

FOOTHILLS RURAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume 40 ■ ISSUE 2

FALL 2022

FRA Events Calendar

October 31
Chili Feed & Harvest Party
5:30 pm

December 2
Annual Christmas Party
6:30pm



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

FRA Membership Records
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Spokane, WA 99217

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HOMECOMING

By Nikki Schwerin

After 17 years living in Satan's armpit, known to some as Las Vegas, I cashed in my chips and moved back home. I loved my job and I had wonderful friends, but nothing compares to the Foothills. I am so incredibly blessed to have been born into a family that decided even before my mother was born that this was the place to put down roots. Mom currently lives in the house she was raised in. My sister lives across the street in the house we were raised in.

Vegas offered many conveniences. Groceries were within walking distance. You could order from Amazon at 8:00 and have it delivered by noon. Grubhub, Uber Eats, and Door Dash would deliver pretty much anything your stomach desired. My commute to work was 5 minutes, and I only had to drive in the snow twice. The WIFI! Oh, how I miss the WIFI!

There are more important things it could never give me. A sister across the street. A niece and a nephew that I get to see almost every Sunday. Neighbors that have known you literally your entire life. I have lifelong friendships with the children of my mother's lifelong friends. Peace and quiet. Deer in the yard. (Every. Single. Day. It never gets old.)

When I moved home in August of 2021, my best friend happened to be staying at her mother's house down the street. As we are accustomed to doing, we met for a walk around the block. 5 neighbors stopped to chat with us on that walk and every single one said, "Welcome Home."

Foothills has changed a lot since I was a kid. More houses are being built, and the traffic on our street has increased. But the good stuff hasn't changed. People still stop to say hello when you're out for a walk. Neighbors still look out for each other. And if you're really lucky, the people that love you the most are a stone's throw away.

HARVEST PARTY AND CHILI FEED

On October 31st at 5:30 PM, the FRA will be hosting one of its most popular and anticipated events of the year...the annual Harvest Party and Chili Feed! This event is always well attended and it's FREE, so come and share in the fun with your family, friends, and neighbors. Costumes are encouraged!



CHRISTMAS PARTY

On December 2nd at 6:30 the Foothills Rural Association Community Center will once again be an early arrival destination for Santa and his elves at the annual FRA Christmas Party! This year's activity is cookie decorating! It is sure to be a wonderful time and a great way to start off December. Be sure to mark your calendars.



CRAFT SHOW

Come support your neighborhood crafters at Custer's 46th annual Christmas Arts & Crafts Show November 18-20 at Spokane Fair and Expo Center. Karla Lautenbach's paper mosaics and Cheryl Britton's art are a must-see!



NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

If you know of a Foothills resident who might need some support, please let any Board member know, and we will get the word out!

IN MEMORIAM

Foothills patriarch, George McConahy passed away August 6th. Our condolences go out to his family. He will be missed.

HAPPY HAPPENINGS

Congratulations to future Foothills residents Connor Ramm and Natalie Edlin who were married on July 11th at the family farm. Connor is the son of the Lisa and Kelly Ramm, and grandson of Bill and Tommye Schwerin.



In this new segment of the newsletter, we would like to focus on good things that happen in the lives of our friends and neighbors. If you have good news you would like to feature in future editions of the newsletter, send them to nschwerin7@gmail.com.



TRUE CRIME RECAPS

By Nikki Schwerin

Fascination with true crime has become a phenomenon. According to Variety.com, 6 out of the 10 most watched dramas in 2021 are crime dramas. America can't get enough. If you love true crime stories, but are short on time, I'd like to recommend True Crime Recaps, a Facebook page that gives you all the crime in half the time.

True Crime Recaps started in 2020 by longtime Foothills resident, Amy Townsend, daughter of Penny and Kelly Lancaster and her husband Chris. When the country went into lock-down, Amy and Chris started a new venture. What makes True Crime Recaps different? They won't waste your time. I would listen to podcasts during my walks and some true crime podcasts would take 6 hours or more to tell the story. That's great, but I don't need that much detail. I just want the facts. Amy and Chris can give you the gist of a crime in 15 minutes or less, recapping the most gripping murder, mystery, and crime stories.



Check out their Facebook page, where they upload stories daily: www.facebook.com/TrueCrimeRecapsVideos



COMMUNITY CENTER CLEAN-UP DAY

Thank you to everyone who showed up for the annual Spring clean-up day. This is a very important part of maintaining the property and preparing for the Easter egg hunt. All community members are encouraged to consider volunteering for an hour or two at next Spring's Clean Up Day. It makes a great family service activity, and it makes a tremendous difference to the maintenance of this wonderful community resource. Keep an eye out for dates in next year's newsletter or contact any FRA Board Member. Many hands make light work!

ROOT BEER FLOAT SOCIAL AND CHURCH BBQ

The Foothills Rural Association hosted its annual Root Beer Float Social in conjunction with the Foothills Community Church Barbecue and car show on June 23rd. The weather was perfect, and a good time was had by all! Thank you to all the volunteers who served at this event. If you've never been, please consider joining us next year. It's the best of food, fun and friends!



EASTER EGG HUNT

After a Covid hiatus, the annual Easter egg hunt returned! On Saturday, April 16th, the FRA Youth Committee put on a wonderful egg hunt at the Community Center. Kids from all over the Foothills raced to collect colorful eggs to fill their baskets, hoping to find one of the five coveted golden eggs that could be redeemed for a special prize. Thank you to everyone that turned out for the hunt and thanks to the FRA Youth Committee for putting it all together.





Jess Kronquist Memorial Scholarship 2022 Awards



**Blue Ribbon Circle Designee
\$750 Award Winner
Joel Sievers**

Eastern Washington University
Applied Sciences
Son of Mark & Ingrid Sievers



**\$750 Award Winner
Elena Sievers**

Spokane Falls Community College
ASL Interpreter Training Program
Son of Mark & Ingrid Sievers



**\$1000 Award Winner
Ashlin Klocke**

Washington State University
Biology
Daughter of Mike & Debbie Klocke

The Foothills Rural Association, in conjunction with the Blue Ribbon Circle, awarded a total of \$2,500 in scholarships to residents of the Foothills in 2022. Finalists were interviewed at the Community Center on the evening of Thursday, May 19, 2022. The 2022 scholarship committee interviewers were JoAnn Davis, Cindy Kaelin, Carol Stoll, and Karen Feyk.

We appreciate that every school year gives all students challenges, and we offer encouragement for all students to keep up the great work. We thank all of this year's applicants for representing the Foothills so well and encourage future candidates to mark their calendars and apply for scholarship support in 2023!

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- Foothills Community Church 926-4971
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David Fisher
- RS Britton & Sons 879-2789
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- Windermere Real Estate 216-9490
Mark Friendshuh

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: October 10th, 7:00pm
November 14th, 7:00pm | December 12th, 7:00pm**

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.

2022 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

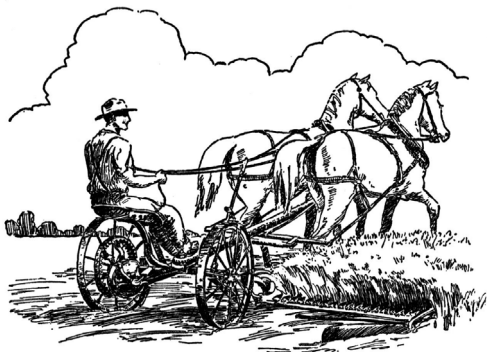
Board Members:

Roger Potter (22)	994-8591	rallenp51@gmail.com
Denise Smecko (22)		
JoAnn Davis (23)	208-457-7111	
Mark Friendshuh (23)	216-9490	friendshuh@hotmail.com
Tommye Schwerin (24)	924-0226	
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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 2022 dues. Please check your mailing label above - if it says "Member 2022" 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.