

## North Forty

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We're back... with some scheduling issues and a technical hiccup behind us, your loyal column writers are on course. So, keep sending us your announcements.

Our North Lake girl has done it again! Leah Groves represented the Trinity Lake Lions at the zone level speech competition and she WON! She now competes in the North State competition to be held April 11 in Shasta Lake City. Congratulations and good luck, Leah!

Under the guidance of Diane and Ken Rieke, the North Lake Lions Little Reno Night was a "roaring" success. Prizes were great and all had fun! Thank you everyone for all your hard work.

The rain has been wonderful the last few weeks, but our lake is far from anything but critical. As of Sunday March 22, the lake is still down 100 feet from full. This year is the fifth lowest lake level since the dam was built. At a current 2,271 ft, we are at 97% of the historic lake level for this week, however, there is little snowpack left to bring us up to the average annual high water mark of 2,353 ft. Looking at rainfall, we've had 25.4" YTD (July 1 water year) compared to last year's 30.6" of rain YTD (and a year total of 33.8".)

Mark April 18 for the famous Coffee Creek VFD Chili Feed and Auction. Debbie Amoss asks that you gather your donation items and call her at 266-3200 to arrange delivery. She would like all donations in by March 31.

From March 26-28, Trinity Center School seventh and eighth grade students will attend the Reach for the Future conference in Chico. This wonderful team-building event is an exciting way for young adults to learn more about themselves and to help bring positive changes in their school and community. Ask them about the ropes course!

Hope you didn't miss the TC School's St Patrick's Day dinner. All proceeds went towards the seventh and eighth grade trip to San Francisco where they will see "Wicked" at the Orpheum Theater and visit the aquarium, zoo, and Fisherman's Wharf.

You should have received the Trinity County Income Survey in the mail. Please, please, please return these surveys to the county ASAP. The income data helps determine a community's eligibility for Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). For many years, the North Lake area has not been able to receive CDBG money because our income data is tied to the 2000 census. The 2000 data says that our zip code area has a household income of \$30,417. We all know that that number is probably high. To get a true picture, we need everyone to return the survey. This survey is confidential—not requiring a name or address. If our eligibility improves, we might be able to receive help with our new fire hall, housing, infrastructure improvements, and other important community projects. With the economy in our area sluggish at best, having access to these grant programs is extremely important. So drop your survey in the mail and tell a neighbor.