

leschinews

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

STARS SHINING OVER LESCHI!

Wednesday, June 1 at 7pm

Please join us at our June meeting!
We are honoring residents who have made a difference! We have suspended this event for the two years of pandemic shutdown and it feels good to reinstate this recognition event. There are so many doing so much!

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President's Message

Hello Fellow Leschi Dwellers,

Wow, as I write this, the day is more April like than mid-May. I decided to embrace rainy days knowing they bring us the green in our state.

Summer is upon us and it's very apparent everyone is ready and eager get together. Be vigilant and smart—if you are feeling uneasy, don a mask. As you know, the Leschi Newsletter goes on its summer break, but the LCC has provided a calendar of events throughout the summer.



Importantly, we will list the information for the public forum on the redistricting discussion for District 3. This will appear on the website. We encourage everyone who wants a say in the redistricting, to participate.

At this month's meeting on Wednesday, June 1, we will present the Leschi Star Awards. We have had a 2-year hiatus as no permits were being sold due to Covid, and now we are excited to present individuals or groups who made a huge difference to our community.

Saturday, September 10, the Leschi Art Walk returns. This year I am the coordinator. Our next meeting will be on June 23rd at 3pm, at BluWater. We are a small committee looking for more helping hands. We have exciting programs planned with more being added weekly.

My wish for you is a wonderful summer filled with friends, family, lots of laughter and kindness.

Warm 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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Please share with a friend.



WE NEED TO PRESERVE OUR LEGACY PARKS

"The beauty of the park should be the other. It should be the beauty of the fields, the meadow, the prairie, of the green pastures, and the still waters. What we want to gain is tranquility and rest to the mind." –Frederick Law Olmsted

On April 26, The New York Times had a special insert which commemorated the 200th birthday of Frederick Law Olmsted. Olmsted is considered the father of landscape architecture. His thoughtful quotes demonstrate his philosophy of the park as a place to shed the tensions of the city. He believed that parks need to be free to all so cost would not be a barrier to enjoying a respite from all the busyness of the urban centers, foreseeing what would transpire as there is no comparison with the frantic activity of today's urban centers.

Although New York's Central Park is considered his crowning achievement, there are others worth mentioning. An article in a recent New Yorker magazine mentions that today's landscape architects are not as focused so much on Olmsted as they are on current issues like climate change, disaster recovery and urbanization. The author mentions the seven mile long Emerald Necklace created by Olmsted in 1880's Boston in an area prone to flooding. He designed a layered system that absorbed water in addition to serving as wildlife habitats. (*The Future of Public Parks* by Alexandra Lange)

Given the competing needs for more open land, we are fortunate to have Olmsted parks near us and we need to preserve them. In John Barber's 2022 assessment of our parks and greenspaces, he mentions the waterfall area in Frink Park: "Repair the Frink Park waterfall and deck. The waterfall has broken down and no longer responds to the original function of this historically important feature of the park boulevard system envisioned by the Olmsted Brothers. John Charles Olmsted designed the waterfall, and the Parks Department followed through almost a hundred years ago with building it by hand labor. The pedestrian deck over the waterfall was installed in 2001 as part of the half-mile trail system provided at community-incentive to encourage equity in enjoyment of the natural area. A large Neighborhood Development Grant was utilized. Trail safety is an element of need for this repair."

Initial responses from Parks mentioned a lack of money and complaints that too much has already spent on Frink Park. But this is a historic park! Maintaining our legacy parks should be a priority. In August 2014, Seattle voted on making our Parks department a Park District. It was a contentious time

before the vote with much shouting and some fisticuffs as pro and con voters "argued" the merits of this vote. Many of us here in Leschi were opposed, not because of the promise of more money, but due some of the language in the charter: oversight was one issue. I tried to follow the website on What is a Park district, but the site is "under construction". Little work was done during the pandemic and the staff is apparently down by some 80 positions. Is this what the pro voters envisioned?

One problem that the City Council could rectify is that Parks is having to pay for the clean-up of the homeless encampments that are being swept from the parks. The Council could replace the funds used for clean-up so that parks could do Parks work! It is hardly the fault of Parks that the city does not have enough low-income housing and shelter beds. That is a deeper structural problem of capitalist societies and one we chose to ignore as we put band aids on the problem.

-Diane Snell

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Neighborhood and Beyond

LCC MEETINGS FOR 2022/2023

Please note that these are not all decided; we have some open meetings and appreciate resident input. What would you like to see? Do you want a Master Gardener in April talking about native plants or the worst garden pests? Send your ideas to LeschiNews@comcast.net. Remember that all our public meetings start at 7pm. We will be looking for a place to meet in public. Stay tuned!

September 7: Art critic Susan Platt interviews artists participating in the ArtWalk

October 5: Candidate forum prior to election

November 2: Emergency Preparedness; speaker to be decided

December 7: Holiday party

January 2023: No meeting unless neighborhood crisis

February 1, 2023: Lawrence Pitre displays his art of the Central District

March 1, 2023:

April 5, 2023:

May 3, 2023:

June 7, 2023: Update from a legislative representative

July/August 2023: no general meetings

LESCHI BYLAWS

A group of Board members along with Leschi resident Gwen Rench has been meeting for many Saturdays to update our bylaws and merge them into our Constitution as seems to be required by the new Washington State regulations. We should have these ready to vote on in the fall. We will print them in the September issue and when we have time to discuss the changes, we will schedule a time to vote on them, and vote to adopt the updated version.

-Diane Snell

ART WALK

THE 2022 ARTWALK IS PLANNED FOR SEPTEMBER 10, 11AM-4PM

Our Art Walk is coming together. This month, Yousef Shulman and Janice Brown measured the space for booths. We have 34 booths and a couple of areas where we can expand if needed. We are increasing our canopies, if available. Past participants have been contacted and we hope to see many returnees!

The Washington Diamond Drill team will return to give a rousing opening to the event. They stop traffic with their glittery costumes and professional maneuvers. On the stage in Leschi Park, our favorite Brazilian jazz band will entertain us. Children's activities in the park are planned.

If you have creative ideas, get involved! The next meeting is June 23 at 3pm at BluWater Bistro.

-Janice Brown

LESCHI SCHOOL UPDATE

A big thank you from our school community to the Garfield Golden Grads, who are continuing to raise funds to support our families and staff. Although the spring concert has been postponed once again due to covid and venue uncertainties, we hope to bring this tradition back next year. In the meantime, the generous Golden Grad network has donated more than \$6500 to date to support our PTA's work for Leschi families.

Though this spring has not yet marked a return to 'normal,' we have enjoyed a number of events this spring, and the kids are finally getting out again for field trips. Following our Jog-a-Thon and revival of the Taste of Leschi in late May, we will be celebrating 5th grade promotion on June 16, and the annual Field Day organized by our PE teacher Mr. Moriarty will return on June 10.

Finally, our celebrations will continue, but they will be tinged with sadness as we are at the end of an era. Our very own Gerald Donaldson, aka Rocky, but known to most simply as Mr. D, is retiring this month after 30 years of service to the Leschi community as our family support worker. We are very happy that Mr. D is finally taking his well-deserved retirement (nearly as happy as his wife), though words cannot begin to describe what our school will be losing: an invaluable support to vulnerable families; a faculty leader at Leschi and throughout Seattle Public Schools; an advocate for equity and justice for students and educators; a trusted mentor and colleague; a joyful and calming presence for all of our students every day they are in school. We know he is not going far, and Mr. D will always be part of our Leschi family, but we will miss him dearly.

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

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

-Benson Wilder

CENTRAL AREA SENIOR CENTER UPDATE

A note from the Director... Whew so much has been going on at CASC. June and the summer months are shaping up to be full of programs and activities. On Sunday, June 5th CASC will be one of four sites throughout WA State launching a Statewide Community Gathering, focused on the Draft Report on Black Well-Being, Moving Toward Solutions Together in WA State. This Gathering will be streaming live with some pre-recorded panel discussions at the CASC, 2:30pm–5pm. The other three sites include Yakima, Spokane and Tacoma. We would love to have you come and be a part of the Live Stream.

CASC will be closed on Monday, June 6. It will be opened on Monday, June 20 to offer a day of Juneteenth Celebrations from 10am–3pm. The Sliders and Seniors Dancing and Grooving 2 Health will be performing. We will show Memory Lane a short film produced at CASC in 2016 and the most recent performance of the members at Boeing Museum and Flight during the KCVSHS Levy Summit held in May 2022.

Central will host a Free COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic on Tuesday, June 7th, 9am–3pm at FAME Church. Vaccines and boosters are free, no insurance is required. Children and teens, ages 5–17 can get Pfizer ONLY. Adults, age 18 and older, can get Pfizer and Moderna along with Johnson and Johnson upon request. Everyone is welcome, regardless of immigration status. Call 206.726.4926 to make an appointment.

Participate in SHARP: Sharing History through Active Reminiscence and Photo-Imagery will Kick-off and launch Seattle's Central District: Walk and Remember project on Wednesday, June 22, 3:30–5pm at CASC. Come meet the team and the sponsors. Get your questions answered and enjoy the Sliders perform.

The Seafair Patio Party Committee has been hard at work to make this year's Annual Event wonderful! Save the date, Sunday, August 7, 11am–5pm for Hydro Races, the Blue Angels and the Triple Treat Band. Everyone is welcome to this Annual Event. The Triple Treat Band with their dynamic female vocalists and powerful funky sound will provide the music. There will be Face Painting for children and adults of wild animals, princesses, pirates and action heroes. The food will be scrumptious. A no host bar with liquor, wine, beer, soda and water will be available. Ticket prices are \$30 Lifetime Members, \$35 Annual Members and \$40 Non-Members, Children 12 and under \$1 per year of age, Youth/Young Adults, 13–18, \$20 and Reserved Tables of 8, \$350. Reserved tables are for prepaid tables of 8 only and include a script for a complimentary drink of choice. The day will be electrifying with a 50/50 Raffle, and prize Raffles! Tickets are available online at www.casrcenter.org, and at 500 30th Ave. South, Seattle, WA 98144 or by calling 206.726.4926. Outdoor viewing is available, Friday, August 5, 11am–5pm, for \$5 Adults, Children 12 and under free. A no host bar will be available for beverages and an Ezell's snack pack for \$8.

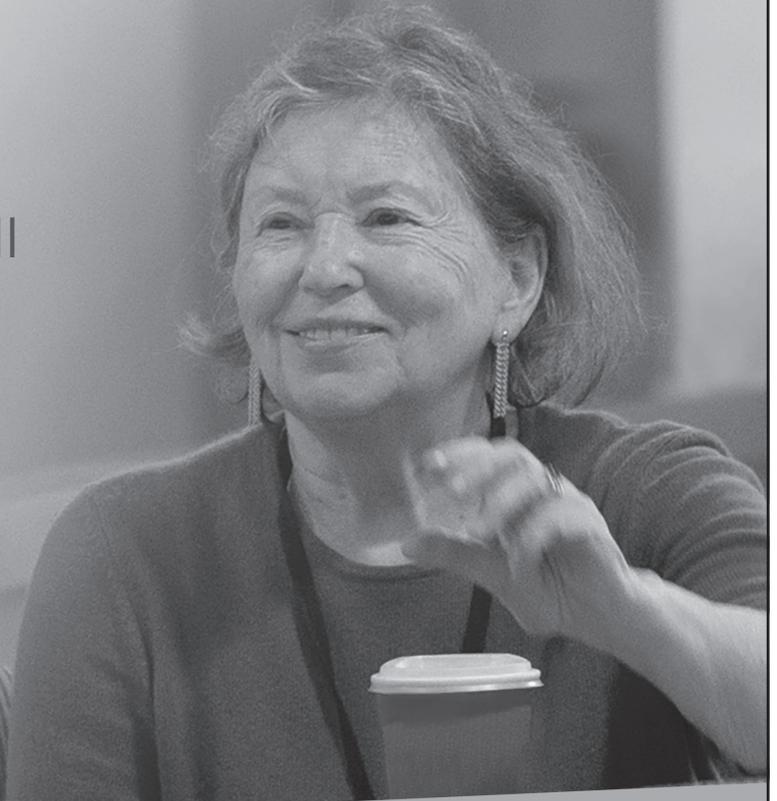
-Dian Ferguson



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A VILLAGE VISIT

Several years ago (pre-Covid), I wrote about my visit to a local tiny house village. Given the negative feelings that I hear today, I thought maybe it was time to repeat this experience. No one considers these tiny houses a “permanent” solution, but the tiny houses are quick to put up (unlike multi-story buildings) and they are much safer than camping in a tent or under a tarp. The doors lock on the tiny houses, protecting your few possessions. Each house is heated and has lights. There is access to showers and a kitchen area. And there is a consistent staff to help prepare for the next step: permanent housing. The average stay in village is about three months according to the Low Income Housing Institute.

A neighbor and I decided to visit a nearby village, and I called ahead to ShareWheel to see what was convenient. I was told that we should just show up and anyone there could give us a tour. We found a gatekeeper when we arrived and when we explained our purpose, we were welcomed in and introduced to two young women who agreed to show us around. These two had been roommates who lost their apartment when loss of a job reduced their income. They had not been able to stay at a shelter as they had adopted a kitten they found crying near a dumpster.

Tiny House Villages tend to be small; the one we visited had less than 20 little houses. We met the man in charge of supervising the building of the houses and he was there to make some minor repairs. He is retired and donates his time to this project; he visits each village on a regular basis to take care of problems. I was impressed with his commitment. Each

house was painted but not garishly. Some had window boxes; others had potted plants by their door. Each resident had their own key; a locked house is certainly a step above a tent. The residents I met were positive and grateful to be there except for one teenager who didn't want her school friends to know she was living there. She would walk a few blocks away to catch the bus to school. (I did not meet her; this was hearsay from residents and her mother who was delighted to announce the two of them had managed to get an apt. and would be moving within the week.)

Our guides explained that the village had a weekly meeting on Monday nights to handle any issues; one of the Share Wheel folks would be there (the same person who was assigned to their village.) The rules had been developed by the residents; there was a curfew as they take turns volunteering to be the “gatekeeper” and no one wanted to be up all night.

They take turns in doing the volunteer jobs, one being keeping the litter picked up OUTSIDE the village in the surrounding neighborhood. (At another neighborhood meeting, I heard permanent residents expressing gratitude for this task.) There is a system to sign up for the shower and the responsibility of cleaning up after oneself for the next person. (Better managed than my daughter's dorm bathrooms at Reed College.)

Anyone can cook; some folks cook their own meals and others cook together. Mealtimes vary as more than a third of the residents were working. There was a separate small building for donations; we had brought some warm hats and gloves which were taken to this building and our donation of food was taken to the village kitchen which was neatly organized and the picnic tables clean. We saw no litter anywhere in the village.

The reason I support the Tiny House villages is that it's much quicker than building permanent houses and there is help from Share Wheel in securing an apartment. The average stay is about 3 months. It can be a 3 year wait for a building to be built and occupied. That's a long time to spend in a tent with the annoying sweeps that have increased under our current mayor. I spoke mostly to women and as a woman, I would much rather be in a tiny house with a locked door than in a tent.

I think the small size is what make the village more successful. The large buildings with no resident manager tend to have more problems with no place to get them resolved. I was still working and visiting Home Health patients in large city owned buildings when they decided to do away with resident managers to save money. The complaints were many and for the older population, there were safety concerns. When someone fell at night, it would be up to their neighbor to hear the thump and call 911 instead of notifying the resident manager. Very bad move for the city.

As a social worker in a large city back east, I saw the same scenario. The smaller buildings on a grassy lot where the buildings were arranged with some space around them, had fewer problems than the multi-story buildings surrounded by concrete. One of the more successful projects had 3 story buildings situated in a U-shape around a large grassy area. Residents would wave at each other and when I visited, some would call out greetings from their windows. I think both the residents and I felt safer in this setting than in a multi-story building with a smelly elevator and long dim hallways.

-Diane Snell



A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME

A concerned resident recently wrote into Nextdoor.com asking what the large UFO-like wing was atop Lake Washington. The answer, as many local bird lovers noted, was a raft of coots, the plump, black birds that float together for safety and perhaps to share neighborhood gossip. Coots are not ducks as they do not have webbed feet. They have Fillipalmate feet, meaning their toes are lobed, a feature which helps them swim as well as move over matted floating vegetation. The lobes also help the birds in hot temperatures by allowing excess body heat to dissipate. They can live up to 20 years in the wild.

But if it is a “raft” or “cover” or “commotion” of coots, what are other local animal groupings called?

Try out your knowledge and best guesses with some generally agreed upon nomenclature (and, yes, some exotic creatures have been thrown in as well.)

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Bees | a. Army |
| 2. Owls | b. Bale |
| 3. Crows | c. Cast |
| 4. Cats | d. Clowder/Glaring |
| 5. Frogs | e. Convocation |
| 6. Otters | f. Crash |
| 7. Buffalo | g. Family |
| 8. Jaguars | h. Gang/Obstinacy |
| 9. Rhinos | i. Glittering |
| 10. Eagles | j. Labor |
| 11. Turtles | k. Murder |
| 12. Hawks/falcons | l. Pandemonium |
| 13. Moles | m. Parliament |
| 14. Hummingbirds | n. Shadow |
| 15. Parrots | o. Swarm |

TRAVELER'S CHECKS

Those of us who spent most of our lives in a previous century and some of it travelling in foreign parts, may remember Traveler's Checks - Fake Money! - which could be converted into real money by standing in line at a bank, showing them your passport, signing the Check and accepting whatever exchange rate the bank decided was appropriate.

Nowadays, all we have to do is tell our bank where we're going, then get cash from an ATM, Cash Point or whatever they call a hole in the wall with money in it wherever we're going. Better yet, we can charge everything to a Credit Card and defer the evil day when we find out how much more we spent than we'd planned to spend.

Thanks to COVID, Traveler's Checks have reappeared. My upcoming and long-delayed European trip includes multiple countries—each with their own COVID checks. Changing planes in Iceland is easy: no checks—just a mandatory sauna and birch branch beating. If I was going to the UK, there would be no checks there either—so my British friends suggested I shouldn't come to see them until there are checks and rules again—whatever happened to Rule Britannia?

The French tell me I've completed their form correctly, so I should be OK when I arrive in Paris—unless newly re-elected President Macron decides to make things more difficult for foreigners to placate the 40% of French voters who said that's what they want.

Flying from France to Madrid, Spain involves another form—but getting into the Hispanic world is always easier than the other way round. Crossing the border into Portugal by land seems to be simple—but maybe that's because I don't know that I'm supposed to have filled in yet another form?

The most complicated bit is getting back to the good old USA. I have to have a negative lab test within 24 hours of arrival. Since my return routing takes most of this allotted time, I'll just have to hope that on one of my flights there's a lab tech. with all the test equipment, so I can be tested in mid-air.

"In the event of an emergency, a COVID test kit will fall from the panel above your seat. Please take your own test first before assisting others."

Enjoy your flight!

-Malcolm Harker

LIFE AND TIMES IN LESCHI

Last month I discussed Native settlements around Lake Washington, and I mentioned the tribal lawsuit against the government for its uncompensated seizure of land and destruction of longhouses. To continue:

The lawsuit itself was filed in 1927 in the U.S. Court of Claims. It makes for interesting though complex reading. (It can be found by searching for the case number, 79 CT.CL 530.) Joined by 18 other tribes, the Duwamish plaintiffs sued the US government for over \$69 million, alleging that lands had been confiscated from them before the signing of treaties in the 1850s. The suit further charged that longhouses had been destroyed without compensation; lands promised in the treaties were not provided; other promised funds were not given; and various other offenses. The government, in turn, countersued for up to the same amount.

In its 1934 decision, the court ruled, on many of the claims, that oral testimony about historical tribal territory did not meet judicial rules of evidence. The Indian plaintiffs were awarded a pittance, \$250 per longhouse destroyed, offset by the government's counterclaim that tribes had been overpaid in the 1800s on certain federal obligations. Thus the courts upheld the adage that "The White Man made us many promises, but he never kept but one: he promised to take our land, and he took it."

While I have not found evidence that a longhouse or other year-round structure existed in our neighborhood before white colonization, such buildings were an important part of Native life in the region and at numerous locations around Lake Washington. They are described in some detail in the books of T.T. Waterman, the anthropologist who spent much time with Native Americans a century ago.

Of particular interest is Waterman's "Indian Houses of Puget Sound," written with Ruth Greiner (1921). They begin by noting that, as of the publication date, no Indian houses in the Seattle area remained standing. Some had been destroyed

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"A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME" ANSWERS:

years before by employees of the government's "Indian Office." The last, consisting of eight houses in the Duwamish community of Herring's House, in West Seattle, were burned in early 1893 in a one-man arson wave by a white man identified as "Watson," as reported at the time in the *Seattle Press-Times*. Herring's House, now a park, was located just across West Marginal Way from the present Duwamish Longhouse and Cultural Center, constructed in 2009.

The 34 longhouses around the perimeter of Lake Washington, in 14 locations, were described in lawsuit evidence as being about 100 feet long and 50 feet wide. Even larger communal dwellings were reported, as much as 1000 feet long, though not in Seattle.

The walls were framed with large hand-crafted planks for posts, 12 to 14 feet apart. Pairs of posts were decorated with carvings of a particular builder's supernatural helper. Inside the house, the space between those two posts was the province of a single family. The figure of the helper may have been a symbol of the family's ownership of the space.

Along the walls there extended a platform for beds, about a foot off the ground. The walls were lined with mats made from cattail rushes of the type that was common in Leschi and elsewhere. Such mats were also used for mattresses and pillows. Below the platform was storage space, and above the beds was shelving, about three feet wide, suspended from the rafters.

Numerous families, of course, lived in these large structures. There were no partitions between family locations.

The rooftops were of ingenious design, made of sophisticated planks that were effective at keeping rain out. They were fastened with wooden pegs and occasional cedar twigs for lashing.

Typically, the main entrance faced a body of water. It was not unusual for there to be a sort of maze at the entrance. In a dark place was a pit where an enemy, coming into the house and not being familiar with it, would fall in. There was also a back door, for escape into the forest in the event of an attack.

A central feature of the longhouse interior was a pit running most of the length of the building. The pit held numerous hearth fires, used especially for smoking salmon. When a fire was started, a small boy would be sent up to the roof to prop up the edge of a plank to make a chimney for the smoke.

-Roger Lippman

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

CAN WE END THE CULTURE OF HATE?

Today, May 16, 2022, is the deadline for this month's column. This deadline, as is often the case, slipped upon me. Despite keeping notes and beginning articles, I often find myself trying to decide what subject to develop for the column.

Today I am thinking of the massacre in Buffalo. Trust me. I do not wish to think about yet another horror. But it keeps crossing my mind—a distraught friend called early. She was no longer going to write the governor: she had written several times and received no response. When she called the governor's office, she was told that the letters are not answered; letters are used for tracking purposes! Her conversation began with this, I soon learned, because she said we need to do something. I knew what was on her mind—the massacre.

Of course, we need to do something. Just tell me what to do. Every poll I have seen says more Americans want more restrictive controls on guns than do not: Pew, Gallup, YouGov. Everyone I know wants gun use more restrictive. I still wonder why President George Bush let the assault weapon ban expire in 2004. The ban did not satisfy many, perhaps most, of us, but it was something. I was in that group that was certain we would have stricter laws after Sandy Hook. Children, twenty children ages six and seven were mowed down by a young man obviously ill, the son of a mother most likely ill. Six adults at the school plus his mother were also killed. I was certain something would be done. These victims were white, and they were rich. What we got was more debate. When nothing happened, I concluded nothing of substance will come of restricting gun use in this country, at least not soon. We need many different Congresspersons, and they must not rely on the millions in donations from the National Rifle Association and gun rights organizations, money disproportionately given to Republicans.

So, this massacre, as, again, is so often the case, makes me think about other murders of innocent people, people just going about their business, people harming no one, people who happened to be in the path of the sick person who killed them. I remember the University of Texas, Columbine, San Ysidro, Las Vegas, Virginia Tech, Parkland, Charleston. I do not know why I remember some shootings more often than others. I think



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about surviving parents, siblings, aunts, classmates and know their lives were drastically affected. I pray these people have good days, good memories and never endure such a tragedy again. Although I know no one in any of the tragedies, I think about them and know the effect on me is negligible compared to the effect on them. I sometimes enter a building and think how it could be the site of a tragedy. I do not want to think like this. My mind is in charge.

Now, I add the people of Buffalo to this list. What did the murdered individuals do? Nothing. For too many, being Black was, is a crime in our country. Some of us have known this all our lives. More people know now. We must get to the tipping point, the point at which enough persons know to make significant changes in our society. What we need are changes in hearts and minds. (How often have I said or thought this!) This country is filled with places that are “predominantly Black” or other marginalized persons. Why? The structure of the country. So many people do not want Payton Gendron and other white children to learn about the history of African Americans, Native Americans, Asians, for example, in this country. Maybe these persons and Gendron would be less hateful if they knew more about people of color. Gendron could use the computer and get all kinds of misinformation, but he could not get the truth: that these people loved life, their families, worked hard, wanted the best for their children. People he killed may have wanted everything he wanted except to hurt people. I have yet to hear that any of them hated as he does; none of them were planning to kill whites or anyone else. Now, with his 180-page manifesto, we get to see into the mind of this young person. Don't you wonder how he could hate so much at such a young age? What can we say about persons, especially political leaders, who make derogatory, denigrating statements about a group of people because of their skin color—or religion, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic heritage, or whatever some of us choose to categorize those who don't look like us? How can we make them see their speech, writing is not freedom of speech? When your “freedom” harms another, it is not freedom. What classes led him to say his goal was murder-suicide?

One more time, if we teach children to hate and allow individuals access to guns, we can count on more massacres.

-Georgia S. McDade

Georgia S. McDade, a charter member of the African-American Writers' Alliance, began reading her stories in public in 1991 and credits the group with making her write poetry. Many poems are inspired by artists. Georgia writes for South Seattle Emerald and Leschinesews. 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.

FIRE DANGER THOUGHTS FOR THIS SUMMER

Thanks to our cool and wet spring, Western Washington and Northwest Oregon should see below-average fire danger this summer. Fuels are currently very moist, and with above-average snowpack in the mountains, fire danger will creep up more gradually than in summers past as the

snowpack takes longer to disappear. Our summertime, fire-igniting thunderstorms tend to be concentrated over areas of higher terrain, so having a large snowpack and delayed melt does wonders for reducing the potential impact from lightning-ignited blazes in the mountains.

Central and Eastern Washington are still experiencing a moderate long-term drought, but the cooler and wetter-than-average weather this spring has still been hugely beneficial in decreasing fire danger there. I expect fire activity to be below-average this year over the high-elevation, forested areas of the Cascades, Okanogan Highlands, and Blue Mountains.

Counterintuitively, the cool and wet spring has actually *increased* the potential for grass fires over the driest portions of the state, as the grasses over Eastern Washington have grown thicker than previous springs, giving more fuel for fire growth. The main difference is that these grasses always turn tinder-dry in the summer, while forested areas with thicker, wetter fuels are much slower to dry out, particularly when they have a deep snowpack that persists into late spring.

Unfortunately, most spots in the Western US outside of Washington and NW Oregon are expected to have above-average fire danger this summer due to widespread drought and a relatively dry spring. I'm particularly concerned about fires over California during the late summer and autumn as the infamous “Diablo” and “Santa Ana” occur with increasing frequency and intensity. In addition, the Climate Prediction Center is now expecting La Nina to persist throughout the summer and potentially even strengthen the following winter, and while La Ninas tend to bring above-average precipitation to the Pacific Northwest, they also often bring below-average precipitation to California and the Desert SW – potentially prolonging the current drought impacting those areas.

To summarize, expect below-average fire danger for Western Washington, Northwest Oregon, and potentially the Cascades/Okanogan highlands. The dry grasslands/sagebrush of Central/Eastern Washington could potentially have larger fires than usual this year due to above-average vegetation growth this spring, but those fires are generally easier to extinguish and less impactful than fires through timberlands. On the other hand, fire danger is higher-than-average throughout the rest of the Western US, and I expect above-activity this summer and autumn there.

Finally, it's important to note that the actual weather over fire season tends to have a larger impact than the fire danger going into fire season. For example, if a given forest is much drier-than-average with high fire danger but doesn't experience any thunderstorms to start a blaze or winds to fan the flames, the fire season can be relatively quiet. Be sure to practice good wildfire safety practices this summer, and with any luck, hopefully this summer will feature fewer wildfires over the Pacific Northwest than summers past.

-Charlie Phillips

Charlie Phillips is a Madrona native and lifelong weather geek who now works at Puget Sound Energy as an energy trader, making sure there is enough energy to keep the lights on! Check out his weather blog at weathertogether.net.

Culture Corner



Alfredo Arreguín, "Exuberance Diptych," 2018, 60x96", courtesy of the artist.

"ALFREDO ARREGUÍN PAINTER FROM THE THE NEW WORLD" AND "XICANX DREAMERS + CHANGEMAKERS"

"Arreguín: Painter from the New World" runs July 2 to October 2, 2022

Museum of Northwest Art, 121 South First Street, PO Box 969, La Conner, WA 98257; 360.466.4446, free admission, Hours: 10am–5pm, everyday.

The must-see exhibition this summer fits perfectly with a short road trip to a beautiful place. The Museum of Northwest Art is featuring Alfredo Arreguín in a major exhibition curated by our own well-known critic, Matthew Kangas. *Arreguín: Painter from the New World* opens on July 2 and will be open until October 2, 2022. A retrospective exhibition, it includes 40 works from 1970 to the present and will have a catalog by Kangas, one of our best Northwest critics!

I will quote here from part of my essay on him in *Setting Our Hearts on Fire*:

"Alfredo Arreguín's paintings immerse us in a wonderland of jungle and seascape, populated by animals, fish, insects, and birds. But the jungle and its creatures are more than the sum of their parts, they represent nagual, a guardian creature of the spirit world who can transform and lead us to alternative views of the world.

The artist embedded in this wonderland (sometimes almost invisibly), the faces of well-known political activists, writers, poets, friends, and, occasionally, the artist himself. The faces deeply disguised within the vast details of the paintings, point to Arreguín's belief in the harmony of nature, the balance of life, and the crucial place that we have within it, rather than outside it. His work has never been more timely or important, as we all despair with the election of a president in Brazil intent on destroying the entire rain forest there for economic profit. Nothing less than the lungs of the planet are at stake.

Leaping salmon and whales remind us that the survival of the Southern Resident pod of orca is hanging in the balance. As the whales dwindle in response to environmental

degradation, and the salmon fail to complete their migration upstream because of dams, Arreguín's paintings celebrate natural processes and inspire us to protect our Salish Sea.

So plunge into one of his paintings and look at it for a long time, and still come back for more. Explore the dazzling overall intricacy, the detailed patterns, the accomplished linear relationships, the subtle command of color that changes in each work. Then, as you visually wander through the paintings, join the butterflies, the birds, and the animals in the depths of the jungle."

The Seattle Art Museum finally decided to acquire one of Arreguín's works after fifty years!



Celeste de Luna, "Our Lady of the Checkpoint," 36x48", woodcut and vinyl on archival paper. Photo credit: Diego Cruz, collection of the Artist.

I have another road trip to suggest to the Museum of Anthropology University of British Columbia. My good friend Celia Munoz from Dallas, Texas is included in an exhibition called *Xicanx Dreamers + Changemakers*. (May 12–January 1, 2023.) The museum describes it as follows

"The artists in this exhibition are dreamers and changemakers. They are of Mexican American heritage—self-identified as Xicanx*. The term transcends borders and gender to encompass the Xicanx people's multi-generational experiences of social difference.

"Xicanx artists, working across all mediums, are part of a rich tradition of combining visual art and activism. Some began their work as part of El Movimiento, the Chicano civil rights movement of the 1960s and 1970s that had its roots in the United States. Others define themselves as Indigenous, drawing upon their origins in Aztlan, the ancestral homeland referenced in Mexican códices and oral histories. The next generation is expanding the idea of Xicanx art while continuing to address the personal, social and political issues of our times.

"The fight by Xicanx artists for social justice began generations ago and continues to this day. Their art and their activism remain vital in the movement towards social justice for all."

The exhibition might be called the greatest hits of XicanX art. It includes artists who have been working for decades, like Judy Baca of the Great Wall of Los Angeles and Esther Hernandez of the famous Sun Mad Raisins. There is also Rudy Trevino, Delilah Montoya, Celeste De Luna, Celia Munoz, all of whom have done potent works addressing migration in different ways.

Finally, Francisco Toledo (1940–2019) showing at the museum quality Davidson Gallery in Pioneer Square rounds out this coverage of exhibitions focusing on Latinx artists.

Toledo lived in Oaxaca and drew on Zapotec imagery, as well as mysticism to create eerie images that resist a quick reading. The distortions suggest intense emotional experiences.

Have a great summer and be sure to see some art!

Notice:

On June 9, I will be reading from my newest book *Setting Our Hearts on Fire, Essays on Artists from 1982 to the Present: Addressing Inequities and Inspiring a Future*. The book includes many of the artists whom I have written about here as well as many others for a total of 80 artists.

Retail Therapy, at 905 East Pike near Broadway (5-8pm) to coincide with the Capitol Hill Art Walk.

-Susan Platt, PhD

www.artandpoliticsnow.com

FREE PLAY AT BLANCHE LAVIZZO PARK

The Shattered Glass Project presents *TBD: To Be Devised: A Celebration*. It will be presented on June 24 at 7pm. and on June 25 at 2pm. There is no charge.

The Park's address is 2100 S Jackson, but it seems closer to Yesler than Jackson. It's an outdoor theater that appears to be between 22nd and 23rd just south of Yesler.

Shattered Glass brings us another production this summer in a different venue. Barbara Lindsay's play *WANT* explores the impact that poverty and jealousy have on love. Directed by Maureen Hawkins, it stars Kathy Hsieh, Ronnie Hill and Jennifer Faulkner.

Ages 16 and up as there is adult language and scenes depicting violence and sexual imagery.

July 28-August 14, Thursday-Saturday 7:30pm; Sunday 2pm. Center Theater, lower level of the Armory Bldg. at Seattle Center

Tickets \$10 to \$50 sliding scale on a Pick Your Price model; order online at www.shatteredglassproject.org/want.



Seeking Sustenance...

SUMMER, SUMMER, SUMMER WINE

At some point in time, summer will arrive, that is a guarantee. By the deadline for the summer article, however, summer seems more like some far-fetched idea that sounds good in fairy tales and Disney movies. Over the last couple of weeks, as I write here in mid-May, we've seen snow, hail and what feels like a gigaton of rain. Enough is enough already! Confident that summer will show up eventually, here are 10 wines that will be must-haves for picnics, backyard gatherings and warm evenings on the porch. Let Leschi Market be your one-stop shop for all of your summer excursions. Have a fun and safe summer Leschi!

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

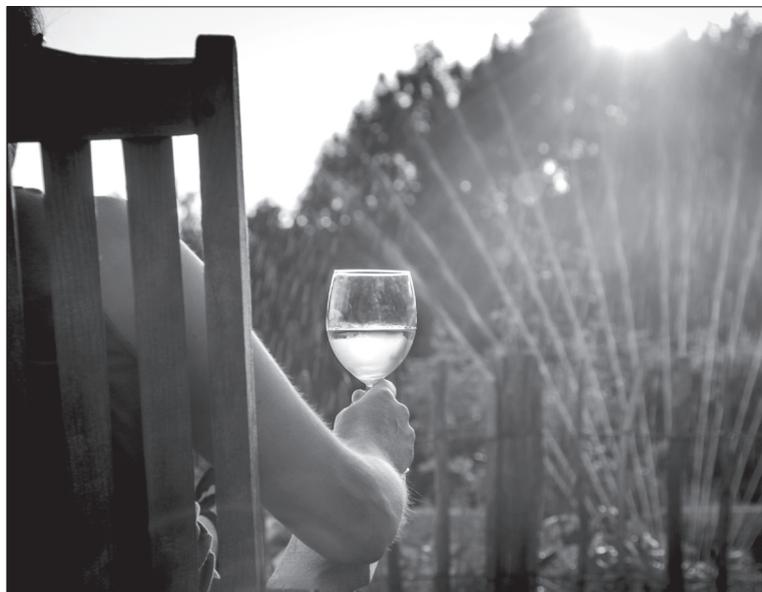
If you love clean, mineral driven, brisk, mouth-watering acidity, look no further. Larmandier Bernier is one of the top biodynamic producers in the Cotes des Blancs. The wines are intense, complex and incredibly long in finish. A Champagne lover's dream. *-Importer notes*

2021 Chateau d'Esclans Whispering Angel Rosé Cotes de Provence \$25

Always a best-seller and crowd pleaser! Pale rose color with pretty aromas of lavender, rosehip, strawberries, cherries and cloves. It's medium-bodied with crisp acidity and a supple, creamy palate. Perfumed and elegant. *-James Suckling, 92-points*

2021 Wolffer Summer in a Bottle Rosé Cotes de Provence \$24

Do NOT let the package turn you away. Some will love the label, some will hate it, but the wine is what its all about. An aromatic nose of grapefruit, fresh flowers and a hint of peach. Medium-bodied. Fresh and clean with lovely notes of thyme and lemon peel. *-James Suckling, 90-points*



2021 J.K. Carriere Glass White Pinot Noir Willamette Valley \$23

The nose is the fecundity of spring: lime flowers, raspberry, orange, lemon and musk. Racy acidity explodes Meyer lemon, tangerine and 'Nilla wafer across the entire palate. It finishes long and clean and quenching. *-Winemaker notes*

2021 Orr Chenin Blanc Columbia Valley \$21

Erica Orr makes some of the best wines in Washington. Our favorite is her Chenin Blanc. Aromas of pears and honeydew melon. A touch rounder than past vintages but still fresh and crisp and dry and low alcohol with a clean mineral finish. Hand-harvested from vines from three different old vine vineyards that were planted in the late 1970s and early 1980s *-Winemaker notes*

2021 Tranche Pink Pape Rosé Yakima Valley \$20

Very limited this year – buy now to enjoy in August! Aromas of green strawberry fields, morning dew, kiwi and passion fruit, with lifted notes of stone fruit blossoms. Bright on the palate with flavors of stone fruit and ripe citrus, underscored by mountain berries and key lime. Driving acidity and a touch of salinity with a long mineral finish. *-Winemaker notes*

2021 Commanderie de la Bargemone Rosé Coteaux d'Aix en Provence \$18

A reliable Leschi staple since 2007! Very pale rose pink color and an expressive nose of tropical fruit and white flowers. A vibrant attack leads to a nicely rounded palate and excellent persistence of flavor on the finish. *-Winemaker notes*



Lisa Eaton, DPT, OCS
Julie Grove, MPT

120 Lakeside Ave
Suite 210
Seattle, WA 98122
206-925-3762
Fax: 206-324-3600

...in the Wilds of Seattle



2021 Ovum Big Salt Orange Oregon \$18

This is a very interesting take on orange wine from Oregon. A sunset cranberry color as a result of Pinot gris skins being blended with the tangerine hues of Big Salt. Aromas reminiscent of a carrot orange creamsicle stirred into a cup of hibiscus tea, steeped with autumnal spices. Roasted carrot, ginger, red apple skin are on the palate. *-Winemaker notes*

2021 SMAK Spring Rosé Walla Walla Valley \$18

A Walla Walla winery specializing in seasonal pink wine—female owned, operated and vinted! The bouquet blooms like a spring flower—honeysuckle and pea shoots dominate the beginning, then evolves into tangerines and lychees. The minerality of spring rain with a touch of river rock and oyster shells. The acid wakes you up while juicy clementine and tangerine notes appear. *-Winemaker notes*

2021 Underground Wine Project Mr. Pink Rosé \$10

Not many wines over-deliver in this price point the way Mr. Pink does. Opens with aromas of melon, white peach and crushed rose petal. The palate boasts explosive notes of tart citrus and bright peachy flavors mingling with hints of raspberry and subtle mineral notes. *-Winemaker notes*

2021 Pannonica Rose Austria \$10

Blaufrankisch, St. Laurent, Pinot Noir. A fine bouquet of pear, lychee and strawberry. Elegant and crisp. Characterized by peppercorns with a lively spirited acidity. Delicious as an aperitif and with a wide range of dished from fresh summer salads and barbecued foods. *-Winemaker notes*

-Kenneth Benner

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

area. His monthly column is intended to inspire and explore new choices in wine, learn about wine with his readers, and share his knowledge and experience in the wine world. Check out the latest at www.LeschiMart.com or to request to be added to email updates at wine@leschimarket.com.

FOGON

600 E Pine between Pine and Belmont
206.320.7777, Hours: Sun-Thurs 11-11; Fri-Sat 11-12,

Located on Pine Street, this is a Mexican full bar restaurant. With fabulous fresh ingredients, reasonably priced items, and a festive atmosphere, it's definitely worth a visit. There's an extensive menu, a hard-to-find Happy Hour, and very tasty food. Fresh handmade tortillas underway constantly at the entry. Little tostados are served as a standard appetizer to all at no charge. Locally owned and while not exactly in Leschi, it is well within a viable distance to go.

Dine in or out; takeout as well. Place takeout orders online.

-Janice Brown



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LESCHI CC MAY 10, 2022, EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Attendance: Trevor Lalish-Menagh, Ashley Martin, Mattias Linnenkamp, Diane Snell, Janice Brown, Yun Pitre

June LeschiNews: Diane

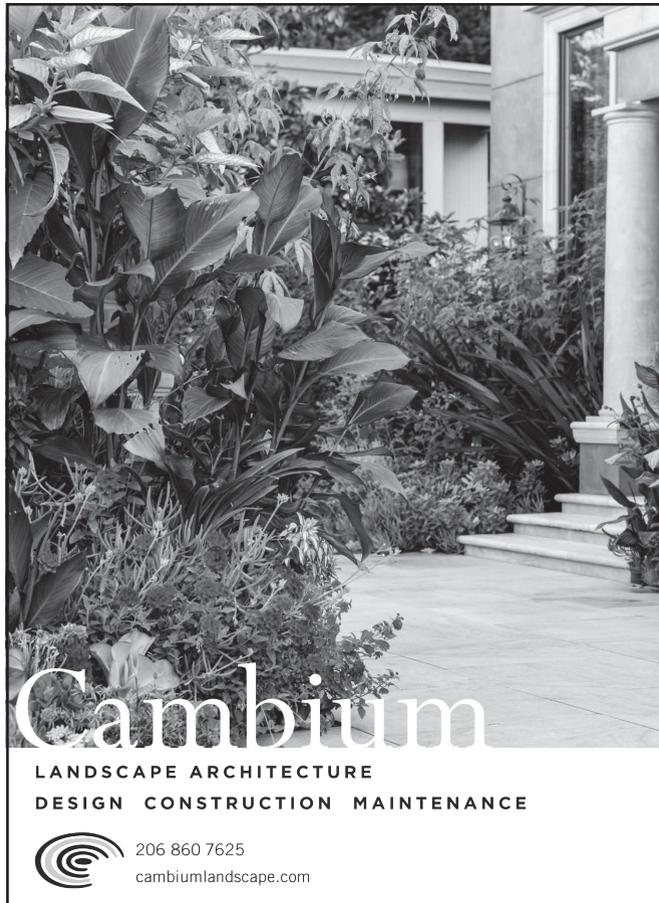
- Submittal deadline: May 16

Board Business: All

- LCC General Meetings-All
 - June
 - Star Awards: Board members discussed nominations and will make awardee announcement at the June meeting
 - September
 - Susan Platt interviews Leschi Artwalk artist participants
- Meeting Calendar-Diane will print a schedule of the LCC general meetings in the June news
 - Summer board meeting dates-July 12 and August 9th at Bluewater lower level
- Treasurer’s Report: Matthias
 - As expected, there were few due payments and donations in March and April.

- Invoiced one advertiser, who is on an April to March cycle.
- Revised language for bylaws for restricted funds management to be included in final version.
- Next batch of advertising revenue anticipated September
- LCC’s Commercial General Liability Insurance coverage- Agreed to renew the insurance at the current level
- Update from Artwalk Committee- Janice
 - Secured Washington Diamonds Drill Team
 - Working on the number of event booths for the event
 - Reserved equipment from the city for the event
 - Need to apply for Special Events permit and Leschi Park permit
- Update from Bylaws Committee- Janice, Gwen Rench, Diane, John, Yun, Tracy
 - Will meet Saturday to continue the work
 - Hope to vote on the revised bylaws at September meeting

-Yun Pitre



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	Income	Expenses	Balance 4/30/22
General Fund			
Ad Revenue	\$2,946.00		
Dues	\$1,368.31		
Donations	\$919.61		
Reimbursement	\$546.57		
Insurance			
Printing and postage		(\$3,545.08)	
Other Expenses		(\$141.01)	
Totals	\$5,780.49	(\$3,686.09)	\$15,817.10
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	\$444.53	(\$300.00)	\$4,254.87
Frink Park			\$1,979.43
King Street			\$1,270.00
Leschi Gateway Project			\$51.03
Leschi Natural Area			\$6,345.39
Officer Brenton Fund			\$3,111.85
Steve Shulman Memorial			\$65.00
String of Pearls			\$2,130.38
SW Frink Park			\$1,233.08
W. Vaughn Memorial Fund			\$1,200.00
Wading Pool			\$3,006.13
West Sheridan Street End			\$649.92
Whitebear DreamCatcher			\$201.64
Totals	\$6,225.02	(\$3,986.09)	\$46,153.49
Certificate of Deposit	\$0.37		\$11,256.79

Support your community by joining the Leschi Community Council!

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

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

LCC supports the Instrumental Music Program at Leschi Elementary

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

LCC supports the Central (Central Area Senior Center)

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

LCC produces the Leschi News 10 times a year

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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

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



LESCHI COMMUNITY COUNCIL MONTHLY MEETING

June 1, 2022 at 7pm

Pacific Time (US and Canada)

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

Meeting ID: 831 3380 3021

Passcode: 487365

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

COMPASS



Hi Neighbors,

It's the busiest time of the year for real estate, and the market is shifting week-to-week.

Rising interest rates and stock market volatility have buyers concerned, however increased inventory is making buying less competitive.

So, what do you do? Wait and see where the market goes or buy now to avoid further price increases? There's just not one right answer.

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

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2022 SUMMER CALENDAR (This is also on our website)

The Leschi News is not published in July and August but life does go on!

Seafair Summer Fourth: July 4 @ Gas Works Park. Includes VIP parking, VIP reserved seating, desert, and beverages - both alcoholic and non-alcoholic.

Alaska Airlines Seafair Torchlight Parade: July 30 @ Westlake Park. Includes valet parking, reserved roadside seating in Westlake Park, food, and non-alcoholic beverages.

Steve Shulman Memorial: July 31; 2-5 pm @ Leschi Park. A Celebration of Life to honor Steve. Bring a picnic lunch. Share stories. Listen to music. Dance in the park.

Seafair Weekend Festival: August 6-7 @ Genesee Park. Includes 2-day VIP shuttle, reserved

waterfront seating, food, and beverages—both alcoholic and non-alcoholic.

Seafair Patio Party: 11am-5pm at Central Area Senior Center. 206.726.4926 for tickets. Million-dollar view! Food! Music! Face Painting! No Host bar! Raffle!

Bicycle weekends: Mt. Baker Beach to Seward Park. No traffic on both Sat and Sun.

- May 20–23; 27–31
- June 10–13; 24–27
- July 1–5; 15–18
- August 12–15; 19–22
- September 2–6; 16–19

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