

North Forty – 12/9/09 edition
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Christmas is in sight and it can't get here any faster for my girls. They can recite to me the meaning of Christmas and the whys and whats of the celebration. However, it appears that what really matters is on those lists they give me – kids.

Not that they are to take all the blame, after all I do tell them to give me their lists every year. The lists are a mix of written items in order of importance, or pages torn out of catalogs (or from the internet) with their desires circled. One, sometimes two, of those gifts end up under the tree.

This year's lists are a bit different from previous years. As I peruse each list I notice that attention is being given to the cost of the items either by triple underlines, double circles or, as in one case, highlighting. Apparently, they each have a budget that I was never aware of. Even stranger, each of my three girls has a different budget.

I can't help but smile thinking that the girls are money conscious. They have always considered the price of items and even let me know when certain groceries are on sale. I myself am a penny pincher, so I'm glad a little bit of that is rubbing off onto them.

Yet, each of my daughters has her own idea of what a small budget means. For example, the average costs of items on one list is about \$15 – a bargain. The next list goes up a few notches to an average of around \$23. The final list blows the other two away. This daughter either doesn't get the budget idea or hasn't figured out where Santa hangs his hat. The cost: \$60; number of items: one. I still haven't figured out what I'm getting her.

Craig Scott, son of Lyn and Eleanor Scott, received the Medal of Valor last week, Dec. 2. The award was given for actions on Oct. 16, 2008 to rescue a child under extreme conditions. The presentation was made at an official meeting of the California EMS commission in San Francisco. In addition to the full commission there was a contingent of California Highway Patrol officers, Craig's family and nearly 100 other guests.

Coffee Creek School will host another movie night at the school at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec 9. Hot dogs, popcorn and drinks will be available for purchase. The community is invited.

The Trinity Lake Lion's Club annual Senior Dinner is this Saturday. Call Cheryl at 266-3216 or Cindi 266-3505 for more information and reservations.

Let's support our students and watch them perform their Christmas plays. Trinity Center School will perform their play at 6 p.m. Dec. 16. Coffee Creek will perform theirs at the school at 6 p.m. Dec. 17.

Play group at Coffee Creek School has been extended. Preschoolers can now attend Monday through Thursday. The school is also serving breakfast and lunch for the

students. If you have preschooler at home who is currently not attending and are interested, contact Coffee Creek School for more information.

Interested in being as U.S. Census Taker? A qualifying exam will be given on December 18 at 1:30pm at the IOOF Hall. Pay is 11:50 per hour with Crew Leaders receiving \$13.00. Mileage rate is \$.55 per mile. The census will last up to ten weeks. Census takers can work full or part time and will hopefully be serving in areas where they live and have a familiarity. The exam will be offered a second time for those who do not qualify on December 18.