

The

EASTLAKE • NEWS

August / September 2002

EASTLAKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
117 E. LOUISA STREET, #1
SEATTLE, WA 98102

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NO ACCESS TO NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS FOR EASTLAKE KIDS

Those of you who have kids who have not yet entered kindergarten need to be aware of a very serious problem with public school placements in Eastlake, Roanoke Park, and North Capitol Hill.

You probably already know that Seward School (whose academic program is known as "TOPS") admits students by a City-wide lottery - so even though you might live one block from the school, your kid's chances are no better of getting in than someone who lives 5 miles away. And the wait list for the last few years has been running about 100 kids, so your chances of winning the lottery are probably better than your chances of getting your kid into Seward). This alone is frustrating to a community that has helped to support Seward School through the years -rebuilding the playfield, serving on the committee to renovate the physical plant a decade ago, and so on.

But here's something you might not know: Eastlake kids actually do not have access to ANY public school anywhere near their homes! The Seattle School District is justifiably proud of the fact that more than 90% of incoming kindergartners City-wide get one of their top 3 school choices or their neighborhood "reference" school. What they don't tell you is that if you live in Eastlake, Roanoke Park, or North Capitol Hill, those numbers are reversed - 90% of the incoming kindergartners who applied this year for their neighborhood school got NO CHOICE OF SCHOOL WHATSOEVER - they were instead redirected to Martin Luther King Elementary, roughly 3 miles away.

In a nutshell, the Seattle School District and School Board have ignored clear demographic trends - more kids moving in to our neighborhoods in recent years -while at the same time allowing capacity at all the schools in the area to either be reduced

... Continued on Page 4

PUBLIC MEETING

Tuesday, October 8
7-9 p.m.

TOPS - Seward School Library

Candidate and ballot measures forum and ECC annual meeting

YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU!

Dear Fellow Eastlakers,

Whether you are a home owner or a renter, the fact that you live in Eastlake makes you a fellow member of the community. We need your support to keep this a healthy, productive, safe, attractive, successful place to live and work.

Just as in any family, organization, or group of any sorts, the more people who pitch in to help, the easier the workload for everyone and the increase in benefits for everyone. By becoming a member of the Eastlake Community Association your financial contribution helps to support such things as this newsletter, for example.

By volunteering to meet a couple of hours once a month a number of your fellow residents have been elected to the Eastlake Community Association Board of Directors. That election is coming up again in October and we would welcome your participation on the Board. We have several openings and we need YOU to call us today and say you are interested in joining us. We will give you background information about activities in the neighborhood and assist you as you 'learn the ropes.' No special background is required, other than an interest in serving your fellow residents and supporting the greater good of the community.

... Continued on Page 3

ECC SEEKS VOLUNTEERS & DONATED EQUIPMENT

As an all-volunteer organization, the Eastlake Community Council can achieve its mission of building community and enhancing the neighborhood only with our help. Here are some of the items we need

- An easel board to use at public meetings
- Chairs suitable for a conference table
- Historical photos, clippings, video or audio tape, and other records for the Eastlake archives.

Coordinators and other volunteers are needed for several projects:

- (1) Design guidelines for Eastlake Avenue and for Lynn Street between Eastlake Ave. and Boylston Ave
- (2) Working with the City on what to do now that Eastlake has met its housing production goals twelve years faster than called for by the City Comprehensive Plan
- (3) Land use project reviewers
- (4) Production of a video history of Eastlake
- (5) Renovation of Terry Pettus Park (Newton Street end)
- (6) Weeding in Good Turn Park, Fairview-Olmsted Park, and other local parks
- (7) Editor & Advertising Liason for the Eastlake News

To volunteer or donate: SamMar@aol.com, 322-5463 or write to ECC, 117 E. Louisa #1, Seattle 98102.

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OCTOBER 8TH FORUM AIRS CANDIDATES & BALLOT CAMPAIGNS

ECC organizes this popular elections forum, which brings the candidates competing to become your next state legislator, etc. to the TOPS-Seward School Library on Tues., Oct. 8, from 7-9 p.m. We will also have representatives for and against the ballot campaigns, many of which will focus on transportation this year. Hear the debates and pose questions to the participants. Co-sponsored with Portage Bay/Roanoke Park Community Council, Eastlake Community Land Trust, Olmsted-Fairview Park Commission, and a local business association. The meeting begins with the Eastlake Community Council annual meeting and elections.

YOUR COMMUNITY ... CONT.

Remember, if everyone says, "Oh, I don't have enough time. Let someone else do it." then soon there will be no more 'someone elses' and the community will be left to the neglect of the City Council. If we are not alert and aware of what is going on in the broader scope of city politics then we are left to the whims of whomever wants to do whatever.

The quality of life in our community rest on the willingness of it's residents to be involved in the neighborhood. Please give a few hours of your time to supporting your Community Association. The Eastlake Community Council Board of Directors thanks you.

Please contact Mary Lou Pederson for further information: 206-709-1453.

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NO ACCESS ... CONT.

(e.g. at Montlake) or eliminated entirely (e.g. at Lowell, which no longer serves the neighborhood, but draws from the rest of the City). The result is that Eastlake families that can see Seward from their homes must have their kids bused three miles away. It's hard to build community when the School District is pulling it apart this way.

Astonishingly, the School Board, even in the face of serious lobbying by parents of this year's incoming kindergartners, has not (as of press time) taken action to correct this massive "system failure".

A coalition of parents from the three affected neighborhoods has been working together for the last several months. If you have a child who has not yet entered school, or indeed if you are anyone with the talents and skills to help with this problem, please contact Jim Simpkins at jimsi@exmsft.com to learn more.

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A recent Sunset magazine article reported that although it may no longer be “the center of the city’s bohemian life,” Eastlake “still has the power to charm.” Author Steven R. Lorton urged a stroll in the “old neighborhood looking at the gardens and buildings. Singly they’re nondescript; collectively they’re enchanting.” He called **Ambrosia** (2501 Fairview, 325-7111) an “instant hit,” **Patrick’s Fly Shop** (2237 Eastlake Ave., 325-8988) the “oldest fly-fishing shop on the West Coast,” and **Pete’s** (58 E. Lynn, 322-2660) “both a stupendous wine shop and a neighborhood grocery” where “you can buy a \$185 bottle of champagne or a \$3 toilet plunger.” The Sunset article also reported that 60,000 people a year breakfast at **14 Carrot Cafe** (2305 Eastlake Ave., 324-1442), whose Eggs Benedict and huevos rancheros are “as good as they get.”

P-I food writer Hsiao-Ching Chou on July 31 featured **Sophie’s Donuts** (2238 Eastlake Ave., 323-7132), as “building a legion of fans” for its handmade doughnuts made from a century-old recipe, and quoted owner Susan Kaplan that “in the end, the doughnut is mostly about our memories. Greatness in a doughnut is a personal thing.” ... The Stranger recently singled out **Pazzo’s Restaurant and Bar** (2307 Eastlake Ave. E., 329-6558) for its unusual ad showing the owner and staff clad only in socks. ... **Delicious Planet** (2917 Furhman Ave. E., 720-7017 or 650-0398) is possibly the only fresh gourmet food delivery service in the Seattle area to offer almost entirely organic meals. Owner Randi Carter has been an Eastlake resident for six years.

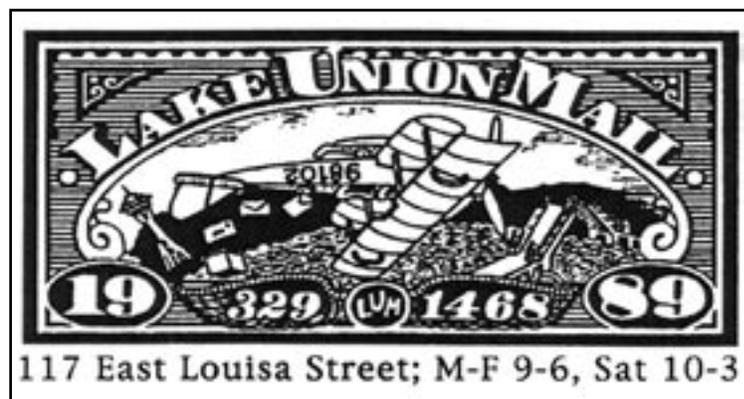
Congratulations to the **Virginia V** (www.virginiav.org) on its recertification by the Coast Guard after five years of restoration, much of it by Lake Union Dry Dock here in Eastlake. The Virginia is one of only two wooden steamships in the United States. It was first launched in 1922, and its engine was built in 1902. ... Marc van der Sandt has opened **The Dutch Boathouse** (2370 Fairview Ave. E., 322-6080), specializing in sales of European boats--new, classic, and vintage. His office in a beautifully reconditioned work shed has mementoes of his years in Europe.

Thanks to the many businesses who contributed to the successful Eastlake Date Auction on August 9. There’s not room here to acknowledge all by name, but let’s not fail to **thank Porta Greek Taverna** and **Hines Public Market Coffee** (2245 Eastlake Ave., 860-0284) for hosting the event, Dick Arnold for serving as auctioneer, and Monique Lynnes for overall coordination. ... **Cuppa Jo on the Go** (1500 Fairview Ave. E., 860-6136) is now accepting Visa and Master Charge, and has extended its hours to Saturdays from 7am to 11am. It now has tables and an attractive garden deck designed by **Kaaren Kirkpatrick Design** (2349 Boylston Ave. E., 325-1801).

The flag has been at half mast at the **NOAA Pacific Marine Center** (1801 Fairview Avenue E.) with recent deaths at sea of two employees. Anyone on a NOAA voyage is facing constant danger to explore and map the ocean for us; thank you. On a happier note, it is great news that NOAA has renewed its lease and will be remaining in the neighborhood for years to come (what would our holidays be like without those festive lights?! And congratulations to NOAA environmental compliance specialist James Schell, who coached a Seattle-area high school girls’ softball team to an August 8 second place finish in the World Series held recently in Chicago. The team is sponsored by and named after the Mariners, who would do well to emulate their young counterparts. ...

The ever-popular houseboat tour is Sunday, Sept. 8, 12-5 p.m. For information and tickets (\$20 per person), contact the **Floating Homes Association** at 325-1132 or 323-3489 or www.SeattleFloatingHomes.org. Although on the day of the tour, tickets will be sold at Terry Pettus Park (Fairview at Newton St.), advance purchase is advisable at the FHA office, 2329 Fairview Ave. E. ... And congratulations to FHA on its 40th anniversary! ... The **Phil Talmadge for Governor** campaign has chosen Eastlake for its state headquarters, in the A.W. Larson Building (3202 Harvard Ave. E; 935-7593; cindilaws@msn.com)

Mention in this column does not imply endorsement by the ECC, writer, or editor. Send your business news to Chris Leman (cleman@oo.net), 85 E. Roanoke St., Seattle 98102-3222.



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FAIRVIEW GREEN STREET PUBLIC MEETING

Come celebrate our accomplishments!

The Fairview Green Street committee will celebrate its accomplishments and one-year anniversary with a public meeting. Look for posters announcing the meeting location in October or contact the Green Street Coordinator listed below. *Everyone* is invited to learn about our experience (the fun we're having!), review proposed guidelines for Hamlin to Fuhrman, organize a committee to design guidelines for Newton to Roanoke, and discover opportunities for volunteers.

Fairview Avenue East, from Newton to Roanoke and Hamlin to Fuhrman, was designated a Type III Green Street by the City of Seattle in 1998. The Fairview Green Street committee is a group of community residents and business owners committed to creating a Green Street Design Concept that will define guidelines to ensure safe public circulation and open space opportunities, as well as respect the diversity and existing mixed-use character of the street and neighborhood.

All committee meetings are open to anyone who wants to participate. Come to the public meeting in October to obtain information on the current progress of the committee or, if you cannot attend, contact the Fairview Green Street coordinator

listed below. Your talents for facilitating meetings, project management, document writing, and fostering collaborative participation are needed. Whatever your skills or suggestions, your participation will be welcomed!

Contact Martia Denniston, Fairview Green Street c/o ECC, Lake Union Mail, 117 E. Louisa #1, Seattle WA 98102; mdenniston@effectnet.com; 720-5519

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