Eastlake News

Is Edith Hutto Leaving? We Hope Not!
Edith Hutto is our Rogers Playfield groundskeeper with heart. She’s cared for Rogers Playfield with environmentally-sound practices. In addition to planting numerous flowers and maple trees, Edith has also encouraged TOPS schoolchildren to care about the park’s appearance and plant flowers. Rogers has never been greener.

Now Edith Hutto may be transferred to a nearby park. If so, we will surely miss her and we thank her for her legacy to the Eastlake neighborhood.

- Marjorie Nelson

Help Build a Dreamboat
Dreamboats is an art installation that will be created for the Eastlake community. The Dreamboats, made of fiberglass, will be open time capsules. Embedded in layers of fiberglass and resin will be photographic images of Eastlake—past and present, of the lake itself, and the 150-year evolution of a vital community. Poetry, prose, and even musical notation will also be within the skin of the boats.

The mosaic bench, "Rest," will allow for the inclusion of a few special shards—a string of pearls, a watch, broken china; all are likely to be set into the mosaic.

We ask the Eastlake community to offer themselves to this process. Community involvement is an essential element of this project.

Photos, your favorite poem, a broken watch, or any other token or remembrance of your impressions of or connections to the Eastlake neighborhood would be welcome contributions to this community artwork.

Contributions may be dropped off at Serafina or Original Grounds.

- Linda Beaumont, R. Stuart Keeler, and Michael Machnic

Important Dates . . .

Seattle Commons Forum
Mike Foley (Seattle Commons Opponents Committee) and Joel Horn (Seattle Commons) lead a community discussion.
Seward School/TOPS Gymnasium, 2515 Boylston Ave. E. Tuesday, May 7, 7-9 p.m.

Eastlake and Seward School/TOPS Partnership Workshop and Discussion
Seward School/TOPS Gymnasium, 2515 Boylston Ave. E. Tuesday, June 11, 7-9 p.m.

Workshop on Neighborhood Business Districts
UW School of Business. For more information, call 543-9327.
Tuesday, June 18, 8 a.m.-noon.

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Tile Workshop for Rogers Playfield Park Bench

Join artist Steve Roache in making tiles for the Rogers Playfield park bench, made possible by a Department of Neighborhoods grant. The workshop will take place on May 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Seward main building (enter via the parking area).

If you’re interested in purchasing a personalized or memorial tile for $20, please call Joan Demorest at 632-4821. Proceeds go towards the beautification of the restored and renovated TOPS facilities.

Land Trust Seeks Volunteers

The Eastlake Community Land Trust is seeking new board members and volunteers. A major loss was dynamic co-chair Jane Kiker, who moved to Wallingford with her husband Rob after a fruitless search for an affordable home within Eastlake.

Many talents are needed on the board—especially financial, accounting, and legal, as well as real estate and construction. The land trust is tax exempt, and exists to preserve income diversity and older Eastlake buildings and yards. To volunteer, write to the Eastlake Community Land Trust, 117 E. Louisa St., Seattle, WA 98102.

Rats!

Rats (the rodent variety) have been seen in the neighborhood in increased numbers. Residents and businesses are reminded to cover their garbage cans tightly and to clean up any overflow immediately.

Please write us of rat sightings and anti-rat tactics: Rat Squad, c/o ECC, 117 E. Louisa St. #1, Seattle 98102.

Fairview Olmsted Park

Nakano-Dennis has completed the program phase of the Fairview Park project with some unresolved traffic- and use-related issues.

According to Dodi Fredericks, Nakano-Dennis project manager, they expect to begin contract negotiations with the Parks Department for the schematic design phase within the next couple of months.

A program and priorities list was developed in January and confirmed at the February 22nd public design meeting. The list includes restoring Northwest native plantings in a greenbelt area, providing pedestrian access to the park from Eastlake and to the shoreline, and providing views of the working waterfront and of water-dependent wildlife. Other issues regarding circulation, the Pea Patch, and recreation opportunities have also been prioritized.

Finally, the Parks Department is saying that we must go through their park-naming process for naming Fairview Olmsted Park.

For more information, please talk to members of the Fairview Park Advisory Committee: Dave Moore, Barbara Donnette, Nancy Prichett, Cheryl Trivison, Sahalaarsi-Brighton, and/or members of the Fairview Olmsted Park Commission.

About the Eastlake News

The Eastlake News is published every two months and distributed free to residents of the Eastlake community and members of the Eastlake Community Council.

Article contributions and suggestions for the Eastlake News are welcomed and appreciated.

Articles for the next issue must be received by June 15, 1996. Articles may be sent to 117 E. Louisa St., Box 1, Seattle 98102, or dropped off at Lake Union Mail. If you have any questions, please call Karen Ziegler at 325-9866.

If you’re interested in advertising in the Eastlake News, please call Advertising Coordinator Jane Stephan at 328-8534.

Contributors to this issue included Joan Demorest and Chris Leman.

In Our Next Issue...

- Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Project Schedule & Update
- Summer Fun on Lake Union
- An Eastlake Profile
- Union Park East

The Corner for Fine Printing
2370 Eastlake Ave E.
Seattle, WA 98102
E. Louisa St.
Phone 329-9888
Fax 324-3705

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FYI From the ECC President

At the April Board meeting, Karen Ziegler, Mailee Jose and Dan Solomons were enthusiastically and unanimously voted in as members of the ECC Board of Directors. Karen, editor of Eastlake News, has lived in the Eastlake neighborhood for over five years, worked in public relations for the Seattle Art Museum, and is currently directing her career towards technical writing and editing. Mailee and Dan are married, hence share a board position. Mailee’s background includes five years as a conservation program planner, implementor, and marketer for Seattle City Light, and participation on the Eastlake Tomorrow Open Space project committee. Dan owns Internet Central, located in the Aries Building, and for twenty years has played with and made his living from computers. He is also nearing completion on two books on philosophy. Welcome aboard!!

Thanks to Dan, Eastlake is now on the World Wide Web at: http://oo.net/oo/ECC.

Vacancies on the board were created when Jane and Rob Kiker, Jill Wiedenhof and James Goranson, Heidi Dexter and David Gens resigned. The Kikers, who recently moved to the Wallingford neighborhood, shared a board position for nearly three years. Jill and James remain active with the Eastlake Tomorrow North Gateway project committee. Heidi and David have moved to the Queen Anne neighborhood.

Thanks all of you for your hard work and good luck in your newest adventures!

We also wish Chris and Sally Norred, former co-editors of Eastlake News, the best in their new community.

Union Park East is a small community just south of ZymoGenetics—we’ll find out more about our neighbors in the next issue of Eastlake News.

Eastlake Tomorrow planning begins in earnest, see the ET Worksheet for specifics. The Eastlake Community Council Board of Directors is in a unique position acting as the sponsoring agent for Eastlake Tomorrow. However, please keep in mind that we are two separate and distinct organizations.

I hope that everyone saw the “Dreamboat” exhibition at the 2324 Building in early April. At the April ECC board meeting, Ruri Yampolsky, Seattle Arts Commission, said that Eastlake would receive an additional $35,000 for “Cornerstones”!

If you live in the Eastlake area, and are not an active Eastlake Community Council member, you may soon (if you haven’t already) receive a letter asking you to join the council.

If you would like to assist in distributing the Eastlake News, please contact Barbara Zegar at 325-2139.

Update on the Eastlake Community/Silver Cloud Inn April 8th Meeting: The Silver Cloud Inn proposes to build a seven-story, 187-room hotel in the area located east to west between Eastlake and Fairview Avenues, and north to south between ZymoGenetics and Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center.

Citizens from numerous Eastlake community organizations have been meeting with representatives from the DCLU (City of Seattle Department of Construction and Land Use) and Silver Cloud Inn to discuss our concerns.

The community feels that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) be required for this project to study traffic impact on the area, proximity to the historic Steam Plant, and proximity to the shoreline.

For more information, please contact me at 325-8119 or Beth Walker at 447-7040.

- Cheryl Trivison, ECC President
Good Turn, Propeller Park Proposals

If a county bond issue for open space wins this fall, Seattle may have another $60 million to spend on parks. The Olmsted-Fairview Park Commission has recommended two shoreline proposals regarding Propeller Park and Good Turn Park.

Propeller Park could have a trail, picnic tables, viewing platform, and a hand boat launch area on state-owned shoreline just west of Fairview Avenue near the Garfield Street end.

An expanded Good Turn Park on the E. Martin Street end a block south of the University Bridge would double in size; the expansion area, now gravel, is threatened with paving.

Comments are welcome on the preliminary designs, which are available for review at Lake Union Mail, 117 E. Louisa St.

And if you can, please write the City and let it be known that these shoreline parks are needed and should be funded. Write to: John Baker, Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation, 2911 Second Avenue, Seattle, WA 98102.

Business Notes

Eastlake business leaders met with Michael Verchot of the UW School of Business Administration on April 15 to discuss strengthening the neighborhood restaurants and retail stores. You are invited to attend a related workshop outlining the challenges and opportunities of neighborhood businesses around the city. The workshop takes place on June 18 from 8 a.m. to noon at the UW business school. One idea being discussed is a farmers market—volunteers are sought who would like to organize one ... Goodbye to the valued local businesses located in the office building at 2722 Eastlake Avenue E. Word is that the building has been purchased by a telemarketing firm ... Thanks to the Seattle Caviar Company (3147 Fairview Ave. E.), which will establish some nesting boxes for purple martins on its shoreline frontage ... Congratulations to local landscape architect Richard Haag (2335 Eastlake Ave. E.), who was honored in April by a week of activities at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design ...

Help Make Every Child a Reader!

In response to Superintendent John Stanford's Reading Campaign, the Alliance for Education is recruiting volunteers to help make Every Child a Reader by serving as reading partners with students in Seattle Public Schools classrooms, libraries, and after-school programs. For more information, please contact the Washington Mutual One-to-One Hotline at 1-800-433-0121.
I-5/SR-520 Interchange Expansion Proposal is Baaa-aack...

ECC worked successfully with many other communities to convince the state legislature and the Puget Sound Regional council to block a proposal to privatize State Route 520 and expand the I-5/SR-520 interchange with tollway revenues.

Now the Regional Transit Authority seems to have been hijacked by highway interests and is pushing a $10 million study that could resurrect the interchange expansion and even shoehorn in the toll project.

What part of "no" don't they understand? The proposed new ramps would be a visual and auditory blight to Seward School and its vicinity. A destructive and unpopular expansion of the interchange would undermine support for the regional transit proposal.

Let the Regional Transit Authority know your views: 821 - Second Ave., Seattle, WA 98104-1598.

If you would like to get involved in this issue locally, write to SR-520, c/o ECC, 117 E. Louisa St. #1, Seattle, WA 98102.

- Chris Leman

Earth Day on Eastlake

On April 20th, volunteers weeded, mulched and planted trees along Eastlake Avenue; picked up trash around the Eastlake neighborhood; and worked on the Fairview Olmsted Park site.

Trees were planted at the southeast corner of Eastlake and Lynn and in front of the Washington Literacy Building near Boston on Eastlake.

The trash team focused their efforts on Eastlake in front of Rogers Playfield and between Lynn and Louisa; in front of Lake Union Drydock; and on both sides of Garfield between Eastlake and Fairview.

The tree planting project was co-sponsored with Tree Steward and coordinated by Kathy Tucker, Barbara Zegar, Cheryl Trivison, and Dave Moore. Other volunteers included Marjorie Nelson, Mailee Jose, Lisa Omalanz, Suerain afSandenberg, and Anne Turner.
Commons Park Yes!

I am a Cascade resident who enthusiastically supports the Commons Park. This is our last chance to create a park in the center of the city: we need more green space downtown.

In response to concerns expressed by voters, the new plan . . .

... cuts the park size by 30%;
... decreases the number of businesses that need to move by 30%; and
... cuts the voted levy in half, from $100 million to $50 million.

A charitable fund will help fund maintenance and safety, so that operating this park does not detract from other parks.

The Commons Park will help Cascade. Having a park nearby will be great. In addition, the plan preserves 600 units of low and moderate income housing, so that people of all incomes will be able to afford to live here. Dozens of local businesses support the park and will stay in the area.

I hope you will join me in supporting the Commons Park. The park will benefit everybody because it will be free, like Green Lake or Discovery Park. It will be affordable, an investment of about $34 a year for five years. And it will replace 42 acres of asphalt and concrete will grass and trees.

- Patty Borman

Seattle Commons No!

Our city is facing a serious budget crisis. State and Federal cuts will total approximately $40 million next year.

Loss of the Street Utility Tax means the city can’t fund basic maintenance, leaving our streets in a state of disrepair.

Our 351 existing parks have a $300 million backlog of deferred maintenance. Neighborhood libraries are closed two days a week and need repairs, and our schools have to ask for private donations in order to acquire books.

Higher priorities will require 60% voter approval but Proposition 1 needs only 50% to pass.

Funding the Commons is like a homeowner buying a swimming pool when the roof leaks and the foundation is sinking.

This is a Smaller Down Payment on the Same Plan

The city’s six-year capital plan includes the full $414 million Commons project. Proposition 1 will increase property taxes to raise $50 million, which is only a down payment. It won’t buy all of the land in the park path, let alone build the park.

Approval of this levy provides government with a blank check to implement the full Commons plan.

We Have a Vision for Our City and South Lake Union

We love Seattle. Like the citizens who saved the Pike Place Market, we want to see our city preserve its history, neighborhoods, and good-paying jobs.

We want City Hall to take care of what we have so that our children won’t be forced to pay the price of continued neglect.