

The Cedar Post

Volume 1, Issue 1

Spring 2002

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The Cedar Post? By Karen Debenham

Our first issue is dedicated to informing the community of what we have done to date. We invite you to join our efforts as there is great wisdom in our collective minds.

There were several emergencies on the mountain this winter that caused a few neighbors to get together. We felt it would benefit the entire community if we were better prepared for future emergencies of all kinds.

Each of us lives on the hill for our own reasons, but no one can dispute the fact that emergency services response times are slow because of where we live.

Being organized, knowing what to expect, what to do and how to react will help us.

We have determined the need for several specific *Teams* and you will hear from each of them.

Our first *class* on understanding fire was extremely informative. If anyone wants to attend this class, it can be repeated. Let us know your interest and we will schedule it.

Our second *class* was given by Don Griffith and Dave Mosier of Larimer County Emergency Services. We learned why the 911 dispatch will ask us specific questions about the fire report we are making.

The Wildland Fire/Smoke Report enclosure is the form used by 911 emergency operators.

First Responders by Carl Miller

Our goal is simple. To help our neighbors in any emergency. We are not trying to be super heroes. We are ordinary people helping ordinary people. Organization and quick response could save a life, a home or a potentially critical situation. We may win some, we may lose some, but at least we can say we gave it our best.

We have a radio contact system in place. We have training scheduled to enact real emergency situations. We are raising money to buy equipment. We have CPR

training scheduled. We have had a fire training seminar. And the list goes on.

We chose to live in the beautiful Rocky Mountains. With that choice comes the reality of a 911 response time of anywhere from 1 to 1-1/2 hours. We need to help ourselves and our neighbors. If you would like to be a part of this emergency team, please contact me anytime.

Carl Miller 669-8587





Dispatch Team by Patti Stetson

First things first, ya gotta start somewhere and the dispatch team is where the action starts after you make your first call to 911. From there it is a race

with the clock, as emotions will be running fast and furious; but with little time to spare, gathering information is our first priority.

One important element of this team is how fast and how well we gather, process and relay information. This is the heart and soul of what we are doing.

The dispatch team will receive calls to emergencies, evaluate the urgency of the problem and determine the appropriate action. Next, the dispatcher will radio contact the First Response Team, Telephone Tree Team and Traffic Control as needed as well as advise the various teams on updated information and maintain the status and locations of all team members.

We are just one small part of the overall picture as it's a team effort in obtaining a mutual goal; helping one another and making a difference for our community.

Telephone Tree By Karen Debenham

The winds were howling Halloween night as I awoke from the couch. My husband had gone hunting and I was alone. I saw nothing but flames outside my windows. I called 911, then my immediate neighbors. If it had not been for them, the winds could have blown the fire out of control by the time Emergency Services arrived.

I vowed to organize a telephone tree and maintain the information so anyone found in need of help can get it! It's difficult to think who to call and where are their numbers

when you need to direct all your attention to the emergency at hand. The enclosed refrigerator magnet lists several emergency telephone numbers. But you need only call 2 on this list to know that help is on the way. First call 911 (and be sure to tell them you are calling from Larimer County if you're using a cell.) Then call the first name on the list. If you reach that person you have started the process. It's as simple as that.

Please fill out and return the enclosed form (if you already haven't.)

"If it had not been for them, the winds would have blown the fire out of control by the time Emergency Services arrived."

Traffic by Rich Miller



We will be deployed by Dispatch to mark the roads. All emergency crews recognize the flagging tape we will put at intersections to point the direction from the "T" to the scene of the emergency.

Members will be needed in all sections as quickly as possible. Knowledge of our area roads is essential. We can be called to action at any time of day or night and in any weather.

It is also our job to ensure others do not block the roadway with our vehicles. The Emergency Services vehicles are wider than regular cars and trucks and need every inch of our narrow roads to maneuver. Call me at 663-4801 if you want to join our crew!



By Kathy Miller

Our mountain is so special, but the people who live on our mountain are even more special. Everyone I've spoken with has been nothing but supportive of our efforts.

We are raising money for equipment. What a great idea! To have the means to fight fires. Not only could we have possibly saved our forest from the Bobcat fire, but we could possibly have saved a home or two from burning to the ground this past winter.

Our fund raising activities are really going to be fun. Come and meet your neighbors and let's have a great time!!!

For all events a donation charge will be collected at the door.

See the events calendar for times and dates

BARN DANCE: Dress up like the hill-billy characters we truly are. Put on your dancing shoes; bring your own drinks and a snack to share.

YARD SALE: Clean out your closets, basement, and garage. Price items to sell for the proceeds go towards our truck fund.

KARAOKE: Whether you can sing or not, this is SOOOO much fun! Bring your own drinks and a snack to share

SIXTIES DANCE: Dress up in your wildest "hippie" outfit...beads, bangles and psychedelic tie-die!! Put on your dancing shoes; bring your own drinks and a snack to share.

Future dates will be announced in the next newsletter. We need volunteers to help with all activities. If you are unable to attend, donations are still needed and may be mailed to PO Box 116. Let's bring this community together!



By Kathy Miller

The Second annual Independence Day Parade is July 4 at 10 am. Whether you were in the parade, or a spectator, this was a "HOOT" last year and is sure to be a big success this year! Last year was free. **Donations for equipment will be collected this year.** Don't forget your sun screen and drinking water.

If you want to enter call 669-8587 or email Log-homes2@juno.com for an entry form. We will meet at the 4-way (Palisade Mountain Dr & Snow Top) at 9:30 am.

Spectators should bring their lawn chairs, cameras, sun-

screen and drinking water. The parade steps off at 10:00. The parade route is from the 4-way up Palisade Mountain Drive and back to Snow Top...if the route changes, it will be posted at the "T".

New this year will be the Independence Day Picnic following the parade at 121 Bobcat Place. We'll provide the hot dogs, buns and soda pop. Bring your friends and relatives and a covered dish to share. Donations for equipment will be collected at the door.



Upcoming Events

Wildfire Safety Program	April 24, 2002	BTCA Bldg 7 pm
4th Annual Earth Day Roads Clean-Up	April 27, 2002	Meet @ "T" 9 am
4th Annual Earth Day Roads Clean-Up RAIN DATE	May 4, 2002 RAIN DATE	Meet @ "T" 9 am
BARN DANCE	May 18	7 pm 121 Bobcat Pl
3rd Annual Chili Cook-Off 1st Annual Yard Sale	June 15, 2002	Behind Post Office 9 am
KARAOKE Night	June 22, 2002	7 pm 121 Bobcat Pl
2nd Annual Independence Day Parade and Picnic	July 4, 2002	Staging@ Snow Top & Palisade 9:30 am Step-Off 10 am
60's DANCE	July 27, 2002	7 pm 121 Bobcat Pl
CPR and More!	To be Determined	

All events are fund raisers for our equipment except the roads cleanup and the Chili Cook-Off. That event will raise money for the Drake Volunteer Fire Department.

2002 Larimer County Wildfire Safety Program Grant Update



Larimer County's Wildfire Safety program was awarded an \$80,000 matching grant from the Colorado State Forest Service to continue the Slash Disposal Program. There are a number of options available to residents.

The Slash Disposal Program is designed to assist homeowners, homeowner groups and fire departments by providing an economical means of disposal for slash and debris generated while making their property more FireWise.

A meeting is scheduled with Tony Simons to discuss

our options regarding chipper use on Wednesday April 24, 2002 at 7 pm in the Big Thompson Canyon Association Building in Drake.

If we get enough property owners, we can get our chipper program AT NO COST, so if you are interested, PLEASE ATTEND!

In 2000, just after Bobcat, a successful chipper program removed an estimated bazillion tons of dangerous fire fuel/slash from our mountain. **Let's do it again!**

Send to: Karen Debenham, PO Box 390, Drake, CO 80515-0390 or via e-mail to Rhndebenham@debenham.com.

Name _____
Mailing Address _____
Physical Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
(CP, CS, or Priv) _____ Filing _____ BIK _____
Lot _____
Home Phone _____ Pager _____
Work Phone _____
Cell _____
E-Mail Address _____
We request your hours home, only so our dispatch and phone tree committees can save precious time by calling only those residents we know are home.
Usual Hours At Home _____
Usual Hours At Work _____
CP/RENT/Medical Training _____

Please indicate the committee you would be willing to join. We need your help too! Fund Raising, First Responders, Traffic Control

WILDLAND FIRE

WILDLAND FIRE/ SMOKE REPORT

Informant Name _____
Location Calling From _____
Informant Call Back # _____
Are they calling from a Cell Phone? Yes No
Phone # other than cell phone _____
Informant location when visualized smoke (Be Specific) _____
Smoke distance / direction from said location _____
Time lapse (smoke sighting to phone call) _____
Smoke Color? White Gray Black
Smoke Dispersion? Defined Column Spread out
Did informant see open flame or just smoke _____
Fire Size in acres (1 acre = 1 football field) _____
Fire Position on Slope Lower 1/3 Middle 1/3 Upper 1/3
Current Weather (Wind Speed / Direction, Cloud cover) _____
Does informant know exact fire location Yes No
Directions To fire Area _____

**A Newsletter for the
Storm Mountain Community**

P O Box 390
Drake, CO 80515-0390

Phone: 593-1091
Fax: 593-1244
Email: Rhdebenham@debenham.com

The Cedar Post

PLACE LABEL HERE

Our Advertisers

FOR SALE:
1986 Jeep Wagoneer
\$3,000
593-1091

Snow Top Construction
Excavation/Leech Fields
Rich Miller 663-4801



FOR SALE:
1996 Toro 10 HP 28" 2-Stage
Snow Blower \$1,000 OBO
669-3500 or 669-7297 eves

SLASH REMOVAL:
I will load your slash in my trailer
and haul away
Roger 593-1091



Canyon Log Homes
P.O. Box 116
Drake, CO 80515
(970) 669-8587

If you'd like to be a future advertiser, call Karen 593-1091 or email Rhdebenham@debenham.com