

Arrowhead Improvements Association Newsletter

August/September 2014



Arrowhead Evacuation Exercise

by Kevin Stilley

Last fall Scott Morrill, Gunnison County Emergency Manager, approached me about doing an evacuation drill for Arrowhead. This sounded like a challenge that I knew Arrowhead could meet, and keep our reputation as the "poster child" of a community as seen in Scott's eyes. Let the planning begin.

As Incident Commander my first order of business was to choose the personnel for the key positions. Bill Conway was the obvious choice for Operations Chief. From there, Bill and I consulted on the rest of the Command and General Staff. Mary Cockes would prove to be an excellent Public Information Officer, Clyde Vavrik for Safety Officer, Rich Leary wore a couple of hats, one being our Liaison Officer as well as Communications expert. Linda Dysart would head up Planning. Sally Burrichter was in charge of Logistics which include communications, food, medical, set up, traffic control and the list goes on. Billie Ellis, Carla Vavrik, and John Moseman, while under the Logistics group, made sure everyone was fed good food on a timely basis. Bill then had to choose his Division Supervisors. As time went on the tree expanded. We weren't going to be alone in this drill. Montrose Fire came and worked with the US Forest Service in structure protection. US Parks Service, Gunnison National Forest Rangers, and Gunnison Valley Ambulance would all play roles in this drill. Dale Ericson, who recently retired from Montrose Fire Protection District would be our observer and make suggestions for future use.

We had many objectives for this exercise, but our main goal was to **safely** notify each home and RV site within 2 ½ hours of beginning the drill. To notify 274 homes and 146 RV sites within that time was accomplished by dividing the community into eight zones. Each zone would have a Division Supervisor directing a team to visit every site in his zone. A second goal was to test the new Code Red Communications

system which was replacing the county's Reverse 911 system. A third goal was to give Gunnison County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) some practice.

After many meetings with the county, our own group meetings and late night planning, it was time to begin. Friday morning the winter parking lot was busy with folks setting up tents, tables, chairs, and cooking facilities for the reception area. Friday evening was the first of the two Code Red messages. (Continued on pg. 4)



Chief Kevin Stilley and Forest Manager Bill Conway photo by Melissa Hernandez

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The Arrowhead Improvements Association Official

AIA WEBSITE & SMOKE SIGNALS NEWSLETTER

www.arrowhead1.org

The Arrowhead Improvements Association Inc. is a state non-profit organization. The purpose of the Arrowhead HOA is to unite the property owners of the Arrowhead subdivision in Cimarron, Colorado; to encourage civic improvements within said area, to encourage community activities including, but not by way of limitation, the beautification, maintenance, and general appearance of vacant and improved lots, filing roads, winter parking lot, entrances, open and recreational areas situated within the area and used in common by its residents; enhance the safety of Arrowhead; facilitate enforcement of any and all building restrictions, protective covenants, and to otherwise act in the interests of the members of the Association. Appearance of an advertisement in the Smoke Signals Newsletter and AIA Website does not constitute a recommendation or endorsement by the Association of the goods or services offered. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual authors and not the Board of your Association. Neither, the Board, the publisher, or the authors intend to provide any professional service or opinion through this publication.

News Articles

The deadline for news articles is the 10th of the month before the next bi-monthly issue. Please email news articles to <u>aiasmokesignals@gmail.com</u>. All letters or articles need to include your name and a daytime phone number. All articles must be approved by the editors for publication, or as space permits.*

For current information and events be sure to...



Advertising

The deadline for an advertisement is the 10th of the month before the next bi-monthly issue. To place an ad please call Cappi Castro @ 970-260-3410 or email: aiasmokesignals@gmail.com

*Deadlines may change to accommodate Board Meetings

Arrorwhead1.org is the **only** official website for Arrowhead property owners (owners in Arrowhead in Gunnison Country Subdivision, also commonly referred to as Arrowhead or Arrowhead Ranch). Smoke Signals is the **only** official publication of Arrowhead Improvements Association, Inc., the property owners association for Arrowhead in Gunnison Country Subdivision. And "Arrowhead in Colorado (AIA)" is the **only** official Facebook page. No other chat room, blog, forum, website, Facebook page or other electronic or written publication is supported, sanctioned, associated with or condoned by Arrowhead Improvements Association, Inc., and said Association is not responsible for their content.

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President's Message



Dear Owners,

The community had a record turnout for the Annual Arrowhead Fire Department Fourth of July Picnic. The fire department served over 500 meals and a good time was had by all. It was a great opportunity for all of Arrowhead to see old friends, make new ones, and visit with neighbors. I would like to thank all that attended the picnic and all the volunteers for their support of the Arrowhead community.

We are currently experiencing a large number of bears at Arrowhead and a couple of them are showing little fear of humans. The Colorado Division of Wildlife has been contacted and our Arrowhead Patrol team is in communication with them. The DOW reminds us not to feed wildlife, remove salt blocks, not to put up bird/hummingbird feeders, and to use bear proof food storage. Please report any bear problems to the Arrowhead Patrol.

Please note on your calendar that the August Board of Directors meeting will begin at 10:00am on August 16, with the Annual Meeting to follow at 2:00pm. Both meetings will be at the Arrowhead Firehouse and all owners are welcome and encouraged to attend. Notice of the meetings and agendas will be posted on the AIA web site prior to the meetings for your review.

I would like to thank the 30+ people that helped with the common ground cleanup of forest debris behind the dumpster at the winter parking lot. There were 25-30 loads of forest debris taken to the forest refuse site. A big thank you to Clyde and Carla Vavrik for working with the board and organizing the cleanup days! Sincerely,

Mike Wigent
AIA Board President

Notice

All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Law. The Arrowhead Improvements Association and its publication "Smoke Signals," will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is a violation of the law, either Federal or State.

If you feel you have been discriminated against call the Colorado Civil Rights Division at 970-248-7329 or HUD 303-844-6158 or 1-800-669-9777.

2014 Board Workshop and Meeting Dates

The next AIA board meeting is Saturday August 16th, 10am at the Arrowhead Volunteer Fire Department Firehouse.

Annual meeting to follow at 2pm.

2014 Board Workshops:

August 15, September 19 and October 17. (Workshops are held on the Friday before the Saturday Board Meeting.)

2014 Board of Directors Meetings:

August 16*, September 20 and October 18**

*Annual meeting and new owners meeting on 8/16
**Winter owners meeting on 10/18

(EVACUATION - continued from pg. 1)

Saturday morning the fun began. Food servers had coffee and pastries for the volunteers who were coming in. While Rich was checking in outside agencies at the staging area on Highway 50, Brad, from our Arrowhead Patrol, was checking in newly arriving residents at the mail boxes. Linda Dysart was checking in all the volunteers coming to the fire house. As more volunteers showed, Bill Conway was busy picking teams for the Division Supervisors. At 9:30 I made my first of many phone calls to the EOC ordering supplies for the mock exercise. My list was varied and included a helicopter, lighted highway signs, structure protection crews, ambulance, and everything in between. This is what the EOC does. They support the agencies in emergencies. If we need anything, they are our go to people. Throughout the morning I called them every ½ hour to request more supplies and to give status updates. In return they would ask questions to make sure I got what I wanted and would finish the conversation with a weather up date.

The briefing began promptly at 10 am where I gave the scenario and Incident Action Plan. Bill then gave a rundown on how the operation was

to work and presented the teams. Clyde followed up with the Safety Message. With the briefing over, the teams met with their respective Division Supervisors to discuss their own plans of getting the job done. The second Code Red Message went out at 10:45, which is the time the teams went out to notify the residences of the evacuation.

The first team was back at the firehouse before noon; the last team to return was 45 minutes earlier than our planned goal of 1:15 pm. All homes and RV sites were notified in a safely manner. Mission accomplished! By the end of the exercise, 109 meals were served at the winter parking lot and approximately 115 at the fire house.

While we were elated to have reached our goal, our debriefing brought out some very thoughtful suggestions to improve upon. Code Red definitely has some holes that need to be fixed. Scott Morrill is busy working on that one. Pat Medina from the US Forest Service gave a brief review of the mitigation efforts of the homes he was assigned to. He concluded that unless your neighbor mitigates as well, your mitigation efforts alone may not be as effective as you wish they were. We really need to work with our neighbors to stress the importance of mitigation. Lastly, everyone with a home or RV needs to have an address sign. **Please** make your address visible to first responders. It could save your home, and in a medical emergency, possibly your life.







This drill showed what we already know. This is one heck of a community with a volunteer base second to none. I want to thank everyone for all their hard work in making this a successful exercise. I'd like to also thank the county and all the agencies who participated. We're rather independent up here, but it's good to know you're there to support our unique life style.

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Marking a driveway-showing this house had been told.













If you would like a copy of the "Arrowhead Awareness Book" contact the Arrowhead Patrol at

Message Phone: 862-8262 Cell Phone: 209-6335 Email: security@arrowheadl.org







FORESTRY MESSAGE BY BILL CONWAY



Douglas Fir beetles are continuing to be a problem with record numbers of beetles being caught in traps on Crest and Ponderosa. Groups of trees were killed again this year in those locations. In addition, several individual and small groups of trees have died in other parts of the community. The Douglas fir beetle flight peaked the week of July 14, but there is still significant activity.

Spruce beetles are very active on the National Forest, but appear to still be at low levels at Arrowhead. The 25 spruce beetle traps that are out have shown a wide range of beetle populations ranging from a high in one week of 304 beetles near the Spruce switchback, to a low of no beetles for several weeks in a row in other locations. A distribution pattern is not yet evident and it could be another year before we have definitive results. At the moment it appears that the spruce beetle flight peaked the week of July 7th but it is too early to know for sure.

Another insect pest has shown up starting in early July. The spruce bud worm is active in most areas of Arrowhead, with the heaviest activity north of the fire house. The spruce bud worm eats the new growth on all of our conifer trees. The moth stage of the insect can be seen in your porch lights at night and the larva stage that is eating the new growth starts on the lower part of the trees and works up to the top. Larger trees can generally withstand the attack but the top of the tree may be killed causing the tree to re-grow a new top over several years. Consultation with the Gunnison entomologist confirms that at the current levels there is a survival threat only to trees less than 8 feet tall. Aerial spraying has been used in this area in the past to control spruce bud worm but the entomologist believes that the current infestation is likely to taper off over the next few years before that becomes necessary. Aerial spraying has the detrimental effect of killing all bugs that are not under the bark of trees and can therefore have an effect on bird populations.

A product called ACE Caps could be used on individual ornamental trees. A hole is drilled in the lower truck every 2" around the tree and a plug is inserted. The cost for a 12" diameter tree would be about \$15.00. I have not been able to find the product locally, but it can be ordered on the internet.

Operations at the Forest Refuse Site are going well and I want to thank everyone for their cooperation.

The Western Region Wildfire Council has grants available for doing defensible space work around your residence. Contact me if you would like to consider taking advantage of this program. Preparation in late summer or fall may provide you with the opportunity to take advantage of this program next spring.

Arrowhead residents ask me questions every day about our forest. I would like to extend an invitation to everyone to join me while I do the varied tasks that I perform. The only requirement is that you sign an Arrowhead Volunteer Release form. Contact me at 541-729-6259 or bbconway1967@gamail.com. You may need to bring your lunch and some extra cookies are always appreciated.

Although it is outside of my Forest Manager job, I would like to extend a huge thank you to all the volunteers and participants in the July 26 evacuation drill. You all made it a great success.

Bill Conway

Arrowhead Forest Manager

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Board of Directors Open Seats

There will be two 3-year seats open on the Arrowhead Board of Directors for the term beginning in 2015. Ballots for the upcoming election will be mailed to eligible voters on September 30, 2014. To be eligible to receive a ballot, property owners must be current in their dues by September 29, 2014. Returned ballots must be postmarked by November 17, 2014.

The candidates (in alphabetical order) are Dale Breckenridge, Toby Ezell, Bob Hernandez, Linda Squirrell, Val Taylor, and Curt Treichel.

Email "Blast" for Current Information

E-mail blasts are designed to deliver important announcements that need to be out in a hurry.

If you would like to have your email added to our list, please email arrowheadblast@gmail.com

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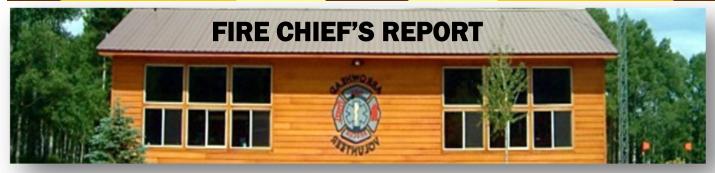


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By Kevin Stilley

By all accounts July 2014 was the busiest month the Arrowhead Fire Department has experienced. If you include the emergencies that were not initiated by Gunnison Dispatch, we had 13 calls. The calls ranged from a minor medical emergency to a helicopter evacuation. Throw in a couple of fire calls outside our district and it seems just about everyone active with the department saw some action. Our normal training schedule was continued during the month along with the Annual 4th of July picnic and topped off with our evacuation exercise on July 26th.

4th of July Picnic – Over 500 lunches were served. I don't have previous numbers, but according to the kitchen staff they have never served so many in previous years. The weather held out and everyone was in good spirits. If you've never been to one of these picnics, I suggest you plan for next year. The picnic is all about what makes this community so special – family and friends. Thanks again to all the volunteers who make this happen.

Equipment Update – This month we hope to complete the 500 gallon skid unit mounted on a flatbed trailer. This will give us additional fire protection equipment in the summer and winter. ISO (company that rates

fire departments for insurance purposes) does not recognize our fire hydrants because the size of the communities water storage tank. To comply with new standards to keep our ISO rating of 9, we would either have to increase our water storage capacity 5 fold, or easier yet, arrive to the scene of a fire with 500 gallons of water. While we already have the capability to arrive on the scene of a fire with 500 gallons in the summer, this new skid unit will be pulled behind the snow cat to meet that requirement in the winter. Our fire hydrants are in very good working order and will continue to be used to fight fires in the winter and summer.



Chief Update – We welcome Jim Gelsomini as our new Fire Chief starting September 1. Jim has been a part of this community for 12 plus years and will be a great fit as the new chief for the fire department. He is eager to return to Arrowhead as a full time resident once again. We're glad to have you back Jim.





Glynn Abbott 131 Crest Drive 970-862-8207 325-668-0678



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Design Review Message



By Joyce Boulter

There are four new houses in various stages of completion, 2 garages, and various sheds and remodels. This week I have had several driveway walk-ins for new owners. These owners are planning on developing their lots for houses or RV's. This means getting electricity, water and septic systems. I have asked the board to remove the fee for utilities. This fee was for repair of road cuts and reclamation of property. We have such good builders at Arrowhead that this is not needed. I also asked for the specifications for refilling any road cuts be removed. The board has agreed to remove these from the Regulations. Road cuts occur when you must cross the road for either water or electricity. The water lines are generally on the right side of the road, or the side with the fire hydrants. Electricity is on the left side or the side with transformers, depending which way you are facing. You must get a utility permit, but no fee

Remember any time you are going to dig, you must ask for a locate. Call "Colorado 811" at 811 or 1-800-922-1987 for a utility location. Never dig without calling for a locate. For all building permits you must go through Gunnison County. Call Community Development at 970-641-0360 for information. Community Development also gives Septic permits. Electrical and plumbing permits go through the State, but you can get this information from the county. It is important to get the information, call the county, or me for information. We will be happy to help you.



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ARROWHEAD PATROL • John Moseman, Board Liaison

Our summer began more slowly than normal with cooler weather, and a slower snow melt did not help us. However, the summer finally arrived. The bears have been active and don't seem anxious to leave the area. Numerous fire pit permits, fishing permits, and RV registrations have kept everyone busy.

As all of you know the Arrowhead Patrol continues to evolve. The process started when our General Liability Insurance Policy was changed. As part of an-going assessment regarding risk management, it became clear that our "security" here on the mountain needed to be changed. The Association had to ensure that no one assumed it was providing security or law enforcement services. It became apparent that a name change would be the starting point. Along with the name change, the Arrowhead Patrol is undergoing other changes.

The most significant change will be how the Association handles the defined limited services the Patrol will perform. Those changes are close to being finalized. In addition, by September we will add another officer to achieve a full staff. We are exploring the possibility of a reserve officer position to be on-call if needed.

The other major overhaul scheduled is the redesign of the Patrol website. We hope this will help owners obtain both information and services more quickly and more efficiently. The website is under construction and should be up and running by this fall.

On behalf of all of the Patrol Officers we would like to express our thank you for all your patience throughout this process. We encourage all owners to become more aware of the environment around them and get to know the best security for any community - your neighbors.

The big summer event was the mock evacuation drill on July 26th. The information gathered will help in the event an actual evacuation is needed. Our Patrol was active in traffic control for the drill.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and we are looking forward to welcoming the fall season.

By Joyce Boulter

Common household accidents are usually preventable with some planning and preparation. Household injuries and accidents are more common than work injuries or auto accidents. Falls, burns, drug overdose, and electrical shock are four common causes of injury in the home.

Falls

First consider medical problems and medications that might cause dizziness or fainting. Prevention includes caution on stairways and removal of clutter on stairs and around stairs. Handrails should be used and on both sides of stairs. Area rugs should be kept at a minimum and taped or secured to the floor and electrical cords should be secured and not placed under rugs. Wipe up spills immediately, to keep the floor from being wet or sticky, and wear shoes with non slip soles. First aid for falls include the steps in RICE. Rest, ice, compression and elevation. Ice should never be placed directly on the skin, use a towel between skin and ice. Leave cold compress on no more than 20 minutes at a time. Medical evaluation is needed to rule out fractures or serious injury. Check for any head injury associated with a fall. Medical evaluation may be needed if there is any confusion or memory loss.

Burns

Most burns occur in the kitchen. They can be steam burns, often from microwave food, from grease burns, or contact burns. Prevention includes using proper techniques such as large pot holders, caution with food cooked in the microwave, and avoiding long draping sleeves. Pot handles should be turned to inside to prevent accidental spills. Pots with burning grease should be smothered out with a lid. Never pick up a skillet with burning grease, as moving it may cause the heat or flames to move toward the face or body. Immediately turn off heat. Treat burns by using cool water, if the skin is not broken. To prevent infection, try to keep the skin intact and don't break blisters. Cool compresses allow temperature reduction without damaging the skin. Do not use salve, butter, or ice as they make it worse. Cover with dry bandage; later aloe vera cream may help with pain and swelling. If there is charring or white skin, it may be a third degree burn and needs immediate medical attention.

Medication

Make sure all medication, prescription and over the counter, are kept in a secure place. Use only medication prescribed for you; **do not** share medicine. Read the information that comes with the prescription and understand common reactions. If you think you have overdosed or taken a wrong medication call the pharmacy or poison control at 1-800-222-1222.

Electrical Shock

Unplug any electric appliance or device that you are not using. Remember electricity and water do not mix. If a shock causes anything more than brief pain seek medical care. All new construction must have ground-fault circuit interrupters, or GFCI, on all electrical plugs. They instantly turn off electricity if an appliance overheats or comes in contact with water.

This is not a complete guide, but is just intended to help with minor accidents. There are many first aid books available with more comprehensive information and care. Please seek professional medical help if you have any doubt about care or treatment.

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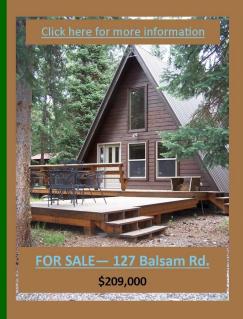
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GUEST RV REGISTRATION FORM

The Guest RV Registration form referred to in the *Camping and Recreational Vehicle Use Regulation* (adopted April 26, 2014) must be completed by the property owner of record <u>before</u> locating a Guest RV on a lot. Forms can be downloaded from the AIA website or obtained from Arrowhead Patrol personnel or the AIA office. When completed, please submit them to the AIA office, Arrowhead Patrol personnel or deposit them in one of the Arrowhead sign in boxes located at Lake Road or Ute Drive.



Arrowhead Book Club

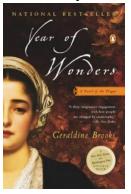
The Arrowhead Book Club usually meets at 11:30 at the Inn.
Everyone is welcome!
For more information or to be put on the Book Club email list, contact
Linda Dysart, 862-8287.

August 8 - Year of Wonders by

Geraldine Brooks

September 12 - Dewey by Vicky Myron & Bret Witter

October 10 - Watch Over Me by Christa Parrish





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Why do Weeds Matter?

Weeds matter at Arrowhead because they are noxious – they are not native and they can dominate and crowd out native grasses and flowering plants that our wildlife use for food. Their seeds can also get into our streams and cause problems to our downstream neighbor's irrigated pastures and crops. Without noxious weed control we can greatly reduce the wildlife habitat unique to Arrowhead!

SO, what should we do? Just like any good neighbor, we should take care of our property and limit what weeds we have. The Arrowhead community has done a great job in the past and we should continue to diminish the problem – each year it will be less and less of an issue, but we have to stick to it.

What are the primary weeds we should treat? We have about a dozen noxious weeds within Arrowhead, with six being of most concern:

* Canada thistle – compact purple flowers, 1-5 ft. tall, stems branched at top, spiny leaves

Arrowhead locations – throughout and especially along roads

* Musk thistle – large compact purple flowers, 2-6 ft. tall, solitary flower on stem, spiny leaves

Arrowhead locations – throughout and especially along roads

Oxeye daisy – white ray petals, yellow center, wavy-edged leaves, 10-24" tall

Arrowhead locations – along the Alpine
Plateau road, near water and in
meadows







Scentless chamomile daisy – white ray petals, yellow center, fern-like leaves, 6-30" tall

Arrowhead locations – pasture

Arrowhead locations – pasture areas

Common mullein – stalk of yellow small flowers, soft fuzzy leaves, 2-5 ft. tall

Arrowhead locations – along roads & in meadows

Common burdock – numerous purple/white bur like flowers, bushy leafy plant, large heart-shaped leaves, 2-6 ft. tall

Arrowhead locations – along roads and stream banks







* Note: Native thistle – There are about 15 native species of thistles in Colorado, several of which exist in Arrowhead. Most have white flowers and provide valuable seed sources for birds. For more information see http://www.coopext.colostate.edu/jefferson/npm/npm_docs/2012_Native_thistles_of_Colorado.pdf (Continued pg. 17)

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(Why do Weeds Matter? Continued from pg. 16.)

What treatment should be used? Generally herbicide will work best such as 2, 4-D, or other herbicides specific for the weed you are dealing with, all of which are available at local nurseries, or hardware stores such as Murdoch's and Home Depot. Removing the seed head (flower) and double bagging them for disposal at local landfills helps in limiting spread. **DO NOT** deposit them in the No-Stump Dump or the Arrowhead trash compactor.

What is Arrowhead doing? Arrowhead has contracted with a licensed commercial herbicide applicator to treat the large common areas below Ponderosa Way and around Hazel Lake. Volunteers will be used for herbicide spraying on the common areas along the roadsides within Arrowhead and Gunnison County is treating weeds adjacent to the Alpine Plateau Road.

Information Available? If you would like more information on the noxious weeds in Arrowhead and how best to treat them, you can pick up information developed by CSU for Gunnison County at the Firehouse or contact Tim Carlson at 970-260-9338 or e-mail at timcarlsonaia@gmail.com.

Let's all work together to rid Arrowhead of noxious weeds and protect our native plants and wildlife.



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Community clean Up days

Meet at the firehouse at 9:00 a.m. and work until noon.

Bring your gloves, trailers, chainsaws, etc.

Come help your neighbors clean up fallen or dead trees along the roads, get some exercise,

August 2

and have fun!

August 23



Photos by Jeanne Rush



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