



# The Eastlake News

Spring 2017

## Coming Events

**Eastlake tree walk led by Arthur Lee Jacobson** Sat., April 1 from 10 a.m. to noon (refreshments at 9:30 a.m.). Begins at Roanoke Street-end park, corner of Fairview Ave. E. and E. Roanoke St. See p. 21

**Eastlake’s building frenzy and changing the laws and regulations that push it** Tues., April 4, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E. See p. 2

**Eastlake Egg Hunt & Fun Run** Sat., Apr. 15 at 11 a.m., Rogers Playfield, 2500 Eastlake Ave. See p. 3

**Earth Week shoreline cleanup** Thurs., April 20, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Meet in front of Lake Union Drydock, 1515 Fairview Ave. E. See p. 21

**Why Are Eastlake’s trees disappearing and what can we do about it?** Wed., April 26, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School. See p. 8

**Understanding and managing raccoons, rats, otters, crows, pigeons, songbirds, birds of prey, and other urban wildlife** Tues., May 9, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School. See at right.

**Public meeting on crime, emergency preparedness, and July 4 plans** Tues., June 13, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School. Meet with police and your neighbors about these important topics. See p. 22



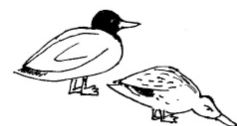
**Raccoons, rats, squirrels, otters, crows, birds of prey, and other wildlife to be featured at May 9 public meeting**

People in Eastlake share the neighborhood not only with dogs and cats, but with many wild animals. Urban wildlife often enhances our neighborhood, and there are downsides. Engage about our many wildlife species with public officials and your neighbors at a public meeting Tues., May 9, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E.

Brook Zscheile, wildlife biologist with the US Department of Agriculture’s Wildlife Services branch will discuss his agency’s raccoon control efforts in Eastlake, as well as what we know about other mammal species like otter, beaver, muskrat, nutria, opossum, and squirrel. Also briefly covered will be bird species such as geese, ducks, gulls, crows, starlings, pigeons, woodpeckers, owls, eagles, osprey, herons, and cormorants.

The second speaker will be Donald Pace, health and environmental inspector from the Seattle-King County Department of Public Health. He will speak about the behavior and impact of rats and how they may be controlled. The department’s web resources include the following: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/health/environmental-health/animals/rat-prevention.aspx> and <http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/ehs/rats.aspx>.

Please bring your stories, questions, or issues about Eastlake’s wildlife species and control efforts. And whether or not you can come on May 9, please send your thoughts to ECC at [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org).



**Eastlake Community Council**  
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The Eastlake News is a quarterly publication of the Eastlake Community Council. We welcome comments, articles or images for possible publication; please include a contact phone number. Articles may be edited for length and clarity. Articles in the newsletter represent the view of the author and not necessarily the ECC. Please send submissions to info@eastlakeseattle.org or by U.S. mail to the return address on the back of this newsletter. For advertising contact Kevin Haywood, Jr. at advertising@eastlakeseattle.org.

The deadline for ads and submissions is: Jan. 20 for spring issue; April 20 for summer issue; July 20 for fall issue; October 20 for winter issue. Publication schedule is as follows:

Spring - March, April, May  
 Summer - June, July, August  
 Fall - September, October, November  
 Winter - December, January, February

Masthead artwork sketch by Victor Steinbrueck. Other artwork sketches by Karen Berry.

## Why the frenzied development and how to restore a balance in Eastlake? April 4 public meeting seeks answers.

The Eastlake Community Council's Tuesday, April 4 public meeting (7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E.) asks how City, County, and state policies are fueling Eastlake's land rush and building boom; and what changes in these policies could protect livability and affordability. A featured speaker is Greg Hill, a distinguished architect and longtime volunteer with the Wallingford Community Council. We'll also have comments from City officials and of course from members of the public. Whether or not you can come, please send your own comments of questions to info@eastlakeseattle.org).

City policies are fueling a land rush more destructive than any in Eastlake's 130-year history. How did things get so bad? Not by accident. Mayors and City councilmembers adopted changes in policy and have more in store. The claim is to increase housing affordability and reduce car ownership and use, but the impact is as likely to reduce affordability and upset the transportation balance. What are the policy changes and how can they be reversed?

All residential land in Eastlake has been zoned low-rise multifamily since the first zoning in the 1920s. (Houseboats are, in effect, single-family zoned). Multifamily projects can also be built on some commercially zoned land. While Eastlake has experienced a steady expansion of multifamily housing, until the past few years the pace of growth was kept within reason by stable City laws and regulations. Opinion surveys consistently show that Eastlakers value its mix of building styles, sizes, and vintages. For a citywide map of land use

zones: <http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/Research/gis/webplots/smallzonemap.pdf>. For the current zone of any lot: [www.seattle.gov/dpd/toolsresources/zoningmapbooks](http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/toolsresources/zoningmapbooks).

The Mayor and City Council unanimously adopted the Eastlake Neighborhood Plan in 1999, praising it as having done public outreach unexcelled by any of the neighborhood plans for the 36 other City-designated "urban villages." The Eastlake Neighborhood Plan (available on the ECC web site and the City's web site) seeks to preserve our neighborhood's scale, character, and diversity; encourages re-use of existing structures rather than wipe them away; and calls for maintaining



on-street parking and a cover of large trees. The urban villages were designed on a commitment to balance growth with a village-like livability, but soon after they were adopted, the Mayor and City Council dropped that commitment pushing only growth.

In recent years, the Mayor and City Council (most of whom live in single-family-zoned areas insulated from these changes, and whose campaigns receive big bucks from development interests) have ignored the neighborhood plans and adopted untailed, cookie-cutter changes to push development at an unsustainable pace. In 2008-10, the excuse was to help in the economic recovery, but when the local economy roared back, the coddling of developers wasn't reversed, just continued under a succession of new rationales.

Ordinances that apply to most land in Eastlake have increased allowable building height, bulk, and scale; eliminated yard requirements needed for large trees; reduced or eliminated

Continued on page 6



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# Eastlake Egg Hunt and Fun Run are Sat., April 15



The Eastlake Community Council is again sponsoring an Egg Hunt and Fun Run at Rogers Playfield (2500 Eastlake Ave.), this year on Saturday, April 15. The Hunt starts promptly at 11 a.m., and the Run follows. Thanks to Fleet Feet Sports Seattle for co-sponsoring the Run, and to G&H Printing for help with publicity.

A cash donation is welcome (\$5 suggested; can donate on-line at <http://eastlakeseattle.org>). Volunteers are needed to assist the Bunny in preparing and hiding eggs for kids to find that day. To help with either the Hunt or the Run or if you have questions call 206-715-8762 or e-mail coordinator Christy Elton at [christyelton@gmail.com](mailto:christyelton@gmail.com).



Seattle is truly a city of neighborhoods. Our neighborhoods in Eastlake and Northeast Seattle – from Gas Works Park to Magnuson Park – are like treasures to explore each month when we just explore outside our front door.

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Alex Pedersen, former City Council Legislative Analyst and family in Ravenna Park

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## Eastlake's growing crisis in parking

We've all done it, slowly cruise down the street looking for that increasingly elusive commodity in the Eastlake neighborhood – a parking place. Or we've seen vacant spots on the street fill up suddenly around 8:30 a.m. and open up again after 4 p.m. On-street parking spaces haven't increased, but the number of drivers competing for them has, with jobs and residents increasing in Eastlake as well as in the University District and South Lake Union, and other places nearby.

Parking is a growing crisis in Eastlake and citywide. On-street parking today would be much harder to find, were it not for Eastlake's restricted parking zone (RPZ—also known as Zone 8), established by a 1993 City ordinance through hard work by Eastlake Community Council volunteers. The RPZ doesn't yet cover all residential blocks, with some providing free all-day parking for “hide and ride” nonresident drivers while they work in the University District, South Lake Union, and downtown where there's none.

ECC continues to advocate for the RPZ program even as City officials have weakened it. SDOT is now selling almost twice as many permits as the possible parking places – a contradiction in terms and far from the original intent of RPZs. The Seattle Department of Transportation proposes to address this imbalance by increasing the price of an RPZ permit, but it has ruled out limiting RPZ permit purchases by residents of micro housing projects that provide no on-site parking.

SDOT was convinced to help create the Eastlake RPZ by an on-street parking utilization study it did at the time, but hasn't done another in the 25 years since. ECC is taking the initiative by doing such surveys with neighborhood volunteers. The hope is that City officials will listen to the facts.

On two weeknights in October 2016, more than 20 Eastlake volunteers counted parked cars using drawings of each block showing the potential legal parking spaces. Results are still being analyzed, but a quick look at some of the reports is telling – often 80 to 90 percent of the available spots are taken and in some cases there are more cars parked than the legal spaces available (too close to a hydrant, corner, driveway, etc.).

Volunteers doing the surveys also found in many cases that fewer potential parking spaces were there than expected. “No parking” signs posted for construction projects are the biggest reason. Also at some of the sites, large dumpsters for construction materials take available parking places for months at a time. ECC has written to City officials to correct these and other impacts of construction. If Eastlake is asked to accept more growth, why is it so punished for doing so by City neglect of the impacts?

Worsening the imbalance of parking supply and demand is that the City no longer requires that new residential and commercial buildings include on-site parking. City of-

officials claim that Eastlake's “frequent” bus service makes on-site parking unnecessary, even though the buses are overloaded and irregular, and the hills make them harder to reach than in many other neighborhoods.

To see the parking survey results block by block, go to <http://eastlakeseattle.org/?page=parking>; your comments and suggestions are welcome and needed. ECC volunteers are updating the block survey forms to reflect the potential legal parking places currently on each street block.

The next on-street parking utilization survey will be daytime during two working weekdays, to measure drivers who are parking for work in Eastlake, South Lake Union, or downtown, for work or study in the University District, etc. Please volunteer to help.

Parking scarcity creates issues for many businesses. Restaurants and retailers lose customers if no parking is available. Workers at Lake Union Drydock, one of the oldest companies in the state, are finding on-street parking scarcer. They must park on the street because the business is over water, where City and state regulations do not allow parking.

The Eastlake Community Council welcomes your feedback on four proposals it has received and is considering proposing to City officials (the first two proposals would be Eastlake-specific, reflecting the unique conditions here): (1) balance the SDOT transit and bicycle project's future elimination of 200+ parking spaces on Eastlake Avenue by restoring some on-site parking requirements (now completely repealed) for new buildings throughout the neighborhood; (2) restrict parking on-street along Fairview Avenue E. between Newton St. and Fairview Ave. N. by “hide-and-rides” from outside the neighborhood and by nearby office/R&D employees, via a new restricted parking zone (RPZ) in which permits could be purchased not only by neighborhood residents but also by marine industrial workers such as from Lake Union Drydock; (3) Because residents of microhousing projects are buying more RPZ permits than City officials promised in arguing that these residents would not own cars, the City should tightly limit the number of permits purchasable by residents of these projects, especially if no on-site parking is provided; and (4) encourage a major increase in RPZ permit fees, to moderate the demand and reduce the number of permits sold.

As development continues and unless the City changes its policies, Eastlake's parking crisis will worsen. To help achieve the needed reforms, please help with the next parking survey, and please let the Mayor and City Councilmembers know your views (see contacts on back page). For a history of Eastlake's RPZ, how the City repealed on-site parking requirements for new buildings, and much more, see the ECC web site's parking page, <http://eastlakeseattle.org/?page=parking>. ECC needs your thoughts and volunteer help, to [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org).

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## Land Use Regulations and You: I Fought the City, and Won

by Ann Prezyna

I am a floating home owner and was the target of an enforcement initiative against “accessory floats” associated with floating homes on Lake Union and Portage Bay. Despite 15 years navigating the waters of Lake Union in my simple, electric outboard-powered, state-registered vessel, the M/V Chip with countless dinner and sightseeing guests, the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections decided that it was not a “vessel” allowed to be moored to my floating home. Countless other similar craft are moored to floating homes on Lake Union, but the department required that mine be removed lest I suffer fines and enforcement actions.

After receiving a notice of violation, I inquired about my options. The department offered that I could pay \$1,000 for a code interpretation of the applicable ordinance as it applied to the M/V Chip (the minimum four-hour charge at \$250 an hour). \$1,000 entitled me to receive only a non-appealable interpretation. If I wanted an interpretation that the department would stand by in front of an impartial decision maker from outside the department, I had to pay an additional \$1,500. I chose the \$2,500 (ten hour) route.

Because the department later deemed my request for an interpretation of a

dozen or so words in a single code subsection to be “complex,” I was required to pay an additional \$1,400 before the appealable interpretation would be issued. The total charge to receive an in-house interpretation from the department was \$3,900. (The per hour charge since my request was processed has since been increased to \$310 an hour for the city’s time.) Not surprisingly, the department’s interpretation stated that Chip was a float accessory to my floating home, not a vessel.

I appealed that interpretation to the City hearing examiner. Following a day-long hearing costing me more than \$10,000 (for attorney’s fees, expert witness fees, and administrative costs), the hearing examiner issued a decision in my favor, finding that the department’s code interpretation was in error to claim that Chip is not a vessel.

Very soon after the Hearing Examiner overruled its code interpretation, the Department of Construction and Inspections sent me a bill for \$8,610 for “issuance of a land use permit.” The department appeared to be trying to recoup the expenses it had incurred in unsuccessful defense of its “interpretation.” I won, but was expected to pay the one who lost! After several rounds of negotiations, the department eventually waived its costs.

I came to understand that the Department of Construction and Inspections is

largely funded from permit fees and fines and receives very few other funds. City officials are now discussing a change under which the department would have enough independent funding to avoid misplaced charges like those I faced. Let’s hope this change happens soon!

Photo left: Ann Prezyna and guests on the M/V Chip

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### Frenzied development and how to restore a balance in Eastlake

continued from page 2

limits on each lot’s square footage and the number of living units; eliminated requirements that new construction include parking on site; and narrowed public and environmental review and appeal rights. The effect is to turn “low-rise” residential zones like Eastlake’s into virtual “mid-rise” zones without City officials having to admit it. The Eastlake Community Council rallied the neighborhood and worked with others across Seattle to fight these changes, but most went through.

The resulting frenzy of speculation and construction is eating up Eastlake’s most affordable units, its older apartments. And it is blocking views, eliminating trees and open space, and overwhelming the available on-street parking. It is LINO -- Livability In Name Only.

The Mayor and City Council’s most recent rationale for serving the developers at the expense of the neighborhoods is the Housing Affordability and Livability Agenda (HALA). HALA’s Mandatory Housing Affordability (MHA) program would impose on all commercial and residential lots in Eastlake and other urban villages a further increase in allowable building heights by 15 feet or more (at least one additional story). The allowable height increases for each lot in Eastlake and other neighborhoods can be seen on the City’s web site at <https://hala.consider.it/?tab=Draftzoningchanges>, where you can also leave your comments—and please do, soon (but

note also at the end of this article that commenting directly to the Mayor and City Council is also needed).

The “grand bargain” that Mayor Murray and Councilmember Mike O’Brien struck with large private and non-profit developers, and which other Councilmembers fell into line to support, was cooked up behind closed doors in defiance of the neighborhood plans and no involvement of or even notice to neighborhood leaders or smaller developers. In the deal, this highly profitable further growth juggernaut has a paper promise that each new building would have one or more units subsidized for the poorest (those below 60 percent of the median income), but a gaping loophole so developers could and would buy out of that requirement via a MHA fee, leaving their project and Eastlake without affordable units.

The MHA fee (priced far less than in other cities using this scheme) for new buildings in Eastlake and other

urban villages would go to non-profit housing developers (who helped spawn the secret “grand bargain”—get it?) to build similarly subsidized housing which is highly unlikely to be built in Eastlake, as they have built not here in the past. Subsidized housing projects need county, state, and federal money that is conditioned on keeping per-unit construction costs far lower than is feasible with Eastlake’s high and growing property values.

Contrary to the “housing affordability and livability” mantra, the proposals from the Mayor and City Council would undermine Eastlake’s affordability and livability—not surprising considering that the committee was ludicrously overloaded with development industry sympathizers who will profit from that result. Eastlake’s remaining moderately affordable rentals would fall to up-scale development as our neighborhood becomes a sacrifice

area and cash cow for building subsidized housing elsewhere for those on lowest incomes. On-street parking would become ever scarcer (see article on page 4). Public views would be privatized. Formerly sunny sidewalks would be shaded. Whatever large trees still exist on private land would be wiped away as boxy new buildings take over. It would be double LINO: Low-rise In Name Only. Livability In Name Only.

If the Mayor and City Council go through with adopting this latest upzone, the Eastlake land rush and building frenzy will accelerate further. One can only hope that these elected officials rethink their course as the evidence continues to build that this and their previous policy changes undermine, not serve, the livability and affordability they claim to support. Whatever your views, they need to hear from you. Their contact information can be found on back page.

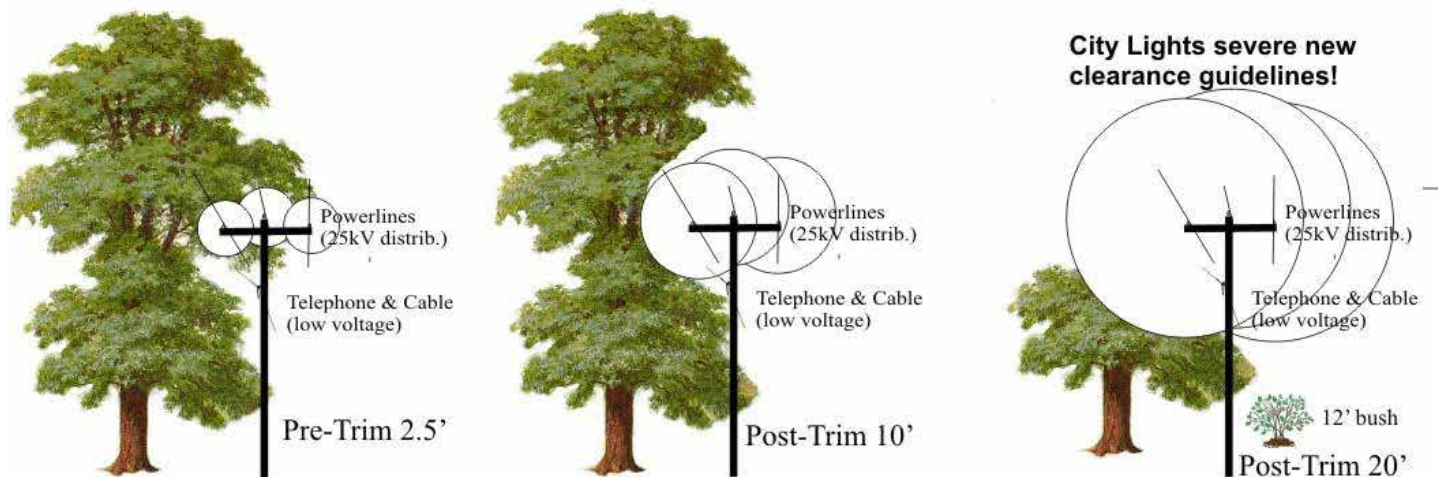
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## At April 26 public meeting, find out why Eastlake's large trees are disappearing, and be part of the solution

**ECC**'s public meeting Wed., April 26 (7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E.) spotlights Eastlake's trees and their plight. Our neighborhood once had a profusion of large trees in private yards and along the streets. But in the past ten years, many of Eastlake's large trees have been cut down or damaged in their prime.

This is despite growing evidence that large trees are

needed to reverse global warming, to preserve songbirds and birds of prey, and to protect the physical and psychological health of those who live or work in Eastlake. Trees supply clean air, slope stability, shade, beauty, and noise insulation. They grace our public spaces, and can greatly increase the value of private property.

Contrary to City plans and claims to be reversing decades of lost tree cover, the actual policies have the exact opposite impact, dooming many large trees and making them impossible to replace except by much smaller ones. Most trees that are being planted will always stay small, and can't make up for the loss of large trees and a failure to plant trees that will become large.

Seattle City Light (see drawing) recently vastly expanded its required pruning around utility lines, causing irreversible damage to many large trees. In the last decade the Mayor and City Council have greatly reduced the size of yards required around new multifamily residential buildings (all Eastlake residential land is multifamily, not single family zoned land). The City has almost no protections for large trees on private land. The City Arborist (questionably located in the Seattle Department of Transportation) does not allow the planting strips along streets to be newly planted with conifers like Douglas fir, cedar, and sequoia, on the grounds that in their early years the lower branches can block the sidewalk and parked cars.

An aware and organized public can improve some of these policies. Property owners will be less likely to remove or damage a tree if they know more about its benefits. You can help ECC's tree conservation efforts by doing an inventory of those in your yard, on your block, in a park, or anywhere else in the neighborhood. See the tree page on the ECC web site, <http://eastlakeseattle.org>, for the inventory form and instructions, including books and web sites for help in identifying and measuring trees. For further information: [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org) or (206) 322-5463.







## Mobilize to save the floating walkway and the aquatic land by the Fairview Avenue Bridge

by Chris Leman

As reported in the summer 2016 issue of the *Eastlake News* and summarized at <http://eastlakeseattle.org/?page=fairviewbridge>, the Seattle Department of Transportation is determined to entirely rebuild the Fairview Avenue North Bridge, rejecting a partial rebuild preferred by some of SDOT's own outside engineering team. Now it turns out that despite a lot of promises, the massive project may cause removal of the much-loved floating walkway that is just offshore from the bridge. Only your messages or petitions to City officials can save it.

The Muckleshoot Tribe, which has fishing rights in Lake Union, correctly points out that the expanded bridge will shadow more fish habitat, and while the floating walkway wouldn't be any larger, the bridge project would push it further into the lake, shading still more fish habitat. SDOT has so far rejected design changes that could slim down the bridge construction, or a pause to find a way to address the Tribe's concerns.

The Tribe is understandably unimpressed with fish habitat that SDOT offers on the shore of a park that the City is already building by the UW's south campus. Somehow, SDOT didn't realize that the best mitigation to offer the tribe is directly adjacent to the Fairview Avenue Bridge itself. To build and then fuel the now-historic Lake Union Steam Plant, City Light acquired aquatic land offshore that it used for the docking of ships. The Steam Plant hasn't operated since the 1970s, and so this offshore land is now in jeopardy of being sold and built upon. Almost any commercial use (such as a marina or industrial dock) would destroy existing fish habitat that the Tribe most cares about saving.

An excellent offer to the Muckleshoot Tribe to mitigate the additional shading that SDOT's Fairview Avenue Bridge expansion forces upon the floating walkway would be to permanently dedicate for fish habitat and open space City Light's adjacent aquatic land. This aquatic land is some of the best and largest open water near shore anywhere on Lake Union, and the floating walkway is the best way to enjoy it. A culturally and racially diverse population fishes from the floating walkway, and will have very few options if the walkway is removed. The only current problem is that it is not accessible to wheelchairs and strollers, and should be.

City officials need to hear your views on this urgent issue. On how to contact the Mayor and City Councilmembers, see back page. SDOT director Scott Kubly can be reached at [scott.kubly@seattle.gov](mailto:scott.kubly@seattle.gov), with a copy to [marilyn.yim@seattle.gov](mailto:marilyn.yim@seattle.gov). The Eastlake Community Council requests your cc to [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org); questions and suggestions are also welcome. And for updates, please check ECC's web site at <http://eastlakeseattle.org/?page=fairviewbridge>.

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<p>PURPOSE: DEMARCAT A LANDING ZONE FOR SAFE INGRESS AND EGRESS OF FLOATPLANES</p> <p>DATUM: MLLW 0.0'          LATITUDE: 47°38'04"N          LONGITUDE: -122°20'06"W</p>	<p>NAME: SOUTH LAKE UNION BUOY INSTALLATION          SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98109          ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:          1 - WASHINGTON STATE DNR          2 - KENMORE AIR          3 - ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS OF WASHINGTON          4 - WATERMARK ESTATE MANAGEMENT SERVICES          5 - CITY INVESTORS X LLC</p>	<p>PROPOSED: INSTALLATION OF FIVE NAVIGATIONAL BUOYS AND ASSOCIATED ANCHORS</p> <p>IN: LAKE UNION          NEAR/AT: CITY OF SEATTLE          COUNTY OF: KING          STATE: WASHINGTON</p> <p>DATE: APRIL 2016</p>	 <p>720 Olive Way          Suite 1900          Seattle, WA 98101          206-287-9130</p> <p>SHEET: 2 OF 4</p>
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## Buoy oh buoy: DNR moving toward approval of City's permit to mark seaplane runways on Lake Union

Field-level state Department of Natural Resources officials have, in principle, agreed to but not yet finalized a one-year aquatic use authorization permit allowing the City of Seattle to place a line of anchored and lighted navigational buoys in Lake Union establishing two 4000 foot north-south runways for seaplane landings and takeoffs. As of this writing (March 20, 2017), DNR was in negotiations with the City and awaiting word about permits from the Coast Guard and the Army Corps of Engineers.

This unprecedented DNR concession to seaplane interests would be despite significant opposition from marine businesses, recreationists, and residents. The newly elected head of DNR, Commissioner of Public Lands Hillary Franz, has not yet stated her views on the City application or on the serious flaws in DNR decision-making that this episode glaringly illustrates.

DNR owns most of Lake Union as aquatic lands, and so could limit the ever-increasing seaplane traffic that is becoming a barrier to navigation, recreation, peace and quiet, and the beauty of the lake. Instead, DNR seems determined to intensify seaplane traffic at the expense of all other uses.

The International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea and the International Navigation Rules for Inland Waters place seaplanes at the very bottom of the right of way hierarchy, and yet the City permit from DNR would leapfrog seaplanes ahead of all other uses. Commercial users of Lake Union include large vessels there for maintenance work, yacht dealers, cruise lines, rental companies, rowing clubs, fishers, and so on. Recreational uses include motorboats, sailboats, kayaks, canoes, paddle boards, sail boards, dinner rafts, and anglers.

DNR implausibly claims that the permitted buoys would be a "non-exclusive use." But anchored in place, the metal buoys will be a major barrier to navigation, especially for sail-powered craft whose maneuverability will be greatly constrained by the need to give the buoys a wide berth. The buoys would be lit day and night, with pilots also able remotely to cause additional lights on the buoys to flash on and off when a seaplane is about to land or take off.

The City application originally was for two rows of four buoys each, with the northernmost in line with Boston Street, and the southernmost being in line with Highland Avenue. The City has since revised its application to be for five buoys, with the north and south ends the same as originally. Although the revised application eliminates the east-west paired buoys that were to be about 300 feet

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## **Eastlake Gem Louisa's Closes: The End of a (Delicious) Era**

*by Elizabeth Berg*

### **A Sad Loss to the Community**

After over 20 years of business, Louisa's Café closed its doors permanently on Monday December 12, 2016. The closure came suddenly and without warning. The owner, Alcena Plum, posted this note to social media the day before:

*Dearest Louisa's Cafe Customers,  
After over 20 years serving this wonderful neighborhood, Louisa's Cafe will be closing its doors and our last day will be December 12th. It has been an honor and pleasure to be a part of and serve this community for so many years. Unfortunately rising costs and other unforeseen challenges have basically made it impossible for us to continue. Thank you for your years of patronage and support. Please consider stopping by, having that last pastry and saying goodbye to this lovely neighborhood institution.  
Love always,  
Alcena*

The Louisa's Café & Bakery Facebook page was buzzing with disbelief, as was the Seattle Reddit r/SeattleWa subreddit. "Ugh bummer. One of my favorite breakfast spots. Great pastries and quiche" writes one user. "So crazy, my family and I were literally there last Saturday for the first time and just loved it. Glad we at least got to experience it..." wrote another. One Facebook user suggested Plum pen a cookbook. Many others expressed their appreciation of the business over the years – even some remembering visiting since the nineties.

This same letter was posted on their doors the day of the closure. Inside, the usual energy that Louisa's exuded was muted. The employees and even the patrons enjoying their last giant cinnamon roll seemed melancholy. I myself bought more pastries than I should have – sad about the time in the very near future when I would bite in to the last buttery, flaky, perfectly baked almond croissant. The saddest part of the unexpected closure was the effect it has had on the employees. Due to the last minute nature of the closing, Plum set up a GoFundMe account to assist her 20 employees financially while they find a replacement. Some of her employees have worked for Louisa's for more than 18 years. Our community will miss the employees' presence, as well as the important role Louisa's had as an Eastlake Neighborhood's community living room.

### Louisa's History

Louisa's Café opened in 1995 and was named Tio's Bakery and Café the first few years. It was eventually changed to Louisa's - due to the location and the shared name of one of the co-owners. In fact, the location of the business was chosen due to the serendipitous name sharing of the street it occupied.

The pastries at Louisa's have always been top notch – in fact, the original owners, Luise and Michael Mooney - were also the creators of Pacific Dessert Company – and even had a night baker on staff. This was a different approach for a coffee house type of café that resulted in exceptional pastries. After they retired, Alcena Plum took over in 2008. She reinvented the restaurant: replaced the floors, painted the walls, added a dinner service and obtained a liquor license. The new dinner menu was unveiled to positive reviews – even a glowing write up in *The Stranger* accompanied the restaurant's offerings. Each season Louisa's offered seasonal fare and changed the dinner and brunch menus – while sticking with the favorites: huge cinnamon rolls and a variety of croissants and scones. The pastries were still some of the best in the city – a fact proven by a mention on *SeattleRefined.com's 5 of Seattle's Best Croissants*. The longer business hours surely contributed to Louisa's popularity as well. Being open in the evenings allowed Louisa's to host many community events – such as open mic nights, musical performances and community meetings, as well as diversify its clientele.

### A Community Living Room

With its perfect venue for music and community events, Louisa's was truly an asset to the Eastlake Neighborhood. The café was always a scene of diversity – busy professionals, parents and their young children, couples lingering over a long bunch on Sundays, UW students on their laptops, Eastlake residents stopping in to sip a glass of wine on a weeknight. Its location next to a busy bus stop



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and amidst the hustle of bustle of Eastlake Ave guaranteed this. Its combination of sit down restaurant and coffee shop catered to everyone. Pazzos, 14 Carrot Café, Grand Central Bakery, Le Fournil, Serafina's, El Pomodoro, Sebi's Bistro, Voxx, and more.... Eastlake is fortunate to have many community spaces. However, the area between Lynn and Louisa is a very populated area that needs another business to fill the hole that Louisa's left. What will be next? There have been rumors on Reddit about the Serafina's owners opening a dessert spot, but it seems those are just rumors. Other potential businesses have shown interest for the space, but time will only tell. In the meantime, I think I speak for all of Eastlake when I request it to be another community gathering space, please. And one with delicious pastries wouldn't hurt, either.

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## Susan Kaufman: An Open Heart

by Judy Smith

Last year became notorious for so many famous and exceptional people passing away. Even Eastlake wasn't immune. One of its stars, Susan Kaufman, founder of the restaurant Serafina and its "bratty little sister," as Susan called Cicchetti, passed away last July due to complications from cancer. She was 64.

"Creating community was the most important thing for her," said her niece Kika Westhof, who was part of Susan's Brooklyn and New Jersey roots. Kika remembers seeing Susan a lot on the East Coast where the family lived and on the West where she and her sister helped out at the restaurant when they were about five or six bringing customers cups of coffee.

One of the first things Susan did before Serafina was even open, recalled Chris Leman, long-time neighborhood activist and Eastlake Community Council volunteer, was donate a dinner for two gift certificate to an ECC fundraising auction. After Serafina opened, Susan held many community appreciation gatherings at the restaurant, taking out a full-page ad in the Eastlake News in the form of a handwritten invitation to all.

She was involved in countless community events and activism including serving on the ECC board of directors and co-chairing the

Main Street committee charged with developing the business district portion of the Eastlake Neighborhood Plan, a plan that was adopted by the city in 1998. In 2015 she helped with the redesign of welcome signs for Eastlake, signs that will soon mark major entrance roads.

Serafina was a hit from the day it opened in 1991, popular in the neighborhood and regionwide, earning rave press reviews for its food, ambiance, music; known as a place to come for special occasions or to make any occasion special.

Before eating locally grown food became popular, Susan grew vegetables and herbs for the restaurant at her nearby home on Franklin Ave.

As Seattle Weekly contributor, Zach Geballe, noted in a personal tribute to Susan, his stepmom, last July shortly after she died, "... Italian food in Seattle was rarely more than spaghetti and meatballs, or maybe fettucine Alfredo if you were feeling bold. Her embrace of the rustic cuisine of Italy—a cuisine that may not have been hers by birth but was certainly a fixture in her life—helped pave the way for the legion of similar restaurants that have followed in its wake. Yet all I can think about in this moment is the profound impact she had on my life."

Marilyn and Michael de Guzman,

long-time Eastlake residents, echoed that sentiment. "She had a larger impact than most people on her surroundings," one of them told me as we sat around the kitchen island in their home.

They could recall the exact moment Susan came into their lives and also what had been at the corner of Eastlake Ave. and Boston Street, before Serafina took root.

It had been a deli known as Nick and Sully's whose owner, Lisa, sold the place to Susan and two of her business associates and took a job as a cook on a fishing vessel, the last they knew of her.

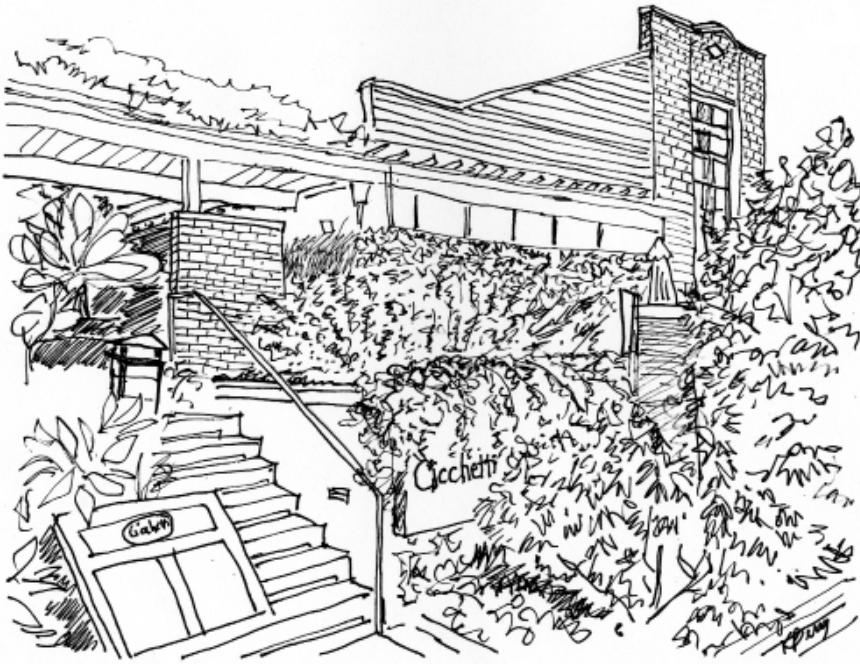
Brown paper went up on the windows of the vacant storefront, but you could tell the place was abuzz with activity. One day as Marilyn and Michael were walking by, the door was ajar. They poked their heads inside where they saw a lot of construction and a short, dark-haired woman working away.

"What's going on in here?" Marilyn called into the space.

"Oh my god, you're from New York!" cried the woman, Susan. "Come on in!"

"We loved her from the time we met her," said Michael, "She was a good person to have in our lives."

They saw Susan through a lot of life transitions: the opening of Serafina, her original business partners moving



on, a marriage, the adoption from Mexico of her daughter, Isabella, divorce, the opening of Cicchetti, and cancer. She never stopped planning for the future, they said.

And “she never bit her tongue,” said Kika with a smile. “She always said exactly what was on her mind.”

As a teenager Kika worked at Serafina during summers and eventually moved to Seattle to work there full time, rising to a management position. She has since moved on but keeps tabs on the restaurant. We spoke at a café near where she lives in Hillman City.

“In her Brooklyn way, she was a bold force that, maybe people in Seattle especially when she first came here (in the 1980s) weren’t used to. Everyone knew her when she went out in the neighborhood. She was compassionate and interested in people. She had an amazing way of communicating with people.”

“She had a wonderful sense of humor,” Marilyn said.

She designated a group of her regulars, her *consiglio* or *consiglieri*, the de Guzmans told me with a laugh. Do you know what that is? Like the advisor in *The Godfather*? Yes!

They explained; Susan’s *consiglio* was a group of about 12 people

including them, whom she met with regularly to get feedback about the business. It changed over the years as people moved in and out of the area, and she was sincere about getting advice and listening, they said.

Not that she went along with everything the *consiglio* advised. David Weeks, the General Manager for both restaurants, wrote in an email, “When Susan dug her heels in... man!”

She had an idea of what she wanted for Serafina – the food, the place, the people, and she never stopped striving to achieve it. She knew how to hire people “who got the culture,” said Kika. A few of the servers have been there for over a decade, and others who’ve left come back to work again.

“She was good to people,” said Michael, adding “she was like an orchestra conductor trying to get each section to perfection.”

For inspiration and ideas, she took frequent trips to Europe, especially Italy, visiting wineries and restaurants, taking the chefs, or the wait staff, or the sommelier with her.

On one trip she went to Borgo Antico a restaurant in Florence that the de Guzmans loved and

recommended. It was right under the apartment they had stayed at and waiters would shout up to their window when their table was ready. As Michael was telling me this story he pointed out two placemats framed, on the wall behind me. They had two different designs of Borgo Antico, from two different eras. One the de Guzmans had brought back, the other Susan had.

Michael took it off the wall to show me. Across the bottom, as if she wanted to get a word into the conversation, was her hand-written note, “Some memories stay with you forever. This one we get to share. Love always, Susan.”

Eighteen years after opening Serafina, Susan opened a new restaurant, Cicchetti, next door. The following year, 2010, she was feted with the Nellie Cashman Business Owner of the Year award given by the Women Business Owners association. The legendary Cashman had been a nurse, restaurateur, gold prospector, and philanthropist.

Susan similarly had a wide variety of interests and passions she made successful. As a teenager she designed and made handbags that were sold at Bergdorf’s in New York. She started numerous businesses over the years; the seed money for Serafina came from selling off a salad dressing business; and she was an incredible photographer, said Marilyn. Some of her photography is on display at Serafina.

“She was very empowering for other women,” said Kika. “She was a self-made woman who did everything on her own. She advised a lot of people. It was important to her to be a role model and help people figure out careers or personal things.”

“She was a mentor to hundreds of people,” added Marilyn. “If you had a problem, you went to Susan, and she helped you. She was a fast friend and took care of a lot of people.”

“She had a huge heart,” added Kika. “She cared so much for other people

Susan Kaufman: An Open Heart continued from page 9

and it showed in how she managed the business, cared for employees and took care of her daughter.”

Last summer, when she heard the news that her aunt had just three weeks to live, Kika flew home from a sojourn in Spain. She helped her mother and Susan’s close friend Kokie take care of Susan. At first Susan was fine joking about how well she felt. “Are they sure I’m dying?” she asked. She saw friends and entertained just about every night as she always had; many people came by.

It was a good time, but by week three Susan was slowing down. She was ready, said Kika. She had fought breast cancer for twenty years, a recurrence happened every four or five years, but she would largely brush it off. “I haven’t finished yet,” she would say. But this time was different. She accepted she was dying, which made it easier for her inner circle to accept. Easier but not easy. A role model to the end.

“Serafina was never better than in the last couple of years,” said Michael. “It was as if all the instruments seemed to come together.”

Always planning for the future, Susan had a succession plan in place for the restaurants.

It was her intention that the people who had been with the restaurant a long time, including her lawyer and accountant, carry on Serafina and Cicchetti. She did not want an outside buyer, Kika noted.

She set up a board of directors, which Kika’s mother, Lisa Frigand, serves on. Last spring, Susan hired David Weeks as General Manager. “She was looking for someone she could trust to carry out her legacy.”

Weeks along with Christian Chandler, Executive Chef of both restaurants, Cody Westerfield, Head Chef of Cicchetti, Annie Kuclick, Manager of Cicchetti, Kelley Kieser,

Assistant General Manager for both restaurants, and Salomon Navarro, Sommelier, are involved in the day-to-day running of the restaurants.

The board of directors helps guide the bigger picture and of course there is the *consiglio*, and all the regulars, to keep everyone on track. No one is shy about speaking up if they think things aren’t going the way Susan would have wanted them.



Susan left a big hole, said Kika, and it is still difficult for the people who worked with her, but everyone is helping out.

“My vision and ambition were greatly influenced by

Susan prior to her passing,” wrote Weeks in an email. “We discussed many things about the culture and business that she had worked so hard to develop over the years. So her coaching me from the beginning, helped me understand what it is that she would have wanted. Susan welcomed every guest into these restaurants as if she were opening the front door to her home.



“All I want to do is freshen up both spaces and continue to offer great food, excellent hospitality, and wonderful drinks! Christian and Cody have their menus dialed in right, so I feel like we are doing well on that front.”

Most of the updates over the next few months will be aesthetic, he notes. Serafina is well-established, Cicchetti is the big focus. “It is such a special place that Cody, Annie, and the rest of the crew have worked so hard for the last seven years to build.” He encourages the 98102 neighborhood to check it out.

The restaurants are in really good hands, added Kika with a smile, with their distinct vibe and atmosphere and where Susan would want them to be.

“Nothing’s changing,” said Marilyn, “She’s still there!”



Inset photo: Susan Kaufman. Above: Lisa Frigand and Susan Kaufman. Sketches of Serafina and Cicchetti on previous pages and Cicchetti chandelier this page by Karen Berry.





## Cheryl Thomas, 1934 – 2016: a good friend of Eastlake who didn't even live here

obituary that was in the Seattle Times on March 8 and 9, 2017:

“Cheryl K. Thomas was an elegant, beautiful woman who filled her life with charm, grace and accomplishments. She raised a family of five kids while getting a BA in psychology and went on to master’s degrees in economics at the UW and public policy at Harvard’s Kennedy School. She worked as an economist for United Good Neighbors before joining the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, where she developed a small market econometric model and trained regional staff throughout the country in its use.

“Later, Cheryl was founding partner, and President, of TLA, an economic and public policy consulting firm, where she directed its practice in Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and other Caribbean nations. She was an adjunct member of the University of Alaska’s Institute for Social & Economic Research where she helped produce a volume of research on the employment of indigenous people in Alaska, and wrote a seminal series of articles on hous-

ing conditions in American-Indian/Alaska-Native villages published in the Alaska Native News Magazine.

“Cheryl headed up the Harvard-Roanoke Beautification Committee and oversaw the planting of over 150 trees and several hundred bushes and shrubs in the Roanoke Park and Eastlake neighborhoods. Along with several neighbors, she spearheaded the rehabilitation of Roanoke Park; and helped get state and federal recognition for the Roanoke Park Historic District. She was active in the struggle for woman’s rights and gender equality.

“Cheryl was a loving and engaged parent who always placed her family first. She had a gift for bringing people together by making each person feel important, valued and necessary. She used to remark on how much could be accomplished as long as she didn’t feel a need to claim credit – and proved the point by the things she got done. As a neighborhood friend said, “She was one in a million.” She is survived by her sister, her husband, five biological and two blended-family children and eight grandchildren.”

Cheryl Thomas, who passed away late last year, had contributed greatly to her own Roanoke Park neighborhood, but also to Eastlake. With the late Susan Kaufman (about whom, see separate article) she co-chaired the Main Street committee that developed the parts of the City-adopted Eastlake Neighborhood Plan that promote a vibrant, neighborhood-serving business district. With her husband Ted Lane, she hosted countless meetings in which the two neighborhoods collaborated to address the noise and other impacts of I-5 and SR-520.

Cheryl took particular joy in creating and stewarding green spaces large and small. She had unique vision for the potential of bleak public paved areas. Her great diplomatic skills and irrepressible enthusiasm energized skeptical bureaucrats and otherwise busy neighbors to help turn these areas into green gardens.

Always, Cheryl was the most industrious and self-sacrificing of volunteers. At all hours she could be found trundling her maintenance wagon between the many green spaces she had created. In the accompanying photo, she has just finished maintaining one just south of the corner of Boylston Avenue East and E. Roanoke Street.

Cheryl will always be remembered and loved as a friend of Eastlake. She contributed greatly to our neighborhood’s livability and sociability. Below are adapted excerpts from her





Photos of David McRae over the years, one above of him outside his childhood home in Eastlake

## David McRae (1961-2016), child of Eastlake, Canada, and Alaska

Since the days of the Yukon gold rush, Eastlake has been a haven for residents who spend part of each year in the Great North's outdoors and industries. One such was David McRae, born to Eastlake and who maintained a home here on Minor Avenue East. With the permission of author Mark Smith, here are three paragraphs from a longer obituary that appeared in the Anchorage Dispatch and the Bristol Bay Times:

"On Oct. 28, 2016, Alaska lost a treasured son, David McRae. Born on April 20, 1961, in Seattle to Bristol Bay's Grace (Gardiner) McRae and fisherman/carpenter father Sam McRae, he grew up between homes in Seattle; Williams Lake, British Columbia; and summer fish camps in Ekuk and Naknek, Alaska. During his school years in Williams Lake, he lived with his father, an accomplished log home builder, who traveled extensively in his work. In the times his father was away, David became a beloved family member to the Durfeld and Vaughn families. David's love of flying started with Dr. Vaughn's collection of small planes. His mother, Grace, was a long-tenured nurse at Virginia Mason hospital in Seattle, where she had a home often shared with him.

"Grace's mother, Lydia Gardiner of Aleknagik, Alaska, operated a salmon set net site and introduced David to the world of commercial fishing. Wanting more fishing experience, David worked with the Smith family of Aleknagik and quickly transitioned from deckhand to captain while fishing all districts in Bristol Bay. After finishing a degree at Western Washington University, he contemplated many

careers and happily committed to none. In the decades that followed he became a commercial pilot, artist, carpenter, builder, collector, apartment manager, trader, entrepreneur, guide, traveler, while always falling back on aviation and fishing as his core work.

"From his earliest days, David was identified as a high achiever, athletic, well-liked and enthusiastic. His optimism, friendly interest, capabilities and available time made him a magnet for all manner of friends. He could always be counted on for an impromptu trip abroad, surfing in Hawaii, caribou hunting, motocross riding, fixing up an old truck, building a cabin, resurrecting a boat and finding just the right airplane or airplane part."

Afterword: An adjacent neighbor wrote to ECC: "David was a gentleman adventurer, renaissance man, a joyful spirit, a mechanical wizard, pilot, fisherman, sailor, the most capable and resourceful person, who lived life completely and with grace and passion, and fascinated almost everyone he met. We -- his friends and neighbors can't express how much we miss him."



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# Report on Jan. 10 Public Meeting on Homelessness

by Karen Murray

On Tuesday, January 10, 2017, the Eastlake Community Council (ECC) hosted its first Public Forum of the New Year on Homelessness and Homeless Encampments. Providing information on this sometimes difficult and polarizing issues were invited guest panelists: Tim Burgess, Seattle City Councilmember; Sara K. Rankin, Director, Homeless Rights Advocacy Project & Associate Professor of Lawyering Skills, Seattle University School of Law; Yuriy Rudensky, staff attorney with the Economic Justice Project, Columbia Legal Services. That evening as I walked the two blocks from my condo to TOPS where the scheduled event would take place, I could not help but think, "What an appropriate time to have such a forum when our homeless neighbors don't have a warm place to stay to shield themselves from the blistery and cold chilling wind that was blowing through the barren trees that evening. But yet, those who would attend the meeting along with our invited guests would all have homes to return to and be sheltered from the unrelenting elements." The irony of the situation was not lost on me.

With twenty-five or so in attendance for approximately 90 minutes, the informed panelists shared their expert opinions and answered questions posed by the audience members. One thing that they all agreed upon was that there has been an increase in the number of homeless individuals in Seattle since 2012. In 2012, the homeless count was 2,594 and in 2016, the count grew to 4,505. The numbers, however, are somewhat deceptive since they only reflect those individuals that are visible. They do not include the individuals who sleep in homeless shelters, who are housed in transitional housing, or who elect to be hidden.

Because of time and the subject matter at hand, the questions of the night mostly centered around four key issues: 1) Are we using our resources

wisely to combat homelessness? 2) What can we do as a community or as individuals? 3) How do we deal with safety and public health concerns that arise out of homelessness? And 4) how do we protect public spaces and welcome homeless encampments?

In addressing the first question on whether we are using our resources correctly Councilmember Burgess empathically responded, "No." Explaining his position further he stated that he felt strongly that doing business as usual was no longer an option and that the 150 or more public service providers holding contracts with the city would be held accountable by placing a coordinator in position to review all contracts. According to Burgess this would ensure consistency throughout the screening process to better serve the homeless and the most vulnerable. No longer will service providers be able to pick and choose participants to improve their overall outcomes.

Rankin spoke to the second question of what we could do as individuals when we come upon the homeless. She stated, "First, you must become uncomfortable to be able to understand their situation. If that means talking to a homeless individual or just remembering that the individuals you see are someone's brother, sister, mother, or father who may be experiencing mental illness, alcohol/substance abuse, or post-traumatic syndrome disorder (PTSD) maybe, then you can begin to separate the person from their underlying issues and see them as individuals who need help and not judgement."

The issue of public spaces being used throughout the city was raised by former ECC President, Chris Leman. Councilmember Burgess' view was different than that of attorney, Rudensky and Rankin whom believes that encampments should be permitted in public spaces until suitable and permanent housing is available. Burgess stance from the very beginning on the initial proposed legislation is that it

would establish a new right to camp on public property across Seattle, including in our parks and greenbelts, and on sidewalks and planting strips while tying the hands of the community and law enforcement when the particular areas are not maintained and become a public health and safety issue, because of the complicated rules and processes that must be followed to remove the camping sites. However, Burgess is hopeful that his fellow councilmembers will reconsider this part of the legislation after the outpouring of letters, emails, and phone calls from their constituents.

A light at the end of the tunnel came when Tim Burgess spoke about the recent trip that he took along with several other city leaders to San Francisco to tour its innovative service center, Navigation Center. The Center became a working model for what our city could do to better utilize our resources and our social service providers. So through the leadership of Seattle Mayor Ed Murray and the City Council the future Center will provide wrap around social services that will be person-centered and a pathway to permanent housing for up to 75 individuals. Although all agreed that this is the way to go; so far, no community has accepted the challenge of placing it in their neighborhood or community.

Even with all the debate back and forth between the presenters and the attendees, the Forum was enlightening for all. It made us all realize that we can no longer go about our normal lives when we see our homeless neighbors. So, like the audience member who asked, "What can we all do?" You probably are asking the same question. In response, I would suggest that you begin by visiting Professor Rankin's website at <https://law.seattleu.edu/faculty/profiles/sara-rankin> It will direct you to the Homeless Rights Projects. I highly recommend that you download the following two articles: No Rest for the Weary: Why

continued on next page

**Buoy oh buoy** continued from page

apart, the north-south buoys would be only 750 feet apart, a reduction from the original 1000 foot separation.

In Feb. 2016, DNR posted on its web site a brief summary of the City application and the (mostly negative) public comment it had received. DNR never posted the original application, the revised application, its own analysis of the revised application, or a summary of public comment received since Feb. 2016. The Eastlake Community Council has obtained these omissions and posted them on a special page on its own web site, <http://eastlake-seattle.org/?page=seaplanes>. The City filed the application without public meetings, outreach or any apparent public notice. DNR should have required the City of Seattle as applicant to do outreach and hold public meetings; and DNR should have conducted a public hearing on the proposal.

This case is all too typical of the closed, insider process by which DNR leases out thousands of acres of aquatic and other lands in Seattle and other urban areas. Basic information that should be timely posted on the web for all to see must instead be obtained through laborious public record requests, often coming too late for meaningful involvement. This is all no mistake; it is a system long designed to exclude the public. These are public lands that should be managed in the public interest. That end can be achieved only if the public is guaranteed notice, information, and multiple opportunities to comment.

This episode is typical of others under Mayor Ed Murray with City agencies promoting private interests, without consulting beforehand with neighborhoods and other stakeholders or even giving them fair notice. As Executive Director of Futurewise, Hillary Franz supported the Mayor's priority of growth over livability for Seattle neighborhoods. While that's a bias that DNR has also been known for, Franz was elected on pledges to enhance livability and improve DNR management. The hope is that as Commissioner of Public Lands, she will introduce more balance on and around Seattle's urban lake where DNR is the largest single landowner.

Lake Union is small with many other users that have the right of way over seaplanes, and yet are endangered by them. The other users have legal priority, and yet DNR will compromise their rights with buoys that favor seaplanes. 40+ takeoffs and 40+ landings are too many on summer days when the lake is in such demand. Rather than essentially privatize part of our increasingly busy lake, Kenmore Air should reduce its Lake Union operations, moving more of them to its seaplane base in Kenmore, and to a new base on the downtown waterfront.

Whatever your views, it is important to communicate them to Commissioner of Public Lands Hillary Franz, [cpl@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:cpl@dnr.wa.gov), or by U.S. mail to mail stop 47000, 1111 Washington St. SE, Olympia, WA 98504, with a copy also to local DNR manager Vivian Roach, [vivian.roach@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:vivian.roach@dnr.wa.gov), 253-341-7564, 950 Farman Avenue North, Enum-

claw, WA 98022-9282. ECC also requests a cc to [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org). It also may not be too late to comment on the Coast Guard and Army Corps permits for the project (if you can find the links, please e-mail them to ECC and we will publicize the comment opportunity). For further background, see our web page, <http://eastlakeseattle.org/?page=seaplanes>.

**Report on Homelessness** continued from page 19

Cities Should Embrace Homeless Encampments ([https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=2776425](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2776425)) and Shut Out: How Barriers Often Prevent Meaningful Access to Emergency Shelter ([https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=2776421](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2776421)). The articles reveal what we should already know and that is simply, "We are our brothers and sisters keeper."

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## How are runs and other events affecting Fairview Ave. E.?

The City is permitting growing numbers and sizes of runs and other events on the full length of Fairview Ave. E., occasioning traffic and parking restrictions. How do these restrictions affect you, is notification sufficient, and what are your recommendations for next year? As reported on the ECC web site's page on Special Events Impacts and Solutions, ECC is working to minimize and mitigate the neighborhood impacts, and welcomes your comments and suggestions, to [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org) or by U.S. mail to ECC at 117 E. Louisa St. #1, Seattle, WA 98102. If possible, please be specific about events and dates.

## Employers support April 20 Earth Week shoreline work party

The 1500 to 1800 blocks of Fairview Avenue E. (between Fairview Ave. N. and E. Blaine St.) have some of the most scenic and natural parts of the Lake Union shoreline. The nearby properties are industrial or commercial, not residential.

The Eastlake Community Council has for decades partnered with the adjacent marine businesses to restore the shoreline. But in recent years, new construction has also brought a thousand new office and laboratory employees nearby, and ECC is working to include them in shoreline restoration efforts also.

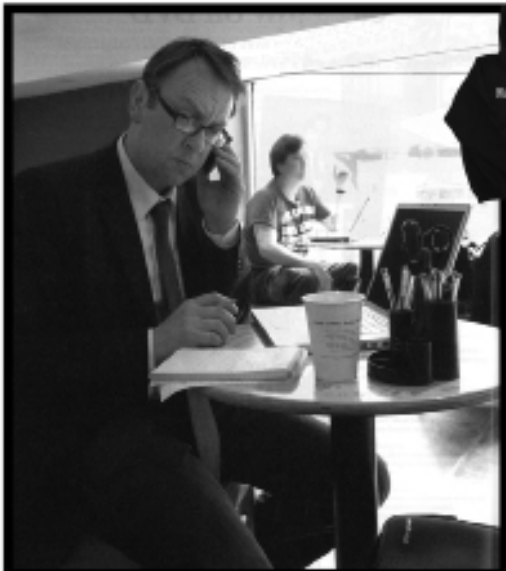
This year's Earth Day shoreline work party is Thurs., April 20, 9:30 a.m. to noon, and anyone who works or lives in Eastlake is welcome to participate. We will meet in front of Lake Union Drydock, 1515 Fairview Avenue E. Participants are asked to bring gloves and sturdy shoes.

Employers are encouraged to authorize employees to spend part of that work day morning "on the clock" restoring the shoreline. ECC welcomes confidential requests from employees who wish us to contact their employer with this proposal.

While pre-registration is not required, ECC requests to hear from employers who are participating and their estimates of numbers, so we can arrange enough tools for everybody. To contact ECC: [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org) or 206-322-5463.

## Wanted Graphic Designer for the Newsletter

This is a volunteer position with the Eastlake Community Council. Design and reinvent the Eastlake News and/or create a web version based on material provided -- ads, stories, sketches and photos. Must know InDesign. Please contact ECC with statement of interest and qualifications: [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org)



**coworkingeastlake**  
www.coworkingeastlake.com

**"Working" from the cafe again?**

Mention this ad and get \$5 off an Eastlake Hoodie

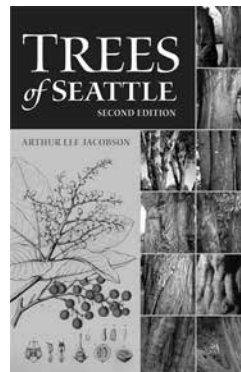
**Try the new coworking space at Vybe Communications Hub instead. You might just increase your productivity.**  
Less distractions, more privacy, actual office amenities; everything you need to feel like you can be the productive person you imagined you could be when you gave up the office. Monthly plans starting at \$180. Full time plans at \$195. Drop in days for \$25. Come in for a free drop in day to find out how it could work for you.

Only at Vybe Communications Hub 2225 Eastlake Ave. E. 206-745-0100

## Eastlake Tree Walk is led by Arthur Lee Jacobson on Sat., April 1.

The Eastlake Community Council has engaged the renowned Arthur Lee Jacobson, author of *Trees of Seattle* and many other books, for another ever-popular Tree Walk. It will be Sat., April 1, 10 a.m. to noon, beginning at Roanoke Street-end Park (corner of Fairview Ave. E. and E. Roanoke St.). Refreshments (donated by Blue Ribbon Cooking School) begin at 9:30 a.m.

To describe Jacobson merely as a tree expert or tree writer is like saying a redwood is just a tree. He knows everything about trees, shrubs, and other plants and communicates about (and with?) them magically. And he walks (and bikes) his talk, having planted trees all over the city, including in Eastlake. If you want Jacobson's quick take on identification or diagnosis, he encourages you to bring a twig or photo.





## Prepare for disasters, crime, and the fireworks at June 13 public meeting – and have a block get-together Aug. 1

The Eastlake Community Council works to keep our neighborhood as safe as possible from crime and disasters, and to coordinate with the Seattle Police Department on these topics as well as the unique challenge of crowds and traffic on July 4. For many years, one focus of these efforts has been to organize an early summer public meeting, which this year is Tuesday, June 13, 7 p.m. at TOPS-Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. E.

ECC's web site, <http://eastlakeseattle.org> has several pages and many links on these topics. Following are some highlights. Please send an e-mail to [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org) with questions, suggestions, or to volunteer.

**SPD priorities for Eastlake.** In 2015 Seattle Police Department Chief Kathleen O'Toole instituted a program to partner with neighborhoods on "micro community policing plans." The West Precinct now meets at least every six months with Eastlake stakeholders to develop and update law enforcement priorities. SPD's current priorities for Eastlake are: burglaries; car prowls/auto thefts; issues related to the homeless population (encampments, public intoxication, needles, etc.); and traffic (cut-through traffic, speeding around TOPS-Seward school). SPD welcomes suggestions for revisions of these priorities, and will discuss them at ECC's June 13 public meeting. Comments can be sent anytime, to Community Police Team Officer Samuel.Cook@seattle.gov; please cc ECC at [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org).

**Data-based policing and the importance of calling 911.** Chief O'Toole also has increased SPD's reliance on data in deploying and evaluating its efforts. Twice-monthly reports that are posted on the web site use performance measures to weigh progress in meeting the micro community policing objectives. The increased reliance on

data makes it more important than ever to call 911 when you see or experience any law-breaking or if you expect it to occur imminently.

Police can't respond or plan if you don't alert them, and are more likely to patrol a neighborhood with a pattern of past calls to 911. Nothing is too small to report, and a crime need not have been committed. Some brazen large-scale thefts have occurred in broad daylight, and some small thefts have been repeated because no one thought to call 911. These calls can be anonymous, but it's best to give your name (you can ask that it be withheld from public disclosure) so you can monitor the response. There is a record made of each call; if you plan to request the record, ask the call-taker for the event number.

The 911 system has plenty of capacity, so don't worry about competing with another call that you fear is more urgent. The operators have the skill and technology to refer your call. An alternative to 911 is the non-emergency number, (206) 625-5011 (dial 2 and then 8 to reach a dispatcher). It's for something suspicious but you're not sure it's criminal; for late reporting of a non-emergency crime with no suspects nearby; or to report noise or parking infractions. Don't leave any crime unreported, or Eastlake will lose out in SPD's increased reliance on data.

**Neighbor-to-neighbor cooperation.** Your block or dock will be safest by preparing together. Please share phone numbers, e-mail addresses, Twitter and Facebook accounts, and get to know one another for mutual alerts and problem-solving about suspicious or risky situations. Blockwatch can but doesn't have to involve a whole block; there's safety in cooperation of even a few residences or businesses, nearby houseboats or liveaboards, or within an apartment, condo, or office building. For more: <http://www.seattle.gov/po->

[lice/programs/Blockwatch/default.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/po-lice/programs/Blockwatch/default.htm).

**Organize an August 1 street party.** On the first Tuesday in August, block parties are free of the need for a paid permit or costly liability insurance. "Night Out" is a national event to help neighbors meet each other, toward starting a block watch and emergency preparedness team. As time allows, police and fire officers drop by. To register: <http://seattle.gov/police/nightout> or on Facebook. For questions or advice, contact ECC at [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org) or (206) 322-5463.

**Door-to-door solicitors.** Have doubts about someone who has knocked on your door? Don't open it--but do let them know you're there, to avert a break-in. It's unlawful for solicitors to ignore a sign like "no agents," or "no solicitors," or refuse to leave immediately if requested. There are reputable solicitors, but others wish to gain illegal access, so be wary of requests to use the bathroom, phone or for a drink of water. Call 911 if you feel threatened, or if a suspicious solicitor has left who may jeopardize others. And pass along an alert to your neighbors in any way you can. Commercial sellers are required have a license with the name of the agent and type of product or service sold; they must disclose their name, company, and what they're selling (these requirements don't apply to non-profit solicitors). It's unlawful to falsely claim to represent a business or non-profit group.

**Lighting.** Better lit streets and alleys will reduce car prowls and other crimes. Please contact ECC with your suggestions for the locations of any new street lights.

**Report graffiti.** Quick removal of graffiti discourages taggers. Seattle requires landowners to remove it promptly, and promises immediate

action on public property. Report graffiti (and water pollution and illegal dumping) at 206-684-7587; or <http://www.seattle.gov/util/index.htm>. To join ECC's effort against graffiti: [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org) and [friskyl1@mindspring.com](mailto:friskyl1@mindspring.com).

**Emergency preparedness.** Please join the neighborhood's efforts to prepare for emergencies. For City info, videos and free trainings on emergency preparedness: [www.seattle.gov/emergency](http://www.seattle.gov/emergency) or (206) 233-7123 (and please let ECC know if you've taken a training or can help create an emergency hub in Eastlake). ECC invites doctors, nurses, and paramedics to join our confidential list to be contacted during a neighborhood-wide emergency: (801) 243-2136 or [jeremythueson@gmail.com](mailto:jeremythueson@gmail.com) and [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org). Ham radio or satellite telephone operators are also asked to let ECC know how to reach them to help in a future emergency.

ECC wants to hear your ideas and questions about crime issues and prevention, and on emergency preparedness. Please contact us at [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org) or by U.S. mail at 117 E. Louisa St. #1, Seattle, WA 98102-3278.

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10:30 am to 6:30 pm (later by appointment)**

## How to contact the Mayor and Council

Whatever your views on the various issues addressed in this newsletter, it is important to exercise your rights as a citizen by communicating with our elected Mayor and City Councilmembers. And please send a copy to the Eastlake Community Council at [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org). Doing so alerts ECC to your concerns so we can keep you informed and involved about follow-up.

Mayor Ed Murray does not accept comments from the public by e-mail, requiring that electronic communication be via a web site, <http://www.seattle.gov/mayor/get-involved/contact-the-mayor>; the system will reject any message of more than about 500 words.

You can also reach Mayor Murray by letter (which can be longer!) at 600 Fourth Avenue, 7th floor, P.O. Box 94749, Seattle, WA 98124-4749, or by fax at 206-684-5360. The Mayor's reception phone is 206-684-4000.

Be sure to communicate with the nine City Councilmembers individually, rather than by a group e-mail or letter

(which is far less likely to be heeded). The City Council e-mail addresses are as follows:

[sally.bagshaw@seattle.gov](mailto:sally.bagshaw@seattle.gov)  
[tim.burgess@seattle.gov](mailto:tim.burgess@seattle.gov)  
[rob.johnson@seattle.gov](mailto:rob.johnson@seattle.gov)  
[bruce.harrell@seattle.gov](mailto:bruce.harrell@seattle.gov)  
[lisa.herbald@seattle.gov](mailto:lisa.herbald@seattle.gov)  
[mike.obrien@seattle.gov](mailto:mike.obrien@seattle.gov)  
[lorena.gonzalez@seattle.gov](mailto:lorena.gonzalez@seattle.gov)  
[debora.juarez@seattle.gov](mailto:debora.juarez@seattle.gov)  
[kshama.sawant@seattle.gov](mailto:kshama.sawant@seattle.gov)

You can also reach the City Councilmembers by letter at 600 Fourth Avenue, 2nd floor, P.O. Box 34025, Seattle, WA 98124-4025, or by fax at 206-684-8587. Each Councilmember also has a voice mail number listed at <http://www.seattle.gov/council> or by calling 206-684-8888.

### Become an ECC Member and/or Make a Donation

The Eastlake Community Council is volunteer, so dues and donations go a long way, and your involvement is welcome and needed.

name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

street address or PO box \_\_\_\_\_

city, state, zip code \_\_\_\_\_

phone: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

- Household Membership \$35
- Student / Senior / Low Income Membership \$10
- Business Membership \$75
- Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Today's date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send this form with a check made out to ECC to:  
ECC, 117 E. Louisa St. #1, Seattle, WA 98102-3278

Or you may join and pay by credit or debit card or just volunteer at  
<http://eastlakeseattle.org>

For questions: [info@eastlakeseattle.org](mailto:info@eastlakeseattle.org) or (206) 322-5463.

### Be a Cornerstone for your Community



### Volunteer!

We invite you to check off one or more interests (need not be a member or donor to volunteer):

- Events and fundraising
- Help with web site, data base, social media, or video
- Art walk or public art
- Parks and open spaces
- Traffic and parking issues
- Bus/transit service
- Review building proposals or legislation
- Crime prevention or emergency preparedness
- Neighborhood history or photography
- Door-to-door newsletter distribution

*The Eastlake Community Council membership is open to all who live, work, or own property in Eastlake.*