



# FERNAN LAKE VILLAGE

Visit us at: [www.FernanVillage.org](http://www.FernanVillage.org)

ISSUE 13

JUNE 2019

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MAYOR  
HEIDI  
ACUFF

## From the Mayor

The great weather and fun summer months are about to descend upon us! Fernan is a busy place in the Summer so please keep your speed

down when driving and cars parked off the streets for the Street sweepers and safety of children and pets.

There has been much activity among us with upcoming proposed changes. As Mayor and your council it is our job to protect and develop our City for the future. Our Commercial district has huge potential being on the eastern gateway to the lake. It is a pri-

ority to develop with vibrancy. In this issue we have a special article addressing street news.

I recently had the privilege of touring the Parker Technical facility which is a park of North Idaho College and have included a short article that may help you, family members or friends. We are so lucky to live in this location and have so much available to us. Hope everyone had a great winter/spring and we look forward to summer and our upcoming picnic in August.

I would like to thank Catrina Leithold for many years of hard work as our Village Gardner. She recently retired from the Village and we wish her the best.

## STREET SWEEPING



Street sweep trucks began in April and need a seven foot height clearance to pass under any trees along the street. If the height is less than seven feet they will go around them to prevent damage to their truck. Also any trees/shrubs extending beyond the curb they will go around. Please keep your plants trimmed not to extend beyond the curb and what does keep at least 7 ft. of

height under it. **PLEASE KEEP CARS AND BOAT PARKED OFF THE STREETS FOR MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY.**



*No Wipes In Pipes!* **Fernan Sewer Dept.**

**EVEN IF THEY SAY FLUSHABLE. THEY ARE NOT FLUSHABLE IN OUR SEWER SYSTEM!**

**PATTY POTTY'S DO NOT FLUSH LIST**

DIAPERS  
 PAPER TOWELS  
 FACIAL TISSUE  
 COTTON SWABS  
 BABY WIPES  
 ADULT WIPES  
 HAIR  
 GUM WRAPPERS  
 CANDY



FACIAL PADS  
 DENTAL FLOSS  
 CIGARETTES  
 COTTON BALLS  
 SCOOPS OF KITTY LITTER  
 WOMEN'S HYGIENE PRODUCTS  
 ALL PURPOSE CLEANING WIPES  
 ADHESIVE BANDAGES  
 MAKEUP REMOVER WIPES

**IF SEWER ALARM GOES OFF CALL:**

- 1st) Bob Kuchenski- (208) 683-0500**
- 2nd) Bob Chandler (208) 691-3428**
- 3rd) Worst Plumbing (208) 661-2433**

**NOTE: IN CASE OF POWER OUTAGE OUR SYSTEMS WILL NOT WORK. USE SPARINGLY**

***PLEASE EDUCATE GUESTS AND USERS. THE CITY OF FERNAN IS BILLED HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS EACH MONTH DUE TO WIPES***



## From the City Council— **IMPORTANT**



As we review the responses received from the letter about the roads it appears obvious that we need to review the history of our repaving efforts and help everyone understand how we got here. For example in our responses from residents we saw that some folks knew about the chip seal and why we did it. (Our road bed was in danger of being lost and we couldn't afford to do repaving. We were told that this would buy us another three to five years.) Unfortunately we got a poor job and have been cleaning up rocks from the streets in our yards, driveways, garages, carpets, etc. The sticky oil was

also a concern. For those of us who walk our dogs on it we've been washing their paws and having our carpets cleaned regularly ever since.

Children, grandchildren, and some adults, got skinned knees, elbows, etc. when they fell on the rough surfaces. Lack of sidewalks means our children are going to be in the street and it needs to be safe for them. As the rocks were gradually getting cleared the sticky oil reappeared in bare spots where the rocks didn't adhere. While no one thinks the job was good, it evidently wasn't a big enough fail to make the contractor redo it or give us our money back. Our city engineer has had various experts inspect it and they've all agreed that it is not a good job, but not bad enough to be considered a complete fail. I believe the words they used were partial fail. The cost to go to court on this issue could be more than the money we spent on the job and without the experts certifying it a fail we would not be likely to win. Thus we decided not to pursue that avenue.

The protection of our roadbed is still the number one concern of your City Council. The other concern is that we consider Fernan Village to be a quality, desirable neighborhood and we feel a responsibility to maintain the assets we have, one of which is the quality of our homes and streets. None of us want our home values to decrease and we all work diligently to at least maintain what we have.

Another concern brought up by the LID letter is, of course, the cost to repave and we certainly share your feelings on that. It has been suggested by some that we save the money in the city budget to pay for the streets. Taxes in Fernan Village are one of the lowest cities in the county, tied only with Athol. Just enough to pay the costs of running the city, paying for city services and maintaining our sewer pumps. Unfortunately we do not build up a surplus which we could save to do major improvements like the roads. The last time our roads were done we had a reserve and they were paid for from that. Some of our long time residents remembered that they didn't have to pay extra to repave the last time it was done. The paving was paid out of the reserve fund which is non-existent now. That reserve was there because in addition to property tax money we had income from our four commercial properties on Coeur d'Alene Lake Drive and one of the two liquor licenses owned by Fernan Village was being used. Unfortunately that source of income has been absent for years, thus no reserve fund. The future looks good for our business properties, but unfortunately not soon enough to help with the roads. In fact in order to have those properties upgraded and profitable we will require improvements in water and sewer lines. This will most likely be an LID paid by the owners of the commercial properties. These properties were a good source of income in the past and as they are developed they can be in the future. Hopefully when and if that happens we will be in a much better financial position and the necessary maintenance and improvements can be done without added taxes.

(Continued on next page)

## From City Council (Continued)

One thing was clear from responses to the different proposals and that was that we don't want our streets narrowed and we don't like speed bumps. Speed bumps are expensive to put in and ridiculously expensive to maintain. But, we do want to maintain a 15 mile per hour speed limit. One idea is more of the flashing signs which show your speed like the one we had installed on Fernan Road. Those seem to be very effective at reminding people. Also, we all need to check our own speed as we come and go. It is very easy to exceed that limit.

The good news about the bad chip seal job is that our road bed has been protected and we should be able to repave without major repairs. Since less than half our residents replied to the LID letter we City Council members have tried to reach out to more of you to get your views. At the present time the consensus appears to be to follow most of Option 2, but try to cut the costs where we can without lessening the quality of the paving job. We also are looking at more ways to get help on some of the costs. Lakeside Highway District is a possible source since they own part of the road going down to the park and boat launch and also the portion of Lakeview that borders the forestry property. We are actively pursuing that.

We will continue to work on getting costs down and come back to you with more information as we come up with a workable plan. In the meantime please contact one of the City Council Members if you have questions. If we don't have the answers we will get them for you. It is our goal to always do the best we can to keep you informed and to keep our Village the best place to live in Kootenai County.

## CRITTER CONTROL— What to do?

The City occasionally gets asked how to get rid of unwanted critters. It is the home owners responsibility to get rid of any nuisance wild life critters that frequent their property. Here are couple options:



- 1.) You can trap them yourself and release where you want. Usually recommend 10-15 miles away. Traps can be obtained free from Department of Fish and Game with a \$20.00 deposit that is returned to you on return of the trap. Only 1 trap at a time is allowed.

**DEPT. OF FISH & GAME (208) 769-1414**

- 2.) Hire a wildlife trapper. We have provided a few contacts for you below from the Dept of Fish & Game:

**CITTER CONTROL (509) 443-6757/ Dave Kelly**

**ALPHA PREDATOR CONTROL (208) 818-4873 / Ryan Smith**

**TRAPPER BILL- (208) 215-0021 / Bill Haywood**



# FERNAN CITY PICNIC

Annual Community Event

*Please Join Us!*

**WED.  
AUG. 14TH  
6PM**

**Broasted Chicken, Country Style Ribs, Baked Beans, Coleslaw & More!  
Live Music & Libations Included!**

**Please RSVP by Aug 7th to Connie Gridley 208.664-4340  
\$12.00 Adults, \$7.00 under 10 yrs.**

*On the Lawn, by the lake-  
112 S. Hazelwood Dr. Fernan Lake Village*



*Friends and Family Welcome!!*



# NEW NEIGHBORS!!

## HILLSIDE HISTORY



By Doris Hoffman

**The Hunt Family recently moved into their new Fernan Village home on Hazelwood**



It was a gift that three Fernan Lake residents hope will keep on giving. The best part is, it's for everyone to enjoy.

Pat Acuff, Doug Potter and Jim Elder, (all residents of Fernan at the time), purchased and donated a 47-acre plot of land to the city of Coeur d'Alene to be preserved just as it is – a rising, wooded hillside that offers magnificent waterfront vistas. The property, which features about 3,000 linear feet of waterfront with steep hillsides that overlook a popular boat launch and fishing area on the lake's adjacent south side, was a gift to the people of North Idaho so that it could be enjoyed by generations to come. The donated land, which is within Coeur d'Alene's city boundaries, was almost turned into a subdivision several years ago before the plan fell through, at which point Acuff, Potter and Elder decided to purchase it with the purpose of deeding it to the city, except for five acres on the top of the hill the donors set aside for a possible subdivision.

It will now be untouched by residential development preserving the tranquility of our village.

"It's from three families that have been here and understand the importance of the hillsides and vistas and views in the area. It's a wonderful example of gifting and giving back to the communities," she said. "I think it will be wonderful and a gift that will be cherished for years to come, just like Tubbs Hill."

## MEET THE VILLAGE PEOPLE

This is a section of our newsletter where we will be featuring our City residents. If you would like to suggest someone to be featured we would appreciate a quick email or call to Doris Hoffman.

Doris Hoffman  
(509) 994-1998  
doriskhoffman@roadrunner.com

Welcome our new neighbors the Hunt Family! The need for more room for their young family led to them selling their home on Foster and purchasing their new home on Hazelwood. Bruce and Brady have three young children: Ward, four and a half, Windslow, three, and Gerrity, one. They also have a mixed black lab named Fleishman. Bruce grew up in Coeur d'Alene and Brandi is from Florida. We are very happy that this new family chose our Village as a good place to raise their family.

# CITY ELECTION COMING UP NOVEMBER 2019



**\*\*PLEASE NOTE THAT DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY CAN ONLY BE FILED  
BETWEEN AUGUST 29, 2019 AND SEPTEMBER 6, 2019**

## **POSITIONS UP FOR ELECTION:**

**Mayor (Heidi Acuff)**

**2 City Council Positions:**

**Seat #2 (Paula Beuchs)**

**Seat #3 (Pete Job)**

**HOW CITY COUNCILMEMBERS ARE ELECTED:** City elections are classified as "by seat," which means a candidate must declare which seat number they are running for. City elections do not run by political affiliation.

**QUALIFIED ELECTOR FOR CITY ELECTIONS:** A qualified elector is anyone who has registered to vote and has resided within the city limits at least 30 days prior to election.

**ABSENTEE VOTING:** In person: Any qualified elector may vote absentee.

**CANDIDATE FORMS** can be obtained by contacting our City Clerk: Cindy Espe  
(208) 818-9053

[cindyespe@hotmail.com](mailto:cindyespe@hotmail.com)

**NEXT ELECTION DATE:** November 5, 2019



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## NEWSLETTER – City of Fernan Lake Village



### Fernan Lake Village

PO Box 1775  
COEUR D'ALENE, ID 83816  
P: (208) 818-9053  
F: (208) 762-7731

[www.fernnavillage.org](http://www.fernnavillage.org)

**City Clerk/Planner:**

**Cindy Espe** (208) 818-9053  
[cindyesepe@hotmail.com](mailto:cindyesepe@hotmail.com)

**City Engineer:**

**Jim Coleman**  
(208) 661-2888

**City Attorney**

**Paul Daugharty**  
(208) 664-3799

**City Treasurer**

**Kim Fontes**  
(208) 765-9500

**Mayor**

**Heidi Acuff** (208) 660-9229  
[heidi@heidiacuff.com](mailto:heidi@heidiacuff.com)

**City Council:**

**MaryAnn Tierney** (208) 667-7293  
[barryt@roadrunner.com](mailto:barryt@roadrunner.com)

**Pete Job** (509) 710-1992  
[pjob@callpowerco.com](mailto:pjob@callpowerco.com)

**Doris Hoffman** (509) 994-1998  
[doriskhoffman@roadrunner.com](mailto:doriskhoffman@roadrunner.com)

**Paula Buechs** (208) 667-5577  
[pbuechs@gmail.com](mailto:pbuechs@gmail.com)