

5/3/06

Judy and Hal Pflueger just returned from an old fashion "ride-em cowboy" cattle branding at Judy's parents 2,000 acre honest to goodness working cattle ranch in Edgewood in Siskiyou County that has about 350 pair of cattle. When it comes time to brand the cows Judy and Hal put on their jeans and roll up their sleeves and return to the ranch to help.

You've heard of a community barn-raising, well in Edgewood they have community branding. All of the ranchers and cowboy's get together taking turns at each other's farm branding cows. The next branding is moved to the next farm, and then to the next, etc. A makeshift bar is set up, and a huge BBQ pit erected to end the day eating 2 inch thick steaks barbequed to perfection. The wives of the cowboys and ranchers each try to out do the other in the side dish and dessert category. It is so nice to know that some things don't change. The same old fashion work ethics and family values still exist.

I received an email from Francie Epperson, the K-4 teacher at Coffee Creek School with an update on the baby chicks and other exciting news on what the students are doing. She writes;

"There are lots of things happening in Coffee Creek this week! The K-4<sup>th</sup> grade class has had 17 baby chicks hatch this week (including 2 tiny banti eggs!) and the students totally love the experience! The colors vary from yellow, black, black with light tan spots, yellow with 'Mohawks' of brown down their heads and backs, etc. The learning opportunities abound! The eggs were actually due to hatch on Friday, April 28, but began popping out on Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. They were obviously in a hurry to enter this world!

On Thursday evening, April 27, the Coffee Creek and Trinity Center students gave wonderful speeches to the Lion's Club. It was a treat to hear them all. Topics ranged from the subliminal seduction of advertising, to the dangers of smoking cigarettes, the side effects caused by drinking coffee, the inspiration of successful people such as Kobe Bryant, J. K. Rowling, women in the military, and the Wright Brothers. The speeches gave the audience much to think about, and also made us laugh out loud many times. Our hats are off to the brave and talented students from both schools!

The K-4 students at Coffee Creek were invited yet again to a wonderful assembly with the Lewiston Elementary School. It was the most fun assembly experience yet! The author/songwriter, Gary Dulabaum kept the crowd laughing, singing, and dancing non-stop! The cooks at Lewiston prepared a wonderful lunch for the Coffee Creek visitors. The Lewiston students are going out of their way to welcome Coffee Creek students and friendships are being formed. Next week (the first week of May) brings a field trip to a musical performance in Redding and a track meet in Junction City! Whew! These are busy students having great time learning!"

It is time to look at some important dates to remember: The TCVFD Auxiliary's Cinco de Mayo Mexican Dinner Fundraiser Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at the IOOF Hall from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The cost for an adult dinner is \$12, and a child under ten is \$6. Dinner includes coffee and iced tea. You are welcome to BYOB if you would like wine or a mixed drink. Raffle tickets are being sold for a chance to win a beautiful hand made grandfather clock by Travis Jenner. The raffle tickets are \$1.00 apiece or 6 for \$5. You do not need to be present to win. For raffle tickets contact Joann Mathis at 286-2217, Gloria Eisan at 266-3399, or Mary Hamilton at 266-3378.

You're voting ballots should be arriving the first part of next week. You will surely want to attend the Candidates Night at the IOOF Hall Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00. Come and let the debate and constituents questions help you decide who you want to represent you for sheriff and supervisor of the first district. If you miss the April 10<sup>th</sup> Candidates Night, there will be one in East Weaverville on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> and another in Lewiston on Tuesday, April 23. Remember, there will be no polling place in the North Forty area this year. All votes will be by mail in ballots and must be mailed in by June 6. There will be polling place in Lewiston and East Weaverville.

The TCVFD's Fire Emergency Assistance Team (FEAT) held its first training meeting Wednesday, April 26. Members of the team were shown the different type of emergency vehicles and equipment used by the fire department. The FEAT members left with a brand new respect and appreciation for our volunteer fire departments here in Trinity Center and in Coffee Creek. It was clear that it takes many hours of training to know how to use the equipment to save lives and put out fires. The fire fighters, from the Chief down to the newest volunteer, take the job of being a fire fighter very seriously and they have worked very hard to become top notch fire fighters. That is why our insurance rating is as low as it is. The next time you see one of our fire fighters, take a few minutes to thank them and let them know how much we appreciate them. The next FEAT meeting (which is mandatory) will be Saturday, May 13 at 9:00 a.m. at the Fire Department.

The sale of Wyntoon Resort to the KOA Corporation is due to close escrow on May 9<sup>th</sup>. After 23 years of ownership Henning and Marian Behrens have decided it's time to slow down. Henning said KOA plans on continuing with the Bingo Nights, and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July picnics. They do intend on expanding the grocery area and more improvements to the camping area. KOA has 460 Franchises, but it is the KOA Corporation that bought Wyntoon. They are sending a 4 person management team, and Henning and Marian will hand around a few days a week for a while until the transition is complete. We will miss Henning and Marian Behrens, but we wish them the best. They have done a lot in upgrading Wyntoon and helping the community. They are looking forward to a trip to Africa.

For those of you who were wondering why a helicopter was repeatedly flying in and out of the Trinity Center Airport, it was a private party flying a group of his friends to his property in the Alps to see how deep the snow was around his house. Dick Eyman was one of the lucky friends. The snow was breathtaking. Some places were 6 to 8 feet deep. The snow is melting fast, sending more water roiling and rumbling down the creeks and rivers to the lake.