





**DECEMBER 2020** 

# FAUNTLEROY EATERIES STILL DISHING DURING PANDEMIC

When the coronavirus shut down most everything in mid March, restaurants and other eateries had to scramble to try to stay in business. Those in Fauntleroy were no exception.

FCA supporters Endolyne Joe's and Wildwood Market soon shifted to taking take-out orders but Tuxedos and Tennis Shoes had more of a scramble when in-person catered gatherings stopped happening.

Joe's is taking orders 8 am - 9:00 pm and has paired with two other eateries to offer an extensive to-go menu, including beverages. Find details and place orders at www.endolynejoes.com. Not online? Call 206-937-5637.

Wildwood Market takes to-go orders 11 am - 8 pm Monday - Saturday; Sunday closing is at 7 pm. Food and grocery offerings are much as they were pre-pandemic. Visit www.wildwoodwestseattle.com for details and to

order. Pandemic restrictions compelled cancellation of the market's December "Blithe Bazaar" with local artisans.

Tuxedos and Tennis Shoes Catering (DSquared Hospitality Company) has adjusted the way it's serving food. It's now offering virtual catering menus for galas and auctions so guests can



enjoy a special meal and beverage while bidding up a storm. Also, its "bento box" meals are a good way to have sustainably packaged food delivered to you. Find details at www.dsquaredcompany.com or call 206-932-1059.

Transitioning to safe service required The Original Bakery, a long-time Fauntleroy institution, to install a takeout window for safe pick-up and payment. Pandemic hours are 9 am - 3 pm Wednesday through Sunday. The bakery is accepting prepaid orders for the Christmas season; just stop by to get an order form.

Bakery owner Bernie Alonzo articulated the gratitude felt by all these eateries for their community's ongoing support: "Thanks to all our customers for hanging in there and having patience!"

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#### FCA wants to know what you think!

#### By Catherine Bailey

Have you taken the 2020 FCA survey yet? If not, you still have time!

Every two years, the FCA Board surveys residents about current issues that impact our neighborhood, the West Seattle peninsula, and all of Seattle. Your input enables us to set action priorities and provide feedback to city officials about what is most important to Fauntleroy.

This year's survey includes questions about transportation and traffic, car prowls and break-ins, police funding, and historic preservation. It also provides ample opportunity for you to tell us about any other areas of interest or concern.

The brief survey should take less than 10 minutes of your time. You'll find it at www.fauntleroy.net.

If you have comments or questions or need a paper copy, email *survey@fauntleroy.net*. We need your response by **Dec. 13**.

We understand that uniting as neighbors over shared interests and concerns is important for the long-term health of our community. We value your feedback as we strive to keep doing just that.

#### TERMINAL PROJECT BACK ON

#### By Frank Immel

In spring 2019, Washington State Ferries began planning an upgraded Fauntleroy Ferry Terminal to replace the current facility. A few months later, the state stopped planning after voters approved an initiative to cut car-tab taxes that would have funded the project.

Then in October, the State Supreme Court struck down the initiative, allowing planning to resume.

The project's initial timeline projected that construction would start in 2025, with completion two years later. I would look for that timing to slip a bit with the delay.

You may keep an eye on the process at https://wsdot. wa.gov/projects/sr160/fauntleroy-terminal/home. When we have information of particular interest to the community, we'll post it at www.fauntleroy.net/issues/ferry.

One particular traffic hazard bears emphasizing: The detour necessitated by closure of the high-level bridge has drivers coming down SW Wildwood PI. to get to the ferry. Many are making U-turns on Fauntleroy Way SW to get into the queue. Be alert and exercise caution in the area.



An increase in reports about car prowls has prompted the Southwest Precinct to relay these strategies to help avoid falling victim to someone roaming your street at night looking for petty-theft opportunities:

- Never leave anything in plain view. A thief will break a window to grab a bag, whether it contains something valuable or not.
- Always lock your vehicle, whether you're parking for the night or for just a few minutes.
- Hide chargers and accessories that indicate an electronic device may be in your vehicle.
- Remove garage door openers, key cards, and other keys so a thief isn't able to access anything else.
- If you can't park in a locked garage, park on a busy street or in a well-lit area.
- Check your vehicle regularly if you don't use it as frequently as you did before the pandemic.
- Consider installing an anti-theft device that will sound an alarm or turn on a light.

#### **HEALTHCARE PRACTICES BECOME NEWEST TENANTS IN SCHOOLHOUSE**

Last spring when the pandemic forced schools to shift to online learning, Taproot School teachers Michelle Taylor and Eric Waldow made the hard decision to move their nature-oriented K-5 program out of the Fauntleroy Schoolhouse, where it had been since 2013.

By fall, the former classrooms were booked by two new tenants, both healthcare providers.

Carolyn Fancher, DC, recently moved her West Seattle Neighborhood Chiropractic Center to Fauntleroy. Board certified in the atlas orthogonal technique, she focuses on relieving stress and maximizing the body's innate ability to heal itself. Call her at 206-659-0771 or check out her website: wsneighborhoodchiro.com.

Carolyn is also working with the Senior Center of West Seattle to build a troupe of red-nosed "Go!Clowns" volunteers. The national program brings laughter to sick and disabled children, elders with limited mobility, and others in vulnerable situations. Carolyn is currently raising funds for a clown trip to Costa Rica next summer.

Lyly Fisher, DDS, and her team expect to open in January. They will offer a full line of preventative, restorative, and cosmetic dental services and also treat patients with jaw joint dysfunction and sleep apnea.

Lyly is especially interested in intervening early with minimally invasive treatments to prevent jaw problems in adulthood and improve children's overall health. Check lvlvfisherdds.com for details and to learn when the practice opens here.



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Because of the pandemic, worship and group activities are online.

#### KIM SHERIDAN CALLING IT A DAY AT FAUNTLEROY CHILDREN'S CENTER

By Judy Pickens

When the Fauntleroy Children's Center opened as the Fauntleroy Day Care Center in September 1978, Kim Seaman Sheridan wasn't there to welcome the eight children as they entered a room at Fauntleroy Church.

But she was there the following year as a teacher and she has been there every year since as the center's director, welcoming nearly 5,000 infants and children over her 42 years of service.

Come January 1, Kim will begin the next chapter of her life - one not so abundantly populated with children.

She sees a change in directors as a plus for the center, enabling new leadership to run with new ideas. Also, she said, "After 42 years, it's time to be home."

Kim came to Seattle in 1978 with a degree in psychology and a specialty in child development. Her first job was teaching at a center that she soon realized was not good for children. She started substituting in the fledging program in Fauntleroy, which led to her being hired as a teacher in the spring of 1979.. When the first director moved on, Kim filled in on an interim basis and the board made it permanent in the fall of 1980.

The founding members of the Fauntleroy Community Service Agency board were concerned that the young families who were revitalizing the neighborhood were sorely in need of all-day childcare. Church members shared their concern and offered space if the board could get a program off the ground.

"It was that care about filling a community need and how involved all the volunteers were," she recalled. "They worked for no money and went to any extreme needed to make sure the center thrived."

In the beginning, it served ages 2 1/2 to 5 years. By 1980, the center was serving a wider age range and required more room than the church could provide. It operated with a waiting list until Fauntleroy School closed in the summer 1981.

Over the summer, the board negotiated a lease with the school district, enabling the center to open in the fall across the street with lots of indoor and outdoor space. Kim guided board and staff members through expansions and enrichments to serve infants through 12 years of age.

In 2007, the school district declared the schoolhouse to be surplus. Thanks to state and city appropriations, the board was able to meet community needs by buying the building and attracting tenants to help pay the bills.

An accomplishment that continues to be a source of pride to all involved is accreditation by the National Association for Education of Young Children in 1987. The center remains the only childcare program in West Seattle to be so recognized.

Investing an entire career in one job is unusual these days but "to be insanely devoted," as Kim put it, is the work ethic she learned growing up.

"The people here kept encouraging me to keep trying and they were always there to support us in the belief that kids deserve the very best in whatever sort of environment they're in," she said. "We've all wanted to keep meeting the needs of our families as they changed over the years."

Many on the center's staff mirror her commitment. Assistant Director Debbie Robbins, for instance, was one of the two teachers that the center intially hired, in 1978. Gerry Cunningham recently retired after 24 years.

"People here have a good feeling when they walk in every day," Kim said. "there's a love for the school building itself. People feel a sense of caring and family. Our teachers have never lost that spark, that enthusiasm to be helpful and to create a curriculum built around the children."

While maximum enrollment during the pandemic has been just 75, Kim's priorities have been keeping all the staff employed and restoring enrollment as soon as possible. Center capacity is 120 children served by 28 teachers and assistant teachers, plus administrative staff.

"I'm working my way through the usual things for this time of year and anticipating changes to our state licensing that will require more of teachers and the director," she said. "I'm doing what I can to make things easier for when the new person comes on board."

She intends to leave everything in order for a new director. The closure of many area childcare programs as a result of the pandemic means a large pool of talent is out there.

Kim's parting words: "It's been a privilege and a pleasure to work with this board, these teachers, these families, this community. So many people have touched my life in ways that I can't even describe. The friendships are what made it possible to do what I've done."



Kim Sheridan's big smile has brightened the Fauntleroy Children's Center for 42 years. Photo by Denise Wallace

#### FROM PAST TO PRESENT

#### **GROWTH OF DRAINAGE SYSTEMS REDUCED CREEK WATERSHED**

By Judy Pickens

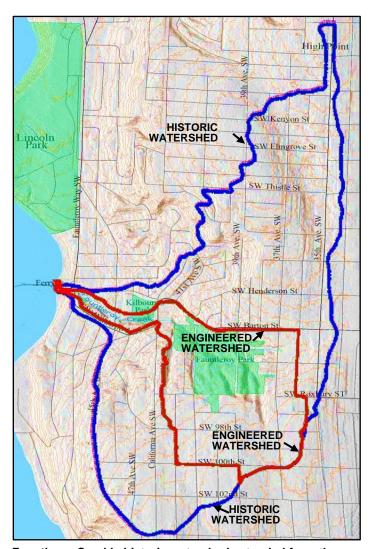
Over my 30-year tenure stewarding Fauntleroy Creek, I've answered many questions about it, including its history. This account summarizes some of what I've learned.

If you look at the map below, you'll see that the area draining toward Fauntleroy Creek used to be much larger than it is today. Prior to white settlement, the creek received water flowing off 493 acres - more than three times the 149 acres that constitute the watershed now.

Why is the watershed so much smaller than it was, why is the creek a survivor, and how did coho get here?

For early year-round residents of Fauntleroy, the creek was a handy source for water for livestock, including the cows that provided fresh milk and butter for the Colman family on their estate in Laurentide. A remnant of the concrete cistern they built to collect creek water remains in Fauntleroy Park and lengths of the cast-iron pipe that conveyed that water southwest to the estate are still visible along the route.

The transition of this area from forest to residential



Fauntleroy Creek's historic watershed extended from the High Point neighborhood well into Arbor Heights. The engineered watershed restricts drainage to a much smaller area. Map by Washington Department of Ecology

community began in the early 1900s after loggers had harvested the timber. As buildings began to fill the landscape, less exposed soil was available to absorb rain water where it fell, so more and more of it flowed downhill.

During heavy rain, the extra water made the creek "flashy," overwhelming it with a volume of water it was not equipped to handle. Streambanks began to erode with the force of fast-moving water and localized flooding became more common.

Then in the early 1950s, construction began on Fauntlee Hills - nearly 300 homes on the hillside above Fauntleroy Cove. To maximize the number of buildable lots, the crew culverted springs to convey rain water off the slope. As contractors built houses and paved more streets, the increased runoff had no place to go but down.

The city and county responded with multiple drainage projects to convey both stormwater and wastewater to the cove. (See sidebar.) Taken collectively, these projects shrank the "natural" watershed down to the "engineered" watershed from which the creek receives today.

Also in the early 1950s, Dr. Edward C. Kilbourne gave the city three quarters of an acre along the middle reach of the creek (between California Ave. SW and 45th Ave. SW). He envisioned an amphitheater on the site for outdoor performances; instead, it became Kilbourne Park.

The city already owned a 28-foot-wide strip of undeveloped right-of-way through the base of the ravine, extending from California Ave. SW to the cove. That strip and the new park effectively protected the middle reach of the creek from development.

Twenty years later, the city denied Everett Fenton the permits he needed to construct housing in the steeply sloped ravine of the upper creek, so he sold the site to the city for what became Fauntleroy Park. This purchase, plus the land already in public hands, protected the creek's headwaters and much of its route to central Puget Sound. In 1992, the city adopted policies to protect environmentally critical areas, including the buffer that further protects the channel from development.

In 2002 the city received a report from the Wild Fish Conservancy that captured the history of fish in Seattle's creeks. It cites anecdotal evidence that sea-run cutthroat trout were in the Fauntleroy Creek in the 1920s and 1930s and speculated that salmon might also have been present in the lower portion.

Between then and the late 1980s, the creek was little more than a ditch conveying rain water and whatever pollutants it picked up into the cove. Fauntleroy Park and the Kilbourne ravine were overgrown with English ivy and other invasive plants.

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, area residents became interested in restoring healthy habitat in the park, starting with weeding events. Other volunteers began restoring the creek, starting with monitoring water quality. The city took interest and, along with agencies at county and state levels, began amplifying these efforts.

In 1991, a teacher and a few students from Arbor Heights Elementary released the first coho in the lower creek - fry they had reared through *(continued next page)* 



A young Jane Wilson MacGowan, shown here in about 1915, made the short walk from the new family home in Fauntleroy to fish by herself at the mouth of the creek. Family photo

the state's new Salmon in the Classroom program. By 1994, releases were annual events.

With no historic record of salmon in the creek, those involved chose coho for two reasons. One was the species' need to spend a year in freshwater, which would indicate how well the creek could support life. The other was the ability of coho to jump log weirs to get to where they're going - an important attribute in a channel with a 5% - 6% natural grade over its mile-long course.

In November 1994, the first pair

#### **OUTFALLS IN FAUNTLEROY COVE**

The stormwater and wastewater drainage systems installed here by the city and county between 1928 and 1974 included five outfalls in Fauntleroy Cove, as follows. Piece by piece, these systems shrank the acreage constituting the Fauntleroy Creek watershed.

**1928:** The city installed a 16" iron pipe adjacent to the ferry terminal to convey untreated combined stormwater and wastewater into the cove. This outfall is no longer active.

**1947:** The city installed an iron pipe (both 16" and 24" segments) at the southeastern boundary of Lincoln Park. It also carried untreated combined stormwater and wastewater but it has not been needed since 2003.

**1958:** Brisk residential development compelled the county to install an extensive combined stormwater/wastewater drainage system, including a 60" reinforced concrete outfall pipe in the cove near the ferry landing.

Also that year, voters established the Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle (Metro) to reduce water pollution. Metro built the Barton Street Pump Station to forward combined flow to a treatment plant in Alki. Over the years, heavy rainfall increasingly overwhelmed the station, causing untreated combined stormwater and wastewater to discharge through the pipe into the cove. After significantly reducing water pollution, Metro merged with the county in 1992.

The county upgraded and expanded the pump station in 2015 and added scores of rain gardens up the hill to absorb more rain water where it falls. Since then, overflows into the cove through the 1958 pipe have averaged less than one per year.

**1970s:** The city's Forward Thrust bond measure funded many projects to separate stormwater and wastewater, including two reinforced concrete outfalls in the cove: a 72" pipe just north of the terry terminal for stormwater only and a 72" pipe south of the terminal (at SW Brace Pt. Drive) for combined stormwater and untreated wastewater. The latter is needed an average of less than once per year.

of coho spawners made their way a few yards up from the beach. A few more spawners in subsequent years proved that the fish could not get through the culvert under Fauntleroy Way SW. The city replaced it in 1998, ushering in the salmon watch that has occurred every fall since.

Spawner counts have ranged from zero to 274. Most years, "home hatch" fry get their start in the lower creek, while fry reared by school children grow to smolts in Fauntleroy Park before heading to saltwater.



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#### AH, THE PROMISE OF SPRING

Kim Immel led 15 masked and distanced volunteers during a Nov. 14 work party to refresh the planter boxes in the Endolyne business area. The dozens of tulip and daffodil bulbs they added will proclaim "Spring is here!" in multiple colors. Photo by Frank Immel



#### FIRST PUMPKIN HUNT PUREE FUN

Spring has the Easter bunny. Now fall has "#FCApumpkins," the hashtag for Fauntleroy's first-ever old-fashioned pumpkin hunt.

With Kimberly Terry in the lead, the FCA Board initiated the October hunt as a fun, safe event for the whole community and as a way to support local businesses hit hard by the pandemic.

Board members placed approximately 80 real and glass pumpkins around the neighborhood and purchased \$500 worth of business gift cards to attach to many of them. Lucky hunters were asked to post photos of themselves and their finds to FCA's Facebook page.

Adam Pimley made one such post: "Thank you FCA for making Halloween a little more entertaining for the kids (adults, too). Our two families loved our safe pumpkin hunt. With a little help from a kind neighbor, we found one with a gift certificate to Wildwood Market. We can't wait to get some treats." *Photo from FCA Facebook page* 

#### TIME TO RENEW FCA MEMBERSHIP

By Sydney Hammerquist

As of Nov. 15, FCA had added 34 newcomers to our household membership. They join those of you who have been members for awhile and those of you who go back to FCA's founding in 1980. We appreciate every member and look forward to your participation for another year.

We usually take membership renewals in March at our annual meeting and food fest. However, having that event this coming spring is unlikely, so we're requesting 2021 membership dues now. Henceforth, our membership year will align with the calendar year.

We hope you've enjoyed the events we were able to host this year, including two spring benefit days for local businesses and our first pumpkin hunt in October. The FCA Board has been monitoring the high-level bridge situation, communicating with city officials about police funding and crime in our neighborhood, and participating in the work of local and regional agencies. We'll keep members informed as all these efforts continue.

Payment is due by March 31. You may renew by

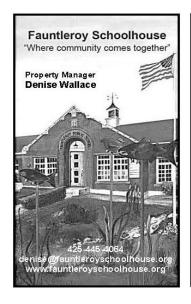
- using the enclosed membership form and envelope to send your renewal check.
- going to www.fauntleroy.net/membership and paying electronically with PayPal.
- going to www.fauntleroy.net/membership, printing the membership form, and returning it with your check to Fauntleroy Community Association, P.O. Box 46343, Seattle 98146.

Any new member who joined after June 30 will be considered paid in full through the end of 2021.

#### WEST SEATTLE BLOG

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In mid October, the first coho spawner gasped her last in a tidepool at the mouth of Fauntleroy Creek. Mark Sears noticed that drift logs were jammed in tight under the ferry pier and twice led other volunteers in untangling them so any more spawners might get through to enter the creek. Nearly 30 enthused salmon watchers stayed on duty through mid November but saw only a second carcass at the mouth. Photo by Dennis Hinton

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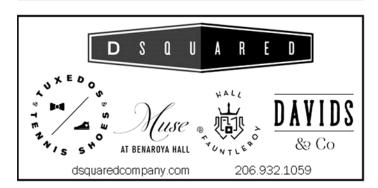
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#### **HOW TO JOIN FCA BUSINESS MEETINGS**

The FCA Board meets on the **second Tuesday** of each month, except (usually) August and December, at **7:00 pm**. These Zoom meetings are open to the public.

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 discuss being on the agenda.

## FCA'S BUSINESS & ORGANIZATION PARTNERS

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#### TIS THE TIME TO BE OPTIMISTIC, RESPONSIVE, AND SUPPORTIVE

By FCA President Mike Dey

My, what a wet start to our rainy season! It's good for bushes, trees, and ducks, though, and a great time to get at those projects we put off when the weather was warm and sunny.

We enter this season with optimism about having a vaccine to prevent COVID-19 but we know it's not likely to be readily available for months. I spent 30 years in the pharmaceutical industry and am proud of the efforts that industry and the Food and Drug Administration are making to restore us to a healthier life and economy.

I was recently reminded about how my parents and millions of others managed to live through the second world war. They endured huge restrictions on their way of life for years. Surely we can get through this with patience and kindness toward neighbors who may not be coping as well with pandemic restrictions and gloomy weather.

We all miss the ambiance and gathering places our businesses provided pre-pandemic. Now they are struggling to survive during this time of social austerity.

As reported elsewhere in this issue, the FCA Board has been finding ways to help them through these tough times. The pumpkin hunt, for instance, lifted spirits and benefited our businesses at the same time.

Our member survey (see p. 1) includes specific questions about car prowls as they continue to plague this community and others. While the Seattle Police

Department keeps records of break-ins, it doesn't note where cars were parked when the break-ins occurred.

From our perspective, location is very important to preventing the crime as well as the frustrating, time-consuming hassle

that comes in its wake. Are cars parked on the street more or less vulnerable to being prowled than cars parked in a driveway or carport? We need your help answering this question.

Depending on what we learn from the survey, we may ask other West Seattle communities to share their experiences and join us in whatever advocacy the data suggest. So PLEASE take the survey. It is very short and very focused on information that will help guide your association's board.

And two more things: We all missed having our dinein Annual Meeting and Food Fest in March and are likely to not to have it again in 2021. Thus our request (see p. 6) that you pay membership dues now.

Another event that didn't happen in the spring was our annual dine-out fund-raiser for the Fauntleroy Fall Festival, which itself had to be canceled. The steering committee welcomes donations anytime toward an extra special 2021 edition. Email Reed Haggerty at fauntleroy fallfestival@gmail.com for details.

If you're a member of Facebook, go to www.facebook.com/FauntleroyCommunityAssociation.

