



# FEBRUARY, 2016 COMMUNITY UPDATE

## Upcoming February Events

### Community Pancake Feed & Building Fundraiser Saturday, February 20th 9 am—11 am



Join your friends and neighbors on Saturday, February 20th from 9 am to 11 am for our annual community pancake feed. Breakfast will begin serving at 9 am and continue until 10:30 am. Bring

your family and your friends. Bring your neighbors too! Come and connect with members of your volunteer board, members of 4H and each other. Breakfast will include pancakes, sausage, fruit, coffee and juice. Admission is \$5 per person. Children 10 and under are free.

This event will also include an opportunity to contribute to our new Capital Building Fund. As you know from the most current issue of the KITTEN (Jan—Mar) your community Hall is in need of insulation and new siding. We are beginning the process of fundraising this year to start that project. Look for the “fundraiser corner” in the Hall during the pancake feed to learn more about this project. 100% of your fundraiser donations go to the building fund and all donations (and membership dues) are tax deductible. Come enjoy a delicious breakfast and say hello to your friends and neighbors!

### Hilander 4H-Meeting Sunday, February 7th 11 am

The Cougar Gulch Hilander 4H club kicked off the new year in January. If you are interested, please join the group at the Meadowbrook Hall on Sunday, February 7th. Officers meet at 11 am. Member meeting starts at 11:30 am. 2016 projects include:



- ◆ Archery—John Sheppard
- ◆ Clover buds—Christine Sheppard
- ◆ Non-Horse—Janelle Hersey
- ◆ Intro to Cooking—Julia Mangan
- ◆ Photography, Rabbit, Dog—Dawn Myers

Members and potential members should RSVP to solidify enrollment and determine their projects.

Membership fees due: Clover bud = \$20, Regular members = \$20, Archery members = \$21. There will be a rabbit show at the fairgrounds on Saturday, February 27th.

For more information, contact Dawn at 208-667-4044 or please email her at: [dawnmyersid@gmail.com](mailto:dawnmyersid@gmail.com).

### 2016 Cougar Gulch Membership Drive

Our 2016 annual membership drive and fundraiser is underway the first quarter of 2016. In the previous year, approximately 70 Cougar Gulch households participated by paying membership dues of \$25 per family. With over 300 homes in the area, we encourage all members to spread the word about Hall events, membership benefits and rental opportunities. This year our goal is to increase our membership to at least 100 families.

Your membership dues pay for the Hall’s necessary expenses including electricity, propane, building insurance and taxes. Funds also support our Hilander 4H club and provides supplies for rentals and community events and pays for minor improvements to the Hall. Your contributions are TAX DEDUCTIBLE. This yearly membership drive is vitally important to help maintain the Hall as a strong community connection for all families of the Gulch and offers wholesome, fun events throughout the year.

Again this year, we will hold our “early-bird” contest. All families paying their 2016 membership dues between January 1 and March 31 will be in the drawing to win a \$50 VISA card. The winner will be selected at our regular April board meeting.

Remember, all contributions to the Sam Rodus Memorial Park Association (SRMPA) are tax deductible. The membership application is on page 3. Fill it out and mail in in today!



# Nextdoor.com—Our NEW Community Communication Tool

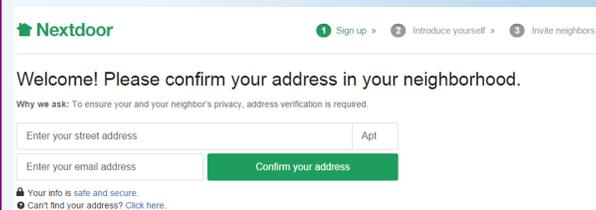
It started as a grass-roots effort. Someone lost a cat—someone found a dog, or someone needed help with snow-  
plowing. Without a regular method of communicating fast and easily to our neighborhood at large, people would turn  
to Julie Schmidt to help get the word out about their situation or ask for help. While Julie enjoys being connected to  
the community and helping neighbors in need, the method is not sustainable as the need to communicate within our  
immediate community continues to grow.

This dilemma has been solved with the very kind help of newer Cougar Gulch resident Barbara Snarr. Barbara intro-  
duced an easy, great new approach for communicating with an app called **Nextdoor**. Barbara also worked with Julie to  
set the parameters for our community and you are cordially invited to become a part of this growing communication  
tool to aid residents of the Gulch to easily and quickly connect with each other.

The map to the right shows the boundaries we have set for the Cougar Gulch Neighborhood and as you can see, they  
are quite encompassing. They bump up against the Highland Drive Ridge **Nextdoor** “neighborhood” and are bordered  
on the south by W. Cougar Gulch Road and include all of the Gulch neigh-  
bors to the west.

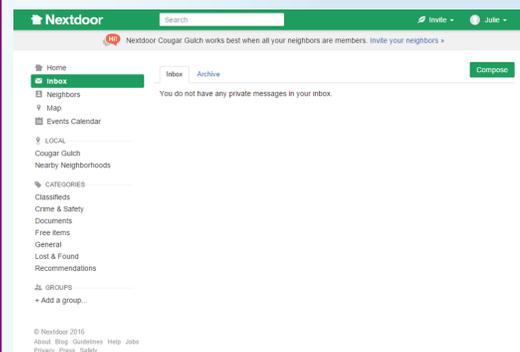
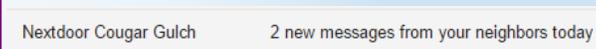
## SO HOW DO I BECOME A MEMBER OF Cougar Gulch NEXTDOOR.COM?

Everyone inside the boundaries with an email account can belong. Start by  
accessing [nextdoor.com](http://nextdoor.com) from your computer. You will be asked to confirm  
your address (to make sure you are in the Cougar Gulch neighborhood  
boundaries we have set) and supply your email address. This ensures our  
neighborhood privacy. *Only neighbors with addresses in the designated  
map area are allowed to join.* (Note: We have tried to ensure that all  
neighbors in the Gulch can sign up. If you have any issues please contact  
Julie at [julielinez1951@gmail.com](mailto:julielinez1951@gmail.com)).



Once your address is confirmed to be in the boundaries that we  
have set for our neighborhood, you will be able to become a mem-  
ber by signing up. The easiest way to verify your address is within  
the boundaries is to use your  
phone number.

Your phone number is connected to your address and allows you to  
join the neighborhood. Once you have signed up, messages from  
other Cougar Gulch **Nextdoor** members will show up in the form of  
an email in your inbox



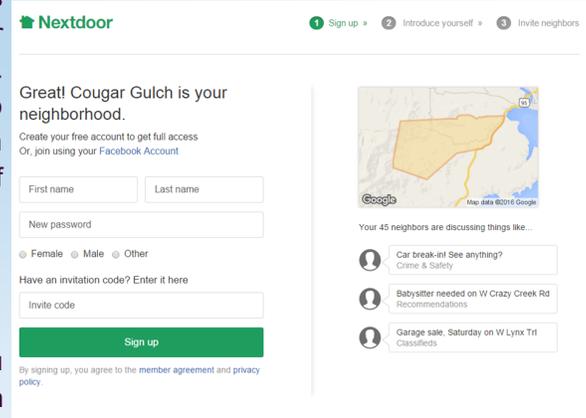
After signing up you  
will see a page much  
like your current email  
provider.

**INBOX:** Here you can receive private messages from members.

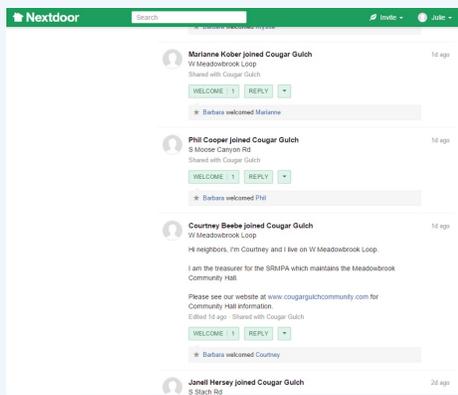
**NEIGHBORS:** Let's you see who has signed up in our neighborhood.

**MAP:** Shows the Cougar Gulch **Nextdoor** community and adjoining com-  
munities and allows you to communicate with both if you wish.

**AND MORE!**



# Nextdoor.com—Our New Community Communication Tool, cont.



You can choose your privacy settings and how often you would like to receive email messages from other members in the Cougar Gulch area that have signed up with Nextdoor. From your computer, you can see messages in chronological order and are given the chance to welcome new members, reply to their post and more. You can also personalize and control which near-by neighborhoods to include, and also download a mobile app.

**This communication tool is safe, easy and effective for communicating within our neighborhood. Please remember—going forward it will be the method of choice to get the word out about missing or found animals or other posts to neighbors in our Cougar Gulch Community. Thank you for supporting this effort.**



## Need a Handy Man?

Daniel is willing to shovel snow off roofs or provide other snow removal jobs. He can do handy man jobs too. Phone 208-784-8234 or email him at [danielboonis1@gmail.com](mailto:danielboonis1@gmail.com)

## Welcome new Board Members!

Please join us in welcoming two new volunteer board Members to our Community Board. Debbie Mott and Diana Nottage will be joining our team in February.

## Community Hall Restoration Fundraising Begins



In the final months of 2015 the board began investigating options to preserve and save our community building. The Hall needs to have insulation blown in to the existing structure and then be resided. Estimates for this work, including supplies and paid labor, come in at approximately \$30,000. Every dollar donated this year (outside of membership dues) will go directly to the building improvement fund. Every dollar donated specifically during fundraising events will also go directly to the building fund. Your donations (and membership dues) are tax deductible. THANK YOU to everyone who has donated extra funds with their 2016 membership dues. Your generosity does not go unnoticed! We appreciate you very much! We have started the first steps in our journey to restore our community center.

### 2016 Cougar Gulch Community Membership Application

#### Tax Deductible Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Dues: \$25. Please make check payable to SRMPA.

Additional Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to have the Cougar KITTEN sent to my personal email.

\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

Please mail this registration and your dues to:

SRMPA Treasurer

6637 W. Meadowbrook Loop Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814