A FREE PUBLICATION
OF THE BIG BEAR GRIZZLY

BIG BEAR NOW

November
2025



Wonderland of Lights

Alpine Zoo opens after hours for new holiday spectacle

Instagrammable Hikes • Attractions • Calendar of Events • Dining • Turkey Turkey Trot • Tree of Life

Hello

NOVEMBER

HERITAGE
VICTOR VALLEY MEDICAL GROUP

SENIOR CALENDAR / 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4 Crafts @ 10:00am	5	6 AEP Meeting 10am UHC/Wellcare 12pm Scan/Humana	7	8
9	10	11 Painting @ 10:00 AM	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 AEP Meeting 10am Scan/Humana 12pm Anthem/Aetna Decoupage @ 2:00 pm	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Jewelry @ 10:00 AM	26	27	28 HVVMG CLOSED	29
30						

Heritage wishes you and your family a happy and healthy Thanksgiving!

Please RSVP to attend, as spaces are limited. Sign ups are now online @hvvmg.com For more information call Heritage @ 442.242.6724. All classes are subject to cancellation depending on weather conditions.



REVIEW. RENEW. RECONNECT

2026 ANNUAL MEDICARE ENROLLMENT IS HERE

Let's review your Medicare plan together, renew your confidence in your care, and reconnect with everything that makes Heritage feel like home.

Reserve your spot Today!
Visit our website @hvvmg.com to RSVP or call us at 800.655.9999

Or scan the QR code to RSVP

Exceptional Care, in Our Community.



Introducing: Ariana Feuvrier, M.D.

Now Caring for the Big Bear Community!

Dr. Ariana Feuvrier is Board-Certified in Internal Medicine and is passionate about helping patients live healthier lives through personalized care focused on nutrition, exercise, and stress management. Dr. Feuvrier earned her medical degree from the Medical University of South Carolina and completed her residency at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD).

She sees patients 18 and older, specializing in primary care multi-system issues, wilderness medicine, and soon, aesthetics.



'I've loved coming to Big Bear since I was a child and feel honored to now serve this community. I look forward to building roots here and many wonderful years ahead."
-Dr. Feuvrier

BVCHD continues to expand services, including cardiology, in-patient dialysis, and emergency surgery, while accepting most insurances and VA benefits.

50 YEARS
BEAR VALLEY
COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
HALF CENTURY OF HEALTHCARE EXCELLENCE

Now Accepting New Patients!

To schedule an appointment:
909.878.8246 • BVCHD.COM

BIG BEAR NOW

Terri Leifeste
Publisher
publisher@bigbeargrizzly.net

Stacy Moore
editor@bigbeargrizzly.net
760-820-2385

Kimberly Brucks
Advertising Manager
kbrucks@bigbeargrizzly.net

Jose De La Cruz
Layout / Design

Distribution
All delivery inquiries should be directed to kbrucks@bigbeargrizzly.net

Office: 909-866-3456

News, photos, editorial submissions or story ideas should be sent to editor@bigbeargrizzly.net

Big Bear Now magazine is published monthly by The Big Bear Grizzly, 42007 Fox Farm Road, P.O. Box 1789, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315. Big Bear Now is distributed throughout the Valley at supermarkets, convenience stores, restaurants, lodges and retail outlets. All content ©2025 Gold Mountain California News Media Inc. No part of Big Bear Now magazine November be copied or reproduced without permission. The Big Bear Grizzly and Big Bear Now office is open Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 909-866-3456, bigbeargrizzly.net

Entertainment and events sometimes change after press deadline. Please check with venues to confirm the date and times.

Titles registered and all contents © 2025 by the Big Bear Grizzly and Gold Mountain California News Media Inc. All rights reserved.













in this issue

5 **A Tree of Life**
Bear Valley's holiday wish: a mobile MRI to keep care close to home — and the Tree of Lights is helping make it happen.

6 **Mountain Meals**
Whether you are searching for that romantic spot or just looking for a bite to eat, Big Bear has it all. See for yourself in this guide to Big Bear Valley cuisine.

12 **Run Now, Feast Later!**
Turkey Trotters, get ready — this year's Big Bear Turkey Trot features a brand-new course, a zoo run, and pies for the best costumes!

14 **Attractions**
Things to do and places to visit in Big Bear.

16 **Around the Bear**
From mountain adventures to festive gatherings — discover what's going on around town.

18 **Wonderland of Lights**
Alpine Zoo opens after hours for new holiday spectacle.

20 **Craft and Celebrate**
Get creative and get glamorous — craft a forest-inspired garland at Barrel 33's Pinecone Workshop. Sparkle like a flapper at the Gatsby Holiday Gala, where fun meets fundraising in Big Bear.

21 **Big Bear's Most Instagrammable Hikes**
Discover Big Bear's most photogenic trails — where every step leads to a stunning view and every hike is a picture worth sharing.



The Tree of Lights illuminates the area around Bear Valley Community Hospital at the 2024 ceremony.

A TREE OF LIFE FOR *community health*

By **Janet Dooley**

Bear Valley Community Healthcare District has its holiday wish list already — a mobile Magnetic Resonance Imaging scanner. And the BVCHD Foundation is trying to make that wish come true.

The foundation held its Tree of Lights ceremony Nov. 8 at the front entrance of the hospital. The tree is now lit for the enjoyment of everyone in the community.

The foundation offered lights for $25 each; donors could purchase a light to honor someone still living or in memory of a person remembered after death.

"Each name in memory of or in honor of in the ceremony is read," said Ron Krueper, treasurer for the foundation. "And then we light the tree. And that tree will stay lit until the end of January at night."

For more than 15 years, the foundation has held the nondenominational ceremony on the second Saturday in November to kick off the year when the families get together for the holidays, Krueper said.

Bear Valley Community Healthcare District has been trying to get as many services as possible for Valley residents, Krueper said. After the snow storms of 2023 the district saw the need for an emergency dialysis unit and purchased one. Last year a cataract surgery machine was purchased.

"This year we're helping to fund this MRI machine so we can expand our resources at the hospital so that people don't have to drive off the hill for medical appointments or treatments," Krueper said.

BVCHD Chief Executive Officer Evan Rayner agreed. He said about 60 MRI patients leave the mountain monthly, and with the district growing Orthopedic and Total Joint program the MRI machine is a crucial diagnostic tool to support the program and bring services to the community instead of the community to the services.

Rayner said the district will be leasing a 1.5 Tesla General Electric Signa Excite MRI system. Stronger magnets (such as 3.0T) or open MRI systems are not typically available in a mobile trailer configuration, so the 1.5T system offers the best balance of image quality and mobility. It will require a specially trained MRI technician licensed in the state of California.

The MRI machine is a full-body magnetic resonance imaging system housed inside a mobile coach parked on site at BVCHD. It uses strong magnetic fields and radio waves to create detailed images of internal organs, soft tissues and joints that are noninvasive and radiation free.

It can help detect:

- tumors, strokes, cysts, infections, herniated discs, and spinal cord issues
- injuries or degeneration in the knee, shoulder, hip, and other joints
- problems with internal organs such as the liver, kidneys, uterus, and prostate
- blockages or aneurysms in arteries and veins (MR angiography)
- neurological conditions such as stroke, multiple sclerosis and brain injuries

The Bear Valley Community Healthcare District Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All donations are tax deductible.

"Ninety percent of our funds go to support the Bear Valley Community Healthcare District," Krueper said. "That includes the hospital and the urgent care."

For more information about the foundation, visit bvchd.com. Navigate to "About Us" and then to "The Foundation."

Mountain Meals

Big Bear's culinary delights



Sally's Pasta at Sweet Basil Bistro.

Big Bear Lake Village

572 Social Kitchen & Lounge
American. Open Sunday-Thursday 11:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. *572 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0307, 572social.com*

Amangela's Sandwich & Bagel House
Bagels, sandwiches. Open Sunday-Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. *40729 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0015, amangelas.com*

AV Bar & Nightclub
Sandwiches, bar, dance club. Open Monday-Thursday 6 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., Friday-Saturday from noon to 1:30 a.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. *664 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-7377, avbigbear.com*

Barrel 33
Wine and beer tasting. Appetizers. Open Sunday-Thursday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. *40754 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0838*

Bear Noodle Bar
Noodles, ramen, won tons. Open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday-Sunday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. *603 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake.909-366-0332*

Big Bear Lake Brewing Company
Brewery, American. Open Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from noon to 9 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sundays from 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. *40827 Stone Road, Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0283, bblbc.com*

El Jacalito Grill
Mexican. Open Sunday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. *535 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-3537, eljacalitogrill.com*

Fire Rock Burgers & Brews
Burgers and beer. Open daily 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. *618 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0696, firerockburgersandbrews.com*

Himalayan Restaurant
Indian, Himalayan and Nepalese. Open Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. *672 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-3068, himalayanbigbear.com*

Jasper's BBQ
Barbecue, steak, sandwiches. Open Sunday-Tuesday and Thursday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Friday-Saturday, 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Closed Wednesday. *607 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-8866-2434, jasperssmokehouse.com*

La Bamba
Mexican. Open Monday, Wednesday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday-Saturday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. *587 Bonanza Trail, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-7696*

La Pergola Trattoria
Italian, pizza, homemade desserts. Open Saturday 11:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 4:30 to 9 p.m. Closed Wednesday. *40821 Village Dr, Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0555*

Masala Craft Indian Cuisine
Indian, vegetarian. Open Sunday-Thurdsay from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Fridays-Saturdays from 11 a.m. to midnight. *40760 Village Drive, Suite A, Big Bear Lake. 909-791-1239.*

Muchacho's Tortilla Bar
Mexican. Open Sunday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday-Tuesday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Wednesday-Thursday 1 to 8 p.m., Friday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. *40760 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-415-1077. muchachostortillabar.com*

Murray's Saloon & Eatery
American, bar, karaoke. Open Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. and Friday-Saturday 11 a.m. to midnight. *672 Cottage Lane, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-1444. Murraysbigbearlake.com*

Nottinghams Tavern
American. Open Monday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Wednesday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. *40797 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-4644, nottinghamstavern.com*

Oakside Restaurant & Bar
American. Open Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday-Saturday form 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. *40701 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-5555. Oaksiderestaurant.com*

Old German Deli
German, deli, sandwiches. Open Wednesday-Monday 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. *40645 Village Dr, Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0515*

Peppercorn Grille
American, Steakhouse, Italian. Open Sunday-Thursday noon to 9 p.m. and Friday-Saturday noon to 10 p.m. *553 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-5405, peppercorngrille.com*

Royal Thai Bistro
Thai. Open 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday-Saturday. *40766 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-2808. Royalthaicafebigbear.com*

Saucy Mama's Pizzeria
Italian, pizza. Patio seating. Sports bar. Open daily 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. *618 B Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0165*

Stella Luna
Scratch kitchen with a full bar serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. Many gluten-free, vegan and vegetarian options. Kids menu. Open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday. *40696 Village Dr., Big Bear Lake. 909-366-0261, stellalunarestaurant.com*

Stillwells Restaurant and Lounge
American. Open Sunday from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday-Saturday 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursday-Sunday 5:30 to 10 p.m.. *40650 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-3121, thelodgeatbigbearlake.com*

Sweet Basil Bistro
Italian. Open Wednesday-Friday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 3:30 to 8:30 p.m., and 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. *40629 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-9212, sweetbasilbistro.net*

Teddy Bear Restaurant
American diner, comfort food, homemade pies. Open daily 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. *583 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-5415, teddybearsrestaurant.com*

The Bone Yard Bar & Grill
Barbecue, American, bar. Open Sunday-Tuesday and Thursday noon to 9 p.m. and Friday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Closed Wednesday. *560 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0401, theboneyardbarandgrill.com*

The Copper Q
Bakery, coffee, tea, sandwiches, specials. Open Sunday 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Thursday 7 am. To 4 p.m., and Friday-Saturday 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. *645 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 888-622-8437, copperq.com*

The Cookshak
Sandwiches, fish & chips, burgers. Open Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday noon to 7 p.m. and noon to 8:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Closed Monday and Tuesday. *40611 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0137, cookshak.com*

SoCal's Only Slopeside Townhomes

Big Bear Mountain slopeside townhome in new development. Developer's own home is last available (all previous sales off-market). Private, gated 8-home community on Park Run at Bear Mountain. Designed by award-winning Golba Architecture with interior consulting by world-renowned designer Sylvie Atanasio. No expense was spared in this luxurious three-level green/smart home: solar power, heated floors, steam shower, gourmet appliances, top-quality finishes, zoned heat/air, and extensive network/automation features. Captivating views of the ski slopes and national forest. Inspired outdoor living with private spa, fire pit, tennis/pickleball/basketball court, exclusive adjacent snow play area, and walking distance to golf & legendary mountain bike/hike trail system. HOA allows city-licensed STVRs. Truly world-class, four-season resort living.



- 3 bedrooms plus full-floor loft
- 3.5 baths
- 1751sf living; 2197sf finished/insulated
- Detached garage and up to three additional parking spaces
- Location: 43000 Clover Road #22, Big Bear Lake 92315
- Year Built: 2023









Asking Price:

$1,450,000

DRE# 02149952

Call Michael at 619-977-5288. Courtesy to brokers.

Tropicali
Hawaiian, poke, sushi bar. Open Thursday, Sunday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Tuesday and Wednesday. *40771 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0499. osotropicali.coM*

Village Pizza
Pizza, Italian. Open 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and 11 a.m. - 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday. *40568 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-8505*

Village Sports Bar
Sports bar, burgers, salads, sandwiches, pizza. Sunday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday and Thursday 2 to 9 p.m. and Friday-Saturday 11 a.m. to midnight. *40789 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0099*

Whiskey Dave's
American. Sports bar. Pool hall. Open noon to midnight Monday-Thursday, noon to 1:30 a.m. on Friday, 10 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. on Saturday and 10 a.m. to midnight on Sunday. *40740 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-3283, whiskeydaves.com.*

Coffee, Tea and Smoothies

An Ran Ju Gelato & Teahouse
Coffee, tea, gelato. Open Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. *546 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-547-7576, anranjubigbear.com*

Frusion Juice and Coffee Bar
Juice, smoothies, coffee, tea, acai bowls. Open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday-Thursday; 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday-Sunday. *40700 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0881, juicefactorynfrusion.com*

Tea & Coffee Exchange
Bakery. Open daily from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. *40568 Village Dr, Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0225, theteacoffee.com*

Sweet and Salty Treats

Beary Bliss
Frozen yogurt. Open Monday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. *685 Pine Knot Ave., Unit A., Big Bear Lake. 909366-0589*

Ben & Jerry's
Ice cream, gelato, coffee. Open Sunday-Thursday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. *652 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-366-0474. Benjerry.com*

House of Jerky
Specialty shop. Open Sunday-Thursday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. *625 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-4440. bigbearhouseofjerky.com*

Jeff's Famous Jerky
Specialty food. Open daily 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. *40794 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 800-457-4010, jeffsfamousjerky.com*

North Pole Fudge & Ice Cream Company
Candy, ice cream, yogurt. Open Sunday-Monday, Wednesday-Thursday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Tuesday, Friday & Saturday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. *618 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-7622*

The Wild Strawberry
Ice cream, aquas, flan, esquimales. Open Wednesday-Sunday 1 to 8 p.m.; Monday 2 to 8 p.m. *587 Bonanza Trail, Big Bear Lake. 909-855-0915*

Village Sweet Shoppe
Candy, ice cream. Open Sunday, Tuesday-Thursday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., Monday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. & Saturday 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. *40736 Village Dr, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-8383*

Big Bear Lake/Big Bear Blvd.

909 Taqueria
Mexican. Open Friday-Saturday from 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Monday-Wednesday 10:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. *41819 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-366-0440*

Alpine Country Coffee Shop
American, Mexican. Open Sunday-Thursday 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Friday-Saturday 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. *41546 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-1959*

Café Crepe
Coffee and tea, breakfast and brunch. Open Thursday-Sunday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. *41003 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake*

Dynasty
Chinese. Open Wednesday-Monday noon to 2:30 p.m. and 5 to 10 p.m. Closed Tuesday. *40989 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-7887, bigbeardynasty.com*

Fuji Restaurant
Sushi. Open Monday-Friday noon to 2:30 p.m. and 5 to 10 p.m. Saturday-Sunday noon to 3 p.m. and 5 to 10 p.m. *41025 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-8108*

Gaby's Latin Flavors
Bolivian, Mexican and American. Open Wednesday-Monday noon to 9 p.m. Closed



Tuesday. *41618 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-353-8839, gabysbigbear.com*

Get the Burger
Burgers. Open Wednesday-Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Monday and Tuesday. *42151 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-8800, gettheburger.com*

El Rincon Restaurant
Breakfast and lunch, dinner. Mexican. Open Tuesday-Sunday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. *42011 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-366-0394*

Grizzly Manor Café
Breakfast, sandwiches, American. Open daily 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. *41268 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-6226, grizzlymanorcafe.com*

Hacienda Grill
Mexican, sports bar. Open Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday-Saturday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. *41787 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-8667, haciendagrill.net*

Laguna Grill
Mexican. American. Open Monday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. *40844 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-2679*

Maggio's Pizza
Pizza, Italian, sandwiches. Open Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Friday-Saturday 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. *42160 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-8815, maggiospizza.com*

Mountain Munchies
Sandwiches. Salads. American. Breakfast. Open Monday-Saturday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. *42171 ½ Big Bear Blvd., Suite H, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-7767, mtmunchies.com*

Nuevo Vallarta Grill
Mexican. Open daily 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. *40949 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-7355*

Old Country Inn
American. Specialty is fish and chips. Open Thursday-Monday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Tuesday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. *41126 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-5600, oldcountryinnrestaurant.com*

Red Baron Pizza
Pizza, sports bar. Open Sunday 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Wednesday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. *42173 ½ Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-4744, redbaronpizzasportsbar.com*

Sandy's Sports Bar & Restaurant
Burgers, salads, sandwiches. Open Monday-Saturday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday 9:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. *40951 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-366-0461*

Sonora Cantina
Mexican. Open Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday-Saturday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. *41144 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-8202, sonoracantinarestaurant.com*

The Pines Lakefront
American, seafood. Open Wednesday-Thursday from 4 to 8 p.m., Friday noon to 8 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Closed Monday-Tuesday. *350 Alden Road, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-5400. thepineslakefront.com*

Wyatt's Grill & Saloon
Bar, American. Country dance hall. Open Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 4 to 10 p.m. *42900 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-585-3000, bigbearevents.com*

Coffee, Tea & Smoothies

Big Bear Coffee Roasting
Coffee roasters. Open Friday-Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed Wednesday and Thursday. *41080 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-0859*

Juice Factory
Open daily 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. *42173 ½ Big Bear Blvd., Suite A, Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0464, juicefactorynfrusion.com*

Sweet and Salty Treats

Rustic Mountain Chocolates and The Silver Fawn Jewelry
Handmade dark chocolate confections. Open Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. *42007 Fox Farm Road, Big Bear Lake. 909-838-1394. rustic-mtn-chocolatessilverfawn.square.site*

Smokey's Jerky and Candy Company
Open Monday-Friday 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. & Sunday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. *42167 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-4511*

W. Big Bear Lake/Boulder Bay

Azteca Grill
Baja style Mexican, seafood. Sports bar. Open



Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. - 9 p.m., Friday-Saturday 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. & Sunday 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. *40199 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-2350*

Big Bear Mountain Brewery
Pub, New American, brewery. Open Sunday-Thursday noon to 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday noon to 10 p.m. *40260 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0616, bigbearmountainbrewery.net*

Blanca and Pierre's
American, breakfast and brunch. Open daily 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. *39170 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-4566*

Country Kitchen
New American, breakfast and brunch. Open daily 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. *39904 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0364, countrykitchenrestaurants.com*

Pho Big Bear
Chinese, Vietnamese, Thai. Open daily 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. *40210 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0068*

Piza Kama – Scratch Pizza Bar
Pizza. Open Monday-Thursday 1 to 7:30 p.m., Friday-Saturday 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. *39212 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 626-566-0260*

Sweet and Salty Treats

Sister My Sister Bake Shop
Bakery, desserts. Open Wednesday-Thursday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday-Sunday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Monday and Tuesday. *40191 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0878*

Moonridge/Big Bear Lake

Big Bear Bar and Grill
American, Mexican, bar. Open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday *42164 Moonridge Road, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-2606*

Captain's Anchorage
Seafood, steakhouse. Open Sunday-Thursday 4:30 to 9 p.m. and Friday-Saturday 4:30 to 10 p.m. *42148 Moonridge Way, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-3997, captainsanchorage.com*

Dank Donuts and The Deli Moonridge
Doughnuts, sandwiches, breakfast and brunch. Open Thursday-Monday 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. *42612 Moonridge Road., Big Bear Lake. 909-547-6053*

Coffee, Tea, Juice, Smoothies

Moonridge Coffee Company
Burgers, chicken, wachos, small bites, beer. Tipless restaurant. Open Thursday-Sunday 3 to 10 p.m. *42646 Moonridge Road, Big Bear Lake. 909-281-4546*

Sugarloaf

Kallans Bar and Grill
Bar, American. Open Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 11 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 a.m. *44761 Barton Lane, Sugarloaf. 909-547-6800.*

Big Bear City

BJ's Restaurant and Sandwich Shop
Burgers, sandwiches, bar. Open Thursday-Tuesday 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Closed Wednesday. *110 E. Big Bear Blvd. Big Bear City. 909-585-2938.*

Broadway Café
Burgers, sandwiches, breakfast. Open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday-Saturday 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m. & Sunday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Closed Tuesday & Wednesday. *1117 W. Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear City. 909-585-7682*

Cocina de Mexico
Mexican. Open Monday-Saturday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Closed Sunday. *300 W. Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear City. 909-547-6999*

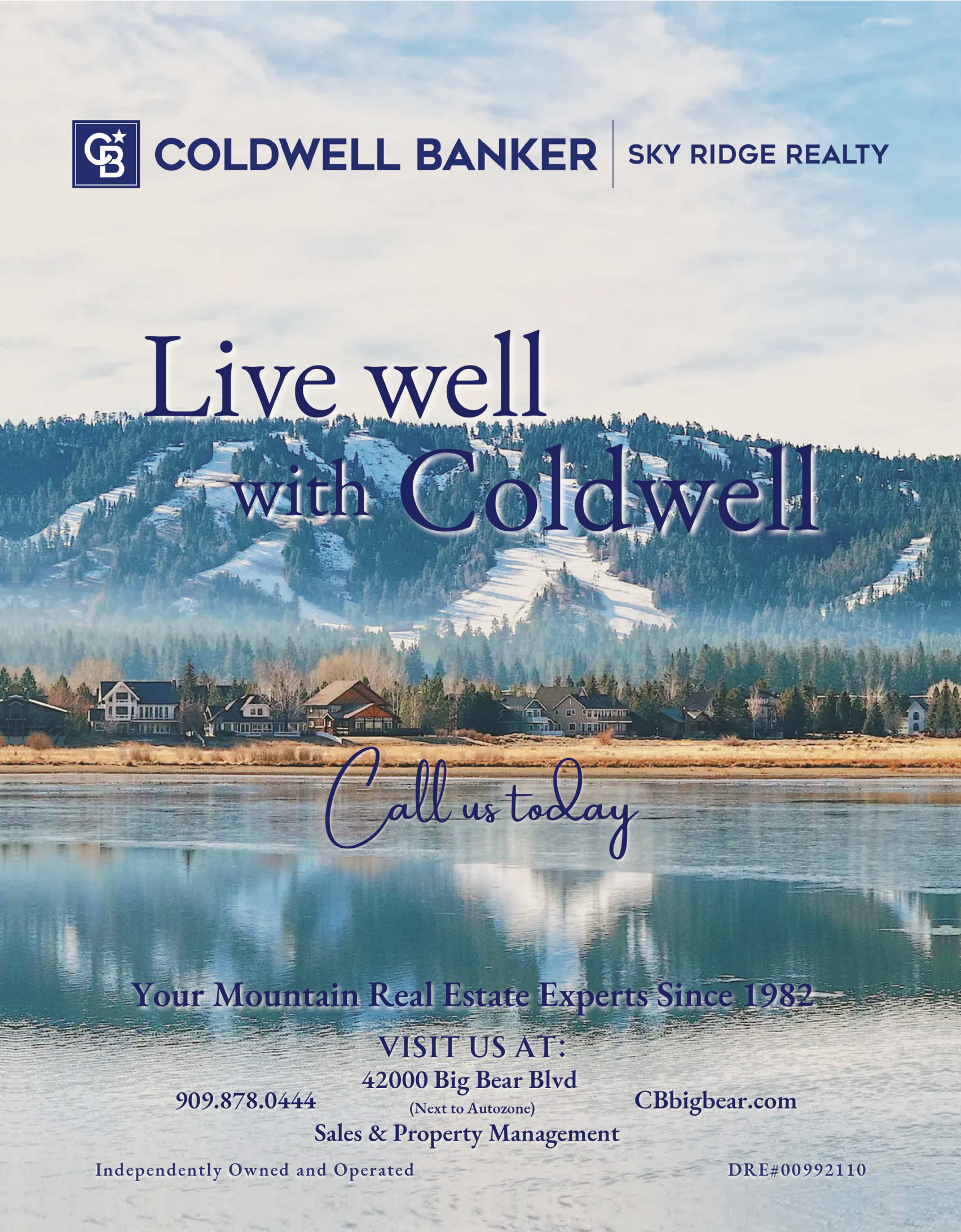
La Paws Restaurant
Mexican. Open Monday-Saturday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday noon to 1 p.m. *1128 W. Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear City. 909-585-9115*

Lumberjack Café
Breakfast and brunch. Open daily 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. *1001 W. Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear City. 909-547-3204*

No Name Pizza
Pizza, salads, sandwiches. Open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday noon to 6 p.m., Friday-Saturday noon to 7 p.m. & Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Closed Tuesday & Wednesday. *1112 W. Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear City. 909-585-4840, nonamepizzamenu.com*

Thelma's Family Restaurant & Bakery
Bakery, American, breakfast and brunch. Open daily from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Thursday-Sunday for dinner from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. *337 W. Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear City. 909-585-7005*




COLDWELL BANKER
SKY RIDGE REALTY
Live well
with Coldwell
Call us today
Your Mountain Real Estate Experts Since 1982
VISIT US AT:
42000 Big Bear Blvd
(Next to Autozone)
909.878.0444
CBbigbear.com
Sales & Property Management
Independently Owned and Operated
DRE#00992110



Big Bear High School cross country members Mark and Kevin Horner get off to a quick start in the 2024 Turkey Trot.
Photos by Janet Dooley.



Run Now, Feast Later!

Celebrate Thanksgiving morning with the Big Bear Turkey Trot—fun, fitness, and feathers included!





Turkey Trotters have a new way to strut their stuff this year. Race producer Matt Smith has set a new course.

The 12th Big Bear Turkey Trot is 9 a.m. on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 27. The event begins at the lot next to Dank Donuts on Moonridge Road, continues on the Rathbun Trail and even takes a turn through the Big Bear Alpine Zoo.

All ages are invited to participate in the three-mile race and work up an appetite for that special family dinner.

Moonridge Coffee Company is sponsoring the costume contest, and special holiday pies will be awarded to the winners.

Dank Donuts will host "Danksgiving," the post race celebration on the patio from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Proceeds from the event help support two food banks in Big Bear Valley - Believers Chapel and Community Church Big Bear. Make your donation on the registration page.

Packet pickup will be 4-6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 24, through Wednesday, Nov. 26, at The Yellow Post, 546 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake, across from The Peppercorn Grille.

For more information and to sign up, visit bigbearturkeytrot.com. Dank Donuts is at 42612 Moonridge Road, Big Bear Lake. Moonridge Coffee Company is at 42646 Moonridge Road, Big Bear Lake.

Warm, Safe, and Efficient

Southwest Gas Is Your Guide to Winter Readiness

As autumn settles in and cooler weather approaches, Southwest Gas is here to help you get ready for the snowy winter season. With a few simple tips, you can stay safe, cozy, and energy-efficient all season long.

Get Appliances Ready for Winter Now is the perfect time to inspect your natural gas appliances to ensure they're operating safely and efficiently. This not only helps you stay safe but also saves on energy costs. While Southwest Gas doesn't perform inspections, you can find a list of licensed contractors at *swgas.com/referrals*.

Limited-Time Offer: Through November 30, schedule a $100 Residential Home Heating Inspection with a participating licensed contractor. This professional checkup can uncover opportunities to boost your home's energy efficiency and lower your heating costs. Learn more at *swgas.com/heatpromo*.

Protect Your Home's Natural Gas Meter with a Snow Shelter Don't forget! Installing a natural gas meter snow shelter before the first snowfall can protect gas meters, regulators, and piping from damage caused by heavy snow and ice. A snow shelter prevents snow and ice accumulation directly on the meter, reducing the risk of leaks and service interruptions, and ensuring you have access to natural gas for heating, cooking, and hot water.

Stay safe by planning now. For snow shelter plans and more information, visit *swgas.com/safety* or call *877-860-6020*.

Important Safety Notice For the safety of the customer and the community, Southwest Gas will immediately suspend service to a home or business if damage from snow and ice is discovered at a natural gas meter or surrounding piping. Gas service will only be restored when snow and ice are cleared, adequate meter protection is installed, and the customer has observed the requirements imposed by the local jurisdiction.

Natural Gas Winter Safety Tips In addition, there are other things customers can do to keep infrastructure safe during the winter months:

- **Clear Snow and Ice Carefully:** Where possible, use a broom instead of a shovel to clear snow or ice off natural gas meters and outdoor appliances, including regulators, associated piping, and propane appliances. This prevents damage and ensures efficient operation.

- **Ensure Proper Ventilation:** Natural gas appliances require proper exhaust and ventilation. It's essential to know the location of the air supply and exhaust ducts and to keep them free of snow, ice, leaves, and other debris. Keeping vents clear can help prevent appliance operational problems and carbon monoxide accumulation in buildings.



- **Recognize Gas Leaks:** If you suspect a natural gas leak, leave the area immediately and call *911* and Southwest Gas at *877-860-6020*. A natural gas leak can be detected by a distinct sulfur-like odor, similar to rotten eggs, even if it's faint or momentary; an unusual hissing or roaring sound coming from the ground or appliance; or blowing dirt, bubbling water, and discolored plants or grass surrounding a pipeline.

Don't wait until the first snowfall to get ready for winter. By taking these steps now, you can stay safe and warm throughout the winter. For details and more tips, visit *swgas.com/snow-precautions*.

PAID ADVERTISING





BEAR VALLEY ELECTRIC SERVICE, INC.
POWERING THE MOUNTAIN SINCE 1929

2022 WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLAN

With safety as our No. 1 priority, we have updated our 2022 Wildfire Mitigation Plan with:

Increased Vegetation Management

State-of-the-art Equipment Upgrades

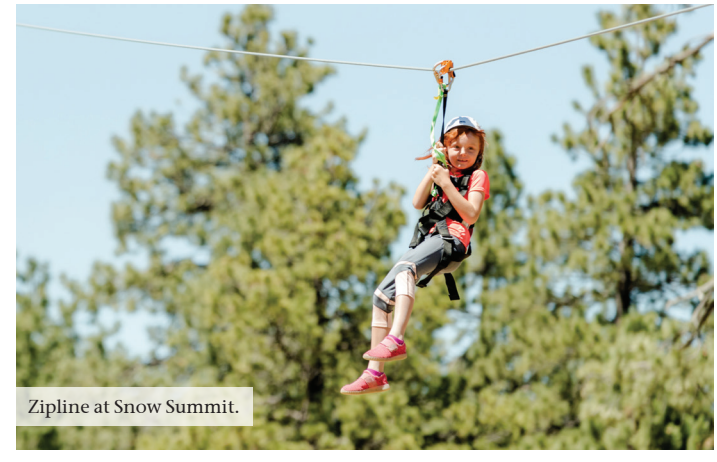
Proactive Operational Improvements

Bear Valley Electric Service, Inc. is going above and beyond state-mandated safety standards to protect customers and the community from the risk of wildfires.

To learn more about our wildfire mitigation efforts:
www.bvesinc.com/safety (800) 808-2837

Attractions

Tours • Recreation • Exploring • Fun Times



Zipline at Snow Summit.

Action Tours. Zipline, Segway tours. Snowshoe tours in the winter. *40957 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-0390, actiontourscalifornia.com*

Alpine Slide at Magic Mountain. Alpine Slide, Soaring Eagle, go-karts, water slide, mini golf and Mineshaft Coaster open daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Snow play in the winter. *800 Wildrose Lane, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-4626, alpineslidebigbear.com*

Amazing Scavenger Hunt Adventure. Smartphone scavenger hunt. Follow clues and puzzles to explore Big Bear Lake and Big Bear Lake Village. *urbanadventurequest.com*

Bear Mountain Golf Course and Driving Range. Golf course open daily, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. through September. Driving range open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily through September. *43092 Goldmine Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-585-8002, www.bigbearmountainresort.com*

Bear Mountain Resort Skiing and snowboarding in the winter season. *43101 Goldmine Drive, Big Bear Lake. bigbearmountainresort.com*

Bear Valley Stage Lines. Carriage rides in the Village. Hayrides, special events. *Pedder Road at Pine Knot Avenue, Big Bear Lake. 909-584-2277, bigbearcarriages.com*

Big Bear Alpine Zoo. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Last entry at 3:30 p.m. Meet the resident animals at the new location. *747 Clubview Dr., Big Bear Lake. 909-584-1299, bigbearzoo.org*

The Bowling Barn. Bowling, glow bowling, bowling leagues, snack bar, game room, sports bar. Fun for the entire family, electronic scorecard. *4062 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-2695, bowlingbarn.com*

Big Bear Jeep Experience. Off-road Jeep tours where you drive the Jeep. *42011 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-420-5828, bigbearjeepexperience.com*

Big Bear Speedway and Snow Play. Snack bar, video games. Ropes course and speedway open Sunday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Winter activities include tubing, glow tubing. *42825 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake, 909-585-0075, bigbearsnowplay.com*

Big Bear Valley Historical Museum, Eleanor Abbott Museum. Local history artifacts, blacksmith demonstrations, panning for gold, souvenir shop. Open through Labor Day holiday weekend on Saturdays, Sundays and holiday Mondays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. *800 B Greenway Drive, Big Bear City. 909-585-8100, bigbearhistory.org*

Chirp Nature Center. Special events, crafts, bird walks, gift shop, wild bird supplies. *578 Bonanza Trail, Big Bear Lake. 888-412-4477, chirpforbirds.com*

Gold Rush Mining Adventures. Mining for cool stuff, old Western town. *40016 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-5678, goldrushminingco.com*

Helicopter Big Bear. Helicopter tours around Big Bear Valley and beyond. *Big Bear Airport Terminal, 501 W. Valley Blvd., Big Bear City. 909-585-1200, helicopterbigbear.com*

Mountain Room Escapes. Games, puzzles, escape rooms. Daily from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. *40588 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 877-584-6427, mountainroomescapes.com*

Rim Nordic Bike Park and Ski Area. Summer activities include mountain bike riding and racing, State Route 18, across the road from Snow Valley, Running Springs. *909-867-2600, rimnordic.com*

Snow Summit. Bike park in the summer; skiing, snowboarding and tubing in the winter. *880 Summit Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 844-462-2327, bigbearmountainresort.com*

Snow Valley Resort. Skiing, snowboarding and tubing in the winter. *35100 State Route 18, Running Springs. 909-867-2751, snow-valley.com*

The Village area of Big Bear Lake. Shopping, dining and live entertainment. *Pine Knot Avenue and Village Drive, Big Bear Lake.*

Wyatt's Grill & Saloon and the Convention Center at Big Bear Lake. Indoor and outdoor dining, special events, dancing and live music. Home of Big Bear Lake Oktoberfest and Maifest. *42900 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-585-3000, bigbearevents.com*

Yosemite Axe Throwing. Try you skill at hitting a target with an axe. Open daily. Hours vary. *41530 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-647-3069, yosemiteaxe.com*

Marinas, Boat Tours, Fishing Charters

Big Bear Charter Fishing. Fishing charters open daily 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. *Holloway's Marina, 398 Edgemoor Road, Big Bear Lake. 800-475-3166.*

Big Bear Cruzer. Newest tour boat on the lake, providing a smaller setting. Hours vary. Call 909-866-3218 for more information or to book a tour. *Big Bear Marina, 500 Paine Court, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-3218, bigbearmarina.com*

Big Bear Lake Pirate Ship — Time Bandit. Take a lake tour on a pirate ship. Daily 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. *Holloway's Marina, 398 Edgemoor Road, Big Bear Lake. 909-878-4040, bigbearhollowaysmarina.com*

Big Bear Marina. Pontoon, fishing boat rentals, watersports, lake tours, boat repair, boat launch and slips. Hours of operation vary. *500 Paine Court, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-3218. bigbearmarina.com*

Cantrell Fishing Guide Service. Guided fishing charters. Open daily from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. *Pine Knot Marina, 400 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-585-4017 or 909-744-0935.*

Fish Big Bear Charter Service. Fishing charters. Open daily 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. *Big Bear Marina, 500 Paine Court, Big Bear Lake. 909-255-2834.*

Lucky Bear Fishing Charters. Fishing charters and eagle sighting tours. Open daily 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. *Captain John's Fawn Harbor & Marina, 39369 North Shore Drive, Fawnskin. 909-866-7303, luckybearfishing.com*

Miss Liberty Paddlewheel Tour Boat. Narrated 90 minute tour of Big Bear Lake featuring lake history. *439 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-8129, pineknotmarina.com*

Pine Knot Marina. Lake tours, personal watercraft, paddleboard, boat and kayak rentals, fishing charters, watersports school. Boat slip rentals and maintenance services. *439 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-7766, pineknotmarina.com*

Pleasure Point Marina. Boat rentals and paddleboard rentals. Open daily 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. *603 Landlock Landing, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-2455, pleasurepointmarina.net*





Around the Bear

From mountain adventures to festive gatherings—discover what's going on around town



Village Tree Lighting Ceremony.

The holidays are a season of wonder and magic in the mountains. Special events dot the calendar, making every day a chance to make memories.

Daily

Wild Lights, 5-9 p.m. at Big Bear Valley Alpine Zoo, 42801 Moonridge Road, Big Bear Lake. The zoo's pathways are transformed into a winter wonderland with nearly two million LED and solar-powered lights. Visitors will journey through four themed light zones, each telling a story that honors the mountain's wildlife and natural beauty. Tickets are $20; children under 5 and zoo members admitted free. Purchase tickets ahead of time; limited space is available. 909-584-1299, bigbearzoo.org.

Nov. 15

Friendsgiving, 5-9 p.m. at Sandy's Sports Bar, 40951 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. This dinner raises money to help feed local families for the holidays. There will be a silent and live auction and pantry items will be sold. Admission is $70. 909-366-0461.

Nov. 27

Big Bear Turkey Trot, 9 a.m. starting on the lot next to Dank Donuts, 42612 Moonridge Road. All ages are invited to participate in this 3-mile race and work up an appetite for that special family dinner. Moonridge Coffee Company sponsors a costume contest; holiday pies will be awarded to the winners. Dank Donuts will host a post-race celebration. Entry is $25 for kids under 18 and $40 for adults. $5 discount for locals. Proceeds support Big Bear food banks. Sign up at bigbearturkeytrot.com.

Nov. 28

Village Tree Lighting Ceremony, 4:30-7 p.m. at the corner of Village Drive and Pine Knot Avenue, Big Bear Lake. Say "hello" to Santa and Mrs. Claus, sing along to Christmas songs, enjoy dance performances and sample festive treats.

Snowvember, 5 p.m. at Sandy's Sports Bar, 40951 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. Big Bear Professional Firefighters host dinner and a show — a mustache contest, to be exact. Tickets are $50 and raise money for firefighters, scholarships and people in need. Buy tickets on Eventbrite.com (search "Stachetober presents Snowvember) or at the door.

Nov. 28-30

Mountain Christmas Boutique, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Big Bear Convention Center, 42900 Big Bear Blvd. Browse gifts from more than 40 arts and crafts vendors. Children can meet Santa and make holiday crafts. Admission is $3 for adults and $2 for everyone ages 3-14 and 62 and older. Locals enter free Sunday.

Nov. 29

Sidewalk Astronomy, 5-8 p.m. in the Village, 40754 Village Drive in Big Bear Lake. The Bear Valley Astronomical Society offers the public use of telescopes to view stars, planets and more.

The Graduates: The Sound of Simon & Garfunkel, 7 p.m. at Big Bear Lake Performing Arts Center. An energetic and heartwarming salute to the music of Simon & Garfunkel is played to a multi-media backdrop .

Dec. 8

Gatsby Holiday Gala, 5:30 p.m. at Destination Big Bear, 713 Stocker Road, Big Bear Lake. It's the bee's knees and the cat's meow at this party presented by the Soroptimist International of Big Bear Valley. Break out your flapper dresses or festive cocktail attire. Tickets are $100 and include dinner, auction and an audience participation event. Make your individual reservation by Dec. 1 at sibbv.clubexpress.com. Reserve a table for you and your friends by calling 909-800-9943.

Dec. 13-14

"The Nutcracker," 7 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday at the Big Bear Lake Performing Arts Center, 39707 Big Bear Blvd. The Moonridge School of Dance and Big Bear Lake Arts present this holiday tradition. For tickets, call 909-866-2244.

Dec. 21-27

"A Ghost Story of Christmas" at the Big Bear Lake Performing Arts Center, 39707 Big Bear Blvd. This original adaptation of the Charles Dickens classic is created and presented by Big Bear Theatre Project. Performances are at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Dec. 21, Dec. 26 and Dec. 27 and at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 26. Tickets are $20-$40. Pay what you want for the 2 p.m. Dec. 21 performance. bbtp.booktix.com.

Monthly Events

Little Artist, Every third Monday,11:30 a.m. at the Big Bear Lake Branch Library, 41930 Garstin Drive. Create fun, sometimes messy art projects. For children ages 0-5 years old. 909-866-5571

Family Game Time, Every third Monday, 4 p.m. at the Big Bear Lake Branch Library, 41930 Garstin Drive. Play board games, video games and group participation games. 909-866-5571

Karaoke with Crucial Karaoke and Taco Night, Every third Monday, 5-8 p.m., Stillwell's 40650 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake.

Wyatt's Country Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m., Wyatt's Grill and Saloon, Big Bear Convention Center, 42900 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-585-3000, bigbearevents.com

Bingo, Thursday, noon to 4 p.m. at the Big Bear Valley Senior Center, 42651 Big Bear Lake. bigbearparks.com

Nikki Sparks Country Rock, Thursday, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Azteca Grill, 40199 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake.

Honky Tonk Weekends, Friday and Saturday, 4-10 p.m., Wyatt's Grill and Saloon, Big Bear Convention Center, 42900 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-585-3000

Nikki SparksCountry Rock, Friay and Saturday, 6-9 p.m. at Stillwell's, 40650 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake.

Campfire Programs, Friday and Saturda, 8-9 p.m. at the Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Shore Drive, Fawnskin. Buy a hot chocolate and a s'more kit when you arrive and roast a marshmallow by the campfire. Nature presentations and/or interactive activities are offered weekly.

Nature Walks, Friday through Sunday, 10 a.m., 11 a.m., noon, 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. at the Big Bear Discovery Center, 40971 North Shore Drive, Fawnskin. Join a California Naturalist on a guided hike through our half-mile Nature Discovery Trail in the San Bernardino National Forest.

Wildflower Walk, every Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Baldwin Lane Ecological Reserve, 44999 North Shore Drive. The reserve opens with walks at 10 a.m., guided by Discovery Center volunteer naturalists. 909-382-2790

Live Music at Barrel 33, Saturday and Sunday, 5-8 p.m. at 40754 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. www.barrel33bigbear.com

FREE BIG BEAR TROLLEY

COME SEE BIG BEAR & RIDE FREE ANYWHERE



• THREE EASY ROUTES •

We offer three convenient routes with free rides to almost all of the visitor attractions and amenities in Big Bear, including the Ski Resorts, Boulder Bay, The Village, Supermarkets and the Airport.

• RIDE FREE ANYWHERE •

All transit within the Big Bear Valley is completely free for all riders. Mountain Transit is dedicated to evelating the Big Bear Experience. (Including Dial-A-Ride at limited capacity)

RIDE FREE NOW

FOR HOURS AND SERVICE AREA INFORMATION VISIT:

MOUNTAINTRANSIT.ORG

PRESENTED BY:

MOUNTAIN TRANSIT

#FREEBIGBEARTROLLEY



The Wild Lights magic begins at the zoo entrance.
Photos Courtesy of Care for Big Bear.

wonderland of lights

Alpine Zoo opens after hours for new holiday spectacle

Big Bear Alpine Zoo is transformed into a winter wonderland with Wild Lights, a new nighttime attraction that opened Nov. 6. Nearly two million LED and solar-powered lights have been placed to illuminate the alpine night sky, creating an unforgettable after-hours experience.

"Big Bear has wildlife in our DNA, and the Alpine Zoo is at the heart of it," said Travis Scott, CEO of Visit Big Bear, which is producing the spectacle.

"With Alpine Zoo Wild Lights, we're celebrating the animals that call this mountain home while supporting the zoo's rehabilitation work and our Care for Big Bear stewardship mission," Scott said.

"Just as important, this is for our community — a place for neighbors to gather after dark, celebrate the season and help our small businesses shine."

The first is the Wilderness Gateway & Great Pine. As guests approach the zoo, they'll be greeted by a towering 100-foot pine, illuminated by hundreds of thousands of shimmering colored lights, setting the stage for the experience.

Once inside the zoo, visitors will journey through four themed light zones, each telling a story that honors the mountain's wildlife and natural beauty.

The zones begin with the Wilderness Gateway, where softly glowing trees guide visitors beneath a 20-foot illuminated archway. At the center of the gateway stands the beloved two-story golden seated teddy bear, offering one of the season's most iconic photo opportunities.

Continuing up the Dickinson light-posted pathway, guests will arrive at the heart of the experience: the Village of Light, a community plaza and playground bursting with glowing presents, walk-through ornaments and cone trees.



A family takes in the sights at the Alpine Zoo.

This is where guests can pause at the Moonridge Coffee Co. Zoo Café to enjoy fresh pastries, cocoa or spiked cider and other seasonal treats before continuing their journey through the mountain's most festive landscape.

Turning the corner, guests will find themselves in a world where everything feels larger than life. Along The North Pole Path, an oversized 20-foot ornament, colossal gift boxes and a family of glowing snowmen lead to Santa's sleigh — an interactive 11-foot illuminated centerpiece, creating the perfect setting for people to gather, take photos and celebrate the season.

The final zone, the Care for Big Bear Dark Sky Grove, offers a tranquil finale to the evening. Nestled in a quiet, tree-lined corner of the zoo, this installation is designed as a reflective escape — a place to pause, breathe and appreciate the night sky. Using all solar-powered lights, the Grove features an illuminated white tree surrounded by thousands of tiny glowing mushroom lights, resembling a field of stars scattered across the ground. Overhead, gentle meteor shower lights shimmer between the pines, while planet-shaped orbs and moon lamps are placed throughout the grove.

Alpine Zoo Wild Lights benefits Care for Big Bear and the zoo's ongoing wildlife rehabilitation and conservation programs.

Experience the magic of the season at Wild Lights, running from November 6 to January 4 at the Big Bear Alpine Zoo. This enchanting event transforms the zoo into a winter wonderland of sparkling lights, open Wednesday through Sunday evenings from 5 to 9 p.m. Expanded hours will be offered during Thanksgiving week (Nov. 19–30) and throughout the holiday season (Dec. 17–Jan. 4), with the zoo closed on Christmas Day. Admission is $20, with free entry for Alpine Zoo members and children under 5. Tickets and details are available at bigbearzoo.org.



Children under 5 are admitted free to Wild Lights.

Pinecone Garland Workshop Held at BARREL 33



Unleash your woodland artist at the pinecone garland workshop offered by Barrel 33 6-8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 7.

The garlands will be about three feet long and made of local materials. All art supplies, even some semi-precious stones, and a first beverage are included in the $40 fee.

Class is taught by Joanne Norton, local jewelry designer and sommelier at the wine store. Her work, Deep Forest Designs, can be seen at Lodge Podge in Big Bear City and at Barrel 33.

Space is limited. Reserve your tickets at eventbrite.com. Type Pinecone Garland Workshop in the search box.

Barrel 33 is at 40754 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. For more information, call 909-878-0838.

Soroptimists to host gala in December



It's the bee's knees and the cat's meow at A Gatsby Holiday Gala presented by the Soroptimist International of Big Bear Valley.

It's ladies night out, so break out your flapper dresses or festive cocktail attire for a night of festivities and funding dreams 5:30 p.m. Dec. 8 at Destination Big Bear. The evening includes dinner, auction and an audience participation event.

One favorite part of the evening is the Holiday Pantry. Members will offer their homemade baked goods for immediate sale — perfect for a holiday party gift.

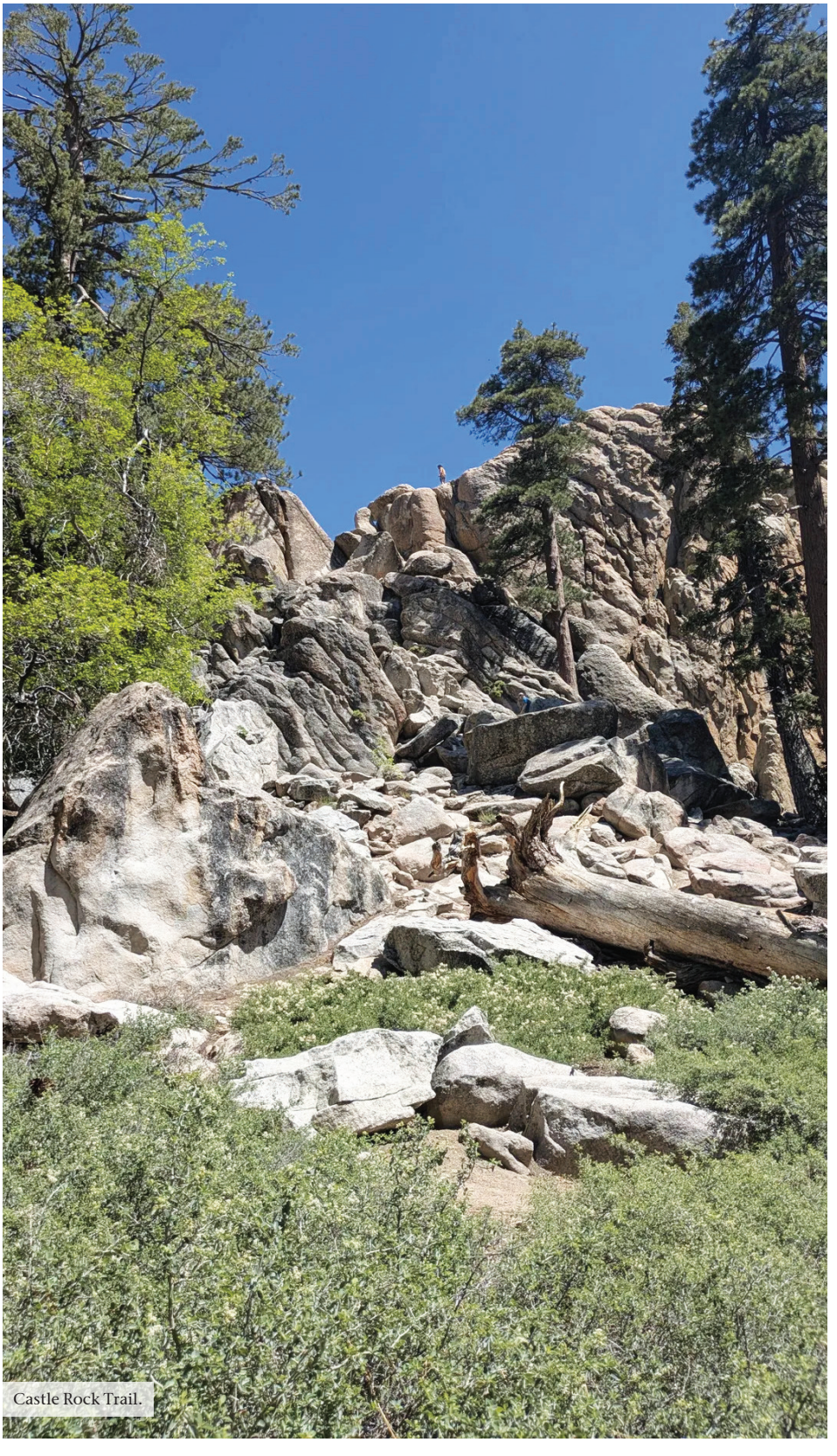
"This is our annual fundraiser that really drives all our initiatives for the entire year," said Nichole Hester, fundraising director. "It's a really empowering evening because we, and the community, knows exactly what our mission is ' helping a lot of women and girls."

Some of those signature programs include Live Your Dream, which helps adult women further their education, and Dream It Be It, which works with middle school girls.

The cost is $100 per guest and seating is limited. Make your individual reservation by Dec. 1 at sibbv.clubexpress.com. Reserve a table for you and your friends by calling (909) 800-9943.

Destination Big Bear is at 713 Stocker Road, Big Bear Lake. For sponsorship opportunities, call (208) 841-3138.

BIG BEAR'S MOST INSTAGRAMMABLE HIKES



Castle Rock Trail.

Big Bear has no shortage of scenic spots, but some trails stand out for their truly picture-perfect views. Whether you're a local looking for a weekend adventure or a visitor eager to capture the beauty of the mountains, these hikes showcase the best of Big Bear's natural charm. With crisp alpine air, towering pines and shimmering lake views, every step is a photo waiting to happen.

Castle Rock Trail

If you want a quick adventure with a big reward, Castle Rock Trail is a local favorite. Located off Highway 18, just a mile east of the dam, this short but moderately steep climb winds through tall pines before opening up to a rocky perch overlooking Big Bear Lake. The view from the top—blue water surrounded by forested ridges—is one of the most photographed scenes in the valley.

Local tip: Sunrise brings calm reflections on the lake, while sunset bathes the rocks in warm, golden light.

Cougar Crest Trail to Bertha Peak

For those craving a longer, more panoramic hike, Cougar Crest Trail is a must. Starting just west of the Big Bear Discovery Center on North Shore Drive, this scenic route climbs gently through pine and juniper forests before connecting to the Pacific Crest Trail. From there, you can continue up to Bertha Peak for an unforgettable view of the lake below and the desert stretching out to the east.

Local tip: Go during golden hour for soft light and fewer crowds. Bring a jacket—the breeze at the peak can be chilly even in summer.

Pine Knot Trail

For a relaxed but rewarding hike, head to Pine Knot Trail, which begins near Aspen Glen Picnic Area just south of The Village. The trail meanders through a mix of shaded forest and open meadows before ending at Grand View Point, a breathtaking overlook that truly lives up to its name. It's a favorite among locals for late-afternoon strolls and picture-perfect sunsets.

Local tip: Visit in late afternoon for warm sunlight filtering through the trees—nature's built-in lighting filter.

Capture the Moment

Big Bear's trails offer more than beautiful views—they capture the essence of mountain life. From quick morning hikes to full-day adventures, there's a path for every pace and photo style. So lace up your boots, grab your camera or phone, and rediscover the beauty that locals know and visitors come for.

Because here in Big Bear, every trail tells a story—and every view is worth sharing.

Share your favorite hiking photos by emailing them to editor@bigbeargrizzly.net for a chance to be featured!

SOS Big Bear

When you need assistance

Medical Care

Big Bear Urgent Care. Medical care when you need it. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday-Thursday and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday. *41949 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-3696. urgentcarebigbear.com, bvchd.com*

Bear Valley Community Hospital Emergency Department. Staffed 24 hours daily. *41870 Garstin Drive, Big Bear Lake. bvchd.com*

Brenda Boss Family Health Center, *41870 Garstin Drive, Big Bear Lake. bvchd.com*

Groceries

Bear Cupboards Market. Open Thursday-Saturday 11 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. *40850 Village Dr, Big Bear Lake. 909-415-1033*

Bear Mountain Jr Market & Deli Open Monday- Sunday, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. *40517 Big bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-2120*

Groceries

Community Market. Open Sunday-Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. *100 E. Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear City. 909-585-2641.*

Grocery Outlet 42126 Big Bear Blvd, Big Bear Lake. 909-340-2001, groceryoutlet.com

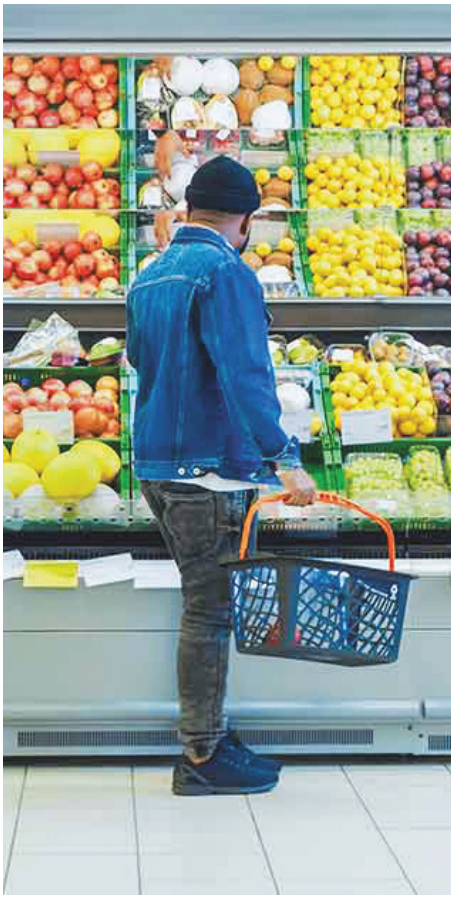
Stater Bros. Market. Open daily 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. *42171 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-5211.*

Vons in the Interlaken Shopping Center. Open daily 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. *42170 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-8459.*

Weekend Auto Repair Services

Nick's Auto Care (Valero Station). Open Sunday-Thursday 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. *40829 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-4770.*

Phil's Automotive Open Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed weekends. *41967 Fox Farm Road, Big Bear Lake. 909-878-3377, philsautorepair.net*





BIG BEAR LAKE

Stop by the Visitor Center.

- Pick up your free Big Bear area map.
- Get friendly info on lodging, dining, activities, & events.
- Purchase your Adventure Pass.
- Build a custom itinerary with our kiosk and table map.
- Purchase Big Bear and Care for Big Bear merchandise.

DROP IN AND SAY HELLO • 40824 Big Bear Blvd. Big Bear Lake

STAY AWHILE, EXPLORE IT ALL: BIGBEAR.COM

@visitbigbear @visitbigbear







#YOURMOUNTAINLAKEESCAPE

PRESERVE OUR NATURAL PLAYGROUND
CARE FOR BIG BEAR

GET INVOLVED

This is a lifelong agreement between Big Bear locals and visitors. This is our call to action for all who love Big Bear to preserve, protect and unify our natural playground for future generations to enjoy. Through education, motivation and awareness we all unite to Care for Big Bear on an endless scale. When we work together to Care for Big Bear, we vow to Care for our community, Appreciate our natural environment, Respect our neighbors and Enjoy our valley together.

@CAREFORBIGBEAR ◆ #CAREFORBIGBEAR

LEARN MORE AT BIGBEAR.COM



BIG BEAR LAKE

PRESENTED BY VISIT BIG BEAR

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT JUST GOT EVEN BETTER










BIG BEAR

COOL CABINS

Choose Big Bear Cool Cabins

*Best on the Mountain
*Dynamic Pricing System
*Preferred VRBO Host
*Professional Photography Included
*Truted Cleaners and Inspectors
*On Staff Spa Service & Snow Plow
*Airbnb Distribution Agent
*Mobile Owners App

909.866.COOL owners@bigbearcoolcabins.com