

## News bites

### Fatal ride

A mountain biker dies after fall on trail.

[See page 2.](#)

### Where were they?

Disaster preparers wonder why residents were absent at second planning meeting.

[See page 11.](#)

### In the budget

Mountain Center helibase targeted for upgrade.

[See page 14.](#)

### Meter fee increase

Pine Cove may increase fee on new water meters.

[See page 15.](#)

### Highway danger

Anza pedestrians risk lives crossing Highway 371.

[See page 16.](#)

### Asbestos in the air

USFS warns Pinyon of asbestos mine in area.

[See page 16.](#)

### Obituaries

Annie Elizabeth Murray  
Dorothy L. Townsend  
Frank Aloysius Vrabel

[See page 4.](#)

### Sports

Basketball, golf and volleyball.

[See pages 20-21.](#)

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area Web site**

# Idyllwild Town Crier

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

ALMOST ALL THE NEWS — PART OF THE TIME



VOL. 62 NO. 7

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IDYLLWILD, CA

THURS.-WED., FEB. 16-22, 2006

## FREE VALENTINE KISSES



The "Idyllwild Look-Alikes" Gary Glasheen (left) and Bill Guy greet postal patrons with smiles and candy kisses on Tuesday, St. Valentine's Day. Kenna Dahleen is pleasantly surprised as they hold open the door.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL ERLICH

## HUSD requests \$149M bond

By J.P. CRUMRINE  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

On June 6, Hemet Unified School District (HUSD) voters will decide whether to approve a \$149 million bond request. That is only the tip of the money iceberg if HUSD officials can achieve their ambitious goal for additional funds.

Financing the bond will increase property taxes by \$41 per \$100,000 of assessment, Richard Beck, HUSD assistant superintendent for business services, estimated. HUSD Superintendent Dr. Phil Pendley notes that this will be just 11 cents per day.

HUSD has been one of the fastest-growing districts in Riverside County for several years, according to Pendley. In fact, the bond amount will not satisfy all new construction and re-

modeling the district needs, he said.

HUSD estimates student enrollment will balloon 40 percent in the next five years. Much of this increase will be in high school students. The actual growth projections range from 1,000 students to 1,500 per year — the equivalent of one middle school or two elementary schools — for the next five years.

"Everybody realizes what's happening in the area — growth," said Bill Sanborn, HUSD trustee of Idyllwild. "The voters are impressed with what the district did with the Measure E funds."

Measure E, authorizing \$60 million in bonds, was passed March 2002, with 62 percent voting "Yes" and only 38 percent opposed. To complete the construction of the bond financed, HUSD secured an additional \$112

[See HUSD bond, page 28](#)

## 100-foot defensible space rule approved

By J.P. CRUMRINE  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The California Board of Forestry (BOF) finally approved new state regulations for defensible space last week, expanding the current 30-foot clearance around homes to 100 feet.

One final step is necessary before the rule becomes effective. The Office of Administrative Law must approve it, George Gentry, BOF executive officer, said.

Following that, he expects the rule to be in force for the summer 2006 fire season.

This requirement was initially enacted in the fall of 2004 when the State Legislature passed S.B. 1369. However, it took nearly 18 months to approve the regulations implementing the law.

The law, sponsored by Sen. Sheila Kuehl (23rd District, W. Los Angeles), chair of the Senate's Natural Resources and Wildlife Com-

mittee, requires individuals to remove all brush, flammable vegetation or combustible growth within 100 feet of an occupied dwelling or structure.

"This will not require a moonscape, just carefully ensuring that the residence is protected," said Michael Jarvis, deputy director for communications for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF).

[See Clearance, page 31](#)

## No summer Shakespeare

*Sponsors cite difficulties in fund-raising efforts*

By MARSHALL SMITH  
STAFF REPORTER

Michael Rider's Idyllwild Renaissance Theatre Company (IRTC) withdrew Monday from its planned summer association with the Chamber of Commerce in jointly producing "A Midsummer's Renaissance Faire and Shake-

speare Festival."

IRTC General Manager Andrea Cunningham cited as the reason that association with the Chamber and questions surrounding Chamber finances and management had negatively impacted IRTC's fund-raising ability. "As long as we are perceived as being associated with the

[See Chamber, page 25](#)

## Holiday closings

Hill businesses and institutions that will be closed Monday, Feb. 20 for George Washington's Birthday:

- Area post offices
- Fern Valley Water District
- Guaranty Bank
- Hemet Unified School District
- Idyllwild Library
- Idyllwild Water District
- Pine Cove Water District
- Riverside County offices

**These businesses will be open:**

- Idyllwild Health Center
- Idyllwild Pharmacy
- Idyllwild Transfer Station
- Mt. San Jacinto State Park
- Town Crier
- U.S. Forest Service

Want to advertise? Call Grace (951) 659-2145.

### Your Local Weather

Thu 2/16	Fri 2/17	Sat 2/18	Sun 2/19	Mon 2/20
<b>57/25</b>	<b>56/27</b>	<b>55/30</b>	<b>52/27</b>	<b>54/26</b>
Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the mid 20s.	Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the upper 20s.	Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the low 30s.	Showers possible. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the upper 20s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the mid 20s.

This Weather is sponsored by



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Idyllwild this year					Idyllwild last year				
Date	High	Low	M	S	High	Low	M	S	tr.
02-06	68	43			34	26			.10
02-07	68	44			37	31			
02-08	68	43			54	24			tr.
02-09	70	39			57	23			
02-10	68	31			52	23			tr.
02-11	64	45			48	40			.59
02-12	71	35			45	36			.50

Moisture in inches		Snow in inches	
To date this season (Idy):	06.99	To date this season (Idy):	01.00
To date this season (PC):	07.16	To date this season (PC):	00.00
To date last season (Idy):	29.75	To date last season (Idy):	26.50
To date last season (PC):	37.21	To date last season (PC):	37.75
Total last season (Idy):	41.03	Total last season (Idy):	28.50
Total last season (PC):	37.59	Total last season (PC):	46.65

**TEMPERATURES AND 24-HOUR** moisture and snow totals are recorded daily at 4 p.m. at the Idyllwild Fire Station and at 8 a.m. at the Pine Cove Fire Station. Moisture inches include all precipitation such as rain, melted hail and melted snow. (By reader request, Pine Cove information will be added as it becomes available.)

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

## NEWS OF RECORD

### Fire log

Hill fire stations responded to the following calls, Monday-Sunday, Feb. 6-12:

#### Idyllwild Fire Department and Ambulance

**Feb. 6** – Structure fire, Terwilliger Road, Anza. Canceled.

– IFPD responded to 8 medical aids.

#### Riverside County Fire, Pine Cove

Log unavailable.

#### Riverside County Fire, Garner Valley

**Feb. 6** – Medical aid, 59000 block of Devils Ladder Road, Garner Valley.

**Feb. 6** – Vehicle fire, 41000 block of Terwilliger Road, Anza.

**Feb. 7** – Traffic collision, 47000 block of Highway 74, Garner Valley.

**Feb. 10** – Traffic collision, 70000 block of Highway 74, Garner Valley.

**Feb. 11** – Traffic collision, 53000 block of Highway 74, Garner Valley.

**Feb. 11** – Traffic collision, 43000 block of Highway 371, Anza.

**Feb. 11** – Medical aid, 29000 block of Highway 243, Mountain Center.

#### Riverside County Fire, Pinyon

**Feb. 6** – Public service assist, Highway 74 and Scenic Road, Pinyon.

**Feb. 6** – Covered Station 29 (Anza).

**Feb. 6** – Public service assist, Highway 74 and Scenic Road, Pinyon.

**Feb. 7** – Public service assist, Highway 74 and Scenic Road, Pinyon.

**Feb. 10** – Traffic collision, Highway 74 and Scenic Road, Pinyon.

**Feb. 11** – Traffic collision, Highway 74 and Vista Point, Pinyon.

**Feb. 12** – Medical aid, Highway 74 and Vista Point, Pinyon.

### Sheriff's log

Log unavailable.

### CHP log

Log unavailable.

### Narconon offers addiction help

Narconon, a nonprofit organization specializing in helping people with drug or alcohol addictions, offers free professional assessments, advice and referrals to more than 11,000 treatment centers nationally.

For help overcoming an addiction, call Narconon at 1-800-556-8885 or visit its Web site ([www.drugrehab.net](http://www.drugrehab.net)).

## Mtn. biker dies on Control Road

By J.P. CRUMRINE  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

On Sunday afternoon, an unnamed 27-year-old male died after falling from a mountain bike on a single-tract trail off Idyllwild Control Road near Chimney Flats. The Riverside County Coroner's office has not released the name of the deceased.

He was riding with two

friends from Calimesa. He fell off his bike and was struck unconscious. The rider was wearing a helmet, according to James Campbell, Forest Service district public information officer. One friend left for help while the second remained and tried to help the victim.

When sheriff's deputies arrived, the individual was pronounced dead at the scene.

## Noise ordinance public hearing

By MARSHALL SMITH  
STAFF REPORTER

The noise ordinance for unincorporated areas of Riverside County will go before the Board of Supervisors for public comment on Tuesday, Feb. 28, according to County Planner Mark Balys.

The noise ordinance has been separated out from the companion off-road ordinance that was the original impetus for the drafting of noise regulation legislation to flesh out the County General Plan.

Under the proposed noise

ordinance, surrounding noise louder than defined objectionable levels that originates at a fixed source, strays beyond the source's property lines and interferes with the reasonable enjoyment of an adjacent business or landowner could be curtailed by law enforcement.

The proposed ordinance could force restaurants or clubs that have outdoor music to erect sound shields to protect against the straying of their amplified sound if that sound, measured at property line or source of origination, is beyond allowable decibel levels.

## Idyllwild ARTS EVENTS



### CONTINUING

**Mail Art Show.** Bowman Lobby. Show runs through February 17th.

**Visiting Artist.** Jennifer Vanderpool. Parks Exhibition Center. Show runs through February 17th.

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20

**Music in the Meadow.** 7:30 P.M., Stephens Recital Hall.

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

**Theatre Labwork.** Scenes from *Southern Girls* and *Sam I Am*. 7:30 P.M., IAF Theatre, Idyllwild Arts Campus.

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24

**Creative Writing Reading Series.** Catherine Barnett, 5 P.M., Parks Exhibition Center.

**Visual Art Junior Group Show.** Opening, 7 P.M., Parks Exhibition Center. Show runs from February 24th through March 10th.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 3

**Creative Writing Reading Series.** J. Robert Lennon, 7:30 P.M., Parks Exhibition Center.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 10

**Creative Writing Reading Series.** Ben Lerner, 7:30 P.M., Parks Exhibition Center.

**Chamber Music Recital.** 7:30 P.M., Stephens Recital Hall.

### MONDAY, MARCH 13

**Senior Recital.** Jay Campbell, Junior, cello, Yi-Ju Lai, piano, Kiril Penchev, clarinet. 7:30 P.M., Stephens Recital Hall.

### TUESDAY, MARCH 14

**Jazz Concert.** 7:30 P.M., Stephens Recital Hall.

Listed events are open to the public and admission is free to most events  
951-659-2171 x2200 • [www.idyllwildarts.org](http://www.idyllwildarts.org)



## OUTSIDE IDYLLWILD

BY BRUCE WATTS

### Trish Tuley interview

This week we are talking to outdoor photographer Trish Tuley. Trish is well known for her beautiful outdoor shots that can be seen at The Courtyard Gallery.

She also has collaborated on a wonderful book with Idyllwild poet Myra Dutton. The book, "Healing Ground: A Visionary Union of Earth and Spirit," is a treasure trove of beautiful photographs and spiritual and insightful poems.

Q: To start, let's talk a little bit about your history in photography. How long have you been doing it and how did you get started?

A: I had been in the corporate world until 1993. The last year I was there, I kept going into my office everyday and going, "Why am I here?" When I couldn't come up with a good reason, I decided to leave.

I moved up to Washington State for a year and that's where I started. I borrowed my boyfriend's camera; I didn't

even have a good camera. Everyday I would go out and write in my little journal and take photographs.

When I moved to Oregon, I showed my work to a professional photographer and a museum curator and they were both encouraging, so I kept with it.

But that wasn't home. The whole time I lived in LA I used to come to Idyllwild and I promised myself that someday I would live here. I went up to my favorite beach in Washington and just hung out for the day and did some soul searching about where I wanted to go next and Idyllwild came up. So I drove down just to see how I felt about being on the mountain again.

As I was driving up, I was driving home.

Q: Here's a question for all us beginners. Do you do digital?

A: No. I borrowed a couple just to play around with them,



Trish Tuley.

you know, and they definitely have their place. In fact, for a point-and-shoot, that's the way to go. It really is.

For a point-and-shoot, you are sharing them with family and friends and you just download them.

In fact, we all have point-and-shoot cameras — something that you can just throw

PHOTO BY DEBBIE CROWELL

in your purse because you are not doing art photography, you are going to shoot people. I'm going to get one for point-and-shoot purposes, but I will always — as long as they are processing slides and providing paper — I'm going to be shooting film.

Q: What do you look for when you go out to shoot

## FISHING REPORT



The fishing report gives California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) news on stream and lake stocking and other miscellaneous information relating to fishing.

No streams or lakes were to be stocked the week of Feb. 13 in the San Jacinto Mountains.

### Lake Hemet Garner Valley

Darlene Redner at Lake Hemet said anglers were really busy last weekend.

Water level at the dam is 128.8 feet. Last year's level was 131.4.

Garret Slater, 10, of Norco caught a good-sized trout from the shore.

Bob Skillman of Westminster and Mark Wenta of Huntington Beach both caught their limit of good-sized trout by the dam.

Phillip Bailey of Lake-wood caught his limit from the shore.

Fish and Game checks anglers for fishing licenses. See the Idyllwild Visitor's Guide for locations where licenses are sold.

### Diamond Valley Lake, Hemet

Report unavailable.

outdoors? Is it the weather? How do you decide what to shoot?

A: I always carry a camera with me when I go hiking 'cause you never know what's going to happen.

I gave myself permission years ago not to bring it out. If I have lugged it up somewhere, it's OK to keep it in there if I don't see anything.

The criteria I use to bring it out is when I go, "Wow!" 'Cause then I know there's a photograph there.

I will put myself in situations where I am likely to see something — dawn, pre-dawn, those are my magic times. That is where I do most of my shooting, pre-dawn; that's before the sun comes up.

To be continued.



5-Acre Garner Valley lots starting at \$375,000! Featuring 5 new listings coming up in Idyllwild and Garner Valley. Call for details.

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### Unique Idyllwild Country Estate



2.82 acre Elegant Idyllwild hide-away. Layout includes a Master Suite with full Bath, spa tub and walk-in closet, plus 3 Bedrooms and 2 Baths; Formal entryway; Country Kitchen with center island; Breakfast Room; Formal Dining Room. The Great Room is adorned with a

stone fireplace, high ceilings, French doors lead to a patio with stone benches. This estate also features a charming Guest House. Room for horse facilities.

**Price Reduction \*\* Offered at \$899,000**

### Gorgeous Equestrian Estate



This 2-story, 3BR, 3BA home features a Great Room with floor to ceiling fireplace, dining room, and a kitchen/family room combination, master BR has a lovely deck. This estate is well-equipped and horse ready. The expansive 4.64 acres also includes an attached 3-car garage and covered RV area. A covered fifth wheel motor home with hookups is also included in the price. **Offered at \$979,000**

### Breathtaking Views in Idyllwild



Built in 2002 this elegant home spans nearly an acre of sunny manicured grounds. Covered front and rear porch, rock fireplace in the spacious great room, open kitchen and dining area with 10' ceilings and butcher-block countertops and wood floors throughout. The ground floor master bedroom has a large walk-in closet and a three-quarter

bath with tile flooring. Additional bedroom with full bath and large closet and a family room/loft upstairs. Also included is a laundry room, pantry, 400 sq.ft. bonus area in the basement and a 12x24 shop. **Offered at \$699,000**

### Mountain Center Estate



Unique custom design & built manufactured home on 5 fully fenced acres bordering U.S. forest. This 3BR, 1 full & two 3/4 bath estate features a beautiful deck, patio, 3 double garages, 3-par golf course, two great producing wells, fruit trees, automatic irrigation and loads of room for horse facilities.

**Offered at \$799,000**



## Obituary Dorothy Townsend

Dorothy L. Townsend, 90, of Idyllwild, died Monday, Feb. 6, 2006 at home of natural causes.

She was born June 1, 1915 in Great Falls, Mont. Mrs. Townsend grew up in Montana and met her future husband, Bruce, while they were attending college in Colorado. He was studying to be a teacher and she was a physical education major.

They were married soon after in 1937 and remained affectionately and happily married until his death in 2001.

During World War II, the couple and his mother moved to Portland, Ore., where they all worked as welders building ships for the war effort. Afterward, the couple and their four children moved to Santa Monica and Mr. Townsend resumed his teaching career.

Mrs. Townsend was a housewife and mother who was affiliated with the Baptist church.

On his retirement, they built a home in Pine Cove and alternated living there and in Palm Desert, depending on the weather. The couple loved to travel, making lots of family camping trips and later, several trips to Europe. They usually spent the summer at the family homestead



## Obituary Annie Murray

Annie Elizabeth Murray, 77, of Acworth, Ga., formerly of San Diego and Idyllwild, died Saturday, Feb. 11, 2006 at Wellstar Kennestone Hospital in Marietta, Ga.

Mrs. Murray had lived in San Diego since 1964 before moving to Acworth, Ga. a few months ago.

Funeral services will be held Friday, Feb. 17 at the Reece Memorial Chapel at Woodstock Funeral Home, 8855 Main Street, Woodstock, Ga. The Rev. Fred Barrows will officiate.

The family will receive friends from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Friday at the funeral home.

She is survived by her husband, Frank Murray; a son, Wayne Murray of Acworth, Ga.; three daughters, Shirleen Ann Murray and Andrea Hamfeldt, both of San Diego, and Wendy Cronkrite of Potrero; and five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

in the Rockies.

For the last two years, Mrs. Townsend lived with her son, Eric, his wife, Cher, and their family in Idyllwild. What she loved the most was family gatherings for holidays and for her recent 90th birthday.

Funeral services were at 2 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13 at Miller-Jones Mortuary in Hemet with burial at the San Jacinto Valley Cemetery the same day.

Along with her son, Eric Townsend, Mrs. Townsend is survived by two other sons, Dennis Townsend of Santa Monica and Neil Townsend of Tucson; a daughter, Barbara, of Hollywood; and 12 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

## Obituary Frank Vrabel

Frank Aloysius Vrabel, 71, of Idyllwild, went to be with his Lord on Monday, Jan. 30, 2006.

He was born July 25, 1934 in Johnstown, Pa.

Mr. Vrabel was an artist, a sculptor, a gemologist, a poet and an author.

A Christian Mass of Burial was held Feb. 6 at St. Louise de Mirallac in Covina. Visitation was held on Feb. 3 at Custer Christiansen Mortuary.

A future celebration of his life and the way he "lit up Idyllwild" will be announced.

Mr. Vrabel is survived by his wife, Diane; a daughter, Joann Roset of Glendora; five sons, Mark Vrabel of Lake Arrowhead, Craig Vrabel of Littleton, Colo., Thomas Vrabel of Simi Valley, William Vrabel of Glendora and Glenn Vrabel of Glendora; four granddaughters, Nicole, Mallory, Bryce and Kaitlyn; a great-granddaughter, Paige; and two brothers, Steve Vrabel of Valencia and Joseph Vrabel of Kansas City, Kan.

Diane thanks their mountain friends with a full heart for their kindnesses to her.



## "WE MAKE HOUSE CALLS" Larry Bischof & Myrna Mangione



### GATED GARNER VALLEY

5+ acre gated equestrian estate is completely fenced & cross fenced. Sky-lit great room includes dining area & airy kitchen opening to spacious deck with wraparound views. Large master bedroom has roomy bath. Private entrance guest bedroom/office + additional bedroom with bath. Barn, 60' round pen, loafing sheds, turnouts & large pasture are stock-ready. U.S. Forest close. MLS#2713 Offered @ \$785,000

### BIG VIEW CABIN

Mountaintop views from large living room with knotty pine, cathedral ceiling. 2 bedrooms with sliding mirrored closets, den. Efficient kitchen opens to dining room. Spacious decks look to large, lovely wooded lot. Also includes carport & storage shed.

MLS#2492

Offered @ \$299,500



THIS SWEET LITTLE HORSE IS \$1,299,000. AND AS A BONUS, THE OWNER WILL INCLUDE:  
10-1/2-acre gated equestrian estate provides privacy & peaceful ranch living. Almost 4,400 sq. ft. home, stunning great room, chef's kitchen, 3 bdms., prvt. guest quarters, indoor pool, spa, large home office. Rambling decks provide 360-degree views. 7-stall barn + tack, lighted arena, turn-outs & pasture. Property has spring & borders U.S. Forest. MLS#2333 \$1,299,000



### HIGH IN FERN VALLEY

Cute cul-de-sac cabin with awesome views of Lily Rock. Pine-paneled living room, charming galley kitchen, dining room, den, plus two bedrooms & full bath. Spacious deck, large fenced yard for pets.

MLS#2721 Offered @ \$349,900



### WHAT'S COOKING?

Nearly 1/2 acre lot lends seclusion to this cedar-sided, custom home w/many amenities. Spacious great room w/oak-shelved library area opens to deck with views. Master suite w/private deck. Guest quarters wing. Large workshop/potential game room. Multi-area parking and RV hookups. Outbuildings. Generator and water tank.

MLS#2554 \$565,000

### THOMAS MOUNTAIN VILLAGE

Vintage cabin on corner lot. Pine-paneled living room w/stone fireplace hearth, efficient galley kitchen, 2 bedrooms, den, mud room. Fenced, pet friendly yard, outside storage shed, room for RV parking. Trail & U.S. Forest close. 35 minutes to desert.

MLS#2700 \$235,000





# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

For the Arts & Entertainment Calendar, see "On the Town," on page 27.

## THURSDAY, FEB. 16

- Soroptimist International of Idyllwild, 7:30 a.m. Oma's European Restaurant & Bakery, 25421 Ridgeview Drive.
- Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, 8:15 a.m. Café Aroma, 54750 North Circle Drive.
- Riverside County Office on Aging, 9 a.m.-noon. Mountain Resource Center, 25380 Franklin Drive.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, noon. Church of Religious Science, 54423 Village Center Drive.
- Idyllwild Community Recreation Council, 5:30 p.m. Silver Pines Lodge.
- ESL classes, 6-8 p.m. Idyllwild Library, 54185 Pine Crest Ave.
- High Valleys Water District, 6 p.m. Rancho Encino Mountain Club, 45915 Orchard Road, Poppet Flat, across from CDF Station 63.
- Boy Scout Troop 96, 6:30-8 p.m. Call 659-6028.
- "Avoid Commercial Lease Problems" seminar, Ken Carlson, 7 p.m. JavaLounge Idyllwild.
- Al-Anon, 7 p.m. St. Hugh's Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Drive.

- Narcotics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m. Idyllwild HELP Center, 26330 Highway 243.

## FRIDAY, FEB. 17

- Baby Play Group, 9 a.m. Call Wendy Read, 659-2819.
- Fern Valley Water District board meeting, 9 a.m. FVWD board room, 55790 South Circle Drive.
- Mountain Play Group, toddlers, 10 a.m.-noon. Call 659-9515 or 659-0707.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, noon. St. Hugh of Lincoln Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Drive; Pick-a-stick candlelight, 7:30 p.m., Idyllwild Community Presbyterian Church, Manse-Alcove, Fellowship Hall, 54400 North Circle Drive.

## SATURDAY, FEB. 18

- Dave Burgess Mountain Bike Ride (routes vary), 8 a.m. The Bike Route, 54095 Pine Crest Ave. For details, call 659-2038.
- Peace & Healing Vigil, 9:30-9:42 a.m. Tree Monument, Village Center Drive.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, noon. Idyllwild Church of Religious Science, 54423 Village Center Drive; 8 p.m., Community Presbyterian Church, Fellowship

Hall, 54400 North Circle Drive.

## SUNDAY, FEB. 19

- Chess, 11 a.m. Café Aroma, 54750 North Circle Drive.
- Teen Group, 1-3 p.m. Idyllwild Church of Religious Science, 54423 Village Center Drive.

## MONDAY, FEB. 20

- Alcoholics Anonymous,

noon, Idyllwild Church of Religious Science, 54423 Village Center Drive; 7:30 p.m., Manse House, Idyllwild Community Presbyterian Church, Fellowship Hall, 54400 North Circle Drive.

- Cinema-Ecu, 5:30 p.m. St. Hugh's Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Drive.
- CERT classes, 6-10 p.m. Idyllwild Fire Station.
- Chamber of Commerce, 6 p.m. Idyllwild Water District board room, 25945 Highway 243.
- Cribbage Club, 6:30-9 p.m.

JavaLounge of Idyllwild, 54245 North Circle Drive.

- Garner Valley Property Owners Association, 7 p.m. Garner Valley Common, 61600 Devils Ladder Road.

## TUESDAY, FEB. 21

- Mountain Disaster Preparedness, 9 a.m. Pine Cove Fire Station, 24919 Marion Ridge Drive, Pine Cove.
- Camp Alandale's Friends 4 Orphans, 10 a.m. 25420 Lodge Road.

• Alcoholics Anonymous, noon, St. Hugh of Lincoln Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Drive; AA & Men's Big Book Study, 7-8 p.m., men only, Idyllwild Church of Religious Science, 54423 Village Center Drive.

- International Healing Rooms of Idyllwild, 5-7 p.m. Shiloh Christian Ministries, 54960 Pine Crest Ave.
- Cancer Self-help Group, 5:30 p.m. 26600 Highway 243, 659-6262.

See Calendar, page 9

**From the Townsend Family,  
Eric, Cher, Sean and Melissa:**

*Our Sincerest thanks  
to our friends who  
offered support and condolences  
at the time of  
Eric's mother's passing.  
You are much appreciated.*

## Living Free

A non-profit animal sanctuary that depends on your charitable donations

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Saved from Shelter Euthanasia**

ENJOY THE ANIMALS & OUR SCENIC LOCALE



Lacie



Fender

Photo by J. Kirchner

Fri, Sat, Sun 11AM-3PM & Mon 11AM-2PM  
(951)659-4687 living-free.org

1/2 mile east of Mountain Center  
on Highway 74, just 15 min from Idyllwild

# SUBARU of San Bernardino President's Day Sale!

Think. Feel. Drive.



SUBARU

## 2006 Subaru Forester X



#4646/716609

22 MPG CITY  
29 MPG HWY

MSRP: \$22,751

Dealer Discount: -1,960

Factory Rebate: -1,000

Buy for **\$19,791**  
OR  
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Plus tax per month on 48 month closed end lease. \$1,650 due at start of lease (includes tax, title, license & 1st payment). 15¢ per mile charged over 12,000 miles per year. Residual \$9,555.42. No security deposit. On approved credit by Subaru Motors Finance. One only at this price.

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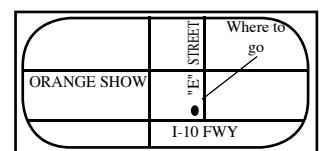
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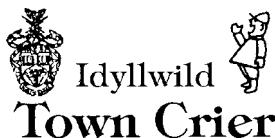
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## OUT LOUD

### Phony stats ...



The demographics the Chamber of Commerce has been using to justify its stance on recreation — its aim to curtail the Idyllwild Skate Park and reduce youth activities — are phony.

I called the Valley Economic Development Corporation — (951) 652-7688 — to get the same demographics the Chamber is using to define our local population and our recreation needs. VEDC has no breakdown of our community after all. We're lumped in with the San Jacinto Valley — Hemet, Homeland, Nuevo, San Jacinto, Menifee, Sun City and Winchester — a total population of 230,253.

According to the 2000 federal census, here are Idyllwild and Pine Cove's most recent unphony demographics. Children ages 19 and under are 21.6 percent of the population — that's one-fifth the population, nothing to sniff at. Families with children are 22.5 percent of our population.

The majority of us are not senior citizens. Our median age is 46.5. In fact, our largest age group at 34.5 percent is 35 to 54, then followed by senior citizens at 33.6 percent.

As I said before, senior citizens have an abundance to do in this community. Those of us of working age have Town Hall recreation and other activities to keep us entertained in our "spare" time.

Of more importance is to keep our youth actively involved in noncriminal activities so that our society and the visitors who come here are not harmed and our children are given beneficial opportunities.

The new Idyllwild Skate Park the Chamber wants to curtail contributes to keeping skateboarding youth off the streets and parking lots, and in a safe area where they may socialize, exercise, be supervised and yet feel untrampled to express themselves.

The Chamber — using phony statistics to try to con a wary public — is out of line again. That recreation contract belongs to the organization that positively acts, not negates.

BECKY CLARK, EDITOR

### Pine Cove kennel

#### EDITOR:

I read during the summer with much interest the "noise" problem coming from Jo'An's Restaurant. I read this past week with much disgust Wilma Jahn's experience of being attacked by two dogs. I read with much amusement that a dog park is soon to be established in Idyllwild.

My grandparents have owned a cabin in Pine Cove for 40 years. I thought I could share similar fun, peaceful mountain experiences with my children that I had while growing up. Unfortunately, this hasn't been the case.

During the summer as children we would stargaze in our sleeping bags on the outside decks. We have tried doing this several times with our children but the dog problem has become so bad, we have resorted to sleeping indoors with windows closed and fans running. What a pleasant mountain experience.

Take a stroll down a Pine Cove street. You will be greeted by fenced-in, barking dogs. Take a hike in the forest. You will come upon unleashed dogs and wonder in fear if they are well-behaved. We have an elderly dog who cannot take the enthusiasm of young, unleashed dogs.

I'm sorry for those in Idyllwild who were distressed by Jo'An's music. That problem, at least for now, has subsided. The barking, howling, unleashed dog scenario persists in Pine Cove everyday — sometimes all day.

I'm with Wilma. If you live on a ranch, having dogs who can roam and run is the way it should be. If, on the other hand, you bring your dogs on forest property, you don't have the right to let your animals roam with reckless abandon. And, if you live on a small, fenced-in lot and you aren't home all day, your dogs are going to bark.

Perhaps real estate agents could disclose this public nuisance prior to a sale. Buyer beware. You'll fit right in if you have noisy, rambunctious dogs. If you seek solitude, look elsewhere. You'll be in the minority and you'll be barked right

## READERS WRITE

out of your home.

A word of caution about the pending dog park. The beautiful coastline in Del Mar is polluted because of "dog beach." Dogs run unleashed and defecate on seaweed, in water and on sand. The Idyllwild dog park sounds like another similar, wonderful idea.

Given seasonal weekend music at Jo'An's or barking dogs all year long, Jo'An's scenario sounds like music to my ears.

CLAUDIA ALEXANDER  
SAN LUIS OBISPO

### Show me the advertising

#### EDITOR:

I recently saw a real estate ad for a home asking, "Where is this place?"

Well, the same can be said of Idyllwild. My wife and I have been coming to Idyllwild for 25 years and currently own residential and commercial property here. We tell our friends we are going to our cabin in Idyllwild and the first question is, "Where is that?"

For better or worse I read the San Diego Union-Tribune paper every day and I am still waiting for an ad for or a mention of Idyllwild. How about Sunset magazine or even the small coastal town rags?

All I see in the Town Crier about the Chamber is a picture of a new local member or a letter to the editor blasting them. According to their own mission statement, they are in business "To support our businesses by promoting Idyllwild ..."

Where might that be? Besides the weekend of Jazz in the Pines or the Fourth of July Parade, there are plenty of other days that local businesses could benefit from more people in town.

The people who live and work in town already know where Idyllwild is. It's the responsibility of the Chamber of Commerce or any other philanthropic organization to get the word out about Idyllwild and keep it in front of your target audience throughout the year.

I have been told on more than one occasion that the majority of visitors to town come from the desert and San Diego. If the desert communities have as much information about Idyllwild as San Diego does no won-

### For the Hill of It ... by John G. Marshall



ZAC, MANDY AND BABY CARTER

der merchants are complaining about no business.

Now all of this rambling may be for naught and you are really getting ready to use "Where is that place?" as a very clever ad campaign. If so, good luck.

PETE DALY  
SAN DIEGO/IDYLLWILD

### Mail delivery would be convenient

#### EDITOR:

After reading about the possible closing of the Pine Cove Post Office, I wonder why we do not have mail delivery in the Pine Cove and Idyllwild areas. It would save a lot of gas, reduce the amount of traffic on our mountain roads — especially in snowy weather — cut down on the amount of pollution and greenhouse gases, and be very convenient for residents and businesses.

Instead of all the residents and business owners having to drive or walk daily to the

post office, a small number of postal carriers would drive or walk to deliver our mail.

Granted we would miss the post office as a meeting place, but we would still have all the other places in town to bump into people and say hello.

KARIN GREENWOOD  
FERN VALLEY

### School is not for Idyllwild

#### EDITOR:

I support exploration of alternative high school options for Idyllwild. However, Eagle Point Charter School is not a viable option. In fact, it is a serious liability to this community.

Eagle Point Charter School has failed to meet its federal mandate for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) since inception. Its state-mandated Academic Performance Index (API) for similar public schools,

[See Letters, next page](#)

### How to get a letter published

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

Anonymous letters will not be accepted. Letters of thanks and commendation are not opinions and are not accepted. A special advertising rate is available for those types of letters. We reserve the right to reject or edit letters for length, clarity or frequency of submission. Only one letter per author within a 28-day period. Letters can be submitted in person, by mail, by fax (659-2071) or by e-mail (itc@towncrier.com).



# TOWN TALK

BY MICHAEL ERLICH, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Have you been following the Winter Olympics?



**Steve Espinosa**  
Retired  
Fern Valley

*I'm watching the speed skating.*



**Adlaide Young and Tequila**  
Retired  
Idyllwild

*Yes, definitely. I like figure skating.*



**Jane Kendall**  
Retired  
Pine Cove and San Diego

*We're trying to. I like the figure skating.*



**Carole Winch**  
Owner, The Grey Squirrel  
Garner Valley

*I've been watching it. My favorite is figure skating.*

## Matter of fact

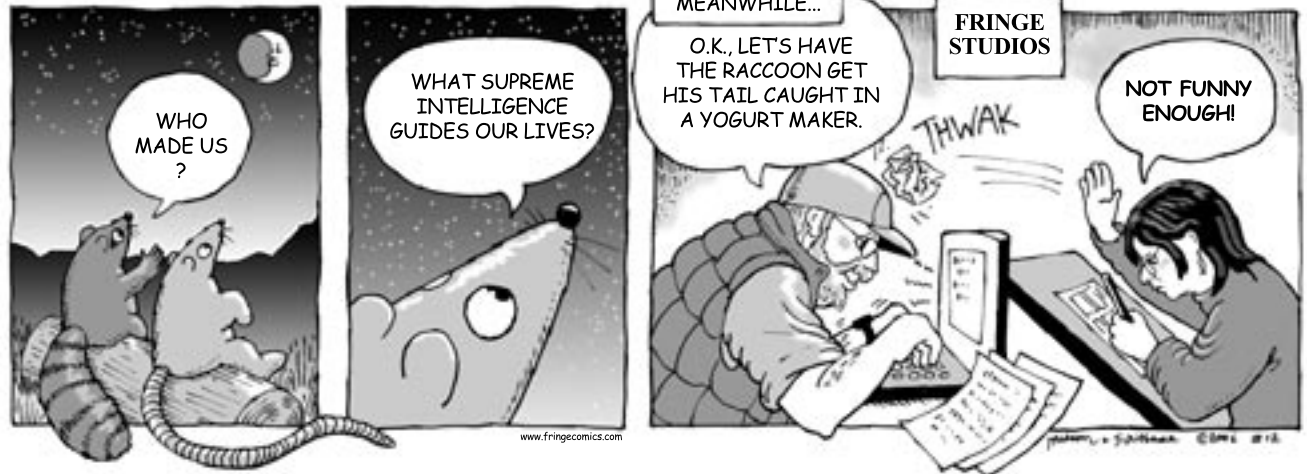
The phone number for the Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council was incorrect in the Feb. 2 story on expanding the boundaries for property owners to apply for hazard abatement grants.

The correct phone number is (951) 659-6208. Town Crier regrets the error.

Do you want to be in the "Personality profile?"  
Call James at (951) 659-2145.  
You can get the form e-mailed to you also.  
E-mail James at james@towncrier.com

## ON THE FRINGE

BY JESSICA SCHIFFMAN AND STEVE



## Letters

Continued from previous page

including charter schools, has been one out of a score of 10 for the past two years making it the bottom of the barrel when it comes to meeting the needs of its target audience.

And its API raw scores have been 4 and 5, placing the majority of state schools, including charter schools regardless of similar ranking, above them in performance.

Fourteen percent of their teachers only hold emergency credentials. About 10 percent of students fail to take state-mandated testing with a large number of these students encouraged

not to take these tests as evidenced by the number of exemptions recorded by the school.

As for its curriculum, aside from a serious lack of professional competence and poor assessment scores, it offers no Advanced Placement language, math or science curriculum, effectively limiting participants access to California State and University of California colleges. As for trade skills, there are none developed to offer in this town.

Finally, regulatory oversight takes place in San Diego County within the Julian Union School District, not Hemet Unified. I wonder if the Julian Union School District Board of Education really cares about

Idyllwild students.

Our most vulnerable students need compassion and structure, not distance learning or independent study as afforded by this charter.

This school is not for Idyllwild.

JEFF SMITH  
PINECOVE

## Bear's Den signs need to go

EDITOR:

I was prompted upon reading the letter regarding a complaint about Ferrellgas to complain about an eyesore right in town, visible from Highway 243.

The Bear's Den Cafe signs need to be removed. They have marked over the word

cafe, making it look like graffiti. Graffiti is very offensive to those of us who moved from an area that had a problem with graffiti.

Is our scenic route to be known for signs? Is Idyllwild to be known for vacant businesses? This isn't a vacant building, people come and go.

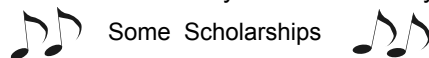
The building is zoned as commercial but hasn't had a business for more than a year. Does our zoning commission care, or do they only like to hassle The Bread Basket?

The signs cause confusion for those visitors who ate at the Bear's Den Cafe in the past. The signs need to come down now.

MERRIE VONSEGGERN  
IDYLLWILD

## Piano/Keyboard Classes

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E-mail: [music@greencafe.com](mailto:music@greencafe.com) subject "piano"

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The San Bernardino National Forest, San Jacinto Ranger District will close Dark Canyon Road, 4S02, for the remainder of the winter season. If you have any questions regarding the closure call the Idyllwild Front Desk at 909-382-2922.

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# **SPEAK UP!**

Thursday, Feb. 23 will be extremely important for your opinion to be heard.

## **Who should manage CSA 36 recreation money?**

Idyllwild Chamber of Commerce  
or  
ICRC (Idyllwild Community Recreation Council)

This is tax money paid by property owners and it is currently managed by the Chamber of Commerce. The CSA board is asking for the community's input as to who this community wants to manage these funds. CSA 36 has the power to recommend a change. They need to hear from you.

**Please attend Thursday, Feb. 23 at 5:30pm at the Idyllwild Fire Department**

Or send your comments in writing to:  
Silver Pines Lodge  
P.O. Box 1171  
Idyllwild, CA 92549

Sponsored by: Silver Pines Lodge



## MOUNTAIN FOLK

**Chuck Streeter**, a five-year Idyllwild resident, has joined an elite group of equine professionals by being awarded certification as a Level 4 Western Instructor by the **Certified Horsemanship Association (CHA)**.

Streeter completed the five-day certification process on Feb. 10 at the Rawhide Ranch in Bonsal. CHA is an international organization with headquarters in Tyler, Texas.

Streeter, a retired fire chief with 34 years in the fire service, has had a lifelong passion for horses. He is working with **Don Kleckner** at the **D Bar H Ranch** in Garner Valley.

Training horses, instructing new and experienced riders in horsemanship, Streeter gives a higher sense of appreciation to both horse and rider. An experienced rider and horseman, he strives to teach both technique and respect of horsemanship.

Streeter gives private horsemanship lessons and trains horses both at D Bar H Ranch and on clients' private properties. He is a member of the **Hilltop Horsemen ...**

**Judi Sheppard Missett** of Carlsbad and Pine Cove, founder and CEO of **Jazzercise**, will be inducted into

the **Enterprising Women** magazine's Hall of Fame in Orlando on Feb. 24. The honor is reserved for women who have achieved remarkable accomplishments with an entrepreneurial endeavor and have given back to other women in business as a mentor and role model throughout their lifetime.



The 36-year-old Jazzercise company has 6,300 franchises and instructors teaching 20,000 weekly classes throughout the world.

**Monica Smiley**, publisher and CEO of **Enterprising Women** magazine, said, "The awards recipients are influential, powerful women with high-growth businesses who are leaders in their communities and have given back to mentor other women entrepreneurs."

## Calendar

Continued from page 5

- Hemet Unified School District board meeting, 6:30 p.m. HUSD offices, 2350 W. Latham Ave., Hemet.

- Right to Life League of Southern California, Idyllwild chapter, 7 p.m. Call 659-5228 for location.

- Idyllwild Water District board meeting, 7 p.m. IWD board room, 25945 Highway 243.

- Mile High Radio Club, 7 p.m. Idyllwild Fire Station, 54160 Maranatha Road.

- Idyllwild Master Choral rehearsal, 7 p.m. Idyllwild School music room, 26700 Highway 243.

### WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22

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

- Alcoholics Anonymous, noon, St. Hugh of Lincoln

Episcopal Church, 25525 Tahquitz Drive; 6 p.m., Idyllwild Church of Religious Science, women only, 54423 Village Center Drive.

- Awareness Meditation Group, 4:30-5:15 p.m. Spirit Mountain Retreat, 25661 Oakwood Street. Call 659-2523.

- Writing Practice Group, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Idyllwild Library, 54185 Pine Crest Ave.

- David Roth (D) for Congress campaign launch, 6 p.m. Idyllwild Tree Monument, Village Center Drive.

- CERT classes, 6-10 p.m. Idyllwild Fire Station.

- Zen Meditation Group, 7 p.m. Call 659-2253.

### COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

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

- Family History Center (genealogy research), 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday. Mormon Church,



The Rotary Club of Idyllwild handed out Good Citizen awards to eighth-graders **Katie Komar** (left) and **Tanya Wampler** (center) at the group's Feb. 8 meeting. Shown with the Idyllwild School students is Rotary Vice President **Gary Glasheen**.

PHOTO BY JOANNA HOFFMAN

Tollgate Road near Highway 243.

- Idyllwild HELP Center, 26330 Highway 243, 9 am.-4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday & Friday.

- Idyllwild Library, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday and Friday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Wednesday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, 659-2300.

- Idyllwild Nature Center, 54400 Highway 243, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Friday-Sunday, 659-3850.

- Idyllwild Transfer Station, 28100 Saunders Meadow Road, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Thursday-Monday; Grinding Facility, 7:30 am.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday.

## CLUBS

### Associates

The **Associates of Idyllwild Arts Foundation** are invited to an IAF Happy Hour from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25 at **Silver Pines**. Wine and appetizers will be

served.

Participants may meet new Associates. The 2006 auction donation campaign will be announced.

For more information, call 659-0061.

Would you like to sponsor the "Creature corner" column? It's only \$20 a week. Call Grace at (951) 659-2145.

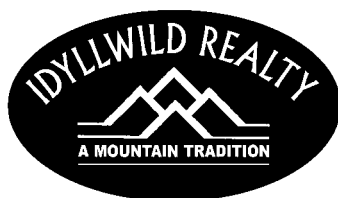


MAGGIE MORPHETT

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# Idyllwild Fire's volunteer firefighter of the year

By J.P. CRUMRINE  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Although he tried to ignore it at first, the calling of a firefighter's career has enveloped Scott Carlson. Proof of his commitment was the recognition bestowed on Carlson last month — Paid Call Firefighter of the Year of the Idyllwild Fire Protection District (IFPD).

Only 31 years old, Carlson has lived in Idyllwild since age 4 and been a member of the department for nearly 10 years. He has also worked some summers for the Forest Service.

That summer work seared a memorable impression on him. Carlson and others

were working on a steep hill with the fire below. The winds shifted and flames were coming directly at them. They discarded equipment and left in a blaze of fire.

When they returned to the evacuated area, they found their equipment scorched. While this is what firefighters are meant and trained to confront, it is a rare lifetime experience.

Carlson knows that his excitement usually is over a civilian's emergency and disappointment.

When asked how he earned his honor this year, Carlson modestly said, "My cooking, I cook for all the shifts."

While his cooking may

have swayed some opinions a little, his commitment and dedication were more obvious to others.

"He's got a great attitude," said IFPD Chief Steve Kunkle. "He works with a service for the community. He spends a lot of hours here and never complains."

Despite the time he spends at the station, Carlson did not recognize his calling early in life. Several friends were already firefighters but he cautiously avoided their entreaty to join them.

Then one day, a buddy who was a Pine Cove volunteer needed a ride because his car was broken. Carlson drove him to the drill and

felt the camaraderie.

"I met people who I had known for years but didn't know they were with the fire department," he said. "I tried other things but I always ended up back here." So he has been a member nearing 10 years now.

Carlson has earned his associate's degree in fire technology and still is attending Riverside Community College to earn firefighting credits. His goal is a full-time firefighting position.

While it's unlikely that a permanent IFPD position will be available soon, Carlson is reconciled that he may start with the California Department of Forestry and



Scott Carlson, IFPD paid call firefighter of the year.  
PHOTO BY J.P. CRUMRINE

Fire Protection. Before that happens, he has applied for one of IFPD's new limited-term positions.

"It will be nice to see how things are done somewhere else," he said. "Eventually, I'll

end up back home.

"I'm doing something I like and it's good for the community," he emphasized. "I don't consciously think about the apprehension when I'm at a fire."



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## February Specials




# Lovable Savings

Sale Ends Feb. 28, 2006

<p><b>99¢</b></p>  <p><b>Parell Instant Hand Sanitizer</b> With Aloe &amp; Vitamin E • 2 oz.</p>	<p><b>4<sup>49</sup></b></p>  <p><b>Fruit of the Earth 100% Pure Aloe Vera Juice</b> 32 oz.</p>	<p><b>9<sup>99</sup></b></p>  <p><b>Centrum Performance</b> Tablets 75s</p>	<p><b>8<sup>99</sup></b></p>  <p><b>Estroven</b> Helps support Hormonal Balance Capslets 30s</p>
<p><b>3<sup>99</sup></b></p>  <p><b>Nature's Bounty Vitamin C 500</b> 500 mg. with Rose Hips • Tablets 100s</p>	<p><b>3<sup>49</sup></b></p> <p><b>Bonus Size!</b></p>  <p><b>Nature's Bounty Echinacea</b> 400 mg. • 100 Capsules • <b>88 FREE!</b></p>	<p><b>6<sup>49</sup></b></p> <p><b>Bonus Size!</b></p>  <p><b>Nature's Bounty Ester-C 500</b> 500 mg. • 90 Tablets • <b>18 FREE!</b></p>	<p><b>4<sup>99</sup></b></p>  <p><b>Nature Made Omega 3/Omega 6 Fish Oil</b> 1200 mg. Softgels 100s</p>
<p><b>14<sup>49</sup></b></p>  <p><b>Nature Made Co Q10</b> 100 mg. Softgels 30s</p>	<p><b>8<sup>99</sup></b></p>  <p><b>Vitron-C Iron Plus Vitamin C</b> Coated Tablets 60s</p>	<p>Compare to Excedrin</p> <p><b>6<sup>59</sup></b></p>  <p><b>Good Neighbor Pharmacy Headache Relief</b> Tablets 100s</p>	<p>Compare to Simply Sleep</p> <p><b>2<sup>89</sup></b></p>  <p><b>Good Neighbor Pharmacy Nighttime Sleep Aid</b> Mini-Caplets 24s</p>




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# No quick plan at second disaster prep meeting

By MARSHALL SMITH  
STAFF REPORTER

The first question at last Thursday's Mountain Emergency Medical Systems Committee (MEMSCOMM) disaster response planning meeting was not about the plan, but why so few returned for the second meeting.

What happened to the new people who normally do not attend these meetings — the 40 or so additional who were there in January brimming with ideas, questions and a desire to be meaningfully enrolled into a coordinated Disaster Response Plan? Some returned, but not most.

Attendee Gerald Holsclaw, in a subsequent phone conversation, pointed out that falling attendance (the January meeting had 70 attendees) for planning sessions of this type isn't surprising since interest in and energy for disaster relief dissipates unless "there is smoke in the air or the ground is shaking."

Nonetheless, questions and valuable suggestions made in January propelled February's meeting. One of the January suggestions was to transcribe meetings so that no one's ideas, contribu-

tions or questions are lost. As a result, Nancy Layton began taking notes at February's meeting and will disperse them to attendees.

Another suggestion was to e-mail the attendee sign-in list so that those wishing to could use it for networking purposes. Riverside County Office of Emergency Services (OES) Coordinator Peter Lent will do that from this point forward.

The plan that Hill volunteer agencies, OES, local professionals, water boards and ordinary townsfolk are preparing is designed to incorporate said agencies, volunteers and professional responders into an "Integrated Command Structure" that OES can direct during disasters for the Hill communities of Pinyon, Garner Valley, Anza, Mountain Center, Idyllwild and Pine Cove.

New head of Mountain Disaster Preparedness (MDP) Dr. Richard Goldberg, will prioritize recreating a neighborhood warden system of first responders that Holsclaw had in place in 1986 — a system based on dividing the Hill into specific geographical neighborhoods, canvases of available resources, equipment, needs and a "matrix" for deploying

wardens as local volunteer first responders for every neighborhood.

Goldberg acknowledged that what is still lacking, in terms of expediting an integrated plan, is a local agency coordinator, someone with the time, drive and sense of the greater good, who would convene the disparate local volunteer groups and have them compare their resources, deployable personnel, and particular strengths/weaknesses with each other. This could be given to Lent who has said he would create a plan of deployment of how these agencies and groups could effectively function together, not duplicating function.

Filling that schematic void is the focus of these MEMSCOMM disaster preparedness meetings every hour-and-a-half once a month.

As Paul Schlenz of MDP and Idyllwild Pines Camp further corroborates, Hill volunteer agency Web sites aren't currently linked to their compatriots, nor are they publicly differentiated as to their unique resources in times of emergency, where they figure in a scheme of deployment, or if they are the correct agency to contact depending on one's emergent needs? He also agrees

that Hill volunteer agencies should convene a roundtable to move toward a unified deployment scheme.

Local realtor and longtime Hill resident Marge Muir worries that since 2000, more than one-sixth of Hill residences have changed owners. "Many of these people are part-timers who are uninformed and unprepared," she said. What does a weekender from the desert or San Diego do when suddenly confronted with no way out, no water, inadequate food, no power and scant knowledge of neighbors or village resources? The unpleasant answer is that they could die.

Much came from the Feb. 9 meeting. One suggestion was to convene a volunteer agency open house at the fire station, where all agencies could have tables, representatives and demonstrations of what it is they do so attendees could pair up with the agency whose tasks and purpose best suit them.

Another suggestion was to have an organized tour of Neighborhood Collection Points, so townspeople know where and what they are.

Another was to urge residents to contact their propane company to determine if their tank has an automatic shutoff valve. According to

Mike Johnson of Ballard Gas, shutoff valves are not standard, nor mandated, but are available at prices from \$200 to \$400 depending on low or high pressure flow. The price includes a \$50 installation and pressure check.

Johnson cautions that once the shutoff valve kicks in, it might take several weeks for Ballard to get personnel back on the Hill to conduct another pressure test and restart the system.

Suburban Propane's dis-

trict representative will attend MDP's Tuesday, Feb. 21 meeting to discuss his company's policies regarding shutoff valves.

A few spots are still available for Community Emergency Response Team training (CERTS). Call Shawna April at the Idyllwild Fire Department, 659-2153, to make a reservation.

The next MEMSCOMM meeting is at 9 a.m. Thursday, March 9 at Fire Station 77 in Lake Riverside.

## CDF pile burning near Baldy Mountain

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) is conducting debris/slash pile burning intermittently from Feb. 2 to May 1 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. on the Baldy Mountain Vegetation Management Project. The project is located around the northern perimeter of Baldy Village Mobile Home Park and is designed to reduce and modify fuel around the community.

For more information, call CDF's Resource Management office at 659-3337 or the Pine Cove Fire Station at 659-2732.

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# PC learns it has to pay higher county fees

By J.P. CRUMRINE  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

County Service Area (CSA) 38's advisory board began deliberating its fiscal year 2006-07 budget at last Wednesday's meeting, finding that nearly 70 percent of the board's budget goes to two uncontrollable items — the ambulance contract and county administrative fees.

Regrouping in the wake of its brief January meeting, the board listened to Capt. Jon Hedman of Riverside County Fire Department's (RCFD) station 23, Pine Cove, as he proposed a budget for the next fiscal year.

Hedman's request totaled \$131,457, although it underestimated Riverside County's administrative fees. This proposal is about \$21,000 less than the 2005-06 budget; however, it is unlikely the CSA will actually spend the fully approved amount for this year.

Last winter, Hedman convinced the board to

replace the "Jaws of Life" extrication equipment for all three station vehicles. The board budgeted about \$51,000 for this expenditure.

During the year, Hedman has worked with the manufacturer and discovered that the entire unit does not need to be replaced. With help from the manufacturer, Hedman replaced the seals and power units to the manufacturer's specifications.

"We bought hoses and have determined that we need to buy new power tool heads for only \$20,000 and have the equivalent of new equipment," he told the advisory board. This amount is now requested for fiscal year 2006-07 and replaces the \$51,000 item this year.

The thermal image equipment is being ordered, Hedman said. A handheld imager could be used in several different situations, such as entering a smoke-filled house and not seeing flames. The imager could locate the

central heat source.

Since its cost is greater than \$1,000, Riverside County is responsible for the procurement and has received three bids. When it arrives, the thermal imaging equipment will be compatible with the rest of RCFD. Any firefighter from Riverside County will be able to use the equipment in an emergency, Hedman stated.

The county administrative charges were a revelation to the board. This year, the charge has increased from 6 percent to 10 percent of the CSA's annual revenues.

For this year, the county fee will approach \$13,000 compared with \$7,800 last year. Lee Sorenson, CSA 38 chair, asked the Riverside County Economic Development (EDA) staff, "Is there any change in services?"

EDA provides staff support to the CSAs and the county administers the finances, including accounting for revenues and paying bills.

"EDA has been servicing the CSAs for three years. The first couple of years we provided the same service and dedicated 20 people, but only three were paid from the CSA administrative fees," responded Bill Brown, EDA CSA operations manager. "The remaining costs were absorbed in the EDA administrative budget. This year, the Board [of Supervisors] authorized an increase to 10 percent for all CSAs with an advisory board."

Hedman's proposed budget underestimated the county fee by about \$9,000; including this brings his proposal to \$140,457.

This is slightly more than the CSA's expected revenues and posed a concern for several board members, especially Tom McCullough. For the next meeting, he requested that EDA staff verify the actual administrative fees for next year, ambulance costs and the expected revenues.

"We need to find out what these charges actu-

ally will be; otherwise, the budget is greater than the revenues," McCullough admonished his colleagues.

The single greatest item of the CSA 38 budget is the cost of the ambulance contract with Idyllwild Fire Protection District (IFPD). In 2004-05, the new initial contract cost was \$76,446. The contract permits a 4 percent increase per year, resulting in a 2005-06 total of \$79,503 and an estimate of \$82,684 for 2006-07.

Hedman's proposal had overestimated this item. At the next meeting, the board will complete the budget with specific estimates for administrative fees and ambulance costs, according to McCullough.

Marge Muir, Pine Cove resident and local real estate broker, also asked if the discussed mutual aid contract between IFPD and Garner Valley would affect service to CSA 38.

For the April meeting, Sorenson requested a status report on the IFPD ambulance performance. "I think people would like an update on the average response and what it means," he shared. "There are also questions about how a mass casualty event affects IFPD and CSA 38."

The board also dis-

cussed the possibility of shifting the meeting from Wednesday evening to Saturday afternoon.

"If we move the meetings to Saturday, perhaps it's an opportunity for more weekenders to attend," Sorenson said. "This would give a better voice or avenue for communication for the community. A lot of weekenders have expressed an interest in attending the CSA meetings."

From the audience, Muir reminded the board that the Pine Cove Property Owners Association does not get a better turn out despite Saturday meetings.

"You could have a special meeting with an open house at the fire station some Saturday," she suggested.


"I'm not in favor of changing the meetings either," responded Jan Van Zanten, board member. "An open house is better. Besides, a lot of people don't know about the paramedics on the engines now."

The CSA 38 Advisory Council will meet again at 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 19. Meetings are at the Mountain Resource Center on Franklin Drive.

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## USPS mail fraud tip of the week

Don't be victimized by con artists who try to get you to order goods or services by mailing solicitations that look like invoices.

The unscrupulous individuals who mail these know that some unsuspecting individuals will be fooled by their appearance and will automatically pay, thinking they may have placed an order but forgot about it.

Some solicitations disguise their true nature. Others identify themselves as solicitations, but only in the fine print. In either case, withhold payment until you have verified whether you actually ordered and received the goods or services reflected on the document. If not, do not pay. You may have received a solicitation in the guise of an invoice.

BY MARSHALL SMITH  
STAFF REPORTER

Arriba Mexican Restaurant owner Jose Huizar hit a minor glitch in his efforts to complete rebuilding Arriba by summer 2006.

Once Riverside County granted rebuilding permission, Huizar's contractor in tearing into existing walls, discovered that basic wall construction was substandard, and that walls

would have to be restructured, with raised heights at some points within the building in order to accommodate a new, fully conforming roof.

An early morning fire destroyed the restaurant in August 2004. Arriba has been operating in the evenings at JC's Red Kettle since that time.

County Engineer Tom Hadley, who shepherded Arriba's restoration plans through the county pro-

cesses, sees consequent plan revisions as "minor." Although he says the county will look at the revisions, he anticipates no delay from the county's point of view. He also does not envision a significant delay in Arriba completion, with original target dates of "June or July 2006, possibly even before."

Rather, in concerns shared by Arriba Manager Cheryl Carson, Hadley

anticipates that should delays arise it would be because of insurance issues — the possibility of "capping out" of approved funds, only to face additional expenses of newly necessitated architectural revisions.

Also, in Hadley's opinion, when public adjustors are involved, schedules and target completion dates are often adversely affected when any change is introduced.

**Randy Owen** (center), owner of Mountain Fire Abatement and Tree Service, makes a \$500 donation last Thursday afternoon to the Idyllwild Race Committee to support the 5K-10K race and athletic programs at Idyllwild School. Accepting the donation are Idyllwild School Physical Education Teacher and Race Committee Co-director **Holly Guntermann** (left) and committee fund-raiser **Kate Sirkin**.

PHOTO BY  
MICHAEL ERLICH



## Riverside County added to SDU

Riverside County has been added to the California Department of Support Services' State Distribution Unit (SDU). The SDU is responsible for the collection and disbursement of all child support payments previously processed by local child support agencies. Individuals with private child support orders who do not pay through wage withholding will not be affected by the payment processing system.

During the transition period, child support recipients may experience a slight delay in receiving payments. For more information on the SDU disbursement system, visit the Web site at [www.childsup.ca.gov](http://www.childsup.ca.gov).

## PFLAG meeting March 1

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) Idyllwild/Hemet Chapter will hold its first meeting of 2006 at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 1 at the Rainbow Inn, 54420 South Circle Drive.

PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people, and their families and friends through support, education and advocacy. PFLAG provides an opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and gender identity, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.

All in need are welcome and volunteers are still needed. For more information, call Tamon Bennett-Natoli at (951) 659-9655 (days) or (951) 634-2948 (evenings).

## Piano and keyboard lessons

Private piano and keyboard classes are being offered after school at Idyllwild School to public and homeschooled children in grades one to eight.

Classes meet one day a week. Winter session begins the last week in February. A keyboard (or piano) is necessary for at-home practice. A few keyboards will be available to rent for a small fee. These will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis.

Registration deadline is Feb. 21 and scholarships may be available. For more information or to schedule lessons, call Lori Alexander at 659-5548 or e-mail [music@greencafe.com](mailto:music@greencafe.com), subject "piano."

## Impact Fund grant deadline March 3

The Community Foundation Serving Riverside and San Bernardino Counties is now accepting applications for its Community Impact Fund grant program. The Community Impact Fund was formed in 1995 to direct the foundation's funds to nonprofit agencies and projects that meet the community's most pressing needs.

The application deadline is March 3. The foundation will approve grants up to \$10,000 from nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations for programs and activities that will primarily benefit Riverside and/or San Bernardino counties residents.

For more information, visit the Community Foundation Web site ([www.thecommunityfoundation.net](http://www.thecommunityfoundation.net)) or call (951) 684-4194.

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# President requests less for USFS in 2007

By J.P. CRUMRINE  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The fiscal year 2007 Forest Service budget request totals \$4.865 billion, twice Riverside County's general fund revenues but almost \$100 million less than the Forest Service's fiscal year 2006 appropriation.

Highlights mostly depict programmatic reductions throughout the agency while acknowledging many demands on the agency's staff and land resources. Some of the many priorities facing the Forest Service include restoring fire-adapted forests, providing sustainable recreation, repelling invasive species and restoring water-

sheds.

Nevertheless, Forest Service needs were competing against other challenges — the War on Terror, homeland defenses and economic recovery — according to the agency's budget request.

In his news conference, Agricultural Secretary Mike Johann, confirmed that the Department of Agriculture's discretionary funds were reduced by 6.5 percent, the third largest cut in government this year. The Forest Service is an agency under the Department of Agriculture.

The proposed Forest Service budget requests are mostly characterized by red ink or parentheses: forest

research down \$11 million; state and private forestry programs cut by \$34 million (including \$12 million for activities carried out in cooperation with state and local governments); and nearly \$6 million cut for assistance to state fire programs.

Total national forest management is only \$5.3 million less than the FY 2006 appropriation of \$1.4 billion. But that less than 1 percent change masks significant shifts of funds among programs.

Forest products, the funding source for timber sales, increases by \$30 million (primarily for the Northwest forest plan) and forest

law enforcement receives a \$22 million boost. To accommodate these increases, inventory and monitoring, recreation and wilderness, wildlife, grazing, minerals and land ownership programs are reduced by more than \$50 million.

Wildland fire management was one area where slight increases may be seen next year. The net increase of \$15 million is just under 1 percent of the total \$1.76 billion. Within the total, the administration requests an additional \$55 million for suppression funds and \$10 million for hazardous fuels projects while other programs are cut by \$50 million.

## Land sales may benefit local government

A new, somewhat controversial Forest Service program may have some effect on the San Bernardino National Forest (SBNF), but not in this district. The Forest Service is proposing an extension of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

The president's fiscal year 2007 budget includes a legislative proposal that would grant the Forest Service authority to sell small tracts of forest land that are either isolated or inefficient to manage due to their location or other characteristics. Money received from the

sales (up to \$800 million) would go toward funding states and counties impacted by the loss of receipts associated with lower timber harvests on federal lands.

To provide the supplemental funding, the Forest Service is proposing to sell lands that have lost their purpose for forest objectives. This includes 388 acres in the SBNF, none of which is within the San Jacinto Ranger District, according to Ruth Wenstrom, SBNF public information officer.

In 2005, Riverside County received \$89,186 and San Bernardino County received \$331,100 from the Forest Service as payments in lieu of property taxes.

## Keenwild helibase in 2007 budget

By J.P. CRUMRINE  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

It is too early in the appropriations and funding cycle to know the details of San Bernardino National Forest's (SBNF) fiscal year 2007 budget. The appropriation process may reveal some specific direction from Congress. Following enactment of the appropriations bill, the Forest Service will formulate individual budgets for each region and national forest.

But a specific project on the SBNF is part of the president's 2006-07 capital budget presented to Congress last week.

The Forest Service capital improvement request includes \$527,000 to im-

prove the helibase at the Keenwild Ranger Station. Local firefighting officials were glad the request had made it all the way through the regional and national screening process.

"The design for Keenwild will be similar to the helibase at Heap's Peak [in the SBNF Mountain Top District]," said Dan Felix, San Jacinto Ranger District fuels battalion chief.

Both Felix and Norm Walker, San Jacinto District fire chief, said the request is sufficient for about half the project costs and expect the final amount the following year.

"We're real excited to be improving the Keenwild facility," added Mike Dietrich, San Bernardino

National Forest fire chief. "Critical work on this was cut from the budget in the 1980s. The national fire plan of 2001 recommended it again."

The Keenwild helicopter, which is on a seasonal contract, serves the entire district as well as the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument.

SBNF's entire fuels budget will remain uncertain until after the appropriations bill is enacted, but final decisions may again next year create controversy throughout the agency.

One area's need is pork barrel to another region. The SBNF fuels budget was given a significant boost or earmark — \$30 million — following the October 2003 fire siege. In subsequent years, the forest has had to rely on additional earmarks from both Congressman Jerry Lewis and Sen. Dianne Feinstein to maintain the

program's level.

In the absence of specific congressional direction this year, the initial Forest Service budget for the SBNF's fuels program was only \$5 million. This barely paid the staff salaries and left no room for hazardous fuels reduction projects.

Lewis and Feinstein had to intercede with Forest Service officials to obtain an additional \$10 million to continue the SBNF hazardous fuels program.

"For the rest of the country to ante up \$10 million didn't win us any friends," Dietrich opined.

The funding for fiscal year 2007 presumes no earmarks for the SBNF program and more recent needs created by last summer's hurricanes will likely be addressed. At its peak following hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the Forest Service had 5,500 employees working in the southeast helping the response.

## CERT training sessions at IFPD

The Idyllwild Fire Protection District (IFPD) and Mountain Disaster Preparedness are offering Community Emergency Response Team training courses in February and March.

The first class will be offered in six, 4-hour sessions, from 6 to 10 p.m., over two weeks on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, Feb. 20 to March 3.

The second course will be held over three consecutive days beginning Friday, March 10, from 6 to 10 p.m. and continuing from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, March 11-12.

Courses will be held at the Idyllwild Fire Station and consist of both classroom and hands-on training. For more information or to sign up contact Shawna April, firefighter/EMT/emergency service coordinator, at 659-2153 or via e-mail at s4fire@hotmail.com.

## County tobacco license effective Feb. 17

Riverside County Department of Public Health has announced that merchants who retail tobacco and tobacco products have until Feb. 17 to apply for a license. All tobacco retailers in the unincorporated areas of the County and in the city of Corona must have a license by that date or face serious penalties, including loss of product, fines, and restrictions on obtaining a license in the future.

Passed by the Riverside County Board of Supervisors on Sept. 13, 2005, Ordinance 838, according to Susan Harrington, Department of Public Health director, "... will, over the next two years, reduce the number of packs of cigarettes sold to 12- to 17-year-olds by 80 to 90 percent in Riverside County."

For more information, call (951) 358-7157, or visit the health department tobacco license Web page ([www.rivcoph.org/healthed/license.htm](http://www.rivcoph.org/healthed/license.htm)).

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# PCWD considers raising new meter fees

By J.P. CRUMRINE  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The Pine Cove Water District (PCWD) directors agreed to hold a public hearing next month to discuss a possible fee increase for new water meters.

It has been nearly 15 years since the current \$4,400 charge has been reviewed, Jerry Holldber, PCWD general manager, told his board. He asked the district's engineering consultant, John Egan, principal engineer at Engineering Resources of Southern California in San Bernardino, to revise the estimated costs of installing a new water meter.

To Holldber's surprise, the new estimate was a minimum of \$6,838. Including costs for water transmission and treatment are principal reasons for the increase. The original water meter charge only included costs for water supply and storage.

"The charges are for new meters or new service and

are reimbursements of existing system users for their past investments," Holldber stated. What he means by reimbursements is that the money goes into the general fund for future.

For example, the storage portion was estimated based on constructing new storage almost equivalent to the existing capacity. The engineers estimated that PCWD would need to store 3.2 million gallons of water.

The assumptions are based on peak day usage, a 14-day emergency supply, water for firefighting and 1,500 connections (430 more than current). Based on a storage cost of 60 cents per gallon, a new connection's share of storage costs would be \$1,266. But Holldber stressed that the district does not currently need to construct new storage.

The other component costs were calculated on a similar basis. The total cost of \$6,838 is comprised of the following subcomponents:

water supply, \$2,439; water transmission, \$2,533; water treatment, \$100; administrative costs, \$500; and water storage, \$1,266.

If a new line from the main pipeline to the residence is needed, the cost for the time and materials will be estimated and added to the overall charge.

In comparison to the proposed charge, Big Bear Water District charges \$7,900 and Lake Arrowhead district charges \$8,139 for new service, according to Holldber.

"I think the other local districts are lower and seem to be underselling themselves," commented Lou Padula, PCWD director.

However, Marge Muir of Pine Cove, a local real estate broker, is not convinced that the estimates are reasonable. For example, at the meeting, she challenged the use of the peak day need for the basis of the water supply and storage fee estimates.

"We do not need 250,000 gallons every day," she argued.

"There are a lot of issues such as the actual use, the ratio of full-time to part-time residents. What is the real use?"

Another of Muir's objections is the use of the highway wells' cost as the basis for water supply cost estimates. She argues that the \$300,000 figure includes costs beyond the actual acquisition of the wells.

The additional costs, which Holldber confirmed, include legal fees, survey requirements, and biological and hydrological studies. In comparison, he indicated that the existing new well program would have to account for successful as well as dry holes to calculate the true cost per producing well.

"The highway wells are the first new sources on line with a known flow in years," Holldber said. "Thus, we can use actual costs for a new water supply."

The water meter funds are not deposited into a separate fund for new supplies, stor-

age or pipelines, Holldber stressed. The district already has to provided ample potable water to serve new growth. The fees assess the new service for the provision of the infrastructure in advance of their demand.

"I think the proposed charge is fair to the new connections as well as the existing customers," Holldber concluded. "Given the importance of water and having a reliable system, this is a pretty cheap investment compared to other fees."

The next step will be a public hearing on the proposed charges at PCWD's next meeting scheduled for 10 a.m. Wednesday, March 8 in the PCWD board room.

In other water business, Holldber addressed the board about the current water situation and prospects for this spring. Unless the weather changes drastically and much more rainfall comes, Holldber said he may suggest moving to Water Conservation Stage 2 in the spring.

"Although there has been less rain this past year," he reported, "the wells are doing OK. But it is time to consider a possible change."

By the next meeting, Holldber said he will have discussed the water situation with general managers at both Fern Valley and Idyllwild water districts.

Shifting to Stage 2 would have a minimal consequence. The difference would be no watering during the day — just morning and evening — and a higher water rate for use exceeding 25,000 gallons for the billing period (2 months), said Holldber.

"I think we should keep a close eye on it and give people as much notice as possible," he advised the board.

The board asked him to keep the issue on its agenda as winter ends and spring approaches.

PCWD water production last month was 2.4 million gallons, 8 percent less than the the 2.67 million gallons last year.

## Innkeeper meeting at Cedar Street Inn

The Idyllwild Bureau of Tourism will host two informal talks in February for local innkeepers.

The talks will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, Feb. 27 and at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 28 at Cedar Street Inn. Topics to be discussed at the meeting include "Getting some Benefit From Transit Occupancy Tax," the cross-marketing of Borrego Springs and Catalina Island, and publicity opportunities.

Innkeepers interested in the discussions may call Richard Cadieux at 1-877-627-7996. Seating is limited.

## Mojave Max Emergence Contest

Mojave Max, like the groundhog Punxsutawney Phil, is a desert tortoise that can predict the arrival of spring.

The "Mojave Max Emergence Contest," sponsored by the Desert Managers Goup, is intended to help bring awareness to the plight of the desert tortoise, a species native to Nevada, California and Arizona.

Students in grades one to 12 may visit the contest's Web site ([www.mojavemax.com](http://www.mojavemax.com)) to learn more about this threatened species and to enter the contest by guessing when Max will emerge from his burrow.

## Master Chorale rehearsals ongoing

The Idyllwild Master Chorale (IMC) began rehearsals for its spring concert Tuesday, Feb. 7 in the music room at Idyllwild School.

IMC is a communitywide, mixed chorus that welcomes singers with previous choral experience to join. Rehearsals will continue every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Idyllwild School.

For more information, call Gary Squier at 659-7737.

## Lake Hemet bald eagle counts

The final of the annual bald eagle counts for the San Bernardino National Forest has been scheduled for Saturday, March 11.

Anyone interested in attending should meet at the Lake Hemet Market parking lot at 8 a.m. Volunteers are asked to dress appropriately and bring binoculars. For more information, call Heidi Sellers, wildlife biological technician, at (909) 382-2945.

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# In Anza, crossing Highway 371 on foot can be risky

BY MARSHALL SMITH  
STAFF REPORTER

Sherri Van Dorn, district director for State Sen. Jim Battin, and Tommy Tunson, legislative team member for Riverside County 3rd District Supervisor Jeff Stone, attended Feb. 8's Anza Valley Municipal Advisory Committee (AVMAC) meeting for a "greet and listen" tour on behalf of their respective bosses.

Highway 371 which bisects Anza Valley was the center of discussion for much of the evening. Complaints to both Van Dorn

and Tunson ranged from commuters to and from Temecula and the desert speeding through town during commuter hours, to "no or very late response" from California Highway Patrol (CHP) and the Riverside County Sheriff's Department, to the condition of the highway itself with no passing lanes, inadequate turnouts and dangerous left-turn conditions.

Outgoing AVMAC Chair Jackie Spanley received a round of applause from her fellow Anzans when she said, "It takes an act of faith to step out on 371" during

commuting hours.

Highway 371 is a 20.75-mile corridor that runs from Highway 79 near Aguanga to Highway 74 north of Anza. It's a heavily traveled shortcut from southwestern Riverside County to the Coachella Valley. Current speed through the town section of Anza is 45 mph but may be raised to 55 mph as part of a new survey.

Both Van Dorn and Tunson counseled residents obviously frustrated with a dangerous artery running through their community's heart. They advised them to write formal letters of

complaint to both the CHP commander in Beaumont and the sheriff's department in Hemet regarding their concerns about speeds and law enforcement response patterns. Then, if they receive no response from those agencies, they should contact Van Dorn or Tunson with pertinent information for them to mobilize their staffs.

In other business, Tunson said the Anza Valley Vision and Goals, worked out between Anza residents and County Planning directors Robert Johnson and Jerry Jolliffe and their staffs, "has

been agendized and will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for approval within three weeks."

Anza resident and municipal planner Frank Miller wondered what the value of having that roadmap in place is if there is no way (considering the Highway 371 issue) to make Anza a "pedestrian-friendly" community as the vision and goals document envisions. Tunson answered that letters regarding the speed through town should reference the Anza Valley Vision and Goals statement.

In reference to another

concern of double tractor trailer combos using Highway 371, Tunson said the "rules are in place [prohibiting them] and that they are simply not being enforced." That is a problem that, with complaints to the supervisor's office, "can be handled."

Van Dorn said Battin planned to hold mobile field office meetings throughout his district. One was planned for the morning of Wednesday, Feb. 15 at The Bread Basket Restaurant in Idyllwild, focusing on "Traffic: Engineering, Education and Enforcement."

# Asbestos mine poses problems for Pinyon

BY MARSHALL SMITH  
STAFF REPORTER

An old asbestos mine, the Dona C, located on the western side of the Pinyon communities, now has warning signs posted around it at 130-foot intervals, according to Jerry DeGraff, a U.S. Forest Service on-scene coordinator. That's the first step in ensuring that hikers, residents and bikers don't approach close enough to inhale asbestos particles easily carried by the wind.

Asbestos, once mined heavily throughout the world, was used for fire-proofing and insulation in this country because of its chemical and thermal stability and high tensile strength. Asbestos has fibrous silicate minerals that are easily wafted by winds and then inhaled, leading to lung cancer and mesothelioma, a

lethal tumor of the chest lining and abdominal cavities. Exposure to asbestos can also cause asbestosis, a disease characterized by fibrotic scarring of the lung.

According to DeGraff, asbestos mining began in Pinyon as early as 1917 and continued through World War II. The mine was "re-shaped" in 1989 to make it less attractive to off road vehicles and restored to environmental standards then in effect.

Now, standards have grown more strict and home building has encroached ever closer to the site, mandating the initial step of installing signage and the next step, possibly this fiscal year (ending in September), of covering the site with uncontaminated soil, thus sealing it.

DeGraff cites that both federal and state standards

have become more stringent in recent years, hence the steps that are being undertaken.

Testing the area in and around the Dona C indicates that naturally occurring asbestos is present in the soil within the disturbed area, excavation pits and rock piles. No asbestos was found in soil within undisturbed areas around the site.

DeGraff stressed that monitoring the air near

and around the site revealed higher levels of airborne particles than in adjacent undisturbed areas, but that the level was below that of concern for "sensitive populations such as children" at school sites.

The area of concern, the two locations of the Dona C, occupy about 3 total acres. DeGraff noted that on the day he was testing air samples, the wind was fairly calm. His concern rises for

days when extreme winds, not uncommon in this area, blow through, lifting more particulates into the air and carrying them greater distances from the source.

The Forest Service has the budget to complete the project as part of Super Fund Cleanup monies available through the Department of Agriculture but for the sealing to occur this year, it would have to be identified and prioritized ahead of

other emergent needs projects, a likelihood DeGraff does not foresee. So for now, the signs will have to suffice to warn that the blue-black particles in the soil are not to be trifled with.

DeGraff can be reached at (559) 297-0706, Ext. 4932. To find out how to reduce one's risk of exposure to naturally occurring asbestos in the soil, visit [www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/asbestos/geninfo.htm](http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/asbestos/geninfo.htm).

## Falling tree danger

The California Department of Forestry (CDF) and Riverside County Fire Department reminds residents of the danger of falling trees and branches during high winds. Dead tree removal has left previously sheltered, weaker trees exposed and made them susceptible to wind damage.

Also, dead trees standing for more than a year are more likely to fall in high winds.

CDF urges property owners to look for signs that their trees have the potential to fall. Some signs include:

Soil cracks developing around the tree's root zones; soil bulging above the roots; trees that have recently developed a lean; and black oaks with signs of rot on the trunk and branches.

To avoid injury and property damage, CDF suggests staying well clear of dead trees and trees with any of these signs, as well as contacting a forester, arborist or other professional to remove the tree.

## RCF stations now Safe Haven Sites

All full-time staffed Riverside County Fire Department stations are designated Safe Haven Sites under California's Safely Surrendered Baby Law. All hospital emergency rooms also are designated sites.

Safe Haven Sites are identified by blue and white signs with the Safe Haven Logo (an outstretched hand holding a baby, within a house-shaped border).

Under the law, a parent can legally, confidentially and safely surrender a baby within three days of birth as long as there has not been abuse. Parents can reclaim babies within 14 days so long as they have the ability to care for the child.

Anyone contemplating abandoning an infant may call 1-800-472-5697 anonymously for information about the law and locations of Safe Haven Sites.

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The Forest Service is cleaning up the new parcel in preparation for future construction. The property behind the San Jacinto Ranger District office was acquired last year with the long-term plan to build an administrative office on the site. Until the funding is available, the Forest Service will expand its parking. This work began recently.

PHOTO BY J.P. CRUMRINE



# Pat Parish's emergency ideas

## Isolation

Realistically plan for three weeks — no electricity, no running water and no gas lines.

1. Supply of water or water purification tablets.
2. Gasoline – top off vehicles and keep extra if you have a generator.
3. Nonrefrigerated, noncooking food supply, such as canned goods with pull tabs, nutrition bars, crackers, peanut butter and jelly.
4. Working flashlights and supply of batteries.
5. Battery-operated radio.
6. Keep medical needs current and a first aid kit.
7. Pet supplies.
8. Cash since it is assumed banks and ATMs will be inoperable.
9. Tools such as shovels, wrenches and screwdrivers.
10. Know how to turn off gas and propane.
11. Be able to locate sturdy shoes, even in the dark.
12. Sleeping bags, air mattresses or tent in case home is destroyed.
13. Know location of Neighborhood Collection Point.
14. Become aware of neighbors' needs – especially medical, ambulatory and pets.

## Evacuation

1. Keep vehicles half fueled.
2. When evacuation announcement comes, leave.
3. Important papers to keep in easy-to-carry boxes or photocopy: birth certificates, marriage licenses, death certificates, credit card numbers, health cards, last three years of tax data, prescription numbers, driver licenses, bank account numbers, vehicles' pink slips (especially if left behind), insurance papers, doctors' names and contact numbers, three to four changes of clothing and cash.
4. Food such as water, juice containers and snack bars.
5. Flashlights with batteries.
6. Blankets or sleeping bags.

## Al-Anon offers support

Al-Anon offers help and support to families and friends of alcoholics. Anyone bothered by a friend or family member's drinking and need someone to talk with may call Al-Anon at 659-9608 or 659-9915.

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# Fire Safe Council advises on evacuation, isolation

By J.P. CRUMRINE  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The Parishes — Bob and Pat — brought the consequences of hurricanes Katrina and Rita to the Hill at Saturday's Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council (FSC) meeting.

The Parishes are former teachers and the lessons they shared were an education. They learned empirically from being on the ground and working with evacuees on the Arkansas and Louisiana border.

"Our experiences included tent cities, dormitories and camps," Bob Parish said as he began the presentation. "We assisted people as they moved from hotels to personal housing."

As they described in horrifying detail the natural disasters' effect on the unprepared and poor, they consistently applied these lessons to the possibility of a natural disaster — fire, earthquake or some other — to Hill residents.

The Parishes provided two lists. The first was what one needs to have available in case a disaster traps Hill residents. Roads are blocked or, worse, impassable for weeks. Implausible, but this situation partially occurred January 2005. As the result of the heavy winter rains, boulders thundered down and blocked Highway 243 in Stone Creek for nearly a week. On two separate occasions, Highway 74 to Palm

Desert was closed for several days due to weather-related damage.

The other necessary list was in case an evacuation is necessary. The Parishes identified which papers and materials will be invaluable as one lives as a nomad. They constantly encountered family tragedies during their nearly 10 weeks aiding displaced hurricane victims.

Reinforcing the need to prepare for these types of situations, FSC President Blair Cenicerros told the group that Riverside County plans a local disaster preparedness tabletop exercise this spring. The scenario will be an earthquake followed by a fire.

## Hazard abatement boundaries expanded

Cenicerros also repeated his board's gratitude to members Jan Fast and Don Patterson for obtaining the recent project boundary adjustments. The FSC projects now extend from Mountain Center to Pine Cove, including most of Idyllwild and Fern Valley.

Cenicerros admitted he doubted the proposal's success, but with the help of the Mountain Area Safety Taskforce (MAST) and the work of Fast, Patterson and Reba Coulter, FSC executive director, the expanded boundaries were approved.

"It is unusual to change a project's boundaries in the middle of grant," Cenicerros said. "But the MAST



**Pat Parish** (right) discusses what documentation will be important for individuals to take with them in case an evacuation is necessary. She and her husband, **Bob**, discussed their volunteer work helping victims of hurricanes Katrina and Rita at Saturday's Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council (FSC) meeting. The Parishes were in Arkansas and Louisiana during October and November where they learned what papers people needed following disasters. Listening intently are **Roberta Corbin** and her husband, **Larry Kueneman**, FSC 2nd vice president.

PHOTO BY J.P. CRUMRINE

treatment allocation group thought it was a good idea they took it to MAST. They all jumped on it and gave us a letter of support."

Property owners origi-

nally turned down for help because the property was outside the project boundaries are now being contacted to see if they are still interested in abating their prop-

erty with the FSC assistance, Cenicerros said. Anyone interested in possible abatement assistance can reach the FSC at (951) 659-6208.

## Pile burning

The 24-hour pile burning in Garner Valley was a success, according to Dan Felix, fuels battalion chief of the San Jacinto Ranger District.

"With the help of Blair and Kay [Cenicerros], we got approval to burn 24 hours a day in Bonita Vista," he shared. "We burned for four days and three nights. The winds stopped us early; but the effort was a 3-to-1 efficiency improvement. And there didn't appear to be any significant smoke effects."

He said the South Coast Air Quality Management Division seemed willing to permit future 24-hour

burns based on the tentative results collected at two smoke monitoring stations located in Garner Valley and Idyllwild while the piles were burning.

Also, the dry windy weather in Southern California has raised the Forest Service's fire vigilance. Currently, three extra engines are stationed in Southern California.

## CWPP

Cenicerros also invited the attendees to review the San Jacinto Mountain Community Wildfire Protection Plan. Comments were due last Friday but he encouraged people to become familiar with the plan and proposed projects.

"This is the best document of this sort produced in the state," Cenicerros said.

## U.S. Navy Memorial Navy Log

The U.S. Navy Memorial, honoring those who served and are serving in the Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marine, offers the Navy Log.

The Navy Log is the permanent public registry where eligible uniformed individuals and veterans can record their service information and history — name, duty stations, awards, photos and memories. The log is available at the memorial in Washington, D.C., or on the Internet at [www.lonesailor.org](http://www.lonesailor.org).

Until the end of July 2006, the log is open to enrollment for servicemen and veterans, and to families of deceased veterans to record their personal stories. To enroll in the log or for more information, visit the Web site or call 1-800-NAVY-LOG (1-800-628-9564).

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PHOTOS BY J.P. CRUMRINE



**Kenneth Jensen**, Café Aroma Celtics, drives for 2 of his game-leading 10 points against the Idyllwild Heating Lakers. **Chris Lopian**, the Lakers' high scorer, tries to block Ken's path to the basket while **Josh Leih**, Ken's Celtics teammate, trails the play. The Celtics won the game 18-16.



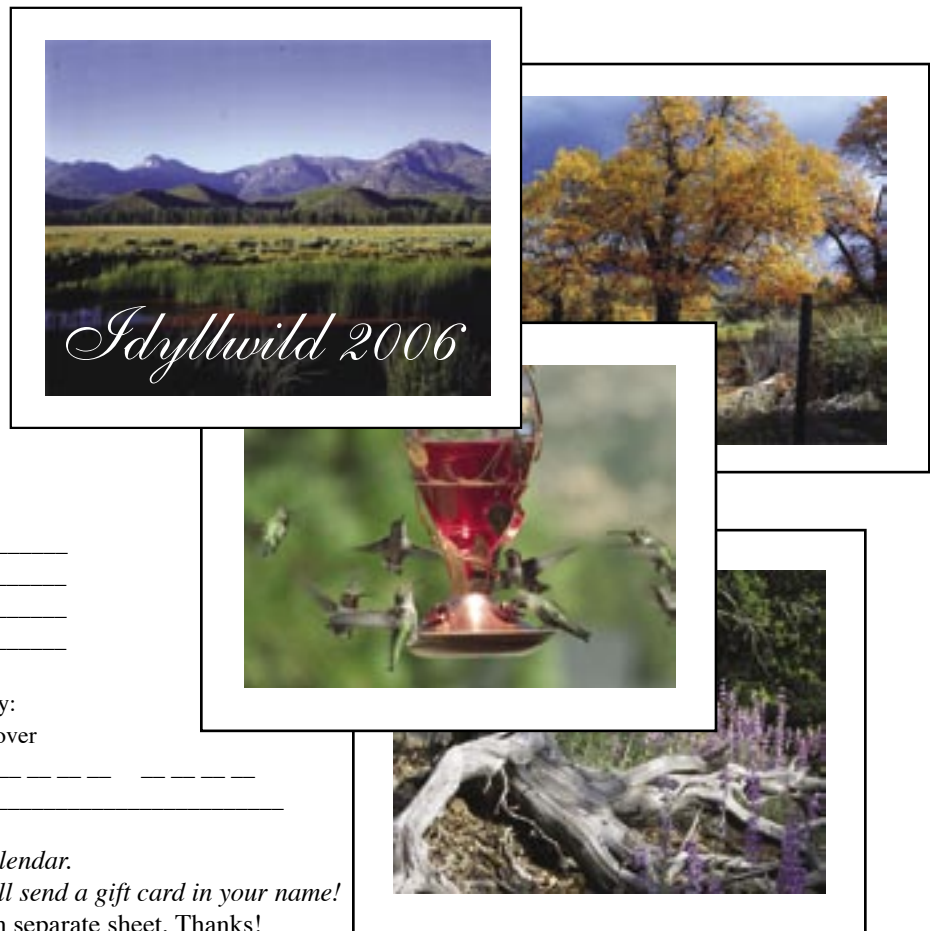
**Emily Jimenez**, Café Aroma Celtics forward, is surrounded by boys during Thursday's game. Emily, along with teammate **Josh Leih** (left), led the Celtics to a 18-16 triumph over the Idyllwild Heating Lakers. Defending against Emily are Lakers **Joshua Sundsten** (4) and **Tyler Sumrall** (right).



To no avail, **Mark Loutzenhiser**, Garage, tries to tap the ball over Ajax's **Jason Sonnier's** block. Despite a high-spirited defense, the Garage took the match from the under-manned opponent.

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# SPORTS

## Basketball

Sports Coordinator **Mark Loutzenhiser** gave this report on Town Hall Youth Basketball.

The Mountain Fire Abatement Grizzlies came up big in the Wednesday night game, defeating Idyllwild Technologies Magic to stay in first place.

**Megan Read** of the Grizzlies played an outstanding game at guard seeing the entire court.

Megan made some nice passes to open teammates, including **Savanah Loutzenhiser** who had a great night hitting 14 points.

The Magic struggled a little on defense but **Darin Commore** fought off some fast breaks and **Erec VonSeggren** made stops in the key and picked up only one foul for the game.

**Cedar Latimer** went to the line for the Magic hitting 50 percent. The Grizzlies won the game 28-3.

The Thursday night game included two well-coached teams. The Idyllwild Heating Lakers and the Café Aroma Celtics played an exciting game that would not be decided until the final buzzer.

The Lakers' **Emi See** made a number of steals breaking up the Celtic offensive strategy. **Chris Lopian** had the high score for the game at 10 for the Lakers, matching points with power forward **Kenny Jensen** of the Celtics.

**Jayden Emerson** of the Celtics came up with a good defensive game making some steals of his own and taking pressure off the key. The Lakers finished the half with a slim 2-point lead. Happy with this, they settled in and played defense but the Celtics refused to give up out-scoring the Lakers 12-8 and picking up their third win of the season with a final score of 18-16.

*Sports is sponsored by Vic Sirkin of Idyllwild Realty. Part of the proceeds go to Town Hall Recreation programs.*



Vic Sirkin

Place	Team	Wins	Losses
1	Mt. Fire Abatement Grizzlies	3	1
2	Café Aroma Celtics	3	1
3	Idyllwild Heating Lakers	1	3
4	Idyllwild Technologies Magic	1	3

## Golf

Idyllwild's Palms to Pines Golf Association held its third tournament of the season at PGA of Southern California in Beaumont. **Chris Talavera** took first place, **Bill Harris** took second, **Ryan Righetti** took third, **Jim Crandall** took fourth and **Tom Kreider** took fifth.

Closest to the pin were **Herk McClellan** on the front nine and **Brad Rowland** on the back nine. **Chuck Alkire** won for longest drive.

Rowland also scored an eagle on the very tough Champions course, on which the tournament was played.

The next tournament will be held Feb. 17 beginning at 10:37 a.m. at the Cathedral Canyon Golf & Tennis Club in Cathedral



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City.

Following are the stats so far this season. Points are awarded to winners. One-half point is awarded to everyone who participates.

The season runs from November 2005 to October 2006. Anyone interested in joining the Palms to Pines Golf Association may contact **George Kretsinger** at 659-2264 or **Pete Capparelli** at 659-2125.

Member	Jan. '06	Member	Jan. '06
Alkire, Chuck	1.0	McClellon, Herk	3.5
Brown, Gary	0.0	Morin, Timothy	0.0
Burns, Larry	0.5	Priefer, Robert	0.5
Capparelli, Pete	3.0	Righetti, Ryan	4.5
Crandall, Jim	5.5	Rowland, Brad	3.5
Creighton, Mike	1.0	Stambaugh, Roger	0.0
Fite, Rick	1.5	Stearns, Robert	2.5
Harris, Bill	7.5	Sterling, Bill	0.0
Hayden, Merrill	1.0	Talavera, Chris	6.5
Koosje, Pino	0.5	Viola, Tony	0.5
Kreider, Tom	6.0	Whitney, Noah	9.0
Kretsinger, George	1.5	Zaccardi, Steve	1.5
LoGiudice, John	0.0	Zimmerman, Jim	3.0

## Volleyball

**Mark Loutzenhiser** gave this report on Town Hall's Adult Coed Volleyball.

The only volleyball game of the week pitted the Idyllwild Garage against Ajax Rock Company in a good four-game match.

The Garage picked up the first two games with **Janey Espinoza** serving bullets to the Ajax defense. **Karen McLean** played a fine game at setter for the Garage, putting the ball in perfect position for husband **Jess McLean** to score.

Ajax rallied behind **Jason Sonnier** to win the third game and **Desmond Pellum** tried to keep them going but could not find the handle in the back row, shanking returned serves out of the



**Mark and Maria Loutzenhiser, Idyllwild Garage, return a serve from Ajax Rock during the first game of last week's match. Garage couples won the pre-Valentine's Day game and took the match 3-1.**

PHOTO BY J.P. CRUMRINE

reach of his teammates. The Garage went on to win in four games, 25-18, 25-14, 20-25 and 25-17.

Send sports reports about locals to [itc@towncrier.com](mailto:itc@towncrier.com) or drop them off at the Town Crier by 10 a.m. Mondays. Photos also are welcome. If sending by e-mail, resolution must be at least 300 dpi.

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**IN THE VILLAGE**  
Grand one-level furnished home, light & bright, w/many new upgrades. Large kitchen w/dining + formal dining room, living room w/FP, 3 BRs, 2.5 BAs, PLUS detached 1 bedroom, 1 bath guest house. 2-car garage, new deck, level lot. Comes furnished. #2619 **\$524,000**



**CHARMING MOUNTAIN STYLE**  
Enjoy beautiful Tahquitz Peak and Lily Rock views from this charming 3 bedroom, 2 bath with vaulted ceilings, pine paneling, hardwood floors, stone fireplace, solarium, large deck w/Jacuzzi. Near wilderness trails. #2466 **\$479,000**



**BEAUTIFUL WOOD INTERIOR**  
Well-maintained modified A-frame home with dramatic prow front windows with forest views. Pine interior, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, brick fireplace, deck with views. Great Fern Valley location. #2639 **\$329,000**



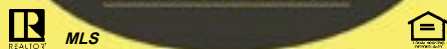
**GREAT LODGE HIDEAWAY**  
Wonderful mountain feel with charming wood interior throughout, open beam styling with peeled pine beam accents, rock fireplace, cozy dining nook, wood floors, 2 bedrooms plus loft, 2.5 baths, with newer master suite. **\$375,000**

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**Jackie Wagner, ASSOCIATE BROKER**

**Robin Oates, BROKER**

**Gary Agner, ASSOCIATE**  
**Stacy Oates, ASSOCIATE**





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#### AWARD WINNING COTTAGE

Winning 1st place award in 1999 for "Cottage Renovation." One bedroom charmer. Close to town and on sewer. Pine floors, track lighting, skylights, exposed beams, newer kitchen & bath. Fully fenced backyard. MLS#2668 **\$246,000**



#### IMMACULATE CONDITION ON LEVEL LOT

Cute 2 bedroom, 1 bath cabin in immaculate condition. Warm and cozy. Would make a great getaway cabin or rental. Ample parking for three cars or an RV. Small workshop area off deck and lots of storage under the house. MLS#2680 **\$249,000**



#### COZY CABIN/CLOSE TO VILLAGE

Great location! Vaulted ceilings, stone fireplace. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Nice decking. Great starter cabin to enjoy the Idyllwild lifestyle. MLS#2298 **\$279,000**



#### PERFECT GETAWAY

In old Saunders Meadows summer home tract on large level lot w/seasonal stream. 2 + bdrms., 1.75 baths. Living room w/vaulted ceilings & rock fireplace w/wood burning stove. Galley kitchen. Den/game room. MLS#2596 **\$330,000**



#### YEAR-ROUND HOME FOR ALL SEASONS

Extensive low maintenance landscaping front and back and a fish pond. Living room w/vaulted ceiling, large river rock fireplace w/insert. Skylights and Spanish tile throughout. Master suite with own office. Covered carport and detached workshop. MLS#2658 **\$345,000**



#### GREAT LOG-SIDED HOME

Terrific 3 bdrm., 2 full bath home! Open floor plan. Living room w/river rock fireplace and knotty pine ceiling. Bay windows in kitchen w/wood floor. Master bedroom w/walk-in closet. Bedrooms all w/mirrored wardrobe. View of Lily Rock. Additional storage below with great yard. MLS#2659 **\$380,000**



#### FAMILY CAN WALK TO TOWN

Great 3 bdrm., 2 bath family home. Main level has 2 bdrms., full bath. Downstairs is 3rd bdrm., full bath, utility room. Extended family room off kitchen. Brick fireplace in living room. FAU propane heat. Huge fenced, level yard w/seasonal creek. Room to play...town close! MLS#2711 **\$389,000**



#### SURROUNDED BY NATIONAL FOREST

In Pinewood, approx. 10 miles from the Village. Originally built in 1955 w/many upgrades. Excellent condition. One bedroom, 3/4 bath on the main floor. 2 bedrooms with 1/2 bath upstairs. Large deck wraps around the entire front of the cabin. MLS#2534 **\$445,000**



#### WARMED BY THE SUN W/GREAT VIEWS

One of a kind passive solar home on large, sunny lot. Sun rooms warm this 3 bdrm., 1.75 ba. classic home. Custom windows, doors and woodwork throughout. Bay dining area, family room. Totally fenced yard w/circular drive, carport and great views. MLS#2714 **\$458,000**



#### PRIVATE CREEK SIDE GETAWAY!

Step inside the entry gate into another world! Completely remodeled custom 2 bedroom, 1 & 2-3/4 bath home. Graced w/views of Tahquitz & Suicide Rocks. Open living area w/views of seasonal creek, perfect for entertaining. Plus a fully separate guest-house w/custom woodwork! MLS#2647 **\$538,000**



#### VINTAGE ESTATE

Classic Idyllwild home built in the late '40s with all the charm & grace of that era. Walk to town from this 3 bedroom, 2 & 1/2 bath home. Two-story great room w/huge stone fireplace. New carpet, tile & paint. Large fenced yard for kids or pets. Double-car garage & lots of trees. MLS#2648 **\$599,000**



#### TRI-LEVEL WITH VIEWS

New in 1989. Sunken living room steps up to dining area & kitchen. Master bdrm., bath & guest bdrm., 2nd bath & dry sauna on main level. Upstairs, huge family room (or 3rd. bdrm.), office & loft. Below, private entry w/area for office w/view. Laundry, garage...on approx. 1 acre. MLS#2665 **\$659,000**



#### BEAUTIFUL CONTEMPORARY

Owner-built contemporary, 3 bdrm., 1.75 ba home plus detached oversized 3-car garage. Game room w/sauna, laundry, open kitchen and step-down living room with cathedral pine ceiling. Incredible floor to ceiling windows. Loft/office with private deck. Master suite w/Jacuzzi tub. MLS#2651 **\$699,500**



#### ARTISTICALLY & ARCHITECTURALLY UNIQUE HOME

4 bdrms, 2 full & 2-3/4 baths. Fabulous view home w/large extra lot for privacy, gourmet kitchen, hot tub, A/C, wood-fired sauna, beautiful stained glass, 2 fireplaces & studio/office. Absolutely stunning home with many surprises! MLS#2562 **\$749,000**



#### FABULOUS VIEWS AND PRIVACY

Distinctive custom home and guest house/studio with 2-car garage. Over 4 acres backing up to National Forest. Two bedrooms plus loft and 1.75 baths in main house. Spacious deck wraps around to detached guest house/studio. A must see! MLS# 2712 **\$750,000**

### Residential Building Sites

**MLS#570 \$89,500** Perfect lot for a cabin on a very nice gentle sloping property w/Pine, Oak and Cedar trees. Walk to town! .21 acre

**MLS#636 \$120,000** Large lot backing up to Ernie trail. Corners are in. Perc test completed. Quiet location. Partial driveway already in. 1.68 acres

**MLS#575 \$125,000** Park-like setting on level Fern Valley lot. Close enough to walk to town. Water meter & septic. .37 acre

**MLS#592 \$150,000** A very secluded semi-sloping lot with great views! .50 acre

**MLS#529 \$189,000** Offering views to the ocean and creek side settings. Power and water at lower corners. 5.0 acres





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**ENCHANTED COTTAGE**  
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**MLS#2661 \$267,000**  
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**READY TO MOVE IN**  
At end of cul-de-sac on large .40 acre parcel with huge boulder outcroppings, this home is ideal for full-time living or retreat. 3 spacious bedrooms and 2 baths with open living/dining area and bright kitchen with lovely views of the outdoors and large deck for warm-weather dining. Master bedroom has its own wood burning stove for chilly nights. There is a workshop under the deck and expansion potential. **\$399,000**  
Call Maureen 951-852-3939.



**SUNSET VIEWS OF DIAMOND LAKE**  
From the lake to the peaks, this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home has a large open floor plan w/high wood ceilings & loads of glass. New French doors lead to deck w/ridgeline views. Home completely updated with new kitchen, wet bar, carpet, baths, tile, paint & roof. Original French doors in master bath & bedroom w/views of Diamond Lake. Expansion space below. Priced to sell at **\$419,000**. Private financing available. **MLS#2488**  
Call Maureen Jones (951) 659-4643



**GREAT INVESTMENT ... TWO ON ONE**  
Two bedrooms, 1-3/4 baths plus large studio with bath on over 2 acres. Both properties are rented full-time. Seasonal creek and views.  
**MLS#2650: \$319,000**  
Sale pending on adjacent lot **MLS#426**  
Call Maureen Jones 951-852-3939



**ON DOUBLEVIEW IN BANANA BELT**  
Great starter house on over 1/2 acre with great views of ridgeline. Two bedrooms plus open living space that includes kitchen, two sitting and dining areas. Floor-to-ceiling glass opens onto deck with stairway down to laundry area and potential expansion.  
**\$349,000**  
Call Maureen Jones (951) 852-3939



**.87 ACRE ON SEASONAL CREEK POTENTIAL HORSE LEGAL LOT**  
5 bdrm, 2 bath on 2 levels + enormous rock-faced family room w/new kitchen & bathroom and loads of storage on third level. Bright living room with wood floors, new kitchen, freshly painted inside and out, this wonderful home is ideal for full-time living or family retreat. The lower level has separate entrance and makes an ideal rental or in-law suite. House sits on beautiful Fern Valley parcel with large rock outdoor fireplace on creek side. This is a must see! **MLS#2688 \$699,000**  
Call Maureen Jones 951-852-3939



**FORMERLY MARIAN VIEW LODGE**  
In Fern Valley on .46 acre lot, this early Idyllwild home has 5 bdrms, 3 baths, large music room, spacious game room, loft office & sleeping area + guest house with bath. All wood interior w/loads of glass. French doors lead to a large entertaining deck with slab counters built in. Easy access with large garage at street level. Houses sit at end of circular driveway below garage. Great vacation rental for group retreats. **MLS#2701 \$749,000**  
Call Maureen Jones (951) 852-3939



**COZY CABIN**  
Cozy cabin nestled in the woods on over quarter-acre shaded parcel. Beautiful spacious deck to enjoy evening sunsets, and a screened-in patio to enjoy an outdoor meal. County zoned R3A for potential expansion and perhaps another unit. Buyer to satisfy desired use with county.  
**MLS# 2600 \$259,000**  
Call Mona Taggart (951) 306-7177



**SUNBELT AREA**  
This spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath home has a cozy kitchen and inviting living/dining room. There is a lovely front yard on this corner lot with fenced side and back yard with room for motor home. All cedar exterior, with decking on top and bottom levels. **MLS#2684 \$399,500**  
Call Gary Tompkins (951) 306-5677

## LAND

**2 ONE-ACRE PARCELS** — Gently sloping parcels with great views on Pines to Palms 18 miles from Palm Desert. **MLS#605.....\$21,000 each or \$39,000 for both.**  
Call Dennis (951) 659-4643

**ON A CLEAR DAY...**One acre parcel on Doubleview. Wonderful views. Recently perced and surveyed. **MLS#600 .....\$173,900**  
Call Dennis or Mona (951) 659-4643

**Pine Cove** — Gently sloping rectangular shaped lot, wooded with pine, cedar and oak trees. **MLS#597. \$59,900**  
Ask for Dennis Burns (951) 659-4643

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## PERSONALITY PROFILE

### Tricia Pilkington

**Occupation:** Graphic design, Web design.  
**Former occupation:** Professional vocalist, Palm Springs, '95.  
**What community groups are you involved in and how do you serve them?** My business hooks me up with so many businesses and individuals. I serve them by designing their "essence." I like working at the smARTS with the kids. All Makai's activities keep me voluntarily occupied.  
**Awards:** "Best Mom."  
**What accomplishments in your life are you most proud of?** Juggling, domestic, mystic and music-making.  
**Born:** Paterson, N.J., Sept. 9, 1969.  
**Where you grew up:** Northwestern New Jersey.  
**Your first job, where & when:** Drafting blueprints, Hackettstown, N.J. at 16.  
**Marital or partner status:** Good question. I'd have to say I'm married to my muse.  
**Children:** Makai: Libra, videogame king and wisdom warrior.  
**Pets:** Samson (Lab-shepherd-pitbull) 3 years old; Bruiser (Bengal tiger, already taken on a coyote) 2.5 years old; Fish-o-cosm.  
**How long have you lived in Idyllwild?** Since 1995.  
**Are you full-time or part-time?** Full.



Red Balloon."  
**Your favorite TV show:** "Samurai Jack."  
**Your favorite getaway:** Any getaway when I'm not thinking about work is grand. The beach.  
**A really great evening is:** Dancing, singing, loving, great food, great friends, being understood. Samson and the laserpointer.  
**Your dream car:** It isn't available yet — it utilizes the naturally occurring planetary energies for fuel and bioelectric impulses for navigation. Also, it would be nice if it were nestled in the body of a '67 Camaro with a white stripe.  
**Your fantasy is:** I don't tend to fantasize. I vision and then I move toward it.  
**The best advice you received:** "If you don't know how to love yourself, how can you love anyone else?"  
**The worst advice you received:** "When you start compromising your principles, Trish, you'll start making money."  
**In 10 years, you hope to be:** Sustainable. Embeddable. Presentable.  
**What you like best about the Hill:** It's nature, an island above the pollution and entropy.  
**What you dislike most about the Hill:** It's counter-nature, tendency toward isolationism.  
**Your pet peeve:** Keeping the vision small and separate.  
**You knew you were grown up when:** I gave birth to something dependent on me for life everyday for 18 years.  
**Your most irrational act:** Living by faith.  
**If you could change one thing about yourself:** Limitation.  
**A goal for this year:** Finish my own Web site — making all music downloadable. (Keep me on it Idyllwild.)  
**Anything else you want people to know about you:** Our civil-I-zation's wisdom tank is reflected in our choices to build bridges or walls ... and I think the Renaissance Faire will be tons of fun!  
*Victims wanted: To be featured in "Personality profile," pick up a form at the Town Crier office or e-mail a request to itc@towncrier.*

#### COZY CABIN on 1/2 ACRE



**Terrific 2 BR, 1 BA cabin! Separate studio/office plus single garage! Dual-paned windows and large FP with insert. MLS#2614 \$342,000**

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**ON 2.52 ACRES! 3 BR, 3 BA home with privacy and seclusion. At the top of the world! Spacious rooms, huge rock FP. MLS#2689 \$799,000**

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**Where did you move here from & why?** Palm Springs. I fell in love with the vibe. DIRT.  
**Hobbies and special interests:** Performance art, poetry, spoken word, theatrics, music, lamp-making, fountain-making, "Human Fusion Inspiring Technology™."  
**Your favorite food:** Miso soup, sushi and Thai.  
**Your favorite book:** My journal, "The Hidden Words," all literature, really.  
**Your favorite movie:** Indic films, "Spike & Mike," anime, foreign films, cultural commentary, "Slam," "Animatrix," "The

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**CUTE WEEKENDER**  
 One bedroom plus two sleeping lofts, galley kitchen and eating area with large picture windows. Living room has lots of light, newer carpet and wood burner with river rock surrounded. Nearly quarter acre lot and space to add more rooms. Good access. (2702)

**TWO LOTS**  
 Two corner lots totaling .438 acres. Bring your plans and check them out. (625) \$49,000.

**ON SEWER IN IDYLLWILD**  
 Fairly level lot that goes from street to street and ON SEWER. Easy to build on and AVAILABLE NOW. (632) \$99,000.

**THREE LOT PARCEL**  
 These three lots will have to be combined into one parcel to build a 4 bedroom 2.5 bath home. Several large, nice trees and Idyllwild location. (526) \$75,000.

**COMMERCIAL PROPERTY**  
 Prime Idyllwild location features two commercial properties on Highway 243, 2 houses, 5 sheds and on sewer. (99)



# Town Hall director Lewis resigns from ICRC

BY MARSHALL SMITH  
STAFF REPORTER

Town Hall Director Bob Lewis submitted his resignation as a member of the Idyllwild Community Recreation Council (ICRC) the weekend of Feb. 11. Lewis, an employee of the Idyllwild Chamber of Commerce, has also been a key member of ICRC. ICRC is a private, volunteer nonprofit dedicated to expanding recreation opportunities and venues

throughout the Hill. During Lewis' tenure with ICRC, the Idyllwild Skate Park was created and recreation venues were expanded to include Idyllwild School facilities, largely as a result of former Principal Diane Cardinali's influence within the school district. Cardinali is ICRC's chair.

Lewis said he was not forced to resign from ICRC by the Chamber but decided, "It was in my own best interests. I needed to do

it to survive." He also said there had been "no pressure from ICRC for me to take a stand."

Looking strained and tired when interviewed, Lewis did acknowledge that the Chamber asked him to return the Idyllwild Post Office recreation notice board key to Chris Singer of ICRC. ICRC owns the board.

Previously, Lewis had posted regular recreation notices for the town's benefit. He said he will continue to

give information to Singer to post.

Under Chamber President Ted Cummings' leadership, the Chamber board reversed a decision it made last summer to turn the town's recreation contract over to ICRC. Cummings, since his October installation, has been clear that he views a multiplicity of organizations serving similar or overlapping functions as nonproductive. He therefore continues to move toward

consolidation, with recreation as a key element of the Chamber's hegemony.

Lewis said he was "hoping for a large turnout at the CSA 36 meeting" on Feb. 23 at the Idyllwild Fire Station, so that the issue of who manages recreation "can be settled with input from townspeople, and that the community makes itself known."

Lewis, surveying the situation said, "It doesn't matter what board oversees me, I will serve the town."

**What:** County Service Area 36 Advisory Council meeting.

**When:** 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23.

**Where:** Idyllwild Fire Station.

**Why:** To gather input from the community on which organization — Chamber of Commerce or Idyllwild Community Recreation Council — should oversee the town's recreation program and be awarded the county contract.

# Cummings aims to end Idyllwild Skate Park

BY MARSHALL SMITH  
STAFF REPORTER

A new Idyllwild Chamber of Commerce Recreation Committee took its place Monday night with two key

players absent. Present were Nick Adamenko, Nancy Harrison and Chris Regalado, as well as Chamber President Ted Cummings. Absent were longtime member Chris Singer and Steve Kunkle,

Idyllwild Fire chief. Cummings quickly got down to business, issuing the committee its marching orders — numbers 1 to 14 — and announcing that it is his intention to skew Hill

recreation away from focusing "100 percent of the recreation budget on 19 percent of our population [youth]" and redirecting resources to seniors and adults not currently served. This was No. 2

on his list of recommended duties.

No. 1 was to "review current recreation programs for level of participation vs. cost." And announcing that he knew this would stir

controversy, he took unusual and public aim at the Idyllwild Skate Park — built by the Idyllwild Community Recreation Council (ICRC) with grants from then-Su-

[See Park, page 29](#)

## Chamber

Continued from page 1

Chamber in any way, we will receive the same support as they do — none," she said. "This has seriously impacted our fundraising ability and therefore with regret we step away."

Cunningham said she and Rider made the decision after talking with key donors who made it unequivocally clear that they would not donate as long as the Chamber is perceived to receive any benefit from IRTC's good

work. Chris Ortiz, Chamber second vice president, disputed Cunningham's claims as being sufficient reason for withdrawing and stated that the Chamber was having no trouble in raising either volunteers or contributions for the Renaissance Faire.

Previous to IRTC's decision, Rider had indicated that although Riverside County had approved dates and use of the County Park, IRTC's participation in the summer festival was not a done deal.

"There is still the issue

of contract negotiation with the Chamber," Rider said. "I need to know that my [issues] are covered." Now it appears that that step is unnecessary.

Cunningham wished to stress that "the public's perception [of the Chamber] does not match our personal experience in working with Ted Cummings, Roy Regalado and the Chamber board, all of whom have been very supportive."

When asked if Rider's dream of a sylvan summer Shakespeare scene could be

resurrected with another sponsor, for instance IDY, the original IRTC partner, Cunningham said, "Not at this time." Cunningham is determined to continue to promote summer Shakespeare, since, as both she and Rider have noted, it has been the key in many small towns to bringing tourists and good fortune, as part of the wave of "cultural tourism" that propels many seasoned travelers.

Cunningham has agreed with Cummings that IRTC will provide some entertain-

ment during the Renaissance Faire weeks but that at this point it is too early to tell what form that might take. "Perhaps something at the Rustic during the intervening week, but not a full-out production," Cunningham said.

Cummings verified that the Renaissance Faire will go on as planned and that

the Chamber plans to "hire IRTC" to do some entertainment, the extent of which is still to be determined. He also stated that the process of refiling the fictitious business name statement for "The Idyllwild Renaissance Faire" under the Chamber's name rather than under Roy Regalado's personal name has been started.



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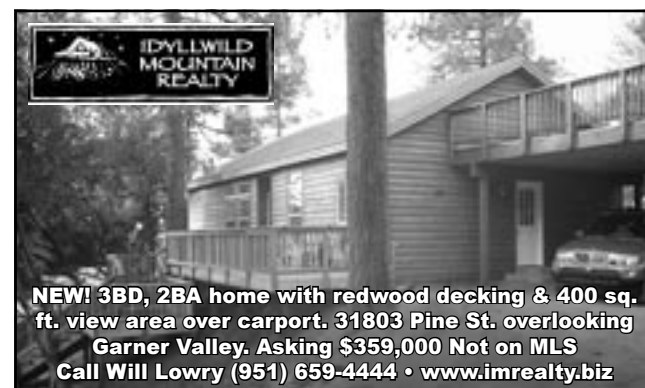
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# On the Town



*Local Dining, Arts & Entertainment*

## A NIGHT AT THE LONG BRANCH

**Dee Easterly**, Morning Sky School executive director, deals black jack at Saturday's "Night at the Long Branch." This was a fund-raising event for Morning Sky Residential Program and Day School. **Rita Ott** is the black jack player, while **Tracey Hull** watches.

PHOTO BY J.P. CRUMRINE



**Michael Drell** discusses his science olympiad project with teacher **Lenore Sazer-Krebbers**. Despite the start of school vacation last Friday, members of the olympiad team were at school Saturday morning preparing for the Riverside competition early next month. Michael's assignment is to construct a bridge with the greatest ratio of weight it will support to its own weight.

PHOTO BY J.P. CRUMRINE

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**951-659-2747** or visit **www.therustic.com**

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**Ann-Marie McDermott**, renowned pianist, performed with the Idyllwild Arts Academy Orchestra last weekend. She played Ravel's "Concerto in G Major." On Saturday, they were in Idyllwild and on Friday, they performed at San Diego's Spreckels Theater.

PHOTO BY J.P. CRUMRINE

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**Illa Reynolds** (right), a grief counselor and therapist, spoke at the Feb. 8 Rotary Club meeting about handling grief and supporting friends and family experiencing a loss. Shown thanking her for her presentation is Rotary President **Charlie Wix**.

PHOTO BY JOANNA HOFFMAN

**Sons of the American Legion Squadron 800**  
**All-You-Can-Eat**  
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## On the Town

# Arts & Entertainment Calendar

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

### Wednesday, Feb. 15

AWANA for ages 3 to fifth-graders, 5:45-8 p.m. Idyllwild Bible Church.

John King & Friends (rock & blues band), 6-9 p.m. Café Aroma.

"Tristan & Isolde," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Visiting Artist Jennifer Vanderpool exhibit, all day. Parks Exhibition Center, Idyllwild Arts. (Show runs through Feb. 17.)

Mail Art Show, all day. Bowman Lobby, Idyllwild Arts. (Show runs through Feb. 17.)

### Thursday, Feb. 16

"Tristan & Isolde," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

David Jerome (Brazilian guitar), 6-9 p.m. Café Aroma.

### Friday, Feb. 17

Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival, 10 a.m.-midnight. Indio.

Smooth Jazz With Barnaby Finch, Paul Carman, Bill Sada & Chuck Alvarez, 6-9 p.m. Café Aroma.

"Munich," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

Karaoke, evening. The Watering Hole, Silent Valley Club, Poppet Flat.

### Saturday, Feb. 18

Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival, 10 a.m.-midnight. Indio.

Writer's Block Featuring a New Book by A. Star, 1-2 p.m.; Captain Crunch & The Cereal Killers (rock and blues band), 8-9:59 p.m. Café Aroma.

"Munich," 2 & 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

"The Hand and the Eye: A Celebration of Photography," Steve Hudson, 7:30 p.m. Skye at Night.

Winter Festival With Manmade Snow, all day. Silent Valley Club, Poppet Flat.

### Sunday, Feb. 12

Ernie Alé, 9 a.m.-noon.; Skeleton Crew Blues Band, 6-9 p.m. Café Aroma.

Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Indio.

"Munich," 2 & 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

### Monday, Feb. 20

Sandii Castleberry (guitar/vocals/harmonica) & Kevin Hamby (vocals/bass), 6-9 p.m. Café Aroma.

Music in the Meadow, 7:30 p.m. Stephens Recital Hall, Idyllwild Arts.

"Munich," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

### Tuesday, Feb. 21

Aroma Bongo Therapy, Paul Carman (sax), Barnaby Finch (keys) & Marshall Hawkins (bass), 6:30-9:30 p.m. Café Aroma.

"Munich," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

### Wednesday, Feb. 22

Skeleton Crew Blues Band, 6-9 p.m. Café Aroma.

"Munich," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre. Theatre Labwork, Scenes from "Southern Girls" and "Sam I Am," 7:30 p.m. IAF Theatre, Idyllwild Arts.

### Thursday, Feb. 23

Brian Martin (guitar/vocals), 6-9 p.m. Café Aroma.

"Munich," 7 p.m. Rustic Theatre.

at re.

### Friday, Feb. 24

Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival, 10 a.m.-midnight. Indio.

Visual Art Junior Group Show Opening Reception, 7 p.m. Parks Exhibition Center, Idyllwild Arts. (Show runs through March 10.)

Creative Writing Reading Series, J. Robert Lennon, 7:30 p.m. Parks Exhibition Center, Idyllwild Arts.

Karaoke, evening. The Watering Hole, Silent Valley Club, Poppet Flat.

### Saturday, Feb. 25

Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival, 10 a.m.-midnight. Indio.

Flamodical Romantica (flamenco guitar), 1-4 p.m. Café Aroma.

Associates of Idyllwild Arts Happy Hour, 4-6 p.m. Silver Pines Lodge.

"The Vagina Monologues," 7:30 p.m. Skye at Night.

### Sunday, Feb. 26

Ernie Alé, 9 a.m.-noon, 6-9 p.m.;

Eric Metzler Artist Reception, 3-6 p.m. Café Aroma.

Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Indio.

## Wildflower workshop March 13

Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Interpretive Specialist Tracy Albrecht will lead a free wildflower workshop at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 13 at the Palm Desert Public Library, 73-300 Fred Waring Drive.

Albrecht will discuss the best places to go for wildflowers, wildflower anatomy and pollination, the top 10 most common wildflowers in the region, and some of the basic equipment and available field guides for hunting wildflowers.

Children under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, call (760) 862-9984.

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### Saturday February 18

Winter Festival with Man Made Snow

behind the restaurant. Games and Lots of Fun

### Sunday February 19

Weenie Roast in the Village Center

Lounge Opens at

9 a.m. for the Start of the Daytona 500

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Parking	\$5

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**SPECIAL EVENTS**

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**MUSICAL PAGEANT**  
Feb 17-26 at 6:15 pm

**INKA KINGS**  
Feb 17-26 from 4:00 - 9:00 pm

**ASA DEMO TEAM BMX, INLINE & SKATEBOARDING**  
Feb 17-26

**Saturday, Feb 18**

**MONSTER TRUCKS & TUFF TRUCK RACING**  
at 1:00 pm & 5:00 pm

**UDS LOBBOS** at 8:00 pm

**Sunday, February 19**

**BLESSING OF THE DATES**  
at 3:30 pm

**FIESTA DEL CHARRO**  
at 5:00 pm

**ROGELIO MARTINEZ**  
at 8:00 pm

**Monday, February 20**

**PRESIDENTS' DAY GRAND PARADE**  
at 10:00 am

**BULL-O-RAMA** at 5:00 pm

**CARROT TOP** at 8:00 pm

**Tuesday, February 21  
thru Thursday, February 23**  
(Mid-Week Entertainment)

**BAT PACK REVIEW**  
at 3:00 pm

**Saturday, February 25**

**LIVESTOCK AUCTION**  
at 10:00 am

**EXTREME BIG AIR MOTORCYCLES**  
at 3:00 pm & 5:00 pm

**STYX** at 8:00 pm

**Sunday, February 26**

**DEMOLITION DERBY**  
at 5:00 pm

**SUPERFIESTA JUAN VALENTIN**  
at 3:00 pm

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## HUSD bond

Continued from page 1

million.

"We had nearly a 3-to-1 ratio of funding," Sanborn stressed.

The new proposal is being presented pursuant to Proposition 39. This authorizes approval of a general obligation bond by 55 percent of voters.

Based on the district's success with the 2002 Measure E funds, Pendley and the HUSD trustees are hoping the bond will be approved and will be half or a third of the total building funds the district might ultimately garner.

Other funding sources are state matching funds for school construction, especially new schools, and community facility developer (CFD) funds. The latter are collected from developers of new housing within the school district.

In the CFD zones, HUSD collects about \$12,000 for each new house. These funds go toward constructing new schools serving the development area, according to Sanborn.

Establishing CFD zones permits HUSD to place the burden of new school construction on the developers building the houses rather than the existing district population.

"This is a three-legged stool," Beck explained. "Local

bond funds, state funds and developer fees finance our growing capital base."

Based on enrollment growth projections, HUSD needs 14 new elementary schools, seven new middle schools and two new high schools in addition to completing the district's third high school, Tahquitz, expected to open fall 2007.

The bond funds will also satisfy several HUSD objectives. New schools will be built and many existing schools will be renovated, according to Sanborn.

Nearly half (\$70 million) of the bond funds will finance renovating existing HUSD schools. This includes \$1.8 million for Idyllwild School. (See sidebar for details of the Idyllwild School construction.)

An additional \$15.5 million is for a major expansion of Hemet High School. The total estimate for Hemet High School improvements is \$33 million. The additional \$17.5 million will come from a combination of state funds and CFD funds.

The single major improvement at Hemet High School will be a new theater and complementary facilities. Other changes include a new pool complex and tennis court lights. Enrollment growth is an important driver of the improvements needed at Hemet High School. Expanding student enrollment necessitates more science classrooms, new classroom

additions, new physical education space and a new two-story classroom building.

The bonds will also finance completing the new high school (Tahquitz), half the costs for the new middle school at Rancho Viejo (open fall 2007, too), two new elementary schools and \$7 million for portable classroom replacements. The latter are ubiquitous throughout the district.

The district has been planning the bond vote for several months. In October, trustees authorized a voter survey that indicated the district could expect a very favorable result. The October voter survey has the board and administration optimistic about the outcome of the June election.

The trustees unanimously supported the resolution asking the county registrar of voters to place the \$149 million question on the June ballot.

Under most conditions, 60 to 70 percent of the sampled voters would support a new bond offering. Nevertheless, Pendley recognizes that opposition will develop.

"Actually, some people of all age groups don't want property taxes to increase, regardless of the purpose," he said. "But we've had some focus group sessions and realize we can gain support of the public as we demonstrate there will be oversight of the program. We also saw the need to provide the evidence to the community of

# How the \$149 million HUSD bond will be used

By J.P. CRUMRINE  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

### Idyllwild School

Health, safety and accessibility improvements	
Lighting	\$105,500
Campuswide ADA compliance	201,505

Building improvements and repairs	
Gymnasium bleachers	\$40,000
Carpet replacement	63,300
Window replacement	87,038
Office area modifications	181,988
Casework requirements	181,988
Tackable surfaces	48,530
Marker or chalk boards	36,398
Roof replacement	121,325
Technology enhancements	63,300
Campuswide interior paint	55,700
Gymnasium air conditioning	36,925
Theatrical lighting and controls	105,500
Entrance enhancements	105,500
Subtotal	\$1,434,589
Others (such as contingencies)	393,651

**Idyllwild School total** \$1,828,240

	\$ in millions
Total, HUSD modernizations costs	70
Portable classroom replacement	7
Tahquitz HS, completion	15
Rancho Viejo Middle School	17.5
Elem. school (Valle Vista)	12
Elem. school (Page Ranch)	12
Hemet High School expansion	15.5
<b>Total bond request</b>	<b>\$149</b>

the needs; then the benefit to the community is more apparent."

"The community expects

good facilities for its kids," Pendley said. "They also expect good programs. With that combination, they will

support us with their tax dollars. They then have the right to expect good facilities and programs."

### Evacuation brochures at Town Crier

The Riverside County Sheriff's Department is again providing brochures on evacuation in case of a wildfire.

Brochures are available for free at the Idyllwild Town Crier office, 54295 Village Center Drive or at [www.towncrier.com](http://www.towncrier.com).

## OPEN HOUSE

Sun., Feb. 19 • 12pm-3pm



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### Parents' Learning-Process Group

Beginning Feb. 27, the Caine Learning Institute will host a Parents' Learning-Process Group from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. the fourth Monday of the month at 54385 Pine Crest Ave.

Carol McClintic, of the institute, will lead the group in exploring ways in which individuals learn in their own lives and how it can help with new tools to facilitate their children's education. The group is for parents of home-schooled and public-schooled children.

The cost is \$37 for materials. For more information, contact Andrea Bond at 659-6088 or [andrealynn@verizon.net](mailto:andrealynn@verizon.net).

### Wildflower celebration & open house

The Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument will celebrate the seasonal wildflowers with an open house event from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18 at the Visitor Center.

Throughout the day, workshops will be offered on illustrating nature, wildflower identification, desert landscaping and wildflowers. Author Ann Farley Olander will be present to sign copies of her book, "Call of the Mountains," and plein air artists will demonstrate their work.

The event will also include information on native plant and horticultural societies, guided trail walks, the unveiling of the 2006 National Monument poster and appearances by Smokey Bear. Free refreshments and special gifts will be provided to attendees.

For more information, call the Visitor Center at (760) 862-9984. The center is located at 51-500 Highway 74 in Palm Desert.

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Local Unification  
Gadfly Merchandise:  
[www.cafepress.com/HillLugNuts](http://www.cafepress.com/HillLugNuts)



## Weekly vigil at Tree Monument

Every Saturday, beginning at 9:30 a.m., a 12-minute Peace and Healing Vigil for the mountain community is being held at the Idyllwild Tree Monument. The vigil includes inspirational peace songs and meditation to contemplate peace and harmony for residents, merchants and visitors and affirm friendship and prosperity in the community.

E-mail [info@idyllwildgreen.com](mailto:info@idyllwildgreen.com) with questions or for more information.

# Church Directory of Idyllwild

## Chapel in the Pines Christian Fellowship

Interdenominational, Pastor Wally Boer.

Sunday Worship Service & Sunday School, 9:30am plus Weekly Studies. Call for info, 659-0097, 659-2038. On Hwy 243 at Idyllwild Pines Camp, directly across from Idyllwild School.

## Christian Science Church

25970 Cedar St. at River Drive, 659-2511. Sunday school, 10 a.m.; Service 10 a.m.; Wednesday meeting, 7 p.m. Christian Science Reading Room, in church building, open to the public, Wednesday through Saturday, noon - 3 p.m.

## Church of Scientology

members meet at

54240 Strawberry Valley Dr., Idyllwild, Saturday at 10am. 659-2972

## Community Presbyterian Church

54400 N. Circle Dr. 659-2935 • Rev. Richard Olson  
Pastor Olson's Adult Sunday School Class 8:15 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship - 9:30 a.m.  
Celebration: 5th grade & under during worship ~  
Child care available • Wednesday: Men's Breakfast - 6 a.m.

## Idyllwild Bible Church

25860 Highway 243, Pastor Tim Westcott.  
A Family Friendly Bible Based Fellowship.  
Sunday Worship & Nursery Care, 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship, Nursery Care & Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.  
Mid-week Bible Studies & Youth Groups.  
Call Church Office for Information. 659-4775

## Idyllwild Church of Religious Science

54423 Village Center Dr., Ste. 5 on lower floor. 659-3464.  
Dr. Betty Jandl. Classes available - contact Church;  
Sunday service, 10:00 a.m. Sunday school, 10:00 a.m.;  
master mind group, 10:00 a.m. Monday.

## Queen of Angels Roman Catholic Church

54525 N. Circle Dr., P.O. Box 1106, Idyllwild, CA  
Fr. Charles Devine, Pastor & Chuck Stroud, Pastoral Assoc.  
Mass Schedule: Tues.-Fri. 8:30 a.m.; Sat. 5 p.m.; Sun. 8 a.m. +  
10 a.m.; Confession: Sat. 4 p.m. or by appt.; Parish Office Hours:  
Tues.-Fri., 9 a.m. - noon, or by appt. 659-2708

## Shiloh Christian Ministries

~ FULL GOSPEL ~

54968 Upper Pine Crest  
Pastor Kristeen Bandelin 659-2416  
Sunday Worship 10 am - Wed. Bible Study 7 pm  
International Healing Rooms of Idyllwild  
Tues., 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. 659-5255

## St. Hugh's

Episcopal Church  
An Anglican House of Prayer for all people  
Father Jerry Reynolds

Sunday Service and Sunday School, 10:00 am

25525 Tahquitz Dr. (in Fern Valley off South Circle Dr.)  
Phone (951) 659-4471 or e-mail: [kahuhipa@verizon.net](mailto:kahuhipa@verizon.net)

## Yokoji Zen Mountain Center

58900 Apple Canyon Rd., Mtn. Center, CA 92561  
Zen Buddhist Retreat Center & Monastery  
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SUNDAY PROGRAM 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Including silent meditation, Buddhist service, lecture and lunch.  
Meditation instruction available.  
Call 659-5272 or 3275 for information  
[www.zmc.org](http://www.zmc.org)

## Park

Continued from page 25

pervisor Jim Venable and money ICRC raised — as one for which he wanted careful review.

Citing the park as expensive to run and underused, he identified it as the kind of “pork” that the Chamber recreation program might well be rid of.

Cummings’ assessment contradicts Town Hall Director Bob Lewis’ recent report that the Skate Park had close to 4,500 users last year, and according to Lewis, “No other recreation program even comes close to that volume of use.” Lewis also asserted, when interviewed, that the Skate Park is “operating well within the budget.” He personally thinks the Skate Park is “well worth every penny spent on it,” and

that he sees “absolutely no cause for concern” from an operational standpoint.

Looking at Cummings’ list of top priorities, it is clear that he intends to move recreation in a new direction. No. 3 on his list is: “Based on the results of 1 [participation vs. cost review] and 2 [propose new programs for adults/seniors on a trial basis], prepare next fiscal year budget for Chamber board approval.”

The committee is also charged with “finding additional venues in town that could be used for added programs, assisting in the design of Town Hall Web site, assisting in the design and implementation of the Town Hall refurbishment, assisting in establishing the requirements for the new recreation site, reviewing plans for Town Hall usage by other organizations to assure

## Seedlings available from CDF

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) has available a new crop of conifer tree seedlings for mail-order purchase. The seedlings are available in a variety of sizes, from 1-year-old plug stock to 4-year-old bare root trees.


The seedling crop offers landowners the opportunity to begin reforestation on landscapes damaged by recent wild-fire and bark beetle devastations. CDF seedlings are grown from selected native parent trees chosen from different geographic seed zones throughout California, making the seedlings adaptable to future planting sites.

To find the type of seedling best suited to particular areas, visit the CDF tree selection site (<http://selectree.calpoly.edu>). For more information on available trees and to place orders, visit the Magalia Reforestation Nursery Web site ([www.fire.ca.gov/php/rsrc-mgt\\_statenurseries.php](http://www.fire.ca.gov/php/rsrc-mgt_statenurseries.php)) or call (530) 872-6301.


adequacy of plans for noise and crowd control, security, alcohol control (if properly licensed), and suitability to Town Hall purposes, and establishing Town Hall rental rates.”

Voting in absentia, Singer

also wanted to “congratulate Bob for doing a great job and note, that so far this year, he has managed Town Hall to be under budget by \$27,541, all of which will remain in our reserve account.”



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# Deciding whether to lease or buy business vehicles

*Editor's note: "Tax tips" appears weekly throughout tax season. The column is written alternately by two tax professionals on the Hill. This week the column is authored by Craig Coopersmith, E.A.*

As I sit down to write my "Tax tips," I am taking a few moments to watch the Winter Olympics; the snow conditions are excellent. I'm basking in the sunlight through the living room window. Does anyone remember when we used to have snow this time of year?

Almost everyone enjoys giving and receiving gifts. The annual gift exclusion was increased to \$12,000

in 2006; the exclusion was \$11,000 in 2005.

Qualified gifts of present interest in these amounts or less are completely removed from the donor's taxable estate and not included in the total amount of the donor's taxable gifts during the tax year.

Consequently, these amounts are not taxed and they do not use up any of the donor's lifetime gift tax applicable credit amount.

As an aside, if a spouse consents to split their gifts, they may transfer \$24,000 in 2006 and \$22,000 in 2005 without being subject to the gift or generation skipping transfer tax.

Changing lanes: For as long as I have been doing

taxes, one of the more common questions asked of me is regarding automobiles: Should I lease or buy?

For an employee who cannot deduct interest payments on business use of the vehicle, the lease consideration has generally been the better choice. The lease payment contains an "interest factor" not identified as interest, so the entire lease payment is deductible

## TAX TIPS

BY CRAIG COOPERSMITH, EA



at the business percentage of use.

An employee could make the interest on an auto purchase deductible by using an equity loan or line of credit secured by the principle residence.

The key is, if you purchase the vehicle, you will own it. While a lease is temporary and unless the car is returned, it requires a buy-out with financing or

any subsequent year.

On the purchase of a new or newer vehicle, the depreciation and actual expenses can work out for the largest deduction in the first year. In the second and subsequent years, the lease will often result in the larger tax deduction.

Be aware that when you use the actual method to calculate your vehicle deduction for either a purchase or a lease in the first year of use, you may not switch to the standard mileage rate in

The standard mileage rate continues to give the best tax deduction for less expensive, older vehicles and/or those with high business mileage, and requires less substantiation.

None of the methods completely compensates for the vehicle operating costs. So when it all comes down to it, get the best financial deal you can to lease or purchase your vehicle based on your consumption desires and let the tax considerations take a back seat.

## Volunteers needed at VA hospital

Volunteers are needed at the Jerry L. Pettis Memorial VA Medical Center in Loma Linda, its various community clinics throughout the region, and at the Riverside National Cemetery.

Opportunities with the medical center include escorting patients to clinic appointments, driving VA vehicles to transport patients from their home to receive care, assisting with office work, visiting with veterans and gift distributions. Volunteers at the National Cemetery typically help escort families to funeral services, assist with parking, help visitors locate gravesites, answer visitors' questions, or work with grounds crews to help beautify the cemetery.

Staff at the medical center and cemetery will help volunteers find a position and schedule that works best for them.

To volunteer or for more information, call Gary Smith, voluntary services officer, at (909) 583-6011. For more information on volunteer positions at Riverside National Cemetery, call Michael Freitas at (951) 233-4411.

## Free toddler playgroup

The Mountaintop Playgroup, a free weekly playgroup for toddlers ages 1 to 5, meets from 10 a.m. to noon every Friday at different members' homes.

To join or for more information, contact Luann Carman at 659-9515 or Deborah Brennan at 659-0707.

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**In Next Week's American Profile...**

*Big voice, small town values*

Although Martina McBride is a country music superstar with more than 15 million records sold, she still adheres to the basic down-home wisdom and values she learned from her parents.

**In Addition...**

- Sharing the hometown news
- Cheesy lima bean casserole

American Profile is inserted weekly in the Idyllwild Town Crier's subscriber copies. To subscribe to the Town Crier, call toll-free 1-888-535-6663 or local, 659-2145

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## Clearance

Continued from page 1

"I haven't read the new text, but it's a great idea to go to 100 feet," said John Hawkins, CDF deputy chief of the Riverside County Unit. "This is all about public safety and reducing risk to firefighters and the community."

"Effective this fire season, absolutely," Jarvis confirmed. "The board wanted to make sure they were practical and could work in the field. These will be crucial for a lot of areas in the state. Many other areas already encourage the 100-foot defensible space zone."

One of those areas is the Hill, according to Steve Kunkle, Idyllwild Fire Department chief. "It will have minimal significance since we're already enforcing it," he said. His department inspects only Idyllwild properties. However, CDF Pre-fire Management Chief Kevin Turner, whose department inspects Pine Cove properties, would not comment until he has had an opportunity to read the final version of the regulations.

CDF will probably initiate a statewide campaign to educate forest residents about the new defensible space requirements, according to Jarvis. The campaign kick-off will probably begin

during the Wildfire Awareness Week in early May.

Hawkins also emphasized the need for a collaborative and cooperative approach among agencies enforcing the new regulations. He stressed that flame lengths can reach 100 feet at times. Therefore, fire abatement is not simply an individual deciding what risk they will accept for themselves, but what risk they are imposing on firefighters and the community.

The BOF held several public hearings around the state and deliberated at several meetings trying to ensure a fair and effective proposal, according to Gentry.

By J.P. CRUMRINE  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The California Board of Forestry (BOF) addressed, or rather chose not to become involved with, another item of local interest — the merits of shifting CDF air resources from Hemet-Ryan Airport to March Air Reserve Base in Riverside.

In December, former California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) Director Dale Geldert requested that the BOF review CDF's July and

October studies of the issue. This would have been the third study in a year.

The analysis was expected to be available for last week's BOF meeting, but the subject was not on the agenda.

"The board has consulted with the acting CDF director [Ruben Grijalva] and we have deferred to him," said George Gentry, BOF executive officer. So the decision rests with CDF and further reviews or studies are not being prepared, confirmed Michael Jarvis, CDF deputy

director for communications.

Grijalva has already visited Riverside County and met with several members of the Board of Supervisors and the county executive officer. Verne Lauritzen, chief of staff for Riverside County 3rd District Supervisor Jeff Stone, thought the meetings went very well.

"[Grijalva] is a very decisive person," Jarvis said. "He likes to resolve the issue and move on. He'll evaluate the options and make a decision."

## New household trash regulations

As of Feb. 9, universal waste — common household items that are deemed hazardous to people and the environment — must be separated from regular trash and collected for safe disposal, according to the California Integrated Waste Management Board.

Universal waste items include: common batteries such as AA, AAA, C and D; button batteries; fluorescent light bulbs and lamps that contain mercury; thermostats, thermometers and some novelty items, such as greeting cards that play music and shoes with lighted soles; electronics such as computer monitors, TVs, cell phones, pagers, printers, computer bodies, VCRs, telephones, radios and microwaves; large appliances, including stoves, ovens, water heaters, space heaters, clothes dryers, furnaces; and aerosol cans.

More information on universal waste is available at [www.zerowaste.ca.gov](http://www.zerowaste.ca.gov).

Subscribe today!

## Roth for Congress campaign launch

David Roth will hold a press conference to launch his campaign for the 45th Congressional District at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 22 at the Idyllwild Tree Monument in the center of town. Roth will be available for questions after the campaign launch, and the conference will conclude with a celebration.

## CSA 36 advisory meeting at IFPD

The County Service Area 36 Advisory Council meeting, scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23, has been moved from the Idyllwild Water District board room to the Idyllwild Fire Station due to an expected large turn-out for an open forum discussion of the Hill recreation contract.

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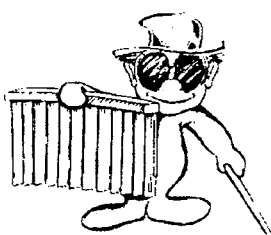
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## THOMAS MOUNTAIN FUELS REDUCTION PROJECT

FIELD TRIP



**When:** March 25, 2006

**Meet at:** Lake Hemet Market on Hwy 74

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**What to bring:** Outdoor clothing and footwear, lunch, water, binoculars. We will be outdoors and there are no toilet or picnic facilities along the route except at the Toolbox Springs Campground. The terrain will require a four-wheel drive vehicle and we will also be ride sharing. We will tour different locations with the Forest Service team members.

**Purpose of Field Trip:** The San Jacinto Ranger District is proposing the Thomas Mountain Fuels Reduction Project near the community of Thomas Mountain.

The San Jacinto Ranger District, in coordination with the Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council and other resource agencies, has proposed an array of projects to protect the mountain communities of this area. The Thomas Mountain Fuels Reduction Project has been designed to coordinate with these proposals and with actions occurring on private lands within the community.

The project is designed to reduce fuel hazard and modify fire behavior to protect or maintain public and firefighter health and safety; enhance or maintain fire suppression access and opportunities; reduce fire hazard in landscapes surrounding forest communities of concern, including Jeffrey pine, Coulter pine, bigcone Douglas fir, Parry pinyon pine, and spotted owl habitat; re-establish recreational opportunities previously closed due to fire danger; protect Parry pinyon pine stands with native Americans consistent with traditional uses; and manage the transportation system, including decommissioning of some unneeded spur roads. The location and type of activities have been designed with consideration for known threatened, endangered or sensitive species, cultural resources, recreation sites, access and cost.

Please RSVP by February 23rd to Jim Russell, 909-379-9337, or by e-mail to [jamesrussell@fs.fed.us](mailto:jamesrussell@fs.fed.us) In your response, please let us know how many passengers you can accommodate in your 4-wheel drive vehicle.





## Classifieds

Continued from previous page

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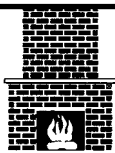
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## Classifieds

Continued from previous page

### For Sale

**Original C. Selden** Belden Pinecraft furniture for sale! Only 3 items left from our fabulous collection. Prices reduced to sell immediately. Full-size bed frame with reading light attachment, large sofa sleeper and matching side arm chair. All items signed with C. Selden Belden authentic stamp. For additional information, please call (310) 204-2884.

**Half cord pine**, \$60. Half cord alder, \$75. Bunkbeds, \$100. Computer table, \$50. 2 small (caramel color) night stands, \$60. Elect. washer/dryer, \$100. 951-294-4408.

### Automotive

'86 **Corvette convertible**, restored, needs paint & interior. \$11,500 OBO. 659-5404.

**2004 Jeep Cherokee** Laredo. 4x4, 6 cyl. Mint condition, new tires. Shows like new. 925-1620.

**2003 Ford E150** cargo van, 43,477 milage, PS, AC, CD/MP3 palyer, 4.6L, V8, EFI, SOHC. \$14,900 OBO. 951-306-4494.

**1994 Toyota 4x4** pickup. 4 cyl., good cond., 5 spd, P/S, air, C/D, new 31" tires, new clutch & shocks, good cond., 160K miles. \$4,900. 659-7054, cell 562-673-0512.

### Mobile Homes

**MOUNTAIN HIDEAWAY.** 14x52 Fleetwood. 2 bdrm., 1 dual access ba., lg. open kitchen. Full 55 lb. snow-load roof, T-111 siding, washer, dryer, range, fridge, under cabinet microwave, built-in A/C, F/A LP heat, well insulated, set-back thermostat, wired for back-up generator, lots of storage. 12x8 T-111 matching shed w/pwr. & lighting. Lg. patio, fenced yard, plenty of parking. Small family park in Pine Cove. **\$41,500/Asking price will increase in spring!** 951-659-4808/Judy or Chuck.

**Affordable living downtown** Idyllwild Trailer Pk., 55+. Come see whats for sale. Buy coach, rent space. A few 1 bdrms. to choose from. Call Debi, (951) 659-3180.

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**Under new ownership,** spacious, pvt. & quiet. 2 bdrm., 1 ba. apt. Walk to town. \$775/mo. + sec. Responsible tenants. No pets. 951-659-5424 or 951-236-2667. Come see to appreciate.

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### For Rent-Lease

**Idyllwild Property Mgmt.** Nice 1 bdrm. cabin on Middle Ridge, avail. March 1. \$650/mo.

**Beautiful 3 bdrm.** home with loft, laundry, central heat & FP, completely furn., located on Foster Lake Rd. Avail. March. \$1,375/mo.

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**Large 3 bdrm.** home on Tollgate w/breakfast nook, dining room, 2 ba., + central heat, laundry & FP. Avail. now. \$1,250/mo. (951) 922-3714 (951) 659-4200

**Newly renovated 3 bdrm.,** 2 ba. + lg. bonus rm. Easy access in Fern Valley. Non-smoking/pets negotiable. \$1,400. Must see. Dep/ref req. 659-9098.

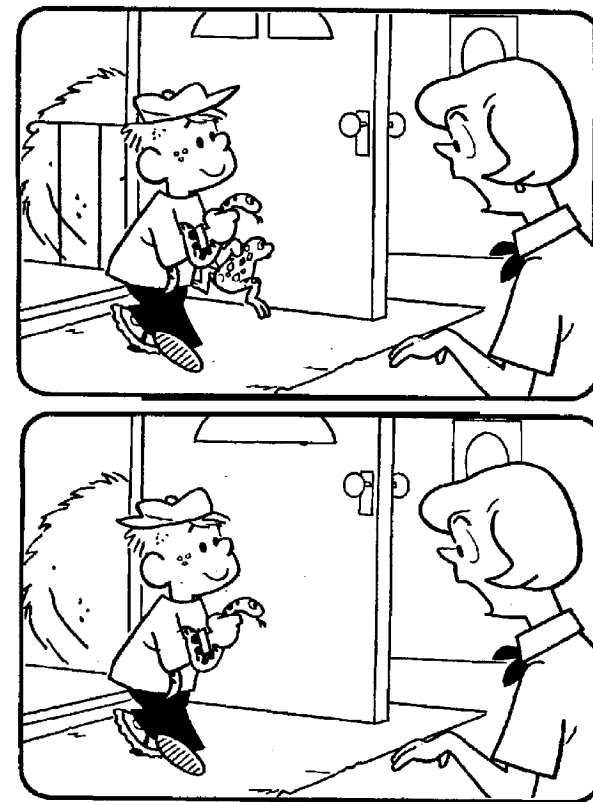
**Large 1,100 sq. ft.** 2 bdrm Pine Cove rental. New dbl. pane windows. New bathrm. & carpet. Recessed lights, crown moldings. Large kitchen, ready for move in. \$995, utilities included. Call Bobby 951-659-4955.

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Continued on next page

## IT'S DIFFERENT



**FIND AT LEAST 6 DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PANELS.**  
Differences: 1. Window is different. 2. Frog is missing. 3. Door knob is higher. 4. Hailing is missing. 5. Cap is reversed. 6. Earring is missing.

## HOROSCOPE

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Time is on your side in the early part of the week. But anything left undone by midweek will need to be put into rush mode. The weekend offers choices for you and someone special.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Finally getting credit for a contribution is nice for all you idea-generating Ferdinands and Fernandas. But don't sit on your laurels under the cork tree. Use it as a first step to a bigger opportunity.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Despite the progress made, a hint of doubt might set in. That's OK. You need to stop and consider not only what you're doing but also how you are doing. Make adjustments where needed.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) The dreamer is dominant in the Moon Child's aspect, but a dollop of hardheaded practicality is coming up fast and jockeying for space. The challenge is to make room for both modes.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) It's a good week for Leos and Leonas to start assessing what they've done and what they plan to do. Moving to a new environment — home or job-related — is a possibility for some Cats.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) The week calls for Virgos to make tough decisions, but in a way that leaves the door open for changes. Ask for advice from someone who has been in the position you're in now.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) Disappointments are

never easy to take, but you have the ability to learn from them and go on to success. Meanwhile, continue to build up your contacts. You'll need them soon.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Things might still be going much too slowly to suit you. But you need the time to make sure they're going in the right direction. It's easier to make a course correction now rather than later.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Showing some temperament at the way things are going is one way of getting your point across. Just don't overdo it, or you risk turning away more-moderate supporters.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Things could change more quickly this week than you like. But don't fret; you'll most likely find that you're up to the challenges. The weekend offers much-needed relaxation.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Big challenge coming up? Uncross those fingers and believe that you're going to do well. And keep in mind that so many people have faith in your ability to succeed.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Testing the waters is a good way of learning about an opportunity before plunging right in. Ask more questions and be alert to any attempts to avoid giving complete answers.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** You have a gift for making people — and animals, too — feel special and loved.

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

- 1 col. x 2" = \$11.30 per week
- 1 col. x 2-1/2" = \$14.12 per week
- 2 col. x 2" = \$22.60 per week
- 2 col. x 2-1/2" = \$28.25 per week
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- 2 col. x 3-1/2" = \$39.55 per week

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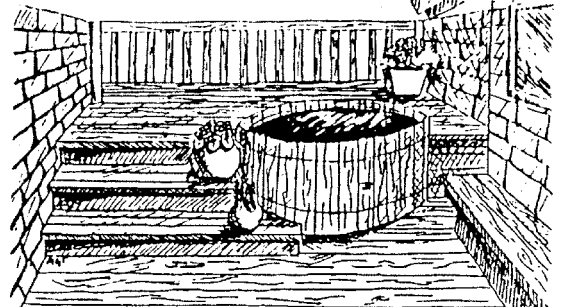
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M	E	S	A	G	E	M	Q	U	A	D
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**Answers to Crossword**

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## CROSSWORD

ANSWERS ON PREVIOUS PAGE

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13				14			
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- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <p><b>ACROSS</b></p> <p>1 Arizona city</p> <p>5 Emerald, e.g.</p> <p>8 Campus area</p> <p>12 Ersatz stain remover</p> <p>14 Pakistani tongue</p> <p>15 Labyrinth beast</p> <p>16 On in years</p> <p>17 Have a bug</p> <p>18 "Monopoly" pieces</p> <p>20 Beetle drummer</p> <p>23 Use a sponge</p> <p>24 Hang in the balance</p> <p>25 Goddess of wisdom</p> <p>28 Still</p> <p>29 Expert</p> | <p>30 "— say!"</p> <p>32 Mosque tower</p> <p>34 Fence entrance</p> <p>35 B.P.O.E.</p> <p>36 Lover of Daphnis</p> <p>37 Three-card monte</p> <p>41 Scoundrels</p> <p>42 Troubadour</p> <p>47 Hydrox rival</p> <p>48 Like some parents</p> <p>49 Reduce a dependence</p> <p>50 Apprehend</p> <p>51 Portent</p> | <p><b>DOWN</b></p> <p>1 Roman 1900</p> <p>2 Yale student</p> <p>3 Baltimore newspaper</p> <p>4 Entrained</p> <p>5 Objective</p> <p>6 School's URL suffix</p> <p>7 Strict disciplinarian</p> <p>8 Friend</p> <p>9 Incite</p> <p>10 Mideast gulf</p> <p>11 Clothing</p> <p>13 Commotion</p> <p>19 Admitting clients</p> <p>20 James Bond, for one</p> <p>21 Abound</p> <p>22 Con</p> <p>23 Henry VIII had six</p> | <p>25 Sharpshooter</p> <p>26 Test tube</p> <p>27 Saxophone range</p> <p>29 Shoppers' mecca</p> <p>31 Shelter</p> <p>33 Ozzie or barge</p> <p>34 Isolated area of a city</p> <p>36 Point</p> <p>37 Garbage barge</p> <p>38 Tortoise's opponent</p> <p>39 Notion</p> <p>40 Nose-in-the-air sort</p> <p>43 Mrs. McKinley</p> <p>44 Edge</p> <p>45 Prior night</p> <p>46 Author Deighton</p> |
|--|--|---|--|

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# CREATURE CORNER

By Jane Stonehill



Molly is a 3-year-old Rottweiler-German shepherd-mix accustomed to being a family dog who likes children and other dogs. Cats are not her favorite. Zoë, a boxer-mix, also likes children. She is spayed, has all shots, is housebroken and uses a doggie door. But she does not get along well with other dogs. Both of these dogs need a place with a yard to run in and where they can be part of a family. Call ARF, (951) 659-1122.

Brady, a sweet, 7-month-old black Lab, wants to sleep on the floor beside the bed. He is a good boy, housebroken and neutered, and knows some simple commands. Mia and Trooper, black Lab siblings about 2 years old, are altered and well-behaved. They bark when confronted with strangers. For this reason, and because they had no secure yard, they were sent to the pound to be destroyed. A neighbor who has another sibling, saved them from death. They are affectionate, both with each other and human companions. They prefer to stay together but can be separated. Hattie is a 3-year-old spayed female sharpei. Ziggy, a schipperke-Lab-mix puppy, needs the right home. Several people have applied and ARF is still taking applications for this adorable pup. Rumbles and Spooky, beautiful cats, are still available. 659-1122.

Sweetie is a 4-year-old shepherd-mix with special needs requiring a quiet home. Well-behaved, housebroken, spayed and loyal, Sweetie needs to be introduced to a stranger before they can pet her. She's worth the effort. Bertha is a big, charming Lab-mix puppy. A pretty rust color, Bertha is 5 months old and weighs about 45 pounds. Casey is a German shepherd-mix, neutered and about 1 year old. Found on the streets abandoned and hungry, he is gentle, sensitive and loving. Beautiful Dakota, a Siberian husky-mix, needs a yard to run in and a male companion who recognizes that she is boss. Dolly, a border collie-mix, and her pup, Blackie, still need homes. They were abandoned on a back road in the desert. Amy, a border collie-collie-mix, lost her home when her person died not long ago and needs a quiet home. About 65 pounds, Amy is 10 years old, well-behaved, quiet and calm. She prefers a home with no children or other animals. Rosa and Louise, purring, loving, tortoise-shell cats, are still looking for a family to appreciate their fine qualities. 659-1122.

Many of these animals can be seen weekends from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at ARF adoptions days. The ARF office is located on North Circle Drive in the Oakwood Village.

Trouble is in, well, you can guess what. Found in Idyllwild County Park over the weekend, Trouble is a handsome Bernese mountain dog. He needs to find his owner or a foster home. Call ARF with information.

The next vaccine clinic at the ARF office will be March 2. Make an appointment now. 659-1122.

ARF, the Idyllwild Animal Rescue Friends, is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization serving the mountain communities. Contact ARF at P.O. Box 1965, Idyllwild, CA 92549.

*Creature corner is sponsored this week by Pinyon and Joy Girl of Mountain Center. To sponsor the column, call Grace Reed at the Town Crier, 659-2145.*

# PAST TENSE

## 55 years ago - 1951

The Korean conflict was producing shortages even in Idyllwild. The Town Crier was obliged to limit the number of copies on newsstands because of a paper shortage.

## 45 years ago - 1961

Martin Sousa sold the Idyllwild Inn to a group of local investors.

## 40 years ago - 1966

A weekend storm brought snow and rain, boosting the season's precipitation to 26.63 inches.

## 30 years ago - 1976

Susan Tyler Ostand of Escondido checked in at the newspaper office to pick up a portrait of herself painted when, as Susan Tyler, she was Miss Idyllwild of 1966.

## 25 years ago - 1981

Jody Lynn Poemoceah, daughter of Mel and Pamela Poemoceah, was the winner of the First Baby of 1981 Contest.

## 15 years ago - 1991

Idyllwild School received a \$2,000 grant to help supply



A law-enforcement training exercise near Lake Hemet on March 7, 1996 draws police officers, U.S. Marines and Air Force security personnel from across Southern California. The exercise involved a simulated hostage rescue.

FILE PHOTO

mathematics teaching materials. up Idyllwild and Pine Cove.

## 10 years ago - 1996


The Riverside County government collected more than a third of its motel bed tax in a few square miles that make

## 5 years ago - 2001

Mt. San Jacinto was being considered for a possible underground research facility by UC Irvine scientists.

## 1 year ago - 2005

The Idyllwild Community Recreation Council began discussions over the possibility of taking over the Town Hall recreation contracts.




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