

FOOTHILLS RURAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume 38 ■ ISSUE 1

MARCH 2020

FRA Events Calendar

March 14 - 6:30pm
Bingo Night
Prizes & Fun for Everyone

Sat. April 4 - 9:30am
Community Center Clean-Up Day
Volunteers appreciated...Come as you are!

April 12 - 12:30pm
Easter Egg Hunt

May 11th
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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www.ruralspokane.com

POWER OUTAGES...ARE YOU PREPARED?

One evening in mid-January a good number of us here in the Foothills lost power for a few hours. As I realized I was lucky to find even one of our many flashlights, futilely digging through our dark barn and camper (with that one little flashlight) looking for the base and wicks for a lantern, it was a great reminder that around here we always need to be prepared for a weather-related electrical outage. It might be snow in the winter, winds knocking down trees in the fall, floods in the spring – every season has its own special weather charms. Our local utilities teams are always on the ball when there is an outage – but as a less-densely-populated rural area, we face additional risks of potentially extended downtimes. It was only a three hour outage last January – but what will it be next time?

For these reasons, it is even more important that all of us in the Foothills take a few minutes to double-check our family's preparedness. Flashlights are a critical first step, as are extra batteries of course. But if it is winter you quickly have to consider how you will stay warm in the case of an extended interruption. If you have well water you have to think about how you will handle water. And if the outage is extended, do you have a plan for food? What about special medical needs you might have? Many of us also have animals to consider. If you have a generator, how will you "feed" and leverage it for maximum value? Avista has additional suggestions. They recommend that you make sure you understand how access in/out of your property might be impacted by a loss of power – for example, how do garage doors and gates operate without electricity?



Vivian & Violet Johnson 1917 near Upriver Dam

Continued on page 2

ARE YOU PREPARED?

1 That river is looking pretty high – are they prepared?

Continued on page 2 - ARE YOU PREPARED?

They also suggest you make sure sensitive electronic devices such as computers and televisions have surge protection to prevent expensive replacements. And always, always remember safety – sometimes our emergency workarounds create new safety risks (cords on floors, open flames, fumes, etc.)

It may be a mild day outside as you are reading this today, and a power outage may seem like a very remote risk. But that makes today the perfect day to dust off your family's emergency outage plan and to see if any of your friends or neighbors need any help with theirs as well!



B-I-N-G-O at the Community Center

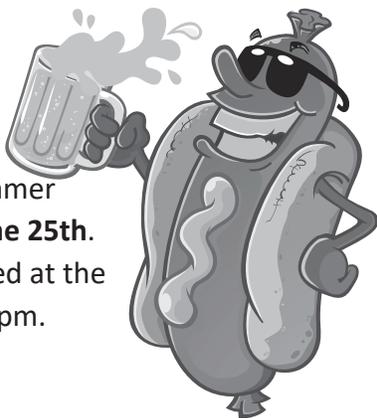
Plan to come to the Community Center at 6:30pm on Saturday March 14th for a fun evening of Bingo with your Foothills neighbors! This will be the third annual FRA Bingo night and is sure to be as much fun as the last two. Each round has prizes, including a final \$5 card 50-50 “blackout” round where the cash will be split between the winner and the FRA Scholarship Fund. Snacks and refreshments to help keep up your Bingo energy will be provided. Tell your friends and neighbors - *We hope to see you there!*

SAVE THE DATE

Summer BBQ & Root Beer Floats

Each summer the FRA partners with the Foothills Community Church on a fun outdoor community barbeque. The church provides dinner, and then walk across the parking lot to the Community Center for delicious root beer floats.

The date for this event has been set so mark your summer calendars for **Thursday June 25th**. Floats will start being served at the Community Center at 5:30pm.



CALLING ALL MOVIE EXTRAS

Have you ever wanted to be in the movies? Abundant House Films, a local production company, is creating a family friendly, holiday, romantic comedy, shooting in Coeur d'Alene and here in the Foothills! They would love to include members of the Foothills community in this locally-made film as background extras.

Timing: Sometime between March 21st-April 5th

Your Commitment: from a few hours to up to 2 full days

Locations: Holly Lane Tree Farm (confirmed) and other pending locations in the Foothills community

Demographics: All ages and races, families welcome
(no unaccompanied children please)

How to be involved:

Please EMAIL lizzy@abundanthousefilms.com and mention that you are interested in being an extra. Once they know more about the specific days/times/locations the production staff will email you back.

So get on the list so you are in the know, and also tell all of your friends and neighbors about this unique opportunity! To learn more about Abundant House Films, go to www.abundanthousefilms.com



THANK YOU

The FRA Board would like to thank local CPA Robert McKinley (robertmckinleycpa.com) for donating his accounting expertise to auditing our annual finances – thank you for your support and helping us to be good financial stewards for the community!



PLAY A BIGGER PART

IN THE FOOTHILLS COMMUNITY

Sponsor an issue of this newsletter for only \$200 – this includes a large front-page banner in print and on the FRA web page, plus a large ad and article in a newsletter as well! Our newsletter goes out to over 400 Foothills recipients multiple times a year. Contact the newsletter editor for more information.



DUES REMINDER

Please remember to support the FRA by paying your 2020 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 2020.

TAKE A HIKE!

At the FRA 2020 annual meeting on January 15th Holly Weiler, FRA vice-president and the Eastern Washington Regional Coordinator for the Washington Trails Association (WTA) gave a lively and informative presentation about the wide variety of local trails that are perfect for hikers of all experience levels. It was a great reminder of how lucky we are here in the Foothills to be in such close proximity to so many well-maintained and accessible places to experience nature. There really is something for everyone. We have the WTA and its cadre of trail-loving volunteers to thank for this. Here are a few of Holly's local suggestions for beginner hikers or snowshoers:

ANTOINE PEAK - easy access, well maintained even in winter. Great wildflowers in late April/early May. 1,100 acres with another 400 being added in 2021 with the Etter Ranch addition.

FERYN RANCH (pronounced "Fern") – very short hike, but a fantastic setting for bird watching. Esp. notable are the redwing blackbirds singing in the spring! Access via drive off of WA 206. Don't forget your binoculars and camera.

LIBERTY LAKE REGIONAL PARK – Split Creek trail is beginner-friendly; very popular for photography. You may need to pay a small fee sometimes during the summer.

DISHMAN HILLS NATURAL AREA – This is expanding every year. There are also notable sub-areas including the Glenrose Unit (which extends the Valley all the way to the South Hill!); Iller Creek (amazing views!); Big Rocks/Rocks of Sharon (Stevens Creek).

Holly pointed out that the WTA website (wta.org) is full of resources including trail maps and search functions that enable you to find possible trails that meet your needs in terms of difficulty, length, type, and location (select "Eastern Washington" for local options). You can even use the WTA website (and Trailblazer app) to submit your own trip report after you hike on one of the trails. The WTA organization was built on grassroots information sharing between caring citizens starting with its founding in 1966 and that continues today as the largest state-based hiker advocacy and volunteer organization in the country. Spokane is one of the WTA's top four focus areas across the state, so let's get out there and check out a few trails in 2020!

MCKENZIE CONSERVATION AREA – 1.5m loop; great for kids. You can walk from the trailhead to the lake.

MT. SPOKANE STATE PARK – It's not just for skiing! December through March requires a SnoPark pass; Discover Pass for the rest of the year. A great mix of both easy and very strenuous trails are available. See the mountspokane.org website for maps and descriptions.

RIVERSIDE STATE PARK – Bowl & Pitcher is the most famous, but there are many more trails at Riverside. Also holds Wednesday in the Woods summer events on a variety of nature-related topics.



WTA trail volunteers working hard during an early fall 2019 snow on a bridge construction project at Mount Spokane.

CALL FOR SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATIONS!

Each year the Foothills Rural Association and Blue Ribbon Circle collaborate on the Jess Kronquist scholarship program, resulting in tens of thousands of dollars of scholarship funding to impressive, hard-working Foothills residents who are continuing their educations. In 2020 we will again be awarding up to \$3,000 in educational funding. Any resident within the boundaries of Fire District 9 Station 6 who is/will be enrolled in an educational program at an accredited academic institution is eligible.

The application process is simple: Complete the form (included in this newsletter and also posted on the FRA website ruralspokane.com); write the essay specified on the application; obtain a copy of your latest academic transcript (unofficial copies are perfectly okay). Email (or physically mail or drop off) the 3 documents to the address provided. Finalists will also be required to participate in a short in-person interview with the scholarship committee at the Community Center on the evening Thursday May 14th.

So if you are a Foothills resident who is pursuing further education and can participate in the May 14th interviews, please consider applying to this year's program! We would love to support you. Questions can be directed to Dr. Dawn Keig, scholarship committee chair, at dawn.keig@gmail.com or 808-4076.

"You can teach a student a lesson for a day; but if you can teach him to learn by creating curiosity, he will continue the learning process as long as he lives."
Clay P. Bedford



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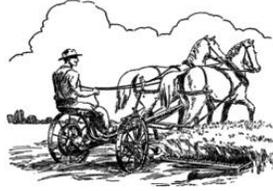
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FOOTHILLS RURAL ASSOCIATION



JESS KRONQUIST MEMORIAL 2020 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.com 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 by **MONDAY MAY 11th**.
- **Applicants are required to be interviewed** in person on the evening of **THURSDAY MAY 14th**.

Foothills Scholarship Committee Chairperson: *Send 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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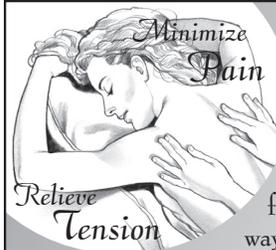
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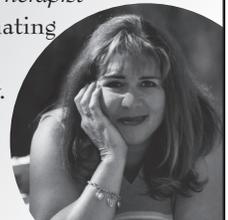
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Holly Weiler - Easter WA Regional Director

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: Monday, March 9th, 7:00 pm
Mon, April 13th, 7:00 pm | Mon, May 11th, 7 pm**

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 Faye Krenkel at rfkrenkel@ptera.net or 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 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, tommye35@hotmail.com.

2019 Board Officers

President: Rich Krenkel	928-6610	rfkrenkel@ptera.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

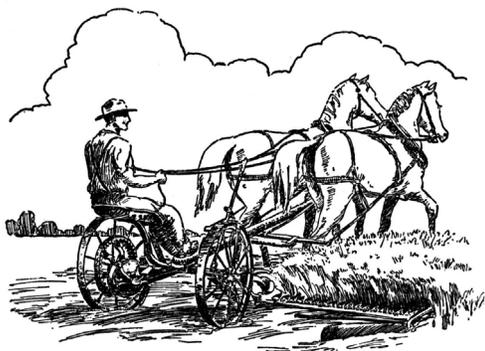
Board Members:

Roger Potter (22)	994-8591	rallenp51@gmail.com
Jason Kinley (22)	565-7005	jkinleynd@gmail.com
Marc McIntosh (21)	928-6662	thee1Mac51@aol.com
Dawn Keig (20)	808-4076	dawn.keig@gmail.com
Rill Moore (20)	922-3361	wheatview@icloud.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 2020 dues. Please check your mailing label above - if it says "Member 2020" 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:

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.