

The

EASTLAKE NEWS

October/November/December 2002

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NEIGHBORS SPEAK OUT ABOUT LOCAL ACCESS TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

By Bob Geballe

Wearing pumpkin-shaped paper badges that read "Compromise is Not Frightening," more than 100 Eastlake, North Capitol Hill, and Roanoke Park residents turned out October 30 for a Seattle School Board public meeting on the elementary school placement crisis. In November, the School Board is scheduled to decide on modifying the kindergarten assignment plan, and many local residents are pressing to create some space at Seward School (home of the TOPS alternative program) for our burgeoning population of young children.

School Board member Barbara Schaad-Lamphere has proposed that starting next year, the Board allocate one neighborhood spot for every city-wide lottery spot at TOPS. This would be a temporary fix, and take some of the pressure off our area. At the October 30th meeting, ten neighborhood residents presented various statements in support of the compromise proposal. Members from the TOPS community attempted to convince Board members to vote down the compromise measure.

Unfortunately, the conflicting desires for space have polarized the two communities. Some in the TOPS community are trying to frame this as an attack on TOPS. However, the neighborhoods have no issue with TOPS, per se. We just need more space allocated to neighborhood children in our neighborhood schools. Montlake, Stevens, and Lowell are stuffed to the brim; Seward is the only nearby school with the immediate potential to absorb some of the excess.

The real problem is the inability of the School Board to make adequate projections and the necessary adjustments to the assignment process. The School District's assignment process works well in every other area in the city. Here, it is another story. Many of our neighborhood children are mandatorily assigned to schools outside the neighborhood, rather than having any reasonable chance at a nearby school.

There are three reasons for this sad state of affairs: (1) the number of young children in this area has been increasing; (2) the School District has managed to reduce class size in elementary schools, thereby lowering the total capacity of each school; and (3) our area houses TWO alternative programs (TOPS and the APP program at Lowell), further reducing the number of seats available for local children. The result? This year, more than 35 local kindergarteners were assigned to a school requiring a one-hour bus ride each direction.

... Continued on Page 4

LAND TRUST SEEKS SYMPATHETIC SELLERS

To preserve our neighborhood's economic diversity, the Eastlake Community Land Trust is working to establish an apartment house with rents permanently affordable to those with low incomes. Despite the current economy, market pressure in Eastlake continues at a feverish pace, hampering our search while further driving up housing costs. With speculators contacting property owners who had not considered selling, some properties are sold without even being put formally onto the market. Others are sold within days of being advertised - for cash, and for more than the asking price.

The Eastlake Community Land Trust has made offers on several buildings, but even with generous City and State housing assistance, we have been outbid. Some property owners who shared our goals died before formalizing their wishes, and their property has sold to the highest bidder, with results they never would have wanted. Too often, the new owners are investors who jack up the rents, but do little for the neighborhood or even for the property itself.

The Land Trust needs to reach those owners who want their property to survive as an affordable rental, rather than being demolished or turned into expensive condominiums. Writing the Eastlake Community Land Trust into a will is one solution, Another is a reverse mortgage where a seller continues to live at home while receiving monthly payments for having sold it for affordable housing.

Most importantly, we need a chance to speak with owners before they put their property on the market. A sympathetic seller might give us a price break and the extra time needed to assemble the financial package. Because we and our partner, the Capitol Hill Housing Improvement Program, are tax-exempt, the tax deductions in selling to us can benefit many sellers more than would selling to a speculator at a higher price.

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FAIRVIEW GREEN STREET ANNIVERSARY MEETING

The Fairview Green Street committee held a public meeting on Tuesday evening, October 15th to celebrate its accomplishments as it reaches its one year anniversary. Held at the TOPS Seward School Library the meeting was an opportunity for committee members to report on their progress toward developing draft guidelines for Hamlin to Fuhrman. Those who have been working consistently over many months on the proposed guidelines were congratulated for their dedication to this community effort. Participants also began the process of organizing a Newton to Roanoke committee to begin discussing recommendations for the central portion of Fairview Avenue E.

Copies of the Hamlin to Fuhrman draft guidelines were provided, read and discussed as a group. The committee also displayed photographs of specific areas along with their corresponding proposed guidelines. Questions, observations, and a lively discourse arose among the participants as the reasoning behind the recommendations and alternative ideas were shared. Guidelines and locations needing further discussion were identified. It was particularly interesting to see how the process has worked throughout this year of meetings and how it has resulted in a draft of suggested guidelines.

The Hamlin to Fuhrman guidelines are a work in progress. The goal of the committee is to develop guidelines that reflect concerns important to the neighborhood, such as maintaining the ambiance of the area as well as addressing safety issues on the street. To achieve this goal we need the participation of all interested parties in meetings that will continue throughout this coming year. The next meeting to continue discussing Hamlin to Fuhrman guidelines was scheduled for Tuesday, October 29, 2002. Future meetings were planned for the third Tuesday of the month continuing into next year as necessary. A meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 19, 2002 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM in the TOPS Seward School Library. Meetings are also planned on January 21, 2003 and February 18, 2003 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM in the TOPS Seward School conference room in the main office.

A Newton to Roanoke committee is in the process of organizing to discuss guidelines for that section of Fairview Green Street. A group planned to meet on Monday, November 4, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. This, and future monthly meetings, will be held in the conference room on the second floor of the Management Recruiter's Building at 2510 Fairview Ave. E. **EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ATTEND.** It is important that the diverse points of view of our neighborhood-owners of floating homes, businesses, and single family homes, as well as apartment dwellers- be represented early in the process. Come join in, meet and get to know your neighbors better, as we all discuss how we want to experience our green street on Fairview now and in the future.

Contact the Fairview Green Street coordinator, Martia Denniston at mdenniston@effectnet.com or (206) 720-5519.

WSDOT FORFEITS PUBLIC TRUST ON 520 EXPANSION

By Colleen McGrath

At the recent public meeting held Tuesday, October 29 at the Museum of History & Industry, the Washington State Department of Transportation was touting a six-lane replacement for the existing SR520 bridge. Not discussed or displayed at the meeting were the impacts to the Eastlake, Roanoke Park, North Capitol Hill, and Montlake neighborhoods when attempting to cope with the vast amounts of traffic that will be “dumped” into our neighborhoods.



Seattle Municipal Archives Photograph Collection

Lakeview Boulevard & Newton Street (1936) facing St. Marks - Now the I-5 Overpass

Also left unmentioned was that Eastlake would have the most property taken or rendered unusable by the construction. On the 2000 block of Boylston Ave E., twenty-one properties and hundreds of citizens would be sacrificed to allow for an I-5 merge ramp from 520 on the right side (as opposed to the existing configuration which merges on the left side). Yet WSDOT employees and their consultants were spotted

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LOCAL ACCESS TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS ... CONT.

Currently, we are gathering signatures on a petition supporting school board action to increase access for children in our neighborhoods. You can sign the petition at Lake Union Mail (117 E. Louisa St.), or request one by e-mail from teamenzo@hotmail.com. Volunteers are welcome and needed. If you would like to get more involved, contact Bob Geballe bobg@oneacreplus.net.

But whatever you do – WRITE TO THE SCHOOL BOARD!!! Board members Mary Bass and Barbara Peterson, especially, are critical in the vote – they appear to be undecided at this time. Here are all the names and e-mail addresses:

Nancy Waldman NWaldman@seattleschools.org
 Barbara Peterson bpeterson@seattleschools.org
 Barbara Schaad-Lamphere bschaadl@seattleschools.org
 Dick Lilly dililly@seattleschools.org
 Jan Kumasaka jkumasaka@seattleschools.org
 Mary Bass mabass@seattleschools.org
 Steve Brown sbrown@seattleschools.org

The School Board's fax number is 252-0101. By U.S. mail, you can reach each Board member at:

Seattle School Board
 PO Box 34165
 mail stop 11-010
 Seattle, WA 98124



Eastlake Makes the Big Time: Long-time resident John Gouveia (here shown with Vanna White) on the set of *Wheel of Fortune* when the popular TV show visited Seattle earlier this year.

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This story was written prior to the School Board Vote on November 6, 2002. According to Jules James on November 7th, “The Seattle School Board voted 5 -2 to continue to effectively exclude the children of Eastlake from the Seattle Public School District. Nancy Waldman, supposedly our neighborhood’s representative to the School Board, let the effort to discard our children.”

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In a fine article about Eastlake, *Seattle Times* business columnist Steve Dunphy (a resident since the 1960s) on October 20 featured photos of **Patrick's Fly Shop** (2237 Eastlake Ave. E, 325-8988) and **Lake Union Mail** (117 E. Louisa, 329-1468). The article mentioned the following longtime Eastlake businesses: **Quick Stop Grocery and Deli** (2352 Eastlake Ave., 323-0010), **Daly's Drive In** (2713 Eastlake Ave., 322-1918), **Kristine Ann's** (3200 Harvard Ave. E. 860-1972), **Louisa's Bakery and Café** (2379 Eastlake Ave., 325-0081), **14 Carrot Café** (2305 Eastlake Ave., 324-1442), **SoftChoice** (1144 Eastlake Ave.), **ZymoGenetics** (1201 Eastlake Ave.), **Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center** (1100 Fairview Ave. N.), and the **Seattle Cancer Care Alliance** (825 Eastlake Ave.).

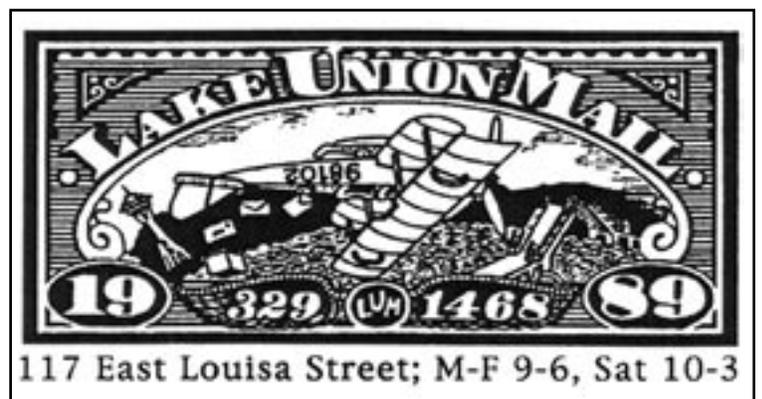
New businesses mentioned in the *Times* article included **Dutch Boathouse** (2370 Fairview Ave. E.), **Bay Antiques** (2701 Eastlake Ave.), **Porta Greek Taverna** (2245 Eastlake Ave., 860-0284), **Hines Public Market Coffee** (2243 Eastlake Ave. 320-1426), **Fabu** (clothing design, 2938C Eastlake Ave. , 709-7634), **Bonfire Productions** (film & video production, 217 E. Louisa St., 324-6826), **Homes and Loans** (2013 Boylston Ave. E., 860-9444), and **Portage Bay Cabinet** (2345 Eastlake Ave., 901-2784, www.portagebaycabinet.com). New businesses that have opened since the *Times* article appeared are **Bridge Blond Salon** (a full color and hair cutting service, 2373 Eastlake Ave., 329-1362), **MySQL** (open-source data bases, 2510 Fairview Ave E., 336-2030), and local resident Robert Givens' **Atomic Plumbing and Heating** (860-0693, crys@ohbilly.com).

Bulletin boards are important for community, and they can also be a magnet for a business. The neighborhood's oldest bulletin board is outside one of its cherished businesses, the **Eastlake Zoo Tavern** (2301 Eastlake Ave., 329-3277). ... Now, the **Eastlake Deli** (2707 Eastlake Avenue, 323-3750) is planning its own unique bulletin board, made entirely from wine corks. If you have any corks to spare, drop them off, and thank owner (and local resident) Bruce Gray for helping build community. Who will be next to install a public bulletin board? ...

Antolin Blanco, co-owner of **Pomodoro Ristorante Italiano** (2366 Eastlake Avenue E. 324-3160) is commuting on an electric bike. ... **Nimble Technologies** (1938 Fairview Ave. E., 268-8000) has been awarded a patent for its data-integration software technology. ... Eastlake author **Beth Means** has a near-best seller in her coauthored book, Teaching Writing in Middle School: Tips, Tricks, Techniques (Greenwood Publishing). ... **MagnaDrive** (1177 Fairview Ave. N., 694-4700, www.magnadrive.com) sells to a wide range of industries its hot new magnetic technology for linking machinery with a motor.

Local resident **Corey Preston**, who helps keep Good Turn Park and Fairview-Olmsted Park shipshape, was honored by the **University District Food Bank** for his two years of volunteering there. We join their newsletter in saying "Thank you Corey for such devotion!" ... Joella Weybright, President of **Gilmore Research Group** (2324 Eastlake Avenue

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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 your help. Here are some of the items we need: an easel board to use at public meetings and chairs suitable for a conference table. Also 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) help for our land use committee in reviewing projects; (4) production of a video history of Eastlake; (5) planning for the renovation of Terry Pettus Park (Newton Street end); (6) weeding in Good Turn Park, Fairview-Olmsted Park, and other local parks; (7) a representative to the UW advisory committee; and (8) An Eastlake News Editor and liaison with advertisers. To volunteer or donate: cleman@oo.net, 322-5463 or write to ECC, 117 E. Louisa #1, Seattle 98102.



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520 EXPANSION ... CONT.

on Boylston (where I live) at the beginning of October jotting down the addresses of the homes that would go. One of them told a neighbor he should consider hiring the services of a good real estate attorney.

Seattle elected officials must not allow Eastlake to be so devastated by construction and deception, especially when there is no money to do such a large expansion, and not enough even to study it. The floating bridge needs replacing, but WSDOT and other expansion advocates are delaying that need while they use this process as an excuse for increases in car capacity that are environmentally damaging and unaffordable.

Our neighborhood was devastated by freeway construction in the 1960s and today bears a heavy burden from the existing traffic. The proposals to expand the I-5/520 interchange westward will further damage our neighborhood, imposing more noise, vibration, shadow and air and water pollution on our homes, apartments and businesses.

Eastlake enjoys a mix of businesses and residences that enables people to walk to their jobs and neighborhood establishments, or take just a short bus or bike ride to a neighborhood nearby. This model should be emulated, not sacrificed to make it easier to drive between the suburbs and downtown.

If you have questions or want to get involved, please contact me, Colleen Jane McGrath, 310-4073, deemerdog1@hotmail.com. And whatever your views, please express them to our elected officials:

Mayor Greg Nickels, Seattle Municipal Building, 600 Fourth Avenue, 12th floor, Seattle, WA 98104-1876, 684-4000
mayors.office@ci.seattle.wa.us.

The Seattle City Council address is 600 Fourth Avenue, 11th floor, Seattle 98104-1876. Be sure to contact:
Councilmember Richard Conlin
(Transportation Committee Chair)
684-8805, richard.conlin@ci.seattle.wa.us
Councilmember Peter Steinbrueck
(President of the City Council)
684-8804; peter.steinbrueck@ci.seattle.wa.us
Councilmember Richard McIver
684-8800, richard.mciver@ci.seattle.wa.us
Councilmember Heidi Wills
684-8808, heidi.wills@ci.seattle.wa.us
Rep. Ed Murray
(360) 786-7826, murray_ed@leg.wa.gov
and in the State Senate, P.O. Box 40443, Olympia 98504-0443

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In addition, contacts to the other councilmembers are advised:
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684-8802, jim.compton@ci.seattle.wa.us
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Councilmember Judy Nicastro
684-8806, judy.nicastro@ci.seattle.wa.us
Councilmember Margaret Pageler
684-8807, margaret.pageler@ci.seattle.wa.us.

Also, be sure to write to our legislators in the State House of Representatives, P.O. Box 40600, Olympia 98504-0600: House Speaker Frank Chopp
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BUSINESSES ... CONT.

E., 726-5555) recently gave the main address at a gathering of the Puget Sound Chapter of the American Marketing Association. ... Congratulations to the **Tudor Choir** (2366 Eastlake Ave. #428, 323-9415) on its tenth anniversary. The next concerts will be holiday-related, on Nov. 29, Dec. 28, and Dec. 29.

Murase Associates (200 E. Boston Street, 322-4937) does a wide range of landscape architecture and urban design.

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(2000 Fairview Ave. E., 726-2000) is a 24-hour answering service, and also offers voice mail options. ... **Coastal Healthcare Consulting** (2335 Eastlake Avenue, 324-6540, www.coastalhealthcare.com) works with healthcare facilities on project management and the implementation of information systems. ... **Spacemen** (1506A Franklin Ave. E., 328-2623) is a design-build company that can build some cabinets or renovate your whole house. ... An October article in *The Stranger* quipped that “**Serafina** is a good place to impress a date” The restaurant (323-0807) is at 2043 Eastlake Ave.

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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DUTCH ELM DISEASE: LOCAL ELMS AT RISK

By Erin O'Connor

Dutch elm disease has reached the Northwest and this summer struck a stand of 30 elms in front of the office building at 1600 Minor Ave E. Seven elms had to be removed quickly so that the disease would not spread to the other elms in the stand.

Through summer 2002, Tacoma has lost an astounding 260 elms in its parks and along its streets to Dutch elm disease, most of them over a century old. In addition to the cases at Minor Ave E, the Seattle area has so far lost 27 elms on Yarrow Point, 1 elm at the Seattle School District Center (near Seattle Center), 5 elms in the Seward Park vicinity, 3 elms south of Lincoln Park in West Seattle, 2 elms in Issaquah, 1 elm on Mercer Island, 2 elms in Kirkland, and an elm on Campus Parkway. The European elm bark beetle, which carries the deadly Dutch elm disease fungus, will fly as far as 12 miles, attracted by fresh wounds to feed on healthy wood. Then it burrows and breeds in dead wood. Its flight season runs from April 15 through October 15.

Elm is the predominate large tree in the Roanoke neighborhood. With the cooperation of multiple elms owners, the Seattle Parks Department, and the City Arborist's Office, Roanoke residents have organized to manage the risk of Dutch elm disease to their neighborhood defining trees, establishing an elms fund to help pay for monitoring and for prophylactic pruning and injections.



E Edgar St, looking towards I-5. Street-Tree-Program Norway Maples backed up by Roanoke Elms A, B, and C.

skinny trees of a more manageable size are the order of the day. The 27 Roanoke elms are an increasingly scarce amenity—street trees on a grand scale.

We know of only two stands of elms in the Eastlake neighborhood—one on the Fairview Ave E shoreline near Blaine St and the other the

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Local historian Dave Storm, who grew up in the Roanoke Neighborhood, thinks the Roanoke elms are at least 100 years old. If we lose them, our area won't see elms of this size and age again—not only not in our lifetimes, but never. The City won't let us plant such magnificent but susceptible species anymore. Columnar Norway Maples and other



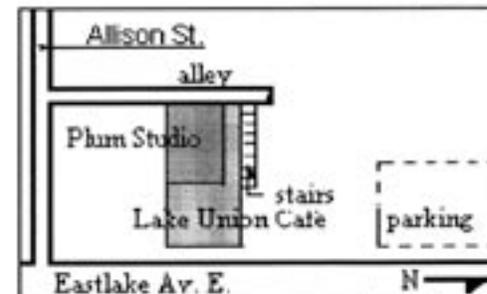
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ELMS ... CONT.

stand on Minor Ave E. If you know of any other elms in the Eastlake, Roanoke Park, and Portage Bay neighborhoods, please tell us their locations.

We all benefit from the presence of our stately elms. They make a significant, irreplaceable contribution to our urban canopy. We need to locate all of our elms, and we need to help our elms owners with the costs for managing the risk of Dutch elm disease to these big trees that do so much to mitigate the effects of freeway noise and pollution.

To report elm locations or to make a tax-deductible donation to the Seattle Community Council Federation—Roanoke Neighborhood Elms Fund (SCCF—Roanoke Neighborhood Elms Fund), contact

Erin O'Connor
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LAND TRUST ... CONT.

If you are a sympathetic seller, can suggest one, or just know of a property that may be available, please contact ECLT Board member Paul Hanson at paul.kari@mac.com or 260-1912. Tax-deductible donations to the Eastlake Community Land Trust are always welcome, c/o our Treasurer, Mary Ferguson, 2944 Eastlake Avenue E., Seattle 98102.

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<input type="checkbox"/> Household \$ 25 <input type="checkbox"/> Business \$ 50 <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen/Student/Low Income \$ 10 <input type="checkbox"/> Donation \$ ____	
Eastlake Community Council — 117 E. Louisa #1, Seattle, WA 98102	
	Member Status <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal

EASTLAKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
117 E. LOUISA STREET, # 1
SEATTLE, WA 98102-3278

If you did not receive this in the mail with a label attached with your name, then you are not a paying member of the Eastlake Community Council. We need your support, and you will receive benefits in return, so please send in your membership application today!