

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

CENTRAL AREA ***CANDIDATE FORUM***

Join us on October 12 for a last look at our candidates before the general election.

District 3 candidates, Pamela Banks and Kshama Sawant, will be present as well as candidates for the two city-wide districts: District 8, Tim Burgess and Jon Grant, and District 9, Bill Bradburd. (Lorena Gonzalez has cancelled.).

Candidates will answer prepared questions, Rapid Response questions and questions from the audience. Catered refreshments will be available.

This forum is sponsored by the Central Area Neighborhood District Council, the Central Area Senior Center, the A. Philip Randolph Institute and the Leschi Community Council.

CENTRAL AREA SENIOR CENTER, 500 30TH AVE. S.

October 12, 6-8pm

inside the news

- 4 ArtWalk
- 5 Tax Assessor Meeting
- 6 Warm Winter on Tap
- 10 Creative Activism



**SAVE THE
DATE**
**Halloween
Spooktacular!!!**

October 31, 4-6pm. Look for the tent in Leschi Park!

Presidents' Message

The room was packed at our September Leschi Community Council meeting as King County Tax Assessor, Lloyd Hara, brought his staff to discuss how the new residential valuations were done. He explained after the meeting that the last valuation was done in a downturn, so the contrast was all the more surprising. He was not able to tell us how this new assessment translated into our 2016 taxes, as the taxes are affected by more than the assessment; the levies we vote for are a separate piece which can increase our taxes. The staff sent some Q & As for our website: leschinews.com.

Thanks to all who attended our 4th annual ArtWalk, which was expanded this year to include more activities for children. We had participation from more businesses this year. Our dentist, Dr. Bilikas, supported the event with widespread advertising and he supplied the awesome 24 ft. slide in Leschi Park. His staff worked that day to fill helium balloons for the kids and to demonstrate the new flags for the crosswalks. Thanks to Dr. Mike and his staff for this community project!

Thanks to everyone who helped with set-up and take down, to everyone who showed and hopefully sold their treasures, and all of you who came by and stopped at the Community Council table to chat. It is fun to see the faces which go with a particular mailing label! Every month, your 2 presidents stick the mailing labels on the newsletter and are so grateful for the community support, but often we wish we knew the folks behind the label. We had good conversations and we hope to see you again!

In October we will hold a candidate forum on October 12 in place of our regular first Wednesday meeting. We joined with the Central Area Neighborhood District Council, the Central Area Senior Center and the A. Philip Randolph Institute to host this event for District 3 candidates and the 2 city-wide districts, 8 & 9. We will ask them some prepared questions which are ongoing concerns of neighborhoods and leave time for questions from the audience. This is our first election under the new method of electing our City Councilmembers by District. The forum runs from 6-8pm and we will have some substantial munchies as we know this falls in the dinner hour. Do come and vote for the person who most reflects your views!

Calling all witches, dragons and pirates! We will have a tent in Leschi Park this year to spook you, to treat you and to take your photo for the Leschi website. So many creative costumes last year have us waiting expectantly for this year's offerings!

Be the change you want to see in the world. -Gandhi

-Diane Morris & Diane Snell

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

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A letter to park commissioners

In lieu of an editorial by your editor, we have chosen to print an eloquent letter from Leschi residents opposing active sports in natural areas.

To: Board of Park Commissioners

Dear Park Board,

We write to express our Strong OPPOSITION to initiating 'active sports facilities' into Seattle's Frink Park, the woods by Peppi's Playground and the Leschi/Lake Dell Natural Area. These so-called 'active sports' (including mountain biking, orienteering, rope challenges and zip lines) are inappropriate for Seattle's city parks because they are completely disruptive to citizens using the parks as a place to connect with nature and as an oasis from the stresses of city life. Furthermore, the parks and natural areas harbor sensitive native plantings, likely to be damaged by people biking, tramping and zipping through these green spaces.

We live directly across from Frink Park and can attest to the lack of infrastructure available to support any initiation of 'active sports' there. Local residents rely on the available on-street parking, there are no restrooms in the immediate area and only one trash can, now used most often by dog-walkers. The increases in traffic, noise and trash that would accompany the initiation of 'active sports' in Frink and Leschi parks would completely overwhelm the available infrastructure and disrupt the activities people currently enjoy.

We ask that you refrain from initiating 'active sports' in any Seattle park, and especially those in the Leschi, Mount Baker and Madrona neighborhoods. These natural areas should remain green spaces that bring joy and



tranquility to residents. They should not be used as places for companies to make money on 'active sports' that would degrade the habitat. Initiating these activities would be short sighted, as the revenue the Park Board might receive to manage the activities, could never compensate for damage done to the natural areas.

Plants, wildlife and people depend on our city parks, which act as lungs and filters for our air and water.

Please keep 'active sports' in places where organized sports activities take place. Do not use our natural areas to generate income for the Seattle Parks and Recreation department, when other places for mountain biking or zip lining are available.

Sincerely,

Sue E. Moore, P. Dee Boersma
Leschi residents

Editor's note: We had no room to cover the Transportation Levy in this issue, but you can watch the presentation at the League of Women Voters' Meeting on www.seattlechannel.org. We will also cover some of the salient issues on our website: leschinews.com



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Neighborhood & Beyond

2015 ARTWALK

Leschi was blessed with sun and warm weather for our Fourth Annual ArtWalk, which was expanded this year to include more activities for children and more music groups. Local musicians performed: Brooke Ritchie, SPU student who sang and accompanied herself on guitar; Thanks in Advance, a trio of two guitars and violin from the Seward Park area, performing folk and blues; In Rio Time, a Brazilian Jazz group of local musicians from the Jazz Night Class in Columbia City; and Walking Faces, a 2 person harmonic rock 'n roll duo, transplants from Vermont, who marveled at the beauty of the venue with the lake and mountains behind them as they performed. Thanks to the Leavitt Lake Center and the Leschi Community Council for underwriting the musical events.

Art booths included colorful paintings by Stephanie Tschida, glasswork and several jewelry makers. Sally Wagner's work boots and cowboy boots stuffed with thriving succulents were a big hit! Crafts included our favorite chocolatier, Herman Lanier, and a new addition, FUNK, who offered samples of his BBQ sauce, which he has been perfecting since age 10 at his mother's knee.

Children enjoyed the talents of our face painter, the helium balloons from 32 Pearls, Shave Ice from Park Postal and an awesome slide in Leschi Park, courtesy of Dr. Bilikas.

At the Leschi CC table, neighbors tried to find their own house on our map of the Leschi neighborhood. Many folks signed up to receive the Leschi News to keep track of events. Jim Snell brought a laptop to show off our website, created by our talented website guru, Allan Fink. Visit us at Leschinews.com

Leschi Market offered a special deal on Prime Rib sandwiches that proved to be wildly popular; the meat dept. went through nine prime rib roasts during the ArtWalk hours of 11-4! The Leschi Market has been a key player in this event for all 4 years, contributing funds when



Photo courtesy Kim Murillo

we were running short and loaning Yousef for the day! We do need some heavy lifters!

A special project was kicked off during the event: Katrina, hygienist at 32 Pearls, had expressed concern about safety in crossing Lakeside at the crosswalk by Park Postal, as there are usually large trucks or vans there, blocking the view of the crosswalk by oncoming traffic. Leschi CC provided information about the pedestrian flags and 32 Pearls staff took this on as a community project; see some of the staff in the photo as they demonstrate use of the flags. A special thank you to Yun Pitre at the Neighborhood Service Center for obtaining the flags.

Thanks to Bart Evans of Blu Water Bistro for hosting the orientation meeting for the vendors, and to Chris Gribskov at Park Postal for producing all the posters and postcards AND providing the Shave Ice during the event. It does take a village; this was a great team effort between the Leschi Business Association and the Leschi Community Council. We are looking at the date of September 10 for 2016; put that on your 2016 calendar!

Found: small leather coin purse by the slide in Leschi Park—contact leschinews@comcast.net

—Diane Snell

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MEETING WITH THE TAX ASSESSOR

Of the two sure things in life, one seems to raise hackles and stir passions more than the other, and it's not the one that comes at the end of the story. While most folks on this continent get more worked up about taxes in general than we do, say, breathing our last breath, we also tend to reserve a particular sensitivity toward property tax. Perhaps it's because most of us see 'property' as a 'right'; perhaps it's because for the average home owner, real

estate represents the only vestige of wealth to our name; or perhaps it's because the connection between cost and benefit is not always so clear for everybody to grasp when it comes to taxation. Such was the background hum for the Leschi Community Council neighborhood meeting with the King County Assessor's office on September 2, 2015.

For our guests, the concept of the evening's program was essentially a primer on the assessment process, with just a taste of self-promotion sprinkled in. For several in the audience this was actually an opportunity to air individual tales of bureaucratic woe, waving their tax evaluation notice for all to see. Assessor Lloyd Hara – a seasoned elected official who also served at the Port of Seattle and was City of Seattle treasurer for three years – introduced the presentation with the key explanation that Washington State is one of only two in the country (the other being Ohio) where the tax rate is not locked in from year to year, but varies, largely dependent on voter-approved levies. He also pointed out that his office does not collect taxes – that is the job of the treasurer – and offered that for seniors, the segment of the populace most at risk for genuine impact of rising property tax, there are grants to defray that potentially debilitating burden.

Hara then turned the reins over to Residential Division Manager Debra Prins to explain the sausage making that inspired the packed house turnout. Clearly not one to brook trivialities, the 17-year King County veteran Ms. Prins displayed an intensive, tough-but-fair sort of engagement with her work that conveyed if nothing else, a sort of confident objectivity. She explained that their department performs physical property specific evaluations every six years, working in sections at a time throughout our immense county the size of Delaware, with over 750,000 total properties to assess.

One of the sections to receive the physical assessment this past year is #14, which runs along the lake from Madison Park down to Mt. Baker. The western boundary varies and wasn't exactly clear on the projected display (and Ms. Prins didn't have the patience to explain), but in the vicinity of South Jackson Street it appeared to be around 32nd, which meant it didn't include the block where the meeting was held (the Central Senior Center), let alone the houses for a fair portion of the attendees; at best, the zone includes a scant half of Leschi. The median property value in that water-related strip is over \$1.1 million. The re-evaluation involves looking up any activity for each address, permitting as well as sales, which would indicate if there are actual improvements that took place on the property. They also walk the neighborhood and photograph each property from the street. For properties in areas not included in the current year's intensive assessment process, they use a statistical-driven method based on nearby property sales to determine how values are trending.

The staffers repeated Hara's point that the assessor's office is not the tax-collecting authority, adding that they also do not conduct the process of appeals internally since that would be a conflict of interest. They stressed the advantage of using their website for appeals, saying

it expedites the process immensely, braving the iffy WiFi connection of the Central to do an on-the-fly demonstration of the site's capabilities. Even with an occasionally balky internet, the site came across as an impressive tool, with mapping functions that would allow a user to slice and dice the county into any divisions they see fit, developing statistical profiles of property values with a whole host of parameters to play with.

One common misunderstanding Hara's team dispelled was the tax collection limitation: the 1% limit applies to how much a taxing district can increase in annual revenue (aside from new voter-approved levies), NOT to how much an increase individual property owners may see from year-to-year.

In the days preceding the event, a discussion thread blossomed on the social-networking site Nextdoor.com, largely in response to verbiage in our announcement for the event, titled Sticker Shock and referring to the evaluation notices as something, "we all received." While several commenters on the site took umbrage with that admittedly sweeping generalization, others in attendance at the meeting had a slightly different take, including one who requested that the assessment notices also be sent to renters as well as owners. This way they can make the connection between the rent and property tax, something to consider whenever they vote on a levy, because, he posited, renters just do not get that connection. Another attendee raised a far more essential question: is increased property tax an appropriate source of revenue, given what it

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does to housing affordability, and by extension, the overall makeup of the population of our city? No doubt, that's the elephant in the living room, but also a larger question than the assessor's office is in a position to answer.

After the meeting was over, I asked one of the staffers about the not-too-distant past, around 20 years ago, when it was commonly understood that the assessed value of a property was only an index of sorts, not an actual market value, and was typically 25% less than what a property might appraise or sell for. Now in the information age, it seems like the assessor's number has been brought in line with actual, predictive market value, given all the tools that make that feasible. He confirmed absolutely that all of that is true. It is probably fair to say that this phenomenon is probably in part responsible for the aforementioned sticker shock.

For further information, check out the website <http://kingcounty.gov/depts/assessor.asp>.

-Jeff Floor

Editor's note: Please see our website at leschinews.com for questions and answers contributed by the Tax Assessor's Office.

A WARM WINTER ON TAP

In my opinion, there is no forecast more unnerving and difficult for a weatherman than a seasonal forecast. There are so many things you have to consider. What have the past few winters been like? What about the past few months? Is anything strange going on in the ocean or atmosphere? And most importantly, what do our vast array

of climate models predict? If you get something wrong, it doesn't just haunt you for a day. It haunts you for months!

It turns out that the ocean and atmosphere are indeed in a very strange state. We are in the midst of a very strong and still strengthening El Niño that is now predicted to become the strongest ever recorded. An El Niño is a periodic warming of ocean temperatures in the East/Central tropical Pacific and occurs every 2-7 years or so. What sets this El Niño apart is just how warm the tropical Pacific has become, and it has tremendous consequences for areas all around the world.

This makes this winter forecast relatively easy compared to years past. For example, last year featured average ocean temperatures in the tropical Pacific, and as a result, models were less confident about how winter would turn out. I believed we would be warmer than normal, but I did not foresee us smashing our all-time records for warmest winter temperatures or having such low snowpack throughout the Cascades and Olympics. With our strong El Niño already firmly in place, models are much more confident in our winter forecast. With that being said, what can we expect for this winter?

El Niño winters are generally warmer than normal in the Pacific Northwest, with precipitation near normal or slightly below. We get less mountain and lowland snow during these winters, and we get fewer major storms. Our last strong El Niño was in 1997-1998, and it followed these trends. The most reliable models show us having above normal temperatures and below-normal precipitation the entire autumn and winter. Meanwhile, places to our south, like California, will get wetter and cooler as the winter goes on. Southern California and the Desert Southwest in particular should get tons of help with their historic drought this winter.


However, I want to make one thing very clear. We should not see the record-breaking warmth that we saw last winter. Last winter's warmth was caused by a swath of warm water off our coast (it was dubbed "the Blob" by a UW professor), and the California storms associated with El Niño should help erode that warm water away. We will be warmer than normal, but we will not break any records.

So, Leschi residents, it looks like we're in for another warm winter. We will have enough rain to keep things interesting, but those snow shovels will probably stay tucked away!

-Charlie Phillips

Charlie Phillips, a Madrona resident, just received his B.S. in atmospheric sciences at the University of Washington. He writes for WeatherOn, a local organization that provides forecasts, blogs and podcasts for the Pacific Northwest. Check out their extended winter forecast on November 1 at weatheron.net.

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SENIOR CENTER UPDATE

The Sept. 16 member meeting focused on facility updates. Car2Go is sending seven employees to do some prep work for the reception/hallway remodel planned in early October. They will box up reception area supplies and take all paintings off the walls. New carpet will be laid. Center volunteers are being asked to sign up for inside or outside work. The Facilities Committee has selected several types of bulbs to plant in beds and planter boxes.

Kitchen: Stove is not working and needs to be replaced. A new stove has been identified and the resources are available to purchase it, but the city needs to give its approval and issue a permit. The chef has opted for gas, rather than electric. A gas stove is cheaper to purchase, but installation is more expensive. Ongoing utility use is much cheaper than electricity. Recent repairs on the walk-in freezer and fridge are hoped to keep these appliances going for a while longer. A member questioned any need for linens, but Director Dian Ferguson said table linens are adequate; the kitchen might need some potholders, dish towels and dishcloths.

Concerns were expressed about the parking lot; there have been some falls due to potholes and the uneven surface. The Center is getting bids on resurfacing, and they are in the neighborhood of \$27,000. Dian visited 4 Culture (the cultural services agency for King County) as they are giving grants to organizations that have connections to the arts; the Center qualifies with art classes, the Memory Lane project and the support of local music groups. A grant

has been applied for and they will know in November if the Center bid was successful.

Bids and plans for a ramp to get folks to the lower level turned out to be disappointing, especially in the amount of land sacrificed to the ramp. This has encouraged them to look at the lift option again. Master Builders feels that they can make the outside lift operational. (This lift is more modern and less costly to operate; parts are available for this lift, unlike the inside lift.)

Weatherization plans are being considered; the spaces under the doors to the patio allow much heat to escape. Utility costs are the second highest monthly expense (staffing is the first.) If you have an interest in facilities, the committee meets twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 7-8:30pm.

Events

The Mayor will be meeting with Dian and Senior Services to discuss sale of the building to Senior Services. The City is very interested in the housing option: low income housing for seniors.

The Senior Services Soiree is held on September 26, and the Center is contributing a number of auction items. The proceeds from the sale of these items will directly benefit the Center.

BAKE SALE: a fundraising bake sale is planned for the 3rd Thursday in October, the October birthday lunch day. There is always a big crowd for the Birthday lunch and therefore, a receptive audience for goodies. Anyone who wishes to bake a goodie for this event should take their donation to the Center the morning of October 15.

Leschi Lakecenter and Yacht Basin

Moorage, offices, shops and restaurants where Lake Washington Blvd. meets Lakeside Ave. - www.leschi-lakecenter.com

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The Membership Dinner will be held on October 24, where all the lifetime members are honored.

Finance & Budget: It now costs \$54,000 per month to operate the Center. Staffing is the biggest budget item. The Center has hired a long-time kitchen volunteer to be a part-time employee, and they are looking for another building attendant, who will also be a van driver.

CASC Classes

Please note: The Central Area Senior Center is excited to be getting a facelift in our front entryway and hallways! Renovations will take place from October 1 to October 9. We appreciate your patience and flexibility while we go through this project as some classes and activities may need to be cancelled and/or moved to a different room, we will keep everyone informed as we know more about what changes will take place.

DIABETES WORKSHOP *FREE*

Thursdays: 10AM-12PM (starts again on October 8)

Do you want to know how you can effectively manage and prevent diabetes? Join CASC's free weekly diabetes workshop to learn about effective lifestyle habits as well as nutrition guidelines to help manage diabetes! The first half hour of each class (10-10:25am) includes physical movement sessions led by volunteer personal trainer, Mr. Osodiye Olomo and then Dr. Juana Royster leads an education session until 12PM. Drop-ins welcome!



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AFRICAN AMERICAN CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

Third Wednesdays from 10:30am-12pm

Are you caring for someone with memory loss? Join the Alzheimer Association's African American caregiver support group at the Central Area Senior Center, which offers a consistent and caring place for people to learn, share, and gain emotional support from others who are also on a unique journey of providing care to a person with memory loss.

GREEN DOLPHIN STREET LOUNGE

Friday, October 16: 6PM-9PM

Join the Central Area Senior Center for dancing, a no-host bar, appetizers and live music featuring Filé Gumbo on October 16! Filé Gumbo played their unique blend of Louisiana musical styles on Tuesdays at the New Orleans Restaurant in Seattle's Pioneer Square for 15 years. The group has made several recordings and has appeared with Queen Ida, Katie "Queen of the Swamp Boogie Piano" Webster, Buckwheat Zydeco and the Sundogs. Filé Gumbo makes you feel like you're on the bayous of Southwestern Louisiana! Admission is \$20 for non-members and \$15 for lifetime members. Please call 206-726-4926 to make a reservation!

-Joie Hsu Program Coordinator

Hours: Tuesday-Friday from 7:30am-5:30pm.

(206) 726-4926 ext. 209

joieh@seniorservices.org

POWELL BARNETT PARK CHANGES COMING

Re: Natural Area Restoration at Powell Barnett Park

(A letter sent to residents from the Parks Department)

This is to notify you and other neighbors immediately adjacent to Powell Barnett Park that Seattle Parks and Recreation will be improving the natural area behind your home, starting in September 2015. The work will include removing invasive plants (like blackberry, English ivy, and English holly) and replacing them with native plants that provide important habitat for birds, pollinators and people. In addition to restoring your greenspace, our efforts will improve sightlines for your safety while accessing the park.

Did you know that research shows that people who are exposed to greenspaces report a stronger sense of neighborhood unity? Kids are also less likely to have attention and behavioral issues after being exposed to green settings. In addition, homes that are adjacent to naturalistic parks are valued 8-20% higher than comparable properties.

This work is part of a citywide effort to improve the health of natural areas in Seattle's parks called the Green Seattle Partnership. Thousands of hours of community support have already improved your neighborhood parks, including Frink Park, Madrona Woods and Leschi Natural

Area. To learn more about Green Seattle Partnership and how you can get involved, please visit www.greenseattle.org. We would love your help stewarding this park.

If you have questions, concerns, or are interested in helping, please do not hesitate to contact me at lisa.ciecko@seattle.gov or 206-386-1371.

DENTAL TIPS FROM DR. MIKE

According to the American Association of Orthodontists, nearly 90% of patients request tooth whitening. That's a lot of people who are conscientious about their smile. If you are among those who wonder if your teeth could be brighter, here are six things you should know.

- There are a number of reasons that your teeth may have darkened. Some of them you have control over and some you don't. What you eat and drink can stain your teeth. Coffee and tea, soda (even light sodas), wine, brightly colored fruits and vegetables, and obviously, tobacco products can all have a detrimental effect on your teeth color. Stains on the outside of the teeth are not usually difficult to remove, and most people have good results from teeth whitening for these reasons. Age can also darken your teeth, as the enamel layer gets thinner and more of the yellow colored dentin shows through. Medications can have a darkening effect on your teeth as well, especially from antibiotics like tetracycline and doxycycline when the teeth are forming either in the womb or as a baby. Certain antihistamines, antipsychotics and high blood pressure medications can darken teeth, too. Also, ingesting too much fluoride can discolor your teeth.
- Teeth whitening does not work on all teeth, nor correct all types of discoloration. Yellow teeth tend to whiten well, but brown teeth are harder to whiten, and gray tones may not whiten at all. Whitening does not work on caps, fillings, crowns or veneers, either, and is not effective if the discoloration is from trauma or medications.
- There are three ways to brighten your smile. In-office whitening is a procedure done by your dentist office and consists of bleaching your teeth after a shield is applied to protect your gums. Most procedures only require a single visit. The second way is by bleaching your teeth at home. This should be done under the advisement of your dental professional, who can guide your choice of products to assure your satisfaction. They typically come in a gel, but can also be strips or swabs that contain bleaching agents (either hydrogen peroxide or carbamide peroxide). These will work to bleach the enamel. The most effective at-home treatment is to have bleach trays custom made by your dentist. The easiest but least effective way is by using whitening toothpastes. All toothpastes help remove surface stains through the abrasive action of the toothpaste components. Look for the ADA Seal for safe whitening toothpastes that have special chemical agents or polishing compounds

that provide additional stain removal properties. This form of whitening only works to remove stains, unlike bleaching that changes the color of the enamel.

- Not all people are candidates for tooth whitening. People with pre-existing tooth sensitivity, acid erosion, receding or sensitive gums, sensitivity to hydrogen peroxide, defective dental restorations, or tooth decay should not have their teeth whitened. Also, the color of your teeth may be a deciding factor, as mentioned above.
- The risks involved are small and usually temporary. Hypersensitivity is caused by open dentinal tubules and most often, it occurs during the early stages of the bleaching process. Hydrogen peroxide is an irritant and at concentrations of 10% or higher is potentially corrosive to mucous membranes or skin. This can cause a burning sensation and minor tissue damage that heals quickly once the treatment is concluded.
- Eventually, the teeth will return to their pre-treatment color. Therefore, whitening should be regarded as a temporary (although long-lasting, up to 5 years) cosmetic treatment that will make your smile brighter for a time. However, periodic touch ups can help it last even longer. Your dental professional can answer any questions and give advice on the best whitening option for you.

Through the end of the year, 32 Pearls is offering in-office whitening at a special cost of \$425 (regularly \$500), which also includes custom trays for at-home touch ups. Contact our office (206) 322-8862 to schedule a consult to see if you are a candidate for whitening.

Dr. Michael Bilikas, 32 Pearls



32 Pearls

Michael Bilikas, DDS, PS
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by Susan N. Platt, PhD.
www.artandpoliticsnow.com

In the midst of increased violence in our neighborhoods as a result of, among other issues, the disruption of gang territories caused by urban renewal and gentrification (such as the destruction of the community of Yesler Terrace), I am heartened to know that deeply committed people are focusing on creativity as a way forward. This month I am featuring the artist Cynthia Linet at Pipsqueak Gallery on 16th and Spruce, run by Neil (he prefers to be known only by his first name) and Coyote Central, an established hotbed of creativity at Cherry and 23rd Avenue, well known to Leschi residents for its beautiful public art work in Flo Ware Park. Cynthia, Neil and Coyote Central all believe making art heals society both for the person who makes it and for those who view it.

Let us start with Cynthia Linet and her journey to creating social justice art. Her life weaves through various twentieth century alternative life styles. Born in Brooklyn, she joined the counter culture of the 1970s at an early age.

Moving on her own out West as a teen ager, she joined the alternative extended Love Family of 350 people for six years, then moved to Haight Ashbury. Somewhere in that time, she decided to “get healthy” and took up wheatgrass: eating, and then selling, it at her own juice bar called Fountain of Youth.

Next came an interlude from alternative life styles. She earned a law

degree, and practiced law for seven years in Hawaii until she decided to return to Seattle in 2011. She has been a Raging Granny since 2013 and participated in the Port Blockade against Shell this summer.

Linet taught herself to paint based on a few classes now and then. She copied paintings by artists she admired. Much of her painting is portraiture or close up figures with socially provocative subjects. Since 2011, her paintings have focused on social issues starting with people such as the homeless, then the planet including floods and fires.

Her current exhibition “The Gun Show” at Pipsqueak, features 61 paintings about guns in America, all based on images the artist found on the Internet. The similar small format, the close up “portrait” style, makes the works shocking. These people are connecting the need to have guns to religion, to patriotism, to the perpetuation of racism. Cynthia creates a thick almost luscious surface that calls even more attention to the grotesque subject matter. Children and Guns, the last group, are the most horrifying. Little girls with pink striped guns, teddy bears, and more. We can hardly believe our eyes. The artist states: “While some may think that the brunt of gun ownership is those right wingers, the truth is far more frightening. People from all lifestyles, young and old, rich and poor, now feel the need to protect themselves from their fellow man. The images of guns and adults are startling enough, but the ones of children are really disturbing and the images of guns and religious figures, equating gun ownership to the love of God, are an affront to all God loving people.”



Cynthia Linet, *Girl with Teddy Bear and Ak 47 rifle with pink trim*

Ask me about real estate when you see me in Leschi!

EWING & CLARK

Kristine Losh
klosh@ewingandclark.com | 206.953.6786

The works are not for sale. Neil, the manager of the space, does not believe in participating in the capitalist economy in any way. His commitment to showing art by marginalized people that refuse to work with the system means that his shows are truly radical. The exhibition is up until October 9.

The next show is “Surf Shop” by Mt. Octopus, critiquing surf and consumer culture in general. It will open with a matinee performance at 2PM on October 10. If you go to Pipsqueak, you are likely to see children making art there as part of a Free School alternative to the public schools, or meetings for activist groups. Friday

Film nights includes writing to political prisoners, and on Monday nights people talk about “Autonomous Actions Against Prisons.” After Neil mentioned all of these activities, he then stepped back and said, “wow isn’t this façade beautiful, it is a perfectly preserved storefront.” And he is right. It is a precious and beautiful space, particularly since it is used to make the world a better place, rather than for buying and selling.

PIPSQUEAK GALLERY

173 16th 98122 (no phone listed; hours vary.)

Not far away, Coyote Central, aka “Creativity in Action,” has been engaging creative expression with youth aged 11-14 for many years. They moved into the former Dilettante Chocolate outlet in 2011, but they have been creating public art projects all over our neighborhoods since 1986. Almost all the public art we see locally, in fact, was created by the Coyote “Hit the Streets” program, such as the big mosaic on the wall next to the Medgar Evers pool and the sculpture in front of Garfield Community Center.



Hip Hop dance class, photo courtesy Coyote Central

There are three programs, workshops called Studio Coyote, Hit the Streets (24 low-income kids work with 3 artists to create a public art work), and City Works, commissions for site specific installations. They have been invited by many businesses to make both permanent and temporary installations.

The approach is simple and impressive: Coyote hires professionals and invites kids to take workshops with them. These are not leisure events, but serious training and skill development in an amazing range of different techniques. For the upcoming Fall sessions, for example (registration has started at www.coyotecentral.org), courses include cartoon drawing, cooking (6 courses with chefs), photography, fashion design, filmmaking, bike repair, graffiti art, hip hop music and dancing, jewelry, robotics, welding, and magic.

Coyote seeks out “The everyday kid who has a spark of curiosity and wants to explore” as Marybeth Satterlee, one of the founders put it. “We want kids at this age to be exposed to all possibilities in creative fields that we can

conjure up and the opportunity to problem solve, think independently, and be recognized as creative people.”

The youth who take the classes at Coyote learn important life skills as well as technical skills. Here are a few quotes from them:

“The most important thing I learned at Coyote was how to work with people with different backgrounds!”

“I have learned to be open to new ideas because of Coyote.”

“At Coyote I learned how to find my own ideas and (that) I am creative. Also, to solve my own problems.”

Coyote has just hired an outreach coordinator, Byrn Mooney, to find the children who would not necessarily think of themselves as creative, or whose parents think they cannot afford to send them. There are many scholarships, and the enrollment is open to everyone regardless of their ability to pay. A lot of the funding comes from their annual Auction, which is coming up on November 14. Mark your calendars.

As a person who believes in creative expression and creative thinking as an essential part of life, I am deeply impressed by both of these organizations, as well as Cynthia Linet. All of them have a commitment to making the world a better place.

COYOTE CENTRAL

2300 E Cherry, 323-7276, coyotecentral.org



Skateboard graphics class, photo courtesy Coyote Central



Seeking Sustenance...

OCTOBER WINE TREATS

October. Cooler days followed by even cooler nights. Baseball enters the final inning of the long season, while football is just kicking off. Ordinary pumpkins turn into decorative jack-o'-lanterns. Neighborhood children transform into zombies, super heroes and Elsa's while in search of an endless supply of candy. While the kids look to fill their knapsacks with the sugary goodness, don't forget to treat yourself to some adult goodies as well.

The usual "Trick or Treat?" column is filled with nothing but treats, so no tricks here! The Leschi Market tasting panel has already done the homework for you. Sit back, relax and please your palate with the following tasty treats. Below are seven sinful suggestions.

2013 DeLille Cellars Chaleur Estate

Blanc Columbia Valley (\$36)

"Another stunning white. A blend of 65% Sauvignon Blanc and 35% Semillon. A sweet bouquet of buttered citrus, crushed rock, white flowers and toasted almond. One of the few serious white Bordeaux blends being made in the US, this medium to full-bodied beauty has a core of sweet fruit, integrated acidity, sensational purity and dry, clean finish. Drink now through 2017. -Wine Advocate, 94 points

2012 Dominio de Pingus 'PSI' Ribera del Duero Spain (\$30) (release price \$50!)

Peter Sisseck is the man behind the famed (and famously pricey) Pingus and Flor de Pingus. Now he is finally making a full-bodied, rich Ribera del Duero for the rest of us. Burgundian weight on the palate, with notes of Asian spice, dried violets, iron, graphite and smoke, enveloped with blackberries and blueberries. Drink now through 2017. Wine Advocate, 92+ points; James Suckling, 92-94 points.

2012 Walla Walla Vintners Merlot

Walla Walla Valley (\$27)

"If you are a chocolate lover this Merlot is for you! It contains 87% Merlot, 9% Cabernet Sauvignon and 4% Cabernet Franc. The fig chutney nose draws you in to the beginning of a moist chocolate brownie with roasted walnuts, a middle of white chocolate covered cherries, then takes you to the Ghirardelli salted dark chocolate, and toasted campfire s'mores finish. It is bright and balanced. Double Gold/Best of Class 2015 Walla Walla Valley Wine Competition." -William vonMetzger, Winemaker.

2013 Purple Hands Pinot Noir Willamette Valley (\$20)

Fantastic expression of Willamette Valley Pinot Noir by Cody Wright (son of Oregon winemaking icon Ken Wright). Wild red cherries and bright plums aroma and flavors in this light are very satisfying. Sweet cranberries, roses, violets and pie spice come through as well.

2013 Black Slate Escaladei Tinto Priorat Spain (\$18)

"A classic blend of Garnacha and Cariñena. The wine comes through as very fresh with some spiciness, nothing heavy or oaky about it. The tannins are silky, and the texture is very elegant. This is an elegant Priorat for those who avoid the dark, concentrated, powerful wines and who appreciate more the lovely side of a Mediterranean red. Great value too." -Wine Advocate, 92 points.

2006 Château Gigault Rouge Cuvée Viva

Premieres Côtes de Blaye (\$10)

Original release price was near \$20! Cuvée Viva is a rich, world class, modern claret. Aromas of exotic ripe red and black fruits with vanilla oak and spice. On the palate deep black cherry fruit with hints of spice and tobacco. 85% Merlot and 15% Cabernet Sauvignon. Drink now through 2017. "Consistently one of my picks as an overachieving wine from an unheralded, less prestigious appellation." -Robert M. Parker, Jr.

2014 Barone Fini Pinot Grigio Valdadige Italy (\$10)

Bonmartini-Fini says the complex aromas and flavors in his wines stems from the earth itself. "Our vines are planted in gravelly dolomite soil. You can actually see bits of shell in the soil from ancient seabeds that once covered the ground. Pinot Grigio requires rich minerals in the soil, along with good drainage." -Winery notes.

A+

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Have a great month everyone! One final announcement, or rather a SAVE the DATE! **Leschi Market's FIFTH Annual Madrona Fall Wine Tasting** event, the evening of Saturday November 14th. Details coming later this month. Join friends and neighbors and stock your wine cellar just in time for holiday entertaining. Always a great event to begin the holiday season.

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 wine column is intended to inspire and explore new choices in wine, learn about wine with his readers, and share his knowledge and experiences in the wine world. Check out the latest at **LeschiMarket.com** or request to be added to email updates or send questions, comments, or suggestions to **ken@leschimarket.com** and follow the wine department directly on twitter at **twitter.com/leschimarket**.*



LOVE THAT PHO!

BA BAR 550 12TH AVE.
206-328-2030, <http://babarseattle.com>
Open 9am-2am

I've eaten twice recently at Ba Bar, the 12th Ave. Vietnamese restaurant. And despite many other offerings, I've ordered pho both times because it is so delicious and satisfying.

Ba Bar's pho broth is wonderfully rich, but not at all greasy, and is served in an enormous white bowl with your choice of meats. Served on a large white plate with a variety of condiments encircling the bowl, one can doctor the flavor as desired (Vietnamese basil, jalapeño pepper slices, sriracha and hoisin sauces and bean sprouts). Of course, I add them all.

At \$10 per serving, Ba Bar's pho is a bit pricier than some, but I've not eaten with anyone who had room to indulge in dessert afterward, despite the restaurant's in-house pastry chef.

Located across 12th Ave. from Seattle University, there has always been a good crowd of university students, but the high ceilings ensure a very pleasant opportunity to converse with one's tablemates.

Ba Bar also offers a variety of "small plates" which I plan to try sometime, if I ever decide I've had my fill of their pho!

-Reviewed by Diane Morris



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LESCHI'S RESTRICTED FUNDS**as of August 31, 2015**

Sometimes it seems like we are sitting on enough funds to pay for all we want to do in the community, but in reality, the bulk of our treasury is in restricted funds. This means we can only use those funds for the purpose they are designated for; i.e., the majority of restricted funds are in the Officer Brenton fund and we can only use those funds to pay SDOT annually for the use of the parking strip (\$140) and for any upkeep or beautification. Sometimes the plants are replaced and these funds cover that cost. At this rate of expenditure, these funds should carry us into the next century! Some of these funds were put in a CD to earn at least a little interest.

Art Walk 2015	\$ 891.00	
Friends of Powell Barnett	\$ 1,089.96	
Cherry St. Corridor	\$ 635.76	
Flo Ware Park	\$ 2,595.73	
Friends of Street Ends	\$ 427.38	
Frink Park	\$ 2,323.71	
King Street	\$ 1,270.00	
Leschi Gateway Project	\$ 347.39	
Leschi Natural Area	\$ 2,465.73	
Officer Brenton Fund	\$ 4,619.99	CD \$15,665.00
String of Pearls	\$ 1,880.38	
SW Frink Park	\$ 1,233.08	
Whitebear Dream catcher	\$ 201.64	
<hr/>		
Restricted Funds	\$ 19,981.75	

The Art Walk will total out to zero when everything is paid in September, as this is not a moneymaking event. And none of us knows what the Cherry St. Corridor fund is; it predates your current Board and the two treasurers before. If you have questions about any of these funds, do contact us: leschinews@comcast.net

-Kim Murillo and Diane Snell

August Board minutes are posted on the website: leschinews.com

LCC EXEC BOARD MEETING MINUTES**September 7, 2015**

Attending: Diane Snell, Diane Morris, Janet Oliver, John Barber, Jeff Floor, Amy Fink, Traci Bier (some members were out of town for Labor Day)

Treasury—\$740 in donations were received in 2014, \$520 so far in 2015.

LURC—On August recess.

Art-Walk—The event is coming up on the 12th. Parks realized they had a scheduling conflict and may not be able to supply all the canopies, tables and chairs. BluWater came to the rescue and offered tables; Yousef Shulman offered all the chairs we needed. There is a concurrent event at Powell Barnett; John will attend to represent the council.

Tree-Walk—Saturday morning on the 12th, SDOT Tree Ambassadors, 9am to noon.

Parks—Meeting with Parks board on 9/10 and 9/24 to discuss sports issue.

The Parks contract needs Diane's signature.

No word yet on the corporate grant from Patagonia for the Leschi Natural Area.

John is working on the Leschi map to include the street end parks.

Moorage—Kim may work on a video about the moorage situation.

Programming

October: Candidate Forum. Diane still needs Board questions. The board discussed formulating questions about parks, affordable housing, homelessness in Seattle, and area transportation costs. The A. Phillip Randolph Institute will be sharing in the cost of catering.

November: Density/Housing

December: Holiday Party – last year's went well. We may opt for the same format this year.

-Submitted by Amy Fink

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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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☐ \$15 student/low income/ senior membership

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at 206.726.0923 to advertise to
your community.

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The next Leschi News deadline is **OCTOBER 19**. Mail all articles, comments, letters, advertisements, and membership dues to this address:
Leschi Community Council, 140 Lakeside Ave Suite A #2, Seattle WA 98122-6538
or email Diane Snell at leschinews@comcast.net

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november 2015 | calendar

*No Leschi Community Council meeting this month; join us at the Central Area
Candidate Forum Oct. 12, 6-8pm at the Central Area Senior Center, 500 30th Ave. S. (see cover)*

Oct. 3 Leschi Natural Area work party 9-3. Lunch & tools provided. 36th & Terrace.

Oct. 8 Central Area Neighborhood District Council 6pm The Central 500 30th Ave S.

Oct. 10 Seattle Neighborhood Coalition 9 is at The Central (Breakfast: \$14)

OCT. 12 CANDIDATE FORUM 6-8 CENTRAL AREA SENIOR CENTER (see cover)

Oct. 13 Leschi CC Executive Board Meeting 7:00 pm 128 30th (Diane Morris's); changed to Tuesday night due to Candidate Forum

Oct. 16 Green Dolphin Street Lounge 6-9PM featuring File Gumbo, Zydeco! Admission is \$20 for non-members and \$15 for lifetime members. Refreshments. No Host bar.

Oct. 17 Leschi CC stairway cleanup at Randolph stairs, a long stretch from Randolph to East Alder St. Meet at 10am at bottom of stairs on East Alder. Bring tools, especially brooms to catch those autumn leaves. 10-noon.

Oct. 22 EastPAC Meeting, 6:30pm, Chardin Hall, Seattle U. Parking off Jefferson past 12th on right.

**Contact John Barber about
String of Pearls work
parties at 206.324.1548 and
contact Darcy Thompson
for Frink Park work
parties at 206.325.4295.**

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or leschinews.com**