



News bites

Pine Cove Water

District's finances stable despite declining use.

See page 10.

Idyllwild Fire

Commission reviews current budget, good so far.

See page 10

Chamber of Commerce

Chamber director responds to litigation.

See page 10.

Mayor Max

Community turns out for official's festivities.

See photos page 15.

IA Theatre

"Aloha, Say the Pretty Girls" presented this weekend.

See page 19.

ARF speaker

Monica Dietrich, animal communicator, speaks to humans Saturday.

See page 19.

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POSTMASTER: Dated material, please deliver Jan. 17-19, 2013

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. 68 NO. 3

75¢ (Tax Included)

IDYLLWILD, CA

THURS., JANUARY 17, 2013



Rugby players and guests arrive at The Rustic Theatre on Sunday afternoon to watch "Red, White, Black and Blue," an award-winning documentary about the tough game of rugby. Players and families attended the ICF showing. Before the event, they played in the snow and went sledding.

PHOTO BY JENNY KIRCHNER

ICF 2013: It's a wrap

BY MARSHALL SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

ICF 2013 played out with some weather challenges, bitter cold and some snow and fog, but the festival buzz among filmmakers and audience was warm and glowing.

Festival Director Stephen Savage at every opportunity credited Chairman Phil Calderone's many contributions in raising the bar for this year's festival — from increasing the number of films screened from 67 to 100, for the overall quality of movies screened, for adding new categories (foreign and amateur), and for the smooth scheduling of the films among the three venues, including the Galaxy Theatre, this year's new venue at Astrocamp.

"Overall, I think it was a great success," said Calderone. "I received endless compliments from people, all five days, particularly admiring the quality of the films."

Calderone noted that some complained that scheduling ran too tight between films. But he observed that films in each two-hour time slot contained no more than 90 to 103 minutes of scheduled content. He said the differ-

MORE INSIDE:
See photos, pages 12 & 14
More on the rugby team visit
and photos, page 22
ICF 2013 awards & photos,
page 23

ence was that audience-driven Q and A's filled the intervening time.

"This is a good problem to have, a choice viewers make," he said. "Far be it from me to truncate what may be one of the most enjoyable times they are having — the afterglow of an enjoyable experience."

He noted that Astrocamp's Galaxy Theatre proved a successful venue. "The overall attendance was great," he said. "As High as the Sky," the Audience Choice winner, screened there, attracting 60 plus people and enough votes to win the prize. The Astrocamp staff, Larry Kawano and Chris Malott, was great, going out of their way to help us. The theatre itself was great — totally dark with great picture and sound. They even upgraded their projector in time for the festival."

Digital screening at the Rustic, an improvement that puts IFC on a par

See ICF, page 22

Brown's budget in balance

More funds for education

BY J.P. CRUMRINE
EDITOR

Gov. Jerry Brown released his proposed 2013-14 budget last week. The \$97.7 billion budget is balanced and provides a \$1 billion reserve for future years.

"California today is poised to achieve something that has eluded us for more than a decade — a budget that lives within its means, now and for many years to come," the governor said in his budget

message.

The proposed budget is about \$4.7 billion more than the current year. Both the growth and the ability to be balanced is the result of state voters approving Proposition 30 in November's election and a recovering economy.

The Governor's budget projects about a \$1 billion reserve at the end of the fiscal year. In November 2012, the Legislative Analyst projected a \$1.9 deficit.

The difference is due to
See Budget, page 10

First break in commercial burglary cases

BY MARSHALL SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

At a Friday, Jan. 11, meeting of Idyllwild business owners, called to discuss recent commercial burglaries, Hemet Station Special Investigations Supervisor Sgt. Wallace Clear spoke about a break in the case. Beginning in late October 2012, six commercial burglaries have occurred in Idyllwild and one at the Lake Hemet Market at Lake Hemet.

According to Clear, station deputies patrolling Idyllwild in the hours during which previous burglaries had occurred, spotted two vehicles (see accompanying photographs on page 2). Deputies

observed activity around 4 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 10, that indicated criminal intent.

"We have no doubt they were in the process of committing a burglary," Clear said. The target was the twice-burgled Village Hardware.

Deputies gave chase as the vehicles sped out of town, one in the direction of Pine Cove and the other toward Mountain Center. Ice on the highway created a dangerous chase and the vehicles escaped.

Clear noted that additional deputies were dispatched to monitor all Hill exits (Highways 243 and 74). He stated the vehicles were
See Burglaries, page 2



A silver late-model Dodge Magnum (top) and Toyota Camry with chrome rims were captured by surveillance cameras.

COURTESY OF RIVERSIDE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Burglaries

Continued from page 1

not seen leaving the Hill, according to subsequent deputy reports. Station Lt. Dean Agnoletto said he believes the vehicles are still on the Hill and that the criminals are local. He urged locals to report sightings of these vehicles. Clear told the merchant group that an operation has been in place for a month to identify and apprehend these criminals. But he noted that unlike recent residential burglaries, where many towns-

people had theories about who the criminals were, no one in town seems to have any idea who these burglars are. He also said the same vehicles had been involved in the previous commercial burglaries. The vehicles are described as a late-model Dodge Magnum station wagon, silver in color, with no luggage rack. A similar vehicle in Pine Cove has such a rack and has already been cleared by the department. The other vehicle is a late-model Toyota Camry, also silver in color, with after-market chrome rims. Clear said the plates of

Heavy smoke alerts residents to smoldering fire

By J.P. CRUMRINE
EDITOR

On Friday, Jan. 11, 2013, at approximately 4 a.m., Idyllwild Fire Protection District was dispatched to a structure fire in the 26000 block of Saunders Meadow Road, near Crestview Drive. The Incident Commander was Idyllwild Capt. Jim Reyes.

Upon arrival at the scene, personnel found the residents outside of the house. Apparently they awoke from the smell of smoke and traced it to the basement, which was then engulfed in smoke. Further investigation found a small fire underneath the fireplace — between the first floor and the basement ceiling.



It took approximately 90 minutes to completely locate, expose and extinguish the smoldering fire and render the occupancy safe for the residents. One member of the household had smoke inhalation and was treated

See Fire, page 8



Friday morning, Idyllwild Fire and Riverside County Fire responded to a call of a structure fire on Saunders Meadow Rd. and Crestview Dr. Residents awoke to the smell of smoke, which they traced to the basement filled with smoke. Above left, firefighters removed the layers of concrete, brick and wood floor from the fireplace and ceiling of the basement, creating a large hole to dowse the beams below with water.

PHOTOS BY JENNY KIRCHNER

NEWS OF RECORD

Fire log

Hill fire stations responded to the following calls, Monday to Monday, Jan. 7 to 14, 2013:

Idyllwild Fire Department and Ambulance
Jan. 8 — Walk-in medi-

cal aid.
Jan. 8 — Medical aid, Highway 243 near Vista Grande Station.
Jan. 9 — Smoke scare, Meadow Drive, Idyllwild.
Jan. 9 — Traffic collision, highways 243 and 74, Mountain Center.
See Record, page 12

Strange but true

The works of Agatha Christie have been translated more times into other languages than those of any other author in history.

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259 1st Mo. Lease Payment

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595 Acquisition Fee
199 1st Mo. Lease Payment

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Idyllwild Weather
From the National Weather Service

Thursday 1/17	Friday 1/18	Saturday 1/19	Sunday 1/20	Monday 1/21
 61/34 Sunny	 62/32 Sunny	 61/33 Sunny.	 61/33 Sunny.	 61/33 Sunny.

Idyllwild this year					Idyllwild last year			
Date	High	Low	M	S	High	Low	M	S
1-7	50	27	.01		74	35		
1-8	63	28			59	32		
1-9	63	35			na	na		
1-10	42	29	.31	1	na	na		
1-11	38	19			59	30		
1-12	38	14			54	30		
1-13	38	13			62	35		

Moisture in inches		Snow in inches	
To date this season (Idy):	8.13	To date this season (Idy):	9.1
To date last season (Idy):	9.33	To date last season (Idy):	7.21
Total last season (Idy):	20.01	Total last season (Idy):	42.1
To date this season (PC):	10.58	To date this season (PC):	17.5
Total last season (PC):	22.06	Total last season (PC):	73.25

TEMPERATURES AND 24-HOUR moisture and snow totals for Idyllwild are recorded daily at 4 p.m. at the Idyllwild Fire Station. Pine Cove totals are measured by resident George Tate, also at 4 p.m. Moisture inches include all precipitation such as rain, melted hail and melted snow.

Weather season is July 1 to June 30. For Hill road conditions and Hill weather, visit the Internet at <http://www.idyllwildtowncrier.com> or call Caltrans road update at 1-800-427-7623.

How Medicare works with other insurance

BY DAVID SAYEN

You may have wondered how Medicare works with other insurance coverage, such as a group health plan from a former employer or union. It's an important issue because it determines whether your medical bills are paid correctly and on time.

If you have Medicare and other insurance, always be sure to tell your doctor, hospital, and pharmacy.

When there's more than one insurance payer, certain rules determine which one pays first. This is what's called "coordination of benefits."

The "primary payer" pays what it owes on your bills first — and then sends the balance to the "secondary payer" to pay. In some cases, there may also be a third payer.

The primary payer pays up to the limits of its coverage. The secondary payer only pays if there are costs the primary insurer didn't cover. But keep in mind that the secondary payer (which may be Medicare) may not pay all of the uncovered costs.

If your employer insurance is the secondary payer, you may need to enroll in Medicare Part B before that insurance will pay. (The Part

B premium for most Americans in 2013 is \$104.90 per month.)

Here's who pays first in various situations:

If you have retiree insurance (coverage from a former job), Medicare pays first.

If you're 65 or older, have group coverage based on you or your spouse's current employment, and the employer has 20 or more workers, your group plan pays first. (If the company has fewer than 20 employees, Medicare pays first.)

Your group plan also pays first when you're under 65 and disabled, have group coverage based on your or a family member's current employment, and the employer has 100 or more employees. (Medicare pays first if the company has fewer than 100 employees.)

If you have Medicare because of end-stage renal disease, your group plan pays first for the first 30 months after you become eligible for Medicare. Medicare pays first after this 30-month period.

Medicare may pay second if you're in an accident or have a workers' compensation case in which other insurance covers your injury or you're

See [Medicare, page 27](#)

OUTSIDE IDYLLWILD

BY BRUCE WATTS

Winter: gloves, hats and views ...

For anyone who has been wishing for those cold crisp days of winter, your wish came true.

It is not just cold or nippy out, it has been downright frigid for the last five days. Temperatures in the teens and a wicked wind that made it feel much colder had me putting on my hat, warmest gloves and zipping up my jacket.

When it wasn't snowing out, I enjoyed taking photos of the ice-covered peaks above town and just rambling around town.

One thing I learned is that you cannot use touchscreen controls while wearing fleece gloves. Since everything on my camera is designed for finger touch, I found that I could not even turn on the camera without taking off my gloves.

This, of course, limited my shooting to a few minutes at a time. When I mentioned this to a friend, he mentioned that there are specially made gloves for touchscreens. Someone else, who overheard our conversation, pulled out a pair and showed them to me.

I should have known that if there is a need for something, some manufacturer will make a product to fill the need. Fingerless sun gloves for Pacific Crest Trail hikers is a prime example of even the smallest niche product being made to fill a need.

Another difference about the last week was when the sun came out between snow showers, it really did not warm up all that much. As long as you were standing in the wind, it was about as cold as it gets in the Southern California mountains.

This brings up another category of winter gear that I have not talked about lately — winter hats. The fact is that you lose a lot of heat through your head when you are out in cold weather so you need a good hat to help you keep warm.

I always recommended something made of wool. Merino wool is my first choice, then fleece with a windstopper membrane. The wind block should at least cover your ears as they are particularly susceptible to chill.

I also try and wear hats that are not so bulky that it



Watching the sun set from Idyllwild County Park.

PHOTO BY BRUCE WATTS

prevents me from pulling up the hood of my jacket in wet weather.

There are millions of hats out there, and fashion over function seems to be the rule. But when you live in a mile high mountain town, you should wear your hat whenever you are outdoors in winter.

Finally, I am always looking for good viewpoints for photographing landscapes and sunsets. Saunders Meadow Road, near the transfer station, is one of my favorites. If you are looking west from the hairpin curve, you will see a pile of boulders in front of you. On the left is a narrow trail leading down to a lower lookout point. The views are best looking toward Garner Valley and back toward Tahquitz Peak.

Pine Cove Park on Marion Ridge is another good spot to shoot sunsets. Follow the short trail to the left and you will come to some large boulders. From this spot, you'll have many good views to the north and west. Just be careful if you have kids with you when climbing around on the rocks.

The road out to the Nature Center offers great views and there are two benches right behind the Nature Center that offer good views as well.

Maybe your new year's resolutions should include helping your dog become a better family member!

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The staff of Nature's Wisdom Restaurant would like to acknowledge the passing of Anna Bielecki, the owner of Nature's Wisdom Restaurant.

Anna went home to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Jan. 13.

We would like to thank the community for all the support we have received during this time.

Nature's Wisdom Restaurant will continue to be open to serve the community the delicious soup, sandwiches and strudels that Anna was known for.

Obituary Jim Kurz

Jim Kurz passed away in mid-November 2012. He had been diagnosed with cancer in May.

Jim and his wife Linda were together for 60 years. They went together for three years while at Fullerton High School, were married in 1955 and celebrated their 57th anniversary in September. Jim began working early, at 7, collecting bottles from his neighborhood.

He worked at Knott's Berry Farm in the print shop. Disneyland then came calling and he was with them for approximately 25 years. He created the printshop there, and over the years started a number of concessions there in the Magic Shop and Frontierland. During the time, he mentored many teens and young adults — including Steve Martin — leaving Disneyland in 1967. Meanwhile, Linda worked her way up in the ABC Unified School District from aide to assistant to the district superintendent.

Always entrepreneurs, he and Linda ended up in Idyllwild for 14 years where they owned and operated a gift shop, Timber Ridge, with a variety of collectibles. Jim had been a very accomplished golfer with an 8 handicap. He became disenchanted with it because of the extreme behavior of some fellow golfers.

His great love was fishing because "you never have a bad day fishing." He enjoyed the calmness, watching the clouds, identifying duck calls, etc. — just relaxing. He fished at Lake Hemet, catching and releasing. Another of his interests was gadgets; he had an avid interest and knowledge of weather, with four weather stations at his house.

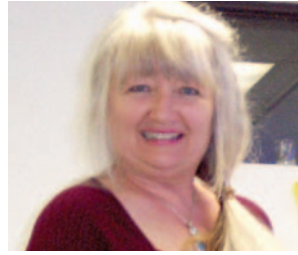
He is survived by his wife Linda; daughters Gretchen of Yorba Linda, Karen of Fullerton; son-in-law Craig; and grandchildren Hannah and Grant.

The Kurzes loved Idyllwild, making many friends and acquaintances. Linda currently lives in San Jacinto.

MOUNTAIN FOLK

On Sunday, Jan. 13, Idyllwild resident **Anna Bi-elecki**, owner of Nature's Wisdom Restaurant, passed away.

Our condolences extend to Anna's family and friends.



Huell Howser, the well known Californian television personality, passed away on early Jan. 7. Howser introduced many people to the special places and features in California. In July 2010, he came to Idyllwild for the first Lemon Lily Festival. Here he poses with Town Crier Publisher **Grace Reed**.

FILE PHOTO



Blackbirds drink and bathe, too, despite the icy conditions which made it more difficult.

PHOTO BY DORIS JEAN LOMBARD



Saturday's sunset from Fern Valley displayed an array of deep warm colors beneath a crescent moon. PHOTO BY CAREENA CHASE

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Since the year 2000, the Goldspotted Oak Borer (GSOB) has KILLED approximately 80,000 oak trees in San Diego County.

In November, this invasive species was identified in Idyllwild on a California black oak. This is the first find outside of San Diego County.

We need to work together as property owners on the San Jacinto Mountain to contain and prevent further spread of this destructive pest.

On Saturday, January 19, 2013, representatives from the University of California, CAL FIRE, the U.S. Forest Service, and Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council will be holding a community meeting to provide information about what we can do the stop the spread of this invasive pest.

Community Meeting
Saturday, January 19, 2013
2:00 PM
The Idyllwild Town Hall
25925 Cedar St, Idyllwild

Healthy Oak Oak killed by GSOB

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

For the Idyllwild Arts & Entertainment Calendar, see "On the Town," on page 18.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 16

- 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., Oma's, 54241 Ridgeview Dr.
- Creekside Writers, 9 a.m.-noon. Call 659-2844.
- La Leche League, 10 a.m. Call 659-8321.
- Lemon Lily Festival planning session, 10 a.m., Idyllwild Nature Center, Hwy. 243.
- Garner Valley Book Club, 10:30 a.m., Call 659-6049 for location.
- 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).
- Community Church Guild, noon. Church, 54400 North Circle Dr.
- 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.

- Idyllwild Water District board meeting, 6 p.m. IWD board room, 25945 Hwy. 243.
- Codependents Anonymous meeting, 7:30 p.m. Spiritual Living Center, Church of Religious Science, 26120 Ridgeview Dr. (the Courtyard Building).

- Idyllwild Bible Church, 54400 Pine Crest Ave.

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- Idyllwild Bible Church, 54400 Pine Crest Ave.

LHMWD office, 26385 Fairview Ave., Hemet.

- Forest Folk, 5:30 p.m., Town Hall, 25925 Cedar Street.

- HighValleysWaterDistrict, 6 p.m. HVWD office, 47781 Twin Pines Rd., Twin Pines.

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

- Idyllwild Bible Church, 54400 Pine Crest Ave.

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- Idyllwild Bible Church, 54400 Pine Crest Ave.

Hall, 54400 North Circle Dr.

- Community meeting, 2 to 4 p.m. "The Goldspotted Oak Borer in Idyllwild," Town Hall.

- Idyllwild Gay Potluck, 6 p.m. Email pinkiemeringue@yahoo.com for location.

- Idyllwild Bible Church, 54400 Pine Crest Ave.

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- Idyllwild Water District board meeting, 6 p.m. IWD board room, 25945 Hwy. 243.

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

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board room, 25945 Hwy. 243.

- Mountain Non-fiction Writers Group, 7 p.m., for information and address, call Larry Kueneman (951) 659-2567.

- Idyllwild Bible Church, 54400 Pine Crest Ave.

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At its Jan. 9 meeting, the Idyllwild Rotary President **Steve Espinosa** (right) thanks **Nancy Layton** and Idyllwild Fire Chief **Patrick Reitz** for their program on the Idyllwild Fire Auxiliary.

PHOTO BY JEAN DORES

- California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (bark beetle issues), 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Mountain Resource Center 25380 Franklin Dr., 659-3335.

- Chamber of Commerce, 54325 North Circle Dr., 12-3 p.m. Monday-Saturday. 659-3259.

- Idyllwild HELP Center, 26330 Highway 243, 9 a.m.-noon & 1-3:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. 659-2110.

- Idyllwild Area Historical Museum, 54470 North Circle Dr., 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday & Sunday. Group tours by ap-

pointment. 659-2717.

- Idyllwild Library, 54401 Village Center Dr., Strawberry Creek Plaza, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday, noon-8 p.m. Tuesday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday, noon-5 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and 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 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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INITIAL THOUGHTS

More about volunteers and numbers ...



Numbers are fascinating. Some are so big we can abbreviate them, just like acronyms. Some are so small we abbreviate them too.

Idyllwild has only one road (Highway 243) through town. It goes both north and south.

Idyllwild has one fire department, but three water districts. We have one elementary school, no public high schools, but one great private high school, which concentrates on the artistic disciplines.

No, I'm not going to enumerate a census of Hill businesses, but we should acknowledge our three gas stations, but zero purveyors of "fast food" from national chains.

To get to double digits, we have to count more than 50 volunteer groups. While some, such as the local Isaak Walton League chapter and the 39ers have faded, others are still strong after many years, even decades.

Here in Idyllwild, we live differently than friends and family closer to sea level. We're higher and more distant.

When I first moved here, the Internet helped me maintain a connection to the "real" world. While those digital connections have improved greatly over the years of my residence, my focus has grown less distant and more concentrated on where we call home.

While I have no rigorous data to confirm this assertion, I firmly believe Idyllwild and the more broadly defined "Hill" are havens for helping humans.

I can't believe how many volunteer groups we have. I know some people feel I write too much and of little merit regarding these groups, but I am always in awe of our friends' and neighbors' willingness and capability to "just do it themselves."

Please don't misunderstand. I am not suggesting that, given our isolation, living here should produce residents who are indolent and befuddled. But we seem much more organized, invigorated and much less motivated by pecuniary incentives.

Just this week, the Idyllwild CinemaFest completed its fourth year — bigger than ever. There were more films to see at more venues and they were much better films, according to many patrons. Sure, some people made some money, but similar to the August Jazz Festival, the essentials were crafted by volunteers.

My rambling comes to a point. Last week, I encouraged some to volunteer for two local county-related programs — the CSA 36 Advisory

committee and the new Historic Review board. I hope some readers took advantage of the opportunity.

But today, I'm urging all of us to get involved in several other efforts, which are local and dependent upon just us to protect the neighborhood.

On Saturday, the august Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council is sponsoring a community meeting to discuss the presence of the Goldspotted oak borer amidst our local forest. So far only one has been confirmed. If more are here, the possibility for a devastating environmental disaster exists.

While we won't be able to confirm whether more have migrated here until spring, it behooves us all to learn more about what can be done.

A second effort involves policing our community. The growth of property crime has been staggering in the past 15 months. A group of businesses are discussing what options and alternatives could be taken to enhance the local public safety.

I'm not advocating vigilantes, although some would prefer that approach. I'm encouraging all of us to be more vigilant. The Sheriff's Department has released photos of the possible thieves' vehicles. Take a look (see page 2). Have you seen these cars somewhere on the Hill? If so, call the Sheriff's office.

I am optimistic that we'll stop this problem and turn it around. Not because I see a "Lone Ranger" or hero on the horizon, rather I believe we all share these ideas and goals.

Finally, Idyllwild Fire Department is creating an auxiliary to help with duties, other than fire fighting. The first organizational meeting is 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 24.

Now back to the numbers. So, three new opportunities for residents, even part-time friends to get involved in our community. "Three" is a prime number and a single digit.

I have frequently said that one letter-to-the-editor represents 10 or 20 readers with similar perspectives.

This week, that commonality of goals was demonstrated several times. For example, look at the Great Blue Heron photographs on page 32. Three separate photographers saw the bird, took time to take a photograph and then to share it with the Town Crier.

The same thing occurred with sunset photos. Three different people submitted sunset shots

Mr. Funny Guy

by Chris Fisher



this week.

Finally, on page 7, both of this week's columnists tackled the same subject — gun violence. Only Conor O'Farrell lives full-time here. Dr. Alberto Manetta has a second home in Idyllwild. Yet both felt compelled to write on the same topic.

Let me stress, that our columnists choose their own topics. I do not tell anyone of them what to write.

So the cumulative effect of these three "synchronicities" creates optimism that collectively we will confront and over come these three public safety issues because living on the Hill breeds success.

J.P., EDITOR

Apology

It's belated but it's sincere. During the Christmas and New Years' holidays, the Town Crier was closed two days each week. That delayed the paper, we thought, just two days, from Wednesday to Friday.

However, unexpectedly, our former printer closed, and developing working relationships with the new printer who is located in San Marcos was more difficult during the holidays.

We are sorry for the inconveniences and assure our readers and advertisers that we have returned to the normal schedule and are finding our association with the new printer to be improving.

READERS WRITE

Local weather data

EDITOR:

Since important weather and related articles use the moisture statistics from the reports of the Idyllwild Fire Department, it would seem that steps should be taken to assure that the figures representing totals from those reports are correctly described.

Yet each year there are days with significant moisture totals when the depart-

ment's report is "not available." That data never finds its way into the totals.

When seemingly precise figures are used, such as in last week's article on rainfall, (e.g., 7.81 inches of rain from July 1, 2012, to Dec. 31, 2012) shouldn't we find a way to fill in those "not available" days from other

sources, or at least indicate that precise totals are themselves not available?

J. KENT STEELE
IDYLLWILD

Editor's note: When data for days that were originally identified as "not available" arrives, we do adjust the totals below the daily reports.

Strange but true

Only one-fifth of homes in America are not air-conditioned. In the sweltering South, a mere 5 percent lack that vital amenity.

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. Only one letter per author within a 28-day period. Letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Town Crier staff. Letters may be submitted in person, by mail, by fax (659-2071) or by e-mail (itc@towncrier.com).

TOWN TALK

By DOLORES SIZER

How has the cold weather affected you?



Mary Moore
Vice president of Girls
Scouts
Idyllwild

"I have had no hot water for three days."



Lucie Stenseth
Executive, MLS Office
Idyllwild

"My pipes froze. I am going through propane like crazy."



Lou Bacher
Retired
Idyllwild

"Half of my pipes have been frozen. We have propane and firewood, so the dogs are comfortable."



Ed Pyncomb
Idyllwild Property Management co-owner
Twin Pines

"My wife is the boss. We have had a lot of frozen pipes to tend to."

Holiday closings

Hill businesses and institutions that will be closed Monday, Jan. 21, to observe Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday:

Area post offices
BBVA Compass
Fern Valley Water District
Hemet Unified School District
Idyllwild Library

Idyllwild Water District
Pine Cove Water District
Riverside County offices
Town Hall
U.S. Forest Service

These will be open:

Fairway Market
Fern Creek Medical Center
Idyllwild Health Center
Idyllwild Pharmacy
Idyllwild Grinding Station
Idyllwild Transfer Station

Mount San Jacinto State Park
Pine Cove Market
Town Crier
Village Market

Guns and violence: Two opinions

TODAY'S HEALTH ISSUES

By ALBERTO MANETTA, M.D.

Gun violence as a public health problem ...

A recent article in the Journal of the American Medical Association from Jan. 7, 2013, was a strong motivator and the basis of the topic of this month's column.

It seems that the present approach to the decrease of gun violence is misguided. We are mostly talking about gun control when we should be talking about gun violence.

Gun control or gun ownership is a very narrow aspect of this issue and triggers passionate reaction from many people. On the other hand, if we would treat gun violence as another type of public health problem, the approach would be based on solid data and it would involve a variety of approaches.

Gun violence should be approached by clearly researching and finding answers to social, cultural, educational, behavioral, mental health and product-safety issues involved in this matter. The solutions would be based on solid data. The tactic, so far, has been limited to legislative approaches affecting high-capacity magazines, rapid-fire weapons, a heterogeneous (state-by-state) approach to waiting periods before purchase of a firearm, background checks and registration of firearms just to name few.

The focus on car accidents was not on automobile ownership, although it seems reasonable to think that the fewer cars on the road, the fewer the opportunity for accidents. The focus was on making cars better prepared to tolerate impact, make the occupants safer by the use of seatbelts and airbags, safety glass, better outside lights, better design of highways including safer merge zones, better exit and access ramps and speed control.

Engineering improvements were not all of the dimensions to this issue. Educational approaches including the danger of drunk drivers and driving without seatbelts were addressed. Legislative approaches about permissible alcohol levels, more punitive penalties for drunk drivers and changes made by the Department of Motor Vehicles for licensing were also implemented.

Little has been done about the fear factor used by the gun industry and others to increase the number of guns sold. Although the murder rate in the U.S. is at the lowest it has been in more than 50 years, people consistently buy a large number of guns because of the risk of death or serious injury by assailants.

This is despite available data showing a decrease of risk and the fact that most homicides occur among people who know each other and not by strangers. Other than police officers and security personnel, concealed weapons are carried because of fear of an attack. Only four states in the U.S. in 1970 allowed people to carry a weapon without given a specific reason.

Liberal concealed weapons laws are now legal in 40 states, indicating that, with no data to support, people now live in more fear. This is an opportunity for an educational intervention.



OFF THE LEASH

By CONOR O'FARRELL

Guns and violence make a bumpy ride ...

A number of years ago, when I was learning to kayak, I was surfing with my boat at La Jolla shores. While paddling through the surf a large wave broke over me, I was trying my best to back-surf toward the shore, rather uncontrollably I have to admit.

After the wave played itself out, I heard a man yelling at me from the shore, he was angrily calling me every name in the book, screaming at me to "get the fu** outta here." I gestured apologetically from my boat and paddled out back through the surf.

As I paddled out, two young boys, ages 10 or 11 probably, also began cussing me out from atop of their surfboards, also telling me to "get the fu** outta of here," just like their father on shore.

I remember thinking, where did these boys get the idea that it was acceptable to talk like this to a 50-year-old man. The answer was self-evident.

For those who need statistics to support truths so obvious that a blind eunuch could see, boys who are exposed to violence in the home are up to ten times more likely to perpetuate violence as they grow older. Children are sponges, they soak up everything; anyone who has raised children knows this to be true.

And yet, as Vice President Biden met with video game manufacturers last week, manufacturers insisted that there is no correlation between the playing of violent video games and violent acts by the children who play them. Video game manufacturers take no responsibility for the effects their products have on children who sit, unsupervised in some basement, killing people in a virtual world for five hours a day.

Video game sales are expected to top \$60 billion in revenue in 2012. I can see why the industry wants to keep the party going.

The vice president also met with the National Rifle Association recently. It was no surprise that their stance was that the abundance and availability of firearms, especially high capacity automatic weapons, has nothing to do with the recent spike in random public killings.

By the way, if I die of cancer, it has nothing to do with fact that I've smoked for almost 30 years.

Gun advocates want us to believe that we need assault rifles to protect ourselves in the event that our own government decides to turn on us. I've got news for you, the military has predator drones, it has tanks and highly accurate missiles.

Our government has enough armaments to invade all of Europe, we have nuclear weapons for God's sake; do you really think that an automatic rifle is going to make a difference? The days of soldiers hiding behind rocks and trees while shooting each other with rifles are gone. If the U.S. government wants you dead, an automatic weapon will buy you about 30 seconds more of life.

Nobody seems to want to clutter up their doorstep with blame; better to sweep the blame to the street or

See *Leash*, page 27

See *Health*, page 27

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With temperatures below freezing, roads have been slick and very icy. **Lindsey Day** of Idyllwild was driving on Highway 243 around 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 10. About one mile north of Franklin Drive, Day rounded a corner, hit ice and rolled her white GMC down an embankment. Idyllwild Fire and Riverside County Fire had to extract her through the broken windshield. Idyllwild Fire Medic 626 transported Day to Desert Regional Medical Center with minor injuries.

PHOTO BY JENNY KIRCHNER

Tartaglia pleads guilty, sentenced

BY MARSHALL SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

Alfredo Tartaglia, 26, of Idyllwild pleaded guilty to one felony count of assault of a person by force and was sentenced to three years in state prison, according to John Hall, senior public information specialist for the Riverside County District Attorney's Office. The plea and sentencing took place on Thursday, Jan. 10. Part of the sentence considered Tartaglia's prior prison time within the last five years,

referred to in the sentence documents.

Police arrested Tartaglia on Friday, Dec. 22, after he attacked two older men at the Chevron gas station in Idyllwild. Witnesses say the attacked was unprovoked and that Tartaglia was acting erratically and appeared to be under the influence. Both victims had to be transported to hospitals as a result of their injuries. Neither knew Tartaglia nor why they had been attacked.

Email Marshall Smith at marshall@towncrier.com.

Business owners meet about burglaries

BY MARSHALL SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

Around 25 Idyllwild business owners and concerned residents met for the second time on Friday, Jan. 11, to devise a coordinated response to recent commercial burglaries.

Organizers discussed a number of possible scenarios, including hiring a private armed response security firm to patrol during the early morning hours these burglaries have occurred.

Patrol advocates say an account would be established at the local BBVA Compass Bank to which merchants could contribute to fund the security patrol.

The fund has already been seeded with a \$1,000 dollar contribution. The contribution levels from

local merchants would determine how many nights for which the patrol could be hired.

Current discussion also involves augmenting that patrol with private citizen surveillance patrols on the nights the security firm is not working.

Organizers said a patrol presence would keep criminals off guard and help deter more burglaries.

Hemet Station Special Investigations Supervisor Sgt. Wallace Clear spoke to the group about a pattern of burglary attempts every two weeks or so, and always around the same hours, 4 or 5 a.m.

Merchants plan to meet again to finalize arrangements for volunteer patrols and contracting a private security firm.

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



According to CHP Officer **Chris Blondon**, around 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 8, **Christine Cook**, 31, of Idyllwild was traveling south on Highway 243 near Lake Fulmor when she hit gravel, over-corrected and lost control of her 2000 Toyota Camry. Idyllwild Fire transported Cook, who complained of back pain, to Desert Regional Medical Center. Highway 243 was down to one lane of traffic for about 90 minutes while the scene was cleared.

PHOTO BY JENNY KIRCHNER

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Fire

Continued from page 2

at scene. No other injuries were reported.

The fire was extinguished using approx. 250 gallons of water. No damage estimate was available at the time of the incident, according to Idyllwild Fire Chief Patrick Reitz.

IFPD responded with eight personnel on two engines, one ambulance and a command unit. Riverside County/CAL FIRE Pine Cove Station 23 also responded with an engine and three staff personnel.

Additional mutual aid units CAL FIRE were canceled prior to their arrival on scene.

IFPD reminds everyone to have working smoke detectors, and for those

that heat with wood and propane to have a working carbon monoxide detector.

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

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Bald eagles seen again at Lake Hemet

By J.P. CRUMRINE
EDITOR

During the U.S. Forest Service's second bald eagle count of the 2012-13 season, a pair of adult eagles was observed adding to their nest at Lake Hemet.

Despite frigid temperatures, almost 200 hardy volunteers turned out to help count our magnificent national birds at several Southern California lakes. About 22 counters were at Lake Hemet Saturday morning, Jan. 12. More than 60 went to Silverwood Lake and another 60 were at Lake Perris. The rest attended the

San Bernardino Mountain counts.

"At Lake Hemet Saturday, 20 folks came to watch the birds. Both male and female birds were spotted. We didn't have to wait. I found the birds right away," said Anne Poopatanapong, San Jacinto Ranger District biologist. "The birds seem to be adding to the nest platform that was built in the fall. So that is good. We just saw them flying and perching — overall a great day."

A grand total of 12 eagles (nine adults and three juveniles) were observed at the lake areas during the one-hour count. Only eight were

sighted during the December count. Besides the two local eagles, five eagles (three adults and two juveniles) were observed near Big Bear Lake; two adult eagles were seen at Lake Arrowhead; one adult eagle was seen at Silverwood Lake; and two eagles (one adult and one juvenile) were at Lake Perris.

During the winter, the number of bald eagles in Southern California increases as the resident eagles are joined by eagles that have migrated south to find food. Migrating eagles typically begin arriving in the area in late November and leave in

late March or early April.

Cold temperatures did not deter eagle activities. Quite a few volunteers saw their very first bald eagle, according to the Forest Service press release. Volunteers had to bundle up due to the recent cold spell.

During the count period, volunteers in Big Bear braved single-digit temperatures after it "warmed up" from zero degrees overnight. Even though much of Big Bear Lake was covered with ice, eagles were seen around the pockets of open water where ducks were clustered.

The two remaining bald eagle counts for this winter

are scheduled for Saturday morning, Feb. 9 and March 9. No experience is needed. Signing up ahead of time is unnecessary — just show up at the designated time and location, dress warmly, bring binoculars and a watch.

Lake Hemet volunteers should plan on meeting at the Lake Hemet Market at 8:30 a.m. for orientation. Contact Poopatanapong at

the San Jacinto Ranger District (apoopatanapong@fs.fed.us or (909) 382-2935) for more information.

To view the resident pair of eagles in Garner Valley, stop by the Forest Service's Lake Hemet Day Use Area and just peer across the lake. The birds are often flying overhead fishermen and/or sitting in trees above the picnic area.

Goldspotted oak borer town meeting Jan. 19

By MARSHALL SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

A public meeting about the arrival of the highly destructive Goldspotted oak borer takes place from 2 to 4 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 19, at Town Hall.

The purpose of the meeting is to inform residents, land and homeowners, about the potential for damage to Hill oaks and property this beetle could cause. It has already killed 90,000 oaks in San Diego County and caused millions of dollars in damage.

Presenters at the meeting are key scientists, professional responders and policy makers. At present there is no spray or treatment that can arrest the advance of this pest once it arrives in an area. Scientists believe it was transported to Idyllwild in firewood from infested parts of San Diego County. Because there is no current treatment or natural predator for the beetle, meeting organizers will appeal to residents for help in identifying infested trees. Once infested, trees should be removed so that

further area contamination does not occur.

And since the availability of professional responders and scientists to identify infected trees is limited, citizen observers and reporters are vitally important.

This meeting is important for any who own property that hosts oak trees. At this point, education of the public about transporting firewood and identifying beetle-infested trees is the only weapon in the arsenal to tamp further the oak borer's

spread. Were the beetle to reach urban residential areas with large stands of ornamental oak such as Pasadena, costs of tree removal and decimation of property values could reach into the billions of dollars. Unchecked, the Goldspotted oak borer has the potential to move up the Pacific Coast to Oregon and Washington.

Check your post office mailboxes for mailers about the meeting.

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

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Churches and Spiritual Centers Directory of Idyllwild

Chapel in the Pines Christian Fellowship

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Sunday Worship Service & Sunday School, 10am
plus Weekly Studies. Call for info, 659-0097, 659-2038.
International Healing Rooms of Idyllwild First 3 Tuesdays, 5-7pm
659-5255 • 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.

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Child care available • Wednesday: Men's Breakfast - 6:15 a.m.



Idyllwild Bible Church

25860 Highway 243, Pastor Tim Westcott.
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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
Mass Schedule: Tues.-Fri. 8:30 a.m.;
Sat. 4 p.m.; Sun. 8 a.m. + 10 a.m.;
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26120 Ridgeview Dr. (the Courtyard Building) 659-3464.
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Commission finds IFPD budget in good shape for rest of year

By J.P. CRUMRINE
EDITOR

The Idyllwild Fire Commission used most of its Jan. 8 meeting to review its budget status through November 2012 and conduct a short discussion of its 2011-12 audit.

After five months of the fiscal year, Idyllwild Fire Department has spent about 47 percent of its projected budget. Total expenditures through November were about \$800,000, of which nearly 70 percent (\$563,000) was for salaries and benefits.

Commissioner Dr. Charles "Chip" Schelly asked about the surge in health care costs compared to last fiscal year. Fire Chief Patrick Reitz ex-

plained that the district had no full-time chief for the last six months of the fiscal year and, therefore, paid less in health benefits.

Revenues were about \$340,000 or only 20 percent of the projected total. This excludes the \$425,000 property tax advance from Riverside County, which will be repaid from December and January property tax receipts. Chief Reitz had already reported that about \$250,000 had been withheld from the December payment. This is about half of the advance, and the remainder is expected to be repaid from the January receipts.

Ambulance income has been strong so far this year. In five months the department has collected more

than \$150,000 of its projected total of \$290,000, significantly ahead of estimates. The number of ambulance transports in calendar year 2012 was 309, about 33 percent greater than the average over the previous eight years.

While the commission was comfortable with the projected year-end totals, Reitz told them that fuel and utility costs were all up substantially, but he was negotiating new contracts.

The agency's 2011-12 audit has not been completed and Reitz said he and financial consultant Nancy Layton had already spoken with Rogers, Anderson, Malody and Scott, LLP, the San Bernardino accounting firm, and planned another phone

conference later that week.

"Your complicated audit was last year," he said. "This one was easy, not about any problems." The chief was hoping the audit could be completed in the next four weeks.

Reitz announced that an organizational meeting for the district's fire auxiliary has been scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 24, at the IFPD Fire Station.

Commission President Jeannine Charles-Stigall announced that the regular second-January meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 22, has been cancelled. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, Feb. 12.

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

Court rules for Chamber director; assesses sanctions against Roy

By MARSHALL SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

The lawsuit filed ostensibly by David Roy against the Idyllwild Chamber of Commerce, as directors and as individuals, has been costly to date, for the defendants in court fees and now, for Roy, in penalties.

At issue is \$1,400 allegedly owed Roy for services he provided before last July's dedication of his monument "Harmony." The chamber paid for the sealant Roy applied, but claims it did not hire Roy to do the work.

At a Dec. 20 hearing, the judge in one phase of the litigation was scheduled to hear Roy's motion to compel additional interrogatory responses from defendant and Chamber Director Mike Lackey. Because Roy failed to appear, the judge subsequently denied Roy's motion and granted Lackey's request for sanctions in the amount of \$1,000. Roy has 30 days to pay the money or the court will issue a writ of execution.

According to people who have attended court sessions, Roy has appeared in court seemingly uninformed about his responsibilities in the suit as plaintiff.

Roy, in his pleading papers, acknowledges there was no contract for him to do the work. Nevertheless, he alleges in court papers, that he should be paid for his time and services. His claim for payment is based in quantum meruit, a legal term meaning "for reasonable value of work performed."

The chamber had previously invited Roy, or his legal adviser, Ken Carlson, who is an attorney and former chamber president, to come to its offices, submit an invoice for the work Roy performed and discuss

how to resolve the situation. Neither Carlson nor Roy did so, according to chamber directors.

The next action, according to chamber directors, was the filing of the referenced lawsuit. These details are all available at the Riverside County Superior Court website (www.riverside.courts.ca.gov) in the civil case report, case number HEC 1202489.

The suit, according to chamber directors, has required considerable time to acquire counsel, respond to plaintiff's many motions, has proved costly in required court and attorney fees and has preoccupied directors, all of whom are employed or have their own businesses.

The litigation has preoccupied the chamber this fall, but the group is now moving forward again. Last week, chamber directors unveiled a new initiative, the 2013 Visitor's Choice Awards Program, in which Idyllwild visitors vote for the business they most enjoyed during their time in Idyllwild.

Directors will reveal more details at their next meeting. The annual winner will receive a gift basket, plaque, shared business-card-sized banner on the chamber website front page for one year, and a free chamber one-year membership.

The lawsuit continues to unfold with next actions scheduled for early February.

Carlson had previously stated he was not representing Roy in this suit. But current court papers now show he is seeking remuneration for advice he is providing Roy and for reviewing documents that Roy is filing in the suit.

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

Pine Cove water in solid financial shape

Water production continues falling

By MARSHALL SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

Pine Cove Water District General Manager Jerry Holldber reported to his board that the district is in solid financial shape, with \$265,000 in liquid reserves as of Dec. 31, with 57 percent of projected fiscal 2012/2013 revenues yet to be received.

Holldber plans to buy pipe needed for future district projects at today's prices with some of the present revenue. "We have the money," Holldber said. "I'll buy all the pipe [for up-

coming projects]." Holldber said he would contact the other two water districts to see if they were interested in being part of the pipe purchases.

Holldber also reported that December's water production of 1,900,120 gallons was in line with previous two years — 75,000 gallons less than December 2011 and 85,000 more than December 2010.

Total 2012 water production was 31.2 million gallons, the lowest level in the past decade, nearly 27 percent less than the maximum production in 2004. PCWD produc-

tion has declined every year since 2006.

Holldber said district wells were holding up well, with static measuring well number 10 down only two feet. He also noted that recent prolonged cold weather has started to affect some of the district's wells.

Finally, at the Wednesday, Jan. 9, board meeting, President Tom McCullough read a copy of his reply to Idyllwild Water District President Allan Morphet's Dec. 12 letter questioning trenching conducted by PCWD field personnel in Dutch Flats, property jointly

owned by the two districts. Morphet wanted positive identification of the trench and of PCWD plans to use a generator at the district's treatment plant as the sole source of electrical power for that area.

McCullough's response provided a sketch showing the trench location, promised a final "as built" drawing and staking of trench corners. He also indicated PCWD had made no decision regarding portable standby generators.

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

Budget

Continued from page 1

the governor's higher revenue forecasts and anticipation of greater savings.

Overall

Governor's budget request builds on the state budget approved in June 2011, which means it "keeps the cuts made last year and adds new ones."

Specifically, the governor proposes \$138.6 billion in general fund and special fund spending in 2013-14, up 4.5 percent from

2012-13. The administration forecasts that the state's general fund budgetary balance will be \$1 billion at the end of 2013-14 under the governor's plan.

The budget contains major proposals in education, including a new formula for financing schools, and additional general fund resources for the public university systems. The package also presents options for expanding Medi-Cal under the federal health care reform law.

According to the Legislative Analyst's Office, "The state has reached a point

where its underlying expenditures and revenues are roughly in balance. With the exception of education funding, the remainder of state general fund spending reflects a baseline budget. This means that state supported program and service levels established in 2012-13 generally continue 'as is' in 2013-14."

Education

Education, both K-12 and higher, will see additional funds this year compared to the reductions of previous budgets. The K-12 funding proposal is

\$41 billion, a \$2.7 billion (nearly 5 percent) increase from this year. And state higher education programs will receive an additional \$1.3 billion, a 13.6 percent increase.

From the 2007-08 fiscal year to 2011-12, state education funding declined \$9.3 billion, from \$56.6 billion to \$47.3. Next year's funding level is \$56.2, nearly equal to the level six years ago.

"I'll believe it when the check is available," said skeptical Bill Sanborn, Hemet Unified School District trustee. "I just don't know

See Brown, page 12

Trivia test

Food & Drink: What kind of plant does the flavoring saffron come from?

Answer: Crocus flower

IDYLLWILD BOTANY

By DAVE STITH

Idyllwild County Park flora update ...

This afternoon I spent about two hours moseying around lower Strawberry Creek, upstream from the bridge crossing on Highway 74. I did not go far, nor did I intend to. The route up the creek from the highway is no less daunting than the route down from the grotto.



There is a use trail that goes a short distance up from the highway to some very pretty pools inhabited by trout, but beyond there, it is tough going. Perhaps when there is less water flow in the stream, it is possible to traverse the boulders, avoiding the steep slopes and tangle of vegetation. I had hoped to make it to the very steep part of the canyon; but being on my own and unprepared for any misstep, I contented myself with a leisurely stroll.

The beginning of the trail, which parallels the creek, is lined with white sage and yerba santa. There is a fair number of what I initially thought was holly-leaf red berry but may be holly-leaf cherry instead. There is also an abundance of Bigelow's spike moss along the trail. There is big berry manzanita, and I saw at least one Mexican manzanita. I saw one very large dudleya.

The predominant trees appear to be sycamore and toyon some with red berries still intact, although I did notice alders and oaks as well. The alders are just beginning to bloom.

A short distance up the trail from the highway, there is a crumbling old stone masonry house. It must have been an idyllic place once; but now, it's a magnet for graffiti and discarded beer bottles.

Beyond there, the trail angles toward the creek. I began to see some suspicious looking bare brown twigs that I intentionally tried to avoid. Later I found one with leaves of three still intact confirming that there is poison oak in the area. Fortunately in anticipation of just such an encounter, I was wearing long pants and a long sleeved sweatshirt that I changed out of immediately when returning to my car.

As stated earlier, the route beyond the pools is not obvious. I thought that maybe it would be easier to leave the creek and continue through the chaparral, but it was not to be.



A map of Idyllwild County Park from **Tom Chester and Dave Stith's** web page (http://tchester.org/sj/flora/idyllwild_park.html) describing the park's flora.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVE STITH

Two of the dominant species were yucca and chaparral whitethorn. They were made even more conspicuous by the fact that I was trying to avoid being stabbed by both of them. However, at the boundary between the chaparral and riparian zone, I came upon a patch of dozens of plants with dried split fruit-like purple clarkia. If that is the identification, they must make a beautiful display when they are all in full bloom.

Upon the return, I decided to make one more attempt to reach the creek above the pools. It was there, as far as I am concerned, I made the finds of the day in one spot. There is a pool where a side drainage meets the main channel where I saw a very large fern. I suspected immediately I knew what it was, but I needed to see the sori [a cluster of spore-producing receptacles] on the bottom of the leaves. I searched stem after stem but no sori. Finally, I found one with sori that looked like tiny worms lined up along the leaf, the characteristic of giant chain ferns.

Here is a calphotos photo by Keir Morse: http://calphotos.berkeley.edu/cgi/img_query?enlarge=0000+0000+0208+1164

Then when I turned around I saw what looked like a willow but still in full leaf even though it is winter. The test was to crumple and smell one of the leaves revealing the aroma of a California bay tree.

I have seen both of those species before in the San Jacintos but only on the rare occasion.

If you have any additional comments, observations, or explanations related to local flora, contact Dave Stith at dradrph@aol.com.



Sue Parker and Pete Holzman spent the weekend studying and working while attending a really fun Steampunk Symposium on the Queen Mary. PHOTO COURTESY OF PETE HOLZMAN

Trivia test

Language: What does the Greek suffix "gamy" mean in English?

Answer: Marriage

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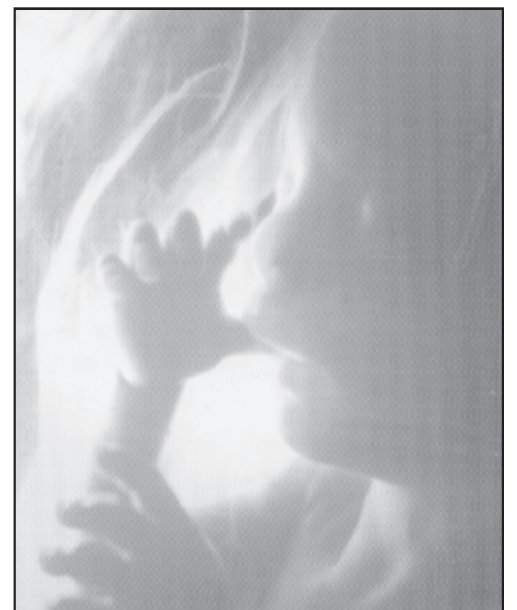
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16-week Unborn Child (Photo by Lennart Nilsson)

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Brown

Continued from page 10

much about it, but anything would be helpful.”

However, Brown does propose to provide local districts more control over the use of the funds and

to direct more money to districts with the more dire educational needs.

“School districts serving those students who have the greatest challenges will receive more generous increases — so that all students in California have the opportunity to

succeed,” Brown said.

A new formula will allocate a portion of the funding to districts with a higher portion of English-language learners and students eligible for free or reduced price meals. The supplemental funding will increase a district’s

base funding by about 35 percent when the portion of students in the English learners and economically disadvantaged groups exceeds 50 percent.

The state will encourage and expect student-to-teacher ratios of 24 to 1 in the K-3 grades, unless local districts choose not to comply because of local priorities.

Public Safety

General fund expenditures for the Department of Forestry and Fire Pro-

tection are reduced \$50 million, to a total of \$1.16 million. The vast majority of the department’s funding comes from the state general fund and federal reimbursement. However, the State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Fee collections are still estimated to be between \$84 and \$89 million, according to CAL FIRE Director of Communications Janet Upton.

Some of CAL FIRE’s responsibilities will increase due to implementation of

Senate Bill 1241, which requires local jurisdictions to ensure fire protection for future development within SRAs. The new law requires CAL FIRE to review local development plans to verify the local assurances. This will provide 65 positions and \$11.7 million for the Department.

Some of the additional money will be used for fuel mitigation and inspections, Upton said.

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

Presidential Inauguration ticket request process

U.S. Representative Raul Ruiz (CA 36 D-Palm Desert) announced the process for constituents interested in receiving tickets to the 57th Presidential Inauguration Ceremony, Monday, Jan. 21, in Washington, D.C.

Tickets are limited and will be granted to constituents of the 36th District on a first-come, first-served basis.

To request tickets from Rep. Ruiz, send an email to CA36.Inauguration@mail.house.gov with the following information by Thursday, Jan. 17: 1. Name; 2. Address; 3. Phone number; 4. Number of tickets requested (limit 2 per person).

For any additional questions, please contact Rep. Ruiz’s Washington, D.C., office at (202) 225-5330.

Record

Continued from page 2

Jan. 9 — Walk-in medical aid.

Jan. 10 — Traffic collision, Highway 243 at Dead Man’s Curve, Pine Cove.

Jan. 11 — Structure fire, Saunders Meadow Road, Idyllwild.

Jan. 11 — Walk-in medical aid.

Jan. 12 — Medical aid, Crestview Drive, Idyllwild.

Jan. 12 — Steam/fog thought to be smoke, South Circle Drive, Idyllwild.

Jan. 12 — Medical aid, Highway 243 and Marion View Drive, Idyllwild.

Jan. 13 — Medical aid, Riverside County Play-ground Road, Idyllwild.

Jan. 13 — Public service assist, Saunders Meadow Road and Marion View Drive.

Jan. 14 — Medical aid, Marion View Drive, Idyllwild.

Riverside County Fire, Pine Cove

Report unavailable.

Riverside County Fire, Garner Valley

Jan. 7 — Traffic collision, Highway 74 and Spring Crest Drive, Pin-yon.

Jan. 7 — Medical emer-

gency, 52300 Jaybird Lane, Garner Valley.

Jan. 7 — Traffic collision, Terwilliger and La Cima roads, Anza.

Jan. 8 — False alarm, Highway 371 and Bradford Road, Anza.

Jan. 9 — Traffic collision, Highway 243, 1/2-mile west of Highway 74, Mountain Center.

Jan. 10 — Traffic collision, Highway 243 and Franklin Drive, Idyllwild.

Jan. 10 — False alarm, 53650 block of Highway 74, Garner Valley.

Jan. 11 — False alarm, 26700 block of Saunders Meadow Road, Idyllwild.

See Logs, page 27



The frozen snow-crested ridge against a brilliant blue sky created a breathtaking view for both locals and visitors over the weekend.

PHOTO BY CAREENA CHASE

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HELP Center and Thrift Store Newsletter

Hello All,

Brrr. Sure has been cold here. Hope you're managing to keep warm. We've got a few more months of winter to look forward to. We're definitely a winter wonderland but it seems colder this year than in years I can remember. Lots of frozen pipes and empty propane tanks.

We've been busy assisting our clients as much as possible. We can use blankets of any size and type, warm clothing for children and adults, and funds to replenish our depleted Utility Fund. We try to help clients pay a portion of their utilities bills, but the requests have increased so that we've run out of Utility Funds. We still have funds allocated to different categories, such as food bank, medical, dental, transportation, children's needs, etc. In this way we budget and allocate funds for different client needs. So when I say we're out of Utility Funds I do not mean we are out of

all funds at the HELP Center. We always have needs and this time of year it is especially the Utility Fund.

Thank you to all of our support people, volunteers, businesses and organizations who keep us going. Our UNEVENT Fundraiser was received wonderfully by the town and your generosity came just at the right time. (It's always the right time.)

We always need household and clothing donations to the Thrift Store as purchases made there help fund our other services to clients. We appreciate the items and we the Thrift Store is open 7 days a week to receive donations and sell goods.

In the meanwhile, hunker down and stay warm. Hope to see you soon.

LOU BACHER
BOARD PRESIDENT

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Just before the Rustic doors opens for ICF 2013's first film, Idyllwild film buffs (from left) **Nancy Borchers**, **Sallie Warwick**, and **Annamarie Padula** wait expectantly. Right, the first day crowd at the Rustic.

PHOTO BY MARSHALL SMITH



"Posey" stars and director, from left local **Chris Pennock**, **Sally Kirkland**, and director **Billy DaMota**.

IDYLLWILD WATER DISTRICT DECEMBER 2012 NEWSLETTER

IWD Mission Statement -

To provide reliable water & sewer service in a safe, cost-effective & environmentally sound manner in accordance with the community needs.



COLD, AND COLDER TEMPERATURES PREDICTED — Due to a major water leak that occurred in early January, we had to shut down the water main to several customers to perform repairs. We apologize for any inconvenience to our customers during these repairs. However, this does illustrate that IWD and customers alike need to be aware that extreme cold spells are a part of winter weather. Above is a photo of a very slippery, icy street. These are early signs that we may be having a colder than normal winter. Use caution when driving on icy streets, especially at night when you encounter steep icy grades. This month the District has received about a dozen calls from customers whose water lines froze. Leaking water services may cause ice to form on the streets. Even with some protective wrap to prevent freezing, there may not be enough wrap to protect water lines from the colder temperatures. Be sure to recheck your wrapped water lines, as you may want to add additional pipe wrapping. Check your water meter and your customer shut-off valve box to ensure they are insulated from freezing. You can install insulation or sawdust in these water boxes. If you leave for an extended time, be sure to shut off your customer shut-off valve. If you have any questions please call the office at (951) 659-2143 and someone will assist you.

IWD IMPLEMENTS A WATER CONSERVATION STAGE 1 — This is a reminder about the Water Conservation Stage 1 that went into effect last month. Although we are experiencing more precipitation, this is only the start of winter weather and conditions can change. The Water Conservation Stage 1 is a voluntary compliance to reduce the amount of water used. These are the recommendations of Stage 1:

- Immediately repairing leaks,
- Preventing irrigation water runoff,
- Refraining from washing sidewalks, driveways and parking areas,
- And refraining from sprinkling unplanted areas for dust control.

We will continue to monitor water supplies and let our customers know if a change in status is warranted. Thank you for helping us to conserve water.

OUR NEXT BOARD MEETING IS WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2013 @ 6:00 PM

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Community helps Mayor Max celebrate his birthday



Mayor Max celebrated his 12th birthday with about 100 of his closest friends, human and four-legged, on Sunday afternoon at the Nature Center. Many people brought their dogs to help Max celebrate and even the Nature Center's bunny showed up to wish him well. Max greeted people and posed for pictures all through the festivities.

PHOTOS BY BARBARA REESE



Mayor Max and his manager, **Phyllis Mueller**, celebrated Max's 12th birthday with the town at the Nature Center on Sunday afternoon.



A young constituent greets **Max** on his birthday.

PHOTO BY MARSHALL SMITH



Several local restaurants provided an abundance of food for **Mayor Max's** celebration. There was music, birthday cakes and photo-ops with His Honor. Above, **Gary Budnick** of Gary's Deli helps serve the food to some of the folks that came to the party.

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MAYOR MAX

Happy New Year Dearest Idyllwild Community!

Here are the highlights for the very festive and wonderful holiday month of December!

December 5. *A Christmas Carol.* I attended The Friends of the Idyllwild Library production of *A Christmas Carol* performed by Duffy Hudson, well-known Broadway and film actor who did an excellent job with this performance. I was able to hear the performance from the Mayor Mobile, and on the break, I was able to imbibe in more cheese. Thank you, Library and Duffy!

December 7. This was a big day for me. I attended four events in one day! I started out in Hemet and participated in their fund-raiser to support three families who lost their homes due to a recent fire. I then attended the Children's Tree Lighting Ceremony in Idyllwild. The children were so cute in their performances and holiday outfits. I particularly loved the jumping snowman in the performance of "Frosty the Snowman." We then attended the American Legion dinner (the food was excellent, thank you!). We then attended "A Wintry Evening of Art" at The Spruce Moose. The Spruce Moose is a must-shop venue for all times of the year and a truly fabulous art gallery and gift store.

December 8. We attended "An Isis Christmas" at the Caine Learning Center. This was a wonderful set of performances by everyone involved, and on the break, I



Rocky Raccoon, Mayor Max, and Pamela Allen of Wooley's during one of many holiday visits by Mayor Max to Wooley's, a great place to shop! Thank you, Pamela and staff for my new raccoon. I love it!!

was provided with a little more cheese. You can't get too much cheese during the holidays!

December 14. Rocky Raccoon and I were asked to make a VIP visit to the children of The Whitworth School, a K-8 in Orange, California. This was so much fun, and all the kids tried petting me at once, which I loved! You can never get too much petting! We then attended the annual holiday party at Rancho Fruit Market in Temecula, very dear friends of our family. I had more snacks and petting here too, and I know I was a big hit in my Santa outfit!

December 16. Art Alliance of Idyllwild (AAI) meeting. I

attended the AAI meeting at the Nature Center (from my Mayor Mobile) while Phyllis offered to provide some marketing assistance for upcoming AAI events which are now posted for 2013 on the AAI web site, www.artinidyllwild.org. Definitely, check out this web site and mark your calendars for these fantastic events! With my advanced sniffing capabilities, I deduced that Phyllis had pet a cat during the meeting. Whom can I talk to about this? ;-)

December 17. Idyllwild Chamber of Commerce Mixer. I attended the Chamber Mixer at Merkaba. What fun, and a great store. We made plans for the future and the new membership drive for Chamber members. We also purchased several Christmas presents at Merkaba. Last but not least, I was able to secure more cheese during each of the photo opps. Yes, the holidays have been very good to me.

December 18. Idyll-Beast meeting. I met with the Idyll-Beast to make further plans for the holidays, the Chamber, and planning a safari with the Idyll-Beast! That was fun. By the way, he sheds more than I do!!

December 20. Forest Folk Holiday Celebration. I had a great time attending the Forest Folk holiday celebration potluck at Town Hall. I just loved the turkey, and Phyllis ate all the stuffing. Forest Folk



(C) Max. Here I am, poised and ready to go on the Big Night, December 24th, helping Santa deliver presents!



(C) Max. Resting after the Big Night of present delivery, we finished at 5:00 AM on Christmas Day.



Max, Rocky Raccoon, and the Mini Me's visiting with the family of Hal Dahlstrom (far right) and Cindy Ifould-Dahlstrom (second from right).

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Mayor Max and Rocky Raccoon make a VIP visit to the children of The Whitworth School, an excellent K-8 school in Orange, California. Carol Whitworth is the Executive Director.

is fully committed to re-establishing a Senior Center in Idyllwild and is now a tax-exempt non-profit organization that can accept your donations. If you would like to help create the new Senior Center, we would love to have you join our group. You can also help by sending your donation to Forest Folk at PO Box 260, Idyllwild, CA, 92549. Thank you for your help. It is greatly appreciated!

December 21. Idyllwild HELP Center Santa visit. I was invited to meet with Santa and the children at the Idyllwild HELP Center. I loved seeing the kids, and it's always great to be at the HELP Center. They do such a great job in every way. Throughout the holidays, we

made several donations to the Idyllwild HELP Center and to the Spark of Love toy drives. Thank you community for everything you do to help!

December 24 and 25. On the evening of the big night (the 24th) and throughout the wee hours of the 25th, I helped Santa deliver presents and Mini Me's to children. It was a long and wonderful night of giving. I was ready for a nap and slept well during the day of the 25th. I love Christmas, and I love helping Santa and bringing good cheer and happiness to everyone I encounter. At the end of the day on the 25th, I retired my Santa suit until next year!

December 31. Jo'An's New Year's Party with Change Required. We closed out the year by attending the New Year's party at Jo'An's. Change Required was on fire that night with their musical performances! The party was so much fun. Thank you, Joann and Mike, for providing such a wonderful venue for this delightful way to bring in the New Year. We love you very much.

Throughout the month, we continued to support our favorite charities on and off the Hill. This includes contributing to many human and animal rights organizations. We, of course, continued our support of ARF. You can never do too much to help animals! I love ARF so much. If you know anyone that would like to adopt a pet or foster a pet or simply volunteer at ARF for a few hours a week, please contact ARF at www.idyllwildarf.com or call 951.659.1122.

I and my staff wish you the best of everything in the New Year and that all your dreams come true. I look forward to seeing you in town. Please always stop by to say hello. If you need any help of any kind, please call me at my office, 951.659.0283.

Love always,

MAYOR MAX

Office of the
Mayor
of Idyllwild

P.O. Box 1848
Idyllwild, CA
92549



Inspired by the Idyllwild Town Crier's reporting on the Kenya safari of the Gilden's, Zimmerman's, and Buchanan's, Mayor Max and the Idyll-Beast begin making plans for a safari on a budget!



The Idyll-Beast and Mayor Max make a run for their lives on their "do-it-yourself" safari. Fortunately, they did escape!

On the Town

Local Dining, Arts & Entertainment



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. 16

Adult Yoga with Trine Bietz, 9-10 a.m. Town Hall.
Hojo Reynolds, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Idyll Awhile.
"Les Miserables," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Thursday, Jan. 17

ICRC Speaker Series, Wine & Cheese Reception, 5:30 p.m.
Speaker Jennifer Gee, 6 p.m. Idyllwild Nature Center.
Forest Folk Movie Night & Potluck Featuring "The Kings Speech," 5:30 p.m. Town Hall.
Beer Tasting with Black Market Brewery of Temecula, 6:30 p.m. Idyll Awhile.
"Les Miserables," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Friday, Jan. 18

Krafty Kids Art Class with Wendy Watts, 2:30-3:30 p.m.; Adult Yoga with Trine Bietz, 5-6 p.m. Town Hall.
Willy B., 5:30-8:30 p.m. Arriba's.
Thats All Folks, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Jo'An's.
Bill Saitta & Jac Jacaruso, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Idyll Awhile.
"Les Miserables," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.
"Aloha Say the Pretty Girls," a comedy by Naomi Iizuka, 7:30 p.m. IAF Theatre, Idyllwild Arts.

Saturday, Jan. 19

"Climbing Tahquitz Rock," Historical Exhibit, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Idyllwild Area Historical Museum.
Sadie's Clinic Speaker Series with Dr. Monica Diedrich, 12:30-2 p.m. Idyllwild Nature Center.
"Les Miserables," 2 & 7 p.m.



Katelyn Graham stands in front of her art piece, "The Last Supper," at the Written Image show at Idyllwild Arts on Friday evening. The piece represents the god-like power anorexia holds over a person and won third place.

Rustic Theatre.
Live Entertainment, 6-9 p.m. Arriba's.
Hojo Reynolds, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Idyll Awhile.
"Aloha Say the Pretty Girls," a comedy by Naomi Iizuka, 7:30 p.m. IAF Theatre, Idyllwild Arts.
Karaoke with Scott, 8-11 p.m. Jo'An's.

Sunday, Jan. 20

David Jerome, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Arriba's.
"Climbing Tahquitz Rock," His-

"Les Miserables," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Tuesday, Jan. 22

Free Senior Wii, 10 a.m.-noon Town Hall.
"Les Miserables," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Wednesday, Jan. 23

Adult Yoga with Trine Bietz, 9-10 a.m. Town Hall.
"Les Miserables," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Thursday, Jan. 24

"Les Miserables," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Friday, Jan. 25

Krafty Kids Art Class with Wendy Watts, 2:30-3:30 p.m.; Adult Yoga with Trine Bietz, 5-6 p.m. Town Hall.
Willy B., 5:30-8:30 p.m. Arriba's.

Saturday, Jan. 26

"Climbing Tahquitz Rock," Historical Exhibit, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Idyllwild Area Historical Museum.
Live entertainment, 6-9 p.m. Arriba's.
Karaoke with Scott, 8-11 p.m. Jo'An's.

Sunday, Jan. 27

David Jerome, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Arriba's.
"Climbing Tahquitz Rock," Historical Exhibit, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Idyllwild Area Historical Museum.

Monday, Jan. 28

Free Cribbage, 10 a.m.-noon Town Hall.
Open Mic Night with Scott Foster, 6-9 p.m. Jo'An's.

Tuesday, Jan. 29

Free Senior Wii, 10 a.m.-noon Town Hall.



Becky Hirsch opens the poetry readings at the Written Image show at Parks Exhibition Center on Friday evening at Idyllwild Arts.



Directors from several of the Idyllwild CinemaFest films have a relaxing breakfast at Mile High Cafe Sunday morning.

PHOTOS BY BARBARA REESE

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Hojo Reynolds, Saturday, Jan. 19, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Black Market Brewery of Temecula Beer Tasting
Thursday, Jan. 17, 6:30 p.m.
Featuring 5 Black Market Beers and a Dessert Beer paired with light fare
Tasting is \$25 Wine club members \$20!
Please, pre-register!

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New Sunday hours: noon to 6 p.m.

IA presents 'Aloha, Say the Pretty Girls'

By J.P. Crumrine
Editor

This weekend, "Aloha, Say the Pretty Girls" will be the next production of the 2012-13 Idyllwild Arts Theatre season.

Naomi Iizuka's 1999 Whiting Writers' Award, is a sparkling comic tidal wave.

Within the play "lives intersect, time and space disintegrate, and life is more or less absurd," is how Idyllwild Arts theatre head and director Howard Shangraw described the production. "Characters careen into and around one another in a constant flux, yielding surprises and laughs."

Strangers, friends, lovers, and acquaintances travel the globe from Alaska to Hawaii and from New York City to Inner Borneo in this wild comedy, in which young Generation X-ers pursue their existential quest for love and identity, complete with wild dogs, Komodo dragons, and hula dancers drifting and darting throughout this hilarious play.

An author writing the great American novel, a rejected lover cools off in Alaska and a traveler is left in Hawaii, plus more as they, and we, search for our tribe in a world gone haywire.

"Having to make sense of



"Aloha, Say the Pretty Girls" ensemble cast. Seen standing are **Charles Jones III, Madison Gerring, Ashely Arnold, Delaney Spangler and Jonathan Tibbs**. In front, sitting are **Zen**

alien worlds interests me a great deal, as does the related questions: How do you make sense of another human being, a consciousness very different from your own?" are Iizuka's words describing her intent.

Shangraw advises the audience that the production includes strong language and adult themes, so it's recommended for mature audiences.

The cast includes Ashely Arnold, Javen Crosby, Kamren Fuartado, Madison Gerring, Charles Jones III, Zen Ocean, Celeste Oliva, Delaney Spangler, Daniel

Taylor, Jonathan Tibbs and Omid Yaldai-Albir.

The production team includes Rosanna Lindmarker, Samantha Son-Dokidis and

Ocean, Celeste Oliva, Daniel Taylor, Javen Crosby (the dragon), Omid Yaldayi-Albir and Kamren Fuartado.

PHOTO BY JENNY KIRCHNER

Will Lovett.

The production will be at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Jan. 18 and 19 and at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20.

Renowned dog communicator at ARF series

By Marshall Smith
Staff Reporter

Argentina-born Monica Dietrich overheard a mother pig's conversation with her piglets when she was eight. She thought nothing was out of the ordinary until she told others. "I thought everyone does this," she recalled.

As a child she learned to be cautious about what she heard, saw or received in what she describes as telepathic conversations with animals. "As a little girl I did not understand what was happening. I was so ashamed of what I had, of being different. What was I supposed to do with all this

information?" she asked.

Dietrich later decided this was a calling and the path she needed to pursue professionally. "I came to understand that my primary purpose was to translate [animal communication to their human companions]. It's up to us, the ones who do understand, to let others know that there are other feeling creatures [who don't happen to be human]," she said in an interview.

Humans have forgotten the telepathic powers they have had since before development of speech, Dietrich believes. She noted that some, even today, such as Australian aboriginals,

See *Dietrich*, page 21

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Say the Pretty Girls

A COMEDY BY Naomi Iizuka

January 18 & 19 7:30 PM
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Showtimes:
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Regular Admission: \$8
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SPORTS

Town Hall Youth Basketball

Town Hall Sports Coordinator **Jeremy Teeguarden** reported on youth basketball for both the College League (kindergarten through third-grade) and the Pro League (third- through sixth-grade) for the week of Jan. 7.

College League (Kindergarten through third-grade)

The College League (grades K-3) played two days this week.

On Tuesday, Jan. 8, the first game was between the Idyllwild Rotary Bears and the Wooley's Wildcats. The Bears got off to a good start as **Katelyn Sonnier** played great defense and scored a basket for her team. The Wildcats turned on their offense in the second half. **Odin Johnston** scored a big basket to extend their lead. The Wildcats went on to win the game 20-12.

The second game was between the Blue Bird Inn Jayhawks and the Pacific Slope Tree Co. Bulldogs. The Bulldogs controlled the low-scoring game for the first three quarters. The Bulldogs' **Jessa Smith** played tough defense holding the Jayhawks scoreless. The Bulldogs entered the final quarter ahead 8-0. The Jayhawks didn't give up and got baskets from **Luke Carlson** and **Manuel Guzman** that opened the flood gates. Four different players scored a basket in the final quarter. The Jayhawks tied the game with just 14 seconds left. In overtime, the Bulldogs regained control. They scored another basket and held the Jayhawks scoreless, winning 10-8.

Friday's games started with the Pacific Slope Tree Co. Bulldogs taking on the Idyllwild Rotary Bears. The game was close throughout as the teams traded baskets the whole game. The Bulldogs' **Arturo Rincon** tied the game with a second-quarter basket. The Bears' **Lucas Odum** came right back with a key free throw to tie the game again. The Bears took a one-point lead late in the fourth quarter and held on as the Bulldogs buzzer shot didn't go in. The Bears won 12-11.

The second game of the night was between the Gastronomer Broncos and the Blue Bird Inn Jayhawks. The Broncos came out shooting good as **Ethan Teeguarden** got a couple of early baskets to give them the lead. **Ethan Scott** got the Jayhawks back in the game with a couple of nice long shots. The Broncos stayed aggressive as they

See [Basketball, next page](#)



Above and above right, on Friday, Jan. 11, the Pacific Slope Tree Co. Bulldogs played a close game with the Idyllwild Rotary Bears, who won 12-11.

At right, in Friday's second game, the Blue Bird Inn Jayhawks tangled with the Gastronomer Broncos, who won 17-14.

PHOTOS BY JENNY KIRCHNER



TOWN HALL
Idyllwild Recreation District

There's Always Something
Happening at Town Hall!

SCHEDULE

After School Open Recreation
Monday-Friday

Kindergarten 12:30-3:30 p.m.;
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Bus Passes available at
Idyllwild School office.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES
Forest Folk Pot Luck
& Movie Night

"The King's Speech"
Thursday, Jan. 17, at 5:30 p.m.

CLASSES FOR ADULTS & CHILDREN:
\$10 per class. Space still available.

- MONDAY:** 10 a.m.-noon
Free Cribbage
- TUESDAY:** 10 a.m.-noon
Free Senior Wii
- WEDNESDAY:** 9-10 a.m.
Adult Yoga with Trine
- FRIDAY:** 2:30-3:30 p.m.
Krafty Kids Art Class
with Wendy Watts
- 5-6 p.m.
Adult Yoga with Trine

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God & Health:

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2 p.m. Saturday, January 26, 2013

Idyllwild Town Hall
25925 Cedar St.
Idyllwild, CA 92549

(Child care and refreshments provided)

A practitioner and teacher of Christian Science healing, Rob Gilbert has a Master of Theology degree from Boston University School of Theology and served as a chaplain in the United States Army. More recently he co-produced two educational videos for medical nursing schools and hospitals, answering commonly asked questions about the practice of spiritual healing, how it informs healthcare decisions, and spirituality in nursing care. Gilbert is a member of the Christian Science Board of Lectureship and travels from his home in Upland, California.



This lecture is sponsored by the First Church of Christ Scientist, Idyllwild

Strange but true

Many people see dogs as doing heroic work in tandem with law enforcement and the military, but they're not the only animals put to such use. In Mozambique, sniffer rats are being used to find unexploded land mines so experts can disarm them. They're known as HeroRATs.

SPORTS

Town Hall Adult Volleyball

Town Hall Sports Coordinator **Jeremy Teegarden** reported on Town Hall Adult volleyball for the week of Jan 7.

On Monday, Jan. 7, Idyllwild Inn played the Red Kettle. **Noah Whitney** got a bunch of points off his powerful serve for the Red Kettle. **Misty Hitchcock** played great for Idyllwild Inn setting up her teammates many times, which enabled them to win the match in three games (25-10, 25-15 and 25-14).

Tuesday's match was between Silver Pines Lodge and Idyllwild Chevron. Both teams played well throughout the match as the momentum went back and forth.

Chevron won the first game as **Tyla Friemoth** played hard and set up her teammates with some excellent sets. Silver Pines came back to win the next two games

as **Kim Boss** played outstanding defense. Tied at two games each, in the fifth game, Silver Pines buckled down. They won the game (15-9) and the match (3-2), remaining undefeated. (17-25, 25-18, 25-21, 16-25 and 15-9)

Forest Lumber faced Idyllwild Garage on Wednesday. The Garage got off to a good start behind **Kyle Owen's** big hits. Forest Lumber battled back and won the second game led by **Buddy Beagle's** net play. The Garage won the next two games and the match (25-21, 21-25, 25-20 and 25-10)

On Thursday, Silver Pines Lodge met the Red Kettle. Both were playing their second game of the week. **Ginger Dagnall** played great and the Red Kettle jumped out early to win the first game. Silver Pines rebounded and went on to win the next three games with **Lance**

Fogle playing great at the net. (18-25, 25-6, 25-13 and 25-23)

Volleyball Standings

Team	Wins	Losses
Silver Pines	6	0
Idyllwild Garage	4	1
Forest Lumber	2	3
Idyllwild Chevron	2	3
Idyllwild Inn	2	3
Red Kettle	0	6

Send sports reports about locals to itc@towncrier.com or drop them off at the Town Crier by 10 a.m. Mondays. Photos are also welcome. If sending by email, resolution must be at least 300 dpi.

Basketball

Continued from previous page

went on to win 17-14.

Team	Wins	Losses
Wooley's Wildcats	3	0
Idyllwild Rotary Bears	2	1
Pacific Slope Bulldogs	2	2
Gastronome Broncos	1	2
Blue Bird Inn Jayhawks	0	3

Pro League (Third- through sixth-grade)

There were two Pro League games on Friday, Jan. 11.

The first Pro League game Friday night matched the Fairway Market Lakers and the Idyllwild Arts Clippers. Both teams played some good defense, keeping the first half close. The Clippers' **Tobin Alé** played solid defense and scored a basket. The Lakers broke the game open with the help of **Miren Pino's** many rebounds. The Lakers

poured it on in the fourth quarter scoring 12 points in the final five minutes and won 24-10.

The second Friday game was between the Suburban Heat and the Town Crier Cavs. The game was very well played on both sides the whole game. The Heat played great defense as **Dylan Stewart** hustled all game collecting a couple nice steals. **Aly Fogle** played super for the Cavs collecting a bunch of rebounds and scoring 3 points for the Cavs balanced attack. The Cavs kept the game within a basket but could never get a key basket to take the lead as the Heat won 17-15 in a great game.

Team	Wins	Losses	Ties
Fairway Market Lakers	2	1	1
Idyllwild Arts Clippers	2	2	
Town Crier Cavs	2	2	
Suburban Heat	1	2	1

Send sports reports about locals to itc@towncrier.com or drop them off at the Town Crier by 10 a.m. Mondays. Photos are also welcome. If sending by email, resolution must be at least 300 dpi.

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



Mrs. Mercer, resource teacher at Idyllwild School, chose two sixth-grade students as students of the week for Jan. 14. **Lexi McQueeney** (left) was chosen for being a hard worker, asking questions in class, and being kind and helpful to others. Mercer selected **Parker Strunk** for being an independent worker, asking lots of questions, being helpful, and for always being willing to take suggestions on improving his work.

PHOTO BY CAREENA CHASE

Dietrich

Continued from page 19

continue to communicate telepathically.

Modern man, with so much visceral input and informational noise, has become desensitized to more subtle means of communication, she said, believing most children have telepathic abilities but lose them as they grow older. "As a child I had to go inward at a very young age and as a result I think I never forgot that I came into this world with this knowing," she said.

Dietrich feels a respon-

sibility to animals and to their human companions to help improve their communication skills with each other. "They [the animals] need some reassurance that they are being understood," she stressed. "All they need is reassurance, no matter how wild their energy."

Dietrich receives communications from animals in the form of visuals, either in stills or in moving pictures, like film brief trailers. Those visuals, she said, then require some interpretation, but are clear about the impressions being conveyed. It helps her to understand why the animals are repeating what



Noted pet communicator **Monica Dietrich** and friend.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MONICA DIETRICH

their humans might view as negative behavior, such as peeing in the house.

"I'm also able to know how they are feeling physically," she said.

In addition to her work with animals, Dietrich holds a Ph.D. in Metaphysics from the Walter Dunn Foundation in Anaheim, is a Reiki practitioner, a guided-imagery therapist and a meditation guidance practitioner.

Dietrich's presentation is from 12:30 to 2 p.m. at the Nature Center on Highway 243. Her private consultations are already booked with all appointments taken.

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

Strange but true

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Rugby players turn out for ICF premiere

They enjoy the snow

By MARSHALL SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

Two busloads of South Los Angeles high school rugby players, alums, parents and friends, over 100 in all, made the trek to Idyllwild for the premiere of their documentary film "Red, White, Black and Blue." The extra bonus for the L.A. troupe was snow, something many of them had never seen.

"RWBB," which won Best Full Length Documentary at ICF2013, is the story of two teams, one boys and one girls, that travelled to New Zealand to compete with high school teams there, primarily Maori in composition.

But the film goes beyond the playing fields and also chronicles the personal lives of the American students, many of who are challenged by their home environments, absentee parents who have made negative choices and loved ones killed for senseless reasons. The film is about how the teamship and camaraderie of their rugby family steer and steady them through often turbulent times, and the weights and issues that are always with

them, even on the trip to New Zealand.

At the film's center is the Inner City Education Foundation rugby program in South Los Angeles that for 10 years has provided emotional support and physical education and rugby programs to over 5,000 elementary, middle and high school students in class and after school. ICEF Rugby program founder and former professional rugby player Stuart Krohn said the program is about developing leaders and decision makers.

Krohn, who had never produced a film, raised funds for the film and employed a professional New Zealand editor and director, James Brown. The result was a beautifully shot and highly evocative documentary of triumph on the field and in the lives of these young people.

And the young stars of the film, many of which are now alumni of the program and currently enrolled in major universities Brown and the University of California, Riverside, proved while they were here that they are true leaders and young men and women of distinction.



Rugby members accept the award for Best Documentary for their movie "Red, White, Black and Blue."

PHOTO BY JENNY KIRCHNER

But both students and parents and friends in the two busloads also showed that they were all children at heart as they hit a very slick track on Highway 243 just outside of Idyllwild prior to attending the festival.

The group then went to the Idyllwild Community Center site for some snow play, tossing of the rugby ball and rehearsal of the pre-game haka dance rituals they learned in New Zealand. Maori players prior to rugby matches perform the dances to bond together as a team and to raise energy

levels. They later performed the rituals on stage at the Rustic prior to the film's premiere.

But it was in the post-film question and answer session that the film's key players and team leaders showed their poise, intelligence, and commitment to each other and the goals of the program. In the film, boys' team leader Asa Garrett showed how to lead, with a firm yet affable approach to keeping his team focused and united. As part of ICEF, Garrett had travelled to London, South Africa and

New Zealand. Krohn noted that part of the program's goals, through the travel, is to better prepare students to succeed away from their home environments and to appreciate cultural differences that will help them be more adaptable in life.

Girls' team leader Jennese Bacon, accompanied both in New Zealand and at the Idyllwild screening by her mother Monique Bacon, showed poise and heartfelt honesty. In the film she deals openly with conflicts within the team and how that affects her emotionally. Jennese's struggles to remain a dedicated team leader in the face of challenges from within, are highlights of the film.

But it is in these young men and women's belief in education and the pursuit of their dreams that shows how much the ICEF program has succeeded in its mission to build leaders. Some players are now in major universities where they are playing rugby. Some are still in high school and focused on competing in the Olympics, now that rugby will once again be an Olympic sport.

Said Krohn, the singular force that inspires and motivates players in the



RWBB boys' team leader Asa Garrett leads his team in a haka pre-game ritual, at Idyllwild Community Center park, the first time the boys have performed the ritual in snow.

PHOTO BY MARSHALL SMITH

ICEF Rugby program, "We, these young people, have an opportunity to inspire the world. Some of these young men and women here are going to find their way onto Olympic fields. But they will all be Olympians in every field."

Their ICF win capped an extraordinary journey.

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

ICF

Continued from page 1

with major festivals, showcased each film beautifully at the festival's primary theatre. Rustic owner Shane Stewart's decision to install digital equipment was motivated in part to ensure quality screening for ICF for years to come.

Per screen attendance at the three festival venues was up from previous years, according to festival Director Stephen Savage and Chairman Phil Calderone. Calderone said he'd have actual numbers soon.

Another important improvement Calderone ushered in this year was permitting carry-in food in festival venues. Previous year attendees had complained that they had to choose between viewing and eating, since there was not enough time between films to eat.

Big winners at the ICF 2013 Awards Ceremony were

Gary King's stunning musical "How Do You Write a Joe Schermann Song", which took the best feature film prize. Gary King also won for best director and his film won the Casey Abrams Award for best soundtrack.

"Red, White, Black and Blue," the stirring South Los Angeles high school rugby saga, captured Best Full Length Documentary. Over 100 current players, alumni and parents and friends filled two buses for the premiere screening of this film. The story of rugby players from South L.A. travelling to compete against primarily Maori teams in New Zealand played to an enthusiastic full house at the Rustic. A-list movie and television actor Billy Campbell, also a rugby player who had played in the Santa Monica Rugby Club under coach Stuart Krohn, had provided the film's narration and attended the Idyllwild screening.

Two foreign-language films, a new category for



Festival Director Stephen Savage welcomes attendees.

PHOTOS BY MARSHALL SMITH

ICF this year, previewed in previous Crier articles, won awards. One, for Best Foreign Language feature, was Slava Ross's "Siberie Monamour" (from Russia). For Best Foreign Language Short, the winner was Pouria Heidary Oureh's "Beyond the Dead End" (from Iran). The Russian film also won for best feature cinematography for Yury Raysky. Calderone was particularly excited about this category and the quality of submissions that added real international distinction to the festival. Festival buzz

about both films was very strong – for "Siberie" for its haunting visual look and for "Beyond the Dead Zone," for its touching and messianic story of a vagrant man and his prized pair of shoes.

Other winners included "The Bunglers" as best featurette, best sound and best director (Glenn Camhi). Best director of a short went to "Soliloquy," producer, director and actor Josh Murray's modern take on the Bard's "Macbeth." Murray is next seen in Ridley Scott's upcoming National Geographic's "Killing Lincoln," as Booth's co-conspirator. J.D. Metlock won for best cinematography for "Soliloquy."

New York Director David Spaltro's "Things I Don't Understand," an extended riff on spirit, community, tenderness and friendship, took home awards for its lead actress, Molly Ryman and for best ensemble acting.

In other acting categories, Oscar nominee and past Golden Globe winner



Locals Piper Dellums and Carlos Reynosa at the Q and A after their jointly directed film "Red Road."

Sally Kirkland won for best actress in a featurette, the Alzheimer's themed "Posey." "Posey" director Billy DaMota stopped by the Crier on Monday to say how touched Kirkland was for her ICF 2013 acting award. Kirkland is a method actor who studied with famous acting coaches Uta Hagen and Lee Strasberg. Kirkland counts

Al Pacino, Robert DeNiro and Dustin Hoffman as her beginning-actor classmates under Strasberg. (See box for full list of awards).

For most, filmmakers and audience, ICF year four seemed solid and professional, and seemed to be the time when the festival crossed from upstart beginner to long-term contender.

Idyllwild CinemaFest 2013 Awards

— The Tahquitz Awards —

- Best Feature Film**
“How Do You Write a Joe Schermann Song”
- Best Featurette**
“The Bunglers”
- Best Short Film**
“Spicy Nose”
- Best Documentary (Full Length)**
“Red, White, Black and Blue”
- Best Documentary (Short)**
“The Rent Party: Paying It Forward in Rhythm and Hues”
- Best Web Series**
“Revelations”
- Best Foreign Language Film (Feature or Featurette)**
“Siberie Monamour”
- Best Foreign Language Film (Short)**
“Beyond the Dead End”
- Best Amateur Film (All)**
“Another Chance”
- Best Student Film (All)**
“Anaphora”
- Best Actor (Feature)**
Robert Fleet, “Player”
- Best Actor (Featurette)**
Stephen Kearin, “The Bunglers”
- Best Actor (Short)**
Oscar Torre, “Souled”
- Best Actress (Feature)**
Molly Ryman, “Things I Don’t Understand”
- Best Actress (Featurette)**
Sally Kirkland, “Posey”
- Best Actress (Short)**
Christianna Carmine, “To Live and Try in LA”
- Best Ensemble Acting (All Forms)**
“Things I Don’t Understand”
- Best Director (Feature)**
Gary King, “How Do You Write a Joe Schermann Song”
- Best Director (Featurette)**
Glenn Camhi, “The Bunglers”
- Best Director (Short)**
Josh Murray, “The Soliloquy”

- Best Director (Documentary, All Lengths)**
Leslie Zemekis, “Bound by Flesh”
- Best Screenplay (Feature)**
Adam Hampton, “The Unusual Calling of Charlie Christmas”
- Best Screenplay (Featurette)**
Adam Rubin, “A Perfect Day”
- Best Screenplay (Short)**
Adam Gropman, “Spicy Nose”
- Best Sound (Feature/featurette)**
“The Bunglers”
- Best Sound (Short)**
“Oysters Rockefeller”

— The Marshall Hawkins Awards —

- Best Original Score (Feature)**
Geoff Cottrell, “Tortoise In Love”
- Best Original Score (Featurette)**
Stuart Hancock, “Hawk”
- Best Original Score (Short)**
Dale Clay, “The Soliloquy”

— The Casey Abrams Award —

- Best Soundtrack**
(Feature, Featurette Or Documentary)
“How Do You Write A Joe Schermann Song”

— The Juan Ruiz Anchia Awards —

- Best Cinematography (Feature)**
Yury Raysky, “Siberie Monamour”
- Best Cinematography (Featurette)**
Martin Hill, “Hawk”
- Best Cinematography (Short)**
J.D. Medlock, “The Soliloquy”
- The Joni Award** Award to the Idyllwild resident who has given the most of his or her time and energy toward promoting the arts in Idyllwild.
Pete and Suzy Capparelli
- The Lily Rock Lifetime Merit Award**
Marshall Bell
- Best Trailer (All)**
“How Do You Write a Joe Schermann Song”
- Audience Choice**
“As High as the Sky”



Scott Foster (left) presents Oscar Torre with the award for Best Actor for the short movie “Souled.”

PHOTOS BY JENNY KIRCHNER



Ashley Stewart (center) presents Sally Kirkland (left) her award for Best Actress for a Featurette, the Alzheimer-themed “Posey.”

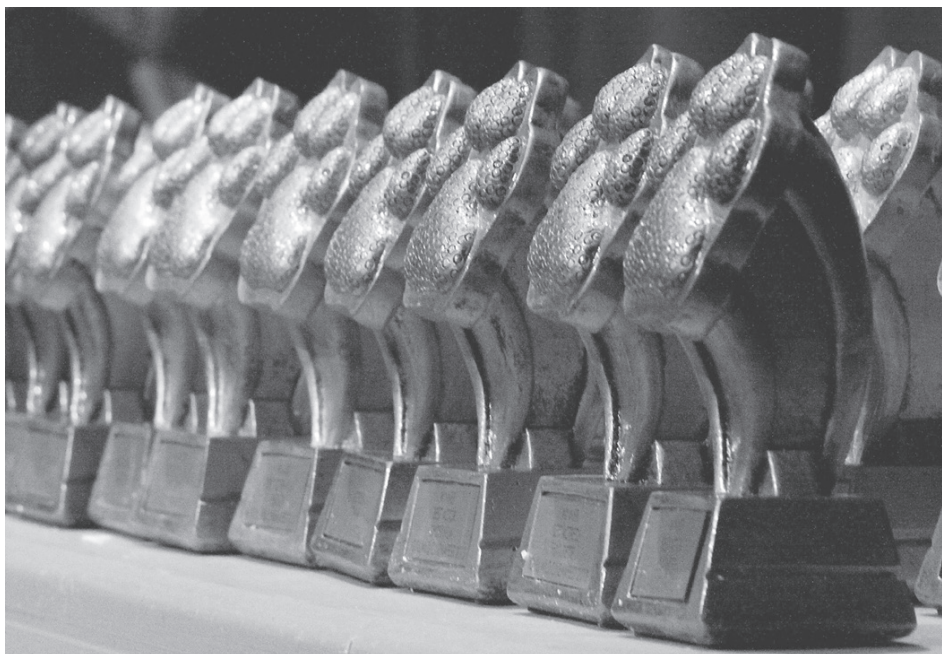


Festival Chairman Phil Calderone



Above, Pete and Suzy Capparelli received The Joni Award for all they contribute to the community.

At right, “How Do You Write a Joe Schermann Song” won multiple awards, including Best Trailer, Best Feature Film and Best Director. Director Gary King is shown here.



The ICF 2013 Coyote Paw awards were lined up and ready to be presented Sunday night at The Rustic Theatre.



Robert Fleet won Best Actor for the feature film “Player” at the Idyllwild CinemaFest on Sunday.

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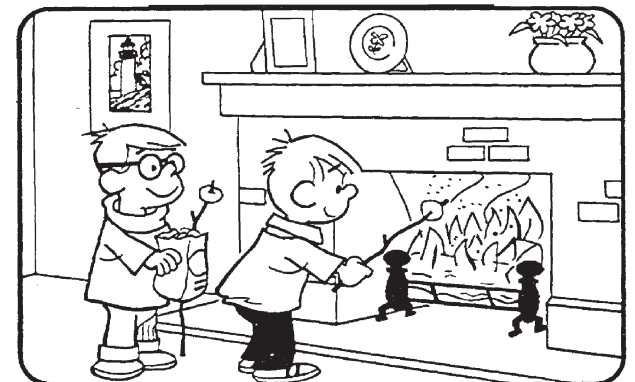
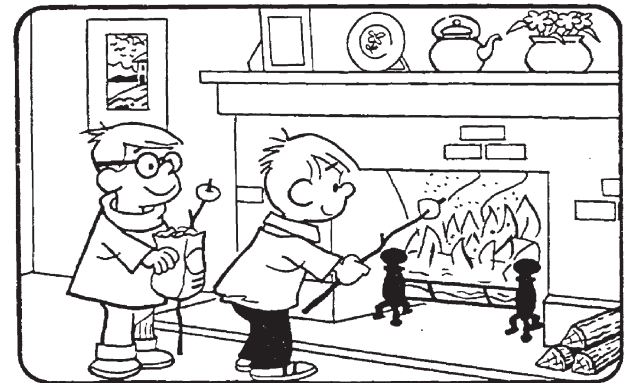
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4	6	9	5	2	8	3	7	1
6	8	5	7	4	1	2	9	3
2	9	1	3	8	5	7	6	4
3	4	7	2	6	9	1	8	5

Answers to Sudoku
(Puzzle on next page)

M	I	T	A	M	E	N	D	C	B	S
A	D	O	B	O	W	I	E	O	A	T
C	O	M	P	O	N	E	N	T	M	B
J	A	C	K	E	T	A	C	H	E	
E	G	O	S	E	W	H	O	N	O	R
S	U	M	S	R	O	C	E	D	N	A
T	A	P	E	R	W	A	D	I	O	N
A	L	E	S	N	E	W	A	R	K	
N	O	N	F	A	T	A	M	I		
A	L	I	C	O	M	P	U	T	E	R
B	I	O	T	R	I	E	R	L	Y	E
S	O	N	S	E	N	S	E	F	E	E

Answers to Crossword
(Puzzle on next page)

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Continued from previous page

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Gorgeous studio apartment in PC. Treetop view through leaded glass windows. Full bath, kitchen w/stove, 1/2-size fridge. Privacy. \$590/mo. (951) 850-8466. Background check/credit check.

Commercial Rentals

Mountain Manor Reduced rates.....
54585 N. Circle Dr. Suite B, \$550/mo. 2 offices & bath Approx. 460 sq. ft. Pete Daly (619) 871-7235.

Commercial Rentals

FOR SALE OR LEASE
1,536 SQUARE FEET
PRIME RETAIL/COMMERCIAL SITE
Corner N. CIRCLE AND CEDAR
PHONE IAN @ 714-269-7666
EMAIL JITIAN@VERIZON.NET

FREE 1st month rent with one year lease. Office space 13'x12' in the Town Crier building. 54295 Village Center Dr. Ample parking. \$300/mo. Call (951) 659-2145.

Real Estate

Easy access to this popular and stately **B&B**, 4 BR, large dining, living & super kitchen. A must to see property. 26770 Hwy. 243. First time on market for years. Van Leuven Realty. (909) 225-9555.

A Double-Decker fresh on the market! Let the outdoors in but not the cold through dual-pane windows viewing tree-studded land. 4 BR with room to romp, 2 great rooms. Free recorded info: (800) 844-8410 ext. 4, #00924242 Realty Source.

SUDOKU

(Answers on previous page)

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2				8	7		
	4		2				8

Buy a classified and sell your stuff! Call Sandy at the Town Crier: 659-2145

Health

Canada Drug Center is your choice for safe and affordable medications. Our licensed Canadian mail order pharmacy will provide you with savings of up to 90 percent on all your medication needs. Call today 1-800-273-0209, for \$10.00 off your first prescription and free shipping. (Cal-SCAN)

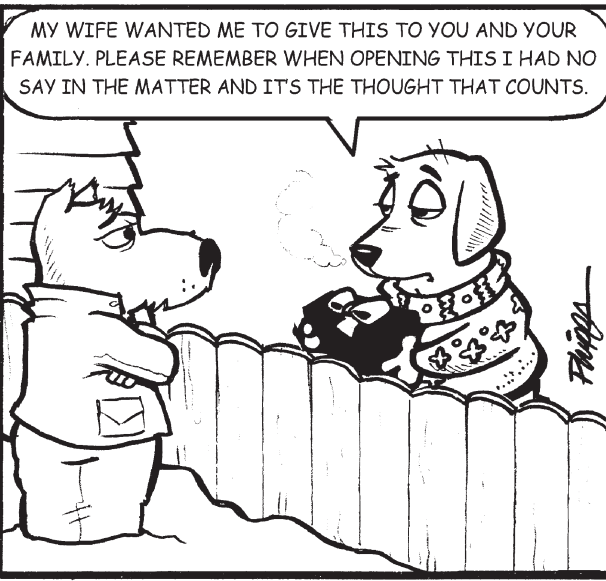
Health

Do you know your Testosterone Levels? Call 888-904-2372 and ask about our test kits and get a FREE Trial of Progene All-Natural Testosterone Supplement. (Cal-SCAN)

Attention **SLEEP APNEA** SUFFERERS with Medicare. Get **FREE CPAP** Replacement Supplies at No Cost, plus **FREE** home delivery! Best of all, prevent red skin sores and bacterial infection! Call 888-699-7660. (Cal-SCAN)

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JUST LIKE CATS & DOGS



HOROSCOPE

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You're eager to take on that new opportunity opening up as January gives way to February. Now all you need to do is resist quitting too early. Do your best to stay with it.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Doff a bit of that careful, conservative outlook and let your brave Bovine self take a chance on meeting that new challenge. You could be surprised at how well you do.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You might not want to return to the more serious tasks facing you. But you know it's what you must do. Cheer up. Something more pleasant soon will occupy your time.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) As you dutifully tidy up your end-of-the-month tasks, your fun self emerges to urge you to do something special: A trip (or a cruise, maybe?) could be just what you need.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Your achievements are admirable as you close out the month with a roar. Now you can treat yourself to some well-earned time off for fun with family or friends. (Or both!)

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Be sure you know the facts before you assume someone is holding back on your project. Try to open your mind before you give someone a piece of it.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) You might feel comfortable in your familiar

surroundings, but it might be time to venture into something new. There's a challenge out there that's just right for you.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your love of things that are new gets a big boost as you encounter a situation that opens up new and exciting vistas. How far you go with it depends on you.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) That recent workplace shift might not seem to be paying off as you expected. But be patient. There are changes coming that could make a big difference.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) While few can match the Goat's fiscal wizardry, you still need to be wary in your dealings. There might be a problem you should know about sooner rather than later.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Easy does it when it comes to love and all the other good things in life. Don't try to force them to develop on your schedule. Best to let it happen naturally.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) A surprise decision by someone you trust causes some stormy moments. But a frank discussion explains everything, and helps save a cherished relationship.

BORN THIS WEEK: Sometimes you forget to take care of yourself, because you're so busy caring for others. But you wouldn't have it any other way.

CROSSWORD

(Answers on previous page)

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11
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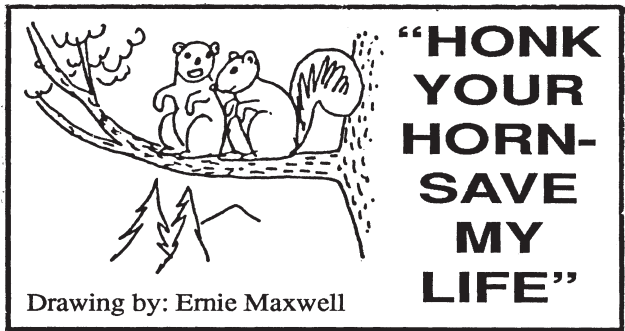
ACROSS

- 1 Cambridge sch.
- 4 Tweak the Constitution
- 9 Letterman's network
- 12 Fuss
- 13 Alamo hero with a knife named for him
- 14 Feedbag morsel
- 15 Part
- 17 Biz deg.
- 18 Commercials
- 19 Quartz variety
- 21 Baked potato's skin
- 24 Liniment target
- 25 Swelled head
- 26 Stitch
- 28 Esteem
- 31 Simple arithmetic
- 33 Sinbad's bird
- 35 - St. Vincent Millay
- 36 Come to a point
- 38 Bankroll
- 40 Charged bit
- 41 Brewery products
- 43 New Jersey airport
- 45 OK for dieters
- 47 Parisian pal
- 48 Boxer Muhammad
- 49 ENIAC and its successors
- 54 Life story, for short
- 55 Judge, at times

- 56 Caustic solution
- 57 Male offspring
- 58 Logic
- 59 Doctor's due

DOWN

- 1 Buddy
- 2 Altar affirmative
- 3 Cruise or Selleck
- 4 Homes
- 5 Dr. Frankenstein's creation
- 6 Female sheep
- 7 Martial arts mercenary
- 8 Remove (from)
- 9 Digests of a sort
- 10 Movie pig
- 11 Celebrity
- 16 Neighbor of
- 20 Afgh.
- 21 Make jokes
- 22 Water (Sp.)
- 23 Chum
- 27 "Holy moley!"
- 29 - about (approximately)
- 30 Hierarchy level
- 32 Narcissist's love
- 34 Finger food
- 37 Does a double-take
- 39 Coy
- 42 Emporium
- 44 Humor
- 45 Apprehends
- 46 Hodgepodge
- 50 60 sec.
- 51 Sprite
- 52 "Catcher in the ..."
- 53 Witness



Drawing by: Ernie Maxwell

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Health

Continued from page 7

Our youth read, play and constantly watch comic books, games and videos associated with graphic violence. It is ironic that one of the most antigun communities, Hollywood, constantly depicts gun-associated violence in films and television. It has been reported that the average child watches 8,000 televised murders and 100,000 acts of violence before finishing elementary school.

The typical attitude has been that all is well since the homicide rate is down. But, when we look further, the ratio of victims of homicide during the 1980s was 17.5 and 13.2 for the 18-24 and 35-49 age groups respectively. In 2005, the same ratios were 14.9 and 5.7 indicating that most of the decrease in the overall homicide rate was at the expense of the older group.

The critics of controlling explicit violence in the media claim definitive studies have not been done. But even assuming this is accurate, can a reasonable person see any societal benefit to exposing millions to graphic violence?

We do not use the same criteria for pornography. Although there are no large, long-term studies showing an association between exposures to pornography by children and antisocial behavior, common sense indicates that it cannot have a positive impact on children. Thus we attempt to control exposure by limiting at what time, on what channels, and have developed a parental guidance scoring system.

The fact that this column is endorsing wide public health approaches to gun violence should not be interpreted as a vote for

not acting now on common-sense measures. For instance, if the major reason for gun ownership is protection, should we allow unrestricted purchase of firearms?

In Virginia, a 19-year-old law restricting the purchase of a handgun to one per month was recently rescinded. It is hard to make a case for purchasing multiple handguns on a weekly basis if the guns are used for protection.

This is an encouragement for secondary illegal sales and smuggling of guns to other states where more control exists. Arizona has no registration, no permit required and no waiting period on handgun purchases. Additionally there is no limit on the guns that can be purchased in one month. According to the Yellow Pages there are 111 gun dealers in the Phoenix area alone with a population of 1.5 million people.

This does not take into consideration online retailers, gun dealers without a land-based phone or national department store retailers who do not advertise themselves as “gun dealers.” It is not a stretch to think that many of these guns will find their way to undesirable hands, many of them in Mexico. For comparison purposes, Los Angeles, home for more than 4 million people, has 21 gun dealers.

Reasonable gun ownership is not the issue, gun violence is. As we have successfully done with car accidents and cigarette smoking, public health measures should be applied to this problem which is responsible for 30,000 yearly deaths in the U.S. Most of them young people.

We owe it to our youth to consider a multidimensional approach to this problem.

If you have a suggestion for a future topic for Dr. Manetta to address, send an email to itc@towncrier.com.

Leash

Continued from page 7

to the guy next door. Parents carry a large part of the responsibility for the behavior of their children, but tell me how government can legislate good parenting.

If a parent wants to buy their 9-year-old child a violent game, rated for adults, and let them play it for hours on end as way of babysitting, how is the government going to regulate that? If you’re a neglectful parent, you’re a big part of the problem; but you should go to jail for it.

Logs

Continued from page 12

Riverside County Fire, Pinyon

Report unavailable.

CHP log

The resident post of the California Highway Patrol responded to the following calls from Monday to Monday, Jan. 7 to 14. This may not be

Medicare

Continued from page 3

suing another entity for medical expenses. In these situations you or your lawyer should tell Medicare as soon as possible. These types of insurance usually pay first

So the government tries to reason with manufacturers and lobbyists, but there is too much money to be made. Instead they rationalize and delude themselves into thinking that their hands are clean. People will continue to die while merchants of violence party big and live high on the hog.

Some believe that what separates humans from the other animals is our ability to be self-aware. I believe that, in the violent age in which we live, some of this self-awareness and self-examination is greatly needed.

But I doubt there will any epidemic of conscience anytime soon. So, buckle your seat belts, it’s going to be a bumpy ride.

a complete list of responses:

Jan. 7 — Solo, noninjury collision, Highway 74, west of Spring Crest Drive, Pinyon.

Jan. 7 — Two-vehicle, injury collision, Terwilliger Road south of La Cima Road, Anza.

Jan. 8 — Solo, noninjury collision, South Circle Drive west of Wildwood Drive, Idyllwild.

Jan. 8 — Solo, single injury collision, Highway 243 south

of Poppet Flat Road, Poppet Flat.

Jan. 9 — Solo, single injury collision on Highway 243 north of Highway 74, Mountain Center.

Jan. 10 — Solo, non-injury collision, Highway 243 north of Franklin Drive, Idyllwild.

Jan. 11 — Two-vehicle, injury collision, Highway 371 east of Cary Road, Anza.

for services related to each type: No-fault insurance; Liability (including automobile and self-insurance); Black lung benefits; and Workers’ compensation. Medicaid and TRICARE never pay first for services that are covered by Medicare. They only pay after Medicare, employer plans or

Medicare Supplement Insurance have paid.

For more information, visit www.medicare.gov/publications and read “Medicare and Other Health Benefits: Your Guide to Who Pays First.” You can also call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) and ask for a mailed copy.

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 person is doing business as GOTCHA COVERED PRODUCTIONS, 27157 Golden Rod Road, Idyllwild, CA 92549, Riverside County. Mailing address: P.O. Box 3420, Idyllwild, CA 92549. CLAYTON WAYNE HELGREN and ROBERT GARY BUSH, 27157 Golden Rod Rd., Idyllwild, CA 92549.

This business is conducted by a General Partnership.

Registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious name listed above on May 4, 2006.

Signed:

CLAYTON WAYNE HELGREN

Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on Dec. 4, 2012.

FILE NO.: R-2012-12958

NOTICE — THIS FICTITIOUS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES ON DEC. 4, 2017. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO DEC. 4, 2017. 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: B. Villegas, Deputy

Pub. TC: Dec. 28, 2012, Jan. 4, 10, 17, 2013.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as BETTERWAY AUTO SALES, BETTERWAY CARS AND TRUCKS, 651 Burwood Court, Riverside CA, 92506, Riverside County. BETTERWAY CORPORATION, 651 Burwood Court, Riverside, CA 92506.

This business is conducted by a California Corporation.

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

Signed:

PATRICK M. NELSON

President

Statement filed with the County Clerk of Riverside County on Dec. 26, 2012.

FILE NO.:

R-2012-13640

NOTICE — THIS FICTITIOUS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES ON DEC. 26, 2017. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO DEC. 26, 2017. 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. Gonzalez, Deputy

Pub. TC: Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2013.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

TS NO. 12-0077365

TITLE ORDER NO. 12-0138826

APN NO. 561-162-007-8

YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 04/10/2006. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. Notice is hereby given that RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A., as duly appointed trustee pursuant to the Deed of Trust executed by JOYCE R REYNOLDS, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN, dated 04/10/2006 and recorded 4/14/2006, as Instrument No. 2006-0271941, in Book , Page , of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Riverside County, State of California, will sell on 01/31/2013 at 10:00AM, In front of the Corona Civic Center, 849 W. Sixth Street, Corona, Riverside County, CA at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash or check as described below, payable in full at time of sale, all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust, in the property situated in said County and State and as more fully described in the above referenced Deed of Trust. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 53230 DOUBLE VIEW DRIVE, IDYLLWILD, CA, 92549. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. The total amount of the unpaid balance with interest thereon of the obligation secured by the property to be sold plus reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is \$268,241.63. It is possible that at the time of sale the opening bid may be less than the total indebtedness due. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept cashier's checks drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state. Said sale will be made, in an "AS IS" condition, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession or encumbrances, to satisfy the indebtedness secured by said Deed of Trust, advances thereunder, with interest as provided, and the unpaid principal of the Note secured by said Deed of Trust with interest thereon as

provided in said Note, plus fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. If required by the provisions of section 2923.5 of the California Civil Code, the declaration from the mortgagee, beneficiary or authorized agent is attached to the Notice of Trustee's Sale duly recorded with the appropriate County Recorder's Office. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on a property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 1-800-281-8219 or visit this Internet Web site www.recontrustco.com, using the file number assigned to this case 12-0077365. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A. 1800 Tapo Canyon Rd., CA6-914-01-94 SIMI VALLEY, CA 93063 Phone/Sale Information: (800) 281-8219 By: Trustee's Sale Officer RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A. is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose. FEI# 1006.172366 1/10, 1/17, 1/24/2013

Pub. TC: Jan. 10, 17, 24, 2013.

LIEN SALE

CIVIL CODE 3071 & 3072

On 1/29/2013 at 410 N. State St., Hemet, CA,

a Lien Sale will be held on a 1975 COASTCAT HULL: CCM3511M754, CA CF: 3786FR; and a 0 SPCNS VIN: S41890 STATE: LIC: N/A at 10:00 a.m.

Pub. TC: Jan. 17, 2013.



**ATTENTION
IDY BUSINESS
OWNERS ...**

Did you know?

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- Your DBA expires after 5 years, and you need to refile.

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Call Sandy at (951) 659-2145 or stop by the Town Crier, 24945 Village Center Dr. (office open Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. from 9 am to 5 pm.)

Idyllwild Service Directory

- New ads placed at beginning of month only
- Deadline for new ads: 5 p.m. last Thursday of month
- Unless the heading is currently running, your ad must be 2 col. x 2" or larger.
- Minimum insertion: 1 month
- One copy change permitted monthly
- Deadline for copy change: noon Friday

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- 2 COL. x 2-1/2" = \$34.50 PER WEEK
- 2 COL. x 3" = \$41.40 PER WEEK
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Questions? Call Sandy at (951) 659-2145 or Email: sandy@towncrier.com

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DECKS

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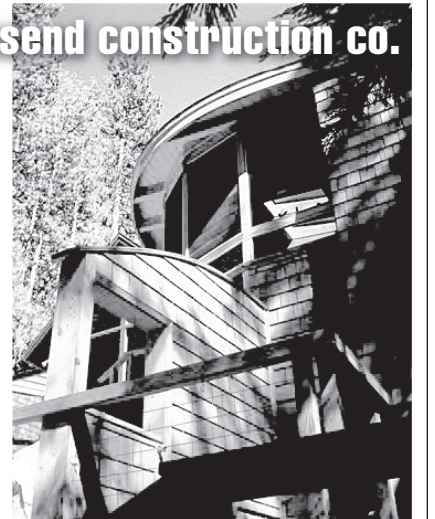
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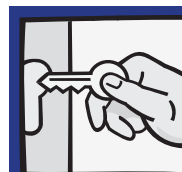
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Idyllwild middle school students mount art show

By MARSHALL SMITH
STAFF REPORTER

Ten Idyllwild Middle School students displayed their work at a nicely mounted art show on the stage of the Idyllwild School gymnasium. In a gallery like environment, Audrey Carver, 13, 8th grader, Rosemary Collins, 14, 8th grader, Ben Cruz, 13, 8th grader, Grace Davis, 11, 6th grader, Lyric Hemmer, 14, 8th grade, Adrian Hernandez, 12, 7th grader, Yasmin Morales, 13, 8th grader, Sable Summerfield, 13, 8th grader, Emilio Wettlaufer, 13, 7th grader and Addison Wilson, 13, 8th grader, displayed exceptional art in a variety of media.

Faculty advisor Lenore Sazer proudly noted that of her graduating eighth grade featured artists, five are applying to Idyllwild Arts.

Although the oldest is



Idyllwild Middle School artists, from left, **Yasmin Morales, Audrey Carver, Sable Summerfield, Addison Wilson, and Ben Cruz** at their Thursday, Jan. 10, art show opening at Idyllwild School.

PHOTO BY MARSHALL SMITH

only 14, many of these young artists have been studying for many years, and the quality of their work and the breadth of the disciplines within which they worked are remarkable.

The onstage show took place on a snowy Thursday, Jan. 10. Principal Matt Kraemer joked that Sazer seems

to always hold her shows on snow days, either that or she brings the snow. For those who attended, they could not fail to be impressed at how lucky Idyllwild is to have support for the arts

through the smARTS program, from which many of these students have benefited.

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

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Idyllwild School artist **Ben Cruz** in front of one of his pieces.

PHOTO BY MARSHALL SMITH



Sixth-grade artist **Grace Davis**, with her Nietzsche shoe.

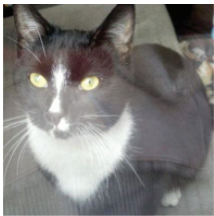
PHOTO BY MARSHALL SMITH

CREATURE CORNER

By MIMI AND HOOTCH

The best news this week is that two Dachshunds who were lost in the winter storms came home. **Sadie** and **Rutledge** miraculously found their way out of the snow and ice to wander to a porch to ask for help. Paws up to you both for being such troopers. Also reunited was **Buddy**, the pit bull. And great breaking news: **Rachel**, the black female puppy has been adopted into a forever home. That leaves three puppies available. Get your applications in now.

Snowball is completely happy with her new home and with **Spencer**, her new forever pack mate.



When you need a warm furry tuxedo cat to warm your heart and your toes, **Midnight** is your man. Abandoned as his family walked away, he is friendly, playful, quiet, and only has eyes for you. Young enough to enjoy a little cat and mouse time, but mature enough to

calmly cuddle and wait for you to love him. Be assured that when the clock strikes midnight, you'll know where Midnight the cat is.

The word is out, there are puppies at ARF — three of them. One girl, two boys, and momma too. Introducing **Sandy** and her babies, **Noah**, **Dillon**, and **Olivia**, who were named in memory of the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary and of three of the children who lost their lives too soon.

Sandy has her girlish figure back and is ready for a less hectic home, complete with other four-leggeds, canine or feline. And puppy love speaks for itself. Get it now while they are still young. Learning every day, these little furballs are already in puppy school. And they are ready for you to visit and fall in love. They have New Year's Promises, too, to always stay faithful and by your side forever.

Also available is **Oreo**, our young male Boston terrier-Chihuahua mix who is known for his special twirling dance when his food bowl is visible.

ARF has many cats and dogs available for adoption or fostering. Go to www.arfidyllwild.weebly.com and click on Petfinder. All pets are spayed, neutered, and current on shots. ARF is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sundays. Call (951) 659-1122 or email info@idyllwildarf.org for appointment on any other day.

Creature corner is sponsored this week by Brent Skean. To sponsor the column, call Shane Fender at the Town Crier, 659-2145.



65 years ago - 1948

Idyllwild was deciding if it should join the Hemet School District.

60 years ago - 1953

Martin Aguirre was in charge of the Lions Club project to raise funds for recreation equipment at Town Hall. Plans called for developing a playground adjacent to the building.

55 years ago - 1958

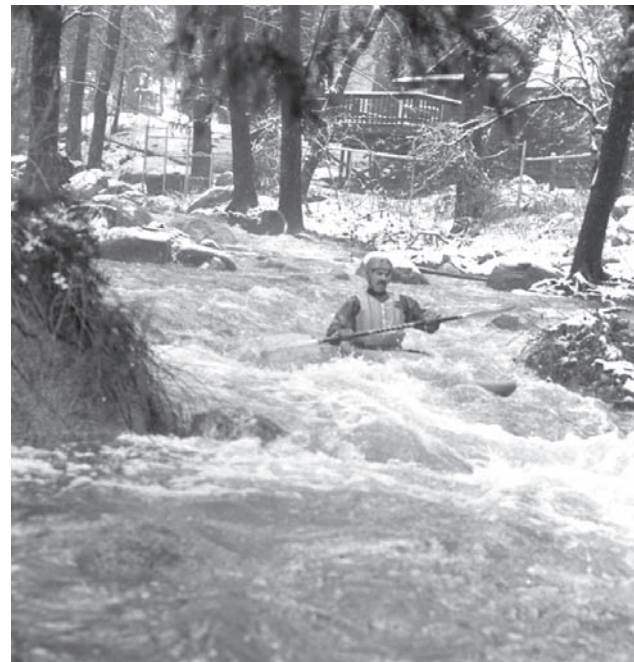
The Town Crier began publishing the newspaper weekly. Since its start in 1946, the newspaper had maintained an every-other-week schedule during the winter season.

45 years ago - 1968

A federal grant of \$71,400 for Idyllwild's sewer disposal project was approved by the Water Pollution Control Administration.

40 years ago - 1973

The realty office building, first owned by Mary Nelson, later by Bob Johnson, was undergoing



Rick Lynsky maneuvers his way down Strawberry Creek on Jan. 18, 1993. The water was abnormally high after recent storms had turned the normally sedate Strawberry Creek into the perfect water level to kayak.

FILE PHOTO

a metamorphosis. Peter Rogers and Paul Pound were transforming it into a restaurant to be called Gastrognome.

25 years ago - 1988

Two Idyllwild men and a Pine Cove man and woman were in Riverside County jail after being arrested and charged with manufacturing methamphetamine and possession for sale of metham-

phetamine.

20 years ago - 1993

The Hill was cut off from the rest of the world when highways 74, 243 and 371 were closed due to boulders, mud and trees on the roads caused by heavy rainstorms that had pummelled the Hill for 12 consecutive days.

10 years ago - 2003

Astrocamp, an educational camp teaching science and astronomy to thousands of children each year, got the good news that it would benefit from a \$4.1 million bond issued by Gov. Gray Davis.

5 years ago - 2008

Statewide budget cuts were requiring the possible closure of state parks, including Mt. San Jacinto State Park.

1 year ago - 2012

The Idyllwild Fire Protection District (IFPD) commission signed a contract with Mike Sherman to be interim Idyllwild fire chief.

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Great blue heron detours to the Hill



This great blue heron stalked through the dried cattail reeds, treading on frozen remains of lily pads searching for the few remaining goldfish while visiting Mountain Center.

PHOTO BY DORIS JEAN LOMBARD

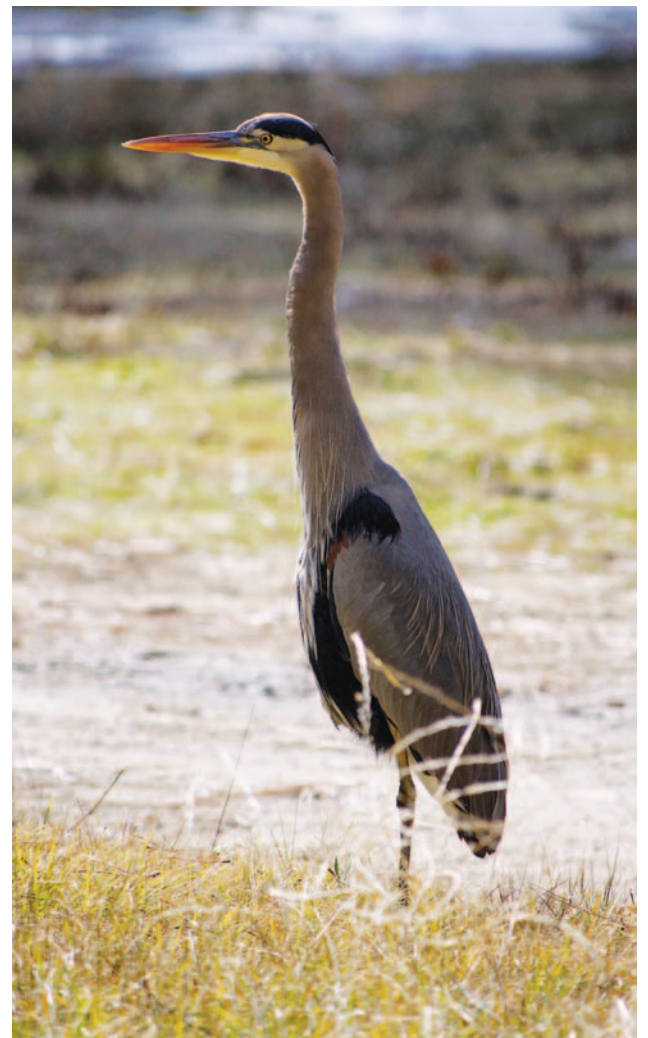


Over the weekend the majestic great blue heron visited a local small wetland area near South Circle Drive.

PHOTO ABOVE BY CAREENA CHASE

The great blue heron seemed out of place on Wednesday morning, Jan. 9. This magnificent bird is normally found in saltwater and freshwater habitats, from open coasts, marshes, riverbanks, and lakes to backyard goldfish ponds. However, this heron was seen on South Circle near Fern Valley Rd. and Tahquitz Dr. in an open field soaking up the sun.

PHOTO AT LEFT BY JENNY KIRCHNER



Strange but true

In Singapore, one of the colorful customs is training birds for singing competitions. It's not always just a hobby, though; for some, it's a serious — and costly — business. A single well-trained bird might sell for as much as \$60,000.

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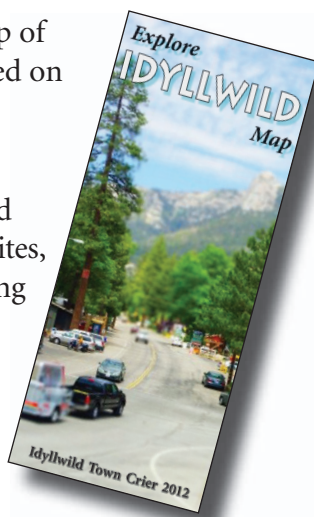
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