

\$1 tacos, \$20 dinner for two at OCI

Looking for a deal? Old Country Inn and Sonora Cantina are talking your language!

Both popular restaurants have specials worth talking about. Sonora Cantina's seasonal "Dollar Taco Nights" return this month, a tasty way to raise money for your favorite organizations. Scarf down as many chicken, beef or veggie tacos, just a buck each, and all proceeds go to that night's designated beneficiary.

Some folks have been known to devour 30 or more tasty tacos! Pasta lovers meanwhile can opt for \$5.99 spaghetti next door at Old Country Inn.

Feast cheap for good causes on March 18 (high school fashion club), 22 (Community Arts Theater Society), and 29 (Li-

Snowshoe treks...

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so deep my ski pole slides all the way in, up to my hand in white.

After trekking a mile or so, our group stops for lunch. Here, a picnic spot is anywhere we care to sit, so Dixie pulls out salami, cheeses, crackers and olives out of the picnic box from Grizzly Mountain Gourmet. We munch and take in our surroundings, surrounded on each side by snow-covered hillsides and complete, absolute silence. Capping off the meal are delicious cookies.

"Sometimes we bring beers or wine along too," Linda says. "It makes the meal nicer but it's harder to go back."

Indeed I already don't want to return and I've had nary a drop when Fred announces its time to head back. After a long lunch I could relax even longer but instead I put my snowshoes back on and follow him out, up the trail we came in on.

After all, I'd hate to be the first one Goldsmith's loses in the backcountry!

—by **Marcus Dietz**

Goldsmiths Boardhouse is at 42071 Big Bear Blvd. Call (909) 866-2728.

brary reading program). April dates include Big Bear Explorers on the 12th, high school basketball on April 19, and Park and Rec basketball in April 26.

On May 3 it's Singing Pines, May 10 Habitat for Humanity, and May 17 high school track. The seasonal fundraiser winds down June 7 (CERT) and 14 (St. Joseph Food Pantry) till fall.

Midweek nights see dynamite dinner specials for two at Old Country Inn for just twenty bucks. It's a full meal deal that includes entree, sour or salad and dessert to share, Monday through Thursday.

Choose from baby back ribs, fish and chips, veggie pasta, fettuccini alfredo or top sirloin for just \$19.99. A better deal than the chain restaurants down the hill offer, amidst the comfortable mountain lodge surroundings at one of Big Bear's most popular restaurants!

On Fridays OCI serves its all-you-can-eat fish and chips special, including soup or salad, for just \$12.95. Super popular is Sunday's prime rib dinner for two, with two 8 oz. cuts including side and vegetables for \$24.95.

Old Country Inn is at 41126 Big Bear Blvd., next to Sonora Cantina. Call (909) 866-5600.

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Smoked prime rib, fish and chips star at B's

Everyone does prime rib, but leave it to B's Backyard Bar-B-Que to do it differently: smoked!

The lakeside restaurant introduced smoked prime rib to its offerings a couple months ago to great acclaim. Each prime rib takes a turn in the restaurant's famous 3,500 lb. wood smoker, straight from the KC Masterpiece Smokehouse in Kansas City. Usually the smoker is filled with tantalizing pulled pork which is slow smoked to perfection for 16 hours, but prime rib is cooked at a higher temperature for just a couple hours, ensuring meat is nice and smoky, still tender. Enjoy a 12 oz. cut of smoked prime rib for just \$19.95.

Friday's the night for all-you-can-eat fish and chips at B's Backyard. The restaurant uses real Icelandic cod dipped liberally in batter, served with a mountain of French fries. At \$12.99 fish and chips

has become a Friday staple at B's.

Wednesdays are the night for all-you-can-eat beef ribs at B's Backyard for \$11.99. You'd expect a barbecue place to do beef ribs right and B's delivers, slow smoking for five-and-a-half hours till the meat is tender and flavorful.

Saturdays and Sundays see breakfast at B's, with traditional favorites served with a side of beautiful lake views. As an added bonus, catch the popular Bloody Mary bar, where guests choose from different mixes and fixin's to create their own custom morning jumpstart...\$3 each!

Next door at the adjacent Boathouse Lounge, watch the lake fill while enjoying food and your favorite cocktails. DJ Club George gets the party going each Friday and Saturday, and there's live music on Saturdays.

B's is at 350 Alden Rd. 866-5400.

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