

FAUNTLEROY RESIDENTS WORKING FOR BETTER EDUCATION

By Maria Groen

Community activism is alive and well in Fauntleroy, as you know from many an article in this newsletter. Local resident, Molly Seaverns, turned her sights on public education two years ago when she began to think about high school options for her growing sons.

Seaverns explains how her quest began, "Plans to replace the viaduct were in the news, then came word that the Seattle School District might end free busing outside of cluster areas, and I started to look closely at how we could enhance the college preparatory options right here in West Seattle."

After much research, Seaverns determined that the International Baccalaureate (IB) program might be a good match for the needs of families in West Seattle who want a strong high school academic program for their children. The International Baccalaureate program is a rigorous high school curriculum for juniors and seniors. At the highest level of participation, students can work towards earning an internationally recognized IB diploma and even earn college credit. Or students can

challenge themselves in a variety of disciplines with individual IB courses.

Seaverns was particularly drawn to IB because, "It helps students learn how to think critically and communicate effectively with its strong writing component. And its international focus broadens their understanding of themselves and the world. I also feel secure in the quality because students are evaluated based on international standards."

Other Fauntleroy parents interested in exploring IB, including Maria Groen, Jennifer Cargal and Denise Tabbutt formed a committee of seven West Seattle volunteers. Two community meetings were held, one at The Hall at Fauntleroy with more than 200



Fauntleroy resident Molly Seaverns with IB Coordinator Laura Robb and Chief Sealth HS Principal, John Boyd

(See IB at Sealth, page 3)

FISH REWARD WATCHERS!

By Judy Pickens

Faithful salmon watchers - many of whom had not seen fish in three years - were rewarded this past fall when 48 spawners came up Fauntleroy Creek. The mature coho began schooling in Fauntleroy Cove in mid September and the first pair entered the creek on Halloween.

Some two dozen veteran and new volunteers stepped up to monitor the cove and creek, plus check the condition of carcasses. Members of Washington Trout, under contract with Seattle Public Utilities, came weekly to mark probable redds. Field trips during the return brought dozens of preschoolers and a delegation from DayStar Retirement Village.

"With all the uncertainties over the health of fish populations and the world's oceans in

general, it's heartening to find proof that a substantial return of salmon to Fauntleroy Creek is still a realistic expectation," said volunteer fish biologist Steev Ward.

The annual drumming to call the fish home launched the watch in mid October, drawing some 65 participants. Watchers spotted the last pair of spawners shortly before Thanksgiving.

"I'm excited to see what spring brings," Steev said. "It's hard to know how the dramatic rainfalls this winter have impacted the salmon eggs incubating in the creek bed, but the fish continue to surprise us. The eggs should be hatching about now and we'll be watching for emerging fry in February."

FERRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

By Gary Dawson

The Legislature Joint Transportation Committee Task Force, appointed by the Governor to study and provide the JTC strategies for providing reliable and cost effective passenger-only ferry (POF) service, met nine times from August 29 through November 29. Sub-committee meetings were also held.

Presentations to the committee have included information and data from Washington State Ferries, (WSF), King County METRO Transit, Kitsap Transit, The Washington State Utilities Transportation Commission, representatives of private operators, and others representing their specific interests regarding passenger-only ferry service.

Throughout the entire process, it became apparent that acquiring consensus among 19 members is a difficult objective. (Ref: Seattle P.I. archives on-line, opinion, December 22, guest columnist Rep. Joe McDermott, Task Force member).

Regardless, at the beginning of the 2006 Legislative session, the Task Force must make a recommendation to the JTC or dissolve. The consequences of failing to reach a consensus could mean no increase in POF runs from Southworth and Vashon to downtown, thus commuters will continue bringing vehicles through Fauntleroy.

During the public comment period of the November 29 meeting, a representative of Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT)

commented about the WSF long-range plan for future auto ferry service from Southworth to downtown. SDOT had previously informed WSF that the plan will not be supported by SDOT. Oral comments added that, since the Fauntleroy terminal is not operating at capacity WSF should manage future growth in Kitsap County through Fauntleroy.

I responded by letter to the Director of SDOT that their strategy is in error in that the Fauntleroy terminal capacity is determined by vessel unload and load turn-around time and not number of vehicles. By these criteria Fauntleroy operates at capacity everyday. In addition SDOT did not include future growth at Vashon that will also add to the total volume of traffic.

Copies of the letter were forwarded to Mayor Nickels, WSF Director Anderson, Councilman Conlin, and 34th District Representatives.

No response has been received as yet.

In another event, WSF performed previously scheduled maintenance that included pile-driving at the Fauntleroy dock. This occurred in October as returning salmon were schooling near the dock before entering Fauntleroy Creek. Some studies indicate that pile-driving is disturbing to schooling salmon and WSF had previously agreed to inform the FCA when this type of work is scheduled.

A dialogue by letter with Director Anderson concluded with a satisfactory agreement to work closer together in the future.

FALL FESTIVAL IS BACK... with a little help from YOU!!!

Volunteers Wanted!

The Fauntleroy Fall Festival is **on** for **October 2006!** It was a great disappointment to the community to have to cancel the festival in 2005. This community event relies completely on volunteer participation to make it work. Do you have time, skills, ideas or money to offer? The FFF board would love to hear from you! Please contact Kim Petram at www.fallfestival@fauntleroy.net

Be sure to attend the **Fauntleroy Fall Festival** fund raiser April 4, 2006 from 5 p.m. to closing at **Endolyne Joe's**. All proceeds beyond their costs will be donated to the Fall Festival fund! Watch for announcements closer to the date. We thank you, Endolyne Joe's, for your support.

Find us on the web at www.fauntleroy.net

IB AT SEALTH (Cont' from page 1)

people in attendance. School Board Member Irene Stewart saw the potential to bring families back to the public schools and championed the idea at the district level.

Long time West Seattle and Chief Sealth High School graduate, John Boyd, also took notice of the community's interest in bringing the International Baccalaureate program to a local high school. Boyd was in his first year as Principal at Chief Sealth when he began to meet with the community IB committee and arrange site visits for his staff at other IB schools. By June of 2005, the faculty and staff at Chief Sealth voted overwhelmingly to submit their application to become an IB school.

Another Fauntleroy resident and President of the high school alumni and booster group Friends of Sealth, David Nichols, joined in the effort by offering his organization's non-profit status to assist in the fund-raising efforts for IB. Says Nichols, "I think all Chief Sealth alumni will be proud of the direction the school is taking with IB."

To date nearly \$17,000 has been raised from community members to augment the Seattle School District's \$125,000 commitment to fund start-up costs. Community funds will assist with teacher training, support programs to help freshmen and sophomores ramp up academically and

augment the library collection. In fact, the grand opening event at Westwood Village's Barnes & Noble Bookstore provided the school's library with new books, thanks to a partnership fostered by the IB Committee.

The IB two year training and accreditation process will enable Chief Sealth juniors and seniors to begin taking IB courses in the fall of 2008. The first full diploma candidates will likely be in the class of 2010. Chief Sealth has set a long-term goal of 70% of its student body taking at least one IB course. In the words of Principal Boyd, "We aren't building an elitist program, rather creating an elite education for all."

Having a world class education for Fauntleroy area high schoolers is one more reason why this neighborhood offers amazing quality of life. And the community service requirements of IB students means they will be contributing back to the neighborhood.

For more information on how you can help the IB Committee, visit the web site at <http://home.comcast.net/~westseattleib/WestSeattleIB.html> or call Molly Seaverns at 937-9520. For more information on Chief Sealth High School's IB plans, please contact the school's IB Coordinator, Laura Robb at lrobb@seattleschools.org 252-8611.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS . . .

Ongoing...

Southwest District Council meets the **first Wednesday** of every month at South Seattle Community College President's Board Room at **7 p.m.** Public is invited to hear discussion on topics relevant to West Seattle.

Fauntleroy Community Association meets the **second Tuesday** of every month (except August and December) at **7 p.m.** in the meeting room at the Fauntleroy Schoolhouse. All FCA members are welcome to attend.

Friends of Fauntleroy Park invites friends and neighbors of the park to monthly weeding parties on the **second Sunday** of each month, **1-3 p.m.** For information, call 938-1567.

Scheduled...

Choral Workshop registration deadline Wednesday, February 1. Phone Fauntleroy Church UCC at 932-5600 to register for this community event. (See article on page 5)

Neighbor Appreciation Day, Saturday, February 11. This annual event is your chance to meet and greet your neighbors!

Festival Concert (Choral Workshop), Sunday February 12, 4 p.m., Fauntleroy Church UCC. A freewill offering will be taken at the concert.

Ferry Advisory Committee Meeting, Tuesday, May 9 will be held in Fauntleroy. For meeting time and location, check the Washington State Ferries website http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/commuter_updates/index.cfm?fuseaction=pub_meetings or www.fauntleroy.net

. . . **Submit your calendar items to news@fauntleroy.net** published quarterly in January, April, July and September . . .

NEIGHBOR APPRECIATION DAY FEBRUARY 11

Fauntleroy is a great place to live and the upcoming eleventh annual Neighbor Appreciation Day is an excellent time to let your neighbors know how much they are valued. It is a special day to celebrate the goodness in those around us, to reach out and strengthen our bonds to each other. Neighbors are encouraged to get together one-on-one or organize appropriate activities to mark the day.

If you organize an event in your neighborhood, send an e-mail to peter.mcgraw@seattle.gov describing your event. It will be posted on the city's web site at <http://www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/appday/>.

Free greeting cards especially designed for the occasion are available at the Neighborhood Service Center, 4205 SW Alaska Street. Stop in and pick yours up!

CHORAL WORKSHOP COMES TO FAUNTLEROY

Do you enjoy choral singing? Then this event is for you! You are invited to participate in a three-part choral workshop and concert of sacred and inspirational music, led by Dennis Coleman, artistic director of the Seattle Men's Chorus and music director at First Congregational Church UCC of Bellevue.

- Saturday Feb. 11, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Admiral Congregational UCC - A choral workshop focusing on choral singing techniques, section work and, preparation for the Festival Concert. A light lunch will be provided.

- Sunday Feb. 12, 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. at Fauntleroy Church UCC - Choir rehearsal.
- Sunday Feb. 12, 4:00 p.m. at Fauntleroy Church UCC - Festival Concert and refreshments.

Workshop registration fee is \$20. A freewill offering will be taken at the concert.

Call Fauntleroy Church UCC at 932-5600 to register for the workshop.

Registration deadline is February 1.

Even if you don't sing, you are invited to attend the February 12 concert at 4 p.m.!

Lights On For Safety

Are your street lights either out or going off and on? If so, for safety in our neighborhood, call 684-7056 or go to <http://www.seattle.gov/light/streetlight/> to report the outage. You will need the four-digit number on the light pole and the nearest address (for the web site) or the nearest cross street. It will be repaired in 4-6 weeks of the call, so, the sooner the you call, the better.

WELCOME BAGS ARE BACK!

After a bit of a lull in delivery, we are working to be more effective in getting welcome bags out to our new neighbors with a goal to get our newcomers a welcome bag within 6 months of moving in. These bags include a fun gift to enjoy, information about our community and West Seattle,

information explaining who we are and how we support our neighborhood, as well as membership information urging our new neighbors to join. We cannot accomplish all we do (see President's Notepad) without the support of our members.

FROM THE WATERSHED COUNCIL

AGENCIES PARTNER WITH COMMUNITY TO FUND WORK ON REACH TO BEACH

By Judy Pickens

Three major funders have committed resources to restoring the last, most degraded section of Fauntleroy Creek.

The King County Conservation District, State Department of Ecology, and City of Seattle have awarded the Fauntleroy Watershed Council just over \$90,000 to work with homeowners, consultants, and contractors to plan, install, and maintain the project. The reach begins at the outlet to the culvert running under Fauntleroy Way S.W. and extends 200 feet to the mouth of the creek in Fauntleroy Cove, just south of the ferry pier.

Minimal habitat improvements were made in 1994 to part of the reach. In 2004 after strong conservationists, Elizabeth Butler and Chris Kim, purchased the reach property, finishing the job became possible. Adjacent owners Susan Lantz-Dey and Mike Dey and Edna and Chuck Sawyer are also enthusiastic and involved supporters.

In line with the watershed action plan, upstream reaches have been restored over the past few years through a combination of city, federal, and grant monies.

Using part of an existing Community Salmon Fund grant last spring, consultants were able to present options for addressing habitat and water quality concerns. The lower cost option proved to have the greater habitat value. With assistance from Seattle Public Utilities, the council secured just over \$19,000 from the conservation district to continue planning and permitting activities this past fall.

The council has contracted with highly experienced consultants for stream design, coastal engineering, archaeology, and permitting. Much of the installation will be done by EarthCorps, an international conservation training program that has often worked in the watershed.

The general plan is to complete the 1994 restoration and rebuild 160-foot "straightaway" to the beach. By adding meanders and other features, the new channel will diversify habitat and, as part of the city's natural drainage system, better accommodate runoff from heavy rains.

The project will also include replacing invasive plants with native species that will control erosion and improve water quality, while maintaining views. Recommendations are due shortly on what could be done on the beach to improve spawner access. Signage and provisions for controlled access for school field trips will cap the project.

The State Ecology grant will be for up to \$44,000, a portion of which is still subject to availability. (The money comes from the state's Coastal Protection Fund, which is fueled by fines levied against polluters.) Most of the remaining funding is from SPU's Aquatic Habitat Matching Grant Program, an outgrowth of the mayor's strategy to improve stream, lake, and shoreline habitat throughout the city. Fauntleroy Creek was one of five projects to receive funding in the program's first round.

If permits can be signed in time, construction will begin this coming summer.

ANNUAL REPORT COMING SOON... The Watershed Council's 2005 annual report is coming soon. To request to be put on the distribution list, contact Judy Pickens at 938-4203 or jpickens@gte.net.

SMOKE GETS IN YOUR LINES . . . Or at least it will in mid-February

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) has observed excessive pump operation at the Fauntleroy Ferry Dock pump station. This event may be the result of high tides or excessive rainfall which is causing sea or ground water to get into the sewer line. As a result, the pump is running longer than normal.

In order to test for and correct this situation, SPU will be conducting a smoke test to locate the source of water inflow into the sewer line. White smoke will be injected into the sewer line and

released at sewer vents (on your roof top), maintenance holes, pipe cracks and other locations that are open to the atmosphere. The smoke is harmless, tasteless, and is non-toxic.

All residents from the ferry dock south to Maplewood Place SW, and east from the Sound to 47th Avenue SW, will receive flyers giving the exact date of the test and explaining the process in the hope that false alarms to emergency responders

(See Smoke, page 6)

SMOKE (cont'd from page 5)

will be avoided in the event a neighbor sees smoke coming from a nearby home. Additionally, those residents who will be directly affected will receive mail notification of the test. And in some cases, SPU will request a "right of entry," to allow inspectors to enter yards to verify smoke releases from vents or broken pipes. If you live in the test

area, be sure to watch for your mail or flyer notification and note the date!

For more information contact Ed Mirabella, Project Manager for Seattle Public Utilities at (206) 684-5959 or e-mail your questions to j.edward.mirabella@seattle.gov.

GET ORGANIZED WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM SDART

Neighbor Appreciation Day might just be the right time to get together to organize for emergency preparedness. *Seattle Disaster Aid & Response Teams* (SDART) is an all-hazard personal and neighborhood preparedness program whose primary goal is to help people prepare to be self-sufficient for the three days following a serious disaster, when 911 emergency responders – police, fire, and medical personnel – may not be available. It's neighbors helping (and looking out for) neighbors.

"Getting Ready . . . SDART's Guide to Personal and Neighborhood Preparedness" workbook will help you take the appropriate actions to prevent many of the possible consequences of a disaster. At the very least, prepare your personal disaster kit with a minimum of three days of food and water and a first aid kit.

To get started on your neighborhood SDART program, contact them at (206) 233-7123 or by email at sdart@ci.seattle.wa.us, or you can visit their website, www.cityofseattle.net/emergency_mgt to obtain necessary start-up information.

LEAKY SEWER LINE AT LINCOLN PARK

A leaking sewer line in Lincoln Park near a sinkhole on the beachfront promenade (see photo, p. 8) developed recently, affecting the water quality of the Sound. Repairs are underway and should be completed soon.

Martha Tuttle, Community Relations, King County Wastewater Treatment Division, reports they are working on design aspects for the Barton Pump Station upgrades and will be ready to work with the sub-committee shortly.



WHO'S WHO ON THE FCA BOARD

Bruce Butterfield, **President** 932-2400

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neighborhoodnews@fautleroy.net

The FCA Board meets on the **second Tuesday** of the month (except August and December) at the Fautleroy Schoolhouse starting at **7 p.m.** Any FCA member is welcome to attend. FCA's mailing address is: **P.O. Box 46343, Seattle, WA 98146-6343.** Web address is **www.fautleroy.net.**

Contact **Neighbors** Editor, Martha Callard by email at

news@fautleroy.net

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S NOTEPAD

The FCA Is Here to Help

By President Bruce Butterfield

The second Tuesday evening of the month* the Fauntleroy Community Association holds our monthly Business Meeting. We changed the name from Board Meeting because we want the community to know anyone is welcome at our informal meeting, not just board members. You can listen in, add comments, and bring us concerns or ideas to make Fauntleroy an even better place to live.

Over the years, we have worked on many issues that came to us from someone with a concern, a gripe or an idea for a project they felt would enhance our neighborhood. The FCA acts as a conduit of information, connecting parties with city, county or state offices and agencies or legislators who can help or groups with similar concerns.

Sometimes we can lend our name to a cause, letting government know it is of interest to a group, rather than one individual--it often gets more attention that way.

Traffic tends to be a leading concern, from speeding to overnight and weekend parking by commuters in park lots or on the streets. From ferry queues stretching past the park all the way down to Beach Drive blocking emergency vehicles when they are needed, to unsafe pedestrian crossing areas, really in need of a light. We hear of cars and cycles racing up 45th and Marine View Drive,

Barton Street or Fauntleroy like there's a checkered flag and a prize at the end.

Neighbors have come with concerns of graffiti or vandalism. The Police Department has come to us about Block Watch and crime prevention efforts--they sponsor the citywide Seattle Night Out, block parties the first Tuesday in August. The Department of Neighborhoods brings us sources for grants to improve parks, play areas and traffic calming or speed control issues. They also sponsor Neighbor Appreciation Day the Saturday before Valentines Day, your chance to pat a good neighbor on the back and give a thank-you.

This month, the Gatewood PTA asked for support as they apply for a grant to improve their school playground. Another group is concerned about King County's plans for their Inter-modal Transfer Station on Harbor Island.

Whatever your interest is, we hope you'll join us some 2nd Tuesday or write or call with your ideas and concerns. See if we can send you in a direction or introduce you to someone to help solve your issue to make your block or neighborhood just a little bit better.

*(FCA Business Meetings are on 2nd Tuesdays, at 7PM in the old Fauntleroy School Building, 9131 California Ave SW, excluding August and December. Drop in anytime)

BIRDERS GATHER AT FAUNTLEROY COVE

by Judy Pickens

Birders check out feathered residents of Fauntleroy Cove during a community bird walk in mid January. Organized by Robert Gresky (foreground) with the Fauntleroy Watershed Council, the event drew a dozen birders to Fauntleroy Park and Cove.

The following 36 species were sighted: bufflehead, bushtits, canvasback, black-capped chickadee, chestnut-backed chickadee, Brandt's cormorant, double-crested cormorant, American crow, mourning dove, rock dove, domestic geese, Barrow's goldeneye, common goldeneye, horned grebe, western grebe, glaucous-winged gull, Thayer's gull, western gull, sharp-shinned hawk, Anna's hummingbird, Stellar's jay, Oregon (dark-eyed) junco, common loon, mallard, red-breasted merganser, red-breasted nuthatch, American robin, greater scaup, black scoter, surf scoter, house sparrow, song sparrow, varied thrush, pileated woodpecker, house wren, winter wren. (WOW!)



NATURE TAKES ITS TOLL ON FAUNTLEROY



Our neighborhood did not escape the ravages of our recent rainfall. The promenade at Lincoln Park (left) developed a large sinkhole (article, p. 6), and in the 10200 block of 47th Avenue SW, the west edge of the road collapsed. Immediate repairs were necessary as SPU lines were involved.

THE FAUNTLEROY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION IS ASSEMBLING A TASK FORCE OF THREE OR FOUR PEOPLE TO WORK WITH KING COUNTY WASTEWATER TREATMENT. IF YOU'D LIKE TO VOLUNTEER FOR THIS COMMITTEE, PLEASE CONTACT ANY BOARD MEMBER.



HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR JANUARY 29
THIS IS THE YEAR OF THE DOG



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