



The Eastlake News

September/
October
2010

Upcoming events

Emergency Preparedness and Graffiti: Tuesday, Sept. 21, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E. -- Public organizational meeting on public safety, emergency preparedness and graffiti.

Elections Debate: Tuesday, Oct. 5, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E. -- ECC's annual elections meeting. Candidates for public office, and advocates for and against state and local ballot measures, debate the issues, and ECC holds its annual elections.

Fairview Ave. E. Improvements: Wed., Oct. 27, 5:30-7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E. -- Public meeting on Fairview Ave. E. improvements south of NOAA.

Wellness: Tues., Nov. 30, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E. -- Public meeting on Wellness in Eastlake.

Ecology: Tues., Nov. 16, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E. -- Public meeting on the Ecology of Lake Union.

Views, livability jeopardized by proposal for bigger residential buildings

By Chris Leman and Beth Means

The City Council is considering amendments to the "multifamily lowrise" section of the Land Use Code that would devastate our Eastlake neighborhood (where most of the land is in that MF-LR category, in the L-1, L-2 and L-3 zones). Affordable buildings would be demolished in favor of much bigger ones that block treasured views and eliminate open spaces and trees. On-site parking requirements would be swept away. Neighborhood character and livability would go out the window.

We were among those who in 1989 helped pass the current Land Use Code's MF-LR provisions with the help of a City environmental impact statement (required by state law for significant impacts). But the City claims that this year's proposals aren't significant and that no EIS is needed. We (this article is from us as individuals) have joined with advocates from other neighborhoods and with the Seattle Community Council Federation and the Seattle Displacement Coalition in asking the City to do an EIS, and to rethink the proposals. The City proposals can be found at <http://www.seattle.gov/council/clark>, and the current zone of any lot can be found at http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/Research/Zoning_Maps/default.asp.

Among the proposed changes:

1. **Upzones the neighborhood stealthily** by changing L-1 (townhouses) to L-2 (small apartments) and changing L-3 into L-4 (ever larger apartment and condo buildings). Fairview Avenue E. is now

Continued on Page 2

Eastlake Community Council
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proposal for bigger residential buildings

Continued from Page 1

mostly L-1, and Boylston, Franklin, Eastlake, Yale and Minor avenues are now mostly L-3; with the changes, they would be overbuilt. And so many different types of buildings would be allowed within the new L-2 and L-4 zones that developments would be difficult to predict.

2. Repeals a 1998 ordinance (adopted in response to the Eastlake Neighborhood Plan) which protects the Eastlake neighborhood from upzoning of L-1 and L-2 lots to the bulkier L-3. Encourages rezoning to L-4 within half a mile of schools, parks and other amenities—that is, everywhere in Eastlake!

3. Raises allowed height limits a full story or more, severely impacting views and throwing shadows on yards and sidewalks. In the L-2 zone, heights would increase ten feet for flat roofs (from 25 feet to 35 feet) and five feet for pitched roofs (from 35 feet to 40 feet). And in the L-3 zone for either flat or pitched roofs (as with other neighborhoods that are classified as an urban village), buildings could be a full 14 feet higher!

4. Replaces currently required front and back yards with seven-foot side yards, leaving only fourteen feet between buildings on adjoining lots. Because most Eastlake lots face east and west, these yards would get little or no sun.

5. Continues to allow packing too many townhouses around an auto court, with inadequate access for emergency and delivery trucks.

6. Encourages larger apartment and condo buildings and the assembling of lots into monoliths. As a designated urban village, Eastlake would be forced to accept even larger buildings than the increases in non-urban villages.

7. Encourages the bleak prospect of buildings placed on 4 foot high “podiums” over parking or walk-down apartments.

8. Worsens parking. As a designated urban village, Eastlake would lose all requirements that new buildings include parking, based on the claim that our bus

service allows excellent alternatives to driving. The already fierce competition for on-street parking will be further worsened.

9. **Replaces today's firm density limits with confusing and unpredictable density** limits and a complicated Floor Area Ratio (FAR) system taken from office zoning and not previously used in residential zoning. The likely result: bulky development incompatible with Eastlake's character.

The sacrifice of our neighborhood scale and views with overheated construction would be allowed despite Eastlake's long ago having reached the housing targets that the community worked out with the City in the Eastlake Neighborhood Plan. The proposed ordinance goes against the Eastlake Plan's clear language discouraging taller and bulkier buildings and more on-street parking demand, punishing our neighborhood for having done the plan and having accepted urban village status. Eastlake's remaining affordable, older apartment buildings will be in jeopardy. The City Council must drop many of the proposed changes in the Land Use Code and respect what makes Eastlake and other neighborhoods special.

Whatever your views, the City Councilmembers need to hear from you. Here are the e-mails and voice mails (mailing address is P.O. Box 34025, Seattle, WA 98124-4025 and fax is 206-684-8587).

- sally.clark@seattle.gov 684-8802
- tim.burgess@seattle.gov 684-8806
- tom.rasmussen@seattle.gov 684-8808
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- bruce.harrell@seattle.gov 684-8804
- nick.licata@seattle.gov 684-8803
- sally.bagshaw@seattle.gov 684-8801

To reach us: Chris Leman, cleman@oo.net (206) 322-5463 and Beth Means, beth@bethmeans.com.

Beth Means and Chris Leman are former ECC presidents; Chris is also a current ECC Vice President and board member. This article represents their own views. The ECC board is considering the issue and welcomes your input, to info@eastlakeseattle.org, or c/o Lake Union Mail PMB #1, Seattle, WA 98102.



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The **Eastlake Merchants Association** is working to promote and grow the neighborhood's business district. The Association's business meetings are the first Tuesdays of the month, 9 p.m. at Cicchetti (121 E. Boston Street). For more information, contact **Susan Forhan** at imzadi01@gmail.com or Susan Kaufman at skserafina@comcast.net. Local journalist and blogger **Curt Milton** of <http://eastlakeave.com> is a member who is reporting on the association's activities, including his excellent survey of available commercial spaces. Could the Eastlake Merchants Association and the ECC jointly ask property owners and managers to lower some unreasonably high rents which are driving valued businesses away and leaving commercial spaces unused?

Curt's blog at <http://eastlakeave.com> also reports on the filming of another movie at the historic **Eastlake Zoo Tavern** (2301 Eastlake Ave.). "The Off Hours... is set in a small, truck-stop town outside Seattle and tells the story of people who have drifted there and find their situation is far from what they had hoped for in life. The Zoo is playing the part of the local watering hole where some of the characters gather."

Improved facades enhance the business district. Congratulations to **E-Clips Hair Studio** owner **Josephine Morales** on her beautiful new storefront at 3101 Eastlake Ave. (206-322-9280); and to **Terry's 14 Carrot** owner **Terry Proios** for the newly painted sign on the historic building that is home to her restaurant at 2305 Eastlake Ave. (206-324-1442, and on Facebook). ... **Reyes Massage** (2366 Eastlake Avenue #329, 206-915-7269, juanreyes@comcast.net) specializes in Thai and Hawaiian massage.

Eastlake hit the jackpot when the April 2010 issue of *Seattle Magazine* called it a "destination in itself—much to the dismay of residents hoping to keep it to their little secret." Local businesses spotlighted included **Cicchetti**, **Eastlake Zoo Tavern**, **Louisa's**, **Mort's Cabin**, **Nettletown**, **Patrick's Fly Shop**, **Radish**, and **Voxx Coffee**, and there was a nice mention of

the **Eastlake Bouledrome**, the unique volunteer-built park at the Louisa street-end.

Eastlake Mail (2226 Eastlake Avenue, .206-323-0508, <http://eastlakemail.com>) has installed 1000 square feet of **CoWorking space**. Owner **Ryan Murphy** calls it a "more work-friendly environment for entrepreneurs and professionals who are working out of their home or find themselves constantly working from cafes or coffee shops." Facilities include open desks and private offices. Depending on which membership level is chosen, amenities include discounted rates for mailbox rentals, copy/print/fax, and conference room and meeting room usage. The conference room and a smaller meeting room are also available for rent by the hour to the general public. Free "trial" use of the space is offered until October 1.

The space once occupied by **Sitka and Spruce** is now the home of **Nettletown** (2238 Eastlake Ave. E., 206-588-3607, www.nettletown.com). Owner **Christina Choi** is a local resident who spent her childhood in Eastlake, as did her brother Chris who also works there. (Their father, **Ted Choi**, was one of the first presidents of the Eastlake Community Council. Ted is ailing, and welcomes phone calls.) Christina is author

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of the Illustrated Wild Foods Recipe Calendar and a founder of Foraged and Found Edibles which sells at farmer's markets and to restaurants. The menu features wild and local ingredients, with daily specials listed on Twitter. Hours are Tuesday-Friday 11-3, Saturday and Sunday brunch 10-3, and dinner Friday-Saturday 6-9:30. Plans are in the offing for movie showings on some evenings.

Two charter cruise ships are moored at 1611 Fairview Ave. E. The **Islander** can be reached at (425) 830-3476 or www.cchampaigncruise.colm. The **Seeker** can be reached at (206) 781-0709 or www.anchor-baycharters.com. ... Local painter **Jerry Becker Steffen, Jr.** will do an original watercolor of your shop, house, pet, garden, or other love; contact is jbsjr_fr_hd_watercolor@yahoo.com. ... Thanks to **Pocock Rowing Center** (3320 Fuhrman Ave. E., www.pocockrowingcenter.org, 206-328-0778) for lending the screen for the April 28 historical slide show, ECC's biggest public meeting in many years. Thanks to **Ravishing Radish** for donation of the beautiful room at their Yacht Club on Lake Union (3229 Fairview Ave. E.) and to the many attendees whose cash donations (totaling \$320) also made the event possible.

Local actress **Betty Gard** is currently involved in the filming of "The Appointment," an independent film by Purr Productions. She will appear in "The Blanket," at Seattle Center's Theatre 4 on the weekends of Oct. 15 and 22 as part of the Seattle Playwrights' Collective annual Page to Stage Ten Minute Play Festival; and in "Sleeping With John Updike," to be broadcast Oct. 30 by the **Evergreen Radio Reading Service** -- <http://www.wtbl.org/ERRSwebstream.aspx>.

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Sustaining Nutrition (2366 Eastlake Ave. E., 206-324-3683 or 206-696-5235) offers customized nutrition counseling, food education, and lifestyle modification. ... **Seattle Somatics** (2366 Eastlake Ave., www.seattlesomatics.com, 206-497-8424) offers therapeutic services to relieve stress and invigorate the spirit. ... **BodyTalk** (2366 Eastlake Ave., <http://www.bodytalkwashington.com/about.html>) offers a range of therapies based on neuromuscular feedback. ... SABArchitects is located in the historic **Buffalo Shoe building** (1124 Eastlake Ave. E., 206-957-6400). Does anyone have a Buffalo shoe or a memento of advertising for that once unique Eastlake product? We're trying to find out if Eastlake was the original home of Buffalo Industries, which now manufactures rags and is located at 99 S. Spokane Street.

The big-windowed building next to ZymoGenetics is the home of **The Lab, a Crossfit Gym** on Eastlake (1165 Eastlake Ave., 206-446-8162, www.eastlake-crossfit.com). Exercisers enjoy dramatic views of Lake Union. "The Lab is a strength and conditioning program, using barbells, kettlebells, jump ropes, medicine balls, and pull-up systems. ... We believe that every BODY is built to move, to be athletic. Therefore, we should all train like athletes. Train our bodies to be balanced, flexible, accurate, strong, to be able to go the distance in life." Beginner and advanced classes are offered.

Eastlake's oldest building (1895) is for sale, the spectacularly well preserved Victorian home at 2819 Franklin Avenue E., a City-designated landmark Slated for the wrecking ball in the 1970s, it was saved by the Eastlake Community Council and the current owners, **Anne Fischer and Lynn Howell** who can be reached at (206) 328-1400 or afa@comcast.net. For wonderful photos and history, see <http://www.vintageseattle.org/2007/11/19/profile-2819-franklin-ave>. ... And congratulations to residents of the nearby **L'Amourita** on the recent landmark designation for their 1909 cooperatively owned Mission Revival style apartment at 2915 Franklin Ave. E. See its history at http://www.lamourita.com/al_history.php.

For those who missed the rollicking and poignant March 22 Life Celebration for the late activist and stage and film actor **Marjorie Nelson Steinbrueck**, the program can be found at http://nijuni.com/marjorie_life_celebration_program.pdf and videos of performances in her honor, a profile, and reminiscences, can be found at <http://vimeo.com/11598013>. Included are photos and reminiscences of her many roles, including as Shakespeare's Falstaff (a male part). Summing up her profession and perhaps also her approach to life, Marjorie once wrote, "In the very nature of acting—this business of painting one's face and moving into rehearsed positions to give an abbreviated impression on life—there is an essential gaiety. If it isn't light-hearted, it becomes absurd. You can achieve every shade of seriousness by means of ease, and none of them without it. No matter how fearful the problems they handle, plays should be playful."

Even in this tough economy, the renovated 12,500-square-foot **Wards Cove office building** at

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"Woman in Cafe" Oil By Patrick Howe



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the corner of Hamlin St. and Fairview Ave. E. is fully leased. Tenants include **Dave Dykstra Architect Group, Envirotecture, Lally Consulting, Shilshole Development, Shoreline Marine Engineer, SoundEarth Strategies, and the sales center for The Enclave**, the 21-townhome development across the street. Also occupying the building is the owner, Wards Cove Packing Company, which for decades had used it as a support base for its salmon operation after acquiring the property from the Bumble Bee tuna company. **Wards Cove** worked closely on the redevelopment with Eastlake community leaders to realize the hopes of the Eastlake Neighborhood Plan for shoreline and pedestrian improvements on this section of Fairview Ave. Wards Cove built a new beach and pathway, restored native vegetation, created a bend in the road to calm traffic. For more information on the project, including floating home sites that are still for sale, see <http://www.wardscoveonlakeunion.com>.

The ECC board congratulates our **President Tim Ahlers and Secretary Melissa Ahlers** on the March 10th birth of their first child, **Greta Kate Ahlers**—the littlest ECC volunteer. ... And for all those diapers, here's hoping that someone steps forward to re-open the **laundromat** at 2501 Eastlake Avenue E. that recently closed, leaving Eastlake without one for the first time in a century. Through cooperation in the mid 1980s between the Eastlake Community Council and the developer, that space was designed specifically for a laundromat. ...

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.



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Field Guide to Eastlake Characters

By Diana Wurn



Official Name: *Malus domestica* (Apple tree)

Unofficial name: "Monkey tree," "Holiday tree," "that fancy decorated tree," and "the tree on the corner of Franklin and Hamlin."

First Sighting: Lolita Gray, and her husband Glenn, planted the little apple tree next to her house about 30 years ago. They moved to the house on the corner in 1961, not realizing that they would create a beloved Eastlake landmark. The tradition of decorating the tree with her three grandkids started about 15 years ago when the kids had the idea to make use of some extra Christmas decorations. "People started expecting more and more decorations," says Gray. Now the tree is adorned with solar powered lights and balloons representing a theme for every holiday and season. Last spring, Lolita and her grandson, Adam, 19, worked on the tree to fasten the "May Day" accoutrements tightly as the wind fought to blow them down Franklin Avenue. Besides, her grandkids, Gray also gets help from her friend Bruce Hill, who lives next door.

Primary Habitat: The tree has a nice view of the lake and a place on Facebook with 76 fans under the

Continued on next page

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Field Guide continued

name: "The tree on the corner of Franklin & Hamlin."

Why do people sometimes call it the monkey tree:

"Someone put that orange stuffed monkey up there about nine months ago and I have no idea who donated it, but it seems to be holding up pretty well."

Please don't feed the ducks (or raccoons)

Ducks are a charming presence on our shores. The spring 2010 issue of Save Lake Sammamish sternly warns, "Bread is bad for ducks! Bread is bad for the lake! ... Bread is junk food that damages the health of wild birds by causing their organs to become engorged and fatty on the inside and they can die from malnutrition, heart disease, liver problems, and other health complications. ... Often so many people are feeding the ducks that uneaten food is left to rot. Decaying food pollutes the water and attracts rats, pests, and predators that kill ducks and endanger humans. Rotting food forms dangerous molds and spawns diseases including salmonella and botulism, which can cause 'limber neck' and loss of feathers, killing the ducks."

Urban wildlife biologist Russell Link warns that raccoons can be aggressive, may attack dogs and cats, and in some cases can pass along serious diseases. In *Living with Wildlife in the Pacific Northwest*, he urges against feeding raccoons or allowing them access to garbage or pet food, as they will lose their fear of humans and become aggressive when not fed as expected. Raccoons can take up residence in chimneys and can enter pet doors.



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Shoreline celebration and film night a fitting end to summer (more photos page 12)

Eastlake ended the summer with a bang (two really)—an August 14 shoreline celebration on the north end of Fairview Avenue E. and an August 21 movie in Rogers Playfield. Thanks to the many who made them possible!

Wards Cove on Lake Union created a new beach and walkway as a part of its shoreline development on Fairview Avenue E. between Hamlin and Shelby streets. The Eastlake Community Council appreciates Wards Cove's financial and planning support for the August 14 picnic at which Mayor McGinn cut the ribbon to dedicate these improvements and the Eastlake P-Patch expansion.

The August 14 shoreline celebration was co-sponsored by ECC with the Eastlake P-Patch and Wards Cove on Lake Union. Mayor Mike McGinn bicycled here from his home in Greenwood. Tom Eggleston curated the classic car show. Feet First, Cascade Bicycle Club, People for Puget Sound, ECC, and the Eastlake P-Patch had educational booths. The poster designed by Petra MacGowan was put up all over the neighborhood by Alex James and Erika Mazza-Smith. Music was by Batucada Yemanja, a samba group which includes local resident Janet Yoder; and a violin/cello duo with Jen Kozel and local resident Paige Stockley. The "walking fish" art competition was won by the pirate fish created by Eastlake business owner Pam Farrow.

Attendance at the third annual film night was the highest ever. Business sponsors were Coworking Eastlake, EastlakeAve.com, Eastlake Massage, 14 Carrot Café, Kristos Eastlake, Lake Union Mail, Louisa's Cafe Bakery, Mary Hansen Design, Pazzo's on Eastlake, University Heights Community Center, VideoQuest, and Voxx Coffee. Mary Hansen designed the poster. Cash donations exceeded \$250, and donated gasoline was also crucial. Eastlake Mail donated the sound system. Louisa's and Pazzo's donated food. And thanks also to whoever delayed that night's heavy rain until after the movie!



Mayor Mike McGinn addresses the crowd at Wards Cove on Lake Union.



Tommy Eggleston drives one of the classic cars on display for the shoreline celebration while Craig MacGowan, ECC boardmember, looks on.



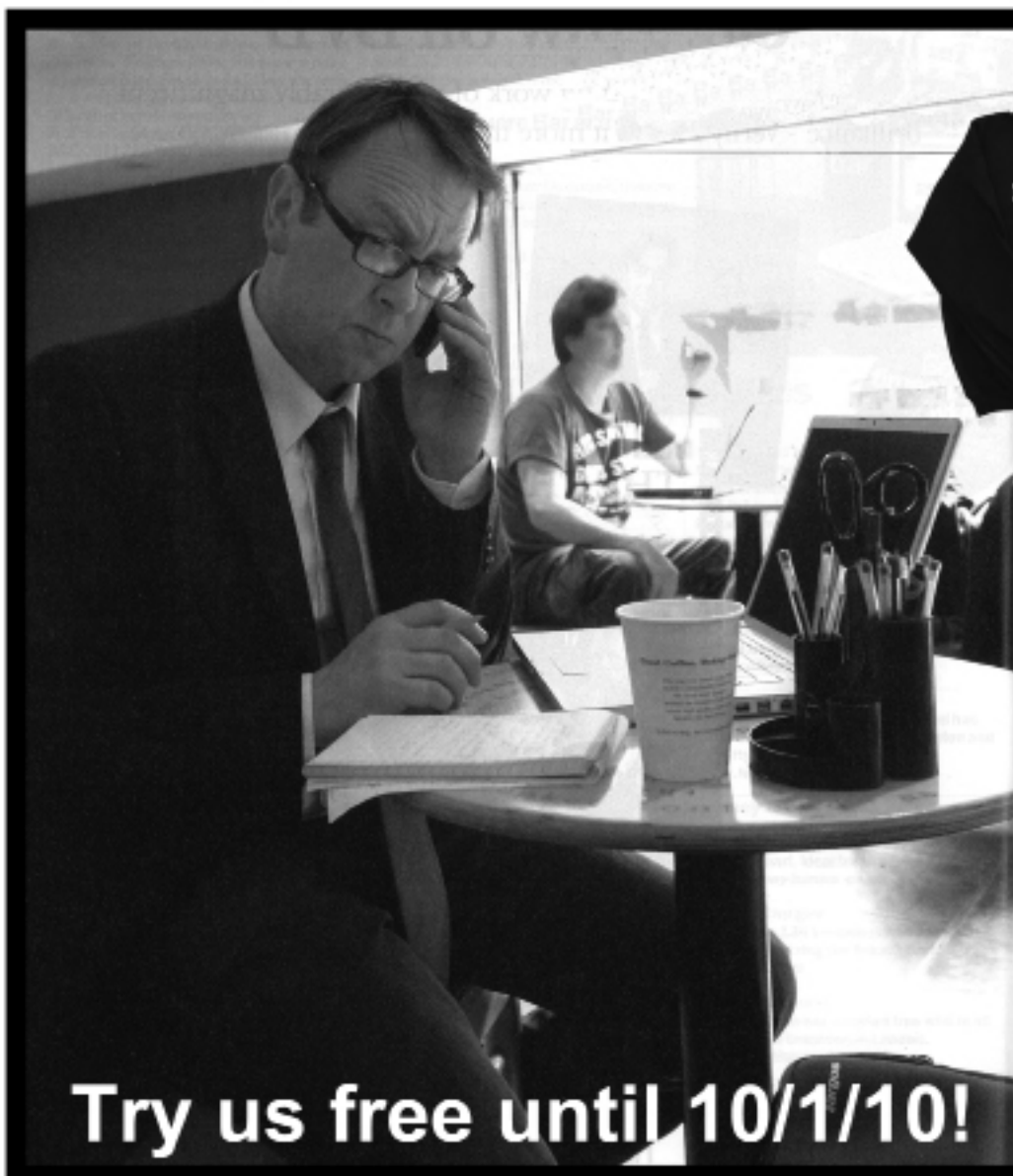
Paige Stockley (right) and Jen Kozel provide music near the P-Patch while Paige's daughter, Daisy, rests in one of the few patches of shade that day.



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**Shoreline
celebration
and P-Patch
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photos**

Janet Larkin and her dog, Chewy, get ready for the pet parade. In keeping with the hot weather, Chewy wore a patriotic stars-and-stripes bikini.



Ribbon cutting at the new beach and walkway (L to R): Seattle Mayor Mike McGinn; Joel Blair, Wards Cove on Lake Union; Chris Leman, ECC; Jean Johnson and Valerie Margulis (in hat, obscured), P-Patch.



Batucada Yemanja, a local samba group, which includes resident Janet Yoder, plays music.



Pam Farrow takes home her prize-winning pirate walking fish. Ahoy! She too was decked out in pirate attire.



Mayor McGinn cuts the ribbon for the new P-Patch expansion and tours the garden with several neighbors.

Sr-520 proposal aims more traffic at Eastlake, Leaves Out Lid

A greatly expanded SR-520 bridge that would add two lanes to the current four, but be large enough for restriping to eight lanes was proposed by Governor Gregoire and the Washington State Department of Transportation to the legislature.

The SR-520 bridge and the Portage Bay Viaduct would be about tripled in size and be much higher over the water, plus have noise walls that would make them look like big, long boxes. The additional traffic would require an additional flyover ramp between SR-520 and I-5, in front of Seward School. The super-expensive project is about \$2 billion short, even with high tolls on SR-520 and I-90, and is cutting back neighborhood enhancements that had been promised. Particularly disappointing: no lid to cover I-5 between Eastlake, Roanoke Park and North Capitol Hill.

The final decision will be made by the legislature in January or February. For more information, contact Chris Leman at cleman@oo.net or (206) 322-5463.

Oct. 27 Public meeting on Fairview Ave E & Fairview Ave N intersection redesign

The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) will reconstruct the intersection of Fairview Ave E and Fairview Ave N to improve safety by clearly defining the intersection and provide missing bicycle and pedestrian linkages between South Lake Union/Downtown and the University District. The project also serves as a link in the regional Cheshiahud Loop around Lake Union and has been identified in the Eastlake neighborhood plan as well as the Bicycle Master Plan.

An open house will be held Wednesday, October 27 from 5 to 7 pm. Please check the project website for more details as they become available:


http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/btg_nsf_large_fairview.htm

Nov. 16 Public meeting on the Ecology of Lake Union

Always a dominant feature of Eastlake's natural world, Lake Union changed when the ship canal connected it with Lake Washington and Puget Sound. Industrialization and residential development also had their impact. Join us Tuesday, Nov. 16, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E. in exploring the marine environment and how Eastlake's plants and animals have changed over the past century. For information, contact moderator/presenter Craig MacGowan, cmacgowan@comcast.net.

Nov. 30 Public meeting on Wellness in Eastlake



How to get healthy and stay that way? Join us Wed., Nov. 30, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E. for a roundtable with practical and scientific advice on diet, food supplements, exercise, and accident prevention. There will be plenty of time for responses to your questions. For information, contact Dr. James Metz, jbmetz@gmail.com.



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Trees at Roanoke Street-end park honored as Heritage Trees

By Joyce Lane

A version of this article first appeared in the Plant Amnesty newsletter.

On a cool and breezy Saturday in April, the Eastlake neighborhood got its first Heritage Tree plaque honoring the Lombardy poplar and three willows at the street-end park at the foot of Roanoke Street, on Lake Union.

The trees, which have been protected from beavers and boats by a chain link fence wrapped around their trunks, were nominated by neighbors Kathy Austin and Patricia Ostrander. Approximately fifteen people and nine dogs were present to witness the ceremony. Mike Duppenhalter, proprietor of the Blue Ribbon Cooking & Culinary Center, brought elegant hors d'oeuvres to supplement the traditional cookies. Cass Turnbull gave an eloquent speech about the trees and read the plaque written by Arthur Lee Jacobson. Afterwards, a few of the group retired to the almost-historic Eastlake Zoo Tavern to celebrate another addition to the Seattle Heritage Tree family.

Celebrating Earth Day



Seattle Prep Seniors and staff celebrated Earth Day this year by cleaning up and restoring Lake Union shoreline between NOAA and Lake Union Drydock.

NOAA Sighting



It was good to see this NOAA ship back in the neighborhood for repairs at Lake Union Drydock. Efforts continue to keep the NOAA base in Seattle rather than being moved to Newport, Oregon.



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Volunteer Opportunities

The Eastlake Community Council builds community and enhances the neighborhood only with your help. We're all-volunteer, so donations go a long way. Some skills and volunteer time we need right now:

1. Care for a park, shoreline, street, alley, drain, walkway, graffiti-marred area, or other corner of creation.
2. Get emergency training to help your block set up a preparedness and block or dock watch team, and/or get some graffiti removed (see articles above).
3. Distribute the Eastlake News on your block or nearby.
4. Help organize an Eastlake auction, tour, art walk, cruise, neighborhood-wide day of yard sales—or originate a new event.
5. Contribute photos and memories for the history of Eastlake. Compile a video history. Or develop an Eastlake display for Fremont's History House.
6. Help organize the Eastlake paper archives, or enlarge, organize, and annotate ECC's digital photo archives.
7. Attend and report what you learn from the East Precinct Crime Prevention Coalition, which advises the Police Department on crime-fighting north of Lynn Street.
8. Help with this newsletter—need InDesign experts, graphic designers, or anyone willing to learn, to do layout.
9. Offer some other project or skill we haven't thought of!



Visit www.eastlakeseattle.org to learn about how to participate. Or write to ECC, 117 E. Louisa Street #1, Seattle 98102, info@eastlakeseattle.org or phone 322-5463.

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Ways to build a stronger, healthier and safer neighborhood

Join a block watch

A block watch involves exchanging e-mail addresses and phone numbers with your neighbors, checking with each other when there are suspicious or dangerous happenings, and calling 911 quickly (including for car prowls and vandalism—no crime is too small to report).

For information on how to set up a block watch, see <http://www.seattle.gov/police/programs/Blockwatch/default.htm>. Help is available from the Police Department's Crime Prevention Coordinators: For the West Precinct (south of Lynn Street), contact Terrie Johnston (206) 684-4741, terrie.johnston@seattle.gov; and for the East Precinct (north of Lynn Street), Benjamin Kinlow (206) 684-7724, or benjamin.kinlow@seattle.gov.

For information on crime prevention, to volunteer, or to receive e-mailed crime alerts, contact crime@eastlakeseattle.org or (206) 328-7242.

Prepare for an emergency

ECC is building a network of emergency preparedness volunteers. Please help organize your family, employer, block, or dock. We especially need volunteers to take the city's free trainings. To get involved in the neighborhood's efforts, contact ECC at preparedness@eastlakeseattle.org or (206) 328-7242 and see the ECC web site at <http://www.eastlakeseattle.org/committees/emergency-preparedness>.

To sign up or to request materials for emergency preparedness, go to www.seattle.gov/emergency or contact Seattle's Emergency Management office at (206) 233-7123 or 233-5076.

See also the useful www.3days3ways.org.

Fight graffiti

Quick removal of graffiti discourages taggers. The city requires landowners to remove it promptly and promises immediate action on public property. The graffiti hotline is (206) 684-7587. Describe the location accurately (address, cross street, side of street, etc.). Volunteers are needed to report graffiti and/or paint it out. To help or join ECC's graffiti committee contact frisky1@mindspring.com, crime@eastlakeseattle.org or (206) 328-7242. For more information: http://www.seattle.gov/util/Services/Garbage/Reduce_Garbage_%26_Litter/Graffiti_Prevention_%26_Removal and www.paintout.org.

Planning for next year's 4th of July crunch

As a part of its ongoing effort to make sure that the July 4 fireworks go smoothly and safely for the neighborhood, the Eastlake Community Council welcomes your suggestions regarding planning for next year. Suggestions can be sent to info@eastlakeseattle.org. We have received this comment from one resident: "The 4th of July is a magical time of year. This year it was especially wonderful since the Lake Union fireworks show was privately funded. But here in the neighborhood, we noticed a larger amount than ever of illegal fireworks. We found one spent rocket on our deck and several in our yard. Neighbors had rockets hit their houses. It's not OK to put others' homes at risk for fire or possible personal injury. What can we do to reverse the escalation in use of illegal and dangerous fireworks?"

Eastlake hosts two successful Seattle Night Out block parties – would like to see more

Both the 2100 block of Yale Ave. E. and the 2600 block of Franklin Ave. E. had Night Out block parties on August 3 to celebrate and support safe neighborhoods. Night Outs are a city of Seattle sponsored initiative to build safe local communities.

Yale's block party had between 250-300 people, including lots of children and pets. They raised \$138.00 selling raffle tickets with proceeds going to the fire department to buy two pet oxygen masks.

The Yale party was organized by Cecilia Grevson and about seven other neighbors. Grevson and her group got a special grant from the Department of Neighborhoods as well as funding from private business donors in an effort to support this year's event and teach others how to have parties in their own block. "Last year we had our street's first party in the 2200 block of Yale Ave E. This year we moved to the 2100 block of Yale Ave E. We are going to continue moving the block party till everybody knows how to organize one," says Grevson.

Franklin Ave. E. is already an old hand at organizing block parties. They've been having one annually for years. This year about 80 people attended, says Jules James one of the organizers.

Hopefully next year many more streets will be having their own block parties.

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Mr. Boeing

By Paul G. Spitzer

Paul G. Spitzer formerly was the Corporate Historian at Boeing, a university professor and Curator at the Museum of History and Industry. The Eastlake News is proud to have published his series of articles (of which this is the last) about Boeing's aviation operations on Lake Union. In the coming year as a benefit to the Eastlake Community Land Trust, Spitzer's series will be published as a book. We will report on its publication when it is available, or if you would like to be notified, contact Chris Leman at cleman@oo.net

Surprisingly little is known about William Boeing, but we do know that is the way he would have wanted it. He was like a theater director who never goes in front of the curtain; one who conceives the whole play, instructs the actors, but himself is never on stage. Boeing himself didn't design, test, or sell airplanes and remains one of the least known men of aviation. Simply put, he was an extremely private man.

There was always a strong sense of reserve and decorum about Boeing. Photos of him rarely show a man at ease with the camera. Nor were employees at ease with him. To them he was an intimidating perfectionist whom they invariably referred to as Mr. Boeing. Among those he knew well, namely the ladies and gentlemen in the many exclusive social clubs he belonged to where he was much more at home, he was "Bill." And to the public and press, he was almost unknown.

Despite the fact that he grew up in a German-Austrian home, he threw his support behind the British-French side very early in the First World War. His "super-patriot" view mirrored the views of other rich alumni from Ivy League schools. That nationalism, as much as his long standing interest in aviation, inspired him to build his first airplanes.

Boeing entered aviation in 1915 at the relatively old age of 34. He had come west a dozen years before with a large inheritance to which he added a second fortune through logging on the Olympic Peninsula. Airplanes started as a diversion for a millionaire bachelor interested in things mechanical. In 1921, his life changed markedly when he married and had a son with a woman already with two of her own.

After the initial large losses in aviation, the profitability of his airplanes began to eclipse that of Boeing's timber. He expected great things from aviation. People commented on this "vision" which carried him through the inevitable bad times. Overall, his company and industry grew and prospered by selling almost exclusively to the American military. By the early Twenties, the company no longer needed Lake Union and turned to Sand Point on Lake Washington to develop its seaplanes. In 1928, when Seattle dedicated its new airport in his name, his comments at the opening ceremonies showed he appreciated the honor and had grown slightly more comfortable being in the public eye. And while the dedication championed civil aviation which had not yet amounted to anything, he imagined much, much more.

The end of the Twenties brought industry changing technical advances and Mr. Boeing, who never completed college, leaped to incorporate them. It was his company that built what is today universally recognized as the first modern airliner, the Model 247. He also seized the opportunity to begin transcontinental passenger service. And around the same time, he acquired airlines, engine manufacturers and airframe builders, merging them into America's most successful aviation corporation with the help of eastern interests.

The financial demands of running this great conglomerate eventually overrode Boeing's insistence on doing things on his own, without partners. In the early days, because he had held most of the airplane company's stock, no one had been his equal. But despite such an absolute role, he found excellent managers who were willing to provide the engineering and business skills required and he remained remarkably open to their suggestions. Eddie Hubbard, Boeing's personal pilot, together with the airplane company's chief engineer, Claire Egtvedt, convinced Mr. Boeing to bid on the transcontinental mail route. It was a visionary step and within two months, the route demonstrated it would be a great success. In his remarkable career, it seemed as if he never put his foot wrong.

Mr. Boeing's manner appeared to say he did not need to heed employees, minority shareholders, the press or fellow citizens. He avoided even committees and did

not participate in public commissions or seek government office. Restrictions on his liberty annoyed him (he never reconciled himself to Prohibition). However, he was never as independent of public opinion as he appeared.

Employees all respected and admired him, even if feeling intimidated. He gifted shares of stock to his supervisors that in time made them extremely rich. It was an aristocratic act of generosity in which he again acted on his own. But not everyone liked him and some important, but unknown, people apparently hated him for how else can one explain that instantly when Prohibition became Washington State law, the

One doesn't need to have watched the hearings to know Boeing left a crushed man.

first home raided by the police was his. And for someone who gave the appearance of insularity, he was terribly sensitive to aspersions on his character.

That sensitivity came up in a letter he wrote to his senator in the midst of World War One. The incident has never been mentioned in

any history of the company, but Mr. Boeing wanted to temporarily give the firm to the Navy. They could run things as they wished. More importantly there would be no profit. He would get nothing. The Navy would get everything--the plant, the employees, the planes--through to the end of hostilities, so no one could accuse him of profiteering or lack of patriotism. The Navy, however, showed no interest in his offer.

Nonetheless accusations would later overcome a man who for 18 years had prospered in spite of the turbulence of the air industry. His giant aviation conglomerate did well even after the crash of Wall Street. But in the midst of the Depression, competitor airlines which had lost out on airmail contracts found the government and some senators happy to challenge the winners. Mr. Boeing was called to the Capitol for Senate investigations. He failed to understand the extent of hostility or the widespread feeling that giant businesses needed humbling. His testimony began confidently, but a natural reticence and the careful selection of words made him sound duplicitous. In mid sentence as he prepared his replies, the senators across the room grew impa-

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tient and interrupted him. They pummeled him, not with questions, but accusations. These came down to hadn't he made millions on a tiny investment. At the end of the day, by repetition, his inquisitors had tarred him as a profiteer.

One doesn't need to have watched the hearings to know Boeing left a crushed man. Defeat is obvious even in the silent words in the transcript. He needed to be alone just then and he asked his wife not to join him. In the months ahead, unlike other "witnesses" who accepted even harsher whippings from Congress and went back to work, Mr. Boeing quit aviation completely. Outraged at what had happened, he sold all his company stock. He lived another two decades away from aviation. Returning to Seattle, he enjoyed retirement engaged with his hobbies and friends. Aviation's most adept entrepreneur wouldn't be humiliated again.

Boeing's achievements were those of a man of vision. Back in 1919 at Lake Union, it was Mr. Boeing and Eddie Hubbard who carried the first letters by air across America's international borders. In the Twenties, he realized the time was right to establish transcontinental mail and passenger routes. He was right that aviation was ready for consolidation, although it did not occur until the post Cold War. Another thing he was right about was air transportation. It did become mass transportation with the creation of his company's 707 jet airliner two years after his death in 1956. That company was his greatest achievement, of course. Through his faith in aviation, he knew its future long before events proved him right.

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