



Tam's Front Porch Ponderings
Tammy Terry
TamsFrontPorch@IrvineOnline.Net

It was a short Spring Break but I had been looking forward to it for several weeks. We had plans to slip off to the lake and open up our little place for the summer, of course we had to wait for the rain to stop in Russell Springs, but we did manage to leave Irvine by noon on Friday. The back of the Tahoe was loaded with our bags and supplies while the back seat held the Dynamic Duo, Rankin and Hooch, our two big dogs. Getting them ready to travel had taken up most of my morning, so by the time we were on the road, I was exhausted. It never fails, every time we plan a trip,

At Least **SOMEBODY** Had A Good Time At The Lake!

Hooch gets into something! In my mind I could only imagine the conversation that was going on between the two of them. Rankin was probably reminding Hooch of the time we were ready to leave and Hooch decided to take a mud bath, that resulted in BOTH of them being left at home. Then there was the time we had everything loaded and called for the boys to get in the Tahoe, they came running out of the woods carrying the lovely scent of skunk with them. Guess who stayed home that time too?! THIS time, Hooch had managed to get into a skirmish with something and his ear was bleeding. I couldn't get it to stop, I tried every home remedy I could think of. This dog bled for two days! Just about the time I would get it to stop, he'd flop those big ears and blood would fly everywhere. I mopped, I wiped down the garage walls and I mopped some more until finally we took him to see the Vet. She suggested flour, an old coon hunters trick for bleeding ears. If that didn't work, I was going to have to stay home and send Corky to the lake by himself. I couldn't let Hooch in the

truck with his ear still bleeding. I know in my heart that Rankin was giving him a good tongue lashing. "if you mess this up, I'm gonna take you deep into the woods and leave you!"

We covered the ear with flour and Corky found a huge bandage to cover the bottom of his ear with until we could get to the lake. Once there I could remove it, he could romp free with Rankin and I could get a little rest. It all sounded so simple but as you know, my life is never simple! We were about twenty miles from our destination when Hooch started pacing in the back seat, back and forth he paced, licking his lips. I kept telling Corky he was going to throw up so we kept coaxing Hooch to "hang on just a few more miles" when all of a sudden my back seat was full of doggy puke! Amazingly enough, I wasn't upset! I just kept looking straight ahead while Corky eased the Tahoe over to the side of the road and gingerly removed the sheet that covered the back seat and stored it in the boat we were pulling until we could get to our place. When we pulled into the driveway,

the Dynamic Duo was more than ready to get out! I unloaded our supplies while Corky shampooed the seat and carpet. Crisis averted, it was time to relax.

Friday was beautiful, Corky got in some fishing, I defrosted the freezer and sat in the sun for awhile, looking at my favorite magazines and by bedtime I was more than ready for a good night's sleep. At one a.m., I heard a racket. It got louder and louder and LOUDER until finally Corky grabbed the flashlight, tossed on his clothes and headed over the hills to find out what was going on. I stood on the porch watching his flashlight dart about the woods, the dogs howling and screeching and then I heard a loud wailing. "Uh oh", I thought, "that sounds like a cat!"

Corky's light swept up to the tree tops and then back up the hill towards me. He emerged from the woods by himself, dogs still barking and cat still squalling. "Got the neighbor's cat treed?" I called to him.

"It's a cat alright, a BOB-CAT!", he called back. "and Rankin is right in on this one!"

We tried to settle back in to sleep but it was difficult with all the noise in the holler. The next morning I was greeted by dark circles under my eyes and a pounding headache, but the Dynamic Duo was sleeping peacefully

on my new chair cushions on the porch furniture. Wow, it's rough having a dog's life! Saturday night they were at it again, this time it was a squirrel that was treed. I just turned up the radio before I went to bed and drowned out the barking. Maybe we could at least get one good night's sleep before going home!

Sunday morning I placed everything to be packed on the porch. While Corky loaded, I kept a close eye on the dogs. I didn't want them disappearing into the woods again. On the road by 11:00 a.m., we stopped for gas on the way out of town. When Corky opened the door, both dogs jumped the seat and out they went like they hadn't had a potty break all weekend. They stayed close as Corky filled up and when he whistled and called "Time to go", Rankin jumped in the truck nice as could be. Hooch on the other hand decided he needed to check EVERYTHING out at the Shell station. Finally Corky had to PICK HIM UP and push him into the Tahoe. He was NOT a happy camper at this point. Hooch finally settled down and stretched out for the trip home. Rankin slept propped against the door and all was well until we got to Somerset. We thought if we let them get some fresh air every little bit, Hooch might not be sick on the way home. Pulled over in the K-Mart parking lot, the dogs ran up

and down a grassy area next to a fence line. After a few minutes, Corky whistled and called "let's go" and just like before, Rankin jumped in the truck without a problem. Hooch slipped through a hole in the fence and ran like a maniac after a rabbit. Through a junk yard, past a barn and into someone's flower bed he raced. I saw Corky disappear into the junk yard calling for Hooch and when he emerged pulling Hooch by his leash (that he'd managed to get on him), I heard him say very sternly, "You better enjoy the rest of the trip brother, 'cause it's your LAST! From now on, you are the official Watch Dog while we're away!" Again, he had to pick him up and shove him in the truck.

Thankfully we made it home without Hooch getting sick and after we pulled in the driveway and released the dogs, they rolled in the grass, they romped, they ran, they rolled some more and then they slept. Stretched out on their beds in the house, they snored like two old men. Corky laughed as we flopped down in our chairs, "You have a good Spring Break?" he asked me. Without opening an eye or lifting their heads, both dogs started wagging their tails. Well, at least SOMEBODY had a good time at the lake!

Until next time....

Tam

ECHS SBDM Nomination & Voting

Estill County High School will be accepting parent nominations for the ECHS Site Based Decision Making Council (SBDM) for the 2015-2016 school year. Nominations can be made in the ECHS guidance office April 13th thru 17th from 8:30 am until 3:00 pm. There will be two parents elected to serve on the council. Estill County High School election for SBDM nominees will be held on April 20th and April 21st. Parents may vote in the ECHS guidance office from 8:30 am until 3:00 pm. Parents are eligible to nominate, run for election and vote only if they will have a student enrolled at the Estill County High School for the 2015-2016 school year.

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| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Northwood Apts Winchester Rd Edgewater Dr Crestview Ct Mt. Crest | Stacy Lane Rice Station West Irvine Racetrack Rd. | Horizon Daycare Ravenna Drip Rock Wagersville | Spout Springs Hudson Mill Rd New Fox Road Hargett-Parvin Road | West Irvine Elementary |

"Mommie & Me" and Storytime Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. & Fridays, 10:30 a.m.

ESTILL COUNTY SCHOOLS MENUS

Milk is included with every meal; plus assorted juices included with breakfast

| MONDAY April 20 | TUESDAY April 21 | WEDNESDAY April 22 | THURSDAY April 23 | FRIDAY April 24 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ELEMENTARY BREAKFASTS | | | | |
| Mini Cinni Rolls Apple | Toast, Cereal Grapes | Pancake Porky Applesauce | Funnel Cake Orange Slices | Muffins Pineapples |
| SOUTH IRVINE LUNCHES | | | | |
| Chicken Pattie on Bun Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Tropical Fruit | Cheese Pizza Steamed Broccoli Corn Pineapple Tidbits Milk Choices | Taco w/Shell Let./Tom./Cheese Salsa, Refried Beans Taco Sauce Banana | Turkey on Sub Bun Doritos Cauliflower Bites Cucumber Slices Pineapple Tidbits | Pizza Munchable Marinara Sauce Baby Carrots Raisins Milk Choices |
| ESTILL SPRINGS LUNCHES | | | | |
| Chicken Pattie on Bun Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Tropical Fruit | Cheese Pizza Steamed Broccoli Corn Pineapple Tidbits Milk Choices | Taco w/Shell Let./Tom./Cheese Salsa, Refried Beans Taco Sauce Banana | Turkey on Sub Bun Doritos Cauliflower Bites Cucumber Slices Pineapple Tidbits | Pizza Munchable Marinara Sauce Baby Carrots Raisins Milk Choices |
| WEST IRVINE LUNCHES | | | | |
| Chicken Nuggets Roll Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Apple | Cheese Pizza Steamed Broccoli Corn Pineapple Tidbits Milk Choices | Grilled Cheese Sandwich Potato Wedges Cucumber Slices/ Dip, Side Kicks | Corn Dog or Chuckwagon on Bun Baked Beans Baby Bakers Applesauce | Pizza Munchable Pepperoni Mozz. Cheese Carrots/Dip Marinara Sauce |
| ESTILL COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL BREAKFAST | | | | |
| Mini Maple Pancakes w/syrup or Cinn. Toast Crunch Brown Sugar Cinn. Pop Tart Apple | Scrambled Eggs Toast or Cocoa Puffs Strawberry Pop Tart Pineapples Assorted Juice Milk Choice | Biscuit w/Gravy or Trix Cereal Brown Sugar Cinn. Pop Tart Peaches Juice, Milk | Trix Yogurt Frosted Flakes REese Puffs Multi-grain bar Strawberry Pop Tart Pears | Chocolate or Cinnamon Muffins or Apple Cin. Cheerios Brown Sugar Cinn. Pop Tart Mandarin Oranges |
| ESTILL COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL LUNCH | | | | |
| Popcorn Chicken w/Biscuit Mashed Potatoes Normandy Blend Tropical Fruit Apples | Giant Cheesesticks Chicken Quesadilla Marinara Sauce Steamed Broccoli Corn Orantges & Pears | Grilled Chicken or Deli Turkey on Bun Potato Wedges Lettuce, Tomato Mixed Fruit Applesauce | Corn Dog Mr. Rib on Bun Red Pepper Slices Baked Beans Peaches Pineapple | Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce or Ravioli Breadsticks, Pears Romaine Salad Glazed Carrots Mandarin Oranges |
| ESTILL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL BREAKFAST | | | | |
| Honey Nut Cheerio Fruit Loops Frosted Flakes Pop Tart Strawberry Banana or Triple Cherry Yogurt, Fruit | Cocoa Puffs Lucky Charms Pop Tart Breakfast Pizzq Raspberry or Cherry Yogurt Apple & Orange | Cinn. Toast Crunch Apple Cin. Cheerios Pop Tarts Cereal Bars Sausage Biscuit Yogurt Apples & Oranges | Trix Cereal Fruit Loops Pop Tarts Cereal Bars Mini Pancakes Raspberry Yogurt Apples & Oranges | Reese Puffs Cocoa Puffs Pop Tarts Cereal Bars Mini French Toast Yogurt Apples & Oranges |
| ESTILL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL LUNCH | | | | |
| Hot Dog or Mr. Rib on Bun Baked Beans French Fries Applesauce Peaches Milk Choices | Bosco or Chicken Quesadilla Marinara Sauce Peas, Corn Grape & Strawberry Culp, Juice Milk Choices | Taco or Chicken Fajita with Shell Let./Tom./Cheese Refried Beans, Salsa Pineapple, Juice Side Kicks Milk Choice | Meat Ball Sub w/ Mozz. Cheese or Chicken Pattie/Bun Lettuce, Tomato Steamed Broccoli Glazed Carrots Fruit | Grilled Chicken Pattie or Spicy Chicken on Bun, Green Beans Mashed Potatoes Lettuce, Tomato Peaches Mandarin Oranges |

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