

November 2002



# The Coffee Break

\$1.00

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Every last cent goes to the Coffee Creek Volunteer Fire Co.!

## Who's Who—"Mary Havener" by Barbara Vasconcellos

Summer is gone now, but when you think of soft ice cream cones and great cheese-



Mary Havener

burgers, Mary Havener (and her crew) at the Mini Kat in Wyntoon, is the one to thank. Mary Evelyn was born to Dorothy and Kyle Nevling in San Bernardino, California on December 30, 1943, joining a brother Alan, who was four years older. Mary had what she describes as a very normal childhood, attending Fairfax Elementary, Highland Jr. High and Pacific High, all in San Bernardino. She was a Girl Scout in a troop led by her mother, played the piano, and was in the school orchestra, playing the violin.

Mary says she was a tomboy and followed her brother and his friends around all of the time, partly because there weren't any girls her age in the neighborhood, but mainly because she worshiped her big brother. There were times when her willingness to do any-

thing he said, got her in trouble. He and his buddies liked to conduct experiments and, more often than not, Mary was the guinea pig. Like the time they tried to catapult a brick off of the end of a shovel by jumping on it. They decided that they were too tall, so they elected to have Mary do it, as she was so much shorter, and it should fly over her head. Well, she wasn't short enough as the brick flew back and hit her in the face, resulting in some broken teeth for her, and trouble for her brother.

In 1961, Mary graduated from Pacific High School with her class of 975 students. Five days later she married her sweetheart, Mel Cowan. They lived in various southern California towns and in 1964 moved to Oklahoma City, OK where Mel was in mortgage banking. They moved back to San Bernardino in 1969, and Mel sold real estate. In 1971 they moved up to Covington Mill, CA.

They bought Carrville Inn from Harold Schafer at the end of 1972, and with her parents and her brother and family,

proceeded to open the restaurant and bar for business. Fred Anderson was the chef and his wife Eunice and Mary waited on tables. They were renovating part of the building's second story for the three families living there and also had torn down the old Carrville store and moved into its place the Foster store from old Trinity Center. They hosted several weddings and many parties at Carrville, including the E. Clampers Vitas annual picnic. That was when the monument was built depicting the history of the Carrville Inn. It stands next to the California-Oregon Wagon Road or the Carrville Loop Road as it is known today, by the Carr Gulch. While they ran it, the restaurant was well know for its wonderful dinners, and many people would drive out from Weaver-ville to eat every weekend.

The 1974 flood was devastating for them. The dam above the inn broke in the middle of the night and flooded everything when the gulch overran its banks, flooding and

silting in the basement of the inn, all around the building and over the road. They had bought hundreds of pounds of meat and produce for the restaurant for the holidays. All of it was lost. There was no power for days, therefore no refrigeration. Mary was pregnant with their fourth child, and the community was a disaster with bridges out and many roads washed away. Fred and Eunice insisted that they move in with them for the time being, as they feared for Mary and the baby in case something more were to happen. All of this was too much of a loss and they were not able to hang on to the inn.

Mel went back to selling real estate in the Twain Harte, area and Mary waited tables at Cedar Stock, where Fred and Eunice were now working for the Johansons. She traveled back and forth to spend time with Mel, and around 1977, lived briefly in Twain Harte, working with Mel in his office. Later he moved to Reno and worked there. Mary worked hard helping to support her family, and as her marriage had come to an end, took on more work. She worked at Les and Bunny's as a relief cook, a great old place on the corner of highway #3 and Eagle Creek Loop, which has since been bulldozed to the ground.

Fred and Eunice bought the Ycatapom Restaurant in Trinity Center in the late 1970's and Mary became their bartender and ran the Mini-Kat for them in the summers. In September of 1981 she met Jim Havener who worked for a company that builds and repairs bridges. He helped her get a job "flagging" on Scott Mountain. In August of '82 Mary and Jim bought the "Deli", now the Forest Cafe in Coffee Creek, from Jack and Laurie Jackson. They ran it until 1993 when they sold it to Smoky and Cherie Silva. Mary still had children at home, and they all lived in the apartment above the restaurant for a time. Later they bought a home down the same street. They also bought the Mini-Kat from Fred and Eunice in 1989 and ran that too.

Jim is now retired and spends most of his days tending their beautiful yard in the summers. Mary is kept very busy running the Mini-Kat and calls on Jim on occasion to lend a hand. He makes a mean burger. Mary has expanded the menu to include several dinner items and pizzas



**Mary's Graduation Photo**

and around dusk just about every kid in the campground and many locals come by for their soft ice cream cone. Mary has lived in the area for over thirty years now and is truly an asset to the community with her hard work. She provides summer employment for so many of the young people. Her own children are all married and away from home. Casey and his family live in Texas. Mary tries to visit them at least once a year to spoil her two granddaughters who are nine and five years old. Chris is in the Navy and is currently serving in the Middle East. His home base is in Norfolk, Va. Daughter, Mindy, is a teacher in Chico and very recently married. Mary lives and works in Weaverville and is married to a sheriff's deputy.

Next year when the Mini Kat is open for the summer season, drop by and say a friendly Hello to this hard working lady and long time member of our community.



### Flu Shots

Flu Shots for seniors 60 and over or other adults with chronic health problems will be offered by Trinity County Health and Human Services on Wednesday, **November 6th** from 9:30 am until 11 am at the IOOF Hall in Trinity Center. These will be first come, first serve while supplies last. Pneumonia vaccine will not be available this year. For more information call 623-8209 or (800) 766-6147.

### Christmas Faire

The Christmas Faire, sponsored by the Artisan's Guild, will be held on Saturday, **November 9th** at the IOOF Hall in Trinity Center from 10 am until 4 pm. This is the time to get those one-of-a-kind, handmade gift items for Christmas. You will find jewelry, quilts, photos, paintings, pottery and many other craft items for sale. Don't forget to visit the Coffee Creek Volunteer Fire Company's booth featuring items crafted by the Fireflies. Now is the time to stock up on the world famous Firefly Scrubbers! Also, the new area phone books will be for sale. Lunch will be provided by the Coffee Creek School. Don't forget to bring the kids for their photo op with Santa! The Jolly One will be on board from 11 am until 2 pm.

### Garden Club

The Garden Club will meet this month on Tuesday, **November 12th** at 1 pm at the IOOF Hall. Bring materials to make your own Christmas Wreath or table decoration. There will be refreshments.

### Thanksgiving Feast

The Mens' Fellowship group from Coffee Creek Church will be holding their 5th annual Thanksgiving Feast at the church. All are welcome on Sunday, **November 24th** from 1 pm until whenever to partake of a traditional Thanksgiving turkey with all the trimmings. There is no cost for this meal and all are welcome.

### See's Candy Sale

It's time for this year's Christmas See's Candy sale held by the Coffee Creek Fireflies. To order call: Gloria Jason—266-3579, Pat Meyer—266-3614, or Laurene Wright—266-3405.

### New Books at the Trinity Center Library

1. Chopping Spree, by Diane Mott Davidson
2. Nights in Rodanthe, by Nicholas Sparks--A moving reminder that love is possible at any age and any time
3. The Lovely Bones--Number one on the best seller list. Set in heaven as real and possible as the earth is mysterious and shifting
4. I Am Always with You, Encounters with Jesus
5. A Lady's Life in the Rocky Mountains--A middle-aged English lady traveling alone by horseback during autumn and winter of 1873
6. Ghost Towns of Northern California
7. The Freemasons, a History of the World's Most Powerful Secret Society
8. Blue Plate Specials & Blue Ribbon Chefs--The heart and soul of America's great roadside restaurants
9. Eleventh Hour by Catherine Coulter--an F.B.I. thriller

### Happy 100th Birthday to Louise McDonald



**Birthday Girl**

Happy Birthday, Louise McDonald!!! Louise will turn 100 years old this month. Come by and express your birthday good wishes at an open house held at Louise's home on Sunday, November 10th from 1 pm until 3 pm. Please, no gifts, but good friends, good conversation, good remembrances, and good times welcome. Call Pat McDonald for information at 266-3830.



## Yellow Jacket

Everyone is all abuzz with word that the Yellow Jacket has sold and will reopen soon. Mike and Moira Cariglio from Upper Covington have finalized their purchase and are hard at work making all the arrangements to satisfy state and county requirements to open the restaurant. Moira must also wrap up her job with Shasta Head Start. At this point they are hoping to be open somewhere around Valentine's Day. The couple plan to keep things pretty much the same, although Moira says she *might* have some specials and there may be tacos available.

Mike and Moira are both California born and raised, and moved here from the Vacaville area. Moira's background has been working with young children and Mike is a retired jockey and is a Teamster. Mike started his jockey career as a "bug boy" (an apprentice jockey) and was the leading "bug boy" in the North West. He retired after a 15 year career. The Cariglio's have a son and a daughter and 5 grandchildren. There son, Michael, is a professional wrestler in Japan and their daughter, Rose, is expecting.

Mike and Moira would like to thank their good friends Doug and Sherri Walhood for showing them "this beautiful treasure of a neighborhood up here". They would also like to thank the community for their patience and support.

## Interested in Trinity County History?

Long time resident Vi Karrer has compiled the following list of books to read if you are interested in learning more about the early days of the Trinity Center and Coffee Creek areas:

1. There is a new book on the History of Trinity Alps Resort, by Cliff Pierce. It's on sale at Trinity Alps resort and is very interesting.
2. Beneath Trinity Lake, It's Hidden Past, by Cliff Pierce. This book is on sale at Scott's Museum in Trinity Center.
3. Along Our History Trails, by Earnest Hayden. Vi thinks this book is still on sale at Scott Valley Drug Store in Etna.
4. "Tales of a Country Store", by Elmer and Louise McDonald. This story is in the 1989 Historical Society Book, page 23.
5. "Story of Carrville Inn", by Kit Waller. This story is in one of the Historical Society annual books, and is the story of the Carr family and the hotel.
6. "Story of the Dodge Family and the Early Day Stage Stops", by Vi Karrer. This story is on page 45 of the 1993 Historical Society Book.
7. "Early Days on Coffee Creek", by Viva Tapie. This is in the 1973 Historical Society Book.

## "Times Past" When Cows Fly

Next time you see Bob Carpenter ask him how cows fly. He'll likely remember the time that cows were literally flying through the mountain air just before Christmas of 1979. Ethel Pettis (now Ethel Steele) and her husband, Bill, had finished their October cattle round up, taking cows from their summer mountain grazing areas back to their ranch in Cottonwood. The only problem was that they were missing 5 cows and their calves. The Pettis's and friends searched for the wayward bovines, but came up empty until some forest rangers reported that some backpackers in the Swift Creek area had spotted cows.

Plans were made to check for the animals the next day, but, as fate would have it, a snow storm struck—4 feet worth of snow. Then 2 days later a second worse storm came. The situation was now desperate. Friends tried to clear seven miles of road to the head of Swift Creek, but it just didn't do the job. They tried to get to the cattle with horses and a mule, but again their efforts failed.

They decided to try and lift some hay into the cows, and hired a logging firm from Yreka. After the hay was dropped, a small, half dead calf, was placed in a net attached to the helicopter. She was then flown to the Swift Creek trailhead. (Buddy McDonald had punched a road through to this point with his CAT.) The pilot felt that there was a chance he could fly the rest of the cows out as well, so an all out effort was begun to rescue the critters.

The cows were herded into drifts, while nets were wrapped around them. One by one they were all airlifted to safety. Ethel and Bill Pettis acknowledged a debt of gratitude to Dick Hamilton, Buddy McDonald, Bob Carpenter, Karl Van Matre and Roger Wyborg for their help. Mary Hamilton and Cleo Carpenter nursed the young calf that was half frozen in Cleo's living room. In fact, Bob came home one day to find his socks on the calf's feet. She, as well as all the other cows, survived the ordeal, but there are still many people in the area today that will never forget the day that cows flew through the sky with wild abandon.



Ethel's Flying  
Cows



## School Days

### **Trinity Center School**

A Pancake Breakfast and Christmas Tree Sale will be held at the Sasquatch on December 1st from 8 am until noon. This is a great way to fill your tummy, pick your tree and support the school all at once.

### **Coffee Creek School**

#### **River Day Big Hit at Coffee Creek School**

October 18<sup>th</sup> was River Day at Coffee Creek School. River Day was an event that celebrated the 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the passing of the Clean Water Act. The Department of Water Resources called for individuals and organizations across the nation to set aside this day as National Water Monitoring Day to check on the health of our local water resources. Coffee Creek School already conducts a water monitoring project every year in September and this year they decided to make a big “splash” of their project and tie it in with the National Water Monitoring Day.

Classes from Burnt Ranch, Weaverville Elementary and Trinity Center School were invited to participate. In all, there were 65 students attending the event. Students were split into groups and rotated through seven stations on the creek. The stations were designed to collect data on the stream and also to teach students valuable lessons on watershed stewardship.

Students from Coffee Creek School acted as hosts and guides and also assisted the professionals who manned each station.

The students and staff of Coffee Creek School wish to thank the U.S. Forest Service, the Trinity County Resource Conservation District, The Americorps and Mr. Bill Horstman for their tremendous help and professional guidance during this event.

River Day was a great success and will go down as one of Coffee Creek School's annual events.



Coffee Creek School Kids Conduct Water Tests

### **Excerpts from California to Oregon by Trail, Steamboat, Stagecoach, and Train 1850-1887 compiled by Edwin Scott**

*From the Shasta Courier, Feb 23, 1858:* Road from Weaverville to Trinity Center is under construction.

*From the Sacramento Union, Aug. 10, 1861:* From Shasta to Yreka, a distance of 115 miles, with the exception of about twenty miles through Scott Valley, the road for the whole distance has been made by artificial means, crossing Trinity and Scott Mountains, each at an elevation of nearly three thousand feet above the valleys at their base, by a grade on each mountain that will average six miles up and six miles down. The road through Trinity Valley, which, although containing some fine farming, is but little more than a long gorge through the mountains, has for miles been blasted out of solid rock and crosses Trinity River on substantial wooden bridges, with stone abutments as often as fifteen times. This making, was undertaken in different sections by different companies as a matter of private speculation—then by general subscription as a matter of public necessity, aided by the

state in diverting the Poll Tax (Road Tax) collected in the Counties through which it passes. The work was finally abandoned by all parties who had undertaken it. The work was then undertaken as a private enterprise by the California Stage Company and completed by them after an expenditure of over fifty thousand dollars. The whole work cost about seventy thousand dollars. The enterprise of the California Stage Company has been of immense benefit to the people of the northern part of the state had has greatly decreased the cost of transportation and freight and reduced time of travel.

*From the Yreka Journal, June 7, 1867:* No mail reached here Monday owing to the melting snow making Coffee Creek impassable. Monday's mail arrived the next day, pretty well soaked in the attempt to get it across on the previous day.



Every last cent from the sale of this newsletter goes to the Coffee Creek Volunteer Fire Company!



A Coffee Creek Firefly Publication



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Only male turkeys (Toms) gobble, the females make a clicking noise.

Did You Know.....?



### My Turn

*The "Paper Bunny" has visited my doorstep again. Thank you George and Ann Bauman for the paper that keeps me going.*

*Ye Old Editor*

Free  
2 year old Black  
and Tan Hound and  
Doxon Mix. Muttated  
female, with 2 year  
Rabbys shot.  
1.1.11.

Excerpt from Ad on Local Bulletin Board

