

#### January / February 2010

#### Upcoming events

Jan. 11 — Public meeting on Eastlake Neighborhood Plan 7:00-9:00 p.m., TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. (See article on this page.)

#### Jan. 13 — First meeting of the Eastlake Merchants Association

9:00-10:00 a.m., Cicchetti, 121 E. Boston St. (see article on page 2.)

Feb. 3 — Public Meeting on I-5 and SR-520 impacts and proposals 7:00-9:00 p.m., TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. (See article on this page.)

## January 11 Public Meeting on the Eastlake Neighborhood Plan

Come to a public meeting on Monday, Jan. 11, 7-9 p.m. to get the latest and offer your views on the implementation of Eastlake Neighborhood Plan. Adopted in 1999 by and with high praise from the Mayor and City Council for its outreach and neighborhood buy-in, the Plan has helped found or expand Eastlake's parks, pathways, sidewalks, street improvements, and noise walls, and many other contributions. The twentyyear plan has ten years to go, but with your input we could redouble implementation efforts, and add to or subtract from what it calls for.

A great disappointment has been the Seattle Department of Transportation's failure to restore parking to Eastlake Avenue where it is prohibited at commute times. While parking was once allowed round the clock on both sides, the commute lane now prohibits parking inbound on the west side in the morning and outbound on the east side in the afternoon. The Eastlake Neighborhood Plan calls for restoring parking to make the sidewalks safer and more pleasant, and provide parking needed by residents and businesses. *continued on page 2* 

## February 3 Public Meeting on I-5 and SR-520 Impacts and Proposals

The peaceable Eastlake neighborhood was changed forever in the early 1960s by construction of I-5 and SR-520, displacing many neighbors, creating noise and dust, and posing a stark eastern boundary where streets, sidewalks, and trees once stood. Our state legislators and the City government have worked with ECC to restore the neighborhood with noise walls and Colonnade Park.

Join us Wednesday, Feb. 3, 7-9 p.m. at TOPS Seward School (2500 Franklin Ave. E.) to discuss with WSDOT the opportunities to extend noise walls further north, quiet the I-5 ship canal bridge, upon up a trail now fenced off between Colonnade and downtown, and decorate some I-5 columns like was done in Chinatown and Ravenna. We will also hear the latest about proposals to expand SR-520, add more flyover ramps between SR-520 and I-5, and rebuild or expand I-5. EASTLAKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL 117 E. LOUISA STREET, #1 SEATTLE, WA 98102

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January 11 Public Meeting on Neighborhood Plan ... Continued from the front page

Also awaiting action by SDOT is the Neighborhood Plan's call for traffic signals (stoplights) on Eastlake Avenue intersections at the Allison Street crossing (by Ruby condos, E-Clips, and Eastlake Bar and Grill) and the Howe Street crossing (by Azteca and the radio studios). With drivers allowed 30 miles per hour and often speeding faster, "step-out" studies we did jointly with the Harborview Injury Prevention Unit found only one driver in 100 stopping for waiting pedestrians - the worst of any Seattle intersection. SDOT's recent installation of "conditional" stop signs may do more harm than good, lulling pedestrians into expecting a stop from drivers who may not notice them or the sign. Pedestrians or bicyclists have been killed or disabled at both intersections. How many more before the city listens to our call for these traffic signals?

Ten years on, the Department of Planning and Development (DPD) has not fully considered the Neighborhood Plan's proposal to encourage new business spaces to be grouped in certain blocks of Eastlake Avenue, interspersed with blocks where new buildings would have to be residential. Also, DPD and the City Council have not held a public hearing or taken final action on the Neighborhood Plan's proposals for design guidelines regarding the Eastlake Avenue and Fairview Avenue streetscape.

For a list of what the Eastlake Neighborhood Plan has achieved in its first ten years and what is left to do, see the ECC web site at www.eastlakeseattle.org. The Plan is at www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/ npi/plans/elake and the City Council's Approval and Adoption Matrix is at www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/npi/matrices/pdf/ eastlke.pdf. To borrow a paper copy, go to Lake Union Mail, 117 E. Louisa or contact us (see below).

Whether or not you make it to the Jan. 11 meeting, send your comments to us at neighborhoodplan@eastlakeseattle.org and to the City at www.seattle.gov/dpd/Planning/ Neighborhood\_Planning/CommentHere/defa ult.asp or kerry.wade@seattle.gov. For questions or suggestions, or to volunteer for realizing or improving anything in the Eastlake Neighborhood Plan, contact ECC Vice President Chris Leman, cleman@oo.net or (206) 322-5463.

### Eastlake merchants organize Jan. 13, 9 a.m. at Cicchetti

Eastlake would not be the same without its neighborhood-serving businesses. If you own, operate, or work in a retail or restaurant business based in Eastlake, please come to the first meeting of the Eastlake Merchants Association. It will be Wednesday, January 13, 9-10 a.m. at Serafina's sister restaurant Cicchetti, around the corner at 121 East Boston St. Coffee and pastries will be provided by host Susan Kaufman (owner of Cicchetti and Serafina). The meeting is organized by Susan Forhan, co-owner of Eastlake Massage who is also board member of the ECC and advertising coordinator of the Eastlake News. Come with your ideas on how to strengthen Eastlake's business district. Ideas in the 1998 Eastlake Neighborhood Plan (which Susan Kaufman helped to write) included to hold an annual event (such as an art or music walk), improve the lighting, put up signs welcoming people to the neighborhood, restore parking on Eastlake Avenue where now prohibited for commute lanes, and publish a map guide of Eastlake businesses. Please send your ideas, questions, or offers of help to Susan Forhan at imzadi01@gmail.com.

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## Why Aviation on Lake Union?

by Paul G. Spitzer

Flight on Lake Union is now nearly a hundred years old, initiated by thoughtful decisions or possibly just accidental choices made by Bill Boeing. In the process he expanded aviation in Seattle from a largely amateur pastime to a huge commercial and manufacturing enterprise.

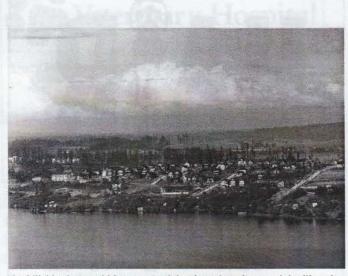
The earliest aerial interests in the Northwest were not real but imaginary. Before anyone soared, both feet off the ground, people drew bird's-eye views of the city. These popular tableaus along with census records show a population concentrated downtown far more than today. Dwellings had thinned out by the time they reached Lake Union.

#### **Balloonists and Barnstormers**

Almost at the same time as the bird's-eye views came aerialists with balloons, with the earliest putting on shows downtown. With the extension of trolleys and cable cars, balloon performances moved to the suburban amusement parks farther out. Leschi was a favorite spot on Lake Washington and aeronauts gave no thought to Lake Union. In 1908, Guy Mecklem put on a show at Luna Park near Alki Point with a powered steerable airship. His dirigible was considered as old fashioned as a one-horse shay when news of the Wright brothers reached Seattle.

From 1910 on, barnstormers put on shows in airplanes, but never at Lake Union. The early century was a prosperous time and Seattle could afford to pay a big-name California flyer on the order of several thousand dollars. Silas Christofferson chose Lake Union for his base in 1913 and 1914, but his performances took place downtown and over the waterfront. His flying base was an undeveloped spot on the Lake Union shore that was remote enough to keep the crowds away. William Boeing surely stayed away due to his strong distaste for the showboating of barnstormers. His future company never sought to make a cent from such "exhibition flying."

Lesser names than Christofferson struggled performing in small western towns. Terah Maroney was one of them, a small-name flyer in Everett for whom the difficulty of making a living drove him to steal a share of Christofferson's fame. Invading the Seattle show did put his name in the newspaper because he flew around and above Christofferson's shows and the base on Lake Union.



The hillside that would become Eastlake shows loosely spread dwellings in 1910 and nothing to suggest suitability for aviation. The overgrown shore has a notch at the bottom of Roanoke Street (furthest right) and a small white building that five years later would be the location of the Boeing's seaplane hangar. The L'Amourita building, recently finished, is clearly visible uphill and three blocks to the north (left).

The lake, besides being so close to downtown, offered sheltered water. But why Christofferson didn't prefer Harbor Island across Elliott Bay is an unanswered question. It was blessed with an almost endless stretch of open water to take off from and could be seen from the downtown waterfront. Its advantages were obvious enough that no local flyer used Lake Union, but they sometimes used Leschi and Madison Parks. Only Boeing seemed to see the possibilities in Lake Union.

Maroney, too, had passed up Lake Union for Harbor Island when he moved to the big city and he then established a secondary base at Madison Park. His operations were the city's largest, offering lessons, joyrides and the scattering of advertising leaflets. Because people considered Maroney the most experienced flyer around, Boeing arranged for a joyride at Madison Park. He departed with a low opinion of Maroney and yet his fascination with flight brought him back for more rides.

Maroney's joyrides were not the frightening kind, but rather noisy fifteen-minute tours at about 1,000 feet. Whatever it was about that experience — Boeing later called it pretty ordinary — the ride set the timber magnate immediately to work. By the end of the fall of 1915 he had a canvas hangar at Madison Park, a big Not only more than any other Northwest city, but more than all but the biggest cities across the breadth of America, Seattle was populated by "airminded" people.

Martin TA seaplane and had ordered the construction of the first aviation facility on Lake Union.

#### **Aviation Pioneers**

At the time there were already a fair number of flyers in Seattle. This seems to surprise even historians who assume the occasional touring barnstormers did all the local flying. Actually, there was Tom Hamilton who had built and sold airplanes from Seattle since 1910 and went on to become the nation's biggest maker of airplane propellers. And others too: the modest Verne Babcock; the teenager Herb Munter who built planes at home; the Japanese flyer G. T. Takasow; the former aeronaut Guy Mecklem; and the car racer Roger Varicle to name only a few of the more prominent and leaving out the lesser and unsuccessful aviators. None used Lake Union.

A fuller account would include the names of would-be aviation pioneers in basements, coal bins, a stand of trees at the University of Washington and even the city jail. Several people with wealth announced their intention to create aviation businesses, but only William Boeing ever succeeded. National periodicals announced aeronautical patents by Seattle's aspiring visionaries. Even years earlier, moneyed socialites had banded together into an aero club. They failed, however, in their hope of bringing airplane flight to Seattle and the Alaska Yukon Pacific exposition of 1909, although a dirigible did falter and fall into Lake Union.

These technically inclined residents with their disposition to tinkering are the answer to the question "Why Seattle?" In comparisons, other cities, such as Portland, have notably weaker interest in mechanical fields. That city possessed the wherewithal to match Seattle, but instead it quickly dropped this quirky pursuit and reverted to the dominant interest of the region: the exploitation of the Northwest's resources. Seattle, of course, also took part in resource exploitation. It was a center for lumber, fishing, mining, shipbuilding and marine transport. All these industries were heavily dependent on mechanization. Seattleites built, sold, designed, installed, modified, repaired and maintained mechanical equipment. The sizable need for technical talent made Seattle into a metropolis with a mechanical aptitude. And that aptitude found further expression in homebuilt aircraft, patents and unfulfilled business plans.

None of this history caused the city to think of itself as an aviation town despite what was going on under its nose. It almost ignored the several dozen people building airplanes in 1915. And for every aviator, several more helped build the plane (as in the case of Hamilton), a half dozen assisted in the form of a ground crew (as in the case of Munter), and large numbers contributed money by buying lapel pins (as in the case of Takasow). Not only more than any other Northwest city, but more than all but the biggest cities across the breadth of America, Seattle was populated by "airminded" people.

By contrast, why William Boeing chose Seattle is very easy to answer. He lived in Seattle. He did not come to Seattle to engage in aviation, but was already here when heavier-than-air flight became commonly known. He was living in semi-retirement not too far from the timber which was the source of his wealth. And Seattle was a good place for his mechanical interest in powerboats.

But the next question is "Why choose Lake Union?" Every other local aviator considered it an inferior location. True, Lake Union was not the best spot. It needed more length, had hills on three sides and suffered from unsteady winds coming around Queen Anne hill. But the lake was still pretty good for aviation. Good enough in the eyes of nearby resident Bill Boeing and especially because he already owned shoreline property at the foot of E. Roanoke Street. Why exactly he bought the land is not known, but it certainly had something to do with anticipating the opening of the Lake Washington ship canal. Possibly the property was intended to provide moorage for his vacht Taconite. Before he would build a boat house, however, he built a seaplane hangar, sidetracked by a compelling new interest following his joy rides with Maroney.

There would never again be a time when airplanes did not fly to and from Lake Union.

Paul G. Spitzer formerly was the Corporate Historian at Boeing, a university professor and Curator at the Museum of History and Industry. Photos are courtesy of the University of Washington Library.



December again brings the nighttime comings and goings of colorfully lit boats on their way to concerts on the water everywhere. Don't forget the final concert on Lake Union between Eastlake and Gas Works Park Wed., Dec. 23, 9:45 - 10:05. ... The Patrick Howe Gallery (3200 Harvard Avenue E., 206-322-5540, http://www.patrickhowe.com, including a lively newsletter) offers oil and water color originals and prints as well as custom art (commissions). Painting classes starting in January include an eight-week class in oils,

and a children's class.

Eastlake Cleaners (2501 Eastlake Ave., 328-7422) offers dry cleaning and laundry services as well as sewing, mending, and alterations. ... Eastlake-based Propadata Films (www.PropadataFilms.com, 206-313-6760) is a video production company that emphasizes documentary and feature film, broadcast, and creative marketing solutions. Owner Will Lemke has won awards for his creations. On the web site are some artful videos that immortalize Eastlake locations. ... Baroque Northwest (long headquartered in the Eastlake neighborhood) presents a unique concert featuring theme-based variations by Machaut, Sweelink, Kuhnel, Forgueray, and other composers: Saturday, December 19, 2009 at Trinity Parish Church, 609 8th Ave (at James), 7:30 p.m. concert, 7 p.m. pre-concert talk. Tickets range from \$10 to \$25. For tickets, directions, or information: 206/920-3822 or e-mail baroque@baroquenorthwest.com. ... Blue Ribbon Cooking School (2501 Fairview Avenue East, 206-328-2442, www.blueribboncooking.com) offers cooking classes, catering, corporate events and private parties (including a wedding venue) and kids' programs. A recent addition are three varieties of tamales (minimum 4 per order) for takeout.

Owners, managers, and employees of retail and restaurant establishments are organizing an Eastlake Merchants Association at a first meeting Wed., Jan. 13, 9-10 a.m. (see separate article). The meeting is at Cicchetti ... Cicchetti, Serafina's sister restaurant around the corner, opened Nov. 23 (121 E. Boston St., 206-859-4155), and Seattle Times food writer Nancy Leson found it "Casual, comfortable, with a kitchen serving Eastlake night owls until midnight Tuesdays-Thursdays, and until 1 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays; it's a place I know I'll be returning to often. Open nightly at 5 p.m., closed Sundays and Mondays." According to the web site (www.serafinaseattle.com/cicchetti/): "Not simply an expansion, Cicchetti is an independent restaurant and bar, with a kitchen dominated by a copper-clad wood burning hearth and a bar tilted more toward cocktails than the expansive wines of Serafina. Executive Chef Dylan Giordan has sought inspiration from throughout the Mediterranean for Cicchetti's palette; likewise, the wine and cocktails stray more far afield than the more strictly Italian Serafina."

#### The Lake Union Crew Outreach Foundation

(www.lucoutreachfoundation.org) in December and January is taking 82 volunteers to help build a community center for San Francisco de Asis, a Peruvian town of 3200 inhabitants.The center will have day care, a vocational center and a commercial-grade communal kitchen. Also helping are 20 Peruvian volunteers and seven flown in from Lesotho, a tiny kingdom in southern Africa where 60 Foundation volunteers last year helped build a community meeting hall.

A chronological show of the ceramic works of longtime Eastlake resident and 30+ year UW art professor, the late **Robert Sperry**, is running until Jan. 31 at the Bellevue Arts Museum (510 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue, 425-519-0770, www.bellevuearts.org). The show originated at the American Museum of Ceramic Art in Pomona, California. For a great video about Sperry: www.seattlechannel.org/videos/results.asp?Keyword=Rob ert+Sperry&SearchType=true.

A continuing thank you to former *Seattle P-I* staffer Curt Milton, whose EastlakeAve blog (http://eastlakeave.neighborlogs.com) masterfully covers Eastlake happenings and welcomes your photos and news tips. For a long time, we could find no silver lining in the closure of the newspaper, but here is one. ... Former ECC board member Janice Ellis served two elected terms as Snohomish County Prosecutor. Giving up almost certain re-election next year, she recently moved to a new job as Prosecutor for the Tulalip Tribes. She told the *Seattle Times*: "In the state court level and the federal court level the systems are very developed. In Indian country, the systems are still developing. For me, the exciting part of it is I'll be joining the office when a lot of decisions will be made."

A 125- or 140-foot building project recently proposed by UW Medicine for the corner of Mercer and Dexter could block Eastlakers' view of the Space Needle. For information and how to comment, see http://luoa.wordpress.com, web site of the Lake Union Opportunity Alliance, which is concerned that this spot zoning could bring about the view blockages the public thought it had stopped in the South Lake Union-wide rezoning process.

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Most Popular Place in Town ... Continued from page 6

The Eastlake Community Council encourages those responsible for emergency preparedness at businesses, institutions, and residents' block and dock teams to coordinate with one another to be ready for any disaster. Toward that end, volunteers are needed to serve as coordinators and facilitators. Contact ECC through this column or info@eastlakeseattle.org. One does not need to be an expert, but to communicate well and have time and reliability. The City web site at seattle.gov/emergency has excellent information as well as opportunities for free training. See also www.3days3ways.org.

Mayor Norm Rice, who unlike his two successors was not defeated for re-election, got his baptism in politics as volunteer President of the Mount Baker Community Club. Now Mayor-elect Mike McGinn is the first since Rice to have had years of neighborhood leadership experience, as President of the Greenwood Community Council. Also as a volunteer, McGinn served on city advisory bodies on neighborhoods, transportation funding, pedestrian needs, and the environment. On his campaign website he promised that "healthy and vibrant neighborhoods will be a top priority", and to make city government more responsive to neighborhood concerns. It's a tall order, and amidst the many pressures Mayor McGinn will face; here's hoping that this is a promise he can keep.

It had to happen. The innovative and celebrated Sitka and Spruce has outgrown its Eastlake location (2238 Eastlake Ave., 324-062, sitkaandspruce.com). Our neighborhood is proud to have hosted the restaurant's fruitful early years. Last day at the current location is Dec. 30, with a possible party the next day. The new location will open a few months later on Melrose near Pine, just across I-5 from downtown and the Convention Center.

Mention here does not imply endorsement by the ECC, writer, or editor. Send your news to Chris Leman (cleman@oo.net) or c/o ECC, 117 E. Louisa St. #1, Seattle 98102, or phone (206) 322-5463.



#### Auto Accidents, Work & Sports Injuries

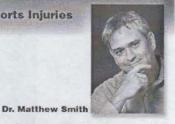
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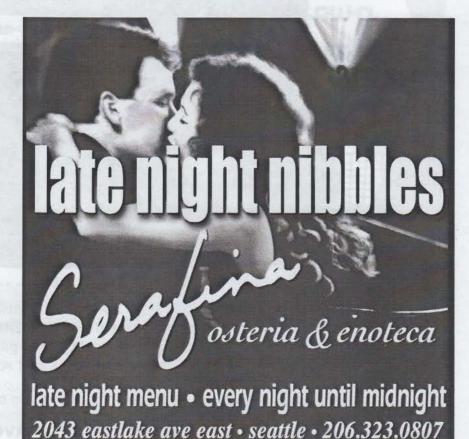
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Den Eastlehe Neighburs: December 2009 As we enter our niveteenth year in Seattle, I am humbled by the popularity that Serafiner continues to experience. To have said it many times and in many ways , much y due success is due to the loyalty of our community, Eastlake. With your support, Seragine has become an institution in one of Scattle's most desirable and dynamic neighborhoods. And what a special neighborhood it is. Eastlake, through all its changes and grawth, continues to have the same heart isoul. I am proud to be an integral part of this community, both as a resident and a business owner. An exciting new change tower neighborhood is the opening of Serofinas "little sister", Cicchetti Kitchen Bar. Cicchetti opened on November 24th doa lively neighborhood longe in the style of Vanetian cichette bors. Offering Mediterranean small plates from the wood fired hearth land a dynamic cocktail ban, it also houses a private dining room for special events that serves both restaurants. With longe windows framing cityscapes and views of Lake Union, the atmosphere is warm, inviting i energetic. Like all sisters, each place has its own Adividual personality, and yet they stay connected through family & friends. Serverine has created a ritual of an annual party as a way of showing our graditude for all your continued support. This year, we will show of the new "baby", and celebrate at CICCHETTI KITCHEN : BAR . ON JANUARY 16,2010 from 1-3 P.M. we will be serving a boautiful array of cicchetti and beverages to our Eastlake neighbors. The entremie to Cicchetti is around the corner from SERAFINA ON BOSTON ST. PLEASE BRING THIS LETTER AS YOUR INVITATION, and I look forward to celebrating with your, talking with my neighbors, and showing as a family and community. My best, Susan Kaufman

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## Wooden toys made in Seattle! Re-opening

## At Westlake Woodwerk, classic toys and crafts are a labor of love

By Alison Brownrigg, November 20, 2009; NWsource shopping columnist



Marty and John The Woodwerk-Team members who are every day available at the shop in Westlake.

When Leslie Conti of Fremont's Eurostyle Your Life learned that the Archiocesan Housing Authority (an agency of the Seattle Catholic Archdiocese) was closing its 19-year-old wooden toy workshop, The Giving Tree, she knew something had to be done to save it.

"The Giving Tree is such a labor of love, I couldn't just let it disappear," she says. "We'd never be able to get it back".

After negotiating a on the space and a workshop full of woodworking machines and supplies, Conti re-opened The Giving Tree as Westlake Woodwerk in late October.

Aside from including a small selection of interesting gift item from Conti's Fremont store, Westlake Woodwerk is much the same as The Giving Tree was.

A group of five retirees -- Marty Jensen, Carl Esterbrook, Paul Saurber, John Webster and Wally Wise -- volunteer their time making small, classic wooden toys such as trains, pull toys, puzzles, mini rocking horses and replicas of Washington State Ferries, ranging in price from \$10 for a small puzzle to \$85 for a large ferry boat.

The volunteer woodworkers use high-quality mahogany, dark walnut, maple and ash donated by the instrument makers at Dusty Strings in Fremont.

"This workshop represents the collaborative effort of highly talented poeple who love working with wood," says Conti.

The volunteers dont't receive any compensation for their work; all proceeds go directly back into the shop for upkeep.

In addition to the donated wood that would otherwise go to the dump, Westlake Woodwerk toys are made with water-based sealants. Waterbased paints are used when the toys are painted; however, most often the toys are unpainted to allow the natural beauty of the wood to shine.

Westlake Woodwerk also takes custom orders, priced according to intriacy and how long they will take to consturct.

The shop is located at 2008 Westlake Ave., Seattle 98101. No phone yet; call «eurostyle your life» at 206-633-3876 for more information. Hours are noon to 6 p.m. every day.





Westlake Woodwerk 2008 Westlake Ave., Seattle 98101 - 206 633 3876 - info@eurostyleyourlife.com Eastlake News

## **Park and Pathway Notes**

Through self-help and partnership with government, Eastlake has a growing number of parks and pathways. About half are not the responsibility of the Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation, but rather of SDOT, WSDOT, the School District, or the Seattle Public Utilities Department. It means more volunteer effort is needed to keep these spaces at their best. To help, see the contact information at the end of this article.

The destruction wrought by I-5 through this neighborhood did bring a line of redwood trees between Blaine and Galer streets that world renowned landscape architect Richard Haag convinced the Washington Department of Transportation to plant in 1962 along the west edge of the I-5 viaduct. We also have North Gateway Park under I-5 just south of where Harvard Ave. and Eastlake Ave. intersect. Its rock walls are of greenish special granite available only at Mount Shuksan in the North Cascades. Our deepest thanks go to WSDOT for maintaining the rocks' beauty when it sandblasted rather than painted out some recent graffiti.

With a 2007 SDOT street-use permit, \$20,000 in Neighborhood Plan Implementation funds, and hundreds of volunteers, ECC installed a two-block shoreline pathway on Fairview between NOAA and Lake Union Drydock where there had been a view-blocking wall of blackberries. ECC has ongoing maintenance and restoration responsibilities that are a condition of the street-use permit. Nevertheless, we discovered in November that as a part of a development project on the uphill side SDOT had required the builder to raise Fairview Avenue East a foot above the pathway, posing esthetic and safety issues for the pathway. The street-use permit staff who approved and administered the requirement did not know about ECC's permit, nor the Park Department's role in overseeing the Lake Union Loop Trail. It is hoped that the new Mayor will insist on better coordination within the City and with neighborhood stewards of parks and pathways. continued on page 12

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#### Park and Pathway Notes ... Continued from page 10

Ann and Daniel Streissguth and son Benjamin have published *In Love with a Hillside Garden* (UW Press, \$22.50) about Streissguth Gardens, which through their vision, philanthropy, and countless gardening hours is a unique City Park located halfway up the Blaine Street stairs east of I-5 above Lakeview Blvd. Don't miss this paradise with spectacular views of Lake Union and the Olympic Mountains. And be sure to greet (and even better, help) Ann, Daniel, or Benjamin as they pull weeds in the immaculate public garden. For directions and background: www.streissguthgardens.com.

Volunteers are needed to coordinate or help with the following parks: Colonnade Park; Fairview Park; Good Turn Park (Martin street-end); North Gateway Park; Roanoke Street-end Park; Rogers Playfield; and South Passage Point Park. Write to parks@eastlakeseattle.org or call (206) 322-5463.

### Congress is the Key on Future of NOAA Ship Base

Efforts to keep the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's ship base in Eastlake or at least in Washington got some good news Dec. 2 with a Government Accountability Office ruling that the chosen Newport, Oregon site is ineligible because of being in a flood plain, which NOAA's own rules specifically exclude.

The Eastlake site at 1801 Fairview and bids by the Ports of Bellingham and Port Angeles may still be ruled out based on lease cost, but all are preferable to Newport for reduced operating costs and for NOAA to be most effective in its missions, which include mapping navigation routes, detecting tsunamis, and studying global warming (most of the scientists who use the ships are based at Seattle's Sand Point). The GAO ruling opens the possibility of considering additional sites on Lake Union, in the Duwamish area, and at the Sand Point laboratories themselves, which have a permit to expand moorage to accommodate all of the ships there.

Losing NOAA from Lake Union and Seattle would be a bitter blow. In the words of one retiree, "Nothing was better than the day of departure, taking our proud white ships across the Lake and through the ship canal, our families lining the canal and meeting us at the Locks as we departed for more than eight long months of sea duty. And on our return the joys of seeing Mount Rainier on the horizon and as we turned into the Locks, seeing our families once again at the Locks yelling and screaming at the sight of our faces."

You can help keep NOAA in Seattle by asking U.S. Senators Maria Cantwell and Patty Murray and U.S. Representative Jim McDermott to do everything they can. To send e-mails or obtain their Washington, D.C. address or phone number, go to www.cantwell.senate.gov, www.murray.senate.gov, and www.house.gov/mcdermott. You can also leave phone messages with their Seattle offices: Cantwell: (206) 220-6400; Murray: (206) 553-5545; and McDermott: (206) 553-7170.



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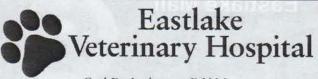
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The photo is of Janet Larkin's dog Chewbacca (right) and Betty Morris's dog Cricket. Janet writes: "Chewy was so sad to see Cricket and Betty move in April to South Lake Union but we do visit on a regular basis. Chewy is now 12, and was turning 6 when I got her. Her previous owners were a loving English couple Olga & John who lived in the country. Olga died suddenly of a heart attack at 71 and John passed away a year later. The couple's daughter, who was in customer service at my company, brought Chewy to the office looking for a new home and that is how I was lucky enough to meet Chewy."



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<ul> <li>Household</li> <li>Business</li> <li>Senior Citizen/Student/Low Income</li> <li>Donation</li> </ul>	\$35 \$75 \$10 \$	<ul> <li>Workparties</li> <li>Community Art Projects</li> <li>Community Meetings</li> <li>Event Planning</li> <li>S</li> </ul>
Make checks payable to ECC – Mail or deliver to Eastlake Community	Council - 117 E. Louisa #1, Seattle, WA 98102	Member Status

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**Eastlake News** — a publication by the Eastlake Community Council 117 E. Louisa Street, #1 Seattle, WA 98102-3278

## Contact info@eastlakeseattle.org

Advertising

Editorial Note: We are pleased that more and more Eastlakers send articles and photos to be published in the Eastlake News. We would like to thank them for their contributions, but at the same time point out that these articles represent the view of the respective author, not necessarily of the ECC or *Eastlake News*.

#### Editorial

We welcome comments, articles or images for possible publication. Please submit documents to info@eastlakeseattle.org.

Eastlake Community Council 117 E. Louisa Street, #1 Seattle, WA 98102-3278

If you did not receive this in the mail with a label attached with your name, then you are not a paying member of the Eastlake Community Council. We need your support, and you will receive benefits in return, so please send in your membership application today!