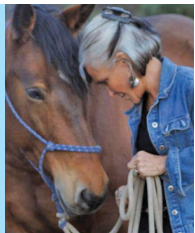


55220 STRONG DR
1 Bed
1 Bath
2 LOTS TOTAL OF 0.41
\$407,000



54074 LINGER LN
3 Bed
2 Bath
2315 SQFT
\$547,000



Sheila Zacker
DRE# 01385817

Shane & Ashley Stewart
951-500-6140 & 951-818-1170
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ON THE TOWN



Hidden Grotto, herbs
and other things
for body and spirit
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Idyllwild is treated
to Idyllwild Master
Chorale and Winter
Solstice
PAGE B4



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\$1

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VOL. 80 NO. 01 IDYLLWILD, CA THURS., JAN 2, 2025



Mountain glow

PHOTO BY JOEL FEINGOLD

Some, but not all, new laws for 2025

By JP CRUMRINE
CORRESPONDENT

The last regular session of the California Legislature ended in September and Gov. Gavin Newsom signed nearly a thousand bills and vetoed several hundred other bills which the Legislature had passed.

Many new laws went into effect on January 1, 2025, while some are effective later in 2024, e.g., April, June or July. Most of these were enacted and signed in 2024, however, a few were signed in previous years, but the effective date was 2025.

Below is a summary of the more prominent new laws effective in 2025. Many are intended to address law enforcement's efforts to reduce property thefts. Others affect workers, such as wages and leave, several are for renters' protection and we now have an official state mushroom and bat.

Crime

The most well-known changes to criminal law occurred and will be effective as the result of the passage in November of Proposition 36.

Among the Prop 36 changes are the reclassification of some misdemeanors into felonies, lengthening some felony sentences, and requiring that some felons serve their sentence in a prison.

A prime example of the change in attitude toward crime is the new definitions of felony theft. Before Prop 36, theft of items or goods whose total value was \$950 or less was deemed a misdemeanor. Now, this will be a felony if the person has two or more past convictions for certain theft crimes (such as shoplifting, burglary, or carjacking). The sentence would be up to three years in county jail or state prison.

Drug possession was also a target of Prop 36. Now, arrest for possession of illegal drugs such as fentanyl, heroin, cocaine, or methamphetamine could result in a "treatment-mandated felony," instead of a misdemeanor. Use of this charge has limitations.

In addition, Newsom signed a package of 10 separate crime bills in August, while this was intended to undercut Prop 36, these bills do strengthen enforcement fighting criminal activity.

Collectively this legislative package addresses several different issues related to the arrest and prosecution for retail and personal property theft.

For example, collectively these bills create stricter penalties, mandate sentencing enhancements and create new crimes. They also provide authority for arrests in situations where the law enforcement officer did not witness the crime.

Senate Bill 2843 creates the opportunity to aggregate the value of stolen goods. Even when the crimes cross county lines or involve different victims, prosecutors may now total the value of the stolen goods in order to seek felony convictions. Cur-

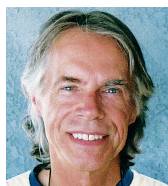
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Bill Whitman at the 2024 Tinsel Triathlon in Hemet. Out of 209 competitors, Bill finished 6th overall and claimed first place in his age group. Though he notes the competition was lighter than usual, this annual triathlon remains a favorite challenge.

PHOTO COURTESY OF WHITMAN

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Riley, Iyleah, and Lucy pose with the deputies and the new mayor Max Calendars. PHOTO BY JOEL FEINGOLD

Indoor fire safety

By DAVID JEROME
CORRESPONDENT

Although we hear a lot about the necessity of fire abatement around our homes, and the projects undertaken by fire agencies to protect our communities, most of the fire calls our local firefighters respond to are residential fires. As we settle into winter, it’s time to look around the house with a critical eye and think about what we can do to save our homes and families from fires that start indoors

According to the US Fire Administration website, most home fires start in the kitchen. Heating is the number two cause, with portable heaters accounting for only 3% of fires, but 41% of fatal heating fires. Other causes include appliances and other electrical equipment, basements and garages, batteries and candles.

The kitchen is a good place to start your own home fire safety inspection. The Red Cross attributes 90% of kitchen fires to unattended cooking. Like they say about the ocean, do not turn your back on a fire. If you are frying, grilling or broiling, do not leave the room, even briefly, without turning the stove or oven off. ” Stand by your pan.” Even a quick trip to another room or outside may lead to a distraction, and fires take seconds to get started. If your supper does catch fire, your first response should be to turn the heat off and use the lid. With slow cooking methods like simmering, baking or roasting, remain near the kitchen and use a timer to remind you the stove or oven is on.

Treat cooking appliances with respect. There should be nothing flammable near their heating surfaces, not even oven mitts. Stoves and ovens need frequent cleaning, as grease build-up can ignite.

Always check the kitchen, and any room that has a heater (or air conditioner), before leaving the house. Turn appliances off. Portable electric heaters should not be left on while you are sleeping.

Do not overload electrical outlets. Most residential outlets are on 15 or 20-amp circuits. Fifteen amps is 1,800 watts. Check the wattage of what you have plugged into a single outlet or circuit. One big appliance like a heater or toaster-oven puts a 15-amp circuit close to capacity. Twenty-amp circuits are better for high wattage appliances, and even these can only handle one big load.

Never use extension cords for major appliances like refrigerator, stove, washer or dryer, or heater. Large chargers, like the ones for electric cars, should never be plugged into extension cords. Extension cords are also a trip-and-fall hazard, and this may knock over the appliance.

Power strips are both outlets and extension cords. Do not overload them, don’t plug high wattage appliance into power strips. Discard damaged power strips and extension cords. Don’t pull the third “ground” prong from an extension or appliance cord, as this defeats essential safety features.

If your house still has older two prong outlets, they can be replaced with outlets that allow you to plug in three prong, grounded plugs without running new wire; they are called “Ground Fault Circuit Interrupt” receptacles, GFCI. They should be installed by an electrician but are a minor job.

Avoid cluttered workspaces with lots of electrical cords. Unplug appliances that are not in use. Insert prongs fully and replace outlets if plugs do not stay snug. If you have young children, there are tamper resistant outlets and plastic plug covers. Be aware that kids are clever and curious. There is no such thing as “child-proof,” but “child resistant” is a step in the right direction.

Keep anything that burns away from light bulbs. Do not “overlap” a fixture by using bulbs of higher than recommended wattage. This includes recessed ceiling lights.

Problems common to basements and garages include storage of flammable liquids, gas appliances and electrical tools. Both places need smoke detectors. If you do keep oily rags, store them in airtight containers. Flammable liquids or gas should be kept away for the house in a shed.

Furnaces need regular inspections. You can check and replace the filter yourself. A dirty filter makes your heater less efficient and can cause the furnace to overheat. The lint trap on your dryer must be cleaned every time you use it for the same reason. The duct work for the dryer’s exhaust also needs a yearly inspection.

If you use a wood stove or fireplace you will need to have the chimney swept at least once a year, and twice if you are relying on it for heat. Keep a three-foot area around wood burning stoves clear of flammables. Fireplaces need tight fitting screens that will keep sparks inside.

Fireplace ashes can start fires for days after they are removed. It is best to remove ashes when they are cold, before your start a fire. Do not put buckets of ashes on wooden decks or floors. It is best to leave them in a tightly covered metal bucket on a fireproof hearth until you can mix them with water. Just because the bucket does not feel hot at first does not mean ashes are safe. Do not put ashes in a trash can. Do not take hot ashes to the transfer station.

Batteries require careful handling. If you are using rechargeable batteries, make sure your charging station is in a place far from flammables like curtains. Store them away from flammable materials. Discard batteries if you notice an odor, change in color, too much heat, leaking, or odd noises. Don’t put them in the trash. Recycle them. Keep lithium-ion batteries (and others) out of the sun and hot car interiors.

Candles, like cooking appliances, should never be left alone, even for a minute. Falling asleep counts as “leaving alone.” Candles need proper holders and a safe surface away from flammables. Consider the presence of pets and children. Flashlights are better for power outages.

There are two types of fire-safety equipment every house should have: smoke detectors and fire extinguishers. Detectors are needed in kitchens, in each bedroom, and on each level of a multi-story house, as well as in garages and basements. The Red Cross recommends monthly testing. Kids should be taught to recognize the sound and know what to do.








CO detectors are another subject. They detect carbon monoxide from poor combustion of wood or fossil fuel. CO is colorless, odorless, and symptoms of low-level poisoning may resemble flu. Some things should never be used indoors, even in garages, or near windows: charcoal, camp stoves, and gas motors including generators.

Extinguishers are needed in the kitchen and on each floor, as well as in garages and basements. They should be easy to find, but not so close to the stove that a fire would cut you off from them. Exits are good spots. Class A: B: C work on ordinary combustibles, but K is the standard for kitchens. There are disposable aerosol can extinguishers, but they are small and better suited for tight places like cars, boats or dorm rooms. Fire blankets are another tool that can help smother smaller fires.

Families need to talk about evacuation and reunification plans. In the event of a fire, call 911 and Idyllwild Fire. Do not go back into a burning house to retrieve objects.

The Red Cross says that children under five are twice as likely as the rest of us to die in home fires, and fires started by children are the number one cause of fire death among preschoolers. These fires usually start with matches or lighters, but also involve candles, fireworks, stoves and cigarettes. Childproofing means putting these things out of reach. The Red Cross also recommends fire drills including teaching kids “stop, drop and roll” and low crawling (smoke rises.)

Idyllwild Weather

Day	High / Low	Conditions
 Wednesday 1/1	61°F / 40°F	Mostly sunny and breezy
 Thursday 1/2	65°F / 40°F	Mostly sunny
 Friday 1/3	62°F / 40°F	Intervals of clouds and sun
 Saturday 1/4	57°F / 33°F	Mostly cloudy
 Sunday 1/5	62°F / 32°F	Mostly sunny
 Monday 1/6	64°F / 31°F	Plenty of sun
 Tuesday 1/7	61°F / 31°F	Plenty of sunshine



Suicide Rock PHOTO BY BILL RHOADS
SUBMIT YOUR LOCAL WEATHER PHOTO TUESDAY MORNINGS BEFORE 10 A.M.
TO: SUBMIT@TOWNCRIER.COM

New Laws

continued from A1

rently, these individual acts may only meet misdemeanor criteria.

There are also stronger penalties for smash and grab theft actions.

Theft from unlocked cars

SB 905, which state Sen. Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco) authored, eliminates the requirement that victims prove their cars were locked in order to press burglary charges. Now forcible entry will be sufficient to prove the crime of auto burglary. The bill also makes it easier to combine instances of stolen property possession into one crime.

Previously the individuals who had property or items stolen from the cars had to prove that the vehicles were locked and had to come to court to testify.

Forcibly entering a vehicle with the intent to commit theft or any other felony or unlawfully possessing property acquired through theft from a vehicle with intent to sell where the value of the property possessed exceeds \$950 will be classified as a felony.

Wages

On January 1, 2025, California’s minimum wage increased from \$16 per hour to \$16.50 for workers in most industries. This will benefit both part-time and full-time workers.

However, fast food and health care workers saw even higher pay checks beginning in April 2024.

Proposition 32, on the November ballot, was defeated, but it would have increased California’s minimum wage to \$18 per hour.

Localities with a higher minimum wage will pay that amount. Various localities throughout the State have their own minimum wage laws, too. For example, for 2024, it is \$16.85 in San Diego and \$17.80 in Palo Alto.

Driver’s license for employment

SB 1100 now prohibits an employer from requiring an applicant must have a driver’s license. If the duties of the position reasonably include driving, the employer may require it. The bill report said, “. . . unless the employer reasonably expects the duties of the position to require driving and the employer reasonably believes that satisfying that job function using an alternative form of transportation would not be comparable in travel time or cost to the employer.”

Tenant protections

Probably the most important law benefiting tenants was not approved. On the November ballot, Proposition 33, which would have repealed the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act, failed. Costa-Hawkins limits and makes it exceedingly difficult for local governments to control rent.

However, the Legislature passed and Newsom signed Assembly Bill 2347, which gives tenants facing an eviction more time to respond to the legal process.

Now tenants will have 10 days to respond after an unlawful detainer complaint and summons has been served to them. Previously, they only had 5 days to respond.

Tenants facing an eviction notice must respond in writing within the 5-day period. This extension may help may avoid a default judgement and protect their residence.

Security Deposits

Renters’ security deposits will have greater protection from landlord claims of damage. For example, beginning July 1, 2025, AB 2801 will require that a landlord to take photographs of the unit immediately before, or at the inception of, the tenancy and after the tenant vacates the unit in order to prove the tenant caused the damage and to use the security deposit to pay for the repairs.

The bill would also require, beginning April 1, the landlord to take photographs of the unit within a reasonable time after possession of the unit is returned to the landlord, but prior to any repairs or cleanings

In addition, fiscal claims against the tenant for the cost of repair will be limited to the amount necessary to restore the premises back to the condition it was in at the inception of the tenancy.

Maintaining the rental between tenancy will be the responsibility of the landlord. The bill would also prohibit requiring a tenant to pay for professional carpet cleaning or other professional cleaning services, unless reasonably necessary to return the premises to its initial condition prior to the tenant’s occupancy.

Parking near crosswalks

It will be more costly to park within 20 feet of a crosswalk or 15 feet of any crosswalk where a curb extension is present.

The final Assembly Report for bill 413 stated its purpose is to reduce the danger at intersections. According to the Report, intersections are dangerous.

In 2020, nearly 10,600 traffic fatalities occurred at an intersection. This is about a quarter of all traffic fatalities. And 1,674 of those fatalities were pedestrians again nearly a quarter of all pedestrian fatalities.

Moving parked cars further from the intersection is intended to address these incidents. It is also referred to as “daylighting” which involves removing parking within 20-25 feet of an intersection. Parking at intersections reduces visibility of pedestrians about to cross the street.

Books

With approval of the “Freedom to Read Act”, the State Legislature has tried to reduce, if not ban, book banning. Libraries will have to develop policies on the book collections. The public will have a right to review and comment on these policies.

The general purpose of AB 1825 is to prohibit public libraries from banning books or other materials because of the topics, views, ideas, or opinions contained in them. Specific topics that the bill addresses are race, nationality, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, disability, political affiliation, or socioeconomic status.

“. . . we know that our freedom to read is a cornerstone of our democracy,” said Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi, (D-Torrance), author of the bill. “Unfortunately, there is a growing movement to ban books nationwide, and this bill will ensure that Californians have access to books that offer diverse perspectives. . .”

Online subscription cancelation

It is easy to get a short-term free service or item in exchange for acquiring a subscription for a publication or other item. And those subscriptions frequently renew themselves automatically before we can consciously decide whether we still want or need them.

AB 2863 changes this practice and requires vendors to notify us when a subscription or service is about to end and ask whether we wish to renew. The cancelation ac-



Rabbi Yonason Denebeim from Palm Springs Chabad lights the menorah at Town-hall Sunday evening.

PHOTO BY JOEL FEINGOLD

tion must be available via the same process used to initiate it.

In addition, any fee changes and information regarding how to cancel in a specified manner must be provided no less than 7 days and no more than 30 days before either takes effect.

In other words, if you began a subscription online, you must have the opportunity to cancel it with a “click” online.

However, these requirements will only apply to subscriptions that are signed or renewed on or after July 1, 2025.

Medical Debt

Surgery and other medical and health care actions can be expensive. Many people incur large debt protecting their health. SB 1061 will remove medical debt from consumer credit reports to ensure that people are “not penalized for the high costs of necessary healthcare,” according to Newsom’s office.

The law now prohibits healthcare providers from providing information regarding a patient’s medical debt to a credit reporting agency. This law does not forgive the debt, but it keeps it off credit reports. Thus, avoiding higher interest rates for credit cards.

“No Californian should be unable to secure housing, a loan, or even a job because they accessed necessary medical care,” Sen. Monique Limón (District 21) said.

Insurance coverage increases

Minimum insurance liability limits will increase in 2025. Beginning Jan. 1, SB 1107 increases the payouts for injury, death or property damage will increase to \$30,000 for bodily injury or death of one person, \$60,000 for bodily injury of death of all persons, and \$15,000 for damage to the property of others as a result of any one accident.

Fertility coverage

For many couples, the cost of fertility treatments needed to procreate can significantly affect their financial resources.

As of July 1, 2025, SB 729 will require California’s large-group health insurance policies and HMO contracts to cover the diagnosis and treatment of infertility and fertility services, including in-vitro fertilization treatments.

Small-group policies and HMO contracts must offer employers the option to cover these same services but are not required to provide the coverage automatically.

After its passage and signing in September, Sen. Caroline Menjivar (D- San Fernando Valley), who is the bill’s author, said, “. . . it is a triumph for the many Californians who have been denied a path towards family-building because of the financial barriers that come with fertility treatment, their relationship status, or are blatantly discriminated against as a member of the LGBTQ+ community,”

The bill also revises the 1975 Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act to ensure that the definition of infertility in California is consistent with the American Society for Reproductive Medicine.

LGBTQ pupils

AB 1955, passed in July, now prohibits schools and staff from outing a LGBTQ student.

The bill applies to private schools, as well as public schools, basically prohibits these institutions and their governing bodies from enacting or enforcing any policy, rule, or administrative regulation that requires disclosure of a pupil’s sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression without the pupil’s consent

New official state designations

Before adjourning, the Legislature reviewed, debated and approved establishing the Banana Slug as the official State slug.

According to AB 1850, Banana slugs contribute to the health of their environment through their role as detritivores, including playing an important ecological role in cleaning up detritus, distributing seeds and spores, acting as pollinators, and eating poison oak and death angel mushrooms.

Banana slugs have a symbiotic relationship with the state tree, the California redwood (Sequoia sempervirens, Sequoia gigantea), where their habitats overlap.

Banana slugs can be found throughout California, ranging from Del Norte County to San Diego County, and on the Channel Islands. Seven species of banana slugs in total have been identified in California, and only one of those species is known to be found outside of California.

Assemblymember Gail Pellerin (D-Santa Cruz) honored the banana slug (Ariolimax) for several reasons including its maximum speed of six and a half inches per minute.

SB 1797 established the Dungeness crab as the official state crustacean.

In California, the most abundant crab is the Metacarcinus magister, or Dungeness crab and are an essential part of California’s ecosystem and economy according to the bill. Dungeness crabs are opportunistic predators and scavengers, feeding on bivalves, fish, shrimp, isopods, and other organisms, which contributes to a healthy ecosystem.

Turning 65?

Medicare can be confusing, but I can help



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A problem with Mountain Disaster Preparedness’ mail box (PO Box 142) has been rectified.

If your mail was returned please feel free to resend it, or call Michael Feyder at (310)251-2926 for more information.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND UNDERSTANDING.



“ASK SPIRITUAL WORKOUT”
By Steven Morrison, M.A.

• **Editor’s Note:** Spiritual Workout is a practice of these 15 concepts: Be Compassionate • Beliefs Matter • Be Present • Choices Abound • Everything Is Energy • Have an Attitude of Gratitude • Intentions Matter • Judgments Separate Us • Listen to Inspiration • Mind & Body Are Connected • Take Responsibility • The Law of Attraction Is Always On • We Are All Connected • We Are Here for a Reason • We Belong to the Planet, Not the Planet to Us. More at spiritualworkout.com.

Dear Spiritual Workout:
I’m having a really hard time in school right now and I seem to be missing more classes than going. It makes me feel overwhelmed and like I don’t have time to do the things I love. Do I finish my degree or take a semester off?
Dear Reader:
Nobody else can tell you what’s right for you. But when living more and more consciously, we focus assiduously on what it is we want, we “shake out” beliefs we have that don’t align with what we want, and we listen to inspiration — our gut/intuition/the being part of us — for what actions to take and when to take them. It’s all but impossible to listen to inspiration when we feel overwhelmed. And we don’t do things — like missing most classes — that don’t serve us on some level. So, it all boils down to what you want to be/do/have for your Self. What is/isn’t important to you about education? What would be the intention(s) for taking a semester off? And keep in mind the differences between running away from and running toward.

Dear Spiritual Workout:
My husband and I are moving to a new place for retirement and will be needing to create a whole new social circle. We do tend to be pretty introverted, but we know if we want friends we’ll have to go out and make some. Any suggestions on how not to give up before we start?
Dear Reader:
Yes! Start by setting the intention(s) which, I’ll remind you, entails letting go of how anything is going to happen so don’t forget to not worry about that part. :) “We’re loving our new life;” “we’ve struck the perfect balance between privacy and social connections;” “we are so happy we moved;” “we are meeting some of the most fun and interesting new people;” “fun and interesting people are everywhere.” Think in these terms. Talk to one another in these terms. Live your lives and let synchronicity do its thing on its terms.

Dear Spiritual Workout:
I want to start working out, but I am scared to go to the gym because I feel like I am doing things wrong. How do I get over this?
Dear Reader:
We typically feel nervous in front of others when we are uncertain about who we are and what we’re doing. Our insecurity then leaves the job of measuring our worth to those others. Did you catch that? You are giving the job of measuring your worth — How am I doing? — to people you do not know and whose own judgments of you have literally nothing to do with you (and everything to do with them). So, to “get over this,” get in touch with why it is you are going to the gym in the first place and own it. “I’m excited to start taking care of myself in some new ways;” “I’ve been looking forward to being in better physical health;” “I’m eager to learn new things about taking care of my body.” Of what relevance, then, is anyone else’s idea about it?

•
Dear Reader
Send your questions to dearspiritualworkout@spiritualworkout.com. (Confidentiality assured.) When you’re ready for more, find cutting-edge counseling Spiritual Workout-style for \$50/month at spiritualworkout.com.



Snow Safety

DEAR EDITOR:
Christmas Day is upon us and this is in indicator that the snow will soon be blanketing our lovely green community. I recall over 54 years ago when our father brought home a new sled from the hardware store in town to sled downhill and enjoy the experience of fresh

snow our first winter together in 1966. Dad always told us to watch out for hidden boulders and avoid trees, so we were careful. In 1970 we had so much snow you couldn’t believe it! Foolishly, I chose to downhill sled in the streets around town until my luck ran out and I was struck by an oncoming car at the intersection of South Circle Dr. and Strong. I received life threatening injuries, and it is only by the grace of our good Lord that I am alive today and am able to forewarn any of you who may get the same idea to try snow sledding along the side of the road on your sleds, toboggans, inertubes, or whatever you use. Sure, it looks like a lot of fun and beats dodging trees. However, I ran a stop sign and through no fault of the driver of that car I was hit and nearly killed! Just imagine the horror and grief my choice to sled in the street had upon my mother particularly when Dad had to call her from the fire station to advise her what had happened to her recently turned eleven years old son! Like many of you may believe that you are super-duper and could fly if given the opportunity, trust me, you can’t. When the snow begins falling and you want to go out and play in it, zoom down hillsides and enjoy all playing in snow has to offer. Please keep in mind that even though the roads may not have been plowed to the asphalt that any snow sports involving the street, highway, or place where motor vehicles travel should automatically be off limits to you. Please be safe.

Ward Johnson
Long Beach, California

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Businesses should contact the Town Crier Office for information about next year’s 2025 Phone Book.
Business listings are not automatically included. Email suzanne@towncrier.com.

☐ CHANGE

☐ DELETION

☐ ADDITION

LAST NAME, FIRST NAME (please print clearly)

()

PHONE NUMBER (please print clearly)

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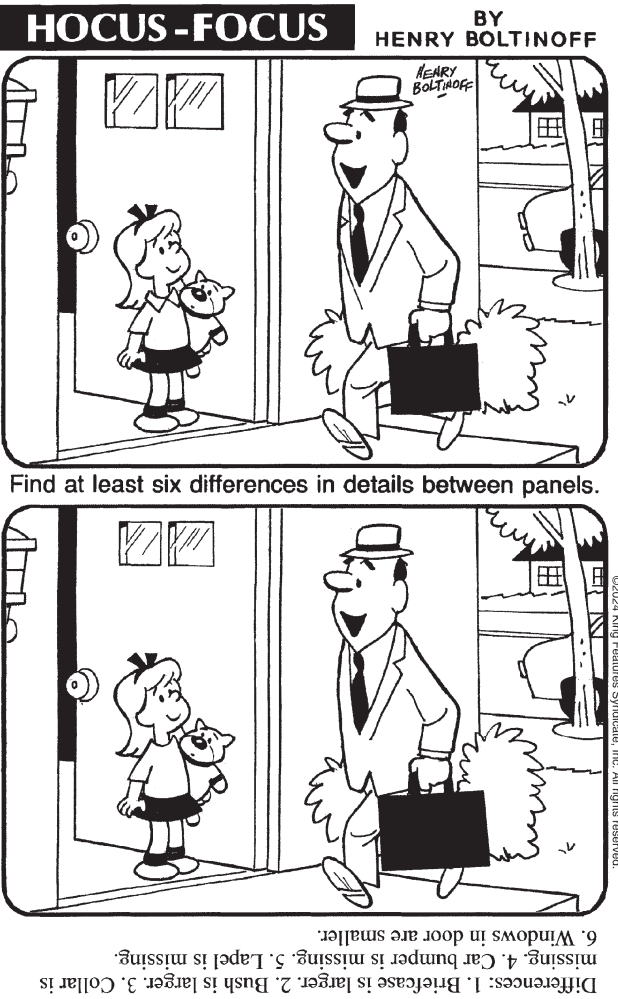
Phone: (951) 659-2145

Website: idyllwildtowncrier.com



Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1ST			SUNDAY, JANUARY 5TH		
Jazzercise	08:30 am - 09:30 am	Town Hall	Farmers Market	09:00 am - 02:00 pm	Town Hall
Fit After 50	10:00 am - 11:00 am	Town Hall			
Jazzercise	05:30 pm - 06:30 pm	Town Hall			
THURSDAY, JANUARY 2ND			MONDAY, JANUARY 6TH		
Jazzercise	08:30 am - 09:30 am	Town Hall	Jazzercise	08:30 am - 09:30 am	Town Hall
ICC Kids Korner NEW YEARS			TAI CHI Class	10:30 am - 11:30 am	Town Hall
Camp	09:00 am - 05:00 pm	Town Hall	Fit After 50	12:00 pm - 01:00 pm	Town Hall
Fit After 50	10:00 am - 11:00 am	Town Hall	Jazzercise	05:30 pm - 06:30 pm	Town Hall
FRIDAY, JANUARY 3RD			TUESDAY, JANUARY 7TH		
Jazzercise	08:30 am - 09:30 am	Town Hall	Jazzercise	07:00 am - 08:00 am	Town Hall
ICC Kids Korner NEW YEARS			Fit After 50	10:00 am - 11:00 am	Town Hall
Camp	09:00 am - 05:00 pm	Town Hall	Feeding America Food Box Distribution	10:30 am - 12:00 pm	Town Hall
Fit After 50	12:00 pm - 01:00 pm	Town Hall	Mah Jongg	12:00 pm - 3:30 pm	Idyllwild Library
			ICC After School Program	02:00 pm - 06:00 pm	Town Hall
			Jazzercise	05:30 pm - 06:30 pm	Town Hall



12 Step Meetings in the Idyllwild area			
3rd quarter 2024			
(Revised 8/5/2024)			
Sunday	AA - Discussion	Noon	Idyllwild Water District
	AA - Speaker meeting (last Sunday of the month)	Noon	St. Hugh's
	"Mixed Nuts" (Al-Anon with AA participation)	5:30 PM - 7:00 PM	Spirit Mountain Retreat
Monday	AA - Discussion	Noon	St. Hugh's
	CoDA (CoDependents Anonymous)	6:00 PM	Zoom - Call Mary at 951-634-4048 for Zoom link
Tuesday	AA - 12x12	Noon	St. Hugh's
Wednesday	CoDA (Co-Dependents Anonymous)	Noon	St. Hugh's
Thursday	AA - Discussion & Birthdays	Noon	St. Hugh's
	Emotions Anonymous	5:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Spirit Mountain Retreat
	Al-Anon	6:30 PM - 7:30 PM	Spirit Mountain Retreat
Friday	Idy A's - Members of AA, NA, Al-Anon, CODA, etc.	Noon	St. Hugh's
	AA with Al-Anon participation	5:30 PM	Ark of Light
Saturday	AA - Book Study	Noon	St. Hugh's
	NA - "Recovery on the Hill" meeting	3:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Inside Idyllwild Water District
	AA - Happy Hour & Birthdays	5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	Behind Idyllwild Water District (bring your own chair)
Every day	Closed AA Meeting (you are welcome if you have a desire to stop drinking)	Noon	Zoom - email serenitvimpines@gmail.com for Zoom link
St. Hugh's Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Dr. Idyllwild Water District, 25945 State Hwy. 243			
Spirit Mountain Retreat, 25661 Oakwood St. Ark of Light, 54445 N. Circle Dr. Suite F			
July through September 2024 - All meetings are open unless otherwise noted (Meeting secretaries - please call 951-634-4048 to change info)			

Sheriff's log

The Riverside County Sheriff's Department Hemet Station responded to the following calls

IDYLLWILD

- ALARM CALL 12-30-2024 15:34 PM 000 *** BLOCK IDYLLWILD DR SAN JACINTO PENDING DISPO
- ALARM CALL 12-30-2024 14:15 PM 000 *** BLOCK IDYLLWILD DR SAN JACINTO PENDING DISPO
- ALARM CALL 12-30-2024 08:58 AM 000 *** BLOCK IDYLLWILD DR SAN JACINTO PENDING DISPO
- BARKING DOG 12-29-2024 10:10 AM 2500 *** BLOCK CASSLER DR IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- PUBLIC DISTURBANCE 12-29-2024 08:26 AM 5400 *** BLOCK PINE CREST AV IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- NOISE COMPLAINT 12-28-2024 20:46 PM 5400 *** BLOCK PINE CREST AV IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- NOISE COMPLAINT 12-28-2024 19:03 PM 5400 *** BLOCK PINE CREST AV IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- FOLLOW-UP 12-28-2024 11:45 AM ADDRESS WITHHELD IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- PUBLIC DISTURBANCE 12-28-2024 10:47 AM 5400 *** BLOCK PINE CREST AV IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- AREA CHECK 12-27-2024 18:00 PM ADDRESS UNDEFINED IDYLLWILD ARREST MADE
- DANGER TO SELF/OTHER 12-27-2024 13:56 PM 5400 *** BLOCK VILLAGE CENTER DR IDYLLWILD REPORT TAKEN
- NOISE COMPLAINT 12-27-2024 12:46 AM 5400 *** BLOCK RIDGEVIEW DR IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO

- ALARM CALL 12-27-2024 09:27 AM 5500 *** BLOCK FOREST HAVEN DR IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- PUBLIC ASSIST 12-27-2024 08:53 AM 2600 *** BLOCK BICKNELL LN IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- CIVIL DISPUTE 12-27-2024 07:30 AM 2600 *** BLOCK DELANO DR IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- ALARM CALL 12-27-2024 05:55 AM 5500 *** BLOCK FOREST HAVEN DR IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE 12-26-2024 23:16 PM 2500 *** BLOCK SCENIC DR IDYLLWILD REPORT TAKEN
- SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE 12-26-2024 23:16 PM 2500 *** BLOCK SCENIC DR IDYLLWILD REPORT TAKEN
- ALARM CALL 12-26-2024 15:47 PM 000 *** BLOCK IDYLLWILD DR SAN JACINTO PENDING DISPO
- CHECK THE WELFARE 12-26-2024 14:18 PM 5400 *** BLOCK SOUTH CIRCLE DR IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE 12-25-2024 19:09 PM 2400 *** BLOCK FERN VALLEY RD IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- 911 CALL FROM BUSINESS 12-25-2024 18:22 PM 5500 *** BLOCK SOUTH CIRCLE DR IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- AREA CHECK 12-25-2024 18:15 PM ADDRESS UNDEFINED IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- ALARM CALL 12-24-2024 23:33 PM 5400 *** BLOCK TAHQUITZ VIEW DR IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- NOISE COMPLAINT 12-24-2024 22:35 PM 000 *** BLOCK IDYLLWILD DR SAN JACINTO PENDING DISPO
- NOISE COMPLAINT 12-24-2024 21:39 PM 000 *** BLOCK IDYLLWILD DR SAN JACINTO PENDING DISPO
- ALARM CALL 12-24-2024 11:11 AM 2500 *** BLOCK PALOMAR

- RD IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- ALARM CALL 12-24-2024 07:51 AM 000 *** BLOCK IDYLLWILD DR SAN JACINTO PENDING DISPO
- SUSPICIOUS PERSON 12-24-2024 00:19 AM 2600 *** BLOCK ST HWY 243 IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- 911 HANGUP FROM CELLPHONE 12-23-2024 19:15 PM 5500 *** BLOCK HEMSTREET PL/TAHQUITZ VIEW DR IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- BATTERY 12-23-2024 16:09 PM 000 *** BLOCK IDYLLWILD DR SAN JACINTO PENDING DISPO
- EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION 12-23-2024 10:31 AM ADDRESS WITHHELD IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- ALARM CALL 12-23-2024 09:08 AM 5400 *** BLOCK NORTH CIRCLE DR IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- CIVIL DISPUTE 12-23-2024 08:07 AM 5400 *** BLOCK SOUTH CIRCLE DR IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- BARKING DOG 12-23-2024 08:05 AM 5400 *** BLOCK SOUTH CIRCLE DR IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- UNKNOWN TROUBLE 12-21-2024 21:46 PM 2500 *** BLOCK GLEN RD IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE 12-21-2024 17:31 PM 5300 *** BLOCK MIDDLE RIDGE DR IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- ASSIST OTHER DEPARTMENT 12-20-2024 17:23 PM 5400 *** BLOCK PINE CREST AV IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- ALARM CALL 12-20-2024 15:35 PM 2400 *** BLOCK FERN VALLEY RD IDYLLWILD PENDING DISPO
- MISCELLANEOUS CRIMINAL 12-20-2024 14:52 PM 000 *** BLOCK IDYLLWILD SAN JACINTO PENDING DISPO
- PETTY THEFT 12-20-2024 14:32 PM 000 *** BLOCK IDYLLWILD DR SAN JACINTO PENDING DISPO

- MISCELLANEOUS CRIMINAL 12-20-2024 13:08 PM 000 *** BLOCK IDYLLWILD SAN JACINTO REPORT TAKEN
- UNKNOWN TROUBLE 12-19-2024 12:26 AM 000 *** BLOCK IDYLLWILD DR SAN JACINTO PENDING DISPO
- PINE COVE
- BARKING DOG 12-27-2024 22:38 PM 2300 *** BLOCK ST HWY 243 PINE COVE PENDING DISPO
- BARKING DOG 12-27-2024 22:38 PM 2300 *** BLOCK ST HWY 243 PINE COVE PENDING DISPO
- SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE 12-27-2024 15:29 PM 2500 *** BLOCK WANDA WY PINE COVE PENDING DISPO
- PUBLIC ASSIST 12-26-2024 14:37 PM 2500 *** BLOCK NESTWA TRL PINE COVE PENDING DISPO
- ALARM CALL 12-24-2024 10:02 AM 2400 *** BLOCK MARION RIDGE DR PINE COVE PENDING DISPO
- SILENT ALARM 12-21-2024 12:23 AM ADDRESS WITHHELD PINE COVE PENDING DISPO
- HAZARD 12-21-2024 08:55 AM 5200 *** BLOCK PINE RIDGE RD PINE COVE PENDING DISPO
- POPPET FLATS
- CIVIL DISPUTE 12-28-2024 12:23 AM 1800 *** BLOCK KEYES RD POPPET FLATS PENDING DISPO
- CHECK THE WELFARE 12-28-2024 07:10 AM 4500 *** BLOCK COYOTE ST POPPET FLATS PENDING DISPO
- MAN DOWN 12-24-2024 04:37 AM ADDRESS UNDEFINED POPPET FLATS PENDING DISPO
- UNKNOWN TROUBLE 12-22-2024 04:26 AM 2200 *** BLOCK SOBOBA RD POPPET FLATS PENDING DISPO

- UNKNOWN TROUBLE 12-22-2024 04:26 AM 2200 *** BLOCK SOBOBA RD POPPET FLATS PENDING DISPO
- PUBLIC DISTURBANCE 12-21-2024 23:26 PM 2200 *** BLOCK SOBOBA RD POPPET FLATS PENDING DISPO
- VANDALISM 12-20-2024 11:18 AM 4500 *** BLOCK COYOTE ST POPPET FLATS PENDING DISPO

- SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE 12-21-2024 11:43 AM 5000 *** BLOCK E ST HWY 74 SAN BERDO NAT FORS REPORT TAKEN
- ASSIST OTHER DEPARTMENT 12-21-2024 03:15 AM ADDRESS UNDEFINED SAN BERDO NAT FORS PENDING DISPO
- PUBLIC DISTURBANCE 12-19-2024 16:07 PM 2700 *** BLOCK GOLDEN ROD RD SAN BERDO NAT FORS PENDING DISPO

SAN BERDO NAT FORS

TWIN PINES

- PUBLIC DISTURBANCE 12-30-2024 13:57 PM 6100 *** BLOCK E ST HWY 74 SAN BERDO NAT FORS PENDING DISPO
- PUBLIC ASSIST 12-26-2024 16:48 PM 5600 *** BLOCK E ST HWY 74 SAN BERDO NAT FORS PENDING DISPO
- VANDALISM 12-25-2024 08:16 AM 4700 *** BLOCK E ST HWY 74 SAN BERDO NAT FORS REPORT TAKEN

- CHECK THE WELFARE 12-24-2024 20:06 PM 1600 *** BLOCK VALLEY HI DR TWIN PINES PENDING DISPO
- CHECK THE WELFARE 12-24-2024 20:06 PM 1600 *** BLOCK VALLEY HI DR TWIN PINES PENDING DISPO
- SHOTS FIRED 12-23-2024 17:22 PM 4700 *** BLOCK WOODCLIFF DR TWIN PINES PENDING DISPO

Town Crier Membership Application:

NAME(S): _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____

ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER(S): _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

I (We) want to keep the Town Crier as a real newspaper for the benefit of our community, as follows:

☐ Angels: Other amount unlimited above \$1,000 annually – \$ _____

☐ Heroes: \$1,000 annually – \$ _____

☐ Patrons: \$500+ annually – \$ _____

☐ Sponsors: \$250+ annually – \$ _____

☐ Sustaining Readers: \$100+ annually – \$ _____

All Memberships may be paid for by the month, if you wish, by using a pre-submitted credit card, debit card, or PayPal account with the addition of a 3% fee. Contact Mina at the Town Crier office to make arrangements. 951-659-2145.

PLEASE NOTE: The Town Crier is NOT an official "nonprofit organization." (For practical reasons involving the likelihood of local factional efforts to dominate a nonprofit's board so as to gain editorial control of the paper, it could not be.) Therefore, your Membership contributions are NOT tax deductible.

Members have no ownership or voting interest in the Town Crier. And we know our Members appreciate that we cannot allow the fact of their Memberships to influence or control the paper's ongoing editorial policies and decisions.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:

- Subscriptions to both printed and online issues of the Town Crier.
 - Nice-looking "Idyllwild Town Crier Member" car-window decals, which we very much hope you will display so as to encourage others to join us.
 - Recognition of your Membership in the Town Crier, unless you request anonymity.
 - Occasional offers, special to our Members, from local businesses.
 - And most important and valuable of all: You will receive the satisfaction and pleasure of knowing that you are doing your part to support a real newspaper on our Hill for the benefit of our entire community.
- Send completed form to Idyllwild Town Crier, P.O. Box 157, Idyllwild, CA 92549.
- Checks may be made payable to "Idyllwild Town Crier." | Contact us at 951-659-2145 or membership@towncrier.com.



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On the Town

Local Dining, Arts & Entertainment

B SECTION

IDYLLWILD, CA

THURS., JAN 2, 2025

Hidden Grotto, herbs and other things for body and spirit

By DAVID JEROME
CORRESPONDENT

Erin Righetti, also known as Mave, has opened a new shop called the Hidden Grotto, in the studio next to the Fern Valley Emporium. Mave calls it a Metaphysical shop, a place for “Spiritual things. Not exclusive, I embrace the many forms of spirituality. I think everyone has to find their own way to connect to the divine.” The shop opened just in time for the winter solstice.

The walls are lined with glass jars full of herbs and other plant materials from around the world, as well as tinctures, extracts and essential oils. There are also many types of incense, bath salts, and some jewelry. The place smells wonderful. Mave emphasizes that the blends are not mass produced, but carefully crafted, and that the single herbs allow people to make their own formulas. “I want to be a resource for local people who need herbs... If they need guidance, or if they just need things for their own work, spiritual or medicinal.”

The herbs have many uses. “Some would be for teas or tinctures; powders are for capsules. I want to be a place where people can come to get ingredients to make their own blends or products.” There are spices for culinary options, a collection of Chinese herbs, some from the Ayurvedic tradition, and more familiar western plants. There are roots, flowers, barks, and resins like frankincense, myrrh and copal. Even a few animal parts for “mojo bags.”

Botanical oils fall into several categories. “Fragrance oils are made to smell like spiced apples, lilac, etc. Some plants you can’t get essential oils from; they are too delicate. Essential oils are the volatile oils, like what rubs off on your hands when you touch a plant.” Their preparation usually involves distillation.

The shop is still new, but Mave’s practice is not. “I worked in a metaphysical store in Denver for about 15 years. I learned to use the plants, oils, incense and candles for spiritual purposes. While I worked there, I took a class accredited by the Colorado Board of Education, 350 hours. I got a certification for Botanical Medicine. That’s where I learned about incorporating eastern herbs with western herbs.”

Mave grew up on the Hill and discovered her call-



Erin Righetti burning incense at her store, the Hidden Grotto.

PHOTO BY DAVID JEROME

ing here. “My family has lived in Idyllwild for 50 years. When I was 16, I used to go to Avalon Books, Suzanne’s store, my first metaphysical store. Growing up here, Idyllwild gave me a connection to natural and earth-based ideas of spirituality. This started me on an alternative spiritual path, nurtured it.”

“Idyllwild has always been my home. Even when I left, I always knew I would come back. Now I get to

raise two children here.” The family moved back about 8 years ago, and Mave worked at home at first, “online readings, Tarot, and advice. I am still doing that.”

Mave uses a Japanese word to sum up her relationship with her work. “This is my Ikigai. It’s the thing that brings me joy and happiness.” The Hidden Grotto, 54965 Pine Crest Ave., Thursday through Monday 10-5.



Top: Sheyna Gee and Chase Walker perform at Taryn's Place.

Bottom: The crowd looks in at Taryn's Place to see Sheyna Gee and Chase Walker perform.
PHOTO COURTESY OF TARYN'S PLACE





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HAPPY SILLY NEW YEAR!



Start 2025 with smiles and laughs with these silly games! Being silly can bring smiles and laughs to your friends and family, too!

New Year Bingo

1. Cut out these bingo cards and give one to each player.
2. Once the game starts, everyone looks or listens for the words on their card.
3. When you see or hear one of these words related to New Year's celebrations, cross it out.
4. After one hour, time's up! The player who crossed out the most words wins!

RESOLUTION PARTY TIMES SQUARE
CELEBRATE MIDNIGHT BALLOONS
CALENDAR CLOCK 2025

TIME RESOLUTION CONFETTI
2025 FUTURE HOUR
PARADE DAY EXCITED

MUSIC HOLIDAY BALL
PEOPLE HAPPY RESOLUTION
LAUGHTER 2025 GOODBYE

Standards Link: Language Arts: Follow simple written directions.

New Year Guessing Game

Each player chooses something related to New Year celebrations, like balloons or confetti. The other players ask **YES** or **NO** questions to try and guess what it is, asking no more than 20 questions. Each time someone asks a question with a **NO** answer, they have to dance and cluck like a chicken!



Hey, kid! That is **NOT** how I dance! What the heck?

Stinky Sock Game

Seat everyone in a circle. Quickly pass a pair of rolled-up socks around as music plays. When the music stops, the person holding the socks leaves the game. The last person left is the Toe-tally Tops!



Standards Link: Language Arts: Follow simple written directions.

Extra! Extra!

Silly Headlines

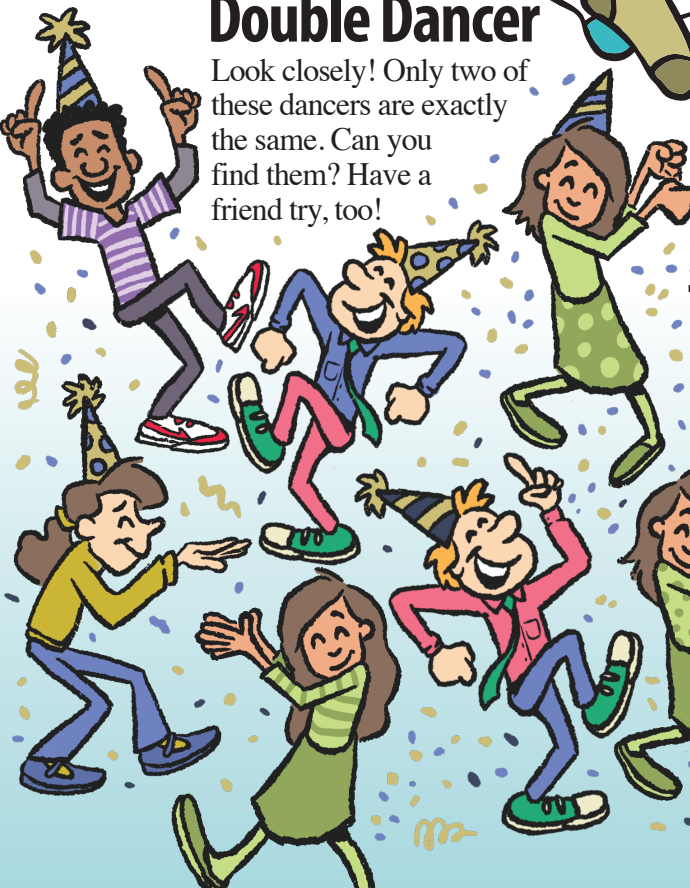
Clip newspaper headlines and paste them together to create silly news items. For example:

Spaghetti rocket travels to **MOON** hotel

Standards Link: Language Arts: Follow simple written directions.

Double Dancer

Look closely! Only two of these dancers are exactly the same. Can you find them? Have a friend try, too!



Kid Scoop Together Funny Fill-In

Ask a family member for each kind of word below. Then fill in the blanks to create a very silly story to read aloud!

Our Annual Silly New Year Party

My parents like to host a New Year's Eve party every year. And these _____ parties are hilarious!

Dad likes to wear a party hat made from _____ and _____.
Mom wears a _____ gown covered with sparkly _____.
They greet each of their guests by shouting " _____ !"

_____ music plays as everyone _____ begins to dance and _____. Under Ambrose has a _____ voice and likes to _____ loudly.
People bring lots of _____ appetizers and _____ snacks, such as cheesy _____, sweet _____ and spicy _____ on _____ toothpicks. Aunt Clara always fills the punch bowl with _____ which the guests look forward to each year.

As the clock strikes midnight, everyone shouts " _____ !" and many _____ are dropped from upstairs onto the surprised and delighted party guests. It's sure a _____ way to start the New Year!

Kid Scoop Puzzler

Toilet Paper Tower Toss

Make a tall tower of toilet paper rolls. Take turns trying to knock over as many rolls as you can by tossing a rolled up sock at the tower three times.

Which player knocked over the most rolls? Add up how many rolls they knocked over with each turn to see who won.



Aziz	6	4	2	
Carlos	3	2	4	
Kendra	4	4	5	
Anna	1	4	6	
Mia	5	2	3	

Standards Link: Math: Calculate sums and differences.

Double Double Word Search

ASK
BALL
CLOCK
DANCE
GAME
HOUR
MIDNIGHT
MOON
MUSIC
PARADE
PARTY
SOCK
TOSS
TOWER
YEAR

Find the words by looking up, down, backwards, forwards, sideways and diagonally.

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

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

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Kid Scoop VOCABULARY BUILDERS

This week's word: CELEBRATE

The verb **celebrate** means to do something enjoyable for a special holiday or occasion.

We always **celebrate** New Year's Eve at my cousin's party.

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

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

What's New?

Look through the newspaper for three things that didn't exist when your parents were born. Ask them which of these things made the biggest difference in their lives.

Standards Link: Follow simple written instructions.

What do frogs shout on the first day of January?



ANSWER: "HOPPY NEW YEAR!"

Write On! Let's Get Silly!

How would you like to get silly in the New Year? What silly things would you do? Write about them.



JOIN US AS WE AWAKEN THE MAGIC OF READING TOGETHER!

Tom & Kathy Kluzak

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THE MORE KIDS READ, THE MORE THEY SUCCEED!



MoMoJo playing at Middle Ridge on New Year's Eve day.

PHOTO BY SUZANNE AVALON

LIVE MUSIC							
	WED 1/01	THURS 1/02	FRI 1/03	SAT 1/04	SUN 1/05	MON 1/06	TUES 1/07
CAFE AROMA 54750 N Circle Dr,		TBA 5:30pm-8:30pm			TBA 5:30pm-8:30pm		TBA 5:30pm-8:30pm
FERRO 25840 Cedar St							Jazz Night 6:30pm
MIDDLE RIDGE WINERY 54301 N Circle Dr				TBA 3-6pm	TBA 2-5pm	TBA 2-5pm	
TARYN'S PLACE 54200 N Circle Dr Unit A3			David the Page Friday 6:30pm	Wayward Hope 6:30pm	Keith McCabe 6:30pm	Marko Hanko 6:30pm	

Idyllwild Service Directory

New ads placed at the beginning of the month only

Minimum insertion: 1 month

One copy change permitted per month

Deadline for new ads 4pm, last Thursday of the month

Deadline for copy change: noon Friday

Questions? Call Town Crier at (951) 659-2145
or Email: Suzanne@towncrier.com

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75 years ago - 1949
The Will Stevensons lugged sacks of walnut hulls from their Hemet ranch to assure the squirrels a frisky Christmas.

70 years ago - 1954
Five Oceanside high school boys were lodged in Riverside juvenile hall Monday night after a shoplifting spree on the Hill.

65 years ago - 1959

CREATURE CORNER

Last week in Days of Our Nine Lives, the ARF cats welcomed new cat Felix while they reflected on all of the animals adopted through ARF in 2024.

Pepper: Well, that was fast.

Harley: The passing of 2024?

Pepper: Yes that, but I was talking about the adoption of Felix.

Harley: Wait a minute! He just got here, and now he's adopted?

Marlowe: He sure is! He went to such a great home. Lucky cat.

Harley: And there are some more lucky felines. ARF is now caring for four adorable kittens.

Rowan: More kittens? How old are they? Male? Female?

Harley: They were born on October 8, and there are two male, two female.

Pepper: And they have such fun names. The girls are Dolly Purrtton and Kitty Purry.

Rowan: The boys are Bing Clawsby and Winston Purrchill.

Harley: Such great names! When may folks meet them?

Eeyore: They may call ARF to set up a time, or they may drop by on Saturdays or Sundays when the ARF House is open.

Pepper: Not to sound silly, but isn't kitten season finished by now?

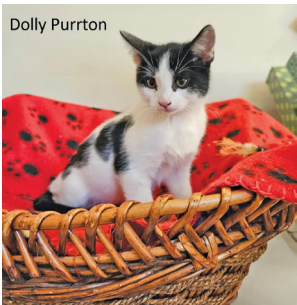
Harley: Ha! Kitten season seems to be year-round. Until all cats are spayed or neutered, this will keep happening.

Marlowe: How fortunate these kittens are to be in a safe place.

Eeyore: How fortunate we all are!



Bing Clawsby



Dolly Purrtton



Kitty Purry



Winston Purrchill

This week's Creature Corner is sponsored by Lois Sheppard. . Would you like to be a sponsor? Please let us know! 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.

Chamber trustees tabled a request from the Palm Springs Chamber to endorse the multi-million dollar tramway from the desert to Mt. San Jacinto State Park.

60 years ago - 1964
By popular demand, there was to be a New Year's Eve party at Town Hall. The evening would begin with a talent show.

55 years ago - 1969
Robins, scrub jays, chickadees and white-crowned sparrows appeared to be winners in the local bird count made by about 15 volunteers.

50 years ago - 1974
Ernie Maxwell started his 27th year as president of the Izaak Walton League at Town Hall washing dishes.

45 years ago - 1979
Building activity on the mountain was up 51 percent over what it was a year ago at that time.

40 years ago - 1984
President Reagan was soon to receive more than 400 letters with "messages of peace" from students at several area schools, including Idyllwild Elementary School.

35 years ago - 1989
With its flyby of Neptune in August, the spacecraft Voyager completed its grand tour of the outer planets, having sent invaluable data back to Earth and completing one stage in the space exploration program.

30 years ago - 1994
O'Sullivan's Tavern in the Pines offered its annual New Year's Eve event with a dinner. For \$19.95, patrons had a choice of prime rib, Cornish game hen, halibut steak, baby back ribs or New York steak and lobster.

25 years ago - 1999
Some Idyllwilders might have been asleep by the time midnight came around having awak-

ened early that morning to find out how New Zealand and the rest of the world fared through the Y2K bug.

20 years ago - 2004
A day hiker slipped and fell, injuring himself on Devil's Slide Trail near Humber Park. Hikers found him on the trail the following day and help was called.

15 years ago - 2009
Local businessman Shane Stewart saw a historic opportunity with the Idyllwild International Festival of

Cinema for Idyllwild to introduce itself to a specialized crowd of people with means from major metro areas.

11 year ago - 2013
Leg Up Theater Company presented a New Year's Eve party on Dec. 31, celebrating the 1920s. The party included appearances by Cole Porter and Ernest Hemingway, Parisian can-can dancers, cocktails, Dali's oyster bar, Joie de Vivre cheese boards, Jambon de Paris, and lots of surprises.

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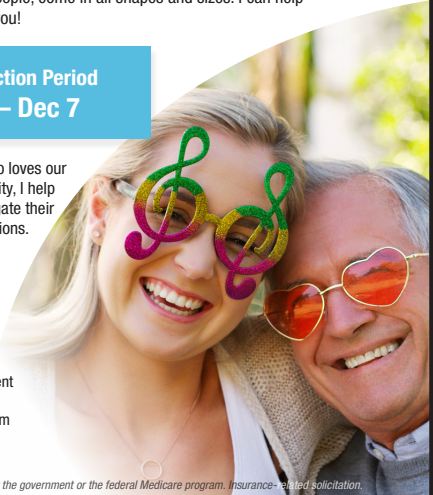
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—Hal Borland

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Idyllwild is treated to Idyllwild Master Chorale and Winter Solstice

By ARTHUR CONNOR
CONTRIBUTOR

Considering the retrospect of this past year, good reasons are given for a general reflective pause at this time for a calming of bodies and spirits from the social, political and economic turmoil endured throughout. Here on the Hill, endurance is particularly wanting; dry, cloudy and windy conditions tend to reinforce a slumping of feelings, and a continued non-materializing of rainfall produces a similar vagary of frustrated expectations. However, always in the penultimate days prior to the new year, certain annual events occur here to uplift any depressed mood, by which both the Idyllwild Master Chorale program at Lowman Concert Hall and the following Winter Solstice celebration at Silver Pines Lodge serve as guides out of any cumulative profundities present.

The Master Chorale’s “Holiday Highlights” on Saturday evening, December 21st, proved itself at the start with vigorous renditions of 3 excerpts from the “Gloria” of Antonio Vivaldi. One could only wish for a performance of the entire work (perhaps in subsequent years), and under the continued capable direction of Artistic Director / Conductor Dwight Holmes, that may yet occur. For now, the assured leadership of Mr. Holmes was evident through the remainder of the evening, in particular with the jovial “Masters in the Hall” and the “Yorkshire Wassail Song”, as well as with a boisterously lusty “Boar’s Head Carol” (the latter for male voices only). The program’s solo efforts also proved well placed, with tenor Larry Brook’s essaying of the “Panis Angelicus” of Cesar Franck an especially well-deserved treat. Similarly, the tenor stylings of Eric Bolton in Bob Holmes’ “Beams of Gentle Light” and the Torme / Wells “The Christmas Song” further demonstrated the blending of solo talent with choral accompaniment. Elsewhere on the program, this listener took special plea-

sure in the inclusion of 3 carol arrangements by John Rutter (one would also wish for more Rutter selections, as well as the complete Vivaldi piece) and in Holst’s “In the Bleak Mid-Winter.” And what would a Master Chorale presentation be without any works by Morten Lauridsen? Of the 3 presented that evening, certainly the most affecting was his setting of “O Magnum Mysterium”, giving the evident importance of the Incarnation through effective sound production. And, what would the program be without “Buzz” Holmes’ “I Remember Christmas”, to define holidays past and present in its own nostalgic way? Then, somewhat surprisingly, the event ended with “Buzz” giving forth the bridge portion of “Winter Wonderland” as a solo treat, thus creating an additional bond between him and his choristers, promoting an upbeat in audience appreciation. The piano accompaniments of Jeffrey Bell were similarly in order, and auditorily approved.

The following Sunday afternoon offerings at a somewhat crammed-to-the-rafters Silver Pines Lodge featured veteran Spirit Mountain Retreat readers as well as the members of Local Color; the latter group repeating for the most part their previous appearance in the Idyllwild Library’s Community Room. Under the able direction of leader Anna Ancheta, and again featuring the prowess of percussionist Asa Bartsdale, the ensemble once more admirably performed the “Cree Alleluia” and the “African Noel” with appropriate drum accompaniment. After prose readings outlining Winter Solstice origins and worldwide celebrations, Local Color put forth a well-appreciated series of carols, spirituals and an additional Chanukah song. There followed an additional audience participation segment with piano accompaniment, which proved as genuinely inspirational as it has been in past years.

And so, the ultimate seasonal high notes were availed, and with them, this reviewer’s wishes are renewed for the coming year and prospective live musical events. Such desires are hereby extended to all readers as well.



Ferro restaurant was closed on Christmas Eve while the family reunited for their traditional Cioppino Dinner.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL NEWMAN



Brent, Jazmine and Bryson Beas pose for a photo in Idy Park.

PHOTO BY JESSICA COOPER

Weekly SUDOKU

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

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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King Crossword

ACROSS
1 Wash thoroughly
6 Black Sea port
12 Saudi neighbor
13 Reacts to a pun
14 Baseball's Roberto
15 Attack verbally
16 — -pedi
17 Barrel bottom bit
19 — tree
20 Use a stun gun
22 California's Big —
24 Director Brooks
27 Campbell of "Scream"
29 Eve's guy
32 Citrusy flavoring used in baking
35 Pedestal part
36 Actress de Matteo
37 Pro vote

DOWN
38 Decade parts (Abbr.)
40 "No seats" signs
42 Food additive
44 Help a crook
46 Like custard
50 Venetian marketplace
52 Security desk request
54 "Nothing for me, thanks"
55 Protruding
56 Breeds, as salmon
57 Spiteful

ACROSS
11 Hammett pooch
12 Candied veggie
18 Undo
21 Director Lee
23 Former Mideast gp.
24 '60s chic
25 Mound stat
26 "Bad Romance" singer
28 Physical effort
30 Super serve
31 NYC subway overseer
33 Fish-fowl link
34 Eastern "way"
39 Squelched
41 Factions
42 Hosp. scans
43 Ninny
45 Physiques
47 Pace
48 Neutral color
49 QB's gains
51 Blue
53 "Levitating" singer Lipa

DOWN
1 Ward of "Once and Again"
2 "Let's go!"
3 Pay
4 Italian article
5 Tweety's meal
6 Monster
7 Pulls
8 Very long time
9 The "S" of SNL
10 Crisp cookie

	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11
12							13					
14							15					
16						17	18				19	
			20	21				22	23			
24	25	26		27			28		29		30	31
32			33					34				
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42	43			44	45				46	47	48	49
50			51				52	53				
54							55					
56							57					

Answers to puzzles found on B4

HOROSCOPES

January 2025 — Week 1

ARIES

March 21 – April 19

The New Year brings challenges that can change many things in your life. You need to be prepared not only to confront them but also to deal with what happens afterward.

TAURUS

April 20 – May 20

You have what it takes to set your goals quite a bit higher this year. Learn what you need to know and put what you learn into your efforts. A partner offers loving support.

GEMINI

May 21 – June 21

In true Gemini Twin fashion, you're conflicted about a decision you know you'll have to make in this New Year. Best advice: Get the facts before you make any commitment.

CANCER

June 22 – July 22

A friend offers you an exciting opportunity for this New Year. Although your positive aspects are strong in most respects, caution is advised. Investigate before you invest.

LEO

July 23 – August 22

You can make this New Year a roaring success! Start by readjusting your goals to reflect the changes in the economy. Your den-mate offers both wise and loving support.

VIRGO

August 23 – September 22

The New Year brings new opportunities for change. But you need to be ready to move away from the comfortable status quo to the challenging unknown. It's up to you!

LIBRA

September 23 – October 22

Your most important New Year's resolution should be to work out problems with a family member in order to avoid continuing misunderstandings. Do it soon for both of your sakes.

SCORPIO

October 23 – November 21

The New Year has much to offer the intensely determined Scorpio, who isn't afraid to take on challenges and stay with them until they surrender their rewards.

SAGITTARIUS

November 22 – December 21

You'll have many fine opportunities in this New Year. But be warned: Reject offers of "help." You work best when you're free to be your own creative self.

CAPRICORN

December 22 – January 19

The New Year offers changes that you might feel you're not quite ready for. Best advice: Deal with them one step at a time until you've built up your self-confidence.

AQUARIUS

January 20 – February 18

Travel is a dominant aspect of the New Year. This could mean relocating to another city (or even another country) in connection with your education or career.

PISCES

February 19 – March 20

This New Year brings news about a change you've been anticipating. You might have a problem persuading a loved one about your new plans, but they will soon go along with your ideas.

FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES ONLY

MAGIC MAZE • MATES

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally
Unlisted clue hint: A PERSON SERVING TIME

Acclimate	Checkmate	Estimate	Ramate
Animate	Comate	Playmate	Shipmate
Automate	Cremate	Plumate	Summate
Bromate	Decimate	Primate	

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