

Volume 37, No. 10

July 2024

## CHIEF'S REPORT

by Chief Eddie Dwyer



Here at MFPD, we want to wish you all a very safe and healthy summer filled with fun and family. While you're out and about, enjoying the lake, going on vacation, traveling to new places, please remember the men and women who through the best of their ability serve this community every day. They work tirelessly on your behalf responding to your request for emergency service 24/7/365.

Many things have been going on here at Station 75. After 4 years of service, Chief Jack Rosevear has retired to move on into a new chapter of life. Many of you do not know, Chief Rosevear has been on duty nearly every day of the last 1460 days. Giving this community his very best. He set an excellent course for this Fire District, establishing through Federal Grants a 24-hour staffing schedule. This last year we were able to re-establish on a limited availability, Advanced Paramedic Services for Emergency Medical Response. We currently have three highly experienced Paramedics serving part time.

In recent days, the training conducted has shown great success, in our capability to respond to emergencies. Our personnel along with community members responded to a reported structure fire on Gravel Road. The smoke column could be seen from miles away.

On arrival at the incident, our personnel quickly triaged the situation, established priorities, and went to work controlling the incident. Former members of the Fire District also arrived on scene to provide invaluable assistance. Todd and Devon Hern, Rich St Croix along with Chris Dillender, all provided a service to this community in bringing the incident to resolution. Though the structure, which was fully involved at the time of arrival, was a complete loss, the fire impacted the surrounding vegetation. It was the quick action of all those who responded which halted the fire spread, keeping it to less than one quarter acre. Compliments were given to our personnel from responding partner agencies.

To all who responded, placing themselves in harm's way to serve this community, a thank you doesn't seem to be enough, but what is felt behind the words cannot be expressed in words.

As Chief Rosevear exits, I will be serving as interim Fire Chief. I believe in Chief Rosevear's vision for the Fire District. With any new change in leadership, there will be changes to how we navigate the waters that bring us to the future. Any change made will be with the intent of maintaining our current response ability employing the Support Group and strengthening their

abilities through training, hiring a full time Fire Captain, maintaining current staffing levels and seeking any grant opportunity that presents itself.

There has been quite a bit completed here at the Fire Station. The upstairs dormitory kitchen has been completely remodeled by members of the MVFA. Trent, Don and Kirk, thank you so very much. To the committees that serve the Fire District, I look forward to working with every one of you. Through your volunteer services you provide an administrative service enjoyed by larger departments and take the burden off the shoulders of command staff as we work alongside you.

I ask the community to be patient with us as we go through this transition. We will do many things quickly and there is much to do, there will be much trial and error. This is common place in life with any endeavor. Please know we are here to serve you with the best of our abilities, to provide you with the best Fire and Emergency Services possible. Please, instead of attacking our personnel, support them as they give their all to serve you. They will be by your side, in the worst of times, unflinching, always moving forward to serve you on your worst day.

Eddie Dwyer

Fire Chief (Int)

Mosquito Fire Protection District

### **Upcoming Events:**

Saturday July 6 - Support Group Training - 9am - Station 75

Tuesday July 9 & 23 - Fire Training - 6pm - Station 75 (Public Welcome)

Thursday July 18 - EDRFA Board Meeting – 9:30 am – Georgetown Fire Station

Tuesday July 24 - SCPOA Monthly Board Meeting - 6pm - Station 75

Thursday July 25 - Fire Season/Evacuation Preparedness Town Hall – 5pm to 7pm- Station 75

Thursday July 25 - Monthly Fire Board Meeting - 7pm - Station 75



**Thank you Chief Rosevear for  
your service to the District and  
to our community!**

The next MFPD Board meeting will be on July 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at Station 75

## **MVFA UPDATE**

by MVFA Board of Directors

### **ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER**

On June 15<sup>th</sup> we held our annual spaghetti dinner. Once again, we had a wonderful turnout of community members. We are grateful to all those who attended. We served 138 plates with 10 of those being to go orders. A special thank you to Smoke on the Water for preparing the food. Before dinner was served there was a brief recognition for Chief Rosevear for his support to MVFA, Support Group and the MFPD community. We thank the Chief for his unfailing service and wish him well in all his future endeavors.





## MVFA SWAG

Explore MVFA's collection of Mosquito T-shirts and Sweatshirts, available in an array of sizes and colors. Apparel and local phone books are conveniently for sale at the Diner during regular business hours or at MVFA-sponsored events.

For personalized orders, reach out to us at [mvfa95667@gmail.com](mailto:mvfa95667@gmail.com).



## FLRA CAMPGROUND

The Fignon Lake Recreation Area remains very popular for both campers and local community members for fishing, picnicking and walking their pets. As a reminder, for the safety of your pet and peace of mind for fellow residents, your dog must always remain on a leash and in your control.

## WILDFIRE SEASON

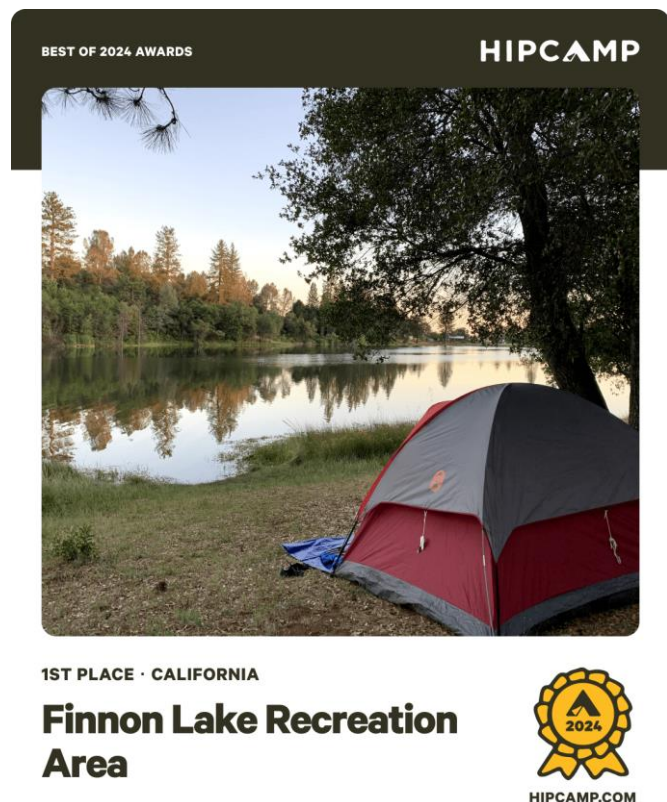
Wildfires pose a significant threat to California residents, making wildfire safety a crucial aspect of living in this region. Here are some key points to consider:

**1. Create a Wildfire Action Plan** Prepare a plan with your family to evacuate your home should a wildfire strike<sup>1</sup>. This includes putting together an emergency supply kit and discussing fire safety with young children<sup>1</sup>.

**2. Prepare Your Property** Creating a defensible space around your home is a highly efficient method for ensuring its protection<sup>2</sup>. This involves establishing a clear area around the house, using noncombustible materials for the first 15 centimeters (6 inches) of exterior walls, and ensuring outbuildings are located at least nine meters (30 feet) from the house<sup>3</sup>.

**3. Use Fire-Resistant Landscaping** Choosing fire-resistant landscaping can help protect your property<sup>2</sup>. This includes selecting plants that are less likely to ignite and maintaining a well-irrigated yard<sup>2</sup>.

**4. Embrace Fire-Resistant Building Materials** Using fire-resistant building materials can increase your home's resistance to wildfires<sup>2</sup>. This includes fire-resistant roofing and vents<sup>3</sup>.



**5. Keep Gutters and Roofs Clean** Regularly cleaning your gutters and roofs can prevent the accumulation of leaves and debris, which can fuel a fire<sup>2</sup>.

**6. Stay Informed** Sign up for text alerts about wildfires in your area and familiarize yourself with your community's emergency response plan, evacuation orders, and evacuation centers<sup>4</sup>.

**7. Practice Fire-Safe Habits** This includes not discarding cigarette butts or matches outdoors, keeping a fire extinguisher and other fire-fighting tools on hand, and ensuring that your family knows how to use them<sup>2</sup>.

In conclusion, preparing for wildfires involves a combination of creating a wildfire action plan, preparing your property, staying informed, and practicing fire-safe habits. By taking these steps, California residents can significantly improve their safety and readiness in the event of a wildfire.

Learn more

[1 fire.ca.gov](http://1.fire.ca.gov) [2 vulcanvents.com](http://2.vulcanvents.com) [3 voanews.com](http://3.voanews.com) [4 fire.ca.gov](http://4.fire.ca.gov) [5 readyforwildfire.org](http://5.readyforwildfire.org)  
[6 cafiresafecouncil.org](http://6.cafiresafecouncil.org)

## DINER OPENING

The diner is now fully open with routine hours of operation. The current schedule is Saturdays and Sundays with the intent to expand to include Fridays when conditions allow. The menu will expand as the desires of the community are solicited. The response from the community has been very positive, with a lot of comments on the quality of the food and the friendliness of the staff. Here are some of the comments from the community-

- The food is amazing!! Can't wait to see the rest of the menu!! It will be worth the wait!!
- Breakfast on Father's Day was top drawer! The location cannot be beat!
- Yippie!!!! FANTASTIC food! Last week's biscuits and gravy were yummy!
- The food is awesome!
- I can't wait to bring the crew in for some yummy food.
- My family and I had a fantastic lunch here today! Can't wait to come back for breakfast.
- Had a great lunch here today I totally recommend it.

Visit the [Smoke on the Water](https://www.facebook.com/smokeonthewaterplacervilleca) Facebook page at

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

and follow them there.

## MVFA CRV RECYCLE PROGRAM



NOTE: Lids/Caps on plastic water bottles **MUST BE REMOVED** before they can be redeemed. Lids/caps can be included for redemption. If you have a chance and can remove the lids, it will sure help the recycling volunteers.  
All proceeds go to Station 75



Please drop off bags of Plastic Bottles and Aluminum Cans (Sorry no Glass) from 8 am - 5 pm at Station 75. Please consider this option when you organize your recycled materials.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

Please mark these on your calendar and plan to join us on these dates for fun and community comradery.

- Saturday, October 12, 2024 - Fall Festival at Finnon Lake - 10 am - 3 pm **Free Lunch**
- Saturday, October 26, 2024 - Trunk-or-Treat at Station 75 - 6 pm - 8 pm
- Saturday, December 7, 2024 - Christmas Dinner at Station 75 - 5:30 pm **Free Dinner**

The next MVFA Board meeting will be on Aug 1<sup>st</sup> at 3:00 pm at Station 75

## CRAFTERS

By Eileen Reisner

The Firehouse Crafters are a group of about 20 women that work on crafts to sell at a few local events. All Crafters donate time and supplies for their projects. All sales benefit Station 75.



We meet monthly to share our crafts and discuss ideas while having coffee and treats. You do not need to attend meetings to be part of our team. We accept donations of completed craft projects. If you are interested in joining our team, contact Eileen Reisner at 530-748-7962.

## 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 July 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup> 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

## DISTRICT AUXILIARY aka D'Ax

By Meredith Blain

D'Ax participated in the June Fly and Drive In event and set up popcorn and shaved ice. It was a hot day and the shaved ice was a hit! Thank you to all who visited our table! We received many generous donations and took in \$240 in the "boot", all of which will benefit the Mosquito Fire Protection District in its mission to serve the District of Mosquito!



Please note. D'Ax's July meeting will not be the usual time and date as it would conflict with the OES Town Hall Meeting hosted by the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office at the Mosquito Fire Station. The next board meeting will be. July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3 pm at the fire station. A notice will be placed on the MFPD website and also published on social media.

The next MFPD pancake breakfast will be on July 20, 2024, so mark your calendars now! This breakfast will occur as the MFPD is providing regional training to firefighters. We anticipate

many firefighters attending this event, and due to the training, community volunteers will likely be serving breakfast instead of firefighters.

At past breakfasts, we have run out of bacon, so we are adding additional bacon to the shopping list. The July breakfast will have assorted muffins added to the usual bacon, sausage, eggs, and pancakes, fruit, juice and coffee! We are alternating the addition of biscuits and gravy with muffins so look for biscuits and gravy in September! The community turnout for the pancake breakfasts has been wonderful and this is a great way to get together, mingle with neighbors and see what is going on at MFPD and meet our firefighters, both volunteers and staff!.

*The District Auxiliary usually meets the same day as the MFPD Board of Directors Meeting on the fourth Thursday of each month. Please verify dates and times by checking the [MFPD.us](http://MFPD.us) website under the "Meetings" tab. Agendas and Minutes can be found under the "Supporting Groups" tab. All residents of Mosquito Fire Protection District are invited to attend D'Ax meetings.*

**Find us at [MFPD.us](http://MFPD.us). Email us at [admin@dax-np.org](mailto:admin@dax-np.org).**

We hope Mosquito residents will join us at our next meeting, date to be determined, during the week of July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## **SCPOA REPORT**

By Meredith Blain

The Swansboro Country Property Owners Association Board of Directors (SCPOA) meets monthly at the MFPD Fire Station 75. Meeting agendas are posted on the bulletin board at Dyer Lake and on the SCPOA website. SCPOA has changed our open meeting dates to the fourth Wednesday of the month.

**Our next meeting will be Wednesday, July 24, 2024, at 6pm MFPD firehouse, 8801 Rock Creek Road.**

**All SCPOA Members are invited to attend.**

Members of SCPOA can visit [SCPOA.info](http://SCPOA.info), the official SCPOA website, and find information about upcoming and past meetings, agendas, meeting minutes, association bylaws, individual unit DC&Rs, the Swansboro Airport, get information for use of common areas, read our newsletter and much more! If you have not requested a login for the SCPOA website, please send an email to [Kpaulscpoa@gmail.com](mailto:Kpaulscpoa@gmail.com), or [Melissa.bell@managementtrust.com](mailto:Melissa.bell@managementtrust.com) for a login.



## **BIRDING AT FINNON LAKE**

by Dave Angelo

Here are the results of the bird watch for June. The next bird watch is scheduled for Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup> at Finnon Lake, just past the Boat Launch area. We will start at 8:00 A.M. There is no parking charge to the participants of this free event.



Bald Eagle	1	Great-tailed Grackle	12	California Quail	1
Red-winged Blackbird	20	American Coot	2	Spotted Towhee	3
Pie-billed Grebe	12	Calliope Hummingbird	2	Scrub Jay	5
Oak Titmouse	1	Canada Goose	25	Violet-green Swallow	2
Black Phoebe	1	Acorn Woodpecker	16		

## **SMOKE ON THE WATER**

by Kirk Bronsord and Matt Ridgeway



### **Diner Hours:**

Monday - Friday - Closed  
 Saturday - 11 am - 5 pm  
 Sunday 9 am - 4 pm

(Breakfast served on Sunday only)

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

We are very excited to announce that Smoke on the Water is officially open! Please come and join us for some delicious bites this weekend. Currently, we will be open on Saturdays and Sundays. Please visit our social media site for any updates or additional information about the diner.

Hours: Sat 11 am – 5 pm  
 Sun 9 am – 4 pm



## **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 (\$20). A great fact based read about a local legend. Perfect for gifting.

#### **UNIQUE JEWELRY**

Handmade jewelry using recycled aluminum cans, and more. To view, call Dee at 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

### **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 am at 3342 Stope Drive and throughout the week. Check our website mfom.net or call (530)295-0503.

### **SERVICES**

**GOLDIE LOCS OF LOVE** - Loc creation / extension installation / decoration / maintenance kelsvanfleet@gmail.com (916) 295-9059

#### **NOTARY SERVICES ON THE HILL**

Contact Devon at: 510-719-1247.

#### **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

#### **HOUSE PAINTER – AMERICAN EAGLE PAINTING**

Residential/Commercial  
Specializing in repaints contact Steven Martinez, (530)-919-7612 or americaleaglepainting4@gmail.com Lic# 960086

#### **CALI CONSTRUCTION**

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

#### **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.

#### **SIERRA SHIELD FIREARMS & TRAINING**

Mention MOSQUITO BYTE and get 25% off CA CCW Class. Also, receive FREE box of ammo with each firearm purchase. ww.SierraShield.com or call 530-387-0110

#### **WELDING & FABRICATION**

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

### **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.

### **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.

### **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.

### **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 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](http://www.mosquitoadneighbors.com) or (530)295-4641 or toll free (866)SALLYRE, [snlongjohns@yahoo.com](mailto:snlongjohns@yahoo.com).

### **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](http://www.edcfiresafe.org)

<b>July 2024</b>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Support Group Training 9am Station 75
7 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	8	9 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75	10	11	12	13 Bird Watching Finnon Lake, day use area 8am
14 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	15	16	17	18	19	20 MFPD pancake breakfast 9am Station 75
21 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	22	23 MFPD Firefighters Training 6pm Station 75 D'Ax Board Meeting 3pm Station 75	24 SCPOA Board Meeting 6pm Station 75	25 OES Evacuation Town Hall 5pm Station 75 MFPD Board Meeting 7:00pm Station 75	26 Crafters Meeting 10am	27
28 MFOM Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am	29	30	31			

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 19<sup>th</sup> of each month. It is also posted on the [www.gomvfa.org](http://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 Fannon 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 Fannon 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.gomvfa.org) website.

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