

Step Back in Time for Julian Gold Rush Days

MEDIA RELEASE

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Old Fashioned Mining Camp provides family fun

January 18, 2015— Julian Gold Rush Days, which takes place May 30-31 from 10am-4pm, celebrates the discovery of gold in this mountain community and invites visitors to learn more about its history with a weekend of entertainment including gold panning, tomahawk throwing demonstrations, historic skits, candle dipping and more. Held at the Julian Mining Company in Wynola, the old fashioned mining camp will offer free admission, vendors, an arts and crafts market, food and drink, a petting zoo, children's pioneer games, face painting, free parking and plenty of family fun.

In addition to the mining camp, events planned for this weekend include a scavenger hunt for the golden nugget, performances by the Julian Doves & Desperadoes, gold mine tours, gold panning, a special train ride and gold tour at Smith Ranch, photo opportunities, and fun for the entire family.

"Julian Gold Rush Days is a great opportunity to 'turn back the clock' and give visitors an idea of what Julian was like in its early days," according to Tracy Turner, vice president of the Julian Chamber of Commerce. "It's entertainment for the whole family!"

In the winter of 1869 when former slave Fred Coleman discovered gold in a small creek just outside of Julian, it set off a frenzy that became San Diego's own gold rush. Within a few weeks, over 800 prospectors from all over the country were headed to Julian in search of gold. The first producing gold mine, the Washington Mine, was discovered in February 1870 and within days over 40 other claims were registered.

The gold rush lasted off and on for about thirty years, producing almost \$2 million in gold (about \$150 million in today's market). While other nearby gold mining town such as Banner City, Branson City, Cuyamaca City, and Eastwood disappeared over time, Julian continued to thrive with the production of its newest asset—apples.

For more information, call 760-765-1857 or visit www.juliangoldrushdays.com. Julian Gold Rush Days is sponsored by the Julian Chamber of Commerce.

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