

5/9/07

I am back! It feels like I have been away from family and friends for years, and my excitement and joy of being back and visiting you via the North Forty Column makes me feel like a kid at Christmas time. So grab your cup of coffee and let's sit together for a "spell".

I get better each day, and I am storing up so much energy that when the doctor releases me the whole North Forty is going to feel like a mini hurricane swept through. The three wonderful columnists, Bill DeWolf, Bob Bryant, and Ann Elsbach, who jumped in to hold down the fort while I was ill have brought so much to all of us in forms of diversified opinions and styles. I am pleased to announce that they have agreed to stay on. Now you will have four of us.... all different styles, all different points of interest, and all bringing you news you need to know. You many call or email any of the four of us with your news and we will make sure the columnist who is writing that week will get it.

The North Forty welcomes KOA's new General Manager, Kevin "Fun" Donnelly to our area. The "Fun" stand for the type of occupation Kevin has devoted his life to... creating, restructuring and promoting fun parks, theme parks and recreational parks all over the world. Koa invites you all to come and meet Kevin.

Mary Hanson has been working tirelessly with the students of Trinity Center Elementary school getting them ready for their spring extravaganza "Dear Edwina Jr. to be presented on May 23 at 10:30 a.m. and again at 6:30 p.m. at the IOOF Hall. It has been a particularly challenging production for Mary this year, as so many children have been absent from school for different types of illness. The ratio of students absent these past few weeks compared to the number of the school population could be considered an epidemic. The illnesses have been varied from colds, flue, pneumonia, etc. But as they say, "The show must go on". Kudos to Mary for all her work. We don't say it enough, Mary, but you are our hero, and we really appreciate all that you do.

TC School's 6,7, and 8 grade students will be doing their annual trash cleanup day, leaving from the school at 6:45 a.m., covering their route and returning to school before it starts at 8:00 a.m. Awards will be given for the most unusual garbage, the stingiest, the most garbage collected. The garbage scavengers will meet back at the school for muffins and hot chocolate. Some of the most unusual pieces collected last year was an animal jaw bone, a piece of a car fender and earrings. This is such a worthy thing these kids do, and they have fun doing it. Thanks to all of you 6, 7 and 8 graders, and the adults who help you.

One of Trinity Center's favorite and most honored residents and his sweetheart invited a few friends to get "Gussied Up" and enjoy a few cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and dancing at the Riverview Country Club on Bechelli Lane in Redding. Col. Jim Swett chose that time to ask his love, Verna Miller, to marry him. To the surprise of the more than 100 guest, the couple wondered why they should wait any longer to get married and asked if there was a Judge in the house. Trinity Center's black robed Judge Ron Rowland came forward, "marrying book" in hand, asking if anyone knew of any reason why this couple should not marry. Before anyone could answer, the Judges cell phone rang, and in true "Deal or No Deal" fashion, he listened intently, and responded, "I'll tell her". The Judge turned to the couple and said, "The test was negative, do you still wish to proceed?" After the ceremony that had just the right amount of tender seriousness and comic repertoire, Jim and Verna were pronounced "Husband and Wife". Congratulations Jim and Verna.

The Trinity Lake Lions Club will be hosting its annual Fish Derby for kids 4 through 15 years of age, Saturday, May 19 at the Carville Pond. The first 250 entrants will be given a package containing Salmon eggs, hooks, and other fishing items. Entrants will need to bring their own poles that do not have lures or barbs. This year's grand prize is a guided fishing trip. The winner of this prize must be accompanied by an adult. I don't think the adult will mind too much. Among the different prize categories will be for the

first fish, largest fish, and first limit. Sign-ups will be at the pond from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. Hot Chocolate, Coffee and Hot Dogs will be served.

Club Live will be having its Spring Fling Graduation Dance Friday, May 11 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. The Trinity Center students, 6 through 8th grade, have invited students from Coffee Creek School Junction City.