

COMMUNITY NEWS Spring 2015



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LSPCC to become Emergency Communications HUB

LSPCC is proud to announce that we've teamed up with the Seattle Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and Seattle Neighborhoods Actively Prepared (SNAP) to act as an official communications hub in the event of an emergency, only the second Hub in South Seattle.

Emergency communications hubs are an active, practicing, officially recognized network of citizen responders that have the capacity to activate as soon as possible after a disaster. Hub sites collect information on local situations, needs and resources; relay communications between hub sites and the City of Seattle; relay emergency information to residents; and assist in the allocation of local resources.

As part of the preparation for any local disasters, Hubs conduct drills, educational sessions and

neighborhood outreach programs to share information about how residents can prepare themselves and their communities for a disaster.

As LSPCC increases our involvement in the Seattle Hub program, we will be holding a series of resident and member planning sessions, the first of which will be on Tuesday, April 21st at 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse. Aaron Evanson (LSPCC Treasurer) is the acting Hub Captain and will facilitate the planning session.

For more information and to familiarize yourself with the active and vital role Hubs play in the OEM disaster relief program (and to view locations of the other city Hubs), please visit: seattlehubs.org

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RVHS to sponsor Humanities Washington Speakers Bureau Presentation: Defeating Racism Today: What Does it Take?

Issues of racism are important in understanding the history of Rainier Valley, and remain important to its people today. **The Rainier Valley Historical Society** invites the community to join them for a talk by Eva Abram, discussing the issues, and how we can work to dismantle the legacies of racism in our own communities.

Ms. Abram's presentation is brought to us by the **Humanities Washington Speakers Bureau**.



This event is free to the public
7:00pm
March 26, 2015 @
Lakewood Seward Park
Community Club

The Ants are Back by Jeannie O'Brien

The ants are still in my house, physically and metaphorically. And now we have fleas as well. I have become quite friendly with my pest control technician. We get together every couple of weeks, and I learn about new treatment plans, different ant populations, and now fleas. Please let me share with you what I have learned.

"Sugar ants" collectively refers to two common small ant species in the Pacific Northwest: the odorous house ant (*Tapinoma sessile*) and the pavement ant (*Tetramorium caespitum*). The odorous house ant is tough: injured workers have been observed to continue living and working with little hindrance. Some queens with crushed abdomens still lay eggs, and there are documented instances of *T. sessile* queens surviving without food or water for over two months. They also appear highly tolerant to heat and cold. These ants are difficult to remove from the home. When killed, these ants leave a smell which leads to their nickname "Stink Ant." The stink ants are the ones that invade our home regularly, like public meetings. We try to attend them all, voice our opinion, get on the record, but in the end, the decision was made before the decision making began. Seattle's Department of Transportation (SDOT) responded quickly to the community's concern about dangerous Rainier Avenue. SDOT senior officials held two highly attended meetings in the Valley to gather ideas from those of us that live here. We invited these same officials to LSPCC and they presented to 100+ neighbors. While no one from SDOT was taking notes, they appeared to be listening to LSPC concerns about what we think a road diet would do to our neighborhood, and why all alternatives should be exhaustively explored before installing a road diet.

And then what happened? SDOT came back to the community and presented three proposals, all barely different variations of the same road diet. According to SDOT, the average weekday traffic volume on Rainier in Columbia City is 19,700 cars. SDOT's modeling did not include projected traffic volumes, nor consider additional automobile traffic after the opening of PCC, the Angeline and the Zion Prep apartments. Columbia City's Urban Village has seen a net increase of 1,058 residential units in the last ten years, with permits currently issued for 519 more. Failure to acknowledge that these new developments will heighten congestion is irresponsible. SDOT claims that commutes will only increase by a maximum of two minutes after eliminating two complete lanes of traffic are hard to believe. Has your diet ever worked?

Slower is safer – we all know that. But we also know that human behavior dictates finding an alternate route when yours becomes too congested. We are concerned about commuters deciding to travel north and south on Lake Washington Blvd and Seward Park Ave / 50th / Wilson rather than Rainier Ave S. after it goes on a diet. Lake Washington Blvd at Horton sees an average of 8,000 cars per weekday. Genesee at 38th sees an average of 10,000 cars a day. 18,000 vehicles a day are already avoiding parts of Rainier Ave by using our neighborhood streets. We can only imagine how many more will use our streets when the road diet occurs.

Your LSPCC board has asked SDOT to continue to monitor motor vehicle trips at Lake Washington Blvd and Genesee, and has asked them to include monitoring at Seward Park Ave/50th/Wilson Ave S. We haven't established an appropriate or desirable number of vehicle trips for our residential streets, and SDOT has no acceptable remedy for our streets when they become intolerably crowded. SDOT's Jim Curtin suggested installing more stop signs along Seward Park Ave, and installing new stop signs along Lake Washington Blvd. to get drivers back to Rainier. The Olmsted brothers didn't design our parks and boulevards to be freeways, and we're sure they wouldn't want stop signs along Lake Washington Blvd. We will engage the Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks and the Friends of Seward Park if SDOT moves forward with such a plan.

Back to the ants. Have any of you ever had carpenter ants? Ants of the genus *Camponotus* are known as carpenter ants because they prefer to establish their colonies in galleries excavated from damp or damaged wood. Carpenter ants reside both outdoors and indoors in moist, decaying or hollow wood. They cut galleries into the wood grain to form their nests and provide passageways for movement from section to section of the nest. These ants cause extreme damage if they continue undiscovered for an extended period.

Carpenter ants are dangerous – you might know that you have them, but you don't know what they are doing to your house. While I have never had carpenter ants, their behavior is much like Seattle Parks Department when it comes to Leschi and Lakewood Moorages.

In January of 2013, Parks held a public meeting, letting tenants and community members know that the moorages were in need of much repair. Parks was preparing a Request for Proposals to engage a commercial investor to do the repairs, in exchange for a long term lease agreement that would allow enough time to generate a return on their significant investment of between \$8 and \$11 million dollars.

The public/private partnership approach was unacceptable to many in the Lakewood community, as we didn't want a commercial enterprise to disrupt our 3.5 mile stretch of uninterrupted shoreline between Colman Park and Seward Park. The viable bid that was submitted called for higher rental rates and building slips for bigger boats while eliminating slips for the small boats that make up the majority of slips at Lakewood. Being able to charge a higher rate per lineal foot based on the size of the boat was necessary to generate revenue to service the significant debt.

We asked that Parks' share of moorage revenues be set aside for renovation, and that debt financing be employed, to let Lakewood be self-sufficient and self-sustaining. Parks agreed, and put a stop to the Request for Proposal in process, and commenced visioning sessions with Project Advisory Teams for Lakewood and Leschi.

The project teams met, and both wanted Parks to invest their capital in the renovation and maintenance of the moorages, through moorage revenues and debt financing. Parks, after two more years of continued neglect of the moorages, decided again to go with the public/private partnership model, this time asking a private investor to invest \$20 million dollars. Parks was not transparent in their change of course. Like carpenter ants, if left undiscovered, there is a lot of mess to undo.

Members of the Lakewood Project Advisory team met with Councilmember Bruce Harrell last week and asked him to help separate Leschi and Lakewood moorages in the current Parks plan, as Lakewood is not in the dire need of immediate renovations as the Leschi moorages are. CM Harrell understands the difference between the moorages, both in the communities they serve and the communities in which they are located, and will work with us and the Parks superintendent to let Lakewood's renovations proceed without a private investor running the show.

So, what about those fleas? Fleas are the insects forming the order Siphonaptera. They are wingless, with mouthparts adapted for piercing skin and sucking blood. Fleas are external parasites living by hematophagy off the blood of mammals and birds. They are seasonal, and they, like the partyers at the parking lots along Lake Washington Blvd, have arrived early this year.

Neighbors are working together to ask for more enforcement of the noise ordinance and laws prohibiting public consumption of alcohol and marijuana. Parks does not always clear and close the parking lots at night, and neighbors are reminding them of their obligation. Changing the closing time from 10:00 p.m. to dusk is a reasonable solution, as nothing good happens in a waterfront parking lot after dark.

Neighbors have also noticed an increasing amount of human feces along the shoreline, left by people fishing the lake, and polluting popular swim spots. With the additional tax funding from the creation of the Metropolitan Parks District, we will demand that our Parks stay clean, safe and pleasant for all park users.

My advice during these changing times? Befriend your pest control technician, and befriend your city council members, members of the Seattle Police Department, the Friends of Seward Park and the Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks.

LSPCC Scholarship Applications Now Being Accepted

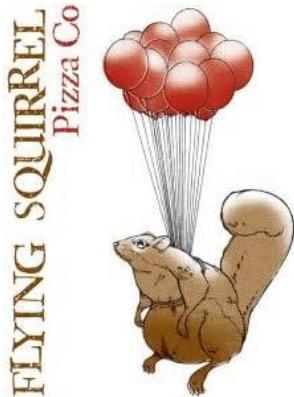
Two scholarship awards of \$2000 each will be granted to neighbors residing within the geographic boundaries of the Lakewood Seward Park Community. The money will apply toward higher education tuition or related expenses for the 2015-2016 year, and award recipient must provide a letter showing proof of school enrollment and student identification number. Previous recipients are eligible to apply again. Eligible applicants are high school seniors, currently enrolled college students and adults returning to school or pursuing higher education for the first time.

To be considered for this award, please fill out the Scholarship Award Application (can be downloaded from our web page at lspcc.org) and submit it with an essay telling us about yourself and how you have positively contributed to your community during your residence here. 500 word minimum. Award Recipients will be notified by June 8, 2015. Application and essay are due by **May 31, 2015** to: Lakewood Seward Park Community Club, 4916 South Angeline Street, Seattle, WA 98118.

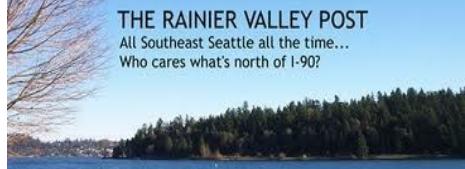
The Neighborhood Stroll... walking distance updates!

The Lodge at Flying Squirrel Pizza Co is now open! With space for 40+ people, this additional dining room is reservable for private parties anytime. It is also open every day for overflow seating, allowing the Squirrel to reduce wait times during our busiest hours. For more information on the lodge please email us. Thanks!

brian@flyingsquirrelpizza.com



Third Place Books will be coming to PCC Seward Park Location once PCC moves to Columbia City. While we will be sorry to see PCC move, we will be pleased to welcome the new addition.



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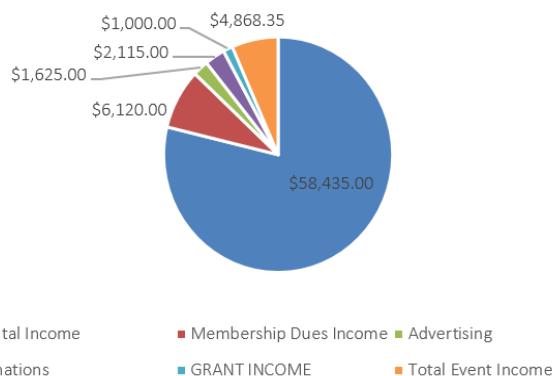
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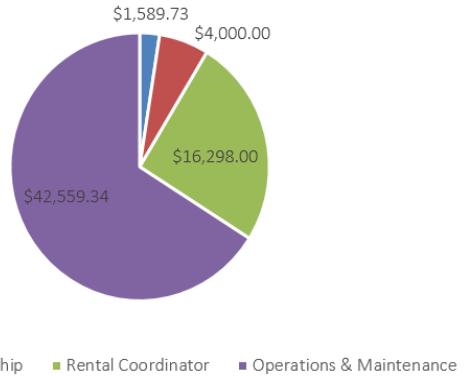
LSPCC Financial Health continues to be strong. Our association is financially healthy generating enough income from membership dues and private rentals of the Clubhouse to meet our operating expenses, sponsor community building events and finance our scholarship now for the 4th year. Over the past three years we have been able to invest in some much needed upgrades and replacement of failing equipment. The next major project will be the replacement of the windows to improve energy efficiency once funding is secured.
Aaron Evanson, Treasurer

2014 Community Club Income and Expense Distribution

2014 Distribution of Income

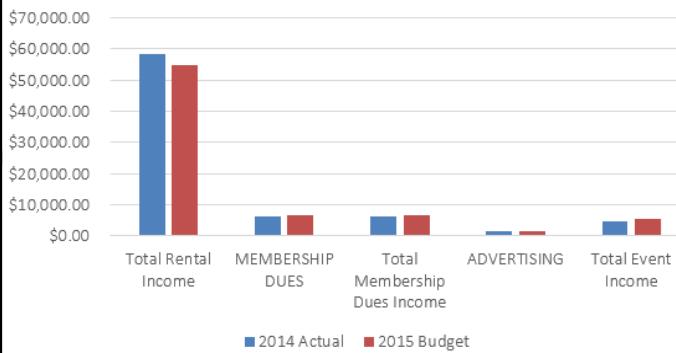


2014 Distribution of Expenses

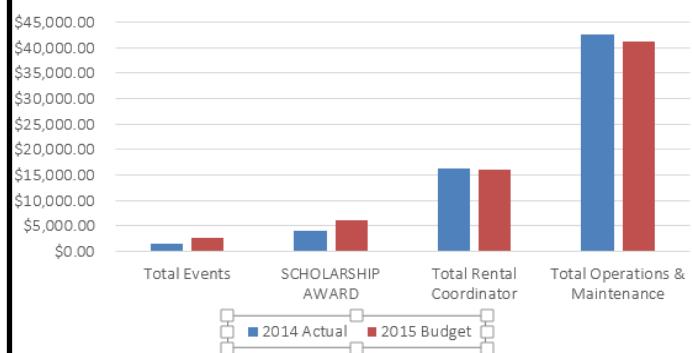


2015 LSPCC Budget—Income and Expenses

2015 Income budget compared to previous year



2015 Expense budget compared to previous year



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Seward Park Torii Project Moves Forward

In 2011 the Friends of Seward Park decided to replace the torii, or Japanese gate, that stood at the park entrance from 1935 until the mid-1980s as a symbol of intercultural friendship. With a grant from the Department of Neighborhoods in 2013, the Friends hired Murase Associates to gather input from the community and the Parks Department and produce a design for the new torii, which will have large bush-hammered granite columns and cedar crosspieces. A surrounding plaza of aggregate concrete has been added to the design for ADA accessibility.

Meanwhile the Torii Committee is making the final edits on a video about the Torii Project. The 20 minute video tells how the Friends uncovered the story of the original torii, from its debut downtown in the 1934 International Potlatch, to recovering a surviving side column of the torii and donating it to the Wing Luke Museum. The video also tells the story of the Torii Project and how it has built community support. The video will be shown to community groups this spring and summer. The Seattle Parks Foundation has agreed to act as fiscal sponsor for the Torii Project and is helping with fundraising. The estimated cost of the project is \$275,000, and the Friends have so far raised about \$38,000 from bequests, gifts, and sales. Additional funding is being sought from foundations, the Department of Neighborhoods, and individual donors.



For more information or to donate, visit sewardparktorii.org



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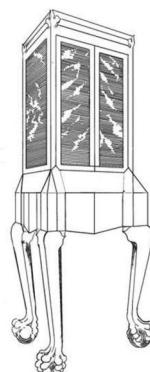


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Come Join Us!

May 2nd marks the 15th annual wine tasting LSPCC fundraiser which benefits the scholarship fund and capital improvement campaign. Come join us! Special pricing through Leschi Market is available to you for all 60 tastes of wine.

Early bird tickets are available online at:
lspcc.org



Wine Tasting

Presented by
Steve Shulman and Ken Benner,
Leschi Market

Saturday, May 2nd
6:30 pm to 9:00 pm
at the

Lakewood Seward Park
Community Clubhouse

4916 S Angeline @ 50th Ave S

\$25 per person includes
tastings, appetizers, & Dessert

Tickets for sale now at www.lspcc.org

Lakewood Seward Park Community Club
Annual Wine Tasting Event

Proceeds benefit the LSP Scholarship Fund & Building Redevelopment Fund



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Want to be involved in your community?
We need you!

The Lakewood Seward Park Community Club is looking for community members who are willing to volunteer their time as a committee member. If you have an interest in participating as a member of the Emergency Hub Development Committee, The Clubhouse Maintenance Committee, Scholarship Committee, Membership Committee or the Gardening Committee, please email Sheila Harvey: spccmanager@gmail.com



4916 S. Angeline Street
Seattle, WA 98118

a not-for-profit 501c3 organization

lspcc.org (206) 722-9696

Jeannie O'Brien, President
Bill Muse, Vice President
Aaron Evanson, Treasurer
Sabranie Coyne, Secretary
Sheila Harvey, Executive Director
John Charles, Board Member
Scott McCormick, Board Member
Karen O'Brien, Board Member
Fionnuala O'Sullivan, Board Member
Sheri Richardson, Board Member

SAVE the DATE! @ at the Clubhouse

April 21st, Community Meeting, 7pm

Emergency HUB Planning Meeting

May 2nd, WINE TASTING, 6:30-9pm Annual fundraiser sponsored by Leschi Market for the LSPCC scholarship fund and clubhouse improvements

June 9th, Candidates & Issues Forum, 7 pm

July 11th, Community Garage Sale

Sept. 26th, Oktoberfest, 6:30-9:00pm

Oct. 25th, Halloween Ice Cream Social

Dec. 5th, Holiday Bazaar

Dec. 8th, Annual Member Meeting

Leschi Market



Wine Tasting

Presented by
Steve Shulman and Ken Benner,
Leschi Market

**Saturday, May 2nd
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