

# WEST CRESTON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

August 2009

[www.westcreston.info](http://www.westcreston.info)

## Corn Crickers' Picnic:

Time is fast approaching for the very entertaining annual Corn Crickers' Picnic to be held on **Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**. There will be the usual family fun, hilarious pie eating contests, corn shucking contests, games for all ages, barbecued hamburgers, fried onions (can't you smell them already), hot dogs, fresh corn and all the trimmings.

**We are asking volunteers to donate pies, cookies and "other" baked items, preserves or fresh produce.** Joe Snopek, renowned auctioneer, will be in attendance to do his usual wonderful job of auctioning the excellent donated items provided by you. This is the chance to bid on the treat of your choice and support your community hall.

**Two-Hour Volunteers are greatly needed for the following areas; kitchen and food preparation; servers; barbecuing; ticket sales; auction recorders; organizers for games and clean-up. Please contact Jackie Ryckman at 428-7078 if you are able to help out.** Please leave your name and number on her answering system and what you would like to volunteer for. She will return your call ASAP.

The picnic is a great opportunity to visit with your neighbours, enjoy a relaxing afternoon and support your community. See you there!!

## West Creston Fire Protection Society:

July's lightning storms caused two forest fires in our area, the first one 2/3 the way up Creston Mtn. and the other on the top of Mt. Topaz. These fires were immediately reported to Forestry. The Fire Protection Society was on watch and the volunteer fire fighters were put on alert, in case these fires became a threat to our community.

A huge thank you to the three men from Evans Rd who took on the task of climbing up Creston Mtn. and dealing with the lightning strike. Please contact us, as the fire society is a non-profit organization which can provide you with a tax receipt for out-of-pocket expenses.

The fire callout to Simmons Rd involved someone burning garbage. **REMEMBER- NO open fires of any kind. THERE IS A B.C. FIRE BAN IN EFFECT. The B.C. government is enforcing fines of \$345 to violators.**

**The West Creston Fire Protection Society** is open to anyone who wants to help protect our community, call Jim 428-8841 or visit our web site, [www.westcrestonfires.info](http://www.westcrestonfires.info)

**Emergency FIRE call-out number is 250-402-9779  
Forestry number is 1-800-663-5555 or cell phone \*5555**

## BCAA advises the following smart, simple ways to prevent damage from forest fires:

Surround your home with a 10 metre low fuel belt. Clear away any trees, brush, gas/propane tanks and firewood that could add fuel to a fire. Use driveways, lawns and gravel to create a fuel break wherever possible.

Rethink your roof. Clear away overhanging trees and combustible debris such as pine needles or other vegetation that could act as fuel for airborne sparks and embers. Planning a new roof? Consider using non-combustible roofing material such as slate, metal, clay or tile – your insurance company may award a premium discount for non-combustible roofing.

Be visible in an emergency. Make sure emergency crews can see your address clearly from the road. Be an advocate in your community for visible, fireproof street signs.

Be "fire smart" inside your home. Keep one or more fire extinguishers charged and handy. Use a metal container to dispose of hot embers from barbecues.

Record your belongings. In the unfortunate event that you suffer a loss, it's important to have a record of your belongings whether that's achieved by writing a list, taking photos, or shooting a video of your home. Be sure to keep this record of your belongings in a safe place away from your home, such as a safe deposit box or office.

Schedule an insurance check-up. Ensure your policies are accurate, current and provide all the coverage you need. During natural disasters, such as wildfires, insurance companies may have temporary restrictions on taking on new business, making the instant purchase or upgrading of insurance exceptionally difficult.