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September 1991



EASTLAKE NEWS

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 24. ECC General Meeting on Earthquake Preparedness. 7 p.m
Tuesday in Seward School Library.

Oct. 2. Olmsted-Fairview Park Commission. Open meeting on the tree-
planting and water quality projects. 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at Tio's Bakery
and Cafe.

Oct. 19 Candidates Fair, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday at Stevens School, 1242
18th E.

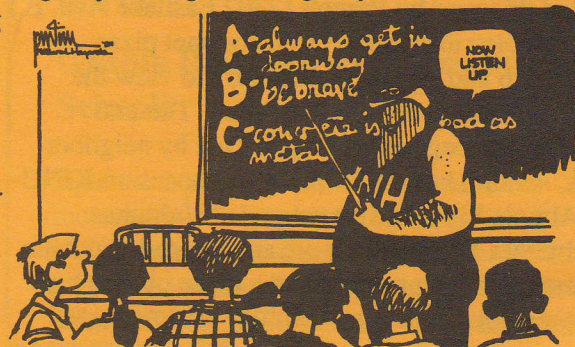
Oct. 30. ECC General Meeting on Water Quality in Eastlake. 7 p.m
Wednesday in Seward School Library.

September 24 Meeting: Earthquakes in Eastlake

Do you recall Seattle's earthquakes of 1945 and 1963? An even bigger one
could occur--as large as any California has seen. Because Eastlake's homes
are packed closely together, some on fill or over water, an earthquake could
particularly damage them. The I-5 viaducts, too, are at risk. Are we taking
sufficient precautions, and would we know what to do in an earthquake?

We will get expert advice at this meeting from Linda Noson, formerly the
state seismologist and with the Federal Emergency Management Agency,
now with a leading structural engineering
firm. The meeting is cosponsored with
the TOPS program, and we will hear
about efforts to earthquake-proof the
Seward School building and to prepare
the students and staff for a possible earth-
quake. (Cartoon courtesy of *Natural
Hazards Observer*.)

Eastlake News is
distributed free
to residents of the
Eastlake Community
and Members of
the Council



October 19th Candidates Fair

With TOPS and various other groups, ECC is sponsoring a candidates fair where you will have a chance to hear and meet candidates for all the offices. Questions for the candidates should be written out beforehand, and should be submitted now c/o Candidates Fair, ECC, 117 E. Louisa, Seattle 98102. For car pools to Stevens School (Fair is 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Saturday), call 548-4317. Ballot measures may also be debated at the fair. The ECC board is considering whether or not to take a position on the following measures: elimination of a separately elected City comptroller and treasurer; consolidation of Metro with the County government; and limitation of the terms of elected officials. Please write to us on whether you think we should take a position on these or other measures; and if so, what you think this position should be. Write to Ballot Measures, ECC, 117 E. Louisa #1, Seattle, 98102.

October 30 General Meeting on Water Quality in Eastlake

Eastlakers live their lives near or on Lake Union. Our businesses, too, need the lake. What impact do we have on water quality? The Olmsted-Fairview Park Commission joins with the ECC to present this special program on how to keep the lake clean -- and why. Also at this meeting, the annual ECC election of board and officers will be held. Candidate names can be forwarded to the Nominations Committee, Eastlake Community Council, 117 E. Louisa #1, Seattle 98102.

November 16 ECC Auction at Pazzo's: Donations Needed

Mark your calendars for the biggest ECC annual auction yet, on Saturday, November 16. Growing every year, the auction just got too large even for the lovely home of Bernadine Smith. It will be hosted this year by Pazzo's (2307 Eastlake Ave. E.) who are also throwing in free gourmet pizza between 6 and 7 p.m. Come early to view the items and bid in the silent auction. The oral auction will begin about 7 p.m., led by neighbor Dick Arnold, known for his appearances on KING-5's Almost Live, and on network TV dramas. Businesses and residents are encouraged to donate unusual items. It need not be a piece of merchandise; cooking, sewing, cleaning, yard work, sailing, or a vacation weekend are often very popular at

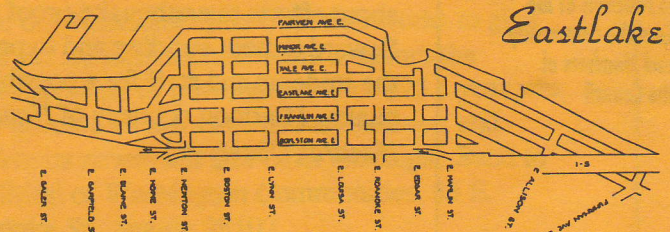
an auction. If you would like to donate, or volunteer, write to Auction, ECC, 117 E. Louisa #1, Seattle, 98102.

Farmhouse Saved

Instead of replacing the historic farmhouse at Yale and Louisa with townhouses, developers Timothy and Martha McHugh have decided to restore it to its former glory. The entire neighborhood owes the McHughs and their partner David Fletcher heartfelt thanks for preserving the home and nearby arborway as hallowed parts of our lives. The Eastlake Community Council stands ready to help in any way it can to complete this process. You can write to thank the McHughs at P.O. Box 20820, Seattle, WA 98109.

Mallard Cove Shoreline Access

Ribbons of Green, a recent report commissioned by the City parks department, identifies the shoreline between E. Roanoke and E. Hamlin as a significant missing link in the walking and bicycle routes around Lake Union. Eastlake residents were troubled to discover on September 18 that the steps and railing leading from E. Edgar St. down into Mallard Cove had been removed. So far as we can ascertain, this historic walking route has never before been blocked. A "hike and bike" trail was agreed to in 1974 as a condition for the City permit for the original excavation for the Mallard Cove houseboats and parking lot. The timing of the removal action is particularly unfortunate, because the City has just decided to sponsor a negotiation aimed at resolving the shoreline access issue; landscape architects and engineers are involved who can suggest ways to make public access compatible with the privacy of the neighbors, as has been shown to be possible in trail situations all over the country. Citizens who wish to preserve the walking route, and reactivate efforts dropped in the 1980s to establish a bicycle route along the shoreline, should write to Dennis McLerran, Department of Construction and Land Use, 600 Fourth Ave., Seattle, WA 98104.



California Developer To Close Down Eastlake's "Gateway"?

In May 1990 during the City discussions on the future of the Lake Union Steam Plant, Koll Co., the California-based development firm, announced that it now owned the "Charlees" site across Fairview, and would develop it as a gateway into the Eastlake neighborhood. Such promises are now long forgotten by Koll and its architects, although we hope not by the City. For according to the plans, the project—an 18,000 square foot banking and office facility for the Washington State Employees Credit Union (WSECU)—will now: (1) totally remove the site's historic trolley trestle, Eastlake's last vestige of its origins as a stop on Seattle's remarkable early public transit system; (2) cut down all of the trees in what is one of the neighborhood's largest and most prominent groves, the largest one in the State-designated shoreline zone and along that stretch of Fairview and Eastlake Avenues, and easily the most interesting, given that the trees are intertwined with the trestle; and (3) pave most of the site for parking and for a drive-through banking facility.

These features are contrary to the suggestions that have been provided by the Eastlake Community Council and other observers as long ago as last winter, and to the judgments of independent architects who have looked at the site and the plans for us. Since the project's unusual amount of paving is the real problem, underground parking would solve almost all of the problem, greatly reducing the amount of surface needed for cars and allowing the trees and trestle to stay. Elimination of the drive-through feature would also help. Studies for the Transportation Research Board show that drive-throughs impose significant air pollution, noise, and congestion, yet on the average they do not save time; in fact, WSECU's own figures show that drive-through visits take longer on the average than parking and walking inside to do one's banking.

Koll bought WSECU's previous building and demolished it to make room for the Fred Hutchinson project; in agreeing to sell its previous building, the Credit Union signed a contract requiring Koll to provide a replacement building in the vicinity. Unfortunately, Koll did not adequately inform the Credit Union about the constraints of the new site and the harm to the neighborhood that will result from failing to put a level of parking underground.

ECC was closely involved in City approval of the Fred Hutchinson project, but was not contacted about this upshot of it until after Koll and WSECU had concluded their agreement about it. And, despite the great leverage the Credit Union had when Koll was attempting to purchase its earlier building, the Credit Union did not obtain explicit assurances from Koll that it would provide a building that is sensitive to its Eastlake site, even if at greater cost than Koll ideally prefers to pay. In the early stages of the project, ECC dealt directly with the Credit Union management, but as it became clear that the solution to ECC's concerns would involve more expense than Koll was willing to contemplate, Koll took over the process and seems to be trying to push through the project as is.

ECC welcomes the opportunity to keep WSECU in the neighborhood; in fact, three members of the ECC board are also members of the Credit Union. However, the Credit Union management has the power to insist on a design more sensitive to the site and to the needs of the community. Koll owes it to the Credit Union to invest enough in the building to make the most of its unique site, and to show the community that it respects the heritage and natural surroundings of this Eastlake "gateway." The design initially presented to us last winter proposed to create a "gateway" effect by taking over public parking now used by employees of Lake Union Dry Dock and other businesses. ECC strongly opposed the loss of parking for these businesses, and—with WSECU support—that proposal has been dropped. Koll should enhance—not close down—Eastlake's gateway at its own expense, not WSECU's. Letters urging WSECU to insist on a more creative, sensitive treatment of the site can be sent to president William Brandt and board members Gary Alexander, Susan Emley, Laura Eckert, Mark Johnson, Herb Jones, Judith Merchant, John Olson, Diane Perry, and Jim Ryan, at WSECU, 400 E. Union Avenue, Olympia, WA. Mention if you are a WSECU member, and send ECC a copy.

Grants Received for Planning, Schools

Again this year, the Eastlake Community Council received two large grants from the City Neighborhood Matching Fund. One, for \$20,000, is for the Eastlake Tomorrow project, to develop a neighborhood plan based in part on the neighborhood survey many of you filled out (thank you: the

return was unusually high for a survey of this kind). The other, for \$25,000, is to allow the community schools program that will begin in January to continue for a second year. Volunteers for both activities are welcome. Write to Volunteers, ECC, 117 E. Louisa #1, Seattle 98102.

Park Notes

After some delay, earthmoving is soon to begin on Hamlin street end park; volunteers should contact Mike Sullivan at 329-4371. Seattle City Light will be cutting down some trees in Roanoke street end park to allow installation of a five foot thick steel power pole. ECC volunteer Jim Pensiero, a local landscape architect, has recommended their replacement with myrica (wax myrtle), an evergreen that will shield the bulk of the pole from ground level. Dedication ceremonies are being planned for Good Turn Park, at the Martin street end. Donors of the park are Homer Bergren and Jim Nordstrom. At present there is some hope in the neighborhood that Bergren and Nordstrom will agree to keep the rest of the street end in gravel rather than pave it.

Free Trees for Planting Strips



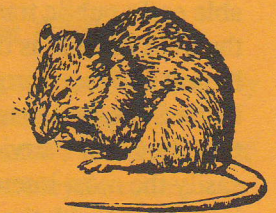
ECC and the City have worked out an arrangement subsidized by the Mr. Coffee company under which flame maple or Chinese dogwood trees will be provided for planting between your sidewalk and the street; the planting strip must be at least five feet wide. The only charge is \$5, which will go to future Eastlake planting activities (the planting itself will be by volunteers, with your help). Thanks to the Olmsted-Fairview Park Commission for coordination. If you would like one or more trees, call Nancy Pritchett soon at 328-2798.

Must Pedestrians Wait Longer than Drivers?

Jules James of Lake Union Mail wrote an excellent letter to the City about the infamously unresponsive traffic light at Eastlake and Louisa. He got back a disappointing letter from City Council Transportation Committee chair George Benson defending the light on the grounds that pedestrians only have to wait a maximum of 95 seconds. Now just a minute, George. The City's own "level of service standards" regard even a one-minute wait as unacceptable for drivers. Why should the City be

speeding traffic through our neighborhood, while discouraging pedestrians from getting across the street? Cars cause a lot more pollution, noise, and danger; shouldn't pedestrians be the ones who are favored, especially since this is our home?! As Jules points out, the light is so poky that many people just give up and walk across Eastlake Ave. without it. Thus a quicker light would not only be more convenient but also safer. You may write to Benson at the Municipal Building, 600 Fourth Ave., Seattle, 98104.

Riders wanted. In Metro Van Pool to South Renton from Lake Union every work day. Call Duane Hudson for more information, 234-1037 or 848-7267 eves.



Night Life in Eastlake: Mice and Rats

Eastlake has its share of mice and rats; rats in particular seem to be common in waterfront areas like ours. Some rats are becoming immune to traditional poisons like D-Con. A more powerful product is Boot Hill, which is available at Kemi-K at 9622 Aurora. But poison will not solve the problem unless you block off routes for their getting indoors. Look carefully for pathways leading to crawl spaces; cut back trees or vines offering a boost to holes under the eaves. And close off openings to the outdoors and between basement and attic; rats can wriggle through even very small holes. If your previous plugs were eaten through, use steel wool, which rodents cannot easily chew through. Everyone--especially local restaurants--can do their part by sealing garbage containers and not leaving edible items on the ground. Pet food dishes--even empty ones--should not be left outside. Unfortunately, there has been a recent case in Eastlake of a sewer rat coming up out of the toilet! The Health Department tells us this is extremely rare, but is made more likely by heavy use of in-sink garbage disposal; better to discard food scraps in other ways. Another reason to keep the toilet lid down when not in use (maybe even while in use)! We are interested to hear about where rats or mice are a problem in the neighborhood, and any point-

ers you have on how to deal with them. Write to Rodent Watch, Eastlake Community Council, 117 E. Louisa #1, Seattle, WA 98102.

Turkey House Found

In our recent restaurant quiz, several longtime Eastlakers--including Shirley and Reba Schneider, Stan Andreason, and Bill Jenkins successfully identified the Turkey House as having been where Burger King now is. A few others won, but didn't leave your name! (We're still a little hazy about what it was called between being the Turkey House and the Burger King.) Each will receive a complimentary espresso drink from Javabeen, Eastlake's first espresso cart. Call 322-5463 to receive yours.

Be a Part of the Big Picture

Snapshots of you and your family are wanted for a big temporary mural at Seattle Center. The big map we saw didn't include Eastlake, so be sure to write "Eastlake" in big letters on the back of the photo, and mail to The Big Picture, Security Pacific Gallery, 1100 Second Ave., SO1-7, Seattle 98101. Send duplicates, not originals, as they will not be returned.

Volunteer Opportunities

Conduct oral history interviews with Eastlake's pioneers. Represent Eastlake on the City-University Community Advisory Committee. Edit the Eastlake News, or design and sell adds for it. Be ECC's designated recipient of the twice weekly City bulletin on land use applications, deadlines and decisions, and alert the ECC board to projects of interest. About these and other chances to help, call 322-5463.

Senior Opportunities

Margaret Newcombe, who served as the first ECC president twenty years ago, responds as follows to an article in our last issue about senior services. "One number that can put seniors in touch with every service is 448-3110. Also, you might mention that the University Senior Activity Center (also known as Talmadge-Hamilton House) at 5225 15th Ave. NE is a short block and half from the 72-73-74 buses and has a large program of activities and classes for the elderly. To receive their very impressive calendar of activities, call 524-0473 or drop by."

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ECC and the City have worked out an arrangement

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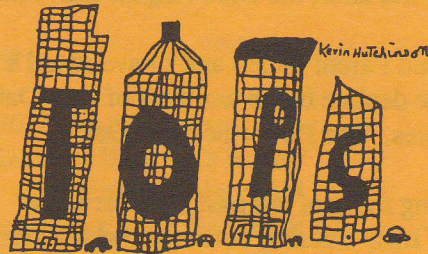
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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

YES!!! I want to help take care of Eastlake. My dues are enclosed for membership in the Eastlake Community Council (1 year membership).

This is a NEW RENEWAL Membership. VOLUNTEER INTERESTS _____

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

- DUES Household (\$25)
 Sr. Citizen (\$10)
 Business (\$45)
 _____ Donation

**MAKE CHECK OR MONEY PAYABLE TO :
 EASTLAKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
 SEND TO: ECC , 117 E. Louisa St., Box #1, Seattle WA 98102**

Loo Loo's Further Adventures in Eastlake



Tragedy and joy, it's the same with us as it is with two-foots. Mousse the Mini-Dachs brought eight beautiful puppies into the world, all now enjoying the best homes.

My best friend, Isola the Poodle, spent a halcyon month in Big Sky country. How I missed her. But, I, too, had a week in country Buckley with dogs, cats, and horses. I learned to roll in manure; delicious.

Sammy, the Herding Sheep Dog, met with a terrible accident. A forklift severed her tail, but the vet saved enough of it so that Sammy keeps her balance. Traumatic and painful, this, but Sammy is recovering with spirit. It didn't help when the substitute postman maced her. The fellow did the same to tiny Higgins, the Yorkie, for no reason but that they are DOGS. We hope not to see this man again next year, when good Joseph, who loves animals, is on vacation.

The Fourth was, as always, terrible, as we animals hear better than humans. I would not come out from under the bureau for 12 hours and my friends, both in cat and dog world, experienced the same traumas. And later, the Blue Angels didn't help.

My Adopted Parent (A.P.) and I have noted a remarkable decline in the amounts of Doo Dah left on our routes. The Power of the Press!

A disturbing thing of the past summer is the amount of trash littering streets and sidewalks--this mostly from fast food outlets. It's probably not residents who scatter this trash, but casual visitors who unthinkingly drop wrappings when they have finished gulping down their packs of french fries and other greasy oddments. If they think our streets are nice to walk on or drive on, why do they help to nasty them up? Maybe they think we have a fleet of trash-packers, like the people who picked up after them when they were growing up and never thought to train them in Good Seattle Habits.

My editor has instructed me to keep up the social commentary, and so a final grind on the axe (or the

animal equivalent--ed.)--the matter of dog licenses, and of spaying. The percentage of A.P.'s buying licenses is minuscule and largely restricted to breed dogs who are highly valued in all ways. Money is low at the Pound; we have all read of the thousands of four-foots who are put to death every year, a sad and costly state of affairs. Spaying and neutering can put the brakes to this murder, which is also not enjoyed by the humans whose job it is to apply the needle.

How can I notice all of these things? My A.P. says it is because I dawdle. But, be informed please: all of us animals notice. It's just that most of us don't have typewriters to dictate to. I'd appreciate it if any of you pals out there who have gripes about anything, would let me know so as to keep this column going. It has to have MEAT, not just gossip. Love to all,

LOO LOO

[Send your column ideas to Loo Loo in care of the Eastlake Community Council Pet Auxiliary, 117 E. Louisa #1, Seattle, WA 98102.]

Eastlake T-Shirts at



A good selection of colors and sizes of the official Eastlake T-shirt is still available. Thanks to owner Zach Zakahi for being exclusive distributor, at no charge to ECC. Pro-Body is located at 2501 Eastlake Ave. E.



Coalition of Washington Communities

The strength of a neighborhood association like the Eastlake Community Council is its local focus. But grassroots groups will be most successful if they know and support one another. For this reason, ECC has contributed to the Coalition of Washington Communities, a new statewide network for communication and mutual aid among these organizations. The Coalition works to give them the information and tools to assure the responsiveness of government. For \$25 a year you may become an associate of the Coalition and receive its newsletter and other mailings. Send to Coalition of Washington Communities, 85 E. Roanoke St., Seattle 98102.