News from the top..!

Welcome to Spring, Citizens of Whitmore. The Mountain Music Faire is just around the corner. I have been given the honor from the members of the WVFC board to serve as president, after Art Tillis' many years of great, and often humorous leadership of the board. I moved to Whitmore 15 years ago this past month, and became a fully trained volunteer Firefighter for the WVFC 14 years ago. I didn't know I was looking for a volunteer opportunity back then, just happy to live in a peaceful place in the country.

But at a community breakfast at the fire hall, I found out I could join and be a part of the fire department. I really wanted to be able to drive a firetruck. I didn't need to have any special skills other than pass a physical and background check. The same is true today. The most important quality is a desire to help your community. This newsletter goes out to over 300 households, I am hoping there is one or two, or three of you still reading, thinking that you too could be a firefighter. This has been an amazing journey for me, learning skills, being in difficult situations, learning about myself, and helping my adopted hometown, Whitmore. Whatever I have given to the community in service has been returned to me many times over.

The Whitmore Volunteer Fire Company need recruits, to carry on the 40 year tradition of service to the community. We serve over 155 square miles of Shasta County. Please call myself (604-9933), or Bill (472-3245) or Sara (472-3990), our new Assistant Chief. We would be glad to talk with you, and would welcome the opportunity to have you come to our training night, held on Thursdays at 7 PM. Thank you for being a part of a wonderful community.

Brian Abbott, WVFC Chairman
530-604-9933

Whitmore School News

Dear Whitmore Community Members

It looks like Spring is here and if everything proceeds as usual, Summer will be right around the corner and the temperatures will soar. It has come to my attention that members of the community are using our recycle bins for their trash. This community is lucky enough to have a dumpster for the public to use for a small fee. Save gas money and make use of the resource. If you must dump your trash at the school, use the dumpster. Please keep in mind that the school pays $190 a month for the dumpster and if the lid is not flush with the main dumpster, because more trash has been put in it than it was intended for, we are charged an additional fee, money being short for schools, added expenses mean less for the students. So please do not take...
advantage of the school and the students. The garden has been moved and the students are transporting soil to the new boxes. The students have a list of the seeds they will be planting and because some of the staff will be on campus over the summer, they may try to grow some melons. A green house is in the future and once the ground dries out, the garden shed will be moved to its new location. A water line is being added to the garden and power may be added as well. Matt will be planting more flowers to brighten up the school grounds and the brush will be removed to help in fuel reduction. We are making up two snow days in the coming two months. A minimum day is scheduled for Friday, May 24th, families will be able to start their three-day weekend a little early. The last day of school has been moved to June 14th to make up the second snow day. Kindergarten and Eighth grade graduations and a whole school assembly are scheduled for that day. Students will be released at 1:15 p.m. You are invited to attend the graduations if you would like to support one of the students. The awards assembly and graduation ceremonies will begin at 12:15 p.m. The June board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 11th at 6:30 p.m.

The library is on limited hours due to a lack of volunteers. If you have a couple of hours that you would like to share with the community, consider joining the library volunteers. They will be happy to share their knowledge with you.

Old Tyme Sayings

My Grand father came from “Missoura” and my husband, Jeff’s family came out from Mississippi, both with tales of multiple siblings, dirt floors, flour sac underwear, walking for miles to school and picking up rocks all day for a nickel.

We’ve compiled our favorite list of their sayings that just might make you smile.

If wishes were horses then beggars would ride

She’d worry the horns off a billy goat!

He’s a real ring-tailed tooter (a real wild one, into trouble)

Son of a gun (wool, gods darn… or sob)

He’s as ugly as homemade soap (soap is pretty today, but remember it was just a blob back in the day)

He doesn’t have the sense to pour the piss from his boot (guessing that a boot was used as a urinal in the middle of the night?)

That went over like a lead balloon (usually when I told my Grandma a bad joke)

That went over like a fart in church (more of a West thing, lol)

She’s nervous as a mouse on a tin roof (I get a great visual on this one)

She’s as slow as molasses

…and my favorite from Pearl West (besides the homemade soap one)...

I’ll tell you how the cow ate the cabbage! (It means you’re about the to hear the whole, ugly truth. Here’s a little story that may, or may not have been the origin of this phrase.

Once upon a time, a circus came to a small rural town. While they were putting up the big top, a baby elephant escaped and found his way to a little old lady’s garden up the road. The lady in our story couldn’t see very well, but she was alarmed enough to call the police and report a cow in her cabbage patch pulling up her cabbages with his tail. The policeman on the other end of the line listened patiently, “I see. So a cow is eating your cabbage, ma’am? We’ll send someone right out.”

“Excuse me,” the lady said, “I never said he was eating ‘em.”

“No?” The policeman replied. “Then what is he doing?”

The woman hesitated before responding quietly, “You wouldn’t believe me if I told you!”

Have a Great Day!
The WVFC conducts training on Thursdays at 7pm at the Fire Hall. Contact Chief Bill Ellis at 472-3245 or Assistant Chief Sara West at 472-3990. The next board meeting will be on May 27th at 6:30 at the Fire Hall.

The WFSC has received formal notice of denial for the CCI grant for 2018-2019. The CFSC grant window has opened and we will be applying. The next meeting will be on June 11th at 7pm at the Community Center. FireWise phone trees are being made and progress is happening! Get to know your neighbors. Find out who you Resident Leader is...!!!
Hoarding and Fire: Reducing the Risk

Do you have a person in your life who may be a hoarder? Hoarding is a condition where a person has persistent difficulty discarding personal possessions. The large amount of possessions fill the home and prevent the normal use of the space. Living space becomes cluttered. It may be unusable. Hoarding brings distress and emotional health concerns.

WHY HOARDING INCREASES FIRE RISKS
- Cooking is unsafe if flammable items are close to the stove or oven.
- Heating units may be too close to things that can burn. They might also be placed on unstable surfaces. If a heater tips over into a pile, it can cause a fire.
- Electrical wiring may be old or worn from the weight of piles. Pests could chew on wires. Damaged wires can start fires.
- Open flames from smoking materials or candles in a home with excess clutter are very dangerous.
- Blocked pathways and exits may hinder escape from a fire.

HOW HOARDING IMPACTS FIRST RESPONDERS
- Hoarding puts first responders in harm’s way.
- Firefighters cannot move swiftly through a home filled with clutter.
- Responders can be trapped in a home when exits are blocked. They can be injured by objects falling from piles.
- The weight of the stored items, especially if water is added to put out a fire, can lead to building collapse.
- Fighting fires is very risky in a hoarding home. It is hard to enter the home to provide medical care. The clutter impedes the search and rescue of people and pets.

How Can You Help Reduce the Risk of Fire Injury

✔ When talking to a person who hoards, focus on safety rather than the clutter. Be empathetic. Match the person’s language. If they call it hoarding, then you can call it hoarding.

✔ Help the residents make a home safety and escape plan. Stress the importance of clear pathways and exits. Practice the plan often. Exit routes may change as new items are brought into the home.

✔ Install working smoke alarms in the home. Test them at least once a month.

✔ Reach out to community resources. Talk to members of the fire department to alert them of your concerns. They may be able to connect you with members of a hoarding task force for additional help.
Wildfire Risk Reduction

10 Safety Tips

Action Items to Improve Your Home’s Survivability:

• **REMOVE** leaves, pine needles, and other flammable material from the roof, gutters, and on and under the deck to help prevent embers from igniting your home.
• **SCREEN** areas below decks and porches with 1/8” wire mesh to help prevent material from accumulating underneath.
• **COVER** exterior attic and soffit vents with 1/8” wire mesh to help prevent sparks from entering your home.
• **ENCLOSE** eaves to help prevent ember entry.
• **INSPECT** shingles or roof tiles. **REPLACE** missing shingles or tiles. **COVER** ends of tiles with bird stops or cement to help prevent ember penetration during a wildfire.

Tips for Landscaping Around Your Home

• **REMOVE** dead vegetation and other flammable materials, especially within the first 5 feet of the home.
• **KEEP** your lawn hydrated and maintained. If it is brown, cut it down to help reduce fire intensity.
• **PRUNE** tree limbs so the lowest branches are 6 to 10 feet above the ground to help reduce the chance of fire getting into the crowns of the trees.
• **MOVE** construction material, trash, and woodpiles at least 30 feet away from the home and other outbuildings.
• **DISPOSE** of branches, weeds, leaves, pine needles, and grass clippings that you have cut to reduce fuel for fire.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Increase your wildfire safety. Make simple low-cost changes to your home and landscape starting today.

Visit [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org) for more information.

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(4) 8-Lug ULTRA 249BM Predator II Wheels from

20" x 9"/ hub bore: 124.3/ back spacing 5.47/ lugs&bolt circle 1: 8x180
Fits Chevy, GMC, 2007-2019, 2500 or single-wheeled 3500 (no duallys)
- Black finish with milled accents
Retail Value $1026. Only 200 Raffle Tickets to be sold. Winner May 11th,
5pm @ Music Faire
## Whitmore Community Calendar

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<td><strong>Mountain Fire Activities Begin at 8:30AM</strong></td>
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<td><strong>ReCracker Meeting 10:00-12PM @ Whitmore Library</strong></td>
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**Abbreviations:**
- WVFC = Whitmore Volunteer Fire Company
- WCC = Whitmore Community Center
- WFSC = Whitmore Fire Safe Council

**Notes:**
- We need help
- Call 304-536-4724
- See flyer on front page
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Would you like your event featured in our NEW Bi-Monthly Newsletter Community Calendar?
If it’s in Whitmore, we’ll share your event!

To Help Support WVFC and this Newsletter, please consider a donation for advertising or the event calendar!
Contact Chris Withey at 530.945.2130

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Your donations are tax deductible to the extent of the law.