

November



MVFA UPDATE

by MVFA Board of Directors

FALL FESTIVAL AT FINNON LAKE

On October 11, the shores of Finnon Lake came alive with laughter, music, and community spirit as over 40 craft vendors gathered for the annual Fall Festival. Under clear skies and perfect autumn weather, families and friends enjoyed a sunny day filled with local flavor and festive fun.

Alan Thompson with *SIERRA SoundBox* kept the energy high with live music, setting the perfect backdrop for browsing handcrafted goods while munching on popcorn provided by the District Auxiliary (D'Ax) Board Members. The artisans and



vendors who brought their handmade treasures and creative crafts, added color and



charm to every corner of the campground. The MVFA Board served up over 190 mouthwatering pulled pork sandwiches prepared by our local *Smoke on the Water* diner, complete with chips, drinks, and cookies—fueling smiles and full bellies all afternoon.

A highlight for the kids was the water hose play zone, hosted by our dedicated *Mosquito Fire Protection District* firefighters alongside *CAL FIRE* crew members. Their teamwork and enthusiasm turned a simple splash into unforgettable memories.

The turnout was fantastic, and the positive energy was palpable. Thank you to everyone who helped make this event a success—from vendors and volunteers to our local heroes and hungry guests. We're proud to celebrate the season with such a



strong and spirited community.

Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association would like to extend our deepest and most sincere thanks to everyone who helped make this year's Fall Festival a resounding success.

TRUNK OR TREAT & HAUNTED HOUSE

On October 25th, the Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association (MVFA), in proud partnership with the MFPD District Auxiliary (D'Ax), hosted one of our most memorable Trunk or Treat and Haunted House events yet! The evening was filled with festive fun, creative costumes, and community spirit.

Trunks Full of Treats

Eleven creatively decorated vehicles lined up to hand out candy to eager trick-or-treaters. From spooky scenes to whimsical themes, each trunk brought joy and excitement to the kiddos—and a little friendly competition! Prizes were awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in the Best Trunk contest, celebrating the artistry and effort of our community decorators.





Costume Contest Highlights

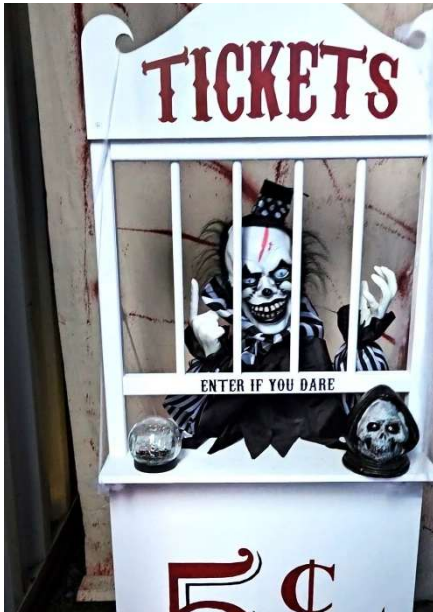
We also recognized outstanding costumes across four age groups, with winners showing off their Halloween spirit in style. From tiny pumpkins to towering wizards, the creativity on display was nothing short of magical.



A Huge Thank You to D'Ax

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the District Auxiliary for their incredible support. D'Ax volunteers kept spirits high and bellies full with a generous spread of coffee, hot chocolate, water, cookies, cupcakes, and rice krispie treats. Their hospitality helped make the night warm and welcoming for all.

Haunted House: A Growing Legend Visitors raved that this year's haunted house was the best yet, with spine-tingling surprises and immersive scares that delighted guests of all ages. Each year, our volunteers raise the bar—and this time, they truly outdid themselves.



Gratitude to Our Volunteers None of this would be possible without the dedication of our volunteers. From setup to cleanup, from candy distribution to haunted house scares, your time and energy made this event a resounding success. Thank you for helping us create a safe, festive, and unforgettable evening for our community.

VOICES FROM OUR CAMPERS

Faith says:

We had a great time at Finnon lake I can hardly wait til the next time. Thank you so much for a great camping experience. I had taken a friend who had not been car camping before. Thanks to you they are hooked now.

Brandy says:

Quiet; nice partial views; sites were not crowded, each site had plenty of space to set up; limited number of camp sites, clean bathroom's, plenty of shade, close to potable water station, nice walking trail around lake, onsite restaurant (did not eat there however).

Debi says:

Love this campground and this campsite. We go during the week and get to enjoy quiet time, weekends can tend to be busy. Thank you for keeping the bathrooms clean, it's appreciated.

Phiroze says:

Very nice campground! Clean restrooms, well maintained camp area, beautiful lake with clear water. I went on 3 weekdays and there was only one other camper there, but weekends

apparently get crowded. Site T14 is more private than some others since it's at one end of the group. Most sites slope towards the lake edge, so tent placement is a bit tricky. Drive the Rock Creek Road carefully -- there's lots of city slickers pretending to be race drivers. Heartily recommended.

Elizabeth says:

Extremely peaceful and beautiful spot! Will definitely return! Highly recommend taking the Rock Ridge Rd. route over Mosquito Rd. Lovely, serene spot with clean bathrooms! Just loved the time there!

Matthew says:

As always, Fannon is the best. Quiet and calm. Family, friends, disc golf, swimming. I really appreciated the host checking to see if we were using propane for our bonfire since there is a fire ban in place.

Lisa says:

A gem of a campsite. Huge area, well maintained, right on the water. Clean bathrooms with hand soap. We've come before and we will come again! Thanks again for sharing your land. We love it and we will be back

John says:

Thank you for the hard work you do on the site and the extra help when needed. We brought friends fairly new to camping and they really enjoyed the site. See you again, soon! This camp area is fantastic and can be very relaxing. We camped during the week which left it very quiet, with only a few other camp sites taken. Our site, A1, was great for our two tent camp and a private little beach. The bathroom facilities are always clean and ready for use.

Peggy says:

Love Fannon lake. My favorite place. Great camping neighbors and very quiet.

Nathan says:

Loved my time at beautiful Fannon Lake! Easy to find and navigate through the Maps app. My big rig RV spot was right on the water ~ so peaceful & quiet. Enjoyed the disc golf course & swims in the pristine waters. Great place for paddleboarding or fishing too! Planning to return with my family in tow. Thanks for the beautiful stay & accommodation!

NEW NEIGHBORS

If you are new to the area, or know someone new to the area, MVFA has welcome packets that contain great information about our community and helpful guidance for living in a high risk fire area. Please contact us at MVFA95667@gmail.com so we can get one delivered to your door!

MVFA BOARD NOMINATIONS

Anyone interested in applying for a position on the MVFA Board should send an email to MVFA95667@gmail.com before November 13th expressing your interest.

MVFA CRV RECYCLE PROGRAM



The MVFA Recycle Program continues to provide a valuable resource of dedicated 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! ♻️

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, are 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!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

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

MFPD Board Meeting - November 20, 2025

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

MFPD Board Meeting - December 18, 2025

The next MVFA Board meeting will be on Thursday, November 20th at 3:00 pm at the Diner
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SENIORS MEAL SERVICES

El Dorado County Senior Nutrition offers Home Delivered Meals for individuals 60 years of age or older who are homebound either temporarily or permanently, and unable to shop for their own food or prepare their own meals. Home delivered meal service is available to help them meet their nutritional needs. Dedicated, caring volunteers deliver meals Wednesday's, while also checking in on the well-being of each participant -- bringing peace of mind to clients and their families. Our goal is to provide nutritious meals and social contact to support overall wellness that will enable participants to remain living independently and with dignity in their own homes. Frozen meals for weekends and holidays are available upon request. Call today to see if you qualify! 530-621-6160

<https://www.eldoradocounty.ca.gov/Services/Assistance-Programs/Seniors/Senior-Services/Senior-Nutrition-Services>

MOSQUITO CRAFTERS

By Natasha Cutter



join us, shop local, and support your community! November 15th come see us at the Holiday Craft Sale at Mosquito Fire Station from 10:00-2:00. Our Crafters have dedicated significant effort throughout the year to expand our inventory and it's becoming

It's a busy season for the Mosquito Crafters. On October 11th we participated in the MVFA Fall Festival at Fannon Lake. The day was a great success, and we enjoyed seeing so many delighted shoppers. We are thrilled about our upcoming event on November 7th and 8th at Cold Springs Church! Running from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM on both days, this event will feature over 30 exceptional local vendors.

We invite you to



increasingly impressive with time. We now provide an extensive variety of products, including body scrubbies, ornaments, scarves, beanies, kitchen boas, jar openers, bowl warmers, journals, cards, soaps, jewelry, seasonal decor, and so much more!

mosquitocrafters@gmail.com. You can also find us and follow us on Facebook.



HOLIDAY CRAFT MARKET

Embrace the season's spirit and discover
a treasure trove of unique handmade crafts,
delightful treats, and festive joy.
30 Quality Craft Vendors!

November 7th & 8th
9:00-4:00

COLD SPRINGS CHURCH

2600 Cold Springs Rd. Placerville





Holiday SALE

Mosquito Fire Station

Saturday November 15th
10:00-2:00

Come Shop Local With Us!

SCPOA REPORT

By Meredith Blain

The Swansboro Country Property Owners Association Board of Directors (SCPOA) meets at the MFPD Fire Station, 8801 Rock Creek Road, on the fourth Wednesday of the month, however, there is NO meeting in November.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, December 17, 2025, at 6pm. Meeting agendas are posted on the bulletin board at Dyer Lake and on the SCPOA website: SCPOA.info.

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 to gain access.

DISTRICT AUXILIARY aka D'Ax

By Meredith Blain

Happy Holidays from the District Auxiliary – Mosquito*!

D'Ax* changed its usual routine of meeting prior to the MFPD Board Meetings and instead met on **Monday, October 20, 2025**. Having extra time to meet was a great thing — we accomplished a lot! We drafted the 2026 Calendar and are looking forward to a great 2026.

Here is a list of our upcoming events:

MFPD Community Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, November 8, 2025

Hosted by D'Ax* and the MFPD firefighters, this breakfast will honor our community's veterans. Along with pancakes, eggs, bacon, and sausage, we'll also be serving biscuits and gravy, juice, fruit, coffee, and cocoa.

New Year's Eve Family Party

Wednesday, December 31, 2025

Join D'Ax* at Fire Station 75 for a fun-filled evening with games and pizza! The event begins at **6:00 PM** and wraps up as we ring in the New Year on **New York time (9:00 PM here)**. More details to come in the December **BYTE**!

We share our events here in the **BYTE** and on social media. If you'd like to receive announcements and updates, email us at admin@dax-np.org or contact any D'Ax* director.

Our next meeting will be on **Sunday, November 23, 2025**, at **2:00 PM** at the Fire Station. We hope to see you there!

The D'Ax Team*





PANCAKE BREAKFAST



HONORING ALL WHO SERVED WITH A FREE BREAKFAST

HOSTED BY OUR
FIREFIGHTERS
AND SUPPORTED
BY DISTRICT
AUXILIARY

Mosquito Fire Department
8801 Rock Creek Rd

\$10 SUGGESTED
DONATION

ON NOVEMBER 8, 2025
FROM 9:00 AM TO 11:00 AM

KIDS 15 AND UNDER
EAT FREE

NEW WOMEN'S T-
SHIRTS, MEN'S T-
SHIRTS, HATS AND C
WILL BE FOR SALE

**PANCAKES, BISCUITS AND GRAVY, SCRAMBLED
EGGS, SAUSAGE, BACON, JUICE, FRESH FRUIT,
COFFEE, TEA, AND HOT COCOA**

BIRDING AT FINNON LAKE

October Bird Watch: Autumn Activity in Full Swing

October brought a lively mix of feathered visitors to Mosquito, with over 30 species spotted during the monthly bird watch. From the honking flocks of Canada Geese to the quiet flutters of warblers in the brush, local birders were treated to a vibrant display of seasonal movement and resident charm.

10 Canada Goose	2 Northern Flicker	2 Red-breasted Nuthatch
5 Mallard	2 Black Phoebe	1 European Starling
1 California Quail	3 California Scrub-Jay	10 Lesser Goldfinch
3 Wild Turkey	1 American Crow	3 Dark-eyed Junco
1 Anna's Hummingbird	1 Common Raven	2 White-crowned Sparrow
60 American Coot	2 Oak Titmouse	3 Savannah Sparrow
2 Pied-billed Grebe	10 Bushtit	3 Spotted Towhee
1 Great Egret	3 Wrentit	1 Red-winged Blackbird
1 Red-shouldered Hawk	2 White-breasted Nuthatch	3 Yellow-rumped Warbler
16 Acorn Woodpecker		

SMOKE ON THE WATER

by Kirk Bronsord and Matt Ridgeway

Gobble Gobble—It's Turkey Time! WOW, another month has flown by, and you know what that means... **Let's Talk Turkey!**



Fall is in full swing, painting the town in stunning shades of gold and crimson. On November 15th the campground will officially close for the season, and things are getting a little quieter at the diner—but the holiday spirit is just heating up!

As we cozy up and count our blessings, we're incredibly grateful for the continued support of our amazing community. Your kindness keeps us going all year long.

This year, we're bringing something extra special to your holiday table: **wood fire roasted turkeys**, available for **pre-order!** Let us help make your feast unforgettable.

Call us at **530-622-1060** to reserve yours today. Let's gobble till we wobble—together!

Your Smoke on the Water Family

Diner Hours:

Monday - Wednesday- Closed
Thursday 11 am – 1:30 pm
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>

Now Open on Thursday for Lunch!

CLASSIFIED ADS

(Classified Ads are free to all paid subscribers)

WANTED

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

THE GOAT DOCTOR OF THE SIERRAS

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, \$20.00. A few books with section of upside down pages are still available for \$10.00.

MISCELLANEOUS EQUIPMENT 6 Cu. Ft. Steel Wheelbarrow @ \$10; 6' Alum step ladder @ \$20; 8' alum extension ladder @ \$30; oil filled radiator heater @ \$5, and Kenmore Progressive Vacuum Cleaner (Canister) @ \$50. Call (503) 626-8689.

UNIQUE JEWELRY

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

TREADMILL

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

2012 HARLEY-DAVIDSON SPORTSTER 883

Super low mileage Original 875 miles
New Michelin Tires, New Drive Belt
Just Serviced, New Battery, Freshly
Detailed - daviddudleyca@comcast.net

JOTUL PROPANE HEAT STOVE

Complete with chimney thermostat. Can be seen at 6796 Log Cabin Lane 916-501-3444

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

CALI CONSTRUCTION

General contractor 530-903-1869
Decks, fences, siding, flooring, and more.
5% senior or veteran's discount.
CSLB#1054550

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
americaneaglepainting4@gmail.com
Lic# 960086

HARP TEACHER

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
Information, please call 530-344-1531 and
ask for Paula or e-mail:
harppaula@gmail.com.

FLORIST ON THE HILL

I am your community florist providing long
lasting flowers for all occasions. We
ALWAYS deliver FREE on the hill! Stop by
and check out our collection of Honey
House products, gifts, jewelry, &
handmade cards. Also offering flower
subscriptions specifically created for you.
Call me Elaine Galvan 530-295-0503 for all
your floral needs.

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 Virtual Shooting Range w/ live fire ammunition, Archery and Handgun classes, CCW classes, One on One training, Basic Pistol Classes, Women's Classes. Call 530-497-5443 for more information.

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! You can reach me at www.mosquitoadneighbors.com or 530-295-4641 or toll free 866-SALLYRE, snlongjohns@yahoo.com.

WELDING & FABRICATION

Steel, Stainless Steel, Aluminum. Certified to military standard. Call 530-621-3300

REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Donna Ables, Realtor, MBA/BBA Real Estate & Land Use Affairs, CSUS
Caldwell Banker Realty
Where Quality Meets Excellent Customer Service!
CalDRE# 01887830
(916) 320-0365
Visit donnaablesrealestate.com

HANDCRAFTED ART ON THE HILL

Unique and affordable glass art by Pam Angelo: plates, bowls, vases, birdbaths and more. Perfect as gifts or treat yourself. Studio open most days, text or call to set a time 530-391-5424

UNIQUE WOODWORKING

Created by Dave Angelo in his Swansboro wood shop. Beautiful trinket boxes, wildlife wall art, pepper mills, vases, puzzles, toys and more! Studio open most days, text or call to set a time 707-688-4659

Wild Peak Energy

Licensed Electrical Contractor - CSLB 1138152. Visit our website for more information - www.wildpeakenergy.com
Your Local Electrical Experts! (916) 995-9655

RENTALS**APARTMENT FOR RENT – AVAILABLE NOW!**

Enjoy the comfort and convenience of this charming, fully furnished 1-bedroom, 1-bath apartment featuring: Private entrance for added privacy, Relaxing private patio, Dedicated parking, Spacious 750 sq ft layout. Rent: \$1,500/month + deposit. For inquiries or to schedule a viewing, contact Mickey Sharp at 916-712-1532

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

NOVEMBER 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Support Group Training 9am Station 75
2 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	3	4 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	5	6	7 Craft Sale 9am to 4pm Cold Springs Church	8 Bird Watching 9am FLRA Craft Sale 9am to 4pm Cold Springs Church
9 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	10	11	12	13	14	15 Craft Sale 10am to 2pm Station 75
16 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	17	18 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	19	20 MVFA Meeting 3pm Diner MFPD Board Meeting 7:00pm Station 75	21 Crafters Meeting 10am	22
23 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am D'Ax Meeting 2pm	24	25	26	27	28	29 30

Local Area Web Links

Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association (MVFA)
 Finnon 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.finnonrecreationarea.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

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