



Current Hill weather
Thursday, Nov. 15
 Sunny and calm.
 63 degrees at 8 a.m.
[Weather Forecasts](#)

[Online Store](#)
[Hot Spots](#)
[The Village](#)
[Community](#)
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News & Features

From the Idyllwild Town Crier weekly newspaper,
 November 15, 2007 edition.



[Mary Austin](#)
[Love & Support](#)

Special news update

More Crosswalks coming to Idyllwild

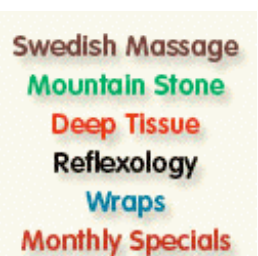
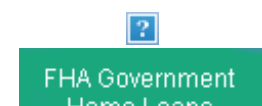
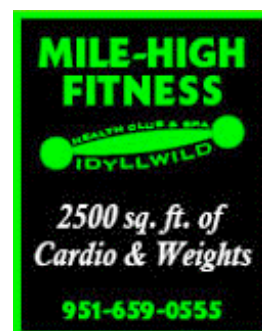
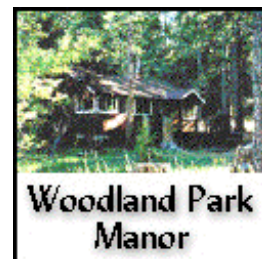


5:20 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14 —

At 11 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14, a few Idyllwild people and representatives from the Riverside County Sheriff's Department and the California Highway Patrol walked around town looking at areas in the Idyllwild retail district that needed designated crosswalks. Among the crosswalk sites considered were: the stop sign at North Circle and Village center drives; from Village Market to Mountain Top Liquor; at Idyllwild School; and from the Idyllwild Ranger Station to Arriba Restaurant. Here, the group reviews options for a crosswalk at Highway 243 and North Circle Drive. (From left) Bill Triplett, former president, Idyllwild Chamber of Commerce; Corp. Bob Faldetta, Riverside County Sheriff's Department, Hemet Station, who is coordinating the project; Geoffrey Caine, president, Idyllwild Chamber of Commerce; Nancy Layton, president, Mountain Disaster Preparedness; Officer Ron Esparza, California Highway Patrol, San



[Feature photo](#)





eric townsend
construction co.

Gorgonio Pass Area Office; Trainee Seth Kuhon, Riverside County Sheriff's Department, Hemet Station. (Not pictured: Becky Clark, publisher-editor, Town Crier)

Home Loans
866-868-3090

Cabinet man holds up Loutzenhiser homecoming

By J.P. Crumrine, Assistant Editor

The house that the community rebuilt for Maria Loutzenhiser and her children is still not ready. Work began nearly 11 months ago. On June 30, Habitat for Humanity held a ceremony to turn the keys over to her. Last weekend, she held an open house to thank everyone in community who contributed time and effort to help her family.

But the family still hasn't moved in. Habitat for Humanity and the community built the home for the family of Capt. Mark Loutzenhiser who was killed Oct. 26, 2006, in the Esperanza Fire.

The situation should be changing for the better soon, according to Duncan Webb, executive director of the Riverside office for Habitat for Humanity.

[Click here for full story](#)

Bad weekend in wilderness

By Marshall Smith, Correspondent

This last weekend proved a dangerous one on the mountain, accenting the divide between the stark challenges of the wilderness and the relative safety of more manicured environments.

Sunday, Nov. 11, according to Glenda Yates, Riverside Mountain Rescue Unit (RMRU), an unidentified woman and her children, hiking on Deer Springs Trail, discovered the body of a deceased male, who Yates said authorities believed had been dead for about a week.

The female hiker used her cell phone to notify authorities. Yates said there had been no missing hiker reports called in either to the Riverside County Sheriff's Department or to RMRU, so the discovery came as a surprise.

[Click here for full story](#)

VHS may declare bankruptcy

By **J.P. Crumrine**, Assistant Editor

“Everything is on the table,” said Patrick Searl, president of Valley Health Systems, when asked if bankruptcy is a consideration now that Measure G has failed. Layoffs, reduced services and possible bankruptcy may be necessary to quell the district’s hemorrhaging finances.

For the 12 months from July 1, 2006, to June 30, 2007, VHS lost \$11.8 million. Since July 1, VHS has lost more than \$8 million. The losses are accelerating. The board believed the problem would be solved with the sale of assets to Select Healthcare Solutions of Del Mar.

Select, headed by Matthew Cutler, was prepared to buy the three hospitals and long-term care facility for \$135 million. In addition, Cutler planned to add a professional hospital management firm to his team and find deep-pocketed investors. The latter were prepared to put up the necessary funds to retrofit Hemet Valley Medical Center and build new facilities, such as a cardiac center.

[Click here for full story](#)

Also in this week’s Town Crier:

Burglaries: Weekend thieves hit Village Lane and Lake Hemet.

Thanksgiving events: Where ham or turkey and all the trimmings will be served throughout the Hill.

Election results: How bad did Measure G lose and how did locals vote for the measure?

Low on cash: Idyllwild Chamber has two months of funds and is seeking resources.

Closed session V: Idyllwild Fire's sessions involve anticipated litigations – note plural.

Arson register: National arson registry bill is making its way through

Congress.

Talking jazz: Next year's festival plans beginning already.

Webalerts

Important news, weather and road condition alerts are posted here immediately. If you would like to be notified by e-mail when alerts are posted, please e-mail your name, address and phone number to:

webnews@towncrier.com

Your information will be kept completely confidential.

Esperanza Fire Report Blog

If you would like to share your thoughts and feelings on our

[Esperanza Fire Report Blog](#) please e-mail your sentiments to firereport@towncrier.com

[For the full report in pdf format, click here.](#)

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