## **Pay Your Voluntary Dues at**

www.foxridgecommunity.com

Your membership supports our community.

#### **Next FIA Board Meeting**

Wed. Sept. 13, 2023 at 7 pm Metrum Community Credit Union

6980 S Holly Cir. Centennial. CO 80112

Foxridge Improvement Association Board of Directors meets on the 2nd Wednesday of every month.

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## Advertise in the October



**Foxtales** 

**Deadline: September 20th** 

E-mail kerri@porchlink.com for rates and information.



## **Upcoming FIA Board Election**

By Bryon Bhagwandin, Acting FIA Board Secretary

Foxridge volunteer-leadership election season is upon us once again. This year three incumbent FIA Board member seats are up for renewal with one vacant seat that needs to be filled. Each member is elected to a two-year term. The upcoming ballot will have four spots including the three incumbents. This provides an exciting opportunity for someone to participate on the FIA board beginning in January 2024.

The FIA board is a diverse group of Foxridge residents who serve as board members for a variety of reasons, including giving back to the community, meeting neighbors and fellow community members, effecting change and improvement at Foxridge, developing new skills, building reputational capital, or just getting out of the house. If any of these reasons resonate with you, please consider running in the upcoming election. The election will be held by mail between October 6 and November 8. Board member commitment is for one 90-minute meeting per month plus any specific duties a person volunteers to carry out.

Article continued on page 4->

## Foxridge Fair-A Great Day After All!









Despite the rain and hail, the Foxridge Fair on August 6th was still filled with sunshine and a great deal of fun. It's amazing how our community never fails to show up and support each other, even in less than ideal weather conditions. All our vendors showed up and our neighbors came out in full force to make our event a success.

It's the kind of unity that makes our neighborhood such a special place to be. Huge THANK YOU to all our wonderful volunteers who participated the day of the event, this event would not be possible without you!

Special thanks to the event planning committee, Sandra Williams, Cheryl Gass, Tudi Arneill, and Martha Riley, for long hours of pre-planning and executing this summer event so successfully.





**Mailing Address:** 

PO Box 4985, Englewood, Colorado 80155-4985

Board E-mail: foxridge.board@gmail.com



"like" us via the Website

## **2023 FIA Board of Directors**

President: Martha Riley [term thru 12/31/23]

foxridge.board@gmail.com | 303-435-2073

Vice President: Alex Martinez [term thru 12/31/24]

foxridge.board@gmail.com | 303-763-0853

Secretary: Bryon Bhagwandin

Treasurer Gurdeep Sandhu [term thru 12/31/24]

## **FIA Board Members At Large**

Tudi Arneill (term through 12/31/24)
Bryon Bhagwandin (term thru 12/31/24)
Cheryl Gass (term thru 112/31/23)
Alison Krebs (term thru 12/31/23)
Sandra Williams (term thru 12/31/23)
Andrew Yon (term thru 12/31/24)

## **FIA Responsibilities & Committees**

Social Events: Sandra Williams

foxridge.board@gmail.com

Community Events: Gurdeep Sandhu foxridge.board@gmail.com

Communications/Website: Alex Martinez, Cheryl Gass, Sandra Williams foxridge.board@gmail.com

Membership Committee: Martha Riley, Cheryl Gass, Gurdeep Sandhu foxridge.board@gmail.com

Foxtales:

Tudi Arneill, Martha Riley, Cheryl Gass foxridge.board@gmail.com

Welcome Committee: Tudi Arneill foxridge.board@gmail.com

Club at Foxridge Liaison:

Martha Riley & Tudi Arneill

Covenant Advisor: Ron Gamet

foxridgecovenantadvisor@gmail.com | 720-576-6264

## **City of Centennial FGID Representatives:**

Fence Repair or Replacement, Landscaping, Maintenance & Sprinklers:

Martha Riley 303-435-2073 **Contact: foxridge.gid.reps@gmail.com** 

## **Centennial Council of Neighborhoods (CenCON)**

Contact: foxridge.board@gmail.com Representative Cheryl Gass

Covenants of the 11 filings comprising Foxridge can be found on our website: www.foxridgecommunity.com under FIA Board, Covenants

## **Did You Know....**

Sunday, Sept. 23 is the Autumnal Equinox when the length of day and night are roughly equal. After that, the days become shorter than the nights as the sun continues to rise later and nightfall arrives earlier. This ends with the winter solstice on Dec. 21, after which days start to grow longer once again.

## **Community Resources:**

There are some community needs that are not necessarily handled by the FIA Board. For questions or concerns, contact the following agencies:

Mayor: Stephanie Piko www.centennialco.gov | 303-754-3350

District 3 Rep: Rik Holt E-mail: rholt@centennialCO.gov

District 3 Rep: Mike Sutherland E-mail: Msutherland@CentennialCo.gov Phone: 303-754-3407

Gardening, Tree & Shrub Advice: CSU Extension: 303-730-1920

www.arapahoeextension.org

Call Before You Dig:
Utility Notification Center of Colorado
1-800-922-1987 | www.call811.com

**Willows Water District:** 

303-770-8625 | www.willowswater.org

Power Outages: Xcel Energy Emergency
Call Center: 1-800-895-1999
Nonworking Street Light:
(call Xcel early a.m. with pole #)
1-800-895-4999

24/7 Switchboard 303-325-8000

Building Services & Home Improvement Program:

303-754-3321

**Building Inspection Hot Line:** 

303-708-1430

Road, Sidewalk, Traffic Issues, Problems: 303-325-8000

Animal Control / Barking Dog Complaints: 303-325-8070

Code Enforcement:

303-325-8000

## Law Enforcement & Arapahoe Co. Sheriff:

Sheriff@arapahoesheriff.org | Emergency: 911

Non-Emergency Issues & Questions:

303-795-4711

**Crime Prevention & Neighborhood Watch:** 

303-795-4711

Graffiti Removal: 303-795-4711

## **Arapahoe Co. Government:**

www.co.arapahoe.co.us
District 2 Commissioner:

Jessica Campbell-Swanson

JCampbell-Swanson@arapahoegov.com 303-795-4630

Clerk & Recorder: 303-795-4200

## **Arapahoe County Health**

6162 S. Willow Dr., Suite 100 Greenwood Village, CO 80111 Phone: 303-795-4584

## **South Metro Fire Rescue Authority**

www.southmetro.org | Emergency: 911

Non-Emergency Issues & Questions:

720-989-2000

After Hours Dispatch:

720-258-8911

## **SE Metro Stormwater Authority**

www.semswa.org

Report Clogged Stormdrains & Foam in Creeks:

303-858-8844

**Hazardous Waste Disposal Program:** 

(Curbside, Inc.) 1-800-449-7587

## **South Suburban Parks & Recreation District**

303-798-5131 | www.sspr.org

**Tennis Court Reservations:** 

Rusty Sun & Otero Courts

Phone: 303-483-7037

Parks and Greenbelts (Seth Swanson)

303-953-7628

## **Newsletter Advertising**

To advertise please email kerri@porchlink.com

Advertising deadline: 20th of the preceding month

Target Your Market With Neighborhood Newsletters!





FCG Garden Review: Resource Central's Garden in a Box Program



Resource Central is an environmental conservation nonprofit that partners with area water districts to reduce the amount of

outdoor watering. Per their website, **55% of residential water use** along the front range is used outdoors, mainly to sustain grass lawns.

That's where Garden in a Box comes in. Garden in a Box offers a low-cost solution for reducing outdoor watering by planting water-wise plant varieties. In 2021, I decided to get the Colorado Oasis Garden in a Box.

Colorado Oasis Details:

- Sun: Full Sun, but adaptable
- Area: 60 sq ft
- 15 starter plants 9 are Colorado Natives
- Blooms from Spring to Fall
- Cost: \$123.00



Each box also comes with a plant-by-number guide, which I find indispensable. I have no idea how to create this beautiful garden from the picture above. The planting guide was simple to follow and relieved my many planting anxieties. It's a landscaper in a box! You also receive a long-term care guide for each plant.

I'm happy to report that all my plants lived to see 2022!

Blue Native Harebell







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## **Kathy Rice**

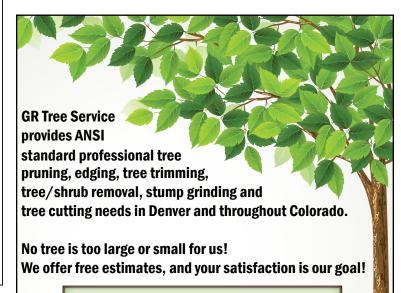
Longtime Foxridge Resident

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or

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## **Upcoming FIA Board Election**

By Bryon Bhagwandin, Acting FIA Board Secretary

### Article Continued from front cover →

If you're interested in nominating someone for the board (with their permission) or if you want to nominate yourself, send us an email at foxridge. board@gmail.com. Review the deadlines below to assure your nominations are in line with timeline requirements. You can improve the chances of being elected by having your photo and biography printed in the October edition of Foxtales, but these items must be received by September 18th for inclusion. A name can still be added to the ballot as late as September 20th, but you forego the free Foxtales publicity. Also, note that you must be a member of FIA on September 20th to qualify as a candidate, and by November 8th to participate in the voting process.

Date	Task/Event/Requirement				
September 13th	Join FIA to be on the certified membership list. Membership on this date allows (a) one to be a considered as a board candidate, (b) a person to receive a ballot through the US postal service, and (c) the board to determine the membership-quorum for our annual meeting in November.				
September 18th	Submit candidate name, photo and biography to appear in the October Foxtales.				
September 20th	Final cutoff date to be listed on the ballot – must submit candidate name, photo and biography.				
October 6th	All Certified FIA members receive a mailed ballot that can be returned by mail or in person at the annual meeting. (NOTE: Homeowners may join and ask for a ballot anytime up-to and including, at the November 8th annual meeting.)				
November 8th	Annual meeting and announcement of initial election results; final verification occurs during the following days. Annual Meeting is open to all FIA members who are encouraged to come - ballots may be cast at the meeting.				

## **Entities Operating Within Foxridge**

There are several separate and independent entities that operate within our community. Below is a list to help you better understand how these entities relate to the Foxridge Improvement Association.

## THE FIA (Member Funded)

The Foxridge Improvement Association (FIA) is a non-profit corporation with membership available to all 934 homeowners in Foxridge, but is not mandatory. The purposes of the FIA as stated in the Articles of Incorporation Article 5 are "To educate and inform Owners about the Covenants applicable to the various Filings, the betterment of the general welfare and the promotion of friendly relations between the residents of Foxridge, and, when called upon, to provide arbitration of disputes related to Community issues." The annual voluntary FIA dues are \$60.00 per calendar year (Jan 1 thru Dec 31).

## **FGID (Taxpayer Funded)**

The Foxridge General Improvement District (FGID) is not a part of the FIA. The FGID is a taxing district approved by the Foxridge homeowners in 1990 to provide funding for items such as community fencing, entry gardens and monuments, irrigation, and landscape maintenance. In 2019, voters living in Foxridge approved a mill levy increase to pay for the installation of a new Trex fence along Quebec and the main thoroughfare streets. The fence project was completed in 2021. The FGID funds are administered by the City of Centennial via Foxridge Community representatives who are approved by the FGID Board of Directors (City Council).

#### CenCON (Funded by Association Members)

Centennial Council of Neighborhood (CenCON) is composed of neighborhood associations' representatives in the City of Centennial. Their current membership represents about 22,000 Centennial homes in about 50 different Homeowner Associations. CenCON meets eleven times a year to impart important information from the City and many special districts that serve its members. An FIA Board Member serves as the FIA's CenCON representative and relays this information back for dissemination to homeowners by means of monthly meetings, newsletters, etc.

## **SSPRD (Taxpaver Funded)**

South Suburban Parks and Recreation District (SSPRD) manages and maintains the public tennis courts, parks, trails, Foxridge Orchard, some grassed and irrigated street rights-of-way and the natural open space drainages within Foxridge. The mission of the South Suburban Park and Recreation District is to foster healthy living through stewardship of the environment, parks, trails, and open space and by providing recreational services and programs.

## THE CLUB AT FOXRIDGE (Foxridge Swim and Racquet Club) (Member Funded)

The Club at Foxridge is a member-owned private swim & tennis club located one block west of Quebec on East Mineral Avenue at 7070 E Mineral Ave, in the Foxridge neighborhood. Joining The Club at Foxridge is not mandatory and membership is also available to those living outside of Foxridge. It is not affiliated with the FIA or FGID, although a mutually beneficial cooperative relationship is maintained. The Club offers a swim team program and lessons that are open to non-members at a higher fee. A 2023 revitalization project updated the pool and amenities and a project is underway to redevelop the dilapidated tennis court area to include tennis, pickleball and a social area.

## **TROPHY CLUB (Homeowner Funded)**

The Trophy Club is an HOA that consists of 75 residences within Foxridge West Filing No. 1. The Trophy Club is not affiliated with the FIA, although we encourage and maintain a mutually beneficial cooperative relationship. The FIA has no authority to enforce Trophy Club Covenants.

## **FOXRIDGE COMMUNITY GARDEN (Donation Funded)**

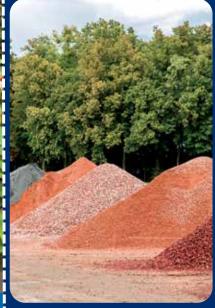
The FCG is a place where Foxridge residents, as well as neighbors from surrounding areas, can enjoy their own garden plot or volunteer in communal garden plots. Extra produce is donated to local food banks. The garden is just east of the swim club at 7070 E Mineral Ave. It is affiliated with Denver Urban Gardens and is managed solely by volunteers with a mutually beneficial and cooperative relationship with the FIA and the swim club.

May 8, 2023



## 10% OFF

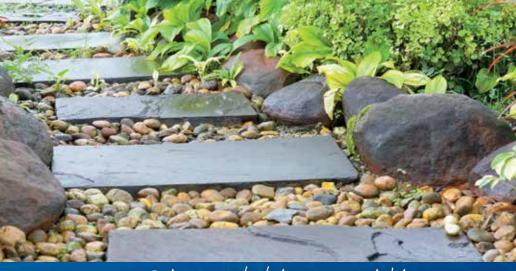
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#### FOXRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD RECENT HOME SALES **Listing ID Sold Date Address List Price Sold Price** Bedrooms **Bathrooms** Total Sq. Ft. **Garage Space** 2370247 3/24/2023 6117 E Otero Place \$1,000,000 \$1,130,000 4,399

3909006	4/28/2023	6081 E Mineral Drive	\$962,000	\$985,000	5	4	3,630	2
4122910	6/30/2023	6747 E Phillips Place	\$835,000	\$853,500	3	4	3,650	2
4729757	5/3/2023	7910 S Monaco Court	\$789,000	\$820,100	5	4	2,959	2
8089395	3/24/2023	6977 E Long Avenue	\$700,000	\$750,000	4	3	3,467	2
1986515	5/12/2023	7638 S Oneida Court	\$715,000	\$740,000	4	3	2,472	2
8371471	3/6/2023	8012 S Niagara Way	\$738,000	\$738,000	4	3	2,440	2
6740262	5/18/2023	7854 S Pontiac Court	\$699,000	\$715,000	3	3	2,752	2
2926383	3/2/2023	8094 S Newport Court	\$649,000	\$649,000	3	3	2,322	2
2186967	7/14/2023	7841 S Monaco Court	\$574,900	900 909	4	2	3.085	2

Based on information from REColorado, Inc. for the period 03/2/23-8/11/23. Not all properties were listed and or sold by Kyla Hammond at Your Castle Real Estate. This representation is based in whole or in part on content supplied by REcolorado, Inc. REcolorado, Inc. does not guarantee nor is it in any way responsible for its accuracy. Content maintained by REcolorado, Inc. may not reflect all real estate activity in the market.

## Kyla Is Highly Recommended in the Neighborhood:

"We interviewed several realtors and are so glad that we chose to work with Kyla. She was professional and knowledgeable about the Denver market but most of all, we felt comfortable with her. Kyla took the time to find out how to best help us through this process and then made it happen. She kept us informed, answered all of our questions in a timely manner, and has an amazing team behind her including a strong list of resources to help get the house ready for sale (cleaning, junk removal). Our house was under contract in just a few days."

-Andrea, Centennial, Aug. 2023



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## **Award Winning Realtor:**

Kyla Hammond is a top producing Realtor in South Suburban Denver. She is in the top 20 agents at Your Castle Real Estate and ranks in the top 5% of all agents. She has won numerous awards for her work and provides outstanding service for her buyers and sellers. Give her a call anytime!



# The Club At Foxridge – End of Summer News!

## **New Opportunities**

The Club at Foxridge is excited to announce some new opportunities at the pool. First, we are extending the season on Friday afternoons and

the weekends through Sun, Sept 24th. Second, daytime adult lap swimming is available each weekday to members through the key check-out program. It's not too late to join! Just go to www.foxridgeclub.com and you will be set for this fall and the 2024 season.

## Court Project Update - Exciting News!

At the August 1st board meeting, the Club board of directors voted to move forward with the loan application process to build the courts. This will initiate an appraisal so that the viability and terms of a potential 10-year loan can become more clear. The information will help determine if the timeline to allow construction to begin this fall for three tennis courts is feasible. A post-tension concrete slab and fencing could be installed in late September and October with finish work taking place in the spring in time for league and recreational play.

FirstBank pre-approved the club for a \$300,000 loan in fall of 2022. An additional board vote will be needed before signing on the loan, likely in mid to late September. This approval will depend on the confidence the board has to pay on the loan, which will largely be based on raising the final amount towards the required fundraising goal, the successful award of the USTA grant, weighing out the likely future increased construction costs and bank rates, and feedback received by our members.

## **The Financial Outlook**

Fundraising has brought in about \$48,000 to date. Raising another \$7,500 now would ensure the confidence needed to sign. That safety net, along with a potential \$25,000 grant from the United States Tennis Association, potential increased revenue from new members interested in tennis and pickleball, new and recurring donations and sponsorships, as well as future revenue from our leagues, drills, and socials, make this a viable project. Potential revenue is estimated at \$52,000 a year once our programs are at capacity in a couple of years.

## \$7,500 Still Needed - Can you help?

Continued fundraising efforts include personal donations, business sponsorships, and new memberships. Simply go to foxridgeclub.com if you can help. Please spread the word that Ting is offering an amazing promotion to non-club members who are interested in getting Ting internet and joining the club— half off the \$450 initiation fee for a club membership, a savings of \$225, along with free installation and one free month of service. Please note that anyone who already has Ting can get a free month of service for each successful referral... so help spread the word!

We are so close! Foxridge tennis can be up and running in the spring of 2024 with leagues, drills, socials, and recreational play with just a little more help. Pickleball, too, using temporary lines on the courts!



FOXRIDGE Go to https://bit.ly/3E5cpMu for some helpful FAQs about the court project and the loan. Contact us at contact@foxridgeclub.com.

## Foxridge Foxes Summer Swim Team Highlights

The Foxridge Foxes Swim Team kicked off their summer season with a new head coach, Ali, and returning assistant head coach Hannah. They were joined by three assistant coaches – Alex, Clara, and Gracie. Morning swim practices began after Memorial Weekend and were held until the end of regular season Friday, July 14th. There were five regular season dual meets held on Saturdays. Three of the five were held at Foxridge. With amazing volunteers, these home meets ran efficiently and successfully, even the first home meet in the rainy and not-so-warm temperatures. While the emphasis is on having a fun swim season, the swimmers improved so much over the course of the season they won their last meet!

All swimmers are eligible to swim in the preliminaries and those who qualify are then eligible to swim in Championships. There were 42 swimmers who qualified! The team also had 21 swimmers qualify for All-Stars. In addition to morning swim practices, Pep Rallies on Fridays, and the dual meets on Saturday mornings, the team also participated in fundraisers such as Spaghetti Dinners at the pool, a Car Wash, Swim-a-thon, and "Team Feeds" at Chipotle and Freddy's. One fun event the team has is "Swim-under-the-Stars" – this event was cut short due to thunderstorms and then on the evening it was rescheduled another storm kept the kids out of the pool, but they had fun dancing to music under the tent. Fortunately, the End of the Season Banquet was held without the threat of a thunderstorm. Another successful summer swim team season had come to an end! Come join us next year! Go Foxridge Foxes!!







# Overheard in Foxridge

Lyn: Fido, I'm over the moon! The FIA's doing another Dumpster Day this year! Gotta declutter before it's too late!

Fido: Woooof, [tail wagging, cheerful bark]

Lyn: Uh, well, talking to pets is totally normal, right?

Fido: Woof, woof! [tail wags even more vigorously, showing enthusiasm]

Lyn: And guess what? There's gonna be scrap metal pickup, goodwill trucks, and e-recycling too! Foxridge rocks, huh,

Fido: Owooooooo! [Fido howls in agreement]

You can be part of this awesome community too! Join us by scanning the QR code or visiting: www.foxridgecommunity.com





## Foxridge Dumpster Day #2

## Sat, Sept 30th from 8:30 am - noon

#### By Gurdeep Sandhu

To each member and volunteer who participated in Dumpster Day #1, we want to express our heartfelt appreciation. Your enthusiasm, hard work, and unwavering commitment to making our community a better place is truly commendable.

Foxridge Improvement Association will hold a second Dumpster Day Plus event on Sat, Sept 30th from 8:30 to noon. Please note that there will be only two dumpsters available since we will also have metal recycling, e-recycling, and Goodwill of Colorado. In addition, we will hold a yard waste composting event in November, date TBD.

Please let us know at Foxridge.board@gmail.com if you can help for an hour. Many thanks to Metrum Community Credit Union for the partial sponsorship for the e-recycling!





This will be an excellent opportunity for Foxridge residents to clear out their clutter and dispose of unwanted items in an environmentally responsible manner. This community event has become a tradition that not only helps create a cleaner neighborhood but also encourages sustainable practices. For the past few dumpster day events Foxridge has been able to reduce the number of dumpster truck rolls to landfills. This was done with the spirit of continuous improvement and community collaboration. Foxridge Improvement Association (FIA) partnered with Goodwill of Colorado for items that can be repurposed or were in good condition for reuse. FIA also partnered with a young metal recycler who harvested metal objects.

Please note that you must be a member to participate. You can go to www. foxridgecommunity.com and click on 'Join Us' or you can join on-site. Thank you for your support! Do visit www.foxridgecommunity.com for the latest news and events in the Foxridge.

#### YES PLEASE!

Goodwill will gladly accept the following items in gently used, re-sellable condition:

Books and media | Jewelry | Electronics (no televisions)
Computers (working or not) | Antiques and collectibles
Shoes, belts and accessories | Clothing and linens | Furniture
Household décor | Lamps and light fixtures | Musical instruments
Crafts and crafting supplies | Housewares and small appliances
Sporting goods, games, toys & bikes | Exercise equipment & accessories
Hand tools and small power tools | Gardening and lawn care equipment
Pet accessories and supplies

## NO THANK YOU!

We cannot accept the following items:

Televisions | Gas cans or gas powered items that contain gas Broken, stained or worn furniture | Automobile parts or tires Paint, cleaning supplies, or other hazardous materials Mattresses, box springs, bed pillows, and water bed components Construction materials, plumbing or building supplies Hot water heaters, water softeners, and furnaces Inoperable or damaged appliances

# **Landscape & Jence Report:**Your GID Funds at Work

## By Tudi Arneill

## Landscape Maintenance/Upgrades

Weed eradication and landscape maintenance continues. Erik Sutton plans to plant five tall grasses along Otero, west of St Thomas More, to enhance that stretch of fence line. He also plans to add some low maintenance perennials to the garden bed at Holly and Otero near King Soopers.

## **GID Fence Repairs**

Information on this project may be found in an accompanying article.

### **Emerald Ash Borer**

All 29 ash trees along Mineral Avenue west of the park have been treated for the Emerald Ash borer. Treatment needs to be done every two years and will cover four pests including the Emerald Ash borer and the Lilac Ash borer. The cost was \$3,760.

## **Entry Monument Repair and Refresh**

The brick wall entry monument at the south side of Quebec and Mineral Ave has a large crack that will be repaired by Robbins Concrete and Masonry.

Many thanks to Jennifer Price who has offered to freshen up the dark gray and copper paint on our entry signs!



Notice: The acceptance of advertising by FoxTales does not indicate endorsement by Porchlink Media, its officials or agents. Porchlink Media makes no warranties and assumes no responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the information contained herein. The opinions expressed in articles and ads are not necessarily the opinions of The FIA or publisher. Publisher's liability for errors and omissions in both news and advertising is limited to correction in a subsequent issue. Oversight and management of advertising is controlled by Porchlink Media.

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The Teen Services listing is offered and maintained by The FIA, and is not a service of Porchlink Media. Any misuse of the listing should be reported immediately to the FIA, its officials or agents.



www.ssprd.org | 303.798.5131

**Fall Sale at South Suburban Recreation Centers** 

Sept. 18-Oct. 1

Buy a 20 pack of admission punches, get 5 free. Buy a 10 pack of 1-hour personal training or private reformer, get 1 free. Take advantage of these great savings while you can! Purchase at register.ssprd.org or at any South Suburban recreation center starting Sept. 18.

## Cats Can Be Helpful to the Garden



The Foxridge Community Garden is looking for empty clean cat litter containers to use as waterproof storage at the Garden. Our toolshed is still a dream, so in the meantime, we hope to use creative solutions for keeping tools, and other things, dry.

Please email: foxridgecg.com to let us know you have some to share. We'll pick them up or meet you at the garden for a quick tour in return for your help.

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# Natural Neighbors:

Snakes of My Summer

Tudi Arneil

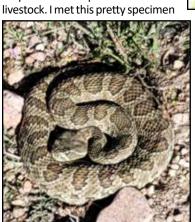
I thought I'd share some snake moments I've experienced so far this summer. These snake species will all be heading into a period of prolonged dormancy later next month; seen again in April or May.

We have a lily pond in our backyard that is 3 feet deep. It has common goldfish for interest and mosquito control. They breed and produce offspring, some of which survive and slowly grow larger. This attracts Terrestrial Garter Snakes, which are very good swimmers and who eat many of the smaller fish. This year, we have seen more garter snakes than in the past. The increased rainfall may have made conditions better for insects, earthworms, and snails so more snakes are able to forage successfully.

I am a bluebird monitor for Cherokee Ranch & Castle in Sedalia where I help track and record the progress of birds using a trail of 35 birdhouses; one of many trails on the property.

When we last checked the box, a nest with four bluebird chicks were thriving. Imagine our surprise when we opened the box to find a 5-foot bull snake coiled tightly inside! Its well-fed silhouette was now too lumpy to fit through the entrance hole, so I had to gently lower the nest and snake as one onto the ground and watch it slither away. I still can't figure out how it got into the box!

I help with scientific surveys on several prairie grassland tracts, which are fenced and gated to prevent trespass or contain livestock. I met this pretty specimen





of the Prairie Rattlesnake as I opened a gate on foot to allow a vehicle through. These snakes are not aggressive, and it posed quietly for its photo shoot.

It's always a special day when I see a snake. I treat them respectfully (usually just leaving them alone) and marvel at how beautifully adapted they are to their environment. "T'is a pleasure to live in Colorado".



## 2023 FIA Membership Form

January 1, through December 31, 2023

Membership in the FIA requires a \$60 annual fee

To join electronically, simply go to www.foxridgecommunity.com and click on 'Membership'.  You will be able to pay by Zelle or PayPal.					
If you prefer to send a check, please complete the form below and send with your check made out to FIA to:  Foxridge Improvement Association   PO Box 4985   Englewood, CO 80155-4985					
Name:					
Address:					
Phone Number:					
Email Address:					
Check here if you <u>do not</u> want to be on our email list. It is used to inform about upcoming events and is not shared.					
\$60.00 Make check payable to FIA (please do not send cash)					
Are you interested in being actively involved? We welcome volunteers!  Opportunities are available for the following:			Foxridge Fair		
Welcome Committee			Dumpster Day		
Entry Landscaping			Carriage Ride		
Newsletter			General Interest		



## Fall wine tastings are the best!

I haven't been to Palisade lately but it might be on the list this year to try local Colorado wines! There is just something in the air that makes you want to look at leaves and curl up by a fire and drink a good glass of red wine. I am a seasonal drinker, who swaps out my white for red in cooler months. Try throwing a wine tasting party for fall and here is how you can do it.

## What is a wine tasting really?

Wine tastings can be done causally or formally. You can select a group of wines in a single variety category, like Pinot Noir from different parts of the world and taste and evaluate them. You can also do blended reds which are made of several different varieties to produce a red blend. You can do different years, same producer or different price

points same varietal. A wine tasting has endless possibilities. Consider your guests and go from there!

## **Paper Bagged Wine**

This is my favorite tasting for people wanting a challenge. I do like this for the unbiased approach. You don't know what you are tasting and can't dismiss wines that you once had a bad experience with. You can also test your knowledge and palate. This is the format we used to take the sommelier exam. It really tests your senses! Throw your favorite wine in to see if you can guess it without seeing that label!

## How to?

If you are hosting, you can bag and number anywhere from five to eight wines. Have a paper and pen to write down your guesses.					
VarietyYearCountry Price					
If you are interested in some fall tasting I will be hosting some in the garden. We do them in small groups of 12. If you are interested you can send your email to be put on the list for future tastings.					

Email aroundthetablefw@gmail.com and put wine in the title.

## Foxridge Improvement Association (FIA) August 2023 Board Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)

#### Attendees:

- Martha Riley President
- Alex Martinez Vice President
- Gurdeep Sandhu Treasurer
- Bryon Bhagwandin Acting Secretary
- Allison Krebs Board Member at Large
- Tudi Arneill Board Member at Large
- Cheryl Gass Board Member at Large
- Andrew Yon Board Member at Large
- Ron Gamet Covenant Advisor

#### **Visitors:**

- Ingrid Stuebner
- Michael Sherwood

## **Visitor Questions:**

- Q:} Ingrid Stuebner informed the board we have a professional sand and ice sculptor in one of our neighborhoods and asked if we would/should showcase his work in some way for other residents to see.
- A:} Bryon Bhagwandin agreed to call the artist and inquire about details – cost, time, willingness, consequences of using this type of sand, etc.

#### **Covenant Advisors Report:**

 There were seven complaints on the Advisors report this month. All have been resolved except one concerning the presence of excessive trash on a neighbor's property. This issue has been turned over to the city.

## July 2023 Minutes:

 The July 2023 board meeting minutes were approved unanimously as published in Foxtales newsletter.

## President's Report:

- · Foxridge Fair was a great success.
  - Congratulations to Sandra Williams and her team for planning such and terrific event!
  - Thank you to all the volunteers who participated and executed such and wonderful event for Foxridge. A great time was had by all!

## **Vice President's Report:**

- Website has been updated with pictures from the Foxridge Fair
- The Foxridge Fair created a spike in website activity as expected

## **Secretary Report:**

• The acting secretary had nothing to report

#### Treasurer's Report:

- The Foxridge Fair brought in new members to the association bringing the membership totals to 380.
- The Association's Profit & Loss (P&L) report was presented – Available to members upon request
- Board members will look at the monthly

P&L for the next three months to confirm understanding of the statement and to determine if the chart of accounts is accurate and provides enough detail

### **Welcome Committee:**

- The welcome-packet materials have been updated
- We see 3-5 new households in Foxridge most months

#### **Foxtales Newsletter:**

- Twelve new recipes have been provided for publication in the newsletter
- Newsletter needs to begin to address the upcoming board election
- Bryon Bhagwandin will make sure the board election process proceeds according to plan
- The e-version of the newsletter is available at the FIA website https://www.foxridgecommunity.com/)

#### **Social Events:**

- The fair was a great success, despite weather challenges.
- Sandra Williams is working on the final budget with recommendations for next year
- It was suggested we have only large signs for the fair (18" X 24") and they be color
- It was suggested the fair occur after Labor Day as the many travel in August and the weather is good in September
- The next event is the Halloween Trunk or Treat scheduled for October 29th from 4:00 – 5:00 pm
- The Holiday Carriage ride is scheduled for December 17th from 5:00 – 7:00 pm

#### **Community Events:**

- A second dumpster day will be scheduled for Sept 30th from 8:30-Noon
- We will also have metal recycling and Goodwill trucks present for the Sept 30th dumpster day
- MOTION: Andrew made a motion for the Sept 30th dumpster day to include two dumpsters, Goodwill trucks and pay (\$400) for e-recycling
  - The motion received a second from Bryon Bhagwandin
  - Discussion included a review of event costs and funds available
  - The motion passed unanimously
- Julie Holt will coordinate a paint recycling event at the end of September

#### **Community Garden:**

- There was a children's 'bugs program' at the community garden on Aug. 9th, 2023
- The fall garden cleanup will include popcorn grown in the garden and pizza topped with herbs grown in the garden for the kids.
- Every Friday the garden is open for those who want to gather and share libation, food

and fellowship with neighbors.

#### Communications:

- FIA communication channels include the following
  - Foxtales printed newsletter, website, Facebook page, Mom's Group, Nextdoor, Yard Signs, and Text messaging.
- The e-newsletter had a 52% open rate
- The newsletter included articles about the fair, recipes, and the ash borer
- The Ash Borer article received the most clicks suggesting people are interested in this topic

## Foxridge General Improvement District (GID)

- Weed eradication and landscaping maintenance continues
- Fence repairs began on August 4th. It will take several weeks to complete the work.
- The 29 ash trees along Mineral have been treated for the Emerald Ash Bore
- Treatment for the 29 ash tress was \$3,760 (\$130/tree) – required every two years

## Centennial Council of Neighborhoods (CenCON)

- Representatives from FIA attended the Arapahoe sheriffs training center
  - There are several firing walls (inside) shooting areas
  - There is an outdoor firing range
  - The training program lasts 9-months
  - Most people who enter the training program finish
  - There is an annual requirement for 80 hours of continuing education
  - 60 deputies retire each year
  - The recruits are keeping pace with the retirement rate
- CenCON meeting minutes are available at: http://www.cencon.net/

#### **Old Business:**

- Board is still interested in creating an electronic membership directory – It was suggested Andrew Yon might help with this effort
- Auto renewal for membership dues will be an option starting in December 2023
- We will continue to feature local small businesses in our newsletter – be on lookout for potential business we can feature in the newsletter

#### **New Business**

- RESOLUTION: The FIA should purchase a phone number for future financial transactions
  - The resolution passed unanimously
- Board elections are coming soon
- There will be four openings on the board for the 2024 election with three incumbents running for re-election.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

## Fence Repair Project Update

#### By Martha Riley

When the three miles of Trex GID fence was installed a couple of years ago, most of it looked fine except for a few areas that showed striping. However, as time went by, unnatural fading caused the fence to display three other unsightly problems; see the photos below. Trex's warranty does not cover fading, however, the company eventually agreed that it was a materials defect issue, not normal fading. Trex provided about 45% new materials so



that the fence could be repaired to meet our expectations of a uniform, attractive community fence. The repair work has started on the west side of the neighborhood.

The process got off to a rough start with installation issues that are being handled by the fence company. One crew was let go and the unsatisfactory work will be remedied. The other crew will continue with their good work.

In most cases, each affected property will have the fence down for less than a day. The map below shows which properties will be affected.

The repair process will take a few months to complete but hopefully the result will be worth the inconvenience.

## Message from Patrick Fleming, City of Centennial Staff

On August 3, crews began the replacement of the discolored Trex materials in the Foxridge GID (FGID) fence. The work is expected to take up to 4 months to complete.

Earlier this year, the FGID secured project manager services that will be onsite each day to assess and document the work to replace the discolored materials as it progresses through the neighborhood.

The City has heard from a few residents that feel the discolored fencing materials should not be replaced at all. The City Staff does understand the concerns of these residents. However, if the fence is to achieve the initial project's goal of a more uniform aesthetic, the FGID will need to include each of the homes that are currently scheduled for Trex materials replacement. This decision was approved by the FGID Board of Directors earlier this year and is intended to ensure the neighborhood's fence looks as good as possible, given the sizeable investment that has already been made.

As a reminder, easements were signed by each homeowner included in the materials replacement, whereby owners agreed to allow for fence maintenance and replacement. The contractor has been instructed to only move items that interfere with the work being done to avoid damage to landscaping or other items that are near the fence. If you have any questions or concerns about the project, please contact the City's GID manager, Patrick Fleming, at pfleming@centennialco.gov or 303-754-3319, or Martha Riley at 303-435-2073.







## **Mexican Chicken**

**Submitted by Ron Gamut** 

2 lbs (roughly 4) boneless skinless chicken breasts | 2 tsp butter | Paprika and& garlic powder to taste.

Tortilla chips, crumbled, approx. ½ bag (Nacho cheese flavor, recommended) | 24-28 oz. can enchilada sauce of choice

Enough of the following to cover all the chicken breasts: Fresh scallions | Chopped cilantro | Grated cheese | Sliced black olives, optional

#### **Directions:**

- 1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
- Place chicken breasts in a large baking dish. Spread with butter and sprinkle with paprika and garlic powder.
- 3. Bake uncovered for 45 minutes.
- 4. Remove from the oven and cover with crushed tortilla chips.
- 5. Top with / 24-28 oz. of enchilada sauce.
- Add fresh scallions, chopped cilantro and& grated cheese covering the chicken breasts.
- 7. Cover with foil and return to oven for 15 minutes.
- 8. Serve, garnishing with black olives, if desired.



## Do you have a favorite recipe you'd like to share?



Let us know at foxridge.board@gmail.com



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\*\*NANNY NEEDED: full-time, live-out nanny M-F with infant experience starting 11/1/23. Please contact Marissa 773-715-2862 to discuss this opportunity and other requirements.\*\*

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Advertising deadline is always the 20th of the preceding month. Email KERRI@PORCHLINK.COM with any questions.

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