

North Forty

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As you will read below, the CCVFD Chili Feed and Auction is coming up. This is one of my favorite local events and I look forward to it every year. Chief Roger Chatterton wrote the following regarding this event. If you like auctions, chili, being with friends and/or supporting a local effort, you'll love this evening.

As I hope most readers know, the Coffee Creek VFD Chili Feed and Auction is coming up on Sat, April 21, starting at 5 PM. I would like to take this opportunity to explain why we have this chili feed, what it does for your Coffee Creek VFD, and what it does for all of you.

There are fifteen volunteer fire departments in Trinity County. Five of those have tax bases. Coffee Creek VFD is not one of those five. Thus, we have to depend on donations and fund-raising events to pay the expenses of running the fire department.

The annual budget for operating the fire department is right around \$30k, which is also approximately what we are able to generate, so the budget is extremely tight.

Whenever we can we apply for grants for necessary equipment, and over the years we have been very successful at this. Unfortunately there are no grants to fund the day to day operating expenses of the department so our only choices are to ask the district residents to vote to tax themselves, close the doors, or try to solicit the support of the community through donations and fund raisers. Fortunately this community has been very supportive over the years so we have never had to consider either of the other two options.

Earlier on I stated I would explain the benefit of all this to you, so here we go. Trinity Center VFD and Coffee Creek VFD respond together on all calls, as well as training together. The mutual response is to ensure we have sufficient resources to handle whatever the emergency is. We train together so we function as one team when we handle calls. Two of our members are in fact members of both departments. If you are anywhere north of Cedar Stock and you call 9-1-1 for a fire, rescue or medical emergency we are going to be there for you, 24/7. That is our commitment. If the 9-1-1 call is a medical emergency we will treat you and transport you in one of our ambulances, either to meet Trinity County Life Support, or, in more critical emergencies, to Trinity Center Airport (Swett Field) to be transferred to a medical helicopter. We are very proud of being able to deliver this level of service to you and each one of us. We are all unpaid volunteers and dedicated to continuing to do so.

But, to do so we depend on you for your financial support. So we want to take your money. But, in return, you'll get a great meal (although I may be biased since my bride is the chief chili cooker), have the opportunity to bid on some very cool stuff and have a great evening visiting with friends and neighbors. Supporting your Coffee Creek Volunteer Fire Department can't get any more painless than that. I hope to see you all there!

Thanks Roger. This is good info and a great event. As I love auctions, I find this auction to be especially fun and interesting due to the vast variety of items for sale. You'll find everything from sporting goods to art and other items. Every year has some great surprises too.

As you travel between the North Forty and Weaverville, you may have noticed new telephone poles, signs and work being done at the Stewarts Fork bridge. Upgrade and retrofit work on the bridge will continue through about the middle of May. During the day there will be manned traffic control and at night there will be a working traffic light at each end of the bridge. After work is complete on this bridge, CalTrans will begin widening work on the East Fork of the Stewarts Fork bridge at Guy Covington Drive. I don't know how long this work will take but the bridge is going to be widened. Give yourself a little extra time if you're heading south on Hwy 3.

Coffee Creek Elementary School held its annual 8th grade Spaghetti Feed Fundraiser April 1st and had a great turnout. The students and school staff appreciate everyone's support. On Thursday, April 26, Coffee Creek and Trinity Center School students will participate in the Lions Club Speech Night at the I.O.O.F. Hall at 6:00 p.m. This week is Spring Break for the kids. Hope you're all having a great time.

Jimbo Dahm and his wife Sue are in need of a large travel trailer or mobile home to live in. They now have a place to move but no residence. If you can help, call Jimbo or Sue at 266-3696.

On the fishing front, with the warmer weather, the Bass fishing has been warming up too. The fish seem to be in the pre-spawn and moving into the shallower water. I'd still suggest tubes baits although the top-water popper has begun to produce too. I use the top-water late in the evening around some kind of underwater structure. Last week a 5 lb. Smallmouth took my top-water popper just off the old roadbed at Bowerman. Remember, though, the limit this time of year is two Bass but Catch and Release is recommended. Let's keep the spawning Bass in the lake where they belong!

Finally, congratulations to Dr. Glen Koby for winning the Nor-Cal EMS Exemplary Performance Award. Dr. Koby will be recognized at the Nor-Cal EMS Pre-Hospital Conference in Redding on April 28th. Nor-Cal EMS oversees the North State EMS system which serves over 550,000 people in eleven counties. Dr. Koby won this award for too many reasons to list here. However some of the reasons include his being the Medical Director for both CCVFD and TCVFD, conducting training and medical exams for both departments and responding to fire and medical calls in our communities at all times of the day or night. Dr. Koby and his wife Janet live in Trinity Center with their poodle Raquet. Dr. Koby has a dermatology practice in Trinity Center. Congratulations and THANKS Glen!