

North Forty – 12/01/10 edition
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My family had a nice and quiet Thanksgiving dinner this year with just us. Everyone helped with preparing the dinner and doing a bunch of extra chores while waiting for the turkey to be ready. However, there was some whining and moaning when it was time to do the dishes. My wife told me to quit my sniveling and help anyways.

Now that Thanksgiving is over, dust off those Christmas lights, show your holiday spirit, and enter the free North Lake Shines lighting contest. Aside from brightening up our community, you have a chance to win one of the \$100 first place or \$50 runner-up prizes for best decorated house in your neighborhood--a total of \$675 will be given away. If a full house is too much to decorate, there is a category for "Best Front Yard Tree." Businesses and clubs can also enter. All non-winners have a second chance to win in a drawing for restaurant gift certificates. The 3-person judging team, one judge from each neighborhood, will be revealed when the contest ends.

Enter online at NorthTrinityLake.com or pick up a form at Jaktri and Coffee Creek County Markets. Entries close on Dec 9. Contestants must have their lights on from 7-9pm Dec 11 through 19 for judging. A list of contestants is available online. Thank you to our sponsors Trinity Lake Lions and TL Revitalization Alliance. Chase the Grinch off your street by joining in the fun and making North Trinity Lake Shine this season.

Bob Bryant is counting the days till he takes his written test for paramedic. Bob knows his stuff and is ready to work as a paramedic, but for anyone who has taken the EMT or paramedic test will tell you how intimidating and stressful the testing process is. So Bob has every right to be a bit nervous.

Upon entering the testing facility you are relieved of all jewelry and personal items which go into a locker. All you are allowed is the clothes on your back and your driver license. Once you cleared security, you are greeted by a very serious lady who verifies your ID and checks that the name on your ID matches the name in the computer for your scheduled appointment. When she is satisfied, she scans your finger and downloads your fingerprint into the computer. Then she scans your retina and downloads that into the system.

The very serious lady then escorts you a half a dozen to steps to a computer that sits next to the door of the testing room. She enters your name and verifies the information with your ID and double checks that the picture on your ID matches your face. Your fingerprint is then scanned and verified and then the retinal scan is done – just in case you happened to switch places with your brainiac body double.

You are finally led to the testing computer next to a small, menacing looking man sitting on a stool holding a megaphone. The very serious lady locks you in the testing room and takes a seat behind a large glass window to observe you for any signs of cheating. There

are also video cameras and microphones trained on you and signs warning you that you are being watched for cheating.

Once you choose the option to begin testing, a tennis ball machine comes to life and launches tennis balls at you while the menacing little man begins to yell outrageous insults at you through his megaphone. If you can make it through that, then you are ready to handle just about anything that can happen in a medical emergency. So keep Bob Bryan in your thoughts and prayers and give him some words of encouragement. Good luck, Bob.

Don't forget about the potluck dinner honoring CCVFD and TCVFD Chief Roger Chatterton. The potluck will begin at 5 p.m. Fri, Dec 3 at the IOOF Hall. Everyone is invited to show their appreciation for all he has done.