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April 1994

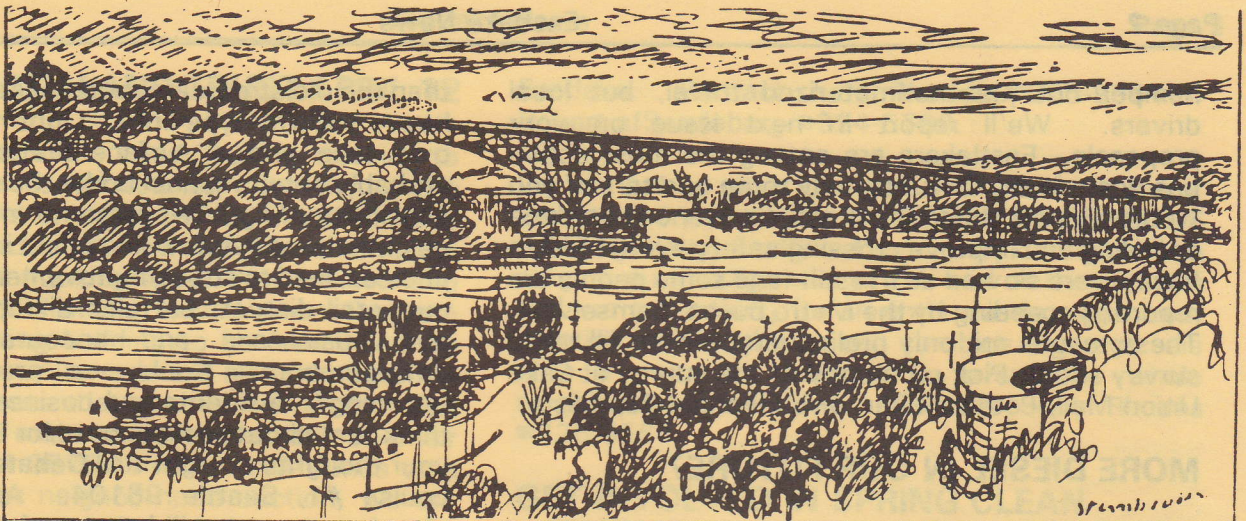
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# EASTLAKE NEWS

## UPCOMING EVENTS

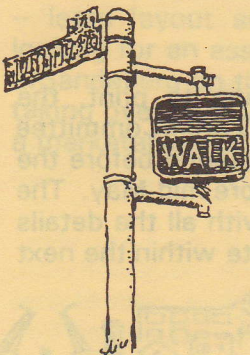
- April 12,** Tuesday at 7 p.m. 2727 Franklin Ave. E. #301.  
Eastlake Community Land Trust meeting. See page 3.
- April 19,** Tuesday 6-9 p.m. at Seward School cafeteria.  
Potluck/workshop on redesigning our streets. See page 2.
- April 25,** Monday at 6:30 p.m. 2517 Eastlake Avenue E. Public  
meeting on proposed changes in bus service. See page 1.

## PUBLIC MEETING ON TRANSIT SERVICES

ECC will be cosponsoring with Metro a meeting to discuss proposed changes in transit service in the neighborhood. Please join us on **April 25 at 6:30 p.m. in the Seattle Police Officers Guild** building (2517 Eastlake Avenue). Eastlaketers have long noted the many Metro express buses that pass through our neighborhood without stopping even once; Metro is continuing to have no stops here by routes 71, 72, and 73, and is proposing to make an express of Route 74 (to Sand Point and downtown), a currently local bus. Thus the 74 would no longer stop in our neighborhood, and when not on Interstate 5, would be on Eastlake Ave. but make no stops. At the same time, Metro is creating local versions of the 302 and 305 routes (to Richmond Beach and downtown) that will make regular stops along Eastlake Avenue, not just the current three. Please come April 25 to give your opinion about these changes, and to suggest others. If you cannot make it, please write to Eastlake Bus Changes, c/o ECC, 117 E. Louisa #1, Seattle, WA 98102.

## WHAT YOUR NEIGHBORS THINK ABOUT TRAFFIC

Steve Lull of the U.S. Bank office at Eastlake Ave. and Garfield street is kindly analyzing the hundred-plus Eastlake Transportation Survey forms received so far. The high rate of return is itself strong evidence of the high priority that residents and employees alike place on transportation issues. We are hearing you loud and clear about the problems. Many of you walk in the neighborhood--but two fifths have either been hit by a car or suffered a near miss. In fact, one quarter say that you do not feel safe in traffic on Eastlake Avenue when you are in a car. Clearly, the traffic problems



hamper not just nonmotorized travel, but local drivers. We'll report in next issue on your proposals. Eastlakers are among the most active bus riders in the City, but fully three quarters of you would support changes in Eastlake avenue to reduce speeding and improve crossing safety even if Metro buses were slowed as a result (and some people are reporting speeding by the Metro buses themselves). These results are only preliminary; please fill out a survey soon. Pick up a copy of the survey at Lake Union Mail, Pete's Super, or L'Elephant Espresso.

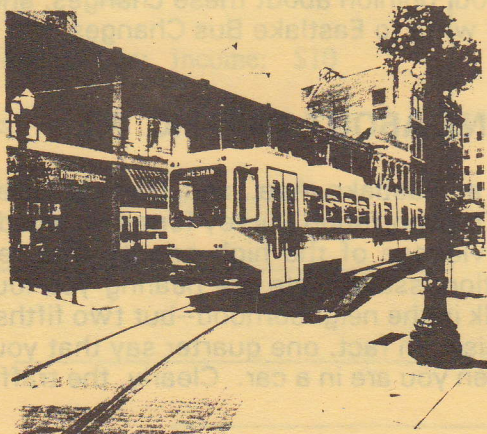
## MORE DIESEL IN OUR FUTURE?

All of the hundreds of Metro buses that daily pass through our neighborhood are diesel-powered. They are noisy, smoky, and stinky--and their many toxics are invisible. The restoration of electric trolley buses to route 70 will provide some welcome relief, but most of the buses on other routes will not be electric. Because diesel is increasingly recognized as a health hazard and a source of the haze that is destroying our region's scenic views, Metro decided last year to power its new buses with natural gas, a more expensive but more environmental decision. However, newly elected county executive Gary Locke is proposing that Metro break the contract and stay with diesel. The funds saved would be spent in the suburbs--but at the sacrifice of public health and peace of mind in urban neighborhoods like Eastlake. To urge that Metro be allowed to stay with its decision for natural gas buses, please write to the newspapers and to King County councilors Larry Gossett, Cynthia Sullivan, and Ron Sims at Third and James, Seattle 98104 or call 296-1000. For more information on this issue, contact Chris Leman at 322-5463.

## LIGHT RAIL FOR EASTLAKE?

The streetcars that were abandoned in 1941 once served Eastlake well. A half century later, the Regional Transit Authority is now considering Eastlake Avenue as a possible route for light rail much like Portland's MAX, which would be faster

Light rail in Portland



than the old streetcars, but smaller and quieter than heavy subway-type lines. Light rail would have its own lane and a surface station, and it would probably enter a tunnel under the ship channel. The possibility of light rail presents many issues for the neighborhood. A new line could improve our transit choices, lead to street improvements and strengthen our retail district, but also disrupt existing homes and businesses and encourage more office development. Could we prevent undesirable upzoning? Residents and businesses are having to think fast about what is best for Eastlake. Send us your thoughts at Light Rail Debate, c/o ECC, 117 E. Louisa #1, Seattle 98104. An update on the planning process will be part of our public meeting with Metro on April 25, 6:30 p.m. at 2517 Eastlake Ave. E.

## STREET PROPOSALS

### ♥♥♥ POTLUCK AND WORKSHOP ♥♥♥

You are invited--and your ideas are needed--at a special neighborhood *potluck and workshop on April 19, 6-9 p.m.* at Seward School cafeteria, 2515 Boylston Ave. E. This meeting will showcase and seek public comment on proposals regarding Eastlake and Fairview avenues by a UW design studio course led by Prof. Richard Untermann that is studying our neighborhood this month. The student drawings and models are being provided in cooperation with the Eastlake Tomorrow resident-business planning process. There will be lots of alternatives to choose from; please help sift through them and decide what is best for the neighborhood. Come to thank and praise the students for their exciting, creative work. And come to eat--but try to bring a main dish, salad, dessert, or drink. Whether with or without food, please come.

## NEWS FROM ECC

### RPZ UPDATE

As the *Eastlake News* was going to print, the Eastlake RPZ (Residential Parking Zone) Committee was informed that the final RPZ hearing before the City Council will likely be held before mid-May. The Committee will have an update with all the details about the RPZ and the hearing date within the next several weeks.

## ECC COMMUNITY LAND TRUST APRIL 12

The Eastlake Community Land Trust is working to preserve social and architectural diversity in the neighborhood. As property values increase, it is becoming more difficult for neighbors on low incomes to afford housing here. We are working with the Capitol Hill Housing Improvement Program to select an existing building to be remodeled for inexpensive rental units, and are also interested in non-housing projects that promote diversity. For questions and to make suggestions, call co-chair Jane Kiker at 324-0575. And to raise funds at a possible November neighborhood auction, we are looking for someone to help coordinate it, or assist in other ways (call co-chair Chris Leman at 322-5463). Our next meeting is on **Tuesday, April 12** at 7 p.m. at 2727 Franklin Ave. E. #301 (home of Joy Dear). All are welcome!

## BUDGET SURVEY RESULTS

Thanks go to the 32 people who filled out the budget priorities survey that was included in the last Eastlake News. We used the results in submitting proposals for development of the next City budget. As in the past, traffic and parking issues attracted the greatest concern, being six of the highest eight vote-getters. The top two concerns were parking and speeding, with sidewalks and pedestrian concerns also high on the list. Other concerns listed by at least one fifth of those responding included noise, crime, lack of a community center and a library, litter, beautification, restoration of the cobblestone streets, lighting, and zoning and development issues.

## HAMLIN STREET-END PARK

Thanks to Michael Sullivan's and all his volunteers' hard work with planting bulbs, the park is now ablaze with colors. It's worth a detour next time you take a walk in the neighborhood.

## GREAT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Resume Builder!! Brush up your desktop publishing, -- learn layout and editing techniques. We are looking for an assistant editor to work with Robert afSandeberg on the *Eastlake News*, with an eye to taking over next year. This is a chance to develop a marketable skill while learning more about

Eastlake. Contact Judy Rhodes ☎325-9564 or Robert afSandeberg ☎324-5786.

Do you put on great garage sales? Have you ever wanted to try your skills at a REALLY HUMONGOUS rummage sale? Eastlake Community Council will be staging a rummage sale at the end of the summer and we are looking for an enthusiastic, organized, creative individual who can combine a garage sale with a party to make it an event the whole neighborhood will love. Contact Judy Rhodes ☎325-9564.

## GET INVOLVED IN SPRING CLEAN

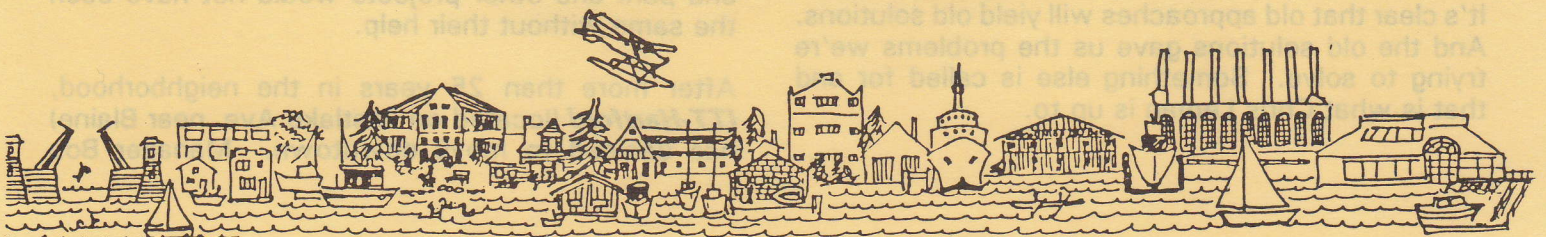
Between April 16 and May 1, the City is encouraging neighborhood cleanup efforts to pick up litter, paint out graffiti, and dispose of junk. If you would like to get involved, call the City number at 223-7187 and post a bulletin about your plans at Lake Union Mail, 117 E. Louisa St.

## MOTORBOATS POLLUTE

Smoky old two-stroke outboards don't just stink--they pollute your lungs and the fishes' water. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, an out-of-tune two-stroke outboard can discharge 30 percent of its gas/oil mixture unburned. The oil fraction is long-lived, since it does not evaporate or oxidize. This is bad news for shellfish, fresh and saltwater bottom fish, swimmers, birds, and other creatures. Small craft motors also produce a lot of air pollution; EPA reports that a new one produces as many hydrocarbons in one hour as a passenger car driven 800 miles.

What are the alternatives? Both Honda and Omaha make four stroke outboards which function a lot like car engines and don't require oil to be mixed with the gasoline. And nowadays, most new two-stroke outboards over 40hp have oil injection systems which reduce the amount of oil used. EPA is working with the industry to improve the new smaller two-stroke outboards.

Keeping a two-stroke motor well-tuned is critical to reducing pollution, since too rich a mixture spills extra oil as well as gas. And why not try boating with muscle or sail power? Rowing, canoeing, sailing, and kayaking can all be light on the pocketbook and the environment, and they are good exercise. For more information on the



environmental impacts of motorboats, get Andre Mele's excellent book, *Polluting for Pleasure* (Norton, 1993), or call Dave Moore at 325-5463.

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Lunch was tasty at the Family Values Bar and Grill, newly located in the Aries Building, on Eastlake Avenue. The company included Beth Means, Jules James and Chris Leman, all former presidents of your community council, as well as Seattle City Councilmember Jane Noland, her assistant Evelyne and myself. Former ECC president Carol Eychaner sent regrets and commendations for Councilmember Noland's pro-community stance on the City Comprehensive Plan.

The topics ranged from RPZ (Residential Parking Zone) through the Eastlake Tomorrow Projects, the Commons, the City Comprehensive Plan, the new utility pole poster ban law, the combined sewer overflow re-drainage plans, the metro electrification of the 70 bus line, the Regional Transit Project and the curious fate of Phil the Flamingo, among other things. Though opinions were often as diverse as the topics, it is clear that what Eastlakiers think and speak about the issues of our region are important to the process of evolution our City is experiencing.

The latest on the RPZ is that the City Council review of the proposal is the next step. It should be the final step before implementation. This has been a concerted and sustained effort by many dedicated community volunteers, local businesses and government folk. The process has been as attentive to cooperative resolution of conflicting needs as possible and all those involved should get together for an amazing celebration. This should give the residents some relief from parking pressures. We'll keep you posted as things progress.

Parking is just one of the many features of the whole transportation issue. We also spoke of the Regional Transit Project which may dump a major transit station in Eastlake. In my view, that would not help this Community. Having lived many years in the Great Northeast, it occurs to me that if you build major commuter train lines, like we have back East, you will produce a sprawling megalopolis, like we have back East. Bolder thinking is called for now. New approaches might yield new solutions. It's clear that old approaches will yield old solutions. And the old solutions gave us the problems we're trying to solve. Something else is called for and that is what Chris Leman is up to.

Eastlake is working, under Chris Leman's guidance, on a neighborhood transportation project. His considerable experience in the transportation field and his dedication to human scale solutions are part of what makes his project important, not just to us in Eastlake, but to anyone who is interested in community based solutions to the transportation problem. His team players include prominent landscape architect Richard Haag, university students in urban planning and the best collection of community volunteers you could meet. If you're concerned about how we use about a third of our land in service of transporting ourselves and our things, then you should get involved with Chris's project.

Finally, Jane Noland felt that we could have an impact on the City Comprehensive Plan. She left me with the sense that the document under consideration now is some six hundred pages of largely incomprehensible, technically convoluted and unduly burdensome information that won't serve us as a city as we attempt to cope with the future. IT MUST BE SIMPLIFIED and MUST BECOME A GENUINELY COOPERATIVE PROCESS WHICH INCLUDES THE PEOPLE IN THE PLANNING. Your call to the City Council to tell them that a simpler, community generated plan, is a better plan, would make a difference. A letter would work well, too.

In closing I invite you to get more involved with your community council. It's fun and exciting and major issues of our day are being addressed at the level of community, right here and right now.

*Dave Huber*

## BUSINESS UPDATE

### GOODBYE, WALKER RICHER & QUINN AND ITT HARTFORD

Eastlake is losing two of its largest employers. **Walker Richer & Quinn**, which was located in the Eastlake Center building at Eastlake and Hamlin, has already moved to its spectacular new building above Lake Union on Westlake Avenue. The Eastlake Community Council has enjoyed working with the company, and has appreciated the many contributions of its employees. The Hamlin Street end park and other projects would not have been the same without their help.

After more than 25 years in the neighborhood, **ITT-Hartford** (located on Eastlake Ave. near Blaine) has decided to move downtown. Manager Bob

Mitchell has worked for years to improve pedestrian safety along Eastlake Avenue, motivated by concern for the several Hartford employees injured outside the office; it was with Mitchell's encouragement that a business-resident process was established to make that street safer. The company's employees worked quietly for years to clean up Eastlake Avenue before their work was formally acknowledged with a City "adopt-a-street" sign. Will one of the neighborhood's remaining companies step into the gap and adopt Eastlake Avenue to keep it clean? If you are interested, call ☎322-5463.

**Lake Union Mail** recently celebrated its fifth anniversary by signing another five-year lease. Like any settlement, Eastlake needs a post office, and owner Jules James is not just our postmaster, but has created the closest thing we have to a community center (and the best rates for a mail box that the Eastlake Community Council has ever had). Here's to many more leases we hope, Jules.

**Cards, Gifts, Etc.** (2366 Eastlake Ave. E.) is now selling helium balloons, carrying on a grand tradition started by a business formerly located a few blocks south.

The neighborhood welcomes Annie Rambaud, new owner of **Beautyworks** (2701 Eastlake Ave. E., 329-9007, 789-4960). Born in France, Annie has redecorated. Beautyworks continues as a full-service salon for women as well as men.

We welcome retail notes from all businesses. Write to the Eastlake News c/o ECC, 117 E. Louisa #1, Seattle, WA 98102.

Chris Leman

## AROUND EASTLAKE

### CONDOLENCES

*To Merle Woodhouse on the loss of her brother G. Harlan Woodhouse, who lived in this neighborhood many years ago. To Stuart Barker on the loss of his wife Ann. To Ann Goldthwaite on the loss of her husband Eaton. To Lucinda Clifton on the loss of her husband Milton. To anyone else who has lost a loved one this season. (Please write us if you know of others who should be remembered.)*

### MILTON CLIFTON TRAVELS ON

*In March the neighborhood lost one of its most gifted and dedicated residents when Milton Clifton died after an operation. Milton served for a time as editor of the Eastlake News and on the board of the Eastlake Community Council, in which he helped to coordinate our response to City proposals on the Lake Union Steam Plant. Milton loved to travel, and readers will remember his lively article in this journal about how to take buses and ferries all over the region; he published similar articles for the state ferry system and was in great demand as a speaker on the adventures he and his wife Lucinda had using public transit. Milton also loved to walk, and was often seen strolling in the neighborhood with Lucinda. We are glad to hear that Lucinda is remaining in the neighborhood, and look forward to walking with her as well; she can be reached at 2235 Yale Ave. E. #2, ☎322-1492.*

### Estelle Mitchell retired. A contradiction in terms?--

The neighborhood is losing longtime resident Estelle Mitchell, who has decided to enter a retirement home in north Seattle. Estelle served for years as treasurer of the Eastlake Community Council, and in that position kept our books to the highest standards and assured that our funds were spent carefully. Previously she worked at Seattle Transit, forerunner to Metro, and in recent years she has donated countless hours helping seniors with their taxes. Estelle has traveled all over the world, and continues to do so. But if you're lucky enough to catch her in town, say hello from Eastlake (or invite her back for dinner)! Her new address (effective April 15) is Remington Place, 3025 NE 137th St., Seattle 98125.

**Looloo and Helen reunited.**--Looloo hasn't been herself since being separated from her human, Helen Mitchell. Now recovering from a stroke, Helen is spending some time in Pierce County nearer to Looloo, who can hardly contain herself. Helen always enjoys letters, c/o 2051 Minor Ave. E., Seattle 98102.

**Senior seeks assisted living arrangement.**--One of the neighborhood's best-loved residents is losing her sight and is finding it difficult to manage alone in her apartment. One possibility is someone to share the attractive old apartment and help with cooking and housework. Another is to locate a smaller "mother-in-law" apartment attached to a home where she could pay a modest fee for help in cooking and housekeeping. Surely our neighborhood can find a way to accommodate the needs of those elderly who would like to remain. For suggestions, call 322-5463.

### ANOTHER MOVIE MADE IN EASTLAKE

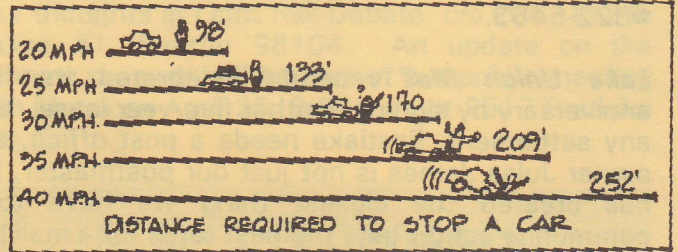
The latest film made in Eastlake is "House of the Rising," directed by Tim Hines of Acid Rain Productions. The movie was being filmed in March, entirely in the great stone house at the corner of Franklin Ave. E. and E. Howe Street. The house--now awaiting renovation by its new owners--was redecorated for the film in a psychedelic 1960s style. It is the first film since Hitchcock that seeks to avoid any visible cuts in the action. In choosing the title, the filmmakers apparently were apparently unaware of neighborhood rumors that the house was a brothel in the 1920s.

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<input type="checkbox"/> Extra Donation	\$ _____

I'M INTERESTED IN:
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<input type="checkbox"/> Traffic and/or Parking Issues
<input type="checkbox"/> Building Guidelines
<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Block Distribution
<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising
<input type="checkbox"/> Work Parties
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastlake History
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Art Projects
<input type="checkbox"/> Coming to a community meeting to share and brainstorm more ideas!

NAME/S \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_