

# leschinews

## MARCH MEETING

Meet your Seattle City Council Member, Joy Hollingsworth, at our upcoming March meeting! Joy will give us an update on the most recent city initiatives that affect Leschi and its surrounding neighborhoods and will take questions from you. Whether you would like to know how the city allocates funds to projects you care about or have concerns or ideas that you feel the city may not look at - here is your opportunity to raise them. We all need to work together on making Seattle a great city to live and visit.

**Wednesday, March 5 at 7pm**


Grace United Methodist Church, Lower Hall.

Doors open at 6:45pm.

722 30th Ave S, Seattle, WA 98144

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**SAVE THE DATE**

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**APRIL 2**  
**Pier Update and**  
**2025 Parks Plan**

# President's Message

Hello Leschi Community!

Almost every seat was filled at our February meeting, where Paul de Barros took us on a virtual tour of historic jazz sites across Seattle, in the ID and Central District. If you missed the meeting, you can take your own tour at his website: [mcurrydesigns.wixsite.com/jacksonstreetjazz](http://mcurrydesigns.wixsite.com/jacksonstreetjazz)

It was wonderful to see both familiar and new faces at our community meeting. The meeting planning committee is focused on topics that will bring our community together.

Please see below for info about March and April meetings. You can submit questions for the meetings at [leschicouncil@gmail.com](mailto:leschicouncil@gmail.com). We are also very interested in your ideas about future meeting topics, so please send those our way as well!

On Wednesday, March 5, we will be joined by our Seattle District 3 City Council Member, Joy Hollingsworth. She'll bring updates on city initiatives and her team's work. Every time I've attended a District 3 event or heard Joy speak, I always appreciate her energy and how thoughtfully she engages with every individual.

On Wednesday, April 2, a team from Seattle Parks will join us with updates about the pier and the 2025 Parks plan.

Both the March and April meetings will start at 7pm at the Grace United Methodist Church. Thank you to the many recent subscribers and folks who renewed their LCC membership! Your support and donations are critical to the operations of the Leschi Community Council, including producing the Leschi News and paying for meeting spaces. And thank you to Nikola Davidson for spearheading this effort!



I also want to thank our volunteers for continued progress against the plan we drafted in January. This month I'd like to recognize the *Leschi News* distribution committee—thank you to Liz Marx, Linda Floyd, Gwen Rench, Anne Depue and Will Urban for ensuring that papers are mailed and available at our local pick-up points. And check out our newly refurbished newspaper box, next to the kiosk by BluWater. Thank you to Will for your handy work getting it ready!

I'm aware that this is a point that I will say repeatedly this year: it's a great time to get involved in your Leschi community! All are welcome and we will take any amount of time you're able to offer.

See you around the neighborhood.

Ashley Martin  
President, Leschi Community Council

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# COMP PLAN SHUFFLE

A Madrona neighbor offers the editorial this month as he observes the COMP PLAN shuffle:

The 79mB, 1,300 page Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS for acronym-lovers) has finally landed with a neighborhood-shaking thud.

[seattle.gov/opcd/one-seattle-plan/project-documents](https://seattle.gov/opcd/one-seattle-plan/project-documents)

*The Urbanist* says Madison Park, Mt Baker & Hawthorne Hills have already filed an Appeal, beating us folks in mild-mannered Madrona to the punch?

[theurbanist.org/2025/02/14/residents-in-seattles-most-exclusive-neighborhoods-file-appeals-to-delay-harrells-growth-plan/](https://theurbanist.org/2025/02/14/residents-in-seattles-most-exclusive-neighborhoods-file-appeals-to-delay-harrells-growth-plan/)

*“Madison Park filed an Appeal to have a supplemental EIS conducted because our neighborhood is lake bottom (Muddyson Park!?) and already has significant drainage issues and no stormwater system to manage them,” (The FEIS covers this - steep slope stuff too). Madison Park is not opposed to urban growth and the need for up zoning, and we want to work in partnership with the City to implement this growth.”* (sound familiar?)

It seems that fishy issues are one of the few allowable Appeal grounds (the FEIS covers these too). If this is so, then maybe the lakeside end of Madrona Drive would be something to emphasize even more, as we “work in partnership with the city to implement this growth.” But first we’d need to hire someone to read the entire 1.300 pages (I almost lost the will to live while doing so).

If all this eventually comes to naught, then a profoundly unserious conversation with a neighbor about what his former LA neighbor, the late great Frank Zappa, would have done, may actually contain a workable solution: <https://youtu.be/DmcYTShN4Fk?si=00S3wSgqf3o48im8>

Extensive research (Google AI) has revealed that Missoula Montana (pop. 77,757) is smaller than the UW (pop. 90,000?) and has urban density of ~2,500 residents/sq mile, compared with Seattle’s ~8,500. If all of us ~5,000 Madronans moved to Missoula we’d only increase this by around 6% and Missoula’s urban density would still be way less than Seattle. To comply with the current fashion for renaming things, maybe it could become Madsoula?

The neighborhood formerly known as Madrona could then be 100% tree canopy again—as it was for millenia, until the trolley cars arrived and we all got on board.

Meantime, Madrona may have an extra couple of months to fail to come up with any coherent alternative.

An 1892 photo of the original Madrona Hotel—where the bathhouse now stands and Cars & Coffee are celebrated every Sunday morning.

Note the streetcar and shelter. The first Madrona hillside homes came later.

## How Progressives Froze the American Dream:

The uber-liberal Atlantic Magazine explains the Madrona dilemma. It’s “a 30-minute read”—worth every one of them?

*Three principles—consistency, tolerance, and abundance—can help restore American mobility. Federal guidelines can make the environment more amenable, but the solutions by and large cannot come from central planning; states and cities and towns will need to reform their rules and processes to allow the housing supply to grow where people want to build. The goal of policy makers, in any case, shouldn’t be to move Americans to any particular place, or to any particular style of living. They should instead aim to make it easier for Americans to move wherever they would like—to make it equally easy to build wherever Americans’ hopes and desires alight.*

Need help in dealing with this?

Tree Grief:

*They cut down all the trees and put 'em in a tree museum  
Then they charged the people a dollar and a half  
just to see 'em*

Big Yellow Taxi, Joni Mitchell, 1970

The Stages of Grief:

(The Kubler-Ross model, according to Google AI)  
Denial, Anger, Bargaining, Depression, Acceptance

-Malcolm Harker



# Neighborhood and Beyond

## MARCH MEETING

We are excited to host Seattle Council Member Joy Hollingsworth at our March community meeting. CM Hollingsworth represents our district on the City Council. The City Council is currently made up of seven members who represent different districts throughout Seattle and two “at large” members whose role it is to represent all of Seattle. District 3 includes Capitol Hill, Madison Valley and the Central District, including Leschi and Madrona.

CM Hollingsworth is a 4th generation Seattleite. She has worked as an educator, community organizer and small business owner in our district. During her campaign in 2023, she promised to focus on addressing basic needs around housing, public safety, transportation and helping local businesses thrive, but also on bringing transparency and accessibility to city government.

While you may agree or disagree with certain initiatives the City Council has promoted, all can agree that CM Hollingsworth has been more available to our community than any council member in recent history. Her office publishes a newsletter, which contains updates on initiatives, a calendar of hearings, and opportunities for citizens to provide feedback and get involved. She regularly holds town hall-style meetings in our communities and is engaging with the community on solutions during crisis moments. Her dialogue with the community is real and mostly free of political platitudes.

As such, we are looking forward to our own town hall event! There are plenty of hot topics to discuss. CM Hollingsworth is leading the committee to finalize the Seattle Comprehensive Plan. The plan provides guidelines for how Seattle will accommodate and manage growth over the coming 20 years. The plan must balance accommodating growth with limiting displacement and giving everyone who works in the city an opportunity to live in the city. It also has to be integrated with a vision for how Seattleites will move around the city and the need for ample green spaces and a healthy tree canopy.

Besides the Comprehensive Plan, we are also hoping to hear about how we can advance traffic calming on Lakeside Avenue, an update on public safety initiatives, and the approach to funding park upkeep and enhancements.

This meeting is your opportunity to engage on these topics—whether you are just coming to listen and learn or have specific questions or concerns that you would like to voice. We hope to see you there!

Time and place: Wednesday, March 5, 7pm, at Grace United Methodist Church, 722 30th Avenue. Doors open at 6:45 pm. If possible, please send your questions beforehand to [leschicouncil@gmail.com](mailto:leschicouncil@gmail.com).

—Mathias Linnenkamp

## JACKSON STREET JAZZ TRAIL

*If you search for “Jackson Street Jazz Trail” you will arrive at the website that Paul de Barros presented at the last Leschi Meeting. It will walk you step by step from King Street Station east, stopping at the spots where the music took place.*

*[From the website:]*

Imagine a time when Seattle’s South Jackson Street bustled with revelers walking up and down the sidewalk at two o’clock in the morning, ducking in and out of nightclubs between Fifth Avenue South and Fourteenth Avenue South. When limousines pulled up to the curb at the Black Elks Club and dropped off women in diamonds and furs, and up the street a man called Neversleep hawked newspapers all night in the front of the Black and Tan. When music rang out till dawn and bootleg liquor flowed as fast as a soldier’s pay. This was the rich after-hours jazz scene that peaked between 1937 and 1951 in the Jackson Street Jazz District, nurturing the early careers of Quincy Jones, Ray Charles and Ernestine Anderson.

The district bridged two strikingly diverse neighborhoods, the Chinatown-International District (CID) and the Central District (CD). Chinese, Japanese and Filipino communities shared the CID, as they do today, along with the more recent Vietnamese community of Little Saigon; Black residents lived in the CD, though Jewish and Italian families were there as well. Seattle’s Black newspaper, *The Northwest Enterprise*, acknowledged the district’s diversity in 1933, describing Jackson Street as a “poor man’s playground,” where “all races meet on common ground and rub elbows as equals.” Though that was somewhat idealistic—the district had been created, after all, by real estate covenants (“red lining”) that excluded people of color from other neighborhoods—the description captured the area’s joie de vivre. It was a place, indeed, where whites joined Black people, Asians and other immigrant communities in the pursuit of pleasure and joy.

It was a remarkable moment in Seattle history, a time when intersecting migrations created an exciting new world. It was a world that brought together an arts-loving entrepreneur named Charlie Louie, from Guangzhou, China, who opened the Chinese Garden restaurant, and the virtuoso Black pianist and clarinetist Oscar Holden, a descendant of Midwest freedmen and freedwomen, who played there. Also in the mix were white college students, among them, Jimmie Rowles, who sat at the foot of pianists like Holden and then went on to a career that included accompanying Billie Holiday. For decades, such cultural crossings repeated themselves along Jackson Street like an infectious riff.

As you walk along this historic route, keep in mind that you will have to use your imagination. Though some stunning sights appear along the way, like the stylish murals painted in

the stairwell of the Club Royale or the beautiful white facades of the Rainier Heat & Power Company buildings, many of the old structures that housed the jazz clubs have been demolished. But as you stare out into peaceful Hing Hay Park or the green playfield of Bailey Gatzert School, scroll down to the historic photographs so you can see what stood there long ago, when the atmosphere on Jackson Street, as one player put it, “felt like Mardi Gras.”

-Anne Depue

## SIGN UP FOR THE EARTH DAY CLEAN-UP ON APRIL 26TH!

The Leschi Community Council is partnering with the Seattle SAKE Paddling Club, Friends of Street Ends, and Washington Water Trails Association for a joint work party on Saturday, April 26 from 11:30am-1:30pm. Enjoy food and refreshments before we split into two groups. One will grab grippers and trash bags to clean up the sidewalks along the water and the other will help remove invasive blackberries and put down wood chips along the shoreline. We'll meet at Leschi South Moorage (150 Lakeside Ave. South). Supplies will be provided but feel free to bring your own gloves and tools. If you have questions or need more information, reach out to [nikola.davidson@gmail.com](mailto:nikola.davidson@gmail.com). To sign up, go to [clubsake.com/events/272827](https://clubsake.com/events/272827).

## HELP REVITALIZE THE LESCHI NATURAL AREA!

For those of you who enjoy the views of Lake Washington and the Cascades from the Leschi Natural Area, you've probably noticed that it has become overgrown the past few years and is not quite the jewel it used to be. Located at East Terrace Street and 36th Avenue, the space has trails tucked into the woods and two different viewpoints. The Leschi Community Council has some dedicated funds for the space which will be used to hire a contractor to work on the steep areas (volunteers are prohibited from working on the slope). We need volunteers to help prune and clean up the flat viewpoint areas and trails. Let's bring the Leschi Natural Area back to its former glory! Want to join the work parties? Reach out to [nikola.davidson@gmail.com](mailto:nikola.davidson@gmail.com).

## MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

The LCC Membership Engagement Subcommittee has been making strides on its goals around engaging Leschi members. The group has updated the Subscribe tab of the LCC website making it easy for members to join or renew. As part of this effort, a QR code was created to simplify the process. This QR code was added to the *Leschi News* join/renew form as well as to a renewal form that was sent to each member whose supporting membership has expired. The group created a join form (with the QR code) now available at monthly meetings to make it easy for new members to join LCC. The group has also created a process for welcoming

new members after they join. The response to these efforts has been very positive with over 30 new and renewing members so far!

-Nikola Davidson



## LESCHI LITTLE LIBRARY!

The April edition of *Leschi News* will feature a map of Leschi's Little Libraries and will feature some of your favorites. Since they may not all be registered with the Little Free Library website, we want to make sure we don't miss any! Send the address or intersection of your favorite Little Library along with what you most like about it to [nikola.davidson@gmail.com](mailto:nikola.davidson@gmail.com).

## REMEMBERING ONE OF LESCHI'S MOVERS AND SHAKERS

Edward Stephen Singer, 12/7/31 to 12/9/24, was born in Detroit, earned a Bachelor's degree from the U of Michigan and a Doctorate of Law degree from Wayne State University. He was drafted to serve in the Korean War after graduation. He had met his wife, Joan, when they both worked for the Teamsters' Health Insurance division in Detroit. Ed was posted to Fort Lawton (1956-1958) where the two of them fell in love with the Northwest. Once Ed was discharged from the Army, they moved to Seattle where Ed worked for Boeing.

The 1960s Freedom Marches inspired Ed and friends to form the first Seattle Core chapter: Congress of Racial Equality where they fought racism in housing, schools and employment. Ed ran the training program in non-violent direct action. This successful struggle was covered in a book that Joan helped write: *Seattle in Black and White*.

Ed later helped to organize the largest demonstration in Seattle against the Vietnam war. He was selected to be the Director of the newly formed City of Seattle Dept. of Human Services; one of his many projects involved getting

the city to pay for curb cuts so vital to people using walkers and wheelchairs. Ed worked at saving Pike Place Market and became President of the Friends of Pike Place Market.

Remembrances can be made to the Pike Place Market Foundation, Southern Poverty Law Center, UNICEF, or any of the many groups helping humans and our planet in distress.

## SEATTLE INFANT DEVELOPMENT CENTER: AN OASIS OF LEARNING AND FUN

Finding the right daycare is a major challenge for most working families, and when one father saw his children's school did an exceptional job, he decided to show his appreciation by placing an ad in the February Leschines. "I wanted other parents to know about the Seattle Infant Development Center (SIDC) because it's a wonderful educational experience for young children," explained Dr. Lucas Butler. SIDC is a nonprofit childcare center in downtown Seattle that serves children from 1 month to 6 years old.

"My wife, Eleanor, went to SIDC three decades ago and we are delighted our two children shared the same nurturing experience," he said. "Eleanor's teacher is still with the school. Our children are surrounded by staff who care about making a difference in children's lives."

"We are a mini community, with an executive board made up parents who actively collaborate with teachers and staff," said Anna Garrity Executive Director SIDC. "This gives us the ability to innovate and create programs that respond to family needs."

After Covid many local childcare centers closed due to inflationary costs and employee retention problems. Other centers expanded operations and created large, "corporatized" facilities with rigid rules and high ratios of caregivers to children. In contrast, at SIDC there are no punitive measures for parents who get stuck in traffic on the way to pick up their children. Moreover, the center is currently considering setting up a Before Care program for children who need drop off between 6:30 am to 7:30 am. "Our teachers and aids recognize the unique characteristics of each child and integrate ideas and skills across a variety of learning styles," Garrity explained. "Learning is a joyful experience," Dr. Butler noted. "One example is the peace march held every year on Martin Luther King day. The kids make signs and crowns and march around the block singing We Shall Overcome."

Committed to the need to keep tuition affordable in our community, SIDC supplements operational costs with an annual Spring Auction. This year the event will be held March 21st at the Washington Athletic Club. It is open to the public. The center aims to raise \$50,000 to rebuild and refurbish a playground for 56 students. The size and layout of this playground is a unique asset for an urban childcare center.



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[www.sidckids.com](http://www.sidckids.com)



It will feature a nature-based play area and a garden where children can dig and plant vegetables, such as cherry tomatoes, watch them bloom and learn about the environment.

Funds will also be used for ongoing enrichment programs including field trips to the Seattle Public Library, the Aquarium, music classes at Freeway Park, donuts at the Pike Place Market, and Spanish language classes.

-Diane Aboulafia

## THE HAPPY-SAD STORY OF HORACE CAYTON

February was Black History Month. Instead of tackling the interesting and rich history of our Black neighbors, here is an overview of one Black pioneer, an unusual, sad-happy personal tale.

Horace R. Cayton's maternal grandfather's portrait was proudly displayed in his Seattle parlor. Grandfather Revels was a quiet gentleman and an ordained minister, a Doctor of Divinity, and had been a college president and U.S. Senator during Reconstruction.



Raised on Seattle's Capitol Hill in the early 1900s, Cayton recalled his family's two-story white house facing Volunteer Park. Quakerism permeated the home, a horse-drawn carriage stood outside the door, a Japanese servant was on duty, and "mixing" was avoided. Such "mixing" had nothing to do the white neighbors, but rather with what the Cayton family viewed as misbehaving Black residents occupying what was known as the "Sporting Areas" downtown and in the Central city. Newspaper editor Cayton and his family were aristocrats.

Cayton family activities devoted to what Cayton's mother called "uplift" were a family priority. "I will rise" societies were common features of early Black American communities, perhaps more social than sociological. For example, Cayton's mother founded the Dorcus Charity Club, referred to at the time by the *Seattle Times* as "the Darky's Charitable Club."

Cayton's blackness was realized when he ventured into other Seattle neighborhoods. For example, on Halloween Horace and his brother and sisters blackened their faces but avoided actually ringing a white family's doorbell. Cayton's mother once rushed

them into the basement and began furtively reading the Bible aloud. When her children asked what was wrong, she said "your father hit a white man."

Booker T. Washington visited Seattle during the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition (AYP) and stayed with the Caytons. The senior Cayton proudly showed his guest the great Seattle mansions of Capitol Hill. Washington, however, to the chagrin of Mr. Cayton, wanted to visit the Black neighborhoods.

Cayton recalled a story that Washington told his hosts during that memorable visit. After he had a much-publicized lunch with President Theodore Roosevelt, several Georgia "crackers" approached Washington, one of them saying, "Booker, we think you are the greatest living American." Dr. Washington replied, "How can you say that? What about President Roosevelt?" Oh, the inquisitive Georgian answered: "We used to think he was the greatest until he had lunch with you."

Cayton dates the failure of his father's paper, called the *Seattle Republican*, to a story in that paper which gruesomely described the lynching of a Southern negro. Cancellations poured in, "official" visitors arrived at the house — all of this as race relations began to change in Seattle.

The Cayton family had attempted to straddle the line between white and black (one of Cayton's light-skinned sisters passed for white). The family carriage, servant, and home were lost. Cayton recalls moving to a small house in Rainier Valley,

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and later to an apartment on 22nd Avenue near Jackson Street. His parents' marriage foundered. Young Cayton found himself fighting Italian schoolmates at Colman School.

Franklin High School was where Cayton's personality began to emerge. English courses and the debate team were an attraction. Open race prejudice was repugnant. Soon rebelliousness got the better of the bright young man. He entered the adult world by shipping to Alaska as a crew member.

A world of trouble, travel, sexual adventures, and struggles for an education became Horace Cayton's life. He flirted with labor radicalism, marriage, and earning a degree at the University of Chicago. Choosing journalism, like his father, Cayton began a serious career in newspapers and government that resulted in his managing a milestone study of negro ghettos in America and authoring two other books.

Washingtonian Horace R. Cayton's life represented a battle within himself and between two societies, white and Black. He won both battles, but his life has been largely forgotten.



-Junius Rochester

*Junius Rochester, whose family has shaped the city for many generations, is an award-winning Northwest historian and author of numerous books about Seattle and other places.*

## LIFE AND TIMES IN LESCHI

Early in the 20th century, the Massachusetts-based Olmsted Brothers landscape design firm, designer of New York City's Central Park and the US Capitol grounds, was commissioned by the City of Seattle to set out a comprehensive plan for Seattle's parks and scenic boulevards. John C. Olmsted, in surveying the terrain along the ridge from the future Frink Park and southward, saw evidence of a historic propensity for landslides along the area then known as Rainier Heights. He recommended that the entire hillside, from Frink Park southward to what is now Colman Park, become undeveloped parkland. He was concerned that continual landslides would make it difficult for the city to maintain roads and utilities.

Olmsted was certainly influenced by the large landslide of 1898. Settlement in the area was new and sparse, and the clearcut hillside had about 16 houses scattered around, plus a lumbermill on the waterfront. A vast slide from the ridgetop, between Charles and Judkins streets, swept the houses downhill and washed the mill into Lake Washington. Olmsted

estimated that the land near the top of the ridge "sank from twenty to thirty feet, while the shore line was pushed out into the lake correspondingly." He predicted that "houses will probably continue to be moved gradually on to adjoining land owned by someone else, and there will be no end to the trouble, expense, and inconvenience due to the continuation of the slide if it is allowed to become occupied by houses."

Olmsted overreacted a bit, he conceded. In 1907 in Frink Park, he noted sudden depressions that he thought were the result of earlier landslides. After a city engineer told him that these markings were remnants from the footings of a former cable-car trestle (removed by 1900), Olmsted retracted his concern about that location.

What must not have been known to settlers at the time was the long history of slides in the area. Recent studies have confirmed a years-ago slide sequence not only in this neighborhood, but in various locations around Lake Washington and beyond. At that time, an earthquake along the Seattle Fault lifted parts of West Seattle and Bainbridge Island more than 20 feet. Dated by scientists, these events occurred in the year 923 or 924. The one in Leschi could well be the basis for the Native American cultural memory and oral history of Leschi as slide prone. (Ground movement here was attributed to the resident earth-shaking spirit known as A'yahos, which was bad-vibed away by white settlers.)

How were those ancient slides dated so closely?

Researchers examined growth rings from several trees salvaged from Lake Washington; they had fallen into the lake as a result of the slide a millennium ago. Those trees were selected based on radiocarbon dating, which is accurate to within a few hundred years.

All trees of the same type in the same area have the same ring widths for a given year, correlating to weather patterns. In each case examined, the selected trees' outer ring was fully developed, without indication of the coming year's growth, so the trees must have died in the fall, winter, or early spring.

To more closely specify the time, a study referenced an unusual burst of solar radiation that occurred between the years 774 and 775. According that report, "this rapid, large magnitude (~10%) radiocarbon excursion ... is recorded globally in tree cellulose and can therefore be used as an exact geochronological anchor point." For any tree alive at that time, rings can be counted forward to pinpoint its season of death. This was done in the case of the trees discussed here.

\* \* \*

The city, for its part, did not accept Olmsted's advice to avoid settlement on the ridge. As a result, Seattle has engaged in major efforts to stabilize the hillside. A 1935 report to the City Council said, "Earth slides have been, and always will be, a major problem in this city. ... great slide [areas] extend around ... the slopes leading up from Lake Washington."

Next month: Early 20th century slides and the city's prevention work

-Roger Lippman

*The author writes monthly about Leschi history and his experiences over his 49 years in the neighborhood.*

COMPASS

Hi Neighbors,

It's now 2025 and the busy season for residential real estate sales is upon us.

The good news for Buyers is there's more inventory to choose from. This should continue for a few months.

The good news for Sellers is there are still many more buyers than available homes, and good homes, priced right are selling quickly.

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

S SCOTT LENNARD
 206.604.2828 | [Scott.Lennard@Compass.com](mailto: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.



# SCIENCE, NATURE, AND A BISCUIT - THE RAZOR'S EDGE | DAVID BERGER

Seward Park Audubon Center, 5902 Lake Washington Blvd S, Seattle, WA 98118; Sunday, March 16, 1-3pm, Free

What brings thousands of men, women, and children to Washington's sandy coastal beaches every year, braving weather and surf? The buried treasure known as the Pacific razor clam. Hunting and gathering these creatures has preoccupied Northwesterners from the time of the Native peoples to the present moment.

Challenging to dig, delicious to eat, and providing a sometimes heady experience of abundance, razor clams are entwined with the state's commerce, identity, and history.

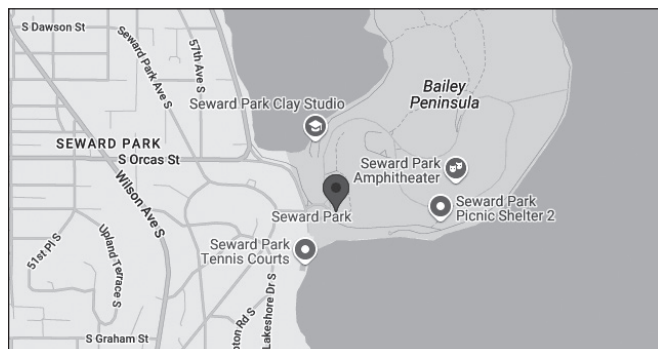
Join author and clam digger David Berger to explore the twists and turns of a quintessential Northwest activity from its pre-settlement days to the present. Books will be available for purchase and signing at the event.

## Location Details

### Seward Park Audubon Center

5902 Lake Washington Blvd S, Seattle, 98118, WA

Advanced registration required: [sewardpark.audubon.org/events/science-nature-and-biscuit-razors-edge-david-berger](http://sewardpark.audubon.org/events/science-nature-and-biscuit-razors-edge-david-berger)



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# Culture Corner

## TOWN AND COUNTRY CRIER, BUSTER SIMPSON

*Slip Gallery, 2301 1st Ave, Seattle, WA 98121; Hours: Thurs 12-6pm, Fri 12-7pm, Sat 12-6pm, Sun 12-7pm; First Thursday 3/6 until 8pm.*

At the entrance is a photo of “purge” written in chalk and seemingly hanging in midair.

Nearby is a glass bell with bronze clappers “Town and Country Crier” is embodied in these works, purge referring to cleaning toxins out of water, and the bell suggesting an announcement is coming. But if you actually ring this bell it will shatter. That takes our imaginations to where we are today. Emergency bells that can’t be heard.

Purge is one theme of Buster Simpson’s work. Many of his actions over the years have focused on detoxifying rivers. In this small exhibition one room has a documentation of a major action repeated in many places: he arranges square pieces of limestone in the abstract shape of a frog on the floor. In boxes arranged in a pile we see photographs of some of the places he has placed the limestone frog. The frog is what Simpson refers to as an indicator species, it can indicate the health of an ecosystem. The limestone actually absorbs toxins and cleans the water where it is placed. ( He mentioned that it was a special limestone found only in Texas, which I found amusing).

Another reference to toxins, in this case deadly, is a rusted oil barrel with a reference to the smallpox ridden rags that were passed on to Indians.

In this room there is also a complex and amusing multimedia piece referring to changing coastlines and climate change with a giant depth measure as well as a crucified haloed “figure” made from branches holding dipsticks. Across the front is a large level with monopoly pieces inside. Simpson’s specialty is multiple overlaid references to what he cares deeply about laced with humor.

Another room of the exhibition presents his long work with trees, much of it in the same neighborhood as the gallery and where he lived soon after his arrival in Seattle. Here we see some documentation of various projects, such as planting trees on First Avenue and protecting them with iron bed posts salvaged from SROs. In the center of the gallery is a blackened stump with its bed post protection. It seemed like a sad reference to fire and its destructive capabilities, much on our mind at the moment.

A handwritten document from the First Avenue Project identifies the larger issue at stake: working from and with community rather than top down through government mandates. The archival documents fill a wall.



*Photo by Joe Freeman, Jr.*

They reveal Simpson's roots in conceptual art, artists who didn't believe in making objects for sale-instead they make gestures or draw plans for anyone to execute. Simpson stands out because he continues to work with the real world and physical things, but always in a subversive way.

But Simpson also works often with large committees and successfully completes projects such as the Brightwater Treatment Plan (with many other artists) and the waterfront "Anthropocene Migration Stage" on the beach near Yesler. Simpson conceived it as a place to sit temporarily until the sea level requires it to migrate away from the waters.

As we leave the gallery three bags filled with sand say "Searise Trumps Denial."

-Susan Platt, PhD  
[www.artandpoliticsnow.com](http://www.artandpoliticsnow.com)

## LESCHI ARTISTS QUESTION OUR PERCEPTION OF TIME

Leschi artists Melissa Winstanley and Max Cerami are exhibiting pieces in the upcoming show *Strange Time* in the Soil Art Gallery from April 3-25. The show features fourteen types of timekeeping devices that encourage the viewer to free themselves from the rigid, culturally constructed concept of time. Melissa was inspired by her experience in the garden and how flowers open at different times. She realized that if she had enough flowers, she could tell what time of the day it is just by looking at which blossoms are open. Melissa created a kinetic sculpture, *Flower Clock*, in which eight different species of artificial flowers open and close at specific times of day. This allows the viewer to tell the current time by which flowers are open. However, as nature is not a machine and involves a certain level of randomness, Melissa's flowers intentionally don't always open precisely on time. Her piece urges people to slow down and to think of how time is expressed in nature. To learn more, go to [melissawinstanley.com](http://melissawinstanley.com).

-Nikola Davidson



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# Seeking Sustenance...



## MARCH WINE

March is here, and with it comes the promise of springtime and a fresh selection of wines to savor. This month, we're featuring ten exceptional wines, including tried-and-true French white wines like Bordeaux Blanc, Chablis, and Sancerre. For red wine lovers, there is a range from light and easy-drinking options to heavy hitters from Châteauneuf-du-Pape and a California Zinfandel. Come in and discover your new favorite wine for the season!

### White Wine

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#### 2023 Chateau Mariotte Bordeaux Blanc \$14

Seriously! White Bordeaux at this price? Try to find one, try to beat this in quality. Actually don't, it's a waste of time and energy. This wine is layered with citrus and stone fruits with a bright, crisp, dry finish. Perfect for white fish, things with shells, white protein or a wine to drink with appetizers while cooking dinner. —*Distributor notes*

#### 2022 Domaine Regis Jouan Sancerre \$25

Presents a fresh nose, typical of Sauvignon, with hints of white pepper. Its fine structure marked by great freshness, displays tension and precision in remarkable balance. A distinctly fruity aroma and a strong structure at the same time. —*Winemaker notes*

#### 2022 Domaine Denizot Sancerre \$31.99

Offers a dense, well-balanced profile with a tense energy sprinkled with touches of juicy white fruits. The blend brings limestone notes offering a mineral and frank framework, as well as delicate and gourmet fruity notes. —*Winemaker notes*

#### 2022 Chateau Favray Pouilly-Fume \$25

Attractive white peach, citrus, and gooseberry flavors. Surprisingly rich and precise in the mouth, supported with an elegant mineral freshness. Lingering and crisp finish. —*Winemaker notes*

#### 2022 Joseph Drouhin Chablis \$30

Very fresh aromas reminiscent of citrus (lemon or grapefruit); small pleasant touches of fern or coriander are found as well. On the palate, dry and fruity, with mineral notes. Pleasant and long aftertaste. —*Winemaker notes*

### Red Wine

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#### 2023 Alois Lageder Schiava Alto Adige \$17

Subtly pronounced, fresh, fruity, floral notes of violet, and hints of white pepper. Light to medium bodied, well-balanced, and juicy. Pair with your next pizza night. —*Winemaker notes*

#### 2023 Lapierre Raisins Gaulois Vin de France \$23

Labeled a Vin de France, so nothing fancy appellation-wise, even though most of its fruit grows firmly in the region's illustrious cru of Morgon. Higher yield and younger vines make it less concentrated, easier to drink, and lower in alcohol. Ultra-lightweight red that's lively, fruity, and easy-drinking. —*Importer notes*

#### 2022 Domaine Leon Boesch Les Jardins Alsace Pinot Noir \$27

Biodynamic? Check! Restrained use of oak? Check! Insanely delicious? Check! Founded in 1640 and currently in its 11th generation of winemakers. Dry, balanced, food friendly wine that over delivers every year. —*Distributor notes*



## ...in the Wilds of Seattle

### 2021 Frog's Leap Zinfandel Napa Valley \$36

Offers a pleasing range of flavors including mixed cherries, cranberries, warming spices and savory accents. Firm while moderate tannins and mouthwatering acidity create a palate-cleansing accompaniment to a wide range of foods. —*Wine Enthusiast*, 94-points

### 2020 Le Vieux Donjon Chateaufeuf du Pape \$70

Provençal aromatics of ripe cherries, ground pepper, saddle leather, garrigue, and spice. These carry to a medium to full-bodied wine that has the vintage's charming, pure character front and center. —*Jeb Dunnuck*, 95-points, 95-points *James Suckling*, 94-points *Wine Advocate* & 94-points *Vinous*

### 2021 Domaine du Pegau Cuvée Reserve Chateaufeuf du Pape \$90

Boasting crazily complex floral scents, garrigue, raspberries and cherries, this is one incredibly perfumed example. Medium to full-bodied, silky, elegant and long, this is quintessential Pegau. —*Wine Advocate*, 94-points

—*Kenneth Benner*, Co-Owner / *Wine & Spirits*,  
*Leschi Market / Leschi Cellars*, 206.322.0700

## EAT YOUR WAY DOWN JACKSON

*This column highlights the many restaurants lining Jackson Street beginning in Leschi at Jackson and 31st Ave. S. and down to Rainier Ave. Jackson Street offers a wide selection of food choices from pizza, international, barbecue, sushi, pub food, soul food, before hitting the mecca of great Asian restaurants in the ID. Join me as we take a short drive, walk, bike or hop the 14 bus to check out nearby spots.*

## STANDARD BREWING

2504 S. Jackson, open every day 11 am to Midnight, Kitchen closes at 10:30pm. Happy Hour: Sunday to Thursday from 11am to 3pm and 9:00pm to Midnight. Children and pets by law are not allowed. You can order on-line.

Standard Brewing opened its doors in 2013 when few restaurants or bars existed along the eastern stretch of Jackson. With a few tables made of wine barrels set up in the space where the beer was being made, they began offering tastes and pours of the beers they were developing. A few years later when the space next door became vacant, they expanded to become a public house offering an extensive list of beer, standard and creative cocktails, and an innovative menu of small dishes, sandwiches, and specials of the week.

Standard has been one of my go-to places for lunch and one I recommend to friends and family who are visiting. Their motto says it all “No hype, just great beer and cocktails—and food.”

On a very cold, week night, neighbors joined my husband and me to have an early dinner at Standard to see how the same menu at lunch translates into a dinner.

We were received with the buzz of friends gathering and a friendly hello shout from the bar. We laughed at how we felt like we had entered the world of Cheers, the popular TV show of years past. It wasn't long before we too were having a lively conversation at our table.

The beer list is overwhelming with many choices of lagers, IPAs, and stouts, etc. but thanks to the help from the bar we were steered to good choices. You don't have to commit to a pint or a beer, instead for \$3 you can have a 5 oz sample. Our friend chose a specialty cocktail called Forget-Me-Not which was a beautiful ruby color and delicious.

I was disappointed to see the Cod Roll the week's Specials had sold out. However, the Fat Hen taco which is Indian-style Hariyali chicken with a mint yogurt sauce and cotija cheese (\$5) and a veggie taco with a chickpea fritter (\$5) took away the letdown. My husband enjoyed the hardy Italian slow-roasted beef sandwich served on a Chicago style crispy Turano roll (\$17). He declared it to have the kind of kick in spiciness he likes. He shared with me a delicious fried potato wedge.

From the snack listings, we ordered the house tortilla chips with salsa roja (\$5) to have a taste of a common bar snack. One friend had two fish tacos (\$5 each). Although small each had a nice portion of masa fried catfish covered in a spicy sauce and cotija. Our other friend rounded out the variety of dishes by having a Quesadilla (\$12) with house refried beans, cheese and other toppings. What made it special was the crispness of the tortilla. We also ordered the special Chickpea Salad (\$14) to share which was red quinoa with an array of vegetables.

Standard's indoor space is small and can get noisy. In nicer weather, there is more seating outdoors which is pleasant. They do not take reservations but if you are planning a special occasion, give them a call to see if they can accommodate.

—*Mary Carter McCreech*

## LESCHI CC BOARD MEETING 2/13/25, 6PM AT DOUGLASS-TRUTH LIBRARY

### Agenda

- **2025 initiative check in:**
  - Leschi News (Ashley/Diane)
  - Community Outreach (Nikola)
  - Meetings (Ashley/Trevor)
  - Parks(John)
  - ArtWalk (Diane)
  - Public Safety (Allen/Max)
  - Finance (Matthias)
- **New business:**
  - Open discussion
  - Traffic calming update - Max
  - CANDC - Diane
  - Mayor's event recap - Ashley

**Attendees:** Nikola, Ashley, Diane, Max, Trevor, Matthias (remote)

Meeting started at 6:08.

The *Leschi News* deadline is 2/17. Ritzy, Nikola's daughter, is interested in becoming an editor and will be included in the drafting of this month's news. She asked if there was a calendar of events that we needed to be considered for each issue. We discussed October and candidate forum.

- Diane suggested that we move the Leschi Star award to December's Holiday party.
- Ashley: Distribution committee is doing a great job. Will recognize them in the March President's letter and highlight the newly refurbished news box.
- We are looking for more distribution spots:
  - Amazon Fresh may have a spot to put newsletters. Trevor will talk to the manager there.
  - Matthias will look into a placement for the Leschi News at the Leschi Starbucks.
  - Will repainted the *Leschi News* box, which is now outside BluWater next to the kiosk.
  - Signe (Trevor's wife) will talk to Temple Pastries about newspaper distribution.
- Max talked to a person interested in writing poetry for the *Leschi News*, but it was hard for him to explain that the *Leschi News* is more than just meeting announcements. He wanted to find a copy on the website; directed him to archives.
  - Gino is open to supporting changes on the website.
- We cannot write political articles due to our 501(c)3 status. We can discuss issues but not candidates.

### Community Outreach

- We had a marked increase in member renewals due to Nikola's concerted campaign.
- The last monthly meeting had a great turnout. We have a number of interested volunteers - Nikola is following up with each person. She's meeting with a potential volunteer on Monday.

- Ashley has volunteer, partner, and attendee lists on [Wix.com](http://Wix.com) for sending invites, emails, and the website.
- Nikola to update the sign-in sheet for future meetings.

### Upcoming meetings

- UPDATE - the meeting plan changed after this board meeting.
- Joy Hollingsworth to attend.
- Will activate the marketing team for the March meeting: Max on posters, Kathryn for the kiosk, post on FB, etc.
- The Parks Department will speak at the April meeting.
- Tonna is talking to a person at the Northwest African American Museum for a May speaker.
- Trevor will look into getting a speech about Chief Leschi in September.
- October will be for elections. Pos. 8 and Mayor are on the docket.

### Should we take a year from the ArtWalk?

- Ashley and Janice have discussed taking a hiatus and skipping the ArtWalk this year. Janice is connecting with our vendors.
- We do not have enough volunteers, funds, and we have an opportunity to revisit the purpose of this event.
- Diane is concerned that skipping a year will cause us to lose connections and goodwill with artists and musicians.
- We would need someone to manage this as a project and raise funds. We do not believe we have that person right now.
- Ashley is meeting with Janice in late February to discuss and align on a decision.

### Leschi Natural Area

- Nikola is working to activate a maintenance effort and committee
- Some areas are sloped where only professionals can work. We have funds for this.
- There are other flat areas where volunteers can work.
- We will not schedule work parties until we can work with professionals.

Sake Dragon Boat team wants to do an Earth Day cleanup with LCC, SDOT, and Parks. Nikola is meeting with John to decide which street ends to clean. After meeting with John on Sunday, Nikola will meet with Sake to coordinate the clean-up event.

- Gino can make flyers with a QR code for the cleanup party and post them at the kiosk outside the BluWater.
- Nikola is working on an article about the cleanup party for the *Leschi News*.






SDOT has published what it is doing with its traffic-calming money, and Leschi is not included in the plan.

- Max will talk to Allen about what research and engagement he's looked into for community traffic calming projects.
- Feedback collected at the last meeting: One member suggested no parking on the steep slope next to i-90 to help cyclists.

Ashley attended the Mayor's event introducing the new police chief: Shon Barnes. He emphasized the importance of partnerships.. He is prioritizing retention, recruiting (qualified and diverse), reducing crime, and making sustainable

# Support your community by joining the Leschi Community Council!

The Leschi Community Council works with the community to make Leschi a great place to live and visit. Your financial support helps bring this mission to life. As a supporting member, you help the LCC:

-  Host monthly meetings to connect you with local officials, organizations, artists, activists, and historians
-  Organize neighborhood events such as the annual ArtWalk
-  Coordinate volunteer efforts with local causes such as parks and public safety
-  Deliver the **Leschi News**, Seattle's longest running neighborhood newspaper
-  Maintain our website, [leschicommunitycouncil.org](http://leschicommunitycouncil.org)

All donations are tax-deductible, LCC is a nonprofit 501(c)(3).

Annual supporting membership:  \$35 family  \$25 individual  \$15 student/low income

I'm making an additional donation for LCC  \_\_\_\_\_ (amount)

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partnerships in the community. He also cares about the wellness of the police employees.

- Ashley met with Chris, a person relaunching the Capitol Hill Community Council. They both met with Joy Hollingsworth.
- Ashley connected with Adiam Emery, the new head of SDOT. She sounds like a great leader and we are hopeful to strengthen our partnership with SDOT.

We are in good financial shape. 26 people (new and renewing members) recently paid their dues for the year.

- Fewer people round up when paying through PayPal, and you cannot change the amount through the website. When paying via check, many folks make an additional donation to support the LCC.
- Advertisers are all paid up. We lost one regular advertiser.
- Once we have a package ready for local businesses, we can coordinate a campaign to get more businesses to advertise with us.

CANDC met tonight as well. They are working on an op-ed for the One Seattle plan. We need a representative to attend these meetings; Diane has been attending but it now conflicts with LCC Board meetings. It is a Zoom meeting.

We are invited to the State of the City address. If anyone wants to go, Ashley has to RSVP for them. Nikola is looking into going.

Our next Exec Board meeting is scheduled for Mar 13, 2025.

*Respectfully submitted by Trevor Lalish-Menagh*

	Income	Expenses	Balance 1/31/25
<b>General Fund</b>			
Ad Revenue	\$140.00		
Dues	\$518.50		
Donations	\$163.51		
Reimbursement			
Insurance			
Printing and postage		(\$809.81)	
Room Rentals		(\$120.00)	
Other Income & Expenses		(\$10.48)	
Totals	\$822.01	(\$940.29)	<b>\$16,228.36</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>			
ArtWalk			\$1,641.28
Cherry Street Corridor			\$635.76
Flo Ware Park			\$686.53
Friends of Powell Barnett			\$1,068.06
Friends of Street Ends			\$4,017.22
Frink Park			\$1,979.43
King Street			\$1,270.00
Leschi Gateway Project			\$51.03
Leschi Natural Area			\$6,345.39
Officer Brenton Fund			\$2,527.27
Steve Shulman Memorial			\$65.00
String of Pearls			\$2,130.38
W. Vaughn Memorial Fund			\$1,200.00
Wading Pool			\$3,006.13
West Sheridan Street End			\$371.65
Whitebear DreamCatcher			\$201.64
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$822.01</b>	<b>(\$940.29)</b>	<b>\$43,425.13</b>
thereof in short-term CD's			\$33,557.67
Cash			\$9,867.46
<b>Certificate of Deposit (Brenton)</b>	<b>\$41.65</b>		<b>\$11,663.61</b>

**Leschi News advertising rates:**  
**business card, \$35; 1/4 page, \$70;**  
**1/2 page, \$140. Contact Diane Snell**  
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# leschinews

The next Leschi News deadline is **MARCH 17**. 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](mailto:leschinews@comcast.net)

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## MARCH CALENDAR

- » **March 5, 7pm**  
Leschi CC community meeting 7pm. See cover. Our Council member (CM) Joy Hollingsworth will bring us up to date on Council business. See page 4.
- » **March 9**  
Daylight Savings begins at 2 am. Move your clocks one hour ahead.
- » **March 13, 6pm**  
LCC Board meeting at Douglass-Truth library
- » **March 14**  
National Pi Day: 3.14159265359 (not lemon meringue)

- » **March 16**  
Pratt Park litter pickup 10-12  
Coffee & pastries
- » **March 17**  
St. Patrick's Day

**MARCH IS NATIONAL WOMEN'S  
HISTORY MONTH**

**MARCH FLOWER: DAFFODIL**

Join us on Facebook: LESCHI or see our website: [leschicommunitycouncil.org](http://leschicommunitycouncil.org) or [leschinews.com](http://leschinews.com)