Volume 32, No. 5 February 2019



**Dial 911 for Emergency Response**

By MFPD

On more than one occasion our district residents having been calling the fire station directly to request an emergency response and not dialing 911. It is imperative that you know that the most effective response to an emergency is to dial 911.

**WHY IS DIALING 911 MORE EFFECTIVE THAN CALLING THE STATION DIRECTLY?**

A dispatcher will answer immediately - that is a guarantee.

You cannot guarantee that someone at the station will answer the phone.  There is no one at the station after 5:00pm or before 8:00am daily. During business hours, our staff could also be out of the station doing a public assist or conducting training which would prevent them from knowing that you called for assistance.

When you dial 911- Camino dispatch will page our firefighters wherever they are and communicate to them with all specific details that are needed for immediate response. Camino dispatch will also send additional needed resources, if needed.

**CALLING 911 is at NO COST TO THE RESIDENT**. This is a service that you need to use. Please use it. Your life, or the life of your loved one could be gravely impacted if an unnecessary delay is caused by not dialing 911.

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***IF YOU HAVE A CHRONIC ILLNESS THAT YOU ARE EXPERIENCING ABNORMALITIES – DIAL 911***

***IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING; SHORTNESS OF BREATH, ELEVATED HEART RATE, NASUEA, DIZZNIESS ETC, DIAL 911.***

***IF YOU ARE UNSURE WHETHER OR NOT TO CALL 911 – DIAL 911!***

**The next MFPD Board meeting is**

**Thursday, February 14th at 7 p.m.**

**at the Fire Station.**

**Volunteer Recruitment for District Firefighters**

By MFPD Public Information Officer (PIO)

The Mosquito Fire Protection District (MFPD) is accepting applications for Candidate Trainee Firefighters to serve the MFPD at Station 75. All candidates must meet the following requirements to be accepted as Candidates into the Trainee Program:

**TRAINEE FIREFIGHTER CANDIDATE REQUIREMENTS**

* Must be minimum 18 years of age
* Pass a Criminal Background Check
* Pass a DOT Physical Examination
* Possess a Valid California Driver’s License
* Maintain a Clean Driving Record
* Submit a Completed Application (application found on the [www.mfpd.us](http://www.mfpd.us) site)
* Attend an in-person informational session and Chief’s interview

Please contact the station to arrange a meeting or to inquire at (530)626-9017.

**All above requirements will qualify candidates for the 2019 Divide Fire Academy hosted by Garden Valley Fire Protection District. All applications and requirements need to be satisfied prior to 12:00pm January 26, 2019.**

**Save Our Fire Department**

By Concerned Citizens Committee of the Mosquito Fire Protection District

A social media campaign began recently to shed light on the current state of our district. There are 4 main topics being presented to the community to discuss relevant problems that will impact the life and safety of our residents and property.

These 4 topics include:

1. Increased Wildland Fire Danger & Severity
2. Increased District Population & Aging Community
3. Increased Medical & Other Emergency Responses
4. Mosquito Fire Protection District Is Underfunded

Please read below one of the topics posted on Facebook and Nextdoor just a few days ago, and see the productive commentary that followed:

(From CONVERSATION #2 posted 1.18.2019)

Title: INCREASED DISTRICT POPULATION & AGING COMMUNITY- Solving the Problems Facing the Mosquito Fire Protection District

As the community grows, we continue to have a **strong** dependency on volunteers to become Firefighters, however, the number of new volunteers from within the district has fallen to an unsustainable level. With the expected construction of the new Mosquito Road bridge, there will be an inevitable influx of new residents, but the requirements to become a Volunteer Firefighter is also increasing with strict state regulation matching that of career Firefighter training and education. **OUR STATION IS NOT STAFFED FOR 16 HOURS DAILY!**

**HOW DOES THIS IMPACT US?**

The increasing number of residents and the decrease in resident volunteer participation has created a situation where any emergency calls rely on very few available and qualified residents to respond to calls after hours. Without a commensurate growth of a volunteer base that increases with population, we put the district at risk of burning out our volunteers, all of which hold full time jobs off the hill. There is currently no consistent coordination of volunteer coverage after hours. If one of our two volunteers decided to stop at the grocery store after work, or go to dinner in town, an emergency call will be faced with having to wait for a nearest available resource to be dispatched which would be minimum 45 minutes to arrive on scene.

**COMMENTS RELATED TO THIS POST**:

NextDoor Comment:

Where is the supporting documentation for these statements and how were these conclusions arrived at? I am not stating opposition to the idea. But I would expect a professional PIO/organization to have firm historical and projected data supporting your/their position.

NextDoor Rebuttal:

Hi! The main concern in this topic is that we have a population base here, but our resources aren’t being effectively tapped into. The supporting conclusion is by looking at the composition of the volunteers in the Support Group. The youngest volunteer in the support group is around the age of 55 from what I’m told. The function of the Support Group is to assist the Fire Department with aspects of an emergency response that the Fire Department does not have the personnel numbers to carry out - i.e., road closures and traffic control, or ground operations that can be handled by someone other than a firefighter. We see very enthusiastic participation in Support Group for volunteering in support of emergency responses- but we see a completely different story when you look at firefighter participation and training from residents within the district. What can we do about addressing this? The requirements to be a Support Group member are very different than that of needing to go to a fire academy to be a firefighter. Historically, I’ve heard that in the past there was scheduled coordination between volunteers to have designated days to cover the district for any emergencies. Does anyone know how this was handled and what the number of volunteers were to support this structure? What changed? What are the barriers out there that can be brought down to make real change?

Facebook Comment:

One of the keys for small departments is always getting new volunteers. There are community’s that are smaller further out, have an all senior population that have lots of volunteers. The way they do it is by aggressively seeking volunteers, guys trying to get into the fire service that live in areas like Sacramento County or the bay area that have unions against volunteers. No department hires inexperienced firefighters they all need to sow hours in a firehouse. These smaller departments offer lots of training courses which is also an income for the department. We live in an area that could put on more training courses than most departments. There are areas for high angle low-angle rescues, swift water rescue, a b and c falling, prescribed burn operations, etc. Every year I take all of my employees to Dobbins to get red carded I wish the classes were offered here. At $80 per person there’s always 60 to 80 people in the class. I can’t recall seeing an ROP student in our department. We don’t have any seasonal firefighters here in the winter. There’s lots of ways to bring new blood into our district.

It is understandable that many residents have decided to not engage in social media because of past divisiveness and unnecessary nuisance. However, the full benefit of social media has been showing itself this week as input is being sourced across the district to address problems and situations that impact us all.

If you would like to follow the conversation, please find our posts on the Facebook group: Concerned Citizens of Mosquito Fire Protection District.

Look for our posts on the NextDoor app.

If you would prefer our communication is sent to your e-mail directly, send a request to helpsavemosquito@gmail.com. You can get updates and full conversations without the hassle of going to social media platforms.

**MVFA**

By MVFA Board of Directors

Place **March 23rd** on your calendar! It's the date of the first MVFA dinner event of the New Year - the Cowboy Chuckwagon dinner. Watch for more details in upcoming issues of the Byte. For a complete list of all MVFA events for 2019, go to [www.finnonrecreationarea.com](http://www.finnonrecreationarea.com) and click on the "EVENTS" page.

We are entering the second year of the return of Frank, Heidi and Chana and Frank’s Diner! Frank and his family have developed the Diner into a community hub where folks can go any time and be surrounded by friends and neighbors. Watch the Byte and social media sites for upcoming events at Frank's this year.

Because of its history, MVFA has always had strong ties to the Mosquito Fire Department. Former Chiefs and firefighters have been members of the MVFA Board of Directors. MVFA By-laws have ALWAYS specified giving firefighters and Support Group personnel priority in the nomination process for membership on the MVFA Board of Directors. MVFA is fortunate to have two active members of the MFPD Fire Department on the board, Chris Dillender and Andrew Gregory. The other MVFA board members who also serve as volunteers on MFPD Support Group are Gary Morris, Kim Purcell, Tom Harris and Linda Heyart's husband, Nick. The board looks forward to working with MFPD on issues such as in-kind contributions for Fuels Reduction Grants and working with the Mosquito Firefighters Association (MFA) on fund raising efforts.

If you wish to enhance your membership in MVFA or seek a position on the board, become a volunteer on one of our many committees at Finnon or at any MVFA annual event.

MVFA maintains the Station 75 Fund, to which anyone can donate, and the money is used to buy tools, equipment, station improvements and other non-budgeted items at the Chief's request. Recently, MVFA Station 75 funds helped pay for a new storage shed at the fire department. At most MVFA fundraiser events taking place at the fire station, a portion of the proceeds automatically goes to the MVFA Station 75 fund.

If you can't volunteer, please consider a donation to MVFA. If you would like to donate, please send your check with a note specifying so to MVFA, 9009 Orval Beckett Ct, Placerville CA 95667. Or visit www.GoMVFA.org - major credit cards accepted. 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 upon request.

If you have any questions about MVFA please attend the MVFA Board of Directors meeting on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00PM at Frank's Diner. All board members can be reached by email at: mvfa95667@gmail.com. Fish and Wildlife committee chairman Dave Angelo can be reached at 530-621-3688 Campground & Property Committee chairman Tom Harris can be reached at 530-642-2333. Thank you for your support.

*Notice: The views expressed in public, in the Byte or on social media by individual board members or other contributors may not represent the views or policies of the MVFA Board.*

**Please join us for the MVFA Board meeting on Thursday, February 7th at 7:00 p.m. at Frank’s Diner.**

**It’s the Annual Election - Again**

by Roger Stenbock, SCPOA Director

On February 9th, 2019, your Association will elect Board members for a two-year term. Most of us don’t realize the work and many hours that goes into serving on the Board until we’ve actually done it ourselves. So, it’s fitting to thank them. I want to personally thank my colleagues, Connell Persico, Jerry Pullin, Gordon Smith and Scott Butler. They are completing their terms as directors on February 9th this year.

Connell Persico is completing his second term as president. Under his leadership, the re-stated Bylaws were completed, our bad debt was reduced, the bark beetle problems were managed, the common areas were improved, and the fire safe grant came to fruition. Our treasurer, Jerry Pullin, is also completing a second term. He contributed with the installation of a new playground, managing the Association’s budget and overseeing the Common Area committee. Gordon Smith and Scott Butler contributed greatly by working on the various committees and tending to the day-to-day challenges facing your Association. I’m sure I missed some of their accomplishments, but they all deserve a big thank you!

We are lucky to have nine candidates volunteering for the four open Board positions this year. Any four of them, if elected, will be an asset to our Association. Of the non-incumbent candidates, there are five who stand out.

**Tom Best,** Veteran - Navy combat pilot, degree in economics, exceptional leader, shares community values, prior HOA Board experience. Now employed as an airline pilot.

**Rob Kirkpatrick,** Prior Board experience, respected and longtime member of the community, very knowledgeable with SCPOA issues, extensive contribution to the SCPOA community.

**David Blair,** Experienced businessman, new to the community, family man open minded a source of fresh ideas, willing to contribute by volunteering as a SCPOA director, prior HOA experience.

**Milo Laguna,** Gulf War Veteran - US Army, longtime resident, family man, extensive community involvement, cognitive skills therapist, extensive community volunteer work.

**Robert Keel,** Veteran, extensive contribution on SCPOA committees.

These five candidates have gone one step further. Each is asking for your Vote. If elected, they pledge to:

**Put You First - Always** We pledge to always put you (the Association), first. We understand that our loyalty is not to each other as Board members, but always to the Association and its members. We are aware of our duty to you and to avoid any conflict of interest. Whenever there is a question, we pledge to put aside our personal agenda and vote on the merits of the issue and what is best for you.

**Communicate Effectively** In addition to the information the Board is required to provide the members, we will include information from other sources, such as the Mosquito *Byte,* MVFA and other local media. The official website, scpoa.info, will never be used as a propaganda tool for the Board members. You get the good the bad and the ugly. We plan to implement a forum for the property owners on scpoa.info. We encourage social media and other online media to interact with the Board and the Association members.

**Lead Positively** We pledge to lead by listening, collaborating, and motivating members to accomplish common goals which can be achieved economically and in a timely manner through positive actions and examples. We pledge to not impose control, based on personal belief, opinion or title. However, when needed, we will take a hard line to protect the Association, through the application of balanced compliance measures.

**Provide a Positive Change** Experience is a necessary ingredient in most organizations. However, sometimes the established status quo is a little too entrenched. Occasionally, change is needed. Change can provide new ideas, improve thinking, create better ways of dealing with issues, and shake things up in a positive way. Change is essential from time-to-time and SCPOA will be better off because of it.

I wish all the candidates success and the best to them and their families, and to the Swansboro community a prosperous and healthy 2019.

**The next SCPOA board meeting is Saturday 2/9, at 10:00am at the Fire Station.**

**The 2019 Mosquito Phone Book**

 by Adam Reiner

The Mosquito Phone Book contains information on our Mosquito/Swansboro area such as, Who Are They (MVFA, MFPD & SCPOA), Helpful Area Phone Numbers, a Timeline History of Mosquito, Mosquito Fire Department History & Other Useful Information, Map of our Area, and Residential & Business Listings

The Phone Book is available at the Mosquito Fire Station 75 at 8801 Rock Creek Road (530)626-9017 or Franks Diner for $5 per copy.

The Mosquito Phone Book is published every 2 years. For changes to the Phone Book, email us at mosquitophbook@gmail.com or mail the information to: MVFA, phone book 9009 Orval Beckett Court, Placerville, CA 95667. Residential and business listings are free to list.

**Crafters**

by Sharon Hern

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. (see time and location below). We have many new ideas for our “Craft Sales” this year. The proceeds of our Craft Sales are used to help support the various needs of our Fire Department.

Our craft meetings are generally held on the 4th Friday of each month from **10am to 12pm** at the home of Darlene Rood, 2211 Swansboro Road. Hope to see you on the **February 22nd!**

**Franks’ Diner**

by Frank Ethridge

February conjures up thoughts of chocolate, strawberries and Valentine's Day (which falls on a Thursday, 2/14) and we will be bringing a special menu for you and your loved ones to enjoy.  Dinner starts at 6 pm and will run until 9 pm that night.  We will not be open for regular service or take-out that day to prepare for that night. Here is the menu for Valentine's Day.  Please call us with your entree selections to help us be better prepared. (530) 409-1977 [www.franksmosquitodiner.com](http://www.franksmosquitodiner.com). Check us out on Facebook and Instagram.

**Valentine’s Day 2019**

**Soup:** Shrimp Bisque $8.50

**Salad:** Pear and Walnut with Gorgonzola and a Sweet Onion-Pear Vinaigrette $8.25

**Entrees:** Short Ribs with Roasted Root Vegetables $22

Linguine w/Shrimp, Lobster & Andouille Sausage

in a creamy Creole Sauce $24

The Trio: Lamb chops, Filet Mignon and Duck $28

Mediterranean Vegetable-Potato Gratin $20

**Desserts:** Red Velvet Cheesecake $8.50

 Chocolate Pots de Crème $8.25

 Strawberry Shortcake $7.75

**Recipe of the month – Old-Fashioned Potato Salad**

Gathering recipes for spring and summer already?  Here is one of our Old-Fashioned Potato Salad favorites.

Prep: 15 min. + chilling Cook: 20 min. Yield: 6-8 Servings

**Ingredients**

*4 cups cubed peeled cooked potatoes*

*3 hard-cooked eggs, chopped*

*2 celery ribs, thinly sliced*

*1/4 cup chopped green onions*

*1/4 cup diced red onion*

*1/4 cup sweet relish*

*1/2 cup mayonnaise*

*2 tablespoons Champagne vinegar*

*1 teaspoon Dijon mustard*

*1/2 teaspoon salt*

*1/4 teaspoon pepper*

*1/4 teaspoon garlic powder*

*1/4 teaspoon onion powder*

*Always Season to taste.*

**Directions**

Place potatoes in a saucepan and cover with water; bring to a boil. Reduce heat. Cook for 20-25 minutes or until tender; drain, while still hot drizzle the champagne vinegar over the potatoes and let cool. Place in a large bowl; add eggs, celery and onions.

In a small bowl, combine the remaining ingredients. Pour over potato mixture and toss to coat. Cover and refrigerate for at least 1 hour. Yield: 6-8 servings.

**Birding at Finnon Lake**

by Dave Angelo

Our last bird watch was 1/19, and there were seven of us that made the walk with no rain at all. At one stop, we had the two bald eagles land in a big dead Ponderosa no more than 90 feet from us and they remained for over 15 minutes. Seemingly, they weren't bothered by our presence. On two occasions, we saw them flying with pine branches in their talons. I hope they are building a nest but couldn't see any signs of one yet. As usual on the third Saturday of each month, our next outing will be on **Saturday, 1/16/2019**. We will meet at the pavilion at Frank's Diner at 9:00am. The results of our January walk were:

  2 Canada Goose 26 Mallard/Mexican Duck         10 Ring-necked Duck
  6 Bufflehead  4 Hooded Merganser 6 Common Merganser
  2 Pied-billed Grebe  4 Band-tailed Pigeon 8 Mourning Dove
60 American Coot (Red-shielded) 16 Double-crested Cormorant 1 Great Blue Heron
  1 Great Egret  1 Cooper's Hawk 2 Bald Eagle
  1 Red-tailed Hawk  1 Belted Kingfisher          10 Acorn Woodpecker
  1 Black Phoebe 10 Steller's Jay 6 California Scrub-Jay
  3 Western Bluebird  2 Red-winged Blackbird

Number of Taxa: 23

**CLASSIFIED ADS**

(Classified Ads are free to all paid subscribers)

**FOR SALE**

**1981 RED CAMERO** with red interior, low mileage, engine and transmission replaced at 100,000 miles and not driven much since then, has wire wheels and T tops very good condition, Asking $16,000.00. This is the last year of this body style. Phone 530-621-1173 (0119)

**1963 TOYOTA LAND CRUSER** FJ40, 4-wheel drive, has some upgrades runs well, with soft top and doors, have had this since 1965 a lot of time in desolation and even to ALASKA. Asking $8000.00 Phone 530-621-1173 (0119)

**STUDDED SNOW/WINTER TIRES size** 225/50R-17, Federal Himalaya WS2 Mud/Snow $400 916-765-3652. (0119)

**WANTED**

**LOCAL FARM** seeking manure source.

Specifically, Goat, Sheep, llama or Alpaca. Please contact Ryan at Goat Mountain Farms. 530-497-4279 or goatmntnfarms@gmail.com

**MEETINGS**

**MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP** – Meet new friends, get refreshed and restored. Join us for challenging Bible study, fun events and worship here in Mosquito.  We meet Sunday mornings 10 a.m. at 3342 Stope Drive and throughout the week. Check our website [www.mfom.net](http://www.mfom.net) or call (530)295-0503. (0620)

**SERVICES**

**SIERRA SHIELD FIREARMS & TRAINING -** Mention MOSQUITO BYTE and get 25% off CA CCW Class.  Also, receive FREE box of ammo with each firearm purchase. [www.SierraShield.com](http://www.sierrashield.com) or call 530-387-0110. (0620)

**HANGTOWN RANGE** 1540 Broadway, Placerville Tuesday – Saturday 9 to 8 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. (0619)

**WELDING & FABRICATION** – Steel, Stainless Steel, Aluminum. Certified to military standard. Call (530) 621-3300 (0620)

**FLORIST ON THE HILL** – Your source for fresh, local, organic and international flowers.  All occasions deserve flowers.  Call me 530.295.0503 Elaine Galvan for a specially made arrangement or buy individual blooms to brighten your day.  Always delivered FREE on the hill! (0619)

**FREE VEGAN VEGETARIAN COOKING CLASSES -**  Food preparation demonstrations, recipe handouts, video clips, resource materials, generous samples provided. Interact with health-minded folks, learn healthful lifestyle principles and discover tasty new recipes. We meet once a month at the Camino SDA Church, 3520 Carson Rd. on Mondays at 11 a.m. Call Fred Adams at (530) 642-9441 or AdamsAmigos@gmail.com for dates and to reserve your space. (0000)

**SEARS & SONS LAND MANAGEMENT & FIREWOOD SALES**- Wood Splitting, Tractor Work, Tree & Brush Removal, Dump Runs and More! Give us a call, free estimates. If we can’t help you, we’ll put you in touch with someone who can. Friendly honest service. Call Dustin K. Sears Sr. at (530)363-4991. (0419)

**VHS VIDEOS CONVERTED TO DVDs** – Have any family vacations, precious memories or baby pictures on videos? I can copy them to DVDs. Call Dee at (530)642-2333. (0719)

**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 (0619)

**UNIQUE JEWELRY** - Handmade jewelry using recycled aluminum cans, and more. To view, call Dee at 642-2333. (0719)

**GREAT ESCAPES LANDSCAPING AND HANDYMAN SERVICES -** Interior or exterior. Forest/land management, irrigation, fencing, clearing, trees/brush removal and trimming, deck painting or staining and repair and much more. Call Jonathan Varvais 530-409-7202. (0119)

**CREATIVE ADMIN SERVICES** – Your office and project support team specializing in office management, business/personal contact management, event coordination, online services, and much more. Visit our website at [www.creativeadminservices.com](http://www.creativeadminservices.com) or call (530)295-1779. (0819)

**HANDCRAFTED GLASS ITEMS** – Birdbaths, flowerpots, plates, bowls, etc. Also, handmade wooden jewelry boxes. Affordable and unique. Studio open most days; call first. Do your gift shopping here on the hill! Call Pam or Dave Angelo at (530 )621-3688. (0319)

**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.mosquitoroadneighbors.com](http://www.mosquitoroadneighbors.com) or (530)295-4641 or toll free (866)SALLYRE, snlongjohns@yahoo.com. (0000)

**NOTARY SERVICE** – I’m a mobile Notary Public living here in Mosquito. I am experienced in all areas of notary work including loan packages, real estate transfers, etc. Call Elaine Galvan at (530)295-0503 (0620)



Please drop off bags from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Fire Station. Please consider this option when you organize your recycled materials. (Sorry, wine bottles do not have CRV so we cannot use them)

NOTE: Lids/Caps on plastic and glass CRV containers **MUST BE REMOVED** before they can be redeemed. If you have a chance and can remove the lids, it will sure help the recycle volunteers.

**MVFA THANKS YOU!**

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| **February 2019** **Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday** |
|  |  |  | Frank’s Diner Wednesday Dinners starting at 5 pm and are only $10.00! |  | 1 | 2**Support Group**10 am Fire Station  |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6**Frank’s Family Night***Lasagna and Salad* | 7**MVFA Board Meeting**7 pmFrank’s Diner | 8 | 9**Manland**7am Frank’s Diner**SCPOA Board****Meeting**10 am Fire Station |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13**Frank’s Family Night** *Beef Tips* | 14**MFPD Board Meeting**7 pmFire Station**Valentine’s Dinner** – Frank’s. See inside. | 15 | 16**Birding at Finnon Lake** 9am Finnon Lake Pavilion |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20**Frank’s Family Night** *Fried Chicken* | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27**Frank’s Family Night** *Pulled Pork with Potato Salad* | 28 |  |   |

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MOSQUITO BYTE

9009 ORVAL BECKETT CT

PLACERVILLE, CA 95667-9040