

Subject: Mohave County Chapter 975 Dispatch Volume 2 Special Edition; August 21, 2008 Charity Dinner Bullhead City Saturday August 23rd 3-year-old Alyssa Tudor and her family
From: "Chap Tom" <chap975@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, 21 Aug 2008 21:16:10 -0700
To: "Chap Tom" <chap975@gmail.com>



"CHAPTER 975 DISPATCH"

"Never again shall one generation of veterans abandon another"



*"Only two defining forces have ever offered to die for you,
Jesus Christ and the **American G.I.**"
~One died for your soul, the other for your freedom~*



For Questions, Comments, Suggestions, Issues: Contact chaplain@vva975.org



***Benefit Dinner For 3-year-old Alyssa Tudor and her family !
Saturday August 23rd, 1500 - 1800hrs***

Local

Fired up: Smiling face, tale stirs cycle group to action

By ALICE POPOVICI/The Daily News

Sunday, August 17, 2008 10:04 PM CDT

BULLHEAD CITY - All it took was the picture of a smiling little girl and the story of her battle with cancer.

Mike Ricci knew he had to do something to help 3-year-old Alyssa Tudor and her family.

In June, Alyssa was diagnosed with Neuroblastoma, a rare form of cancer that affects children. Doctors said the tumor was wrapped around her spinal column and was inoperable.

As soon as Alyssa was hospitalized in Las Vegas, parents Brian and Rojeana took a leave of absence from their jobs to be with her. Her grandmother, Evette Strother, quit her job at the Colorado Belle to help out.

Alyssa is doing better and has returned to her home in Laughlin, according to a family blog. But she will have to return to Las Vegas periodically for treatment.

It's sad to hear about anyone dealing with cancer, said Ricci, a Mohave Valley Fire Department firefighter.

"When children get it, it kind of hits a special spot for us."

Ricci, who is president of Riders of Fire, a charitable motorcycle club for firefighters, brought the idea to the other members.

"I got with the guys and we all agreed right off the bat," Ricci said. "We all said - 'Hey, what about a dinner?'"

They're asking community members to bring their appetites and pocketbooks to a dinner fundraiser for Alyssa, held from 3 to 8 p.m. Saturday at the Mohave Shrine Club, 2580 Miracle Mile.

The cost is \$5 for the spaghetti dinner, garlic bread, salad, and Texas coffee cake for desert. There will be a raffle, a silent auction and a 50/50 drawing as well as a free performance by local group Oliver Twisted Magic, who will provide face painting, balloons and a magic show. Tips for the entertainment, along with all proceeds from the dinner, will go to Alyssa's family.



FIRE UP: From left, Annette Canwright, Kris Blake, Don Midgley, Don Gibson, Mike Canwright, Darren Delaney and Mike Ricci are planning a dinner fundraiser Saturday at the Mohave Shrine Club to raise money for 3-year-old Alyssa Tudor. The Riders of Fire motorcycle club members said they are cooking enough food for 1,000 people. ALICE POPOVICI/The Daily News

“Everyone should show up and spend five bucks because it's a good cause,” said Don Midgely, a member of Riders of Fire. “We want to raise as much as possible.”

That way, the Tudor family can focus on Alyssa's recovery rather than worrying about bills waiting at home.

Founded locally in 2003, Riders of Fire is open to active, retired and volunteer firefighters. The members said this is their first charitable event, and they want to reach out to others who may need help.

“We want to get involved with the community,” Ricci said.

When people are facing problems, he hopes they'll remember the Riders of Fire and ask for help.

Tom Hanlon
Chaplain
Mohave County Chapter 975
Vietnam Veterans of America

www.vva975.org
chaplain@vva975.org