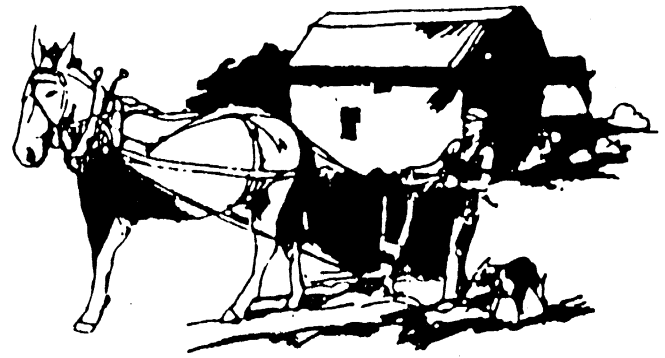




Vol. 16 No. 3
September 1998



**JESS KRONQUIST MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS
ANNOUNCED**

**3rd ANNUAL FOUNDER'S DAY
BARBECUE POTLUCK**

Longhorn BBQ Ham, Turkey & Beans Provided!
The Fiddlers Return with Live Music!
Fire District E.D.I.T.H. House On Site!
Local Political Candidates Invited!
Bring a Salad or Dessert & Join Us!

WHEN: Saturday, September 19, 1998
TIME: 4 PM - 7 PM
PLACE: Foothills Community Center

This year's Founder's Day event marks the ninety-third anniversary of the opening of the Foothills School, now our Community Center, in 1905. This family event offers Foothills residents an opportunity to visit with one another and celebrate the rural lifestyle we all enjoy so much!

In addition to great food, and fine entertainment, candidates for all local offices, including county sheriff and county assessor, have been invited to attend. So you may just have the chance to ask that important question you've had on your mind, and receive your answer directly from the candidate!

The Fire District's E.D.I.T.H. Trailer (**Exit Drills In The Home**), will offer families the opportunity to learn and practice safe emergency exits from a burning home.

So, don't miss out. It'll be a rootin', tootin' good time!

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE ON SEPTEMBER 15TH !!

The Foothills Rural Association and Blue Ribbon Circle have awarded three \$500 education scholarships for 1998. The scholarships are funded through investment income generated by bequests to each organization through the estate of Foothills resident, Jess Kronquist.

With seven applicants for this year's scholarships, the selection process was both thorough and difficult according to Joyce Roskelley, who chaired the scholarship committee. Serving on the committee along with Joyce were Ellen Anderson, Brig Jackman, Carol Stoll, and Cathy Tucker. In addition to their written application, each applicant had a personal interview with the committee.

While those selected for the scholarships are attending colleges or universities, equal consideration is given to applicants who are planning to attend technical school or other types of training programs.

Recipients of this year's \$500. scholarships are **Rochelle Largent**, daughter of Michelle Largent, Foothills Road; **Kristie Nilson**, daughter of John & Sharon Nilson, Moffatt Road; and **Holly Weiler**, daughter of Ervin & Faye Weiler, Adams Road.

Rochelle Largent has begun her freshman year at Pacific Lutheran University where she will pursue studies in education and music. A 1998 graduate of Central Valley H.S., Rochelle excelled as a member of the marching band for three years attaining 1st chair as a saxophone player. In addition, Rochelle was selected as CV's Lilac Princess for 1998. Her volunteer activities included the Bon Marche Hi Board her senior year, as well as work with the Kids Kare Club of Spokane, and Valley Hospital.

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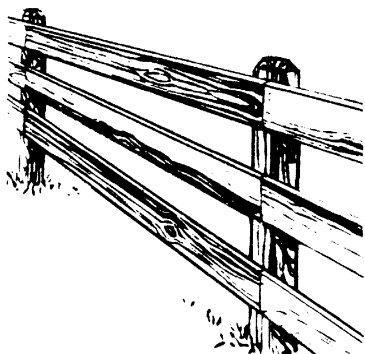
SCHOLARSHIPS (Con't)

Kristie Nilson graduated from Mead H.S. in 1996 and has completed two years of study at Spokane Community College in the field of criminal justice. Kristie is continuing her studies this year at Utah State University, Logan, in the area of criminal psychology with a focus on juvenile offenders. While attending S.C.C., Kristie was employed by Pathology Associates in the testing department working in the area of toxicology and drug testing. Last year, she was employed as the youngest juvenile detention officer at Martin Hall in Medical Lake.

Holly Weiler is beginning her second year of study at Spokane Community College where she pursues a major in English with a double minor in history and Spanish. She is a member of the Phi Beta Kappa honor society, and participates in cross-country and track. While attending S.C.C., Holly continues to live with her parents and enjoy part-time work at Maki's Day Care and as a respite care worker for families with foster children. With a goal of becoming a teacher, Holly hopes to transfer to Whitworth College her junior year.

FOOTHILLS FIRE STATION #6 ALARM LOG

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Type</u>
03/03 14:57	6707 E Weile	
03/14 18:15	12707 E Bigelow Gulch	
03/22 18:10	16616 E Foothills Rd	
03/29 03:49	Jacobs & Forker	
03/30 23:04	4707 E Upriver Dr	
04/12 14:37	8500 N Mt St. Michaels	
04/16 13:32	13511 N Norman	
04/26 10:30	12402 N Peck	
04/26 14:51	17107 E Frederick	
05/23 18:38	24309 N Mt Spokane Park Road	
05/24 14:39	11131 N Forker	



BIRDS OF THE FOOTHILLS

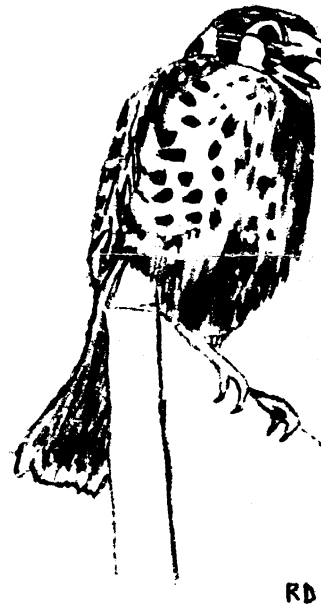
by Ron Dexter

AMERICAN KESTREL

The American Kestrel is our smallest and most common Falcon. All Falcons are designed for high speed and maneuverability in the air. The ends of their wings are pointed when seen in flight except while hovering over prey.

Kestrels are the size of a Robin. When seen up close or with binoculars, they are one of our most beautiful birds with multi-coloring and black spots. The male has blue-gray wings and a golden-brown back.

The female is reddish-brown. Both have a medium long reddish-brown tail with thin brown stripes. They have a white head with two prominent vertical black stripes.



Kestrels hunt by perching on power lines or posts and by hovering over open fields. I'm sure that all of you have seen them hovering like a helicopter 20 to 60 feet above the ground for a minute or two at a time.

Even when the wind is blowing, they seem to be frozen in one spot with their eyes fixed on some movement in the grass or weeds below. Once they spot the grasshopper, cricket, beetle or field mouse, they fall like a rock onto the victim with outreaching claws and then carry it to the nearest perch to control it before dining.

They tear the meal into small pieces. They don't swallow mice whole like an owl does.

KESTREL (con't)

I have seen them on power lines many times perched with a mouse or vole dangling down.

A Kestrel's call is a high pitched klee-klee-klee and is repeated often when disturbed or communicating with other Kestrels or when chasing a red-tailed hawk out of their area.

American Kestrels are cavity nesters, so they need woodpecker holes or large bird houses with at least a 2 1/2" diameter hole. A pair of these beautiful birds have raised young in one or another of our bird houses each year. They usually have 4 or 5 young. They nest 200 feet or further from our house.

This year however, was a sad year thanks to a cat that killed the female Kestrel. The cat apparently waited on top of the nest box until the female came out. It grabbed her and killed her on top of the nest box where I found feathers and dried blood. The eggs were just due to hatch.

I had been seeing the large yellow cat around, but had not been able to trap it. I had not seen any baby quail yet and I knew from past experience they should have hatched by now. I'm sure the cat had killed them also.

Another neighbor a mile away had put a wood duck nest box 12' up a tree. When I checked the nest, I found that another cat had killed the mother duck the same way. She had been setting on 10 eggs. I found feathers and dried blood on top of that box also. I have since added extended roofs to those nests to hopefully prevent this in the future.

I have experienced many other similar incidents in the past with cats and bird nests - all bad. We enjoy having many species of birds around our home and property. So, we don't have any pet cats. We use D-CON to control mice around our buildings.

If you choose to have cats. That's up to you - but be aware that cats are natural born killers of birds. Cats may kill many birds each day without eating any. Their natural instincts are to hunt and kill even when they are full.

If you are interested in making nest boxes for Kestrels or any other bird of the Foothills, give me a call for plans and mounting instructions etc. My number is 468-2555.

FIELDS OF BLUEGRASS BALES REPLACE GRASS FIELD BURNING

Anyone driving through the Foothills in recent weeks has surely noticed the hundreds of large bales of bluegrass that have been sitting in the fields. These bales represent both a blessing and curse.

For "clean air" advocates, especially those who suffer from respiratory ailments, the bales represent a blessing as they replace the grass field burning which has been an accepted agricultural practice for decades. Yes, it is true there has been, and will be, no field burning in the Foothills this year. Despite its proven effectiveness to clear the grass fields of residue, as well as stimulating the grass plants for increased seed production the following year, forces outside of agriculture have forced an end to the burning of grass fields in late summer.

For the farmers, and land owners on whose fields the bales continue to rest, they are a curse. Simply put, there is no market for them. The cost to rake the field, make the bale, handle and transport it, for the most part exceeds the value it has to the end consumer. Area farmers, for the second year, have attempted to contract the baling and removal of the bales to third parties. These individuals, despite their best efforts, too often find they have no market for the bluegrass bales. Thus, they continue to rest in the fields while the farmers and landowners wrestle with the possibility that they will be forced to remove and stack the bales themselves. Already we see large stacks of bluegrass bales appearing as the fields are cleared.

As the ban on field burning has been phased in over the past three years, the number of acres devoted to grass seed production in the Foothills has dropped dramatically. Given the drop in seed yields when fields are not burned, coupled with the increased cost of mechanically clearing the fields (not to mention the headache of getting rid of the bales!), farmers have plowed under thousands of acres of grass fields, some of which had been in continuous grass seed production for decades.

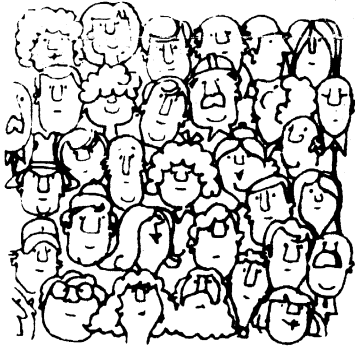
While bluegrass will continue to be a rotation crop for local farmers, the number of acres devoted to it will be far less in the years ahead. Many additional acres would already have disappeared were it not for the extremely

BLUEGRASS BALES (con't)

low commodity prices for wheat and barley. With an almost non-existent profit margin in the production of these grains, farmers will continue to keep some fields in bluegrass production hoping for a net profit somewhere along the way.

Meanwhile, know anyone who would like to purchase some bales of bluegrass? There's lots of it available for as little as \$5/bale weighing at least 650 lbs. No one is making a profit at that price, but at least the bales can be cleared from the fields!

If you are thankful for the end of field burning, why not show your appreciation by purchasing a bale of bluegrass...or better yet a truckload? If you feed animals, it can mixed with more expensive alfalfa to reduce your feeding costs. It also makes excellent ground cover for new seedings, winter mulch to protect ornamental plants, or can be used for erosion control. Be creative! Show your appreciation for the end of field burning in a tangible way.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Hooray! For the third year in a row we have achieved a new record with a total of 135 paid members. The officers and board thank you all for your continuing support of the Foothills Rural Association.

Also, you may have noticed a new look to your mailing label. With the assistance of Walt's Mailing Service, our mailing list has undergone zip+4 conversion. With new mail label software, we can now meet current, and hopefully future, address labeling requirements including the printing of postal bar codes. Presumably, this will qualify our bulk mailings for the lowest postal rate.

The **Foothills Rural Association** 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 protect the area from environmental depredation; to provide a forum by which the property owners and/or current residents may assist governmental agencies in better planning the use and resources of the Foothills area; 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./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.

The **Newsletter** is published 4-6 times a year by the Foothills Rural Association. It is mailed to all known resident addresses in the Foothills. Address additions/corrections should be sent to:

Jim Wallrabenstein, Editor

16630 E. Foothills Road

Spokane, WA 99217-9433

Phone: 924-4406 FAX: 924-3665

E-Mail: jmw@ior.com

A **Community Crime Log** has been established in an effort to increase community awareness about crime occurring in our area. The crime log will be published in the newsletter. Residents are encouraged to report **all** crimes to the police. After making a police report, call:

Chelle Spaulding, Crime Log Recorder
Ph. 924-6590

The **Foothills Community Center**, located on Forker Road, 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: **Flavia Kuebler, Rental Coordinator**
Ph. 926-2919

1998 Board Directory

President	Steve Allenberg	926-4111
Vice-President	Kay Muelrath	891-8315
Secretary	Wende Barker	924-3127
Treasurer	Don Tucker	924-9105
Board	Mike Britton ('00)	922-1494
	Joyce Roskelley ('00)	928-2587
	Steve Hansen ('99)	926-6357
	Rich Krenkel ('99)	928-6610
	Dale Preedy ('98)	466-6172
	Pat Wolfe ('98)	924-1412

NEED HELP? CALL FOOTHILLS YOUTH!

Are you in need of some eager, able-bodied assistance? These Foothills youth are ready to help and waiting to hear from you!

Diana Bertholic (20), Morrison Road 922-2344
Crystal Bertholic (16)
Julie Bertholic (14)
Suzie Bertholic (12)
Babysitting, house cleaning

Stephanie Boorman (15), Madison Rd 926-1157
Stacy Boorman (13)
Babysitting - responsible, experienced!
Pet sitting, yard work

Mike Nilson (12), Moffat Road 922-1103
Mowing, yard work, animal feeding

Kira Starling (16), Foothills Road 924-9012
Babysitting, elderly care
Dawn Starling (14)
Danae Starling (13)
Babysitting, yard work, pet care

Joshua Tucker (16), Foothills Road 924-9105
Computer skills & math tutoring,
algebra 1 or 2, geometry, trigonometry
Stephanie Tucker (15) 924-9105
Math tutoring, algebra 1 or 2
geometry, trigonometry; animal care

Holly Weiler (20), Adams Road 926-9144
Babysitting, **house-sitting**, tutoring
Joe Weiler (18) 926-9144
Yard work, wood-cutting, odd jobs

Daniel Wood (10), Moffat Road 922-2473
Yard work, pet care, sell/trade non-hybrid
seeds, teach beginning sign language

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If you are a Foothills youth who would like to be listed in the next newsletter, send this information to:

Foothills Rural Association
16630 E. Foothills Road
Spokane, WA 99217-9433
Fax: 924-3665 E-mail: jmw@ior.com

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Age _____

Type of work you're interested in doing:

"MEMBERS ONLY" CLASSIFIED ADS

Call your neighbors first. Ad space is provided FREE to members. Send ads to:

Foothills Rural Association
16630 E. Foothills Road
Spokane, WA 99217-9433
FAX: 924-3665
E-Mail: jmw@on-ramp.ior.com



Alpine Picture Framing
Quality at Affordable Prices

Artist Discounts
Wholesale/Retail
Kelly Lancaster
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Spokane, WA 99217
(509) 922-4825

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BART and SONS
Feed & Supply Co.

Bart - Matt - Paul Bertholic
10318 N. Morrison Road
Spokane, WA 99217

(509) 922-2344
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Consignments



Cheryl Britton

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Spokane, WA

(509) 922-1494

Freas Farm and Orchard

Acres of inexpensive, good, healthy family fun!

TREE RIPENED

peaches, cherries, grapes, apples, pears, apricots

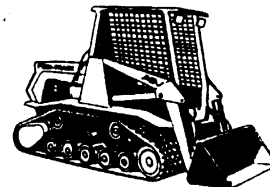
U-PICK or PICKED

10502 N. Morrison Road

924-0584

JTF POSI-TRACK SERVICE

- SNOW REMOVAL
- GRADE WORK
- SITE PREP & CLEANUP
- LANDSCAPE & BOULDER PLACEMENT
- PALLETIZED MATERIAL HANDLING
- POLE & POST HOLES DRILLED
- BIG TRUCK HAULING & DUMPING



FREE ESTIMATES

JAKE FLUGEL
SPOKANE, WA
(509) 891-2931

ROAD GRADING



Driveway Construction
and Maintenance
Lot Leveling

Dale 466-6172