



# NEIGHBORS

FAUNTLEROY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



MARCH 2015

## FOOD FEST, MEMBERSHIP MEETING MARCH 17

The Hall at Fauntleroy will surely be wearin' the green on **Tuesday, March 17**, for FCA's Fauntleroy Food Fest and Annual Membership Meeting. For the ninth year, the fest will be *the* place to reconnect with neighbors, sample food from 10 local eateries, and check out information about area services and projects.

New to this year's food lineup is Jude Sharp's "The Unsweetened Tooth," an artisan bakery offering no-sugar-added and traditional brownies, cheesecakes, cookies, and confections.

The fest will get under way at **6 pm** and the brief business meeting will start about 7:30. FCA's membership table will be fully staffed to accept your dues renewal or your first-time membership (cash or check).

The event will be green in more ways than one. You'll receive one piece of flatware for the evening and sample from compostable plates and bowls.

Be sure to invite your neighbors and bring the kids to this popular (and free!) mid-winter gathering of the clan.



## COVE PARK TO REOPEN - FINALLY! - IN JUNE

By **Mardi Clements**

Hoorah! Expect to enjoy the beach at Cove Park again sometime around the summer Solstice. An opening-day celebration is planned, including tours of the new wastewater pump station.

Native landscaping, new art, new benches, interpretive signage, a viewing terrace, a kiosk, and a rain garden will be peaceful rewards after two and a half years of construction.

Ramps for wheelchair access or to launch small watercraft will parallel the new and preserved art installations. A new day-use tie-up will be available to secure small boats.

In keeping with Seattle's shoreline street-end directives and ordinances, no overnight storage or moorage of private boats will be permitted on public land. Details about these policies are available at [www.seattle.gov/transportation/stuse\\_stends](http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/stuse_stends) or by contacting the city's shoreline street-end program coordinator at [Diane.Walsh@seattle.gov](mailto:Diane.Walsh@seattle.gov).

After King County's wastewater division finishes restoring the park, it will monitor, irrigate, and insure the survival of the plantings for three more years. FCA will continue community stewardship with Seattle Department of Transportation oversight to maintain access for all to this neighborhood treasure.

## ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY ON THE WAY

By **Shannon Ninburg**

Two years ago, FCA surveyed area residents to ascertain concerns and hopes for our neighborhood and will be doing so again in mid March.

Input in 2013 pointed to crime prevention and traffic/transportation as the community's top concerns, and FCA took action on both.

We hosted a public-safety forum in fall 2013 that enabled residents to voice specific concerns. As a result, leaders from the Seattle Police Department's Southwest Precinct now regularly attend FCA's monthly business meetings and we are working with them on their neighborhood policing plan to better address issues affecting this community.

In November, we hosted a forum to discuss traffic and transportation concerns with representatives from the mayor's office, the Seattle Department of Transportation, and City Councilmember Tom Rasmussen's office. Since then, city officials have been working with the community to remedy many long-standing traffic concerns (see related article).

Look for FCA's 2015 survey coming soon! In mid-March, you will receive a postcard giving you the link to our new online survey. The *West Seattle Blog* will also publish the link.

This survey will pose similar questions about your concerns and hopes for the community. What new concerns should be on FCA's priority list? What enduring concerns are still simmering? What is working well that you'd like to see continue to thrive?

We will tally and consider every response. Please help make our community better by promptly filling out the survey in mid March.

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## FAUNTLEROY SCHOOLHOUSE

# OPEN HOUSE SET FOR MAY 17


As part of the run-up to the 100th anniversary of the Fauntleroy Schoolhouse, its centennial committee is organizing a treat for the neighborhood: an open house on **May 17, 4-7 pm**. Community residents - and especially alumni – are invited for

- viewing of former classrooms that now house area businesses
- artwork by alumni and West Seattle artists
- videotaping of alumni memories of the school
- a display of memorabilia
- a silent auction and sale of t-shirts to raise funds for the big celebration in 2017.

One special event planned for 2017 is the dedication of a new flag pole generously funded by the Gamrath family.

If you might be interested in helping plan events around the centennial, contact Frances Gifford at [faunt.schoolhouse100years@gmail.org](mailto:faunt.schoolhouse100years@gmail.org) or call Denise Wallace at 425-445-4064. Upcoming committee meetings are March 12 and April 9, 9:30-11 am in the conference room at the Fauntleroy Schoolhouse Community Center.

If you're an alumnus, go to [www.fauntleroy.schoolhousecentennial.org](http://www.fauntleroy.schoolhousecentennial.org) to register.



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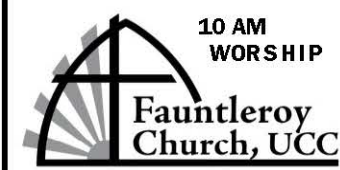


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## FERRY CONCERNS: SCHEDULE, CONTROL

By Gary Dawson

Our Fauntleroy Ferry Advisory Committee has been working with Washington State Ferries to create a new schedule for the triangle route. Updates were needed because bigger boats were recently slated to replace a vessel serving Fauntleroy, Vashon, and Southworth.

Needs elsewhere in the ferry system have delayed full implementation of these changes so we don't yet know traffic implications here of the higher-capacity boats.

In addition, work will be starting in June on major reconstruction of the ferry pier at Vashon. For 11 months, pier capacity for moving and staging vehicles will be reduced and traffic flow will be restricted. If schedule delays result, wait times for Fauntleroy departures could increase, causing a longer queue up Fauntleroy Way SW.

Because the summer schedule for the triangle route will be published prior to the start of construction, we've been working with our counterparts to ensure that the schedule is as realistic as possible. If adjustments prove necessary, we will reconvene to do more work.

One positive outcome is that the three advisory groups are gaining experience working toward a common goal. Another is that our counterparts have come to see the merits of having uniformed traffic control here as vehicles and pedestrians exit the terminal. They joined us in asking our 34th District legislators to seek reinstatement of funding, a request that's now "in the hopper" in Olympia.

For a number of years, a Seattle Police officer kept an eye on safety while directing the flow of ferry vehicles and also ensuring that local traffic did not come to a complete standstill while boats unloaded. When Washington State Patrol officers took over this duty, they offloaded vessels while completely stopping local traffic on Fauntleroy Way.

We have repeatedly stated that halting local traffic is unacceptable and have emphasized that state funding should be used to contract with Seattle Police. Supportive emails or phone calls on this issue to our legislative delegation – Sen. Sharon Nelson, Rep. Eileen Cody, and Rep. Joe Fitzgibbon – would be very helpful.

The ferry system will have an information table at the FCA Food Fest. I encourage you to stop by to learn more.

**FCA LEADERSHIP**

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Kathleen Dellplain, acting secretary

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# COMMUNITY TRAFFIC CONCERNS MOVING TOWARD RESOLUTION

By Martin Westerman

To follow up on FCA's traffic forum in November, Seattle City Councilmember Tom Rasmussen and Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) Chief of Staff Bill LaBorde put on their walking shoes on Jan. 23 to tour parts of Fauntleroy.

Joining them were FCA President Mike Dey, FCA board members Martin Westerman, Susan Lantz-Dey, Kathleen Dellplain, and Deb Kerns, residents John and Victoria Nelson, and other community members.

The group toured the Marine View Dr. SW- SW Roxbury intersection, the Endolyne triangle area, and Fauntleroy Way SW at the middle of Lincoln Park. The goal was to explain residents' on-the-ground concerns, including unsafe pedestrian crossings, vehicle near-misses, and blocked traffic sight lines.

During the walk-about, Bill LaBorde judged that all the community's requests were feasible and said SDOT could begin making the desired changes when the weather starts drying, sometime this spring. The eight agreed-to changes are as follows:

## At Marine View Dr. SW

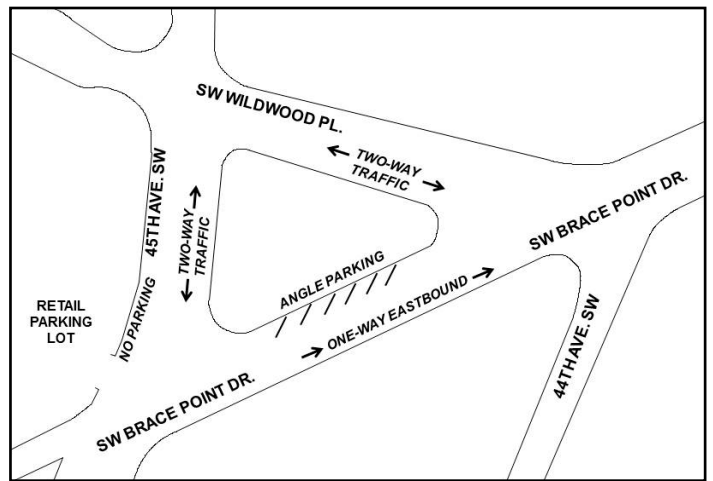
- Installing a guardrail on the west side, south of SW Roxbury; SDOT's survey is done and the work order has been initiated.
- Installing a convex mirror to improve driver and pedestrian safety at the SW Roxbury intersection; SDOT will advise on steps that FCA and neighbors should take to secure a permit.

## Endolyne triangle

- Making SW Brace Point Dr. one way eastbound between 45th Ave. SW and SW Wildwood Pl., with appropriate signage.
- Converting westbound SW Brace Point Dr. between 45th Ave SW and SW Wildwood to angle parking.
- Eliminating 2-3 parking spaces on the west side of 45th Ave. SW north of the entrance to the retail parking lot to improve pedestrian sight line at the SW Brace Point Dr. intersection.



Martin Westerman, City Councilmember Tom Rasmussen, Susan Lantz-Dey, and Mike Dey during the January traffic walk-about. Photo courtesy the *West Seattle Blog*



Triangle revised traffic flow. Diagram courtesy Phil Sweetland

**East of the triangle** - Eliminating 1-2 parking spaces on the south side of SW Brace Point Dr., west of where it intersects with California Ave. SW, to improve driver sight line.

## Lincoln Park

- Moving the traffic light from SW Kenyon to SW Rose on Fauntleroy Way SW to create a safe crosswalk between C Line bus stops east and west.
- Eliminating 1-2 parking spaces on the west side of 47th Ave. SW where it intersects with SW Othello to improve driver sightline to the south.

Several of the items need final approval from SDOT's chief traffic engineer, but Bill LaBorde said he is confident all elements will move ahead to improve pedestrian and traffic safety for the community.

## BUSINESS & ORGANIZATION PARTNERS

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# TIME TO WEIGH IN ON USE OF CITY LIGHT'S SURPLUS SUBSTATION

By Martin Westerman

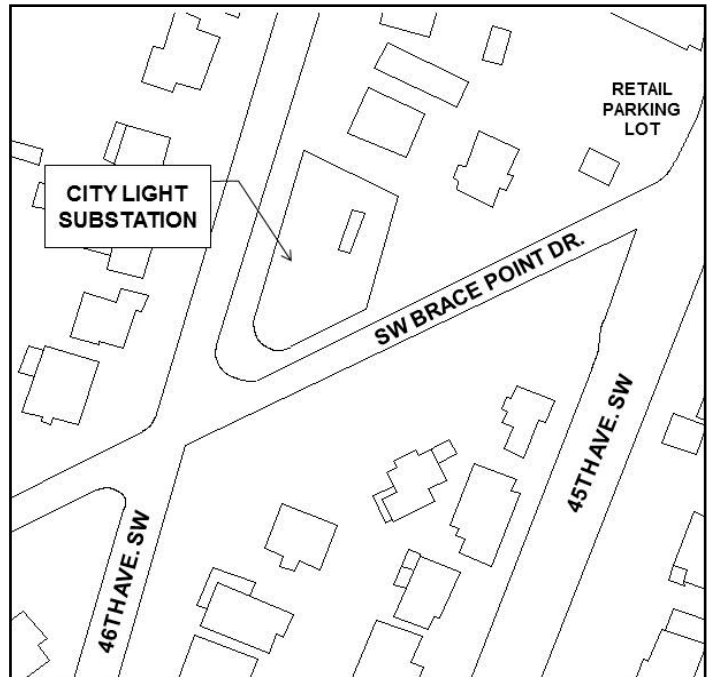
Seattle City Light is moving toward selling its former substation property in Fauntleroy to the highest bidder, and FCA has joined the conversation to see if the property might remain in public hands.

Six years ago, the utility began a lengthy process of disposing of several substations, including the one at SW Brace Point Dr. and 46th Ave. SW. Since then, the utility has been seeking another public use for the site, else it will put the property on the open market.

Several community and West Seattle residents approached the FCA Board with their interest in keeping this public land in public hands. Consequently, FCA President Mike Dey and board members Susan Lantz-Dey and Martin Westerman met Jan. 15 with the utility's real estate manager, Lynn Best, to understand what City Light's intentions for the Fauntleroy property are and how the community might secure the land.

She explained that, when City Light converted from a 4-KV to a 26-KV electrical distribution system, fewer and bigger substations were required. As a result, the utility surplused nine small substations and these are the sites the utility might sell. To get to that point, City Light must first take five steps:

1. Have the property appraised; by law, the utility must sell land at full market value.
2. Ask other city departments if one or more wants to purchase and use the land.
3. If city agencies say "no," seek interest from county and other governmental agencies.
4. If they say "no," conduct community outreach to seek other public-use options.
5. If no public use surfaces, ask the Seattle City Council to authorize sale of the property.



Surplused substation property. Diagram courtesy Phil Sweetland

Lynn Best emphasized to our delegation that such properties can stay in public hands if a satisfactory way can be found to do so. One option could be for Fauntleroy to find funding to purchase and rehabilitate the site for a community use.

City Light has moved through the first three steps and has been engaged in Step 4 - community outreach - since the fall of 2013.

At that time, the Southwest District Council wrote to the mayor, City Councilmembers, and others asking for a sale delay so that all affected neighborhoods could find funding to keep the surplus properties public. In May 2014, the West Seattle Green Spaces Coalition echoed this request to the utility's general manager, Jorge Carrasco, as well as to Mayor Ed Murray and City Councilmembers. Later that spring, the FCA Board endorsed these efforts.

In a statement of legislative intent, the City Council unanimously approved exploring public-funding options. The coalition is working with the City Council, The Trust for Public Lands, Seattle Parks and Recreation, and neighborhood groups citywide to find funding, escrow, land-swap, or other ways to continue public ownership of the properties.

Interested Fauntleroy residents, along with coalition members, envision converting the 6848 sq. ft. substation property here into a P-patch, a tree bank that adds to Seattle's forest canopy, a mini-botanical garden or pocket park, or other possibilities.

The Fauntleroy substation has been an attractive green space in our neighborhood for more than 60 years. FCA is now seeking neighborhood input about keeping this property and about what would be its best use for our community. Please let me know your thoughts at 206-938-3847 or [artartart@seanet.com](mailto:artartart@seanet.com).



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## SPRING MEANS BUSY CONSTRUCTION TIME FOR AREA STORMWATER WORK

In October, when a windstorm cut power to the wastewater pump station at Lowman Beach, 200,000 gallons of raw sewage overflowed into Puget Sound. King County quickly brought in a mobile generator to get the station back online.

Such crises should be a rarity when the county completes three projects affecting the Fautleroy neighborhood.

Two use different techniques to reduce overflows from the combined wastewater/stormwater drainage system threaded throughout this area many years ago. The project at Lowman Beach includes installation of a permanent back-up generator.

The third project is a comprehensive upgrade of the wastewater pump station built in 1958 adjacent to the Fautleroy Ferry Terminal.

### Murray CSO Control Project

From now through the fall, King County's contractor will be building the facility's 1,000,000-gallon storage tank across the street from Lowman Beach. The base for the tank has been poured at the bottom on a 60-foot hole. The crew's focus for most of 2015 will be on building the three underground levels of the tank - its floor, walls, and odor-control room.

Beach Drive SW and Lowman Beach Park will remain open during this work. For details, search "Murray CSO" at [www.kingcounty.gov](http://www.kingcounty.gov), contact the 24-hour project information line at 206-205-9186, or email [doug.marsano@kingcounty.gov](mailto:doug.marsano@kingcounty.gov).

### Barton CSO Control Project

In March, the Barton CSO control project starts its second season of roadside rain garden construction, with a goal of completing the five remaining blocks by mid summer.

To check out how the 10 blocks of roadside rain gardens installed last year in the Sunrise Heights and Westwood neighborhoods are maturing, visit the project area, roughly bordered by SW Barton (south), 30th Ave. SW (east), SW Othello (north), and 34th Ave. SW (west).

For details, search "Barton CSO" at [www.kingcounty.gov](http://www.kingcounty.gov) or email [kristine.cramer@kingcounty.gov](mailto:kristine.cramer@kingcounty.gov).

### Barton Pump Station Upgrade

Great news! Construction on the two and a half-year project is nearing completion!

Crews tested the station in February to make sure all the components were working together. In March, they will take down the temporary piping and equipment that have kept the station functional through construction.

Because of tight space to work, site restoration, landscaping, and installation of the station's extensive artwork will happen in the spring, after the new station is fully functional.

For details, search "Barton pump station" at [www.kingcounty.gov](http://www.kingcounty.gov) or email [kristine.cramer@kingcounty.gov](mailto:kristine.cramer@kingcounty.gov).



This half block-long roadside rain garden in Sunrise Heights/Westwood is off to a good start. Photo courtesy Seattle Public Utilities

## LEARN MORE ABOUT RAIN GARDENS


More and more Fautleroy residents are finding that RainWise, the city/county rebate program for home rain gardens and cisterns, is a good deal. If you're not yet among them, here are three opportunities to learn more:

**Tuesday, March 17:** Visit the RainWise table at the Fautleroy Food Fest (see p. 1).

**Saturday, March 21:** Starting at **10 am**, look for the tent in front of the rain garden going in at 9014 34th Ave. SW. Champagne and juice will toast the groundbreaking of four RainWise gardens on the 9000 block of 34th.

Experts will be on hand to answer questions about eligibility for the rebate program and what is involved. WSU Extension master rain gardener Lisa Haglund will also be there to discuss pollinator pathways. Planting projects will be available for kids.

**Sunday, March 29:** Attend RainWise 101 at the Southwest Library, **3-4:30 pm**.



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## NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS NOTES

**Ultrafabtech** is a full-service computer repair shop located at 4507 SW Wildwood Place. Owner and neighborhood resident Michael von Kempf services both PCs and Macs, builds systems, and offers a user-friendly do-it-yourself area. 206-498-4755; <http://ultrafabtech.com>.

The **West Seattle chapter of Biz to Biz**, the small-business networking group, now meets Wednesday mornings at the Fauntleroy Schoolhouse Community Center. Contact Anne White at 425-954-5713.

## NATURE ALLIANCE WELCOMES MEMBERS

In 2012, shortly after the community nixed an idea to install a commercial zip line in Lincoln Park, a handful of volunteers formed the Seattle Nature Alliance to focus on an ambitious agenda: preserving Seattle's natural areas for passive use, wildlife habitat, and scenic beauty.

Since then, the alliance has taken shape as a non-profit (<http://seattlenaturealliance.org>) and begun inviting anyone who shares its mission to become a member.

Individual (\$25), family (\$50), and organization (\$100) memberships will expand the alliance's base of support as well as provide a bit of operating revenue. Funds will initially pay for two interpretive signs for Lincoln Park.

Members will receive an online newsletter and may express opinions through polls and endorsements. The first 40 will also receive a print of the central image on the interpretive signs by artist/designer Denise Dahn.

Seattle Parks and Recreation is currently weighing whether or not to expand traditional uses of natural areas to include active sports. The alliance is strongly advocating for retaining the city's remaining remnants of wild spaces for all to enjoy.



## OUT, OUT !\*#+\*! IVY

Kailyn Jasonowicz, an EarthCorps trainee from Michigan, was one of 22 new corps members who learned ivy removal in the Kilbourne ravine in February. They cleared about 6,750 sq. ft. on the north slope and also planted 150 native shrubs in the wetland. Photo courtesy Jammie Kingham

## VOLUNTEERS TURN OUT FOR PARK

The year-end volunteer numbers compiled by Seattle Parks gave Friends of Lincoln Park something to crow about. Out of the 68 green-space restoration areas in the city that were active during 2014, Lincoln Park ranked seventh in the number of volunteers who participated in work parties (670) and in the number of hours given by those volunteers (2,068).

Sharon Baker, who coordinates twice-monthly work parties in natural areas of the park, proudly proclaimed to her fellow volunteers, "This is a major effort for the health of our city and our citizens. It all adds up!"

See p. 7 for upcoming opportunities to join other volunteers in making a difference in Lincoln Park.



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# COMMUNITY BRIGHTENS WITH BOUQUET OF SPRINGTIME EVENTS

**CHILDREN'S CENTER FUND-RAISER:** The 28th annual dinner auction in support of the **Fauntleroy Children's Center** will transport attendees to Paris, the city of light, on **Saturday, March 7, 5:30 pm** at The Hall at Fauntleroy. Details and ticket information at 206-932-9590 or [www.fauntleroychildrenscenter.org](http://www.fauntleroychildrenscenter.org).

**COMMUNITY BUSINESS:** The FCA Board invites residents to its monthly business meeting on **Tuesday, March 10, April 14, May 12, and June 9 at 7 pm** in the boardroom at the Fauntleroy Schoolhouse Community Center. Contact FCA President Mike Dey at 206-661-0673 or [msday50@aol.com](mailto:msday50@aol.com).

**NATURE'S BUSINESS:** The Fauntleroy Watershed Council will meet **Thursday, March 12, and again May 14 at 7 pm** at Fauntleroy Church. Any resident interested in helping steward neighborhood natural resources is welcome. Details from Judy Pickens at 206-938-4203 or [judy\\_pickens@msn.com](mailto:judy_pickens@msn.com).



**FROZEN:** Stage Struck will be offering two student performances of "Frozen" in the neighborhood. Scores of area children have attended Stage Struck theater camps and many have been working hard on this production. See it on **Saturday, March 14, or Saturday, March 28, at 7 pm** in Fellowship Hall at Fauntleroy Church. Donation at the door.

**TLC AT LINCOLN PARK:** Friends of Lincoln Park will continue their twice-monthly stewardship of natural areas on third Sundays (**March 15, April 19, May 17**) and first Saturdays (**April 4, May 2, June 6**). All interested volunteers are invited to muster at the kiosk in the north parking lot at **9 am** with sturdy shoes, work gloves, and layers suited to the weather. Contact Sharon Baker at 206-464-1068 or [sabaker41@gmail.com](mailto:sabaker41@gmail.com).



**FOOD FEST:** The 2015 Fauntleroy Food Fest and Annual Membership Meeting will be **Tuesday, March 17, 6 pm** at The Hall at Fauntleroy. See p. 1 for details.

**LABYRINTH WALK:** During and after the Food Fest, Tuxedos and Tennis Shoes Catering will have its labyrinth unfurled for a spring equinox meditative walk. Stop by the Vashon Room (lower level) at The Hall at Fauntleroy on **Tuesday, March 17, 7-9 pm**. Donation.



**RAINWISE:** Learn about rain gardens, cisterns, and the city/county rebate program that's a strong incentive for installing them. **Saturday, March 21, 10 am** at 9014 34th Ave. SW or **Sunday, March 29, 3-4:30 pm** at the Southwest Library. See p. 6 for details.

**CAMP COLMAN ALUMNI:** If you've ever been a camper or staffer at Camp Colman, the annual **goop breakfast** is

for you. Reconnect over the most historic pancake topping in the world on **Saturday, March 28, 9 am-noon** (breakfast served at 9:30) in Fellowship Hall at Fauntleroy Church. Free.



## RECYCLE ROUNDUP

**RECYCLE ROUNDUP:** 1 Green Planet and the green committee at Fauntleroy Church will host the spring **Recycle Roundup** on **Sunday, April 26, 9 am - 3 pm** in the church parking lot. The long list of what to bring and the short list of what not to will be posted a few weeks ahead at [www.fauntleroyucc.org](http://www.fauntleroyucc.org) or see it on the *West Seattle Blog*. Free; donation optional.

**SCHOOLHOUSE OPEN HOUSE:** The first special event as Fauntleroy's beloved schoolhouse nears its centennial (in 2017) will be a community open house on **Sunday, May 17, 4 - 7 pm**. Come connect with fellow alumni, record an interview, see memorabilia and art, and meet current tenants. Details from Denise Wallace at [denise@fauntleroysschoolhouse.org](mailto:denise@fauntleroysschoolhouse.org) or 425-445-4064.



## LOW TIDE AT THE BEACH

Believe it or not, volunteer beach naturalists already have low tide at Lincoln Park on their calendars. Spring dates for free guided explorations are as follows:

May 19: 9:45 am-1:30 pm	June 4: 10:30 am-2 pm
June 2: 9:45 am-1 pm	June 6: 12:30-3:30 pm
June 3: 9:45 am - 1:30 pm	June 7: 1:45-4:15 pm

**SWING DANCE:** Last year's Fauntleroy swing dance was so popular that the West Seattle Big Band is eager to do it again! Mark your calendar for **Friday, June 19**, for the second annual **Swing Into Summer** dance at The Hall at Fauntleroy. Lessons at **6:30 pm**, then the dance will start at **7 pm**. Not a dancer? Plan to come anyway to enjoy the best swing-era music you'll ever hear!



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# PAVEMENT MURAL IN FAUNTLEROY? MAYBE

By Judy Pickens

For several years, the Seattle Department of Transportation has allowed neighborhoods to paint murals on the street but, until now, no one in Fauntleroy had applied.

A "pavement mural" is an image painted on the pavement of a residential street, usually at an intersection. It can contribute to a sense of place and bring neighbors together in a common task. It can also give drivers pause and make them aware that they're driving through a neighborhood that cares.

These objectives are what prompted Patanjali Sacha to research pavement murals and initiate the permitting process with the city. She hopes this will be the first of other such murals in Fauntleroy.

The proposed intersection is at 44th Ave. SW and SW Director, across from the entrance to the schoolhouse parking lot. She and her partner, Lee Barrientos, are caretakers of the schoolhouse property.

Patanjali enlisted artist Kristina Cyr, a specialist in murals and stencils, to work on the design. (You may

## WATERSHED REPORT AVAILABLE

The 2014 annual report of the Fauntleroy Watershed Council is available at [www.fauntleroywatershed.org](http://www.fauntleroywatershed.org).

It summarizes another productive year for the council, including the Kilbourne ravine project, salmon releases and monitoring, stewardship of Fauntleroy Park, and education and outreach activities.

have seen her street art in The Junction.) While details are still in flux, the image will include an indigenous hand, bright colors, and shapes that youngsters at the Fauntleroy Children's Center can help paint.

The permitting process requires that 60 percent of residents and businesses within a one-block radius of the proposed site sign a petition in favor of the mural, and Patanjali expects to exceed that goal. The city specifies a gritty paint that will stand up to traffic, recommends annual retouching, and regulates street closure to do the work.

Patanjali plans to apply for a Seattle Department of Neighborhoods matching grant and, when the project is approved, to call for volunteers to clean the pavement, mark the design, and paint. She's working toward installation in late spring or summer.

To ask about this project, sign the petition, be notified when it's time to clean and paint, or discuss another pavement mural in Fauntleroy, contact Patanjali at [fauntleroycaretaker@gmail.com](mailto:fauntleroycaretaker@gmail.com) or 818-395-4538.



This preliminary design by Kristina Cyr would be in primary colors.

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