

LINCOLN PARK ADVOCACY

PARKS COMMITS TO DO BETTER JOB OF WORKING TOGETHER

In late June when the *West Seattle Blog* reported the possibility of a high-ropes/zipline course in Lincoln Park, FCA's collective ears perked up.

The proposal, by a private contractor, was news to Fauntleroy, where the park is located. After an intensive (and sometimes contentious) community conversation, led by the FCA Board, Seattle Parks and Recreation quickly backed off the idea and sought input from neighborhood representatives about how to do a better job of working together.

The FCA Board committed to find ways to strengthen Fauntleroy's ties to the park, and Seattle Parks committed to seek timely community input about any more ideas for making money at Lincoln Park.

WHAT WAS PROPOSED. Within hours of breaking the news, the Blog reported that Seattle Parks had been working for over a year with a British company called Go Ape to develop the high-ropes/zipline course, without community input. Staff said that they *(continued on p. 2)*

SCHOOLHOUSE ROOF WORK BEGINS

With construction boxes on the ground and workers in the attic, Phase 1 of roof-replacement at the Fauntleroy Schoolhouse Community Center is sure to entertain area residents for weeks.

Phase 1 is making structural and seismic improvements and reshingling the east side of the 49,000 sq. ft. building, along California Ave. SW. That slope is roughly 40 percent of the expansive roof. Andersen Constuction was to start work on Aug. 27. Completion is expected by Nov. 2.

All the old shingles will be removed and, yes, the new ones will be schoolhouse red. Associated trim colors will remain the same.

The Fauntleroy Community Service Agency board is in the midst of a capital campaign to pay for roof repairs and upgrades to the fire and safety system. The board authorized \$300,000 from a building reserve fund, plus \$600,000 from private donations and a secured loan, for Phase 1. The overall \$1.6 million campaign continues.



FCA WINS ONE FOR SAFER DRIVING

Did you ever miss seeing the flashing light warning southbound drivers on Fauntleroy Way SW to slow to 20 mph for the Gatewood school zone (a \$189 violation)? Thanks to advocacy by the FCA Board, you and other well-meaning drivers are now more likely to see it.

On Aug. 14, the board sent letters asking that the light be made more visible, concurrent with installation of a fixed speed-monitoring/ticketing camera in the school zone. The Seattle Police Department agreed that more drivers would comply if the light weren't on a curve and obscured by foliage. On Aug 26, a Seattle Department of Transportation crew moved it south (see photo) to be kitty-corner from the school playground, near SW Frontenac. *Photo by Phil Sweetland*

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LINCOLN PARK (CONT'D.)

had expected to host a public meeting in August.

Years of budget cuts have forced the city to look at possible ways to make money through "emerging" forms of recreation. The Go Ape proposal predicted that its course could generate about \$60,000 a year for the city and bring hundreds of enthusiasts a year to Lincoln Park.

"Wait a minute!" was the gist of more than 250 reader comments to the *Blog* – the highest number recorded for non-snow news. Letters to public officials flew off keyboards, and opponents quickly formed Facebook and web sites to rally the troops.

MESSAGE DELIVERED – AND HEARD.

Director Kim Petram stepped forward to organize FCA's response to the lack of timely community notification; parking, infrastructure, noise, and habitat concerns; and apparent violations of Seattle Parks' own policies and procedures.

The focus became FCA's monthly board meeting on July 10, moved to the Hall at Fautleroy to accommodate the expected crowd. The board invited Rebecca Salinas and Charles Ng to attend for Seattle Parks, and they brought a representative from Go Ape.

No one foresaw that upwards of 280 people would come! FCA President Bruce Butterfield kept a tight grip on the meeting to ensure that all who wanted to speak were heard respectfully. After comments from the Seattle Parks representatives, Petram led the standing-room-only crowd through a well-crafted outline of major points.

Guests with expertise in park bird life, ecology, and eco-psychology spoke. Then Butterfield opened the floor for two-minute public comments.

BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION PARTNERS

Bruce Butterfield, Prudential NW Realty

Dance! West Seattle

Devir U.S., LLC

Endolyne Joe's Restaurant

Fautleroy Children's Center

Fautleroy Community Service Agency

Fautleroy Church, United Church of Christ

Gail Ann Photography

Guadalajara Restaurant

Tuxedos and Tennis Shoes Catering

West Seattle & Fautleroy YMCA

Wildwood Bed and Breakfast

GET DOWN & DIRTY FOR PARK

The Friends of Lincoln Park pull weeds, mends fences - whatever volunteers can do - twice a month. See the calendar listing on page 7 for details and join them when you can.

Seattle Parks will be putting emphasis on Lincoln Park the week of Sept. 17 with a "jamboree" that will rally staff from throughout the system. They will concentrate on maintenance tasks and small projects that have been deferred, such as repairing tables and installing lighting. Details: carol.baker@seattle.gov or 684-7457.

Most speakers did not need that long to make their case for keeping the ropes course in particular and commercial attractions in general out of Lincoln Park. At the close, the FCA Board formally asked Seattle Parks to abandon the proposal.

Interim Superintendent Christopher Williams did so the next day. He also requested to meet with Fautleroy community representatives.

STRENGTHENING TIE TO COMMUNITY. At that meeting, on July 30, Williams apologized for his department's lack of timely communication with the community and noted that the message from citizens was clear: The ropes-course proposal was not a good fit for Lincoln Park.

Williams pointed out that budget reductions are driving Seattle Parks to be more entrepreneurial – to seek partnerships and revenue opportunities in order to maintain services. He said that citizens are asking public parks to shift from traditional forms of recreation to such things as bike polo, dodge ball, and skateboarding – changes that have budget and community-relations implications.

The emphasis of the meeting, though, was on building bridges with Fautleroy. As Williams put it, Seattle's public-parks system is "only as good as our partnerships with the community."

He designated Robert Stowers, resource manager for the department's south region, to work with FCA to identify ways to strengthen the tie between park and community. The aim is to ensure that Lincoln Park meets user needs *and* maintaining its integrity as both a public and natural space.

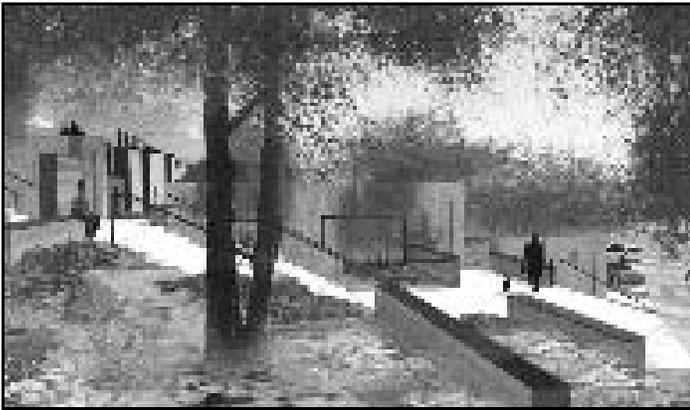
If you are interested in being part of this ongoing "conversation," contact FCA President Bruce Butterfield at 932-2400 or brucebutterfield@pnwrealty.com.

FCA officers and board members gratefully thank all the area residents who stepped up to voice their opinion, who helped prepare presentations made at the board meeting, and who demonstrated their love of the community and Lincoln Park.

ARTIST CHOICE, OPEN HOUSES ADVANCE AREA CSO PROJECTS

King County's Murray combined sewer overflow (CSO) project is closing in on final design for the facility, due in December, and has chosen Robert Horner as the project artist. He specializes in "rammed earth" installations that use compacted local soils and other materials to create an environmentally friendly composite stronger than concrete.

Robert shared his initial concepts with the project's Design Advisory Group (DAG) at its July meeting. To view a slideshow on site and architectural design, visit www.kingcounty.gov and search for "Murray July DAG."



One view of Robert Horner's design atop the Murray CSO facility, across from Lowman Beach Park. Courtesy the artist

The next DAG meeting will be Sept. 27, 6:30 PM, at Fauntleroy Church. Topics will include updated design elements, site fencing and lighting, and likely construction techniques.

The site was fenced off in August and two organizations oversaw creation of art panels to decorate the fence. Urban ArtWorks was responsible for panels along Lincoln Park Way SW and the Nature Consortium - aided by a community paint party in mid August - was responsible for panels along Beach Drive SW.

In late June, more than 150 residents of the Sunrise Heights and Westwood neighborhoods attended block open houses about bioretention swales slated for installation on their streets. These "green" structures will enable rainwater to seep into the ground instead of into storm drains.

The fact that King County hosted 24 such open houses is indicative of the high level of community engagement this project has generated. By reducing the volume of water entering this area's CSO system, the swales will reduce pollution of Fauntleroy Cove when that system overflows.

The project team is now refining designs based on community input, as well as feedback from

permitting agencies. To learn about the next public meeting or get more project information, visit www.kingcounty.gov and search for "Barton CSO."

PUMP STATION ON SCHEDULE

King County's project to enlarge the Barton wastewater pump station adjacent to the ferry terminal continues on schedule. After site preparation, the emphasis was on completing a retaining wall on the north side of the property.

The level of activity will increase significantly in September when jet grouting gets under way. This construction method uses pressure to inject grout below ground to stabilize the soil for workers.

Nearly all facets of the new pump station will be underground. To see the design and keep up to date, visit www.kingcounty.gov and search for "Barton pump station."

FCA LEADERSHIP

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SUNDAY, OCT. 14

FAUNTLEROY FALL FESTIVAL TO MARK FUN-FILLED DECADE OF STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY

Who would have thought, in 2002, that the germ of an idea to strengthen community in Fautleroy would have grown over 10 years into a much-anticipated annual event?

Certainly not Debbie Kerns and

the others who cobbled together the first Fautleroy Fall Festival. "Will they come?" was the question that lay in the pit of her stomach that day:

"I was standing at the top of the stairs to the Y, not knowing if this thing would fly, and saw all these people coming from every direction! It was the best feeling of 'We did it!'"

The first festival drew about 500 people to the church/YMCA/schoolhouse triangle. In recent years, the crowd has reached an estimated 2,000.

If the weather cooperates, at least that many people, from babes in arms to elders, will be on hand **Sunday, Oct. 14**, to celebrate the 10-year milestone. Festivities will start at 2 PM and run until 6 PM. Outdoor activities will close at dusk (about 5 PM).

In addition to a plethora of free activities, from a climbing wall to a theater performance, vendors will have tasty food and drink for sale to warm and energize. Just-for-fun things will include backyard chickens, fly tying, and the ever-popular stilt walker. The *West Seattle Blog* will publish a full rundown about a week before the festival.

Donations from FCA, Fautleroy Church, the West Seattle/Fautleroy YMCA, and Little Pilgrim School enabled the steering committee to book participants and order 10th-anniversary hoodies (on sale now at the church and also at the festival for \$20). A fund-raising evening at Endolyne Joe's in May replenished the bank account.

Donation boxes at the festival will welcome cash or checks (made out to FCA with "festival" on the note line). These individual gifts will pay final bills and, if folks are generous, provide seed money for 2013.

Watch for members of the volunteer steering committee at the festival and give them a BIG thanks: Jenny Mandt, Mary Sanderson, and Antje Staudt (YMCA), Kim Petram (FCA), Rev. David Kratz, Jackie Gould, Terry Clements, and Kathleen Steele (church), David Haggerty (Tuxedos and Tennis Shoes Catering), Denise Wallace (Fautleroy Schoolhouse Community Center), Lorrie Cook (Little Pilgrim School), and Amber Heinemann (Endolyne Joe's). – all text by **Judy Pickens**

MAGICAL DOLLS HAVE BEEN DANCING FOR A DECADE

Magic will again be in the air as students when "Dance!West Seattle" perform a scene from "The Magical Doll Maker" at the Fautleroy Fall Festival.

The audience has been standing-room-only every year since young classical ballet dancers took to the church stage at the very first festival. The scene is from a full performance that they will be doing at the school's December recital.



Heather Halvorson, Monica Keller, and Emma Van Orden make dolls come alive in Dance! West Seattle's performance at the 2011 fall festival. Photo courtesy Carl Sweetland

The festival isn't their only stop. They'll take this "Doll Maker" vignette to up to 10 places, including The Kenney and the Seattle Center WinterFest.

"It gives our students – especially those who are understudies for the recital – a chance to perform," explained artistic director/owner Kim Dinsmoor.

The piece is a good fit for the festival, given the small stage and 40-minute time limit. Expect dancers to be in full costume and to take every step seriously.

The school opened in 1983 in the Fautleroy Schoolhouse as a ballet studio. Kim joined the staff and company in 1995 and bought the school in 2007.

She soon began diversifying the curriculum to include jazz, modern, hip-hop, and (coming soon) tap. The Seattle Civic Dance Theatre's board recently chose "Dance!West Seattle" as an all-encompassing new name for the school.

At capacity, it can serve 180 students, starting at age 3. Unlike informal classes at a community center, students enroll for September-to-December or January-to-June sessions, each of which culminates in a big-stage performance.

If what you see at this year's festival peaks your interest in learning to dance, at any age, call 938-3062 or visit <http://seattlecivildance.com>

FOOD VENDORS TO KEEP FESTIVAL-GOERS ENERGIZED



The crew from Guadalajara Restaurant (including Eric Ascencio shown at FCA's Food Fest last March) will again be dishing Mexican specialties at the fall festival. Look for Guadalajara and other food and beverage vendors in and near the church parking lot. Photo courtesy Gail Ann Photography

POPULAR CAKE CONTEST, WALK TO BE BACK

Every year the festival steering committee offers new activities and performers. In 2011, a decorated cake contest and cake walk were among them – and they will be back by popular demand.

Led by volunteer Carolyn Tucker, the contest part will award prizes (Bonnie Beerman's custom-made chef hats!) to decorated cakes in three categories: beginner, middle, and experienced. Anyone attending the festival may cast one vote in each category.

The rules are simple: Decorate a cake of any size in a fall theme (harvest, leaves, spider webs, etc.) and bring it to The Hall at Fautleroy between noon and 2 PM on festival Sunday. Inedible decorations such as fresh flowers are okay, as long as they can be removed before someone eats your cake.

Each cake will be displayed with a number and brief description so that the creator is anonymous. Voting will stop about 3:30, when the cake in each category with the most votes will be declared a winner.

Then the cake walk begins. Like musical chairs, anyone who wants to participate will have a chance to step into a circle of numbers on the floor. Walkers will move from number to number until

the music stops. If the number you're standing on is drawn, you get to choose a cake to take home. The walk will continue until all the cakes are taken.

"It's all about showcasing talent and sharing it with the community," Carolyn said. "And it's a LOT of fun!"



Bonnie Beerman and Carolyn Tucker will be back this year to run the decorated cake contest and cake walk at the fall festival. Photo courtesy Photos courtesy Cindy Hegland

DON'T WASTE HEALTHY FRUIT

You may have heard about City Fruit, the program that connects the dots between wasted fruit from urban fruit trees and the hungry in our city. What you may not know is that it recently expanded to West Seattle and Fauntleroy's own Ann Dawson is on the steering committee that is making it happen.



City Fruit focuses on urban fruit as a resource for nourishing people, building community, and maintaining a healthy climate. The concept is simple:

If you have a tree in your yard or parking strip that produces fruit you don't want – or more fruit than you can use - a City Fruit volunteer will pick the fruit for food banks, senior centers, and other places that can use it. In the past three years, the program has harvested nearly 30,000 pounds of apples, pears, cherries, plums, and other fruit that otherwise would have gone to waste.

If you have healthy fruit to donate before the rainy season closes in, email westseattle@cityfruit.org with your name, address, type of fruit, and the best way to reach you. You'll hear back soon about scheduling the harvest.

Looking toward spring, City Fruit can help you diagnose and treat tree disease, improve pruning techniques, or learn which fruit varieties work best here. Its website at www.cityfruit.org is chockfull of other information, too.

Also visit the website if you might want to volunteer or become a member of this neighbor-to-neighbor way to strengthen our local food system.

TUCKER JOINS FCA BOARD

In August, the FCA Board expanded by adding Trileigh Tucker, PhD, as a director. She is associate professor of environmental studies at Seattle University, with expertise in eco-psychology and urban forestry. She was a big help in examining ramifications of the proposed high-ropes/zipline course at Lincoln Park.



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MORE ABOUT TREES

October 21 is the deadline for applying to the Seattle reLeaf program for up to four free trees for your yard. Visit www.seattle.gov/trees to learn which tree varieties are available and what would be your responsibilities.

The site also has information about the Green Seattle Partnership's Tree Ambassador program. Seattle reLeaf's long-term goal is to increase the city's green canopy cover from 23 percent now to 30 percent by 2037.

SALMON WATCHERS NEEDED SOON

If water conditions are favorable and commercial fishing more productive elsewhere, coho salmon should be coming into Fauntleroy Creek this fall to spawn, and volunteers are needed to count them.

Salmon Watch 2012 will start Oct. 29 and go until about Thanksgiving. Veteran volunteers will come daily until fish are spotted, then the watch will ramp up quickly to engage new volunteers.

Training for newcomers will be provided during your first watch. Shifts are one-half hour, at your convenience, and are keyed to when fish are most likely to be present. To enroll or find out more, call 938-4203 or e-mail judy_pickens@msn.com.

Since the first official watch, in 1999, the number of spawners has ranged widely, from zero to 170. Documenting them is an easy and important task - and a rewarding way to observe magnificent fish do amazing things.



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FALL TO ARRIVE WITH A ROAR

This fall will be arriving with a roar of community events, including the list at right of "green" ones.

Tues., Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 13: FCA business meeting, 7 PM in the schoolhouse conference room. To ask what's on the agenda or to propose a topic, contact brucebutterfield@pnwrealty.com or call 932-2400.

Thurs., Sept. 30: Deadline for **West Seattle artists** to apply to participate in the Fauntleroy Fine Art & Gift Fair in November. Application form and details at www.fauntleroyucc.org.

Sun., Oct. 14: Fauntleroy Fall Festival at the church/ YMCA/schoolhouse triangle. **2 - 6 PM** with free activities for all ages, plus food vendors.

Fri., Nov. 2: Sweet, Sweet Music in Fellowship Hall at Fauntleroy Church, 7:30 PM. \$5 at the door gets you dessert and an evening of great music.

Nov. 16-18: Fine Art & Holiday Gift Fair at Fauntleroy Church featuring West Seattle artists and artisans. **Fri. 5 - 8 PM, Sat. 10 AM - 4 PM, Sun. 11 AM - 2 PM** in Fellowship Hall. Watch for details at www.fauntleroyucc.org. Free.

	<p>Janet K. Keen, MA Licensed Mental Health Counselor</p> <p>9250 45th Ave SW Seattle, WA 98136 206-412-3586 janet.keen@comcast.net www.janetkeen.com</p>
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	<p>FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FOR HEALTHY LIVING FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY</p> <p>seattleyymca.org</p>
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	<p>Mon.-Thurs.: 11:30 am-9:30 pm Fri.-Sat.: 11:30 am-10:30 pm Sun.: 12:30-9:30 pm</p> <p>Happy Hour Mon.-Fri. 3:30-6:30 pm</p> <p>1/2 OFF: Purchase any food item & receive a second of equal or lesser value for half price with this coupon, Mon.-Fri.</p> <p><small>Offer expires 12/31/12</small></p>
<p>IN THE HEART OF FAUNTLEROY</p> <p>9214 45TH AVE. SW 935-8595</p>	

UPCOMING 'GREEN' EVENTS

Thurs., Sept. 13, Nov. 8: Fauntleroy Watershed Council, **7 PM** at Fauntleroy Church. Any environmentally concerned area resident welcome. Contact judy_pickens@msn.com or call 938-4203 for details.



Sept. 15-16: 2nd Time Sale at Fauntleroy Church. Bargains galore on culled, clean, and priced-to-sell items. **Sat. 9 AM - 3 PM;** also **Sun. 11:15 AM -1:00 PM** (half price).

Sun., Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov.18, Dec. 16 and Sat., Oct. 6, Nov. 3, Dec. 1: Volunteer work parties in Lincoln Park. **9 AM - noon** starting at the kiosk in the north parking lot (SW Rose and Fauntleroy Way SW). Bring gloves, clippers, and water. Details from Sharon Baker at sabaker41@gmail.com or call 464-1068.



RECYCLE ROUNDUP

Sun., Sept. 23: Recycle Roundup in the Fauntleroy Church parking lot, **9 AM - 3 PM**. See the list of what's accepted and what's not at www.fauntleroyucc.org or on the *West Seattle Blog*. Free; donation optional.

Wed., Sept. 26: A **7 PM** forum at Fauntleroy Church will bring the **coal-train debate** home to West Seattle and local environmental concerns. Prime sponsor of this free forum is the church's green committee. Panelists will include representatives from the Sierra Club, Climate Solutions, and Earth Ministry. Details at www.fauntleroyucc.org.

Sat., Oct. 6: Volunteer work party in Fauntleroy Park led by EarthCorps and organized by the Green Seattle Partnership. **10 AM - 2 PM**, starting at the 97th Street entrance. Bring gloves, water, and a lunch. Children welcome with parents.

Sun., Oct. 28: Salmon drumming at the fish-ladder viewpoint (SW Director and upper Fauntleroy Way SW). Arrive by **5 PM** with whatever you call a drum for music, readings, and lots of drumming. Details at www.fauntleroywatershed.org. Free.

SWIFT COMMUNITY ACTION TO SAVE PARK DOWNRIGHT EXCITING!

It was as if someone took a bat to a hornets' nest. Emails and letters flew to Seattle Parks, City Council, the mayor, wildlife supporters, reporters, and blogs. It was downright exciting to see 'community' in action!

After the *West Seattle Blog* uncovered a proposed commercial zipline operation in Lincoln Park, my inner voice told me, "This is not going to happen." Being a veteran of bureaucratic decisions, though, I knew we couldn't rely on common sense to prevail. We would need a "full court press" to fight this plan.

It's hard for some to speak in public but many did it at our July 10 FCA board meeting, with emotion and genuine concern for the park, its wildlife, and our community.

Results were swift. Within three business hours, Seattle Parks declared the proposal dead. Then a few hours later, interim Superintendent Christopher Williams called me and offered to come to Fauntleroy for the type of conversation that should have happened in the first place. I know enhanced goodwill will be the long-term outcome.

FCA has led neighbors in speaking out on similar occasions: the proposal to make Fauntleroy Way SW a state highway, ferry terminal expansion (three times!), the possible sale of the



schoolhouse for a condo/townhouse village.

FCA was not alone in this advocacy but we were right in there, from the start. Thirty-plus years of working successfully with 'the powers that be' have taught us to act swiftly.

Success may not always be dramatic. Just imagine, though, what the original design for the RapidRide station at the ferry terminal would have done to traffic or what having a combined sewer overflow tank under the south lot at Lincoln Park could have meant. And how about a past mayor's idea to build a parking garage for ferry commuters!

When people ask, "Why join FCA?" or "Why go to a meeting?" I say, "That's how we keep and improve this wonderful neighborhood."

It's how Fauntleroy can be at the table when decisions are made about ferry operations, city resources, wastewater facilities, the environment, and traffic. It's how we can sustain a newsletter, website, and Facebook page, all of which give us broad credibility.

Our membership brochure is enclosed in this issue and posted at www.fauntleroy.net. If you're already a member, please pass it on to a neighbor. If work, family, or health keeps you from taking on a project or going to meetings, support us with your dues. You will be a vital part of Fauntleroy's present and future. - **President Bruce Butterfield**

KEEP UP TO DATE ON FAUNTLEROY EVENTS AT www.facebook.com/fauntleroycommunityassociation!

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