

North 40

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Leaves on the North Lake birch trees and redbuds started to turn colors last week as a rainstorm tried to wash away summer. Accuweather hints that a new season is coming with forecasts of "Sunshine and nice," "Partly sunny," and "mostly sunny" for the rest of the month.

Before summer slips away, let's remember how grand a summer it was. Good winter snowfall and a wet April brought lake levels up over the boat ramps for the first time in two years. As we know, if there is water, tourists will come. The pent up longing to water ski, wake board, and fish brought people to the lake in spite of a sluggish economy.

Wonderful weather jump started the summer with the June TCVFD Flag Day BBQ. The 1st annual Trinity Lake Fest drew over 300 visitors to taste local wines and chef creations. The CC Fire Files kept us happy with their Sunday pancake breakfasts and the Lions entertained us with Wed and Sat Bingo nights. Busy August weeks of entertaining guests and family were rounded out by another fun Labor Day weekend of events and a fly-in.

Now is the time to get out and enjoy the tail of summer and the quietness of the mountains. Water still covers most of the ramps and Trinity Center docks will be open until Oct 31. The marina store will be closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, closing for the season on Oct 1. All boats must be removed from the marina by Oct 31 since the docks and gangway must be disconnected and stored before any major storms hit us.

Come celebrate Fall and discover the beauty of Coffee Creek during the Fall Colors in Coffee Creek weekend, Oct 2 and 3. Sign up for a photography workshop by Redding photographer John Bradford on Saturday from 10am to 5:30pm, cost \$20, then join a "discovery" hike to Stoddard Lake on Sunday from 9am to 4pm, cost \$10. In between these events, stroll around the artist and photographer art show from 9am to 5pm each day; see what the kids have been doing at the Coffee Creek School open house from 9am to 1pm Saturday; enjoy a CCFVD tri-tip BBQ from 4-7pm on Saturday \$12; fill up on pancakes at the CCFVD breakfast Sunday from 9am to 12:30pm \$10; and relax to the sounds of the Sunrise Gospel Singers at 6pm on Sunday. All details are on NorthTrinityLake.com or call Mary, 266-3305, or Debbie, 266-3200 for signups.

As you know, after throwing any party, there is cleanup to be done. Friday, Sept 24, is Trinity Lake Cleanup Day. The USFS is partnering with Trinity Lakes Resorts, KOA, and Trinity Alps Marina to clean up the lake. Even if you have only a couple of hours to spare, all hands are needed. Meet at the Trinity Center Marina at 9 am. Bring a lunch, water, and gloves. Many hands make quick work and keep our lake sparkling. For more information, call the USFS office at 623-1772.