

# MOSQUITO BYTE

JUNE 2005, VOLUME 18 #10

## LOIS PEARSON

It has been the practice of the editors of the *Mosquito Byte* to just place an "In Memory" box in the paper when a Mosquito resident passes on. Once before, when Roland Smith passed on we did put an article in as he was a member of the Mosquito Fire Protection District Board and also spent his summers at the Slate Mountain Lookout keeping a sharp eye on "smokes" in our district.

The time has come again to do just a bit more than a "memory box." As most of you probably already know, Lois Pearson passed on the end of April. The amount of time and effort Lois contributed to our community was endless. She was instrumental in the establishment of our Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department and served, from its inception until a couple of years ago, as Secretary/Treasurer and Board Member. She also served as Secretary/Treasurer of the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department Board. She also was an Inspector for the Mosquito Precinct Election Board until a few years ago.

Her children, step children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and yes, great, great grandchildren will miss her – as will we all.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The new Mosquito Phone Books will be available at the Fire Station after June 1. They will be \$3.00, including tax. Also – the seventh printing of the booklet *Mosquito Memories* is available for \$5.00, including tax. If you are a new resident, this little booklet gives you an insight into the history of this wonderful area. It would be helpful to those at the Fire Station if you would have exact change!

Don't forget – school is out and that means children will be out and about. Do be careful driving around.

And last – but not least – the July issue of the *Byte* may be a little late. We are volunteers and we do take vacations!

## ROCK CREEK ROAD

Chief Leo Chaloux

Have you taken the time to drive Rock Creek Road lately? If you haven't I strongly suggest you take an opportunity to do so. This rainy spring has produced the most beautiful show of wild flowers I have ever seen. The Lupine is the tallest and bluest it can be and mixed with the varied colors from the poppies, the vetch and the fairy lanterns when all are on display the result is just a simple treat to the appreciation of what spring can offer.

I drive Rock Creek Road quite a bit and have done so for the past 30 years. For me it is an opportunity to slow down a little and simply take some time to get to some mission I have to carry out in town. The road provides many opportunities for me, such as slowly driving by and seeing how much water is coming out of Jay Bird Creek. If there is a great flow I ask myself, how many turns did I open the valve at Finnon Lake? The curves are easy to take as long as you look far enough down the road to make sure a concrete or gravel truck is not covering the entire width of the road. Just before the road starts to drop down into Rock Creek Canyon there is an area where you can stop and look west down the river. The South Fork of the American River has carved out a dramatic canyon with walls that are steep, showing veins of quartz running up their sides. Above the river itself the proof of man is seen in Rock Creek Road itself as it cuts the canyon wall and in the pen stock of the White Rock Power House. At the bottom of Rock Creek Canyon is Rock Creek Bridge. Built during the depression, it offered work at the time and provided access to an area that was known for its agriculture and lumber. Just after Rock Creek Bridge there is a small stream that separates Shoo Fly Ridge from Lauman Ridge. On heavy rain days this stream flows violently with water spraying onto the rock walls of the bridge. During the

summer I am fascinated by how well it flows on some days and hardly at all on other days. As the road continues west there is one sharp curve to the left, right where guardrails have been installed. This is windy point and I remember the kids that pushed a truck over the edge and as it went to the river it started a wild land fire that burned right up to the top of Shoo Fly. Around windy point the canyon wall is very steep and rocky making me wonder how they built the road, primarily by hand no doubt. On the rock walls in this area take an opportunity to look for small succulents that cling to nothing but rock and yet have a very beautiful flower that stands out on a long stem. To me it is a plant that should be in the desert not in northern California. Past the White Rock powerhouse is Light Canyon, not much of a canyon but that is what old timers call this area. Its most notable to me cause there are two very large fig trees just off the road. They produce good fruit if you can handle the walk down to them and the climb up them and then the bugs that are in them. Next is Dark Canyon, again that is what the old timers call it. Years ago there use to be a pipe that poured out spring water here. Then one day someone complained about getting a stomachache after drinking out of it and the county solution was to come along and pull it out. The spring is still there but it provides more use to Marijuana growers than anyone else. After dark canyon the road is kind of meaningless except for the curves and the view down to Chili Bar Reservoir. I keep telling myself that one of these days I want to go down there and check it out. Maybe I will bring a fishing pole. Whenever I stop at a wide place to look down there all I can see is the steep canyon wall, the thick brush and I think about how it would probably only take me about one hour to get down there and reality hits me when I know it will take me about 10 hours to get back up. I don't think the fishing down there would be that good anyway, but one of these days I will do it just to say I did it. Rock Creek Road ends with Highway 193, seems here you go from being able to take your time to having to kick up the pace, until you get to Highway 49 where the pace is just a little bit faster and then it all dumps onto Highway 50 where the ability to enjoy a drive and look around just simply vanishes away. Here driving is survival of the fittest. At this point I think of what an ole timer told me once, "the slower you go, the more you see."

This spring a great friend of mine passed away. I knew her for 30 years. She talked me into being the fire chief of this great community at a time when I did not think I could or should do it. She provided me with support, knowledge, help, guidance, confidence, compassion, patience, some wisdom, and a great deal of common sense, all the while with love and care. I shall see you later Lois.

## CRAFT REPORT

Sharon Hern

We are busy making summer crafts for our next craft sale which will be at the Annual Fireman's Picnic in July on July 16<sup>th</sup>.

We do hope that you will help us out by not only coming to our craft meetings but work on crafts at home. We will arrange to pick up your items or have them dropped off at the Fire Station. All of our proceeds go to our Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department, so please help support your fire community.

Our craft meetings are normally held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month, however please make note of the change of date for June due to planned vacations. Friday June 17<sup>th</sup>.

Meetings:

Future meetings are scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month at Darlene Rood's home

Next Meeting: June 17<sup>th</sup>

Time: 9:30 - 11:30 am

Location: 2211 Swansboro Road

Dates: June 17, July 22, August 26, September 23, October 28 and November 18

## SCPOA REPORT

Kim Purcell

Our May meeting was very quick and efficient with several new members in attendance who were willing to jump right in and help out. Tom will be joining the road committee and helping out with experience in road work and Chris will be taking on the web site with his computer expertise. The web site has needed some attention and updating and Chris will be working with the committee and Lynda to try to get some updates and improvements done.

Johnathan was unable to attend the meeting but as we can all see he has been hard at work replacing fencing and keeping the common areas looking good. The grass has been growing with all of the rain we have had and the lakes are full. We should be getting a report from Aquatic Environments very soon on their recommendations on lake treatment for both Trout and Dyer lakes. Catfish lake is not on the list for treatment and this is because it is not completely a common area, it is partially private. Any treatment we do to the lake must be in partnership with the other owner so it becomes a bit more complicated. We will be getting sand for the beaches at Catfish and both sides of Dyer lake now that the rain seems to have come to an end.

The budget committee is in the process of setting up separate accounts for specific projects in the reserves, this should make it easier to maintain the maximum rate of return on the money until it is needed. We have multiple accounts at several banks to keep the amounts at or below the insured level for safety.

The architectural committee approved another 5 sets of plans last month, there is still a significant amount of building going on and it doesn't seem to be slowing down.

The contract for doing roads and the runway has been awarded to CPM construction and should be starting around the end of June beginning of July depending on conditions. Roads will be chip sealed, some of the older asphalt will be seal coated and the roads committee is in the process of deciding what roads will be added to the work already planned from last year. We hope to have more specific information about dates and places of work for next month but we will be spending around \$167,000 on the road work this year.

The runway will also be done this year, it has been 10 years since the last work. It will also get chip seal work with a seal over the top and volunteers will purchase and repaint the markings, it will be closed for probably 4 - 5 days while the work is done. We will try to get specific dates by next month and will also post a NOTAM with Rancho Murietta flight service.

Our next meeting will be Saturday June 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM, at the Mosquito Fire Station. We would like to encourage anyone who can to attend. we can always use some good ideas.

## LANDOWNER PERMISSION URGENTLY REQUESTED FOR FIRE SAFETY

Len Newell

The Mosquito Fire Safe Council has prepared a letter to Mosquito Community landowners with property that fronts on remaining Priority Evacuation Routes, and that has hazardous fuels growing near the road. Approximately twelve (12) miles of roads are included in this second phase of community-wide fuels modification, under the 2003-2004 Mosquito Fire Safe Plans. Working distance from the road edges is 25 feet except as noted below.

Road segments involved are:

Mosquito Rd. from Trout Lake to 0.2 mi. W. of the LaPaz Rd. intersection.

La Paz Rd, Shale Dr, and Triple R Rd.

Sluice Street, and Swansboro Rd. from Sluice St. to Mosquito Rd.

Mosquito Road from Lupin Ln. to the Eldorado Forest Boundary.

Dogwood Lane from Mosquito Rd. to Maidu (50 ft. either side.)

South Maidu, Adams Ln., Ponderosa Grove Dr., White Oak Dr., and Darr Ct.

All Courts off of Log Cabin Lane: Slab Creek, Log Cabin, Cableview, Pinecone, Cedar, and Deer Canyon.

Stope Drive from Log Cabin N. to the barricade,

Dickinson Road, and Morton and Wildflower Courts.

Courts off of Lupine Lane: Holiday Ln., Deer Park Dr., Lupine, Pineneedle Ln., Running Quail.

Courts and roads off of Stope Dr.: Buckeye, Pawdick, Stope, East Highgrade Street, Highgrade St., Highgrade Ct., Peycos Dr., Yankee John Ct.

If your property fronts on one or more of these roads, and it has vegetation considered dangerous to public safety near the road, you will receive a letter requesting permission to work up to 25 feet (or 50 ft. on Dogwood Lane) from the edge of the road onto your property. There will be no cost to the landowner. Cost of the work will be borne by the CDF Watershed Protection Grant, of which we are expecting confirmation shortly.

**Please Note:** even if you signed a release form last year, it expired on December 31, 2004 so we will need a currently valid one. As we did last year, we will mark the roads with yellow paint so the contractor will know which owners have given permission. Cutting and chipping operations may start as early as July.

**The April 27 El Dorado County Fire Safe Council Meeting in Mosquito** was well-attended, with over thirty people attending the meeting, taking the walking tour of the Fannon Lake demonstration work, and the windshield tour of the 2004 Evacuation Route work. The Fire House restaurant certainly impressed some of our neighbors with its food and location, and of course Ross and Mary Ann did themselves proud with a generous \$6.00 buffet lunch. We heard many good comments about our work, and we helped our neighbors to sharpen their vision of what their own communities can do to beautify while making things fire safe.

Here's another reminder about the need for residents to maintain the areas worked last year. To control re-growth of unwanted brush, and to protect the community's investment in fire safety, please inspect your roadside and take appropriate action. Mechanical mowers and weed eaters work well on newly-sprouted brush, but if you wait a year the stems get woody and then you'll need heavier tools. Selected herbicides, applied according to directions, can help with blackberry and other prolific sprouters. Remember, the maintenance is up to you, the landowner, and the earlier you tackle it the better.

**THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING** of the Mosquito Fire Safe Council will be on our regular 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, June 26 at the Fire Station. A draft Agenda will be out one week prior to the meeting. Please let Len Newell know if you want any particular subject or issue included, at 344-1592.

**BE FIRE SAFE !!!**

## A PUBLIC SCHOOL FOR THE MOSQUITO COMMUNITY.

In the last twenty years, Mosquito community has attempted three times to establish a school for it's community. The district tried to provide the area with a school when it was demonstrated that there was a need and funding was available thru a Necessary Small School Grant. However when all the administrative paperwork was completed and approved the funds were no longer available. Since the last attempt our community has grown. The estimated growth from 2003/04 to 2005/06 is approximately \$25,661,000, in real estate value. This type of growth continues to demonstrate the need for a school option for our area.

Considering the growth of the Mosquito District and the lack of funds within the school district and at the state level, some educators in our area have once again decided to take the initiative to try to get a public school in our area. However, this time the charter school route will be taken. A charter school is a public school. Charter schools are created when a group of parents, teachers and community leaders petition a local school board or county board of education for a charter to open an independent school in their community.

The mission of Mosquito Community Charter School is to provide the community of Mosquito with a choice of a classroom and/or a non-classroom based quality education for grades K-8. Students will be able to participate in content rich, standards based, active learning programs, including technology, physical education, music, and art through an extended school day. Mosquito Community Charter School is committed to providing a free, academically rigorous and socially responsible educational program for all students, abilities, cultures and beliefs.

We are at the beginning stage of starting Mosquito Community Charter School and we are looking for community volunteers to help us build a strong founders group. We are in need of people with talent in the following areas: Curriculum and instruction, public school financing, real estate, human resources, public relations, management, governance, education law, drafting charter school applications, fund raising, and assessment of student achievement. Please give

Julie a call at 621-1924 or Teresa at 295-9203. Thank you for all you help in getting this project off the ground.

## SNAPPY CARROTS

Evelyn Potter

Well, it looks as if spring is finally here. Those of you who like the heat, are very happy. The rest of us just shake our heads and say, 'well here we go

again'. I, personally enjoy anything from 70 to 80 degrees. After that, I am ready to to move to Alaska. Today's recipe will not keep you in the kitchen very long. It has been a favorite in our family for a number of years. Here we go with---

### Creamy Dilled Carrots

4 cups thinly sliced carrots

$\frac{3}{4}$  cup water

1 T butter or margerine

$\frac{3}{4}$  t salt -- pepper to taste

$\frac{1}{4}$  t sugar

1 T flour

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup light cream

1  $\frac{1}{2}$  t dried dill OR 2 T fresh dill

In saucepan, combine carrots, water, butter, salt and pepper. Cover and simmer until carrots are crisp tender. About 10 minutes. Drain liquid into a small saucepan; set carrots aside and keep warm.. Bring liquid to a boil. In a small bowl, combine flour and cream until smooth; slowly add to liquid, stirring constantly. Simmer for 10 minutes, stirring to keep from sticking to bottom of pan. Pour over carrots; stir in dill. Cover and let stand for 15 minutes before serving. Serves 6-8

## MVFD PICNIC

The picnic is coming! Saturday, July 16 is the date set for the annual MVFD Firefighters Picnic. If you have any ideas or suggestions to help make this a great event please call Belinda Brent @ 621-3377. We are interested in making this a true community event and encourage any local groups (4H, Scouts, Clubs, or Teams) who may want set up a table to promote their group to contact either Belinda Brent or any MVFD board member. More info on the picnic will come in the July *Byte*.

## Firehouse Country Kitchen

### June Dinner

June 12

Dinner is by reservation only. Reservations must be made by Tuesday, June 7.

Cost is 18.50 per person. This price includes coffee or tea. It does NOT include tax or other beverages.

#### Menu

Broccoli & Avocado Salad

Hot Cheesy Breadsticks

Shrimp & Scallop Scampi served over Herb Rice

Baked Spinach

Chocolate Orange Mousse



## MOSQUITO 2005 GARDEN TOUR AND WINE TASTING

**We are looking forward to another great garden tour of the Mosquito area. Once again, all proceeds will go to landscaping and irrigation at Finnon Lake and the Firehouse Country Kitchen.**

**Date: Saturday June 4**

**Time: 10:00 am**

**Cost: \$15.00 per person, includes a continental breakfast (9:00 am) and afternoon wine tasting. Wine tasting provided by Madroña Winery.**

**Where: Finnon Lake/Firehouse Country Kitchen for registration and breakfast. Tour finishes at Chuck's Tavern, 2708 Shilo Drive.**

**For questions and reservations call Jan Okumura at 530.626.5321.**

The MOSQUITO BYTE is available by subscription and is mailed first class to subscribers. Cost of subscription is \$12.00 per year. Mail check to 9009 Orval Beckett Ct, Placerville, CA, 95667-9040. Deadline for news and advertising is the 19<sup>th</sup> of each month.

The editors reserve the right to edit, limit or refuse any article submitted for publication in the Mosquito Byte. The Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department accepts ads from subscribers without endorsement.

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**FAX: 530-295-1589**

**Sharon Hern - 530-626-5268  
rshern@netscape.com**

### ADVERTISING

There is no charge for advertising in the *Mosquito Byte* for our subscribers. Deadline for advertising is the 19<sup>th</sup> of each month. Call Sharon at 626.5268 or Lela at 626.8265. Ads in the "For Sale" department will run for three months unless you call to say the item has been sold, or you want the ad extended.

### MOVING SALE

Many great items for sale including newer Kenmore fridge w/ ice maker, black leather sofa, coffee table, dining room table, bar stools, rattan vanity, queen size bed w/ head and footboard, tables, computer desk, printer, desk chair, file cabinet, ladies golf clubs, snow skis, 18 spd Fuji bicycle, newer Craftsman riding lawnmower w/ sweeper, car ramps, stereo w/ cabinet, lamps, chandelier, paintings, pictures and lots more!!! Please call 622-7168.

### MEETINGS

**4-H COMING TO MOSQUITO.** Look for the 4-H table at the Annual Dyer Lake Picnic for more information and to choose projects you would like to sign up for.

**MONTHLY STAMP, SCRAP AND CHAT- LADIES NIGHT OUT!** Come and bring what supplies you have or use/ purchase from me. Work on your own projects or I will have several projects each month for a small fee. Make your own greeting cards or start your personal memory scrapbooks, fast and super easy with simple kits ordered from our Close To My Heart catalog. Light refreshments served. Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday beginning January 19. 6:30pm-9:00pm. Please RSVP to Lori Loree 626-0691 3822 Dogwood Lane.[corner of Maidu and Dogwood]. See you there!!

### MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP

Mosquito/Swansboro area residents and visitors are invited to attend Christian fellowship, Bible studies for all ages, and participate in ministering to the spiritual and physical needs of this area without driving off the hill. The Sunday Bible study begins at 9:30am followed by a Celebration service at 11am. MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP is a Bible teaching congregation of Christ's church. The Celebration service features contemporary music, prayer, testimony and the Word of God. All events are held at 3342 Stope Drive in Swansboro. For more information about MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP call 295.0503 and visit our Web site at [www.cmna.net/mfom](http://www.cmna.net/mfom)

### WANTED

A PLACE TO TEMPORARILY PARK A 50' X 10' TRAILER. 344.8049

To borrow a USEABLE SCYTHE for cutting grass. Call 642-9441.

### WORK WANTED

RETIRED ELECTRICIAN looking for electrical jobs on the hill. Please call John at 344.1912

### FREE

WANTED: A good home for a great outdoor cat that has called Mosquito his home for 9 years! He's neutered, low maintenance and a great

companion! We're moving across country and he's begging to stay here! If you can help, please call 622-7168.

The MVFD is gradually replacing some of the old tables that are used for events. The old tables are serviceable but may need some repairs. They are available to anyone on a first come first serve basis. If you would like a table please stop by the fire station (tables will be around back) and pick one up.

## SERVICES

**DAN'S DECKS** Spring is here! Let Dan's Decks do the work. restoring decks, patios, furniture, fences, etc. Call for information... (530) 903.7294

**NEED A LITTLE/LOT OF HELP?** I can clean your house. Phone Raye at 626.5904

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**Scott's SIERRA NEVADA SEALCOATING:** CSL#680730  
NSL#0033110A. **One Third to One Half Off Annual Spring Discount.** Call 644.8888.

**THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE:** Certified Holistic Massage Therapist. Free consultations. Call Tim: 626-3397

**BACKHOE & TRACTOR WORK:** Trenches, Driveways, Gravel needs, Footing's, House Pads, Utility Lines, Brush Clearing, Septic Systems, Stump Removal, and More !! 4X4 Backhoe. Call Jim Collins (530.621.4794) or jbackhoe@sbcglobal.net

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**SIGN PAINTER:** Signs, Logos, Pop Art, Screen Painting. Phil Langdon 622.5378

I am a **MOBILE NOTARY PUBLIC** living right here in Mosquito. I am experienced in all areas of notary work, including loan packages, real estate transfers, etc. Save time and money, call me . Elaine Galvan 621.2433

**LOG SPLITTER** owner operator \$25.00 hr. 2 hour min..Swansboro area only. 344-9066

**HANDCRAFTED POTTERY.** Swansboro studio open by appointment, or visit the website anytime. Classes available. Pam Angelo 621-3688. [www.clayimpressions.com](http://www.clayimpressions.com)

**ASPEN LITES ELECTRIC CO** Electrical wiring: all phases: specializing in new construction and remodeling. Serving our local Mosquito-Swansboro area for over 15 years. Competitive rates and excellent dependability guaranteed! Keep the business up on the hill! Call Rich at 621.2911 or Cell 409.9931.

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**AMERICAN DREAM** - the ownership of a home and a little acreage to call your own! Sally Long Johns, your Resident Mosquito Road Realtor, will help you buy or sell any property in El Dorado County! Utilize your new neighborhood website [www.mosquitoadneighbors.com](http://www.mosquitoadneighbors.com) (530) 295-4641 or toll free 866-SALLYRE [snljohns@yahoo.com](mailto:snljohns@yahoo.com)

**DENTISTRY:** Dr. Robert Catron, a Mosquito resident, has 13 years of experience in General Dentistry and Orthodontics. Dr. Catron donates 5% of his earnings from Mosquito residents to the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Department and has been one of the largest financial contributors to the department. Please mention that you are a Mosquito resident as he has a separate bookkeeping account for this donation program. For a no charge consultation please call and schedule an appointment at 676.7777.

**SWANSBORO LAND AND HOMES:** Specializing in Mosquito/Swansboro real estate. Debbie and Rusty Harris have 35 years experience "on the hill." Our office is located next to the fire station. 530.622.6822.

**OSTERKAMP CONSTRUCTION** Specializing in custom homes. Plumbing and general building contractor. Home improvement. Certified, dependable service. Quality construction at competitive prices. Swansboro resident since 1987. CCL 612033. Call 626.7873

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**CREATIVE MEMORIES** - I help busy people get their albums done! Spend an afternoon at my home having fun with fellow Mosquito scrapbookers or host a class in your home and earn free products! Diana Adams 642-9441.

**FAX AND PHOTOCOPY** service here on the hill. Call Fred Adams at 642-9441.

**BUYING OR SELLING A HOME?** You need an honest, reliable, hardworking real estate agent on your side! Serving El Dorado and Sacramento counties. Call Jessica Dillender at 295-3331 or (916) 765-1256 cell.

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IS MOSQUITO ROAD ROUGH ON YOUR VEHICLE? Give "Hippie" a call at Mosquito Auto, specialist in transmissions, brakes, tune-ups. 642.2867.

DON'S CRITTER CARE: Pets, livestock and gardens, too. While you're away. Reasonable rates. References. Call 622.7622.

**FOR SALE**

PIANO - upright, early 1900's, good condition, needs some work. \$250 or best offer. Call 344-8402

FENCE POSTS - about 50 used peeler cores, 4" & 5" diameters, most are 6' long, \$2 a piece. Call 344-8402

TRAVEL TRAILER - 21' 2 axle, 1977 Nomad. Roof, floor, bathroom & kitchen in good condition. Attempted remodel in sleeping area. \$500 or best offer. Call 344-8402

LAB MIX PUPPIES. Spayed, ready to go. Adoption fees \$75, to approved homes. 344-8049

2 sets RAILS FOR TRUCK. Good condition. \$7 each. 622.9492

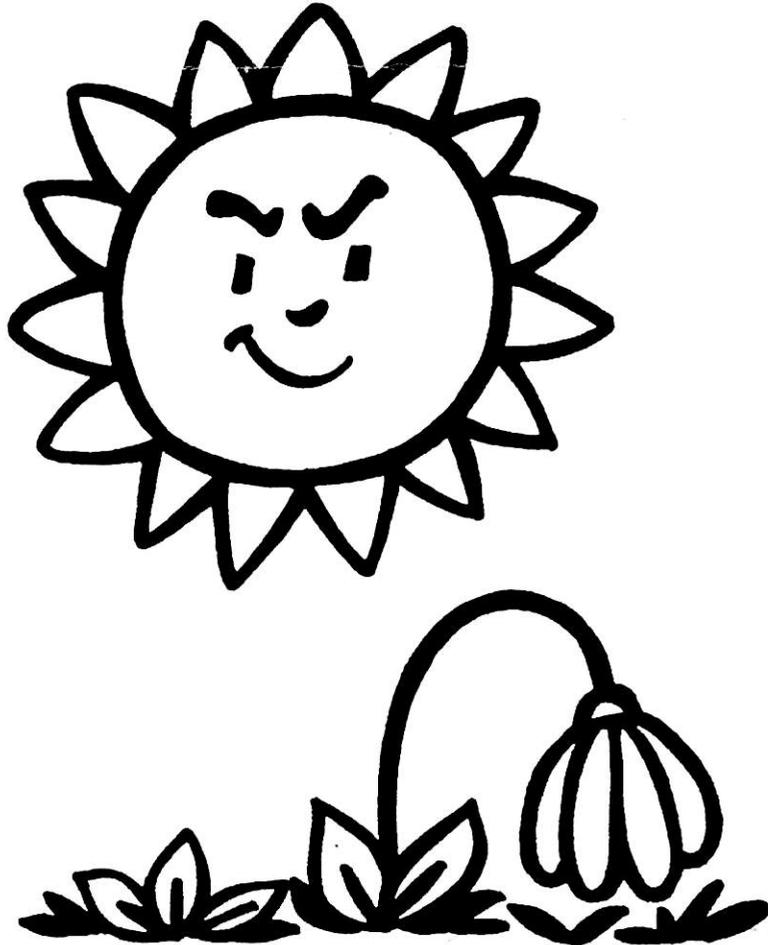
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FRESH BROWN EGGS \$1.50 a dozen. Call 626-1341.

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FIREWOOD - Oak \$200 for a cord, Cedar \$180 for a cord, Pine \$100 for a cord. Easy access, you pick up. WIRE CAGES AND RABBIT COUPS, various sizes, \$2.00 to \$5.00 each. Call Eileen at 622.9492.



**JUNE 2005** All Meetings are at the Mosquito Fire Station unless otherwise noted.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 MVFD BOARD MEETING 7:00 PM	3	4 SUPPORT GROUP 10:00 AM
5	6	7	8	9 MFPD BOARD MEETING 7:00 PM	10	11 SCPOA BOARD MEETING 10:00 am
12	13	14  Flag Day	15	16	17 CRAFT MEETING SEE PAGE 2	18
19 	20	21  SUMMER	22	23	24	25
26 FIRE SAFE MEETING SEE PAGE 3	27	28	29	30		



MOSQUITO BYTE  
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