

# MOSQUITO BYTE

January 2014, Volume 28 #4

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

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## CHIEF'S CORNER

by Chris Johns, Battalion Chief

Happy New Year to Everyone!

As my children get older, the "magic" of the season is somewhat diminished in our house. Seeing the faces of our littlest Mosquito/Swansboro residents at the Halloween party, the Holiday dinner with Santa, and the Crafters Bazaar is something that warms my heart and lights up my day. Thank you to all who worked so hard to make those events such a great time!

Let's continue the Holiday spirit into 2015 by extending patience and safety on our roads. Remember, we're neighbors and friends! Wave, when safe, with all your fingers (*not just one!*) and take a deep breath. Keep in mind that family and friends who are not familiar with the road will be visiting too. The roads can be wet and slippery with rock, mud, and tree debris. If someone is tailgating you, just pull over as soon as it is safe and let them go around. Call 911 when you see cars off the road. CHP is dispatched to every accident; please report intoxicated drivers.

Here is a bit of information that I posted on the Nextdoor.com website. I thought it was worth repeating for those who don't have access to the Nextdoor website:

Please be prepared for the snow and other adverse weather conditions which might cause heavy rain, high wind gusts, snow, downed power lines, power outages, downed trees, mud and rock slides, road damage, and flash flooding in creeks

and rivers. Please check on your homebound neighbors or call the station and we will do it.

The national weather service has a great website with accurate information at [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov).

To prepare for the conditions at home, please make sure you have adequate supplies of water, medication, and non-perishable food. Use only safe heating sources inside your home in the event of a power outage. Please make sure there are working smoke AND carbon monoxide detectors. A \$2.00 battery could save your life! Our MVFA Board has reflective address markers for sale and, if you request, we will even install them so that our response time to your address can be quicker!

Also, to prepare for the adverse weather conditions while traveling, make sure your vehicle is in good working order and keep a jacket, gloves, flares, blanket, water, snacks and medications with you. Please drive with extreme caution - roadway damage can't always be seen very far ahead. If you see downed power lines DO NOT drive over them! Immediately calling 911 provides the fastest emergency service response possible.

Notification of school bus delays and delayed start of the school day is provided by the school district to the phone number that you have provided on your student's emergency card. The school district leaves kids at the station when the roads and weather are too bad for bus travel. If this happens, we will make sure your children are warm and safe until you arrive to get them.

(Chief's Corner, cont.)

Congratulations to Firefighter/Engineer Todd Spivey of Mosquito Fire Department on the successful completion of the challenging First Responder class! Todd dedicated himself to this 10 week program in Placerville while continuing to serve our community in his paid and volunteer roles at all hours of the day and night! His professionalism, knowledge, and expertise is a valuable asset to our beautiful community.

**MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSN.**

by Teresa Wren

I think this year's was the largest MVFA Annual Business Meeting and Christmas Dinner we have ever had. Thank you to MVFA Board Members Mary Ann Haywood, Dave Angelo and Tom Harris who worked for weeks preparing for this community dinner. They reached out to the rest of the Board and the community, asking several people to cook turkeys, dressing, and potatoes. Everything ran smoothly and the dinner was excellent. It was especially nice to have Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus show up and they were certainly a hit with the children. Santa listened carefully to what the children wanted for Christmas and gave them goodies to take home. I would like to give a special thank you to everyone who worked to make this dinner a great success. After the dinner we had a short MVFA Annual Board Meeting. Eileen Guell, John Longhout and Karen Pullin were elected to the Board for a term of two years starting January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The other Board Members are Dave Angelo, Tom Harris, Clay Heironimus, Darcy Krieger. Sharon Hern will stay on as Treasurer. This year the retiring board members are Sandi Brauns, Mary Ann Haywood and me. Thank you to the Board for all your years of service and you should be proud of yourself for what we have accomplished.

We asked the community to bring canned food for our food baskets this year and we were pleasantly surprised by your generosity. The families certainly appreciated all you have done for them. I would also like to thank the ladies on the hill who

(MVFA, cont.)

baked the wonderful cookies for the baskets that were given out. Thank you, Sharon Hern and Mary Ann Haywood for sponsoring and organizing the Christmas baskets for the families.

I have had the pleasure to serve on the MVFA Board since 2008 and was elected as Chairman in 2009. It gives me a great deal of pride to reflect on the Board's accomplishments over the years. I want to make it clear that without the expertise of Mark Egbert, Doug Veerkamp, Ralph Hern, the Steering Committee and volunteers, the Fannon project would not have been as successful. I have enjoyed getting to know our community over the years and working with my neighbors and friends.

I could fill this article with thank you's because every time I have asked for help so many of you have stepped forward and volunteered. It has definitely been a learning experience and one that I have very much enjoyed.

**SCPOA**

by Kim Purcell Kirkpatrick

The December meeting is when the board must approve a budget for the following year. This month we were able to put together a budget that made the full recommended contribution to our reserve fund, provides for \$500,000 in summer time road work, covers our operating expenses, and does not raise dues. The budget was unanimously passed.

Our maintenance crew has been spending the rainy days in the shop doing maintenance and has repaired the Massey tractor. With the recent rains, the ground has softened up enough to continue with fencing replacement. All materials have been delivered and work will start very soon.

We'll be having a road meeting in January to start discussing our project for next year. With this large a project we will consider bringing in a consultant to advise us in the best way to proceed with the roads remaining. We want to proceed in the most economical way possible that provides the best life expectancy of the roadway.

(SCPOA, cont.)

The board also approved an extension to the end of the fiscal year for those few who need to complete the process of merging their properties. Some community members have run into difficulty with the county and other obstacles.

Our next meeting will be January 15th starting at 7:00 pm at the Fire Station and we wish everyone a safe and Happy New Year!

**The new 2015  
Mosquito Phone Books  
will be available at:  
Mosquito Station 75  
beginning January 8<sup>th</sup>.  
\$5.00**

### **CHRISTMAS BASKETS**

by Sharon Hern & Mary Ann Haywood

What a wonderful community we live in! With all of the food, toys, gift cards and monetary donations that were received, MVFA was able to make a lot of Families and Seniors smile and their holidays a little brighter.

**“Thank You”** to all of our helpers who sorted and packed the food baskets, sorted and wrapped the presents, Dee Harris and her “Cookie Elves” for the wonderful Cookie Boxes, Kim Purcell for her great “Pumpkin Bread” and to our “Delivery Team” who delivered all the baskets. And a very special **“Thank You”** to the anonymous Santa in our community who donated 20 “Raley’s Food for Families Bags”.

### **CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY DINNER**

By: Mary Ann Haywood, Dave Angelo and Tom Harris

This year's Christmas Community Dinner was wonderful and we had such a great turnout, we served about 130 people. It was so nice to see Santa and Mrs. Claus again, taking Christmas wishes from all the children. Thank you Santa and Mrs. Claus for coming to our Fire Department.

(Christmas dinner, cont.)

A huge thank you goes out to Sharon Hern, Sandi Brauns, Darcy Krieger, Connell Persico, Dave and Pam Angelo, Teresa Wren, Karryn Morris, Dee Harris, Karen Pullin and Lynda Lima for donating and roasting the turkeys. Also, to Teri Randall, Bonnie Miller, Barbara Mikel, Barbara Smith, Karen Pullin, Eileen Guell, Lynda Lima, Mari Miller, Teresa Wren, Sandi Brauns and Darcy Krieger, who prepared all the side dishes and desserts. To all the servers Clay Heironimus, Bonnie Miller, Karen Pullin, Mary Miller, Connell Persico and Bill Wren. To the great kitchen crew Karryn Morris and Lynda Lima and the turkey carvers Joe Lima and Tom Harris.

To all of the people behind the scenes for set-up, decorating the fire station and tear-down at the end of the evening, thank you.

Thanks to our great community for all the toys and food that was donated for our annual Christmas Baskets.

If I missed anybody I apologize, but again a big thank you.

Last, but not least, to my co-chairs, Dave Angelo and Tom Harris who made my job a lot easier. They are the BEST!

**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!**

## NEW YEAR, NEW BEGINNINGS

by Ken Joseph

The December Mosquito Fire Protection District Board Meeting was the first one with the newly elected Board Members. The new Board begins their term with many challenges to the organization that will need to be addressed. Several community members were present to welcome the new members, express concerns, and provide input, encouragement, and support. Board meetings are open to the public and the community is encouraged to attend. Attendees are encouraged to participate during the public comment portion of the meeting as well as on agenda topics. Meetings are typically held the second Thursday of each month at 7pm at the Fire Station. Agendas and time are posted on the District website <http://www.mfpd.us>.

Board members volunteer a significant amount of time and effort to the community to manage the affairs of the Fire District. Decisions are based on the Fire District's Mission Statement, budget, statutes (laws), safety, etc. One of the most important decisions of the MFPD Board is typically the appointment of a chief executive for the day to day operations, decision making, and policy enforcement. A goal of the new Board will be to provide stability to the department by recruiting and hiring a permanent chief.

Another of our big challenges is the need for a second water tender and how to fund it. The community has many areas that are not covered by the hydrant system. Currently we only have one reliable water tender. That limitation leaves the district exposed during maintenance or if the tender is called to service in a mutual aid incident. One option for consideration will be to purchase a new water tender which could cost approximately \$200k.

I look forward to the New Year with excitement and hope. The possibilities are endless to bring the department and community together. Please reach out to any Board Member with any questions or clarification of direction. We urge you to attend meetings and get involved.

**Disclosure:** This article is not an official correspondence to the community from the MFPD Board. The board did not review and approve its content. The priorities and opinions of the other board members may differ from mine, however, I believe any differences to be minor.

I can be reached at: [kjoseph@mfpd.us](mailto:kjoseph@mfpd.us) or 530 642 0338.

## CRAFTERS

by Sharon Hern

**ATTENTION LADIES** (men too, if interested) – Our 2015 Crafting begins. If you're a "crafter" or just one of us who can do simple (?) cut, paste/glue, paint, etc. jobs, you are encouraged to come join us at our Craft Meeting. There's the fun of learning new crafts, meeting new friends, coffee, and goodies. Our first meeting of 2015 is on January 23<sup>rd</sup> (see time and location below). This is our planning meeting where we set the dates for our Craft Sales this year and determine the projects that we will be working on. (Craft sales dates will be in the February Byte.)

Our craft meetings are generally held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of each month from **10AM to 12Noon** at the home of Darlene Rood, 2211 Swansboro Road. Hope to see you on the **23<sup>rd</sup> of January**.

## CHRISTMAS COOKIES

by Dee Harris

I would like to thank all the ladies who baked delicious cookies to be put in our community Christmas baskets.

## FINNON LAKE NEWS

by Tom Harris

The other day while collecting the fee envelopes from the drop box at the entry to Finnon Lake Recreation Area (FLRA), I noticed one envelope with large writing across it that said, "IT SHOULD BE FREE". Honestly, I couldn't agree more. If the person who wrote the note would be willing to pay our annual \$6,600 dam inspection fee, plus our insurance fee, property taxes and maintenance costs, then Day Use, Disc Golf and Camping would be free for everybody. Otherwise, the MVFA Board of Directors must continue to find ways to pay the costs of keeping the park operating and improving. MVFA receives no money from any tax source, nor from the Swansboro Homeowners Association. We are self-supporting. The MVFA budget is public information. The budget is discussed and copies are available at every board meeting.

You may not realize that much of the revenue that supports the operation of Finnon Lake Recreation Area comes from outside the Mosquito Fire Protection District. Fees paid by folks from outside our community help support our park while local residents enjoy it as a part of the neighborhood. Hiking, bird watching and bicycling at Finnon are free of charge. Every cent collected from park fees and donations goes back into improving the site. MVFA has no paid employees; everyone who gives their time is a volunteer.

Plans call for an MVFA annual Fourth of July picnic plus additional events to be held at Finnon Lake. Our residents are encouraged to consider Finnon Lake when planning family events, church outings, or club campouts. There is already one wedding planned for Finnon Lake in 2015, with more to come. Now that the dam road and bridge are complete, the park will be open all year. Click on the word "Calendar" on the "Camping and Reservations" page of our website at [www.finnonrecreationarea.com](http://www.finnonrecreationarea.com) to check for availability. For more information, and to make reservations, call 530-409-5515.

Finnon Lake Recreation Area has progressed a long way since our dam was condemned a number of years ago, and the decision was made to reconstruct it. Most of the costs of the Dam Reconstruction Project were paid by grants from private conservation organizations and state grants set aside for wildlife and wetland preservation. Now that the dam project is complete, MVFA must comply with the requirements of these grants. These requirements primarily call for fish and wildlife monitoring to ensure the health of the habitat for years to come. Recently, it appears that a mating pair of Bald Eagles is going to make Finnon Lake home. A wet Winter and Spring will help the habitat immensely.

Other projects as well as maintenance work will continue at Finnon Lake under the MVFA Campground and Property committee, and the newly formed Fish and Wildlife committee chaired by Dave Angelo and with expert advice from Nancy Foley. Future projects include improvements to the campground bathrooms, development of the beach/swim area, and improvements to the café gardens and pavilion area. We will continue to have our annual Campground Cleanup day later in the Spring. Volunteers are always welcome. Many thanks go to Jan Okumura and friends for their recent volunteer work and contributions to the café gardens. Thanks go out to all volunteers who have helped improve and maintain the park over the years. If you would like to help, please attend the MVFA Board of Directors meeting on the first Thursday of each month at the Fire Station, or call Tom Harris or Dave Angelo, or email: [mvfa95667@gmail.com](mailto:mvfa95667@gmail.com).

If you can't volunteer, please consider a donation to MVFA. If you would like to contribute to Finnon Lake projects, please send your check with a note specifying so to MVFA, 9009 Orval Beckett Ct., Placerville 95667. MVFA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations may be tax deductible, and a letter specifying the donation amount will be provided to you. Thank you for supporting your MVFA and Finnon Lake Recreation Area.

## MVFA APPRECIATION

by Tom Harris

Heartfelt thanks go out to our three retiring board members Maryann Haywood, Sandi Brauns and Chairperson Teresa Wren. Teresa has chaired the MVFA Board of Directors about as long as I have lived here. She oversaw many accomplishments including a dramatic increase in participation in our events and she worked with Lynda Lima to create the Finnon Recreation Area website with online reservations and payment. The completion of the Finnon Dam Project was a monumental undertaking that Teresa saw through to the end. I know all three will stay involved, but we will miss them on the MVFA board.

### MEET NEW CANDIDATES FOR SCPOA BOARD

Heather Loyola, Jerry Pullin, Mari Miller and  
Keith Krieger

Invite You to a

“CANDIDATE MEET AND GREET”

Bring questions for the candidates and raise issues and concerns that you would like your SCPOA Board to address. It is our goal to improve SCPOA's communications and approachability. It is our priority to represent the community and be good stewards.

**Come join us: Friday, January 16, 2015**  
**7:00-8:00 PM** (candidates  
will remain longer if needed)

**Location: Mosquito General Market**

A special thank you to Dawn and Gus for staying open to accommodate our event. The café will have coffee, cookies, pie, ice cream and their regular menu and items available for purchase.

## CLASSIFIED SECTION

### LOST:

Black and white cat. Please call Shannon at 344-2309.

### FREE:

Free: Pine rounds, ready for splitting. We have plenty! You haul, call Tim at 408-859-3182

Horse/compost manure for home or garden call Cindy 530-621-1600

Firewood, soft wood. You cut and haul away. Call Lionel, 530-622-7472.

### FOR SALE:

UTILITY TRAILER - Heavy duty, 7.5' x 13.5' trailer. 2' sides with hinged (and removable) tail gate. Built by El Dorado HS, ROP Auto as class project. Street legal and ready to tow. \$500. Contact Devin Hern 295-9165. (11)

Tires for Sale- Set of 3 Toyo MT Open Country Mud & Snow tires. Tire size 37X12.50, Rim size 22x12.5. 70% Tread left. \$300 OBO. Call Devin at 295-9165 (11)

### MEETINGS:

MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP - Meet new friends, get refreshed and restored. Join us for challenging Bible study, fun events and worship here in Mosquito. Groups for Men/Women/kids/young adults. We meet Sunday mornings 9:30am at 3342 Stope Drive and throughout the week. Check our website [www.mfom.net](http://www.mfom.net) or call 530-295-0503.

FREE VEGAN VEGETARIAN COOKING CLASSES - Food preparation demonstrations, recipe handouts, video clips and resource materials, along with very generous samples provided. Have fun interacting with other health-minded folks, learning healthful lifestyle principles and discovering tasty new recipes. We meet once a month at the Camino SDA Church, 3520 Carson Rd. on Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. Call Fred Adams at 642-9441 for dates and to reserve your space. Or email [AdamsAmigos@gmail.com](mailto:AdamsAmigos@gmail.com).

### MOSQUITO BOOK CLUB

Join the book club! Meets once of month to discuss a book chosen by the group. The current meetings take place on a Thursday afternoon at rotating houses. The time and day is flexible depending on the schedule of the group. Contact Jeanine at 621-3875 or [sjkobza@gmail.com](mailto:sjkobza@gmail.com) for more information.

**EMBROIDERER'S GUILD** – Hanging by a Thread Chapter of the Embroiderer's Guild of America meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Planning Commission Meeting room in the EDC Government Center Building C. Call Adeline Penn at 621-2639 or <http://www.hanging.ega-gpr.org/index.htm>

## **SERVICES:**

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**AUTO DETAIL ON THE HILL**. Hand wash & wax. Tire dressing. Windows, dash & chrome cleaned. Rug vacuumed. Car - \$55, truck - \$65 & oversized vehicles may be additional. Call Steve, 530 621-3643.

**ONE EYE PHOTOGRAPHY**: Family Portraits, children or pets. Winter specials available. Call Sandi 626-6248 or Joyce 626-7062.

Let's plan your winter vacation! All-Inclusive Resorts, Ocean & River Cruises, Disney Destinations, weekend getaways.  
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**NEED HELP WITH YOUR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS?** – Call Big Dave, 40 yrs experience, 25 years right here on the hill. Very dependable, with excellent references. I am experienced in all phases of construction and masonry work: retaining walls, rock walls, etc. Have pictures. \$25/hr for construction work. Call 621-4168.

**PET CARE** - Pet feeding while you're away. We will give your pet the same love and care as you would if you were here. No pet too large or too small. Reasonable rates. Call Devin & Dylan's Pet Feeding Service at 295-9165

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**LOCAL REALTORS** – Rusty & Debbie Harris, Swansboro Land & Homes, Inc. Lic.#01781489. Area specialists since 1975. Office next to Fire Station at 8781 Rock Creek Road. Stop by for free maps & info. Happy to put our experience to work for you; buy, sell, short sales & REO's. Call 622-6822. [Swansbororealestate@gmail.com](mailto:Swansbororealestate@gmail.com) or [www.swansboro.metrolistpro.com](http://www.swansboro.metrolistpro.com).

**RIDLEY K-9 ACADEMY** – Professional dog training and dog walking services. For more information visit [www.ridleyk9academy.com](http://www.ridleyk9academy.com) or call Garrett at 409-1879.

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**OPTOMETRY CLINIC** – Dr. Dan Morrill in Placerville. Eye examinations, eyeglasses & contact lenses available at Precision Eyecare, 118 Main Street. Open Tuesday thru Friday 9:00 am-5:30 pm. Saturday by appointment. Call 622-8300. Most insurance accepted. (New Patients Welcome!)

**VHS VIDEOS CONVERTED TO DVDs**. – Have any family vacations, precious memories or baby pictures on videos? I can copy them to DVDs for you. Call Dee at 642-2333.

**KIRCHNER TREE SERVICE** – Line clearance certified, hazard tree removal, close quarter removal, view enhancement, trimming, topping, mistletoe removal. Certified Arborist on staff. Call 626-6325, ask for Jared.

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**REAL ESTATE SERVICES** – Live the 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) or 295-4641 or toll free 866.SALLYRE, [snlongjohns@yahoo.com](mailto:snlongjohns@yahoo.com).

**NOTARY SERVICE** – 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. Call Elaine Galvan at 295-0503.

**RESPIRE CARE** – Available in Swansboro/Mosquito, M-F, weekends or overnight as needed. Also available for short periods of time (barring previously scheduled commitments) and/or for hospice care for your family member. I have 17 local home-care references to verify my skills and the level of care I will provide for your loved ones. Call Nancy West at 626-7975.

### **WANTED!!!**

**ALL CA CRV ALUMINUM CANS, BEER BOTTLES AND PLASTIC WATER BOTTLES.** Please drop off bags from 8-5 at the Fire Station or call Sandi at 626-6248 for pick up service. Please consider this option when you organize your recycled materials. (Wine bottles don't have CRV! We can't use them) This is a very important fund raiser for the Fire Department so

**MVFA  
THANKS YOU!**

#### **Important Phone Numbers**

Fire, Medical, Police Emergency	911
Mosquito Fire non-emergency	626-9017
All other non-emergency	621-6600
CA Highway Patrol non-emergency	622-1110
Burn Day Information	621-5897
Mosquito General Market and Kitchen	295-4980



# January 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
			MGM&K CLOSED (December 31)	MGM&K 10am-7pm	MGM&K 10am-7pm	MGM&K 10am-7pm
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
MGM&K 10am-4pm	MGM&K CLOSED	MGM&K CLOSED	7:00 MVFA Board Meeting MGM&K 10am-7pm	7:00 MFPD Board Meeting MGM&K 10am-7pm	MGM&K 10am-7pm	MGM&K 10am-7pm
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
MGM&K 10am-4pm	MGM&K CLOSED	MGM&K CLOSED	MGM&K 10am-7pm	7:00 SCPOA Board Meeting MGM&K 10am-7pm	MGM&K 10am-7pm	MGM&K 10am-7pm
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
MGM&K 10am-4pm	MGM&K CLOSED	MGM&K CLOSED	MGM&K 10am-7pm	MGM&K 10am-7pm	MGM&K 10am-7pm	MGM&K 10am-7pm
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
MGM&K 10am-4pm	MGM&K CLOSED	MGM&K CLOSED	MGM&K 10am-7pm	MGM&K 10am-7pm	MGM&K 10am-7pm	MGM&K 10am-7pm

MGM&K is Mosquito General Market and Kitchen  
 All meetings take place at the Fire Station unless otherwise noted.



The *MOSQUITO BYTE* is available by subscription and is mailed first class to subscribers. Cost of subscription is **\$15.00 per year** with 2 years as the maximum period for Byte subscriptions beyond one year. Please make check payable to **MVFA** and mail to 9009 Orval Beckett Ct., Placerville, CA, 95667-9040. Deadline for news and advertising is the 19<sup>th</sup> of the each month.

#### **ADVERTISING POLICY**

There is no charge to our subscribers for advertising in the Mosquito Byte, however ads must be limited to 7 column lines maximum. Deadline for advertising is the 19<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please note, items for placement in the Classified Section will be accepted **via email** at [byteeditor@gmail.com](mailto:byteeditor@gmail.com) or in writing and mailed to: MVFA at 9009 Orval Beckett Court, Placerville CA 95667-9040. Ads in the "Free", "For Sale" and "Wanted" category will run for **three months** unless you call to say the item is no longer available, or that you want the ad extended.

You can reach Editor Candy Lupient at 344-0897 or at [byteeditor@gmail.com](mailto:byteeditor@gmail.com). The editors reserve the right to edit, limit or refuse any article submitted for publication in the *Mosquito Byte*. The Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association accepts ads from subscribers without endorsement.

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