

Real Estate

[See page 15.](#)

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News bites

Water

Pipes are bursting.

[See page 2.](#)

In memoriam

Family, friends and colleagues who left us in 2010.

[See page 4.](#)

ID protection

You've read about thefts, now learn prevention.

[See page 8.](#)

Local politicians

Local elected reps have new positions.

[See page 9.](#)

Preventable

Hospital admissions.

[See page 9.](#)

Bald eagles

Lake Hemet count Jan. 8.

[See page 22.](#)

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Idyllwild Town Crier

Covering the San Jacinto and Santa Rosa Mountains from Twin Pines to Anza to Pinyon

ALMOST ALL THE NEWS — PART OF THE TIME

VOL. 66 NO. 1

75¢ (Tax Included)

IDYLLWILD, CA

THURS., JANUARY 6, 2011

Idyllwild's Hollywood professionals

BY MARSHALL SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

On Monday, Jan. 10, IDYLLWILD 2011: Independent Festival of Cinema (IIFC) opens at the Rustic. Festival founder and Idyllwild resident Stephen Savage conceived the six-day festival as a tribute to his hometown and as a Hollywood-close venue for independent filmmakers. Savage, along with a number of other Hollywood professionals, chooses to live in Idyllwild. What is it about Idyllwild that motivates Hollywood professionals to make their homes here rather than in the thick of

it down below? The mythology has always been that if you're in the "business," you must live in the Los Angeles area to keep your career and connections vital. For Savage, actor Conor O'Farrell, cinematographer Juan Ruiz Anchia, actor Chris Pennock, and 7-year-old up-and-coming actor Elsie Fisher, the reasons are very similar — Idyllwild offers something that helps balance career and family.

O'Farrell credits Idyllwild with making his life and career very manageable. O'Farrell has lived in Idyllwild for 17 years, raised his family here and has

[See Film, page 10](#)



IDYLLWILD 2011: Independent Festival of Cinema opens at The Rustic Theatre at 10 a.m. Monday, Jan. 10, and continues through Saturday night, Jan. 15, with weekend showings also at Caine Learning Center. PHOTO BY MARSHALL SMITH

2010's Top 10: Part 2

BY MARSHALL SMITH,
STAFF REPORTER
AND J.P. CRUMRINE,
EDITOR

Editor's note: At the end of each year, the Town Crier looks back at the headlines that made the biggest local news during the year. The summaries of the five major stories presented here are the second of a two-week series. Readers are encouraged to comment on these and other 2010 stories at our online site [www.Towncrier.com](#).

Graffiti comes to Hill

On March 1, two local teens defaced seven buildings at the Idyllwild School (IS) middle school campus with white supremacist symbols and text, including swastikas and hate crime messages. Based largely on tips from the school's students, Riverside County Sheriff's

Department (RCSD) deputies arrested both culprits. Searches of their rooms and computers revealed white supremacist materials. According to RSCD Deputy and IS School Resource Officer Josh Cadenhead, neither set of parents professed knowledge of their child's activities.

So began a campaign of graffiti attacks that continued throughout the year, including two more hate crime attacks on Sept. 8 and 10. The September attacks were specifically targeted at a particular family, contained anti-Semitic messages, and also hit a neighboring property.

Other locations hit by graffiti taggers included the new Idyllwild gateway sign on Highway 243, the parking lot behind Village Centre, buildings in Strawberry Creek Plaza, the Haunted Ghost Town on

the Idyllwild Community Center property, and under the bridge on Village Center Drive near Strawberry Plaza. On Nov. 2, RCSD deputies arrested a 19-year-old local for the Haunted Ghost Town graffiti incident. He was charged with three felonies — suspected burglary, vandalism and conspiracy.

RCSD Deputy Nicholas Gruwell, part of Hemet Station's graffiti prevention team, advised townspeople to report all incidents of tagging to help identify and arrest the culprits. Gruwell said graffiti attacks are a test of community tolerance for illegal behavior and should be stopped before they escalate into other criminal activity. Gruwell said these taggers appear to be local.

RCSD deputies believe they know the identities of the individuals responsible for the September

[See Top 10, page 14](#)

BY MARSHALL SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

On Tuesday, Jan. 11, the Riverside County Board of Supervisors (BOS) is scheduled to vote on the approval of revised Ordinance 578, which authorizes the formation of historic preservation districts within the county's unincorporated areas. The public may attend the meeting to question, lodge public comments, or voice opposition.

Should the Board vote to approve revised Ordinance 578 on Jan. 11, three action items would follow. First, Third District Supervisor Jeff Stone would appoint

[See HDP, page 8](#)



OUTSIDE IDYLLWILD

BY BRUCE WATTS

Winter white, wet and wild

Well another winter season is upon us and as I look out my window this morning, everything is covered in a blanket of white. The warm dry winter predictions are looking a little silly after our week long rainstorm and three light snowstorms. As we head into the new year, spring once again is looking very far off indeed.



For the winter outdoorsmen and the skiers, things are looking up; but for the rest who don't choose to participate in winter sports, it is a time of waiting.

So what do you do while you wait for the next hiking or climbing season? You can start planning, gearing up and researching your next adventure. You can head down to the Southern Hemisphere but I would be avoiding Australia if I were you unless you bring a boat.

For thru hikers, now is the time to get prepared on all the logistics, such as water sources, permits, town information and post office hours. Physical training should be high on your list and you should probably hike about 300 to 500 miles to get into shape. Hiking a thru hike is not something that you just get up off the couch and do without first doing the prep work.

Assembling the right gear along with trimming your weight and test driving everything like tents and packs is very important. No matter how much you fret over your gear before starting down the trail, be prepared to make adjustments along the way.

Footwear is probably the most important item that needs



This big and beautiful buck, named Big Rack, frequents the Mountain Center neighborhood. PHOTO BY BETHANY PULLIAM

to be adjusted because of swelling and blisters. Never buy five pairs of shoes before you go on a thru hike because four of them will probably never even make it to your swollen feet.

For the ambitious hiker who wants to climb Mt. Whitney, I believe now is the time to enter the permit lottery to be assured of a chance to summit. Because so many hikers want to conquer the summit of the highest peak in the lower 48, officials have had to resort to a lottery system to keep it from looking like a city of people climbing to the top.

Rock climbers are very lucky because there are so many climbing gyms in Southern California. It is easy to stay in shape during the winter climbing season. If the weather is clear you can always head out to Joshua Tree or any other of the many small crags around the Southland.

Desert hiking is one way to cure the winter blues for us mountain folk. Check out the Coachella Valley Hiking Club at www.cvhikingclub.net. They have a list of desert hikes which you can sign up for in the winter and mountain hikes in the summer as well.

If you just can't wait for spring to come, then I would recommend that you take a winter skills or mountaineering course. In other words, if you want to go play in the snow be sure you know what you are doing.

Well, enough of me fantasizing about spring when winter is just getting started. I think I better get outside and take some pictures before the snow melts.

Until next week, have fun and be safe.



Caltrans snowplows kept a constant fight against piling snow this weekend as they relentlessly went back and forth keeping the streets driveable, as seen here on John Muir Road in Fern Valley. PHOTO BY CID CASTILLO

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Bitterbrush (*Purshia tridentata*) is a gray small-leaved shrub which can grow 4- to 5-feet high and is a member of the Rose family (Rosaceae). The intricately branched prostate stems often root where they touch the ground. The cream-colored, tubular, short-lived flowers appear yellow due to an abundance of yellow pollen and are very intensely and wonderfully sweet smelling. The bitterbrush habitat ranges along the west coast from British Columbia to New Mexico and at elevations from 3,000 to 10,000 feet. Bitterbrush prefers full sun and dry conditions, but will tolerate some water and shade. The seeds are food for birds and chipmunks, who are likely to be the main dispersal agents.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAROLD VOORHEIS



Monday's snow fell on all houses. But these residents may be wintering in the south.

PHOTO BY PAT SMITH

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Flowers of the forest for 2010

At some point during their lives, all of the people in this annual tribute were connected to Idyllwild.

And because these are such small communities, many of the names that appear in Town Crier obituaries have appeared in past pages of the Town Crier when those people were alive. In that sense, they live on in the written history of the community, as well as in the memories of the people they left behind.

Elsie S. Adelson
David Allen Agner
Aleen Agranowitz
William "Billy" Archer
Ron Bowles
Marie Bray
Jim Carlson
Scott Carlson
Robert C. Clavio
Betty Elaine Cole
Shirley Jane Dawson
Bob Deeble

Tim Dillard
Annette M. Doar
Clifford G. Dorn Jr.
Florence Virginia Steere
Russell Field
Richard "Buz" T. French Sr.
Paul L. Galliher
Ralph B. Hamilton
Diana Rose Harvey
Gertrude "Trudy" Holldber
Suzanne Holmes
John Huntoon

They were volunteers for one of the many organizations on the Hill, they were friends, they were relatives of a close friend, they were co-workers, they were fellow students and/or they were family. They were part of our community.

The Town Crier takes pause to memorialize in its first newspaper of the new year the names of 47 people who died in 2010:

Shannon Jamerino
Jean Kowal Jerome
Jimmy Johnson
Carole Lynn Jones
Nelson Boyd Keller
Ella Mae Welker King
Virginia A. Lane
Penny Lewis
Joy Lindley
Polly Loutzenhiser
Diane Miller
Edward J. Monaghan
Marilyn Moneysmith
Barry Nestande
Micheal Dennis O'Sullivan
Agnes Branch Pearlman
Clifford G. Popp
Kelly Lee Riddle
Ginger Russell-Stahley
John Sizer
Benjamin R. Strong
Judith N. Strong
Catherine Susan Vail
Jeremiah Vicondova

CLUBS

Democrats

Jael Jordan, who will represent Dr. Rizvi and present his plans for Valley Health Center, Inc., will be the speaker at the next meeting of **The Democrats of Hemet-San Jacinto** at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11 at the Democratic Headquarters, 530-1/2 E. Florida Ave. in Hemet.

Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

For more information, contact Hal Spangenberg at Hspangenberg@msn.com or (951) 487-0325.

Astronomical Society of the Desert

The Astronomical Society of the Desert is presenting a free lecture entitled, "What's Up in 2011" on Friday, January 14. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the talk begins at 7:30.

The speaker is the club's Bob Victor, professional astronomer and author of the "Sky Calendar" published by Abrams Planetarium, Michigan State University. The lecture will be held at the Portola Community Center, 45-480 Portola Avenue in Palm Desert. For more information go to www.astrorx.org or call 760-771-4607.

To get a listing in "Clubs," visit www.towncrier.com, click on "News" in the menu at the top and click on "Submit a news item," or stop by and fill out a news form.

Trivia test

Math: What is the decimal equivalent of the fraction 3/5?

Answer: .6000



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MOUNTAIN FOLK

Ben Killingsworth reports that Jan. 3 is his wife Nancy's birthday, the same day as their anniversary. He said he's glad for the overlap because he only needs one gift, but wishes Valentine's Day also fell on same day.

To get a listing in "Mountain folk," visit www.towncrier.com, click on "News" in the menu at the top and click on "Submit a news item," or stop by and fill out a news form.

To get your birthday listed, e-mail beth@towncrier.com or call (951) 659-2145, Ext. 17, with the month and day.

Trivia test

Astronomy: What are Saturn's giant rings made of?

Answer: Dust and ice

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ONLY IN IDYLLWILD

Years ago my husband and I, both biologists and experienced snake handlers, assisted a local day care with the removal of a few rattlesnakes from its property. In the process we gave an impromptu snake biology and safety lesson.

The kids were really impressed, especially with my husband who actually held the snake so that they could touch the rattle.

A few years later, I was in a restaurant. A little boy approached, while I was feeding our infant daughter, and asked if I knew her. Surprised, I replied, "Yes, she is my daughter." He then informed me, quite authoritatively, "Well, her daddy, 'The Snake Man,' he came to my school and got three rattlesnakes, two babies and a mommy, and he showed us the snakes and let us touch the big one! Her daddy knows all about snakes, he's the Snake Man."

I was somewhat taken aback (although the name does suit my husband, I had not heard it used until that moment) and all I could say was, "Yes I know, he's my husband and I was there too at your school with the snakes."

The boy looked highly skeptical; so I tried to assure him by saying, "Yes, I was there; I'm Mrs. Snake Man!"

Heidi Hogan
Idyllwild

"Only in Idyllwild" may be sent one of four ways: e-mail to beth@towncrier.com, call 659-2145, Ext. 17, fax to 659-2071 or drop off at the office, 54295 Village Center Drive.

Horrible Holiday Health Hardship

After a mid-December emergency airlift, 2 weeks in Eisenhower Hospital & some additional health setbacks/hospital stays, **Karen Hamilton** (our beloved fresh fruit/veg produce manager at Fairway) is attempting to recover from a serious health episode. In the spirit of goodwill, Karen's friends have established an appreciation & get-well recovery fund for her! Greetings & donations (none too small) can be sent to P.O. Box 692, Idyllwild, CA 92549 or expressed to **Geri Peterson** at Fairway.

TownCrier.com Stats

**Last week the front page of the
Town Crier's website was visited
7,303 times**

If your website is not getting that kind of traffic from people who live, work, visit and spend money on the Hill, talk to us about setting up a link from any one of our online sections to your website.

**Summary info for the week of
Dec. 28, 2010 – Jan. 3, 2011**

Visitors - 8,978
Unique Visitors - 5,628
Page Views - 29,981
Total Hits - 198,385

To place an ad that will link your business from Idyllwild's premier online site to your website, call (951) 659-2145. Ask to speak with Shane.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

For the Idyllwild Arts & Entertainment Calendar, see "On the Town," on page 11.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 5

- Idyllwild Rotary Club, 7:30-9 a.m. American Legion Post 800, 54360 Marion View Dr.

• Town Crier News Meeting, public welcome, 8:30 a.m. Café Aroma, 54750 North Circle Dr.

• Creekside Writers, 9 a.m.-noon. Call 659-2844.

• Garner Valley Women's Club, 10:30 a.m. Garner Valley Common, 61600 Devil's Ladder Rd.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, noon. St. Hugh's Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.; 6 p.m., Spiritual Living Center, women only, 26120 Ridgeview Dr. (the Courtyard building)

• Awareness Meditation Group, 5-5:30 p.m. Spirit Mountain Retreat, 25661 Oakwood St. Call 659-2523.

• AWANA for ages 3 to fifth-graders, 5:45-8 p.m. Idyllwild Bible Church, 54400 Pine Crest Ave.

• Codependents Anonymous meeting, 7:30 p.m. Spiritual Living Center, Church of Religious Science, 26120 Ridgeview Dr. (the Courtyard Building)

THURSDAY, JAN. 6

• Idyllwild Business Round-table, 8 a.m. Mile High Cafe, 26600 Hwy. 243.

• "Forgotten God," Women's Ministry Bible Study, 10 a.m.-noon. Chapel in the Pines Church office, 29430 Hwy. 243, Mountain Center.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, noon. St. Hugh's Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.

• Soroptimist International of Idyllwild business meeting, 6 p.m. The Creek House, 54905 North Circle Dr. Call Karen Doshier, 659-0790.

• Weight Loss and Stop Smoking Hypnotherapy, 7:30 p.m. Caine Learning Center, 54385 Pine Crest Ave.

• ESL class, 6-8 p.m. Idyllwild School Library, 26700 Hwy. 243.

• Narcotics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m. Spiritual Living Center, Church of Religious Science, 26120 Ridgeview Dr. (the Courtyard Building).

FRIDAY, JAN. 7

• Baby Play Group, 10:30 a.m. Call Debbi Geisinger, 659-8710 or (951) 966-1094.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, noon. St. Hugh's Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.; Pick-a-stick candlelight, 7:30 p.m. Idyllwild Community Presbyterian Church, Manse Alcove, Fellowship Hall, 54400 North

Circle Dr.

• Celebrate Recovery, Christ-centered 12-Step program. BBQ 6-7 p.m.; Open Share meeting 7-9 p.m. Former Morning Sky School, 29375 Hwy. 243, Mountain Center. Child care available. Call 659-0097 for information.

SATURDAY, JAN. 8

• Pine Cove Property Owners Association, 8:30 a.m. Pine Cove Fire Station, 24919 Marion Ridge Dr., Pine Cove.

• Raw foods potluck, 5:30 p.m. Nature's Wisdom, 54235 Ridgeview Drive. Call 659-4300.

• Stand in Silent Vigil for Peace, Justice and Nonviolence, noon. Town center. Call 659-2718.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, noon. St. Hugh's Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.; 7 p.m. Community Presbyterian Church, Fellowship Hall, 54400 North Circle Dr.

SUNDAY, JAN. 9

• Peace Meditation Practice, 10 a.m. Tibetan Buddhist Dharma Center, 53191 Mountain View, Pine Cove.

• Teen Group, 10-11:30 a.m. Spiritual Living Center, Church of Religious Science, 26120 Ridgeview Dr. (the Courtyard Building)

• Alcoholics Anonymous, 12x12 Book Study closed meeting, noon. Idyllwild Water District, 25945 Hwy. 243; 5 p.m., Rancho Encino Mountain Club, 45915 Orchard Road, Poppet Flats, across from CalFire Station 6.

MONDAY, JAN. 10

• Associates of Idyllwild Arts, 10 a.m. Wilson classroom, 52500 Temecula Dr.

• Pinyon Communities Council, 7 p.m. Pinyon Fire Station, 70080 Hwy. 74, Pinyon.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, noon & 7:30 p.m. St. Hugh's Episcopal Church, 25525

Tahquitz Dr.

• Idyllwild Community Meditation, Session I: 5:30-6:30 p.m.; Session II: 6:45-8 p.m. Idyllwild Yoga Studio. Call Val at 659-5750 for information.

TUESDAY, JAN. 11

• International Healing Rooms of Idyllwild, 5-7 p.m. Shiloh Christian Ministries, 54960 Pine Crest Ave.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, noon. St. Hugh's Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.; AA Open Meeting & Big Book Study, 6-7 p.m., Spiritual Living Center, Church of Religious Science, 26120 Ridgeview Dr. (the Courtyard Building).

• Healthy Lifestyle Class, 5:30 p.m. optional weigh-in; health talk by Brenda Scherlis, 6 p.m. Silver Pines, 25955 Cedar St.

• ESL classes, 6-8 p.m. Idyllwild School Library computer lab, 26700 Hwy. 243.

• Celebrate Recovery, Christ-centered 12-Step Study meeting, 6:30-8 p.m. Former Morning Sky School, 29375 Hwy. 243, Mountain Center. Call 659-0097 for information.

• Mountain Quilters of Idyllwild, 9:30 a.m. Community Presbyterian Church, 54400 North Circle Dr.

• La Leche League, 1 p.m. Call 659-8321.

• Idyllwild Fire Protection District Commission, 5:30 p.m. Idyllwild Fire Station, 54160 Maranatha Dr.

• Awareness Meditation Group, 5-5:30 p.m. Spirit Mountain Retreat, 25661 Oakwood St. Call 659-2523.

• County Service Area 38

Advisory Committee meeting,

5:30 p.m. PCWD, 24917 Marion

Democrats of Hemet-San Jacinto, 6:30 p.m. Democratic Headquarters, 530-1/2 E. Florida Ave., Hemet.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 12

• Idyllwild Rotary Club, 7:30-9 a.m. American Legion Post 800, 54360 Marion View Dr.

• Town Crier News Meeting, public welcome, 8:30 a.m. Koffee Nut at Bone Daddyz. The Fort, 54225 N. Circle Dr.

• Creekside Writers, 9 a.m.-noon. Call 659-2844.

• Pine Cove Water District, 10 a.m. PCWD, 24917 Marion Ridge Rd., Pine Cove.

• La Leche League, 10 a.m. Call 659-8321.

• Low Income Commodity Distribution (all ages, low income) & Senior Food Sharing (anyone over age 60 qualifies), 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Mormon church, 53830 Tollgate Rd. Bring box for food.

• Community Church Guild, noon. Church, 54400 North Circle Dr.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, noon. St. Hugh's Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.; 6 p.m., Spiritual Living Center, women only, 26120 Ridgeview Dr. (the Courtyard Building).

• Awareness Meditation Group, 5-5:30 p.m. Spirit Mountain Retreat, 25661 Oakwood St. Call 659-2523.

• County Service Area 38 Advisory Committee meeting, 5:30 p.m. PCWD, 24917 Marion

Ridge Rd., Pine Cove.

• AWANA for ages 3 to fifth-graders, 5:45-8 p.m. Idyllwild Bible Church, 54400 Pine Crest Ave.

• Mountain Disaster Preparedness board meeting, 6-7:30 p.m. Creekstone Inn, 54950 Pine Crest Ave.

• Anza Municipal Advisory Council, 7 p.m. Anza Community Building, 56630 Hwy. 371, Anza.

• Codependents Anonymous meeting, 7:30 p.m. Spiritual Living Center, Church of Religious Science, 26120 Ridgeview Dr. (the Courtyard Building).

• Idyllwild Skate Park, Idyllwild Pines Camp, 26375 Highway 243, 2:30 p.m.-dusk Wednesday & Thursday; 1:30 p.m.-dusk Friday; noon-dusk weekends.

• Idyllwild Transfer Station, 28100 Saunders Meadow Rd, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Thursday-Monday; Grinding Facility, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

• Idyllwild HELP Center, 26330 Highway 243, 9 a.m.-noon & 1-3 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. 659-2110.

• Idyllwild Library, 54185 Pine Crest Ave., 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday & Friday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, 659-2300.

• Idyllwild Nature Center, 25225 Highway 243, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday. 659-3850.

• Idyllwild Skate Park, Idyllwild Pines Camp, 26375 Highway 243, 2:30 p.m.-dusk Wednesday & Thursday; 1:30 p.m.-dusk Friday; noon-dusk weekends.

• Idyllwild Transfer Station, 28100 Saunders Meadow Rd, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Thursday-Monday; Grinding Facility, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

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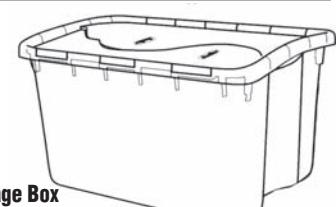
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INITIAL THOUGHTS

Vacation photos and a free press ...



We've used several vacation photos this week. On pages 14 and 15, you see three that were published as the favorites of 2010. In one week this fall, we received vacation photos from the faraway corners of the world. The Town Crier has been packed and toted around the globe.

In these photos, you see our local paper in India, on the Great Wall of China and above the Arctic Circle. Wow! So far, neither Grace nor I have received any communication from Chinese officials about possible engagement in violations of Chinese privacy laws.

When Becky (the former editor) began publishing these vacation pictures, I was dismayed. I perceived this as some ploy to sell a few papers to relatives of the photo subjects at the expense of my news stories.

Today, I admit being wrong. These photos don't sell papers, but the subjects love sharing where they've traveled, and I am truly in awe of people's willingness to carry the paper around the world.

Look at this week's vacation shots on page 13, the Goldfarbs were in the Amazon! What about Sheryl Graf's trip to Poland? I hope someone there would read the paper.

Now, I'm disappointed when we don't have one or two vacation photos. But I hope our porters do share the Town Crier with their hosts in foreign lands. I hope the message of open government and a free press is spread everywhere — that all of you perform the Johnny Appleseed role for democracy and freedom.

I recently read that the new Hungarian president secured the enactment of new press laws. But while some of you many admire his achievement, these statutes are the antithesis of free press.

The Hungarian parliament, at the direction of President Victor Orban, has passed a set of laws governing the media. For example, now the media must be "balanced" and only a party run council will make that judgment. "Balanced" will be defined by the council

The same council is responsible for protecting human dignity. Finally, there is a limit on crime-related news. Perhaps some of our readers wish for a limit on Idyllwild Fire Protection District news.

Here is a quote from one of the largest-circulation Hungarian dailies, Nepszabadsag, "The freedom of the press in Hungary comes to an end." This comment was on its front page in Hungarian. Then repeated 27 times, once for every official language of the 27-member European Union.

The newspaper said, "Its aim is to tame, punish and in the end to ruin those who have another opinion."

In preparing this week's segment on our local fire district, I realized we published more than 35 stories about IFPD in 2010. Since the district meets monthly, that's a lot of work in between regular meetings.

But what if IFPD could impose a limit on stories about its business? Whom would that help? Read commissioner Killingsworth's letter this week, I didn't make up the story about the missing or incomplete audits or the unpaid retirement payments.

Possibly there will be more financial stories. Actually I hope Chief Walker and the commission can shed some light on issues such as missing bank statements and employee pay records at next week's meeting. But if these questions remain unanswered and evoke further inquiry, you'll read more about our local fire department in the Town Crier, unlike the citizens of Hungary.

So take those vacations, take the Town Crier, send me your photos and leave a copy of the paper as a gift for people who don't enjoy the free press and open government we have here.

J.P., EDITOR

READERS

WRITE

Looking for considerate smokers

EDITOR:

It's amazing how some people whom I don't even know and who, I'm pretty sure, don't know me, can make me so angry and repulsed. How do they do it?

They use the rock planter in front of our shop for an ashtray. Most smokers snuff their butts out on the rock planter itself, but some snuff them amongst the flowers. That's sacrilege!

Others drop their butts on the ground and, hopefully, step on them. Can someone tell me why cigarette butts are not considered to be trash? Most of the people who are smoking wouldn't drop other types of trash and just leave it there to contaminate the environment.

Cigarette filters are full of toxic poisons from the tobacco, including salt-peter which is used in gun powder. It's what keeps a cigarette burning.

I'm not saying I hate smokers, I used to be one! I'm saying I hate their habit because it is unhealthy for them and for those who happen to breathe their smoke, especially the second-hand kind.

I hope with all my heart that all smokers will quit, if not for themselves, then for their family, friends and loved ones. Every time they light up they should consider what is best. Is it smarter to inhale that smoke and be one drag closer to lung cancer, or is it more important to be healthy for those who love you?

KRISTY BAKER
PINE COVE

Idyllwild Fire revenue

EDITOR:

Just about the time you think you've put something to rest, J.P. says, "Yeah, but how about this?" He's very good at that, and like it or not, by doing so he's living up to what we have come to expect from our newspapers, sometimes referred to as the fourth branch of government. Remember Wattergate?

This time, J.P. responded

Editorials, letters to the editor, guest editorials and cartoons reflect the opinions of the authors and not necessarily the Town Crier or Tindle Publications.

Mr. Funny Guy

by Chris Fisher



to my letter to the editor printed in last week's paper in which I attempted to explain how IFPD [Idyllwild Fire Protection District] balances an uneven stream of income with a steady stream of expenses, by adding a blurb at the end of my letter where he said, "However, the agency's net assets have fallen from \$1.9 million as of June 30, 2004 to less than \$800,000 as of June 30, 2009."

After arriving at the total government funds figure, as described above, total liabilities (accumulated vacation and sick leave benefits, and notes payable) are subtracted, leaving us with total net assets (\$1,933,375 as of June 30, 2004 and \$798,160 as of June 30, 2009).

So why the big difference in total net assets from the end of the 2004 fiscal year and the 2009 fiscal year? The \$500,000 grant in 2003-04 is part of the reason, but the main reason is because of asset depreciation. Total depreciation between 6-30-04 and 6-30-09 were \$1,422,155,

See Letters, page 19

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 signed (unless e-mailed) and must be identified with the writer's name, address and weekday phone number.

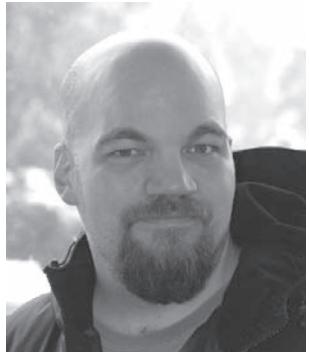
Exceptions: Anonymous letters will not be accepted. Letters of thanks are not accepted. A special advertising rate is available for thank-you letters. Political letters cost 10 cents per word.

We reserve the right to reject or edit letters for length, taste, clarity or frequency of submission. 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 (itc@towncrier.com).

TOWN TALK

By CID CASTILLO, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

"Did the snow arriving this New Year's weekend affect you?"



Trevor Talbird
Idyllwild Tea Company
Idyllwild

"It was interesting: I walked home from work. I'm from Florida. First time I've ever done that. It was fine, actually."



Dan Prosin
Retired Engineer
Idyllwild

"I'd much rather see snow than rain. After more than 30 years of living here, we are well prepared for snow. We love it."



Christopher Sanchez
Student - UC Santa Cruz
Idyllwild

"It's so good to come home for the holidays and see snow. My friends are jealous."



Bill Gianakos
Unemployed
Idyllwild

"I moved here Dec. 11 from the San Fernando Valley so it's my first snow, but I love this weather."



Village Center Drive, Monday morning, Jan. 3, after several inches of snow fell overnight. PHOTO BY J.P. CRUMRINE

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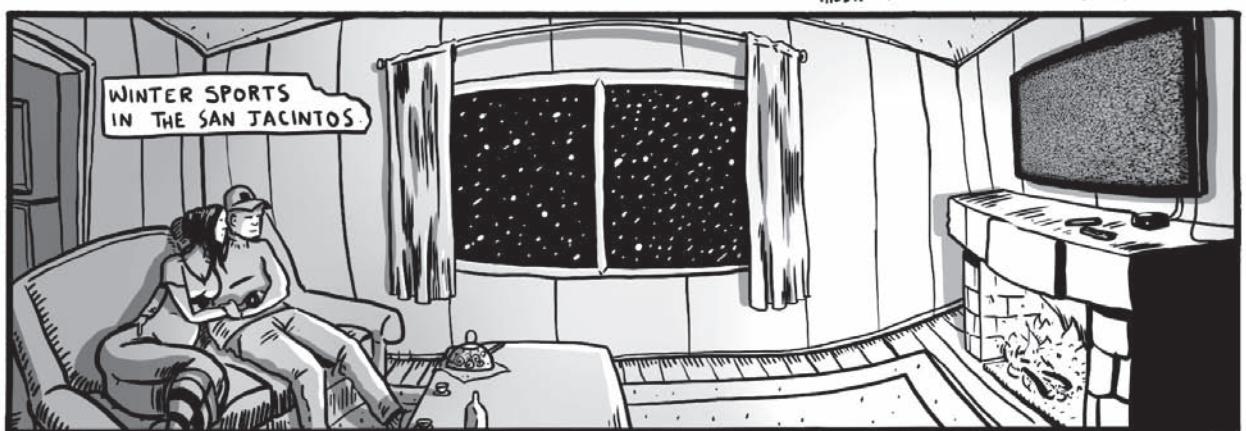
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BEFORE OUR TIME

BY ROBERT B. SMITH

Fern Valley Corners: Before the stop signs ...

Fern Valley Corners is distinctive for more than just being the only 4-way-stop intersection on the Hill.

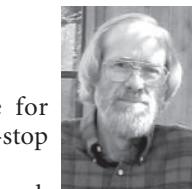
You can trace its historical roots to Frank Strong and George Dickinson's 1917 sale of the Idyllwild Inn and a surrounding 1,000 acres to Claudius Emerson. Their Idyllwild Mountain Park Co. kept some 2,600 acres for future speculation in upper Strawberry Valley, the area that would become known as Fern Valley.

Idyllwild founding father George Hannahs had pioneered the idea of subdivision for vacation-home lots in 1913 on his Wildwood tract bordering Dutch Flat. By 1920 Emerson's Idyllwild Inc. had a booming business selling lots downtown. So, in 1923 Strong & Dickinson got into the game, marketing Fern Valley for the same purpose. Their Idyllwild agent, Walter Wood, relished the competition with Idyllwild, Inc., imitating Emerson's bargain sales to religious groups, even building his own golf club on Saunders Meadow (still there as the Astrocamp dining hall).

As Idyllwild Inc. spiraled into bankruptcy after 1929, Idyllwild Mountain Park Co. gained the upper hand and began attracting commercial enterprises. John and Clara Postle opened the Fern Valley Café and housekeeping cabins at Circle and Tahquitz Drives in 1934. Later known as the notorious Fern Valley Lodge, it sought the Hill's first liquor license and introduced slot-machine gambling, but by the mid-1950s it was reduced to a quiet retreat for Kwikset Lock Co. employees.

At the main intersection, also in 1934, the Fern Valley Market was born. Its earliest photo in the Idyllwild Area Historical Society archive shows a stripped-down version of today's Creekstone Inn, lacking the enclosed veranda but already projecting its solidity and elegance. After the war it expanded to become the well-known Alpine Market & General Store, containing the Alpine Pantry restaurant and owner Bob & Jan Oates' realty office.

Given the booming residential character of Fern Valley, this intersection's dominant business theme has always



See Before, page 23

RENATE'S THOUGHTS

BY RENATE CAINE, PH.D.

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, NATURAL LEARNING RESEARCH INSTITUTE, IDYLLWILD



The Power of a Great Teacher ...

Recently one of our Caine Learning associates told us about an experience that carries a message.

In high school, she had been a member of a well-known choir. The director of the choir had planted her lifelong interest in music. "He made Beethoven's 9th symphony come alive for me," she said. "He made me feel the music in such a powerful way that it changed me and my relationship to music forever."

She recalled this memory because she had recently attended her reunion. The current choir director had called together all former choir members and directors from the last 35 years. As the current director looked over all the people gathered in a huge auditorium, he asked how many past members now have children or grandchildren who were there today, "The sheer numbers were astounding!" our associate noted.

Later, as she was talking to her son, she realized that she was passing on her passion for music the same way her teacher had instilled it in her. Her understanding and love for music had been passed on to her son. It had deeply influenced his knowledge and love of music.

Her story made us aware once more of the power a great teacher holds to influence not only their students but

See Renate, page 22

Mary Austin

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*Teen After New Year's Party **Friday, 1/14 6:30pm**

*Senior Wii Program Introduction

Tuesday, 1/18 10-11am

Saturday, 1/22 6pm

*Adult/Senior Dance

Electronic pickpocket protection advised

By MARSHALL SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

Credit cards bearing a sound wave symbol on the back are susceptible to electronic pickpockets. At least one company, Identity Stronghold, according to Pine Cove resident Nancy Borchers, offers protection.

Electronic pickpockets equipped with a portable scanner can read credit cards at close distance. Cards that contain a radio frequency identification chip (RFID) can be scanned, much like sonar, without sliding the card's magnetic strip through a scanner. A pickpocket's electronic scanner, which can be purchased online for about \$100, sends a signal which is received by an antenna embedded into the credit card that is connected to the card's

RFID chip. That activates the chip and begins data transmission from the card to the thief, who can then obtain account numbers, expiration date and other data. Data can be transmitted up to a foot and a half from the source.

Designed by credit card companies to make use of the cards easier, the RFID chip has instead become a boon to thieves, making identity theft easier. U.S. passports, enhanced driver's licenses, some healthcare cards and military common access cards all contain the RFID chips.

Card holders can protect their information by a number of means: purchase a protective sleeve currently available through at least one company, Identity Stronghold, wrap your credit or other cards in



On Jan. 1, as Mountain Footwear owner **Richard Montaño** holds a jar full of entries for a free pair of Ugg boots, **Harley Johnston**, 2, draws the lucky winner. Harley pulled the name of **Marc Messenger**, a resident of Los Alamitos, who, according to Montaño, was "thrilled to win" and can't wait to come back to Idyllwild. PHOTO BY CID CASTILLO

aluminum foil, or call your bank or card issuer and request one without the RFID chip or at least a card that does not transmit the holder's name.

About 100 million credit cards now have the RFID

chip and it is expected that over the next two to three years all credit cards will become contactless smart-cards.

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

HDP

Continued from page 1

a local review board composed of Idyllwild residents. The review board's responsibility is to administer district architectural guidelines and requirements.

Secondly, an individual, group or governmental entity would have to formally petition the Board of Supervisors

to create an Idyllwild district. Also concurrently, either a consultant hired by the county or a department within the county would draw up architectural guidelines. At previous public meetings in Idyllwild, county representatives referenced historic district architectural guidelines for Julian in San Diego County as straightforward, easy to understand and a possible template for Idyllwild.

Riverside County Park and Open Space District Chief Preservation Officer Keith Herron estimated that all formative steps could be completed within six months. He said that once a formal application is made to create an Idyllwild Historic Preservation District, the county would schedule another public meeting, most likely in Idyllwild.

"The meeting would be primarily informational," said Herron, "designed to familiarize property owners in the district with the process." Herron said final approval of an Idyllwild district would depend on whether or not any significant local opposition to district status developed and on the political judgment of the Board of Supervisors.

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

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STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



This week, Idyllwild School Principal Matt Kraemer's students of the week is eighth-grader **Jayden Emerson**, left, and fifth-grader **Emilio Wettlauffer**, right. These two students were chosen by Athletic Director **Holly Guntermann** for their outstanding effort and always having a positive attitude.

PHOTO BY CID CASTILLO

Churches and Spiritual Centers Directory of Idyllwild

Chapel in the Pines Christian Fellowship

Interdenominational, Pastor Wally Boer. Sunday Worship Service & Sunday School, 10am plus Weekly Studies. Call for info, 659-0097, 659-2038. On Hwy 243 at Morning Sky School in Mountain Center.

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 through Friday, 2 - 5 p.m.

Community Presbyterian 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.

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.
Hymn Singing 6:30 p.m. 2nd Sunday
Call Church Office for Information. 659-4775

Queen of Angels Roman Catholic Church

54525 N. Circle Dr., P.O. Box 1106, Idyllwild, CA
Father Charles E. Miller
Winter 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

St. Hugh's Episcopal Church

An Anglican House of Prayer for all people
Rev. Gordon Scheible • Sunday Service, 10:00 am

25525 Tahquitz Dr. (in Fern Valley off South Circle Dr.)
Phone (951) 659-4471

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.;
Teen group, 10:00-11:30 a.m. Sundays.

Shiloh Christian Ministries

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Local representatives assume new posts

By J.P. Crumrine
Editor

In 2011, local representatives at state and federal levels will assume some new responsibilities.

Assemblyman Brian Nestande (R-64) was chosen as the Republican Caucus Chair, which is the second-highest ranking Republican in the State Assembly. Connie Conway, of Tulare, is the Assembly Republican Leader.

Nestande will also be the

Nestande is beginning his second term in the Assembly. An integral part of the Assembly Republican leadership team, the Caucus Chair assists the Leader in advancing the Republican policy agenda and achieving the Caucus' political goals. Additionally, the Caucus Chair regularly communicates with Republican leaders throughout California on key legislative issues and party matters.

vice chair of the Assembly's Governmental Organization Committee. In addition, he will serve on four other Assembly committees: Budget; the Education and Finance subcommittee; Health, Revenue and Taxation; and Utilities and Commerce.

Congresswoman Mary Bono Mack, representing California's 45th district in the U.S. House of Representatives, will chair the Energy and Commerce Committee's

Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade.

Bono Mack is the first Republican woman to chair an Energy and Commerce subcommittee. She has been a member of the committee since 2001 and is recognized as a leading legislator on issues important to district residents and all citizens — online commerce, consumer protection and technology-oriented issues.

Jurisdiction of the Com-

merce, Manufacturing and Trade Subcommittee includes the following: interstate and foreign commerce, including all trade matters within the jurisdiction of the full committee; regulation of commercial practices (the Federal Trade Commission), including sports-related matters; consumer affairs and consumer protection, including privacy matters generally; consumer product safety; product liability; motor vehicle safety; and regulation of travel, tourism, and time.

The State Senate has not yet announced the committee assignments for the 2011-12 session. Local State Sen. Bill Emerson (R-37) served on five senate committees and was the vice chair of the Food and Agriculture and



Mary Bono Mack at the Keenwild heliport ceremony in June.

Human Services committees. When the decision for the new session is announced, his new assignments will be reported.

J.P. Crumrine can be reached at jp@towncrier.com.

Preventable hospital admission

By J.P. CRUMRINE
EDITOR

Last week, the state Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) released new data that identifies hospitalization rates by county for conditions generally considered preventable with access to and use of good primary care.

Statewide preventable hospitalizations for ten conditions, including most notably hospitalizations for chest pain, dropped by more than 60 percent, while pediatric gastroenteritis and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) declined by

more than 40 percent from 1999 to 2008.

Riverside County exceeded the statewide averages on almost all of the 15 health conditions. Only the number of discharges for perforated appendix was below the statewide average.

For many conditions, while the county discharge rate exceeded the statewide average, the difference was small. For example, between 1999 and 2008, the average number of discharges for congestive heart failure was about 350 per 100,000 adults statewide. In Riverside County, the average was about 375, but declined

from 395 in 1999 to 319 in 2008. But the statewide rate declined faster to 293 in 2008.

However, for some conditions Riverside County was significantly beyond the statewide average. For example, Riverside County had the second worst discharge rate for angina without a procedure, the fourth worst record for hypertension,

the fifth worst for pediatric asthma and sixth for urinary tract infection.

For more information and to get a copy of the report, "Preventable Hospitalizations in California: Statewide & County Trends 1999-2008" go to www.oshpd.ca.gov.

J.P. Crumrine can be reached at jp@towncrier.com.

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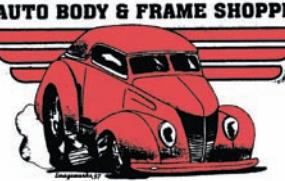
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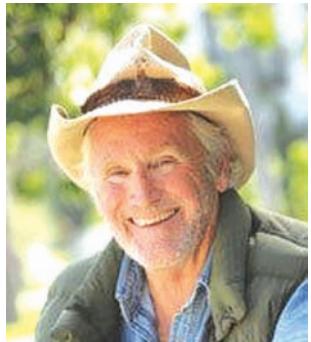
Film

Continued from page 1

continued to work professionally, both on screen and on stage. Recent stage turns at the prestigious South Coast Repertory in Orange County and on screen in HBO's "The Pacific" miniseries continue to enhance O'Farrell's successful career.

For respected cinematographer Juan Ruiz Anchia, a native of Bilbao, Spain in the Basque country in Spain's north, Idyllwild has been the best place to raise his family and recharge his batteries after shooting all over the world. Anchia, a member of the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences, American Society of Cinematographers and the American Film Institute, moved here in 1989. "I'm from the Basque country where there are mountains," he said. "I like to be in nature and to hike. Living here has worked for me."

He came to Idyllwild to scout it as a location for a movie he was shooting. Shortly after that scouting trip, he moved his family here from Woodland Hills. "To combine living in Idyllwild with working in Hollywood is the best thing," he noted. "I'm a



Chris Pennock

PHOTO COURTESY OF
CHRIS PENNOCK

member of the Academy [of MPAS] and if you live in the Los Angeles area you're tempted to go to all these events and parties. You lose what you want to do — to be in nature and to hike. Plus the schools here [Idyllwild School and Idyllwild Arts] were excellent."

Anchia goes to Alaska on Sunday to shoot a feature film. Then, in two weeks, he returns to Idyllwild to recharge.

Actor Chris Pennock has lived in Idyllwild for 22 years, and like O'Farrell has had a successful career both on stage and screen. Pennock has worked on Broadway, on television, notably in the soaps "Dark Shadows" and "The Guiding Light" and in film. Pennock first visited Idyllwild in 1972 to climb Tahquitz

and experienced a spiritual epiphany. Shortly after, he moved here from Malibu. "It's wonderful to come home to Idyllwild," he said. "There's something about it that recharges me spiritually. I'm very creative here. Pennock has raised his family here and continues to appear in Idyllwild Arts (IA) student films. "My career's experienced a renaissance because of my work with Idyllwild Arts," said Pennock. He'll begin shooting an indie film, "Four Horsemen," scripted by IA graduate Brandon Miller.

Seven year old Elsie Fisher has been featured in many commercials and in the recent hit movie "Despicable Me," with Steve Carrell. "Elsie is just a normal girl who lives here, goes to school and happens to have a career," said dad Chris Fisher. "Idyllwild helps keep her grounded," he said, noting how



Elsie Fisher

PHOTO COURTESY OF
CHRIS FISHER

supportive teachers and townsfolk have been of her Hollywood career. For Chris, living in Idyllwild means about 50 thousand miles of driving each year. "Elsie's got a really good reputation, a very good agent, and there are many people who believe in her." Chris noted that because of her professional reputation, there are many roles she



Most of Idyllwild's restaurants and businesses held New Year's Eve festivities ranging from quiet wine-tasting get-togethers to rocking music and dancing as seen here at Bone Daddyz with two audience members belting out a hip-hop song.

PHOTO BY CID CASTILLO

does not have to audition for. Often compared to a young Dakota Fanning or, for those of an older generation, Shirley Temple, Elsie is being considered for some major roles and just finished a short role in a film that will be released by the Weinstein Company — probably the most respected independent film studio in Hollywood.

For festival founder Stephen Savage, Idyllwild

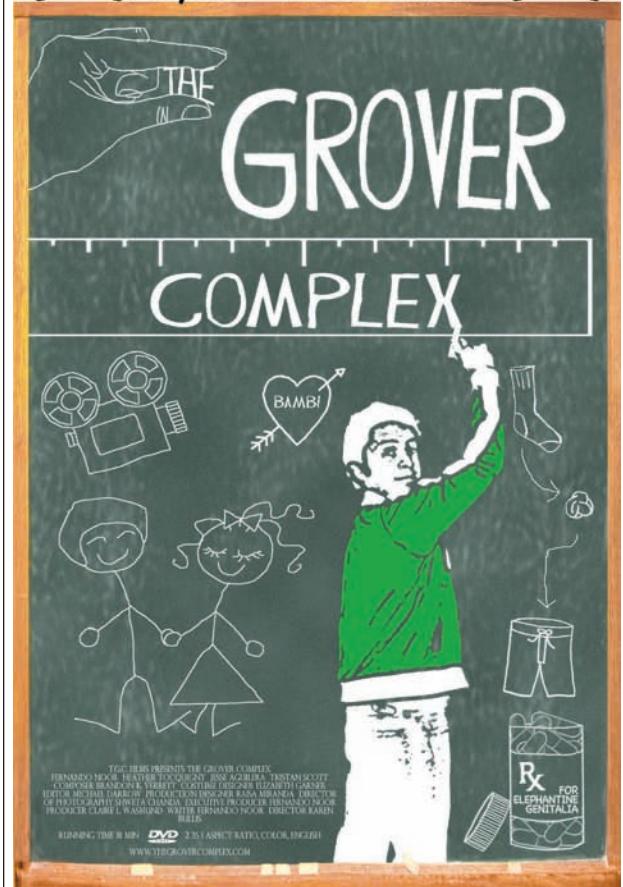
is simply and especially "home." "I remember coming to the Rustic as a kid from Orange County, the huge boards high on the walls with old movie posters stuck to them in no apparent order, people wrapped in blankets awaiting the coming attractions," he said. "It was magic to me. This just felt like home."

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

Winter is cold, but laughter aids in the creation of body heat.

Join us for this coming-of-age comedy at the Rustic Theater on 1/13 at 10am and 1/14 at 12:30pm. (*Strong language)

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Arts & Entertainment Calendar

Arts & Entertainment Calendar listings are at the discretion of the editor. Submittal forms can be picked up at the Town Crier.

Wednesday, Jan. 5

"Little Fockers," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Thursday, Jan. 6

Bridge, 12:30-4 p.m. Creekstone Inn. For information, call 659-4910.

Opening reception of "ODA" Digital Art Exhibition, 5:30-7 p.m. Earth 'N Fire.

"Little Fockers," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Friday, Jan. 7

The Reed Brothers, 6-9 p.m. The Creek House.

"Little Fockers," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Karaoke, 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Bone Daddyz.

Saturday, Jan. 8

David Jerome, 9 a.m.-noon; Tucker Celebrates the King,

6-9 p.m. Café Aroma. "Little Fockers," 2, 4:30 & 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Artist Reception: Lorel Cornman, 4-6 p.m. Honey Bunn & Joe Bakery.

Sandii Castleberry & Paul Carman, 6-9 p.m. The Creek House.

"Climbing Tahquitz Rock," Historical Exhibit, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Idyllwild Area Historical Museum.

Sunday, Jan. 9

Ernesto Alé, 9 a.m.-noon; Skeleton Crew, 6-9 p.m. Café Aroma.

"Climbing Tahquitz Rock," Historical Exhibit, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Idyllwild Area Historical Museum.

"Little Fockers," 2, 4:30 & 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Monday, Jan. 10

Idyllwild 2011: Independent Festival of Cinema, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. See program in this issue.

Children's Storytime, 10:30 a.m. Idyllwild Library. Mutts of the Planet, 6-9 p.m. Café Aroma.

Tuesday, Jan. 11

Idyllwild 2011: Independent Festival of Cinema, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. See program in this issue.

Jazz Night, 6-9 p.m. Café Aroma.

Festival of Cinema, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. See program in this issue.

Opening Reception: Visual Art Student Theme Show "Cryptozoology," 6 p.m. Parks Exhibition Center; Idyllwild Arts. (Show runs through Jan. 28.)

Teen After New Year's Party, 6:30 p.m. Town Hall.

Karaoke, 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Bone Daddyz.

Wednesday, Jan. 12

Idyllwild 2011: Independent Festival of Cinema, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. See program in this issue.

Thursday, Jan. 13

Idyllwild 2011: Independent Festival of Cinema, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. See program in this issue.

Bridge, 12:30-4 p.m. Creekstone Inn. For information, call 659-4910.

Friday, Jan. 14

Idyllwild 2011: Independent

Saturday, Jan. 15

David Jerome, 9 a.m. Café Aroma.

Idyllwild 2011: Independent Festival of Cinema, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. See program in this issue.

"Climbing Tahquitz Rock," Historical Exhibit, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Idyllwild Area Historical Museum.

Sunday, Jan. 16

Ernesto Ale, 9 a.m.; Skeleton Crew, 6-9 p.m. Café Aroma. "Climbing Tahquitz Rock," His-



On Saturday, Jan. 1, the snow stopped, the sun shone brightly and hundreds of Hill visitors crowded the shops and businesses, which reported record sales, capping a successful year for a majority of Idyllwild merchants.

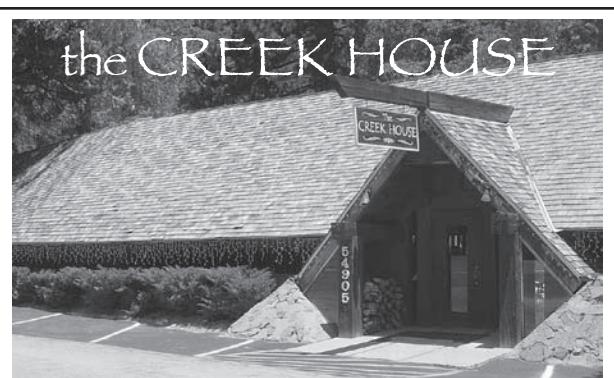
PHOTO BY CID CASTILLO

torical Exhibit, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Idyllwild Area Historical Museum. Piano Fest, 7:30 p.m. Stephens Recital Hall, Idyllwild Arts.

Tuesday, Jan. 18

Senior Wii Program Introduction, 10-11 a.m. Town Hall.

Jazz Night, 6-9 p.m. Café Aroma.



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Friday, Jan. 7, 6-9 p.m.:
The Reed Brothers: Dennis & Don Reed
Saturday, Jan. 8, 6-9 p.m.:
Sandii Castleberry & Paul Carman

IdyllwildARTS EVENTS

Friday, January 14
Visual Art Student Theme Show: "Cryptozoology." Opening reception 6PM, Parks Exhibition Center. Show runs through January 28.

Monday, January 17
Piano Fest. 7:30PM, Stephens Recital Hall.

Friday & Saturday, January 21 & 22
Theatre Production: *Eurydice* by Sarah Ruhl. 7:30PM, IAF Theatre.

Sunday, January 23
Theatre Production: *Eurydice* by Sarah Ruhl. 2PM, IAF Theatre.

Friday, February 4
Visual Art Visiting Artist Show: Mary Beth Heffernan. Opening reception 6PM, Parks Exhibition Center. Show runs through March 4.

Saturday & Sunday, February 5 & 6
Idyllwild Arts Academy Orchestra Concert. Saturday, 7:30PM & Sunday, 2PM, IAF Theatre.

Listed events are open to the public and admission is FREE
951-659-2171 x2200 • www.idyllwildarts.org

On The Town



Disco fever was the scene at Idyllwild's Rainbow Inn, which turned into a "Studio 54" dance floor. Rocking in their best 70's outfits are co-owner John Simpson, far right, boogying with Kathleen Walsh. At far left is Suzi DuAmarell, dancing with Bill Whitman.

PHOTO BY CID CASTILLO



More than 100 people attended the New Year's celebration at the Rainbow Inn which also included an auction, whose proceeds and part of the ticket sales, totaling \$1,246, will be donated to Idyllwild's Summer Concert Series. Posing for the Town Crier camera is Tara Sechrest, left, and Reina Delucien, right.

PHOTO BY CID CASTILLO

Trivia test

Chemistry What is the Periodic Table symbol for the element iron?

Answer: Fe

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Celebrate Recovery in Mountain Center

A Christ-centered, 12-step addiction recovery program called Celebrate Recovery meets twice a week at the grounds of the former Morning Sky School in Mountain Center.

On Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. there is a 12-Step Study meeting. Fridays the group meets from 6 to 7 p.m. for a barbecue, followed by a 7 to 9 p.m. Open Share meeting.

Celebrate Recovery began as a Saddleback Church program, and has now expanded nationwide. The Mountain Center meetings are sponsored by Chapel in the Pines. For more information, call Pastor Wally Boer at 659-0097.

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"SPAMALOT"

Monty Python's Spamalot is the outrageous new musical comedy lovingly ripped off from the film classic "Monty Python and The Holy Grail." With a book by Eric Idle and music and lyrics by the Grammy Award-winning team of Mr. Idle and John Du Prez, Spamalot tells the tale of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table as they embark on their quest for the Holy Grail. Flying cows, killer rabbits, taunting Frenchmen and show-stopping musical numbers are just a few of the reasons audiences everywhere are eating up Spamalot. **Running time:** 2 hours 20 mins, including intermission. **Rating:** For Mature Audiences only due to immature strong language and gestures. (by the creators of Monty Python – 'nuff said!)

**AN OFF-HILL ADVENTURE**

Sponsored by the Riverside County EDA

Date: Saturday, January 29, 2011

10:30am – Vans leave Idyllwild (pick-up location TBA)
12:00pm – Lunch (on your own in downtown Riverside, many restaurants within walking distance to theatre: www.riversidedowntown.org)
1:30pm – Regroup in front of the Fox Theatre
2:00pm – Show
4:30pm – Drive back to Idyllwild
6:00pm – Arrive in Idyllwild

Cost: \$61.00/person (total includes transport and show)
Contact Person: Katie Gers, 951-696-0100 or kgers@rivcoeda.org
(to reserve your ride, show ticket, liability waiver, and make payment)

COLONEL BO'S RESOLUTION

Well it's the new year again. We can put our grumpy errors and attitudes of 2010 behind and take a fresh start: 'How to Live this Life Pleasantly.' As I sat quietly meditating alone watching the soft, fluffy snow fall this morning, I held pencil-to-paper listing areas I need to try. I need to list and then post on the frig or I go the 'High Road' about a week; then when the new year gets tough, I'll slide back into century-old selfish responses. My meditation was stuck on the skill or the practice or the art of 'Conflict Resolution.' I notice President Obama's Wednesday morning 'Talk About It'



SPORTS

Golf

Idyllwild's Palms to Pines Golf Association played its regular monthly tournament at the Palm Desert Resort Country Club on Friday, Dec. 17, 2010.

Les Widerynski (course handicap 14), was first with a net 71. Second place finisher was **Gary Leong** (13) with a net 72. **Pete Capparelli** (20) finished third with a net 74. New member **John Browder** (8) was fourth with a net 76 and **Mike Feyder** (22) and **Bill Ragland** (12) tied for fifth with net 77s.

Ragland won for closest to the pin on the front nine, while the closest-to-the-pin hole on the back nine was unscathed. Leong won for longest drive.

The current point standings for the top eight golfers for the 2010-11 season are as follows: Widerynski and Leong are tied for 1st place with 16 points each; **Greg Piersol** is alone in 3rd with 15 points; **Robert Priefer** and Ragland are tied for 4th with 8 points each; **Chuck Alkire** is in 6th place with 7 points; Capparelli is in 7th place with 5.5 points; and there is a three-way tie for 8th place between **Gary Brown**, **Herk McClellan** and **Tony Viola**.

The season's top eight finishers will compete in a series of match-play playoffs for the title of Club Champion beginning in August. The Club Champ then played in the Southern California Tournament of Club Champions in December.

Points are awarded at each tournament as follows: first place, 6 points; second place, 4 points; third place, 3 points; fourth place, 2 points; fifth place, 1 point. In addition, one-half point is awarded to everyone who participates.

Palms to Pines Golf Association plays a tournament off the Hill once a month at a different golf course. The games are usually played on the third Friday of the month, but may be adjusted for holidays and such. Tournament fees range from about \$45 to usually no more than \$60, and the fees include green fees, tournament entry fees, golf cart and range balls. Guests usually pay \$10 less, since they don't compete in the tournament.

The club is a member of the Southern California Golf Association and is sanctioned to establish SCGA handicaps for members.

Palms to Pines welcomes new members **John Browder**, **Shane Fender**, **James White** and **Jeff White**.

If you are interested in joining the club or playing as a guest, please contact Jim Crandall at jim.crandall@verizon.net (951) 415-5790 or Pete Capparelli at pete@capparelli.com (951) 452-5552.



There are countless ways to wish one another a happy new year but there is nothing compared to the quintessential kiss as shown here by two visitors, **Bill and Ann Swift**, from San Diego, welcoming the 2011 at Idle Awhile Wine Shoppe and Bistro.

PHOTO BY CID CASTILLO



Idyllwild's American Legion Post 800 was a rocking post as the new year was ushered in by members and guests dancing to the sounds of Mad Max, seen here in the background.

PHOTO BY CID CASTILLO



Nick & Sue Novosad needed the Town Crier for directions as their cruise "boat," the Island Princess, passed through the Panama Canal recently.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NOVOSADS



Sheryl Graf of Pine Cove and San Diego needed the Town Crier during her recent visit to Krakow, Poland. She is standing before the Grunwald monument, which was a gift to the city and the nation from **Ignacy Jan Paderewski**, the world renowned pianist. He commissioned the 60 feet tall monument, entirely at his own expense, from Polish sculptor Antoni Wiwulski.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SHERYL GRAF



Dottie and Mel Goldfarb report on the reading habits of natives living on the Amazon River in Boca Da Valeria, Brazil. Here they are enjoying the Town Crier's "Mr. Funny Guy" and "Initial Thoughts."

PHOTO COURTESY OF DOTTIE GOLDFARB

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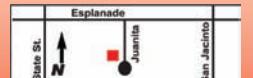
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Top 10

Continued from page 1

hate crime attacks but say they have insufficient evidence to make arrests or forward a case to the District Attorney.

Idyllwild Fire Department

Personnel and financial issues dominated the attention of the Idyllwild Fire Protection District's (IFPD) commission throughout 2010.

The year began with three new commissioners — Peter Capparelli, Jeannine Charles-Stigall and Dr. Charles "Chip" Schelly. Stigall was elected as the commission's president and Capparelli was chosen as vice president.

In the middle of February, former Fire Chief Steve Kunkle informed the board of his retirement. After a 5-month and nationwide search for his successor, Norm Walker, former fire



Former commission president Jeannine Charles-Stigall swears in **Norm Walker** as the new Idyllwild Fire Department Chief.

PHOTO BY J.P. CRUMRINE

chief for the U.S. Forest Service's San Jacinto Ranger District, was chosen as the next IFPD fire chief. He had retired from the Forest Service in March 2008.

Changes were not limited to the top of the organiza-

tion. At its May 21 special meeting, the commission voted to cease using The Family Business, owned by Janice and Craig Coopersmith, for financial work. Craig was the former district treasurer and financial officer. Tension between commission members and the Coopersmiths had been building for a while.

The commission planned to fulfill its contract with The Family Business through June 30; however, on May 24, the Coopersmiths wrote the commission, "Effective the last day of May, The Family Business will no longer provide any services to IFPD." This ended a 12-year relationship.

Financial issues continued to plague the district throughout the year and

will into the future. Catching up on past audits has begun, but knowledge of the district's actual financial status appeared to be a month-to-month series of revelations.

In July, the commission announced the discovery that several retirement payments to CalPERS and to a deferred compensation firm had not been made during the past several years. By November these payments had been made.

At the May meeting, the commission began preparing the 2010-11 budget, including a possible parcel fee increase of \$45 to \$110 total. Two months later, the commission followed Walker's recommendation to raise ambulance fees this year and postpone any general parcel fee increase to sometime in the future.

The ambulance fees were raised at a special commission meeting in September and the Riverside County Board of Supervisor's eventually approved the fee increase at its Nov. 2 meeting.

In October, Smith Marion, the commission's auditor since 2004, abruptly resigned after completing the 2008-09 audit. At a Nov. 22 special meeting, the commission accepted a proposal from Rogers, Anderson, Malody and Scott of San Bernardino to conduct the next audit.

The year ended with Stigall resigning as commission president (she remained a commission member) and Capparelli temporarily as-



The annual Fourth of July parade is a Hill institution. The 2010 parade was one of the longest and most popular yet.

PHOTO BY J.P. CRUMRINE

suming the presidency. New officers will be selected at the Jan. 11, 2011 meeting.

Water rates

Although the fall of 2010 brought an abundance of water to the Hill, the long-term water situation is still below average. From July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005, the Hill received 41 inches of rain — almost 65 percent more than the long-term (since 1948) average.

Yet, in the five subsequent years, the rainfall has never reached the annual average of 25.67 inches. Since 2006, the average annual rain has

been 19.8 inches, almost 25 percent below average.

In some respects, the economy has helped the three Hill water districts — Fern Valley (FVWD), Idyllwild (IWD) and Pine Cove (PCWD). Water consumption has declined during the same period that rainfall has decreased.

PCWD General Manager Jerry Holldber has frequently suggested that the Hill's full-time population has declined during the recession and the down economy has also discouraged weekend visitors.

See Top 10, next page



Mountain Community Patrol removes unwelcome graffiti from local landmarks.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY PATROL


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Top 10

Continued from previous page

Still, all districts recognize the obligation to supply customers with water. Each has tried to increase its water supply, either through searching for new sources or increasing storage capacity.

But this work requires operational funds and capital investment, and the regional trend of falling water sales revenues has begun to confront local districts. Water districts from San Diego to Los Angeles and in the Coachella Valley have been scrambling to secure more water supplies. Water sales, for all three Hill districts, have declined in the past year. PCWD saw 2010 sales decline nearly 8 percent from 2009.

They also have had to raise their rates substantially to fund district activities, but not as steeply as off-Hill districts. For example, the Desert Water Agency approved a 17-cent rate increase. That is nearly a 20 percent rise in water rates. It's their fourth increase since 2004 and is supposed to eliminate a \$3.7 million deficit. San Diego water rates have ballooned 65 percent since 2007.

Consequently, local water rates are also increasing. In June, the IWD board approved a 6-percent rate

increase for each of the next five years.

Of nearly 1,000 customers, IWD received three letters objecting to the rate increase or some aspect of it. But no customer appeared at a hearing called to consider the rate increase.

In October, the PCWD proposed a rate increase to finance long-term storage tank and infrastructure maintenance. Holldber presented a three-year plan to help finance storage tank maintenance and pipeline replacement.

The board also plans to consider 20 cents per 1,000 gallons increase water sales.

FVWD last raised rates in 2009 and then deferred action on a possible assessment.

Washout

As the run-off from torrential rain on Feb. 6, 2010 gathered volume entering the San Jacinto River basin, water began to accumulate along Hwy. 74 in the same vicinity as the August 2009 Cottonwood Fire. By that afternoon, the water had washed out a 30- to 40-foot section of the highway east of the Forest Service's Cranston Ranger Station.

Caltrans immediately closed the highway near Mountain Center and the Ranger Station. The highway closure created significant disruption for Idyllwild residents, high school students and workers. Those going to or coming from Hemet had to commute through Aguanga or Banning — adding 30 or more minutes to



After 10 years, the Idyllwild Summer Concert Series is becoming a very popular summer institution. Residents and visitors look forward to the schedule of musician each year. One of the most popular acts is **Lisa Haley and the Zydecats**.

PHOTO BY CID CASTILLO

the normal 30- to 40-minute drive.

On Sunday, Hemet Unified School District had to devise an alternate plan for Hemet High School students and get buses to Idyllwild Monday morning. Idyllwild School Principal Matthew Kraemer, who lives in Hemet, had to commute via Banning on Monday morning.

In addition to commuting disruptions, the road closure complicated law enforcement efforts. The Riverside County Sheriff's Department (RCSD), as well as ambulance service, had to employ emergency plans.

RCSD Hemet Station Commander Captain John Pingel assured Hill residents

that the activated contingency plans would ensure effective law enforcement and response times while the road was out. "It's pretty unlikely that we'd pull a deputy from the Hill to Hemet for an off-Hill emergency, given the road closure," he said. "We've also coordinated with both the Cabazon and Palm Desert RCSD stations for backup as well as with our aviation units."

Similarly, Riverside County Office of Emergency Services (OES) Deputy Director Peter Lent said County Fire activated a "hard cover" situation to make certain that additional equipment was in place should it be needed.

But Caltrans, working expeditiously during the emergency, had the road repaired and Idyllwild locals resumed their normal commute through Mountain Center and Valle Vista to Hemet a week later, on Feb. 13.

On Monday, Feb. 8, Caltrans issued a \$1 million

emergency contract to repair the highway only two days after the closure. Five days later the road was completely open and normal traffic flow resumed.

Prior to the washout, more than 2 inches of rain were recorded at both the Idyllwild Fire Station and the Keenwild Ranger Station and almost 3 inches fell near Vista Grande to the north.

Recreation Management

At times teetering toward divorce and at others reaching for reconciliation, the county and the Idyllwild Community Recreation Council (ICRC) sparred throughout the year over ICRC's performance as holder of the county recreation contract. In February 2007, based on ICRC's board's assurances that they could manage recreation better than the Chamber, the county awarded the contract to them.

See Top 10, page 24



In November, the Hill cast its ballots at a higher rate than other county communities or the statewide average.

PHOTO BY CID CASTILLO

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The Idyllwild Chamber of Commerce has been rejuvenated this year since a new board of directors was chosen. The traditional ribbon cutting event was resumed in August.

PHOTO BY KELSEY FIELDING

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- Idyllwild License Plate Frames
- Topo & Relief Maps
- Yard Sale Kits
- Subscriptions And more!

IDYLLWILD CA**Services**

JT's Property Maintenance, home repair & caretaking. Abatement upkeep, hauling. Woodcutting & splitting. 37 years on the Hill. Call Jim, 951-659-3400 or 951-316-2500 (c).

IDYLLWILD SNOWPLOWING COMPANY

951-961-4428

Spa service & new covers. Call Kent at 951-659-3174.

Gary Drywall. Tape, texture and repair. Don Gary, 30 years' experience. (951) 659-2536.

SNOWPLOWING
Call Kent Busher,
951-659-3448.

Petsitting, visits to your home. Walk your dogs, cuddle your cats. Exp. giving meds, also exp. caring for livestock. Local refs. Barb, (951) 663-2480.

Psychic reading every day. Appointment recommended. Walk-ins OK. Lady of the Lake. 659-5115.

Your Computer Helper for PC/Windows, tutoring, upgrade, troubleshooting, virus removal, data recovery.

Francoise Frigola.

Over 40 yrs. exp.
659-4146.

yourcomputerhelper
onthehill.com**HANDYMAN SERVICES**

Honest & dependable.
Small jobs welcome.
Casey Johnston,
951-659-5713

Please leave a message.

SNOWPLOWING
Call Stan,
951-659-6439 or
951-303-7887

L&M. Tile, masonry, concrete, carpentry & decks. All types of repairs. Custom workmanship. 35 yrs. experience. Call Lenny, 951-659-0011.

For Sale**FIREWOOD FOR SALE**

Eucalyptus \$260
Avocado \$180
Citrus \$250
per cord
Oak Available
Will Deliver
Stove-Size

951-487-9642
CELL 951-492-9825

Espinosa Firewood
Orange Eucalyptus Avocado
(951) 487-8508

When you place your classified line ad in the **Town Crier**, it also appears on our website at no additional charge. Call 659-2145 to get your ad in front of thousands of people!

www.towncrier.com

FREE REFRIGERATOR: Freezer on top, white, in Pine Cove. You pick up. Call 951-659-3686.

FREE MOVING BOXES from North American Moving Co. Various sizes, used once for local move to Idyllwild. Please call 760-898-9853.

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Place Your Town Crier Classified Ad by using our online Classified order form. It counts your lines and computes the cost as you type. Just go to

www.towncrier.com

and click on Place a Classified Ad under Advertising in the menu bar. If you have any questions, please call the Town Crier at 951-659-2145 or toll free at 1-888-535-6663. Ask for Sandy.

Snow chains & cables for sizes 14- & 15-inch tires, \$25. 951-659-2239.

Large oak coffee table, \$25. **FREE** swing set made of large pipe. 951-306-7415.

Large work table w/storage. Great for garage, workshop or artist's studio. 9'W x 3'D. Drawers are 4'W x 3'D, perfect for drawings or other large, flat items. \$150 OBO. Call 951-659-4438.

Jacuzzi, 6-person. Will exchange for smaller one. Call 951-659-3547.

For Sale

ALMOST NEW 2010
LG Kompressor LuV300B, bagless vacuum, dualforce. Ideal for pet owners. \$250. mchorneconsults@gmail.com

WOOD WOOD WOOD
OAK OAK OAK
AVOCADO, PINE, CEDAR
Lots of cords. Best prices. Call Stan at 951-303-7887.

FREE CLASSIFIED

Place a Marketplace ad for item(s) totaling \$50 or less. 5 lines, 3 consecutive weeks, private party, for sale items. One ad per household at a time. Town Crier, 659-2145.

Wanted To Buy

WANTED- COMIC BOOKS, sports & non sports gum cards. Magazines, sports, movies anything pre 1975. Please call Mike: 1-800-723-5572. \$ Paid. **HAPPY NEW YEAR.** (Cal-SCAN)

WANTED DIABETIC TEST STRIPS. Cash Paid. Unopened, Unexpired Boxes Only. All Brands Considered. Help others, don't throw boxes away. For more information, Call 888-491-1168. (Cal-SCAN)

Automotive

1984 Chevy 4WD pickup, 3/4 ton with camper shell. Some SNOW PLOW equip. Low mileage, 8 cyl. Chevy crate engine. Good tires, \$2100 OBO. Call 951-440-0114. Ask for Marge.

Autos Wanted

DONATE YOUR VEHICLE! Receive Free Vacation Voucher. United Breast Cancer Foundation. Free Mammograms, Breast Cancer Info www.ubcf.info Free Towing, Tax Deductible, Non-Runners Accepted, 1-888-468-5964. (Cal-SCAN)

DONATE YOUR CAR: Children's Cancer Fund! Help Save A Child's Life Through Research & Support! Free Vacation Package. Fast, Easy & Tax Deductible. Call 1-800-252-0615. (Cal-SCAN)

Education

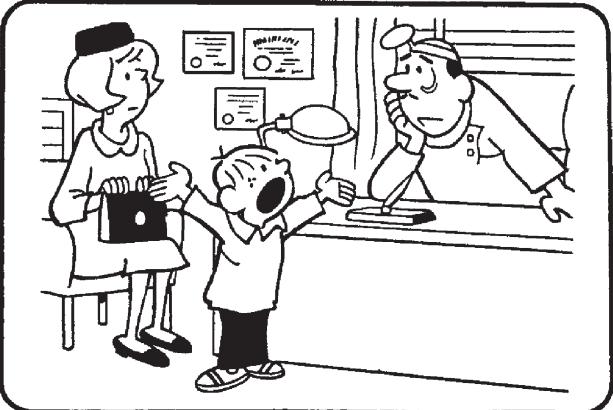
HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA! Graduate in 4 weeks! FREE Brochure. Call Now! 1-866-562-3650 ext. 60 www.SouthEasternHS.com (Cal-SCAN)

Musical Instruments

WORLD GUITAR SHOW, Buy, Sell, Trade. Marin Civic/ San Rafael, January 8-9. OC Fair/Event/Costa Mesa, January 15-16. Saturdays 10-5, Sundays 10-4. www.TXShows.com Clip this ad! (Cal-SCAN)

IT'S DIFFERENT

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



5. No papers on desk. 6. Glasses are missing.
3. Hat has no ribbon. 4. Third diploma is on wall.
2. Mom's shoes are black. 1. Boy's sweater is different.

Mobile Homes

Pine Cove, 1 bed, 1 bath. Wraparound deck. Patio cover. **\$3,000.** Owner will carry. 961-750-2161 or 951-764-1714.

For Rent or Lease

Gorgeous Fern Valley 3 BR, 3 BA. Private, quiet double lot, huge deck w/view, den w/FP, large kitchen w/ appliances, breakfast bar, formal dining room, office, mudroom & laundry w/washer & dryer. No smoking/pets. 24735 Forest Dr. \$1,099/mo. Call 818-416-1514.

PINE COVE HOUSE for lease, 2 BR, 1 BA, \$800/mo.

Cute, comfy, good neighbors. Call for details. 619-889-8166.

Sunny location, 4 BR, 2 BA, 2300 sq. ft. mountain home and large carport. \$1350/mo. 53595 Middle Ridge, info at www.backpage.com or 951-659-8293.

For Rent or Lease

Desperate for a rental? Place your classified ad in the best read "bulletin board" in town. **The Town Crier.** Call Sandy 659-2145.

Idyllwild Property Management Long-Term Leases Pick up a flyer at our office or check out our Website for up-to-date listings 54710 N. Circle Dr. #4 P.O. Box 3411 Idyllwild, CA 92549 Office: 951-659-4200 Fax: 951-659-4206 Toll free: 866-669-4200 www.myipmoffice.com

Furnished 2 BR, 2 BA house for rent. Very large patio, garage w/auto opener. Plowed road. In town. \$1099/mo. Short-term \$149/night. Call (760) 831-7447.

Continued ➤

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

Answers to Sudoku
(Puzzle on next page)

COD	AVID	GASP
ABA	NINE	APSE
HIS	NANCY	DREW
NEHRU	KEG	
	ALAS	SERUM
DREW	WUPON	TORE
RAG	SPREE	AGO
ATOM	STAND	DREW
BASIS	ARCO	
DAB	ROAST	
DREW	CAREY	BAH
IOTA	WIMP	USE
SWAY	LOUT	THY

Answers to Crossword
(Puzzle on next page)

Classifieds

Continued from previous page

For Rent or Lease

Large, bright 1 BR, 1 BA house next to Cafe Aroma. New appliances.

LIVE & WORK SPACE \$850/mo.

54790 N. Circle Drive. Call 951-663-0527, Martha 310-963-4506, Margaret

Darling & cozy 2 BR + loft, 2 BA, grt. hood in Fern Valley, newly remodeled, furn., FP, W/D, DW, Jacuzzi bath tub, deck, gener. \$1,250/mo. 951-675-0715.

2 bedrooms plus loft, 2 baths, rock fireplace, newer home for year-round living, 1300 sq. ft. New paint and carpet. Very clean and comfortable. Walk to town. Large private lot. \$1,065/mo. This is a great deal. Tiffany, agent 951-852-9661.

SPACIOUS CABIN, DESIGNED BY JOHN LAUTNER. \$1050/mo., unfurnished, year lease. 703-321-6052 or 415-388-2396.

1 BR, 1 BA apartment, close to center of town. Great for retired person. Quiet area. \$650/mo. Call 951-833-0911 or 951-659-0028, leave message.

MOVE-IN SPECIAL! 3 BR, 2 BA + office or 4th BR, wood burning FP, W/D, fenced backyard, close to school. \$1,100/mo. Call 310-709-2311 or Griffon Mgt. Group at 951-652-2399.

For Rent or Lease

Studio in Idyllwild, walk to town. Very cute & clean, \$600/mo., utilities included. Corner of Jameson & 243. 310-463-2975.

A CUTE COMFORTABLE 2/1 MOBILE HOME to enjoy the beautiful nature surrounding you! This adorable home comes with new curtains and paint, refrigerator, and BIG WOOD DECK! No Screening Fee. \$480/mo. Rent to own. Serial # S1915

Dealer # DL115294
1 RV space \$420/mo.
Details: Rent.FocusMan.Biz or (951) 487-1966

2 BR, 1 BA, W/D hookups, appliances, deck. No pets. 53810 Country Club Dr., #A. \$800/mo. Call Yolanda, 619-276-9800.

1 BR cozy cabin, big trees on Strawberry Creek. Furnished near Idy Arts, plowed road, \$795/mo. Owner/Agent 760-414-1441.

Fully furnished cozy cabin in Pine Cove/Idyllwild. 1 BR, loft, 1 BA, 2 FPs, 2 patios, lrg. corner lot. Easy access. \$900/mo. plus utilities, & \$900 sec. dep. No smoking/pets. 866-470-4232.

1 BR, 1 BA cabin in Pine Cove, \$600/mo. **OR 3 BR, 2 BA, \$950/mo.,** private road, good views, nice neighborhood. No smoking/pets. Call 760-831-8008.

SUDOKU

(Answers on previous page)

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

Commercial Rentals

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
OFFICES/SHOPS
Reduced Rates
54585 N. Circle
Ste A, 275 sf, \$300/mo.
Ste B, 450 sf, 2 offices, \$500/mo.
Ste D, 420 sf, \$400/mo.
(619) 871-7235
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

FREE RENT
1st mo. w/lease!
225 sq. ft., 13.25' x 17'
54295 Village Center Dr., Suite 102A.
\$300/mo. Ample parking. Call the Town Crier for more info:
(951) 659-2145

Commercial Rentals

FOR LEASE
RETAIL / GALLERY
54750 A North Circle Dr. \$1000/mo. Next to Cafe Aroma, 1200 sq. ft. Call 951-663-0527, Martha 310-963-4506, Margaret

IN THE FORT. Professional office suites. Call for details. 951-288-8512.

Strawberry Creek
Square space for rent. Lower level, 1148 square ft. Available immediately. Call 951-306-2120.
Real Estate/Out Of State

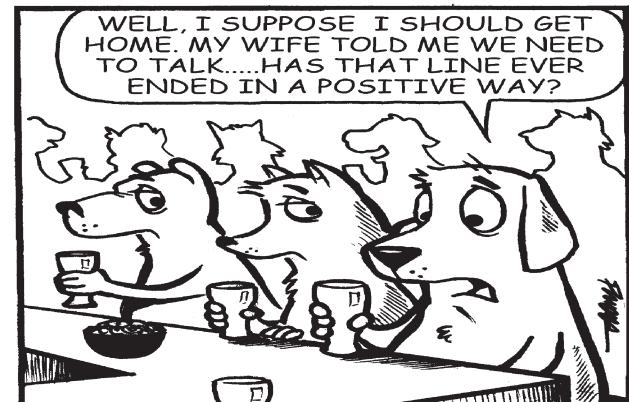
OWN 20 ACRES Only \$129/month. \$13,900 near growing El Paso, Texas. (Safest city in America!) Low Down, No Credit Checks, Owner Financing. Free Map/Pictures. 1-800-343-9444. (Cal-SCAN)

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ATTEND COLLEGE ONLINE from Home. *Medical, *Business, *Paralegal, *Criminal Justice. Job placement assistance. Computer available. Financial Aid if qualified. SCHEV certified. Call 888-210-5162 www.Centura.us.com (Cal-SCAN)



HOROSCOPE

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Aspects call for care in preparing material for submission. Although you might find it bothersome to go over what you've done, the fact is, rechecking could be worth your time and effort.

Taurus (April 20 to May 20) The week is favorable for Bovines who welcome change. New career opportunities wait to be checked out. You might also want to get started on that home makeover you've been considering.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You might have to be extra careful to protect that surprise you have planned, thanks to a certain snoopy someone who wants to know more about your plans than you're willing to share.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Family ties are strong this week, although an old and still-unresolved problem might create some unpleasant moments. If so, look to straighten the situation out once and for all.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Although the Lion might see it as an act of loyalty and courage to hold on to an increasingly shaky position, it might be wiser to make changes now to prevent a possible meltdown later.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Your gift for adding new people to your circle of friends works overtime this week, thanks largely to contacts you made during the holidays. A surprise awaits you at the week's end.

BORN THIS WEEK: You can be both a dreamer and a doer. You consider helping others to be an important part of your life.

talents. It's a good time to show what you can do to impress people who can do a lot for you. A dispute with a family member might still need some smoothing over.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Be open with your colleagues about your plan to bring a workplace matter out into the open. You'll want their support, and they'll want to know how you'll pull it off.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Trying to patch up an unraveling relationship is often easier said than done. But it helps to discuss and work out any problems that arise along the way.

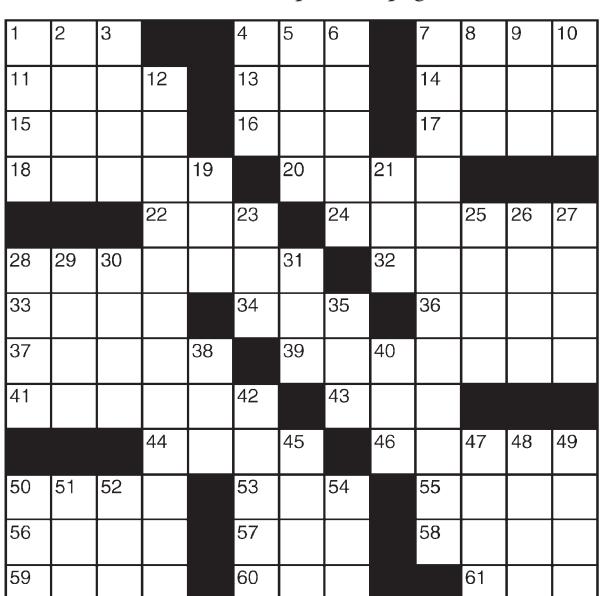
CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) While your creative aspect remains high this week, you might want to call on your practical side to help work out the why and wherefore of an upcoming decision.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Dealing with someone's disappointment can be difficult for Aquarians, who always try to avoid giving pain. But a full explanation and a show of sympathy can work wonders.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Getting a job-related matter past some major obstacles should be easier this week. A personal situation might take a surprising but not necessarily unwelcome turn by the week's end.

CROSSWORD

(Answers on previous page)



ACROSS

- 1 Peculiar
- 4 Bikini half
- 7 Poet Angelou
- 11 Satirical comic
- 13 "the ramparts ..."
- 14 Mid-month date
- 15 Celebrity
- 16 Witty one
- 17 Last year's frosh
- 18 Skewered entree
- 20 Mineral hardness scale name
- 22 Apprehend
- 24 Toy (with)
- 28 Sheriff
- 32 Did a cobbler's job
- 33 Composer
- 34 Catch some rays
- 36 Require
- 37 Stiff
- 39 Lustrous, in a way
- 41 Meryl Streep's alma mater
- 43 Hawaiian garland
- 44 Overly confident
- 46 Fake drake
- 50 New Zealand bird
- 53 Bow the head
- 55 Coffee
- 56 Reverberate
- 57 Raw rock
- 58 Mideast sultante
- 59 Night light?

DOWN

- 1 Siberian city
- 2 Be too fond
- 3 Colorless
- 4 Violinist's need
- 5 Paper quantity
- 6 Shop talk
- 7 City in Orange County, Calif.
- 8 Commotion
- 9 "Uh-huh"
- 10 Blond shade
- 12 Message
- 19 "Hum-bug!"
- 21 Storefront sign
- 23 Cudgel
- 25 Run off
- 26 Ogler's look
- 27 Vortex
- 28 Sportscaster
- 29 Met melody
- 30 "Before," in an Alger story
- 31 - Vegas
- 35 Zero
- 38 Weir
- 40 Started
- 42 Talk nonstop
- 45 Former veep
- 47 Arrived
- 48 Elliptical
- 49 Tug hard
- 50 Trivia maven
- 51 Lemieux
- 52 Which person
- 54 Morning moisture

Public Notices

Legals • Doing Business As

For questions about Public Notices call Sandy at the Town Crier
(951) 659-2145 or E-mail: sandy@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 persons are doing business as SUMMITOVERLAND SECURITY S.O.S., 25677 Parkview Road, Idyllwild, CA 92549, Riverside County. MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 3679, Idyllwild, CA 92549. TED (NMN) DICKEY and ANGELINA (NMN) DICKEY, 25677 Parkview Road, Idyllwild, CA 92549. This business is conducted by Husband & Wife.

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

Signed:
TED DICKEY

Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on Dec. 2, 2010.

FILE NO.:
R-2010-12767

NOTICE — THIS FICTITIOUS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES ON DEC. 2, 2015. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO DEC. 2, 2015. THE FILING OF THIS STATEMENT DOES NOT 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).

CERTIFICATION

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

LARRY W. WARD,
County Clerk
By: L. Sibley, Deputy

Pub. TC: Dec. 16, 23, 30, 2010, Jan. 6, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as CONQUEROR BASEBALL, 79831 Danielle Ct., La Quinta, CA 92253, Riverside County. ROBERT EARL RALPH JR., 79831 Danielle Ct., La Quinta, CA 92253.

This business is conducted by an individual.

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

Signed:
ROBERT E. RALPH JR.

Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on Nov. 22, 2010.

FILE NO.:
I-2010-0373

NOTICE — THIS FICTITIOUS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES ON NOV. 22, 2015. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO NOV. 22, 2015. THE FILING OF THIS STATEMENT DOES NOT 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).

CERTIFICATION

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

LARRY W. WARD,
County Clerk
By: M. Duenas, Deputy

Pub. TC: Dec. 16, 23, 30, 2010, Jan. 6, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as IDYLLWILD REALTY, RUSTIC THEATRE, MILE HIGH REALTY, PINE COVE REALTY, IDYLLWILD REAL ESTATE, IDYLLWILD ESCROW, HILLTOP REALITY, HILLTOP CONSTRUCTION, 54295 North Circle Drive, Idyllwild, CA 92549, Riverside County. Mailing address: P.O. Box 243, Idyllwild, CA 92549. RIDGEWAY VISION INC., 54295 North Circle Drive, Idyllwild, CA 92549, a California corporation #2453469.

This business is conducted by a corporation. Registrant began to transact business under the fictitious name listed above on May 17, 2006.

Signed:
SHANE THOMAS STEWART
President

Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on Dec. 6, 2010.

FILE NO.:
R-2010-12874

2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING

a. Date: 2-3-11 Time: 8:30 a.m. Dept. 04
b. The address of the court is same as noted above.

3. a. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Idyllwild Town Crier.

Date: Dec. 15, 2010

GLORIA CONNER TRASK
COMMISSIONER

Pub. TC: Dec. 23, 30, 2010, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as CHECKPOINT SOLUTION, 35006 Allium Ln., Winchester, CA 92596, Riverside County. GERALD RENE GAUTHIER and PAMELA ANN GAUTHIER, 35006 Allium Ln., Winchester, CA 92596. This business is conducted by Husband & Wife.

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious name listed above in January, 2009.

Signed:
GERALD GAUTHIER

Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on Nov. 16, 2010.

FILE NO.:
R-2010-12249

NOTICE — THIS FICTITIOUS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES ON NOV. 16, 2015. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO NOV. 16, 2015. THE FILING OF THIS STATEMENT DOES NOT 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).

CERTIFICATION

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

LARRY W. WARD,
County Clerk
By: N. Garrett, Deputy

Pub. TC: Dec. 16, 23, 30, 2010, Jan. 6, 2011.

INC10010478

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, 46-200 Oasis Street, Indio, CA 92201.

PETITION OF JOSHUA MIERLY.

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

1. Petitioner: JOSHUA MIERLY filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name as follows:

a. Present name: EZEKIAL SHAWN MIERLY-DECOSTA changed to Proposed name: EZEKIAL SHAWN MIERLY.

2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING

a. Date: 1/18/11 Time: 8:30 a.m. Dept. 2H
b. The address of the court is same as noted above.

3. a. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Idyllwild Town Crier.

Date: Nov. 22, 2010
V. Rivera

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

Pub. TC: Dec. 16, 23, 30, 2010, Jan. 6, 2011.

RIC10024069

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, 4050 Main Street, Riverside, CA 92502.

PETITION OF MICHELLE KOBELSKI FOR CHANGE OF NAME.

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

1. Petitioner: AMANDA MICHELLE GONZALEZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name as follows:

a. Present name: AMANDA MICHELLE GONZALEZ changed to Proposed name: AMANDA MICHELLE KOBELSKI

Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on Dec. 20, 2010.

FILE NO.:
R-2010-13358

NOTICE — THIS FICTITIOUS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES ON DEC. 20, 2015. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO DEC. 20, 2015. THE FILING OF THIS STATEMENT DOES NOT 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).

CERTIFICATION

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

LARRY W. WARD,
County Clerk
By: J. Vallejo, Deputy

Pub. TC: Dec. 30, 2010, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as DAVE'S MOBILE MECHANIC & PORTABLE WELDING, 25055 Marion Ridge Drive, Pine Cove, CA 92549, Riverside County. Mailing address: P.O. Box 3468, Idyllwild, CA 92549.

This business is conducted by an individual.

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious name listed above on June 13, 2005.

Signed:
DAVID JOHN VASILIS

Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on Dec. 22, 2010.

FILE NO.:
R-2010-13421

NOTICE — THIS FICTITIOUS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES ON DEC. 22, 2015. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO DEC. 22, 2015. THE FILING OF THIS STATEMENT DOES NOT 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).

CERTIFICATION

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

LARRY W. WARD,
County Clerk
By: L. Sibley, Deputy

Pub. TC: Dec. 30, 2010, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as THE RYTHYM LEARNING CENTER, 54585 No. Circle Dr., Idyllwild, CA 92549, Riverside County. Mailing address: 59925 Palm Oasis, Palm Springs, CA 92549. AMY ELIZABETH CADLE and ROBERT MICHAEL PETERSON, JR., 59925 Palm Oasis, Palm Springs, CA 92262.

This business is conducted by Co-partners.

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

Signed:
ROBERT M PETERSON, JR

Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on Dec. 27, 2010.

FILE NO.:
I-2010-03281

NOTICE — THIS FICTITIOUS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES ON DEC. 27, 2015. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO DEC. 27, 2015. THE FILING OF THIS STATEMENT DOES NOT 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).

CERTIFICATION

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

LARRY W. WARD,
County Clerk
By: L. Sibley, Deputy

Pub. TC: Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as HEAVENSENT ESTATE SALES BOUTIQUE & THRIFT SHOP, 796 Skov Street, Hemet, CA 92543, Riverside County. HART TO HART CORP., 796 Skov Street, Hemet, CA 92543, a California corporation, Hart to Hart Corp.

This business is conducted by a Corporation.

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

Signed:
STEPHEN ROLLIE HART

Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on Dec. 16, 2010.

FILE NO.:
R-2010-13265

NOTICE — THIS FICTITIOUS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES ON DEC. 16, 2015. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO DEC. 16, 2015. THE FILING OF THIS STATEMENT DOES NOT 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).

CERTIFICATION

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

LARRY W. WARD,
County Clerk
By: L. Sibley, Deputy

Pub. TC: Dec. 30, 2010, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 2011.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as EQUANIMITY 4 U, MARKETING 4 U, 54861 Wildwood Drive, Idyllwild, CA 92549, Riverside County. Mailing address: P.O. Box 1886, PMB #4, Idyllwild, CA 92549. MARY ANN MACHADO, 54861 Wildwood Drive, CA 92549, Idyllwild, CA 92549.

This business is conducted by an individual.

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

Signed:
MARY ANN MACHADO

Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on Dec. 27, 2010.

FILE NO.:
R-2010-13495

NOTICE — THIS FICTITIOUS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES ON DEC. 27, 2015. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO DEC. 27, 2015. THE FILING OF THIS STATEMENT DOES NOT 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).

CERTIFICATION

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

LARRY W. WARD,
County Clerk
By: A. Chavez, Deputy

Pub. TC: Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2011.

Letters

Continued from page 7

and 6-30-09 was \$1,199,609. About two-thirds of that was due to depreciation of vehicles, which are fully depreciated in seven years.

Yes they do, and they do so because that is the information they were provided by our former book-keeper. And while I don't fault anyone for that, it's something we need to resolve and modify. It doesn't make sense to me to identify all of the money we have, which is there primarily to pay bills, as reserves. An accrued benefit

causes the total net assets figure to become smaller and smaller. Simple, huh?

J.P. also mentions the fact that the "audits recognize both a capital outlay and accrued benefits funds." Yes they do, and they do so because that is the information they were provided by our former book-keeper. And while I don't fault

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(951) 659-2145By J.P. CRUMRINE
EDITOR

Volunteers are needed to help the Forest Service count bald eagles in the San Bernardino National Forest's (SBNF). This year, the agency will survey the bald eagle population in the San Bernardino and San Jacinto Mountains on Saturdays Jan. 8, Feb. 12 and March 12.

Each year, for 32 years, the Forest Service holds bald eagle counts at four sites—Big Bear Lake, Lake Arrowhead, Lake Silverwood, and Lake Hemet—in the SBNF. This year, the Forest Service has added Lake Perris State Park Recreation Area to the survey areas.

The San Bernardino Mountains support the larg-

est wintering bald eagle population in Southern California. Eagles typically begin arriving in the area in late November and continue to stay in the area until early April.

Breeding populations of bald eagles in Southern California were extirpated by the late 1950s. Until reintroduction efforts began in the 1980s on Catalina Island, the southern-most nest site known in California was in Lake County north of San Francisco. Since 2003, a pair of bald eagles has successfully fledged babies several times at Lake Hemet.

For the Dec. 18 count, only two people came to Lake Hemet. That weekend, no eagles were observed at Lake Hemet, but one adult was seen at Lake Perris. Four other

bald eagles were seen in the San Bernardino Mountains.

Volunteers will be stationed at vantage points around the lakes, where they map and note any eagle observations during a one-hour period on the Saturday mornings listed above. Observations will be repeated monthly for simultaneous 1-hour census/mapping efforts from December through March. The first 2010-11 count was on Dec. 18.

"Through this method, the Forest Service has acquired information about areas eagles use and fluctuations in population numbers," said wildlife biologist Marc Stamer. "There's no experience needed for volunteers and this is a wonderful opportunity to catch a glimpse

of our breath-taking national symbol."

Three remaining eagle counts for this winter are scheduled for the following Saturday mornings: Jan. 8, Feb. 12 and March 12. Volunteers should dress warmly and bring binoculars and a watch.

Lake Hemet volunteers should plan on meeting at the Lake Hemet Grocery Store at 8:30 a.m. for instructions. Contact Ann Poopatanapong at 909-382-2935 for more information.

Lake Perris State Park volunteers should contact the park office for information at 951-940-5600, and plan to meet at the Lake Perris Regional Indian Museum.

J.P. Crumrine can be reached at jp@towncrier.com.

Letters

Continued from page 19

fund is a must, and an ever increasing capital fund is one of our goals. Beyond that, I don't have a good answer.

But, aside from that, thank you, J.P., for forcing me to understand (sort of) the audits. It only took me about 12 hours, but it was probably worth it. Next question?

All of the audit reports are posted on the IFPD website at www.idyllwildfire.org. Just click on Reports.

BEN KILLINGSWORTH
TREASURER
IFPD COMMISSION

Editor's note: Commissioner Killingsworth's data comes from the past audits, but two points are omitted. First, the government's funds totals did not simply drop from \$1.4 million to \$922,000 and continue at the level after the new ladder truck was purchased. The funds have varied considerably over this period. At the end of fiscal year 2008, the total was \$808,000. It rose to \$911,000 at the end of fiscal year 2009, because IFPD had a surplus. Yet the commissioners needed an ambulance rate increase this year.

Second point is the IFPD Commission has not yet accepted the 2009 audit. Even the auditor who conducted the review left with material questions.

Idyllwild Fire finances

EDITOR:

What does a failing government agency look like? Perhaps they stopped making mandatory employee CalPERS retirement payments. Perhaps they stopped making payments to vendors who already provided materials/services breaching their contract.

Likely their revenues are down and costs are up. Chances are no one knows what the bank accounts look like. Perhaps employee salaries and benefits are out of control. Record keeping is likely nonexistent.

Sadly, as shown by recent government scandals with grand jury involvement, the tell tale sign of danger is when the agency covers up all traces of the problem until it's too late.

I find it amazing IFPD [Idyllwild Fire Protection District] (the Coopersmiths according to [Fire] Chief [Norm Walker]) lost every financial record—employee W2's, bank statements, CalPERS audits, and who knows what else as quoted by the chief. Has cash and equipment been stolen from IFPD? A forensic audit is in order before it's too late.

IFPD, disclose your financials such as bank statements, canceled checks, employee salaries, overtime, accrued vacation pay, retirement contributions, and other liabilities for the past 10 years.

See Letters, next page

Renate

Continued from page 7

later generations. And there is now some science behind this.

Many neuroscientists are currently fascinated by what they call "mirror neurons." Mirror neurons are brain cells that fire in response to a person being observed when they are doing or saying something, especially if we admire that person or are close to them.

The experiment we often refer to is one where a wife tells her husband that she has pain in her shoulder and neuroscientists pinpoint which area of her brain lights up as she feels the pain. The scientists observe the husband's brain lighting up in the same brain area, even though he does not actually feel the pain itself. He was literally "feeling her pain." (This same research is demonstrating that we may be hard wired for empathy!)

One of the conclusions drawn from this research is that people are very sensitive to what others do and how they act, often much more so than to what they say. As one author put it, "If you yell at your children not to run down the stairs, they don't learn to slow down nearly as much as they learn how to yell." How you actually act in their presence has a big impact.

As the U.S. narrows the goal of learning in school to student results on standardized tests—largely consisting of multiple-choice questions and essays scored by strangers hired by test publishing companies—I am often frustrated and angry by the simplistic view of learning that this represents.

Wouldn't our money be better spent on creating teachers who love their subjects and are masters at sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm with their students? And who are at liberty to teach for understanding and genuinely higher standards?

And there is even a bigger message. You and I are teachers every time we interact with our children and with each other. They tend to become what we are!

By the way, the Caine Learning Center is beginning to have some functions open and it is free to the public (though a donation of any amount would be appreciated). At 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 12, we will be showing a fantastic film about the impact of stress associated with a sense of helplessness and fatigue. After that, we will talk together about how this understanding is relevant to our lives, community and what is happening in schools. See you there.

Editor's note: You can read more from Renate on the Town Crier Blogs at <http://itcrenatecaine.blogspot.com/>. Share your thoughts with her.

CREATURE CORNER

BY MIMI AND HOOTCH

Thanks to our animal lovers, ARF found forever homes for 31 felines and 45 canines in 2010. Maybe 2011 will be the lucky year for those left behind. Open your heart and home this year to ARF and sponsor, foster or adopt a bundle of love.

A match made in heaven, **Gracie**, the Italian greyhound, chi-terrier mix, has given her heart and soul to her forever human, who has done the same for her. Chow Gracie.



Leonardo and his brothers lost their mom at a very early age. Almost one-year-old now, he has grown to a gorgeous silver gray and is ready for his forever home to play. He is litter box trained and good with cats and dogs.

Marlena is a 4-year-old domestic short-haired female. She doesn't require much attention, just a warm home combined with love. A little shy at first, she's hoping this is her lucky year.



Charlie is a young male tabby-orange mix. Quiet and reserved, Charlie still likes a little play time. He was abandoned on the ARF porch, and yearns for his special someone to love just him. He is good with other cats and dogs.

Rosi is dancing! She has recovered from her surgery with flying colors and has the thumbs-up to run, play, and, yes, of course to do the "Rosi dance." The sweetest American Staffordshire around, Rosi is good with cats, most dogs and humans. She has saved her heart for just the right human to share unconditional love with.



Chow lovers, come take a look at **Duke**, a typical Chow with a blond coat and black tongue. Duke is a mellow dog and would be good with a four-legged friend as well as a human. Duke is 8 years young, still full of energy, and loveable.

Sally has come a long way in the hands of her angels. Once abandoned, cold and weak, she has gained trust in humans again. Eager to hike and play, Sally is healthy, strong and looking for just the right home.

ARF has several cats and dogs available for adoption or fostering. Go to www.idyllwildarf.org and click on petfinders. All pets are current on shots and are spayed or neutered.

ARF is open on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call for appointment on any other day at (951) 659-1122. E-mail and donation opportunities are at www.idyllwildarf.org or e-mail arf@greencafe.com.

Creature corner is sponsored this week in memory of Watcher, the wonderful border collie from Pine Cove. She was always watching. To sponsor the column, call Shane Fender at the Town Crier, 659-2145.

Before

Continued from page 7



been food. The premises of today's Fern Valley Emporium, for example, housed the Fern Valley Bakery from 1947 to 1949, and later became OJ's Creekside Café. The bakery moved to the little stone structure beside the Creekstone Inn that long served as first home to the Town Crier, once it outgrew Ernie & Betty Maxwell's home.

But for continuity nothing beats the creekside corner opposite OJ's. There, Ernie and Dorothy Jolin built a tiny hamburger stand in 1946, which in 1949 became the Log Cabin Café. By 1962, the much-expanded Log Cabin had evolved into the Schwarzwaldhaus restaurant, which lasted four years, until flamboyant Warren Jacober created The Chef in the Forest. His untimely death in 1970 opened the way for the Chart House's long run as a favorite among Idyllwild diners. Today, the Gastrognome restaurant's satellite Creek House has extended the site's age as an eating destination to 64 years and counting.

After World War II ended, two aggressive developers intensified the competition. They were Idyllwild Mountain Park Co.'s Rollin Humber and Jerry Johnson, who succeeded Emerson as the central village's prime developer. This produced a futile effort to establish Fern Valley Corners as a commercial alternative to downtown Idyllwild. The fourth corner, marked today by the Idyllwild Health Center, once housed the Hillbilly Variety Store and a laundry & dry-cleaning establishment. One lasting venture, the Gray Squirrel, got its start in the same building. And the distinctive 1962 A-frame modern structure now occupied by Creekside Postal Services and Shiloh Christian Ministries started life as the Idyllwild branch of the county library.

Alas, Fern Valley Corners now merely marks the upper end of our main commercial thoroughfare, North Circle Drive. Some dreams are never realized.

Letters

Continued from previous page

detailed instructions on how to make their family's lives miserable.

This district is in sad shape. Just when I thought it was getting better I learned the sad truth about its stability.

Remember, the Riverside County Grand Jury, under the supervision of the county presiding judge, recommended exploring consolidation of IFPD with Riverside County Fire. If IFPD financially collapses, it won't be a recommendation. It will be a LAFCO [Local Agency Formation Commission] action.

JEFF SMITH
PINE COVE

IFPD responds

EDITOR:

I would like to address the citizens of the Hill who are served in any way by Idyllwild Fire Protection District [IFPD]. The truth about the operations of IFPD can be obtained by anyone. Our board meetings take place on the second Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. and the public is invited. The agenda is posted

See Letters, next page

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Letters

Continued from previous page

on our website (idyllwildfire.com), at the fire station and At BBVA Compass bank. The minutes of the meetings are also posted on our web site.

The present Board of Commissioners have insisted on transparency of all IFPD business affairs because the public has a right to know how their tax dollars are being spent. This includes any problems the department has and solutions to those problems. For instance, there were two missing payments to CalPERS (February and March 2009) that were discussed in an open board meeting. The plan to repay the money was also discussed and has been accomplished.

In the post City of Bell scandal, State Comptroller General John Chaitin has published new reporting requirements for counties, cities and special districts. In an article in "California Special District" magazine

(Nov. - Dec. 2010) Mr. Chaitin outlines those requirements and states that there is more to come in his effort to make government more transparent. IFPD is assembling the information requested and will meet the Jan. 14 deadline.

We are also expanding our web site to include more financial information (our budget and audits are already on line). The goal is for the public to be able to see all of our income sources and all of our outgoing expenditures.

You should always feel free to call, come in to the fire station or come to our board meetings if you have questions. We are happy to give families and individuals tours of the station and answer any questions you have.

I believe that anyone who takes an objective interest in IFPD will discover a Fire Protection District that is changing, not "failing."

NORM WALKER
FIRE CHIEF
IDYLLWILD FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT

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Suzanne Jansen with her friends during a retreat. (From the right) "Bruce, Jyoti, Narayana, SeanTi, the Kintz's, and **Suzanne Jansen** in South India.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SUZANNE JANSEN

Top 10

Continued from page 15

This year, Riverside County's CSA Operations Manager Bill Brown raised many questioning about ICRC's budget increases and other contract requirements that he believed ICRC had not met. In March 2010, Brown said the contract's renewal was not guaranteed. The county would consider ICRC's performance over the previous seven months

and decide, prior to the beginning of the new fiscal year (July 1, 2010), whether to renew the contract.

In April, a Monday morning meeting turned out dozens of residents in support of ICRC, but a month later ICRC appeared to agree to 15 performance points upon which extension of their contract would be based.

The county agreed to a month-to-month extension beginning July 1, conditioned on ICRC's com-



Chet and Rochelle Ainsworth visited Idyllwild friends living in Beijing and walked the Great Wall of China.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ROCHELLE AINSWORTH

pleting the 15 points in a timely manner. ICRC had two months to develop and present an expanded recreation program serving seniors and others currently not served.

In October, ICRC reported completion of eight the requirements including a plan for expanded recreation opportunities. A month later, only two contract performance points remained unfulfilled — a requirement to match Town Hall salaries to norms

in other CSA recreation programs and to give the county right of first refusal on the lease of Town Hall, should ICRC's contract be terminated.

On Dec. 16, ICRC offered the first new recreation activity — a well-attended adult and senior community dance at Town Hall.

In June, long-time ICRC chair Chris Singer resigned and John Simpson assumed the role of ICRC board chair.

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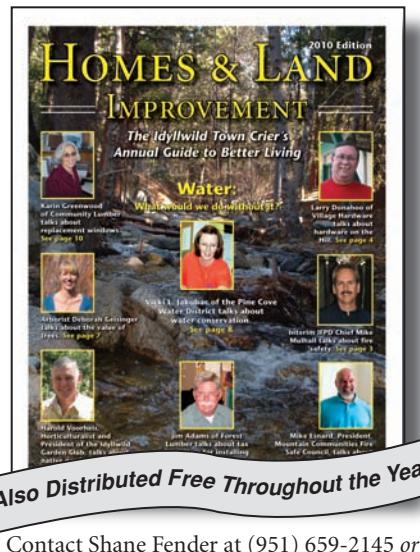
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