

The



EASTLAKE • NEWS

April / May 2003

EASTLAKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
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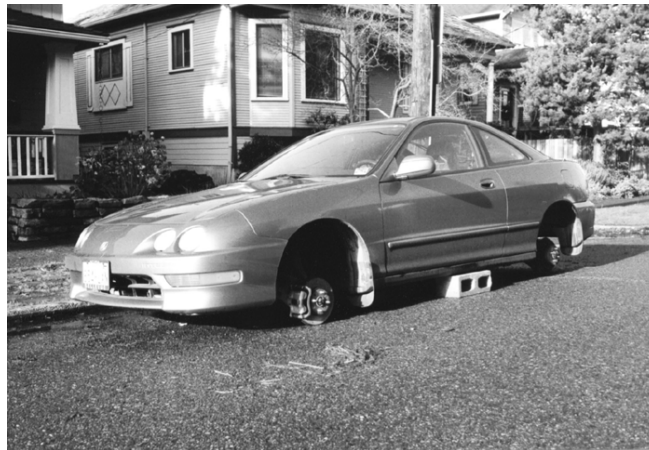
HOLLY HOUSER



EDITOR

USCH ENGELMANN

CRIME WAVE – EXTRA EFFORT NEEDED FROM EASTLAKERS, POLICE; MEETING APRIL 30



Nighttime theft on Yale Avenue. More eyes on the street could have stopped this and caught the thieves.

Come April 30 (7-9 p.m. at the TOPS-Seward School Library) to discuss with police and your neighbors how to prevent crime. In the last few months, Eastlake has experienced a wave of property crime exceeding anything in recent memory. Hundreds of homes, condos, apartments, houseboats, and businesses have had break-ins, a few have been ... Continued on Page 10

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Tues., April 15—**Parks Dept. workshop** to plan the I-5 Open Space/Colonnade Park, 7-9 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School library, 2500 Franklin Ave. E.

Wed., April 30—**Fighting Crime in Eastlake** (ECC General Meeting) TOPS-Seward School library, 7-9 p.m.

Sunday, May 4—**Celebration of Lynn Street Park**—2 p.m., at corner of Fairview Ave. E. and East Lynn Street, on Lake Union shoreline.

Wed., May 21—**Traffic and transit issues in Eastlake** (ECC General Meeting) TOPS-Seward School library, 7-9 p.m.

Saturday, June 28, 2003—9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Lake Union Clean-up and Good Turn Park Weed-out.** Details inside.

Tues., July 15—**Eastlake P-Patch festival**, 6-9 p.m., by Lake Union shoreline at south end of Fairview Park, near Shelby Street right-of-way

TRAFFIC AND TRANSIT ISSUES AT MAY 21 PUBLIC MEETING

Come to an ECC public meeting Wed., May 21, 7-9 p.m. at the TOPS-Seward School library to hear the latest and get involved in neighborhood traffic and transit decisions. There will be a special presentation by bus drivers about bus safety (see accompanying article), and discussion of the draft Fairview Green Street guidelines (available at the meeting and eventually at www.eastlake.oo.net) that are being generated by volunteers. Depending on interest, we will also cover parking issues, speeding, traffic safety, traffic signals and crosswalks, pedestrian and bicycle routes, bus routes and bus stops, and the latest on Sound Transit and the possible SR520/I-5 expansion. To ask that a topic be covered in depth, provide your views beforehand, or volunteer (we may need a coordinator for the issue you care most about!), write to ECC Traffic/Transit, 117 E. Louisa St. #1, Seattle 98102 or e-mail to cleman@oo.net.

BUS SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS

Our May 21 transportation meeting (see separate article) will include a presentation on bus safety by Metro Transit bus drivers on how passengers can help improve safety on the bus. Here's what you can do individually:

- If there's a problem on the bus, tell the bus driver. Don't assume that the driver knows about the trouble – inappropriate behavior in a crowded vehicle or at the back of the coach may not be visible to the driver.
- All Metro buses are equipped with two-way radio communications to summon police, firefighters and emergency medical personnel. If you see a weapon or a crime being committed on the bus, alert the driver if possible.
- Or, if you don't feel comfortable telling the driver, get off the bus and then call 911. Be prepared to give the coach number, bus route number, time of day and direction the bus was traveling. The coach number is four digits and displayed inside the bus above the front windshield and in several locations on the exterior.


By staying alert and reporting problems on buses and at bus stops, riding the bus becomes safer and friendlier for everyone. For more information, visit the Public Safety Partnership web site at: <http://transit.metrokc.gov/prog/publicsafety/psp.html>

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GET INVOLVED IN PLANNING I-5/COLONNADE PARK, APRIL 15 AND THIRD THURSDAYS

In the next few months, it is urgent that Eastlakers attend the Parks Dept.'s planning meetings for a new City park under I-5 south of Newton Street.

This project is happening only because Eastlakers got it into the Eastlake Neighborhood Plan, the City's Comprehensive Plan, and the Parks Department's parks levy. Off-leash and mountain biking advocates, many from outside the neighborhood, are highly organized, posing the possibility that most of the land or money will go to these uses and the parking lots that they require. The park planners are so far refusing to develop cost estimates, and are ignoring an earlier Park Department finding that because of the lack of rainfall under I-5, an off-leash area would require expensive year-round irrigation to wash the dog urine from the soil.

The Park Department has also not committed to do any parking studies, despite the severe shortage of parking in the area. And the Park Department recently disclosed that it may support only stairs east-west under the freeway between Franklin Ave. E. and Lakeview Blvd., not the wheelchair-accessible pathway suggested by the Eastlake Neighborhood Plan and required by the City's own Comprehensive Plan.

... Continued on Page 11



Part of the spectacular I-5 right-of-way south of Galer Street that the Park department has refused to study for possible inclusion in the I-5 Open Space / Colonnade Park



117 East Louisa Street; M-F 9-6, Sat 10-3

MAY 4 EVENT, AND WALKING FISH, CELEBRATE LYNN STREET PARK

Everyone is invited for music, food, and entertainment Sunday, May 4 at 2 p.m. to rededicate Lynn Street Park, Seattle's first street-end park.

For questions, or if you would like to help with the event, contact Jonathan Ezekiel, jeze2331@aol.com or 322-3651.

The "walking fish" can be found on the tiles in Lynn Street Park. Would you like your very own walking fish? On May 4 you will be able to buy transfers to iron on to T-shirts, sweatshirts, aprons, bags, whatever you like—it's easy!

And if you want a custom design, such as the tile you made, or one you love, you can order it there as well. Walking fish transfers are \$5 each and include one large fish and two smaller ones. Custom transfers are \$7.50.

You can preorder by email at jandbdonnette@attbi.com.



Jonathan Ezekiel, Mary Jones, Maggie Smith, and Karen Berry tiling the Stockley Bench at Lynn Street Park.

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EASTLAKE P-PATCH FESTIVAL JULY 15

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the P-Patch Program and community gardening in Seattle. The Friends of P-Patch are hosting a week-long series of open houses at 60 community garden sites throughout the city. Gardeners at the Eastlake P-Patch (corner of Eastlake Ave. E. and East Shelby Street, at the east end of Fairview shoreline park) invite you to stop by on Tuesday, July 15th between 6 and 9 in the evening. We'll have garden tours, some seeds to share, organic gardening tips, and light refreshments. All are welcome!

Each garden site reflects its own neighborhood flavor; some have lots of art, others emphasize activities for kids or food bank plots. Maps of all the gardens will be available starting in early June. Send a self-addressed business size envelope to Friends of P-Patch, PO Box 19748, Seattle, WA 98109. And join us for a special July 19th "Chef in the Garden" fundraiser at the Interbay P-Patch!

A P-Patcher led the procession at dedication of Fairview-Olmsted Park.



Brunch Guideline #4: Save room for the dessert bar.

Dine on the scenic shores of Lake Union with Seattle's favorite brunch destination, Ivar's Salmon House. Choose from salmon roasted over a 14 foot open BBQ pit, fresh mussels and clams, shrimp, a carving station with alder-roasted prime rib, roasted turkey and country style ham, a crepe and omelet station, traditional breakfast fare, freshly prepared salads, and to top it off, **a dessert bar not for the faint of heart!**



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LAKE UNION CLEAN-UP AND GOOD TURN PARK WEED-OUT

Help clean up Lake Union on Saturday, June 28, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Volunteers in kayaks and other small craft will pick up trash and transfer the material to larger craft for subsequent offloading. Non-boaters will clean up shore side areas.

Afterwards, a celebration will be held nearby, with Mayor Greg Nickels as Master of Ceremonies. To get involved, show up that day at South Lake Union Park or (especially if you like to weed!) at Eastlake's own Good Turn Park (Martin Street-end, one block south of the University Bridge, on Fairview Avenue between Allison and Fuhrman).

Organizer of the Lake Union Clean-up is the Puget Soundkeeper Alliance (297-7002). Organizer of the Good Turn Park weed-out is the Olmsted-Fairview Park Commission (322-5463, cleman@oo.net).

PARENTS WORK TO SOLVE SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT CRISIS

For the last several years, few kindergarteners living in Eastlake, Portage Bay, Roanoke Park, and North Capitol Hill have been admitted to any nearby public schools.

The neighborhood's attractiveness to young families is hardly surprising to us, but it did surprise the School District, which underestimated the number of schoolchildren in this area whose parents would like them to go to a nearby public school.

Parents and neighbors have formed REACH ("Restoring Equal Access to Choice"), and the coalition is working with the School Board and Superintendent to eliminate what is, in effect, mandatory busing, and restore to our children the same opportunities enjoyed by those in other neighborhoods. Parents with preschool children—and people who are planning to have kids!—are urged to get involved early.

The REACH e-mail is schoolchoice@hotmail.com, and web site is <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/R-E-A-Ch/>. REACH encourages you to write to the School Board, PO Box 34165, mail stop 11-010, Seattle, WA 98124, or by e-mail: follows:

Nancy Waldman
NWaldman@seattleschools.org

Barbara Peterson
bpeterson@seattleschools.org

Barbara Schaad-Lamphere
bschaadl@seattleschools.org

Dick Lilly
dililly@seattleschools.org

Jan Kumasaka
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LEASH-IT AND SCOOP-IT

Except in an official off-leash area, ordinances require that dogs be leashed at all times in City parks, and on all other City rights-of-way, including streets and sidewalks. Some of the saddest losses of local dogs have occurred when, unleashed, they were hit by a car. The following article about Wallingford Playfield (from the April newsletter of the Wallingford Community Council) may have some parallels to Eastlake:

“Most others have respected the Field Closed signs at the park, while 30-40 off-leash dogs continue to use the field daily and have become the primary source of wear for the soggy field. Dogs do not have retractable claws and running on the soft turf does nearly as much damage as a person with cleats. In addition to wear on the closed field, off-leash dogs are more likely than their leashed counterparts to dig up plants, charge little children (“Fluffy wouldn’t hurt a fly”) and defecate in the gardens or on the field unnoticed.

“A recent walk-thru with Parks gardeners easily spotted 23 piles of dog feces in the gardens and on the field. More certainly exists. This creates a health hazard (and significant nuisance) for the volunteers and Parks staff working in the park. Also, many trash cans are commonly over 1/2 full of bagged dog feces which, although much preferred to being on the ground, creates another health hazard for Parks staff as well as an odor problem in the warmer months.

“With this in mind, please help maintain the park in a condition for all to use by (1) respecting the leash and scoop laws; (2) ‘Spread the Wealth’ by taking your bagged feces home for disposal; and (3) Politely requesting owners to leash their pets and ‘scoop the poop.’

“Most other park users are refraining from using the field as requested by Parks so that it will be in good condition when weather arrives. Most dog owners do not impose the waste from their animals on the volunteers and Parks staff that are working hard to provide an enjoyable place to meet. Surely the 30 or so individuals that are currently running their dogs at the park can contribute to the spirit of cooperation that has helped created Wallingford Playfield. Thanks.”



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Not everything is old at Bay Antiques (2701 Eastlake Ave. E.). Owners P.J. and Marty Hendrickson have just had a son, Adam, who, within days of his delivery, was in the store to help. Eastlake's celebrities have found Bay Antiques as addicting as the rest of us have. The prices are low, and the well-chosen merchandise is constantly renewed. ... Pro Tape Northwest (1520 Eastlake Ave. E., 1-800-331-6107, www.protapenw.com) offers a full range of economically priced tape and disk duplication services, including attractive designs.

Eastlake's web presence is growing. There is now Eastlake page on the Seattle P-I's new Webtowns, seattlepi.com/webtowns. Which reminds us—ECC's own web site (www.eastlake.oo.net) has a page for links to the web sites of Eastlake businesses, and there's a lot of businesses we haven't heard from yet that we know have web sites that should be listed. For your business' free link on the Eastlake web site, send it to your business columnist at cleman@oo.net.

Hines Public Market Coffee Inc. (2243 Eastlake Ave. E., 320-1426) now offers live jazz on Mondays 4:30-7:30 p.m., and has expanded its hours: Mondays 6 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Tuesdays to Thursdays 6 a.m. to 4 p.m., Fridays 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sundays 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Congratulations to Barista Bronwen Serna, who won the West Coast Regional Barista championship; now she's gearing up for the Nationals in Boston at the end of April. ... Beau Bartron, Eastlake race car driver and resident, was married October 5 to Christine DiLello at Eastlake's own South Passage Point Park, with reception at the nearby Lake Union Cafe (3119 Eastlake Ave. E., 568-1258).

Our favorite gift store, Cards, Gifts, Etc. (2366 Eastlake Avenue E., 329-5075) is expanding its hours to 9:30 a.m.-7 p.m. weekdays and 10:30-4 p.m. Saturdays. New owner Donna Harper (donna Harper@aol.com,) welcomes your suggestions on new products and services. ... Sophie's (2238 Eastlake Ave. E., 323-7132) has expanded beyond homemade donuts and baked goods to an affordable line of gourmet "Carry Home Bistro Foods," with such charming names as Everyday Supper, Movie in Half an Hour, Unexpected Company, and At Home Alone. The new, longer hours are weekdays 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., and weekends, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Owner Susan Kaplan has a distinguished pedigree, having been the founder and former owner of the Boat Street Cafe.

In an article about Valentine's Day, the Stranger praised Le Fournil bakery and cafe (3230 Eastlake Ave. E., 328-6523) as the place to go on the morning after, but warned, "Don't sleep in too much—a lot of the good stuff disappears by 2:00 p.m. ... Siam on Lake Union (1880 Fairview Avenue E., 323-8101) earned an enthusiastic write-up in the Stranger for YESIAM, its hip musical parties organized by promoter Chris Field on the first and third Fridays, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m.: "Local and touring DJs turn the place from a dinner spot to one of the freshest underground house parties in Seattle. ... Internationally respected artists like the East Coast Boogiemens and DJ Heather have even popped in to see what was up there. YESIAM exemplifies the beauty of the dance party in that it doesn't necessarily have to fixate around one facet (i.e., the DJ, dancers, or venue) to open up the world of house music to a wider scope of enthusiasts." Dave Ross was already our favorite broadcaster for his "Eastlake Avenue Crusade for Common Sense," and now he's put our neighborhood on the world map. Ross hosted his top-rated morning KIRO 710 AM show in Qatar to provide some of America's most insightful and gripping radio coverage of the war with Iraq. Although the show is heard mainly in Washington state, we're proud that Dave Ross' CBS radio commentaries are heard daily by 11 million nationwide.



Local landscape architect Richard Haag was a lonely voice who inspired Seattleites to embrace Gas Works Park as one of the nation's most celebrated parks. Haag's award-winning combination of industrial preservation and graceful open space has inspired similar industrial history green spaces all over the world. To become a member or business sponsor of Friends of Gas Works Park, write to P.O. Box 95354, Seattle 98145-0843.

Mention in this column does not imply endorsement by the ECC, writer, or editor. Send your business news to Chris Leman (cleman@oo.net), 85 E. Roanoke Street, Seattle 98102-3222.

ECC SEEKS VOLUNTEERS AND DONATED EQUIPMENT

As an all-volunteer organization, the Eastlake Community Council can achieve its mission of building community and enhancing the neighborhood only with your help. Here are some of the items we need:

- an easel board to use at public meetings;
- chairs suitable for a conference table;
- historical photos, clippings, video or audio tape, and other records for the Eastlake archives.

Coordinators and other volunteers are needed for several projects:

- (1) design guidelines for Eastlake Avenue and for Lynn Street east of Eastlake Ave.;
- (2) working with the City on what to do now that Eastlake has met its housing production goals twelve years faster than called for by the City Comprehensive Plan;
- (3) help for our land use committee in reviewing projects;
- (4) production of a video history of Eastlake;
- (5) weeding in Good Turn Park, Fairview-Olmsted Park, and other local parks; and
- (6) some other neighborhood project we haven't thought of, but you want to undertake.

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CRIME WAVE

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hit more than once. Dozens of cars have been stolen, and many others have been broken into or had all four wheels taken.

Bicycles have been stolen. Graffiti is increasingly brazen, and some of it has hit TOPS-Seward School. To view the statistics, go to www.cityofseattle.net/police/, then click on "Crime Data." Although some of the break-ins have occurred when the residents were home, there has been no violence reported. Of course, it is still a kind of violence to have items of sentimental value taken, or not to feel safe in our own homes. Although insurance covers some losses, there is rate inflation as a result of living in a high claim area, there is time spent on repairing the damage.

The police say that some of this theft was related to a drug sales operation that they broke up in March. One burglar who they believe they have caught was described as a white male, late 20s to early 30s, approximately 5'10" tall with a stocky build wearing a black knit cap, gray sweatshirt or jacket and dark pants. In addition a group of three white males wearing black hooded sweatshirts is working our neighborhood, especially for car thefts and break-ins. The Police Department very much wants to hear from you if you have seen any of these characters, or have descriptions of other suspects to offer. Call 911 if a police car is needed immediately. Call 625-5011 if you need to speak with a police representative but do not believe that a police car is needed right away

All of us need to take precautions. It is more important than ever to (1) lock your doors at all times; (2) don't leave windows unlocked when you are away; (3) at night, leave some lights on, and leave porch lights on all night; (4) Don't let newspapers or mail pile up as a sign that you are away; (5) If you see someone near a home or residence who does not seem to belong there, politely ask if you may help them; if their response is not satisfactory, remain in the area

And don't hesitate to call the police when you see something suspicious. Even with Eastlake's current crime wave, the police are distracted by their efforts to fight crime downtown and elsewhere. The more calls the police receive, the more patrols our neighborhood will see. If the police are needed right away, dial 911. To report a suspicious situation that does not appear to require immediate police presence, call 625-5011. If you determine that the Harbor Police need to be involved, it is highly recommended that you mention them when talking to any fire or police representative, and you can reach the Harbor Police directly at 684-4071.

A Block Watch encourages neighbors to share phone numbers or e-mail addresses so they can quickly identify and report suspicious situations. Citizens also receive e-mail and U.S. mail alerts from the police. The Police Department's Sonja Richter (684-7717, sonja.richter@seattle.gov) is Block Watch coordinator for our area. The City also assists Block Watch groups in mutual preparedness for disasters and emergencies.

With the courts busy with violent crimes, the police sometimes feel that the public does not recognize the effort it takes to catch and convict burglars and thieves. We need to show them that Eastlakens does care! Be sure to follow through if anyone is arrested for a crime that you witnessed or which affected you. Find out the case number and let the prosecutor's office know by phone and letter that you want to testify in the case, and provide a letter urging a tough sentence. In all of your communications with the Police Department, be polite and supportive, while urging more patrols of our neighborhood.

Your community organizations are working to solve this crime problem. Coordinating the efforts of the Eastlake Community Council is board member Colleen McGrath, 860-9444, colleen@colleenjanemcgrath.com. A contact at the Floating Homes Association is Tiffany McNamara at tiffmcnamara1@netscape.net. Your comments, ideas, and volunteer involvement are welcome and needed.



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COLONNADE

... CONT.


Members of the public are urged to attend the Park Dept.'s April 15 workshop at TOPS-Seward School (7-9 p.m. in the library), when some of the above choices will be discussed, and the neighborhood will meet John Roloff, the Bay-area artist whom the Seattle Arts Commission has chosen to create art in this grand space. Everyone is also welcome to attend the Parks Dept.'s monthly advisory meetings that take place on the third Thursdays, 7-9 p.m. in a room at Pima Medical Institute, 1627 Eastlake Ave. East (write to david.goldberg@seattle.gov to get on the Parks Dept.'s e-mail list). For background about the community's efforts regarding this park planning, see the article in our February/March issue (available at www.eastlake.oo.net) by ECC board member Frank Gonzalez, or contact Frank at 328-3504 or Frank.I.Gonzalez@noaa.gov.



Ignoring community calls for a better design, DOT installed this highway-style guard rail at Lynn Street Park, blocking pedestrian access to its south end.

EDGAR STREET HONORS EDGAR MARTINEZ

Without diminishing the recognition for its original namesake, dozens of residents of Edgar Street East have signed a petition asking the City to regard it as also honoring Edgar Martinez, the hard-working and gentlemanly Mariner designated hitter. The next step would be to ask the Mayor to declare a day in which Edgar Martinez is honored as a namesake of Edgar Street. Write us about whether to go ahead with this idea: the Edgar Project, ECC, 117 E. Louisa St. #1, Seattle 98102.



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