

## POLICING PRIORITIES AFFECTING ENFORCEMENT OF CITY NOISE LIMIT

By Judy Pickens

Last summer, the City Council was finally able to pass a vehicle-exhaust noise ordinance - legislation that Fauntleroy and other neighborhoods had been seeking for some time.

Police officers can now issue a \$135 citation to drivers for muffler and engine noise that's clearly audible by a person of normal hearing at a distance of 75 feet or more from the vehicle.

Because of our ferry traffic, FCA worked with Councilwoman Lisa Herbold to add Fauntleroy to the list of neighborhoods where vehicle noise was affecting public safety and health. Forty-three percent of residents responding to FCA's 2018 community survey mentioned vehicle noise as an issue.

The ordinance requires the Seattle Police Department to report quarterly on the location, demographics, and disposition of noise citations. In her first report, issued in April, Chief Carmen Best emphasized that the department's initial focus was on training officers and issuing warnings. Enforcement over the winter was also scant because of tasks associated with closure of the Alaskan Way viaduct and the need to shift some traffic-enforcement resources to patrols.

Best noted that training had to factor in state law prohibiting officers from targeting motorcyclists without a legal basis. Many noise complaints here and elsewhere have been about loud motorcycle exhaust.

The department was able to plan three weekend enforcement emphases beginning in May, including in Fauntleroy. Patrol dates were to be announced in advance.

In her report, Best cautioned that, while summer is peak season for vehicle noise, it's also peak season for events that can require the shifting of patrol officers away from the routine. They are poised, however, to issue citations as opportunity and workload allow.

## PLANNING STARTS WITH LOOK AT 'REASONABLE' ALTERNATIVES

By Frank Immel

As outlined in Washington State Ferries' long-range plan, work on the "SR160/Fauntleroy Terminal - Trestle and Transfer Span Replacement Project" is under way.

An engineering firm has started preliminary design and environmental assessment. This work will include identifying and evaluating "reasonable" alternatives to address deficiencies of the aging and seismically vulnerable terminal, which is experiencing some of the largest growth in the state's system.

In April, the project's environmental-compliance team made a site visit to understand salmon timing and other factors associated with Fauntleroy Creek, which flows into central Puget Sound near the ferry pier. Developing the full scope of work is to start this fall.

State Ferries and local ferry advisory committees recently hosted community meetings at Southworth and Vashon to get input about the future of ferries, proposed fare changes, and projects affecting those legs of the triangle route.

Your ferry advisory committee (me, Bill Wellington, Mardi Clements, and Gary Dawson) will keep you posted on these and other developments that will or could affect our neighborhood.



**Fauntleroy Trestle & Transfer Span Replacement Project**

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## CITY ANALYZING REPLACEMENT OPTIONS FOR CREEK CULVERTS

Seattle Public Utilities is continuing analysis of options for replacing its culverts under 45th Ave. SW and California Ave. SW that carry flow through the middle reach of Fauntleroy Creek.

At community events in March, the utility asked for feedback on preliminary concepts, which planners are now incorporating. The process includes analyzing cost-effectiveness, impacts, risks, and environmental and community benefits. They plan to present recommended options to the community early this summer.

Planners are continuing to consult with Fauntleroy Church, which owns most of the creek culvert under the main church parking lot.

For details about the project, visit [www.seattle.gov/util/EnvironmentConservation/Projects/FauntleroyCreekCulvertsReplacement/](http://www.seattle.gov/util/EnvironmentConservation/Projects/FauntleroyCreekCulvertsReplacement/).

To receive project information directly, including notice of upcoming events, email [spu\\_fauntleroycreekculvert-subscribe-request@talk2.seattle.gov](mailto:spu_fauntleroycreekculvert-subscribe-request@talk2.seattle.gov) and following instructions in the confirmation email.

## SUMMER COULD BE ODIFEROUS

After a seven-year hiatus, the "Fauntleroy stench" was back last summer as sea lettuce decaying on the beach emitted hydrogen sulfide gas.

If summer temperatures are high and if Fauntleroy Cove has an abundance of nutrients, the algae will flourish and breezes will carry the noxious gas into the neighborhood at low tide. First documented in the early 1980s, it can irritate eyes, cause headaches, and even prompt vomiting. Heavy and colorless, it can persist in basements and other low-lying sites.

After years of seeking relief at local and state levels, FCA gained an understanding of the situation but little more, including why we had no stench for those seven years. Now the State Department of Ecology has a unit monitoring algae blooms, and the cove is on its list.

Here are precautions to take if the stench is again a feature of summer in Fauntleroy:

- Avoid being outdoors and close windows and doors an hour or so either side of low tide.
- Use a large fan to clear the air in bedrooms before retiring for the night.
- Leave home for a few hours if you can when the stench is especially strong.



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## DINE OUT BENEFITS FESTIVAL

The Fauntleroy Fall Festival's coffers are richer by \$3,200 dollars, thanks to Endolynne Joe's Restaurant and those who donated items and bought tickets for the raffle associated with dine-out day on May 7.

Sales all that day enabled Joe's to donate \$1,800, and the raffle brought in another \$1,400 to help keep the Oct. 27 festival free. The total was a few dollars more than the day brought in for last year's festival.

The steering committee will be looking to FCA, other donors, and grant money to flesh out the budget.

## WEST SEATTLE GARDEN TOUR GRANT COMING TO WATERSHED

The Fauntleroy Watershed Stewardship Fund is one of six local non-profits slated to receive a share of proceeds from this year's West Seattle Garden Tour.

The event, on **Sunday, June 23**, attracts volunteers, sponsors, and donors such that the bulk of proceeds from ticket sales and sponsorships can be dispersed in grants that promote horticulture, education, and artistic endeavors.

About \$4,000 of the anticipated \$25,000 in grants will go to EarthCorps for projects initiated by the Fauntleroy Watershed Council. A portion will fund a pocket park at the east end of the Kilbourne ravine (next to the Fauntleroy Schoolhouse Community Center and bus stop) and the remainder will go toward maintaining restored habitat along the middle reach of Fauntleroy Creek.

Backed by the community center's board, the project will engage students from Taproot School to help prepare, plant, and maintain the 60 sq. ft. garden. Signage will identify the species there, with an emphasis on how native plants used in the wild can also attract pollinators and birds to the home landscape.

Since the stewardship fund received its first donation in March 2018, it has grown to \$10,675 and now figures in a proposal for a restoration grant requiring matching funds. Find details at [www.fauntleroywatershed.org/donate](http://www.fauntleroywatershed.org/donate).

## FCA LEADERSHIP

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Alexis Zolner, treasurer; 206-935-6721

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Alan Grainger                          David Haggerty

Kris Ilgenfritz                         Susan Lantz-Dey

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Judy Pickens, writer/editor

## FROM PAST TO PRESENT

# SPIRIT ROCK IN FAUNTLEROY COVE VESTIGE OF COAST SALISH LEGEND

By Judy Pickens

*In the early 1970s, I heard about the "spirit rock" on the beach in Fauntleroy Cove - evidence that Coast Salish people had lived here centuries before I arrived. I dug into my file for this story so that newcomers might know about the rock and its legend.*

Sand buildup on the beach about 100 yards south of the Fauntleroy Ferry Terminal has nearly obscured A'yahos, aka the "spirit rock." To Coast Salish people, the rock was inhabited by a vicious guardian spirit whose mean temper could infect anyone who looked at it.

On March 20, 1904, the Seattle Post-Intelligencer's article, "When the Earth Trembled in Pioneer Days in Seattle" put a recent earthquake into perspective:

"When Seattle was first settled by the white people, the Indians told of a great earthquake that had occurred some fifty years before. They related that the shocks were so severe that the earth opened up in great cracks and that their little mat and slab huts were shaken to the ground and there were great landslides."

The quake was not so notable for indigenous people, who by then had a 1,000-year history of telling stories about the horned water serpents that caused quakes and landslides. They told of Whale as an under-world monster and Thunderbird as an over-world benevolent being) who fought so fiercely that the ground shook, the water churned, and the ground level changed.

They attributed such events to the spirit's power to tear the earth, and if people looked at the stone, it would explode - or at the very least, the hapless victim would be twisted into a knot.

In 2003, Ruth S. Ludwin, then with the Department of Earth and Space Sciences at the University of Washington, took a research scientist's look at the "A'yahos" here and those at a few other locations along the Seattle fault. The late Morey Skaret and I had the pleasure of taking her down to the beach. As best we could determine, only a few inches of the spirit rock peeked above the sand.

LIDAR images of this area document a giant prehistoric landslide about a mile in length, starting at about where present-day SW Thistle meets 42nd Ave. SW and terminating on the beach at Fauntleroy Cove. The resulting upheaval would certainly have validated that an A'yahos sea and land monster had been duking it out.

In a poster presentation in October 2003, the scientist described A'yahos as a shape-shifter, "often appearing as an enormous serpent, sometimes double-headed, with



**A'yahos was thought to cause life-threatening landslides.**  
Sketch as published on [www.metkere.com](http://www.metkere.com).

blazing eyes and horns." Who would willingly look at that!

In his unpublished manuscript, "Before Seattle," historian David Buerge noted that the cove area was *psai-YAH-hus* to Coast Salish - home to a spirit boulder:

"To the natives, spirit boulders were fearful objects, believed to be the dormant form of horn-headed serpents that lived underground and caused landslides and earthquakes when they moved."

If you want to look for the spirit rock, respect beach-front ownership by going at low tide.



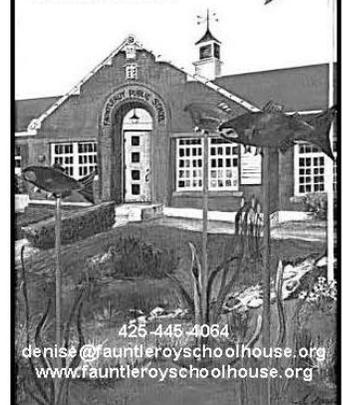
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# CROSSING DATA SHOW LIGHT MOST NEEDED AT SW ROSE

By Marty Westerman

According to FCA monitors, many more people are crossing Fauntleroy Way SW at SW Rose Street than at SW Kenyon Street, where, the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) installed a push-button pedestrian light nearly 15 years ago.

SDOT defends this choice by citing the need to “pulse” traffic and look out for pedestrian safety. The latter is an argument we still don’t buy.

The real issue began when Metro put in the Rapid Ride bus stop at SW Rose Street and not at SW Kenyon. And while a curb cut was put in at Rose at the time, no provision was made for pedestrians to cross the street to and from the bus stop. Crossing there can be especially unsafe during rush hour when ferry traffic is queued along the street. FCA is already aware of one pedestrian accident that occurred at Rose.

FCA has repeatedly pointed out that park users who haven’t parked in the north lot start their entry into the north end of Lincoln Park by crossing Fauntleroy Way between the bus stops at Rose. According to Metro, more than 20,000 bus users a year also cross at Rose. That’s where the light needs to be.

To determine placement of a pedestrian or traffic light, SDOT requires that a street be busy with traffic and that at least 20 pedestrian cross it per hour. The department measures traffic with street counters but it tallies crossings by sending people to count, sometimes for as little as one hour, according to SDOT engineer William Burns.

No one questions that Fauntleroy Way is a very busy arterial. About 4,400 vehicles per day use it to get to and from the ferry terminal. Nearly 1,000 local vehicles use it, as do a dozen buses an hour at peak times.

To collect our own data, two neighborhood observers went out earlier this year for two-hour periods on weekday mornings and afternoons to count pedestrian crossings at Rose and at Kenyon. One observer reported 4 morning crossings at Rose compared with 0 at Kenyon, and 25 afternoon crossings at Rose compared with 3 at Kenyon.

We will be sending our crossing counts to SDOT and members of the City Council, asking that transportation money be spent where the neighborhood most needs it.



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# ADD TO CITY’S TREE CANOPY

Applications for the city’s Trees for Neighborhoods will open in mid July for free street trees to plant in the fall. Each tree will come with a watering bag and mulch, help applying for a planting permit, and give a hand with planting if you’re physically unable to do it yourself.

You may apply for up to four trees from this year’s approved species. You’ll be notified when and where to pick them up and attend a workshop about planting and care. The city will even deliver if you don’t have a vehicle.

Learn more and get on the list to be notified when the application period opens by visiting [www.seattle.gov/trees/treesforneighborhoods.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/trees/treesforneighborhoods.htm).

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- Fauntleroy Community Service Agency
- Garden Coaching Solutions
- Head-to-Toe Spa
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- Ocean Light Zen Center
- Pilates At Fauntleroy
- Seattle Nature Alliance
- Sheppard Bookkeeping Services
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# EVENTS WILL TAKE YOU TO BEACH, DANCE FLOOR, GARDENS

**COMMUNITY SALMON RELEASE:** The Fautleroy Watershed Council is offering the opportunity to put coho fry in the water on **Saturday, June 8, 1:00-3:00 pm** at the big bridge in Fautleroy Park (a brief stroll from the SW Barton Street entrance); [www.fautleroywatershed.org](http://www.fautleroywatershed.org).

## LOW TIDE AT THE BEACH

Volunteer beach naturalists will be on the south beach at Lincoln Park to offer free low-tide explorations as follows:

June 4 10am–1:30pm	July 3 10am–2pm*
June 5 10:30am–2:30pm*	July 4 10:30am–2:30pm
June 6 11:30am–3pm*	July 5 11:30am–3pm
June 8 2–4pm*	July 6 12:30–3pm
June 15 9:30–11:30am *	July 16 10am–1pm
June 16 9:30am–12:30pm	July 17 10:30am–1:30pm
June 17 10am–1pm	July 31 9:30am–1pm
June 18 10:15am–1:15pm	Aug. 1 9:30am–1:30pm
June 19 11:30am–2pm*	Aug. 2 10:30am–2:30pm
July 2 9:30am–12:45pm*	Aug. 3 11:30am–2:30pm
*super-low tide	Aug. 4 1–3pm

**COMMUNITY BUSINESS:** The FCA Board welcomes residents at its monthly business meetings on second Tuesdays (**June 11, July 9**) at **7:00 pm** in the boardroom at the Fautleroy Schoolhouse Community Center. Ask President Mike Dey about the agenda: 206-661-0673.

**LINCOLN LOVERS:** Show your love of the park's urban forest by joining Friends of Lincoln Park for work parties on **third Sundays (June 16, July 21, Aug. 18)** and/or **first Saturdays (July 6, Aug. 3, Sept. 7)**. Muster at the kiosk in the north parking lot at **9:00 am** with sturdy shoes, long pants, work gloves, and water. Contact Sharon Baker at 206-464-1068 or [sabaker41@gmail.com](mailto:sabaker41@gmail.com).

**SWEET DO-SI-DO:** Sweet, Sweet Music's community square dance on **Friday, June 21, 7:00 pm** in Fellowship Hall at Fautleroy Church will feature local bluegrass band Squirrel Butter playing for all comers. Adults \$12/seniors \$10/kids free at the door; dessert and beverage included.

**WEST SEATTLE GARDEN TOUR:** See how nine properties (including Fautleroy's historic Colman estate) use plants, structures, and artistic touches on **Sunday, June 23, 9 am - 3 pm**. Read all about the gardens and buy tickets at [www.westseattlegardentour.org](http://www.westseattlegardentour.org).

**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS:** To avoid the crush of fall events, Fautleroy Church shifted its annual blessing of the animals to **Sunday, June 23, at 2:00 pm** in the sanctuary. Crowd-tolerant pets of all varieties are welcome, as are photos of those who are homebodies. Treats for all to follow the brief service.

**SEATTLE NIGHT OUT:** The annual "Night Out Against Crime" will be **Tuesday, Aug. 6**. Register your block party and ask for street closure at [www.seattle.gov/police/nightout](http://www.seattle.gov/police/nightout).

## DATES TO SAVE

**2ND TIME SALE:** This annual sale will be **Saturday, Sept. 14**, and **Sunday, Sept. 15**, at Fautleroy Church. See [www.fautleroyucc.org/2nd-time-sale](http://www.fautleroyucc.org/2nd-time-sale) for details about donating quality items.

**RECYCLE ROUNDUP:** The fall roundup will be **Sunday, Sept. 22**, in the Fautleroy Church parking lot. Watch [www.fautleroyucc.org](http://www.fautleroyucc.org) for lists of what to bring and not.

**FAUTLEROY FALL FESTIVAL:** The 2019 edition of this popular community event will be **Sunday, Oct. 27, 2:00-5:00 pm**. Free activities for all, plus vendors.



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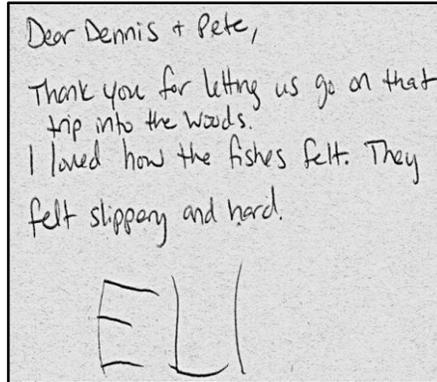
# COMMUNITY RELEASE TO CAP SEASON ON FAUNTLEROY CREEK

Salmon releases brought about 750 students and their adult helpers to Fautleroy Park between late April and the end of May. In their wake, more than 2,000 coho fry began their year in Fautleroy Creek.

Volunteers Dennis Hinton, Shannon Ninburg, Pete Draughon, and Peggy Cummings helped everyone put fish in the water, explore nearby habitat, and stay safe. Many of the students then came to the lower creek for more exploration and a question-and-answer session with Judy Pickens and Phil Sweetland.

City Councilwoman Lisa Herbold and County Councilman Joe McDermott got in on the action. EarthCorps crewmembers working in

the Kilbourne ravine enhanced the release experience for Our Lady of Guadalupe sixth graders by talking



With help from a teacher, little Eli put his sentiments in writing after Admiral Co-Op Preschool's May 8 release.

about the restoration project and plans for using their training.

The releases wrapped up Salmon in the Schools units at 10 West Seattle elementaries. Two area preschools also had salmon tanks and two more released fish reared by volunteer Jack Lawless.

Since receiving eggs in January, most schools had a successful rearing season, which left many of Jack's fish available for a free community release on **Saturday, June 8, 1:00 - 3:00 pm**. Anyone wishing to put fish in the water and talk salmon and habitat with the volunteers should come to the big bridge in Fautleroy Park (a short, level stroll east from the SW Barton Street entrance).

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If you're a member of Facebook, go to [www.facebook.com/FautleroyCommunityAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/FautleroyCommunityAssociation).

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