Hello Whitmore neighbors, and greetings from your Fire Company...

As the Northern California summer weather is upon us now, and our surrounding forests continue to dry out, we all have on our minds the coming fire season and how it may affect us this year. I suppose one could say all of life is a calculated risk in one way or another and that is certainly true of our daily lives living in the forest as we do. A part of that calculated risk of life is planning how to tip the scale in our favor each day by our actions. Seeing the need for neighbors to help neighbors, we are increasing our efforts to establish FireWise Neighborhoods. Whitmore Fire and CalFire protect 155 square miles around us from grassy lowlands to high near-alpine type forest.

Within this lovely area, some 800 people live. The fire company has the mission of doing what we can to help our neighbors stay safe and an important part of that is encouraging each of you to get involved in your FireWise Neighborhood group. Within our response area are nine geographical areas we have designated as “Neighborhoods” with resident leaders over each. Ask around, find out about your local group and how you can get involved to benefit from the help they have to offer.

Have a wonderful summer!
– Chief Bill Ellis

Summer 2019 News Flash from the Firecrackers

At this writing, the Mountain Music Faire is almost put to bed and will be remembered as another profitable fundraiser for the Whitmore Volunteer Fire Company. I want to express my biggest thanks to Debbie Nicora, who worked all year long with her committees to make this event so successful. Thanks to The Way Station and Melissa Brehmer for generously providing the lovely park setting. And, special recognition to all of our financial sponsors and donors that enabled us to host this event!

I thank all the firefighters and friends who cleaned, set up and put everything away from tables, chairs, canopies to road signs, balloons and banners; often the least recognized, but most important job for any colossal event. Thanks to all of you who worked up front or behind the scenes – those that judged, ran the parade, car show, poker run, led pony rides, watched over games, or shopped, cooked, served, sold beverages, food, merchandise, tickets and supported the silent auction; you made this event outstanding! Finally, thanks to our community who stopped by to eat, shop, visit and enjoy the music.

The Firecrackers who are the fundraising arm of the Fire Company, are already planning the next event this year. Please join us Sunday, August 18th from 3_5pm at the Fire Hall on Boggs Lane, in downtown Whitmore for our ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL. Come meet the board of directors, firefighters and firecrackers, all while you cool down with an icy root beer float or chilly bowl of ice cream, sprinkled with your favorite toppings.

We are always looking for new members. If you have a few hours the fourth Thursday ant 10am each month and would like to make new friends while supporting the Fire Company, please join us at the Whitmore Library next to Whitmore Elementary School.

Have a safe, healthy and fire-free summer. For more information about the fire company, community or need assistance, call Bill or Holly at 472-3245.
News from the top...

Hello citizens of Whitmore! Thank you to all who participated in the faire, in the parade, the car show, the motorcycle ride, the vendors and the fine people who came to have fun. It was a great success, raised money for the Fire Company, and gave neighbors a chance to visit and enjoy great music.

The Volunteer Firefighters had not one but 2 calls, a motorcycle accident and a fire. Those incidents point to the greatest need of the fire company, more volunteers. Volunteering is an American value. This commitment to volunteerism has been a hallmark of American civic life since the country’s founding. It was Benjamin Franklin who formed the first volunteer fire department in 1736, and many American militias during the Revolutionary War were comprised of volunteers. Being a volunteer is a great tradition. According to the National Fire Protection Association, 69 percent of firefighters in the United States are volunteers. In Shasta County, those who complete training become a Firefighter 1, which is the same as graduating from the academy at Shasta College. There are opportunities to gain other skills, and several of our volunteers have gone on to be part of professional service, CalFire, Federal fire fighting, even police and fish game wardens. Or you can be like others who find satisfaction in being a volunteer firefighter in addition to your chosen career path.

The Whitmore Volunteer Fire Company is always looking for committed individuals who want to be part of a great tradition of serving the community. Come join us, and be part of the solution, to an even better future for the citizens of Whitmore.

– Brian Abbott, WVFC Chairman

Whitmore School News

Dear Community Members,

School is out for the summer. Teachers sigh and students shout, but it will soon be time to begin another school year, which will bring lots of opportunities for everyone. No more hand watering for the recently moved garden. Matt has installed a watering system and in the next week or so, a timer to keep the garden thriving through the summer. Maybe some nice employees will add soil to one or two of the boxes and plant some seeds, so the students will come back to a flourishing kitchen garden.

The library has had to move their recycling bin inside because individuals were using it to dump their chocolate birthday cake and other garbage. The school is fined for misuse of the recycling bins, an expense that is costly and unnecessary.

Registration packets will be mailed out the first week of August. A secretary will be in attendance and not running errands. The Whitmore Elementary School staff will have their mandatory meeting, Tuesday, August 21 and classes will begin August 26 at 8:25am. The bus run will be very much like last year’s and any changes will be communicated to the parents as soon as possible. The bus and basic school supplies are provided free of charge to students. We will have a childcare program again this coming school year. If your child is 4 years old and would like to attend, please call the school. Depending on the child, they may attend from 11:45am and stay until 2:55pm. Monday through Friday or days may vary depending on the child and their comfort zone.

Looking forward to seeing you this coming school year.

– Larry F. Robins, Ed. D. Superintendent

Whitmore Volunteer Fire Company

The WVSC has received grants from Sierra Pacific Industries and the WVFC! Not the huge grants we were hoping for, but it’s a great start. The next meeting will be on July 15th at 7pm at the Community Center.

Get to know your neighbors. Find out who your Resident Leader is! Chris Withey, WFSC Chairman

WVFC Ice Cream Social

August 18th
3-5pm
at the Fire Hall.

The Volunteer Fire Company 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 July 10th at 6:30 at the fire Hall.

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We were a crew of 18-20 years old, on a California Conservation Corps. Back Country Trail program. After spending 5 1/2 months in the backcountry, in heat and snow, building trails with shovels, pulaskis, rock bars, rock hammers and sledge hammers, we had been through quite a few outdoor ailments. Myself and one other crewmate drew these cartoons for our end-of-year “Back Country Yearbook.” We then all went off for civility re-training (lol, it’s true, they called it “debriefing”)...and it probably was a good idea. I created every other cartoon in the set...can you guess which ones?

The CCC is a great program for young people 18-25, just starting out. There are positions all through California. You have the opportunity to participate in Back Country and Australian Exchange programs. You can get experience in working with state entities (Ca1 Trans, Parks & Rec etc) and gain fire fighting experience, depending on your location.

There are specialist positions after one year: cook, mechanic, crew leader.

Room & board (including meals) are automatically deducted from your pay so no worries about that.

“Hard work, low pay, miserable conditions” is their motto, it’s not for everyone but it is a great program for others.

https://ccc.ca.gov/how-to-join/basic-qualifications/
WHITMORE LIBRARY NEWS

The Library contains print materials that range from ancient history to current events. There is a Covered Wagon Series of local events from the 1950s. Ever see a picture of Redding with boats traveling on Market Street? The Library also has several magazine subscriptions for adults and children. Going on a trip this summer, or looking for something to do while you’re traveling and don’t have an internet signal? Stop at the Library table and collect an armload of free books!

Thank you to all those who have donated in the past. We fill what we can in the Library and discard duplicate and older books. We have about 10 - 12 boxes of books which have been purged from the Library. The Library also has free books in a rack outside the Library. School is out in mid June and the Library hours The Library is open this summer on Tuesdays only from 10am-2pm. Hope to be busy.

Jeri at 472-1471 or Library 472-1310

PLEASE JOIN US

At the Fire Hall on Boggs Ln.

SUNDAY AUGUST 18TH 3-5PM

FOR OUR ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE & ICE CREAM SOCIAL

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT WHITMORE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, INC.

Rattlesnake Alert!

If You Are Bitten

DO: Stay calm, call 911

- Immobilize extremity
- Keep site at heart-level

If bitten, the first action is critical. If you can immobilize the extremity and keep the site at heart-level, you have a better chance of survival.

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Snakes Aren’t Bad

The Rattlesnake’s role far outweighs it’s potential danger to our well-being. Rodent-borne diseases are controlled to a great extent by rattlesnakes. Rattlesnakes will make every effort to avoid contact with people.

Ask your veterinarian:

It doesn’t take the place of treatment but is designed to buy you precious time to get to your pet to a vet.

If bitten, the first action is critical. If you can immobilize the extremity and keep the site at heart-level, you have a better chance of survival.

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Whitmore Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. July/August 2019

CLASSIFIED ADS
Have something to sell? Consider a donation toward this newsletter for your Classified Ad in this section.

FREE COMMUNITY CLEAN UP DAY
for Whitmore Residents
Saturday August 10, 2019
9am–12pm
at Whitmore Community Center
(30555 Whitmore Road)

FREE of Charge, Participants May Dispose of the Following:
• Normal Household Waste
• Household Appliances (washer, dryer, refrigerator, etc)
• Furniture & Mattresses
• Electronic Waste & Scrap Metal

Only ONE PICK-UP TRUCK SIZED LOAD or equivalent allowed per household. Large trailers, overloaded pick-up trucks and other oversized loads will not be taken. Waste from businesses will not be allowed. Waste Management has the right to refuse loads based on size and/or content. NO HAZARDOUS or LIQUID WASTES, BATTERIES, FLUORESCENT BULBS, CONCRETE, DIRT OR LARGE LOADS OF GREEN WASTE ACCEPTED

Sponsored by the Whitmore Community Center, the Whimore FireSafe Council
and the Whitmore Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.
For more info, call Debbie Nicora at 530.472.1429

JULY

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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

WVFC is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Your donations are tax deductible to the extent of the law.