

2/8/06

Kelli Gant woke up at about 8:00 a.m. Super Bowl Sunday, and stoked the burning embers in her wood stove and laid more logs on before heading for the kitchen to make coffee. She heard a large rumbling roar behind her, and knew instinctively it was a flue fire in her chimney. Kelli did all the right things. First she shut the dampers and doors, woke Mike and called 911. When she went outside, she noticed flames up to 18 inches high shooting for the top of the chimney.

The TCVFD responded and extinguished fire in flue by having Mike and Kelli close off all air supply to the free-standing wood furnace. The Spark cover was removed from top of chimney to monitor the fire, and the temperature decreased. The fire departments thermal imager was used to confirm there were no further fire or hot spots other than in stove. They were instructed not to build fire until chimney could be cleaned.

This is a wakeup call for a number of us. A lot of us use our fireplaces or wood stoves for our main source of heat. As the wood burns, it gives off a natural combustible byproduct called creosote, which coats the walls of the chimney. After so much build up, it becomes a flue fire waiting to happen.

According to the internet, chimney fires don't have to happen. And there offer some ways to avoid them: Use seasoned woods only (dryness is more important than hard wood versus soft wood considerations); Build smaller, hotter fires that burn more completely and produce less smoke; Never burn cardboard boxes, wrapping paper, trash or Christmas trees; these can spark a chimney fire; Install stovepipe thermometers to help monitor flue temperatures where wood stoves are in use, so you can adjust burning practices as needed; Have the chimney inspected and cleaned on a regular basis –at least once a year.

For those of you who have been asking what happened to Almega High Speed Internet, Kelli Gant said we are working on plan "B". Almega did not seem to be very eager to get our business, and besides that, it would have only solved the internet problem for Trinity Center residents. Lynn Scott has made Kelli aware of a company called Comp Air Services out of Anderson that offers wireless internet. We will keep you updated as new progress occurs.

It is not hard to see why the students at Trinity Center School do so well academically. Aside from having caring and outstandingly qualified teachers and staff, the students are motivated to be the best that they can be by the recognition they receive when they do well.

Each quarter, top readers from each class are treated to a dinner at the Sasquatch. The dinner coming up this Friday, February 10 will honor Courtney Christner, Jeff Heinig, and Jazmine Harrison.

Trinity Center students did extremely well in the National Geography Bee and Spelling Bee. We would like to join in on the congratulations to all students who competed in the National Geography Bee on January 13 and the Spelling Bee on December 9. The National Geography Bee winners are Courtney Christner (first place), Leeanna Dunham (second place, and Sam Boggs (third place). Spelling Bee winners are Connor Christner (first place), Samantha Dunham (second place) and Robby Heinig (third place)

Connor Christner, Samantha Dunham and Robby Heinig will be representing Trinity Center School at the Trinity County Spelling Bee held at Douglas City School at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, February 9.

The Trinity Center School staff is very proud of the many students who were recognized for academic achievements at the Awards Assembly Monday, January 30. High Honor Roll certificates were issued to: Allie Dunham, Jeff Heinig, Tiffany Wood, Tyler Heinig, Courtney Christner, and Connor Christner. Honor Roll certificates include: Alex Berglund, Brad Berglund, Gabe Burge, Chaney Councilman, Roy Councilman, Samantha Dunham, Jazmine Harrison, Kayla Harrison, Charlotte Jasperse, Aren Johnson, Olivia McClellan, Josh Plotzke, J.R. Quinn, Holly Wood, Whitney Wood, and Rebecca Wurth.

Joe Solven, son of Rich and Linda Solven, and a sophomore at Trinity High School, took first place in his weight category in the Shasta Cascade Wrestling League at a match hosted by Trinity High School. This is Joe's first year in Wrestling and he is coming on strong. Congratulations, Joe.

There will be a Anti-bullying Staff/Parent Workshop, February 15 led by Lynn Hartley, to help increase anti-bullying awareness and knowledge to staff and parents..

There will be a School Board meeting at the Trinity Center School Thursday, February 16, at 3:30 p.m. Our current school board members are: Judy Pflueger, Mary Ann Bunce, and Debbie Councilman.

Eleven People attended the Trinity Center Chapter of Red Cross DAT last Friday evening. Mike and Barbara Bagnod presented a video of the Katrina disaster and described training steps to prepare out team incase a disaster should happen in our area, whether it is a single home fire, or something more major. Work books were passed out and all day marathon training class has been set for March 4 at 9:00 a.m. at the Weaverville Library. If anyone has any questions please call Betty Eyman, DAT Team Captain, at 530 266 3440.

TCVFD Fire Log: 2/1/06 - Training – joint w/CCVFD @ TCVFD. Use of AC Hot stick. Forward and reverse hose lay: 2/2/06 - Medical - Male patient complaining of shortness of breath. Treated and transported: 2/5/06 - Fire - Flue fire on Cedar St, T/C. Extinguished fire in flue by having resident close off air supply to free-standing wood furnace. Spark cover removed from top of chimney to monitor and temperature decreased. Thermal imager used to confirm no further fire or hot spots other than in stove. Resident instructed not to build fire until chimney could be cleaned: 2/5/06 - Medical - Female patient weak, unable to eat. Treated and transported.