



VOLUNTEER GRAFFITI PATROL

FCA volunteers needed a commercial-grade power washer and drill-powered wire brushes to remove graffiti in the Endolyne business area. They put in 21 hours in mid August, about one hour per political statement stenciled on sidewalks, and continued to patrol for new graffiti. Photo courtesy Susan Lantz-Dey

2020 FAUNTLEROY FALL FESTIVAL ON HOLD; FUNDRAISERS LIKELY

If this were a typical year, the Fauntleroy Fall Festival Committee would be working at top speed toward the annual October community event. This year, of course, has been anything but "typical."



With its inability to plan and out of an abundance of caution, the committee reached the heavy-hearted conclusion that the festival could not happen this October in the same way it has since 2002.

"Please stay tuned for festival-driven community fundraisers once the leaves start falling," said committee member Amanda Austin Haggerty.

The committee welcomes questions, comments, or suggestions at fauntleroyfallfestival@gmail.com.

IN THIS ISSUE

Schoolhouse preservation	2
Culvert replacements	3
'Fauntleroy School flood'	4
Racial discrimination in housing	6
From the president.....	8

IS ISOLATION GETTING YOU DOWN?

By Irene Stewart

If the isolation and changes brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic are getting you down, help is just a confidential phone call away.

Washington Listens, a statewide hotline, is available at no cost to anyone who is stressed, lonely, and/or depressed as a result of the pandemic. A trained support specialist will talk with you and may also connect you to appropriate community resources.

Call 1-833-681-0211 Monday-Friday 9 am-9 pm or weekends 9 am-6 pm). TTY and language access services are available.

The program is anonymous and tracks only the number of calls and the nature of those calls. Find details at walistens.org.



AARP has a similar confidential service. **Friendly Voices** is a nationwide service geared to older people who could benefit from a friendly phone call in English or Spanish. Family members may schedule a call on a loved one's behalf.

Call 1-888-281-0145 anytime to request a call back from a trained volunteer or complete the online form at aarpcommunityconnections.org/friendly-voices.

If you have questions about aging or disability services for yourself or a loved one, call **Community Living Connections** Seattle-King County at 888-348-5464 during normal business hours. Details and an online contact form are at www.communitylivingconnections.org.

These services are not crisis lines. If you or someone you know is in emotional crisis, call **Crisis Connections** anytime at 866-427-4747. Formerly known as the Crisis Clinic, its specialists will listen and link you with appropriate emergency mental-health services. Find details at www.crisisconnections.org/24-hour-crisis-line.

Irene Stewart is a local resident who manages communications for Aging and Disability Services, a division of the Seattle Human Services Department.

HOW TO JOIN FCA BUSINESS MEETINGS

The FCA Board is continuing to meet on the **second Tuesday** of each month, except (usually) August and December, at **7:00 pm**. These meetings are open to the public but in a different way.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board is meeting virtually using Zoom. If you wish to attend a meeting, you must register by going to www.fauntleroy.net/meetings. If you are interested in presenting during a meeting, contact FCA President Mike Dey at msdey50@aol.com or 206-661-0673 to get on the agenda.



OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NEW

By Denise Wallace, Property Manager
Fautleroy Community Service Agency

Maintaining this beautiful schoolhouse for the community is a labor of love. In addition to doing daily maintenance, we are continually making capital improvements. From roof replacement to seismic retrofits, the preservation of this building is at the foundation of the work we do.

Our latest investment was in June when we replaced the three 80 sq. ft. original windows in the Emerald Room (the school's former lunchroom) and the beautiful bay window in the Emerald Room's foyer with energy-efficient windows that look exactly the same.

The Fautleroy Community Service Agency committed upwards of \$110,000 in reserve monies for this project and entrusted STS Construction to execute it. Despite the coronavirus shut-down, the contractor was able to secure one of the largest cranes in the area to lift the three 800-lb windows and ease them safely into place overlooking the Kilbourne ravine.

Since leasing the south wing of the building in 1993, Tuxedos and Tennis Shoes Catering has hosted more than 2,000 events in the Emerald Room, from wedding receptions to community meetings.

Preservation is an ongoing and resource-intensive endeavor that is fundamental to our nonprofit agency's stewardship of the Fautleroy Schoolhouse. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation so we can continue such vital improvements for the whole community. Find details at fautleroysschoolhouse.org.

DRIVERS EXPRESS DISPLEASURE ABOUT LONGER WAIT FOR FERRY

By Frank Immel, FCA Board Member
Chairman, Fautleroy Ferry Advisory Committee

In mid August, vehicle usage on ferries serving the Fautleroy-Vashon-Southworth triangle route was down 41% from the same week in 2019. At that point in time, total ridership (vehicles and walk-ons) over the entire system was down 52%.

As a result of low ridership, plus lack of certified vessels, funding, and employees (more than 125 are unable to return to work until Phase 4), service systemwide is still on the winter schedule. Consequently, only two boats are serving this route.

As the queue has grown, tempers have shortened. Perhaps you've noticed the increase in horn honking. Please be patient when the queue interferes with your travel through the neighborhood.

Rebuilding the terminal is still on the books but hidden under much red ink. According to the original schedule, Washington State Ferries would have been midway through public outreach by now but no public meetings are in the foreseeable future.

Some residents may have noticed an increase in wayward light around the dock resulting from recent upgrades to streetlights. We have requested shields to contain the light and expect them to be installed before the next newsletter.

NEW NEIGHBORS? FCA SAYS 'WELCOME'

Nothing says welcome like a bag full of goodies!

When newcomers move into a house or apartment near you, let Kimberly Terry know so she can get them a welcome bag chockful of information about the neighborhood and FCA, plus business coupons and a homemade treat.



During this time of social distancing, she's not delivering bags but will put your new neighbors on a list for welcome bag as soon as it's safe. Contact her at 206-774-7595 or kterry@evergreenhomeloans.com.

FCA LEADERSHIP

Mike Dey, president; 206-661-0673

Alexis Zolner, treasurer; 206-935-6721

Frank Immel, secretary

Kimberly Terry, membership chairwoman

Catherine Bailey Bruce Butterfield Alan Grainger

David Haggerty Sydney Hammerquist

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VALUE ENGINEERING AIDS PLANNING FOR TWO CULVERT REPLACEMENTS

By Cody Nelson

Project Manager, Seattle Public Utilities

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) has continued to work on capital projects, including planning toward replacing two culverts that convey Fauntleroy Creek toward central Puget Sound.

In early July, we completed a value-engineering study to examine several aspects of current designs and suggest ways to improve efficiency and reduce costs and community impacts. This week-long workshop identified 27 design suggestions and alternative design options.

The design team has been reviewing these alternatives and associated costs to determine which ones are feasible to implement. We've also been refining our modeling plan, updating and validating flow-simulation models, and exploring options for creek and habitat enhancement. We'll start detailed design for the culvert replacements once we've vetted the value-engineering alternatives ourselves and with project stakeholders, including Fauntleroy Church, United Church of Christ.

We're also continuing to explore grant options to help reduce project costs. We are awaiting a response to the proposal we submitted to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife's Fish Barrier Removal Board, which would help with design and construction costs.

Partnering with community groups in support of grant funding remains a priority, as does engaging and sharing project information with you within social-distancing guidelines. Stay tuned this fall for more updates on value-engineering findings and the design process.

I encourage you to visit www.seattle.gov/utilities/neighborhood-projects/fauntleroy-creek-culverts to subscribe to email updates, learn more about the project, and see the design options we're now refining.

As always, I welcome any questions you may have at cody.nelson@seattle.gov or 206-684-3066. I'll also be happy to arrange an online meeting.



'RETIRING' NOT GERRY'S STYLE

Clearly, Gerry Cunningham knew how to dress for work - and for a party!

For more than 24 years, she prepared breakfast and snacks for thousands of youngsters at the Fauntleroy Children's Center, poring over her vast cookbook collection for compelling ways to entice them to try new foods.

Well-wishers marked her retirement with a loud and colorful July 23 "drive-by good-bye" through the Fauntleroy Church parking lot.

Family members are carrying on the Cunningham name at the center. Daughter Lauri is the office manager and son Frank provides technical support. *Photo courtesy Fauntleroy Children's Center*

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FROM PAST TO PRESENT

DEVELOPMENT OF FAUNTLEE HILLS CAUSES 'FAUNTLEROY SCHOOL FLOOD'

By Judy Pickens

Prior to World War II, Fauntleroy residents could count on getting firewood from the logged-off, vacant county land that is now Fauntlee Hills. They simply drove in on the logging roads and took all they needed.

The days of free firewood were numbered, however. In the 1940s, Everett Fenton was working in San Francisco when he borrowed \$10,000 to buy 65 acres of the hillside, sight unseen. When the lender called in the loan, the only way he could repay it was to sell the land.

In an oral history archived by the Southwest Seattle Historical Society, Arthur C. Webb recalled how Fenton pestered him until he agreed to look at the land. He described Fenton as a "nice gentleman," a retired Navy captain and lover of cigars.

"Nobody would look at the land," Webb said. "It was hard pan and should have been wasteland."

The 31-year-old homebuilder saw potential, though. The "hogback" terrain was a natural for view home sites, so he said he would take it if he could find a lender. Fenton offered to help with that detail and the two men sealed the deal in a cloud of cigar smoke.

They found someone to cover the purchase price but Fenton knew the deal was still on shaky ground until Webb could get the property platted and begin to sell lots. Site preparation would be a major expense.

They approached an equipment dealer about buying a small tractor and the salesman pointed to a bigger one that would do the job better. Webb said he couldn't afford it so, with a handshake, Fauntlee Hills became a demonstration site to help the company sell equipment.

Once the project was under way, Webb went east to buy a car. In Detroit, he met and married Susie Jueckstock and enticed about 20 highly skilled Latvian masons to come work for A.C. Webb and Company, Inc.

Webb insisted that each home have a solid foundation to avoid settling, which would crack the brick and stone veneers. "I knew if I didn't protect the homeowner, I wouldn't come out ahead," he told Roy Morse and Rick Brown during their 1985 interview for *Fauntleroy Legacy*.

Before construction could begin in earnest, Webb had drainage challenges because of small creeks coursing down the slope. His solution was to culvert the flows into concrete pipes. (continued next page)



Stormwater rushed off Fauntlee Hills on Feb. 10, 1951, leaving a mess in front of the schoolhouse. Photos #42652 and #42648, Seattle Engineering Department Archives



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Without today's strict requirements for managing stormwater on construction sites, once the slope was stripped of vegetation, it was a problem waiting to happen. Rain during winter 1951 saturated the soil. An especially heavy rainfall on Feb. 10 overwhelmed the culvert that was supposed to convey flow from one of the creeks down to SW Barton.

"I looked out the window and saw the water bounce about six inches on the street," said Webb. "I knew it was time to call up the guys and get on the job. It was about midnight and we were all there."

They found the pipe clogged with mud at SW Director. A Seattle Engineering truck came along and the crew used a fire hose on it to try to flush out the culvert. Then a stump washed down, wedged in the pipe, and solidly plugging it.

Stormwater coursed down SW Barton, dumping mud and debris at the schoolhouse door. Come daylight, Webb got called to the city engineer's office to answer to causing what Seattle Engineering referred to as the "Fauntleroy School flood."

"I got the book thrown at me," he said. He had expected the chewing out but was spared a fine.

"I was so tired I could have fallen asleep. He just told me to get out of there." After this hard lesson, Webb put in bigger pipe.

In September 1951, he began marketing nearly 300 homes, each with a sweeping view of Puget Sound and the Olympics. He sold directly to buyers, starting as low as \$14,000. By the time most homes in the first of six divisions were sold, he was breathing easy.

Advertising emphasized nearby community amenities (the school, YMCA, church, and Lincoln Park) as well as spacious view homes on quiet streets. Professional families were a target: "just 12 minutes from Boeing, 15 minutes from the Dexter Horton Building."

And what of Everett Fenton? He platted his 33-acre property on the south side of SW Barton and put in sewers, expecting to build homes there. The terrain proved to be too rugged for housing but perfect for a natural park. The city bought it in 1971, thus preserving the woods and headwaters of Fauntleroy Creek.

If you have documents, photos, or artifacts that might help tell a story about the people and communities of the Duwamish Peninsula, find details about donating them to the Southwest Seattle Historical Society at www.loghousemuseum.org.



In July, EarthCorps trainees posed before getting to work along the middle reach of Fauntleroy Creek. They were keeping the pressure on invasive plants intent on reclaiming restored habitat. It was the first day of maintenance in the Kilbourne ravine funded by the Fauntleroy Watershed Stewardship Fund, which turns private donations into critical habitat improvements. Find details at fauntleroywatershed.org/donate.html. Photo courtesy EarthCorps

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FAUNTLEROY'S RACIAL MAKE-UP STILL REFLECTS SEATTLE'S HOUSING HISTORY

By Catherine Bailey, FCA Board Member

Residents of Fauntleroy need only walk the neighborhood to realize that the racial demographic here is primarily Caucasian. Knowing area history can help us understand why this is the case, including the systems that created and supported discrimination and the patterns that have very slowly changed over time.

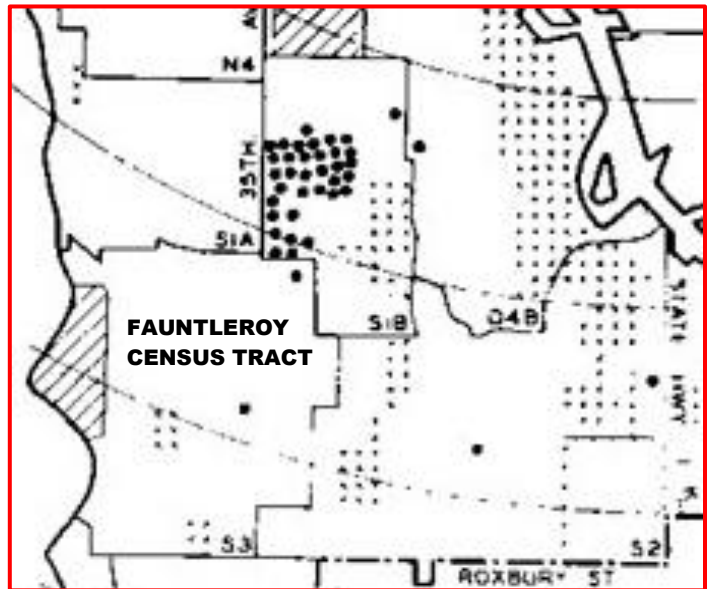
U.S. Census data going back to 1940 shows that 99.8% - 100% of residents of the Fauntleroy census tract were white. This percentage stayed above 90% through the 2000 census, then declined to 88% by the latest census, in 2010.

Early in Seattle's history, residents who were not white were purposely relegated to the Central District, International District, Rainier Valley, and Beacon Hill. While rooted in fear and racism, the stated intent of this sanctioned practice was to preserve existing and future property values.

Banks and other lending institutions relied on the Home Owners Loan Corporation, a federal governmental agency that categorized neighborhood desirability for mortgage lending purposes. This practice led to what is commonly known as "redlining."

Lending risk was categorized as "Best," "Still Desirable," "Definitely Declining," and "Hazardous." Real estate in Fauntleroy and most of West Seattle west of 35th Ave. SW was designated "Still Desirable" while real estate east of 35th was primarily designated "Hazardous." Property values ran parallel to these designations.

Another common practice of homeowners, property developers, and realtors from the 1920s until the late 1960s was to establish neighborhood covenants that restricted the sale or rental of property to individuals who were not white. These restrictions were written into property deeds and were often coordinated by neighborhood groups. Here's an example of covenant language in a deed:



The 1960 census revealed very few Black residents in Fauntleroy; most lived east of 35th Ave. SW. More maps are at depts.washington.edu/civilr/segregation_maps_add.htm.

"No person or persons of Asiatic, African, or Negro blood, lineage, or extraction shall be permitted to occupy a portion of said property."

In some cases, religious restrictions were also written in to prevent those of the Jewish faith from owning or renting property in the area. Unfortunately, some of this language still exists in older property deeds.

Most of these restrictive covenants existed north of the Lake Washington Ship Canal and many existed just south of West Seattle. Very few have been found in West Seattle proper.

In 1968, Seattle finally passed the Open Housing ordinance and the U.S. Congress *(continued next page)*

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HOUSING HISTORY (CONTINUED)

passed the Fair Housing Act banning all forms of housing discrimination. However, because of slow-to-change attitudes, lack of enforcement, and other factors, many divisive housing and wealth patterns still exist in our city.

The 2010 census estimated just over 10% of residents in the Fauntleroy tract were people of color. Asian, Hispanic, and Latino residents ranged from 2.5% - 4.9%. Black or African-American residents accounted for just 1% - 2.4% of Fauntleroy's population a decade ago.

Income levels further illustrate the continued existence of old patterns. In Fauntleroy, the 2010 census reports median income was \$75,000 - \$99,999. East of 35th Ave. SW, beyond the former redline, median income was \$50,000 - \$74,999.

Homeownership is a key contributor to overall individual wealth. The structural and attitudinal limits placed on homeownership have translated into much lower rates of homeownership by people of color.

Our current situation reflects the slow pace with which Seattle has left discriminatory practices behind. We can accelerate that pace by being aware of policies and attitudes that have contributed to continued societal separations.

To learn more about the evolution of Seattle's housing policies, I recommend the free resources on three excellent websites: the Seattle Public Library's Special Collections, King County's Equity and Social Justice demographic information, and the University of Washington's Civil Rights and Labor History Project.

CALL FOR SALMON WATCHERS

The arrival of coho spawners in Fauntleroy Creek is always dependent on their having survived ocean conditions but, if they do come in, watchers need to be on duty to document them.

This year's watch is scheduled to start Oct. 15 and it will continue until mid November or until no more spawners have come in for a week. Last fall, watchers documented 19.

If spawners are present over a weekend, volunteers will host an "open creek" for the general public. Watch the *West Seattle Blog* for an announcement.

To experience why Fauntleroy people volunteer to get cold and wet to count fish, contact Judy Pickens at 206-938-4203 or judy_pickens@msn.com.



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TIME TO GET READY FOR RAIN

The Pacific Northwest is known for rain that comes slow and steady. But those of us who have lived here for awhile know that rain can also come in a torrent. When it does, flooding from stormwater can happen.

To help prevent a backup of stormwater on your street, sign up to clear leaves and other debris from a nearby storm drain. By joining the Adopt-a-Drain program, you'll also be keeping harmful pollutants out of creeks and Puget Sound.

Visit www.seattle.gov/util/environmentconservation/ourcity/adoptadrain to link to the registration form. There you'll find guidelines and be able to link to a map showing storm drains in your vicinity.

If a drain on your street remains clogged, link to the online drain report form or call the Operations Response Center anytime to report it. Call the center right away at 206-386-1800 to report a potentially damaging flood.



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CITY COUNCIL'S POLICING DECISION LACKS COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVE

By FCA President Mike Dey

Words cannot fully express my frustration with the City Council's recent action to "defund" the Seattle Police Department. I'll give them a try, though, starting with FCA's attempt to modify that action.

In late July, the FCA Board sent a letter to all Council members providing a neighborhood perspective on a 50% proposed budget reduction (see www.fautleroy.net). We received no response.

We asked that the Council first define what public safety means in Seattle and which aspects of it we expect our police department to provide. Then we asked that the Council identify specifically who should do the things that don't fit that definition.

For example, years ago the State of Washington closed many of its mental-health facilities without having a plan for how to care for the individuals released. By default, police departments were expected to "fill in the gaps" without adequate training or other resources.

Only after it defines "public safety" should the Council and mayor build a budget, not only for the police but also for the other services that police will no longer provide.

The Council's decision to cut without a coherent plan prompted Chief Carmen Best's resignation. I can fairly say that the Council's actions drove her out. I read, with

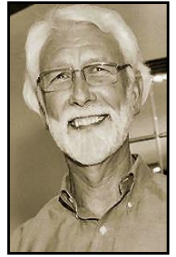
some amusement, that the Council then credited her "success" as chief.

If she were viewed as incompetent, I certainly hope someone would have the backbone to state that and ask for her resignation! Instead we have a mess.

Mayor Durkan ceded a portion of downtown Seattle to a group that wanted to eliminate police but lacked a plan for responding to crime, resulting in two shootings and one death. The mayor had only to look at what happened in Baltimore when chaos ensued after a similar disruption.

Public safety is the Number 1 concern of this community, as you have told us in survey after survey. Thus, our letter expressed opposition to reducing staff or closing our Southwest Precinct, especially now with access to West Seattle so constrained.

Without a defined function for our police and a shift of other functions to departments with adequate training and funding, we are bound to experience reduced response rates to safety concerns in this community. I believe the vandalism in the our business area (see p. 1) is a direct result of ignoring and mismanaging racial equality and justice issues - and the City Council's poorly considered cutting of police funding. This is no way to run a city.



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