

April Showers Bring May Flowers:

Embracing the Seasonal Beauty in Mosquito



lupines, poppies, and other native blooms painting the scenery. The moisture from April's rainfall not only nourishes the flora but also revitalizes the ecosystem, benefiting wildlife, pollinators, and the community's natural surroundings.

This simple saying—*“April showers bring May flowers”*—reminds us that patience leads to beauty, much like the changing seasons here in Mosquito. Whether it's watching the hillsides burst into color or simply appreciating the renewal of nature after winter's grip, this time of year invites us to pause and embrace the transformation.

So, as the last of April's rain has settled into the earth, keep an eye out for May's blossoms—they are proof that growth and renewal follow even the stormiest days!

As spring settles in, residents of Mosquito, California, witness nature's timeless cycle at work. April showers roll through the region, replenishing the soil and breathing new life into the landscape. While rainy days may seem dreary, they serve a vital purpose—preparing the hillsides, meadows, and gardens for May's spectacular display of wildflowers.

In our local forests and around Finnon Lake, fresh bursts of color will soon emerge, with



CHIEF'S MESSAGE

by Chief Eddie Dwyer

MVFA UPDATE

by MVFA Board of Directors

FINNON LAKE RECREATION AREA

Exciting Updates from Finnon Reservoir: Fish Survey and Dam Inspection

Finnon Reservoir has recently been the focus of two significant activities, highlighting both its natural ecosystem and infrastructure integrity.

Fish Survey by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife

A fascinating fish survey was conducted at Finnon Reservoir by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Using the method of electrical stunning—a safe and effective technique that temporarily stuns fish without harming them—the team gathered critical data on the reservoir's aquatic life. During the survey, personnel expressed their admiration for both the size and quantity of the fish in the lake, a testament to the reservoir's healthy and thriving ecosystem. This feedback underscores the importance of ongoing conservation efforts and the volunteer stewardship of this vital resource.

The results of the survey will help guide future fish management practices, ensuring the balance and sustainability of the reservoir's aquatic environment. We extend our gratitude to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for their dedication and expertise in preserving the natural habitat of Finnon Reservoir.

California State Dam Inspection

In addition to the fish survey, Finnon Reservoir also underwent a comprehensive dam inspection conducted by Oscar Gutierrez, a representative from the California State Department of Water Resources. The inspection yielded excellent news—no deficiencies were identified in the dam's structure or operations. Moreover, Mr. Gutierrez provided positive remarks regarding the voluntary upkeep of the dam. The diligent efforts by our community and volunteers to maintain the dam and its surrounding areas were recognized as exemplary.

Finnon Reservoir remains a shining example of what a dedicated community can achieve, balancing environmental stewardship with infrastructure responsibility. As we celebrate these successes, let us continue our commitment to protecting and enhancing this cherished reservoir.

Thank you to all who contribute to keeping Finnon Reservoir a thriving and well-maintained part of our community. Whether you're fishing, hiking, or simply enjoying the natural beauty, your support matters! Stay tuned for updates as we receive further insights from the fish survey.



MVFA ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT: A HOPPING SUCCESS!

The Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association's Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 19th was an event to remember! Held amidst the picturesque backdrop of Finnon Lake Campground, the day brought together families from near and far for a delightful celebration of springtime and community spirit.



The weather couldn't have been more perfect, with sunny skies setting the stage for an unforgettable morning of fun and laughter. More than 70 children, eager with baskets in hand, participated in the event. The hunt was thoughtfully organized into four age groups, ensuring a fair and enjoyable experience for all participants, ranging from the littlest egg-seekers (0-3 years old) to the enthusiastic 13-year-olds.





The campground came alive with the excited giggles and determined searches of children as they scoured every nook and cranny for the brightly colored eggs hidden by our dedicated volunteers. Parents and onlookers cheered



them on, capturing snapshots of the joy and camaraderie that filled the air. Beyond the egg hunt, families took the opportunity to soak in the natural beauty of Finnon Lake and the campground—a community gem that always shines during events like this.

A special thank-you goes out to all the hardworking volunteers who made this event possible. Their dedication to organizing, setting



up, and ensuring everything ran smoothly truly brought smiles to so many faces. The Annual Easter Egg Hunt continues to be a cherished tradition in our community, and it's heartwarming to see it grow and thrive year after year.

We're already looking forward to next year's hunt! Until then, thank you to everyone who participated, and let's keep the community spirit alive. Happy spring from all of us at the MVFA!

MVFA SWAG

Looking to sport some community spirit? Explore the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association's collection of **Mosquito T-shirts and Sweatshirts**, available in a variety of sizes and fresh colors! With newly added styles, there's something for everyone, so be sure to check out the latest selections.

MVFA apparel, along with local phone books, is conveniently available for purchase at the **diner during regular business hours** or at **MVFA-sponsored events**.

For personalized orders or special requests, feel free to reach out to us at **mvfa95667@gmail.com**. Show your support, stay stylish, and represent Mosquito proudly!



MVFA CRV RECYCLE PROGRAM

The MVFA Recycle Program continues to provide a valuable resource of funding for the Mosquito Fire Station to be utilized by the department at the Fire Chief's request. Your participation in this program is appreciated and is benefiting our fire department!

Please drop off bags of **Plastic Bottles** and **Aluminum Cans (Sorry no Glass)** at the back of Station 75. Note: Lids and caps on plastic bottles must be removed before they can be redeemed. Lids and caps can be included for redemption. Stay green, stay responsible, and happy recycling! ♻️



MOSQUITO COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Spring cleaning season is here, and that means it's time for the **Mosquito Community Yard Sale!** Join us at **Fire Station 75's parking lot** on **Saturday, May 17**, from **9:00 AM to 1:00 PM**, for a day of great finds, local connections, and community fun.

Whether you're looking to declutter your home or hunt for hidden treasures, this event is the perfect opportunity to buy, sell, and support your neighbors. Expect a variety of items—from household goods and tools to outdoor gear and unique collectibles—all offered by fellow Mosquito residents.

This is more than just a sale — it's a chance to mingle, share stories, and enjoy a morning of friendly community spirit. Plus, proceeds from select booths will help support local initiatives and programs.

To make the day even better, popcorn will be provided by MFPD's District Auxiliary (D'Ax) — so be sure to grab a snack while you browse the tables!

Interested in selling? Send an email request to MVFA95667@gmail.com to reserve a table to set up your space! Lot locations are first come first served — so arrive early to secure a good spot.

Mark your calendars, spread the word, and don't miss out on this chance to shop, sell, and celebrate our Mosquito community. We'll see you at **Fire Station 75** on **May 17!**

MVFA SUPPORTS MFPD DISTRICT AUXILIARY “RAISE THE ROOF” FUNDRAISER

The Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association (MVFA) continues to demonstrate its commitment to the community and the local fire department. The MVFA has donated **\$5,000.00** to the Mosquito Fire Protection District (MFPD) Auxiliary's **Raise the Roof Fundraiser**. This contribution underscores the shared dedication to improving facilities and ensuring the safety and well-being of Mosquito residents.

The **Raise the Roof Fundraiser** is set to culminate in a grand Gala Event, to be held on **May 10, 2025**, at the Mosquito Fire Station. The fundraiser aims to collect the necessary resources for roof replacement and improvements to the station, a vital hub for emergency services and community gatherings.

MVFA's board members, Cheryl Owen, Natasha Cutter, Mary Williams, David Dudley, and Trent Williams, were instrumental in supporting this fundraiser, ensuring the association's resources were directed toward this impactful cause.

The District Auxiliary (D'Ax) welcomes all residents and supporters to the Gala Event, promising an evening filled with camaraderie, entertainment, and heartfelt moments. Join us as we celebrate the spirit of community and work together toward building a stronger and safer Mosquito Fire Protection District.

Together, we can achieve great things. **Let's raise the roof, Mosquito!**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Yard Sale at Station 75 parking lot - 9 am to 1 pm May 17, 2025

Spaghetti Dinner at Station 75 - 6:00 pm June 21, 2025

Fall Festival at Finnon Lake - 10 am - 3 pm Free Lunch October 11, 2025

Trunk-R-Treat at Station 75 - 6 pm - 8 pm October 25, 2025

Christmas Craft Sale at Station 75 - 10 am - 2 pm November 15, 2025

Christmas Dinner at Station 75 - 5:30 pm December 6, 2025- Free Dinner

The next MVFA Board meeting will be on Thursday, May 15th at 3:00 pm at the Diner

NELSONVILLE CEMETERY IMPROVEMENTS

By Steve Vrabel

Nelsonville Cemetery now has new permanent signage! The volunteer maintenance crew would like to thank the MVFA board for covering the cost of the signs as part of their efforts to support community enrichment in Mosquito. The cemetery, which is the final resting place of our pioneer community settlers, can be accessed via a small parking area located on the south side of La Paz just past the cemetery pathway.



BIRDING AT FINNON LAKE

by Dee Taylor

Here are the results of the bird watch for April. The next Bird Watch will be on the 10th of May at Finnon Lake, just past the Boat Launch area. The starting time for Spring and Summer is 8:00 A.M. There is no parking charge to the participants of this free event.



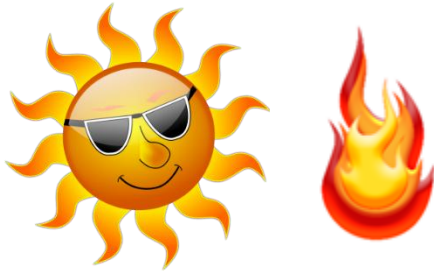
Red-winged Blackbird

5 Canada Goose	2 Cooper's Hawk	2 Lesser Goldfinch
1 California Quail	2 Bald Eagle	1 Golden-crowned Sparrow
8 Band-tailed Pigeon	16 Acorn Woodpecker	2 California Towhee
26 American Coot	1 Northern Flicker	4 Spotted Towhee
2 Killdeer	1 Black Phoebe	25 Red-winged Blackbird
1 Pied-billed Grebe	8 California Scrub-Jay	2 Great-tailed Grackle
2 Double-crested Cormorant	3 Oak Titmouse	2 Orange-crowned Warbler
1 Green Heron	2 Ruby-crowned Kinglet	

SMOKE ON THE WATER

by Kirk Bronsord and Matt Ridgeway

Summer is calling, and we're ready to answer!



The days are getting longer, and the campground is buzzing with excitement. We're beyond grateful for the support of our amazing community throughout the winter—thank you for keeping us going!

Now, as more folks head to the water to soak in the beauty of our little slice of paradise, the eagles are out and soaring, putting on their spectacular show. Don't miss it!

With all this good energy, we're extending our hours so you can linger a little longer:

- **Friday lunch:** 11 AM - 1:30 PM
- **Saturday dinner:** 4:30 - 7 PM

That means more time to kick back, enjoy great food, and take in the magic of summer nights by the water.

As always, we love every moment we get to cook for you. See you soon!

Your Smoke on the Water Family

Diner Hours:

Monday - Thursday - Closed
Friday 11 am – 1:30 pm
Saturday - 11 am - 7 pm
Sunday 9 am - 3 pm

(Breakfast served on Sunday only)

<https://www.facebook.com/smokeonthewaterplacervilleca>

DISTRICT AUXILIARY aka D'Ax

By Meredith Blain

D'Ax* s directors have been very busy organizing the upcoming Mosquito Fire Raise the Roof Fundraiser! Donations are coming in and tickets are being reserved for the Gala Event on May 10, 2025! The fun begins at 4pm with a welcome reception. Guests will have time to mingle and peruse the wonderful silent auction items! Dinner at 5:30pm. After dinner, live music by the Arrhythmias Band will be sure to get everyone on their feet to dance! At about 8:15pm we will announce the silent auction winners, followed by another set of lively music!

We have many beautiful, donated art items from Mosquito's own Mina Andujar, Dave and Pam Angelo, and Dee Harris! Cheryl Owen has hand made an amazing king size quilt! There are many more silent auction items available including a tour of the Mosquito Bridge worksite, Smokey Bear and other collectible items, even some locally made baked goods! Many local businesses have shown support with an assortment of gift baskets and gift cards!



As of this writing, we are at about one third of the way to meeting our goal to replace the firehouse roof! Attending this event is a fun way to show your support, and it will be a special evening with amazing food and entertainment, and you don't have to leave the hill and drive to town to have some fun!

This will be an unforgettable evening, and we are looking forward to the entire community coming together to support the Mosquito Fire Protection District. The theme is masquerade so dress up if you wish and we'll have some masks and props available at the door!

We are asking for \$100 per ticket and the easiest way to get tickets is to reach out to Devon at (510) 719-1247 or Meredith at (530) 621-9516. Or go to MFPD.us and open the District Auxiliary tab for other ways to donate or get tickets using Zelle or PayPal. We take cash and checks as well and accept donations of any amount. Call or send an email to admin@dax-np.org.

All proceeds will go directly to the Roof unless designated otherwise.

We hope to see YOU on May 10th!

Check the June BYTE for the date of the next MFPD pancake breakfast!

The next D'Ax meeting will be on Thursday, May 22, 2025, at 5:30pm in the kitchen at the MFPD Firehouse. All Mosquito residents are invited to attend.

SCPOA REPORT

By Meredith Blain

The Swansboro Country Property Owners Association Board of Directors (SCPOA) meets monthly at the MFPD Fire Station, 8801 Rock Creek Road, on the fourth Wednesday of the month. **The next SCPOA board meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 28, 2025.** Meeting agendas are posted on the bulletin board at Dyer Lake and on the SCPOA website. All SCPOA Members are invited to attend.



Note: Lake treatments will begin in May, once the lakes have stopped spilling over their spillways.

Members of SCPOA can visit SCPOA.info, the official SCPOA website, and get information about upcoming meetings, meeting agendas and minutes, association bylaws, individual unit's DC&Rs, using the Swansboro Airport, and find information for use of common areas, and much, much more! If you have not requested a login for the SCPOA website, please send an email to Kpaulscpoa@gmail.com, or Melissa.bell@managementtrust.com to gain access.

MOSQUITO CRAFTERS

By Natasha Cutter

The Mosquito Crafters had great success with our Easter sales, making over \$500.00! We sold 19 uniquely hand assembled Easter baskets to our community. We were pleased to have two new crafts members join our group in April. We



are currently working to build our inventory for upcoming sales. We are looking forward to attending the MVFA Fall festival in October, the Holiday Sale at the fire station, and the pancake breakfasts throughout the year.

We invite new members to join our craft group! We gather on the fourth Friday of every month. Attending our meetings is not required to join. Your level of participation is completely up to you. All proceeds we raise go to supporting the Mosquito Volunteer Protection District. If you're interested in becoming part of our group, have any questions, or wish to contribute to the Mosquito Crafters, please reach out to us at mosquitocrafters@gmail.com. You can also find us and follow us on Facebook.

AIRCRAFT DISPLAY DAYS

By Kim Purcell

The Swansboro airport is home to many interesting aircraft both homebuilt as well as production built. We are doing our aircraft display May 9th, 10th and 11th from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM each day at the airport. Aircraft that are unique as well as older than 35 years will be out and you are invited to look but be sure to remain well clear of the active runway. Please also be respectful and look but do not touch without guidance from owners. If you have any questions, would like further information or a guided tour you can contact Kim Purcell at 530-621-1049.

SWANSBORO PILOT ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

The Swansboro Pilots Association is offering Swansboro/Mosquito high school seniors a chance to compete for a college scholarship of up to \$1000. If you are a high school senior going on to college this fall, we hope you will apply. We have had some amazing winners and applicants in the past and look forward to seeing more!

To apply, send at least a one page, double spaced, typed essay that states:

- Your life and college plans,
- Any community service projects you have done,
- What college you plan to attend,
- Your high school grade point average,
- Mailing address, phone number and email address.

Send your essay, postmarked no later than June 30th to:

Swansboro Pilots Association

2724 Swansboro Road

Placerville, CA 95667

If you have any questions, please contact Kim at 530- 621-1049.

CLASSIFIED ADS

(Classified Ads are free to all paid subscribers)

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LOCAL ORGANIC FARM

Seeks manure source, specifically goat, sheep, chicken, llama or alpaca. Please contact Ryan at THREE GOATS FARM. 530-497-4279 or farm3goats@gmail.com

FOR SALE

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book by Gloria Hockensmith is available locally. Call Taffy 530-626-8689 to buy your copy. A great fact based read about a local legend. Perfect for gifting. Special Price \$10 due to section of upside-down pages.

UNIQUE JEWELRY

Handmade jewelry using recycled aluminum cans, and more. To view, call Dee at 530-642-2333.

OXBOW FIREWOOD \$375 for hardwood, \$300 for softwood. Delivery on the hill gratis. Are you cold? Call the Ox at 916-862-7511

RABBITS FOR SALE by Finnegan the Rabbit Rancher. California/NZ, Lionhead/Flemish, California. \$35 So many pretty colors. Email for details. FinnOson7@gmail.com

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Pro-Form J4 Electric Treadmill \$60.00
Gary at 530-626-0265 or 310-541-7710

MEETINGS

MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP

Join us for Christian worship and fellowship
Sunday mornings 11AM at 3342 Stope Drive. Bible studies throughout the week.
530-295-0503

SERVICES

NOTARY SERVICES ON THE HILL

Contact Devon at: 510-719-1247.

HOUSE PAINTER – AMERICAN EAGLE PAINTING

Residential/Commercial
Specializing in repaints contact Steven
Martinez, 530-919-7612 or
americaleaglepainting4@gmail.com
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Have you always wanted to play the harp?
There is now a Harp Teacher in
Swansboro. Over 20 years' experience
teaching children and adults. I have a few
harps available for rent. For more
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harppaula@gmail.com.

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Decks, fences, siding, flooring, and more.
5% senior or veteran's discount.
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FLORIST ON THE HILL

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lasting flowers for all occasions. We
ALWAYS deliver FREE on the hill! Stop by
and check out our collection of Honey
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handmade cards. Also offering flower
subscriptions specifically created for you.
Call me Elaine Galvan 530-295-0503 for all
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HANGTOWN RANGE

1540 Broadway, Placerville Wednesday –
Saturday 10 to 6 and Sunday 10 to 5 with
10 Indoor Shooting and 8 Archery Ranges,
Firearms and Recurve Bow rentals, Milo
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ammunition, Archery and Handgun classes,
CCW classes, One on One training, Basic
Pistol Classes, Women's Classes. Call
530-497-5443 for more information.

FIREWOOD

Tired of paying outrageous prices for wood?
I will cut and split downed trees and/or
rounds for you. Call Daniel @ 530-919-8878

MOSQUITO CREEK OUTFITTERS

3000 Mosquito Road, Placerville, Tuesday
– Friday 9 to 6, Saturday 9 to 5, El Dorado
County's premier source for the best
hunting, fishing, archery, and outdoor
products. Mosquito Creek Outfitters is
always stocked with the best gear to
accompany you wherever you may roam.
530-621-4500.

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Live the American Dream: the ownership of
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or sell any property in El Dorado County!
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www.mosquitoadneighbors.com or
530-295-4641 or toll free 866-SALLYRE,
snlongjohns@yahoo.com.

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on the hill! Call Pam or Dave Angelo at
530-621-3688.

MAY 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Support Group Training 9am Station 75
4 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	5	6 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	7	8	9	10 Bird Watching Fannon Lake, 8am D'Ax Raise the Roof Gala, 4pm
11 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	12	13	14	15 MVFA Board Meeting 3pm Diner	16	17 MVFA YARD SALE 9 am Station 75
18 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	19	20 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	21 SCPOA Board Meeting 6pm Station 75	22 D'Ax Board Meeting 5:30pm MFPD Board Meeting 7:00pm Station 75	23 Crafters Meeting 10am	24
25 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	26	27	28	29	30	31

Local Area Web Links

Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association (MVFA)
 Fannon Lake Recreation Area
 Mosquito Fire Protection District (MFPD)
 Swansboro Country Property Owners Association
 Mountain Fellowship in Mosquito (MFOM)
 El Dorado County Fire Safe Council

<https://www.gomvfa.org>
<https://www.fannonrecreationarea.com/>
<https://mfpd.us>
<https://scpoa.info>
<https://mfom.net>
www.edcfiresafe.org

The MOSQUITO BYTE is mailed first class to subscribers each month. A subscription is \$15.00 per year, with a two-year maximum pre-pay. Please mail your check, payable to MVFA, to 9009 Orval Beckett Ct., Placerville, CA, 95667. The deadline for advertising and articles is the 19th of each month. It is also posted on the www.goMVFA.org website each month.

Editors have the right to edit, limit, or refuse any article submitted for publication. Authors are responsible for article accuracy and their opinions do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the MVFA Board of Directors or the editors.

MVFA is organized as a non-profit tax-exempt entity and is funded entirely by grants, donations, fundraisers and rents and fees at Finnon Lake - which it owns. MVFA receives no tax revenues, nor any dues money from SCPOA. As per IRS mandate, MVFA gives no cash nor has any financial connection to any non-501(c)(3) organization or to the Mosquito Fire Protection District (MFPD). MVFA has no paid employees, and operates primarily with volunteers who donate their own time and often their own money to make our community a better place. If you would like to enhance your membership in MVFA, please become a volunteer. MVFA is a 501(c)(3) organization and donations may be tax deductible. A letter stating your donation will be provided on request. Send your donation to MVFA, 9009 Orval Beckett Ct., Placerville CA 95667.

MVFA values and promotes voluntary efforts in our community. MVFA continues to carry on the work begun by its predecessors many years ago. If you have any questions about MVFA, please attend the MVFA Board of Directors meetings on the first Thursday of each month at the Mosquito Fire House, 8801 Rock Creek Road, Placerville at 3:00pm. At the meetings, you have the opportunity to obtain correct and updated information about MVFA and its committees, legal obligations at Finnon Lake and events and volunteer opportunities. Mosquito residents may request a copy of approved MVFA Board meeting minutes by emailing your name and address to mvfa95667@gmail.com, or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to: MVFA, 9009 Orval Beckett Ct. Placerville CA 95667.

ADVERTISING POLICY

There is no charge to subscribers advertising in the MOSQUITO BYTE. Ads must be limited to 7 column lines maximum. Please email ads for the Classified Section to Mosquito BYTE Editor at mbyte.editor@gmail.com. Ads in the "Free", "For Sale", and "Wanted" categories will run for three months unless the submitter requests it to be removed or extended.

The MOSQUITO BYTE accepts ads from subscribers without endorsement.

The MOSQUITO BYTE and other updates are posted each month on the www.gomvfa.org website.

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PLACERVILLE, CA 95667-9040

9009 ORVAL BECKETT CT

MOSQUITO BYTE