

FOOTHILLS RURAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume 41 ■ ISSUE 1

SPRING 2023

FRA Events Calendar

Bingo Night

March 17 ■ 7:00 p.m.

Clean Up Day

April 1 ■ 9:00 a.m.

Easter Egg Hunt

April 8 ■ 12:30 a.m.

Scholarship Deadline

May 8th

Scholarship Interviews

May 18th



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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

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CHAD PHILLIPY

By Nikki Schwerin

I received a letter this week from Chad Phillipy's mother and wanted to share it with you. I do not know this man, but it doesn't matter. He is a member of this community, and God knows how easily something like this could happen to any one of us or to someone we love. I have edited the letter for length.

"Chad Phillipy's life changed in an instant. On September 4th, 2022, he was in a serious accident when he was run over by a dump truck. He was underneath the truck inspecting it to possibly purchase it for his new business when the truck accidentally started and subsequently ran him over. Chad, 26, sustained significant injuries to his hip, tailbone, and pelvis, along with many other injuries. Chad was immediately life flighted to the hospital where he underwent surgeries which included placement of bone screws, bone plate, and over 50 staples to repair multiple fractures, a break, and dislocation of his femur.

After 10 days in the hospital Chad returned home, learning to navigate it in a wheelchair and where he continues to struggle with the challenges of recovery. He must still undergo further surgeries and many more months of physical therapy. As if this wasn't enough trauma for him, one day this winter, the vehicle he was being transported in was in an accident after sliding on ice into a truck. As a result, even further injuries were experienced causing a concerning setback to his recovery. It's unknown at this time when he will be able to return to work and begin making enough of an income to keep his business afloat, let alone enough to cover his accumulating expenses.

Chad's mounting costs and burdens, besides his personal expenses, include medical expenses not covered by insurance. Additional expenses include animal feed, transportation, and basic living expenses such as rent and electricity. He has applied for different programs, but there are long waiting lists. Chad also needs equipment that will aid him in getting some mobility and be able to do some light work."

If you are able, please consider donating to this young man. He and his family would be so grateful. Donations can be made via GoFundMe or GiveSendGo (search: Chad Phillipy) or you can also donate to the Chad Phillipy Benefit Fund at any Spokane Teachers Credit Union location.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FRA has a lot of fun events coming up. Please mark your calendars and plan to join your friends and neighbors in the festivities.

First up, is BINGO night. Will you have the luck of the Irish? Join us on MARCH 17TH at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center and find out. Wear green!

Clean Up Day is April 1st. Many hands make light work, and this is a vital part to prepare for the Easter Egg Hunt. Meet us at the Community Center at 9:00 a.m. Breakfast and beverages will be served.

The annual Easter Egg Hunt is April 8th at 12:30 p.m. This is one of our biggest events of the year! The staggered start ensures that even the littlest of egg hunters can fill their baskets. Bring the kids and join the fun.



HAPPY HAPPENINGS

Congratulations to Anna Syverson who graduated from WSU in December with her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. Anna is the daughter of Andrea and Sean Syverson. We are so proud of you!



If you have good news you would like to feature in future editions of the newsletter, send them to nschwerin7@gmail.com.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Our beloved Linda Wruble celebrated her 80th birthday with a reception at the Community Center on December 30th. It was a wonderful gathering of friends and family from near and far put together by her daughters. HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LINDA!





ANNUAL HARVEST PARTY

It was standing room only at the FRA annual Harvest Party and Chili Feed. Thank you to all the volunteers that made this event such a huge success. If you missed it this year, make sure to join us in 2023.



CHRISTMAS PARTY

The FRA Christmas party brought smiles to young and old as the Community Center filled to celebrate the season. Kids of all ages enjoyed the cookie decorating put on by the Foothills Youth Committee. Holly Lane Tree Farm donated wreaths that were raffled off to benefit the FRA Scholarship Fund. The highlight of the evening was a visit from Santa himself. Thank you to the Youth Committee members for putting on this event and spreading Christmas cheer.



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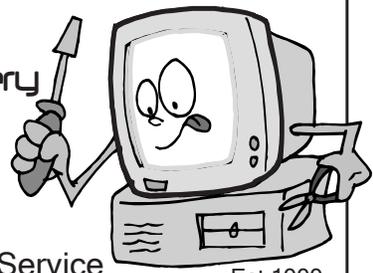


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SCHOLARSHIP TIME

The Foothills Rural Association and Blue Ribbon Circle are pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for our 2023 Jess Kronquist Memorial Scholarship. Thanks to the generosity of the Foothills residents over the years, we have been able to award tens of thousands of dollars to support the continued education of Foothills residents. There is no age limit, and any kind of education could qualify. Applicants must be residents of Foothills and be available for the in-person interviews. In person interviews will take place on the evening of Thursday, May 18th, 2023, at the Community Center. The application form is included in this newsletter and is also available on the on the FRA website at www.ruralspokane.com.

Application Deadline: Monday, May 8th, 2023

FROM THE ARCHIVES

DARK SKY REPORT

By Mike Britton

Starry nights are beautiful. There is nothing better than a clear, cloudless night, crisp and cold, where you can see a thousand stars, the Big Dipper, and the North Star; maybe use your telescope. But wait. There are many nights when you cannot see the sky. It is cloudy or the lights of the metropolitan area fog it up. You cannot see the Perseid meteor shower, or you cannot see the lunar eclipse, or you cannot see the northern lights that were mentioned on the news. The neighbor's yard light is too bright. What is a person to do? If this has ever happened to you, you may ask yourself, "Why did I move to the country to have all these unused lights? I want to see the night sky."

An organization called the International Dark Sky Association (IDA) has as its mission to preserve and protect the nighttime environment and our heritage of dark skies through environmentally responsible outdoor lighting.

The IDA seeks to improve the nighttime environment by reducing light pollution through better lighting practices. The IDA tries to raise awareness about curtailing light pollution, providing approaches, and explaining the benefits. The IDA works toward these goals by educating the public and promoting appropriate legislation and public policy approaches and offering specific solutions for reducing total nighttime lighting.

What does all this mean? This means that the night sky should not be polluted with unnecessary light. Fugitive light is light that is not confined to its intended purpose, and generally has negative impacts to adjacent properties. For example, the most common light is the "security" light. In Foothills, this includes the roadway lighting, the yard lights controlled by being on when continuously dark, and lighting actuated automatically in other ways such as by movement. The light is intended to light an area so that a lurking criminal will be exposed and therefore deterred from committing a theft, trespass, or other crime against the light owner.

But does it work? I submit to you that every burglary I have heard of in Foothills has been committed during daylight hours, usually when the landowner is not home. The yard light did nothing to deter this crime. But the light intended to deter this crime is affecting everybody. It lights the sky, it uses electricity needlessly if no one is viewing the lighted area, and it can interfere with neighbors' sleep and ability to enjoy the night sky.

What is a solution? The best solution is targeted lighting, and lighting only the intended area when it is needed. This can be improved by screening the light to strike only the landowners property, and turning the light on only when one needs to view that area. What should we do? I suggest all visit the IDA site at www.darksky.org. There is a great deal of information regarding lighting. Evaluate the lighting you have control over to see if it can be improved by shielding or otherwise confining your own property, replace with more modern bulbs, eliminate unnecessary lighting, remove automatic actuators except where necessary and eliminate glare. The benefits include money savings, better night views, and reduced negative environmental impacts. After all, the natural starry sky is so beautiful.

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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.

**Next Meetings: April 10th, May 8th, June 12th,
July 10th, August 14th, and September 11th**

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.

The FRA Alerts system has been established in an effort to increase awareness about crime occurring in our area. Residents are encouraged to report ALL crimes to Crime Check, 456-2233. After making a report, please contact Rich Krenkel at richkrenkel@gmail.com or 418-8693.

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 the **Community Center** call Sherrie Potter 990-2818. For the **FRA Website** www.ruralspokane.com contact Steve Keig, steve.keig@gmail.com. For **Membership** records contact Tommye Schwerin, tommie35@hotmail.com.

2023 Board Officers

President: Rich Krenkel	418-8693	richkrenkel@gmail.com
Vice President: Holly Weiler	921-8928	hmweiler@yahoo.com
Secretary: Karen Feyk	995-3003	kfeyk@hotmail.com
Treasurer: Mike Britton	922-1494	mbritton@wildblue.net

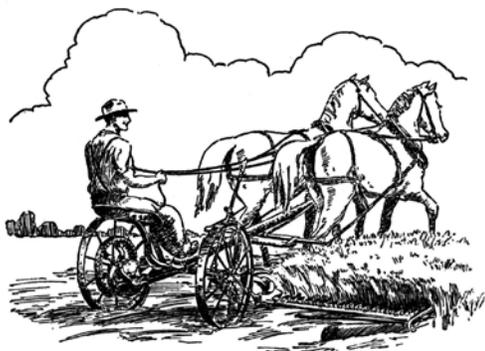
Board Members:

Roger Potter (22)	994-8591	rallenp51@gmail.com
JoAnn Davis (23)	208-457-7111	
Mark Friendshuh (23)	216-9490	friendshuh@hotmail.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 2023 dues. Please check your mailing label above - if it says "Member 2023" or higher, you have already paid. 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:

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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.