

The Eastlake News

Winter 2013/14

Coming Events

Drive for the U District Food Bank. Dec. 2-20. Collection barrels at Lake Union Mail, Pete's, and WSECU. See article on p. 13, including how to donate much-needed funds.

King County-Metro public meeting on bus service reduction Thurs., Dec. 5, 6-8 p.m. at North Seattle Community College, 9600 College Way N., Rm. C-1161. See article, p. 4

King County-Metro public meeting on bus service reduction Tues., Dec. 10, 12-2 p.m. at Union Station, 401 S. Jackson St.



Holiday cruise on the Islander Mon., Dec. 23. Boarding begins at 6:30 p.m. at 1611 Fairview Ave. E. Departure at 7:30 p.m., return by 10:30.

Tickets \$20 include dinner and punch, at brownpapertickets.com (password: Eastlake). See p. 2

Public meeting for Eastlake renters and singles Wed., Jan. 7, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E. See article, p. 20

Public event for Eastlake kids and parents Wed., Jan. 29, 6:30-8 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School. See article, p. 6

Open house at Fire Station 22 Sat., Feb. 8, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 901 E. Roanoke St. See article, p. 6

Public meeting on Arts in Eastlake Wed., Feb. 26, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School. See article, p. 5

Microhousing and land use: ECC pays for Code Interpretation, appeals citywide legislative proposal, and invites donations and volunteers

On Oct. 2, your Eastlake Community Council took an expensive step (likely one of many to come) in fighting the destructive “land rush” now threatening our neighborhood. ECC paid \$2500 for up to ten hours of work by Seattle’s Department of Planning and Development (DPD) and committed to pay for more hours if needed to produce a Land Use Code Interpretation regarding the number of units in the proposed microhousing project at 2719 Yale Terrace East. An additional ECC expense may be consulting or legal help in persuading DPD toward the result that we seek. The developer claims only 8 dwelling units but ECC believes that DPD’s Code Interpretation staff will rule that the project has 40 dwelling units.

The numbers are important because of requirements that apply only to projects with more units (especially the State Environmental Policy Act’s requirements for public notice, comment, and appeal, and analysis of transportation, parking, and fire safety; design review by a citizen board also kicks in at the higher numbers). In the only Code Interpretation so far issued about a microhousing project (on Capitol Hill), DPD ruled that the proposed project has 56 dwelling units rather than the 7 claimed by the developer. That developer is challenging DPD in court, and ECC is ready to help DPD fight such a challenge if it rules as we expect here.

ECC’s land use efforts also address other projects, and seek more reasonable City laws and rules than now govern. We submitted the 100+ signature petitions that required DPD to hold the Wed., Sept. 25 public meeting about the project proposed for 2719 Yale Terrace E. (#3015227) and the Oct. 29 public meeting about the microhousing project proposed for 2820 Eastlake Ave. (#3014488). To view comments by ECC and others about these projects, go to

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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.



All are welcome to ECC's Mon., Dec. 23 holiday cruise on the historic icebreaker the Islander. Boarding begins at 6:30 p.m. at 1611 Fairview Ave. E. Departure at 7:30 p.m., return by 10:30. Open to those who live or work in Eastlake and their invited guests. Meet the "Christmas ships" in Portage Bay and then the grand finale concert on Lake Union. Tickets are \$20 (kids up to 4 years are free if registered beforehand) and include dinner, dessert and punch. The bar is no-host and cash only. For information or to purchase a ticket (you need to use the password Eastlake), go to brownpapertickets.com and search for Eastlake Cruise.

Microhousing and land use continued from front page

<http://web6.seattle.gov/dpd/edms> and type in the project numbers just mentioned.

Much stronger legislation is needed. On Oct. 29, along with other organizations and individuals citywide, ECC appealed to the City's Hearing Examiner the very weak reasoning and even weaker legislation that DPD has proposed to address the negative neighborhood impacts of microhousing.

ECC and its co-appellants "object to the DPD's audacious disregard of the requirements of SEPA [the State Environmental Policy Act] ... Its conclusion that the 2,842 units created by the existing, under construction, and proposed micro-housing projects will have no significant environmental impacts... would be laughable, did it not have such tragic consequences for Seattle's natural and built environments."

Members of the public can attend any part of the multi-day appeal hearing, which will begin on Tues., Jan. 7, 9 a.m. on the 40th floor of the Municipal Building, 701 Fifth Avenue.

For documents about the appeal, see the Hearing Examiner's web site at <http://web6.seattle.gov/Examiner/case/W-13-008>. For questions about the case, contact ECC at info@eastlakeseattle.org.

ECC is a volunteer organization, so donations go far. Checks may be hand delivered or mailed to ECC, 117 E. Louisa St. #1, Seattle, WA 98102-3278. Or donate by credit card or debit card on the ECC web site, <http://eastlakeseattle.org>. For your donation to go specifically to ECC's land use efforts, please write "land use" on the memo line of your check or in the "suggest something new" box on the web site.

And your suggestions and energy are always welcome. Volunteers are particularly needed to help review the many projects that developers are proposing nowadays; and to write and lobby the City Council. Please volunteer via the web site (no membership dues or donation needed), or by sending an e-mail to info@eastlakeseattle.org.

Happy Holidays from Eastlake's Emerald City Classic!



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Please stand up for threatened bus routes

On Nov. 7, Metro announced bus service cuts that will be needed if King County and the state legislature don't resupply funds cut in recent years, especially as sales tax revenues depended on by the bus system have declined by \$1 billion since 2009 because of the weak economy. The State Senate is now controlled by Republicans and conservative Democrats who not only resist state funding for urban bus systems, but deny urban voters the right to tax themselves to raise bus funds locally.

The proposed bus cuts and their background can be seen at <http://metro.kingcounty.gov/am/future>. Metro would entirely eliminate route 25 and the route 66 express. Route 71 would no longer operate through Eastlake, and route 72 would be terminated.

And while Metro would enhance route 70 by somewhat increasing its frequency during commute hours (about ten minute between buses), it has not announced whether it will replace the popular route 66 weekday express stops in Eastlake and South Lake Union with route 73 express stops. It would be a terrible setback for both communities if the 73 were to continue having no stops along Eastlake Avenue. With the loss of route 66, Eastlake would have only local bus service--no express service at all.

Even though you're probably already standing on those crowded buses, please stand up against the cuts, and thank Metro for proposing to improve route 70. Write to customer comments@kingcounty.gov, with a copy to ECC at info@eastlake-seattle.org. Especially urge that if the route 66 is eliminated, Metro should replace its four express stops (Aloha, Garfield, Lynn, and Harvard) with similar express stops on the route 73 that in the commute and mid-day on weekdays, currently makes no stops on Eastlake Avenue.

Metro unfortunately still sees the Eastlake and South Lake Union neighborhoods as a corridor for zipping passengers between downtown and the University District. The Eastlake Neighborhood Plan, hundreds of petition signatures and many letters have called on Metro to establish that each express bus that uses Eastlake Avenue will make a few stops there (as with the 66 express), respecting Eastlake and South Lake Union as transit destinations.

Eastlake bus riders need to be organized, to defend their bus service and speak up for its improvement. Please become a part of the Eastlake Bus Riders Coalition; contact ECC at info@eastakeseattle.org. And please send ECC your suggestions for bus routes, stops or shelters. Also, see the calendar on the front page to attend the Metro public meetings on the bus cuts, 6-8 p.m. Thurs., Dec. 5 at North Seattle Community College, and noon to 2 p.m. Tues., Dec. 10 at Union Station.



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Arts in Eastlake to be spotlighted at Feb. 26 public meeting

In Eastlake, visual art or photography are a successful business to some and a dearly loved hobby for others. Are you an artist or photographer, or want to meet one? Eastlake is the home to large and small pieces of public art--do you know their stories, or want to debate their merits? Would you like to help organize, or exhibit something in, an Eastlake summer art show? Do you have some other art-related question or proposal? For any or all of the above reasons, please come to the public meeting about Arts in Eastlake on Wed., Feb. 26, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E. And whether or not you can come, please send to info@eastlakeseattle.org your questions, suggestions, or offer of volunteer help.



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Jan. 29: a public event for and about Eastlake kids and parents

More kids (and exhausted parents!) now live in Eastlake than in many years. ECC is sponsoring this event Wed., Jan. 29 (6:30-8 p.m. in the TOPS-Seward School library) for young families to network for mutual help, share information about neighborhood resources, and brainstorm about kid-friendly improvements for Eastlake. We'll meet in the spacious school library, so if you're lacking a sitter, there are books for kids, and some space for supervised play.

The event also features the Eastlake Families electronic forum and bulletin board, an all-volunteer community resource to help Eastlake neighbors who are parenting children of any age. To get involved, go to Yahoo Groups and type "Eastlake Families" in the keyword search box, and include some information about yourself (where you live, something about your family, why you want to join, etc.) in the comments section. Members use the group to:

- exchange news and information about kid-focused events and services
- connect kids for informal play dates, bike rides, meet-ups, etc.
- seek, sell and swap baby gear
- reach out for help and exchange on parenting, school and education issues
- start a babysitting co-op or nanny-share
- your idea here!

Please send to info@eastlakeseattle.org your suggestions on topics and format for the Jan. 29 event. (For example, should there be breakout sessions on different topics?) And especially let us know if you could help organize or lead part of the meeting.

Feb. 8 open house at Fire Station 22

Located at 901 E Roanoke St. just east of I-5, Fire Station 22 is the unit of the Seattle Fire Department closest to Eastlake. As a feature of the citywide Neighbor Appreciation Day, the station is hosting a public open house on Saturday, Feb. 8 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (tentative—check the "upcoming events" at <http://eastlakeseattle.org>; QR block is on p. 4). Tour the facility, explore the fire truck. Meet and thank the firefighters who would put their lives on the line for you, and likely provide first aid if you are injured or ill and call 911. Also any day you can drop in for a free reading of your blood pressure. Don't miss this rare open house at an important guarantor of our neighborhood's safety.



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ECC welcomes new board member Tom Pann



At the October 1 annual meeting, the Eastlake Community Council membership elected Tom Pann as a new board member. Tom's first volunteer efforts with ECC were in 2011 to improve our web site in how it addresses public safety,

and he soon became ECC's representative to the Seattle Police Department's East Precinct. Tom grew up on a farm near Rockford, Illinois. He, his wife Jenn, their two daughters, and their Shetland sheepdog Angus live at 2819 Franklin Avenue E., an historic house built in 1895. (Back in the mid-1970s, intervention by the Eastlake Community Council saved that house from demolition.) Tom often bicycles to his job as an engineer at Metro King County's Brightwater treatment plant (a round trip of 40 miles). He and Jenn are members of the newly formed Lake Union Greenways group, which is working to improve pedestrian and bicycle routes. Their oldest daughter is in kindergarten at TOPS-Seward School.



Tom Pann above with his two daughters and to the right with wife, Jenn Pann.

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Gas Works and John Cheshiahud featured in Lake Union History public meeting Sept. 17

by Judy Smith

When Vaun Raymond was looking for a thesis project to complete his Masters in Digital Media at the University of Washington, he asked Dick Wagner, founder of The Wooden Boats Center, what, if he could do a museum about anything, would it be? Wagner responded, “Lake Union.”

Wagner’s answer literally launched Raymond’s Lake Union Virtual Museum; the first video project was shot in part from a boat on Lake Union.

The museum is a multi-media website combining text, photographs and videos to tell stories about Seattle’s unique urban lake. Since its beginning in 2008, the website has grown to 52 pages with dozens of photos and 11 documentary videos on various aspects of the lake’s history. The website can be found at www.lakeunionhistory.org.

“It’s a museum you can visit from home,” said Raymond who was a guest speaker at the Sept. 17 ECC public meeting on the history of Lake Union.

The discussion of the virtual museum turned surprisingly real as two of the featured subjects of the videos were introduced and spoke. Richard Haag the architect for Gasworks Park was there and so was Jackie Swanson a descendant of John Cheshiahud, for whom the Lake Union Loop is named.

Haag spoke about the controversy surrounding Gas Works development. When the city started discussing ideas for turning the site into a park in the 1970’s people just assumed that the old gas works plant would be removed. The plant which had converted coal and later oil into synthetic natural gas was shut down in 1956 with the introduction of natural gas.

Haag came across the shuttered plant in 1958 when he moved to Seattle. “That place is magic,” he thought. “I want to work with that site.” Just over a decade later he would get his wish.

In 1969 Haag was hired by the city to do an analysis of the gas works property to determine how to turn it into a park. While doing the analysis he became convinced that the structures were the most sacred thing about the place, but keeping them would be another matter.

The park was originally going to be named for the late Myrtle Edwards, former City Council President. The park concept was being spearheaded by her family, but the family was adamantly against saving the structures and denounced the idea at public meetings. The sentiment from

the family and many members of the public was, “Save that pile of junk? What is going on here?”

Haag had a painting commissioned to show how the park might eventually look with the gas works and revealed it at a public hearing that over 700 people attended. That helped sway public opinion enough to let the project go

forward. The Edwards family withdrew the councilwoman’s name for the park. And instead the park, the first of its kind, became most known for, as Haag referred to them, its “industrial ruins.”

Jackie Swanson, a Native American, featured in the “First People” video was



Richard Haag



Jackie Swanson (photos from videos)

philosophical about her people’s history around the lake. She noted her great grandmother had been born where Ivar’s Salmon House now stands, and her family’s roots in the Pacific Northwest go far back. She described herself as Ancient Duwamish.

John Cheshiahud was one of the last Native Americans still allowed to live on the shores of Lake Union once white settlements had taken over. “What we got from Cheshiahud was always do our best,” she said.

John Cheshiahud was a master canoe carver. He carved a canoe for David Denny, and they became good friends learning each other’s language. Denny thought so highly of Cheshiahud that he ensured a burial spot for him at the Washelli Cemetery, even though the cemetery was segregated at the time.

“When you know the history of a place, the place becomes populated with the past,” noted Swanson.

Robert Onstad, Manager of Chandler’s restaurant, was also introduced at the meeting because he has set up a viewing room at Chandler’s that shows the videos for patrons who

might want to watch them while waiting for their table. It's been much appreciated, he said. "Guests want to know about what they're seeing out their window."

Besides "Gas Works" and "First People," Raymond has also produced videos on "Boat Shops," "Shipwrecks," "Houseboats," "World's Fair (1909)," "Rowing," "Seaplanes," "Harbor Patrol," and "Lake Union Drydock."


What's Raymond's favorite? He declined to say in a phone interview, but he did mention that "Seaplanes" has turned out to be the most popular with over 86,000 YouTube views.

Being on the Internet, the museum has a vast geographic distribution, he noted. Recently a pilot association in Florida wanting to establish a seaplane business in their community asked Raymond if they could use the Seaplane video at community meetings. He said yes.

He also said yes when a design group in California wanted to use the Gas Works video for community education as they were planning to turn a similar abandoned structure into a park.



"People are looking at Lake Union as a model," Raymond said, "and it's neat to be able to contribute to that."

After the meeting, the Eastlake Community Council donated \$200 to the Lake Union Virtual Museum. ECC's history and archives program is made possible by a sustaining grant from ZymoGenetics, a Bristol-Myers Squibb company. We deeply appreciate the support.



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Our state legislators work to reduce I-5 noise in Eastlake

In response to a request from the Eastlake Community Council to restart I-5 noise reduction efforts, our 43rd district state legislators on Oct. 24 wrote a great letter to the Washington State Department of Transportation (posted at <http://eastlakeseattle.org>, and excerpted below).

I-5 and its interchange with SR-520 in the early 1960s destroyed or compartmentalized treasured parts of our neighborhood. And as environmental laws didn't exist then, we have the worst noise in the state--and will have more when the expanded SR-520 bridge increases I-5 traffic. A 20-year ECC campaign brought noise walls to parts of Boylston Ave., but WSDOT has no plans for completing them (once among its highest priorities for noise reduction), and no backup plan after the failure of its test of noise insulation on the bridge.

Our legislators' letter to WSDOT Secretary Lynn Peterson insists on more progress, as follows:

We are writing to express our concern over the noise impacts from the I-5 Ship Canal Bridge on the communities situated below it and to urge WSDOT to take action to abate those impacts. Having met with Eastlake, Roanoke and Wallingford residents, we believe that several actions could and should be taken to reduce noise levels. We outline these below and hope that you will give them serious attention.

Residents continue to be very grateful for the earlier closing time for the express lanes and tell us that that change has materially improved their quality of life. There are several additional operational changes to the I-5 express lanes that would substantially reduce noise from the I-5 ship canal bridge with minimal need for additional funding or state resources: (1) close the express lanes earlier (10 p.m. rather than the current 11 p.m.); (2) open the express lanes later (5:30 a.m. or 6 a.m. rather than the current 5 a.m.); (3) reduce express lane speeds on the bridge and approaches to 40 miles per hour; and (4) exclude trucks and motorcycles from the bridge express lanes.

In addition to these operational changes, we request that WSDOT revisit the installation of noise walls in areas where they have not yet been deployed. A high priority in this regard is for WSDOT to work with the City of Seattle to understand the issues around closing a current gap on the west side of I-5 along Boylston Ave. E. that was apparently due to the presence of a City water main. The communities were informed that the water main was too "fragile" to allow construction. We ask that WSDOT and the City explore options for replacing or reinforcing the water main in order to close this gap. We understand that a noise study to model wall effectiveness in this area will be completed in 2014 and we appreciate these first steps toward addressing the problem.

We also request that WSDOT develop alternatives for consideration and potential funding by the legislature for completing noise wall mitigation in the area. These would include: (1) the south approach to the bridge where there is a gap between

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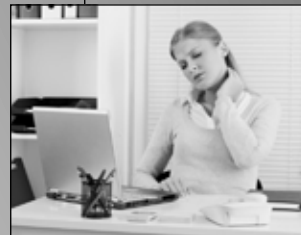
the express lanes and the general purpose lanes on the west side of I-5 along Franklin Ave. E.; (2) the west side of I-5 in the Wallingford neighborhood along 5th Ave. NE between 45th and 42nd Streets; and (3) 5th Ave NE north of 50th Street.

As you are certainly aware, I-5 was built through lovely old Seattle neighborhoods at a time long before modern noise mitigation requirements came into effect. The noise levels that neighborhood residents have had to tolerate for decades are not acceptable. We hope to work in partnership with WSDOT to make steady progress on reducing the noise from the freeway and improving the quality of life of our constituents who live in the area.

Please thank our state legislators for this wonderful letter to WSDOT. And please ask that they ensure the listed-changes in operation of the express lanes and that they get funding for the missing noise walls. With a copy to ECC at info@eastlakeseattle.org, write them at: frank.chopp@leg.wa.gov; jamie.pedersen@leg.wa.gov; and edward.murray@leg.wa.gov. We are particularly hopeful of further help from Mayor-elect Murray, who lives on North Capitol Hill in earshot of I-5, just uphill from Eastlake. Please write also to his new City e-mail address, ed.murray@seattle.gov. For questions: info@eastlakeseattle.org, or c/o ECC, 117 E. Louisa St. #1, Seattle 98102-3278 or (206) 322-5463.



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Gas Works Park noise from early morning events and nighttime drumming

Eastlake's grand view of Gasworks Park places us in earshot of illegal noise at night and early morning hours (noise travels well on water surfaces). See below for good news on reducing early morning noise, but first here's how to help reduce nighttime drumming noise.

Drumming noise. Especially on Thursday nights, bongo drums or an entire drum set with cymbals can be loud enough for Eastlakers to hear with windows closed, the television on, and earplugs in. City law prohibits in a public place without a permit the "Loud or raucous, and frequent, repetitive, or continuous sounds created by use of a musical instrument, or other device capable of producing sound when struck by an object, a whistle, or a sound amplifier or other device capable of producing, amplifying, or reproducing sound."

The daytime police have on more than one occasion stopped the drummers. But the drumming is noisiest in the evening shift when officers don't respond to noise complaints unless they get a lot of them at once. So the minute you near the noise, please phone the police non-emergency number at 206-625-5011 (don't just leave a message--press 2, then 8 to get right to a live operator). It's better to give your name and contact information, but you can be anonymous. Be sure to mention the date and time of the noise. The Parks Department also wants to hear about any noise problems at Gas Works Park, so please also e-mail jeff.hodges@seattle.gov or leave a voice mail at (206) 684-4080.

Event noise. With the help of volunteer Kristen Wagler, the Eastlake Community Council has convinced City officials to greatly reduce early morning weekend loudspeaker noise from sports runs that begin or end at Gas Works Park. The ECC and City correspondence is posted at <http://eastlakeseattle.org>. The Oct. 16 City response is worth quoting at length:


In order to mitigate these issues, the following proposals will be made to the Special Event Committee for approval and implementation by January 1, 2014 for all neighborhoods: (1) Require event organizers to prove need for off-hours amplified sound; (2) Require event organizers to provide specific information about what sound will be amplified, what equipment will be used, and schematics of the direction of the sound; (3) When Noise Variance permission is granted, require event organizers to include information on off-hours amplified sound in distributed notifications; (4) When Noise Variance permission is granted, require event organizers to hire DPD monitor staffing, at the organizer's cost, to be on site from 60 minutes prior to permitted Noise Variance hours through the end of permitted Noise Variance hours; and (5) Require event organizers to assign on-site personnel with authority to control sound issues from 60 minutes prior to permitted hours and during all hours of the event, with public contact information.

While events in all Seattle neighborhoods will benefit from this additional critical review, Gas Works Park is unique in that it is located between a lake surrounded by tens of thousands of residents to the south, and at the base of a hill

with tens of thousands more residents, combining to create magnification of any amplified sound in the park. Because of this, the following will be implemented immediately at Gas Works Park: (1) Suspend issuance of Noise Variance permits at Gas Works Park immediately through April 1, 2014; and (2) Suspend 2014 Noise Variance permissions for organizers who violated 2013 permissions.

The Special Event Office will take steps to more adequately inform ECC of upcoming events in the area, both with year-end event expectations and with notification for impactful individual events. Our office is also working with the Department of Neighborhoods to create more thorough event organizer notification requirements that will include direct outreach to both impacted neighbors and neighborhood/business organizations who represent them. This, along with other information like thorough Noise Variance parameters and instructions, will be available online.

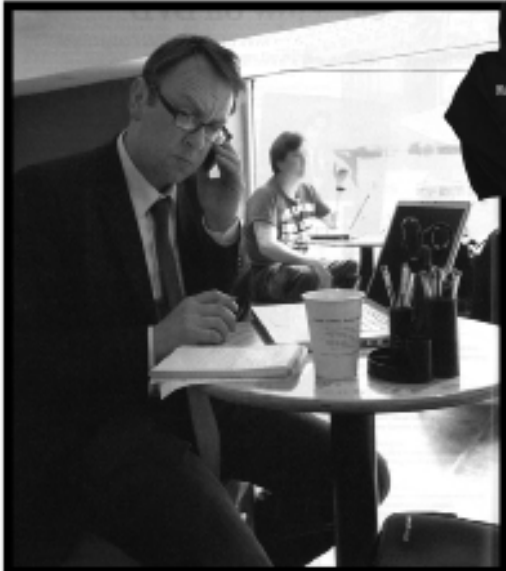
You can ensure that the promised reductions in early morning event noise are achieved. In e-mails to the following (and with a copy to ECC at info@eastlakeseattle.org): Chris.Swenson@seattle.gov (City Special Events Program); Jeff.Stalter@seattle.gov (City Noise Program); and Jeff.Hodges@seattle.gov (Parks Dept. Events Management), please thank these officials and urge them to fully implement the above policies. For questions: kristenwagler@live.com and info@eastlakeseattle.org, or c/o ECC, 117 E. Louisa St. #1, Seattle 98102-3278 or (206) 322-5463.



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www.coworkingeastlake.com

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Only at Vybe Communications Hub 2226 Eastlake Ave. E. 206-745-0160

Please donate funds and in-kind items to the University District Food Bank

The Eastlake Community Council is again sponsoring a holiday drive for the University District Food Bank, donating \$200, and encouraging your donation of funds and in-kind items.

Collection barrels will be available Dec. 2-20 at Lake Union Mail, Pete's, and the Washington State Employees Credit Union/Eastlake. In addition to food and cash (more about that below), also needed are toiletries (bar soap, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, toilet paper, safety razors, shaving cream, etc.), reusable shopping bags, and pet food.

For 30 years, the Food Bank has provided free and nutritious food to anyone who is hungry and resides in Eastlake's zip code, 98102, or in the other northeast Seattle zip codes (98103, 98105, 98112, 98115, 98125). It is located in the University Christian Church at 1413 NE 50th Street (on NE 50th just downhill from the corner of 15th Avenue NE) and is open Monday through Friday.

Each week, 1,100 families (most with homes, but some homeless) receive groceries for well balanced meals --totaling last year almost 55,000 customer visits and over

2.3 million pounds of food. The University District Food Bank is supported by individuals, churches, government, and many local businesses. Over 80% of the food is donated.

"Fight Hunger, Build Hope" is the University District Food Bank's capital campaign to expand from its cramped 800 square foot basement to a more visible location near the corner of NE Roosevelt Way and 50th St. NE. The new 6,500 square foot facility will include much-expanded cold storage and preparation space to accept more in-kind, especially perishables that are often the most nutritious. There will be more space for the Food Bank's award-winning grocery store model; long-awaited ADA accessibility for the disabled and elderly who often need assistance, and at last a dry and warm waiting area and a dignified space for receiving confidential assistance and support.

So far, the Food Bank has raised almost \$2 million of its \$3 million goal. Another donor will match dollar for dollar the donations of Eastlakers, so now is a great time to make your tax-deductible contribution. On how to donate funds by mail, phone, or online, see the adjoining box, which can be cut out to accompany your check. If you donate at www.udistrictfoodbank.org, please mention ECC so that your donation will be doubled.

Checks made out to UDFB/Capital Campaign may also be hand delivered or mailed to ECC c/o Lake Union Mail, 117 E. Louisa St. #1, Seattle, WA 98102-3278. Thanks for helping the less fortunate!



From left: Lynn Poser, ECC Treasurer, Kaylyn Mooney, Food Bank staff, Brenda Humphrey, FB volunteer

Our community food bank needs our help. Please join the Eastlake Community in strengthening the food bank so it can continue to provide vital services for years to come.

Donate by Mail:

Make your check payable to "UDFB" or "University District Food Bank"
Send your check and this donation card to:

U-District Food Bank
Attn. Paul Yunker
4731 15th Avenue NE
Seattle, WA 98105

Donations to University District Food Bank are tax deductible.
Federal EIN (tax ID) is 91-1224834

This donation is part of Eastlake's support
for the U-District Food Bank.

Donate by Phone:

(206) 527-1990

Ask for Paul,
the Development Director,
and he can take your credit card
information and process
your donation for you.

Donate Online:

www.udistrictfoodbank.org/donate/capital

Please reference the Eastlake Community Council
when making your donation
so we can make sure our donations are matched.

ECC requests that Eastlake be included in an Alcohol Impact Area

On Oct. 15, ECC wrote to the Washington Liquor Control Board and to Seattle City officials, asking that Eastlake be included in an Alcohol Impact Area which would restrict sale of extra-high alcohol content beers and wines favored by chronic public inebriates. This application starts a long process that will involve many opportunities for public comment. For background, see the Board's web site at <http://liq.wa.gov/licensing/alcohol-impact-areas>. ECC welcomes your thoughts, pro or con, to info@eastlakeseattle.org. The letter is as follows:

We urgently request that our Eastlake neighborhood of Seattle be designated as an Alcohol Impact Area, whether by addition to the Central Core Alcohol Impact Area or North District Alcohol Impact Area, or by the creation of a separate Eastlake Alcohol Impact Area. We also request that our neighborhood be included in any voluntary compliance efforts, but not as substitute for an AIA.

We do not understand why Eastlake was not included as an Alcohol Impact Area when the aforementioned AIAs were established. Now as a non-AIA, Eastlake is in the "doughnut hole," entirely surrounded by business districts that are AIAs. The result is predictable, with chronic public inebriates who are unable to purchase enriched beer or wine in those areas now coming to Eastlake to purchase these products, and with an apparent contribution to crime and disorder.

We certainly support voluntary efforts at compliance, including as the required first step toward being included in an Alcohol Impact Area, as well as the separate voluntary cooperation with industry that Seattle has been undertaking. However, these voluntary efforts are no substitute for Eastlake being included in an AIA. Being surrounded by AIAs, Eastlake will continue to suffer until it too is included. Please place Eastlake on a fast track to being included in an AIA.

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Field Guide to Eastlake Characters

by Diana Wurn



Character(s): Diana and Holly

Nicknames: "Writer dog"

First sighting: I don't think many people realize that a dog has been writing the Eastlake Character stories, but I have a lot invested in Eastlake and I happen to be a pretty good typist. This is what happens when your owner leaves you at home all day and you know the password to the laptop. Anyway, I'm the one that needs at least three walks per day and I'm responsible for introducing Diana to any Eastlake characters she may have met.

We moved here in 2003 straight from a brownstone in Brooklyn, New York. It was a rainy January day and our new apartment was bright and cheery with a view of the lake over Eastlake Avenue. Diana picked Eastlake because it was close to Downtown and still had a residential feel with mostly one or two story single-family homes. I liked the neighborhood because of the tree-lined streets and the places that were great for running and sniffing.

Best part of Eastlake: We will miss walking to everything, from the dry cleaner to the coffee shop, to Serafina – sometimes even to downtown Seattle. I'll miss my friend Scout at Lake Union Mail, and the Golden Retriever who gets to go into Starbucks. I might even miss those two Great Danes that sometimes visit the TOPS Green Street.

Where are we off to? This is our last column. We're moving into a one-story house in West Seattle that will be easier on my paws instead of the stairs in our condo. I'll probably try to write for any local publications but sometimes editors don't let dogs write columns. There is a lot of discrimination out there.

Pet peeves: Cats, fireworks and definitely squirrels.



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Join your neighbors in making Eastlake safer from crime and disasters

ECC is working with the Police Department on reducing car thefts, break-ins, and disorderly behavior, and being disaster-ready. But your block or dock will be safest if you and neighbors prepare together. See ECC's web site, <http://eastlakeseattle.org> on best practices for crime prevention and emergency preparedness; and hot lines and web sites to report different infractions. Below are highlights; we welcome your ideas and volunteer help. And please send your e-mail address to info@eastlakeseattle.org to be contacted about urgent crime or emergency issues as they arise.

911 and (206) 625-5011. Police urge immediately phoning 911 if you see any law-breaking or expect it imminently. The officers can't respond if you don't alert them, and are more likely to patrol Eastlake if there is a history of 911 calls. Nothing is too small to report, and a crime need not have been committed. There are plenty of 911 operators and they know where to route calls, so please don't hesitate. An alternative to 911 is the Police Department's non-emergency number, (206) 625-5011 (dial 2 and then 8 to reach a dispatcher). It's for something suspicious but you're not sure if it's criminal; or for late reporting of a non-emergency crime with no suspects nearby; or to report noise or parking complaint. But please do call one or the other number when you see actual or suspected law-breaking.

Sex trafficking. With our proximity to I-5 and downtown, our neighborhood sometimes is a location for arranging or following through on paid sex. If a crime is in progress, call 911. An on-line alternative to the non-emergency number is to file an anonymous tip at redlighttraffic.org.

Neighbor-to-neighbor cooperation. Eastlake is safest if you exchange with neighbors your phone numbers, e-mail addresses, Twitter and Facebook accounts, and especially if you know one another well enough for mutual alerts and problem-solving about suspicious or risky situations. Blockwatch can but doesn't have to involve a whole block; there is safety in cooperation of several residences or businesses, a dock, or within a single apartment, condo, or office building. For more from the Police Department, see <http://www.seattle.gov/police/programs/Blockwatch/default.htm>.

A potluck or cookout is a great way for neighbors to meet one another and discuss how to be alert for crime and how to prepare for emergencies. In someone's driveway, yard, or living room, you can do it anytime of the year (and on the first Tuesday of August, the City allows a side street to be closed off, free of the normal permits and onerous insurance requirements). Refreshment funds are available from the City or from ECC, which can also help with publicity.

Report graffiti. Quick removal of graffiti discourages taggers. The City requires landowners to remove it promptly, and promises immediate action on public property. Report graffiti (and water pollution and illegal dumping) at (206) 684-7587; or at <http://www.seattle.gov/util/index.htm>. To join ECC's effort against graffiti: friskyl@mindspring.com.

Contact ECC. The Eastlake Community Council has liaisons to both police precincts that cover our neighborhood, and can help

with questions or concerns. ECC wants to hear your ideas and questions about crime issues and prevention. Please contact us at eastlakesafety@gmail.com and info@eastlakeseattle.org or by U.S. mail at 117 E. Louisa St. #1, Seattle, WA 98102-3278.



ECC is grateful to **Champagne Cruises** (<http://www.champagnecruise.com>) for generous donation of the **Islander** for two fundraising cruises a year. See page 2 for announcement of the Mon., Dec. 23 cruise, with tickets available at brownpapertickets.com. (password is Eastlake) ... The cruise helps raise funds for ECC and the University District Food Bank (see related article page 13).

To donate a warm or waterproof coat, hat or gloves for the homeless or others down on their luck, bring it to the **14 Carrot Café** (2305 Eastlake Avenue, 206-324-1442), located in the historic Hines Public Market building. Since 1977 the Café has served an impressive breakfast and lunch menu (M-F 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Sat-Sun 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. See 14carrotcafe.com for the menu). Now, in partnership with the former 14 Carrot Taco Stand, the **14 Carrot Café** also opens Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights from 6 p.m. to close (typically 1 a.m.), offering gourmet tacos, sliders (beef, turkey, and falafel), hot dogs, baby back ribs, and fries (www.facebook.com/14carrotcafeatnight, 206-465-7084). Orders can be delivered to the **Eastlake Zoo** tavern next door, and there is a 20% discount on catering if the event is at the Zoo.

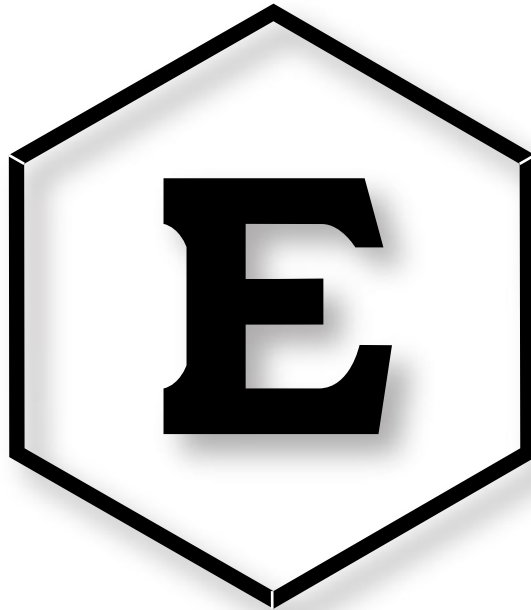
The lost pets clearinghouse on ECC's web site at eastlakeseattle.org invites listings if you've lost a pet or you've seen one that seems lost. E-mail us at info@eastlakeseattle.org with anything to be posted.

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

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Urge City officials not to leave Colonnade park expansion out of funding plans

Once a crime-ridden area marked “no trespassing,” the I-5 Colonnade Open Space (a City park on WSDOT land and known informally as Colonnade park) is ranked by the Atlantic Cities web site as third among the world’s “cool parks under freeway overpasses.” Eastlakers made it happen by urging City officials to list the park in the 1999 parks levy. Unfortunately, the Park isn’t finished, and despite similar advocacy, it wasn’t listed in the 2008 parks levy. That neglect continues now in Parks Dept. planning for the 2014 parks levy, but Eastlakers can turn this situation around by sounding off NOW to City officials (for how, see below).

Expansion. Although Colonnade park is well-connected to the north, to the south it faces a dead end—no connection to Capitol Hill, South Lake Union, or downtown. WSDOT land to the south that is under and next to I-5 offers a magnificent opportunity for pedestrian and bicycle connections, both for recreation and for commuting—with spectacular views and weather protection. See the “public comment opportunities” section at <http://eastlakeseattle.org> (QR block on p. 4) for link to a master plan done by an experienced designer for ECC.

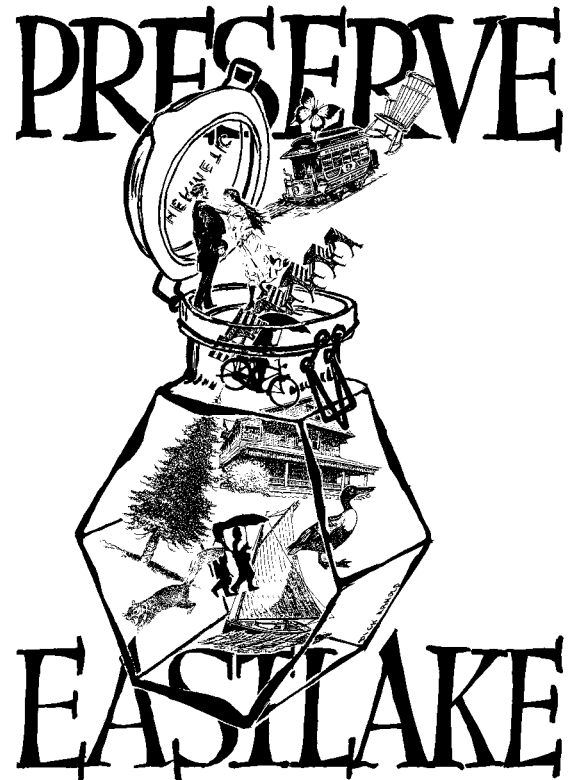
At its south end, Colonnade park needs a stairway up to Lakeview Blvd., a trail south to the intersection of Eastlake Ave. and E. Aloha Street, and a trail southwest to the intersection of Franklin Ave. E. and E. Galer St. Also on the WSDOT land between E. Galer and E. Nelson streets that connects Colonnade with Eastlake Avenue, there could be steps and a switchback trail, and in the sunny upper elevation above the trees, possibly P-Patch plots to address the citywide shortage.

Improvement. Within its existing boundaries, Colonnade park needs improvements in the existing north path, a new north-south path between Blaine and Garfield streets, just east of the off-leash area; a sidewalk along Franklin Ave.; on the steps, rain covers where gaps between the freeway lanes drench users; a skate bowl/ramps north of the top steps; repair and sealing of the granite gathering area; a new exercise station; a sidewalk along the east side of Franklin Ave. E.; for the mountain biking area, improved trail surfacing and bicycle themed art; and for the off-leash area, an agility course, dog-themed art (including a Garfield St. gateway), and paws-friendly resurfacing.

Colonnade park also needs an accessible path up from the corner of Franklin Ave. E. and E. Blaine Street (currently prohibitive for not only wheelchairs but anyone with a disability, seniors, children, or parents with strollers). An easy grade entrance would connect to the existing ADA-accessible trails to the north (now inaccessible to ADA users who wish to access them from the west) and to the north end of the off-leash area (also inaccessible to ADA users). The new path would allow pedestrians to walk among some of Seattle’s biggest redwood trees.

Write City officials now. Please urge that Colonnade park’s expansion and improvement be listed as an “investment initiative” and in any funding measure placed before the voters. Send that message to the Seattle Parks Board, Parks Dept. and Parks Legacy Citizens Advisory Committee—all at parkslegacy@seattle.gov; or c/o Susanne Rockwell at 100 Dexter Avenue N., Seattle 98109. Please write also to the City Councilmembers at P.O. Box 34025, Seattle, WA 98124-4025, by fax at 206-684-8587, or by e-mail (write them individually, not in a group), via sally.clark@seattle.gov, tim.burgess@seattle.gov, tom.rasmussen@seattle.gov,

jean.godden@seattle.gov, richard.conlin@seattle.gov, kshama.sawant@seattle.gov, mike.obrien@seattle.gov, bruce.harrell@seattle.gov, nick.licata@seattle.gov, and sally.bagshaw@seattle.gov. Please also send a copy of your message to ECC at info@eastlakeseattle.org; ECC also welcomes questions and offers of help.



This poster (much reduced from its 18" x 24" size) sums up the hopes of many of us that, if we work together, Seattle’s policies won’t sacrifice Eastlake’s small-town character. It was done in about 1988 by artist and actor Dick Arnold, then an Eastlake Community Council board member. Donors and volunteers are welcome to a copy; contact us at info@eastlakeseattle.org. Dick is also a gifted writer, penning these evocative words (now a keynote for our web site) for a long-ago issue of the *Eastlake News*:

Have you ever lived in a small town? You do, you know. Oh, it’s not incorporated, and no road signs announce the town borders. But it’s here, Eastlake, a community with a heart and a conscience, its own tiny budget, town meetings, and a growing number of volunteers who are willing to stand each year and say, “We care; we’ll give a few hours or a few dollars a month to the neighborhood; count on us.”



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Ben's Car Blog

How often should you change your oil?

Cars are becoming so precisely engineered that their engine and transmission life spans could be well over 15 years.

But, here at Ralli-Round, we are seeing engine and transmission failures in cars just out of warranty where the recommended oil change intervals were 10k or more. As these cars are out of warranty, and the engines and transmissions now cost thousands of dollars to repair, the car owners are left with nothing but bills. Toyota used to recommend these longer oil change intervals, but when the Camry and Sienna van engines began to fail, they changed their engine to better drain the oil and shortened the oil change intervals to 5k from 7k.

You can perform a simple test to see if your oil is OK. Open the hood of your vehicle and pull out the dip stick. If the oil is the color of black coffee, it should be changed. Clean clear oil or even a slight brown tint is OK. The dark color is created by carbon build up in the oil, a byproduct of the combustion process.

As an engine wears, more oil leaks into the combustion chamber where it burns. This burning oil creates a higher concentration of carbon in the engine. Some of this carbon gets pushed past the piston rings into the engine and settles into the oil. The carbon particles that turn your oil black color are harder than steel and grind away at the metal parts inside your engine, slowly wearing it out. The oil filter will catch the larger pieces, and replacing your oil and filter frequently removes carbon and lessens the damage. Modern engines have such tight clearances that they cannot survive the abuse engines from the past could and will fail with much less wear than your parent's Chevy.

The solution is simple: Perform normal service. Use the correct oil and factory oil filters.

Next issue: the rest of the fluids in your car.

Written by Ben L Howe Owner of Ralli-Round Ltd.

We're highly trained car geeks providing high quality repairs and service. And we'll bring Car Talk to you — explaining your repairs, so you can make educated and informed decisions

Needs of Eastlake renters and singles to be featured at Jan. 7 public meeting

Are you among the many Eastlakers who are renters or singles? Then ECC's Wed., Jan. 7 public meeting (7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E.) is for you. Please join other renters or singles in brainstorming about neighborhood initiatives that would enhance your quality of life. Ideas we've heard include a bar crawl, restaurant crawl, walking or running club, book club, more social events, more use of social media, advocacy for lower rents, tighter landlord regulation, extend the residential parking zone (RPZ), or [your idea here]. Whether or not you can come to the Jan. 7 public meeting, please send to info@eastlakeseattle.org your suggestions for Eastlake initiatives for renters and singles.



Behind this red door at the University Christian Church on 50th Ave. NE, at least 200 people each weekday come for food. Learn how you can help on page 13.

What to do about glare and other streetlight problems

If a streetlight is out or its glare is intruding into your home or business, Seattle City Light wants to correct the situation. You can report a problem on-line at <http://www.seattle.gov/light/streetlight/form>, by e-mail at street.light@seattle.gov, or by phone at (206) 684-7056. Please have this information ready (and please let ECC know if you get the results you want):

- The light pole number(s), the street name, and the address nearest the pole.
- Explain the nature of the problem (e.g.: glare, pole down, light burned out, light on in daylight, light goes on then off, etc.)
- Your name and phone number

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.

name(s) _____

street address or PO box _____

city, state, zip code _____

phone: _____

e-mail: _____

- Household Membership \$35
- Student / Senior / Low Income Membership \$10
- Business Membership \$75
- Donation \$ _____

Today's date: _____

Please send this form with a check made out to ECC to: ECC, 117 E. Louisa St. #1, Seattle, WA 98102-3278

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

For questions: 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!)