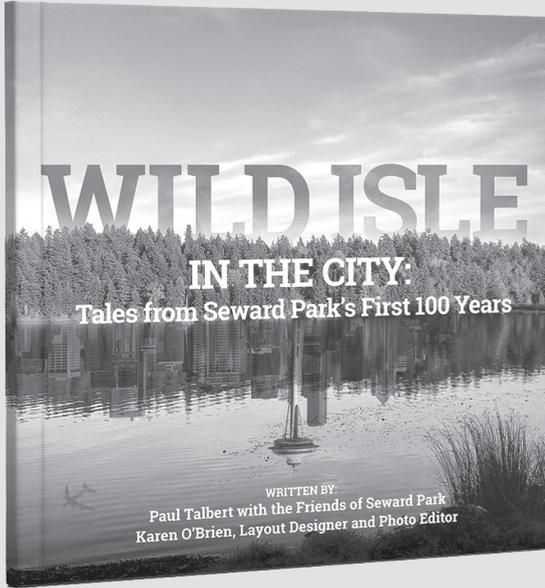


leschinews

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



Join us on this journey
March 2 at 7pm

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS ON INSIDE BACK COVER

Visit the Wild Isle at our March meeting. **Paul Talbert**, author and long-time advocate for Seward Park, will walk us through the first century of this remarkable park which seems to have a gift for everyone. Walkers and joggers enjoy the route around the park, picnickers enjoy the shelters or just sit on the lawn and watch the ducks while you eat your Bahn mi! Enjoy a production in the amphitheater or admire the crafts in the Pottery Barn. Let your toddler splash in the shallow water by the beach and enroll your ten-year-old in the search for bats at twilight.

The importance of parks to city dwellers was best explained by **Edward Otto Schwagerl**, Seattle's second Parks Superintendent, and he wrote these words in a report: "Parks are full of Nature's innocent and holy inspirations, and in them are whispers of peace and joy. **Parks are the breathing lungs and beating hearts of great cities...** where rich and poor mingle to inhale the unalloyed, God-given perfumes to body, mind and soul.

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A Double Whammy
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SAVE THE DATE

APRIL 1ST
is our next Leschi
meeting!



President's Message

Dear Leschi Neighbors,

Can you feel it? We have been teased by the weather to believe Spring is right around the corner. At my condo building the daffodils are starting to come out. The days are getting longer, and spring is the time of new beginnings. What plans do you have? We probably don't want to plant geraniums before the end of April.



Our March meeting (still via Zoom) will feature Paul Talbert, author of "Wild Isle in the City: Tales of Seward Park's first 100 years." Friends who have read it say it is fascinating. Our area has a very interesting history and in future meetings, we will continue to bring you unique stories of our Leschi neighborhood and adjacent communities. The meeting is always held the first Wednesday of the month, so March 2nd at 7pm.

You will find the Zoom link at the end of this newsletter, as well as on our website. We continue to streamline our systems at the Leschi Community Council and our new Board additions of Matthias, Ashley, Lawrence and Yun have brought a fresh infusion of energy to our group. We are also excited to have Yousef Shulman continue as our business community liaison. Thanks to all of you.

The Leschi Community Council will once again put on the Leschi Art Walk. The date is Saturday, September 10, 2022. For those of you who are new to our community, the Annual Art Walk is on the east side of Lakeside and we have a great variety of local artists, fun adventures for kids and we may be able to get live music again. We promise it will be great fun.

If any of you are artists, know of artists who might be a great addition or if interested in participating in the committee—whatever your time commitment, please contact me or anyone on our Board you may know. I am chairing this event. It's lots of work, but even if you can contribute a small amount of time, please join us. There is a column about it in this newsletter.

Again, as I try to mention, if any of you need assistance, a ride, someone to help you, please let us know. The CASC does a wonderful job of assisting our area seniors, but perhaps some of you need a helping hand and may think because you don't belong to the Senior Center, you are all alone. We are a community of a broad base of enchanting and captivating people and we are here to help!

Warm Regards,
Janice Merrill Brown
President, Leschi Community Council

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

Like us on Facebook: **LESCHI**
and visit our website: leschinews.com

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Please share with a friend.



THE TALE of TWO TREES

A nearly 100 year old Western Red Cedar defined by the City of Seattle as exceptional and marked for preservation was illegally cut down by the development company Millad VII LLC in April 2021. The tree graced the Leschi neighborhood on

property zoned Single Family and in a slide prone Environmentally Critical Area (ECA). Although the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspection placed a Stop Work Order on the tree, the

developers damaged the cedar and then paid their arborist to say the tree caused a potential danger. Without waiting for SDCI's approval and a Stop Work Order wrapped around the tree, a demolition crew quickly cut down the tree before the SDCI Complaint Lines were staffed and an inspector was able to respond to the many calls from neighbors trying to save the tree.

Recently a Paper Bark Maple, a small deciduous tree, was been planted near the sidewalk on the vacant lot where the Cedar once stood. The City fined the developer over \$90,000 for violating the stop work order and removing the Western Red Cedar and required an approved restoration plan prior to replanting. To date, according to the Seattle Services Portal, the fine remains unpaid and a restoration plan has not been presented or approved.

While these developers may regard they have appeased the City and neighbors who protested the removal of the cedar by planting this little tree, their actions are an excellent example of why the City needs to pass comprehensive tree protection to save trees important to the environment. The Paper Bark Maple with a diameter of a few inches will never provide the needed canopy and root stabilization of the Red Cedar with its 38" diameter and extensive root system that stabilized the hillside lot.

Seattle has poorly managed the protection of trees and each year many trees are illegally cut down. For over 10 years,

tree protection ordinances have been before the Mayor and City Council with no action taken. Without legislation for strong enforcement the only recourse is through imposing fines but a developer willing to violate City orders on a one

million plus dollar residency can maximize profits by incorporating the cost of the City fine in the sales price. It is the new homeowner who essentially pays the fine as well as neighbors

who have the invisible cost of damage to the environment's necessary tree canopy.

Seattle Council members Dan Strauss and Alex Pedersen have introduced Council Bill 120207 as a starting point for tree protection. The bill would require arborists and others who cut down and remove trees in Seattle to be registered and to act in compliance with existing tree protections. If this legislation had been in place when the Red Cedar tree was in question, the arborist and tree service would be as guilty as the developers as they knowingly sanctioned and removed a tree the City had designated as protected. Hopefully by the time you read this piece, Council Bill 120207 will have passed.

For those wanting to stop the illegal cutting down of the City's exceptional trees, its important to let the Mayor and the City Council know. Let Mayor Harrell know it is time for the passage of comprehensive tree protection legislation. The City Council has been waiting on the Mayor's office for years to submit an updated comprehensive tree protection bill. The new Harrell administration needs to direct the various city departments responsible to get proposed legislation to the City Council immediately.

If you want more action items for saving Seattle's Tree Canopy, go to www.dontclearcutseattle.org.

-Mary-Carter Creech & Jayn Foy

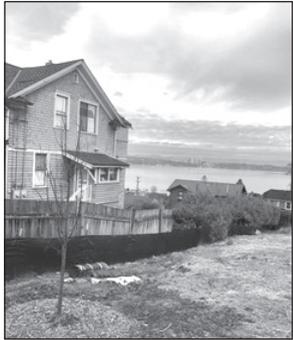


Photo credit: Jayn Foy



Neighborhood and Beyond

MARINA MANAGEMENT MEETING

Several years ago (before Covid), the city of Seattle entered into an agreement with Marina Management to take over the management of three marinas in our area: Lakewood, South Leschi (south of BluWater) and Leschi north (north of Daniel's Broiler). The smaller marinas between the north and south Leschi Marinas are privately owned.

Peter Joers of Marina Management walked us through the changes at our February 2 Leschi Community Council meeting. Improvements have been slow in Leschi as the city was supposed to install a large breakwater at the south marina but that has still not happened.

Lakewood has seen many changes. The public will now have access to the island as the locked gate will be open. Instead, coded gates will limit access to the slips to boat owners only. New slips have been installed and despite an increase in rental fees, the majority of old owners have continued to rent.

When asked about the increase in renting a slip, Mr. Joers said that it had risen to \$12 per foot. The small boats are about 30 feet long. Rents had been \$8 per foot for many years but slips are costly to install, and the fees were not providing the funds to make improvements. The current fee is below market for Lake Washington slips.

Joers said they had gone ahead on upgrading the south Leschi Marina rather than wait for the breakwater. He showed a photo of the barge that carried away the old slips; there was an old sailboat on the barge which Joers said was an abandoned boat.

When asked about the north marina, Joers said it would probably begin in the third quarter of this year. They are awaiting permitting. He said the shack will go away.

During the Q and A period, parking was discussed as the signage seems to have changed. Joers promised he would look into it. He said that Marina Mgmt. had redone the blacktop. Reaction to the upgrades were positive but more was wanted! Will there be an opportunity to rent a boat? Will there be classes? Joers said he would investigate the possibility of offering these amenities.

The pier is still under the management of Parks.

I had to contact Mr. Joers to explain the "fish window" which I thought of as the window at the Locks where one can see the salmon navigating the fish ladder. Joers had mentioned the "fish window" complicating construction schedules. It refers to the window of time during which you can do over-water construction. On Lake Washington, different areas of the lake have different "windows" of time based on studies that have been done of fish in the area.

The objective is to minimize any impact to fish. In the case of Lakewood, the window of time is late summer and is relatively short.

Thanks to Mr. Joers for attending our meeting and bringing us up to date on marina changes and future plans. He generously offered his email if there were any further questions: peter@marinamanagementllc.com.

-Diane Snell

ART WALK MEETING

Our first Art Walk Meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 2nd at 3:00 at BluWater. Bart Evans continues to kindly offer space for our meetings. If you are unable to make this one, please let me know. At that meeting we will determine if our meetings are better on Wednesdays or Thursdays. I plan to call on past chairs and volunteers for advice and assistance, should their schedules accommodate.

Please call me with any questions. Janice Merrill Brown, 206-679-4004.

NOTE: BluWater has been asking for proof of vaccinations and masks. Check with them to make sure these restrictions still in effect: 206-328-2233.

LONGTIME LESCHI RESIDENT DIES

Longtime Leschi neighbor Dennis Mortenson passed away in January. Dennis and Bill Woodrow were co-chairmen of the Leschi Community Council's land use committee in the 1970s and early 1980s. Dennis was an architect. We hope to provide an obituary in the April issue.

-John Barber

HOME EVICTION OF A LONGTIME RESIDENT SHOCKS THE NEIGHBORS

In January, Mondo Gamboa and his brother were evicted from a house where they grew up in from the 1960s on. His mother had taken out a reverse mortgage. She passed away three years ago, not leaving the boys funds to buy out the mortgage.

Mondo fortunately, though not happily, was relocated to a homeless shelter and left his small black Pomeranian dog, Jackie, in my care. Jackie needs extensive veterinarian work now, but community resources for help appear to be short.

-John Barber

ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN AT LESCHI SCHOOL

The Leschi Elementary PTA has launched our Annual Giving Campaign to support our budget for the 2022–2023 school year. Our annual Jog-a-thon will also take place in May. To make a donation, please use the links to our Facebook page or fundraising page below. Thank you, as well, to our Garfield Golden Grads, who are raising funds to support our families, and are planning the revival of the community fundraising concert on April 30 after a couple years of covid-cancellation.

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

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

-Benson Wilder

ANOTHER GENEROUS LOCAL BUSINESS

Here in Leschi, we are used to generous giving by Leschi Market and BluWater Bistro, but I recently heard about another generous giving event by our favorite Mt. Baker restaurant: That's Amore!

Owner, Guy Devillier, pursued many creative ideas to raise funds for local charities during the pandemic, a difficult task when dining space was limited due to the pandemic. Gift cards were sold to raise funds; the goal was to raise \$6000 in the months of November and December. The offer was sweetened by adding \$10 to each purchase so guests received a \$110 gift card for their \$100 purchase. And did they meet their goal? On December 31st, they reached the \$6000 goal! \$1000 was split between the Humane Society, Northwest Harvest and Lifelong AIDS.

In addition, they extended the Dining Out for Life event from one night to one week as they knew one night with limited dining capacity would not raise the usual amount. This extension raised \$1500 for Lifelong AIDS.

When NAAM (Northwest African American Museum) had their matching fund, That's Amore donated all tips and asked guests to double their tips to benefit NAAM. In just one night, \$900 was raised!

Many are hurting during this extended pandemic and dining out is diminished, so it takes greater creativity to raise the needed funds. Guy met that challenge and created many paths to meet his goals.

Congratulations to Guy and his staff for their successful fundraising!

-Diane Snell

LIFE AND TIMES IN LESCHI

Around the first of February, a notice appeared in the online bulletin board Next Door stating that someone had planted a hedge of Leyland Cypress trees in upper Leschi Park, behind the swing set. These trees are non-native and grow 15 feet wide and 40 to 60 feet tall, it was reported. The trees would quickly reach into the power lines above and eventually block the nice view from that area.

The complainant returned another time and saw two workers pulling up everything else in the vicinity. He asked if they work for the city, and one replied that no, they worked for the woman next door, who wanted to plant more trees.

The culprit appeared to be the owner of the gray house below that area of the park, on South Main Street. She bought the house in the last couple years.

The writer emailed the Parks Department and our City Council member Kshama Sawant and received no response. He likewise used the city's Find It, Fix It, with the same result.



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This will not stand, ya know, this aggression will not stand. (Apologies to *The Big Lebowski*.) So I wrote to the Parks Department about the cypress trees myself. Within five minutes I had a response saying that Parks was aware of the situation and would ensure that the trees get removed.

When I reported this response on Next Door, there was of course a chorus of whiners who complained that the city never responds like that to reports of break-ins, trash, or other nuisances.

I returned to the park after a couple weeks and found that the offending trees had all been removed. A neighborhood friend told me that the woman who had them planted came to her and said, "I'm in trouble. What should I do?" My friend explained that the trees had to go, or there *would* be trouble, for introducing an invasive species into a public park.

Case closed? Almost. It appears that a laurel bush was planted in the same area, possibly at the same time. The Parks Department doesn't like that either.

Those with a long memory will recall that another encroachment was tried a few doors east of there, also on Main Street, about 40 years ago. The property owner, a local realtor named T.V. Dean, enclosed part of the public right-of-way sidewalk with a fence to make it part of his yard. After a lot of head scratching at Parks, he was eventually compelled to remove the fence.

The 3500 block of S. Main, by the way, is one of my favorite spots in the neighborhood. This supposed street, skirting the south end of Leschi Park, is a verdant walkway with no access for motor vehicles.

Other encroachments on public property have happened at numerous of Seattle's waterfront street ends, especially here in Leschi. For the past 25 years the Leschi Community Council and the Friends of Street Ends, which grew out of the Council's activity, have worked to reclaim the encroached street ends citywide, including the Lake Washington ends of King, Dearborn, Charles, Norman, Judkins, and Massachusetts, along with many others in the city. Friends of Street Ends has worked closely with the Seattle Department of Transportation, which has authority over street ends. Neighbors had enclosed street ends with fences to make them part of their yards. All such cases were ordered abated by the city.

-Roger Lippman

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

GRAND OPENING GALA: JAMES WASHINGTON SCULPTURE RESTORED

Long time readers may remember some years ago that the Leschi CC raised a concern about the Fountain of Triumph at 23rd and Union: what would happen to this piece with the impending sale of the property? The Dr. James W. Washington, Jr. and Mrs. Janie Rogella Washington Foundation has seen to it that the fountain was restored and is now in place at the newly built Midtown Center at 23rd and Union. Unfortunately, we did not



The Fountain of Triumph. Photo credit: Susan Platt.

know about the gala celebration planned in time to put it in the February newspaper, but it was quite an event with food provided by Ms. Helen's Soul Food Bistro. We urge you to visit this complex even though we've missed the big event. It provides housing units over the ground floor retail businesses.

"Midtown Square is an inviting splash of color and black and white and African motif, showcasing the art of Seattle area artists; it is a photographer's paradise The Fountain of Triumph was first located and dedicated at 23rd and Union, October 24, 1994, with then Mayor Norman B. Rice, Rev. Dr. McKinney (deceased), young members of the Bangasser family, Jessie Wineberry, Herman McKinney (deceased) and others participating. The replacement is located at 24th and Union. "(from informational email on grand opening)

PORCH PIRATES AND CAT SCAMS:

Our local (being watched by Google) Neighborhood Watch News was recently illuminated by a sighting of "Porch Pirates!"

Full Disclosure: They weren't actually pirates in the nautical sense, and the only sighting was by Siri's best buddy Door Bell Camera. Said pirates did however make off with packages of stuff subsequently discovered to be of no real value to anyone other than the nice folks who'd asked Siri to get them the stuff in the first place.

“Siri, please order me stuff no one else could possibly want!”

The subsequent E-lumination was however illuminating.

Apparently Catalytic Converters are the new “must have” accessory—particularly for those who desperately need cash for other must-have stuff they need even more desperately. One of our neighbors warned us that this platinum-encrusted accessory had been forcibly removed from her Lexus SUV and that replacing it had cost over \$5,000—paid for with her Platinum Visa Card no doubt.

Our vehicle of choice is smaller but which we believe to be stylish none-the-less: a 2013 Chili-Red Mini Clubman, with really low ground clearance. We also have a CAT Scam Prevention Protocol:

We always park it next to the biggest SUV we can find and helpfully leave one of those little dollies which mechanics use to roll under cars in a conspicuous location close by.

It’s worked like a charm—so far...

-Malcolm Harker

HOUSING FOR YOUNG ADULTS OPENING ON CAPITOL HILL

The Low Income Housing Institute is leasing a 36 unit building on 10th Ave. E to house homeless young adults ages 18–25. This is an age group that has few options, so this resource is welcomed.

LIHI wishes to thank the wonderful volunteers who worked through the weekdays and weekends to unpack beds and assemble furniture. Each kitchen was furnished with pots and pans, silverware, dishes, and even dish soap. Alaa Hasan, LIHI volunteer Coordinator, said: “Over 50 amazing volunteers worked together to assemble furniture, deliver home goods, and ensure a welcoming atmosphere for our new residents. As residents walk into their new home, they will have a comfortable bed, a new dresser, a table, and any of their essential needs met. I can’t thank our volunteers enough for their dedication and kindness!”

The building was purchased on December 17. The studio units include full kitchens including dishwashers, stoves and microwaves. The top floor units include sleeping lofts. The apartments and roof deck have spectacular views of downtown, Space Needle, and Puget Sound.

The architect is Neiman Taber Architects. The contractor is LNL Builds, LLC. LIHI purchased the building from Prestige Partners NW LLC. The project’s funding sources include the City of Seattle Office of Housing (\$6.5M) and the State of Washington Department of Commerce (\$5.7M). The total project cost is \$12.2M.

New residents include people transitioning out of tiny houses, people exiting the Executive Pacific Hotel (which is closing January 31), and homeless young adults referred from the Seattle Indian Center, ROOTS, YouthCare, Urban League, REACH, and other agencies.”

This information was taken from the LIHI announcement of this new resource.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND COVID: A DOUBLE WHAMMY

We humans are in trouble. Maybe we have always been in trouble, but there have always been individuals, a few, strong enough to convince us to change our ways. Today, however, it seems we’re more doomed than ever despite my former pastor regularly saying, “This isn’t the end of the world. People often say the end is coming when things get bad.”

Although I want to say COVID is humankind’s biggest problem, I know it isn’t: climate change is. “Climate,” though not the same everywhere, is everywhere, pervasive. A recent news headline covered the Western mega-drought. The area we call the West is “the driest in at least 1200 years” says *Los Angeles Times* columnist Ian Jones. Why, you ask? We humans are heating up the planet! Just think. Human beings, as small as we are, compared to so much and so many things on Earth, have the power to destroy our home. It seems for every invention labeled good brought with it an almost equal bad though often not obvious at the time. We call the invention progress and move on, steadily dirtying our only home, Earth. According to *The Good Guide to Climate Change*, there are five ways that we contribute to climate change: burning fossil fuels, clearing forests and grasslands, running animal farms, fulfilling industry requirements, and disposing waste. We have polluted land, water, and air. And we continue. (Each time a plane flies, there will be pollution; we know this. But how many times have planes had to dump fuel, circle, land because an unruly passenger must be removed? How many tons of chemicals have been

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COMPASS

Hi Neighbors,

The new year is upon us, and there are many questions about the 2022 real estate market:

- Will low inventory continue to favor Sellers?
- Will increasing interest rates slow the market?
- Will Seattle's job and economic growth continue?
- Will Leschi homes finally get the Buyer attention they deserve?

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

206.604.2828 | Scott.Lennard@Compass.com

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

SCOTT LENNARD



added to the ground? How much of this chemical cocktail have we put in our bodies? How many of these chemicals are passed on to us carcinogenic? How many industries have polluted water and air that we sometimes must use? How many wetlands have been destroyed?) For years we have been given information; for years too many of us have not made good use of this information or simply ignored it. Each of us should be doing everything we can to reduce our footprint. The internet has an abundance of examples. If we and our progeny don't do a much better job than we are doing now, we won't have to worry about the problem below.

COVID is a big problem, perhaps not as big as it was but still a big problem. Scientists, of course, know more than we do. But they are steadily learning. What they and many of us do know is that this respiratory illness can kill. To date, more than 900,000 persons have died in the United States; more than 77,000,000 have had the disease; worldwide, more than 400,000,000 have had the disease; more than 5,000,000 have died. And we know that these figures do not include persons who died before the disease was identified or diagnosed. We know for a variety of reasons some casualties have not been counted. Though the disease is less threatening, less deadly in some communities, this is not true everywhere. Everyone is tired of COVID! Being tired does not make COVID go away! You may hate the rain or sunshine; you cannot make it go away! You protect yourself, or you go elsewhere. Declaring you are tired and will no longer protect yourself and others does from COVID will not make it go away or make you

safe. Remember this is a “pandemic” not an “epidemic.” “Pan” is the prefix for “all.” All the planet has the virus. The virus does not recognize borders. If there are hosts, COVID will survive. It may be here forever. But we do not have to help it thrive. Some of the most vocal opponents of the vaccine have died because they contacted COVID and were not vaccinated.

I was taught that not one of us can do everything, but each of us can do something—always clear was that both the “everything” and “something” are good. For the health of the planet and the people, we must take better care of the planet and the people.

-Georgia S. McDade

Georgia S. McDade, a charter member of the African-American Writers' Alliance, began reading her stories in public in 1991 and credits the group with making her write poetry. Many poems are inspired by artists. Georgia writes for South Seattle Emerald and Leschinews. She also does interviews for KVRU (105.7) and KBCS (107.3). Outside the Cave is the name of four volumes of poetry; Observation and Revelations: Stories, Sketches, and Essays is the name of her volume of prose.

BEAUTY AND RENEWAL IN WASHINGTON SPRINGS

There's nothing quite like a Western Washington spring. After many months of short, drippy, dark days, our trees and plants emerge from their slumber with brilliant flowers and strident green leaves. I don't know if it's the contrast between the dreariness of winter and ebullience of spring, or whether our climate is fine-tuned for such beautiful springs to begin with. But there's no denying that we have some of the most exceptional springs in the nation.

The timing and intensity of our spring blooms are heavily dependent on the weather from late January through late March, although November and December can have a notable impact if they were anomalously wet or dry, particularly for some of the earliest-blooming plants. As one might expect, the cooler and cloudier the period preceding the bloom, the later the flowering tends to be compared to average, and vice versa, with the timing varying as much as 2 weeks from average on either side for many of our plants.



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Many of the most famous flowering trees in the Pacific Northwest are from the Rosaceae family. Rosaceae is medium-sized, diverse family of flowering plants with nearly 5,000 known species. It includes pomes (like apples and pears), drupes (like peaches and cherries), many berries, and several flowering shrubs, including its namesake—the rose. The flowers the pomes and drupes in the Rosaceae family are very similar and can be easily confused. Peaches and plums generally begin to bloom in early March, with cherry blossoms typically arriving a week or two later in mid/late March and fruiting cherries peaking approximately two weeks after the cherry blossoms. All are very showy and begin with pink buds that unfold into pink/white flowers, and eventually become mixed in with green sprouts as the leaves start to unfold. The plum trees tend to be a little pinker while the cherry trees are a bit whiter. Apples and pears tend to be a little later than cherry blossoms and usually peak in late March/early April, and both have whiter and less dense flowers than the drupes but are hard to distinguish from each other.

Other famous flowering trees native to the Pacific Northwest include magnolias, dogwoods, and rhododendrons, and azaleas. Magnolias are early bloomers and tend to peak a week or so earlier than the peaches/plums, while dogwoods are a bit later and generally peak in mid-April. Rhododendrons/azaleas are latest of all and typically peak in May, though with so many different rhododendron cultivars, exact timing can vary among plants.

Our rhododendron plant in our backyard typically would not peak until mid-May, but during the exceptionally cool/wet 2011 spring, it did not peak until June.

Daffodils generally peak in mid-late March and the tulips tend to follow 3–4 weeks later. The Skagit Valley tulip festival is from 4/1–30, but the peak bloom times vary each year. Last year, the peak was in the third week of April. We still have a long way to go until then, but at this point, it looks like tulips should peak at approximately the same time that they did last year.

My favorite place to see springtime blooms is Azalea Way in the arboretum. Azalea way features azaleas, rhododendrons, flowering cherries, dogwoods, magnolias, and assorted companion plants amongst a backdrop of conifers, and it's always fun to track how the different species bloom at different times. I also recommend checking out the 30 world-famous cherry blossoms that line the UW quad. These were moved from the Washington Park Arboretum onto campus in 1975 and were planted in 1936, making them nearly 90 years old!

-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.



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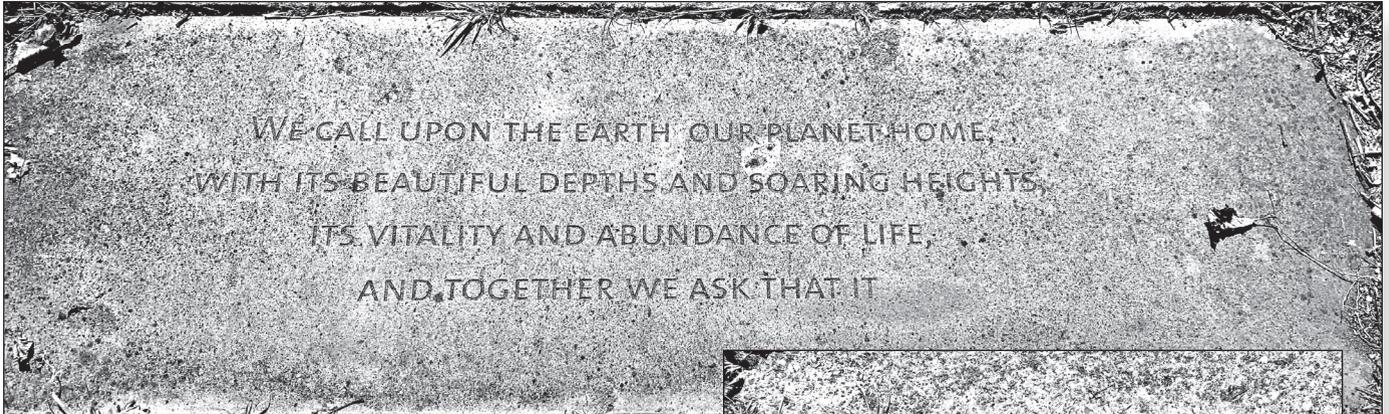


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Culture Corner



Inscriptions at Cape Disappointment. Photo credit: Susan Platt.



THE CONFLUENCE PROJECT: NATIVE KNOWLEDGE CAN SAVE US

If you are feeling despair about the state of the earth, think about visiting one of the sites of the Confluence Project on the majestic Columbia River. Created by Maya Lin, famous for the Vietnam Memorial, in collaboration with Native tribes and artists, the six sites extend over 438 miles from the intersection of the Columbia River with the Pacific Ocean to the confluence of the Snake and the Clearwater in Eastern Washington. But the term refers to more than the physical confluence of rivers, it refers to the confluence of histories, ecologies and living cultures.

The Confluence Project began in 2003 as the two hundredth anniversary of the Lewis and Clark Expedition spurred Native leaders to approach Maya Lin, designer of the Vietnam memorial, to commemorate their great losses as a result of the Expedition. The project fit with her ongoing “Extinction Project” www.honoringthefuture.org/climate-smarts/artist-to-know/maya-lins-project-whats-missing. But surprisingly, as Maya Lin worked on the project with Native tribes along the Columbia, the Confluence became not only about loss, but also about preservation of Native history as well as a source of crucial knowledge that we all need today.

The nearest site to Seattle is Cape Disappointment at the confluence of the Columbia River and the Pacific Ocean. It juxtaposes two dramatically different world views, “Enlightenment” and Native. Lewis and Clark, as “Enlightenment” men, were obsessed with naming every place and people, bird, flower and tree, (although of course they already had Native names) and to measuring distances. The original plan at Cape Disappointment featured a concrete boardwalk with these names and measurements incised leading to Waikiki Beach and restoration of that landscape

But at the dedication of the site, Maya Lin was so moved by the poetry of the Chinook blessing that she changed the design of the site. She created a second site along the original shoreline of the beach, a gently winding path of oysters leading to a cedar circle. Here she incised planks with the Chinook blessing. Part of it reads:

*We call upon the earth, our planet home,
With its beautiful depths and soaring heights
its vitality and abundance of life
and together we ask that it*

Teach us and Show us the Way

If you go to Cape Disappointment walk along the path, reciting the entire prayer. You can read it on the Confluence website www.confluenceproject.org/library-post/chinook-blessing. If we all followed this prayer, we could save our beautiful planet.

Be sure to seek also out the other two sites at Cape Disappointment, in the opposite direction from the beach and cedar circle: a fish cleaning table incised with the Chinook creation story, and a vista of an estuary, now framed by a restored forest.

In Vancouver, Washington, an ancient trading site, a dramatic land bridge reconnects that site of trading with the Columbia River long separated by a railroad and a highway. Designed by John Paul Jones, in collaboration with Native artist Lillian Pitt, it incorporates native languages and restored native plants. Not far away on the Oregon side of the Columbia River

is the Bird Blind at the Sandy River Delta, just east of Portland which speaks of the status of birds and plants since Lewis and Clark passed through here.

Sacajawea State Park in the Tri Cities, the Confluence of the Snake, and the Columbia again an ancient gathering place. Some of the stories exchanged there are now incised in seven story circles. Finally, farthest east are Listening Circles in Chief Timothy Park near Lewiston/Clarkson, the only landscape that looks as it did when Lewis and Clark passed through. Here in an understated amphitheater, we can sit and listen to the land itself.

Celilo Falls, thirteen miles East of the Dalles, was a center of commerce and trading for thousands of years: Natives caught salmon from platforms hanging over the falls. The falls were silenced in 1957 by the John Day Dam. Before the dedication of the site, thousands of Natives gathered for a mourning ceremony. Maya Lin's concept of an elevated walkway incised with historical references has not yet been constructed, as the tribes have not agreed to it, so great is their grief.

So that money has gone to extensive education programs on Native cultures and histories as the seventh site of the Confluence. You can see more about this ongoing work in schools and communities on their website <https://www.confluenceproject.org/>

In their digital library you can hear from elders who explain that Natives have always had the knowledge that can save our planet. If only we listened to them. While much has been lost since the Lewis and Clark expedition, much knowledge still survives. Native peoples still understand that we are embedded in the earth, not ruling it. Without Native assistance and knowledge, the members of the Lewis and Clark Expedition would have perished. We are in the same place today.

-Susan Platt, PhD
www.artandpoliticsnow.com

READING DILEMMAS IN PANDEMIC TIMES

The endless time of pandemic makes a reader long for a Beginning, a Middle, and an End. Most of all an ending. These simple qualities, and somewhat arbitrary divisions, have been missing from our experience of Time for some two years now. I find myself struggling to finish long books. Thus it was that I came to find the immense satisfaction in listening to short stories. Concise, though sometimes elusive, this literary form captures small moments but meaningful reflections on human existence. Short stories are the ideal antidote to wondering when it will all end because their endings come quickly, often with a twist or satisfying punch that has been missing from our everyday lives.

Through the Seattle Public Library, collections from New York's Symphony Space's Selected Shorts broadcasts are now available in an audio book format. Some fans of public radio Sunday afternoons may be familiar with the program in which stories that range from 5 minutes to a good half hour, are performed for a live audience and read by actors. These audio moments are arranged by theme: Pets, Falling in Love, Betrayal, etc. They range from the humorous to the

profane and the heartbreaking. Presenters include Stockard Channing and William Hurt as narrators of tales from the humid south to the cold plains of a Montana winter wherein a disabled cowboy experiences his first adult and unrequited Love. Or, in the case of Channing's South, a dysfunctional family and the determination of one of its members to move out and live in the post office. And there is a Philip Roth story of an unrepentantly curious Jewish boy; and, in the Pets collection, a tale of a woman raising a dragon in an apartment. Search for "Selected Shorts" on SPL's Libby app and be astounded by how many feelings can be compressed into a few thousand words.

If you are in the mood for something longer, consider the audio version of *Munich* by Richard Harris. Last weekend, when the too infrequent task of defrosting the freezer presented itself – ours being an appliance defying the norm of rapidly melting glaciers and exhibiting precisely the opposite in its vast and growing amounts of ice—we began listening to the tale of the few days surrounding the events leading up to the fateful meeting between Adolf Hitler and Neville Chamberlin in 1938. Echoes of high school history class about the man with the black umbrella and peace in our time come to life in this gripping historical novel. It illustrates how the action of a few powerful people can alter the course of History and has provocative parallels to today's Ukrainian crisis. Will diplomacy fail us again? Told with a great deal of detail and anecdote, this historical novel succeeds on many levels (though I hear the recent film of same does not). And it casts Chamberlin in a new light which makes one realize how important revisiting and revising history is. Which seems to be a topic of debate in this country now.

Rethinking a main character is also the pleasure of listening to the new translation of *Death in Venice* by Thomas Mann. Here Aschenbach, the main character, is painted no longer as a pathetic, repressed and somewhat creepy but more as a man deserving of the reader's (or in this case, listener's) empathy. Translation is a tricky business, we are told in an introduction by Jay Parini to this classic novella. It requires a translator capture nuance and sentiments that don't always have a word readily available. Consider that there is no equivalent for the word "privacy" in Russian that expresses how English speakers define it. Perhaps this knowledge would be helpful in dealing with current adversaries!

Another title I recently revisited was *To the Lighthouse* by Virginia Woolf. And speaking of quick endings, I remember the challenge of first reading it decades ago and wondering if Mrs. Ramsay and her brood were ever going to get to that damn lighthouse. Only now, because some things really do improve with age, it didn't matter. The exquisite language and tracing of impressionistic workings of the characters' thoughts made me wish the book would never end which contradicts my opening paragraph and is a good place to stop.

-Anne Depue



Seeking Sustenance...

MARCH IS WASHINGTON WINE MONTH

March is Washington Wine Month. Celebrate wines grown, cultivated and crafted right in our own backyard. In addition to celebrating all things Washington, March also begins the first real wave of pink wines for the year. Be sure to stop in the Market over the course of the month to see what new rosé is available! (Two or three may have sneaked in just ahead of Valentine's Day). Below are ten fan favorite Washington wines. Enjoy!

White

2020 Thurston Wolfe Albarino Yakima Valley (\$16.99)

High but not overwhelming acidity, vibrant peach/nectarine, and a dry taste create the perfect marriage in this high-quality wine. Albariño is a fantastic choice for pairing with exquisite dishes like ceviche, fish tacos, seafood pasta, and shrimp. —Winemaker notes

2020 L'Ecole No 41 Semillon Columbia Valley (\$14.99)

Refreshing and richly textured, this expressive Semillon shows vibrant kiwi, honeysuckle, and melon notes set against a spicy, citrus peel character. On the palate, it is supple and flavorful, replete with flavors of quince, fig, and stone fruit, persisting to a balanced, succulent finish.

-Winemaker notes

2021 Airfield Sauvignon Blanc Yakima Valley (\$12.19)

Displays bright citrus aromas of fresh squeezed grapefruit, lime peel, guava, and hints of lemongrass. The palate is layered with flavors of candied pineapple, tangerines, and light floral notes. The finish is clean and accentuates the wine's natural acidity for a crisp, refreshing finish.

-Winemaker notes

Red

2018 Abeja Heather Hill Cabernet Sauvignon Walla Walla Valley (\$69.99)

Aromatics of ripe huckleberry layered with earth, cloves, toasted almonds and savory herbs. Pomegranate opens on the palate and plays with notes of grilled rosemary and meaty black olive. Finally, melted dark chocolate appears creating a subtle sweetness throughout a lengthy finish.

-Winemaker notes

2019 Dunham Cellars Trutina

Columbia Valley (\$27.99)

Opens with gorgeous aromas of dark cherry, plum, star anise and tobacco leaf. On the palate, dark fruit flavors mingle effortlessly with notes of dried apricot and espresso. Elegant, polished tannins carry the wine through a velvety and delicious finish. -Winemaker notes

2019 Walla Walla Vinters Merlot

Walla Walla Valley (\$24.99)

Dried herbs and a dusting of cocoa powder falls upon the core of dark fruits on the nose. The palate is fresh and linear with good structure and tension. Ripe dark currants mingle with blackberry compote, chocolate cake and minerals on the palate. -Winemaker notes

2019 Mark Ryan Board Track Racer

Malbec Columbia Valley (\$23.39)

Our first ever Malbec for the Board Track Racer lineup! This 2019 blend gives violet, black cherry, and hints of chocolate on the nose. Floral characteristics on the palate combine with red fruits and a balanced acidity with a lengthy finish.

-Winemaker notes

2019 Januik Red Wine Columbia Valley (\$18.69)

The nose is filled with expressive blackberry, raspberry and chocolate notes. On the palate, the wine is overflowing with fresh berry and spice flavors. A concentrated and balanced mid-palate follows into a nice supple finish.

-Winemaker notes

★ LESCHI MARKET BEST SELLER 2021

2019 Novelty Hill R.S.R. Columbia Valley (\$15.99)

Loaded with dark fruit aromas and layers of sweet cherry, black currant, and wild blackberry. The flavors echo across a fresh, fruit-forward finish that lasts. Blend: 65% Cabernet Sauvignon, 31% Merlot, 4% Cabernet Franc.

-Winemaker notes

★ LESCHI MARKET BEST SELLER 2021

2019 Thurston Wolfe Dr. Wolfe's Family

Red Horse Heaven Hills (\$14.99)

Zinfandel lends a mid-hitting smoky tobacco overlay. Dried blueberry flavors move to compliment the savageness of the Petite Sirah's bold dark chocolate and coffee tones. The



...in the Wilds of Seattle

Lemberger has spice cabinet qualities and crisp acidity, whole black pepper and red cherry. -Winemaker notes

★ LESCHI MARKET BEST SELLER 2021

-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.

AN ODE TO GROCERY OUTLET

I had a strange phone call recently; when I answered ‘Hello?’ someone asked, ‘Is this the Leschi News?’ I stumbled in my answer as no one EVER calls; they always email. Despite my hesitant answer, the caller went on enthusiastically. He lives on Camano Island but comes to Grocery Outlet at least twice a month for the good deals, for the cheerful staff and most of all for Steve Mullen, owner and hard worker. The caller felt we were not appreciating Steve. I pointed out that we had given him the coveted Leschi Star award several years ago, but later I thought about the ‘several years ago’ part and felt we could do more. Since we gave that award, Steve has had to deal with Covid and created a safe space for shoppers. One must wear a mask to enter; the cashiers are protected by a plastic shield and wipes are handy to clean cart handles. Steve is not hidden in an office; he is out in the store helping to

stock shelves and greeting customers. If you want him to carry a product you haven’t been able to find, just ask. He will try! What else do I appreciate about this store? The staff: always cheerful and helpful and my husband tells me they ask about me if they haven’t seen me in a while. I appreciate the organic selections in produce, the fact that I can find a small chunk of English cheddar cheese for our two-person family and there are often biscotti which I feel should be a part of everyone’s diet. Satisfying crunchiness without too much sugar and fond memories of being in Italy and dipping your biscotti into a nice glass of Tuscan Red. And just when I begin to despair that Spring will never come, flowers appear outside Grocery Outlet lifting my spirits! But most important, I appreciate the fact that Steve is a community person and gives back to the community that supports him! We have not had any events where we provide refreshments since COVID, but we could always count on Steve to help. He may live way out there beyond the city lights, but he’s a Leschi kind of guy to us!

-Diane Snell



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LESCHI COMMUNITY COUNCIL

LESCHI CC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 2 /7/22

Attendance: Ashley Martin, Mattias Linnenkamp, Diane Snell, Janice Brown, Yun Pitre

March Leschinews

- Submittal deadline: February 14
- Mattias—to confirm ads for March
- Janice—to provide Leschi Artwalk planning committee meeting dates
- Diane—to copy Ashley on Leschinews email to Rachelle so that newsletter items could be pulled for LCC website and LCC email notification

Board Business

- March General Meeting topic and guests: Guest—Paul Talbert from Friends of Seward Park, who wrote Wild Isle in the City: Tales from Seward Park's First 100 Years.
- Treasurer's Report:
 - More than 50% of contributions came through PayPal over the past two months
 - FOSE coffers have been filled over the past two months with several donations
 - Submitted notarized documentation requested by WA Treasury to reclaim our abandoned PayPal account funds
 - Leschi Star awards were procured—I have 8 of them
 - Reviewed all restricted funds with Diane and have contacts/next steps
 - Proposal for managing any new restricted funds sent out to all board members for review. Will put together a revised version, based on conversation that further tightens up the requirements.
- Renewal letters sent to members who are behind in dues.
- Update on soliciting advertisers—No update
- Feature restaurants in Leschinews
 - Provide promotional discount for \$10 off on business card advertisement for one month in Leschinews
 - Matthias/Ashley/Diane will work on marketing materials which may include
 - PayPal instruction
 - Promotional discount info
- Alignable: Keep as an idea for future fundraising possibility.
- Migrating the Leschinews and community council email accounts—Mattias will look into this further
- Meeting minutes distribution—Distribute copy of the draft meeting minutes to LCC board members. Corrections to draft minutes to be sent to Leschinews editor, Diane.
- Staircase work party dates—Diane will send out dates once confirmed
- Discussion on board business associate position—Yousef is still interested in keeping the position.

- Central Area organization update
 - East Precinct Advisory Committee, EastPAC, convenes meeting with the department and community on public safety issues. Diane volunteered to be a board member and is waiting to hear back on her offer
 - Community Policing Committee, CPC, meetings on the overall progress of the Consent Decree. Next CPC meeting is on March 8th
 - Topic: Use of Force**
 - Join Zoom Meeting:
 - <https://zoom.us/j/96694242277?pwd=N2F0ekFib3R0R2dpNTQvNW9qTXlzQT09>
 - Meeting ID: 966 9424 2277
 - Passcode: 948051
 - Central Area Neighborhood District Council (CANDC)—Diane attends this meeting. CANDC would like to reconnect with the city. The intent is to have a way for neighborhood concerns be reporting directly to the City. CANDC asked each member organizations to vote on the proposal. Leschi board members voted as follow: 3 Yes, 1 Abstain. Diane will contact board members who could not attend the meeting to weigh in.
- Discussion on the draft outline of letter to Parks Department about special requests for 2022—tabled for next month

~Yun Pitre

	Income	Expenses	Balance 1/31/22
General Fund			
Ad Revenue	\$630.00		
Dues	\$427.03		
Donations	\$429.69		
Reimbursement			
Insurance			
Printing and postage		(\$1,002.02)	
Other Expenses		(\$141.01)	
Totals	\$1,486.72	(\$1,143.03)	\$14,066.39
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		\$4,554.87
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	\$1,931.25	(\$1,143.03)	\$44,702.78
Certificate of Deposit	\$0.08		\$11,256.50

Support your community by joining the Leschi Community Council!

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

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

LCC supports the Instrumental Music Program at Leschi Elementary

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

LCC supports the Central (Central Area Senior Center)

LCC produces the Leschi News 10 times a year

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

\$15 student/low income/ senior membership

I am making an additional donation for LCC work

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PAYPAL IS BACK! Our treasurer, Matthias Linnenkamp, closed our defunct PayPal account and opened a new one so now you have 2 ways to pay your dues: by check or by PayPal. We will work on adding PayPal to our subscription form.

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

LESCHI COMMUNITY COUNCIL MONTHLY MEETING

March 2, 2022 at 7pm
Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Please join us online at <https://zoom.us/join>
Meeting ID: 817 4472 0727
Passcode: 914455

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

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leschinews

The next Leschi News deadline is **MARCH 22**. Mail all articles, comments, letters, advertisements and membership dues to this address:
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or email Diane Snell at leschinews@comcast.net

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

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