



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, and you will be contacted by email or phone for information.

Your Fox Chapel HOA

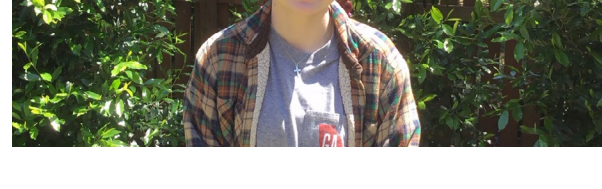
Neighborhood Spotlight

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.

Meet the Board

The HOA Team

Meet the team that works hard behind the scenes to keep Fox Chapel great! The board is always available for questions and/or concerns.

Traci Thomas - President TraciThomas2017@yahoo.com

Wade Doss - Treasurer Wade@Batesace.com

Jenny Seeley - Secretary FoxChapelHOAsecretary@gmail.com

The Architectural Control Committee

HOA Reminder

About to paint and considering changing the color of your home? Want a different style of windows? Fox Chapel's ACC asks that you consult them in any exterior improvement.

Our Architectural Control Committee is made up of neighbors Pat Gardella (1897 Fox Chapel Dr.), Elizabeth Pinamonti (1899), and Jennifer Prins (1898). They are charged with maintaining the standards of appearance of the neighborhood for those who are living here as well as those who might want to sell. They seek to protect curb appeal and property values and showcase pride in our neighborhood.



NAME THE FOX CONTEST

Have a clever name for our fox friend below?

If you have children under the age of 12, submit their name suggestions to BLaying101@gmail.com.

Good Luck!



AROUND TOWN

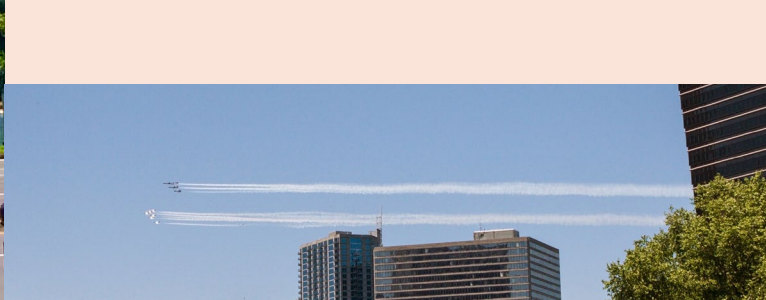
In need of a good breakfast or lunch offering? Our neighbor Riley recommends Jack's New Yorker Deli and U.S. Cafe for good eats! Both are within a 5 minute drive of Fox Chapel.

Visit JacksNYD.com or UScafe.net for more information.



LOOK UP!

On Saturday, May 2nd, the U.S. Navy Blue Angels and Air Force Thunderbirds paid tribute to first responders and other healthcare workers who are working in area hospitals. (Left) This photo was taken at Atlanta Road and Cumberland Blvd. and shows their contrails over midtown Atlanta.

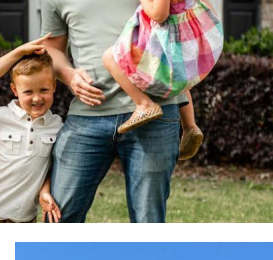
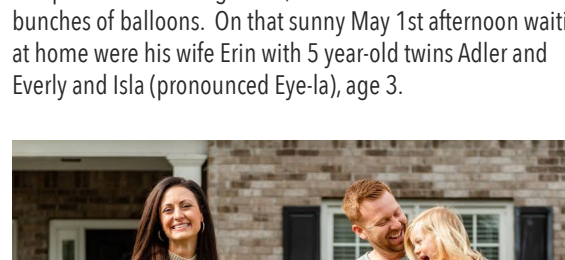


Neighborhood Spotlight

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.



As the parade worked its way down Fox Chapel lots of neighbors came to the street to wave and wonder what was it all about? Colorful pictures share the fun.

Born to an Air Force family, Sean moved to Powder Springs at age 6 from Germany when his dad went to full-time reserve duty at Dobbins. His mom transitioned from active duty to a reservist when Sean and his two brothers were younger. Sean graduated from McEachern High School and then headed to UGA.

There he studied Marketing and through a campus ministry met Erin. She was born and lived in Chicago until her dad, a 40+ year Delta employee, and family relocated to Peachtree City in 1990.

Erin and Sean lived in Atlanta after marrying in 2007 until 2009 when Sean decided to pursue a graduate degree in Orange County, CA. After 5 years in Southern California, they decided to move back home and settle in Smyrna. That decision was confirmed when they found out they were having twins in the summer of 2014! In April of 2015, the twins were born and in the spring of 2017 Isla came along and the family needed a bigger home.

Fox Chapel called and they put a contract on 1863 the day they saw it in September, 2017.

Sean's new job is with Chick-fil-A and he works with a team developing the overall strategic plan the company and then communicates that plan to the franchise owners and staff.

Hobbies? Well, with three children under 5, he doesn't need to look for any. They love our neighborhood because it is tucked away yet has walking access to lots of restaurants, like Muss and Turners and Starbucks, and Oakdale Park for the children - hopefully to open again soon.

What is something you are doing while "sheltering in place" that is helping you to get by?

The neighboring children get together (at a safe distance) and ride bikes in the late afternoon. It's so fun to watch.

What do you do for fun in our area?

Erin is great at finding family activities: strawberry picking at Southern Bell Farms in McDonough, biking to Food Truck Tuesdays at Taylor-Brawner Park, navigating the Silver Comet trail.

Name some of your favorite restaurants.

I love Mexican, especially Superica at the Battery. For "Date Night" we like Porch Light Kitchen in Smyrna Village or Mezza Luna for Italian.

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

Stay home - Without the kids!! Drop them off at their grandparents' home and have time with friends or just to ourselves.

What would you like your neighbors to know about you?

Sean: We'd love to get to know you (the community)! We love the Fox Chapel neighborhood for how friendly it is and it was one of the key reasons we decided to move. During this challenging time it's been great to see everyone out and about in the neighborhood so if you see us out (sorry in advance if our kids are speeding by on bikes) please stop us and say hello!

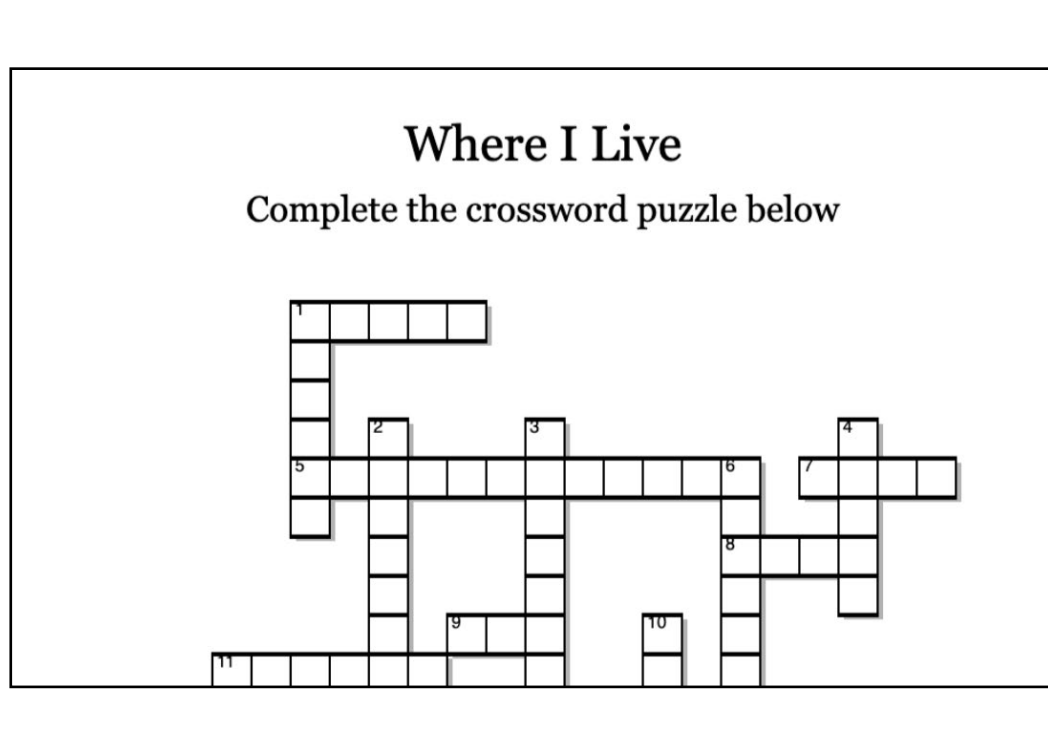
Have something to share?

If you have something to share or want to suggest someone to be highlighted, reach out to FoxChapelHOAsecretary@gmail.com and you could be in the next Fox Chapel Connection!

Crossword Puzzle

NEED A BREAK FROM WORK?

SEE AND PRINT OUT THE ATTACHMENT TO SOLVE THE PUZZLE!



Neighborhood Bulletin Board

Anyone want to swap jigsaw puzzles? Bring yours to Don Gosden's front porch at 1879 Fox Chapel: Take one, Leave one.

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 blaying101@gmail.com

