

Roadway troubles,
page 2



County CEO, Sheriff
react differently to new
budget, page 6



Author/artist discusses
the publishing
industry, page 10



Journal From the
James: Ravens and
crows, page 12



Father Rondeau — a
life dedicated to, tested
by healing, page 16

Idyllwild Town Crier

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VOL. 71 NO. 5

IDYLLWILD, CA

THURS., FEBRUARY 4, 2016

Multi-agency meeting addresses snow visitors

IFPD Chief Patrick Reitz
requested meeting

BY MARSHALL SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

Riverside County 3rd District Supv. Chuck Washington hosted a multi-agency meeting to address recent snow visitor issues in the Riverside County mountains. Held at 1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29, in Hemet, the meeting was requested by Idyllwild Fire Department Chief Patrick Reitz following successive weekends in which Idyllwild faced unprecedented numbers of snow-play visitors and degrading of public and private areas.

Said Reitz, "I sent the initial request to Supv. Washington to call this meeting. No one has seen the sheer volume of cars and people, not just in the village but above the village, in residential and public areas, and in Anza and Poppet Flats. Littering was huge. There was destruction of property, trespassing and double parking that made traffic flow difficult."

Reitz stated that unlike Big Bear and the San Bernardino Mountains, Idyllwild is not a snow recreation area with public snow resorts and dedicated snow-play facilities. "We're a boutique business town," he observed. Reitz discussed the difficult balancing act in attracting winter tourists for the benefit of local businesses, inns and restaurants, and accommodating huge numbers of snow-play visitors who overwhelm Idyllwild's limited infrastructure.

Reitz acknowledged that each agency in attendance at the meeting has limited resources, but that cooperation among them is necessary to address a problem of this scope. "I was hoping to have this discussion because we can't do it alone. It needs cooperation."

In discussing the weekend after the first major snowfall of the season, Reitz said, "We would have had a tough time for ambulances getting off the Hill [because

See Snow visitors, page 28



Workers pave the new parking lot **Shane Stewart** created at the corner of North Circle Drive and Cedar Street. PHOTO BY J.P. CRUMRINE

County budget OK this year

Deficits and public safety
cuts are on the horizon

BY JP CRUMRINE
NEWS EDITOR

The Riverside County budget preparation for fiscal year 2016-17, beginning July 1, is going to be difficult and emotional. On Tuesday, County Executive Jay Orr prepared the Board of Supervisors during his mid-year review for fiscal year 2015-16. Even with the proposals he is making to reduce spending, Orr estimates the county will still incur deficits until 2018-19.

His budget summary forecasts, "The

county faces a multi-year annual deficit that will erode reserves and is unsustainable, based on forecasted discretionary resources and projected, existing spending commitments."

Specifically, Orr estimated revenue would grow about \$15 million next year; but one major program, health care for county inmates, will require \$40 million annually.

"Current-year revenue and spending levels are on track, but the full impact of detention health care, compounded with our existing structural deficit, will far exceed our discretionary revenues and reserves in the coming years, unless other costs are constrained," he said in his

See Budget, page 6

A&E Calendar9
Churches.....17

Classifieds.....23
Community Calendar.....8

Games.....25
Past Tense.....20

On the Town.....9
Opinion4

Public Notices26
Service Directory21

Sports18
Weather.....2

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Horse death on highway mars weekend

By MARSHALL SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

A horse was injured and had to be euthanized when it fell out of a moving horse trailer a quarter-mile north of the intersection of Saunder's Meadow Road (lower) and Highway 243. No other vehicles were involved in the Saturday, Jan. 30, incident nor were any people injured. Idyllwild Fire Department said the incident occurred at 5:15 p.m. and the horse was euthanized around 6:30 p.m. Idyllwild Fire Chief Patrick Reitz said, "We do not have any definite reason for the trailer door to have suddenly opened. It is possible that the door was not latched properly or the latch assembly failed for some reason." The California Highway Patrol officer who was at the scene had not filed his report so no further details were available.

At 11:50 a.m. Sunday, Jan. 31, an unidentified motorist was driving a tan, 1999 Ford Explorer eastbound on Ridgeview Drive in Idyllwild west of Village Center Drive, when the car collided with a parked 2004 green Acura.

The Acura was parked on the right shoulder and was moderately damaged on its left rear section. The driver fled the scene after the collision.

Marshall Smith can be reached at marshall@towncrier.com.



At about 5:15 p.m. Saturday, Idyllwild Fire responded to an incident on Highway 243 between Marian View and Saunders Meadow. According to witnesses, a truck pulling a horse trailer was traveling north on Highway 243 when the door of the trailer opened. The horse fell out of the trailer and onto the highway. The horse broke both rear legs and was euthanized because of the injury.

PHOTO BY JENNY KIRCHNER

Dog park will once again have water

By MARSHALL SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

After a break in a water line several weeks ago, Idyllwild Pines administration shut off water to the Idyllwild Dog Park, situated on the Idyllwild Pines campus.

"I feel bad the water has been off for two weeks," said Kelly Schlenz, camp operations director. "Unfortunately where the line broke makes it a diffi-

cult repair. We have to turn the water off to a majority of the camp in order to make the repair, which is why it has taken so long.

"But as long as the weather cooperates, I hope to be able to complete the repairs on Wednesday [Feb. 3]. "Hosting the park is something we have committed to, and I want to get water restored as quickly as we can.

Marshall Smith can be reached at marshall@towncrier.com.

Idyllwild Weather

From the National Weather Service

Wednesday 2/3

44/27
Sunny.

Thursday 2/4

51/29
Sunny.

Friday 2/5

51/30
Sunny.

Saturday 2/6

55/32
Sunny.

Sunday 2/7

66/33
Sunny.

Monday 2/8

68/44
Sunny.

Tuesday 2/9

65/41
Sunny.

Idyllwild this year

Date	High	Low	M	S
1/26	59	26		
1/27	57	29		
1/28	63	32		
1/29	63	38		
1/30	58	40		
1/31	45	37	1.01	0.5
2/1	33	24		

Idyllwild last year

Date	High	Low	M	S
1/26	59	49	0.10	
1/27	62	35	0.07	
1/28	64	35		
1/29	59	44		
1/30	49	39	0.08	
1/31	50	39	0.10	
2/1	66	34		

Moisture in inches

To date this season (Idy): 20.32
To date last season (Idy): 11.68
Total last season (Idy): 20.19
To date this season (PC): 18.78
Total last season (PC): 15.54

Snow in inches

To date this season (Idy): 17.5
To date last season (Idy): 4.2
Total last season (Idy): 10.0
To date this season (PC): 23.5
Total last season (PC): 27.75

Idyllwild temperatures, moisture and snow totals are recorded daily at 4 p.m. at Idyllwild Fire Station, an official NWS COOP reporter. Pine Cove moisture and snow totals are recorded daily at 4 p.m. by resident George Tate at personal weather station KCAIDYLL1, an official www.wunderground.com reporter. Moisture inches include all precipitation such as rain, melted hail and melted snow. Weather season is July 1 to June 30. For Hill road conditions and Hill weather, visit us on the Internet at www.idyllwildtowncrier.com or call Caltrans road update at 1-800-427-7623.

AA changes meeting time

Alcoholics Anonymous has changed its meeting time on Saturdays, beginning Feb. 6, from 7:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., at the Spiritual Living Center, 26120 Ridgeview Dr.

Feeding America changes time

Feeding America at the Cross Road 243 Church in Mountain Center changed its hours beginning this week. Times are now from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. every Friday.

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Rainfall steady, but not record breaking ... yet

By JP CRUMRINE
NEWS EDITOR

Rain returned to the Hill Sunday, Jan. 31, and all of the weather stations on the Hill have recorded more rain through midnight Sunday than the historic average through the end of January.

In this latest storm, Pine Cove recorded 1.62 inches of rain for a total of 18.78 inches, which is nearly 4.5 more than the long-term average of 14.2 from July through January. In Idyllwild, 1.2 inches of rain and another inch of snow were recorded. At the Keenwild Ranger Station, 1.2 inches of rain fell for a total of 16.1 through January compared to the long-term average of 14.2 inches of rain through the end of January.

While the rain totals this season exceed the total rainfall for 2013 and 2014 and are within 80 to 95 percent for all

of 2015, the El Niño weather conditions have not brought the anticipated excessive rains and floods. A strong El Niño condition has been forecast since early fall and is still expected to persist through April. Greater-than-average rain has been the expectation for months.

January rainfall on the Hill was only slightly more than the long-term average of nearly 5 inches. It ranged from 5.4 inches in Pine Cove to 5.1 inches of rain recorded at Keenwild.

Northern California basins have received more rain than average so far. For example, San Francisco has already recorded 100 percent of its annual average. Fresno and Monterey both have received nearly 170 percent of annual rainfall.

The state's snowpack also is doing well. As of Sunday, it was 16 percent greater than the average through January. As a percentage of the April depth, the snowpack has dou-

bled since Jan. 1.

The state's Department of Water Resources is feeling slightly more optimistic. In late January, it increased the state water project allocations to 15 percent of requested water volume. The initial allocation was 10 percent, and the allocation in 2014 was 5 percent and 20 percent last year.


Weather forecasts are very difficult. Last week, on Thursday, the National Weather Service forecast between 8 to 14 inches of snow might fall in Idyllwild. Barely an inch was recorded.

The current two-week forecast is for below-average rain. But the one-month forecast is for well-above-average precipitation, as is the outlook through April.

The year-to-date is greater because of the rains in September and December. The February average has been nearly 4.5 inches and slightly less in March.



Sunday afternoon on Dome Lane, a large oak branch fell on a house and also smashed the back of a truck. High winds and wet conditions were blamed. No injuries were reported. PHOTO BY JENNY KIRCHNER



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Last week's Idyllwild Water District story and editorial about the board deciding to postpone a meeting elicited a rant from one IWD director.

He took it so personally that he said unless we publish an apology to him in the paper, he will never answer a question JP or I ask him again. I asked if he wanted to run it as a letter to the editor and he wrote, "No."

If we're tough on public officials, it's because we hold them to a higher standard. If a water board fails to manage its own conduct properly, how can it manage the water safely? If we can't trust how it determines a simple thing such as a quorum for a meeting, how can we trust that our water is being managed safely?

We should, as a public watchdog, be tough on our local public agencies.

If the city of Flint, Michigan — which is under more scrutiny than the little ole water districts here on the Hill — could get away with lead contamination for that long, why couldn't something like that happen here?

You know what, I'm tough on Idyllwild Water, I'm tough on Idyllwild Fire and right now, I'm tough on the propane companies because I think something is fishy in all three places.

I know a lot of you don't agree with me on Idyllwild Fire but beware, your wallet may get hit with IFPD's irresponsible spending in the next year or so. It says it needs more revenue.

Those who disagree on that are probably the same people who elected new IWD board members because you didn't like your water rates jumping up so high. You're emailing, calling and coming in to the office to complain about the unfairness of your propane rates, too.

If we can't afford higher rates, then we can certainly afford to be tough on our public representatives.

BECKY CLARK, EDITOR

Trash and tourists

EDITOR:

I feel compelled to comment on a statement made by Forest Service local Recreation Officer John Ladley: "This is a much messier group than the general public."

Hello, this is the general public. They weren't struck ignorant when they turned on to Highway 243.

And they need to be educated? It's no different in the city: Littering is illegal everywhere.

And what happens if a Hill visitor doesn't want to be educated? Who will referee the (possible) arguments and/or fights that could result from this action of being kind and educating to visitors?

As for putting up signs pointing to trash cans, are we assuming these visitors cannot read and need a sign to remind them to act right?

So many people keep pushing Idyllwild as the most recent "in" place to be. Well, you got your wish. How's that working out for you?

KAT DAVIS
IDYLLWILD



when they do such things to our community.

All are welcome to the mountains, snow or otherwise, but common sense must prevail.

JANET GOLDBERG
IDYLLWILD

Bicyclists create hazard

EDITOR:

I must admit that I was furious when Gov. Brown signed AB1371 requiring motorists to allow a minimum of 3-foot clearance when passing a bicyclist. That fury was diminished substantially when I read that the intent of the bill's sponsor, Assemblyman Steven Bradford (D-Gardena), was to provide adequate safety for bicycling children on their way to and from school.

How could anyone be angry about such a noble cause? I felt ashamed.

Now, let's consider how this amendment to California's Vehicle Code translates to our local community.

First, I have not seen any children in Idyllwild riding to school on bicycles. There may be some, but I doubt there are many.

Second, the bicyclists in Idyllwild are what's called the "Spandex Bunch" because of their familiar attire.

Unfortunately, the one's I've encountered from this group seem to be a narcissistic bunch, who don't have much concern for motorists on our single-lane highway running through town. Their driving/cycling habits hold up traffic — much of it local delivery and contracting employees on their way to and from work — while they move slower than the speed limit on our single-lane roads.

This privileged few cause many drivers to blatantly disregard traffic laws by crossing the double-yellow lines in order to maintain the required 3-foot passing requirement.

Here's my address to those local bicyclists whom I've just described: Please keep in mind that along with your "right" to use the highway system for your cycling adventure, you might want to keep in mind the "privilege" you have in doing the same.

Contrary to you, I, as a motorist, am paying for the upkeep of that same highway through several levied taxes, both on

See Readers, next page

How to get a letter published

The Town Crier welcomes letters reflecting all opinions. Letters should be concise and to the point. They should be no longer than 400 words. Letters must be typewritten, double-spaced and in upper/lower case (not in all caps). Letters must be identified with the author's name, address and weekday phone number.

The Town Crier will not publish "thank-you" letters, consumer complaints, form letters, clippings from other publications or poetry. Political letters during election season cost 10 cents per word but are not accepted the week before an election.

We reserve the right to reject or edit letters for length, taste, clarity or frequency of submission. Only one letter per author within a 28-day period. Letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Town Crier staff. Letters may be submitted in person, by mail, by fax (659-2071) or by e-mail (becky@towncrier.com).

Deadline is 10 a.m. Monday.

Three Parties to allow No Party Preference voters in primary

By JP CRUMRINE
NEWS EDITOR

When voters go to the polls for the June 7 Presidential Primary, three parties have opened their ballot to voters who are registered with No Party Preference.

If the Democratic primary is still competitive in June, California voters will have an opportunity to recommend the party's nominee — either Hillary Clinton or Sen. Bernie Sanders.

The other two parties, which will permit No Party Preference registered voters to cast a ballot in their primary, are the American Independent Party and the Libertarian Party.

Three parties — the Republican, Green, and Peace and Freedom — have chosen to limit their ballots to voters who are registered as a member of that party.

No Party Preference voters may request American Independent, Democratic, and Libertarian presidential primary ballots at their polling place on election day or through the California Vote-By-Mail Ballot Application, according to California Secretary of State Alex Padilla.

Mail ballots for the June 7 primary election may be obtained by filling out the application at <http://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/vote-by-mail/pdf/fill-in-vote-by-mail-app-instruct.pdf>.

California citizens may register to vote or update their registration information —including party preference — at <http://registertovote.ca.gov/>.

JP Crumrine can be reached at jp@towncrier.com.

How to obtain a vote-by-mail ballot

Any registered voter may vote using a vote-by-mail ballot instead of going to the polls on election day.

All valid vote-by-mail ballots are counted in every election in California, regardless of the outcome or closeness of any race. For more information on how and when ballots are verified and tabulated, visit the description of how the official canvass of the vote is com-

pleted at www.sos.ca.gov/elections/official-canvass/.

A voter may apply for a vote-by-mail ballot in person. If you apply by mail, your application must be received no later than seven days before election day. Anytime after seven days, you will need to apply in person at your county elections office to request a vote-by-mail ballot for that election.

For the June 7 presidential primary election, the last day to apply by mail for a vote-by-mail ballot is May 31, 2016.

You can use the application printed on your Sample Ballot mailed by your county elections official prior to every election. If you don't want to wait for your sample ballot, you can write to your county elections official for an application or you may use the state Vote-by-Mail application (visit the Town Crier website).

Do not send it to the Secretary of State's office because this will delay receipt of your vote-by-mail ballot.

The Secretary of State also provides California applications in Chinese, Hindi, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog, Thai and Vietnamese. These forms are available at www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/new.

Free/reduced-price school lunches

Hemet Unified School District is distributing application forms to all households for free and reduced-price meals for enrolled children. Applications are also available at the principal's office in each school.

To apply for free or reduced-price meal benefits, complete an application and return it to the school. Applications may be submitted at any time during the school year.

The information households provide on the application will be used to determine meal eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by school or program officials.

Requirements for free and reduced-price benefits are as follows: For households receiving Food Stamp, CalWORKs, Kin-GAP, or FDPIR benefits, applications need only include the enrolled child(ren)'s name, Food Stamp, CalWORKs, Kin-GAP or FDPIR case number, and the signature of an adult household member.

For households who do not list a Food Stamp, CalWORKs, Kin-GAP or FDPIR case number, the application must include the names of all household members, the amount and source of the income received by each household member, and the signature and corresponding Social Security number of an adult household member.

Free lunch on Thursday

Every Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., St. Hugh's Episcopal Church at 25525 Tahquitz Drive offers a free, warm lunch through the cooperation of Fairway Market. The Caring Community Lunch is open to anyone.

Readers Write

Continued from
previous page

my vehicles and their fuel. I would also ask that you keep in mind that should your narcissistic attitude continue, I will be one of the first to sign a petition requiring that your cycle be licensed and taxed for use on "our" highway.

JIM KRUG
PINE COVE

Are we not comfortable with abortions?

EDITOR:

On Jan. 28, the Town Crier reported on a gathering at the town monument to mark the death by legalized abortion of 58 million babies. For some reason, this number was hidden by the use of the phrase "The white crosses were a

symbol of the many abortions since 1973."

This untruthful but accurate phrase suggests an attempt by our culture to hide this shameful chapter in the life of our nation.

Our culture's attempt to hide the enormous consequences of abortion is a good sign. Perhaps it is a sign that we are not comfortable with such tragic loss of life.

Even though it is legal, maybe we don't want to think about the consequences of our individual actions. If their lives don't matter, do any of our lives matter?


Just think, if they were alive, our nation wouldn't have the looming financial insolvency of Social Security, Medicare and the Affordable Care Act.

How many Einsteins, Picassos and Mother Tere-sas did we lose?

JOHN COOK
IDYLLWILD


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WOLFIN'S DOG TALES



In the past 3 months, at least 14 dogs have been lost or abandoned in the Idyllwild area. Please stress caution to all visitors to keep their pets on a leash and not let them run free to prevent them from getting lost. We need your help.

Free community healing offered

Christina Nordella offers free, 15-minute healing sessions from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month at St. Hugh's Episcopal Church. The next date is Feb. 2.

She is a 15-year Jin Shin Jyutsu practitioner, Reiki master and Shaaman. The sessions are on a first-come, first-serve basis.

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Budget

Continued from page 1

memorandum to the board.

As a first step, Orr wants to hold general fund spending for all departments to the current levels for the next two years. He stressed that the non-public safety programs, which are about 27 percent of the budget, are collectively too small to solve the problem. In 2016-17, Orr plans to hold public safety programs to the same levels, too.

In order to constrain the costs at the Sheriff's Department, Orr hopes to use several options, including "no additional hiring to enhance the unincorporated patrol ratio."

He also refers to savings, which will be incurred as the county's East County Detention Center begins operations. For example, he said in the memo, "We have an agreement with the Sheriff's Department to time the full occupancy of the new East County Detention Center and soften the financial impact of its opening."

Current staffing may be adequate "to open the first two housing units ..." and additional staffing may be deferred until 2018-19.

However, the Sheriff's Department is considerably dubious about the potential savings. Sheriff Stan Sniff comments, "... opening only a small portion (25 percent) of that new jail does not allow that same staffing efficiency, and will require additional staffing over and above the current staffing already in place at the old Indio Jail. Opening only two of the eight available housing units at the newly constructed ECDC (388 beds)

will require the additional hiring of an estimated 50 new staff at an annualized cost projected at nearly \$7 million."

Also, Orr is encouraged that the consultants, who are reviewing the county's public safety spending programs, will offer recommendations that could improve efficiency and save money. These reports, whose cost is about \$750,000, are expected this spring before the budget workshop. In the Budget Summary, the Executive Office said the draft reports contained "potential savings as a result of deploying resources in a different manner."

The growth in inmate health care is the result of a proposed legal settlement. The county has agreed to hire more health and mental health professionals to treat the inmate population. This also will necessitate more security costs.

The bright spot in the current budget, according to the Executive Office's summary, is that "most departments currently appear on target at the end of the first quarter." The Sheriff's Department and District Attorney's Office spending appear to be within the existing budget allocations and will not require any significant adjustments at this point.

The County Fire Department is the one public safety agency still projecting a deficit, according to the report. The \$1.3 million is the result of increases in salary and benefits for state firefighters, which are negotiated in Sacramento. This is the county's portion and only for six months.

JP Crumrine can be reached at jp@towncrier.com.

Soroptimists ask for donations

Soroptimist International of Idyllwild (www.si-idyllwild.org) is encouraging the community to collect regular and travel-sized soap, toothpaste, shampoo/conditioner, body wash, deodorant and lotions. Collected items will support the Soroptimists in assisting the Idyllwild HELP Center, currently serving the needs of more than 600 people in our mountain community.

In addition to these basic needs, as sponsors of the "Soroptimist Women's Cabinet" located at the HELP Center, local Soroptimists also emphasize that donations of feminine products — including sanitary napkins, tampons and panty liners — are desperately needed. Contact Theresa Teel at thursa@gmail.com or Karen Doshier at 951-452-4599 to donate items mentioned.

Sheriff uncomfortable with future budget proposals

Sniff and CEO Orr have different views

By JP CRUMRINE
NEWS EDITOR

Despite County Executive Jay Orr's optimistic view that significant savings can be found in the county's public safety budgets, Sheriff Stan Sniff is considerably less confident.

Orr is focusing on the public safety budgets, which have grown in the past several years, while the other departments have taken cuts of nearly 45 percent or more since 2008.

But Sniff emphasizes that his budget, as most departments, is largely composed of personnel costs, and the Board of Supervisors and County Executive set those levels through the negotiated contracts.

"It is no secret at this point that the budget 'challenge' is a product of rapidly increasing labor costs as a result of [memorandums of understanding] previously negotiated. The 'increased costs' by county departments — especially safety departments — are directly related to labor costs and are completely outside of their control," Sniff said in an email. "Labor costs have grown, ranging from 43 percent to 65 percent, over the past eight years and these costs drive 90 percent of our safety budgets, and will continue to increase this next [fiscal year] ... We're being squeezed by labor costs."

As an example, Sniff pointed out that the cost of a deputy sheriff, at the top of the pay scale, driving a squad car is more than \$100,000 annually. "There are county benefits and overtime, too," he added. "This is good for recruiting, but it was a profound decision."

Substantial reductions in the sheriff's budget will ultimately result in reduced hiring, Sniff fears. For 2016-17, Orr is already recommending to eliminate the goal

of hiring more deputies in the unincorporated areas, including sharp reductions in unincorporated patrol staffing, or potential closure and consolidation of patrol stations within Riverside County.

The current ratio is 1.04 deputies per 1,000 residents in the unincorporated areas of the county. In 2013 and again last fall, the supervisors restated the goal of achieving 1.2 deputies.

According to Orr's memorandum to the board, the \$40 million cost to fund health care for the county's jail inmates is the major reason no new funding is available, and reductions or limits are necessary.

However, Sniff takes umbrage that these costs were unexpected and said the Sheriff's Department is not responsible.

"The [Prison Law Office] jail inmate health care settlement occurred as a direct result of [former] CEO actions over the strong public objections by the sheriff in 2011. These objections were well documented in the media at the time and represent the kind of poor public policy that should not be repeated in the future by Riverside County," he said.

Regardless of his disagreements with how the county's budget problems are portrayed, Sniff continues to aver his support of whatever budget decision the board will make. Nevertheless, as a countywide elected official, he stressed his responsibility to the public and the board.

"The Sheriff's Department will follow board direction for next fiscal year, just as it has each year, but there are clear ramifications, intended or unintended," he added. "I won't be a wallflower."

JP Crumrine can be reached at jp@towncrier.com.



Stan Sniff, Riverside County Sheriff

FILE PHOTO



Jay Orr, Riverside County Executive Officer

PHOTO COURTESY OF RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Washington in Idyllwild Feb. 26

Riverside County 3rd District Supv. Chuck Washington will be at the Idyllwild Library from noon to 2 p.m. Friday, Feb. 26. Call Claudia Maunz-McLellan at 951-955-1030 for an appointment.

Community potluck planned

A community that eats together stays together. The Art Alliance of Idyllwild is hosting a community potluck on Saturday, Feb. 6, at Town Hall that is open to the entire community. Attendees are asked to bring a dish to share, utensils and plates.

For planning purposes, registration is requested by Feb. 3. To register, visit <http://artinidyllwild.org/event-2098010>.

Gathering for highly sensitives

A Highly Sensitive Persons gathering, facilitated by Veda Roubideaux, is held from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28, at Spirit Mountain Retreat.

For more information, contact the center at 659-2523 or info@spiritmountainretreat.org.



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Cal Fire gets more money for fire protection

Gov. proposes 750 new positions

By JP CRUMRINE
NEWS EDITOR

For next fiscal year, which begins July 1, Gov. Jerry Brown has recommended a \$200 million increase for the Cal Fire budget. The agency's total would be \$2.1 billion compared to \$1.9 billion in fiscal 2015-16.

The increased funding will support a proposed staffing increase of nearly 750 positions. About 650 positions will be for fire protection, of which about 455 are temporary. Another 30 are for resource management and 43 are for administrative functions.

As part of the Emergency Drought Response effort, Brown allocated another \$292 million, including \$77.4 million to Cal Fire. These funds will help ensure firefighters are available for surges, retain seasonal fighters, ensure more defensible space inspectors and improve Cal Fire's air attack resources.

About \$180 million of the total increase is from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. Reimbursements are expected to increase \$25 million and the funding from the State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Fee will decrease about \$5 million to \$75.9 million.

The Greenhouse Gas funding includes \$140 million for forest treatments, \$30 million for urban forestry projects and \$10 million for Forest Legacy program. The purpose of the legacy program is to protect environmental-

ly important forestland threatened with conversion to non-forest uses, such as subdivisions for residential or commercial development.

The \$140 million will fund activities to reduce wild-fire risk, including thinning of tree stands that are too dense, prescribed fire and other boots-on-the-ground mitigation work. "As [Cal Fire] Chief [Ken Pimlott] says, 'We are going to set some hard goals for ourselves,'" said Janet Upton, Cal Fire's deputy director for communications.

Another \$17 million and 96 of the positions will augment Cal Fire's Emergency Command centers and the two regional and Sacramento centers. These resources are needed especially during periods of "historic, increased fire activity."

Improving information technology's contribution to the agency's responses will be acquiring automated vehicle locators and mobile data computers in all of the agency's emergency response equipment.

As a result of investigations of several Cal Fire personnel and training activities, the agency plans to establish a unit with capability and authority to carry out

comprehensive personnel investigations and adverse actions.

According to the Budget Summary, "A centralized unit will improve the quality of investigation and written adverse actions through dedicated, trained investigators, and provide centralized oversight resulting in coordination and consistency in adverse actions, penalties and investigative materials."

Finally, the governor promised to submit a new budget proposal in the spring to fund the replacement of Cal Fire's current 12 Vietnam-era helicopters with new and modern equipment.

Included in the budget proposal is a \$40-million allocation over the next two years to go toward replacing woodstoves. The money would come from the proceeds of the State's Cap and Trade Program to reduce California's Greenhouse Gas emissions.

"This could potentially help change out thousands of old stoves, which is good for consumers and the environment," notes Mario Allen, president of Pacific Hearth, Patio and Barbecue Association.

JP Crumrine can be reached at jp@towncrier.com.

Cal Fire conducting prescribed burn this week

Cal Fire will conduct a prescribed burn in Idyllwild this week.

About 125 piles of brush and slash will be burned, located at Camp Maranatha at 54162 Maranatha Drive. The area is between the camp and the Idyllwild Nature Center, according to Division Chief Bill Weiser.

The burn will be between Tuesday, Feb. 2, and Friday, Feb. 5. Actual time and date is subject to approval from the Southern California Air Quality Management District and to the weather.

The Idyllwild Fire Department will assist Cal Fire during the burn, Weiser said. "Chief [Patrick] Reitz said he would help. It's more staff and good training for their newer people."

The burn is part of the Cal Fire Vegetation Management program and will reduce hazardous vegetation and

wildland fuels in this area, which is considered to be at high risk for large wildfires.

The Cal Fire press release states, "Residents in the Idyllwild, Pine Cove and surrounding mountain communities or anyone traveling on State Highway 243 may see smoke from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the days of the burn."

"In the unlikely event you smell smoke, county officials urge you to take precautions and use common sense to reduce any harmful health effects by limiting outdoor activities," Cal Fire added in the release.

The U.S. Forest Service also will help. District Fire Officer Fred Espinosa will be sending some additional equipment to help manage the burn, Weiser added.

For more information and questions, contact the Cal Fire/Riverside County Fire Department Public Affairs Bureau at 951-940-6985.

Hiking safety

We are entering the time of year when hiking is a popular outdoor activity enjoyed by the public in various locations throughout Riverside County.

The Riverside County Sheriff's Department reminds hiking enthusiasts to carry proper equipment for any outdoor excursion.

Proper preparedness includes a well-thought-out travel plan shared with friends and family, as well as familiarity with common hiking equipment, such as GPS, maps and compasses, proper clothing and plenty of water. It is also a good practice to stay on the trail and conserve your cell-phone battery.



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For the Idyllwild Arts & Entertainment Calendar, see "On the Town," on page 9. Submit listings and changes to becky@towncrier.com.

Wednesday, Feb. 3

- Idyllwild Rotary Club, 7:30-9 a.m. American Legion Post 800, 54360 Marian View Dr.
- Town Crier News Meeting, public welcome, 8:30 a.m. Town Crier office, 54405 N. Circle Dr.
- Soroptimist International of Idyllwild, 9 a.m. Mountain Resource Center, 25380 Franklin Dr.
- Garner Valley Women's Group, 10:30 a.m. Garner Valley Common, 61600 Devil's Ladder Rd.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, noon. St. Hugh's Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.
- Cancer support group, 4:30 p.m. Idyllwild Library, 54401 Village Center Dr.
- American Legion Post 800 Auxiliary board, 5 p.m. Post 800, 54360 Marian View Dr.
- Co-dependents Anonymous meeting, 7:30 p.m. Spiritual Living Center, Church of Religious Science, 26120 Ridgeview Dr.

Thursday, Feb. 4

- Alcoholics Anonymous women's meeting (open), 9 a.m. & "We Don't Know" Agnostic & Atheist meeting, 6-7 p.m. Spiritual Living Center, 26120 Ridgeview Dr.; meeting, noon. St. Hugh's Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.
- Free warm lunch, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; Fit After 50 exercise, 1:30-2:30 p.m. St. Hugh's Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.
- Idyllwild Rotary Anns, 11:30 a.m. Call 951-852-2306 for more information.
- Bridge, 12:30 p.m., Creekstone Inn, 54950 Pine Crest Ave. If interested, show up or phone 951-659-4910.
- Narcotics Anonymous, 7:30-9 p.m. Spiritual Living Center, 26120 Ridgeview Dr.

Friday, Feb. 5

- Free Mat Pilates Classes, 9 a.m. Tarah Jade, 54320 N. Circle Dr. Sponsored by Mountain Pilates and Yoga, 760-200-5757
- Alcoholics Anonymous, noon. St. Hugh's Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.; Pick-a-stick candlelight, 7:30 p.m. Spiritual Living Center, 26120 Ridgeview Dr.
- Feeding America, 3-4 p.m. Cross Road 243 Church, Mountain Center.

Saturday, Feb. 6

- Pine Cove Property Owners Association, 9 a.m. Pine Cove Fire Station, 24919 Marion Ridge Dr.
- Meditation, Zen-style, 9 a.m.-noon. The Loft in the Courtyard Building, 26120 Ridgeview Dr. Valerie Kyoshin Velez, 951-392-6507 or kyoshinvelez@gmail.com.
- American Legion Post 800 meeting, 10 a.m. Post 800, 54360 Marian View Dr.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, noon. St. Hugh's Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.; 5:30 p.m. Spiritual Living Center, 26120 Ridgeview Dr.

Sunday, Feb. 7

- Peace Meditation Practice, 10 a.m. Tibetan Buddhist Dharma Center, 53191 Mountain View, Pine Cove.
- Occupy Idyllwild stand and discuss with the 99 percent. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Town center at Harmony monument. Call Sue at 909-228-6710.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, Book Study meeting (closed), noon. Idyllwild Water District, 25945 Hwy. 243; 5 p.m. Rancho Encino Mountain Club, 45915 Orchard Rd., Poppet Flats, across from Cal Fire Station 6.
- Al-Anon "Mixed Nuts" open meeting, 6-7:30 p.m. Spiritual Living Center, 26120 Ridgeview Dr.

Monday, Feb. 8

- Alcoholics Anonymous women's meeting (open), 9 a.m. Spiritual Living Center, 26120 Ridgeview Dr.; meeting, noon. St. Hugh's Episcopal Church, 25525

Tahquitz Dr.

- Debtors Anonymous, 12-step program for compulsive debting and spending, 7-8:30 p.m. Spiritual Living Center, 26120 Ridgeview Dr.

Tuesday, Feb. 9

- Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council public board, 9:30 a.m. Mountain Resource Center, 25380 Franklin Drive. Call 659-6208 for information.
- Mountain Quilters of Idyllwild, 9:30 a.m. Community Presbyterian Church, 54400 North Circle Dr.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, noon. St. Hugh's Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.; men's meeting, 6-7 p.m. Spiritual Living Center, Church of Religious Science, 26120 Ridgeview Dr.
- La Leche League, 1 p.m. Call 659-8321.
- Fit After 50 exercise, 1:30-2:30 p.m. St. Hugh's Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.
- Lovingkindness Meditation Group, 5-5:30 p.m.; Self-Realization Fellowship Meditation, 6-7 p.m. Spirit Mountain Retreat, 25661 Oakwood St. Call 659-2523.
- International Healing Rooms of Idyllwild, 5-7 p.m. Shiloh Christian Ministries, 54495 Village Center Dr.
- Meditation & dharma study, 6 p.m. Idyllwild Yoga Studio, 54445 N. Circle Dr. Call Valerie Kyoshin Velez at 951-659-5750 for info.

Wednesday, Feb. 10

- Idyllwild Rotary Club, 7:30-9 a.m. American Legion Post 800, 54360 Marian View Dr.
- Town Crier News Meeting, public welcome, 8:30 a.m. Town Crier office, 54405 N. Circle Dr.
- Riverside County Mobile Health Clinic, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Town Hall, 25925 Cedar St.
- Pine Cove Water District board, 10 a.m. PCWD, 24917 Marion Ridge Rd., Pine Cove.
- La Leche League, 10 a.m. Call 659-8321.
- Community Church Guild, noon. Church, 54400 North Circle Dr.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, noon. St. Hugh's Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.
- County Service Area 38, 2 p.m. Pine Cove Water District office, 24917 Marion Ridge Rd., Pine Cove.
- Cancer support group, 4:30 p.m. Idyllwild Library, 54401 Village Center Dr.
- Co-dependents Anonymous meeting, 7:30 p.m. Spiritual Living Center, Church of Religious Sci-

Fire log

The Idyllwild Fire Station reported no responses for the week.

Sheriff's log

The Riverside County Sheriff's Department Hemet Station responded to the following calls, Sunday to Saturday, Jan. 24 to 30.

Idyllwild

- Jan. 24 — Suspicious person, address undefined. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 25 — Suspicious vehicle, Scenic Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 25 — Silent alarm, address withheld. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 25 — Alarm call, 25000 block of Rim Rock Rd. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 25 — Battery, 25000 block of Hwy. 243. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 25 — Alarm call, 26000 block of Hwy. 243. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 26 — Petty theft, N. Circle Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 26 — Public disturbance, 54000 block of S. Circle Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 27 — Alarm call, Fernleaf Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 27 — Check the welfare, 25000 block of Rim Rock Rd. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 27 — Alarm call, Tahquitz View Dr. Handled by

ence, 26120 Ridgeview Dr.

Community service hours

- California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (bark beetle issues), 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Mountain Resource Center, 25380 Franklin Dr., 659-3335.
- Idyllwild HELP Center, 26330 Hwy. 243, 9 a.m.-noon & 1-3:30 p.m. Tues.-Fri. 659-2110.
- Idyllwild Area Historical Museum, 54470 North Circle Dr., 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat. & Sun. Group tours by appointment. 659-2717.
- Idyllwild Library, 54401 Village Center Dr., Strawberry Creek Plaza, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon., Wed.; noon-8 p.m. Tues.; noon-5 p.m. Thurs. & Fri.; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat., 659-2300.
- Idyllwild Nature Center, 25225 Hwy. 243, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Wed.-Sun. 659-3850.
- Idyllwild Transfer Station, 28100 Saunders Meadow Rd., 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Thurs.-Mon.

NEWS OF RECORD

deputy.

- Jan. 28 — Alarm call, N. Circle Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 28 — Public disturbance, Manzanita Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 28 — Alarm call, Tahquitz View Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 29 — Alarm call, N. Circle Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 29 — Petty theft, Chipmunk Dr. Report taken.
- Jan. 29 — Alarm call, Rockdale Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 29 — Prowler, 54000 block of S. Circle Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 29 — 911 call, Parkview Rd. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 30 — 911 call, 53000 block of Double View Dr. Handled by deputy.

Mountain Center

- Jan. 25 — Trespassing, 53000 block of Hwy. 243. Handled by deputy.

Pine Cove

- Jan. 25 — Check the welfare, Hotel Ln. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 26 — Vandalism, Cedar Dr./Marion Ridge. Report taken.
- Jan. 27 — Unknown trouble, address undefined. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 28 — Burglary, 23000 block of Hwy. 243. Unfounded.

- Jan. 28 — Burglary, 23000 block of Hwy. 243. Report taken
- Jan. 30 — Suspicious person, Laurel Trl. Handled by deputy.

Pine Meadows

- Jan. 25 — Alarm call, Hop Patch Spring Rd. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 28 — Burglary, Barbara Lee Dr. Report taken.
- Jan. 29 — Alarm call, Devils Ladder Rd. Handled by deputy.

Poppet Flats

- Jan. 28 — Check the welfare, Wolf Rd. Handled by deputy.

San Bernardino National Forest

- Jan. 24 — Area check, 20000 block of Hwy. 243. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 28 — Assist other department, 47000 block of E. Hwy. 74. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 28 — Fraud, 48000 block of Twin Pines Rd. Report taken.
- Jan. 29 — Assist other department, 33000 block of Bautista Canyon Rd. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 30 — Public disturbance, Temecula Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 30 — Man with gun, address undefined. Handled by deputy.
- Jan. 30 — Follow up, address undefined. Handled by deputy.

Warm centers available

Riverside County Community Action Partnership is providing warm center drop-in sites for vulnerable individuals, seniors, the disabled, and others in need of temporary relief from the cold. Warm centers will open to the public, in affected areas, when the Riverside University Health Systems Public Health issues a "Cold Warning." Watch or listen for the "Cold Warning" on your television, radio or local newspaper.

Nearby warm centers are:

- American Legion Post 800, 54360 Marian View Drive, 4-9 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, noon-9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 951-659-3517
- Anza Community Hall, 56630 Hwy. 371, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday, 951-428-0901
- Banning Senior Center, 769 N. San Geronio Ave., 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, 951-922-3250
- Renaissance Pet Resort and Spa, warm center for pets, 1346 E. Ramsey Street, Banning, 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Friday and 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, 951-849-5020
- Hemet Simpson Center Valley-Wide Rec and Parks District, 305 E. Devonshire Ave., 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday, 951-929-5607

You also are at risk if you have certain medical conditions, take medication for high blood pressure, have a mental health condition, or have been using drugs or alcohol.

On the Town

Local Dining, Arts & Entertainment

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT CALENDAR

Arts & Entertainment Calendar listings are at the discretion of the editor. Submittal forms may be picked up at the Town Crier, or email becky@town-crier.com.

Wednesday, Feb. 3

- Junior Art Show, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Parks Exhibition Center, Idyllwild Arts.
- "The Revenant," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Thursday, Feb. 4

- Junior Art Show, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Parks Exhibition Center, Idyllwild Arts.
- "The Revenant," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Friday, Feb. 5

- Junior Art Show, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Parks Exhibition Center, Idyllwild Arts.
- Live music, 5-8 p.m.; Karaoke, 8 p.m.-midnight. Lumber Mill Bar & Grill.
- Keith McCabe, 6-9 p.m. Café Aroma.
- Bill Sheppard & John King, 6-9 p.m. Ferro.
- "The Big Short," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Saturday, Feb. 6

- David Jerome, 9 a.m.-noon; Nathan Rivera & Jessie Andra Smith Gypsy Blues, 1-3 p.m. Café Aroma.
- Yu Gi Oh! Teen Card Club, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; Take Your Child to the Library,

10 a.m.-4 p.m. Idyllwild Library.

- Junior Art Show, noon-4 p.m. Parks Exhibition Center, Idyllwild Arts.

- Michael Britton & Karen Blanchard, noon-4 p.m.; Live music to 8 p.m.; Karaoke, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Lumber Mill Bar & Grill.

- "The Big Short," 2, 4:30 & 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

- Get Da Gator, 4-9 p.m. Soboba Casino, San Jacinto.

- Art Alliance of Idyllwild Community Potluck, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Town Hall.

- Nathan Rivera Trio, 6-9 p.m. Ferro.

Sunday, Feb. 7

- Michael Britton & Karen Blanchard, noon-4 p.m.; live music to 8 p.m. Lumber Mill Bar & Grill.

- The Lentes, 1-3 p.m. Café Aroma.

- Sam & Owen Zorn, 1-4 p.m. Ferro.

- "The Big Short," 2, 4:30 & 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

- Meet & Greet Daniel "Rudy" Ruettiger, Soboba Super Party, 1 p.m. Soboba Casino, San Jacinto.

Monday, Feb. 8

- Forest Folk Cribbage Group, 10 a.m.-noon; Children's Storytime, "Valentine's Day," 10:30-11:30 a.m. Idyllwild Library.

- Hojo Blues, 6-9 p.m. Ferro.

- "The Big Short," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Tuesday, Feb. 9

- Knit Wits, 1-3 p.m. Idyllwild Library.

- Jazz Night, 6-9 p.m. Ferro.

- "The Big Short," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

- Piano Fest, 7:30-10 p.m. Stephens Recital Hall, Idyllwild Arts.

Wednesday, Feb. 10

- "The Big Short," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Thursday, Feb. 11

- Homeschoolers Art Class, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Idyllwild Library.

- "The Big Short," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

- Songwriting Concert, 7:30-9 p.m. Stephens Recital Hall, Idyllwild Arts.

Friday, Feb. 12

- Art in Society Panel Discussions, "Immigration in the U.S.," 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.; "Marginalized Citizenship," 2-3:30 p.m. IAF Theatre, Idyllwild Arts.

- Get Da Gator, 4-9 p.m. Soboba Casino, San Jacinto.

- Live music, 5-8 p.m.; Karaoke, 8 p.m.-midnight. Lumber Mill Bar & Grill.

- Visual Arts Visiting Artist Show Opening, 6-7 p.m. Parks Exhibition Center, Idyllwild Arts.

- Keith McCabe, 6-9 p.m.



The Art Alliance of Idyllwild held an appreciation gathering at Middle Ridge Gallery Saturday evening.

PHOTO BY JENNY KIRCHNER

Café Aroma.

- Carjacked, 6-9 p.m. Ferro.

- "Deadpool," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Saturday, Feb. 13

- David Jerome, 9 a.m.-noon; IA students Zema & Owen, 1-3 p.m. Café Aroma.

- Rabbi Jules talk, 10 a.m.-noon. Idyllwild Library.

- Art Alliance of Idyllwild Under \$100 Art Fair, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Town Hall.

- Visiting Artist Art Show, noon-4 p.m. Parks Exhibition Center, Idyllwild Arts.

- Michael Britton & Karen Blanchard, noon-4 p.m.;

live music to 8 p.m.; Karaoke, 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Lumber Mill Bar & Grill.

- "Deadpool," 2 & 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

- Sojourn, 6-9 p.m. Ferro.

- Electronic Dance Music Concert, 8-9:30 p.m. Stephens Recital Hall, Idyllwild Arts.

Sunday, Feb. 14

- Michael Britton & Karen Blanchard, noon-4 p.m.; Live music to 8 p.m. Lumber Mill Bar & Grill.

- Santa Ysabel's Donn Bree, 1-3 p.m. Café Aroma.

- Sandii Castleberry, 1-4 p.m. Ferro.

- "Deadpool," 2 & 7 p.m.

Rustic Theatre.

Monday, Feb. 15

- Visiting Artist Art Show, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Parks Exhibition Center, Idyllwild Arts.

- Black Swan Blues, 6-9 p.m. Café Aroma.

- Peter Curtis Trio, 6-9 p.m. Ferro.

- "Deadpool," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Tuesday, Feb. 16

- Visiting Artist Art Show, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Parks Exhibition Center, Idyllwild Arts.

- Jazz Night, 6-9 p.m. Ferro.

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Author/artist Ron Singerton discusses the publishing industry

By MARSHALL SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

Ron Singerton, next speaker for the Idyllwild Community Center Speaker Series, is an accomplished artist whose art evinces a fine attention to detail.

That attention to detail served him well when he began researching his first historical novel, "Villa of Deceit" (Penmore Press, 2015) and its sequel "The Silk and the Sword" (due out this month). Both are set in ancient Rome, a time and place of extraordinary social complexity — a dangerous milieu of power, architectural magnificence, corruption, greed and brazen brutality.

Singerton is interested in complexity — especially in social mores, class hierarchies and the conventions of different historical periods. For him, as a writer, it's always about the emotions of his characters as their lives play out against the challenges of the civilizations of which they are a part.

His interest in history has infused his teaching, his art and his recent novels. He stressed if one is going to write of civilizations long past, dogged and thorough research is critical.

Using his historical novels as background, Singerton will discuss his research techniques and sources and the importance of fact-checking when writing about known historical periods, places and events. "You need to go to actual historical sources, writers and historians of the time," he noted. "And since histo-

ry is subject to revisionism, being recast according to prevailing orthodoxies, it is vitally important to read the writers of the time."

Singerton will also focus on how to navigate the current publishing industry. His books are released by small publishing house, Arizona-based Penmore Press. "The advantages of having your books published by a publishing house are significant," said Singerton, "primarily editing and distribution. The editing process is where people learn how to write. Good editors will take the time, particularly with historical novels, to fact-check. My editor corrected the tense of Latin I was using."

Singerton will also share how he found his publisher, the value of attending literary conventions, and reference books like "The Writers' Market" that help first time authors navigate the today's publishing industry. "The whole writing industry has changed enormously," said Singerton, "influenced by Facebook and blogs. Writers are almost responsible to do their own public relations now."

Singerton said that, in the end, getting a book accepted by a

good publishing house depends upon it being sellable, good literature and something that people cannot put down.

Singerton's first writing foray, when teaching art and history in inner city schools in Los Angeles, was



Ron Singerton will discuss his experiences with the publishing industry and offer helpful advice to novice writers when he is featured by the Idyllwild Community Center Speakers Series on Thursday, Feb. 18.

PHOTO BY MARSHALL SMITH

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2:00-3:30 *Marginalized Citizenship*

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authoring a history of the United States in easy-reading play format. In the 1980s he authored "Moments in History," a series of thirty minibooks depicting legendary and historical events from the landing of Columbus to the first moon landing by U.S. astronauts. The books were adopted as supplementary teaching material for the State of California and approved by the Los Angeles school board as teaching aids.

Singerton will conclude his presentation with an extended Q & A. Aspiring writers and inveterate readers won't want to miss his talk.

Singerton's talk is free to the public and takes place at 6 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 18 at Silver Pines Lodge.

Marshall Smith can be reached at marshall@town-crier.com.

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(May be canceled at any time)

Little response to Preservation District's effort to apply Mills Act locally

By JP CRUMRINE
NEWS EDITOR

The Local Review Board of the Idyllwild Historic Preservation District discussed the Mills Act and the new parking area in town at its meeting Thursday.

In September, LRB hosted a meeting to inform local property owners of the opportunities for historic preservation. The state's Mills Act provides property-tax relief in exchange for an equivalent investment in the historic property. The owners commit to restore, rehabilitate, repair and preserve the historic property.

In order to be eligible, the local, county or state government must designate the property as possessing historic value. All properties within the Idyllwild Historic Preservation District that have been designated as contributing to its historicity would be eligible.

Apparently, the September meeting, to which about 20 people attended, did not ignite much local response seeking a county ordinance to use the Mills Act for IHPD properties. LRB member Ron Kammeyer asked if anything new had occurred since the public meeting, and he and other board members were disappointed in the re-

sponse.

"I have not had any contact from property owners in Idyllwild regarding the question on the Mills Act nor from the supervisor's [Washington] office," said LRB staff Keith Herron, the Riverside County chief of resources and planning.

Herron apparently did call Washington's office and was told they had heard nothing from Idyllwild residents.

When LRB Chair Warren Monroe asked what the LRB could do to pursue any action, Herron suggested he could raise the topic at the next county Historical Commission meeting. But he stressed the importance of property owners seeking the Mills Act benefits in order for the Board of Supervisors to take any necessary action.

Sanders Chase, an owner of several Idyllwild properties, asked the LRB if it had any authority regulating the construction of a parking lot between North Circle Drive and Cedar Street (see the Jan. 21 Town Crier issue).

Both Monroe and Herron said LRB only has authority over the modification of existing structures and some new construction.

Modification of an existing structure's exterior architectural features can be reviewed. "Placement or removal of items affecting the exterior visual qualities of an existing building" are included, too, and require an Alteration Permit.

Further, the Design Guidelines state, "Projects that only affect non-contributing resources to the Historic District are also exempt from review."

A new parking lot that did not require razing any existing structures is outside the purview of the LRB, Herron said. "New construction is not addressed by the district guidelines. If any ordinance were applicable, it might be the one on removal of trees."

JP Crumrine can be reached at jp@towncrier.com.

Assembly discourages Thanksgiving store openings

By JP CRUMRINE
NEWS EDITOR

In January, the state Assembly passed a bill requiring employers to pay double time or twice the regular rate of pay for having someone work on Thanksgiving. Assembly Bill 67 is now before the state Senate. The double time is limited to employees of large retail or grocery stores.

The legislation was approved on a 43-32 vote. Local Assemblyman Brian Jones opposed the bill.

However, there are several other significant exemptions to whom the bill covers. First, retail and grocery store establishments that employ fewer than 500 employees are not required to pay the premium-time payment.

If an employee is covered by a collective-bargaining agreement that specifically provides for premium pay for holiday, they would be exempt from this protection.

Executives and others exempt from overtime rates also are exempt from this bill. It also exempts first responders and emergency personnel.

Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez (D-San Diego) introduced the bill and said in the press release following the Assembly's approval that, in recent years, "Black Friday" shopping deals have increasingly spilled into the Thanksgiving holiday. This forces workers to miss out on celebrating the holiday and spending time with their families in order to keep their jobs. In some cases, this work has become mandatory, forcing workers to give up their holiday or risk losing their jobs.

JP Crumrine can be reached at jp@towncrier.com.



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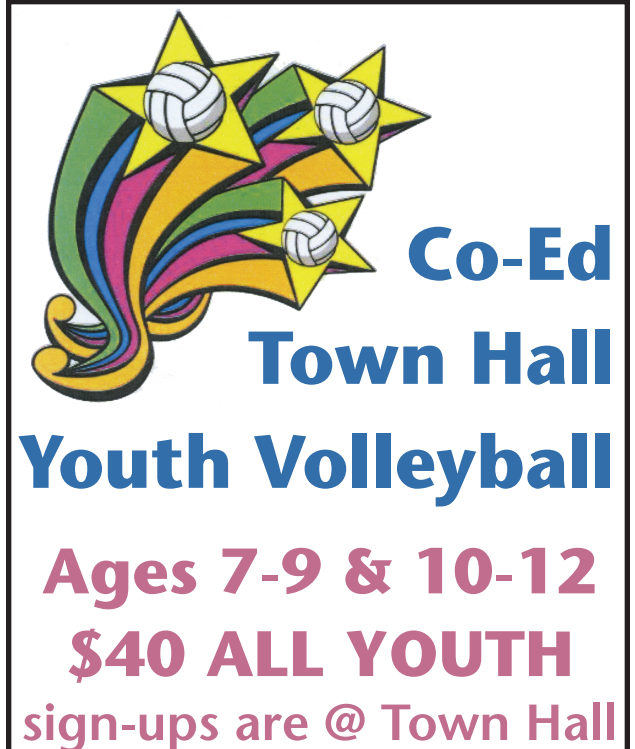
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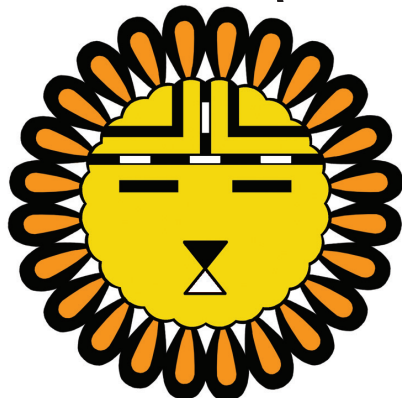
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Journal from



the James

More of what's wild in Idyllwild: Crows & ravens ...

By JAMES RESERVE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR JOHN LAUNDRE

For those of you who remember the "Journal from the James" article on bobcats, I had mentioned I would follow with more periodic articles on the wildlife that have been showing up on the cameras we have placed around Idyllwild and Pine Cove. In this month's installment, I have decided to write about two closely related species, crows and ravens.

Both belong to the family Corvidae. This is a large bird family that not only includes these two species but Steller's and scrub jays that are also commonly seen in the area, but more on them later. The members of this family are normally considered to be quite intelligent and can be found throughout the world.

In North America, of the two species, the crow is the most widely distributed. It is found in all 48 lower states and well into Canada. The raven is restricted more to the Western states but does extend extensively to the south in Mexico and across most of northern Canada and into Alaska.

Over their respective ranges, ravens and crows are some of the more commonly seen and heard bird species. However, they are often far from the most loved species.

For a variety of historic mythical reasons, Europeans have never had very favorable views of ravens and crows, often seen as being dark, sinister and evil. One only has to read Poe's classic poem to know those feelings transferred equally to America.

Crows and ravens are on America's "varmint" list, a whole group of native animals most people can't see a reason to have around and so they might as well be shot on sight. Even where crows are protected, for example in Minnesota, one can still shoot one anytime if it is doing or about to do damage. I guess one looks for the evil glint in its eye.

This negative attitude we have against crows and ravens is unfortunate as they play important roles in the weave of nature we call an ecosystem. The biggest role they play is as scavengers. Though we can look at disgust at animals who eat dead things, they indeed maintain the health of ecosystems by their sanitary habits.

Crows and ravens also play the role of predators, preying on a variety of small animals. As such, they, like the other predators as I mentioned in a previous article, are the guardians of ecosystem integrity, keeping these small herbivore species from becoming overabundant.

Lastly, they, too, are prey of other species. Though we would find it hard to "eat crow," owls have no hesitation in doing so. Owls will hunt crows who have roosted for the night. In turn, during the day, if crows find a roosted owl, they will "mob" it to drive it away. Such are the intrigues of predator-prey relationships.

It is this multiplicity of roles that crows and ravens play — of scavenger, of predator and of prey —



Comparison of the size of ravens (left) to the smaller crows, right. Also note the flat tail of the crow.

PHOTOS COURTESY JOHN LAUNDRE

that make them truly jacks of all trades in the natural world.

This approach has ensured their survival over eons of time and epic changes of climate. They are far from the sinister demons we portray them as and we should admire them instead for their intelligence, ingenuity and contribution they make to our forest ecosystem.

This, you might say, is all fine and good, but how do you tell them apart? Though they are both totally black in color, there are four characteristics that distinguish crows from ravens.

The first, and hardest, is their size. Ravens are bigger and stockier than crows, weighing about 2.5 times more. They also have a larger wingspan. But unless you see them side by side, which happens rarely, size alone is hard to go by.

The second distinguishing characteristic is the size and shape of their beaks. Again, ravens have a much larger, broader, heavier beak compared to the more stiletto-shaped beak of the crow.

The third way to tell them apart is by their call.

Crows have the classic "caw" and it sounds as it is written. Ravens, however, have a more guttural and variable call that sounds like a crow with a sore throat.

For me, however, the easiest and most surefire way of telling if you are looking at a crow or a raven is in the tail. This is especially true if you see them flying. The raven's tail feathers end in a very definite rounded shape. In contrast, the tail feathers of a crow end in a more flat triangle.

So whether you see a crow or a raven, and now can tell them apart, you are seeing some of the more intelligent and, to me, interesting species of our bird community here on the Hill.

Although not as melodious as most, the call of both is still music to my ears. And, it's unfortunate that many people still think poorly of them.

Although our attitudes toward crows and ravens are a lot better than they have been, there are many who would want to return to the glory days of indiscriminant killing of these magnificent birds. To them, I can only say — nevermore.

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The Men of X male revue show at Soboba Casino

On Friday and Saturday, Feb. 12 and 13, The Men of X are warming up the winter nights with an all-male revue show at Soboba Casino.

While some men are struggling to decide on that perfect Valentine's Day gift for the special women in their life, many women in the Inland Empire have already decided that all they really want are tickets to see The Men of X live.

The all-male revue show rose to stardom after their risqué performance began headlining major venues in Las Vegas, Nevada. They continue to wow Southern California fans by making their second appearance at Soboba Casino. After their initial performance in August sold out and left audiences begging for more, Soboba had little choice but to bring the titillating Men of X back for a second round.

The show offers viewers the chance to experience their favorite fantasies and daydreams. While leaving little to

the imagination, performers transform seamlessly from the big and sturdy firemen to rough and ready bikers, and, of course, strong and rowdy cowboys. Michael J. Broderick, Soboba Casino's director of marketing, recalled, "It was an immense success having The Men of X perform last year. We are looking forward to having them back in time for Valentine's Day."

The revue even offers a hands-on, interactive approach that allows some women to be pulled onto the stage for a one-on-one dancing experience. But don't be fooled by their well-kempt exteriors. These guys have the talent to match it. They dance to everything from pop to classic rock, to hip-hop and country. The choreography is aimed to tease, with the performers occasionally jumping off the stage to dance with viewers in the audience.

Doors open at 7 p.m., and the big show starts at 8 p.m.



Idyllwild Arts students **Cash Globe** and **Ella Hartmann** entertain patrons at Ferro with their jazz on Sunday. PHOTO BY JOHN DRAKE



Photographer **Peter Szabadi** (right), with friends and fans, enjoys a reception for his work, now on view at Idyll Awhile Wine Shoppe & Bistro. PHOTO BY JOHN DRAKE

Library goes green

The Riverside County Library System invites you to Go Green.

On a monthly basis, an average of 1,207 notices are mailed to library patrons regarding the "holds" placed on books or other materials and "overdue" reminders.

Email notices are environmentally friendly; they reduce the library's postage, copying and paper use, and are delivered without unexpected delays. You'll get notices faster and it will save trees and paper by not printing them.

Patrons who haven't already done so are encouraged to sign up for email notifications of their holds and overdue reminders. Not only is it "green," but email notices are also the most reliable and fastest method to receive library alerts.

Just ask any library staff member the next time you're in the library, or simply log in to your account at www.rivlib.net, select "My Account," to add or update your email address.

Community Day of Peace

St. Hugh's Episcopal Church invites anyone to stop by, light a candle and/or meditate/pray between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. the second Saturday of each month.

The Community Day of Peace was created as a result of the feeling of helplessness due to terrorism, war and current world violence.

The next event is Feb. 13.

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Travels with the TC



News and entertainment in Rincon, Puerto Rico, revolves around the tourist season with the presence of great weather in the winter. Luckily, **Ron Pearce** (right), Pine Cove part-timer, packed away a copy of the Town Crier for entertainment. Here, he is sharing the paper with one of the Puerto Rico Instructional Baseball League players, **Riley Quiroz** of Arizona.

Grant program for walking/biking
Caltrans is asking cities, counties and other eligible agencies throughout California to submit applications for transportation projects promoting walking and biking as part of the next round of Active Transportation Program funding. The largest program of its kind in the nation, the ATP will offer these agencies a chance at a share of \$360 million in federal and state funding.
“Californians are choosing walking and biking more and more,” said Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty. “Through the Active Transportation Program, Caltrans will continue to support this trend.” Visit www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LocalPrograms/atp/index.html for more information.

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Lemon Lily Festival preparing for July blooms

By JP CRUMRINE
NEWS EDITOR

Planning for the seventh-annual Lemon Lily Festival is underway, according to Amanda Allen, Idyllwild Nature Center park interpreter, who is organizing the two-day festival for the weekend of July 9 and 10. The whole event will kick off Friday night when heads and eyes will tilt upward to the skies rather than down at the ground.
The Festival will have a new opening event. “Since Lemon Lilies are most fragrant in the early evening, we’ve decided to kick off this year’s Lemon Lily Festival with a nod to the nighttime sky,” Allen said. “This year, the Nature Center will be offering a special star-gazing program on the Friday evening before the Lemon Lily Festival gets underway.”
This spring, Allen and others intend to plant some Lemon Lily bulbs that will soon be germinating as part of the restoration program, which festival fees fund.
Returning visitors will recognize many of the festival features, such as Pioneer Town and the Pennyroyal

Players
A major new activity will be hikes to blooming Lemon Lilies in two different areas. One will be on the grounds of the James San Jacinto Mountains Reserve, a part of the University of California’s Natural Reserve System. The other will be a trek to the high country.
Allen encourages festival goers to join local astronomy enthusiasts for constellation tours, star stories old and new, and telescope viewing. All will begin at 8:30 p.m. Friday, July 8, in the campground at Idyllwild County Park.
Pennyroyal Players use storytelling and songs to present portraits of people who settled the American West. Their experiences reveal some of the hardships, triumphs and humor that were part of the pioneering life in the 18th and 19th centuries.
Pioneer Town continues to be popular with both children and adults, offering the opportunity to learn what life was like during a time when the Lemon Lily was prolific in Idyllwild.
JP Crumrine can be reached at jp@towncrier.com.

Art Alliance event features art for under \$100

By MARSHALL SMITH
STAFF REPORTER
The Art Alliance of Idyllwild stages its third-annual Under \$100 Art Fair — A Sweetheart of a Deal at Idyllwild Town Hall. From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13. AAI member artists will feature art for sale for under \$100.
“This fun-filled art fair aims to get art into the homes of Idyllwild residents and visitors to the Hill,” noted AAI

on its website. The fair provides opportunities for purchase of jewelry, paintings and photography by some of Idyllwild’s finest artists.
“With Valentine’s Day often accompanied with the stress of finding a gift that is special and unique, the art fair is the perfect venue to find the perfect gift for someone you love . . . including yourself,” said AAI President Shanna Robb.
For more information, visit www.artinidyllwild.org.
Marshall Smith can be reached at marshall@towncrier.com.

TIDBITS FROM TOWN

Café Aroma Lunch and Dinner
Specials

Wednesday, February 3
• Lunch: Smoked Paprika Seared Scallop Salad
• Soup: French Onion
• Salad: Greek Quinoa Salad
• Main: Jambalaya Pasta (Shrimp, Andouille Sausage, Duck)
• Steak: 8oz Organic New York or 12oz Grass-fed Rib Eye with Jalapeño Compound Butter

Thursday, February 4
• Lunch: Gnocchi with Sundried Tomato Cream Sauce & Prosciutto
• Soup: Chicken Leek
• Salad: Cucumber Salad with Feta Cheese, Candied Pecans, & Roasted Tomatoes
• Main: Cajun Shrimp Alfredo with Sautéed Spinach & Sundried Tomatoes
• Steak: 8oz Organic New York or 12oz Grass-fed Rib Eye Curry Spice Rub

Friday, February 5
• Lunch: Halibut Tacos
• Soup: Beef & Barley
• Appetizer: Smoked Salmon Bruschetta
• Main: Sausage & Ricotta Cheese Stuffed Shells in a Creamy Pesto Sauce

• Steak: 8oz Organic New York or 12oz Grass-fed Rib Eye with Caramelized Onions

Saturday, February 6
• Soup: Chicken Curry
• Appetizer: Seared Scallops with Vanilla Bean Sauce
• Main: Ahi Pasta - Seared Ahi Tuna with Sautéed Red Onions & Capers in Scampi Sauce
• Steak: 8oz Organic New York or 12oz Grass-fed Rib Eye with Balsamic Marinated Mushrooms

Sunday, February 7
• Soup: Vegetable & Meatball
• Salad: Spinach, Apples, Cranberries, Prosciutto, Almonds & Goat Cheese
• Main: Chicken & Broccoli over Rice with a Creamy Cheddar Sauce
• Steak: 8oz Organic New York or 12oz Grass-fed Rib Eye with Cumin & Brown Sugar Rub

Monday, February 8
• Lunch: Macedonia Fruit Salad
• Chef's Surprise Dinner Special and Idyllwild's Original Half-Price Wine Night!

For information about Tidbits, contact Lisa Streeter at lisa@towncrier.com or (951) 659-2145.



THE EPITOME OF VOLUNTEERISM — WOODIES ...

Volunteerism: There are several definitions of this effort. One is the act or practice of doing volunteer work in community service. Others are the principle of donating time and energy for the benefit of other people in the community as a social responsibility rather than for any financial reward, or the policy or practice of volunteering one's time or talents for charitable, educational or other worthwhile activities, especially in one's community.

When looking at our local community, it is easy to find a group, organization or worthy cause to volunteer one's time toward. Many people here are involved in one or more of these groups.

One of these organizations that was formed in 2001 was the Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council. It was initially charged with educating the local public about fire abatement practices, which could defend or save their homes in the event of a fire.

Members soon realized that education alone did not go far enough. A push for thinning of the forest and overgrowth of vegetation within the community was begun.

A group of additional volunteers within the MCFSC was formed in 2002 and became known as the Woodies. These dedicated 20 to 30 people often use many of their own chainsaws, splitters and equipment trailers to facilitate the removal of trees on private property.

A local gentleman by the name of Lee Salgren was the initial leader of this group. One of their first projects, which this group tackled, was several large piles of 12- to 16-foot logs. This was at what is the present site of the "Grinding Station" below town on

Highway 243.

These were once "Penny Pine" trees that were planted some 15 to 20 years ago at this site. It was formally the local dumpsite.

The theory for the tree mortality was that the methane gas from the abandoned dump was too toxic for the tree's survival. This group cut, split and distributed this wood locally.

In spring 2004, with the permission and planning of the U.S. Forest Service, the MCFSC, with the labor of the volunteer "Woodies," began thinning and constructing the Pine Cove Shaded Fuel Break. The purpose of this particular project was to complete a portion of unfinished fuel break that would connect to the existing Strawberry Fuel Break to the west.

This fuel break was 300 to 800 feet wide and some 3/4 of a mile long. It is a protection buffer for the south side of Pine Cove.

The Woodies worked two days a week for nearly six months on this effort knowing that when completed this might provide a great defense to this area.

As time went on, the MCFSC applied for, and still receives, grant monies to be used toward assistance for fire abatement and public education programs.

The Woodies formed a partnership with the Idyllwild Help Center where they receive wood from local tree contractors to cut and split. This split wood is then passed on to the Center to distribute to their needy clients as fuel for winter warmth.

During the Spring and Summer months these volunteers take a break from wood cutting and splitting to do private property fire abatement in the community for those who qualify for assistance. This volunteer group usually works for four hours every Friday morning throughout the year. Snow and rain are about the only thing that might alter their schedule.

Most members of this group are retired from other careers that are not at all related to this kind of work, aren't afraid to get dirty and the average age is close to 70.

Last year alone this group cut and split some 75 cords of wood and donated approximately 1,337 hours of time toward these and other efforts to make this community a little better place to live.

Remember when you hear the term Woodies around Idyllwild, that it is not a vintage auto that might carry a surfboard. But is a group that is the true meaning of volunteerism.

Burros for adoption

Riverside County is now offering wild burros for adoption. The adoption fee is \$50.

The burros were recently impounded from a pocket of land near a new Metrolink project area in the Highgrove area just north of Riverside. Animal Control officers with Riverside County Animal Services rounded up 19 burros. More burros are expected to be impounded in what is described as an ongoing operation.

"We're trying to round up roughly 40 burros from a sub herd of the much larger herds famous in the Reche Canyon area," Animal Services Director Robert Miller said. "This herd is the only known grouping in this particular pocket of Riverside County. Our intent is to preserve this sub herd by removing it from what will be a dangerous situation."

A new Metrolink project, scheduled to start running in early 2016, will result in new train runs through the area where the burros have often wandered to and near. The burros, although described as wild or undomesticated, have exhibited very docile behavior tendencies. The burros' mellow demeanors are attributed to a long-standing tradition of passersby feeding the burros carrots and apples, drawing them closer and closer to an industrial park and residential communities in the Highgrove area.

Help building savings account

Riverside County Community Action Partnership has a matched savings incentive program for low-income residents of the county. Participants must have earned income from a job or self-employment to be eligible for the program. They attend a series of both mandatory and elective workshops to increase financial knowledge as well as to become better prepared for their goal.

They open a savings account and contribute to reach the goal of \$1,000 savings to be matched.

Participants attend a series of workshops that assist in financing a 4-1 match of \$4,000 to do one of three things:

- purchase first home
- pursue education
- start or expand a small business

For more information, email info@capriverside.org or call 951-955-4900.

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Father Dan Rondeau — a life dedicated to and tested by healing

BY MARSHALL SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

Editor's Note: Most residents of Idyllwild call it a special place — special because of its people. We're expanding our artist series to include a broader segment of those residents whose contributions to Idyllwild make it a better place.

Father Dan Rondeau, vicar of St. Hugh's Episcopal Church in Idyllwild, knew early on that he wanted to help heal others. He did not know how greatly his life would change when, as he faced death, others fought to heal him. He could also not foresee how often his early resolves would be tested and his life journey would be altered.

Born in Minnesota and raised in San Diego, Dan Rondeau knew healing was his life's path. "While in high school I had decided to become a doctor," he said. "I knew I wanted to help others, to heal others." He entered San Diego State as a pre-med/biology major. Then, in the first of series of serendipitous turns that would change his path, he spent a summer between sophomore and junior years volunteering for San Diego-based Sisters of Social Service. "College students hung out with elementary and pre-teen kids from some of San Diego's poorest areas," Rondeau recalled. "It was my first experience with spiritual, psychic and social injuries that a doctor could not fix. I thought, during this summer, that maybe this is the healing I am called to do."

Raised in the Roman Catholic Church, in what he described as a "good Catholic family," Rondeau had earlier felt the call to enter the priesthood, but had not acted on it. But after that pivotal summer, and having experienced healing in a different form, he responded to the call to spiritual service.

At the end of his junior year at San Diego State, he was accepted into seminary at the University of San Diego. During his two years at seminary in San Diego, Rondeau was fast-tracked for advancement. He was sent to seminary in Rome at the Gregorian University, staffed by Jesuits. Classmates included two men who are now Cardinals within the church, Timothy Dolan (New York) and Daniel DiNardo (Houston/Galveston). Few American seminarians are accorded the honor of studying in Rome, and Rondeau's life was unfolding with great promise. He was ordained a deacon in the Roman Catholic Church in 1975.

But in a second crossroads moment, Rondeau began to struggle with the Catholic Church requirement for priestly celibacy. "I took a year off in 1976," he recalled. "I had to examine whether I could live it, this life with this requirement, whether I could forgo being a husband and a father."

"I got a job teaching fifth grade at St. Adelaide's School in Highland [Ca.] and during that year I settled on truly being called to be a priest. I needed to respond to God. In February 1977, I was ordained a priest and assigned to St. John of the Cross Church in Lemon Grove."

With this posting, Rondeau's path would again change unexpectedly. "St. John had a school attached," he recalled. "Carol Tripoli was the fifth-grade teacher and vice principal and I was associate pastor. Then the principal of the school died unexpectedly, Carol became principal, and because the pastor was in Ireland, I was now involved in running the parish of 4,000 families and the school. In the course of the transition, the new responsibilities, and many business meetings with Carol, I fell in love."

Rondeau said it tested his faith, his courage, and exposed him to censure from colleagues, but in the end he decided to follow his heart.



Father Dan Rondeau, vicar of St. Hugh's Episcopal, has lived a life dedicated to healing. But when suddenly stricken by a debilitating disease that attacks the nerves within the body, Rondeau lay unconscious for months in a hospital approved by his insurance company until his family fought to have him transferred to UCLA Medical Center. There, his condition was correctly diagnosed and he began to recover.

PHOTO BY MARSHALL SMITH

"I found I had a dual calling – to follow God and to follow my heart."

Rondeau left the Roman Catholic priesthood. In 1980 he and Carol married. In 1983 he earned a master's degree in social work from San Diego State. "I thought, with the degree I could get to do many of the things I could have done as a priest, healing spiritual and psychic wounds."

In 1983, he was offered a job as a youth minister within the Episcopal Church, with the requirement that he complete a semester of study at the Bloy House Episcopal Theological School in Claremont. Rondeau already had degrees from the Catholic seminary in Rome that were the equivalent of a master's degree in divinity.

That year, Rondeau was "received" into the Episcopal Church ministry. He quickly advanced through a series of postings that eventually led in 1993 to St. Margaret's Episcopal Church in Palm Desert, a prestigious parish of which President Gerald and Betty Ford were members. Rondeau remained at St. Margaret's for 15 years, until 2008, serving at various times as rector and associate rector. "I played a big part in the growth of the church," said Rondeau. "During that time a school was built, and we added a middle school. I also served as chaplain of the school."

Then, once again, Rondeau's life would change dramatically and unexpectedly. An avid hiker, and in top physical shape, Rondeau was meeting new parents at St. Margaret's school on a Friday in October, 2008. "We had a great welcoming party," he recalled. On Saturday morning his feet were numb. He thought nothing of it and continued to work. At the end of Saturday the

numbness had moved up to his knees. On Sunday morning when it had progressed to his waist, he told Carol he thought he needed to see a doctor. An initial diagnosis of Guillian-Barre syndrome was done without the prescribed lumbar puncture and Rondeau was sent home. Guillian-Barre is a very rare disorder where the body's immune system attacks the nerves, and recovery rates are generally high. But by Monday morning, he could not stand. He was hospitalized and within days was unconscious. Rondeau describes it as an eight month "wilderness" of unconsciousness in which he was kept alive by a ventilator and feeding tube.

"After initial treatment at Eisenhower showed no improvement, I was consigned to Kindred Hospital in Ontario, ostensibly to be weaned off the ventilator but actually to be warehoused to slowly die."

"Carol and our sons fought with the insurance companies to get second opinions or to get me transferred to another hospital. They succeeded in getting my case before a state of California independent review board who ordered Blue Cross/Blue Shield to have me transferred to UCLA Medical Center." While there, doctors diagnosed Rondeau, not with Guillian-Barre, but with Mononeuritis Multiplex. "It has similar symptoms but different treatment protocols," said Rondeau. "I began to recover. I regained consciousness June 1, 2009, transferred to Desert Regional Medical Center in Palm Springs, and was discharged Nov. 6, 2009, more than a year after becoming sick."

Rondeau said during his months of unconsciousness he dreamed — dreams in which he was fearful for his wife and sons' welfare. Then, in his dreams, he remembered thinking that now he would die and, if that was as it must be, he was ready. But he remembered feeling a presence, a peaceful and calm presence, that told him he would not die, "not this day or this way." I trusted this and went to sleep."

After physical rehabilitation and discharge from the hospital, serendipity again intervened.

See Rondeau, next page

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Rondeau

Continued from previous page

Retiring from the ministry in 2009, he was contacted to be a spiritual counselor by a parishioner of St. Hugh's in Idyllwild. "Carol and I had always thought we would like to live in the mountains," he said. In 2011 he began coming to St. Hugh's to conduct Eucharist once a month for the small mountain congregation. In January, 2014, he became St. Hugh's vicar and an Idyllwild resident.

Called to heal and serve others, Rondeau recovered from near death when his family fought to find healing for him. He awakened from an unconscious wilderness when a gentle reassuring presence told him he would live. He resumed his mission to heal others in what he calls a "holy" environment – Idyllwild. "My hope is that this congregation [St. Hugh's] will reconnect with the community and be a place of healing and peace within this holy place of Idyllwild – a place of outreach to other communities of faith, for them to join us in initiatives to heal the community."

Rondeau is especially gratified by the response from the community to the annual Service of Solace at St. Hugh's that has joined other faith traditions, a mission to the elderly in which other Idyllwild churches also participate, and the Gender Based Symposium of which he is co-chair. "I want St. Hugh's to be a place to bring people together, to heal, to share and to grow."

Marshall Smith can be reached at marshall@towncrier.com.



Joseph Borja (left), the new captain of the Riverside County Sheriff's Department Hemet Station, discusses his recent assignment with Marshall Smith (right) at the Town Crier office last Friday.
PHOTO BY J.P. CRUMRINE

Political opportunities available

The Capital Fellows Programs administered by the Center for California Studies at California State University, Sacramento, is accepting applications for:

- California Senate Fellows
- Executive Fellowship Program
- Jesse M. Unruh Assembly Fellowship Program
- Judicial Administration Fellowship Program

The programs offer an opportunity to work for from 10 to 11 months as a full-time paid staff member in the California State Assembly, California State Senate, California Executive Branch or California Judiciary. Fellows participate in policymaking, program development and implementation, and gain first-hand experience in the governance and leadership of the most diverse, complex state in the nation.

Applicants must have a bachelor's degree (in any major) by Sept. 1, 2016, and a demonstrated interest in state government and public service. Applicants may apply to one or more of the programs that meet their interests and qualifications.

For detailed information about the fellowships and applications, visit www.csus.edu/calst/programs. Application deadline is Feb. 8, 2016. For more information, contact the Center for California Studies at 916-278-6906 or calstudies@csus.edu.

Passports to Antarctica at library

Idyllwild Library is offering "Become a Jr. Explorer and Explore Antarctica." The event is connected to the exhibit "Explore Antarctica: Empire of the Penguin," now featured at the library through January.

A passport booklet has been prepared for younger patrons to discover all sorts of interesting facts about the continent and its penguin population. Visitors may ask for a passport with questions about Antarctica and look for the hidden answers found within the display.

Upon completing the passport's questions, junior explorers can have their passports stamped and receive an expedition certificate. Everyone is invited to come in and explore Antarctica.

Bald eagle count Saturday, Feb. 13

The U. S. Forest Service has scheduled two more bald eagle counts for this winter. Counts will be on the Saturday mornings of Feb. 13 and March 12.

Two bald eagles reside on the shores of Lake Hemet. In 2014, they produced two eaglets.

The local count will be at Lake Hemet. Volunteers meet at the Lake Hemet Grocery Store at 8:30 a.m. on the above dates for orientation. Contact Ann Bowers (annbowers@fs.fed.us or 909-382-2935) for more information.

Other counts that day within the San Bernardino National Forest will be at Big Bear Lake, Lake Arrowhead, Lake Gregory, Silverwood Lake State Recreation Area and Lake Perris State Recreation Area.

Churches and Spiritual Centers Directory of Idyllwild

Christian Science Church

25970 Cedar St. at River Drive, 659-2511. Sunday school, 10 a.m.; Service 10 a.m.; Wednesday meeting, 7 p.m. Christian Science Reading Room, in church building, open to the public, Wednesday, 6-7 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m.-Noon.

Cross Road 243 Christian Fellowship

Interdenominational, Pastor Wally Boer. Sunday Worship Service & Sunday School, 10am plus Weekly Studies. Call for info, 659-0097. 29375 Hwy 243 in Mountain Center.



Idyllwild Assembly of God

Every Sunday at 10am
Idyllwild Pines Chapel
26375 Highway 243 • (951) 581-0012
Everyone is welcome!

Idyllwild Bible Church

25860 Highway 243, Pastor Tim Westcott. A Family Friendly Bible Based Fellowship. Sunday Worship & Nursery Care, 9 a.m. Sunday Worship, Nursery Care & Sunday School, 10:45 a.m. Mid-week Bible Studies & Youth Groups. Call Church Office for Information. 659-4775

Idyllwild Community Church

54400 N. Circle Dr. 659-2935 • Rev. Richard Olson
Sunday Worship – 9:30 a.m.
Celebration: 5th grade & under during worship ~ Child care available • Wednesday: Men's Breakfast, 6:15 a.m. – Women's Bible Study, 9 a.m.

Queen of Angels Roman Catholic Church

54525 N. Circle Dr., P.O. Box 1106, Idyllwild, CA
Father Charles E. Miller
Mass Schedule: Tues.-Fri. 8:30 a.m.;
Sat. 4 p.m.; Sun. 8 a.m. + 10 a.m.;
Confession: Sat. 3:30 p.m. or by appt. 659-2708

Shiloh Christian Ministries

~ FULL GOSPEL ~
54295 Village Center Dr.
Pastors Wayne & LaDonna Sleme 659-2416
Sunday Worship 10 am - Thurs. Bible Study 6 pm
Shiloh Christian Ministries announces the opening of their "Healing Prayer Room" on Dec. 3.

Spiritual Living Center

Idyllwild Religious Science
26120 Ridgeview Dr. (the Courtyard Building) 659-3464.
Dr. Betty Jandl. Classes available - contact Church;
Sunday service, 10:00 a.m. Sunday school, 10:00 a.m.;

St. Hugh's Episcopal Church

An Anglican House of Prayer for all people
Rev. Daniel Rondeau • Sunday Service, 10:00 am
Wednesday Service, 10:00 am
25525 Tahquitz Dr. (in Fern Valley off South Circle Dr.)
Phone (951) 659-4471

Temple Har Shalom of Idyllwild

Shabbat Services & Oneg Friday, February 12, 6PM
Caine Learning Center – 54385 Pinecrest
Shabbat Services & Oneg Friday, March 11, 6PM
St Hugh's 25525 Tahquitz Drive
Templeharshalomidyllwild.org templeharshalomofidyllwild@gmail.com



BY JACK CLARK
FASHION CORRESPONDENT

Q. I wear glasses. When I play golf, I swing and miss a lot. Is there something fashionable I can wear that will help me hit a golf ball?

—André's friend, Montreal

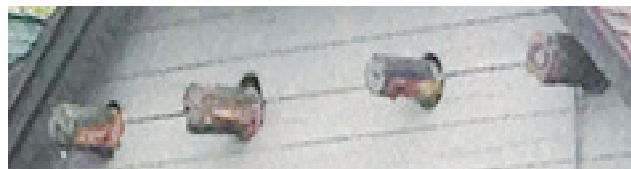
A. I understand they have clip-on binoculars now that will make your golf ball, sitting on its tee, as big as a beach ball. You shouldn't have any trouble hitting that.

Q. My wife wants me to get a pedicure. What do you think?

—Elwood, Aguanga

A. I got a pedicure once. The pedicurist rasped on my feet so hard I lost two shoe sizes. That night when I got in bed, I reached out a foot and thought I was touching my wife's foot. No, it was my other foot.

Email your fashion questions to jack@towncrier.com.



Eleven entries correctly identified the side of the Creekstone Inn at Fern Valley Corners in last week's photo. They were **Maurie Bousquet, Julian Geisinger, Kathryn Gornzy, Marsha Kennedy, Chris Morse, Linda Otterbeck, Kathy Nielson, Dorothy Silliman, John Thomford, Josh and Emily White and Jim Wise.** Chris Morse's name came out of the hat, so please come to the Town Crier to pick up your two tickets to **Shane Stewart's Rustic Theatre, Chris. So, now, how about this week's photo? Tougher?**

One entry per household. Contest deadline: Monday noon. Not a race — correct entries go into a hat for a drawing. Full contest rules and guidelines available at the Town Crier office.

Steele battles cold, sideways rain at Torrey

BY JACK CLARK
PRO GOLF CORRESPONDENT

The tournament officials scheduled tee times particularly early on Sunday in an attempt to avoid the rain and wind that was forecast for the afternoon. Didn't work.

After only five holes of play, Brendan Steele and the rest of the players on the course were stopped by tournament officials. The rain, the wind and the cold were so miserable that bogey had become the new par. The wind gusts were strong enough to blow down several trees, including an enormous eucalyptus.

Play was allowed to continue a couple of hours later, but the conditions were still horrid, and play was again discontinued — finally until Monday morning. All the native Idyllwilder could muster under these conditions was a 7-over-par 79 for the final round, giving him a 6-over-par 68-72-75-79 — 294 score for the tournament, and finishing him in a tie for 49th place.

The conditions were so horrendous, Scott Brown, who had led the tournament going into the final round, posted a 15-over-par 87 on Sunday/Monday, dropping him into a tie for 49th place, as well.

Brendan picked up 18 FedExCup points for the tournament, giving him 264 on the season, and placing him 30th on the points list.

B plays this week in the Waste Management Phoenix Open. Check with the Town Crier online late Tuesday afternoon, when we are likely to have his tee times.

Jack Clark can be reached at jack@towncrier.com.



Brendan Steele drained this 12-footer for birdie at the 18th on Saturday at Torrey Pines. PHOTO BY JACK CLARK

Electric vehicle program

The South Coast Air Quality Management District has established a residential Electric Vehicle charging incentive pilot program to offset Level 2 (240v) EV charger hardware costs. This program will be available to residents within the SCAQMD's four-county jurisdiction.

The program will provide an incentive to buy-down the cost of residential chargers, which typically range from \$400 to \$800. The program will be implemented on a first-come, first-served basis and will provide up to \$250 for the cost of hardware for Level 2 residential chargers.

Another incentive of up to \$250 will be available for low-income residents.

A charger would need to be installed at a 240v outlet or by a licensed electrician if no 240V outlet exists.

The charger would need to be in place for a minimum of three years and would be considered a permanent, not temporary, installation.

The installer would need to obtain any required city or county electrical permits for installation.

Visit www.aqmd.gov/home/programs/community/community-detail?title=ev-charging-incentive for more information.

Grief support group offered

Spirit Mountain Retreat is offering a Transition and Loss Grief Support Group every first and third Tuesday of the month from 1 to 3 p.m.

Marriage and Family Therapist Lola Fisher facilitates the support group. Feb. 16 is the second meeting.



Willy B. performing at Ferro Restaurant last Friday night to an enthusiastic crowd. PHOTO BY BECKY CLARK

Free exercise for those over 50

The Riverside County Office on Aging is again offering Fit After 50 exercise classes for free in Idyllwild.

Dorothy Brooks is teaching the classes from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at St. Hugh's Episcopal Church.

The program is a California State University, Fullerton, evidence-based exercise program with emphasis on preventing falls, and improving strength, balance and mobility.

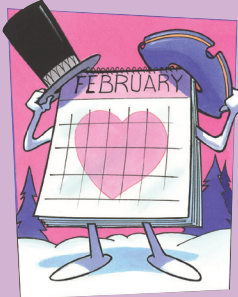
For more information, call Brooks at 951-659-2587 or 619-806-0777.



Fact or Fiction?

February Challenge

February is the second month of the year. Here are some questions about the month. How many can you answer correctly?

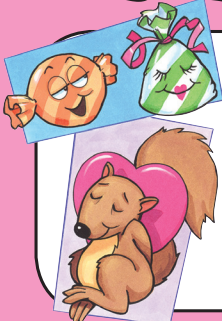


- 1) February is the longest month of the year. **Fact or Fiction?**
- 2) There are 29 days in February in some years and 28 in others. **Fact or Fiction?**
- 3) February is often misspelled. **Fact or Fiction?**
- 4) Amethyst is the birthstone for February. **Fact or Fiction?**
- 5) Most amethysts are white. **Fact or Fiction?**

- 6) Many holidays take place in February, including Rabbit Day, which falls on February 2. **Fact or Fiction?**
- 7) Valentine's Day takes place on February 14. **Fact or Fiction?**
- 8) American Presidents George Washington and Abraham Lincoln were both born in February. **Fact or Fiction?**
- 9) Presidents Day takes place on the third Friday in February in the United States. **Fact or Fiction?**
- 10) February is Black History Month in the United States. **Fact or Fiction?**

Answers: 1) Fiction, it is the shortest; 2) Fact, it has 29 days in leap years and 28 in all others; 3) Fiction, many people forget the first "r"; 4) Fact; 5) Fiction, most amethysts are purple; 6) Fact, Groundhog Day falls on February 2; 7) Fact; 8) Fact; 9) Fiction, it takes place on the third Monday; 10) Fact

Jokes



Q: What did one candy say to the other?

A: We're mint for each other.

Q: What kind of Valentine's Day gift do squirrels give?

A: Forget-me-nots!

What Rhymes with Heart?

HEART

List 10 words that rhyme with "heart."

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Some answers: art, bart, cart, chart, dart, mart, part, smart, start, tart

★ STUDENTS OF THE WEEK ★



First-grade teacher **Barbara Longbrook** chose **Cruz Santiago Solis** (left) and **Lucy Newman** as students of the week because of their exceptional reading.

PHOTO BY MARSHALL SMITH



Basketball

Town Hall Youth Basketball Coordinator **Bob Lewis** gave this report for recent games.

Division 1 (ages 6-9)

On Tuesday, Jan. 26, the Bruins faced the Trojans. **Oliver Gonzalez** had a good game for the Bruins with 3 points and tenacious defense. **Logan Wilkerson** played great defense and grabbed many rebounds for the Trojans. The game went into overtime and **Travis Rocha** scored the only bucket as the Trojans beat the Bruins 14-12.

The second game with the Black Wolf Pack vs. the Wildcats, **John Schmid** played really good defense with a couple of key steals for the Wildcats while **Gavin Vandermoon** played a good game for the Black Wolf Pack, grabbing many rebounds. But it wasn't enough as the Wildcats got their first win of the season beating the Black Wolf Pack 16-8.

On Friday, Jan. 29, the Bruins visited the Black Wolf Pack. This game went back and forth throughout the game. **Christian Gonzalez** scored 10 points for the Bruins and the Wolf Pack countered with 7 points from **Carter Mclean**, including 5 in the fourth quarter to tie the score up and send it in overtime. **Ethan Sheppard** nailed a free throw for the only points for both teams as the Black Wolf Pack squeaked by the Bruins 18-17.

The second game had the Wildcats hosting the Trojans. The Trojans were hot early with **Kaylee Gage** playing great defense, stealing the ball and setting up her teammates. The Bruins got a good game out of **Lily-an Easley** with 2 points and grabbing rebounds, but it wasn't enough as the Trojans beat the Wildcats 18-7.

Standings

Names	Wins	Losses
Black Wolf Pack	8	1
Trojans	5	4
Bruins	4	5
Wildcats	1	8

Division 2 (ages 10-13)

On Friday, Jan. 29, the Timberwolves played a dou-

ble header. The first game they played the Purple Pirates. **Braydon Schlenz** had a good game for the Purple Pirates with stealing the ball and playing good defense. **Brody Posey** scored two fast-break baskets for the Timberwolves, yet the Purple Pirates secured the #1 seeding for the playoffs, beating the Timberwolves 26-16.

The second game had the Timberwolves face off against the Pumpkin Heads. **Jacob Parsons** hit a 3-pointer for the Pumpkin Heads while **Layton Tee-guarden** played a good game for the Timberwolves with 2 points and good defense as they beat the Pumpkin Heads 26-18.

Standings

Names	Wins	Losses
Purple Pirates	6	1
Pumpkin Heads	3	5
Timberwolves	2	5

The playoffs start this week. Championship games are on Friday night followed by the awards ceremony.

Division 1 championship game is at 6 p.m. Division 2 championship game is at 7:45 p.m., so be there to root for the teams and support our Youth Basketball leagues. You don't want to miss out on the fun.

Volleyball

Town Hall Adult Coed Volleyball Coordinator **Ginger Dagnall** gave this report for recent games.

Last week on the volleyball court:

Monday, Jan. 25, Idyllwild Vacation Rentals wouldn't go down without winning one game against Silver Pines but Silver Pines tightened up their defense to beat IVR in four games to win the match.

Tuesday, Jan. 26, Idyllwild Inn played well as a team to take Idyllwild Garage in four games to win the match.

Wednesday, Jan. 27, La Casita came out cold in the first two games against Soil Supply Co., then the tides turned to winning the next three games to take the match. Going to a fifth game is always fun.

Thursday, Jan. 28, Idyllwild Inn, a tough team to beat, played Idyllwild Vacation Rental point for point in their last game. Idyllwild Inn took it by just 2 points to win it in three.

Each team plays each other three times. There are six teams in this 2015-16 league. All teams make it to playoffs.

Standings

Names	Wins	Losses
Idyllwild Inn	8	1
Silver Pines	9	2
Idyllwild Garage	8	3
Soil Supply Co.	3	6
La Casita	3	7
Idyllwild Vacation Rentals	0	12

CREATURE CORNER

BY JANICE MURASKO

Overheard in the ARF Cattery just this last weekend:

Rey: So, really, why are you and I still here? We are adorable kittens.



Chewy: No kidding. I am so fun and

playful. Everyone who meets me says what a character I am. Just think how I would entertain a family.

Rey: OK, so maybe you're entertaining, but I am so, so loveable. I would cuddle up in my new Mom or Dad's lap and purr like a well-

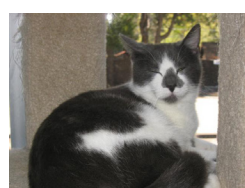
tuned engine.

Bobbie: OK, you silly, silly kittens. I hope you're adopted very soon because I need some down time. When I think about it, if someone would find it in her heart to adopt me, I'd have my very own human, home and lap. I just hope whoever falls in love with me doesn't have other cats. I'm not so fond of them. Or maybe I just want my human all to myself.

Leia: Hey, all you cats in the cattery. Look at me. Since Puddytat resigned the job of ARF office cat so she could go with her forever Mom, I've been promoted. Yes, shy little ole me is now the office cat. I'm just waiting here for visitors so I can practice my people-greeting skills. I'm still learning, but I just need more loving humans to help show me they are OK and want to love me.

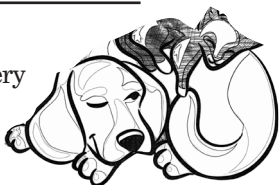


Heavenly Whiskers: As one of the cats with the most seniority, I think I know how you all feel. It is pretty darned nice here in the ARF Cattery, but we all want our forever homes, even those of us who are shy with strangers. We just need a chance to show we can be wonderful members of a forever family.



Please stop in to say hello to Rey, Chewy, Leia, Bobbie, Heavenly Whiskers and all their feline counterparts at the ARF House, 26890 Hwy. 243, open on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. You may also make an appointment to visit M-F by calling 951-659-1122.

Creature Corner is sponsored by Austin Tile.



Past

Tense

65 years ago - 1951
Idyllwild Fire Chief Bill Price had his truck equipped with a radio so he could keep in touch with the California Department of Forestry Fire Station in Perris.

60 years ago - 1956
Glenn Froehlich, chair of the Chamber Membership Committee, reported that the Hill canvass of local residents netted 101 new regular memberships.

55 years ago - 1961
January had been the warmest on record and the Forest Service started insect-control work.

50 years ago - 1966
A restraining order to delay foreclosure of the Tirol restaurant was lifted and the date of the sale was set.

45 years ago - 1971
Folk singer Glenn Yarbrough, lead singer for the Limelites, was starting a school that would feature outdoor education for children at the Hurkey Creek Camp Roosevelt facilities he had purchased in 1969. The property is now Camp Ronald Mc-



Veteran So. Edison Power Co. worker **Glenn Froehlich** (right) receives a book of greetings from **Walter Lyell** in a party in early 1965 in Hemet honouring Froehlich upon his retirement. The money tree hides **Nina Mae**, his wife, also honored at the event.

FILE PHOTO

Donald.

40 years ago - 1976
Third District Supervisor Clayton Record and County Sheriff John McCoy ruled out the placing of undercover-narcotics investigators in Idyllwild, as suggested by members of the Idyllwild Parents Club.

35 years ago - 1981
Low ridership caused the Riverside Transit Authority to terminate bus service between the Hill communities and Hemet.

30 years ago - 1986
The director of the new Riverside County Waste Management Department stated that the dump, which was almost full and due to be closed, would not be replaced with another landfill. Instead, a more economical transfer station would be created.

25 years ago - 1991
The Hill Municipal Advisory Council reported that the Hill's water districts would not have sufficient water supplies to support the level of growth on the Hill if it continued.

20 years ago - 1996
Due to funding cuts, it was announced that low-cost hot lunches would no longer be served to seniors at the Idyllwild-Pine Cove Community Center.

15 years ago - 2001
Idyllwild School received a Governor's Performance Award of \$22,342 for exceeding the state's benchmark for Academic Performance Index growth targets.

10 years ago - 2006
The Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management agreed to a proposal from the Mountain Com-

munities Fire Safe Council to expand its projects' boundaries to extend from Pine Cove to Mountain Center. The FSC administrators granted funds to help reduce fire abatement costs for local property owners.

5 years ago - 2011
Casey Abrams, 19, Idyllwild School and Idyllwild Arts graduate, was vying for a ticket to Hollywood as a 2011 "American Idol" contestant. On Wednesday, Feb. 2, Abrams' Austin audition played to an IA crowd at the Fireside Room of the campus dining hall.

1 year ago - 2015
Another deer sculpture had been permanently damaged. Saturday morning, one of the deer from the tree monument was found in pieces near the BBVA Compass Bank.

CPUC decides on new solar generation rate program and costs

On Thursday, Jan. 28, the California Public Utilities Commission adopted new regulations for assessing electric charges to owners of rooftop solar and other power-generation programs.

The current Net Energy Metering program allows a customer generator, such as those who have installed solar photovoltaics, to receive a financial credit for power generated at their on-site system and fed back to the utility.

The new program continues the existing payment structure while making some adjustments to align the costs recovered from NEM successor customers more closely with those from customers without NEM.

Assembly Bill 327, passed in 2013, directed the CPUC to ensure that all customers pay their appropriate share of costs while encouraging a sustainable customer-sited renewable distributed generation program.

Some utilities felt that customers with energy generators were being charged some of the costs for implementing the program.

Last week's decision attempts to strike a balance between these requirements. New costs, such as a one-time interconnection fee (likely to be between \$75 and \$150), will be applied to customers who generate electricity.

This fee, which represents the costs for a utility to review and ensure that a NEM system interconnects safely to the grid, has historically been borne by all utility customers, including non-NEM customers.

Customers participating in the Single-family Affordable Solar Homes program are exempted from paying the fee.

Secondly, NEM customers will now be responsible for non-bypassable charges that all utility customers

pay. Non-bypassable charges are used to fund low-income and efficiency programs. They are the equivalent of about 2 cents per kilowatt-hour of energy consumed.

Historically, NEM customers have only paid for these charges if, during the year, they consumed more electricity from the grid than their installation produced.

Also, the CPUC decision will require NEM-successor customers to utilize time-of-use rates. All residential customers interconnecting on the NEM-successor tariff must be on a time-of-use rate as soon as they are interconnected. They can use any time-of-use rate available to them from their utility.

The successor NEM program will take effect for new NEM customers after the utilities' existing NEM program participation caps are met, or July 1, 2017, whichever occurs first.

Idyllwild Service Directory

- New ads placed at beginning of month only
- Deadline for new ads: 5 p.m. last Thursday of month
- Unless the heading is currently running, your ad must be 2 col. x 2" or larger.
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- One copy change permitted monthly
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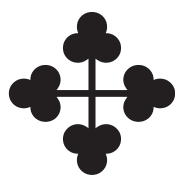
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Quote of the Week

"Go for it now. The future is promised to no one."

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~Creative Ideas~

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Continued →

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(Answers on next page)

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X	X	R	V	I	G	M	E	R	C	A	G	E	D	O
T	U	O	G	N	Y	M	E	R	R	Y	O	S	A	W
R	B	I	I	T	A	D	E	L	A	Y	O	U	T	E
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R	W	T	R	T	H	I	E	F	E	I	A	A	N	A
Y	B	C	I	I	L	N	B	U	G	S	C	N	A	G
L	O	N	D	O	N	G	L	A	S	S	R	T	D	M
B	A	C	O	N	N	B	R	E	L	I	E	F	A	Y

Above	Giant	Parts	Sinking
Atlas	Glass	Peoples	Spine
Bacon	Goose	Perch	Steamed
Blues	Internal	Pouring	Suffix
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IDYLLWILD CA

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(Puzzle on next page)

Answers to Crossword
(Puzzle on next page)

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Stop by the Town Crier 659-2145

For Rent or Lease

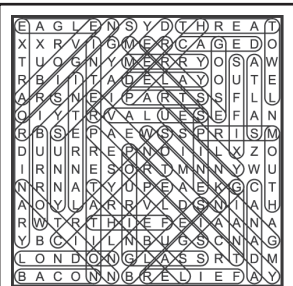
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Property Management


54960 Pine Crest Ave. #1
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Beautiful 3 Bd/ 2 Ba Custom Home
Vaulted Ceilings. Lge Kitchen.
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Subscribe! 659-2145



Answers to Word Search
(Puzzle on previous page)

SUDOKU

Difficulty: Easy

(Answers on previous page)

	8		5		9		1	2
					8		4	
9		7		1				6
						8		7
	3	4				2	6	
6		5						
4				7		1		3
	6		2					
1	5		9		4		7	

For Rent or Lease

Idyllwild Home for rent, 3 bedrooms 2 bath, newly re-modeled with wrap-around decking, fully furnished and equipped with everything including washer & dryer, except for linens. Wood stove and electric heat, on a maintained street. \$1350.00 plus utilities. Call 619-992-4750 for appointment.

Fern Valley, walk to town. 3 br/4 ba. private view lot, fully renovated. 3 flpcs, fenced, huge deck, BBQ's, 2-car attached garage. W/D, pet upon approval (+ pet security), no smoking. Must have good credit. \$2,195 mo. 1st, last + deposit. Text: (858) 943-1833 or email: artsymonique@gmail.com for photos & info.

Real Estate

NORTHERN AZ WILDERNESS RANCH \$236 MONTH. Quiet & secluded 36 acre off the grid ranch at cool, clear 6,400' elevation near historic pioneer town & fishing lake. No urban noise, clean air & dark sky nights. Blend of mature evergreens & grassy meadows with sweeping views across surrounding wilderness mountains and valleys. Borders 640 acres of State Trust Land. Abundant clean groundwater, free well access, loam garden soil & maintained road access. RV's ok. \$27,500, \$2,750 dn. Free brochure with photos, map, weather, area info. 1st United Realty 800-966-6690. sierramountainranch.com. (Cal-SCAN)

Real Estate

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Health

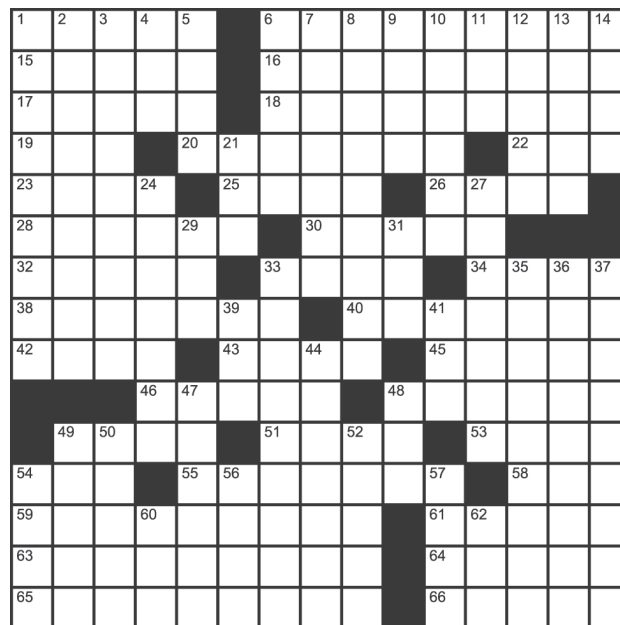
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Continued →

CROSSWORD

(Answers on previous page)



ACROSS

1. Bathroom item
6. Down Under
15. High water-proof boot
16. Entwining
17. Arab leader
18. Sugar substitute
19. Ballpoint, e.g.
20. Hard to miss
22. Victorian, for one
23. Gait between walk and canter
25. Fly, e.g.
26. Fluff
28. Black igneous rock
30. Put in
32. Nitrogen compound
33. At liberty
34. Foot
38. Smarter, cleverer
40. One who distributes
42. "Trick" joint
43. Number one
45. Agreeing (with)
46. Riot
48. Russian writer
49. ___ bean
51. Pinocchio, at times
53. Supergarb
54. Matterhorn, e.g.
55. Sent unwanted emails
58. Back muscle, familiarly
59. Psychomotor disturbance
61. Circa
63. Set of things to help form a conclusion
64. Spoil, with "up"
65. Cousin of the flute (plural)
66. Alleviated

DOWN

1. Rearward angled
2. One who takes photos
3. Component of nucleic acids
4. "Malcolm X" director
5. Blows it
6. Bridal path
7. Of less wisdom
8. Confectionary or candy
9. Freshman, probably
10. Faze
11. "___ Maria"
12. Flax fabric
13. Dead to the world
14. City on the Yamuna River
21. Appropriate
24. Building where hides are tanned
27. Inane
29. "Fantasy Island" prop
31. ___ canto
33. Independent worker
35. Inconsistent, irregular
36. Cessation of menstruation
37. Promoted military rank
39. "Chicago" lyricist
41. More, in Madrid
44. Like a snail, but worse
47. Break time
48. "___ we having fun yet?"
49. Drudge
50. Kind of nerve
52. Accumulate
54. Maple genus
56. Duck's home
57. Broad valley
60. "Much ___ About Nothing"
62. ___ constrictor

HOROSCOPES

February 2016 — Week 1



March 21 – April 19

Music soothes the soul, Aries. Turn up the volume and dance your worries away. A home improvement project gets a boost from a pro.



April 20 – May 20

Beliefs are challenged, and feathers are ruffled. Find a fun activity to boost morale, Taurus. A report uncovers a matter that must be attended to now.



May 21 – June 21

Change is inevitable. Don't fight it, Gemini. Go with the flow, and the rewards will be yours. A plan is hatched at home. Now all that is needed is your stamp of approval.



June 22 – July 22

A health condition takes a turn for the better, thanks to some sage advice from a mentor. Invite them out to celebrate, Cancer. Rebates make a purchase affordable.



July 23 – August 22

Goodness, Leo. You've been a busy bee, and your wrinkled to-do list proves it. What remains is out of your expertise. Don't be afraid to call in a pro.



August 23 – September 22

Travel plans go awry when a loved one drops by unexpectedly. Relax, Virgo. A better opportunity will arise. Besides, your loved one needs you.



September 23 – October 22

Confidentiality is breached, and you're left holding the bag. Don't take the blame for that which you did not do, Libra. Money woes ease with a windfall.



October 23 – November 21

The budget crunch is on, and you have no choice but to turn down a few invitations. Be nice but firm, Scorpio, and your wallet will thank you.



November 22 – December 21

Here, there, everywhere. The more you look, the more you see that needs to be done. Divide and conquer is the name of the game, Sagittarius.



December 22 – January 19

Beggars can't be choosers, Capricorn. Stop being so particular, start being more appreciative, and attitudes will improve at home. A friend calls on you.



January 20 – February 18

This is the month of romance, and it would do wonders at home for you to take note of that. Do something special for that special someone, Aquarius.



February 19 – March 20

Some opportunities only knock once. Don't miss out, Pisces. Compromises at work lead to major progress. Celebrate with lunch out.

FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES ONLY

Public Notices
Legals • Doing Business As

For questions about Public Notices call Dolores at the Town Crier (951) 659-2145 or Email: Dolores@towncrier.com

Every day throughout the United States, newspapers publish thousands of public notices about events, conditions or actions that affect countless individuals, families, neighborhoods and businesses. Public notices cover many topics, including business matters, liquor licensing, public auctions and sales, estates, zoning, public meetings, bids to sell goods and services to the government, local government finances and state and local elections. Public notice is a fundamental component of our system of representative democracy, which depends upon the participation of educated, responsible citizens.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as TULE PEAK TIMBER, 50835 Tule Peak Rd, Aguanga, CA 92536, Riverside County. Mailing address: P. O. Box 474, Aguanga, CA 92536. ROBERT EDWARD DURFOS JR, 50835 Tule Peak Rd, Aguanga, CA 92536. COLLEEN VALERIE DURFOS, 50835 Tule Peak Rd, Aguanga, CA 92536.

This business is conducted by a Married Couple.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious name listed above on 01/2007.

I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)

Registrant Signature: ROBERT EDWARD DURFOS JR
Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on Dec. 31, 2016.

FILE NO.: R-201514459

NOTICE — IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBDIVISION (a) OF SECTION 17920, A FICTITIOUS NAME STATEMENT GENERALLY EXPIRES AT THE END OF FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE ON WHICH IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK, EXCEPT, AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION (b) OF SECTION 17920, WHERE IT EXPIRES 40 DAYS AFTER ANY CHANGE IN THE

FACTS SET FORTH IN THE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION OF 17913 OTHER THAN A CHANGE IN THE RESIDENCE ADDRESS OF A REGISTERED OWNER. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION.

THE FILING OF THIS STATEMENT DOES NOT OF ITSELF AUTHORIZE THE USE IN THIS STATE OF A FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME IN VIOLATION OF THE RIGHTS OF ANOTHER UNDER FEDERAL, STATE OR COMMON LAW (SEE SECTION 14411 ET SEQ., BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE). 6064.

Publication of notice pursuant to this section shall be once a week for four successive weeks. Four publications in a newspaper regularly published once a week or oftener, with at least 5 days intervening between the respective publication dates not counting such publication dates, are sufficient. The period of notice commences with the first day of publication and terminates at the end of the twenty-eighth day, including therein the first day.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

PETER ALDANA,
County Clerk

Pub. TC: Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as TEMECULA VALLEY PARTY AND EVENT RENTALS, 25782 Calle Corveta, Temecula, CA 92590, Riverside County. ELIZABETH ANN SENNE, 25782 Calle Corveta, Temecula, CA 92590. TIMOTHY WAYNE SENNE, 25782 Calle Corveta, Temecula, CA 92590.

This business is conducted by a General Partnership.

The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name listed above.

I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)

Registrant Signature: ELIZABETH ANN SENNE

Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on Nov. 23, 2015.

FILE NO.: R-201513129

NOTICE — IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBDIVISION (a) OF SECTION 17920, A FICTITIOUS NAME STATEMENT GENERALLY EXPIRES AT THE END OF FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE ON WHICH IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK, EXCEPT, AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION (b) OF SECTION 17920, WHERE IT EXPIRES 40 DAYS AFTER ANY CHANGE IN THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION OF 17913 OTHER THAN A CHANGE IN THE RESIDENCE ADDRESS OF A REGISTERED OWNER. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION.

THE FILING OF THIS STATEMENT DOES NOT OF ITSELF AUTHORIZE THE USE IN THIS STATE OF A FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME IN VIOLATION OF THE RIGHTS OF ANOTHER UNDER FEDERAL, STATE OR COMMON LAW (SEE SECTION 14411 ET SEQ., BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE). 6064.

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CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

PETER ALDANA,
County Clerk

Pub. TC: Dec. 3, 10, 17, 24, 2015, Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 2016.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

The following fictitious business name FERN VALLEY INN, 25240 Fern Valley Road, Idyllwild, CA 92549 County: Riverside, has been abandoned by the following persons:

GARY JAMES TAYLOR, 151 Klamath Blvd., Klamath, CA 95548-1004. PERRY LEE EMERY, 151 Klamath Blvd., Klamath, CA 95548-1004.

This business is conducted by Co-Partners.

The fictitious business name referred to above was filed in Riverside County on 03/03/2011.

I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true, information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)

Signed: PERRY LEE EMERY

Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on 12/03/15.

FILE NO.: R-201102482

Pub. TC: Dec. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2015, Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 11, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as SHILOH HOUSE HAITI, 25560 Fern Valley Road Idyllwild, CA 92549, Riverside County. Mailing address: PO Box 3116, Idyllwild, CA 92549. JACALYN ANN FECHNER, 25560 Fern Valley Road, Idyllwild, CA 92549. KLAUS DIETER FECHNER, 25560 Fern Valley Road, Idyllwild, CA 92549.

This business is conducted by a Married Couple.

The registrant has commenced to transact business under the fictitious name listed above on November 25, 2015.

I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)

Registrant Signature: JACALYN ANN FECHNER

Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on Jan. 19, 2016.

FILE NO.: R-201600628

NOTICE — IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBDIVISION (a) OF SECTION 17920, A FICTITIOUS NAME STATEMENT GENERALLY EXPIRES AT THE END OF FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE ON WHICH IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK, EXCEPT, AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION (b) OF SECTION 17920, WHERE IT EXPIRES 40 DAYS AFTER ANY CHANGE IN THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION OF 17913 OTHER THAN A CHANGE IN THE RESIDENCE ADDRESS OF A REGISTERED OWNER. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION.

THE FILING OF THIS STATEMENT DOES NOT OF ITSELF AUTHORIZE THE USE IN THIS STATE OF A FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME IN VIOLATION OF THE RIGHTS OF ANOTHER UNDER FEDERAL, STATE OR COMMON LAW (SEE SECTION 14411 ET SEQ., BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE). 6064.

Publication of notice pursuant to this section shall be once a week for four successive weeks. Four publications in a newspaper regularly published once a week or oftener, with at least 5 days intervening between the respective publication dates not counting such publication dates, are sufficient. The period of notice commences with the first day of publication and terminates at the end of the twenty-eighth day, including therein the first day.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

PETER ALDANA,
County Clerk

Pub. TC: Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as MICHAEL LAFAYETTE, 73275 Royal Palm Dr, Palm Desert, CA 92260, Riverside County. VIVA DENALI LLC, 73275 Royal Palm Dr, Palm Desert, CA 92260.

This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company.

The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name listed above.

I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)

Registrant Signature: DAVID LEE ROSAS

PRESIDENT

Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on Jan. 12, 2016.

FILE NO.: R-201600416

NOTICE — IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBDIVISION (a) OF SECTION 17920, A FICTITIOUS NAME STATEMENT GENERALLY EXPIRES AT THE END OF FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE ON WHICH IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK, EXCEPT, AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION (b) OF SECTION 17920, WHERE IT EXPIRES 40 DAYS AFTER ANY CHANGE IN THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION OF 17913 OTHER THAN A CHANGE IN THE RESIDENCE ADDRESS OF A REGISTERED OWNER. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION.

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CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct

copy of the original statement on file in my office.

PETER ALDANA,
County Clerk

Pub. TC: Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as MASON JAR BOOKS, 53051 McKinney Ln., Idyllwild, CA 92549, Riverside County. Mailing address: PO Box 1582, Idyllwild, CA 92549. JOANNE MICHELLE BISCHOF, 53051 McKinney Ln., Idyllwild, CA 92549. NOAH LAWRENCE BISCHOF, 53051 McKinney Ln., Idyllwild, CA 92549.

This business is conducted by a Married Couple.

The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name listed above.

I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)

Registrant Signature: JOANNE MICHELLE BISCHOF

Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on Jan. 22, 2016.

FILE NO.: R-201600893

NOTICE — IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBDIVISION (a) OF SECTION 17920, A FICTITIOUS NAME STATEMENT GENERALLY EXPIRES AT THE END OF FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE ON WHICH IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK, EXCEPT, AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION (b) OF SECTION 17920, WHERE IT EXPIRES 40 DAYS AFTER ANY CHANGE IN THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION OF 17913 OTHER THAN A CHANGE IN THE RESIDENCE ADDRESS OF A REGISTERED OWNER. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION.

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CERTIFICATION

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PETER ALDANA,
County Clerk

Pub. TC: Jan. 28, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (persons) is (are) doing

business as The Town Baker, 54385 North Circle Dr., Idyllwild, CA 92549, Riverside County. Mailing address: 6555 Zena Dr, San Diego, CA 92115. LOUIE -- TORRES JR, 6555 Zena Dr, San Diego, CA 92115. DANIEL JOHN RYKOWSKI, 6555 Zena Dr, San Diego, CA 92115.

This business is conducted by a Married Couple.

The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name listed above.

I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000).)

Registrant Signature: LOUIE -- TORRES JR

Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on Jan. 8, 2016.

FILE NO.: R-201600310

NOTICE — IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBDIVISION (a) OF SECTION 17920, A FICTITIOUS NAME STATEMENT GENERALLY EXPIRES AT THE END OF FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE ON WHICH IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK, EXCEPT, AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION (b) OF SECTION 17920, WHERE IT EXPIRES 40 DAYS AFTER ANY CHANGE IN THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION OF 17913 OTHER THAN A CHANGE IN THE RESIDENCE ADDRESS OF A REGISTERED OWNER. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION.

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CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

PETER ALDANA,
County Clerk

Pub. TC: Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as G. C. BUTTON LEATHERWORKS, 25670 Glen Road, Idyllwild, CALIFORNIA 92549, Riverside County. Mailing address: PO Box 1074, Idyllwild, CA 92549. PAM MALIA BUTTON, 25670 Glen Road, Idyllwild, CALIFORNIA 92549.

This business is conducted by an Individual.

The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name listed above.

I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares

See Legals, next page

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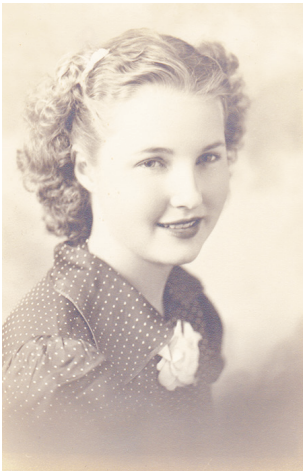
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Obituary Beatrix Ann Crimi 1921-2016



On Monday morning, Jan. 25, 2016, the lights went out all over Idyllwild. At the same time, a light went out for the friends and family of Betty Crimi when she peacefully died in her mountain home with her husband, Robert, at her side.

Born in Denver, Colorado, on June 21, 1921, Beatrix Ann Hubbard lived the majority of her 94 years in California, growing up in Inglewood and Encinitas, and raising her children (daughter Nancy Crimi Beggs and

sons David and Gene Crimi) in Pasadena before moving to Idyllwild full-time in 1988.

A woman who valued good health, she enjoyed long walks hand in hand with Bob into her final year. She has always put her faith in God into the action of serving others through her church and its various ministries. She also used her skills as a crafter by making quilts and stuffed animals, and assisting children with craft projects at camp,

VBS and orphanages. Her beautiful, ever-present smile and grateful spirit were enjoyed by co-workers and patrons alike at the Community Church Thrift Shop during her many years of service there.

Betty once stated in a college paper that her "life's work is to become a very successful housewife and mother." Her husband of 74 years, three children, four grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and 10 great-great grandchildren can attest that they continue to benefit from her dedication to that life's work.



Continually amazed and grateful for the goodness of God and the people in their lives, just weeks before her death Betty was heard to say to her husband, "We've had a good life, haven't we, Bob?" She paused. "And we noticed it." A finer epitaph could not be found.

A celebration of Betty's good life will be held at the Idyllwild Community Church at 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 27. All who knew and loved Betty are welcome. For those who wish to honor her memory with a gift, donations may be made in her name to any of the following: Aurora University development office (designation: Crimi Scholarship Fund), 347 South Gladstone Ave., Aurora IL, 60506-4892; Camp Maranatha, P.O. Box 1736, Idyllwild, CA 92549; Advent Christian Village, P.O. Box 4305, Dowling Park, FL, 32064-9982; Idyllwild Community Church, P.O. Box 537, Idyllwild, CA 92549-0537.

Burros for adoption

Riverside County is now offering wild burros for adoption. The adoption fee is \$50.

The burros were recently impounded from a pocket of land near a new Metrolink project area in the Highgrove area just north of Riverside. Animal Control officers with Riverside County Animal Services rounded up 19 burros. More burros are expected to be impounded in what is described as an ongoing operation.

"We're trying to round up roughly 40 burros from a sub herd of the much larger herds famous in the Reche Canyon area," Animal Services Director Robert Miller said. "This herd is the only known grouping in this particular pocket of Riverside County. Our intent is to preserve this sub herd by removing it from what will be a dangerous situation."

A new Metrolink project, scheduled to start running in early 2016, will result in new train runs through the area where the burros have often wandered to and near. The burros, although described as wild or undomesticated, have exhibited very docile behavior tendencies. The burros' mellow demeanors are attributed to a long-standing tradition of passersby feeding the burros carrots and apples, drawing them closer and closer to an industrial park and residential communities in the Highgrove area.

Special children's day at library

Idyllwild Library is inviting the public to "Bring Your Child to Library Day" on Saturday, Feb. 6.

The library is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. that day.

Legals

Continued from
previous page

as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000.)

Registrant Signature:
PAM MALIA BUTTON
Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on Dec. 15, 2015.

FILE NO.: R-201513841
NOTICE — IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBDIVISION (a) OF SECTION 17920, A FICTITIOUS NAME STATEMENT GENERALLY EXPIRES AT THE END OF FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE ON WHICH IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK, EXCEPT, AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION (b) OF SECTION 17920, WHERE IT EXPIRES 40 DAYS AFTER ANY CHANGE IN THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION OF 17913 OTHER THAN A CHANGE IN THE RESIDENCE ADDRESS OF A REGISTERED OWNER. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION.

THE FILING OF THIS STATEMENT DOES NOT OF ITSELF AUTHORIZE THE USE IN THIS STATE OF A FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME IN VIOLATION OF THE RIGHTS OF ANOTHER UNDER FEDERAL, STATE OR COMMON LAW (SEE SECTION 14411 ET SEQ., BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE).

6064. Publication of notice pursuant to this section shall be once a week for four successive weeks. Four publications in a newspaper regularly published once a week or oftener, with at least 5 days intervening between the respective publication dates not counting such publication dates, are sufficient. The period of notice commences with the first day of publication and terminates at the end of the twenty-eighth day, including therein the first day.

CERTIFICATION
I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

PETER ALDANA,
County Clerk
Pub. TC: Dec. 24, 31, 2015, Jan. 7, 14, Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2016.

STATEMENT OF
ABANDONMENT OF USE OF
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
The following fictitious business name CATHEDRAL CITY FLORAL DESIGNS, INC., 35959 Date Palm Drive, Space A-2, Cathedral City, CA 92234. County: Riverside, has been abandoned by the following person: CATHEDRAL CITY FLORAL DESIGNS INC., 35959 Date Palm Dr Space A2, Cathedral City, CA 92234, CA. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed in Riverside County on 01/21/2015. I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true, information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.)
Signed:
LORETTA MARIE ALDERETE
Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on 12/17/15.

FILE NO.: I-201500195
Pub. TC: Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2016.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as FIVE STAR RESTORATION, 23435 Sycamore Creek Avenue, Murrieta, CA 92562, Riverside County. TEAM K.G., INC., 23435 Sycamore Creek Avenue, Murrieta, CA 92562. This business is conducted by a Corporation. The registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name listed above. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section

17913 of the Business and Professions Code, that the registrant knows to be false, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000.)

Registrant Signature:
KEVIN THOMAS GRAY
PRESIDENT
Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on Dec. 31, 2015.

FILE NO.: R-201514470
NOTICE — IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBDIVISION (a) OF SECTION 17920, A FICTITIOUS NAME STATEMENT GENERALLY EXPIRES AT THE END OF FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE ON WHICH IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK,

EXCEPT, AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION (b) OF SECTION 17920, WHERE IT EXPIRES 40 DAYS AFTER ANY CHANGE IN THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION OF 17913 OTHER THAN A CHANGE IN THE RESIDENCE ADDRESS OF A REGISTERED OWNER. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION.

THE FILING OF THIS STATEMENT DOES NOT OF ITSELF AUTHORIZE THE USE IN THIS STATE OF A FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME IN VIOLATION OF THE RIGHTS OF ANOTHER UNDER FEDERAL, STATE OR COMMON LAW (SEE SECTION 14411 ET SEQ., BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE). 6064. Publication of notice pursuant to

this section shall be once a week for four successive weeks. Four publications in a newspaper regularly published once a week or oftener, with at least 5 days intervening between the respective publication dates not counting such publication dates, are sufficient. The period of notice commences with the first day of publication and terminates at the end of the twenty-eighth day, including therein the first day.

CERTIFICATION
I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

PETER ALDANA,
County Clerk
Pub. TC: Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2016.

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Snow visitors

Continued from page 1

of traffic congestion and illegal parking].”

Washington moderated the meeting and sought input from attending public agencies — Riverside County Transportation Department, Caltrans, Cal Fire, Riverside County Fire Department, Riverside County Sheriff's Department, California Highway Patrol, U.S. Forest Service and IFPD. Bill Tell of Idyllwild's Mile High Radio Club attended at Reitz's invitation because of possible use during snow emergencies of WNKI, Idyllwild's emergency radio station.

Washington addressed the working group, “The purpose of the meeting is to talk about the roles we play in different aspects and to discuss what we can do to improve the situation the next time. I'd like to hear from different agencies about the problem and how we might solve it. We can attribute some of the visitors' behavior to not knowing [governing regulations] and affordability [of coming to nearby Idyllwild rather than to snow resort areas in the San Bernardino Mountains.]” He encouraged agency representatives to candidly discuss the issues, and propose possible solutions and feasible ways to implement them. He stressed the necessity of visitor education as a key component of dealing with the problem.

The meeting was scheduled to run one hour, but in that short space of time, a number of workable solutions were proposed. Discussion then centered on how to begin implementing:

- extra trash cans in public recreation areas and in the village business district;
- electronic signs at the base of Hill highways warning of snow-caused traffic delays and congestion;
- mobilizing Idyllwild's volunteer agency base (Rotary, Mountain Disaster Preparedness, Community Patrol and Community Emergency Response Team members) to help educate and monitor;
- signage in pullouts regarding “no parking” for snow recreation — parking for putting on chains or other emergencies only;
- identifying “traffic/parking/congestion” pinch points and have law enforcement concentrate on those areas; and
- exploring how to send dangerous snow condition and traffic alerts to mobile devices, much like weather and Amber alerts.

Typical of the work-the-problem attitude that characterized the meeting, when electronic signs were being discussed, Caltrans District 8 PIO Terri Kasinga briefly left the meeting to make a phone call. When she returned she had gotten approval to have electronic signs placed on Caltrans' right of ways. “If you [the two agencies at the meeting with the signs] place them on our right of ways, we won't touch them.”

Many of the suggestions are already in effect in the San Bernardino County mountain resort areas, although attendees who have worked those areas noted solutions can often be of short duration, given the sheer number of visitors. Kasinga noted, “The best place [for visitors] to go when it gets that crowded is to go back home.” She stressed that state highways can't be closed just because of overcrowding by visitors, but electronic signs warning of significant delays because of traffic congestion can sometimes deter additional visitors.

Washington stressed this as the first of more meetings with this working group and that the exchange of ideas and potential solutions is ongoing. “I don't think I've heard anything that will completely solve these problems, but we have some things to begin with,” he said.

Washington thanked the attending agencies for their cooperation, and noted it is important to try things that have the potential to work and help mitigate observed problems.

Marshall Smith can be reached at marshall@towncrier.com.

‘Pack it in, pack it out — help us keep the mountains clean’

BY MARSHALL SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

Hoping to gain the public's cooperation, Caltrans hosted a press conference at 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 29, at the base of Highway 330 leading to the San Bernardino Mountains. The theme, “Pack it in, pack it out — help us keep the mountains clean,” aimed to educate snow recreation users about their responsibility to remove their garbage, or dispose appropriately in trash cans, when using public recreation areas and privately owned facilities open to the public such as ski parks.

Terri Kasinga, Caltrans District 8 public information officer, emceed the press conference and introduced presenters from the U.S. Forest Service, California Highway Patrol, Cal Fire and the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department.

Forest Service PIO John Miller addressed the scope of the problem by noting that 20 to 24 million people live within two hours' drive of local mountains and the trash and traffic problems are growing each year. “This year has been particularly bad,” said Mill-

er. “Don't assume open land is public. Often it's not. Public areas are marked. Respect private property and park legally.”

Speakers also stressed that privately owned land, often with occupied homes, abuts mountain roads, and that littering and trespassing on private property are punishable by significant fines — \$200 for trespassing and up to \$1,000 for littering. “We're obligated to issue these citations if we're called [by private land owners],” said Capt. Don Mahoney, San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department. “We get to be the bad guys. There's not a lot of public land on the sides of hills [leading to public recreation areas.]”

Although the conference was staged at the base of a much-used highway to San Bernardino County snow play areas, Kasinga also mentioned Idyllwild and parts of Los Angeles mountains as needing the same levels of snow tourist respect for private property and for the proper disposing of trash. “Getting community members involved and being part of the solution [to the trash issue] is a key piece,” said Kasinga.

Marshall Smith can be reached at marshall@towncrier.com.

Zika virus may pose danger to pregnancies

Precautions urged for travel outside U.S.

BY JP CRUMRINE
NEWS EDITOR

The latest health-care concern is the rapidly spreading Zika virus. While primarily limited to South America, health officials are worried that it will eventually arrive in the United States.

On Monday, Dr Margaret Chan, director-general of the World Health Organization, announced that “... the situation meets the conditions for a Public Health Emergency of International Concern.”

The California Department of Public Health issued an announcement Monday that re-affirmed that “As of Jan. 29, 2016, there are six confirmed cases of Zika virus in Califor-

nia, all of which were contracted when traveling in other countries with Zika virus outbreaks in 2013 (1), 2014 (3) and 2015 (2).”

Brazil is the current locus of the worries. But Barbara Cole, Riverside County director of Disease Control in Riverside County, confirmed that there are no known cases of Zika here.

The virus is transmitted from a mosquito bite, similar to transmission of the West Nile virus.

The Centers for Disease Control has advised travelers to take precautions. Visit www.cdc.gov/zika/geo/index.html for the current list of areas of mosquito habitats. This includes popular countries such as Mexico and the commonwealth

of Puerto Rico. In general, from Brazil north in South America, southern Mexico and the Caribbean have reported cases of Zika from the mosquito.

According to the CDC, “No locally transmitted Zika cases have been reported in the continental United States, but cases have been reported in returning travelers.” However, a number of Zika cases were reported in Puerto Rico.

CDC says about 20 percent of the population infected from the Zika virus will experience some illness, normally mild, including a fever, rash, joint pain or conjunctivitis (red eyes), which usually pass in less than week.

No vaccine is available for the Zika virus.

The concern is for women who are pregnant

or trying to become pregnant.

Currently, the health community is concerned that the virus may cause microcephaly, where the baby's head is smaller than expected. Proof of this consequence is evolving, but CDC urges women in these groups to take precautions when traveling outside the U.S.

The CDPH also recommends pregnant women in any trimester consider postponing travel to areas where the Zika virus is ongoing.

Pregnant women who must travel to one of these areas need to talk to their health-care provider first and follow steps to avoid mosquito bites.

JP Crumrine can be reached at jp@towncrier.com.

Free flu vaccines nearby

No appointments are necessary for free flu vaccines at Riverside County Family Care centers. Donations are accepted and clinic hours are from 8 to 11 a.m., and from 1 to 2 p.m. Monday to Friday.

These are the closest to Idyllwild in the county:

- Banning Family Care Center, 3055 W. Ramsey St.
- Hemet Family Care Center, 880 N. State St.
- Palm Springs Family Care Center, 1515 N. Sunrise Way.

For more information, call 1-888-246-1215 or visit rivco-familycarecenters.org.

Adventure Pass-free days

Adventure Pass-free days are offered in the San Bernardino National Forest throughout the year.

Those include: Presidents Day, Feb. 15; National Get Outdoors Day (www.nationalgetoutdoorsday.org), June 11; National Public Lands Day (www.publiclandsday.org), Sept. 24; and Veterans Day, Nov. 11.

On those days, no Adventure Pass is required to park on Forest Service land.

Waiving of expanded amenity fees such as overnight camping, rental cabins, etc. operated by the FS will be at the discretion of the line officer.