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VOL. 79 NO. 9

IDYLLWILD, CA

THURS., FEB. 29, 2024

Sauer takes on challenges at IWD

By DAVID JEROME  
CORRESPONDENT

The Idyllwild Water District (IWD) directors met Wednesday Feb. 21, their first public meeting with their new interim General Manager (GM) Curt Sauer.

Among important actions that night was the board approving a bid for the repair of the lower administrative office building.

The district received two bids for the Lower Administrative Office project, with the lower bid, \$216,000, from Garrett Woods of GNW construction, and his estimated timeline for this project is three months once work begins. Sauer called the bid reasonable, noting that it was within the ceiling approved by the board two years ago, despite increasing construction costs.

Schelly described the proposal as the minimum to bring the office up to code and return it to service, and noted that the district had done business with Woods before and been satisfied with the quality and timeliness of his work. The board approved the bid. Chief Financial Officer Hosny Shouman thanked the board that he would not have to spend another year asking for files to be run from the main office to the Courtyard office he now shares with the GM.

Ratepayer and former Director David Hunt expressed approval of Sauer's emphasis, in his interview in last week's Crier, on "team work and team building" as opposed to "solv(ing) problems by hiring and firing. It is the true test of leadership to be able to take a group of people with differences and build a team that works well together," he said in a statement he also submitted to the Crier. He also was "pleased that the GM recognized the issue of septic tank seepage possibly contaminating our underground water supply." Hunt expressed his view that the "main problem is overpopulation and massive visitation, not the need for an expanded sewer system."

Another ratepayer expressed their hope that, as a retired person, they would be able to afford water and sewer service in the future, and that the board would pursue all possible venues for grant funding for the proposed replacement of the district's aging Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP). They expressed the desire to see a petition drive or other movement involving "everyone from Stonewood to Mountain Center to help us approach whatever agencies, whatever elected officials ..." to secure the grant funding to "make this affordable. All of these communities could not exist happily without the commercial district that is the responsibility of Idyllwild water."

Mitch Davis, who will be sworn in as the fifth director in March, asked if the board had chosen new officers for the year, a task normally done in December. President Charles Schelly acknowledged this had not been done in December, or the two months following, and said that this would be done in March, when Davis joins the board.

This reporter brought asked about the propriety of Sauer's hiring. The hiring of a permanent GM requires an open process with public posting of the opening. Schelly agreed that there were "wide latitude and few strictures" on the hiring of an interim GM, this type of hiring being something of an emergency measure. Legal Counsel Joe Byrne was present by Zoom and agreed with this description. Schelly declined to describe how Sauer's name had come to the board's attention but said "two or three" candidates were considered. Sauer came and was interviewed. "The board felt he was most qualified," Schelly also stated that IWD would be happy to provide a copy of the interim GM's contract.

Sauer's report was an overview of his initial orientation after less than two weeks on the job. He said he had met with the contractors who had submitted bids on the lower administration office. He noted he had visited the district's Foster Lake operational area and the WWTP and met all employees, as well as Idyllwild Fire Protection District (IFPD) Chief Mark LaMont, and established contact with the state Water Resources Control Board, who now have a copy of his finalized contract. On the Feb. 27, he was scheduled to meet Fern Valley Water GM Victor Jimenez and that meeting will include a contractor for ELCO, a firm that does much water line work for both districts.

Sauer also shared his "to-do list." This includes addressing IFPD's request for information sharing, Larry Donahoo's request for an easement and certificate of insurance for the well IWD operates on his property, and restoring the drink-

See IWD, page A2



Idyllwild's own **Casey Abrams** on the stand-up bass during the Idyllwild Arts' Black History Month Concert Saturday, Feb. 17 in the Lowman Concert Hall on campus. (More photos page B6.)

PHOTO COURTESY OF IAA

Smith joins PCWD board

By JP CRUMRINE  
CORRESPONDENT

Becky Smith is the newest member of the Pine Cove Water District's (PCWD) Board of Directors. Smith was chosen at a special board meeting Jan. 17.

Two other individuals applied for the seat: Amie Foye and the third person, who is not a resident of PCWD, according to President Robert Hewitt. At the meeting, current directors reviewed each applicant's submission and the unanimous choice was Smith.

She has plenty of water district experience, since she is the former office manager. After 17 years, she retired at the end of November 2023.

She was born in Ely, Nevada and grew up in Sparks, Nevada. At age 18, she left for Escondido and a life in California, where she met her husband, Galen. They have a son, Sam.

Galen's parents were one of the first to buy a 5-acre parcel in Garner Valley. He loved coming to the Hill and spending time here, Smith related. As they grew tired of city living, they moved to Garner Valley in 1988.

Smith fills the vacancy created when former Director Diana Luther resigned Dec. 1, 2023. Her resignation letter arrived at the office several days prior to her effective resignation date and Smith's retirement.

"So, I knew she was leaving and something clicked right away," she said. "This would be how I could stay involved with the district. I loved the staff and the teamwork."

As a director, she views the installation of the remaining "smart" meters to be the top priority. Thus far, PCWD has about 600 meters installed, about half the district's total meters. The weather has an important influence on when the meters can be installed. Further the vendor, who sold the meters to PCWD, has declared bankruptcy, but General Manager Jere-



Becky Smith  
PHOTO COURTESY OF SMITH

my Potter has been investigating what the district's options may be for this disruption.

Smith did note that PCWD has used several hundred thousand dollars in cash in the past year to purchase the property from Riverside County and partial payments to Smart Earth Technology. Another payment will be due March 1.

Nevertheless, she is not eager to increase the water rates yet.

PCWD's water production in 2023 was 33.2 million gallons, about 15% less than the average for the three years from 2020 through 2022. Smith attributed this to the extreme precipitation that fell on the Hill last year.

"We had a good winter and people weren't using as much water," she said. "And many residents left the Hill for a while because of the weather. We had more than 7 feet of snow here. Week after week of snow or rain."

With respect to the recent meetings between the Idyllwild Fire Department and the Idyllwild and Fern Valley water districts, Smith does not see PCWD joining this effort.

"There is no benefit to any of the customers in Pine Cove," she stated. "I don't see any interest in a Community Service District. What would it do and how would that benefit Pine Cove?"

"Pine Cove is run so well we don't need to participate," she opined.


Smith will serve the remainder of Luther's term which ends Dec. 4, 2024. She intends to seek election to a full-term in November. Both she and Director Vicki Jakubac, the second former employee on the board, have terms expiring this December.

"I'm excited to still be involved with the district. It's the best job in my lifetime," Smith said proudly. "To still be able to be involved is pretty blessed."

The PCWD Board of Directors is unique on the Hill. With Smith joining the board, she is the third female member, the first time one of the local district board's composition is a female majority.

"I like it and glad we're not chauvinistic," Smith noted.

WINTER  
SAFETY



ROADS CAN BE ICY,  
SLOW DOWN,  
LEAVE MORE  
FOLLOW DISTANCE

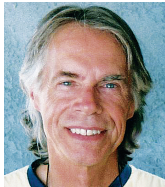
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# Local concerned about receiving two mail-in ballots for primary

By JP CRUMRINE  
CORRESPONDENT

Some voters are concerned about voter fraud, misconduct or multiple voting. Bruce Denny, a Town Crier member, contacted the paper about a specific instance that raised questions in his mind about a potential problem with duplicate vote-by-mail ballots.

Denny submitted his ballot earlier this month. Shortly after, he received both an email and text message thanking him for voting in the primary.

He was registered as a “No Party Preference” voter. After casting his vote, he decided that he wanted to vote in one of the major parties’ primary and re-registered.

However, he then received a second ballot. Confused, he contacted the Registrar of Voters (ROV) Office and asked what he should do with the second ballot.

He was told to “please destroy the second ballot.” He did, but then wondered how many other voters received multiple ballots.

Skepticism over election protections has grown. At the county board of supervisors’ meeting Feb. 6, this issue was discussed for nearly an hour. Supervisors Kevin Jeffries (1st District) and Karen Spiegel (2nd District) had submitted a proposal to enhance trust and faith in the county’s election process. But after six public speakers, both supervisors

agreed to withdraw the proposal.

The possibility of a voter submitting more than one vote-by-mail ballot was specifically mentioned during the discussion of that agenda item. In the Feb. 15 issue, the Town Crier reported that ROV Art Tinoco’s response to the skeptics described how the county reviews ballots returned to the office by mail to assure that only one ballot per voters is counted.

Elizabeth Florer, public information officer for the ROV, said, “... only the first ballot received at the registrar’s office will be counted. Safeguards are in place to flag and investigate if a subsequent ballot arrives.”

The voter must sign the back of the envelope containing their vote-by-mail ballot. The signature must match the voter’s signature on record with the ROV.

If the voter does not sign the back of the envelope, ROV will send them a letter requesting them to sign a form confirming they are who the person submitting the mail-in ballot. If they do not sign and return this form, the ballot will not be counted.

Assuming the voter has signed the back of the return envelope, that also shows their name and address. Before placing the ballot in the category to be counted, the election officer will enter this information into the election management system to verify there have been no other ballots submitted by this individual, perhaps at a different voter center. If so, it will be placed in the provisional category.

No identifying information is actually on the actual ballot. This is to assure that a person’s vote always remains confidential. There is the precinct, ballot type and number on the front of the return envelopes and on the conveying letter. But these are not attached to the ballot.

According to Florer, there are several reasons why a voter might receive more than one mail-in-ballot. These could include changing party registration or visits to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

For example, an individual might have been registered with “No Party Preference” and decided they wished to vote in either the Democratic or Republican primary on March 5. This is what Denny did.

The new registration might have triggered sending a ballot. Nevertheless, the voters are registered, and their name and address are in the ROV records. These are checked during counting to assure that only one ballot is counted from that person.

Similarly, visiting the DMV, which has an automatic voter registration process, can trigger another ballot sent to that person, if they forgot to check the box that they were already registered.

“It is important to know that it is illegal to try and cast two ballots,” Florer emphasized. If the possibility is discovered through investigation, it can be turned over to the [district attorney]’s office.”

### Town Crier election stories for the March 5 Primary Ballot

- Proposition 1: Feb. 1
- Riverside County Board of Education  
Bruce Dennis: Feb. 1
- U.S. Congress, California District 41  
Ken Calvert: Feb. 22  
Anna Nevenic: Feb. 8  
Will Rollins: Feb. 29
- California Assembly, District 36  
Joey Acuna: Feb. 15  
Jeff Gonzalez: Feb. 22  
Kalin Morse: Feb. 29
- California Assembly, District 47  
Christy Holstge: Feb. 15  
Greg Wallis: Feb. 8

## IWD

Continued from A1

ing fountain in front of The Fort. The Lions Club maintained this fountain for many years that bears a plaque honoring Lion and Idyllwild Plumbing founder Charlie Kretsinger, whose family maintained it after the club dissolved. Sauer has already spoken with Fort owner Shane Stewart about this project. The fountain is expected to return to service sometime in April, with IWD providing the water service gratis.

Schelly noted he had received a phone call from LaMont, who was very pleased to know that IWD was going to be co-operating on maintain hydrants and working with IFPD in providing essential information for the Insurance Services Office ratings. They factor into the insurance rates homeowners pay, and the condition of both fire and water services play a part.

In answers to questions from the public, Schelly noted that the long-negotiated easement on Lodge Road has been paid for and is being processed by the county, as is the deal with the Idyllwild Arts Academy for the land on which the WWTP will be built.

Shouman told the board that IWD’s investment in the “California CLASS” investment fund is doing well, earning 5.5%, and he suggested moving another \$100,000 into the fund. The district authorized him to shift assets out of less productive accounts and into Cal CLASS last year, with an initial deposit of \$100,000 and a ceiling of \$500,000. Legal counsel agreed that no further authorization was required for this move. This money is part of the Water Fund reserves.

The next meeting is 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 20.

### Turning 65? Medicare can be confusing, but I can help



#### Christy Johnson

Licensed Agent  
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### Learn about the plan choices you have at no cost and at no obligation to you.



We do not offer every plan in your area. Any information we provide is limited to those plans we do offer in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov or 1-800-MEDICARE to get information on all of your options.

## Vote centers opened last weekend

Riverside County voters will be able to cast their ballot for the 2024 Presidential Primary Election at one of 17 vote centers in Riverside County that opened Saturday, Feb. 24. Another 131 vote centers will open Saturday, March 2.

At any of these voter centers, residents may vote in-person or return their completed vote-by-mail ballot. Voters are not assigned to a specific location and may cast their ballot at any available vote center.

A list of vote centers is found at [https://voteinfo.net/sites/g/files/aldnop371/files/2024-01/March2024%20Vote%20Center%20Locations\\_ENG.pdf](https://voteinfo.net/sites/g/files/aldnop371/files/2024-01/March2024%20Vote%20Center%20Locations_ENG.pdf)

Eligible residents may also register to vote, update their registration or change their political party at a vote center.

Also, any registered voter may opt to mark a paper ballot or use a touch screen, which is an accessible voting unit available at all vote centers. The voter then casts their ballot into the ballot box or scans their ballot into a ballot scanner.

For voters who wish to return their vote-by-mail ballots at a drop box location, the Registrar of Voters has 106 official ballot drop-off locations throughout the county. Drop boxes have been available since Feb. 5 and will remain so through 8 p.m. on Election Day.

## It is scholarship time

High school seniors who resided in the Idyllwild School attendance area with a parent or guardian for three or more years during kindergarten through eighth grade, and for two of the four high school years, and have at least a 2.5 GPA, may apply for an Idyllwild Scholarship.

It doesn’t matter the high school they attend in the Hemet Unified School District, home schoolers also are eligible if they plan to further their education in some way, college or vocational.

The Idyllwild Scholarship Fund also acknowledges gap years. Last year, it awarded a total of \$30,000 to six Idyllwild seniors. Recipients were Geneva Dagnall, Ryan Lawrence, Ethan Teegarden, Michael Stroud, Zach Russo and Layton Teegarden.

Applications are available online at [www.idyllwildscholarshipfund.org](http://www.idyllwildscholarshipfund.org). They may be printed or filled out online. Packets are due by 3:45 p.m. Wednesday, April 10. Online applications are due by 11:59 p.m. that day.

The fund accepts tax-deductible donations of any amount. Mail to Idyllwild Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 778, Idyllwild, CA 92549.

## JOIN US FOR A LOS ANGELES ENGAGEMENT EVENT

### SUBLIMINAL PROJECTS GALLERY

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024 AT 6PM  
SUBLIMINAL PROJECTS GALLERY  
1331 SUNSET BOULEVARD, LA CA 90026

Join Idyllwild Arts President Pamela Jordan for an evening at Subliminal Projects Gallery, founded by Shepard Fairey, ‘88. Known for his art and activism, and as the visionary behind Obey Clothing, Fairey embodies the Citizen Artist who emerges from an Idyllwild Arts education.

Enjoy light refreshments while reconnecting with alumni and friends as we come together to present a special selection of student artworks for a single evening, alongside the works of female artists from the Middle East and North Africa, featured in the gallery’s ongoing *Boundless/Binding* exhibition.




Scan this code with your phone’s camera to RSVP and secure your spot for an inspiring evening!

*The gallery website notes its proximity to Dodger Stadium, and encourages guests to check the Dodgers Schedule before planning to visit the gallery. While street parking is available, ride-sharing is highly recommended.*

## Idyllwild Weather


### From the National Weather Service

Wednesday 2/28




56/35  
Partly Cloudy

Thursday 2/29




52/35  
Mostly Sunny

Friday 3/01




51/37  
Partly Cloudy

Saturday 3/02




42/31  
Rain/Snow

Sunday 3/03




41/28  
Rain/Snow Showers

Monday 3/04



47/30  
Mostly Sunny

Tuesday 3/05



52/32  
Partly Cloudy

Find the latest weather information from the National Weather Service at [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov).


### Idyllwild this year

Date	High	Low	P	S
2/20	45	42	0.79	
2/21	42	39	0.43	
2/22	54	29	0.04	
2/23	60	30	0.00	
2/24	61	34	0.00	
2/25	61	37	0.00	
2/26	54	39	0.00	

### Idyllwild last year

Date	High	Low	P	S
2/20	57	42	0.00	
2/21	51	31	0.00	
2/22	29	23	0.39	
2/23	28	25	0.00	
2/24	42	27	0.00	
2/25	37	29	0.00	
2/26	35	24	0.00	

The Town Crier’s Idyllwild daily high and low temperatures and rain and snow totals in the past were taken directly from the National Weather Service website, which gets its Idyllwild weather information from automatic weather sensing equipment at Idyllwild Fire Station, an official NWS COOP reporter. [We are seeking reliable Idyllwild and Pine Cove full-time residents to provide this information. Residents who follow CoCoRaHS procedures would be strongly preferred. CoCoRaHS is an organization of private, amateur weather observers that provides carefully collected data for use by the NWS. If you are interested in providing us with rain and snow reports, please contact [jack@towncrier.com](mailto:jack@towncrier.com) or call Caltrans road update at 1-800-427-7623.



Partly cloudy view of Tahquitz peak just before sunset.

PHOTO BY MIKE FERRO

Submit your local weather photo Tuesday mornings before 10 a.m. to: [submit@towncrier.com](mailto:submit@towncrier.com)



# Kalin Morse seeks Assembly seat

By JP CRUMRINE  
CORRESPONDENT

*Editor's note: California will hold its 2024 Presidential Primary Tuesday, March 5. Besides the races for president and the U.S. Senate, to succeed Diane Feinstein, many local races need a primary to determine the November candidates.*

The Town Crier is writing about the races for the U.S. Congressional District 41, California Assembly districts (AD) 36 and 47 and the Riverside County Board of Education District 4.

Seven candidates are vying to represent AD 36. The five Democratic candidates are Joey Acuna, Waymond Fermon, Edgard Garcia, Tomas Oliva and Eric Rodriguez. The two Republican candidates seeking a place on the November ballot are Jeff Gonzalez and Kalin Morse. Of the seven candidates, the two receiving the most votes March 5 will be on the November ballot.

Kalin Morse lives in the Imperial Valley. Five generations have made a living from farming their land.

But the state has made it harder for farmers to achieve success, in Morse's opinion.

"Without our farmers, we would all starve," Morse wrote in an email to the Town Crier. "Needless to say, we need to protect the agricultural industry and all that it does for society."

But farming is not in his immediate future. Morse attended Imperial Valley College and earned an associate degree in Computer Information Technology and Social and Behavioral Studies.

He is the director of a nonprofit that seeks to promote wildlife conservation and wildlife habitat conservation in Westmoreland.

His concerns for the future of family farming are embedded in his view of the state's economic and revenue issues.

"Not a single country has taxed itself into prosperity and it is not going to work here in California," he wrote. "I have also lost nearly all trust for the current politicians that make this their livelihood. They are not here to look out for us, they look out for themselves."

Reducing taxes — all taxes including payroll, sales gas and small business — would be his "groundbreaking reform" of government.

"All [of these taxes] increase the cost of



Kalin Morse PHOTO COURTESY OF MORSE

living," he opined. "If elected, I will vote no on any bill that increases the tax burden of Californians and will push to lower taxes instead."

He also promises to donate the portion of his Assembly salary above the state median salary (excluding expenses necessary to being an Assemblyman).

Morse is running as a Republican. In clarifying his party positions, he does not "... follow the mainstream, right-wing narrative in this country. In other words, he said we need people who protect the rights of all individuals, such as the right to say what you want, be who you want and marry who you want.

"As a Christian, I can have my own personal values, but it is important to remember that my personal beliefs do not restrict the rights of others in this country," he added.

When asked about homelessness, he responded, "Talking about the homeless problem, we'll never solve it, because there are some homeless people — that's the way they want to live." But for those who do not choose that status, he wants to provide services such as education to allow them to find jobs, income and a different life.

He hopes to bring the Founding Fathers' core principles back to the to the Republican Party and the California State Assembly.

As of Feb. 17, Morse had received \$126,400 in campaign donations, all but \$350 from the state Republican Party, but his available cash was \$338.

Since then, he has garnered nearly another \$150,000 from the state party.

# Rollins wants to take on Calvert again

By JP CRUMRINE  
CORRESPONDENT

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The Town Crier is writing about the races for the U.S. Congressional District 41, California Assembly districts (AD) 36 and 47 and the Riverside County Board of Education District 4.

Incumbent Ken Calvert and two Democrats — Anna Nevenic and Will Rollins — are on the primary ballot. The two candidates receiving the most votes March 5 will advance to the November ballot.

Will Rollins, 39, of Palm Springs is seeking his second nomination to challenge incumbent Ken Calvert for the 41st District seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Rollins is a former federal prosecutor. After Sept. 11, he wanted to combat terrorism. Rather than join the military, he graduated from Dartmouth University and earned his law degree from Columbia University.

"I've worked in law enforcement my entire career, protecting communities from terror," he said. "Whether it's murder, cartels, terrorism or public corruption, I've wanted to stop those threats to our neighborhoods."

Beyond the physical threats, Rollins is very concerned about the damage to our trust in government that political corruption has created — and he stresses that both parties share the blame.

He offers several ideas to change the political behavior of elected officials and to improve citizens' faith in government. He is an advocate of term limits. Rollins favors six terms for members of the House of Representatives and three terms for senators. However, he often poses a qualification.

He would vote for these limits if Congress also adopted prohibiting a lifetime ban on lobbying after a congressman or senator retires. Also, he would ban an elected official's right to trade stocks. He foresees bipartisan support for these steps.

During his campaigning, which barely stopped after November 2022, he said



Will Rollins PHOTO COURTESY OF ROLLINS

he has identified three most frequent issues constituents throughout the district raise at his meetings. The first is the economy, which he describes as "... more money in the pockets of working families. Nurses pay more taxes than billionaires."

The second is the district's infrastructure, particularly the roads. "This includes access to Idyllwild and modernizing the transportation system," he observed.

The third is the concern over the fairness of the political system and the potential corruption of it.

One of his other major concerns is the federal tax system. His condemnation begins with the ability of billionaires to pay zero taxes. As an example, he noted that both Jeff Bezos and Elon Musk have paid no taxes twice in the past decade. He described this as "unfair."

If he can raise taxes on the 400 wealthiest families, whose total wealth is greater than 60% of the country, he would lower taxes on salaried workers.

This also extends to his views on the Social Security system. The Congressional Budget Office and other economic analysts have forecast the Social Security system will be in deficit by the late 2030s. One common fix is to raise the age for eligibility of Social Security payments.

Before imposing restrictions on those who pay Social Security taxes, Rollins urges making the income tax system fairer and applying the Social Security tax to all incomes evenly. It is now limited to only the first \$168,000 of income in 2024.

"Personally, I'm opposed to an increase in the retirement age," he said. He also recommends extending California's minimum wage law to the entire country. He argues that California's

See Rollins, page A4

MAKE A PLAN TO  
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STARTING FEBRUARY 5TH



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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 600 words.
- Letters must be typewritten, double-spaced and in upper/lower case (not in all caps).
- Letters must be identified with the author’s name, address and weekday phone number.
- The Town Crier will not publish “thank-you” letters, consumer complaints, form letters, clippings from other publications or poetry.
- Political letters during election season cost 10 cents per word but are not accepted the week before an election.
- We reserve the right to reject or edit letters for length, taste, clarity or frequency of submission.
- Only one letter per author within a 14-day period.
- Letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Town Crier staff.
- Letters may be submitted by e-mail to editor@towncrier.com and must include “Letter to the Editor” in the subject line.
- The deadline is 10 a.m. Monday.

Pleased and concerned over new IWD GM



DEAR EDITOR:

I was very pleased to read that the Idyllwild Water District (IWD) interim general manager (GM) talked about the importance of teamwork and team-building. I truly hope that means working with our current IWD team and not trying to solve problems by hiring and firing. It is a true test of leadership to be able to take a group of people with differences and build a team that works well together.

I was also pleased that the interim GM recognized the issue of septic seepage possibly contaminating our underground water supply. I have been “shouting from the rooftops” for years regarding this to the county board of supervisors and the IWD Board of Directors only to fall on deaf ears. I just hope you all realize that the main problem is overpopulation and massive visitation, not the need for an expanded sewer system.

Finally, I hoped that because the interim GM had no water certifications, he would display excellent administrative skills. Unfortunately, the February agenda is filled with formatting and spelling errors. The January minutes don’t even show the director votes that were cast. I truly hope that this is not a sign of things to come.

DAVID HUNT  
4TH GENERATION IDYLLWILD HILLBILLY

By DAVID JEROME  
CORRESPONDENT

Dr. Birte Pfleger-Cullinan has spoken to the Crier in the past about her experience as a crime victim navigating the California Parole system. She lost her mother and nearly lost her father in a 1994 shooting at Vista Point.

Two Banning men were convicted for their parts in the shootings, and the shooter himself, 17 at the time, pleaded guilty to first degree murder and received a sentence of 25 years to life. When this man, Thongxay Nilakou, became eligible for parole, Pfleger-Cullinan began attending his hearings in an attempt to keep him behind bars. Nilkout was paroled in 2023.

Pfleger Cullinan wrote an essay for the Associated Press that discussed her ordeal with the parole board system. In those pre-COVID days, attendance required long drives and days away from home and work.

She continues to speak out as a victims’ rights advocate, and this month she notified the Crier of a change in parole board policy: Victim statements may no longer include photos of the victim after the “incident.”

At a public hearing Wednesday, Feb. 21, members of the public, including district attorneys (DA) and relatives of crime victims, spoke out against this new policy. This reporter listened in via Zoom.

Many attendees spoke of the difficulty in expressing with words alone the damage a crime causes, and the board heard often that “a picture is worth a thousand words.” One Orange County DA opined that accepting their conviction as true includes admitting that the photos are real, and that photos often dispute an inmate’s portrayal of the crime. Another frequently expressed idea was that the photos are the voices of those no longer with us.

It also was mentioned that the photos are admitted into evidence during trials and should still be allowed during parole hearings. One participant pointed out that if inmates were not allowed to present photos as mitigating evidence this would be a violation of their constitutional rights, and that disallowing it for advocates for victims is such violation.

The California Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections (CDCR) website explains that anyone may submit a written statement to the Office of Victim and Survivor Rights and Services. The site tells citizens that victims and family members speak last at hearings, and that statements “usually range from 5-15 minutes in length.” It also provides suggestions for things to include: how your life has changed as the result of the crime, counseling or medical care you needed and its duration and cost, duration of healing and medical treatment required, lost wages and inability to work,

and any details of the crime and your injuries you think the board should know about.

On the page listing factors tending to show suitability or unsuitability for parole, “the ... offense was committed in an especially heinous, atrocious, or cruel manner” was included. If the present rule is allowed to stand, this criteria will be restricted by the verbal skill of the victims’ advocates.

The Crier engaged in a brief chat with an operator on the CDCR website. They confirmed that photos of victims are allowed but, “If the picture has blood or picture of the incident you can’t send those in.” When asked who judges the suitability of photos, they responded, “As for who judges how gruesome a picture is, it will probably be the commissioners.”

CD 41 will be an expensive win

By JP CRUMRINE  
CORRESPONDENT

On the March 5 Primary Ballot, three candidates are seeking the two places on the November Presidential Ballot for California’s 41st District in the U.S. House of Representatives. These candidates are incumbent Republican Ken Calvert and two Democratic challengers, Anna Nevenic and Will Rollins. The two candidates with the most votes will advance.

As of Feb. 14, Calvert and Rollins, who faced each other in the 2022 election, are the big fundraisers. Both have raised more than \$3.5 million and expect to meet again in the fall campaign.

**Nevenic**

As of Feb. 21, Nevenic has raised \$11,180. She has spent \$5,780 and still had \$5,400 in cash. All of her contributions came from individuals. No further data were available.

**Calvert**

Through Feb. 14, the congressman has received \$3.2 million in contributions and transferred another \$500,000 from other political campaign accounts to the 2024 account. Nearly two-thirds of his contributions have come from individuals and about \$1 million from political committees.

Nearly 2,300 individuals have contributed to Calvert’s campaign already. Of these about 600 have sent \$3,300 each, representing about 87% of the total individual contributions.

The Political Action Committees (PAC) helping Calvert’s war chest have given from \$1,000 to \$5,000. The larger donors include Comcast, General Electric, New York Life Insurance and the Wine Institute. But the PAC donors do vary. Examples of others include Farmer PAC, PG&E corporate employees, Oshkosh employees and many Republican and conservation committees.

Another \$300,000 was given from the Protect the House 2024 Committee.

Thus far, he has spent \$1.4 million, mostly for campaign fundraising consultants and campaign staff wages. He still had \$2.3 million cash in his coffers with eight months before the November election.

**Rollins**

Through Feb. 14, Rollins has received \$3.3 million in contributions, nearly 95% from individuals. More than 100 of the 8,900 donations were for \$6,600 each. That represents more than 20% of the individual donations from about 1% of the donors.

He has accepted about \$190,000 from committees. The larger donors (\$5,000 each) include the American Federation of Teachers, Democrats of the Desert, NEA Fund for Children and Public Education, and the United Food and Commercial Workers Union.

Rollins had spent \$1.2 million by the middle of February, mostly for consulting fees and staff salaries. He still had \$2.4 million in his campaign account with months to raise more.

Rollins

Continued from A3

small businesses are at a disadvantage when required to pay the higher minimum wage compared to small businesses in states with a lower minimum wage.

Among his environmental policies, Rollins does favor expanding the electric vehicle (EV) market with the use of rebates. When asked if that did not seem in conflict with his income policies, since the wealthy are the biggest purchasers of EVs, Rollins responded that California needs to create incentives so that EV manufacturers can produce the cars at much lower prices and for folk across the income spectrum.

He also recognizes that as this market grows, there will be a need for more charging stations similar in number to today’s gas stations. But he also noted that new technology has extended the range of EVs and the time between charges.

Rollins is a firm believer in a strong border. He lamented the House and Senate Republican’s agreement to table a bipartisan compromise border bill at the urging of candidate Donald Trump.

“But a secure border is not sufficient,” he added. “We need to change and improve our work permit system. We need a meaningful and efficient guest workforce program. This has to allow our small businesses to hire folks legally. These workers will then be paying income and Social Security taxes, too.”

“This system takes money,” he stated. “More law enforcement at the border and more immigration judges will require funding.”

Rollins and Republican Ken Calvert opposed each other in the 2022 election for the CD 41 seat. Calvert won reelection by 11,000 votes or 5%.

Registration in the district has barely changed in the 15 months since that election. There are 7,000 more voters, out of a total of 470,000. Party registration is essentially the same as October 2022.

But Rollins is optimistic about his chances this November. Since this is a presidential election year, he expects a much higher turnout. In 2022, the turnout was barely 51%. A turnout of 75%, about normal for presidential elections, would bring another 100,000 voters to the polls, in his opinion, and those would more likely be Democratic voters.

“In 2022, it was my first time running,” he admitted. “It was a steep learning curve and it takes time proving yourself to the voters.”

To improve voters’ awareness of him, Rollins is spending more time campaigning in the western portion of the district to improve his name recognition there.

As of Feb. 14, Rollins had about \$2.4 million in his campaign account. For the 2022 campaign, he raised a total of \$3.5 million and spent \$3.7 million.

When asked how much would be necessary this year, he replied, “Too much!! The need to get funds from the public to run for office and raise contributions is a horrible feeling,” he stated. “Whatever amount is needed it is too much.”

He noted that more than 90% of his contributions have come from individual donors. “I’m proud of the grassroots support that I have,” Rollins said. “I’ve said ‘no’ to corporate PACs.”

In conclusion, Rollins described his special feeling for Idyllwild and the Hill which he visits frequently and often wishes he lived here.

Idyllwild  
Town Crier

STAFF

Suzanne Avalon | Publisher & Head of Advertising  
suzanne@towncrier.com

Becky Clark | Editor  
becky@towncrier.com

Mina Alverado | Memberships, Classified, Legal & Service Directory Sales  
mina@towncrier.com

FREELANCERS

JP Crumrine | Correspondent

Joel Feingold | Photographer

David Jerome | Correspondent

Holly Parsons | Correspondent

Peter Szabadi | Photographer

HOW TO REACH US

Phone: (951) 659-2145

or toll-free: 1-(888) 535-6663

Email: editor@towncrier.com

Website: idyllwildtowncrier.com

CONTRACTED FIRMS

- Amy Aronson  
accounting@towncrier.com  
Bookkeeping
- Mike Ferro  
mike@towncrier.com  
Design & Operations
- Regina Caron  
Distribution
- Gannett Publishing  
rjthomas@gannett.com  
Printing

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# AD 47 candidates on the way to a million-dollar campaign

By JP CRUMRINE  
CORRESPONDENT

On the March 5 Primary Ballot, three candidates are seeking the state Assembly seat for District 47. These candidates are incumbent Republican Greg Wallis and two Democratic challengers, Christy Holstege and Jaime Swain. The two candidates with the most votes will advance to the November Presidential Ballot.

## Wallis

In the first two months of 2024 (through Feb. 21), Wallis has received about \$85,000 in contributions. However, since taking office in 2023, his total contributions are nearly \$685,000. Between Feb. 17 and 21, he received another \$7,250.

The largest single donation to his reelection was \$10,900 from the California Real Estate Political Action Committee (PAC). He has garnered three other donations for more than \$5,500 each. These were given by the California State Pipe Trades Council, California State Association of Electrical Workers and the Peace Officers Research Association of California. All are PACs.

Another 46 donors gave \$5,000, amounting to about 36% of total contributions. And 70 donors contributed \$750 or less. This represents about 20% of his total donors.

Wallis has donations from 54 individuals or groups outside of California. They gave about \$115,000. About a third of these contributions came from Texas (\$15,000), New Jersey (\$12,000) and Washington, D.C. (\$11,000).

In the first two months of 2024, Wallis has expended about \$85,000 and had about \$425,000 available.

## Holstege

Christy Holstege lost an extremely close race to Wallis in November 2022. She announced in 2023, less than a year after her defeat and more than year before the next election, that she would challenge him again.

During this period, she has been a prolific fundraiser. Since announcing her entry, she has raised more than \$1 million. Since Feb. 17, she has received another \$30,000.

Nearly 23% has come from the state Democratic Party, which dearly would like to turn this seat. Another \$120,000 came from groups giving more than \$10,000 each. Another 90 donors gave between \$5,000 and \$6,000. However, contributions of \$500 or less came from 370 individuals, of which 170 people gave \$100 or less.

Only 19 of more than 580 donors were from states other than California and their total contributions were \$30,300.

In 2024, she had spent nearly \$300,000 for the race and her campaign coffers still held \$438,000 in cash.

## Swain

Jaime Swain has not submitted any campaign financing data to the Secretary of State to be posted online.

# AD 36 more candidates, fewer contributions

By JP CRUMRINE  
CORRESPONDENT

On the March 5 Primary Ballot, seven candidates are seeking the state Assembly seat for District 36. No incumbent is in the election. The Democratic Party candidates are Edgard Garcia, Jose “Joey” Acuna, Waymond Fermon, Tomas Olivia and Eric Rodriguez. The two Republican Party candidates are Jeff Gonzalez and Kalin Morse. The two candidates with the most votes will advance to the November Presidential Ballot.

The incumbent Assembly member, Eduardo Garcia, announced in December that he would not seek reelection. So, all seven candidates have had only three months to raise funds for their election effort, although Morse did announce his candidacy in October.

From Jan. 1 through Feb. 17			
Candidate	Contributions	Expenditures	Cash
Acuna	\$187,575	\$176,640	\$122,009
Fermon	\$4,695	\$26	\$4,669
Garcia	\$36,422	\$40,663	\$1,166
Gonzalez	\$151,932	\$143,454	\$21,312
Morse	\$126,372	\$128,962	\$338

No campaign financial data is available for Olivia and Rodriguez on the Secretary of State’s website.

Acuna received five contributions for \$10,900. All have been from employee groups such as United Food and Commercial Workers or the state Council of Service Employees. He also has received contributions of \$5,500 each from 28 donors. These include Morongo Band of Mission Indians, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, the Twenty-nine Palms Band of Mission Indians, the California Association of Highway Patrolmen and the California Association of Mutual Water Companies.

He also received two \$5,500 donations from both Garcia and one from Riverside County Supervisor V. Manuel Perez.

Since Feb. 17, he has received about another \$34,000 in contributions.

Gonzalez received about 40 contributions by Feb. 17, but the two from the state Republican Party totaled slightly more than \$125,000. He also received \$17,000 from five other donors, four of whom are Republican Assembly candidates in other districts. Since then, he has only reported one contribution of \$5,700, also from the California Republican Party.

Morse received only five contributions by Feb. 17. Two, for slightly more than \$125,000, were from the California Republican Party. Morse made a \$190 nonmonetary contribution to his campaign. Since Feb. 17, he has received three more contributions totaling \$147,321. Two for \$144,321 were from the California Republican Party.



Editor’s note: Organizations, please read your listings carefully and email [becky@towncrier.com](mailto:becky@towncrier.com) with any changes.

- Wednesday, Feb. 28**
- Grief Support Group, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Spirit Mountain Retreat, 25661 Oakwood St.
  - Codependents Anon, noon. St. Hugh’s Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.
  - Fit After 50, noon-1 p.m. Town Hall, 25925 Cedar St.
  - Philosophy Discussion Club, 5 p.m. in the Spirit Mountain Retreat Hill House, 25661 Oakwood St.
  - Narcotics Anonymous, 6 p.m. Spirit Mountain Retreat, 25661 Oakwood St.

- Return to Yourself Virtual Support Group for Women Vets with PTSD, 6-7 p.m. Spirit Mountain Retreat.
- Rotary International of Idyllwild meeting, 6 p.m. Silver Pines Lodge, 25955 Cedar St.

- Thursday, Feb. 29**
- Fit After 50, 10-11 a.m. Town Hall, 25925 Cedar St.
  - AA discussion & birthdays, noon. St. Hugh’s Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.
  - Mountain Communities Mutual Aid food distribution, 1-2 p.m. Camp Maranatha, 54162 Maranatha Dr.
  - Idyllwild Community Zen, 6 p.m. Text/call Valerie Velez at 951-392-6507 for information.

- Friday, March 1**
- Friends of the Idyllwild Library board meeting, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Library, 54401 Village Center Dr.
  - Idy A’s (AA, NA, Alanon, CODA, etc.), noon. St. Hugh’s Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.

- Women’s Writing Group with fellow writers, 2-4 p.m. Spirit Mountain Retreat. Call 951-659-2523 for Zoom info.

- Saturday, March 2**
- American Legion Post 800 meeting, 10 a.m. Post 800, 54360 Marian View Dr.
  - Pine Cove Property Owners Association meeting, 10 a.m. Pine Cove Water District, 24917 Marion Ridge Dr.
  - Healing Rooms, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Shiloh Christian Ministries, 54295 Village Center Dr.
  - AA, discussion, noon. St. Hugh’s Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.
  - Dog Park Saturdays, 3-4 p.m. Rick Barker Dog Park, 26375 Hwy. 243.
  - Narcotics Anonymous, 4 p.m. St. Hugh’s Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr. or Zoom. Call Mary, 951-634-4048.
  - AA happy hour & birthdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Behind Idyllwild Water District, 54255 Pine Crest Ave. (bring chair)

- Sunday, March 3**
- Peace Meditation Practice, 10 a.m. Tibetan Buddhist Dharma Center, 53191 Mountain View, Pine Cove.
  - AA, discussion, noon. Idyllwild Water District, 25945 Hwy. 243.
  - Mixed Nuts, 5:30-7 p.m., Spirit Mountain Retreat, 25661 Oakwood St.
- Monday, March 4**
- Fit After 50, noon-1 p.m. Town Hall, 25925 Cedar St.
  - Codependents Anon, 6 p.m. Zoom. Call Mary, 951-634-4048.

- Tuesday, March 5**
- Riverside County Board of Supervisors, 9:30 a.m. Board Chambers, 4080 Lemon St., First Floor, Riverside.
  - Fit After 50, 10-11 a.m. Town Hall, 25925 Cedar St.
  - Feeding America, 10 a.m.-noon. Town Hall, 25925 Cedar St. Bring box for food.
  - Tai Chi for Seniors, 10 a.m. Spirit Mountain Retreat, 25661 Oakwood St.

- AA, noon. St. Hugh’s Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.
- Hemet Unified School District organizational meeting, 3-4 p.m.; board meeting 5:30-7:30 p.m. HUSD board room, 1791 W Acacia Ave, Hemet.
- Lovingkindness Meditation Group, 5-5:30 p.m. Spirit Mountain Retreat, 25661 Oakwood St. Call 951-659-2523.
- Palms to Pines Chapter of Citizens Climate Lobby, 6-6:50 p.m. <https://zoom.us/j/4391478344>
- Al-Anon, 7 p.m. Town Hall, 25925 Cedar Street.

- Wednesday, March 6**
- Rotary International of Idyllwild meeting, 7:30 a.m. American Legion Post 800, 54360 Marian View Dr.
  - Codependents Anon, noon. St. Hugh’s Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr.
  - Fit After 50, noon-1 p.m. Town Hall, 25925 Cedar St.
  - Narcotics Anonymous, 6 p.m. Spirit Mountain Retreat, 25661 Oakwood St.

- Community service hours**
- California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (bark beetle issues), 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Mountain Resource Center, 25380 Franklin Dr., 659-3335.
  - Idyllwild Area Historical Museum, 54470 N. Circle Dr., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Fri., Sat. & Sun. (Mon. holidays.) Group tours by appt. 659-2717.
  - Idyllwild Help Center, 26330 Hwy. 243, 10 a.m.-noon & 1-4 p.m. Tues.-Fri. 659-2110.
  - Idyllwild Library, 54401 Village Center Dr., Strawberry Creek Plaza, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Tues.-Wed.; 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thurs-Sat., 659-2300.
  - Idyllwild Nature Center, 25225 Hwy. 243, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Wed.-Sun. 659-3850.
  - Idyllwild Ranger Station, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Fri.-Mon., 8 a.m.-noon Tues.
  - Idyllwild Transfer Station, 28100 Saunders Meadow Rd., 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Thurs.-Mon. (Closed New Year’s Day, Easter, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day); Grinding Facility, 8 a.m.-noon & 1-4 p.m. Mon., Wed. & Fri.

## NEWS OF RECORD

### Riverside County Fire/Cal Fire log

The Riverside County Fire Department/Cal Fire responded to these recent dispatches from Monday to Sunday, Feb. 19 to 25.

#### Pine Cove

- Feb. 20 — Inside gas odor, 8:23 a.m.
- Feb. 22 — Structure fire, false alarm, 2:16 p.m.
- Feb. 23 — Seizures, 3:58 p.m.
- Feb. 25 — Structure fire, false alarm, 6:42 a.m.

#### Garner Valley

- Feb. 21 — Fainting, 8:13 p.m.
- Feb. 22 — Breathing problems, 5:52 a.m.
- Feb. 22 — Stroke, 8:47 a.m.
- Feb. 22 — Structure fire, false alarm, 2:16 p.m.
- Feb. 23 — Traffic crash, 4:19 p.m.
- Feb. 25 — Structure fire, false alarm.
- Feb. 25 — Traumatic injuries, 9:42 a.m.

#### Pinyon

- Feb. 23 — Sick person, 12:57 p.m.
- Feb. 25 — Fainting, 10:19 a.m.

#### Sheriff’s log

The Riverside County Sheriff’s Department Hemet Station responded to the following calls Monday to Sunday, Feb. 19 to 25.

#### Idyllwild

- Feb. 19 — Illegal dumping, 11:22 a.m. Address undefined. Handled by deputy.
- Feb. 19 — Burglary, 10:23 p.m. 26000 block of Delano Dr. Unfounded.
- Feb. 20 — Trespassing, 11:19 a.m. 53000 block of Double View Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Feb. 21 — Trespassing, 4:03 p.m. 25000 block of Fern Valley Rd. Handled by deputy.
- Feb. 21 — Vandalism, 11:33 p.m. 26000 block of Hwy. 243. Report taken.
- Feb. 22 — Child neglect, 12:11 p.m. Address withheld. Unfounded.
- Feb. 22 — Alarm call, 12:35 p.m. 25000 block of Indian Rock Rd. Handled by deputy.

- Feb. 22 — Danger to self/other, 1:02 p.m. Address undefined. Report taken.
- Feb. 23 — Suspicious circumstance, 1:09 a.m. 54000 block of S. Circle Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Feb. 23 — Suspicious person, 9:01 a.m. 53000 block of Idyllbrook Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Feb. 23 — Check the welfare, 1:37 p.m. 26000 block of Delano Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Feb. 23 — Trespassing, 8:17 p.m. 55000 block of Pine Crest Ave. Handled by deputy.
- Feb. 23 — 911 call, 10:02 p.m. N. Circle Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Feb. 24 — Noise complaint, 12:36 a.m. Address undefined. Handled by deputy.
- Feb. 24 — Open door, 4:30 p.m. 54000 block of Village Center Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Feb. 25 — Public disturbance, 12:01 a.m. 55000 block of S. Circle Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Feb. 25 — Public disturbance, 2:30 a.m. 54000 block of Riverside County Playground Rd. Handled by deputy.
- Feb. 25 — Public assist, 12:59 p.m. 26000 block of Meadow Glen Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Feb. 25 — Area check, 7:20 p.m. 53000 block of Hillsdale St. Handled by deputy.
- Feb. 26 — Alarm call, 6:51 a.m. 54000 block of Pine Crest Ave. Handled by deputy.

#### Pine Cove

- Feb. 20 — Alarm call, 5:03 a.m. 52000 block of Sylvan Wy. Handled by deputy.
- Feb. 21 — Trespassing, 11:28 a.m. 25000 block of Marion Ridge Dr. Handled by deputy.
- Feb. 22 — Area check, 12:29 a.m. Address undefined. Handled by deputy.
- Feb. 25 — Trespassing, 12:13 p.m. 23000 block of Pine Needles Ln. Handled by deputy.

#### Garner Valley

##### Pine Meadows

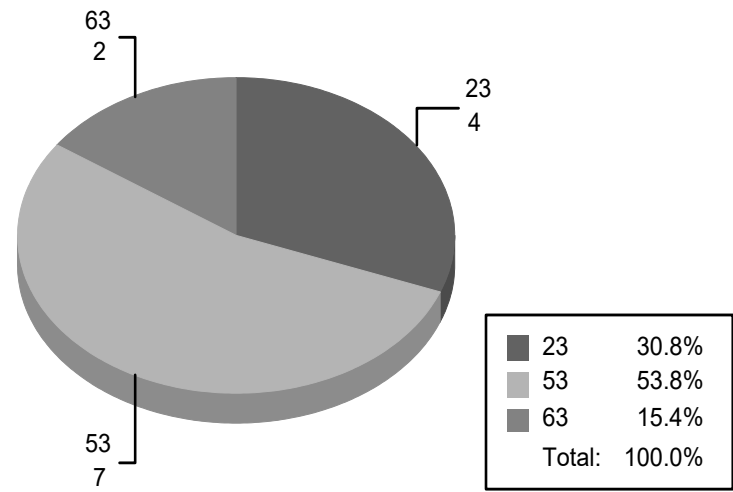
- Feb. 24 — Alarm call, 11:02 a.m. 37000 block of Gold Shot Creek Rd. Handled by deputy.

##### Poppet Flats

- Feb. 20 — Public disturbance, 9:40 p.m. 18000 block of Deer Trl. Handled by deputy.
- Feb. 23 — Vandalism, 11:53 a.m. 45000 block of Big Horn St. Report taken.



### Incident Report by Station 2/19/2024 to 2/25/2024



	Other Fires	Medical	Others	Total
23	2	1	1	4
53	2	4	1	7
63	0	2	0	2
Total	4	7	2	13

#### San Bernardino National Forest

- Feb. 23 — Assist other department, 9:25 p.m. Address undefined. Handled by deputy.

- Feb. 24 — Silent alarm, 9:29 p.m. Address withheld. Handled by deputy.







# On the Town

Local Dining, Arts & Entertainment

B SECTION

IDYLLWILD, CA

THURS., FEB. 29, 2024

## The next Beat Nite this Monday

By DAVID JEROME  
CORRESPONDENT

Myra Dutton and the Evolutionary Poets will present another Beat Nite at Middle Ridge Winery from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, March 4. Dutton calls it a “curated evening of experimental poetry with improvisational music.”

“Idyllwild’s legendary musicians, Dr Marshall Hawkins and Paul Carman,” will provide “beatitude.”

“We are fortunate to have Middle Ridge Winery, with its expansive space, beautiful art and award-winning wines as our venue. Chris, Melody and Tamara Johnson have been our angels to allow us to do this for years now,” she said.

Beat Nite, Dutton assures us, is “not an ordinary poetry reading” but “lively, experimental and open, taking you into another landscape that is sensory, humorous, pas-

sionate and serious.” Each poet is given a poem to read, and then follows it with one of their own. Poets scheduled for Monday’s event include Rena May, Bo Dagnall, Wyatt Priefer, Susan Hegarty, Andrew Neeson, Mick Lynch, August Picciolo, Bryan Tracy, Bronwyn Jones and Dutton.

Dutton traces the roots of this local “beatitude” to a gathering of friends 20 years ago for “dinner, wine, laughter and camaraderie.” Soon they began performing at Café Aroma, encouraged by then-owner Hubert Halkin.

Research into poets like Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Allen Ginsberg and Gary Snyder informed the present format. “During that period, I was always performing the work of Anne Waldman, a second-generation Beat poet, who believed that performance was the fast track to evolution,” said Dutton.

The night’s theme will be love, “but from a Beat perspective.”



Dr. Marshall Hawkins on bass accompanies Wyatt Priefer at a recent Beat Nite.  
PHOTO BY MYRA DUTTON

### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT CALENDAR

Event charges may apply. See ads throughout the issue. Email editor@towncrier.com.

#### Wednesday, Feb. 28

- Preschool Storytime, 11 a.m.-noon Idyllwild Library.
- Coed pickleball, 11 a.m. Idyllwild Pines Camp.
- Shaolin Qi Gong & Chicks with Sticks, 11 a.m.-noon & 4-5 p.m. Spirit Mountain Retreat.
- Spirit Mountain Retreat Book Club, “In Love with the World: A Monk’s Journey Through the Bardos of Living and Dying,” Yongey Mingyur Rinpoche, 1

p.m. Zoom, Or if you have the Zoom Meeting ID: 834 5005 7065; Password: 188039.

• Faces & Places Reading Group, 2-3:30 p.m. Idyllwild Library.

#### Thursday, Feb. 29

- Women’s pickleball, 9 a.m. Idyllwild Pines Camp.
- Idyllwild Chess Club, 3-6 p.m. Idyllwild Library. (Beginners welcome; free lessons.)
- Solo Concert, Guest Pianist Hsin-Ni Li, 7 p.m. Lowman Concert Hall, Idyllwild Arts.

#### Friday, March 1

- Women’s pickleball, 9 a.m. Idyllwild Pines Camp.
- Spring Songwriting Concert, 7:30 p.m. Stephens Hall, Idyllwild Arts.

#### Saturday, March 2

- Coed pickleball, 11 a.m. Idyllwild Pines Camp.
- Idyllwild Chess Club, noon-4 p.m. Idyllwild Library. (Beginners welcome; free lessons.)

#### Sunday, March 3

- IDYTalk, Remington Haring, 2 p.m. Krone Library, Idyllwild Arts.

#### Monday, March 4

- Women’s pickleball, 9 a.m.

Idyllwild Pines Camp.

- Beat Nite, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Middle Ridge Winery Tasting Gallery.

#### Tuesday, March 5

- Mah Jongg, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Idyllwild Library.
- Piano Fest Concert, 7 p.m. Lowman Concert Hall, Idyllwild Arts.

#### Wednesday, March 6

- Preschool Storytime, 11 a.m.-noon. Idyllwild Library.
- Coed pickleball, 11 a.m. Idyllwild Pines Camp.
- Shaolin Qi Gong & Chicks with Sticks, 11 a.m.-noon & 4-5 p.m. Spirit Mountain Retreat.

#### Thursday, March 7

- Women’s pickleball, 9 a.m. Idyllwild Pines Camp.
- Idyllwild Chess Club, 3-6 p.m. Idyllwild Library. (Beginners welcome; free lessons.)

#### Friday, March 8

- Women’s pickleball, 9 a.m. Idyllwild Pines Camp.
- Christopher Durang play “Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike,” 7:30 p.m. Bowman/IAF Theatre, Idyllwild Arts.

#### Saturday, March 9

- Coed pickleball, 11 a.m. Idyllwild Pines Camp.
- Idyllwild Chess Club, noon-4 p.m. Idyllwild Library. (Begin-

ners welcome; free lessons.)

- Christopher Durang play “Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike,” 2 p.m. Bowman/IAF Theatre, Idyllwild Arts.

#### Sunday, March 10

- Christopher Durang play “Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike,” 2 p.m. Bowman/IAF Theatre, Idyllwild Arts.

#### Monday, March 11

- Women’s pickleball, 9 a.m. Idyllwild Pines Camp.

#### Tuesday, March 12

- Mah Jongg, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Idyllwild Library.

## FREE PUBLIC EVENTS

### IDYLLWILD ARTS



#### SPRING SONGWRITING CONCERT

Friday, March 1st at 7:30pm  
Stephens Hall

Don’t miss an unforgettable evening featuring a diverse blend of original music spanning folk, rock, alternative, country, and more. Our dedicated students have poured their hearts into crafting songs that promise to captivate and inspire!



#### SOLO CONCERT WITH GUEST PIANIST HSIN-NI LI

Thursday, February 29th at 7:00pm  
William M. Lowman Concert Hall

Join us for an evening of musical brilliance featuring the acclaimed concert pianist Hsin-Ni Liu, fresh from a masterclass session with Idyllwild Arts Academy students. Liu has captivated audiences worldwide, performing with esteemed orchestras, Grammy nominees, and nationally renowned composers.



#### IDYTalk WITH REMINGTON HARING

Sunday, March 3rd at 2:00pm  
Krone Library

Presented by the Art in Society (AIS) program, the IDY Talks series gives students the opportunity to share their creative journeys in a public speaking forum. IDY Talks builds confidence, promotes public speaking skills, and enhances community. Join us as Remington Haring (Creative Writing ‘24) shares his story with us.



#### PIANO FEST CONCERT

Tuesday, March 5th at 7:00pm  
William M. Lowman Concert Hall

Join us for this concert tradition held at Idyllwild Arts for over 25 years featuring a diverse array of solo and duo piano music spanning all styles and periods.



#### VANYA AND SONIA AND MASHA AND SPIKE: A PLAY BY CHRISTOPHER DURANG

Friday, March 8th at 7:30pm  
Saturday, March 9th at 7:30pm  
Sunday, March 10th at 2:00pm  
Bowman/IAF Theatre

Don’t miss an evening of laughter with our Dramatic Arts department’s production of “Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike” by Christopher Durang, winner of the 2013 Tony Award® for Best Play.



Scan here to  
view the Event  
Calendar online



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Please consider supporting Idyllwild Arts! Gifts of any size can be made at [idyllwildarts.org/giving](https://www.idyllwildarts.org/giving), and help us continue to change lives through the transformative power of art!





# Kid Scoop

.com

THE AWARD-WINNING PRINT & ONLINE FAMILY FEATURE

Get puzzle answers, recipes and more at [www.kidscoop.com](http://www.kidscoop.com)

© 2024 by Vicki Whiting, Editor Jeff Schinkel, Graphics Vol. 40, No. 13

## Fun With Money!

Finley, Fabian and Fiona Frog each have \$30 to spend at the Spring Blossom Festival. They each made a list of things they want to spend money on at the Festival.



Take a look at the prices of the items each frog wants to buy. Then, use your math skills to answer the following questions:

1. Which frog will have the most money left over after buying everything on their list?

2. Which frog won't have enough money to buy everything on their list?

3. What items could this frog remove from their list to stay at or under \$30?

How many blossoms can you find on this page?

The Spring Blossom Festival is lots of fun, but you have to watch your spending! Help your froggy friends!

### Fiona's List

Lilly Pad Launch	\$5.00
Honey Cookies	\$3.50
Tulip Train	\$4.00
Pond Popcorn	\$2.75
Swamp Cocoa	\$2.50
Buggy Balloons	\$3.25
TOTAL	\$

### Finley's List

Lily Pad Launch	\$5.00
Dragonfly Hat	\$4.50
Puddle Coaster	\$6.50
Muddy Maze	\$5.25
Leafy Boats	\$6.50
Pond Popcorn	\$2.75
TOTAL	\$

### Fabian's List

Tulip Train	\$4.00
Honey Cookies	\$3.50
Daisy Wheel	\$6.50
Pond Popcorn	\$2.75
Dandelion Shake	\$4.50
Petunia Chips	\$3.25
TOTAL	\$

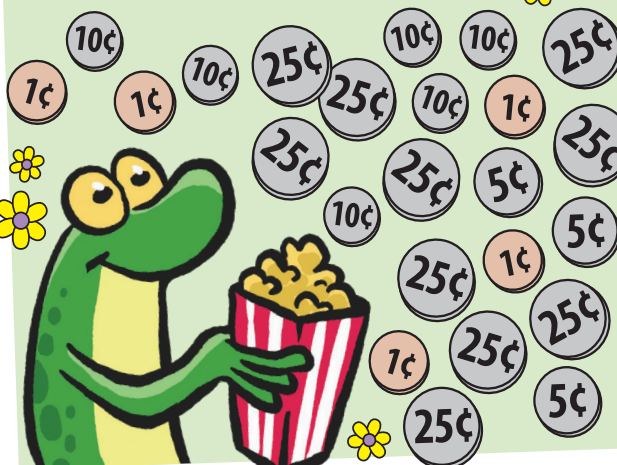
## Muddy Money Maze

Do the math to find out which path has the highest value.

Standards Link: Math: Calculate sums and differences.


## Spending Spree

Frankie Frog LOVES munching on pond popcorn at the Spring Blossom Festival. A box of it costs \$2.75. Circle the coins that add up to that amount.



## Look-Alike Ladybugs

Faye Frog won a bunch of cute stuffed toy ladybugs at the Spring Blossom Festival. One of them is different from the rest. Can you find it?




## Signs of Spring

Look through the newspaper and find five things that let you know it is springtime. Write the name of each in alphabetical order.

Standards Link: Language Arts: Follow written instructions.

## Kid Scoop Puzzler

Frieda Frog wants to buy a treat at the Spring Blossom Festival, but she can't remember how much is in her piggy bank. Can you count it for her?



Frieda has \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in her piggy bank.

Standards Link: Math: Calculate money amounts.


## Double Double Word Search

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

BLOSSOM  
BOATS  
BUY  
DANDELION  
FROG  
HAT  
HONEY  
LIST  
MATH  
MONEY  
MUDDY  
PRICES  
SPRING  
TULIP  
USE

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

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.



## Kid Scoop Together

# High-Flying Frogs

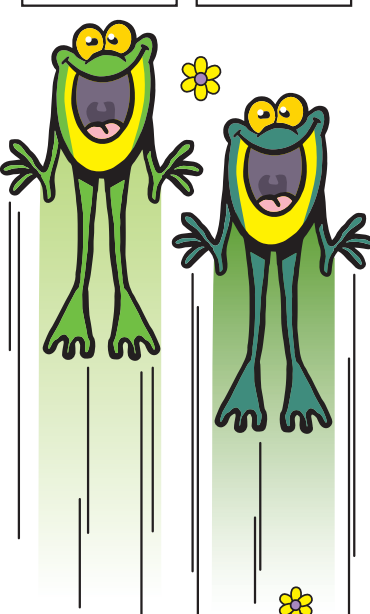
Felix and Finn Frog are seeing who can jump highest. Color in the spaces that add up to an even number. The frog with the most colored spaces is the winner.

### FELIX

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


### FINN

7 + 4 =
1 + 2 =
4 + 4 =
6 + 2 =
1 + 1 =
3 + 5 =
2 + 8 =
6 + 6 =
1 + 3 =
5 + 5 =
4 + 4 =
6 + 8 =
7 + 7 =
2 + 6 =



## FREE DOWNLOAD: Kid Scoop Teacher Activity Pack!

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## Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: **SPEND**

The verb **spend** means to pay out money to purchase items.

I plan how much money I'll **spend** before I go shopping.


Try to use the word **spend** in a sentence today when talking with your friends and family members.

## FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

### Costly Headlines

Assign a money amount to each letter of the alphabet: A = \$1, B = \$2, C = \$3, etc. Select three newspaper headlines and add up the letters. What is the most "expensive" headline you can find? Which is the least expensive?

Standards Link: Mathematics: Calculate sums and differences.




## Why is it a really bad idea to give dollar bills to a frog?

ANSWER: Because they'll rip-it, rip-it, rip-it.


## Write On!

### Kids Help Families Save


Write three to five ways that kids can help their families save money.




## JOIN US AS WE AWAKEN THE MAGIC OF READING TOGETHER!



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Idyllwild Service Directory

- New ads placed at the beginning of the month only
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- Deadline for copy change: noon Friday

Questions? Call Town Crier at (951) 659-2145  
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California Business and Professions Code 7071.13 reads: “Any reference by a contractor in his advertising, soliciting, or other presentments to the public to any bond required to be filed pursuant to this chapter is a ground for the suspension of the license of such contractor.”  
  
This is a contractor’s responsibility, not a newspaper’s, and we are not responsible for it. However, as a courtesy, we will remove references to a bond in contractors’ advertising, if we notice it.

To find out if a contractor’s license is valid and current, call the California Contractors State License Board at 1-800-321-2752 or visit the website at [www.cslb.ca.gov](http://www.cslb.ca.gov)


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Office: 951.659.2596  
Cell: 951.537.4705

Town Crier Contacts

(951) 659-2145  
  
Suzanne Avalon  
Publisher, Head of Advertising - [suzanne@towncrier.com](mailto:suzanne@towncrier.com)  
  
Becky Clark  
Editor - [becky@towncrier.com](mailto:becky@towncrier.com)  
  
Mina Alvarado  
Memberships - [mina@towncrier.com](mailto:mina@towncrier.com)  
  
Amy Aronson  
Bookkeeping - [amy@yourtaxesaredone.com](mailto:amy@yourtaxesaredone.com)  
  
Mike Ferro  
Design & Operations - [mike@towncrier.com](mailto:mike@towncrier.com)

  
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CLUBS

The Idyllwild Rotary Charitable Fund supported for Mountain Communities Mutual Aid (MCMA) with a \$2,000 grant for their FoodShare program. This initiative aims to address local food insecurity in the wake of challenges such as the cessation of COVID funding, rising food costs, cuts to food stamps, and reductions in other support programs.

MCMA representatives Liv Kellgren and Karin Greenwood gratefully accepted the grant on behalf of their organization. The funding will bolster their efforts to vitally assist individuals and families facing financial hardships in Idyllwild and nearby communities in the San Jacinto Mountains.

The FoodShare program, an MCMA cornerstone, offers critical support to vulnerable populations, including families and elderly neighbors struggling to make ends meet. This grant will enable MCMA to provide essential food and goods to nearly 800 residents for a month through their FoodShare program.

MCMA's dedication to serving those in need aligns perfectly with Idyllwild Rotary's mission to make a positive impact in the lives of others.

Idyllwild Rotary Charitable Fund remains committed to supporting initiatives that promote the health and well-being of the local community. Through strategic partnerships and collaborative efforts, Idyllwild Rotary seeks to address pressing needs and create lasting positive change for residents of Idyllwild and the surrounding areas.



Center, from left, Liv Kellgren and Karin Greenwood, representing the Mountain Community Mutual Aid group, receive a check from Rotarians Bob Lippert (left) and Les Gin (right) at the club's Wednesday, Feb. 21, morning meeting at American Legion Post 800.

PHOTO BY DAWN BRENNER-PLONSKI

Art Alliance meets and mingles

Friday, Feb. 16, dozens of Idyllwild (AAI) members gathered at Harvey House for the annual Meeting and Mingle. Everyone who attended brought a dish to share with their fellow artists and friends.

Monica Sierras performed on her ukulele while everyone ate, sipped wine and enjoyed the atmosphere.

Emily Burton took home the Artist of the Year award. Burton's jewelry designs won numerous ribbons at the 2023 judged art shows AAI held.

Ron Myer had the special honor of taking home the Volunteer of the Year award. Myer helped with many of the events held last year and was always a pleasure to be around.



Emily Burton (left) receives Artist of the Year from AAI President Haleigh Lavy (right).

PHOTO BY DONNA ELLIOT

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Be wary of out of area companies. Check with the Better Business Bureau before you send any money for goods and services. Read and understand any contracts before you sign. Shop around for rates.

The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.

— Dr. Seuss

Lost and Found

LOST PET (Dog or Cat). Call ARF, 659-1122. Also, you may call Living Free Animal Sanctuary at 659-4687 or Ramona Animal Haven at (951) 654-8002, 1230 S. State St., San Jacinto, CA 92583.

Announcements

CRISISLINE, 683-0829 or 1 (800) 339-7233. Alternatives to Domestic Violence (ADV) provides information, counseling and shelter services for battered women and their children.

Word search puzzle grid with letters and a list of words to find.

Answers to Word Search (Puzzle on next Classified page)

Answers to Word Search (Puzzle on next Classified page)

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Large 2 bd, 1 ba apt. New flooring, carpet & paint. Stove & refrigerator. Shared laundry. Includes water, trash and snow plow. Located behind La Casita Restaurant. \$1700 plus equal security deposit. Credit check. NO PETS! Call Jennie 951-659-5424.

1700 sq. ft. 3 bd, 1.5 ba, large bonus room/workshop, plowed road, solar panels, Available April 1st. Pets by approval only. Near center of town. Call Dr. Schelly for details, 951-659-4663. \$2550.

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4 bd, 2.5 ba, washer/dryer, fenced deck/patio, plenty of parking space. \$2950 + utilities. 1st, last & deposit. Additional deposit for pets. Call 951-391-2788.

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Line Classified Rate Schedule Includes placement online: www.idyllwildtowncrier.com

Number of Lines	Each time
Up to 10 lines	\$16.95
Ea. addtl. line, add:	\$2.00
Bold Face: \$2 entire ad or 25¢ each word	
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2-inch ad (minimum size)	\$19.95
Each additional inch	\$12.45



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



For Students of the Week, Idyllwild School Music Teacher Mr. William Beuche chose “Quinnlyn Carpenter (above) and Olivia Moser (below) have demonstrated outstanding dedication and achievement on their instruments. They always try their best, help their classmates, and take on new challenges. They are focused, kind, helpful and bring enthusiasm to everything they do.”

PHOTOS COURTESY OF IDYLLWILD SCHOOL

CREATURE CORNER

By JANICE MURASKO

Last week in Days of Our Nine Lives, the ARF cats met three new ARF dogs, Henri, Stretch, and Whiskey. **Smokey:** We certainly had a quiet week! **Pepper:** I guess the less-than-stellar weather slowed down activity. **Harley:** True, but not enough to hamper adoptions **Henri:** I hope not! Personally, I think I’m the cutest of the dogs, but we all are so great. **Stretch:** I’m so glad that Living Free is helping ARF with us. It’s good to be cared for. **Henri:** Although I’d love to have my own forever home. **Stretch:** I hope potential adopters recognize that we are well past the puppy stage. **Whiskey:** Right. We are mature adults just waiting for a loving home. **Lili:** Have you heard that this Saturday I am meeting my potential forever guardian. **Harley:** That is very exciting! **Lili:** I’m hoping it is love at first sight, for both of us. **Harley:** From what I’ve heard, it should be a perfect match. **Smokey:** If it doesn’t work, I know the people at ARF will make certain you end up in a wonderful home. **Whiskey:** And I think between Living Free and ARF, we will also find our way into loving arms, forever. **Stretch:** I just hope people remember that having a four-legged as part of the family can do great things for both the human and the dog or cat. **Lili:** Science backs your thought! I’ve heard that a pet can boost a person’s mood and help to manage blood pressure. **Henri:** And not to mention that overall, pet owners are less likely to die of any cardiac disease, including heart failure. **Whiskey:** Now if that isn’t a convincing argument...

*Creature Corner is sponsored this week by Charlotte Center Anthony. If you'd like to be a sponsor, please contact ARF. Be sure to keep up with the animal antics of Days of our Nine Lives each week. And please stop in to say hello to the entire adoptable cast at the ARF House, 26890 Hwy 243. ARF is open Saturdays 10-3, Sundays 10-2, and during the week by appointment. Please call 951-659-1122.*



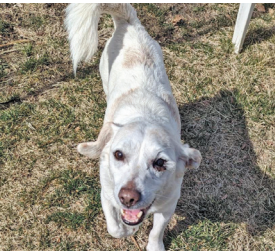
Henri



Lili



Stretch



Whiskey



**75 years ago - 1949**  
There were heated arguments at the Idyllwild Chamber of Commerce meeting regarding whether the Chamber acted properly in endorsing plans for a cocktail bar at the Idyllwild Inn.

**70 years ago - 1954**  
During the opening weekend of Idyllwild Market, owner Joe Darnell rigged up an alarm set to go off at intervals. Whoever was at the check stand when it went off got their groceries free.

**65 years ago - 1959**  
Admiral John R. McKinney, Ret., presented a

flag from the U.S.S. Constitution to the local American Legion Post 800.

**60 years ago - 1964**  
The Lou Adams Sports and Western Wear shop was advertising men’s blue work jeans for \$1.99 a pair.

**55 years ago - 1969**  
Pine Cove dedicated its recently completed fire house.

**50 years ago - 1974**  
It was reported that due to the gasoline crisis, motorcycles were becoming more evident on the streets of Idyllwild.

**45 years ago - 1979**  
Six businessmen from Japan spent a day in Idyllwild as part of a Rotary International group study exchange program.

**40 years ago - 1984**  
A seven-member panel discussed “What Can We as Citizens Do?” about preventing nuclear war during a public forum sponsored by Concerned Citizens of Idyllwild.

**35 years ago - 1989**  
Plans were submitted to Riverside County by developers Maureen Jones and Dick Krupp for construction of a building that would become known as The Fort.

**30 years ago - 1994**  
Camp Emerson, the oldest Boy Scout camp west of the Mississippi River, made plans to celebrate its 75th anniversary with activities and fund-raisers throughout the year.

**25 years ago - 1999**  
Nearly 40 people from various organizations throughout the Hill area met to discuss ways for the community to prepare for possible Y2K glitches.

**20 years ago - 2004**  
The Forest Service was seeking volunteers to help plant 21,000 bare-root pine seedlings to replace trees lost to fire or insects.

**15 years ago - 2009**  
Raymond Lee Oyler, 38, of Beaumont, was on trial for charges of starting

23 fires, including the 2006 Esperanza Fire, which killed five U.S. Forest Service firefighters.

**10 years ago - 2014**  
In a move designed to bring Hollywood back to Riverside County, supervisors Jeff Stone and Jon Benoit co-authored a revision to Ordinance 634 granting a variety of fee waivers to film crews.

**5 years ago - 2019**  
Valentine’s Day, Thursday, Feb. 14, was a wet day on the Hill, with 19 swift-water rescues taking place in various locations, straining the abilities of emergency responders.

**1 year ago - 2023**  
A new film biography of dancer and choreographer Bella Lewitzky, “Bella,” was included in that year’s Idyllwild International Festival of Cinema. Lewitzky was a giant of modern dance, founding dance programs at both ISOMATA (now Idyllwild Arts Academy) and CalArts.



Speech winner Stephen Carothers (left) with other contestants and Bill Snellbaker (third from left), Lion president, in February 1964. They are, from left, Kathy Elliott, Steve Sattler, Cindy Vogel and Valerie Lowell.

FILE PHOTO

**2024 Grants - Apply Online**  
**March 1st - April 12th**  
Deadline: April 12th, 5:00 pm

**Guidelines, application portal open March 1:**  
[iegives.org/nonprofit/overview](https://iegives.org/nonprofit/overview)

**Questions?**  
[idycommfund@gmail.com](mailto:idycommfund@gmail.com)

**Grants awarded include:**

Animal Rescue Friends, Inc. - Art Alliance of Idyllwild - Astro Camp - Forest Folk - Idyllwild Actors’ Theatre - Idyllwild Area Historical Society - Idyllwild Colombiere Retreat - Spirit Moundtain Retreat Center - Community Recreation Council - Idyllwild Firefighters Association - Idyllwild Fire Protection District - Friends of Idyllwild Library - Friends of San Jacinto Mountains County Parks - Idyllwild Garden Club - Idyllwild Help Center - Idyllwild Master Chorale - Idyllwild Scholarship Fund - Idyllwild School Booster Club - Idyllwild School smARTS - Mile High Radio Club/Mountain Disaster Preparedness - Mountain Communities Mutual Aid - Soroptimists of Idyllwild - Warhorse Creek/Living Free - Riverside Mountain Rescue

**IDYLLWILD COMMUNITY FUND is an affiliate of Inland Empire Community Foundation**

**Churches & Spiritual Centers Directory of Idyllwild**

**Idyllwild Bible Church**  
25860 Highway 243, Pastor Jeff Giampa  
A Family Friendly Bible Based Fellowship  
Sunday Worship & Nursery Care 9-10 a.m.  
Sunday Worship, Nursery & Sunday School, 10:45-11:45 a.m.  
Mid-week Bible Studies & Youth Groups  
Call Church Office for Information, 951-659-4775

**Community Church**  
54400 N. Circle Dr. 659-2935  
www.icpcchurch.net  
Sunday Worship – 9:30 a.m. • Rev. Dr. Robert Mitchell  
Celebration: 5th grade & under during worship – Child care available  
Tuesday: Men’s Breakfast, 6:30 a.m. - Wednesday: Women’s Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.

**Calvary Chapel Mountain Center**  
29375 Hwy. 243, Mountain Center, Ca. 92561  
Church Office 951-659-0097  
Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am  
Nursery Care, Children’s & Youth Ministries  
Weekly Bible Studies & Home Groups

**Queen of Angels Roman Catholic Church**  
54525 N. Circle Dr., P.O. Box 1106, Idyllwild, CA  
Father Charles E. Miller  
Mass Schedule: Sun. 10 a.m.  
Confession: by appt. 951-659-2708

**St. Hugh’s Episcopal Church**  
Sunday Services 3 PM  
Phone (951) 659-4471 • www.sthughsidyllwild.org  
25525 Tahquitz Dr.

**Shiloh Christian Ministries**  
54295 Village Center Drive  
Pastors Wayne & LaDonna Sleme  
Sunday Service - 10 am  
951.659.2416

**Temple Har Shalom of Idyllwild**  
Experience How Uplifting Zoom Can Be!  
Candle Lighting Service Every Fri 6pm + live events  
[Templeharshalomidyllwild.org](http://Templeharshalomidyllwild.org) (951) 468-0004





Idyllwild Arts' Black History Month Concert Saturday, Feb. 17, featured drums in many forms. Here, **Najite Agindotin** performs on the African djembe (pronounced jem bay). PHOTO COURTESY OF IAA



Jazz pianist **Josh White** performing at Idyllwild Arts' Black History Month Concert Saturday, Feb. 17. PHOTO COURTESY OF IAA



**Leland "Spoonful" Collins** playing the spoons at the concert. PHOTO COURTESY OF IAA



Idyllwild Community Center President Day week children performed several skits in a melodrama performance at Town Hall last Friday afternoon, followed by an ice cream social. Here, several of the players perform "Melodrama: 'The Not So Talented Basketball Players' Finale." PHOTO BY BECKY CLARK



**Lucy Sung-won Park** of South Korea with her piece "Remembrance." Her display was part of "Naïveté," the Visual Arts senior show opening reception at Parks Exhibition Center at Idyllwild Arts last Friday night. PHOTO BY JOEL FEINGOLD



**Seoyeon Lee** of South Korea with her piece "Magic School Bus." PHOTO BY JOEL FEINGOLD



**Miles Ilasco** of San Francisco said, "My senior show piece is about decisions and the next decisions in my life. I decided to have my piece as a culmination of the ending of high school. I felt it was very fitting for my senior show." PHOTO BY JOEL FEINGOLD



**Tess Bell** of the Bay Area with her piece "The Death Of Girlhood." PHOTO BY JOEL FEINGOLD

### WORD SEARCH

(Answers on previous classifieds page)

**MAGIC MAZE**    **NORTHERN** —

A A I X V S T Q O M J H F C A

Y W R U R A S P N L J H F D B

Z X E V T R I O Q O M K I Y L

S N L H E F D S R B E Z C R O

Y A A C W C H V E C U A T O B

R Q N G A R N O K D R N L T S

K I D A I P H A C D O F D I T

C A Z K I **HEMISPHERE**

X W E K V R C N L L E U R R R

S R E Q O N A I F M L K J E I

S T H G I L H M M F E A D T B

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally  
Unlisted clue hint: AURORA BOREALIS

Alliance	Europe	Lobster	Rhodesia
Cape	Flicker	Marianas	Shrike
Cardinal	Hemisphere	Michigan	Territory
Cross	Ireland	Pike	

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(Answers on previous classifieds page)

## Become a Town Crier Member

**Less than \$9 per month.**

<http://www.IdyllwildTownCrier.com/membership-signup/>

### CROSSWORD

(Answers on previous classifieds page)

## King Crossword

**ACROSS**

1 Not so hot?

5 Dog tags, e.g.

8 Quick look

12 Antioxidant berry

13 French vineyard

14 Impetuous

15 Dungeon's quality

17 Actress Rae

18 Small batteries

19 Detroit hoopster

21 Like a neglected lawn

24 Coop group

25 Within (Pref.)

26 Foppish behavior

30 Caustic cleaner

31 Loud

32 Dean's list stat

33 Writer Steel

35 Three- sloth

36 Barn birds

37 Travesty

38 "Jane Eyre"

**DOWN**

1 Bankroll

2 Obamacare acronym

3 Scooted

4 Japanese emperor

5 Frosts a cake

6 Hosp. workers

7 Hitchcock forte

8 Overly proper

9 Bridge position

10 Canadian gas brand

11 "Star Trek II" villain

15 Aye undoer

20 "500" race

21 Use a blowtorch

22 New Age singer

23 Genesis garden

24 Salutes

26 Prettified

27 Composer

28 Detail, briefly

29 Created

31 Salamander

34 Sea off Sicily

35 "Fearless" singer

37 Boating hazard

38 Humdrum

39 "Gilmore Girls" daughter

40 Utah city

41 Use scissors

44 "Exodus" hero

45 "— had it!"

46 Museum-funding org.

47 Econ. measure

## HOROSCOPES

February 2024 — Week 5

**ARIES**

**March 21 – April 19**

The adventurous Arian won't be disappointed when taking on a new challenge, despite some initial misgivings. Look for this move to open up other opportunities down the line.

**TAURUS**

**April 20 – May 20**

Let that beautiful Bovine smile not only put you at ease, but also show that you're ready, willing and more than able to confound the naysayers around you. Meanwhile, a new admirer has important news

**GEMINI**

**May 21 – June 21**

Be careful how you handle a relationship that you're hoping to save. You already have the facts on your side. Avoid weakening your position by embellishing it with dramatics.

**CANCER**

**June 22 – July 22**

Taking definitive stands isn't easy for the often-wavering Moon Child. But you not only need to stay with your decision, but also reassure others that it was the right thing to do.

**LEO**

**July 23 – August 22**

As a proud Lion, you're right to be upset about those who might be lying about you to others. But the best revenge is proving them wrong by succeeding at what you set out to do.

**VIRGO**

**August 23 – September 22**

Caution is still advised before making a financial commitment to a "promising" project. Look for the facts behind the fluff. Devote the weekend to loved ones.

**LIBRA**

**September 23 – October 22**

A Taurus offers comfort and advice as you deal with an upsetting event. Use this as a learning experience that will help you avoid similar problems in the future.

**SCORPIO**

**October 23 – November 21**

A romantic situation creates some chaos for single Scorpions, but it's well worth the effort to work things out. A trusted friend can offer some helpful advice.

**SAGITTARIUS**

**November 22 – December 21**

Expect to make new friends as your social circle expands. Also, remember to tell a certain family member how proud you are of their achievements.

**CAPRICORN**

**December 22 – January 19**

New ventures continue to be favored. And with your self-confidence rising all the time, you'll want to see how well you can do with a new challenge. So, go toward it.

**AQUARIUS**

**January 20 – February 18**

This is a good time for the usually serious-minded Aquarian to let loose and enjoy some fun times. Expect to get good news about a workplace issue.

**PISCES**

**February 19 – March 20**

Changed plans might upset some people, but your needs should be respected. Offer explanations when necessary. But don't let yourself get talked into changing your decisions.

FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES ONLY

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦♦

♦ Moderate

♦♦ Challenging

♦♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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