

6/21/06

I hope all of you dads had a Happy Father's Day. The weather was perfect for it. Especially after the long wet winter we had.

The lost beagle that was reported in last weeks North Forty has found its owner. A friend of Bonnie Groves read the dogs description and rushed to her saying "We found Patrick Jasper's beagle". The dog had walked all the way from Coffee Creek, which explains why his feet were sore. The campers were getting very anxious because they were reluctant to leave the dog not knowing if it would be fed properly or taken care of Patrick arrived at the KOA campgrounds to reclaim his dog just hours before the campers who cared for him for a week were to leave for their homes. Norm Zeppa had volunteered to care for the dog until its owner was found, and he was there minutes after Patrick Jasper picked up the winsome traveler. The campers, who thought it was the miracle of the North Forty column were so happy to see the happy ending that they gave me a warm hug, I like hugs so much that I didn't tell them I didn't deserve the credit... the members of the North Forty Community who read my column and respond so caringly should get it – but you can't have my hug.

The First Responder class, a joint project of the CCVFD and TCVFD that will be taught at the Coffee Creek Fire Hall, and will teach personal safety and protection as a medical situation is evaluated, whether it is an illness, injury, or an accident scene, and the knowledge of how to respond to these emergencies. Dr. Koby, who will be teaching the class, said the 40 hour class schedule will be decided at the first meeting in September. It is his intent to keep a flexible format in order to encourage more participants.

You do not have to be a member of the fire department, or join at the class completion, but it is hoped that, after taking the class, it will encourage more people to become a volunteer fire fighter.

Some of the topics that will be taught are; how to operate an automated electrical defibrillator, use bag, valve and mask resuscitation; how and when to administer oxygen; and assist in childbirth. They will also learn to assist people with nitroglycerin, inhalers and epi pens for bee sting and other allergies, and much more. This course will provide the mandatory safety and first aid training required of all firefighters by state law.

Anyone interested in taking this course may contact Sue Chatterton at 266-3677, Debbie Amoss at 266-3200 or Linda Abercrombie at 266-3805.

The first planning meeting of the TCVFD 4<sup>th</sup> of July BBQ was met very enthusiastically by members of the fire department and the fire departments auxiliary as well as members of our business community, without whose help the largest fund raiser for the TCVFD could not succeed. The managers of our newest neighbors, the KOA, (formally Wyntoon Resort) Tom and Rita Higley, attended the meeting in a show of community support and committed themselves to work along with the committee in anyway possible to make the BBQ as big a success as it has been in the past, or bigger. Tops Market in Weaverville has also jumped on the "helping bandwagon" (again this year). But helpers are still needed. If you have even an hour of your time to help in one of the many needs, please call Gloria Eisan, Chairman of the TCVFD Auxiliary at 266-3399.

Several North Forty residents have, over time, given the TCVFD their used medical equipment, such as walkers, wheel chairs and crutches, etc. The fire department loans this equipment to

people who have a need for it. Unfortunately both wheelchairs and two of the walkers have not been returned. If one of these items has ended up in some long forgotten corner of your garage after you were through with them, could you please return them to the fire department, or call them and let them know you still have a need for them. If anyone else has a piece of medical equipment you are no longer using, and needs a new home, the TCVFD would be grateful for the donation, and someone else could get some use from it.

Its official! I am 65, and I have the sweetest husband and most wonderful family and friends in the world! They have helped me celebrate for over a week. But then when you turn 65, aside from being eligible for Medicare, you deserve all the celebration you can get. My sweetheart surprised me with a dinner at the Le Grange in Weaverville, where a huge bouquet of flowers from my children, and a dozen long stem red roses from my husband practically filled the table. The dinner and service, as usual was top notch. And then Dick surprised me with a stay at the Weaverville Hotel. What a treat!

Sunday evening carried on the celebration at a birthday dinner at Pat and Dave Forbes home, where the Forbes, Pat Banducci, Sue and Roger Chatterton helped to arrange a blind date for a dear friend, Reggie and a lady named Sybil. I was honored that my birthday was to be a vehicle to start a budding romance, especially since Sybil is a friend of mine. But you know how blind dates go - my very well endowed friend chose to wear the currant fad of "short shorts" and red spike heels and her blouse unbuttoned one button too many. Besides that her wine glass never left her hand. Reggie spent most of the evening with his face flushed a brilliant red, and after a brief hello hug, kept his distance, trying hard to avert his eyes from all that skin. Reggie owns a boat business, and if any of you should happen to see him, ask him about blind dates. I will have to have a chat with my friend about clothes and spike heels.

Pi Jon, the white racing pigeon that made his home at Linda Cunningham's birdfeeder at the Eagle Creek Ranch for a few weeks has continued his journey from Oregon to his home in Milleville by Redding. But a second racer pigeon with the same metal bands of his ankles landed in Trinity Center where Martin DeWolf picked up the friendly bird and took him to his girlfriend, Dee Dee Michl who works at the Jaktri Market. She remembered the story about Linda's adventurous racing pigeon, and called her for instructions. Linda contacted the internet site pigeonalert911 that helped her find that the pigeon was racing from Idaho to Walnut Creek. The owner requested Dee Dee to feed, water, and confine the bird over night and then take him about five miles out of town and lift him in the air and he would continue his journey home. Dee Dee said she followed his instructions and the bird took flight and disappeared into the horizon... hopefully home bound. Maybe they are following the Oregon Trail??