



# The Eastlake News

Spring 2022



Cover photo by John P. Duffy via Eastlake Social Club.  
Earth Day & Space Needle illustrations by Karen Berry.

## Spring Birding in Eastlake

*by Dave Galvin, pages 4-5, see page 10 for information  
on two upcoming Birding events!*

## Aegis Living community to open summer 2022

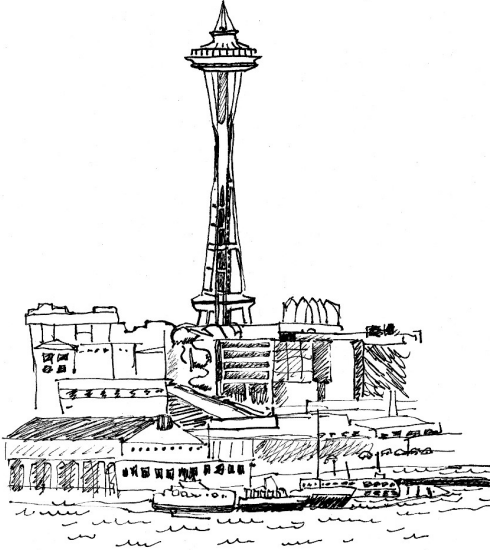
*by Steve Dunphy, pages 6-7*

## Friends of Street Ends

*by Judy Smith, pages 8-9*

## Celebrate Earth Day in Eastlake

See inside to learn about upcoming events in the  
neighborhood!  
*page 10*



**Eastlake Community Council**  
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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](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org) or by U.S. mail to the return address on the back of this newsletter. For advertising contact Detra Segar at [advertising@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:advertising@eastlakeseattle.org).

The deadline for ads and submissions is: June 10 for the Summer 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.



## Eastlake Community Council President's Letter

Although life in Eastlake is beginning to return to normal, we will not be holding in-person public meetings through

March. As conditions permit, we will be announcing several events. Please watch our website for updates.

We will be back together for our annual Earth Day clean up along Fairview in late April, followed by other park clean ups along the lake front and at TOPS Playing Field. A new walk with our local bird expert, Dave Galvin, will take

place in early April. Presentations on public safety, transportation and development will be held in the first half of the year and we are looking forward to a return to additional social gatherings as we head into summer.

Working on your behalf is our priority and we welcome comments and ideas. This quarter I had the pleasure of meeting with several Eastlake volunteers. How nice it is to have so many residents who want to make a difference in our community. There is always room for additional leadership for projects and events so do let us know your interests.

It will be good to see all of you as we are out supporting our local businesses and enjoying the extra daylight and warmer temperatures.

### Write for

## The Eastlake News!

Have a story or interest that you'd like to write about? Take photos? Create art? Send your work to us at: [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org)



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## Eastlake Fund

The Eastlake Community Council Board invites you to join them in making a donation to ECC. Our Board members have recently made pledges and contributions totaling over \$3,200 to support the Council's work.

Over the past two years, our neighbors have contributed over \$4,500 to support the Council's efforts to build a sense of community, engage with City officials, and support our local businesses. In addition, several organizations have supported our Movie Night in Rogers Playground.

As the pandemic wanes, we want to offer more activities and events. The Board welcomes your suggestions at: [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org).

Please join us in helping fund this important neighborhood work with your donation at: <https://www.eastlakeseattle.org/join-donate-volunteer>.

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Eastlake Community Council membership is open to all who live, work, or own property in Eastlake.

## GET INVOLVED:

See the back page to find ways to get involved in the Eastlake neighborhood through volunteer opportunities, joining committees, helping at events and of course, donations. To volunteer and/or become a member of the Eastlake Community Council, please fill in & mail the form to the right, OR join online at: <http://eastlakeseattle.org>.

For questions: [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org)

### Sign Up & Join via Mail

We invite you to check off one or more interest(s) below &

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- Events and fundraising
- Help with website, database, social media, or video
- Art walk or public art
- Parks and open spaces
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- Review building proposals or legislation
- Crime prevention or emergency preparedness
- Newsletter content/production
- Door-to-door newsletter distribution

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## Birding in Eastlake The Birds of Spring

By Dave Galvin

Welcome to spring in the neighborhood, our “birdiest” season. We’ve traveled a full circle (ellipse, actually) around the sun since my first column a year ago. Thanks for your interest in sharing nature in our urban village.

This time of year, as daylight lengthens, the avian hormones are kicking in, with breeding on their minds. Songs fill the air, especially in the “dawn chorus” just before and after daylight arrives each morning. A wonderful time to be awake and hear urban nature at its best.

**American Robins** stop being quietly social in large groups seeking winter berries. Males pick a territory and sing their heads off from the tallest tree, both to declare their spot on the planet as well as to attract a suitable mate. Their “Cheerily cheer-up cheer-up cheerily” is imprinted for me as a sure signal that a corner has been turned, we’re beyond winter’s dreariness, and we have all the joys of spring ahead of us (including, here in Seattle, April showers and beyond — but it’s brighter out.). American Robins are not even really “robins,” they are thrushes. Early European colonists arriving at the East Coast thought these birds looked a lot like the cute little European Robin, an Old World Flycatcher. Our Robins are more closely related to the Eurasian Blackbird, which is noted for its singing abilities, including well into the night; as well as singing out of pies for the enjoyment of the king; and subjects, with cameo voice appearance, in one of Paul McCartney’s compositions for the Beatles in 1968, ... but I digress. Our Robins are so common and widespread that we think of them as “America’s favorite bird.” Those who stay locally survive over the winter on local berries, but they and more southern migrants switch to worms for more protein during breeding season. You’ll find them scurrying along grassy areas looking for signs of earthworms, who often stick one end out of their soil burrows — it is this visual clue that allows early birds (actually all day long) to catch the worm, either for their own nourishment or for that of their nestlings.

**House Finches** are also singing loudly throughout the neighborhood this time of year. They have a sing-song-y, "finch" song with some husky, burry or raspy notes thrown in, especially at the end (which distinguishes their song from Purple Finches, who tend to like more forested or suburban habitats). They are frequent visitors to feeders if you put out bird seed, and they nest in tight hedges such as Arborvitae in almost every block of the neighborhood.

**Song Sparrows, Bewick's Wrens, European Starlings, House Sparrows, Black-capped Chickadees, Steller's Jays, Dark-eyed Juncos, American Crows** and many other birds are now being vocal, choosing mates, establishing territories, and starting their nesting season. **Anna's Hummingbirds** got a jump-start on all this hormonal commotion and are well on their way to fledging their first young ones.

On the water, we still enjoy our wintering waterfowl who like our ice-free lake and bays, but who prefer to nest elsewhere. **Common Mergansers, Double-crested Cormorants, Buffleheads, Common Goldeneyes, American Coots** and many more species hang out on Lake Union, Portage Bay or nearby Union Bay throughout the winter, including well into our spring season, before heading either up into higher areas of local rivers on the west side, or east over the Cascades into the potholes, or north into Canada or Alaska. You'll notice mating behaviors here as well, as males court females with often elaborate head bobs and other displays.

So it is a treat this time of year to have both our over-wintering ducks and geese still here as well as resident and newly arriving land birds who nest here. Enjoy this variety. Let me know what you are seeing, and if you have any questions about what you are observing. Keep me posted of your observations and questions, at [galvind53@gmail.com](mailto:galvind53@gmail.com). Thanks for your continued interest.

*American Robbin pictured on page 4, courtesy of Larry Hubbell*

**See page 10 for a information about two upcoming Birding events in the neighborhood!**

*Eastlake*

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## Aegis Living Community to Open Summer 2022

Building honors  
1936 Olympic Rowing Team

*By Steve Dunphy*

Aegis Living, the senior living building under construction on Eastlake Avenue East and East Newton Street, is scheduled to open in a few months. The company said the building, which has several interesting features, should open this summer.

The new senior living community pays homage to the 1936 US Men's Olympic Rowing team from the University of Washington. This begins with a wood façade, meant to replicate a shell house, and travels indoors with intricate details such as an original Pocock racing shell hanging from the ceiling.

"At Aegis, we pride ourselves in drawing from the history and spirit of each neighborhood," said Brian Palmore, Senior Vice President of Development.

"The inspirational story of the Olympic team paired with iconic Seattle water views made the perfect combination for Aegis Living Lake Union."

If you have read "The Boys in the Boat," you know what this is all about. The book traces the history of the crew. There are several other connections in the neighborhood, such as the Pocock Rowing Center at the north end of the lake.

The Aegis building is also one of the "greenest" buildings in the neighborhood. The building will soon be the first assisted living community to meet the most rigorous global green/sustainable building standards with a Living Building Challenge certification and is participating in the City of Seattle's Living Building Pilot Program.

Built to be emission-free, Aegis Living Lake Union will use standard electricity to support the 70,000 square-foot building, including large appliances and kitchen equipment, significantly reducing overall environmental impact. The community will offset more than the building's total energy demand through various

energy reduction measures, an onsite solar array, and an offsite solar energy farm.

Developers say key features include improved insulation such as triple-pane windows and thermal insulation for exterior walls, heat recovery through forced-air ventilation, a recirculating heat pump system, LED lighting and sensors to monitor use, installation of all high-efficiency appliances, and more. The community will save approximately 320,000 kilowatt-hours annually – equivalent to planting more than 12,000 trees each year. Additional hours will be generated from the solar array and offsite energy farm.

All non-drinking water will be supplied through captured rainwater and treated greywater; the community will reserve potable water for consumption only. These measures will save more than 140,000 gallons of water annually for the life of the building.  
*Image (pg. 6) courtesy of Steve Dunphy.*

## Eastlake's Caliber Branch Wins National Award

Several team members from the Caliber Home Loans branch in Eastlake were recently named recipients of national sales awards from Caliber Home Loans. Honored as top performers among Caliber's retail channel, Carese Busby, Jon Wagher, and Rick King were recently recognized with Lifetime Achievement Awards.



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## Friends of Street Ends has two Eastlake Projects for 2022, ECC Adds Goals too

*by Judy Smith*

Friends of Streets Ends or FOSE, a group of volunteers who work to create and help maintain Seattle's shoreline street end parks, has two Eastlake projects on its work plan for 2022 – Terry Pettus Park expansion and Good Turn Park improvements.

Terry Pettus Park forms the E. Newton Street End, and design work for the expansion and renovation of that park is in the permitting and final internal review process. According to Toby Ressler, the City's representative for this project, the "current schedule is to start work in early 2023 but that is dependent on how soon we can obtain our environmental permits." If they can get the permits this year, the work could be completed largely on-time, in 2023; otherwise, they may need to wait until 2024 because there is a seasonal window for doing in-water work.

Good Turn Park at the E. Martin Street End is a much smaller but still critical project. Maybe you recall the river that formed in its parking lot this past winter? That's about to be addressed through a rain garden. The city is in the process of site evaluation and design work

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for it now. The city’s Shoreline Street Ends Program Coordinator, Omar Akkari, said the street end’s informal parking lot will be reconfigured from head-in parking to parallel to accommodate an extended sidewalk and a rain garden. The tradeoff will be fewer parking spaces but an improved sidewalk, stormwater controls, and better pedestrian access to the park. Construction of this project could happen as soon as this coming fall or winter.

FOSE also has on it work plan to “Recruit, mentor and support stewards for each shoreline street end,” a goal the ECC is also trying to support. “A lot of people take care of our greenspaces without being organized, and that’s great!” says Detra Segar ECC president. “Our job is to support them, not interfere.” If you’re interested in being a steward for a street end park, contact FOSE.

The ECC is also working with Good Turn Park volunteers on a second project for future improvements. That project is still preliminary and will look into how people use the park. The group plans to review the park’s design-making changes that would include more accessibility, better sight lines, healthier trees, removal of invasives, and installation of new plants and gravel pathways. “Tweaking the design,” says Detra, “not a re-design.” The ECC has some earmarked funds that may be available for this project, and Detra thinks neighboring businesses would easily contribute to any fundraising efforts. “There’s plenty of support. It just takes getting a plan in place.

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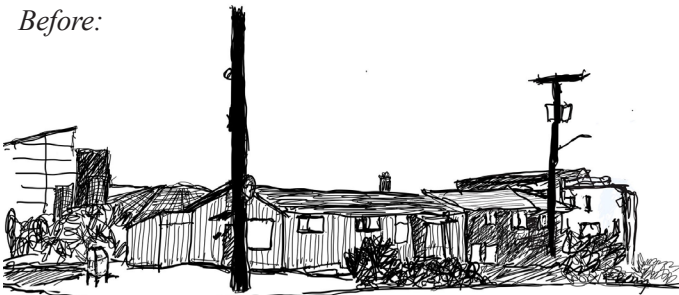


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## E. Lynn and Minor Before and After

*Illustrations by Karen Berry.*

*Before:*



*After:*



## Celebrate Spring Birds in Eastlake!

**Two free events: a Zoom presentation  
and a walk!**

Join local birder Dave Galvin for an evening of show-and-tell about our local birds. Dave will give a virtual presentation, and answer any and all of your questions on **Wednesday, April 6, at 7 p.m.** If you would like to join, please send a request to [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org) and a zoom invite will be sent to you the day before.

On **Saturday April 9**, join a neighborhood bird walk led by Dave. Two time slots are available: **9 a.m. and 11 a.m.** Each will be casual and follow a short circle from the TOPS school and Rogers Playground down E. Roanoke St. to the lake, then back uphill via E. Louisa St. The walk will end at Eastlake Ave., where participants can take advantage of their favorite coffee spot.

For both time slots, meet in the middle of Franklin Ave. E, in front of TOPS school. Dress for the weather and bring binoculars if you have them.

Please let us know if you plan to attend either of the walks by emailing us at [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org), so that we know how many to plan for.

## Celebrate Earth Day all Weekend

Earth Day this year falls on a Friday, allowing folks to celebrate all weekend!

### South Fairview Earth Day Clean-Up

Friday, April 22, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Saturday, April 23, 9:00am - 1:00pm

Show up whenever you can!

This neighborhood clean-up event will focus on South Fairview Avenue between the new Fairview bridge and Blaine Street and will happen whatever the weather. Participants are asked to bring gloves, gardening tools, pruners, trowels, and other items to cut back, dig out and remove weeds and invasives along the walking path, as well as trash bags for garbage pick-up.

If there is time and energy, the clean-up will extend north along Fairview Avenue.

People are also encouraged to use Earth Day (or any day really) as an opportunity to clean up all around the neighborhood. Celebrate the earth every day!


## Reduce and Re-Use with Neighbors via Buy Nothing

*By Angela Shier*


In the digital age, the ability to shop online and receive items within the same day is enticing. It becomes easy to get swept away with hot deals, free shipping and instant gratification. While the services available have their benefits, particularly when shoppers are unable to go to a physical store, or find a specific item locally, shopping new also comes with the waste of money and material goods.

With the rise of supply chain issues, inflation and climate change, turning toward local community has never been more important. Through Buy Nothing groups across Seattle, it has never been easier to share unwanted items with neighbors. It is accessible via Facebook and as an App. Community blossoms on Eastlake's own Buy Nothing Group on Facebook with residents offering unwanted items at no cost for those who may put them to better use. Unwanted junk may be just the thing a neighbor is looking for. From a simple cup of sugar for a recipe to furniture & electronics, needs can be met without adding to landfill.

For more information visit: [buynothingproject.org](http://buynothingproject.org) and <https://www.facebook.com/groups/BN.Eastlake>.  
*Portage/*



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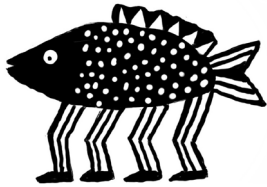


Seattle's newest venue is on the shores of South Lake Union. Dockside at Duke's has a NW vibe with hardwood floors, offering a bright and neutral palette ready for your inspiration.

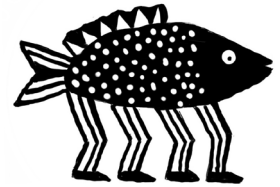
Enjoy indoor and outdoor options for an amazing event designed perfectly for your celebration. Floor to ceiling windows provide a spectacular western view of the marina and lake during dinner and dancing.

[docksideatdukes.com](http://docksideatdukes.com)





# Get Involved in the Neighborhood



Ever felt that tug of wanting to do something for your neighborhood? That feeling of wanting to be involved somehow?

The Eastlake Community Council has several volunteer positions for delegates or representatives with organizations that have an impact on Eastlake. The obligation is to attend the meetings – they are usually monthly and all virtual for now – and then write a short report to the ECC about what was discussed and how it might impact the neighborhood. You don't even have to be an ECC member – just a desire to help the 'hood. Here is a list of groups needing an ECC representative or that can use more participation by neighborhood residents.

**If you're interested in joining any of these community organizations or committees or would like more information, contact the ECC at: [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org).**

## Non-ECC Organizations Seeking Eastlake Representatives

### Seattle Police Department West Precinct Advisory Council:

Help keep Eastlake safe! Attend monthly meetings at the Seattle Police Department's West Precinct Advisory Council, reporting on any issues in Eastlake and receiving updates on West Precinct issues.

### Eastlake Emergency HUB:

Assist with a group that manages an emergency information site at Rogers Playground in case of a natural disaster.



## ECC Committees Seeking Volunteers

There are several projects where the ECC is working for the community. These are current commitments where volunteers could provide some support:

### Eastlake News Editorial and Advertising:

Our long-time neighborhood newsletter (over 50 years!) is published once a quarter and can always use more writers, page designers, illustrators, or editors. We sell advertising so, if you have a business bent, you could help as our advertising coordinator.

### Eastlake News Delivery:

Volunteers are needed for delivering new issues to addresses in an assigned area. Volunteers are also needed to return to specified businesses during the life of each issue to keep the copies restocked.

### Facebook and Eastlake Social Media:

Know about social media? We can use you.

### Eastlake News Blog:

[www.eastlakeneews.org](http://www.eastlakeneews.org) could use some technical support in WordPress. If you have WordPress experience and ideas for how to grow the blog, we could use you. We're always looking for writers and content contributors. Regular contributors have access to the blog and can post content independently.

### Transportation:

Rapid Ride J Line will continue its development south of the University District with an impact on Eastlake Ave. The West End of 520 is a state project that will have an impact on Eastlake at Roanoke. Join the group keeping an eye on the projects.

### Land Use:

We've all seen the rapid development in Eastlake. If you want to be part of our efforts to have development serve the community, join the Land Use Committee.

### Parks:

Eastlake has a long tradition of neighbors taking care of public parks. If there is public space you would like to help take care of, go for it! If you'd like community support, let the ECC know. Cleanups, off-leash areas, improvements. We're developing a database of people interested in stewarding one or more green spaces, and we'd love to add your name to it!

### Business Support:

Being informed about the needs of our local businesses and expanding its identity.

### Events:

In 2022 we plan to return to in-person community meetings, social events and fun projects. If you like to coordinate events, this could be your spot.