

North Forty (June 16, 2010)
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One of my daughters almost always has a late snack just before bedtime. I used to tell her it wasn't healthy, it causes stomach aches or she could have nightmares. She usually answered with a shrug as she continued to search for a tasty snack or asked me if I would like anything ("Whatever you're having," I'd answer with a sigh).

It's mostly harmless. She doesn't eat much, she eats like a bird really. She snacks on fruit, yogurt, granola bars, the occasional cookie or bowl of ice cream. It is rather comical the way she goes about getting her snack. It starts at the refrigerator with several moments of contemplation, then she moves to the pantry. The good stuff is on the top shelves, so that requires her dragging a chair across the kitchen, climbing onto the chair and contemplating the upper reaches of the pantry. Then it's back to staring into the refrigerator. I've seen her go back and forth several times before settling on something.

The other night, she was staring into the refrigerator and said, "There's nothing to eat." I peeked over her shoulder and saw there wasn't room on any shelf to even fit a single grape. I told her I'll get her an appointment with the eye doctor. After more staring and thinking, she finally settled on Nutter Butter cookies from the pantry. As she walked passed me, she handed me one.

Trinity Center Volunteer Fire Department had its annual barbeque last Saturday. Unfortunately, I was out of town and missed it. However, my sources tell me it was a fun success. This year they added games for the kids including relay races and a tug-of-war. The tug-of-war was the volunteers vs. kids. The score: kids 1, volunteer 0.

Sunday, June 20 the Coffee Creek Fire Flies are hosting a pancake breakfast at Coffee Creek's Fire Hall. This is a great opportunity to treat Dad to breakfast for Father's Day. Breakfast is from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 and \$5 for children under 6. The Fire Flies put a lot of effort into the breakfasts and the food is delicious. If you see Rusty, be sure to thank him for getting up early on a Sunday morning to move the engines out of the bay.

The Trinity Lake Revitalization Alliance will be meeting June 28 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Coffee Creek Church Community Center. This is a community workshop that is looking for your input on how to restore the North Trinity Lake area. The evening will begin with an update on Trinity Lake water issues followed by group discussions on the challenges and opportunities we face. The meeting will also include *More Precious than Gold*, a short, 1960s marketing film promoting the construction of Trinity Dam.

July 17 is the First Annual Trinity Lake Wine, Jazz, Microbrew and Food Fest. The event is from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. and benefits the Trinity Center VFD. The fest will feature wine tasting,

microbrews, live music and food. Talented chiefs are encouraged to sign up for an appetizer cook off for awards and a cash prize. The festival will also include a silent auction and raffle. Visit www.TrinityLakeFest.com for more information and the cook off registration form.