

*Distanced...but not isolated***Dear Neighbors,**

While Social Distancing has its points, too much can bring on Social Isolation! Many of us are at home now, but being "in the house" doesn't need to mean "all alone." This might be an opportunity to build community and learn more about one another.

If you'd like to suggest someone to be featured in the newsletter, email [FoxChapelHOAsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:FoxChapelHOAsecretary@gmail.com), and you will be contacted by email or phone for information.

Your Fox Chapel HOA

**Neighborhood Spotlight***Riley Mackinson, 1862*

**A pandemic, unemployment, GNP and stock market plunges. These are dark subjects adults awaken to each day.**

How about being 16, missing out on your sophomore softball season, not seeing friends, looking at a screen instead of being in a classroom, and having a car, but no driver's license? Serious disappointments for someone 16. Remember 16?

We have articulate Riley Mackinson, daughter of Shawn and Bruce at 1862 Fox Chapel, to give us a look at life as a teen in the days of quarantine.



Riley was born in Powder Springs and the family, including now 14 year-old brother Aaron, moved here in 2016. Pets include cats Domino and Leo, and Vixen, a 3-year-old still-puppy mix adopted last year. Shawn is in her 20th year teaching math at Lovett and Riley has been there since kindergarten. Aaron attends Mt. Bethel Christian Academy in Marietta and Bruce works as a business development officer at Input One out of Woodland Hills, CA.

Taking ballet classes in the 5th grade, Riley became enamored of baseball watching Aaron play, and asked to switch. Her family still teases her on hot afternoons: "You could be dancing inside in the air-conditioning!"

She now plays in the fall on Lovett's Varsity team and this spring was to cover second base again for the Wild, Wild Pitches. This team still has hopes of starting the season sometime this summer.

So, what's online learning like? It's obvious that Riley is an exceptional student, and Lovett students are presented with their own computer in the 4th grade, so the technology is no problem.

"It's really boring." Some teachers are enthusiastic and are trying very hard to make classes interesting, but, making translations of 3rd year Latin exciting might be a stretch.

Her AP World History teacher is "really smart, and walks around and interacts with people... plays games...relates things to current events." His online style is different, but seems to work well, too, and keeps students engaged.

Riley says, "My printmaking class has been good. Early on while non-essential things could get shipped easily, we had lots of interesting projects we could do at home. I like to draw and created and sewed together a sketch book and filled it with drawings of our cats."

**HAS WHEELS BUT NO WHERE TO GO**

Riley just missed getting her permanent license when offices closed, but then on the last day of April she received an email from the state that she could get her license without taking the exam. Then Gov. Kemp rescinded that decision. She will have to take the test, but soon you can wave at Riley as she goes by in the red Beemer sedan left her by her Grandma Helen.

**What is something you do while "Sheltering in Place" that's helping you to get by?**

"I miss seeing my friends the most, but we phone and text a lot talking about our thoughts and feelings. We've been making movies and podcasts. And we had a Drive-By Birthday party for a friend turning 16. We were hanging out of car windows and sun roofs, then we stood and hung out in the driveway 6' apart; it was fun."

"Also, my mom helped me put a pink rinse on my hair!"

**What do you do for fun in our area?**

"Mostly my friends and I just go to each others' homes and watch movies."

**Name some favorite restaurants**

Riley recommends Jack's New Yorker Deli for their bacon, egg and cheese omelet, and wings or a chicken club sandwich at the U.S. Cafe

**What's the first thing you want to do when the quarantine is over?**

Riley hopes to go to a concert by a favorite group, "Five Seconds of Summer" which was to be in September but now may be in the fall.

**Sean Hill, 1863**

**Love a parade? Did you catch ours? Well, Sean's.**

Sean Hill was leaving his marketing job of ten plus years at Brand Apart when his co-workers surprised him with a caravan complete with honking horns, inflatable characters and bunches of balloons on that sunny May 1st afternoon waiting at home were his wife Erin with 5 year-old twins Adler and Everly and Isla (pronounced Eye-la), age 3.

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**Does anyone know how to stop birds from pecking at your windows?** The Layngs have had 2 aggressive ones this year! Send helpful suggestions to [blayng101@gmail.com](mailto:blayng101@gmail.com)

*The**FOX CHAPEL CONNECTION*

**Have something to share?** If you have something to share or want to suggest someone to be highlighted, reach out to [FoxChapelHOAsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:FoxChapelHOAsecretary@gmail.com) and you could be in the next Fox Chapel Connection!

SEE AND PRINT OUT THE ATTACHMENT TO SOLVE THE PUZZLE!

Complete the crossword puzzle below

Where I Live

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