## The North Forty By: Bob Bryant – Coptrainer@tds.net

Its been a difficult week for the fire community. Nine souls were lost in the helicopter crash downriver. Since we all know someone who works for the Forest Service, Cal Fire or other fire service, we all share, to some degree or another, the sorrow of losing these dedicated, selfless heros. On Saturday, Sunday and Monday the bodies of these brave fire fighters were brought out of the forest by the same means that took their lives. They were flown out by helicopter and ceremoniously delivered to the Weaverville airport, watched over by an honor guard and a piper playing *Amazing Grace*. From there they were driven to Shasta County followed through Weaverville by a long procession of fire engines with lights flashing. TCVFD/CCVFD Chief Roger Chatterton drove in the procession two of those days and was a member of the honor guard on Sunday.

On Saturday, September 6, the Trinity County Fire Chiefs Association and the Wildland Firefighters Association will hold a BBQ fundraiser to benefit the families of those killed in this tragedy. This event will be held in Weaverville. Watch for more information on this later and, please, help by contributing to the families of those who gave their all. On September 13, the Clampers will dedicate a monument in Junction City to honor all fire fighters who have lost their lives in Trinity County. The Record Searchlight erroneously published the date of this event as Aug. 13.

Early last month the Covington Mill Homeowners Association held a Bake Sale to benefit the Trinity Center Volunteer Fire Department. Through the efforts of Luke and Bobby Lucas, Billie Higgs, Martha Morris and Cheryl Seronello, along with numerous unnamed residents of Covington Mill, over \$1,200 dollars was raised and donated to the Fire Department. Thanks to all who contributed time and baked goods for this sale and thanks to all who purchased their goods. The residents of Covington Mill and other communities south of Trinity Center do appreciate the fire department and its members responding to our area when we have an emergency.

Last Saturday, Aug. 9, the same group of Covington Mill residents held their annual community meeting and pot-luck where community issues are discussed. Trinity Center Community Services District president Glen Ahmann, board member Mike McHugh and Chief Chatterton attended this meeting and were well received as they discussed the process and advantages of annexing their community into the fire district. Annexation would be a win-win proposition for the community as well as the district.

In closing, I wish to send out a heart felt **GET WELL** to Betty Eyman. Betty hasn't been feeling well and is out of town this week with her "sweetheart" Dick. We in the North Forty community wish Betty a speedy recovery and hope to see her name at the top of the North Forty column soon. In the mean time, I hope you'll enjoy reading commentary by various residents of the North Forty.