



# BIG BEAR NOW

June  
2026

A FREE PUBLICATION  
OF THE BIG BEAR GRIZZLY

# Celebrate INDEPENDENCE DAY

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Meet Johnny Wells • Summer Bucket List • Calendar of Events • 'On Golden Pond' on Stage

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# MEET JOHNNY WELLS

Preparing neighbors to help neighbors when disaster strikes

By **Christie Walker**

From Snowmageddon trapping people in their homes to wildfire evacuations clogging escape routes, from multiple road closures that isolate this mountain valley like an island in the sky, to power outages that last several days, Big Bear local Johnny Wells has seen his share of mountain emergencies.

As a member of C.E.R.T. (Community Emergency Response Team) for the past 20-plus years, and currently a member of the Board of Directors, Wells believes strongly in the JFK adage, “Ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country,” and in this case, what you can do for your community.

“While the state, county and city are certainly doing phenomenal work when it comes to disaster assistance, there is no way our government can fund, plan, or anticipate all the needs of the community in the case of a Valley-wide emergency,” Wells explained. “Your neighbors who care are the real heroes in times like these, where sometimes seconds matter.”

Wells, who helps coordinate training and membership for C.E.R.T., emphasized how in a Valley-wide emergency, when resources of Fire, Sheriff, EMTs, and Medics are spread thin, people need to be their own “first responder.”

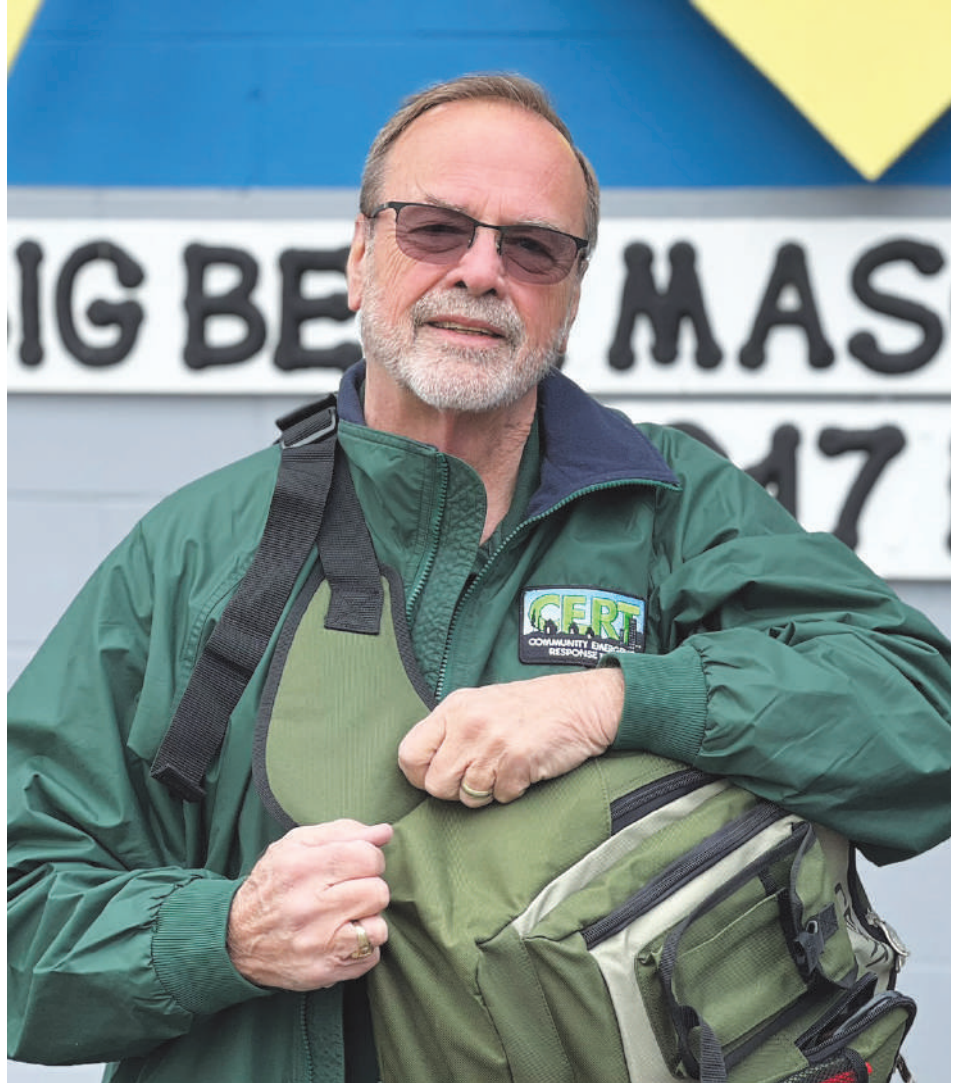
“Trained or not, the ultimate first responder is you. And when the time is NOW, it’s too late to get the training you need,” said Wells.

Receiving C.E.R.T. training takes roughly 30 to 40 hours and is conducted with groups of trainees. The free training classes are grouped into one weekend and will be held three times in 2026.

The first thing trainees learn is how to take care of themselves, then their family, next their neighbors, and finally, their community. There is no “requirement” to become certified; however, if someone is interested in working beyond taking care of their “family,” then there are tests, additional requirements, and training.

“If someone attends the free training and even comes to the monthly refreshers and their only focus is their own family, that’s fantastic! One more household that we don’t need to worry about,” said Wells.

When asked why he volunteers, Wells had this to say. “We all know one of the secrets to a happy life is to contribute. We’ve all had someone at some point in our lives help us — and truth be told — I know we all want to be able to do more. I’ve been in crisis a few times. Evacuated more than once and faced losing



it all. Lost loved ones. Looked into the face of what I was certain to be my last minute in this world and had that feeling of despair and screamed, “What do I do now?” I even died once. And there was always that hand from out of nowhere that was reaching to help. That soul who cared enough to come to my aid. Selfless and unconditional. Why do I do it? I want to be that soul. I want to be not only willing but ready and able to help. I’ve had those moments where being there made a difference. That is a part of existence I hope every human has a chance to experience, making a difference. To be ready and able with no hesitation. Because a moment’s hesitation can make a difference in the life of another. “He who hesitates is lost” takes on a deeper meaning in an emergency. Your response matters. Be ready. That’s important.”

The local C.E.R.T. team is part of a national system that includes local fire and sheriff, county rescue, FEMA, Red Cross and various other state and federal agencies.

The basic training is free and covers everything that might be needed in an emergency. Emergency first aid (CPR is an additional class), fire suppression and live fire training, site evaluation, communications with first responders and triage are part of C.E.R.T. training, as well as knowing when to back off and let the trained professionals take over.

When there is a need, the C.E.R.T. is “called up,” and if a member can respond, they make

their availability known. This is not self-directed assistance. The C.E.R.T. team is under the central command of the professionals who direct the actions and coordinate the tasks to do the most good.

While Wells is extremely passionate about C.E.R.T., his other passion is being a Mason. While C.E.R.T. is about community, Masonry is about the individual and their impact on all of humanity. Masons believe that one man or woman CAN change the world, not because it’s their goal to do so, but because of who they are as individuals. The Freemasons Lodge in Big Bear recently celebrated their 100th anniversary, with Wells as their elected leader.

“I’ve been a Mason my entire life, I just didn’t know it until I joined a Lodge,” said Wells, whose father was a Mason for 65 years.

While being a C.E.R.T. volunteer and being a Mason are not interchangeable, they do complement each other. Both organizations promote the idea that the individual is important and can make a difference, which is why the Lodge donates the space for the C.E.R.T. meetings and trainings.

“If you see a C.E.R.T. sticker on someone’s car or shirt, you know this is a neighbor you can look to in times of need. Everyone has a skill, or can learn one, and be of service. EVERYONE,” says Wells.

For more information on C.E.R.T., contact Susan Elliott, president, Big Bear chapter, at (909) 289-0139.



# BIG BEAR

## summer bucket list

Summer in Big Bear is more than a getaway — it's a full-on mountain adventure. From sunrise hikes and afternoons on the lake to unforgettable sunsets and lively village nights, there's no shortage of ways to make memories in Southern California's favorite mountain town. Whether you're visiting for the weekend or lucky enough to call Big Bear home, here's your ultimate summer bucket list for an unforgettable season in the mountains.

**Hit the Water on Big Bear Lake** You can't do summer in Big Bear without spending time on the lake. Rent a kayak, paddleboard, pontoon boat, or jet ski and cruise across the sparkling mountain water surrounded by pine-covered peaks. Early mornings bring glassy water and peaceful views, while sunset cruises turn into pure mountain magic.

**Ride to the Top on the Scenic Sky Chair** Take your adventure to new heights aboard Snow Summit's Scenic Sky Chair. As you climb above the trees, you'll be treated to breathtaking panoramic views of Big Bear Lake, the surrounding forest, and endless mountain scenery. At the top, explore hiking trails, grab a bite to eat, or simply soak in the fresh alpine air.

**Explore Big Bear's Best Hiking Trails** Big Bear is a paradise for hikers of every skill level. Trek to stunning viewpoints on Castle Rock Trail, wander through towering pines on Cougar Crest Trail, or enjoy a relaxing nature walk on the Woodland Interpretive Trail.

Keep your eyes open for wildlife, wildflowers, and some of the most Instagram-worthy photo spots in the mountains.

**Experience the Energy of The Village** Big Bear Village comes alive during summer with outdoor dining, live music, shopping, and small-town charm. Spend the afternoon browsing local boutiques, grabbing ice cream or coffee, discovering mountain treasures, and enjoying the laid-back atmosphere that makes Big Bear so special.

**Chase the Perfect Mountain Sunset** Few sunsets compare to the beauty of a Big Bear evening. Watch the sky explode into shades of orange, pink, and purple from a lakeside dock, scenic overlook, or cozy restaurant patio. It's the kind of moment that reminds you why mountain summers are unforgettable.

**Bike Through the Mountains** Adventure seekers know Big Bear is one of Southern California's top mountain biking destinations. Hit thrilling downhill trails or enjoy a more relaxed ride along the Alpine Pedal Path with family and friends. No matter your pace, the scenery alone makes every ride worth it.

**Cast a Line and Relax** Fishing on Big Bear Lake is a summer tradition. Whether you're an experienced angler or trying it for the first time, the lake offers the perfect setting to slow down and enjoy the outdoors. Fish from the shoreline, a dock, or out on a boat while taking in the peaceful mountain surroundings.

**Enjoy Summer Events & Festivals** There's always something happening in Big Bear during the summer months. From concerts and farmers markets to car shows, festivals, and community celebrations, every weekend brings a new reason to get outside and join the fun. Be sure to pick up a copy of the Big Bear Grizzly to stay updated on weekly events, local happenings, and everything going on around town during your mountain getaway.

**Take the Scenic Route** Sometimes the best adventures happen on the open road. Cruise around the lake, explore scenic mountain roads, or discover hidden pull-offs with incredible views of the forest and water. Every turn offers another postcard-worthy moment.

**Slow Down and Soak It All In** Big Bear isn't just about adventure — it's also about escaping the rush of everyday life. Sip coffee on a cabin deck, breathe in the crisp mountain air, read a book by the lake, or simply relax beneath the pines. Sometimes the best memories are the quietest ones.

**Your Summer Adventure Starts Here** No matter how many bucket list items you check off, one thing is certain — summer in Big Bear leaves you with memories that last long after the season ends. From lake days and mountain trails to sunsets and village nights, every moment feels like a classic California summer adventure waiting to happen.

**Share Your Big Bear Summer Adventure** Your Big Bear memories don't have to end when the weekend does. We'd love to see your favorite summer moments in the mountains — from lake days and hiking adventures to sunset views and family fun around town. Share your photos and upload your summer adventure memories on the Big Bear Grizzly Facebook page and join the community celebration all season long! *Follow and share here: Big Bear Grizzly Facebook Page*

# Mountain Meals

Big Bear's culinary delights

## Big Bear Lake Village

### 572 Social Kitchen & Lounge

American: Lunch and dinner.

A vibrant eatery serving crowd-favorites like burgers, wood-fired pizzas, fresh salads, and craft cocktails. 572 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0307, 572social.com.

### Amangela's Sandwich & Bagel House

Bagels/Sandwiches: Breakfast and late lunch.

A cozy spot known for fresh-made bagels, hearty sandwiches, crisp salads, and warm soups—perfect for a quick, delicious bite any time of day. 40729 Village Drive, Unit 1, Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0015, amangelas.com.

### AV Bar & Nightclub

Bar: Lunch and dinner.

Known for its high-energy atmosphere, this venue offers crowd-pleasers such as loaded fries, sliders, and handcrafted cocktails. 664 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-7377, avbigbear.com.

### Barrel 33

American/Wine/Beer Tasting: Lunch and dinner. Offering a relaxed, wine-bar vibe, this spot features artisan flatbreads, shareable charcuterie boards. 40754 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0838.

### Bear Noodle Bar

Asian Fusion: Lunch and dinner.

A warm, inviting eatery known for its rich ramen, wok-tossed noodles, savory rice dishes, and shareable appetizers. 603 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-366-0332.

### Cowboys Wandering Western Kitchen & Bar

American: Lunch and dinner.

Enjoy a range of hearty, Western-style fare like sloppy joe sandwiches, BBQ grilled chicken with fries, cowboy caviar salad, BLT wraps, mac 'n' cheese and smash burgers—all popular menu items locals rave about. 40692 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-366-0261, cowboyswandering.com.

### El Jacalito Grill

Mexican: Lunch and dinner.

Flavor-packed Mexican favorites like sizzling fajitas, slow-cooked carnitas, birria, tacos, and house margaritas make every meal a delicious experience. 535 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-3537, eljacalitogrill.com.

### Fire Rock Burgers & Brews

Burgers and Beer: Lunch and dinner.

Juicy burgers, crispy fries, hearty sandwiches and cold brews — perfect for a satisfying meal



A Big Bear breakfast institution, Grizzly Manor Café serves hearty, homestyle favorites like fluffy pancakes and loaded omelets that have customers lining up for more.

any time of day. 618 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0696, firerockburgersandbrews.com.

### Himalayan Restaurant

Indian/Himalayan/Nepalese: Lunch & dinner. Warm Himalayan flavors like momos, spicy curries, hearty dal and naan, and fragrant biryanis — a satisfying feast for adventurous food lovers. 672 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-3068, himalayanbigbear.com.

### Jasper's Barbeque

Barbecue: Lunch and dinner.

Smoky, slow-cooked barbecue with tender ribs, juicy brisket, pulled pork, and bold house-made sauces — a carnivore's paradise that's packed with flavor in every bite. 607 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-366-0232, jaspersmokehouse.com.

### La Bamba

Mexican: Lunch and dinner.

Bold, flavor-packed Mexican eats — sizzling fajitas, loaded tacos, cheesy enchiladas, and refreshing margaritas make every meal delicious. 587 Bonanza Trail, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-7696. labambamexicangrillbigbearca.com

### La Pergola Trattoria

Italian: Dinner.

Elevated Italian cuisine for true food lovers — house-made pastas, wood-fired pizzas, creamy risottos, and decadent desserts crafted with fresh, high-quality ingredients. 40821 Village Dr, Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0555. lapergolabigbear.com

### Masala Craft Indian Cuisine

Indian: Lunch and dinner.

Bold, aromatic Indian dishes made for food lovers — think creamy tikka masala, spicy vindaloo, garlic naan straight from the tandoor, and fragrant biryanis, all crafted with rich spices and fresh ingredients. 40760 Village Drive, Suite A, Big Bear Lake. 909-791-1239.

### Murray's Saloon & Eatery

American: Lunch and dinner.

Laid-back spot serving hearty comfort food like juicy burgers, loaded fries, wings, and cold beers. 672 Cottage Lane, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-1444. murraysbigbearlake.com.

### Oakside Restaurant & Bar

American: Lunch and dinner.

Craft-driven dishes featuring fresh, locally sourced ingredients — gourmet burgers, creative small plates, seasonal salads designed for adventurous eaters. 40701 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-5555. oaksiderestaurant.com.

### Old German Deli

German: Lunch and early dinner.

Authentic German flavors for food lovers — hearty sausages, house-made schnitzel, fresh pretzels, and rich potato dishes. 40645 Village Dr, Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0515.

### Peppercorn Grille

Steakhouse/Italian: Lunch and dinner.

Bold flavors for food lovers — from macadamia nut crab cakes and artichoke spinach dip to lobster ravioli, Alaskan salmon, and juicy Angus steaks, finished with house-made desserts. 553 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-5405, peppercorngrille.com.

## Big Bear Lake Village

### Rosa's Mexican Restaurant

Mexican: Lunch and dinner.

Find classic Mexican favorites like loaded nachos, flavorful tacos, hearty burritos and savory enchiladas that locals often mention in reviews. 646 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-203-2755.

### Royal Thai Bistro

Thai: Lunch and dinner.

Authentic flavors with dishes like spicy basil stir-fry, green curry, pad Thai, and fresh spring rolls — perfect for adventurous eaters craving bold, fragrant cuisine. 40766 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-2808. [royalthaicafebigbear.com](http://royalthaicafebigbear.com).

### Saucy Mama's Pizzeria

Pizzeria: Lunch and dinner.

Flavor-packed comfort food with favorites like cheesy pizzas, loaded pastas, hearty sandwiches, and wings smothered in bold sauces — perfect for a satisfying, casual meal. 618 B Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0165.

### Steinerhaus at the Qt

Barbecue/Steakhouse: Lunch and dinner.

This cozy Alpine-inspired spot serves up stand-out sausages, schnitzel, and house-made pretzels, and it's only open on Saturdays. 645 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 714-916-1753

### Stella Luna

American/Vegan: Brunch, lunch and dinner.

Offering a farm-to-table scratch kitchen with popular dishes like the vegan chorizo burrito, focaccia with balsamic, grilled veggie sandwiches, and fresh salads. 40696 Village Dr., Big Bear Lake. 909-366-0261, [stellalunarestaurant.com](http://stellalunarestaurant.com).

### Stillwells Restaurant and Lounge

American: Breakfast, lunch, dinner.

A classic American dining experience that draws visitors and foodies with well-reviewed main dishes like prime rib, New York steak, orange roughly, baby back ribs, and hearty burgers, alongside comforting favorites done well. 40650 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-3121, [stillwellsrestaurant.com](http://stillwellsrestaurant.com).

### Sweet Basil Bistro

Italian: Lunch and dinner.

Delivering an elevated, cozy dining experience with standout dishes like tender filet mignon, braised lamb chops, house-made pastas, fresh seafood specials, and indulgent desserts such as tiramisu. 40629 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-9212, [sweetbasilbistro.net](http://sweetbasilbistro.net).

### Teddy Bear Restaurant

American: Breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Step into a charming, family-friendly spot where classic comfort food takes center stage, featuring hearty burgers, fluffy pancakes, chicken-fried steak, homemade meatloaf, and generous, home-style portions. 583 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-5415, [teddybearsrestaurant.com](http://teddybearsrestaurant.com).

### The Bear Trap

American: Lunch and dinner.

Experience a lively, rustic eatery where hearty mountain fare takes center stage, featuring juicy steaks, baby back ribs, fresh seafood, and generous burgers in a warm, inviting atmosphere. 40433 Lakeview Drive., Big Bear Lake.

### The Copper Q

Bakery: Breakfast, Lunch and early dinner.

Serving artisan sandwiches and handcrafted pastries alongside favorites like the spinach artichoke chicken sandwich, turkey pesto panini, breakfast burrito, BLT on a croissant, and indulgent sweet treats like carrot cake and scones. 645 Pine Knot Ave., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-4777.

### The Cookshak

Barbecue: Lunch and early dinner.

The menu features bold Southern style BBQ and hearty comfort fare, highlights slow smoked brisket, juicy pulled pork and ribs, flavorful Po'boy sandwiches, crispy fish & chips, and juicy burgers stacked with robust toppings. 40611 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0137, [cookshak.com](http://cookshak.com).

### Tropicali

Hawaiian: Lunch and dinner.

A bright island-inspired menu, it delights with fresh favorites like the Tahiti poke bowl, Kraken poke bowl, teriyaki chicken bowl, and Hawaiian pulled pork. 40771 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0499. [osotropicali.com](http://osotropicali.com).

### Village Pizza

Pizzeria: Lunch and dinner.

Serving up classic thin-crust pizzas like the Village Special, pepperoni, and meat lovers, alongside hearty Italian-style sandwiches such as the meatball and pastrami sub. 40568 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-8505. [piz-zabigbear.com](http://piz-zabigbear.com)

### Village Sports Bar

Sports bar: Lunch and late night.

Known for crowd pleasers like juicy burgers, crispy wings, loaded nachos, and cold beers that pair perfectly with the lively sports bar atmosphere. 40789 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0099. [villagesportsbar.com](http://villagesportsbar.com)

### Whiskey Dave's

Sports Bar: Lunch and late night.

A lively, music filled hangout known for hearty comfort fare like tender ribs, stacked burgers, smoky BBQ plates, and cold drinks that pair perfectly with live bands and good times. 40740 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-3283. [whiskeydaves.com](http://whiskeydaves.com)

## Big Bear Lake/Big Bear Blvd.

### Alpine Country Coffee Shop

American/Mexican: Breakfast, lunch & dinner.

A cozy café serving freshly brewed coffee and espresso drinks alongside breakfast classics like pancakes, omelets, and hearty sandwiches. 41546 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-1959.



A medium pizza piled high with green bell peppers, olives, mushrooms, and chicken showcases the flavor-packed Italian food Saucy Mama's Pizzeria is known for.



A hearty steak sandwich with grilled squash at Stella Luna, known for its farm-to-table scratch kitchen and creative.



Juicy, handcrafted burgers and loaded fries done right. Get the Burger serves classic American comfort food for lunch and dinner.

## Big Bear Lake/Big Bear Blvd.

### Benny's Family Restaurant

American: Breakfast, lunch and late dinner.  
This welcoming diner offers hearty meals for the whole family, from breakfast favorites to burgers, sandwiches, and homestyle dinners. 41196 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-7844. [bennysfamilyrestaurant.com](http://bennysfamilyrestaurant.com)

### Café Crepe

Café: Breakfast and lunch.  
Enjoy sweet and savory crepes, fresh salads, sandwiches, and a variety of coffee and specialty drinks in a cozy café setting. 41003 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0460. [cafecrepebigbear.com](http://cafecrepebigbear.com)

### De La Nonna Big Bear

Pizzeria: Lunch and dinner.  
Serves hearty Italian favorites like pizza, salads, and classic entrees alongside wine and desserts in a warm, family-style atmosphere. 40770 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-547-9797. [delanonna.com](http://delanonna.com)

### Dynasty

Chinese: Lunch and dinner.  
Serving up classic Chinese favorites like General Tso's chicken, fried rice, lo mein, and savory stir fried dishes with a range of proteins and vegetables. 40989 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-7887. [bigbeardynasty.com](http://bigbeardynasty.com)

### El Rincon Restaurant

Mexican/American: Breakfast and lunch.

Offering authentic Mexican cuisine with dishes like tacos, enchiladas, burritos, and sizzling fajitas. 42011 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-366-0394. [elrinconbigbear.com](http://elrinconbigbear.com)

### Fuji Restaurant

Japanese: Lunch and late dinner.  
Offers fresh sushi, flavorful teriyaki and tempura dishes, and traditional Japanese bento boxes in a relaxed, casual atmosphere. 41025 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-8108.

### Gaby's Latin Flavors

Bolivian/Mexican/American: Lunch & dinner.  
Delighting food lovers with bold Latin flavors, featuring tacos with inventive fillings, handcrafted empanadas, savory pupusas, and vibrant rice and bean dishes. 41618 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-353-8839. [gabysbigbear.com](http://gabysbigbear.com)

### Get the Burger

Burgers: Lunch and dinner.  
Serving juicy, handcrafted burgers, loaded fries, and classic American comfort foods with a variety of toppings and flavorful combinations for burger enthusiasts. 42151 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-8800. [gettheburger.com](http://gettheburger.com)

### Grizzly Manor Café

American: Breakfast and lunch.  
Features hearty, home-style breakfasts and classic comfort dishes like pancakes, omelets, burgers, and daily specials. 41268 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-6226. [grizzlymanorcafe.com](http://grizzlymanorcafe.com)

### Hacienda Grill

Mexican: Lunch and dinner.  
Bold flavors with sizzling fajitas, enchiladas, tacos, and fresh guacamole. 41787 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-8667. [haciendagrill.net](http://haciendagrill.net)

### Laguna Grill

Mexican: Lunch and dinner.  
Dig into juicy burgers, cheesy quesadillas, zesty tacos, loaded fries, and fresh, crunchy salads for a fun and flavorful meal. 40844 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-2679.

### Maggio's Pizza

Pizzeria: Lunch and dinner.  
Grab a slice of cheesy, gooey pizza, hearty calzones, crispy wings, and fresh salads for a deliciously fun, casual bite. 42160 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-8815. [maggiospizza.com](http://maggiospizza.com)

### Mountain Munchies

Sandwiches: Lunch and early dinner.  
Indulge in piled high deli sandwiches like a hearty Reuben or Big Bear Club, burgers, crispy fries, and savory hot melts. 42171 1/2 Big Bear Blvd., Suite H, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-7767. [mtmunchies.com](http://mtmunchies.com)

### Nuevo Vallarta Grill

Mexican: Lunch and dinner.  
Serving Mexican favorites like tacos, enchiladas, burritos, and sizzling fajitas, paired with fresh salsas. 40949 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-7355.



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## Big Bear Lake/Big Bear Blvd.

### Old Country Inn

American: Breakfast, lunch and dinner. Serving classic comfort food like hearty breakfasts, juicy burgers, savory sandwiches, and homestyle dinners in a cozy, welcoming atmosphere. 41126 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-5600, [oldcountryinnrestaurant.com](http://oldcountryinnrestaurant.com).

### Red Baron Pizza

Pizzeria: Lunch and dinner. Featuring specialty pies like the BBQ chicken, meat lovers, or the house Red Baron special piled high with toppings, plus savory wings, cheesy bread bites, and hearty sandwiches. 42173 1/2 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-4744, [redbaronpizzasportsbar.com](http://redbaronpizzasportsbar.com).

### Sandy's Sports Bar & Restaurant

Sports Bar: Dinner. Fri/Sat Breakfast & lunch. Featuring classic pub fare like juicy burgers, loaded nachos, wings, sandwiches, and hearty entrees. 40951 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-366-0461.

### Sonora Cantina

Mexican. Lunch and dinner. Fri/Sat: Breakfast. Offering vibrant cuisine with dishes like sizzling fajitas, cheesy enchiladas, zesty tacos, and fresh guacamole. 41144 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-8202, [sonoracantinarestaurant.com](http://sonoracantinarestaurant.com).

### The Pines Lakefront

American: Dinner. Weekend Lunch.

Picture yourself lakeside, savoring a juicy prime rib or fresh salmon with mushrooms, then sealing the deal with a rich bread pudding or crême brûlée. 350 Alden Road, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-5400. [thepineslakefront.com](http://thepineslakefront.com).

### Wyatt's Grill & Saloon

American Bar: Weekend Dinner. Savor juicy Tri Tip Sliders, crispy jalapeño poppers, and warm peach cobbler. 42900 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-585-3000, [bigbearevents.com](http://bigbearevents.com).

## W. Big Bear Lake/Boulder Bay

### Azteca Grill

Mexican: Lunch and dinner. Dive into sizzling carne asada fajitas, zesty shrimp tacos, cheesy enchiladas del mar, and crunchy beef or chicken taquitos with homemade salsa and guac that'll have your taste buds dancing like a fiesta. 40199 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-2350. [aztecabigbear.com](http://aztecabigbear.com)

### Big Bear Mountain Brewery

Brewery: Lunch and dinner. Raise a cold pint of handcrafted amber ale or tangerine wheat and bite into classic burgers, a tangy Cuban sandwich, crispy fries or buffalo wings in a laid back mountain brewpub that's perfect after a day on the trail. 40260 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0616, [bigbearmountainbrewery.net](http://bigbearmountainbrewery.net).

### Blanca and Pierre's

American: Breakfast and lunch. Wake up your taste buds with fluffy pancakes, hearty chorizo and egg burritos, classic Eggs Benedict, or rich biscuits and gravy paired with a steaming cup of coffee that feels like a warm welcome. 39170 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-4566.

### Pho Big Bear

Chinese/Vietnamese: Lunch and dinner. Slurp up steaming rare steak & brisket pho, savory shrimp pho, crunchy egg rolls or fresh spring rolls in a cozy, flavor packed bowl that hits the spot after a chilly mountain walk. 40210 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0068.

### Piza Kama - Scratch Pizza Bar

Pizzeria: Lunch and dinner. Grab a slice of smoky Aloha or Margherita pizza, build your own cheesy pie, and crunch into fresh arugula salad. 39212 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 626-566-0260. [pizakama.square.site](http://pizakama.square.site)

### The Bear Trap Taproom

Tap Room: Lunch and dinner. Sip a crisp craft beer on tap alongside juicy smash burgers, cheesy pepperoni pizza, loaded nachos, and crispy tater tots in a laid back mountain brewpub that's perfect after a day on the trails. 40433 Lakeview Drive, Big Bear Lake.



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## W. Big Bear Lake/Boulder Bay

### Country Kitchen

American: Breakfast and lunch.

The menu features hearty comfort-style dishes like crispy chicken and waffles dusted with powdered sugar and served with maple syrup, generous avocado and jack wraps with tater tots, and classic all-day breakfast fare such as biscuits smothered in creamy gravy or meat-lover's omelettes that locals rave about. 39904 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-878-0364.

## Moonridge/Big Bear Lake

### Captain's Anchorage

Steakhouse/Seafood: Dinner.

Sip rich clam chowder, juicy prime rib or char-broiled filet mignon, dive into buttery lobster or scallops, and save room for decadent butter toffee cake or cheesecake in a cozy, historic steak and seafood house that's been a favorite since 1947. 42148 Moonridge Way, Big Bear Lake. 909-866-3997, [captainsanchorage.com](http://captainsanchorage.com).

### The Deli at Dank Donuts

Doughnuts/Sandwiches: Breakfast & late lunch. Crunch into fluffy blueberry and maple fritter donuts, sip rich cold brew, AND bite into hearty Reubens, buffalo chicken hoagies, or turkey club sandwiches. 42612 Moonridge Road., Big Bear Lake. 909-547-6053. [dankdonuts.com](http://dankdonuts.com)

### The Moonridge Room

Beer Bar: Lunch and late dinner.

Sink your teeth into loaded animal style waffle fries, crispy shrimp torpedos and rolled chicken tacos, smash down a juicy burger "saucer", and share pretzels with rich beer cheese. 42530 Moonridge Road, Big Bear Lake.

## Big Bear City

### BJ's Restaurant and Sandwich Shop

American/Burgers: Lunch.

Enjoy hearty roast beef, turkey, or pastrami sandwiches piled high with fresh fixings, juicy burgers, and classic grilled melts. 110 E. Big Bear Blvd. Big Bear City. 909-585-2938.

### Broadway Café

Burgers/Sandwiches: Breakfast, lunch & dinner.

Dig into a bacon avocado cheeseburger, smoky Southwest BBQ burger, or chili cheese tots — and don't sleep on the breakfast burrito that locals rave about. 1117 W. Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear City. 909-585-7682.

### Cocina de Mexico

Mexican: Late breakfast and early dinner.

Taco lovers, rejoice—these sizzling carne asada tacos, cheesy quesadillas, and zesty enchiladas bring fiesta vibes to every bite. 300 W. Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear City. 909-547-6999.

### La Paws Restaurant

Mexican: Breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Savory shredded beef tacos, cheesy enchiladas,

and a wet carne asada burrito piled high with red sauce are just a few of the crave worthy bites. 1128 W. Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear City. 909-585-9115.

### Lumberjack Café

American Diner: Breakfast and lunch.

Fluffy sourdough pancakes, hearty corned beef hash with eggs, and a chorizo breakfast burrito packed with flavor are some of the classic comfort food bites that folks rave about. 1001 W. Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear City. 909-585-2129.

### No Name Pizza

Pizzeria: Lunch and dinner.

Crispy crust pizzas loaded with spicy pepperoni, Italian sausage, BBQ chicken, or a colorful veggie medley, plus take and bake classics and fresh garden salads. 1112 W. Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear City. 909-585-4840, [nonamepizzamenu.com](http://nonamepizzamenu.com).

### TacosTao

Food Truck: Lunch and dinner.

Grilled carnitas, burritos, and street style tacos piled high with tender meats and fresh toppings keep folks coming back. 1041 W. Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear City. 408-680-6425.

### Thelma's Family Restaurant & Bakery

American Diner: Breakfast and lunch.

Fluffy omelets, hearty biscuits & gravy, cinnamon roll French toast, juicy burgers, and that famous chicken pot pie are just a few of the crave worthy plates people gush about. 337 W. Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear City. 909-585-7005.

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# Around the Bear

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

## Weekly

**Monday Meet and Mingle**, First Monday of the Month, 1-2:30 p.m. at the Bear Valley Senior Center, 42651 Big Bear Blvd, Big Bear Lake. Seniors are invited to make connections and enjoy fun presentations.

**"A" Garden Club Meet, Greet & Eat**, Every second Monday, 9:30 a.m. at the Masonic Lodge, 385 Summit Blvd., Big Bear Lake. Meeting and speaker.

**Family Game Time**, Every Tuesday, 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 Tuesday, 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**, Every Thursday, noon to 4 p.m. at the Big Bear Valley Senior Center, 42651 Big Bear Lake. bigbearparks.com

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

**Dance Lessons**, Every Friday, 5-6 p.m. at the Big Bear Lake Convention Center, 42900 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. Hosted by the Big Bear Community Dance Association. Singles and couples are invited. Free.

**Honky Tonk Weekends**, Every Friday & 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 Sparks Country Rock**, Every Friday & Saturday, 6-9 p.m. at Stillwell's, 40650 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake.

**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**, 10:30 a.m. and noon at the

BIGBEARGRIZZLY.NET



The Big Bear Village Spring Wine Walk returns June 20, inviting visitors to enjoy wine tastings, food pairings and a leisurely afternoon exploring the Village.

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

**American Legion Post 584 Dinner**, Every Saturday, 4:30 to 8:30 p.m., 41606 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. Veterans and their families are welcome. Call 909-866-4845.

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

**Free Bird Walks**, Every first Saturday 8 a.m., Chirp Nature Center, 578 Bonanza Trail, Big Bear Lake. Registration required: 888-412-4477.

**Pebble Plain Nature Walk**, Every Sunday, 9:30 a.m., Moonridge Pebble Plain. Join leaders on a tour of the recently protected pebble plains. bearvalleyedtrust.org

## June 9

**All You Can Eat Pizza Fest**, 4-8 p.m. at Village Pizza, 40568 Village Drive, Big Bear Lake. Pizza and drawings; tickets are \$15 each. Children under 8 admitted free. Co-hosted by the Big Bear Lions Club. All proceeds go to City of Hope.

## June 18-28

**"On Golden Pond,"** at the Big Bear Performing Arts Center, 39707 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. This comedy-drama depicts a couple's annual return to their lake house. Performances

are Thursday through Sunday; ticket prices vary. bbtp.booktix.com

## June 20

**Swim Beach opening party**, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Swim Beach, 41216 Park Ave., Big Bear Lake. Celebrate opening day with a bounce house, cornhole, food vendors and more. Swim beach admission is \$5-\$10; free for children 2 and younger.

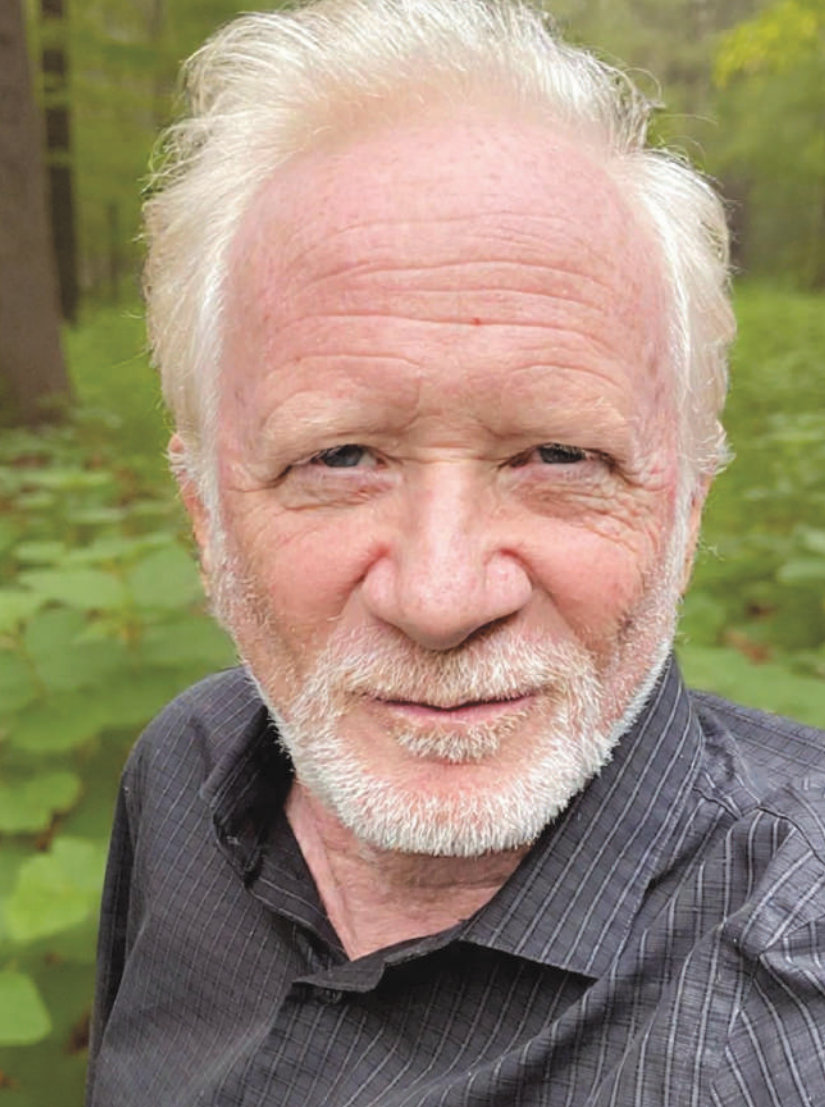
**Big Bear Village spring wine walk**, 2:30 to 6 p.m. at the Village, Big Bear Lake. Participating stores welcome customers with wine and snacks. \$55.20 admission includes 12 wine tickets, 12 food tickets and a commemorative glass. Purchase 12 food-only tickets for \$23.18. bigbear.com/events

**Summer Concert Series: '80s rock**, 6 p.m. at the corner of Village Drive and Pine Knot Avenue, Big Bear Lake. The English Beat and Sweet & Tender Hooligans open the city of Big Bear Lake's 2026 Summer Concert Series. Entrance is free.

## June 27

**Punk Rock Night in Moonridge**, 6 p.m. at Big Bear Mountain Resort Moonridge Lot. Alien Ant Farm and The High Curbs play in this special installment of the city's Free Concert Series. Free.

Share your events;  
email editor@bigbeargrizzly.net



## 'ON GOLDEN POND' COMES TO BIG BEAR

*Don Most and Judy Norton lead the cast of the beloved classic, bringing a timeless story of family, love and second chances to the mountains*

**D**on Most and Judy Norton will play the lead roles of Norman and Ethel Thayer in Big Bear Theatre Project's production of "On Golden Pond."

"There is something especially fitting about experiencing this story here, nestled in the San Bernardino Mountains beside the shimmering, sapphire waters of Big Bear Lake, 'our own Golden Pond,' director Beth Wheat said via news release.

Before "On Golden Pond" became one of Hollywood's most beloved films, Ernest Thompson's play had already been recognized as an extraordinary piece of American theater, Wheat said.

"Its story remains as funny, tender and aching true today as when it first captivated Broadway audiences in 1979."

Ethel and Norman Thayer spend their 48th summer at Golden Pond, delighting in their time-honored summer rituals, but this particular summer is markedly different. When their daughter, Chelsea, arrives with her new boyfriend, Bill, and his son, Billy Jr., old wounds are reopened and unexpected

bonds are formed. It is widely celebrated for perfectly balancing curmudgeonly humor with profound tenderness. "This play has all the elements of great theater," Wheat said.

Completing the cast are Scott Golden ("Little Shop of Horrors," "Mama Do You Know Me," "Ghost Story of Christmas") returns to Big Bear in the role of Charlie Martin, and Cassandra Ybarra Babcock ("The Importance of Being Earnest") returns as Chelsea Thayer Wayne.

"And we are delighted to welcome KJ Middlebrooks in the role of Bill Ray, and Robbie Vann as Billy Ray Jr.," Wheat said.

In honor of a shared affinity for the lake life, The Arts Council of Big Bear Valley is hosting boat cruises Friday, June 19, and Friday, June 27, that include "Spoken Words on Our Golden Pond," a live performance of original writing and music.

The cruises set sail promptly at 5 p.m. and will allow ample time to enjoy the lake, head out to dinner and make it to the Performing Arts Center in time for the 7:30 curtain. Proceeds will benefit The Arts Council of Big Bear

Valley, one of Big Bear's longstanding non-profit organizations.

Tickets for both events are available at [bbtp.booktix.com](http://bbtp.booktix.com). Tickets for the boat cruise must be purchased in advance. For more information, visit [www.bigbeartheatreproject.com](http://www.bigbeartheatreproject.com)

**Theatre Project relies on community support.** Founded in 2011, The Big Bear Theatre Project is committed to producing exceptional live theater that reflects our shared humanity.

In partnership with Visit Big Bear and a host of local business sponsors, The Big Bear Theatre Project produces a full season of classics, contemporary works, original adaptations and new plays.

As a nonprofit organization, the Theatre Project relies on community support, donors and volunteers to sustain its mission. For information on how to support the 2026 season by becoming a member, business sponsor or volunteer, visit [www.bigbeartheatreproject.org](http://www.bigbeartheatreproject.org).

# Big Bear Comes Together



By **Christie Walker**

## Music Takes Over the Village

An international day of free live music takes place every year on the summer solstice, June 21. Launched in France in 1982 as Fête de la Musique, Make Music Day is now held on the same day each year in more than 1,000 cities in 120 countries around the world, including Big Bear Lake.

For the sixth year, Make Music Big Bear will carry on the tradition of offering free live music throughout the Village from noon to 7 p.m. and, new this year for early risers, Morning Music in Moonridge, from 9 to noon, alternating between two locations along the Moonridge corridor, Moonridge Coffee and Dank Donuts.

“When you think about the other cities across the United States and abroad, most of which are far bigger than our quaint mountain town, I think it’s impressive that we are one of the 100-120 cities in the states, including New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Miami, New Orleans, Nashville, Austin, Boston, Seattle and Denver. Big Bear is running with the big dogs,” Big Bear resident and Make Music Big Bear Committee member Lori Brookes said with a smile.

Another new feature this year will be a flash mob performance of “Bohemian Rhapsody,” featuring local musicians and singers from the Voice Studio of Diane Sloan Kubeja. Musicians and singers will appear around the Village Sports Bar, 40789 Village Drive, slowly building the song to its head bobbing conclusion. The performance will happen twice during the day, once around 1 p.m. and again around 3:30. Check the schedule on the day of the event for all performance times and locations.

Look for the bright orange information booth in the Village for copies of the current schedule, free egg shakers and kazoos, and a chance to play a steel tongue drum.

For more information and the current schedule, visit the Make Music Big Bear website at [makemusicday.org/bigbear](http://makemusicday.org/bigbear).

## Stars, Science and Adventure

SkyFest Big Bear is back Aug. 14-16 at various locations around the Valley.

Care for Big Bear, an initiative of Visit Big Bear, invites you to night hikes, astronomy lectures, stargazing, sound baths and more.

Guest speakers come from NASA, DarkSky International and Amid the Stars: Mountain Stargazing Tours.

“DarkSky International is the global advocacy nonprofit for dark sky conservation,” said Sara Schacht, sustainability manager for Care for Big Bear. “They lead a lot of the messaging that Care for Big Bear tries to align with. They are also the organization that certifies dark sky communities.”

Locations for SkyFest include the Big Bear Lake Convention Center, the Big Bear Discovery Center and Snow Summit where the Big Bear Valley Astronomical Society will set up a telescope at the top of the mountain.

Big Bear Hiking Adventures will lead hikes to the top of Snow Summit, or you can take the ski lift up. There The Mystic Rose will offer sound baths. The astrophotography workshop has yet to announce its location.

The displays at the Big Bear Discovery Center are free and more kid and family oriented, Schacht said.

Find more information and purchase tickets at [bigbear.com/events/skyfest](http://bigbear.com/events/skyfest).

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**SAT** 10 A.M. TO 9 P.M.  
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Birders of all skill levels explore the natural beauty and diverse birdlife of Big Bear Lake during a free guided walk hosted by Chirp Nature Center.



# Adventure Awaits IN BIG BEAR

From outdoor adventures to local landmarks, discover what makes Big Bear Valley a year-round destination.

**Action Tours.** Zipline, Segway tours. Snowshoe tours in the winter. 40957 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 909-866-0390, [actiontourscalifornia.com](http://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](http://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](http://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, [bigbearmountainresort.com](http://bigbearmountainresort.com)

**Bear Mountain Golf Course** Offering a 9-hole course, driving range, practice areas,

golf lessons, a pro shop and food and beverage service for golfers of all skill levels. 43101 Goldmine Drive, Big Bear Lake. [bigbearmountainresort.com](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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. 800 B Greenway Drive, Big Bear City. 909-585-8100, [bigbearhistory.org](http://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](http://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](http://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.** The resort offers summer fun for all ages, including mountain biking, hiking, scenic sky chair rides, a downhill bike park, basecamp activities, bike rentals and outdoor dining. *880 Summit Blvd., Big Bear Lake. 844-462-2327, bigbearmountainresort.com*

**Snow Valley Resort.** Visitors can enjoy summer activities including a downhill bike park, hiking, scenic sky chair rides, bike rentals, outdoor dining and a full-service bike shop. *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 your 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 Cruiser.** 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*



## 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](http://www.bvesinc.com/safety) (800) 808-2837



*Celebrate*

**INDEPENDENCE DAY IN BIG BEAR**

**T**here's nothing quite like celebrating the Fourth of July in the mountains, and Big Bear delivers the perfect mix of patriotic spirit, small-town charm, and summer adventure. From the sparkling waters of Big Bear Lake to the excitement of fireworks lighting up the alpine sky, Independence Day weekend is one of the most unforgettable times to visit the mountain community locals proudly call home.

### **Celebrate on the Water**

After the parade, the celebration continues at beautiful Big Bear Lake. Spend the afternoon boating, paddleboarding, kayaking, fishing, or simply relaxing lakeside under the warm summer sun and cool mountain breeze. Holiday weekends bring energy and excitement to the water, making the lake the centerpiece of Independence Day fun.

### **A Small-Town Faire**

Amp up your patriotic spirit with Big Bear Lake's annual Independence Day Faire. From 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Big Bear Lake Convention Center, you'll find vendors selling jewelry, home and garden decor, candles, health products, dog treats, toys, homemade olive oils, crystals and vintage clothing. The Kids Fun Zone features a bounce house, face painting, a balloon artist and Fourth of July arts and crafts. Round out the day with live entertainment and a beer garden. Admission is free.

### **Mountain Dining and Local Favorites**

Big Bear's restaurants and local eateries come alive during the holiday weekend with festive menus, outdoor patio dining, and family-friendly atmospheres. Whether you're enjoying a hearty mountain breakfast, lakeside cocktails, barbecue with friends, or homemade desserts, there's no shortage of delicious ways to celebrate the holiday.

### **Explore the Heart of Big Bear Village**

The Village is buzzing all weekend long with live music, shopping, entertainment, and festive energy. Visitors can browse unique mountain boutiques, grab ice cream or sweet treats, enjoy local performers, and experience the welcoming spirit that makes Big Bear such a beloved Southern California destination.

### **Family-Friendly Fun Around Every Corner**

From alpine slides and mini golf to scenic hiking trails, bike rides, and lakeside picnics, Big Bear offers endless opportunities for family adventure. Whether you're visiting for the first time or continuing a family tradition, there's something for every age to enjoy throughout the holiday weekend.

### **A Fireworks Show to Remember**

As the sun sets behind the mountains, the skies above Big Bear Lake come alive with one of Southern California's most spectacular fireworks shows. Brilliant bursts of red, white, and blue reflect across the water while families gather along the shoreline to celebrate freedom, community, and the spirit of America. It's a breathtaking finale to an unforgettable day in the mountains.

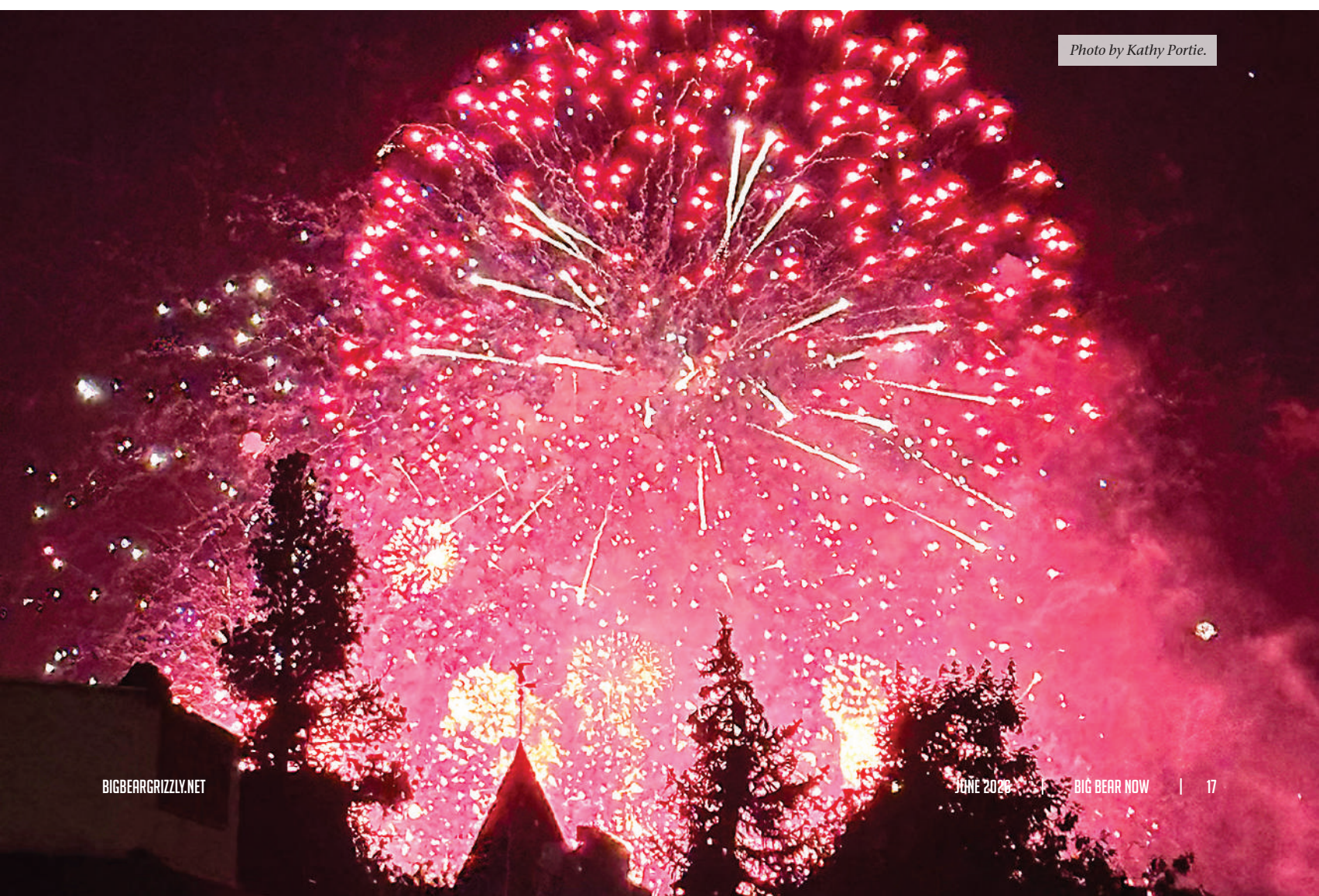
### **Plan Ahead for the Holiday Weekend**

The Fourth of July is one of Big Bear's busiest and most popular weekends of the year. Visitors are encouraged to arrive early, allow extra travel time, and take advantage of shuttle services, trolleys, biking, or walking whenever possible. Booking accommodations and activities in advance is also highly recommended.

### **Celebrate Freedom in the Mountains**

Whether you're spending the weekend with family, escaping the summer heat, or proudly celebrating as a local resident, the Fourth of July in Big Bear offers the perfect blend of patriotism, mountain beauty, and community spirit. From sunrise to fireworks, it's a celebration that reminds us why summer traditions — and America's birthday — are best enjoyed together.

Photo by Kathy Portie.





**W**e'll be out there having fun in the warm California sun now that Swim Beach is opening.

The Big Bear Valley Recreation and Parks District invites the public to a free grand opening celebration from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on June 20 at Swim Beach, featuring games, activities and fun on the water.

"We're going to have some food vendors there from the farmers market," said Oscar Mendez, recreation supervisor for the park district. "We're going to have a bounce house for the kids, cornhole and other activities to make it an extra-special day."

Beginning June 20, the beach will be open

Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Admission is \$10 for ages 13 and older and \$5 for children ages 3-12, seniors ages 60 and older, and all veterans and military personnel. Children ages 2 and younger are admitted free.

Swim Beach features picnic tables, charcoal barbecues, a volleyball court and a snack bar.

"We're keeping it clean and adjusting the buoys right now," Mendez said. "We're testing the water to make sure it's safe for swimming."

For more information, visit [dpw.sbcounty.gov/bigbearparks](http://dpw.sbcounty.gov/bigbearparks) or call (909) 866-0180. Swim Beach is located at 41216 Park Ave. in Big Bear Lake.



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