat door in the future.

The University of Washington Botanic Gardens Adult Education and the Seattle Urban Carnivore Project produced an informative Zoom session on Seattle coyotes recently. Here are some of the more surprising and important pieces of information that the participants shared:

The first coyote in the King County area appeared in Enumclaw in 1937. Coyotes have been in Seattle since the 1950s. They are thriving and their range has increased across the country because we have removed their predators and they adapt to the landscape.

The population of coyotes in Seattle has remained stable at approximately 70 for a number of decades (but there are few, if any, in West Seattle.) Coyotes live 6 to 8 years in the wild.

Cats make up 1-2% of their total diet. In Seattle, the DNA of 39 cats was found in 504 recent scat samples. (And only one possum.) They will also feast on a beaver if they can catch one.

Coyotes are omnivores and eat berries and grass in addition to rabbits and rodents.

Coyotes here weigh approx.: 20-30 pounds, smaller than their east coast cousins. To many people they appear larger than they actually are.

Nationally, from 1977-2015 there were 367 recorded coyote attacks involving humans. Compare that to 4.7 million dog bites and decide how threatening you think they are.

Coyotes see dogs as a threat which is yet another reason why to keep your dog on a leash. Coyotes will follow you in an aggressive manner in order to escort you away from their den. Urban coyotes are generally bolder than their cousins in the wild.

Coyotes are, for the most part, monogamous. In spring, a litter of 4-7 might be expected though females have been known to give birth to as many as 17 pups. Parents are fiercely protective of their offspring. Most of the young disperse in early winter to find their own territory.

Benefits:

Coyotes are not always unwelcome neighbors. They help clear up carrion and control the population of rats and rabbits. It's illegal to relocate wildlife in Washington without a license. So learn to live with these miracles of nature. A few coexistence tips:

Keep cats indoors. Keep dogs on leash.

Don't scatter bird seeds. That brings rodents which brings coyotes.

Be careful with rat poison which can move up the food chain.

Practice humane hazing. You don't want to habituate the coyotes getting close to people and pets.

Report coyote sightings to carnivorespotter.org.

~Anne Depue

LIFE AND TIMES IN LESCHI: THE LESCHI FERRY DAWN, PART 2

When we left off last month, the redoubtable Lake Washington ferry *Dawn* had mostly sunk at the Leschi dock in a ferocious 1923 storm.



Enter some early Leschi residents. Harry McElhaney Sr, along with his nine-year-old son, Harry Jr, went down to have a look the next morning. Finding a way onboard, they clambered up to the nice wooden sign displaying the ship's name. (See arrow on the photo above.) When they left, the fine old *Dawn* sign left with them. It stayed in the family for what is now 100 years, and counting. The younger Harry's



daughter interviewed her father 70-some years later for an article in the *Leschi News* of May 1996. She now displays the sign by her Leschi window that looks out upon the ferry's long-ago pathway to Mercer Island.

Photos of the boat from before the sinking show the sign atop the boat, but it is definitely missing in subsequent pictures.

The McElhaney family left another lasting mark on the neighborhood. On the 1100 block of 32nd Avenue South is a tall redwood tree planted in 1923 by the senior McElhaney's wife, Kathy.

Missing sign or no, the Dawn was repaired and back in service the following April, continuing the run, without further catastrophe, until October 1938, when it was retired. By that time, according to Captain Gilbert, the boat was "so patched up you can't hardly find any of the original ship left." (It would have been out of work by 1940 anyway, when the opening of the Floating Bridge brought an end to ferry service from Leschi.) It may have been used as a party boat over the next few years. Subsequently, with the engine and boiler removed, it was moored at the Atlantic City Boatyard, not far from Rainier Beach High School.

The ferry remained at Atlantic City, later partially sunken, until September 1946. Authorities considered it a nuisance because children were able to get aboard and could be injured. King County Sheriff's deputies and Harbor Patrol officers refloated the boat and towed it out to deeper water, where it was sunk. Exploration divers report that numerous other scuttled boats are to be found on the lake bottom in that vicinity.

Captain Gilbert, after the Dawn was beached, took over the helm of the ferry Leschi, on the Madison Park-to-Kirkland run, from 1940 to 1950, when service from the Leschi dock ended. (Faithful readers will recall that it's the boat I rode shortly before I was born.) Gilbert was later memorialized with a bronze statue at the old Leschi LakeCafe (now BluWater). He lived across the street from the ferry dock and drank at Benson's Café, which preceded the LakeCafe by many years. He reportedly ate apples to sober up before taking the helm. The Times noted that, like its real-life predecessor, the statue had a hollow leg. Unfortunately, the 350-pound statue, mounted to a concrete base, was stolen from outside BluWater and has not been found since.

This publication would be interested to hear from any readers who have a clue about the statue's later whereabouts. Did it end up in some family's rec room? If so, are they tired of it and would they like to give it back? Or was it perhaps melted down for the cold cash, never to be recovered?

-Roger Lippman

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



VOTE NOV. 7



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Culture Corner

INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND CLIMATE CHANGE

*National Nordic Museum, 2655 NW Market St 98107, ph: 206.789.5707,
Hours: Tues-Sun 10am-5pm; Admission: varies by age, see website;
FREE on first Thursdays*

Finally, museums are offering us exhibitions that directly address climate change. “Arctic Highways” at the National Nordic Museum, until November 26, features twelve Indigenous artists from the circumpolar North (Sápmi, Canada, and Alaska) who address “the silent and the silenced knowledge” of their Sámi culture. The Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI), until March 3, 2024 , features an interactive exhibition “Roots of Wisdom: Native Knowledge, Shared Science” developed by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry. Entirely interactive, it reaches out specifically to ages 12 – 14, but anyone can enjoy it.

“Arctic Highways” emphasizes common themes and shared concerns among Nordic cultures, beyond the artificial borders of nations. It began as an artist residency in Granö, Sweden and has now grown into a traveling exhibition and a book. The artists boldly experiment with a wide range of media, from traditional crafts to video art.

The idea of “arctic highways” creates connections between cultures: “Highways that are cultural and spiritual, real and thriving – but as invisible as the system of national borders that have imposed their rigidity and weight upon us, pitilessly trying to nullify the free flow of ideas and identity connecting our souls.” (museum label)

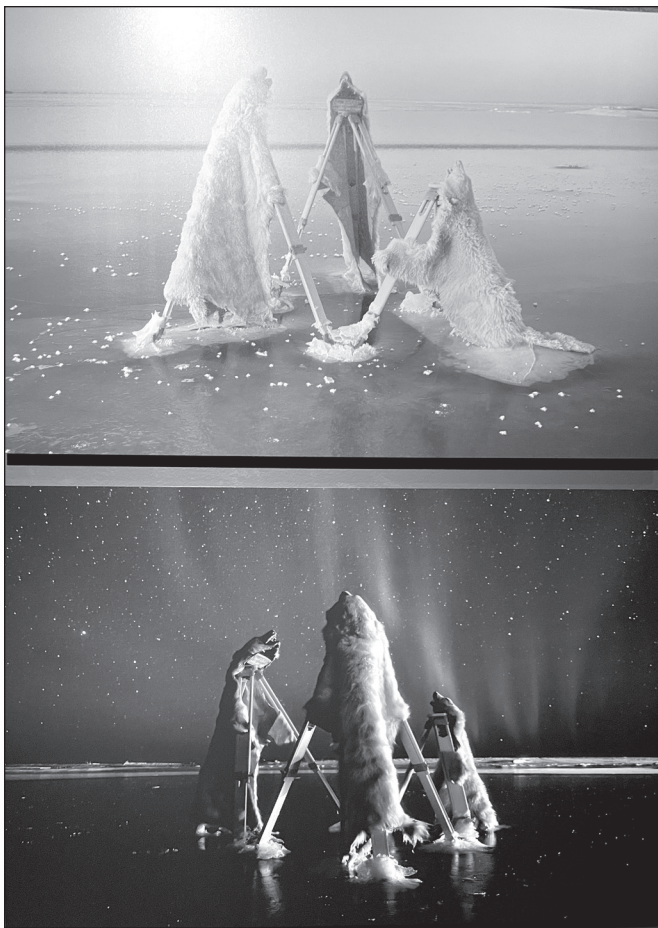
Several of the artists are from traditional reindeer herding families. They are acutely aware of the changes caused by warming weather, as well as alternative sources of energy filling open space. Wind turbines severely disrupt the grazing land of reindeer and melting snow alters migration and herding rhythms.

Maureen Gruber’s striking photograph of three polar bear skins hanging on an abandoned survey tripod, looks like polar bears are climbing the tripods, then it becomes frighteningly clear that they are only skins.

Perhaps the most dramatic photograph in the exhibition is Meryl McMaster’s *What Will I Say to the Sky and the Earth II*, 2019 (in the series “As Immense as the Sky”): the artist stands against an Arctic landscape, wearing a protective coat with insects embedded. She states “Among the coastal ice flows of Lake Erie, I am covered by various insect species—members of a poorly understood and very important class of lifeforms.



*“Arctic Highways” by Meryl McMaster (b. 1988)
What Will I Say to the Sky and the Earth II, 2019 (in the series “As immense as the Sky”)
Print on aluminum*



Maureen Gruben (b. 1963), *Aidainnaquanni, Aurora*, 2020
Print on aluminum

There are millions of insect species that are unknown to us but play an important role in maintaining ecological equilibrium. To me they represent the fragile, harmonious balance that we are a part of and that we must take care to protect. Their silence is a warning that we are falling into a disharmonious condition.”

Works by Sonya Kelliher-Combs and Tomas Colbengston address the subject of Church boarding schools in Alaska and Sweden that stripped children of their Indigenous Sámi culture. Kelliher-Combs’s *Credible, Small Secrets*, consists of 35 finger sized sculptures referencing abuse with human hair, nylon thread, glass beads, and steel pins. Each one refers to a village with credible reports of abuse. Colbengston’s painting is based on a photograph of a boarding school with the children lined up in front.

These artists of the polar North witness change every day, as ice melts, temperatures rise, and animals and humans must change centuries old habits. The show is poignant, but also triumphant because the artists are both witnessing and resisting change.

MOHAI, 860 Terry Ave N 98109, ph: 206.324.1126
Hours: Tues-Sun 10am–5pm; Admission varies by age see website;
FREE First Thursdays 5–8pm

Down on Lake Union at MOHAI “Roots of Wisdom: Native Knowledge, Shared Science” features interactive displays, created in consultation with contemporary tribal members. Each display highlights a different theme



“Roots of Wisdom: Native Knowledge, Shared Science”
Building a Healthy River courtesy of the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry.

and tribe: “Reestablishing a Native Plant” (Eastern Band of Cherokee), “Restoring Fishponds,” (Hawaii), “Rediscovering Traditional Foods,” (Tulalip) and “Saving Streams and Wildlife” (Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation). We can learn how to build a fishpond in Hawaii and or help preserve an ancient fish. The Lamprey, less glamorous than salmon, also suffer from the dams on the Columbia River. We can restore a river or learn why cane is better than grass near a river. We can weave a basket as we listen to traditional elders speak about caring for the land.

The MOHAI exhibit makes each pairing of contemporary science and indigenous knowledge easy to remember. Most striking perhaps was the section on “biopiracy” in which the question of patenting seeds is raised, a big issue in today’s world. “Native Origins” suggests all the everyday products we use, like popcorn, that originally were created by Indigenous peoples.

We are fortunate to have both of these shows featuring Indigenous creative ideas that suggest a few ways to survive on the planet.

Another interesting exhibit:

M Rosetta Hunter Gallery at Seattle Community College, 1701 Broadway (inside the building)
Hours: Mon-Thur 10am–3pm

This Fall at the M. Rosetta Hunter Gallery at Seattle Central College, the exhibition “Lush Computation” explores digital and algorithmic aesthetics. September 26–November 16, 2023. Curated by the exciting artist and director of the gallery, Meghan Trainor, “Lush Computation” explores the idea of resisting AI as these artists manipulate digital aesthetics, rather than using AI generated ideas.

~Susan Platt, PhD
www.artandpoliticsnow.com



VOTE NOV. 7



Seeking Sustenance...

THANKFUL FOR WINE

The holiday season is upon us once again. Thanksgiving is a week filled with sights, scents, and memories that take us back in time. Grandma's traditional stuffing and sweet candied yams, your Auntie's addictive pistachio-marshmallow salad, and wondering which family member will be caught tearing a piece of crispy buttery skin off the turkey before dinner. New dishes infiltrate the tradition like warm Brie with herbed cranberry sauce and cheesy shredded potatoes. Getting hungry yet?

It is truly a meal focused on everyone's favorite flavors while at the same time having little focus at all. Huh? From a culinary standpoint, T-Day dishes run the gamut of palate emotions, usually all at the same time: sweet, salty, rich, creamy, light, heavy, briny, herby, tangy and so on. The most common question I get this time of year: "How could I possibly pair wine with everything that's going on?"

The easy answer would be: "Well, you can't." But that just wouldn't be accurate (or fun) at all! In fact, certain wines pair perfectly with a Thanksgiving feast. Whether you are playing host or a visiting guest, here are a couple of tips to keep in mind.

First and foremost, I recommend that you drink what you and your guests like. If you prefer Old World style of wines, let's find a French that will work. Only satiated by balanced Washington reds or crisp Italian whites? No problem. When pairing reds or whites to specific foods, you will want to remember to try to match acidic foods with acidic wines, creamier and richer foods with weightier and richer wines.

Following are ten newer wines to the Market that are worthy of a place at the table. Leschi Market will be well staffed this holiday season to help you with any needs and suggestions. Have a wonderful holiday! Cheers! Enjoy!

Champagne

Louis Nicaise Brut Reserve Champagne NV \$44.99

A nose that has a lot of complexity with aromas of white fruits, citrus, dried fruit, white flowers, brioche and honey Flowers ventilation. Rich material recorded by a fine and refreshing bubble offers a well-balanced wine. —*Distributor notes*



White Wine

2021 Marmicas Verdejo Rueda \$13.99

100% Verdejo. Fresh, crisp and slightly herbaceous. Perfect pairing for appetizers, fish and sea food, as well as light pasta dishes and rice. —*Distributor notes*

2022 Ercole Bianco Monferrato 1L \$14.99

90% Cortese, 8% Chardonnay, 2% Sauvignon Blanc. Boasts serious yet pleasing weight, pronounced minerality, and beautiful acidity. We have discovered that adding a touch of Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc further sharpens and thereby elevates the wine. —*Importer notes*

2022 Moscone Roero Arneis \$16.99

Notes of white flowers and chamomile, with hints of pear, honey, and almond. Fresh, mineral, sapid and harmonious, with a herbaceous reminiscence and a pleasantly dry and almond finish. Particularly good with the sweet note of shellfish and seafood risottos of soups and vegetable creams. —*Importer notes*



...in the Wilds of Seattle

Red Wine

2021 Marmicas Tempranillo Ribera del Duero \$13.99

Tempranillo. Violet and dark berries aromas; fresh and well structured; clean and vibrant on the finish. Perfect for legumes and red meats, and a great match with cheeses and charcuterie. —*Distributor notes*

2018 Domaine de Couron Saint-Andeol Cotes du Rhone Villages \$13.99

Grenache, Syrah and Mourvedre. Violet with a cupboard of spices on the bouquet. With some leather, garrigue and dark fruit, caressed by silky spice. Medium-bodied, with acidity restraining the dark fruit, spicy finish. —*Importer notes*

2016 Chateau de Birot Cotes de Bordeaux Cadillac \$18.99

Terrific wine from a historic producer and excellent vintage. 76% Merlot, 18% Cabernet Sauvignon and 6% Cabernet Franc grown on clay and limestone. Showing the power of the vintage and a dense texture, the black fruits should develop into a powerful wine. —*Importer notes*

2019 Cossetti Cinquantotto Barbaresco \$23.99

A long ageing refined wine with a garnet red color and orangish highlights that intensify over time. Characteristic, ethereal and intense aroma. Ample, robust flavor, yet smooth and harmonic. Excellent with entrees focusing on sauces of red meats, lamb, and mushrooms. —*Importer notes*

2022 Evesham Wood Pinot Noir Willamette Valley \$25.99

A bright nose with cherry, red apple, fresh flowers, and a touch of loam along with a textural creamy/silkiness component that's balanced by juicy acid. —*Winemaker notes*

2018 Chateau Laffitte-Carcassat Saint Estephe \$25.99

This mid-weight Saint-Estèphe impresses with its nuance and delineation. Bright red fruit, iron, menthol, anise, cedar and rose petal lend uncommon complexity, while fine grained tannins give the wine proportion and drive. This polished, under the radar gem is a real delight. —*Vinous, 92 points*

—*Kenneth Benner*

Kenneth Benner, a Seattle area native, is a trained chef and has worked in such restaurants as Barbacoa, B.O.K.A. Kitchen + Bar, and Dablia Lounge. Ken is the wine buyer at Leschi Market. He has a passion for learning, a meticulous palate, and a tenacity for searching out the best for his customers while offering some of the most highly coveted wines in the area. His monthly column is intended to inspire and explore new choices

in wine, learn about wine with his readers, and share his knowledge and experience in the wine world. Check out the latest at www.LeschiMart.com or to request to be added to email updates at wine@leschimarket.com.



AND WHERE TO EAT?

Karen Daubert sends us a review of a new bakery with many delicious coffee drinks and soups (one veggie, one meat each day) and sandwiches on croissants!

The Dream Bakery
1368 31st Ave S 98144
206.325.3347 Open 7am-4pm

The Dream Café opened on 31st and S Day Street (next to Heyday Restaurant) in September and it serves delicious food! Owner Alex has a new menu that includes fresh daily pastries, sandwiches, soups and excellent coffee drinks. He makes all the food, including weekly specials that always include a rotating quiche and burrito special. I especially like their scones and my husband enjoys their egg and bacon breakfast sandwich served on a croissant. We both recommend this new neighborhood gem—and it makes for a great end to your walk through the neighborhood!

VENDEMMIA: an old favorite revisited
1122 34th Ave. 98122 206.466.2533
Dinners from 5-10pm

It had been several years since we enjoyed Madrona's Italian restaurant—Vendemmia—and we thoroughly enjoyed our return! We were able to get last minute reservations and were thrilled to know that all pasta is still handmade fresh each day. We savored our two salads—beet and gem—as well as homemade focaccia. Then the three of us feasted on three different kinds of pasta and could have easily shared two (but enjoyed leftovers the next day). Then we celebrated with blackberry sorbet for dessert. Vendemmia makes for a perfect destination as the nights get longer and a cozy neighborhood restaurant is so close.

LESCHI COMMUNITY COUNCIL

LESCHI CC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 10/10/23

Attending: Janice Brown, Diane Snell, Ashley Martin, Yun Pitre, John Barber, Matthias Linnenkamp, Trevor Lalish-Menagh

Leschi News

- Submittal date – October 16th

Board business

- Committee Update
 - Public Safety
 - Plans to attend East Precinct Advisory Committee meeting this month.
 - Open Space and Parks
 - The committee drafted a letter to the Parks Superintendent Diaz asking the Parks department to do basic maintenance work.
 - Vote: 7 in support and 0 oppose to submit the letter
 - Committee plans to draft a separate letter regarding Yesler Pier
 - Artwalk
 - Wrap up meeting scheduled and will summarize at next month's meeting.

- November General Meeting
 - Director of Seattle Public Libraries confirmed for November 1st LCC general meeting.
- December holiday meeting
 - December 6th
 - Similar to last year, it will be a potluck.
 - May discuss 2024 meeting topics.
- Ashley will reach out to LCC general meeting attendees who are interested in connecting with the LCC council.
- October 29th Memorial for Office Brenton
 - Chief Diaz and East Precinct Captain will be at the event.
 - Meet at the site on Yesler and 29th (NW corner) at 3pm

Respectfully submitted by Yun Pitre



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	Income	Expenses	Balance 9/30/23
General Fund			
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Dues	\$1,683.60		
Donations	\$2,134.78		
Reimbursement		(\$82.04)	
Insurance			
Printing and postage		(\$6,767.09)	
Other Expenses		(\$1,796.15)	
Totals	\$8,384.38	(\$8,645.28)	\$17,189.75
Restricted Funds			
ArtWalk	\$874.55	(\$2,988.25)	\$1,039.34
Cherry Street Corridor			\$635.76
Flo Ware Park			\$686.53
Friends of Powell Barnett			\$1,068.06
Friends of Street Ends	\$1,244.53	(\$689.11)	\$5,110.29
Frink Park			\$1,979.43
King Street			\$1,270.00
Leschi Gateway Project			\$51.03
Leschi Natural Area			\$6,345.39
Officer Brenton Fund		(\$284.58)	\$2,827.27
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	\$10,503.46	(\$13,840.30)	\$45,455.92
Certificate of Deposit	\$.85		\$11,258.40

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Leschi News advertising rates:
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leschinews

The next Leschi News deadline is **DECEMBER 18**. 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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NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- » **November 1, 7pm**
General meeting with Tom Fray, Director of Seattle Public Libraries at Grace United Methodist Church, 722 30th Ave S in lower hall
- » **November 5**
End of Daylight Savings; turn clock back on hour
- » **November 7**
VOTE!
- » **November 7, 6pm**
LCC Board meeting by Zoom
- » **November 11**
Veterans Day

- » **November 12**
Diwali The Festival of Lights
- » **November 23**
Thanksgiving

COMING IN DECEMBER:

- » **December 6, 7pm**
Leschi CC Holiday Party at Grace United Methodist Church, 722 30th Ave S in lower hall. Bring goody to share!
- » **December 9, 10am**
Work party at Massachusetts street end.

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