

FOOTHILLS RURAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume 36 ■ ISSUE 1

MARCH 2018

FRA EVENTS CALENDAR

March 24 - 9:00am
Community Center Clean-Up Day
Volunteers appreciated
Come as you are!

March 25 - 12:30pm
Easter Egg Hunt & Bake Sale

April 14 - 6:30pm
Bingo Night

May 9
Scholarship Application Deadline

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Foothills Rural Association

The Foothills Newsletter is published 2 - 4 times a year by the Foothills Rural Association. It is mailed to all known resident addresses in the Foothills area. Send address changes to:

FRA Membership Records
12401 N. Peck Rd.
Spokane, WA 99217

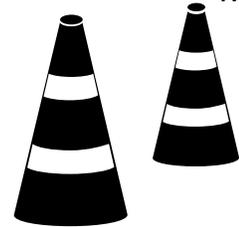
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ROAD CONSTRUCTION AHEAD



On November 13, 2017 the Spokane County Public Works department held an informational open house at East Valley Middle School to address road construction changes coming to the Bigelow Gulch and Forker Road transportation corridor. Many of these changes will impact Foothills resident work commutes as well as access to retail and services in the Spokane Valley area over the next few years. The Public Works department made many of the planners, engineers, and traffic coordinators for the projects available to answer questions and address concerns from the public.

Ultimately, the plan will expand Bigelow Gulch to four lanes with an additional center turn lane all the way from Francis Road and Market to Sullivan Road in Spokane Valley with a 45 mph speed limit over the entire section.

The project will be executed in multiple phases of sub-projects, the first one being Project 4A, which is the rebuilding of the Bigelow Gulch/Forker Road intersection. This intersection will relocate Bigelow Gulch over Forker Road, no longer requiring Bigelow Gulch drivers to stop before descending into the Spokane Valley via Progress Road. Project 4A has been awarded to Halme Construction of Davenport, Washington and is expected start immediately, taking approximately one year to complete depending on weather conditions. You may have noticed that tree removal and drainage construction have already begun. During construction, planners expect the roads to stay open except for a 2-week period where traffic will be diverted to Pleasant Prairie. This step will be planned over the summer so that school bus routes will not be impacted.

Continued on page 2
CONSTRUCTION



CONSTRUCTION *continued from page 1*

Project 5 includes the section of Forker Road from the Bigelow Gulch intersection south to Progress Road and will be broken up to two phases. Phase 1 of Project 5 will reroute Progress Road to the east and north of Light of the Gospel Baptist Church where it will reconnect up with Forker Road. This phase had not been awarded to a contractor at the time of the meeting, but is expected to begin in the fall of 2018. Phase 2 of Project 5 will redo the rest of Forker Road up to the new Bigelow Gulch interchange and is planned for 2020.

Residents can keep up to date on plans and project progress via the Spokane County Public works website at SpokaneCounty.org/257/Public-Works or via phone at (509) 477-3600



COUGAR ATTACK

On February 25th a tom cougar killed a horse near McElhany Road on Pleasant Prairie north of Moffat Canyon. The owner contacted Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, who sent enforcement agents to ascertain the kill, determine that a cougar was guilty, and then placed a camera on the horse carcass. Shortly thereafter the cat returned, and on Monday morning a contract tracker and enforcement officers treed the predator, after which the cat was dispatched. The cougar skin and skull will be used for educational purposes.

ANNUAL MEETING IS FOR THE BIRDS!

Every year the FRA Board looks for unique and engaging speakers to highlight our Annual Meeting event, and 2018 was no exception. Will Willmschen, affectionately dubbed "The Hawk Man", visited the Foothills Community Center on January 17th to put on a great demonstration with his trusty Harris hawk "Rusty". Will explained all different aspects of hawk behavior, pointing out that falconry is the world's oldest sport. The entire time Rusty was friendly and calm, allowing a long line of eager residents young and old to take turns having a bird of prey perched on their arms. Will and Rusty's informative presentation truly was a delight for everyone in the room.

To complement all of the action, Karen Feyk cooked up delicious chili dogs, and FRA members brought a bevy of desserts. Please make a note to attend next year's annual meeting – it is a unique opportunity for a mid-winter get-together with your community, and you never know what you might see and learn!

Voting for the 2018 officers and board members of the Foothills Rural Association also were held during the January Annual meeting. The 2018 FRA board includes:

- President - Rich Krenkel
- Vice-President - Holly Weiler
- Secretary - Karen Feyk
- Treasurer - Mike Britton
- Board Member – Term through 2018 - Marc McIntosh
- Board Member – Term through 2018 - Ashley Humbird
- Board Member – Term through 2019 - Jason Kinley
- Board Member – Term through 2019 - Roger Potter
- Board Member – Term through 2020 - Dawn Keig
- Board Member – Term through 2020 - Ali Knecht



WHAT'S IN AN EGG?...EASTER THAT IS!

Every year spring memories are made as Foothills children line up with their baskets for the annual FRA Easter Egg Hunt and Bake Sale. By popular demand we are again holding the event the Sunday before Easter, on Sunday March 25th at 12:30pm. Literally hundreds of plastic eggs with treats inside are "hidden" throughout the community center playground. Age-staggered start times ensure the littlest ones (assisted by parents and grandparents) get a chance too. And there are always a few special Golden eggs which win the finders special treats! Prizes, candy, and fun are sure to be had, and kids of all ages are invited to attend. Bring a bag or basket, and don't forget your camera!



Snapshots from past Egg Hunt Events!

BINGO NIGHT

Tasty treats and great prizes are all on tap for Saturday April 14th at 6:30pm at the community center. Last year's event was a lot of fun for those in attendance especially for the 50/50 game at the end of the night. Members and non-members alike are all invited to attend for some community social time.

LOCAL MAIL THEFTS

Mailboxes in the Foothills have recently become a target of mail theft, and neighbors are urged to keep a vigilant eye out for suspicious activity. Contact the Spokane County Sheriff's office if you notice anything out of the ordinary around roadside mailboxes or if you suspect your mail is missing. The Sheriff's office is working with USPS mail inspectors to investigate and solve these problems.

FOOTHILLS FACEBOOK PAGE

If you are active on Facebook be sure to like and follow the Foothills Rural Association. It is a great source for local news stories as well as current and historic pictures, and you can even report lost or found pets as well. The FRA also keeps a list of all upcoming activities in the area posted on Facebook

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STATION 96 STATS OCT-JAN

Our Spokane Fire District Station 96 volunteers were dispatched 20 times over the fall and mid-winter months. Of those, 3 calls were canceled or nothing found on arrival, 14 calls were for EMS, 2 calls for automobile accidents, and 1 for a building fire. As always, thank you to our volunteers for your service to the Foothills. This team works hard to maintain their facilities, units, and skills to serve us when it's most needed.

DUES REMINDER

Please remember to support the FRA by paying your 2018 dues. Your \$20 annual dues allow us to keep the community center up and running as well as to support scholarships, activities, and this newsletter, too. Thank you to all paid members for 2018.

FOOTHILLS COMMUNITY CENTER CLEAN-UP DAY

The annual FRA community center cleanup day is fast approaching. Please join us on Saturday, March 24th at 9:00am for some spring cleaning of the center and surrounding property. There are activities for all ages to help, from picking up sticks, raking, and mowing to winter debris removal and cottage roof moss cleanup. We want to have everything ready for the Foothills children to enjoy the Easter Egg Hunt taking place at the center the next day. Please stop by and pitch in!



CALLING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATIONS!

Each spring the FRA in conjunction with the Blue Ribbon Circle award Jess Kronquist Memorial Scholarships to support the continued education of Foothills families. Thanks to the generosity of the community, we will be awarding \$3,000 in scholarship money this year!

These scholarships are very competitive. Students pursuing degrees at 2-and 4-year academic institutions are always encouraged to apply. But the scholarships are not necessarily limited to traditional students and university programs. The scholarships could be used for any type of educational studies, such as trade education. The awards are also not limited to students of traditional college age either. We believe that education is a worthy lifelong pursuit, so consider completing an application and using the essay component as a chance to make a case for your unique situation and goals.

Only permanent residents (based on home address) of the Foothills Rural Association boundaries (Fire District 9, Station 96) are eligible. If you are in doubt of your residency, please consult the map available at ruralspokane.org and/or contact the Committee chairperson (below) before applying.

The application form is printed here and is also posted on the FRA website (ruralspokane.com). Completed application packets must be received by Wednesday, May 9th. A 15-minute in-person interview is also required of all applicants. Interviews will be held at the Community Center on the evening of Friday May 18th. Please be sure you are able to participate in the interviews before applying. You will be contacted after all applications are received to schedule your interview time. Please feel free to direct any questions regarding the application, interview, evaluation, and/or any aspect of this year's process to the Scholarship Committee chairperson, Dawn Keig at 808-4076 or dawn.keig@gmail.com. Good luck to all lifelong learners!

FOOTHILLS RURAL ASSOCIATION



JESS KRONQUIST MEMORIAL 2018 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION Foothills Rural Association - Blue Ribbon Circle

Scholarship Eligibility and Administration:

The amount of each scholarship may vary; past scholarships have averaged \$500-\$1,000 each. The scholarship will be applied toward tuition and is paid directly to the recipient's college, university, or other accredited educational institution. Scholarships will be awarded to Foothills residents as determined by the Foothills Rural Association Scholarship Committee.

Consideration will be given to:

- Need and use of the scholarship (as explained in the essay)
- Academic achievements including Grade Point Average (GPA)
- Activities: can include school, community service, FRA participation, work experience, etc.
- Foothills residency (based on home address)
- Completion of the application materials and process as instructed

APPLICANT NAME _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ EMAIL _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN(s), if applicable _____

Please check here to certify that you are a resident (based on your home address) of the defined Foothills Rural Association boundaries (Fire District 9, Station 96). **If you are in doubt of your residency, before applying please consult the map available at ruralspokane.org and/or contact the Committee chairperson (below).**

Education: Attach a copy of your most recent academic transcript (college or high school).

Essay: Attach an essay that describes your background and personal/educational achievements along with your interests and activities. Share your goals and aspirations, and explain how this scholarship will be used to help you achieve them. Please provide a clear explanation of need, being specific re: how you will be paying for your education including other need/merit-based scholarships or aid and parent/family assistance. To help the Committee evaluate you fairly, please be sure to clearly and directly address all of the considerations listed in the bullets above.

Submission:

- Return all application materials to the Committee chairperson (below) no later than **MAY 9, 2018**.
- Applicants are required to be interviewed by the FRA Scholarship Committee.
- Applicants will be contacted for this interview that will take place on the evening of **MAY 18, 2018**.

Foothills Scholarship Committee Chairperson: *Mail your application materials and direct any questions to:*

Dawn Keig
12316 N. Red Hawk Lane
Spokane, WA 99217
Tel: 808-4076
Email: dawn.keig@gmail.com

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When you pay your annual dues of \$20, we will include your display ad in at least 1 issue per year.

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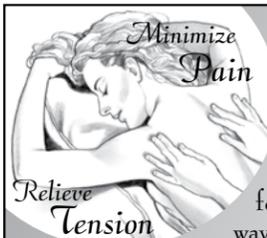
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Automotive Repair

BCi Creative465-9775
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Britton, Cheryl.....922-1494
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Jared Durheim

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Foothills Suri Alpacas 928-0299
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Loan Depot, Carla Durheim.....994-2721

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FRA BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held at the Community Center building on the second Monday of the month. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. and usually end just after 8 p.m. All Foothills residents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

2018 Board Meetings: April 9, May 14, June 11

The Foothills Rural Association, 11000 N. Forker Road, was established as a non-profit corporation under section 502(c)4 of the Internal Revenue Code on December 12, 1983. The purposes of the corporation are to organize the property owners and/or current residents within the boundaries of Fire District 9 Station 6 to provide a forum by which the property owners and/or current residents can assist governmental agencies in better planning the use and resources of the Foothills area; and to preserve and protect the rural agricultural environment.

Voting Membership in the Association is open to any property owner or current resident within the Foothills boundaries. Membership dues are \$20 per year. Non-voting Membership is available to others through payment of dues. The Association is governed by elected volunteer officers and a board of directors.

FRA Alerts system has been established in an effort to increase community awareness about crime occurring in our area. Residents are encouraged to report ALL crimes to Crime Check, 456-2233. After making a report, please email david@ruralspokane.com or rfkrenkel@ptera.net or call Faye Krenkel, 928-6610.

The Foothills Community Center, 11000 N. Forker Road, which is located adjacent to the Foothills Fire Station, exists as a result of community efforts to save and renovate the former Foothills School Building. The Center, used for many community activities, is maintained and supported by the Foothills Rural Association. It is available for use by members of the Foothills Rural Association for a nominal utilities charge and by non-members for a reasonable rental fee. The Community Center includes complete kitchen facilities. For information or to reserve a date, call: **Sherrie Potter, 927-8532.**

Foothills Rural Association Website: www.ruralspokane.com
Contact: David Fisher, Webmaster: davidf@ruralspokane.com
For information on the **Youth Committee** contact Kay Potter, kpfashionaddicted@icloud.com. For Membership Records: Tommye Schwerin: tomye35@hotmail.com

2018 Board Officers

President: Rich Krenkel	928-6610	efkrenkel@ptera.com
Vice President: Holly Weiler	921-8928	hmweiler@yahoo.com
Secretary: Karen Feyk	928-0088	kfeyk@hotmail.com
Treasurer: Mike Britton	922-1494	mbritton@wildblue.net

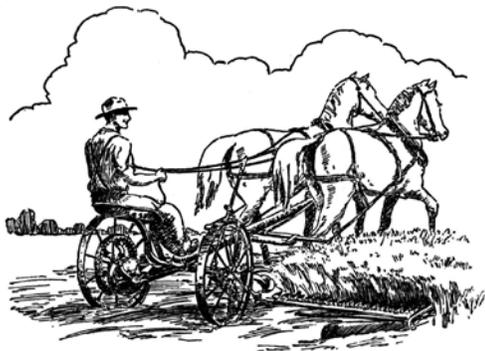
Board Members:

Roger Potter (19)	994-8591	rallenp51@gmail.com
Jason Kinley (19)	565-7005	jkinleynd@gmail.com
Ali Knecht (20)	921-2729	aliknecht@gmail.com
Marc McIntosh (18)	928-6662	thee1Mac51@aol.com
Tommye Schwerin (17)	924-0226	tommye35@hotmail.com
Ashley Humbird (18)	921-2729	ashley.humbird@gmail.com
Dawn Keig (20)	808-4076	dawn.keig@gmail.com

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MEMBERSHIP

It's easy to become a member of the Foothills Rural Association. NOW is the time to play an active role in the foothills community. Annual dues of only \$20 will help support programs, events and information for our community.

We are now collecting 2018 dues. Please check your mailing label above - if your label says "Member 2018," you have already paid. If your label does not say "Member 2018" - please join or renew your membership. If you have questions about your membership, please contact Tommye Schwerin, membership coordinator, at 924-0226 or tommye35@hotmail.com. Your support is essential for this community non-profit organization. Thank you for your continued support.

Please complete the form and mail it with your annual membership dues of \$20 to:

Foothills Rural Association
12401 N. Peck Rd.
Spokane, WA 99217

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP: _____ PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

Interested in receiving the FRA newsletter by email? YES NO

I am/we are willing to volunteer for one event during the year _____ YES

I/We would like to be included in the business listing as: _____

Thank you for being part of the Foothills Community.