

RISTWATCH

RCVFD Quarterly Newsletter P.O. Box 2, Bellvue, CO 80512 Issue No. 91 July, 2019

Letter from the President

I'm writing this on the first day of summer. We've been fortunate with cooler temperatures and fairly frequent and consistent precipitation to date. As I review one weather forecast for the summer, our temperatures are expected to be slightly warmer than average, with average to slightly above average levels of precipitation. As a Colorado native, I know all too well that weather forecasts here are to be taken under advisement, but realize that they often may—and do—change. Come October, I guess that we'll see how accurate the forecasts actually were this season!

With this being said, I look across the field and see long, green grass, freshly dampened ground and rain-soaked leaves. The day is cool, and the thought of a wildfire is nowhere in my mind. Then, with a crash of thunder, I'm immediately reminded of how quickly it can occur.

While our weather has significantly helped reduce our fire danger, we must remain watchful and proactive in our personal and collective fire mitigation efforts. Within a very short period of time, the fire danger can increase significantly, especially with warmer and drier weather and, even more so, if increased winds become a factor.

Our recent Wildfire Community Preparedness Day event (May 4th), was a great opportunity for folks to come together, and learn more about how to decrease the potential danger from a fire, should one occur involving their property. Maintaining good, defensible space around structures is very important. With the increased plant growth that has occurred as a result of our weather, it's also important to keep tall grass cut down, and foliage away from your home and structures. If you would like to know more about what you can do to be prepared, contact your RCVFD Area Representative.

The annual Rist Canyon Mountain Festival is almost here; in fact, it will be here before your next issue of the Ristwatch! Please join us on Saturday, September 7th across the road from Fire Station One . . . and invite your family, friends and neighbors, as well! The festival is a wonderful annual event that brings our local communities together for fun, food and fundraising. A significant portion of RCVFD's annual income is raised through this one-day event, which feels more like a

Letter from the President, cont'd.

festival than a fundraiser; there are an abundance of activities, food and fun for folks of all ages! To learn more about the festival, in addition to what you may read here in the Ristwatch, you can go to the Festival's page on the RCVFD web site at https://festival.rcvfd.org. If you'd like to help with the festival in some capacity, there is also contact information there for our "Friends of the Festival". These incredible individuals are more than happy to talk with you, and share more information with you!

If you're new to the area, and this is the first copy of the Ristwatch you've seen, I want to welcome you to our community! Even if you've been here for scores of years and more . . . we genuinely do care about everyone living in—and traveling through—our community.

The Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department (RCVFD) is not a tax-funded department or fire protection district. Instead, we are a non-profit organization, which is entirely funded by donations. That's why the annual Mountain Festival is so important: without the festival, and annual/open fundraising efforts, the RCVFD would not exist.

Thank you for being a part of this wonderful community! It is an honor and privilege to serve you.

Be safe, may you enjoy safe travels, as well as the season ahead!

With Kind Regards, Jeff Yarberry RCVFD President



Chief's Report

As we go through this cold, wet spring that has continued well into June, I could not help pondering where we were seven years ago. In the early months of 2012, we had days upon end of hot and dry. When the wind and lightning combined with these conditions, the High Park fire was sparked. Now as I look on the landscape that was burned in that fire, I see fields of wildflowers, shrubs and nearly waist-high trees. I think the rebirth of the natural world mirrors the recovery of the residents in our community. I would like to reach out with encouragement for those who are still working on rebuilding and welcome those who have moved into the community since that time.

While not directly related to responses, we have been working to improve the safety and communications in the canyon. First, there is some new signage near the top of Ford Hill warning motorcycles of sharp curves ahead. We have had many calls in this location—several quite serious—and we hope to change that trend. The other recent safety improvement is a new emergency call box at Station 1 to replace the pay phone that was often out of service due to infrequent use. The Larimer Emergency Telephone Authority (LETA911.org) has generously donated the new equipment. This call box will provide a

lifeline for visitors (and residents) to contact 911 in case of an emergency. This was a priority for us because there are so few places where cell phones work in the canyon.

Finally, I want to say thanks to all the RCVFD responders. While the weather has made for a quieter fire season so far, we have been busy with medical calls and motor vehicle accidents (MVAs). Are you interested in becoming a responder? You do not have to be a finely conditioned athlete or a retiree with lots of time on their hands. Many of us have been part of RCVFD for years (decades...) while working, raising families and keeping up with our homes here in the mountains. It is rewarding and interesting work and a great way to feel a part of your community. You can be a responder for fire, medical or both—we appreciate anyone who wants to join our team.

If you are interested in learning more about working with the RCVFD, please contact me at chief@rcvfd.org.

Sincerely, Carol Dollard RCVFD Chief





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LIZ BARNEZ GOWTOWN DON DIMER•AK42 RYAN HUTCHENS

ACROSS FROM FIRE STATION 1 IN RIST CANYON FOR MORE INFO. VISIT: FESTIVAL REVED. ORG

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Treasurer's Report

The first half of 2019 is now behind us!		Expenses	
As we enter the last half of th	ne year the profit	•	
and loss chart shows we are j	-	Administration	
of expenses. Just a reminder	1 0	Annual Drive	1,646.61
misplaced your annual drive		Board of Directors	131.40
address is Box 2, Bellvue Col	-	Insurance	12,516.00
The festival committee is hard at work putting together another great mountain festival. The book bees have been buzzing around on Friday mornings, sorting the hundreds of donated books. Remember, there is a book drop at Fire Station 1. Mark your		Office Supplies	249.55
		Ristwatch Newsletter	1,308.35
		Utilities	1,869.45
		King Sooper Card Purchas	,
		Federal 990 EZ Tax	825.00
		Property Tax Exemption	225.00
calendar and spend a day having some fun and		Bank Return Check Fee	5.00
supporting your firefighters.		Credit Card Maintenance	
	re we have been	Great dara mamtemaree	21170
With the great moisture we have been having there is lots of green growth. This		Total Admin Expense	\$19,001.11
makes our mountain scenery		Total Hammi Emperior	417,001.11
•		Operations	
wildflowers. There will come a time when all		Fuel	557.00
	these green plants will turn brown and fire		353.97
danger will return once again. Take some time		Building Repair Training	349.50
to create a defensible space around your home.		Communications	176.10
If you have questions in regards to		Equipment Repair	604.80
RCVFD's financials, please give me a call at 419-0397 or email me at treasurer@rcvfd.org.		Lease Agreement	400.00
419-0397 of enfail file at trea	isurer@rcvia.org.	PPE – Fire Shelters	3,603.70
Incomo		Volunteer Coordinator	82.00
Income Annual Drive	22 200 00	Chief	106.46
o de la companya de	23,398.99	Mapping	497.70
Road Sign Sales	170.00	Medical	3,778.07
Ristwatch	2,150.00	Wedical	3,770.07
Dividends	331.58	Total Operations	\$10,509.30
Friends of RCVFD	304.99	iotai Operations	\$10,309.30
King Soopers	1,112.98	Total Evpopea	¢20 510 <i>4</i> 1
Miscellaneous Revenue	351.94	Total Expenses	\$29,510.41
Truck Sponsorships	1,000.00	Total Income	¢20.216.0E
Interest	319.98	Total Income	\$30,216.95
Memorial Gifts	350.00	Not Income Very To Date	\$706 F4
Colorado Gives	147.00	Net Income Year-To-Date	e \$706.54
Amazon Smiles	428.49		
Network for Good	151.00		Richard Lund
	400.046.07		Treasurer
Year-To-Date Income	\$30,216.95		

Letter from the Vice President—Mountain Festival News

The annual Rist Canyon Mountain Festival will be held from 10 am to 4 pm on Saturday, September 7th (the Saturday <u>after</u> Labor Day Weekend), opposite the main firehouse (#1) at 11835 Rist Canyon Road. As always, the admission and parking is free (and so is the ice cream!). Last year about 2,000 people attended, and we raised over \$18,000 profit to support the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department (RCVFD)!

The Rist Canyon Mountain Festival will be packed with fun and entertainment, including live music, Smokey Bear, a used book sale, an old-fashioned dunk tank, arts and crafts vendor booths, a silent auction, children's games, farm animals, a bake sale, a plant sale, firefighter demos, educational booths, food trucks, a medical evacuation helicopter and free ice cream. It will be a great time for the whole family, in a beautiful mountain meadow. As part of the entertainment, celebrated singer/songwriter Liz Barnez will perform her eclectic style of music, affectionately known as acoustic swamp groove.

The Festival is the major fundraiser for the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department (RCVFD). All-volunteer and 100% donation-based, the RCVFD provides emergency, medical and fire services to over 100 square miles in and around Rist Canyon.

If you have any questions, please contact H.J. at HJ@computer.org.

H. J. Siegel RCVFD Board Vice President, RCVFD Firefighter and Emergency Medical Responder, and Mountain Festival Chair



THE AUCTION MAY BE SILENT BUT WE CAN'T BE QUIET

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We need help soliciting and gathering donations for the Silent Auction.

Asking is easy! Anyplace you eat or shop is an opportunity to ask.

Several forms are available from **Brett Carr or Janet Siegel** that you can print to help when you approach a possible donor. We recommend putting together a folder with these forms and keeping them in your car. You can also contact **Brett** to pick up a starter folder.

Contact **Janet** for a list of potential donors. Some people have already offered to approach certain donors from last year but if no donation shows on the list, you are welcome to approach them. If you know of some business not on the list that you want to ask, please do, and add them to the list.

When you receive a donation, please fill out the Donation Form and contact **Janet or Brett** to arrange delivery or pick up of the donations and forms.

To volunteer to help the day of the festival, go to: https://www.signupgenius.com/ go/60B0A4BA9AD2FA2FC1-rist2

DONATION HUNTS

June 29/30 – Loveland July 13/14 – Old Town

Come meet us for lunch and help us spread the word about the Festival! And hopefully gather some swag for the auction!

You can also go by yourself anytime, or meet with some of your friends. **Make a day of it!**

Three Easy Ways to Help the RCVFD



Please Spread the WORD to family and friends!

It's easy—just post this link

http://coloradogives.org/RistCanyonVolunteerFireDepartment

to Facebook and ask them to donate!

In 2018 we earned \$3,044! Your fire department Thanks You!



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RCVFD will earn 5% of all your purchases at King Soopers, at no cost to you! The process only takes a few minutes.

If you don't already have a free King Soopers Rewards Card, visit the service desk and request one. You'll save money whenever you shop at King Soopers. Once that's done, follow the steps below to help RCVFD whenever you shop.

- 1. Go to the King Soopers Community Rewards page and log into your King Soopers account (or create one with your card).
- 2. Use the "Find an Organization" box to enter our NPO number, **YP687** and click Search.
- 3. Click "Enroll" and you're done!

Always use your Rewards Card when shopping. RCVFD will receive quarterly payments from King Soopers for 5% of all members' purchases. This is a big source of revenue for us, and helps us cover our yearly budget while saving you money at the same time. If you have any questions about the King Soopers Rewards Program, contact them at 1(800) 576-4377. And thank you for supporting the RCVFD!



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Go to www.smile.amazon.com.

If you have an account, sign in.

Select Rist Canyon VFD as the charity you would like to give to. Use this website for all your Amazon purchases.

In 2018 we earned \$520! If you shop on Amazon, there's no reason not to do it!

RCVFD Community News

With the wonderful rains we have been having the wildflowers are Spectacular this year!

Don't forget when you order items from Amazon - Go to Amazon Smile - Select RCVFD - You donate automatically with your purchase - no extra charge!

Thank you ALL for your support - Without YOU we cannot do all the hard training and work to be READY 24/7!

Cheers! Louise Creager Stratton Park Area Rep You can email any RCVFD Board Member, including your area representative, by going to our website, <u>RCVFD.org.</u> Click on the "About RCVFD" tab, then click on "Contact RCVFD". Select the name of the person you would like to contact. A form will pop up and you can write your message. Then click "Submit."

Pot holes and mud. Probably keeps some of the tourists at bay, but not the RCVFD. We have big trucks that really work thanks to your very generous donations. What could benefit us all would be a few more volunteers who live up here, in the lower Buckhorn, and on Crystal Mountain, too. It puts a little more firefighting expertise, communication equipment and medical assistance nearby. If interested, contact me at Mile Marker 31 or take a read on the pages of the RCVFD website to see if the training schedule might fit you . . .

Don, up the Buckhorn without a paddle.
Upper Buckhorn Area Rep

Neighbor Lynn Prieve received her quarterly Amazon Smile donation report, and wanted us to remind you that Amazon and King Soopers are great ways to give to the RCVFD.

"It only takes a moment on the King Soopers' website to set up donations now, no more buying the gift cards."



Historic cabin at the CSU Mountain Campus that burned on June 5th. Fortunately no one was hurt. *Photo courtesy of Carol Dollard.*

A big Thank You to all the volunteers that came to our house on May 4th who worked very hard on fire mitigation.

Good to see some of the folks who have been here in our community a long time and a chance to have met a few new neighbors. There was lots of tree cutting and raking pine needles away from the house. Along with flashing that was applied to the house where fire could come into contact to our home.

It was a great feeling of community help! We appreciate all your hard work! Thanks again!

Sincerely, Kurt and Marga Rommel

Notes from Stove Prairie School

We hope you are all having a safe and wonderful Summer!

Summer Library Activities

The Poudre River Library District will offer a Summer Reading Challenge this summer where students can earn prizes for reading! Check it out at poudrelibraries.org.

Important Dates for 2019-2020 School Year

New K-5 Student Registration:

Monday, August 12, 8:00-4:00 at the school, 3891 Stove Prairie Road
Stove Prairie's attendance area extends west from Davis Ranch Road in Rist Canyon; Buckhorn Canyon from mile marker 19 and west; and north to Poudre Canyon on Stove Prairie Road.

Preschool

Children ages 3-5 may attend BASE Camp preschool here at Stove Prairie.

Preschool will meet Monday-Thursday. At the time of this article BASE Camp Preschool hours had not been determined yet due to the new elementary school time change, so please contact Ms. Amanda for further details at **atheilig@psdschools.org**.

Families can bring their preschool children to visit and learn about our program by calling the Preschool Site Director, Ms. Amanda Theileg, at 488-6585, during school days. Call BASE Camp at 266-1734 for more information.

Bus Applications

Choice or alternative bussing for the 2019-2020 school year is available now at the following link... https://www.psdschools.org/programs-services/ transportation/bus-applications.

Remember, you must reapply every year.

New Lunch Program

Poudre School District is excited to start a breakfast and lunch program at Stove Prairie this year! With the program being new and details still being arranged, please plan to send your child with a lunch until we have everything in place. Thank you for being patient as we work out all the details of this wonderful new program!

Lisa Westrope Stove Prairie School Secretary

New School Hours!

8:42 AM - 3:20 PM

First day of school: Tuesday, August 20th for K-5 students

First day for Preschool: Monday, August 26th

Back to School Night: Thursday, August 29th, 5:30-7:30

Here's My Card









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Jeremy Lawson Owner

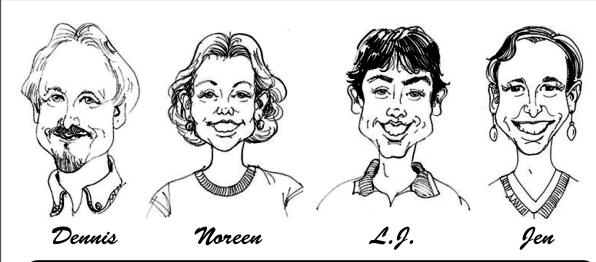
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Prescribed Burns and Climate Change

Forestry managers face what seems like an unavoidable tradeoff.
Controlled burns in Western forests reduce the risk of wildfire but release carbon dioxide, contributing to



climate change. But a team of ecologists recently showed that controlled burns can actually benefit the climate in the long term.

Since the 1960s, attempts to suppress natural low-intensity fires led to forests overgrown with small trees and loaded with dead leaves. These act as fuels that easily accelerate a small fire into a forest-clearing inferno, though burning some fuel when winds are low and humidity is high—making a wildfire unlikely—can help prevent future disasters. In 2012, calculations suggested that restoring low-intensity fire would release more carbon than not burning. However, new computer simulations of wildfire behavior over several decades showed that prescribed burns and vegetation thinning can both reduce the risk of wildfire and trap more carbon in tree growth than an untreated forest.

"When we're actually doing treatments in the forest, you can't just light a fire under what would generate wildfire conditions and see how your treatments burn," said Matthew Hurteau, a University of New Mexico forestry professor and lead author of a forthcoming study in the journal Ecological Applications. "The modeling is really important because then we can look at a range of conditions under which a fire might occur and see how that interacts with the forest structure."

After surveying a northern Arizona ponderosa pine forest, Hurteau's group

modeled how the forest responded to high and low probabilities of stand-replacing wildfire, the most intense and damaging kind. They ran many simulations with randomized wildfire behavior to

get a range of results for different fire prevention treatments.

The simulations showed that when wildfire is added to the system, even the most invasive treatment, thinning and burning, trapped more carbon than it lost—after 40 years for a high probability of wildfire, and after 51 years for low probability of wildfire. John Campbell, an Oregon State University forestry professor, remains skeptical that the simulations definitively show that thinning and burning has a positive effect on the atmosphere.

"I don't think there are any studies...that are going to suggest that an actively thinned and prescribed-burn forest actually in the long term maintains higher carbon than one that isn't," Campbell said. However, he does not deny the treatments reduce the risk of intense wildfires.

Malcolm North, a Forest Service research scientist who co-wrote the study with Hurteau, said that how a controlled burn affects the climate depends on the region. In the Pacific Northwest, where forests receive lots of moisture and fires are easier to suppress, a treated forest would not trap as much carbon, North said.

Cont'd. on next page

Prescribed Burns and Climate Change, cont'd.

"I think that Campbell's argument is actually a very good argument in systems that are pretty productive and also where fire suppression really does tamp down the fire," North said. "But if you go to a drier system that's not so productive ... you get a benefit" from controlled burns. In Southwestern forests, where wildfires are hard to prevent, reducing the amount of fuel through controlled burns creates forests better at both trapping carbon and resisting wildfire, he said.

But even in wetter climates, controlled burns help forests by killing small trees, North said. Forests packed with young trees have greater competition for moisture, making all of the trees more vulnerable to drought. "If you don't treat the forest, you can sometimes lose the very old-growth trees that you want to hold on to—the trees that hold the most carbon," he said.

By opening gaps in the canopy, controlled fires restore variety to the forest's structure, making it more resilient to climate change, said Morgan Wiechmann, a researcher at the University of Minnesota and collaborator with North and Hurteau.

"When you put in place this prescribed fire, you're restoring some of those ecological benefits that naturally occurring fires used to give," Wiechmann said.

North said forest managers need to use fire as a tool more often. "We're fighting a battle and we're tying one of our arms behind our back, and frankly that arm has the Popeye muscles on it," North said. "We need to work with the fire, and let the fire help us do some of the fuels reduction."

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RCVFD Monthly Meeting Schedule

All meetings begin at 7 PM at Firehouse #1 on Rist Canyon Road

Operations —1st Wednesdays Fire Training—2nd Wednesdays Board Meeting—3rd Wednesdays Medical Training—4th Wednesdays

Thank You RCVFD



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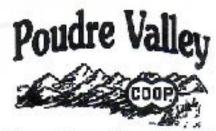
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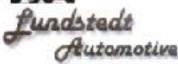
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We appreciate your business & referrals!

Mountain Festival Music

We are very pleased to welcome back to the 2019 Mountain Festival Stage the Liz Barnez band and the Cowtown band. Originating from her hometown of New Orleans and Bourbon Street, Liz Barnez brings a vibrant energy to her Southern Style of guitar playing and songwriting. She has been a mainstay on the Colorado music scene and has a special place in her heart for our community after residing in the Davis Ranch area.

The Cowtown band, a Canyon local, will treat us to a contemporary mix of country swing and boogie. We're very excited to welcome RCVFD Board Member, Don Diemer to the Festival stage for the first time, although not new to the music scene. He will treat us to "The Vacuum Tube Radio Hour," which will feature old time classics that some of you may have listened to on the kitchen table radio.

AKA42, a Denver based band, has been playing together since 1996 and bring an eclectic brand of music that they call City and

Western. Their music harks influences from Bakersfield to Cajun Louisiana and from Nashville Newgrass to Memphis Rock-A-Billy. Singer songwriter and multi instrumentalist

Ryan Hutchens, who has been touring since 2013, will also join the musical lineup. His solo acoustic shows are influenced by a blend of American Folk, bluegrass and gospel. He draws from his own repertoire and an extensive list of Americana, classics and contemporary songwriters. Finally, between musical sets, Fire Chief Carol Dollard and other members of the Fire Department will present a variety of demonstrations related to fire fighting.

We are very grateful to the Bohemian Foundation which has awarded us a grant once again this year to support the musicians and the entertainment production needs for this year's festival.

Sandy Deraney-Reilly Mountain Festival Music Chair



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Mountain Festival News

Plant Something!

Please start your transplants now for the plant booth at the RCVFD festival on September 7th. You may bring your plant donations to the Plant Booth on the morning of the Festival.

Thank you all for your support. Any questions please contact me at eveege61@gmail.com.



Plant Booth Chair

Corporate Sponsors

We are still seeking corporate sponsors for the 2019 Mountain Festival! Our corporate sponsorship levels provide sponsors various degrees of visibility throughout the festival and online through our festival social media pages. For more information about available sponsorship levels, please contact Taylor Hubbard, taylor@thecreativehubLR.com.

Thank you to our corporate sponsors who have already committed to this year's festival! We appreciate your support.

Taylor Bradley Hubbard Corporate Sponsors Chair

Time for Dessert!

The bake sale has been a part of the Rist Canyon Festival since its beginning. It's the perfect way for you and your family to help our fabulous Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department. All proceeds from the Bake Sale go to the Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department. Pies have always been our biggest attraction. We sell them whole and by the slice. Brownies, cookies, bars and cupcakes are big hits too. Having said that, please know that any and all baked goods are welcome. It is very helpful if items are packaged in salable quantities, such as 6 -12 cookies in a baggie. Listing ingredients, especially common allergens like nuts and eggs, is very helpful too. We can always use volunteers to man the Bake Sale Tent. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Festival!

> Lisa Diederich Bake Sale Chair

Welcome Non-profit and Educational Groups!

Come join us at the Rist Canyon Mountain Festival Saturday, September 7th! We have booth space available. For more information, please contact me at angmcq@yahoo.com.

> Angie McQuillan Educational/Non-profit Booths Chair

T-shirts!

We will be selling commemorative Mountain Festival T-shirts again this year. They will feature artwork designed by the amazing Taylor Hubbard. Based on feedback from last year, we have added women's and youth styles. These shirts are a great way to celebrate our community pride and Support RCVFD.

Molly McLean T-Shirt chair

Are You Crafty?
Calling all artisans, crafters, and anyone looking to sell their wares! Come join us at our Rist Canyon Mountain Festival Saturday, September 7! We have booth space available. For more information, contact me at jgriffanti@aol.com or 970/482-0275. Thanks!

> Jill Smith Craft Booth Chair

Book Tent and More Festival News



Donations of books are needed for the book tent at the September 7th festival. Along with the permanent book box at Station 1, book boxes have been placed in the Pleasant Valley Church of Christ across from the Bellvue Post Office, Laporte Pizza, Laporte Hardware and the Liquor Kabinet at the corner of Overland Trail and Prospect.

Books are needed as we are behind last year's donations. If you or a neighbor have a large load of books that need to be picked up, please contact me.

Anyone willing to help in the book tent the day of the festival: helping customers, handing out bags or moving books, please contact me at Cloud9sewing@gmail.com. Two additional cashiers are needed also.

Carolyn Stanley Book Tent Chair

Come have some FUN!

Join us for family fun in the kids' area! Some of the FREE activities include: Calf Roping, Obstacle Course, Games, Contests, Coloring Tables, Toddler Area, Kids Fire Safety House, farm animals and BUBBLES, BUBBLES! Hope to see you there!

> Trisha Johnston Kids' Activities Chair

Are You a Scooper or a Party Pooper? Sign up to scoop ice cream at the Mountain

Sign up to scoop ice cream at the Mountain Festival! Two hour shifts are available from 10 am to 4 pm. Please email me at bridget@frii.com with your preferred time to scoop, and I'll be in touch. Thanks!

Bridget Tisthammer Food Truck/Ice Cream Chair

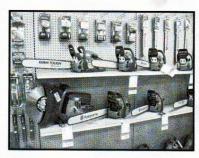


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\$1 per line for a 4" wide ad.

No businesses, please.

Business ads, classified ads, community news and photos can be submitted to the Editor at ristwatch@rcvfd.org.

The deadline for the October Ristwatch is September 21st.

2019 Annual Drive - Budget \$80,944 - Donations YTD \$23,398.99

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