

# The Eastlake News

Winter 2011/12

## Coming events

**Eastlake holiday cruise on the Islander.** Thurs., Dec. 1. Boarding begins 6 p.m. at 1611 Fairview Ave. E. Departure 6:45 p.m. to meet the “Christmas ships” for the opening night concert in Lake Union; return by 9 p.m. Tickets at [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com) are \$15 (dinner and punch included; no-host cash-only bar).

**Caroling kayakers at Lynn Street Park.** 6:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2. Sponsored by ECC and Northwest Outdoor Center. Donations for Seattle Children’s Home accepted at this event.

**Public meeting on reducing noise from I-5 and SR-520.** Mon., Jan. 9, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E. See article, p. 10.

**Public meeting on emergency preparedness and public safety.** Wed., Jan. 25, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E. See article, p. 10.

**Public meeting on Eastlake-specific building design guidelines and the Fairview Ave. Green Street guidelines.** Tues., Feb. 7, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E. See article, p. 11.

## Future of NOAA site, private skybridge or alternative public crossing at The Hutch, and other proposals face Eastlake south end

Several proposed projects could change our south end forever, and you can help determine whether it is for better or worse. The biggest is the former NOAA site (1801 Fairview Ave. E.), with 915 feet of shoreline. Two families are selling 2.1 land acres, 6.4 submerged acres, and rights to 1.9 submerged acres leased from the state Department of Natural Resources. Zoning is industrial, with an overlay requiring uses to be water-dependent.

In adopting the Eastlake Neighborhood Plan, the Mayor and City Council committed to this: “Plan for the re-development of NOAA and other major properties along the Fairview shoreline in a way that strengthens Eastlake’s existing industrial maritime uses, recreational uses, shoreline habitat and floating home community.” The Eastlake Community Council learned in October that the City has decided not to conduct this public planning. (If Mayor and Council hear from you, maybe they will come around.) So ECC is sponsoring the community’s own planning process and dialogue with the owners and agencies.

While the City fiddled, the northern third of the site was sold to moor a large yacht and add a related building. Although the southern two-thirds

hasn’t yet sold, the highest bidder came. He is Wally Trace, developer of much of the commercial property on the southeast lakeshore.

Trace prefers houseboats for the site (as before NOAA) but believes that regulations would prevent it. He proposes a biotechnology laboratory that, as not a water-dependent use would be limited to 35 feet height (industrial maritime could be up to 45). Trace proposes a public pathway along the water (currently along the Fairview roadway, it lacks any view of the lake). We don’t know the northern purchaser’s intentions.

Public opposition once thwarted the owner families’ proposal to vacate (privatize) the parking lot, now Fairview Avenue E. right-of-way heavily used by the public. Trace said on Nov. 14 that he will not seek a vacation. Again, we don’t know the northern purchaser’s intentions.

The site would make a great park (or at least could spare some land to enlarge Terry Pettus Park, at Newton street end). But governments, the Seattle Parks Foundation, and the Trust for Public Lane are short of purchase money (especially the millions needed for a park). Know of a potential donor? Please contact us.

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

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The Eastlake News is a quarterly publication of the Eastlake Community Council. We welcome comments, articles or images for possible publication; please include a contact phone number. Articles may be edited for length and clarity. Articles in the newsletter represent the view of the author and not necessarily the ECC. Please send submissions to info@eastlakeseattle.org or by U.S. mail to the return address on the back of this newsletter. For advertising contact Kevin Haywood, Jr. at advertising@eastlakeseattle.org.

The deadline for ads and submissions is: Jan. 20 for spring issue; April 20 for summer issue; July 20 for fall issue; October 20 for winter issue. Publication schedule is as follows:

Spring - March, April May  
 Summer - June, July, August  
 Fall - September, October, November  
 Winter - December, January February

Masthead artwork sketch by Victor Steinbrueck. Other artwork sketches by Karen Berry.

**NOAA Photos**



This dramatic photo from the real estate offering shows the centrality and size of the 8.5-acre former NOAA site at 1801 Fairview (shaded area -- difficult to see in this black and white photo). The smaller photo highlights the actual site. It's the largest land and water parcel offered for sale on Lake Union in a generation.



You can now find Eastlake Community Council on Facebook. Find out the latest news about the ECC and become a fan by clicking Like on our Page.



Remember our neighbors this holiday season: Donate an item or funds to the food drive for the University District Food Bank at Eastlake Mail, Lake Union Mail, Pete's, WSECU, at the cruise, by mail, or on-line, Nov. 28 - Dec. 15. See article, p. 13.

**Oil Painting Classes**



**Info: www.PatrickHowe.com**

**Eastlake south end proposals** continued

The Nov. 14 public meeting also featured discussion of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center's proposed private skybridge over Eastlake Ave. in the long block between Nelson Place and Aloha Street. Seattle prohibits new skybridges, because of the street shadow they cause, distraction of drivers, and other negatives, unless there is no feasible alternative. A private skybridge would leave the crossing unsafe for the general public, which uses bus stops on both sides of Eastlake Ave. The private skybridge would also not serve the many additional members of the public who will be crossing here once a WSDOT-proposed pedestrian and bicycle pathway from Colonnade Park (under and next to I-5) to Eastlake Ave. is built (see details below).

ECC urges examination of alternatives that would benefit the general public, not just those with Hutch ID. Examples of other skybridges that are open to the public, as well as to their own staff, are a pedestrian tunnel under NE Pacific St. built by UW Hospital, and a skybridge over Westlake Ave. N. built by the Attachmate Corporation. Faced with opposition from the Pedestrian and Design boards, and Allied Arts, ZymoGenetics in 1999 withdrew its proposal for a private skybridge over Eastlake Ave., and working with ECC and the City, got at-grade crossings benefitting employees and the general public alike.

A straw poll at the Nov. 14 public meeting found unanimous support for opening the WSDOT maintenance road, under and next to I-5 from Colonnade Park to Eastlake Ave., as a pathway for pedestrians and bicyclists. It would honor WSDOT's claims to foster non-motorized transportation as well as driving. Requests to open this now fenced-off area may be sent to WSDOT Secretary Paula Hammond ([hammonp@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:hammonp@wsdot.wa.gov)), Sen. Ed Murray ([edward.murray@leg.wa.gov](mailto:edward.murray@leg.wa.gov)), and State Reps. Frank Chopp ([frank.chopp@leg.wa.gov](mailto:frank.chopp@leg.wa.gov)) and Jamie Pedersen ([jamie.pedersen@leg.wa.gov](mailto:jamie.pedersen@leg.wa.gov)). A research lab proposed by Alexandria Real Estate at 1150 Eastlake would vacate E. Nelson Place, but keep the existing pedestrian connection from Eastlake Ave. to the proposed WSDOT pathway. Street vacations, like skybridges, require community benefits; assistance to the I-5 pathway might qualify.

For more on these projects, to comment or get involved: [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org); ECC, 117 E. Louisa St. #1, Seattle 98102-3278; call (206) 322-5463; or go to [eastlakeseattle.org](http://eastlakeseattle.org).



This QR block can take your digital device to the ECC website, [www.eastlakeseattle.org](http://www.eastlakeseattle.org)

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## **ECC secures funding for Hamlin street-end improvements**



ECC applied for and has secured City funding to complete the missing south half of the sidewalk at the Hamlin street-end. The current corrugated metal crash barrier will be replaced with a rustic timber-type like the one by Fairview Park near the Shelby street-end. The crash barrier will also be moved so that it protects the sidewalk while allowing pedestrians easy access to the park. Public input (including a public meeting) will be included in the project design. To get involved: [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org) or (206) 322-5463.

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# MOST POPULAR PLACE IN TOWN

Periodically, the Eastlake Community Council conducts surveys of public opinion. When the question was, “If you left Eastlake, where would you likely move?” one resident amusingly responded, “Into an urn.” That was in 1985, but it’s a fair guess that today the responses would show as much love for the neighborhood, and as much humor. What do you value about living or working in Eastlake? Please send us your thoughts at [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org). And see on page 15 volunteer opportunities to protect Eastlake and make it better.

Local businesses are a big part of what many value about Eastlake, and are often featured in this column. We rarely write about closures, but two recent ones hit us hard, reminders not to forget the many businesses that are no longer with us. **Video Quest** gave way to changes in the industry, and nicely marked its 20-



A big “Thank you Eastlake! V.Q.” is painted on the windows of the recently-closed Video Quest.

year run in the neighborhood by painting in the window a huge heart and “Thank You Eastlake –V.Q.” Nearby **Nettletown** closed despite an inventive menu and unqualified praise from diners and food writers. It was founded by Christina Choi (daughter of the late Ted Choi, one of the early ECC presidents), and her brother Chris also worked there.

Owning and operating a small business takes extraordinary energy and imagination, and today’s down economy increases the challenges. Going out of business doesn’t diminish in the slightest the good you’ve done in making Eastlake a community that people enjoy. In honoring our current small businesses, let’s also remember those that were such a part of our lives but no longer exist. On behalf of all the happy customers and neighbors that miss you--**Thank You.**

Affiliated with the national Business Alliance for Local Living Economies ([livingeconomies.org](http://livingeconomies.org)), the

**Seattle Good Business Network** ([seattlenetwork.org](http://seattlenetwork.org), 206-629-2346) is a non-profit organization that promotes, connects, and empowers locally owned small businesses in

continued on next page

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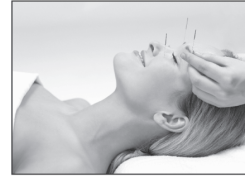
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the Seattle area. Members are publicized in the **Think Local** web site, directory, *Stranger* insert, *Chinook Book*, and in postcards, posters, and window decals. Basic business membership is \$345 annually; individuals \$50.

Congratulations to **Sushi Kappo Tamura** (2968 Eastlake Ave., 206-547-0937, sushikappotamura.com), honored by the November issue of **Seattle Magazine** as Seattle's best new restaurant—"This is the best sushi in Seattle."

*Lake Union Beat* praised the food and company at **Irwin's Neighborhood Bakery and Cafe** (1201 Eastlake Ave., 206-623-1510, irwinsbakeryseattle.com/pages), which offers baked goods, breakfast and lunch menu, free wi-fi and a deck overlooking Lake Union. Hours are weekdays 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Eastlake location is in the historic City Light Hydro House; the other two are in Wallingford and Green Lake.

In October and several other times during the year, the **Eastlake Zoo** (2301 Eastlake Ave., 206-329-3277, eastlakezoo.com) has hosted fundraisers benefitting **Northwest Harvest**, a charity which aids people who don't have enough to eat.

The **University Branch Library** (5009 Roosevelt Way NE, 206-684-4063) has a **monthly book discussion group**, third Mondays from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. The Dec. 19 book to be discussed is Jonathan Harr's **The Lost Painting**.

**Chuck Murray** (2355 Eastlake Ave., Iwilldive4u@yahoo.com, 709-4292) is a professional diver who serves boaters, docks, marine businesses, and houseboats with plumbing and flotation services as well as the recovery of

items dropped in the lake.

According to a recent national study, people in Seattle are more active than in any other major American city. Eastlake has several personal training and exercise studios: **The Lab, a Crossfit Gym** on Eastlake (1165 Eastlake Ave., 206-446-8162, www.eastlake-crossfit.com) emphasizes barbells, kettlebells, jump ropes, medicine balls, and pull-up systems. Beginner and advanced classes are offered.

New to the neighborhood is **Elite Fitness Training**, by Grand Central (1616 Eastlake, 206-324-7200, http://elitefitnessnw.com), which specializes on 1-on-1 personal training, as well as Sunday morning Boot Camp classes. The routine includes 60-minute weight training sessions with a circuit style, 30-60 minutes for cardio and 10-30 minutes for core conditioning and flexibility.

Eastlake resident and three-time national aerobics champion Johnny Underwood, operates a personal training and exercise studio on Capitol Hill, by appointment only (**Transcend Fitness**, 100 E. Madison #B, jchampion00@aol.com). If you live or work in Eastlake and offer personal training services or have an exercise studio, contact us and we'll list you too.

**Proformance Rehab** (1550 Eastlake Ave E. #1, 206-322-2842, http://proformancerehab.com) is offering free sports screenings on Saturday, January 14 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (call ahead for an appointment) as a welcome and thank you to the community. The 15-minute session with a licensed physical therapist includes assessment of current

continued on next page

**MOST POPULAR PLACE IN TOWN** continued from page 7

injury or musculoskeletal pain; advice on techniques; preventative care; and recommendations for follow up care.

**Bridge Blond Salon** (2373 Eastlake Ave., 206-329-1362) has been in the neighborhood for almost ten years. Three hair stylists offer cuts and color, extensions, feathers, and Brazilian blowouts (straightening). Business hours are Tuesdays through Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome.

Thanks to recently retired ECC board members Betty Gard and Frank Wetzel for their service. Betty is an accomplished actress on the stage, on the air, and in films--most recently in *The Appointment* (shown at October's Seattle Lesbian and Gay Film Festival); and in the forthcoming comedy, *Sisterhood of Death*. Frank is a distinguished journalist and author of *Victory Gardens and Barrage Balloons* (1995), *Diamond in the Emerald City: The Story of Safeco Field* (co-author, 1999), and *Celebrating Puget Sound* (2009).

And thanks to **Louisa's Café and Bakery** (2379 Eastlake Ave., 325-0081, louisascfe.com) for co-sponsoring ECC's Sept. 25 Fall Celebration. Other restaurants interested in holding events jointly with ECC are encour-

aged to contact us.

Mention here does not imply endorsement by the ECC, writer (Chris Leman), or editor. To submit news items, or for questions or to volunteer for any of the projects mentioned here: [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org) or c/o ECC, 117 E. Louisa St. #1, Seattle 98102, or (206) 322-5463.



United Parcel Service has been picking up and delivering in Eastlake for more than a century. Now a multibillion dollar worldwide operation, UPS was founded in Seattle's Pioneer Square neighborhood in 1907 by two youths with bicycles. This photo shows the two current UPS drivers who have the longest history in Eastlake. Rich Hammrich (left) started deliveries in Eastlake in 1985, and Wade Calvin (right) in 1995.

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Early arrivals to Rogers Playfield for ECC's Aug. 13 free showing of the movie classic The Wizard of Oz were "Auntie Em" (Paige Stockley) and "Dorothy" (her daughter Daisy, complete with ruby slippers). Photo is by Leslie Silverman. Should the Wizard of Oz be repeated next year for our summer movie night? If not, what other movie do you recommend? Write to us at info@eastlakeseattle.org or call (206) 322-5463.

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**Mark your calendar****Public Meetings****Jan. 9: What to do about noise from I-5 and SR-520?**

Freeway noise is the focus of the ECC public meeting on Mon., Jan. 9, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E. Construction of I-5 and its interchange with SR-520 in the early 1960s not only destroyed part of the neighborhood and walled off what remained; it also left Eastlake with more noise than would be allowed today because the construction preceded environmental laws.

Culminating a 20-year ECC campaign, noise walls have been constructed, but ECC is working to extend them north to the Ship Canal Bridge and to reduce the intense noise from the bridge's poor design. The wider upper deck reflects noise down from the lower and narrower express lanes creating noise levels on the ground that are as high as anywhere in the state highway system—so loud that pedestrians and cyclists on Eastlake and Harvard avenues can't hear oncoming vehicles. WSDOT's test of noise insulation under the upper deck hasn't worked, and there's no backup plan or budget.

To make matters worse, WSDOT proposes vast over-expansion of SR-520 with an expanded flyover ramp that will broadcast more noise into the neighborhood. With lax oversight from the Mayor and City Council, WSDOT wants noisy night-time construction, tens of thousands of truck trips, and exemption from City environmental regulation.

Please join us at the Jan. 9 public meeting for dialogue with State and City officials about how to protect Eastlake from freeway noise. Let the Mayor, City Council, Governor, and state legislators know you expect action. And please volunteer your time or ideas to ECC at [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org) or (206) 322-5463.

**Jan. 25: Emergency preparedness and public safety**

Meet with uniformed police officers, trainers and neighbors to help your family, business, block, or dock prevent crime and prepare for disasters. It's all at the ECC public meeting Wed., Jan. 25, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E.

We'll start with public safety, talking with police about recent crimes in the neighborhood and how to discourage

them, then talk with emergency planners from the City and major institutions about preparedness, and conclude with organizing more block watch and emergency teams.

Neighbors can best prevent crime and prepare for disasters by exchanging phone numbers, e-mail addresses, Twitter and Facebook accounts, and knowing one another. On crime prevention, see <http://www.seattle.gov/police/blockwatch>. Check with each other about suspicious or dangerous happenings, and call 911 quickly, even when in doubt. Nothing is too small to report, and a crime need not have been committed. The system has plenty of capacity, so you won't compete with another call that could be more urgent. The 911 operators are professionals who know where to refer your call. Police can't respond if you don't alert them, and won't patrol Eastlake as much if 911 never hears from us.

Crime Prevention Coordinator for the East and West Precincts (Lynn Street is the boundary between them) is Francisco Tello, (206) 684-4730 [francisco.tello@seattle.gov](mailto:francisco.tello@seattle.gov). And thanks to outcry in Eastlake and elsewhere, the Mayor and City Council have agreed not to eliminate the coordinator positions.

Quick removal of graffiti discourages taggers. Landowners must remove it promptly, and WSDOT and the City promise to remove graffiti from public property if we report it to them. Report graffiti (and water pollution and illegal dumping) at (206) 684-7587; or on the web at <http://www.seattle.gov/util/index.htm>. Volunteers are needed to report graffiti and/or paint it out; please contact ECC coordinator Elizabeth Norvell at [frisky1@mindspring.com](mailto:frisky1@mindspring.com).

Tom Wales, a Queen Anne resident and friend of Eastlake, was a federal prosecutor who was gunned down in October 2001. There is a million dollar reward for any tip that solves his murder. If you have information, no matter how small, please contact the FBI at [walestips@ic.fbi.gov](mailto:walestips@ic.fbi.gov).

SPD's Office of Emergency Management has information and videos, free trainings, and speakers for your group, [www.seattle.gov/emergency](http://www.seattle.gov/emergency) or (206) 233-7123. Please: (1) take a free training course; (2) plan with those around you; (3) help the neighborhood prepare by letting ECC know how your recovery skills (e.g. nurse, doctor, or EMT; ham radio or satellite telephone operator; improvised repair of structures or gas, electric, water, and sewer lines); or (4) suggest some other way to help. Contact ECC at [irishslk@aol.com](mailto:irishslk@aol.com) (coordinator Doreen Nash) and [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org), and/or call (206) 322-5463. See you at the Jan. 25 public meeting!

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**Feb. 7: Design guidelines for Fairview Ave. Also zoning overlay for Eastlake Ave.**

Interested in the look and feel of the neighborhood? Wish to preserve certain aspects? Don't miss the ECC public meeting on Tues., Feb. 7, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E. Currently awaiting City action are three design proposals that emerged from the 1998 Eastlake Neighborhood Plan:

- 1) an Eastlake Avenue Pedestrian Overlay District ordinance regarding new construction would keep a residential feel on some blocks while continuing to allow new retail and commercial buildings on the other blocks
- 2) design guidelines for any new multifamily and commercial buildings in the Eastlake neighborhood
- 3) design standards for the Fairview Ave. E. right-of-way between Fuhrman Ave. E. and Hamlin St., and between Roanoke St. and Newton St.—segments that Ordinance 119322 designated as a "Green Street Type 3"

Thanks to the many volunteers who worked out these proposals, which are available for your review on the ECC web site at eastlakeseattle.org. By attending the Feb. 7 meeting and/or by sending us your comments, please help review and update the proposals. For questions or to get involved: info@eastlakeseattle.org, or write to ECC at 117 E. Louisa St. #1, Seattle, WA 98102-3278.



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## Cartoon of the Word (of the Day)



RALPH, THE ELEPHANT, FOUND HIS  
ADVENTITIOUS TUSK ADVANTAGIOUS  
FOR FILING IMPORTANT PAPER WORK!

### adventitious

adjective

- 1: coming from another source and not inherent or innate
- 2: arising or occurring sporadically or in other than the usual location

For more Cartoon of the Word (of the Day) [Merriam-Webster's Word of the Day] by Eastlake cartoonist, John Ambrosavage, or to sign up and receive daily emails of both, visit [www.ambrotoons.com](http://www.ambrotoons.com).

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## University District Food Bank Serves the Eastlake Neighborhood

By Lynn Poser

For more than a quarter of a century, the University District Food Bank has helped prevent hunger in Northeast Seattle neighborhoods by providing easy access to free and nutritious food to anyone who is hungry. The food bank serves residents of Eastlake's zip code, 98102, and also those living in zip codes 98103, 98105, 98112, 98115, and 98125. The food bank is currently located in the basement of the University Christian Church at 1413 NE 50th Street (on NE 50th just down the hill from the corner of 15th Avenue NE).

Each week, more than 1,000 different families receive the groceries they need to prepare nutritionally balanced meals at home. In 2010, the food bank had more than 54,200 customer visits and distributed over 2.2 million pounds of food.

The University District Food Bank is supported by individuals, churches, government, and many local businesses. Over 80% of the food distributed is donated. Cash donations have made it possible for the food bank to spend \$125,000 this year buying food. Students from the TOPS School fourth grade class volunteer twice a month at the food bank where they package donated bulk food and stock shelves. The Eastlake Bar & Grill has hosted annual benefit dinners with proceeds donated to the University District Food Bank. In November, the Eastlake Community Council donated \$200 to the University District Food Bank.

This holiday season, the Eastlake Community Council will be collecting food and cash contributions for the University District Food Bank. Toiletries (bar soap, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, shampoo, toilet paper, safety razors and shaving cream) and pet food are also needed. Donations will be accepted from November 28 to December 15 at collection boxes in the neighborhood located at Eastlake Mail, Lake Union Mail, Pete's Wine Shop, the Washington State Employees Credit Union/Eastlake Branch, and at the holiday cruise on December 1. Monetary donations can also be made directly online at

<http://www.udistrictfoodbank.org>.

Kailin Mooney (pictured here) an Eastlake renter, has been on staff at the University District Food Bank for almost three years. Kailin has found that working at the food bank utilizes her interests in food, teaching and social work. Kailin's connections in the Eastlake neighborhood go back many years. Her dad and stepmom, Michael and Luise Mooney, owned Louisa's Bakery for 16 years and Kailin worked at the café while in high school and during the summers when she was home from college.

Kailin wants people to know about the diverse clientele who come to the University District Food Bank, which includes many working families who are not earning enough to purchase sufficient food. These families use the food bank to extend their incomes so that they can afford other necessities like rent, electricity, prescription drugs, and school supplies.

Kailin would also like people to know how important donations are to the University District Food Bank. Donations to the food bank make a real and immediate difference in the lives of people. Donations from individuals, grocery stores, restaurants and other businesses in the Eastlake neighborhood are most appreciated.



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# Zoë Dusanne

## A resident who made a difference

by Judy Smith

I had the good fortune of being in France for four weeks this summer, two of those weeks in Paris. While I was there the president of the Eastlake Community Council, Chris Leman, asked me to consider what Eastlake might have in common with Paris. I must admit that at first glance I saw few if any similarities. (It's true we do have a French bakery and a bouledrome on Fairview Avenue - wonderful French touches.)

But on second glance there was a similarity, and that was the story of Zoë Dusanne.

Zoë Dusanne was the Gertrude Stein of Eastlake. Stein was famous for her writing, of course, but also for her residential gallery in Paris in the early twentieth century. She discovered and promoted modern art, particularly Pablo Picasso. Zoë Dusanne, whose biography was released this year, also had a famous residential gallery, this one in Eastlake/Capitol Hill in the mid twentieth century. She discovered and promoted modern Northwest art, particularly Mark Tobey. Both women were pioneering art collectors, both were forces behind new art movements, and both quietly rose above the prejudices of the time – Stein being gay and Dusanne, African American.

While my husband and I were in Paris, we happened upon Stein's residence at 27 Rue de Fleurus, marked by a plaque. Unfortunately

there can be no plaque of where Zoe Dusanne once lived because the I-5 Freeway now runs through her home site. But if there were it might say

as an art collector and dealer. In late 1940 she commissioned three young architects, (who would later become renowned) to build the modest – 1000 square feet – but stunning modern architecture home at 1303 Lakeview Place, with a view of Lake Union and the smoke stacks of the old city light building, now Zymogenetics, to showcase her art.

The Dusanne Gallery in 1950 became Seattle's first contemporary art gallery featuring artists like Jean Arp, Giorgio de Chirico, Jean Dubuffet, Marcel Duchamp, Otto Greis, Paul Klee, Fernand Léger, Henri Michaux, Piet Mondrian, Francis Picabia, Man Ray, and Venturino Venturi. Dusanne also convinced a Life magazine editor to write an article on the art being created here. That article, "Mystic Painters of the Northwest," would launch the Northwest School of art, featuring Mark Tobey, Kenneth Callahan, Guy Anderson and Morris Graves, whose genre became known (whether they liked it or not) as "mystic painting."

While in Paris we learned, almost

accidentally, that there was going to be an exposition about Gertrude Stein opening soon at the Grand Palais. We managed to catch the exposition on our last day in France.

The exposition starred 27 Rue des Fleurus, showing the original masterpieces that had hung on the walls of Stein's residence.

Ernest Hemingway wrote in *A Moveable Feast*, his autobiographical work about living in Paris in the



Interior shot of Dusanne's residential gallery with some of the art work on display. The once renown Eastlake/Capitol Hill home was torn down in 1959 for the I-5 Freeway.

*Dearborn Massar. University of Washington, Special Collections, neg. DM5356*

"Here lived Zoë Dusanne at 1303 Lakeview Place from 1949 to 1959. She was instrumental in bringing international modern art to Seattle and in introducing the Northwest School of art to the rest of the world."

Dusanne began collecting art during the Great Depression in Greenwich Village when she could pick up paintings at bargain prices. She moved with her collection to Seattle and began to make a name

1920s, that visiting 27 Rue de Fleures with his wife was practically like visiting the Louvre, "... we loved the big studio with the great paintings. It was like one of the best rooms in the finest museum..."

In some ways that's what it must have been like to visit Zoë Dusanne's home. As Jo Ann Ridley details in her biography, *Zoë Dusanne: An Art Dealer Who Made a Difference*, (Fithian Press \$15.95) "The Lakeview Place gallery was an architectural attraction in itself, and visitors were as

curious about the paintings it housed as they were about the lady in purple who welcomed them."

Ridley quotes bookseller, David Ishii about his memories of the avant-garde gallery, "I didn't have any money, but loved art, and Zoë's was the only place in town to see it." Many of the paintings that first hung at the Dusanne Gallery now are part of the Seattle Art Museum.

Neither Stein nor Dusanne were rich, although Stein was much better off because of money from her family's transit business. But they shared a philosophy about how to budget their funds for buying art. Gertrude Stein told Hemingway you could buy either clothes or art and she chose to buy art. And Ridley notes that Dusanne told an interviewer once, "It's a good thing I could sew because I loved nice clothes, but pictures even more."

What became clear in reading the Dusanne biography and seeing the Stein exposition was

the extent that these women followed their passion, often in the face of financial odds and personal conflicts. For both women, their favorite artists, whom they had helped make famous, would become too expensive for them to collect any longer.

Gertrude Stein continues to be recognized today for both her literary and artistic achievements. Ten years after Zoë Dusanne's death, in 1973, the Henry Art Museum hosted a tribute to her and her collection.

Dusanne's gallery was demolished for the I-5 Freeway. It was a time of great change in Seattle, with the 1962 World's Fair being planned and the Viaduct also being built. Now the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the World's Fair is being planned, the Viaduct is being torn down, and the first book dedicated to the work of this pioneer of Northwest art has just come out.

It seems like it might be good time to give Zoë Dusanne her own exposition.

*Special thanks to Frank Wetzel, Betty Gard, and Jules James for their assistance with this article.*



Dearborn Massar. University of Washington, Special Collections, neg. DM5349



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Dearborn Massar. University of Washington, Special Collections, neg. DM5350

#### Photos

Top: Front of the 1303 Lakeview Place home. Center: Patio which was an extension of the interior gallery. Left: The home once overlooked Lake Union.

#### Update

Zoë Dusanne gets a mention, and a photo of her with Japanese American artists whom she represented is on display, as part of the current SAAM exhibit, *Painting Seattle: Kamekichi Tokita and Kenjiro Nomura*, showing now through February 19, 2012, at Volunteer Park.

# Volunteer Opportunities

The neighborhood welcomes and needs your volunteer help. The Eastlake Community Council website ([www.eastlake.org](http://www.eastlake.org)) also lists many opportunities for volunteering. Some examples:

## Provide Input on North Gateway Park Art Project and Skateboard area

The triangle under I-5 between Eastlake Ave., Harvard Ave., and E. Allison Street, known as **North Gateway Park**, is owned by the Washington State Department of Transportation, which built its unique walls of green granite mined near Mt. Shuksan. ECC is working for improvements. Proposals include an art project on the freeway columns, and a small skateboard area. Please write us with your thoughts, or if you would like to get involved, to [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org).

## Deliver Eastlake News

Thirty of your neighbors hand-deliver 4000 copies of the **Eastlake News** to every home and business. More volunteers are always needed. We especially need someone

to re-supply the quickly disappearing stacks that the other volunteers initially put at Lake Union Mail, Le Fournil, Eastlake Mail, Eastlake Market, Eastlake Deli, Hamlin Deli, Washington State Employees Credit Union, Eastlake Zoo, Quick Stop, Starbucks, and Pete's. If you could cover these businesses, or just some of them, please let us know.

## Organize an Art Walk

Help the Eastlake Merchants Association, ECC, and local artists organize an **Eastlake art walk**. Volunteers are needed to make this event a reality. And let us know what you think about installing art pieces on utility poles as has been popular in the University District.

## Improve Bus Service

Or volunteer to help **organize Eastlake bus riders** to protect and improve the neighborhood's bus service. For any of these volunteer opportunities or to suggest a new one, contact ECC at [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org) or call 206-322-5463.



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## Become an ECC Member and/or Make a Donation

The Eastlake Community Council is volunteer, so dues and donations go a long way, and your involvement is welcome and needed.

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Or you may join and pay by credit or debit card at <http://www.eastlakeseattle.org>

For questions: [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org) or (206) 322-5463.



## Be a cornerstone for your community -- Volunteer!

We invite you to check off one or more interests (need not be a member or donor to volunteer):

- Help with web site, data base, social media, or video
- Art walk or public art
- Parks and open spaces
- Traffic and parking issues
- Bus/transit service
- Review building proposals or legislation
- Crime prevention or emergency preparedness
- Neighborhood history or photography
- Door-to-door newsletter distribution
- \_\_\_\_\_ (suggest something new!)