

City council honors Edie Ceccarelli

The Willits City Council their meeting this at week celebrated Edith Ceccarelli's 114th Birthday with a special proclamation "to acknowledge and honor you as you turn 114 years young. We would officially like to recognize that you have had the privilege of celebrating the most Birthdays in Mendocino County."

Edith Recagno Keenan Ceccarelli, who was born February 5, 1908, in Willits, is among a handful of the oldest people living in the United States and is considered the oldest California resident living who was born in the Golden State.

The city council proclamation noted the community would be helping Willits' famed super-centenarian celebrate her special day with a drive-by parade on Saturday, February 5.

Read the rest of Edie Over on Page 11

Sheriff's Office reports new **COVID** outbreak atjail



Supes fund new PHF facility in Ukiah

Forrest Glyer Reporter willitsweekly@gmail.com

Tuesday On the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors approved a plan to spend just over \$19.5 million on the construction of a lockdown psychiatric health facility (PHF) on Whitmore Lane in Ukiah.

Once completed, the location will be the only PHF in the county, alleviating the need to send people out of the county who are assigned to be in such a facility, a problem which the county has dealt with for many years.

While previous discussions of turning the building on Whitmore into a PHF unit focused on just renovating the roof, for this new plan the entire building

Read the rest of PHF Over on Page 10

Case numbers up in latest **COVID** surge

UNITED STA

POSTALSERV

2 Tests

SPECIMEN U

SELF COLLECTION

AccessBio

CareStart™

COVID-19

ANTIGEN

HOME TEST

Free tests delivered by USPS

Receive 4 COVID antigen tests delivered right to your home by the United States Postal Service

Now it's easier than ever to receive a COVID test kit, and this doesn't even require the recipient to leave their house!

The United States Post Office will be helping distribute tests to residences across the country to help make testing access easy for everyone.

All you need to do is go online to https://www.covidtests. gov/ and sign up via the simple form. Each household can receive four free tests that will ship for free also starting in late January, and usually about 7 to 12 days after ordering.

The tests available for order:

By Lt. John Bednar, for MCSO

January 21, 2022 - The Mendocino County Jail has had an outbreak of COVID-19 amongst the inmate population and staff.

The Sheriff's Office has continued to utilize personal protective equipment for jail staff as well as abided by all mandates and direction from the Centers for Disease Control, Cal-OSHA and the Mendocino County Public Health officer.

Despite our best efforts, COVID-19 cases are on the rise in the jail. Some of the difficulties in preventing the spread are the openair design of the aging jail facility, the constant turnover of inmates in custody, and the rise in COVID-positive arrestees being brought into the facility.

In the last two weeks, the jail has seen 62 cases of COVID-19 among the inmates. Several inmates have recovered in custody, while some others have been released by the courts and returned home to finish their isolation period.

The current number of cases in the jail is 45.

As part of the safety procedures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the jail, all incoming arrestees are tested upon entry into the facility. Once booked into custody, arrestees are

Read the rest of

Jail Over on Page 10

Service, will be one of those out delivering COVID tests to the residences of those who order. Above: The USPS will help get free tests out to homes free of charge.

Below, left: Home tests are simple to use and include a swab, solution and test pad. Photo by Matthew Jennison

Below, right: A line only by the "C" symbol indicates a negative COVID result.

ction Buffer Tube

Cassette

4.

4

spe

10.

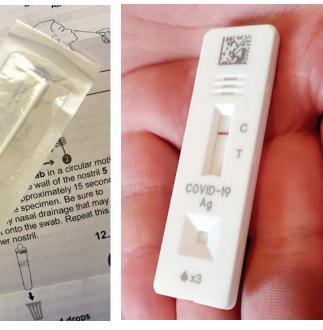
Nasal Swa

Are rapid antigen at-home tests, not PCR

· Are also referred to as self-tests or over-the-counter (OTC) tests

· Give results within 30 minutes (no lab drop-off required)

Call Public Health with any guestions at: 707-472-2759. Visit www.mendocinocounty.org/covid19 for more info.



Pruebas COVID-19 GRATIS

maxi

on

Nuestra Alianza de Willits 291 School St. Willits, CA LUNES - MIÉRCOLES - JUEVES - VIERNES

false negative result may occu

men is not properly collected

Favor de registrarse aquí https://my.primary.health/l/ nuestra?locale=es -



9AM - 12:30PM

FREE COVID-19 Testing

Nuestra Alianza de Willits 291 School St. Willits, CA MONDAY - WEDNESDAY - THURSDAY - FRIDAY 9AM - 12:30PM

Please register here https://my.primary.health/l/ nuestra?locale=en -



Questions 707-841-7909 O Promotores de Salud de N.A.W promotoresdesalud@nawfrc.org Jennifer Poole Editor & Reporter willitsweeklv@amail.com

COVID case numbers have dramatically increased over the past three weeks, Mendocino County Public Health Officer Andy Coren told the board of supervisors Tuesday. "We're reaching 141.5 cases per 100,000 per day in our county," Dr. Coren said, "which is almost three times our [previous] highest daily rates during this pandemic."

He noted, as he has before, these numbers were from "PCR tests only, but we know that there are hundreds more positive rapid antigen tests at the schools and at home. The test positivity [rate] is up to 22.5 percent."

Hospitalizations also accelerated last week. Coren said. "with 20 in Mendocino hospitals today, and no ICU beds available." He added that the local hospitals and skilled nursing facilities are being "severely challenged by nursing shortages due to the outbreaks and attrition."

He announced Mendocino County "currently [has] seven outbreaks ... and several clusters under watch."

Coren updated the total number of deaths attributed to COVID in Mendocino County to 113 local residents, "and that number will increase over the next



What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Willits Science Fair

To the Editor:

Here is an update on the 2022 Willits Science Fair. Students throughout Willits have been actively working on their science projects, and there are many fascinating topics this year! We are so excited to see the projects in their final form!

The Willits Science Fair is scheduled to take place February 10 through 17. Due to the recent surge in COVID cases and the resulting public health orders limiting gatherings, students will not be traveling to the Willits Community Center to view the projects in person this year. However, classrooms can participate in livestream virtual visits to the science fair, so students will be able to see their projects on display and see their ribbons and prizes.

Although the science fair will be closed to the public, a How-Do-I video montage of projects and a list of award winners will be posted on the Willits Science Fair's website for families to see, beginning on February 14.

Please note that students have the option of displaying their final projects on a traditional cardboard trifold, or making a digital display. You can find more information about the Willits Science Fair at our website: https:// sites.google.com/willitsunified.com/sciencefair/home

Students who are participating in the Science Fair should be sure to complete the entry form (called the Intent to Participate) no later than January 21, 2022. This form is available on the Willits Science Fair website

If you have any questions about the science fair, please feel free to contact Erin Vaccaro at sciencefair@ willitsunified.com

Erin Vaccaro, Willits Science Fair coordinator

Water issues deserve attention

To the Editor:

I was saddened by the front page summary, "Willits City Council meeting short and sweet," in the January 20, 2022 issue of Willits Weekly: "The council approved some routine payments, a red, no-parking curb at the new firehouse, and ongoing minor street repairs. Not much else".

I am aware of several important, and basic, issues that our town has at this time, that need, and deserve the city council's attention. Significant among these is safe and aesthetically acceptable drinking water. The City of Willits continues to have difficulty assuring that we have clean water piped into our homes. This presents



health, safety and financial issues that affect not only our families, but businesses as well - especially restaurants, businesses involved in food preparation, and businesses such as laundry and hair salons.

I understand that the City of Willits has old water pipes around town that are in need of replacement, and that the city has not been performing annual flushing of its ancient system for the past few years. I am also aware that the city and city council are responsible for maintaining and improving the water distribution

infrastructure in Willits I urge all concerned parties, including the city council, the mayor, Public Works, and the citizens of Willits, to actively work on this water problem. Citizens – instead of complaining on Facebook, get involved. Contact your city officials. All their email addresses are available on the City of Willits website: https://cityofwillits.org/9/

Pat Cougar, Willits

Rotary Club's student debt

program To the Editor:

In 2020, Rotary Club of Willits recognized the problem of college graduates leaving college with sometimes huge student loan debt. To help alleviate the pressure of these loans on Willits area residents, and encourage professionals to stay in our community, our club created the Rotary Club of Willits Student Debt Assistance Program (SDAP).

We found the need was greater than expected. In its inaugural year, our club awarded 10 recipients \$300 per month for one year.

We have decided to continue this worthy program for 2022. Applications are available, and the deadline for the completed applications is February 19, 2022.

Our club welcomes donations to this fund so we can serve more Willits area residents in need of student loan assistance. You can send checks, with a notation that they go to the "Willits SDAP account." Rotary Club of Willits is an IRS 501(c) (3) charitable foundation. For more information contact Jenny Senter at 707-888-7834

To donate, please send checks to: Rotary Club of Willits, P.O. Box 787, Willits, CA 95490

For applications, please send an email to: willitssdap@ gmail.com

Joe Bratt, program chair, Willits Rotary

Senior Center menu for the week

Willits Senior Center's indoor dining room has reopened, as of January 17. The Senior Center will continue serving drivethrough and walk-up lunches, too. Lunch is available Monday

New Year, new you! **Redwood Wellness Recovery** Program offers help making positive changes

By Hailey Blair, substance use counselor. Redwood Wellness

So many of us tell ourselves, New Year, new you! We pick out that thing that has been bothering us and make a resolution - a vow, to change it come January 1st. Gyms everywhere vibrate with newcomer energy for the first two weeks of the year before slowly, but steadily, numbers drop, and roughly the same core, committed folks show up on a regular schedule.

> Wellness Over on Page 11 Read the rest of

Water pulled to fight Sunday's fire in Tomki caused clarity issues Posted by City of Willits

On Sunday, January 23 there was a fire in the Tomki area that, thanks to the efforts of Little Lake Fire Department was contained. Due to the rapid response required, and the need for water to be pulled from the water distribution system, the main City of Willits water lines were disturbed

This disturbance caused water clarity issues in some service areas. Those impacted may experience "brown water." This will subside when the system settles.

Thank you for your patience and understanding while we work to resolve this matter.

Editor's Note: According to local reporting this fire was a barn fire in the 22400 block of Tomki Road that was reported after 9 am Sunday, with the incident terminated after 3 pm, after several hours of mop-up.

Four Chaplains Memorial Service, February 5

Submitted by American Legion Post 174

On Saturday, February 5, 2022, the United Methodist Church in Willits will be hosting a Four Chaplains memorial service at 11 am. The American Legion Post 174 will be assisting as the honor and color guard.

The service is to remember the chaplains of the SS Dorchester who willingly gave their lives on February 3, 1943 after their ship was torpedoed by the U-223, a German submarine.

First Lieutenants Fox, Goode, Washington and Poling, all

Memorial Over on Page 11 Read the rest of

Town Hall with Supervisor Haschak, February 3

At right: A rare photograph of Henry Shebitz with an almost scowl on his face as he concentrates on this toss: "We have two mottos: It's never over till it's over and caca passa," he said with a laugh. Bill Bruneau's perfect crouch is one way to toss a boule to keep it low and rolling. Greg Schindel's boule is seen headed to use another player's boule to get close to the cochonne

At right, below: Eldon Moilanen's ball hits the dirt just in front of the other balls, bounces in the air, and lands next to the cochonnet, giving his team the lead. Tim Gregory shows good form and is also known to be ambidextrous, using his left hand when needed

Below: Bill Bruneau crouches and tosses his boule on the regulation pétanque terrain, which will soon be covered with new sand provided by City of Willits Public Works Supervisor Kenan O'Shea Photos by Ree Slocun







Boule Games

Willits pétanque club, which meets Tuesday, Friday and Sunday afternoons, is a chance to join in on some fun and camaraderie

When I said I wanted to do a story about this cool-sounding game - it's French, after closest to it make points for their team. all – I didn't realize I knew four out of the five players. Nor that I had experiences that It sounded simple.

would serve me well Ree Slocum playing pétangue pronounced willitsweekly@gmail.com puh-taangk, which

"I think people don't realize how similar it is to other games they've played. So then running into pétanque, there's a certain familiarity," said Tim Gregory, who still Someone threw out a circle made of considers himself a newbie after seven

years. The game is simple, really. "Imagine

in your backyard and you throw out a rock and say, 'Who can get closer to it?' You don't need equipment or anything. It's the simplest game but it turns out to be the most complex game because of that," Bill Bruneau smiled with irony.

I soon realized that this simple game, which is very similar to bocce, is filled with nuance, focus and years of acquired skill.

Last Tuesday, instead of a rock, we played with steel balls weighing about 2 pounds and a little yellow ball called a cochonnet - pronounced ko-sho-nay and translated as "little pig." Trying to get the correct spelling of cochonnet from these the years. garrulous friends was fun: "I think it's c-o-

u-c-h..." started one player. "...c-h-e-t?" added another with "c-o-s-h-a-n-t-e?" the throw under-handed. There was plenty of last stab at butchering the French spelling help with advice about strategies to get my of the poor "little pig." boules close to the cochonnet. By watching

boules as close to the cochonnet as you I had beginner's luck when I was the without getting any closer than my first ball. thrower of the cochonnet and first boule. can. Once all the balls are played, those

We played in a regulation-size playing field. The terrain was a bit bumpy with tufts of grass and soft soil. I soon realized had to throw next. Schindel, Bruneau and that those irregularities were part of Gregory all threw their two boules each

My boule landed and rolled right next to Shebitz's four balls to go. Needless to say, the little pig. That alone is wonderful but we won with flying colors. I was in awe and completely hooked on the game! what happened next was most amazing. Because the object of the game is to get We continued playing while chatting closest to the cochonnet, the other team Read the rest of

Over on Page 11 Boule

We had my one ball and Moilanen's and



translates to "feet together.

black poly-pipe, stood in the circle with their feet somewhat together and tossed the cochonnet where he wanted. There are that you're 10 years old again and we're regulations for how big the circle must be

and how far the cochonnet's thrown. These seasoned players knew the approximate distances, so there wasn't any quarreling about such. Actually, there wasn't any quarreling at all.

Then the fun began.

The game last Tuesday, January 18, was played with a mixture of serious focus, making sure the newbie understood what to do and how and where to throw the boule, keeping track of the score, measuring the boules from the cochonnet if needed, scoping the field for their play, all with easy humor and camaraderie developed over

It was a bit confusing at first as to how to throw, where to throw, and why the heck

the challenge when contemplating and strategizing your throw - be it under or over-handed, in a crouched or standing

The Rules: LETTERS

Letters & Commentaries: Email letters to willitsweekly@gmail.com. Letters focusing on Willits and Third District issues, activities, events and people have priority. Willits Weekly prints letters from residents of Willits and the Third District only. To encourage a variety of voices, Willits Weekly limits letter publication from any one writer to once every four weeks.

Typed letters can be sent to Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490, but email is preferred. Letters and commentaries must be submitted with a name, address and phone number, although only the author's name and city of residence will be published. No letters from an anonymous source will be published, although a request to withhold the writer's name will be considered.



Willits Weekly is a locally owned independent newspaper, founded in 2013, covering the greater Willits area.

Volume 9, Number 436

3,500 - 4,000 copies printed by Western Web on Thursdays

P.O. Box 1698 Willits, CA 95490 / 707-459-2633; 707-972-7047 willitsweekly@gmail.com / www.willitsweekly.con

Jennifer Poole, publisher and editor / willitsweekly@gmail.com / 707-459-2633

Maureen (Moore) Jennison, art director and photographress / maureen@willitsweekly.com / 707-972-7047

Mathew Caine, photographer / calendar editor / features writer / mathew@willitsweekly.com

Forrest Glyer, reporter / forrest@willitsweekly.com

Joanne Moore, reporter / features writer / joanne@willitsweekly.com

Barbara O'Reardon, Brooktrails reporter / willitsweekly@gmail.com

B.B. Kamoroff, reporter | bb@willitsweekly.com

Ree Slocum, features writer / ree@willitsweekly.com Danya Davis, features writer / police log / danya@willitsweekly.com

April Tweddell, ad sales / 707- 972-2475 / april@willitsweekly.com

Jackie Cobbs, features editor

Ad inquiries: call 707-972-7047 or email advertising@willitsweekly.com through Friday, from 12 to 12:45 pm, inside and outside the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Price is \$5 through March 31, 2022

Thursday, January 27: Beef Stir Fry, Green Salad

Friday, January 28: Turkey, Stuffing w/Gravy, Cranberry Sauce, Roll

Monday, January 31: Fish Sandwich, Mac Salad, Pickle Tuesday, February 1: Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Green Salad

Wednesday, February 2: Turkey Amish Noodles, Veggie, Roll

Thursday, February 3: BBQ Chicken, Baked Beans, Cornbread, Veggie, Coleslaw

Friday, February 4: Meat Load, Mashed Potato, Veggie, Roll

Meals on Wheels: The Senior Center Meals on Wheels program delivers lunch Monday through Friday. To sign up call Deb at 459-6826, who can help fill out the application form. Call 459-6826 the day before needed to schedule home meal delivery. Delivered throughout Willits.

Transportation for seniors: Call 459-5556 to schedule. Pick up and drop off for grocery shopping, banking, doctors' appointments. Senior Center Thrift Shop: 459-2176



Willits Weekly | January 27, 2022 **Pg. 2** Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

Submitted by Willits Economic Localization

An opportunity to interact with our District 3 Supervisor John Haschak will be held by Zoom on Thursday, February 3, at 6:30 pm.

Join this Zoom Town Hall forum at: https:// tinyurl.com/Haschak-Town-Hall or email mstrong@willitsonline.com or call 707-459-1493 for other options to participate.

The public is invited to ask questions and comment in dialog with Supervisor Haschak on issues facing our community and the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors. Some examples: What will happen with the retirement of County CEO Carmel Angelo? What's happening with cannabis permitting in the county? Is the county prepared for the next emergency - drought, fire, storm? What's the status of Measure B mental health facilities? Any progress on addressing the climate crisis locally? All issues are welcome!

This forum is hosted by WELL (Willits Economic Localization).

The game is played with two teams of different players, I slowly realized Eldon one, two or three players. In the singles Moilanen and other skilled players often and doubles games, each player uses threw their boule high in the air to drop it or three boules – balls. When there are six bounce just over the opponent's boules and players, each one gets two boules. There get closest to the cochonnet. Moilanen did were six of us, so we broke into two teams that frequently, sometimes knocking other of three. I was honored that they loaned me boules away. It was unbelievably beautiful Raul Chavez's boules - he was an artist to watch! "That's what keeps us coming and avid pétanque player who passed back," said Greg Schindel and was later away several years ago. echoed by Henry Shebitz, both pétanque

The objective of the game is to get your veterans.

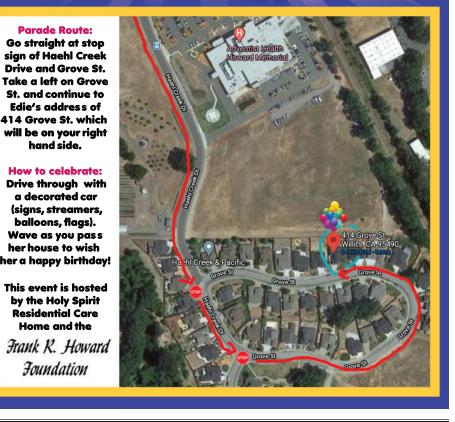
COVID-19 Vaccine for Kids Ages 5-17 **GET VACCINATED TODAY!**



Above: The current Willits Boules players gather for a photo: from left, Eldon Moilanen, Bill Bruneau, Greg Schindel (holding the sign "VIENS ET JOUE" or "COME AND PLAY"), Tim Gregory and Henry Shebitz (not pictured: Ree Slocum).



Come celebrate from 1:80=2 pm on Saturday, February 5 during a drive-by paradel



hand side.

NOW AVAILABLE:

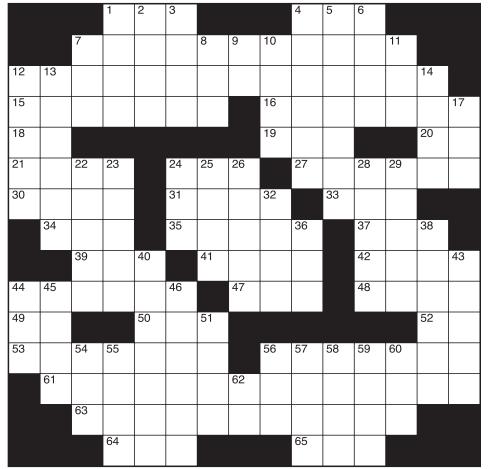
Willits Weekly's **Puzzle Page**

AGE

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

	2		5		6	9	3		ном то SUDOKU
1			2			8			Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid,
3				9		4		7	broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku,
	1	7	6	2					the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column
	5		8					4	and box. Each number can appear only once in each
			9	7					row, column and box. You can figure out the order
		2				1		6	in which the numbers will appear by using the
5	4			6	1				numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The
	3				2	5		9	more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

		V					5	5		0	R		S		R	C	H		
M E P I M D O C T O R H E N R T H P B Y	A R N E S O N G A I D A X O P I E V T N	IUVMLATIPSOHYIVMACIG	NSLPTYMDTEWXETEDRTGN	T S E L X L E P C U A L S P D A T L B P	E E H I B R R N L P R A X I U P B C U P	N R S T N M U H A N D C R R D R E L W S	A P N N M P S E B X M I X C T V A T C W	N D H S O T S W O V H S L S N R T U H M	COIONWELRWEYNEOTDGON	E O B S I S R W A Y A H S R I R I I L D	WLTWTYPETWLPSPTRELEO	T B B L O H D I O O T N E O A Y T L S W	XLDMRMOGRWHHIWNIMNTE	B P Y L O A O H Y W D A H B I N D E E T	MGGYECLTLDILSVMNNSRT	G B N Y T V B B Y I O I B Y A G B S O A	PROACTIVEPIXYSXWDCLE	N T B A P P O I N T M E N T E G A S G X	LUWWBTNATSISSAECIVDA
1	AD PPOI ASSI	STA OOF	E 1EN1 .NT)	Г		DIA DC XAN	EST GNC DCTC /INA EALT	DSE DR TIOI	_		Н	OSP LNE ORA	SS TOF	Υ		P PRE PF	HYS SCF	ITOF ICAI RIPT CTIV GHT	L ION





seven-day reporting period.

January 9

Madrone Street.

January 10

January 11

Street and issued a warning.

Street.

Officer).

January 12

Creek Drive.

Court.

Summary of Active Investigations

and Arrests

9:18 am: Officers responded to a report

of trespassing in the 800 block of South

1:09 am: Officer responded to a report of

suspicious activity in the 100 block of State

4:12 am: HAMFF, Daniel Stuart (54)

Main Street and issued a warning.

January 9 to January 15 By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police January 13 Department handled 90 incidents in this

12:07 am: SIRONI, Christopher James (34) of Willits was contacted in the 200 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication) and on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol).

7:10 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 100 block of North Main Street.

9:28 am: Officers initiated a theft 10:20 am: Officers responded to a report investigation in the 100 block of Hollv of illegal camping in the 100 block of Street.

10:12 am: Officers responded to a report 11:12 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 400 block of of illegal camping in the 100 block of Redwood Avenue. Sanhedrin Circle and issued a warning.

> 11:44 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 200 block of Margie Drive

12:55 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of East Valley Street.

3:49 pm: Officers responded to a 2:18 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of South Main disturbance in the 1100 block of Locust Street.

5:31 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of North Main of Ukiah was contacted in the 100 block Street. of North Main Street. He was arrested

to 22610 PC (Possession

trespassing in the 200 block

of East Commercial Street.

pursuant to 69 PC (Resisting an Executive January 14

11:08 am: FRENCH, Jeffrey Wayne (44) 8:50 pm: Officers responded to a report of Willits was contacted in the 400 block of suspicious activity in the 800 block of of East Commercial Street. South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant

12:27 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Alder 7:39 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of Hearst Willits Road and issued a

warning. 8:46 am: Officers Jeffrey French, 44, of Willits. responded to a report of illegal camping in the block of Haehl Creek Drive and issued a warning. 9:31 am: Officers responded to a

January 15 5:38 am: CORDOVADALSON, Carrie Echo (21) of Covelo was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. She was disturbance in the 100 block of Haehl arrested pursuant to 602 PC (Trespassing), 496 PC (Receiving Stolen Property), and

Above: Hannigan resists efforts to bring him into the asylum. Above, right: Garret Moore, as Professor Tom Hannigan, rechecks his math as proof of his theory that the Earth moves around the sun. Below: False friends and colleagues make a last effort to bring Hannigan to bay. At right: Tom and Molly Hannigan discuss his work and his absence at home.



'Heliocentric'

Willits Community Theatre produces a film – yes, a film – about a man's struggle to tell the truth at all costs

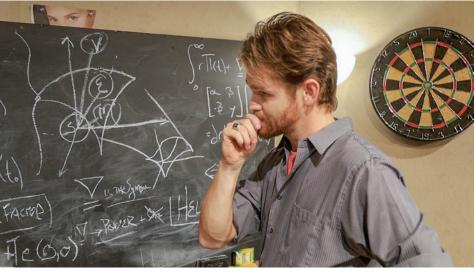
Imagine, if you will, a world where the entire population and all the academics believe that the sun revolves around Earth and that a certain astronomy professor, Tom Hannigan, along with his homeless, genius friend, Stapleton, have proven, at least to themselves through extensive research and calculations, that the opposite is true.

All of Hannigan's loved ones, friends, colleagues and Mathew Caine administrators, fearful of the public fallout if these findings are eatures Write published in the upcoming astronomy journal, try to convince him to mathew@willitsweekly.con drop his campaign to tell "the truth" and to shelve the project, so as

to avoid embarrassing the university and irreparably harming Hannigan's own reputation. The truth does not matter as much as the appearance and adherence to accepted norms.

This is the premise of the Willits Community Theatre's video production of "Heliocentric," which parallels several battles in both modern and older concepts, fighting the powers that be to tell the truth, even at the cost of one's reputation, standing in society, and even their life. The video, available now through www.wctperformingartscenter.org and www. voutube.com/watch?v=ZtVCO3CJh6E&t=317s, is a stylized, artfully rendered production of the piece by local prolific playwright Don Samson. The production was conceived and directed by Jeff Shipp.

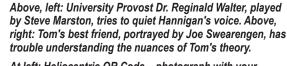
"Theater people, in general, aren't big on video or film," said Shipp. "It's pretty cool that a bunch of theater people, because of the situation we're in, came together and said 'let's









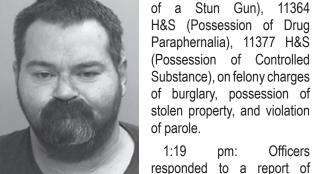


At left: Heliocentric QR Code – photograph with your phone's camera to go to the YouTube page.

Below: Miranda Swearengin, assistant director, handled the sync and scene-tracking duties.

Photos by Mathew Caine





CLUES ACROSS	49. Millihenry	22. Famed Susan Lucci
	50. Canadian media firm	character ' Kane'
1. Brew	52. Type of withdrawal	23. Mason Line
4. NY ballplayer	53. Spicy	24. Disfigure
 Rigid external covering in some animals 	56. Dish of minced meat or fish	25. Asian nation 26. Rage (Span.)
12. Promotional materials		• • • •
15. More high-pitched	61. Noted previously	28. Khoikhoin peoples
	63. Happily	29. Opera solo
16. Widely cultivated cereal	64. 'Partridge' actress Susan	32. Database management
18. Dormitory employee	65. Not present	system
19. Bad act		36. Similar
20. One's mother	CLUES DOWN	38. Move up and down
21. Scored perfectly	1. In a way, brought to an end	playfully
24. Space station	2. Scandalized actress	40. Alfalfa
27. Exchange for money	Loughlin	43. Satisfied
30. Edible seaweed	3. This (Spanish)	44. Baseball official
31. Iranian city	4. Essay	45. Large, flightless bird
33. Lakers' crosstown rivals	5. Continuing indefinitely	of S. America
34. Nothing	6. Tool for lifting food	46. Money given in support 51. Flower cluster
35. Spiritual leader of	7. Partner to Adam	
a Jewish congregation	8. Dry white wine drink	54. Beginning military rank
37 student, learns healing	•	55. Russian weight
39. Military official (abbr.)		measurement
• • • •	10. Smaller quantity	56. Explosive
41. Matchstick games	11. Last or greatest in an	57. An individual unit
42. Gasteyer and De	indefinitely large series	58. Midskirt
Armas are two	12. (Scottish) island	59. Weapon featuring balls
44. Distant planet	13. Church officer	60. Used of a number or
47. A type of residue	14. Large wrestler	amount not specified
48. Punk art icon Jimmy De_	_ 17. Polite address for women	62. Unit of measurement

1:47 pm: Officers initiated a fraud	1203.2 PC (Violation of Probation).				
investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.	2:22 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of East				
4:45 pm: Officers responded to a report	Commercial Street.				
of trespassing in the 200 block of East Commercial Street.	4:21 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1700 block of South				
8:19 pm: JORDAN, Dustin Lee (43)	Main Street.				
of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of North Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 11377 H&S (Possession	7:54 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of Margie Drive.				
of Controlled Substances), 653 (K) PC (Possession of a Switchblade Knife), and on felony charges of violation of parole.	8:35 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.				

County ag update

Posted in the January 25 CEO's Report

The Department of Agriculture is busy Thursday January 20th from 1:00 to 2:30 starting up for the 2022 year. pm on how county officials can establish a county "Ag Pass" or "Livestock Pass" The last of the insect traps for Vine program. Registration for the workshop can Mealy Bug (VMB) were picked up and all be found at http://ucanr.edu/agpassweb. of the questionable finds we sent to the These programs will also train, educate, State laboratory in Sacramento for closer and enable farmers and ranchers to safely analysis. One VMB trap was determined by access their properties during wildfire and the State lab to have male VMB's in it. The other emergencies for purposes such vineyard operator was contacted and made as evacuating or treating livestock. Last aware of the find. year Assembly women Megan Dahle was Ag staff will continue to monitor the successful in passing AB 1103 which was situation, placing new traps and conducting signed by the Governor for livestock Ag visual inspections in the Spring. VMB is Passes. of great concern to all grape growers, The beginning of 2022 also brings in the and our office will work hard to make sure 2nd year of our Hemp Pilot Program, and any potential populations of VMB are not our department is looking to start accepting spread to new locations. applications in the early spring. After the success that the program had its first year The University of California Agriculture the department is hopeful to have more and Natural Resources (UCANR) held their applicants and another successful season. annual Integrated Pest Management (IPM) seminar with over 200 virtual attendees Weights and Measures is starting anew December 1st and 2nd. The UCANR also in 2022 with a new blue and white seal hired a viticulturist Dr. Ken Chen who will accompanied by the Mendocino County be starting at the Hopland Field Station in Emblem in color. In past years the Great Mid-January. The UCANR also hopes to Seal of California was on all of the County hire an advisor for general crops soon to weights and measures seals. cover Mendocino and Lake Counties. The county AG office will be available for The UCANR will hold a class on testing vineyard thermometers in February.

give it our best shot making a film.' Not only that, we used all the tools at our disposal. We had a local writer, Don Samson, a local photographer as director of photography, local actors, and used the theater as a sound stage. That's an accomplishment. A bunch of people, most of whom knew nothing about film but love a good story, just poured their hearts into something that came out bigger than we had anticipated.

"This was originally going to be a F	Read the rest of \Box	5 40
staged reading," explained Shipp. "Don	Theatre Over of	on Page 13

Fri.: Fri.: <th< th=""><th></th><th></th><th></th><th></th></th<>				
Coming Next Week: MOONFALL and LICORICE PIZZA12:30, 4:00 & 7:15pmKings Man2:30, 5:15 & 8:00pm MonThurs.: 5:15 & 8:00pm12:45, 3:15, 5:45 & 8: MonThurs.: 5:45 & 8:15pmMovie Times for Jan. 28 thru Feb. 3Masks RequiredTightwad Tuesday Titles for Feb. 1st are all 3 films. All tickets a Tightwad Tuesday Titles for Feb. 1st are all 3 films. All tickets a	MOONFALL and	STORY (PG13) 2 hrs 36 mir Fri.: 4:00 & 7:15pm Sat./Sun.: 12:30, 4:00 & 7:15pm MonThurs.: 4:00 & 7:15pm	(R) 2 hrs 11 mins Fri.: 5:15 & 8:00pm Sat./Sun.: 2:30, 5:15 & 8:00pm MonThurs.: 5:15 & 8:00pm	(2022) (R) 1 hr 54 mins Fri.: 5:45 & 8:15pm Sat./Sun.: 12:45, 3:15, 5:45 & 8:15pm MonThurs.: 5:45 & 8:15pm
\$15 per lunch Noon - 2 pm B.A.S. Serving areas of	**** ()	WL SUNDAY SALE ONLY Pulled Pork Vich Lunch d park sandwich by Scoops dips & a cookie! Class Members to Buy Tickets Pick Up Sunday, February 13th Noon - 2 pm WHS Ag Farm	to fit any ro Office: (70 Mobile: (70 Mobile: (70 Online: www.basroofing.co Ca. Lic. #927007 Email: basroofing@live.co W.C. & G.L. insured	oofing need. 07) 462-4514 07) 367-3786 om om -Residential & Commercial Serving areas of Mendocino, Lake and



Environmental Restoration - Ponds Septic & Water Systems - Site Development Roads - Water, Soil & Rock Delivery

international

soroptimists

Pinguisto Stational Contraction It's time for the 2022 Phone book

education willits

Need to update, remove or add a phone number?

willitsphonebook@gmail.com Deadline for ads & changes is February 10

Send an email to: willitsphonebook@gmail.com





Above, from left: The final incarnation of the Little Lake Firehouse is an eye-catching sight. The engine bay is finally filled with equipment that is ready to go out on calls. At right: Administrative Assistant Michelle Schnitzius and Little Lake Fire District board member Skip Lucier pose for a photo in the turnout room

Photos by Mathew Caine

Settled In

Little Lake Firehouse is finally occupied and ready to respond to emergencies – now it just needs a new chief

After years and years of plans, attempted bonds, architectural concepts, and a ton of red tape, Willits finally has a working, up-todate, functional firehouse. This state-of-the-art edifice is designed

to last at least 50 years and provide the Mathew Caine citizens of Little Lake Valley with advanced eatures Writer safety, rapid response, and the ability to athew@willitsweeklv.com meet a plethora of emergencies.

All it needs now is a fire chief and at least a couple more full or part time firefighters on the payroll. According to Skip Lucier, board member of the Little Lake Fire District, the new chief will be chosen, hopefully, in March or April. In the meantime, the trio of administrators and firefighters will continue to respond to calls and handle the paperwork involved with the process. Administrative Assistant Michelle Schnitzius, Deputy Chief John Thomen, and Training Chief Eric Alvarez are the current full-time paid staff and are absorbing the duties of chief until the replacement for the departed chief. Chris Wilkes, can be found.

Having recently moved in, with the generous assistance of 101 Trailers who lent them a trailer, the crew has moved their equipment and paperwork to the new location at 74 East Commercial Street, the site of the old dilapidated, leaky firehouse that had stood as city hall, the police department, the jail, and the fire department for many years in the history of Willits. Their current challenge "We're is finding the proper spaces for the equipment, organizing for taking our time

efficiency and guick deployment, and finding the mostly minor glitches in the construction and design, as can be expected in a new building

From her brightly sun-lit office in the front of the building, Schnitzius spoke about what remains to be done in the process of claiming the building as their own. "I imagine we'll be finding little things that need to be fixed or adjusted for the next year or so," she said after explaining how her desk doesn't quite fit the space and blocks off the window. But, "overall, everything has been amazing," she said with obvious relief that the construction was finally done and they could get out of the secondary station on Baechtel Road.

"We had some computer issues," she continued, referring to some difficulties connecting their server. "We're still getting that worked on. Some things were done incorrectly. It's much better now. I think it's working, but the last couple weeks the phone lines weren't functioning well, so we weren't getting the calls. The emergency calls come in no matter."

Schnitzius, Thomen and Alvarez are looking forward to speaking with the new chief candidates to see which one would be the better fit for the "family." "The search for a new chief is proceeding," said Schnitzius.

just Read the rest of Firehouse

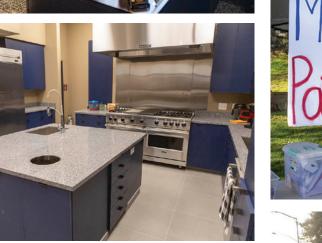














Connect

involve

EndocinoPatriot

eT nd

However, in speaking with the four or five participants and the websites which they offer, they do not believe in the efficacy of or the statistics that can be found about the effectiveness of preventative measures to stop the spread of COVID-19.

They are, however, guite willing to speak without animus with anyone who wishes to engage in conversation. In addition to the Babcock Park location in front of the old

of the Ukiah courthouse from 4 to 6 pm on if you're vaxxed or unvaxxed. The point is. Fridays after they are done in Willits.



MendocinoPatriots.org, the group responsible for organizing a couple of maskless shopping day protests at Ukiah businesses in November and December. can be found with their signs and petitions at Babcock Park every Friday from 2 to 4 pm. Below: Jade Carter,



Celebrating Life In Christ 25 Hazel Street, Willits Modified Worship Service 10 a.m. Other ministries suspended



right: Erin peeks out from

SPIRITUAL

PATHWAYS

Agape

Bible Church

290 S. Lenore Ave

Willits,CA 95490

Where love is first

and the Bible is central

Sunday Services:

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Awana: Tuesday, 6:15 p.m.

Info? 707-459-1905

www.agapebiblechurch.con

Amazing Grace

ssembly of God Church

803 Coast Street

P.O. Box 489, Willits

707-303-5456

forning Worship - 10:30 a.n

Pastor Burton Jernigan

EVERYBODY IS WELCOM

The Church of

Jesus Christ of

Latter-day Saints

265 Margie Drive

Willits, CA 95490

ALL ARE WELCOME

Photos by Mathew Caine

behind two of her signs.

Community members hold up signs at Babcock Park to show their opposition

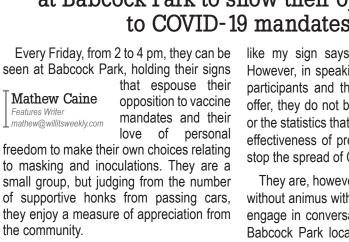
that espouse their

Co-Parent

with the

Government

Howard Hospital, they can be seen in front "This is about freedom to choose." said organizer Jade Carter. "I honestly don't care



Willits Weekly | January 27, 2022 **Pg. 6** Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

Willits Weekly | January 27, 2022 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Pg. 7



Above: Mendo Lake Food Hub's local bounty box was full of gorgeous winter greens this week, as well as Lunchbox Apples and Navel Oranges. Extra items ordered included microgreens, organic eggs from pastured chickens, and Myers Lemons.



Shelter's canine and guests, for information about services,

programs events and updates about COVID-19 and the inland shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, visit: www.mendoanimalshelter.com. For information about adoptions, please call 707-467-6453

Mendo Lake Food Hub delivers fresh-picked local produce to your door

Getting a box of just-picked was a bag of Rouge de Bordeaux local produce from the Mendo Wheat Berries, grown locally by Lake Food Hub delivered to your the Mendocino County Grain Project. On the information sheet front door is one of the pleasures in the box, Rouge de Bordeaux of supporting local farmers. is described as "a famous hard-This week's Local Bounty red winter wheat which dates

Box was back several hundred years Jennifer Poole filled with to France's Bordeaux region." ditor & Reporte gorgeous illitsweekly@gmail.com Wheat berries are not actually greens of "berries," but are the edible part of many colors: Rainbow Chard (red the wheat kernel. "When cooked, version) and Bok Choy from Full they are chewy, nutty and high in Belly Farm, Red Leaf Lettuce and fiber - great for a winter salad." Dino Kale from Big Mesa Farm, There's an easy recipe on the and Hakurei Turnips with greens still attached from Good Humus

back of the bag. As well as the Bounty Box the assortment in the \$35 box The box also featured Navel changes each week - there Oranges from Blue Heron Farm are many extras grown and in Rumsey, in Yolo County, and produced locally you can order

Lunchbox Apples from Filigreen each week, including olive oils, Farm in Boonville. vinegars, edible seafood, fancy

A special addition this week mushrooms, organic eggs from Read the rest of

Over on Page 13 Hub

Loval Cinnamon

Produce.

Photo by Jennifer Poole

feline

and

Spot is a mellow old Meet Cinnamon! Cinnamon is a country guy (10 years old) who gal looking for a quiet, adult home that has experience with shy and guarding dogs. She just likes to relax. He is is a 4-year-old cattle dog mixed-breed dog very sweet and loving, and is a pretty chill who weighs 40 pounds. She is not a social dog but will bond slowly to one or two household members. Cinnamon will work for food and For more info about

eventually comes around to new people, but Spot or to see the she is much happier with few visitors.

> A resident dog is tantamount to her happiness and to Muffin ease her shyness

To learn more about Cinnamon or view other adoptable animals, www.milofoundation.org or the Milo Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions



Congrats

Happy 6th **Birthday, Alaska**

Wishing our smart, sensational, super heroic, snuggly, sensitive, scintillating sweetheart a super awesome sixth year!

> - love from Mom, Dad, River, Cricket, Stinky and Mittens



by appointment only due to COVID-19. Please complete a pet-adoption application before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 510-900-2275.

Miss Muffin is the cutest chunky kitty

She is affectionate and will always greet you when you come to visit. She is 6 years old and couldn't move with her people so she is staying with us until she finds her new home.

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. Great news! We are opened back up, no appointments needed! We are open Wednesday through Friday 1 pm to 5 pm and Saturday and Sunday 11 am to 3 pm. You may also look at our available dogs and cats on our website: www.mendohumanesociety. com, our Facebook page, and on www.petfinder.com.



ESTABLISH WATER FEES FOR MONTHLY WATER USE **OVERAGES, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022** The Brooktrails Township Community Services District **Current Job Openings:** Board of Directors will Consider Ordinance 164 Establishing Fees for Water Service – Water Use Overages Air Pollution Control Officer The Brooktrails Township Community Services District has adopted a monthly water usage cap of 9,000 gallons per Application Developer/Analyst I/II month per connection under Ordinance 159, approved by the Board of Directors May 22, 2018, to protect and preserve Cartographer/Planner limited surface water supplies for the health and safety of its Cannabis Program water customers. The Public Hearing will consider Ordinance 164, establishing a fee and due process for water customers Chief Planner – Cannabis Program who repeatedly exceed the monthly usage cap. Chief Planner – Fort Bragg/Ukiah The proposed new water fee will be considered at a public hearing on March 8, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in Brooktrails **Commission Services Supervisor** Community Center located at 24850 Birch Street, Willits. The fee amount has been determined to be the amount Corrections Deputy necessary to offset costs to procure additional water **Deputy Probation Officer II** supplies Questions can be directed to the District during regular Deputy Public Defender I/II/III/IV business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and by telephone at 707-459-2494. **Environmental Compliance Specialist** /s/ Tamara Alaniz, Secretary to the Board of Directors Environmental Health Specialist I/II Publication Dates: January 20, 27, 2022 Equipment Superintendent WW373 Heavy Equipment Mechanic NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON MARCH 8, 2022 Human Resources Director TO ESTABLISH WATER FEES FOR WATER THEFT, **EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2022** Planner II – Cannabis Program The Brooktrails Township Community Services District **Public Health Nurse Board of Directors will Consider Ordinance 163** Establishing Fees for Water Service - Water Theft Public Safety Dispatcher The California State Senate has determined that water theft **Registered Nurse** is a punishable offense and have authorized water districts Senior Application Developer/Analyst to establish a fee for water theft as defined in Senate Bill 427 and codified in Government Code §53069.45(d). The Senior Planner- Cannabis Program public hearing will consider Ordinance 163, establishing a fee and due process for occurrences of water theft. Senior Program Manager -The proposed new water fees will be considered at a public Family & Children's Services hearing on March 8, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in Brooktrails Senior Program Manager – Nursing Community Center located at 24850 Birch Street, Willits. The fee amounts have been determined to be the amount Senior Public Health Nurse necessary to offset costs to find, investigate, prevent and Social Worker I/II/III/IV A-D address water theft. Social Worker Supervisor I/II A-C Questions can be directed to the District during regular business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Supervising Public Health Nurse Friday and by telephone at 707-459-2494. /s/ Tamara Alaniz, Secretary to the Board of Directors For a complete list of current job openings Publication Dates: January 20, 27, 2022 and to apply: www.governmentjobs.com/careers/ mendocinoca **LEGAL NOTICES** EOE

the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the City of Willits (City) hereby gives notice to responsible agencies, trustee agencies, interested parties, and the general public that the City of Willits intends to adopt an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the City of Willits Groundwater Resiliency Improvements Project (Project). The City of Willits City Council will consider and make a decision on the adequacy of the IS/MND and the merits of the proposed Project

The IS/MND is available for review electronically on the City's website at: https://cityofwillits.org/147/water. The City accepted public comments on the IS/MND during a 30-day public review period extending September 10, 2021 to October 11, 2021. In response to comments received at that time, the City revised the project description to remove the Long 20 well from the proposed project. Because these revisions to the project were made in response to written comments on the project's effects identified in the Draft IS/MND and would not create any new avoidable significant effects, in accordance with

CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted

North Coast Opportu-

nities Early Head Start

Child Development Pro-

gram Recruiting for Wil-

lits: Associate Teacher

(Floater) I-II, EHS Class-

room; \$14.58 - \$16.65/

hr DOE. Bilingual Pre-

ferred, Eligible for bi-

lingual pay differential.

For full job description

details & required appli-

cation form www.ncoinc

707-467-3200.

until filled. EOE

org/about-us/jobs or

Indoor Yard Sale

Giant Indoor Yard Sale

- Deep Valley Christian

School, 8555 Uva Drive,

Redwood Valley, (across

Saturday, February 12

RV/Trailer Space

for Rent

Space for RV's and

month, includes water

& garbage. Close to

Safeway in Willits. Call

Tony (707) 510-5895.

See at "http://www.

Want to support

Willits Weekly?

Help support our free

circulation community

newspaper by becom-

ing a "street subscriber"!

You send in an annual

donation, and pick up

the edition on the street

each week! We love our

regular subscribers too:

\$50 for home delivery

in the Willits area; \$75

for a year's subscription

in the U.S. mail. Vis-

it https://form.jotform.

com/61915582053153

for a signup form and

more info.

oaknvine.net/tp"

per

Trailers \$425

from the Broiler).

– 8 am to 4 pm.

Open

Computer Help Need help with your computer? Macintosh, Android and IOS devices. Repairs, configuration and tutoring: \$50/hr. Call Liam 459-2470 or email uicearbhaill@gmail.com

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON MARCH 8, 2022 TO

WW372

For Rent Office 440 sq ft. Shared waiting area, centrally located. off street parking, central heat and A\C. Available Feb. 15. Utilities included. \$440/ mo. 707-354-2473.

Freezer Empty? We can help! Due to health concerns n Mendocino County, John Ford Ranch will be taking meat box orders (not individual package orders) for pick-up: Rancher's Choice Box 50 pounds: steaks, roasts, and ground beef. Still \$325 (\$6.50 per pound). Hamburger Box: 25 pound box of hamburger in 1 or 1.5 pound packages: \$150. Natural ranch-raised grass fed beef, no hormones or antibiotics. Call 459-5193 to arrange pick-up. Leave a message, and we'll call back

Help Wanted Long Valley Health Center current job openings: Administrative Assistant F/T: Medical Assistant P/T; RDA F/T; Patient Service Representative P/T. Why Laytonville? We value and invest in our staff! We are so sure vou will love working here we are offering a \$50 gas gift card for your first 3 months of employment. For an application or more information please visit www longvalley.org email

careers@longvalley.org, or call 707.984.6131 ext.

Help Wanted

Thrift Store Merchan-

dise Processor /Stocker.

\$15.00 Hour Full Time

40 hours weekly). Send resume, including 3 ref-

erences to wsidirector@

willitsseniorcenter.com

Classified ads are just \$10 for 30 words for 2 weeks! Deadline is every Monday! Include yours next week

Miss Muffin we ever did see.

WW374

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT AN INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND NOTICE OF CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE CITY OF WILLITS GROUNDWATER RESILIENCY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the State of California Public Resources Code and Section 15072 of the State Guidelines for Implementation of



Pg. 8 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Willits Weekly | January 27, 2022 State CEQA Guidelines Section 15073.5(c)(2), recirculation of the Draft IS/MND is not required. Additional information regarding the above noted item may be obtained by calling the City of Willits Engineering Department at (707) 459-4605 or via email: engineering@cityofwillits.org.

PROJECT TITLE: City of Willits Groundwater Resiliency Improvements Project

PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed project is located northeast of the City center on City-owned parcels identified by Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs) 007-010-01, 108- 030-06, and 108-020-05 (Site). The Site is currently utilized for the Willits Groundwater System, including the Elias Replacement well and groundwater treatment plant, and is located adjacent to the City's wastewater plant.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: The City proposes improvements to the existing Willits Groundwater System in order to increase the City's conjunctive use capabilities and provide the City with a reliable water supply sufficient to meet community needs in the event surface water becomes untenable. Improvements would include the replacement of 3,600 feet of existing water line within the Willits Groundwater System, upgrading the existing 30 horsepower (hp) pump to a 40 hp pump at the Elias replacement well, and the installation of a 250,000-gallon clear well (chlorine contact tank) adjacent to the west of the groundwater treatment plant.

MEETING DATE/TIME: February 9, 2022, at 6:30 PM

MEETING LOCATION: City Council Chambers 111 East Commercial Street, Willits, CA 95490 and/or conducted pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 or any subsequent Order related to conducting the public meetings during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

In order to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the City of Willits is currently conducting public meetings pursuant to the provisions of AB 361, which authorizes teleconference meetings under the Brown Act during certain emergencies. Participation in the public meeting will be allowed pursuant to AB 361 at the time of the public meeting. Participation is expected to be through electronic means as posted on the City Council meeting agenda for the February 9, 2022 regular meeting. This allows the City to adhere to social distancing requirements, follow the requirements of AB 361 and provide a way for the public to provide public comment live during the meeting.

Prior to the meeting, electronic copies of the staff report and agenda will be available on the City's website at http://www.cityofwillits.org/AgendaCenter. To request information or provide comments, please contact the Engineering Department at engineering@cityofwillits.org.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN: The City Council will receive a staff presentation, consider public comments and decide to either adopt, not adopt, or modify the

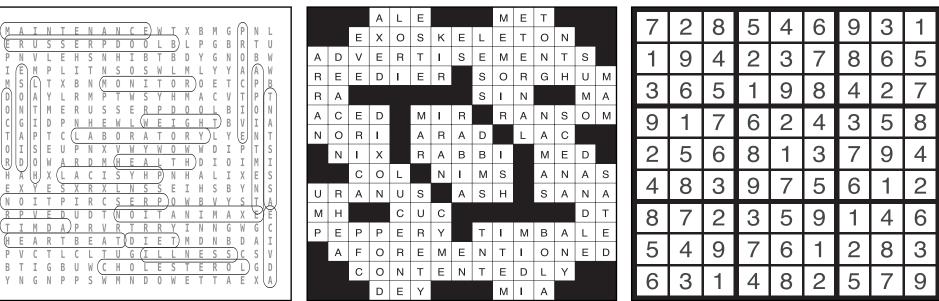
HOW TO PARTICIPATE: The City of Willits encourages all interested parties to participate in the Public Hearing and to comment on the issues being discussed. Members of the public may participate and provide public comment as follows:

•Written public comments regarding the proposed project may be submitted by email to the Engineering Department, engineering@cityofwillits.org or the City Clerk's office, 111 East Commercial Street, Willits, California, 95490, no later than 5:30 p.m., on Tuesday, February 8, 2022. All public comments received will be provided to City Council and uploaded to the City's website in advance of the meeting.

•Oral public comments may be presented to the City Council via teleconference during the public hearing. To address the Commission during the live meeting please find the meeting-specific link to the teleconference included on the agenda for the February 9, 2022 City Council meeting that will be

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the public meeting, please contact the City Clerk at (707) 459-4601. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will assist staff in assuring that reasonable accommodations are made to provide

s/ Cathy Moorhead, Deputy City Manager/City Clerk



Willits Weekly | January 27, 2022 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Pg. 9

next week	or pick up application at
by emailing us	the Willits Senior Cen- ter, 1501 Baechtel Rd.
the copy:	or call Richard Baker at 459-6826 for more in-
willitsweekly@	formation. Must be able to lift furniture and have
gmail.com	valid CA driver's license.

Tom Wake

Plumbing



Non-Attorney Service (707) 459-2775

245 South Humboldt St., Suite B, Willits **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

not an attorney, and can only provide self-help services at your specific direct

will be demolished and then rebuilt in order upgrades to more easily conform to the strict codes and regulations required of a PHF.

The supervisors unanimously approved the plan after hearing a presentation from Nacht & Lewis consultant Eric Fadness whose company had done a feasibility study of the location, as well as input from County Behavioral Health Director Janine Miller and General Services Agency Director Janelle Rau

After going over a few different options, both Miller and Fadness agreed that the best plan moving forward was "Option 2" - to demolish and then rebuild the facility.

Fadness said they had come to this conclusion after meeting and discussing the different options with community stakeholders, County Behavioral Health, the Mendocino County Executive Office, General Services Administration Facilities

and Fleet Division, and other consultants including LACO, AECOM and the Telecare Corporation.

For the other possibilities presented, "Option 1" was to partially remodel and renovate the Whitmore building, which Fadness gave an estimated price tag of around \$19.1 million.

"Option 3" was for the county to seek out another property for a PHF unit, which Fadness said could eventually cost \$22 million, though he acknowledged that they did not yet have a specific site to use for that plan.

He said that for Option 2, which the board approved Tuesday, the project should take about 38 months to complete.

The 16-bed PHF property is around to 12 months to find the right site that would 13,000 square feet in size, which will include a "buffer" area along the outside of the building to provide some space between the facility and the neighbors nearby.

"The benefit of not using the entire property is you provide buffers around the property," said Fadness, "and especially with psychiatric health facilities that's important to maintain buffers from the public ways. And not only for controlling sound, but also to keep people away from the building – sight and sound separation."

Director Miller also mentioned another benefit of having such a large amount of space, saying that it could accommodate court hearings for patients if necessary.

"We added space knowing that our court wanted to be able to potentially do online or in-person court at the facility and not have to have individuals brought to the court," she said.

Following a suggestion by Miller, the supervisors agreed that the facility should be built to function as a "Super PHF," meaning that Medicare patients will be

plan. "The construction costs I think we're fine on. I think we have a deep amount of The building there was constructed money sitting there ... in 1965, and Fadness cited numerous "The service costs were where we really problems in his report which would need upgrades to function as a PHF if the county wanted to make sure we could long-term fund the project, and that was our biggest chose to just remodel. concern when we looked at it from a budget In addition to the roof leakage and poor

perspective." drainage due to its flat design, the report said the building would need a "complete The board unanimously approved replacement of all building systems due moving forward with constructing the new facility at Whitmore Lane, and Second to age," as well as changes to make the

District Supervisor Maureen Mulheren said building compliant with the American she hoped that the community seeing a Disabilities Act. properly functioning PHF would alleviate It also would need changes to assure some of the "not in my backyard" attitudes "fire and life safety," including switching out that many seem to have towards such the windows to "impact resistant glass,"

mental health facilities. removing "ligatures" and adjusting fixtures to "reduce suicide risk." "I just really wanted to thank the team for working on this," she said. "I understand Third District Supervisor John Haschak that there's still a lot of questions that we asked if wouldn't be wiser to pursue the might have, but our community has really option of finding a different location for a been expecting this and wanting this to PHF in the county, and use the Whitmore

move forward. I especially appreciated Lane building for something it could be the Option 3, and the conversation that more easily retrofitted for. I'm sure the stakeholders had about The Whitmore location currently has NIMBYism and what that looks like in our a license to be used as a "skilled nursing community. And what I really hope is that facility," but with their vote on Tuesday the after this facility is built and people see it board agreed to relinquish this license and operating functionally that that - along

move towards creating a PHF there. with all the other work that Measure B is doing, the Measure B Committee, and that "Part of the consideration that was given in [the National Alliance on Mental Illness] the stakeholders team were the timelines," is doing, and that our Behavioral Health GSA Director Rau said in response to Department is doing – we can try to reduce Haschak. "And the timeline to acquire a some of the stigmatism that comes with property or some other type of property mental illness. that would be suitable for this would again

extend the timeline that we're looking at to build it. You're looking at relatively the same timeline for construction, but for site acquisition you could be anywhere from 6

meet all of the requirements. So that was a considering factor when we were looking at each of these potential options." Fadness put an even longer timeline on

finding a new location and building a PHF wanted to say I appreciate all of the work that's gone into this proposal." there, saying it could push the project's finish date to "up to 60 months" in total. CAO vs CEO

In addition to the timeline, the report from Nacht & Lewis listed some other criteria used to choose the best option moving forward for the PHF. These included "community

of switching over to a county advisory impact, constructability, functionality, cost officer (CAO) model once she retires. effectiveness, maintainability, sustainability and risk of cost increase.' supervisors decided to push the decision Board of Supervisors Chair Ted Williams off for a month while they evaluate which

said the risk of the costs increasing was one of the reasons he was voting in favor of the plan.

CEO or CAO can be subtle in language, "I'm going to support this because it may generally a CEO is given more leeway than not be a perfect plan, but if we kick this a CAO to take action while overseeing the down the road and continue studying, our various departments in the county. Measure B savings will be eroded away

For example, under the proposed by inflation," he said. "And I don't want to get us in that position where we can [only] afford two-thirds of a PHF. It looks like this

ask the public what they would want, they'd probably vote 90 percent for a CAO," he said. "Whether that's the correct way to go or not, that's something that we need to decide. I think what the public really wants is to know the relationship between the board and the CEO or CAO and the department heads, and to make sure that the public will is being heard and that the county is doing what the public wants. And so how do we make that relationship between those entities as responsive as possible?

> "As far as a CAO, if the board were to evaluate and hire and fire all the department heads, we would be spending a lot of time on that," he continued. "And we wouldn't be able to do the public work that we need to be doing. I think a lot of that is better left to a CEO or some administrator who's going to handle that better than we do as a fivemember body.'

First District Supervisor Glenn McGourty said that he had worked with both a CEO and CAO model, and felt that either could work well depending on the approach

"The CEO vs. CAO system isn't really as important as the kind of relationship you have with the person who is paid to lead the county," he said. "And that's absolutely critical that you have someone you can trust and you can work with well.... I don't think that one system is inherently better than the other, but I feel like this is a good point because we'll have the opportunity for new leadership. This is a good time for us to carefully evaluate what we're going to "And I hope that as the facility is being do and have a really good discussion with built out, we can continue to have those the board about where we want to be and community conversations about how where we want to take Mendocino County necessary this is." she continued. "And I government," he said. really appreciate the idea of having a Super

PHF because we know that not only people "And ultimately we want to be responsive who have MediCal have mental illness, and to our constituents," McGourty continued. that is another huge stigma reduction that "We want to be able to help them when we we need to have in this community. So I just have an issue, we want to be transparent so everything is out in the open. I think we're all tired of all the criticism we get and all the gaslighting about how we're not responsive, and we don't run our own With the county Chief Executive Officer county government.

> "And I think the other thing we're missing is a public information channel that allows us to really control the discussion sometimes when things are kind of careening out of control in the court of public opinion. I think we need to take a more assertive and affirmative approach to communicating what's actually going on."

Mulheren and CEO Angelo both said While the differences between having a they supported the county continuing with a CEO model, but in the end the board went with Haschak's suggestion to delay the vote.

"Why don't we bring this back in about CEO ordinance put forth to the board on a month?" asked Haschak. "And we look Tuesday, a county CEO can "appoint, at the [organization] chart, we look at

U.S. Forest Service: 'Confronting the Wildfire Crisis'

USDA Press Release - On January 18, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and Forest Service Chief Randy Moore launched a comprehensive response to the nation's growing wildfire crisis - "Confronting the Wildfire Crisis: A Strategy for Protecting Communities and Improving Resilience in America's Forests."

The strategy outlines the need to significantly increase fuels and forest health treatments to address the escalating crisis of wildfire danger that threatens millions of acres and numerous communities across the United States.

The Forest Service will work with other federal agencies, including the Department of the Interior, and with Tribes, states, local communities, private landowners, and other partners to focus fuels and forest health treatments more strategically and at the scale of the problem, based on the best available science.

The strategy highlights new research on what Forest Service scientists identified as high risk "firesheds" - large, forested landscapes with a high likelihood that an ignition could expose homes, communities, infrastructure and natural resources to wildfire. Firesheds, typically about 250,000 acres in size, are mapped to match the scale of community exposure to wildfire.

The Forest Service will use this risk-based information to engage with partners and create shared priorities for landscape-scale work, to equitably and meaningfully change the trajectory of risk for people, communities and natural resources, including areas important for water, carbon and wildlife.

The groundwork in this new strategy will begin in areas identified as being at the highest risk, based on community exposure. Additional high risk areas for water and other values are being identified. Some of the highest risk areas based on community exposure include the Pacific Northwest, the Sierra Nevada Range in California, the front range in Colorado, and the Southwest.

The strategy calls for the Forest Service to treat up to an additional 20 million acres on national forests and grasslands and support treatment of up to an additional 30 million acres of other federal, state, Tribal, private and family lands. Fuels and forest health treatments, including the use of prescribed fire and thinning to reduce hazardous fuels, will be complemented by investments in fire-adapted communities and work to address post-fire risks, recovery and reforestation.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law provides nearly \$3 billion to reduce hazardous fuels and restore America's forests and grasslands, along with investments in fire-adapted communities and post-fire reforestation. Funds will be used to begin implementing this critical work.

In the past 20 years, many states have had record catastrophic wildfires, harming people, communities and natural resources and causing billions of dollars in damage. In 2020, Coloradans saw all three of their largest fires on record. The running 5-year average number of structures destroyed by wildfires each year rose from 2,873 in 2014 to 12,255 in 2020 - a fourfold increase in just six years.

"The negative impacts of today's largest wildfires far outpace the scale of efforts to protect homes, communities and natural resources," said Vilsack. "Our experts expect the trend will only worsen with the effects of a changing climate, so working together toward common goals across boundaries and jurisdictions is essential to the future of these landscapes and the people who live there."

"We already have the tools, the knowledge and the partnerships in place to begin this work in many of our national forests and grasslands, and now we have funding that will allow us to build on the research and the lessons learned to address this wildfire crisis facing many of our communities," said Moore. "We want to thank Congress, the President and the American people for entrusting us to do this important work.'

The Forest Service remains committed to sustaining the health, diversity and productivity of all of America's forests. Visit the Forest Service website to view the full strategy: https://www.fs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/Confronting-Wildfire-Crisis. McHone," told Schindel. The current group pdf calls themselves the Willits Boules.

Caltrans approves use

of low-carbon cement to help combat climate change

Submitted by Caltrans HQ, Sacramento

Caltrans announced this week it is approving the use of low-carbon cement to help reduce the carbon footprint of California's transportation system. By advancing the use of portland limestone cement (PLC), Caltrans' road construction and maintenance projects can generate less carbon dioxide – the primary greenhouse gas contributing to global warming and climate change - with the same high performance standards at a slightly lower cost.

The rest of From Page 1 Edie

To join in the parade – all are welcome – here is the route: Go straight at stop sign of Haehl Creek Drive and Grove Street. Then take a left on Grove Street. and continue to Edie's address of 414 Grove Street. which will be on your right hand side.

Help celebrate by driving through with a decorated car (signs, streamers, balloons, flags) Wave as you pass her house to wish her a Happy Birthday!

This event is hosted by the Holy Spirit Residential Care Home and the Frank R. Howard Foundation

PROCLAMATION

A 2022 Proclamation of the Willits City Council

RECOGNIZING

Edith Recagno Keenan Ceccarelli

As '114' Years Young

WHEREAS, it is the privilege of the Willits City Council to acknowledge and honor you as you turn 114 years young. We would officially like to recognize that you have had the privilege of celebrating the most Birthdays in Mendocino County. Born in Willits, California on February 5th, 1908; and

WHEREAS, the community of Willits join you in helping you celebrate your special day with a drive-by parade on February 5th. This will be a truly memorable event, as friends

and loved ones extend their love, respect, and honor you on your special day. Your lifelong love of people has enriched all those whose lives you have touched over your lifetime; and



The rest of

wavs?

WHEREAS, at the age of 114 you continue to "wine" and dine, dress to the nine's, and love the sounds of the big band music each and every day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Saprina Rodriguez, Mayor of the City of Willits, along with Vice Mayor Greta Kanne, and Council Members, Larry Stranske, Gerardo Gonzalez, and Madge Strong, do hereby extend our collective heartfelt congratulations to you Edie Ceccarelli in wishing you a very Happy Birthday.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the Seal of the CITY OF WILLITS to be affixed this 26th day of January, 2022.

SAPRINA RODRIGUEZ, Mayor

plays, and telling or hearing pétangue tales.

ATTEST: City Council of the City of Willits

From Page 3 Boule about strategies, getting excited by people's

skill sets of the others. It seems they try to be evenly balanced, which enriches everyone's experience. Through the years the group has had many

different people join and create teams to play Schindel showed a new sign: "VIENS ET on the Willits' pétanque terrain across from JOUE" – "Come and Play" which pretty much the skate park. "We had the Boules Boys, sums up the tone of the current Willits Boules the Snap Dragons, and the Boulini Sisters with Jean Chavez, Donna d'Terra and Nancy

For more French words and pronunciations and so much more, do give pétanque a try, especially if you like boule games. See you

The Willits Boules meet every Tuesday Friday and Sunday at 2 pm. The playing field is located on Commercial Street across from the Willits Skate Park. Call Tim Gregory for updated times and more information: 707-318-

accepted there, in addition to those on is a project we can afford, and I think the the [Office of Emergency Services], we transfer, discipline, suspend or dismiss, as MediCal and private insurance. look at the Clerk of the Board and how it community wants to see action. They want appropriate, any non-elected department Miller said that allowing for Medicare to see the facility constructed and open, head who is not required to be appointed might fit into whichever way we go with patients would add to the operational costs, and see the board making the most of their by the Board of Supervisors, after meet the CAO/CEO.... So I would say let's look but she felt it would be worth it in order to and confer with the Board of Supervisors." comprehensively at what we're doing and tax dollars. bring that back as an agenda item in about provide service to as many people locally Haschak asked Miller about how certain The CAO ordinance, on the other hand, as they could. a month. the board could be that the project was states that the job of that position is to Funding from Measure B, the Mental Fourth District Supervisor Dan Gjerde affordable using Measure B money. "evaluate departmental and other requests Health Treatment sales tax measure of the Board of Supervisors," and to said he was OK with this move, pointing out Miller responded that the budget they that the board had taken action to appoint passed by county voters in 2017, will be "assist the Board of Supervisors with the put forward was essentially a four-year county Assistant CEO Darcie Antle as the primary source of funding for both the board's responsibility to recruit, appoint plan, paying for the construction of the temporary CEO on March 20 once Angelo construction and operational costs of the and evaluate board-appointed department PHF as well as some of the initial service heads in conformity with board policies and retires, so there wasn't as urgent of a need project. costs, at which point the county could to make a decision on the matter. procedures. The Whitmore Lane building was reevaluate whether the Measure B funds and money received through the various Angelo had originally planned to retire in purchased by the county in August of Haschak said that from what he's 2020 using \$2.2 million of federal CARES insurance types would continue to pay for gathered public opinion in the county is on October, but decided to do so sooner due the side of switching to the CAO model, but Act funding, with the intended purpose of the operation costs. to a serious illness of a family member. he still was uncertain of what would help initially having it available as a quarantine "We're estimating that we'd need \$1.5-\$2 She has been the CEO of Mendocino the board and county government function center during the COVID pandemic. County since 2010, and worked as the million to augment the additional funding best. through what we would receive through county's director of Health and Human However, the building was soon found

insurance costs," she said of the four-year to need major roof repairs and other

The rest of From Page 1 From Page 1 COVID

vaccinated with comorbidities.

cases of COVID-19 were identified in

Mendocino County, bringing the total to

Dr. Coren continued his update to the

quarantined for 10 days.

Jail

The rest of

The entire jail population is tested twice weekly. Staff members are likewise tested twice a week at the beginning and end of their workweek.

Inmates in affected areas are being quarantined in order to prevent further spread. Some early releases of sentenced inmates who are approaching their release date have been done in order to decrease the jail population. The jail is also continuing to cite out lower-risk offenders to control

the population. Jail staff has also been affected by

the recent surge of COVID-19. Since 11,373." December 2021, 29 jail employees, including correctional staff, support supervisors Tuesday morning by reporting staff, nurses, and administrative staff that "due to the surge, our Contact have tested positive.

Investigation and Contact Tracing team has been personally contacting only the higher-To date, inmates and staff have risk groups such as the young and elderly reported only minor symptoms as a result of their COVID-19 exposure. and congregate care facilities. Others are

receiving an automated call." few weeks," he told supervisors, referring

to the expected increase in hospitalizations Mendocino County is currently sheltering and deaths from COVID as case rates rise. 36 COVID-positive people who can't isolate

Mendocino County Public Health sent or guarantine on their own. a press release Tuesday announcing Coren also discussed COVID and the Death #112, a 68-year-old man from the schools. "During the pandemic, there have North County area, unvaccinated with no been only 45 exposure events and three comorbidities; and Death \$113, a 77-yearoutbreaks in our schools," he said.

old woman from the South Coast area, fully percent of the total Mendocino population, "Since the return from the holidays, he said. there have been no outbreaks or in-school Public Health also updated the county transmission documented, though absences COVID dashboard on Tuesday, January 25, expect another two to three weeks before of students and staff have mounted, reporting: "Since last Friday, 752 additional cases peak, with hospitalizations and

"I think that when we look at this, if we

Carmel Angelo set to retire in March, on

Tuesday the board discussed the possibility

However, after some discussion, the

model would be best for the county.

understandably raising anxiety and mortality lasting longer. Omicron can be questions about closing the schools. fatal, especially in the vulnerable and the "We've seen hundreds of positive tests not-completely boosted.

that are uncovered by the schools' testing,' he said - "This is community transmission protect yourself and loved ones by avoiding and not from the schools. The schools are higher risk activities: Postpone travel; avoid still proven to be the best and safest place large parties and gatherings; test and stay to be," he said, advising to continue to keep home if positive or sick; upgrade masks and the schools open. ventilation; and remember vaccines and

Coren also reported that, "since January boosters are the best protection.

Services since 2007

vaccinated.

10 the average vaccination rate in Mendocino

County is actually exceeding the California

As of January 24, Mendocino County has

given a total of 146,242 vaccines, which

means 71 percent of those eligible are fully

Those who are boosted amount to 31.5

"According to state modelers, we should

"So my advice," Dr. Coren concluded, "is to

rate, though both are gradually declining."

"Using low-carbon cement can cut Caltrans' concrete-related carbon dioxide emissions annually by up to 10 percent," said Caltrans Director Toks Omishakin in the January 25 press release. "This is a big step in supporting California's efforts to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045."

Cement is typically produced by mining, grinding and heating limestone in industrial kilns to temperatures as high as 2,820 degrees Fahrenheit (1,550 degrees Celsius). The process alters the rock's chemistry and creates "clinker" – the basic component in nearly all types of cement - but also generates large quantities of carbon dioxide. PLC contains less clinker.

In 2017 alone, Caltrans used 325,000 tons of cement to upgrade the state highway system. Switching to low-carbon cement has the potential to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 28,000 tons a year – the equivalent of removing more than 6,000 cars off the road.

Caltrans expects that the reduced energy needs associated with PLC production will make the cost similar or slightly less when compared to regular cement.

The new low-carbon cement standards are based on Caltrans-funded research conducted at Oregon State University, which concluded that PLC is equally suitable for Caltrans' construction projects as ordinary cement with a reduced carbon footprint.

Throughout the review process, Caltrans worked closely with its partners at the California Air Resources Board and industry experts and stakeholders, such as the California Construction and Industrial Materials Association and the California Nevada Cement Association, to draft the new standard specifications

In 2010, Caltrans changed its concrete standard specifications to increase the use of sustainable alternatives in transportation projects, an initiative that helped spur a shift in concrete production throughout the state. Caltrans will continue to work with the California Air Resources Board to reach the state's goal and achieve net-zero emissions from the cement sector by 2045.



newly minted chaplains who had met at places on the lifeboats, gloves and life the Army Chaplains School, were on the vests. They were seen on deck praying ship with approximately 900 military and together as the ship's bow lifted into the crew heading to Europe for their first air and then slid under the water. assignment.

All of our community are invited to After the torpedoing of their ship, attend this memorial service. Light the chaplains stayed on deck to offer refreshments will be served after. comfort and help to those they were COVID protocols as outlined by the shipping over with. They gave their county will be in place.

randomly chosen, yet each player knows the 9189.

These friends and seasoned pétanque

players have been at it for a long time

and continue to sharpen their throws and

strategies while immersing themselves in

the fun of pétanque. Each person has at

least one skill and strategy that makes them

a valuable player. Their teams seem to be

The rest of From Page 2 Wellness

How is it, that we can mean something with every ounce of our being and even take steps toward creating positive change only to lose motivation and revert right back to our old

Let me share a little secret about motivation to change. Ambivalence is defined as "the state of having mixed feelings or contradictory ideas about something or someone." As you can see, it's a normal part of the change process.

When a person struggles with a substance use disorder, the process is the same. They want to change and they think about changing. They swear up and down they'll never use again, only to find themselves intoxicated by the end of the day.

Change is not a linear process, but rather it is an unkept, messy, zigzag of an ordeal. However, there are definite stages where a person is marked to have distinct behaviors and activities. It goes as follows:

Precontemplation: I have no idea I have a problem. This behavior has not caused me to consider the need to change.

Contemplation: I'm beginning to think this behavior might be problematic. People in my life seem to mention it to me, but I'm not ready to do anything about it.

Preparation: This is the research phase - seeing what resources are available and identifying budgeting options. Action: In the case of the gym, we're signed

up and going. Maybe we even researched personal trainers. For a person with substance use, they might have attended a recovery meeting or engaged with a doctor.

Maintenance: When a person finally hits their stride and the new behavior feels like second nature, they have entered the maintenance stage. This is the space where new habits become ingrained and integrated into one's being.

It takes at least three weeks to create a new habit, but it takes much longer than that for new patterns to become ingrained. We are constantly wiring our brains with the thoughts we think, the music we listen to, the route we drive to work, and the sources we gather our news from. When we create positive change, we are literally re-wiring our brains.

I compare this process to walking a path in nature. Bad habits are the path we've taken for so long, we don't even think about it. It has become an automatic process, and then we suddenly find ourselves in the same spot, the same reaction, or the same behavior, over and over. We wonder how we got there again.

Creating healthy behaviors means forging a new path. At first, we'll have to break branches and hack debris while we trudge through However, as time wears on, we find that the new path becomes more open. It begins to feel familiar and more comfortable. The sun breaks through, and after a while, it becomes automatic as well.

Occasionally we are reminded of the previous path as we pass opportunities to slide back into old behavior, but that path no longer feels comfortable. It has become overgrown from lack of use. The new path is now our second nature. We have learned to achieve and maintain long-term positive growth.

So, if you find you've somehow fallen off the New Year's resolution path once again, don't worry. Ambivalence is a normal part of the process. Recommit to starting over Tell yourself: The opposite of success is not failure; failure is a steppingstone that leads us to achieving our goals.

If you're looking to let go of a substance that's been dragging you down, Adventist Health has many options to help you achieve your resolution: call Redwood Wellness Recovery Program at Howard Memorial in Willits, 707-459-6115. Peace be with you and Happy New Year!

Willits Weekly | January 27, 2022 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Pg. 11



At the kiosk...



The rest of From Page 8 Hub

pastured chickens, and bags of microgreens, including the fabulous pea shoots "loved by young and old alike."

Also on offer: Shamrock Artisan Goat Cheese (from Willits), Myers lemons and additional citrus, potatoes, kiwis, dried French prunes, spices, many grains and beans from the Mendocino Grains Project, spices, honey, bee pollen, dried hot peppers, and more.

Visit https://mendolakefoodhub.org/ to learn more or to sign up. If you live on a dirt or rough gravel road, they probably won't be able to deliver to your address. Home delivery day for Willits (also for Hopland and Ukiah) is Tuesday; and ordering for that Tuesday delivery is open from Friday morning at 9 am through Monday morning at 7 am.

You can subscribe to the Bounty Box so you get it each week automatically, or place an order anytime you want to. Mendo Lake Food Hub also has weekly subscriptions for wheatgrass, their organic eggs, and microgreens.

Best to order early if you're interested in smaller quantities of the "extra" produce, as those options sell out first as compared, say, to a 20 pound box of winter squash.

because things are working at the moment. We're hoping to have a new chief by April. It's a process. You have to do background checks and fill out a lot of forms. COVID is causing the checks to take much longer. It's a really tight family here, so whomever we choose has to be able to fit in with the existing crew.

"When the candidates are narrowed down," she said, "then we will speak with them and see how they mesh. We need to feel good about the choices. We're a team. We don't want anyone to come in and fail. We don't want to set anyone up for failure. We need to be sure that this is what they want as well. It goes both ways. This is a tough job. I would say that the chief's job is 80 percent admin.'

On the wish list are more paid firefighters. "Honestly, we need to hire two more firefighters to be on call for this community so they can guarantee that someone will be here at all times," Schnitzius said, acknowledging that the voters would probably not approve additions to the budget at this time.

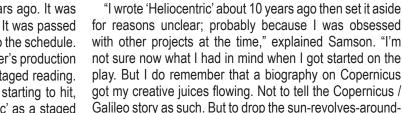
"Our volunteers show up because they want to, not because they have to. They would stay here and man an engine. Presently, there are a lot of calls that only John and Eric show up for. Volunteers these days can't guarantee that they will be there for you. They're busy. They have families and jobs and responsibilities. We get calls all day long. They can't all always leave their jobs five times a day. Currently, the volunteers get \$4 per call. That doesn't even pay for their gas to get here. We're hoping to be able to pay a certain amount per day to make sure they will be available. "This community needs more staff here," she added. "We're way too busy with the amount of calls we have. We need more staff here. We're on the same budget as we've had 23 years ago when we had 200 calls. We're at 800 now. We've never increased our budget with the voters."

The rest of From Page 5 Theatre

Samson had written 'Heliocentric' many years ago. It was submitted, originally, to the theater in 2012. It was passed down through the committees. It didn't fit into the schedule. In the summer of 2021, Mike Adair, the theater's production manager, approached me to direct it as a staged reading. At the same time as the Delta variant was starting to hit, it was time to begin working on 'Heliocentric' as a staged reading. All of us in the crew decided we were not very comfortable performing the play with a crowd. We didn't want to put anybody at risk. I came up with the idea of videoing it. I think it was originally a pie-in-the-sky idea but when that happened, we went all in."

"Heliocentric" features Garrett Moore as Tom Hannigan, Phaedra Swearengin as his beleaguered wife, Kelly Kesey as publisher of the astronomy journal who tries to convince Hannigan to hold off publishing, Joe Swearengin as his best friend who grapples with understanding the concept, Rod Grainger as his colleague who warns him homeless PTSD-burdened collaborator, Steve Marston as the provost of the university who will silence Hannigan at all costs, Arris Velis and Bruce Andich are the marshal and the university lawyer respectively. The interpretive and haunting score was provided by local eclectic musician Kyle Madrigal.

Throughout the production, both Shipp and Samson and actor's creative work.



not sure now what I had in mind when I got started on the play. But I do remember that a biography on Copernicus got my creative juices flowing. Not to tell the Copernicus / Galileo story as such. But to drop the sun-revolves-aroundthe-Earth belief into a contemporary story as if Copernicus and Galileo had not existed."

Samson usually is shocked by what he sees in the final product. "Once, as always occurs, I adjusted to the fact I was watching the director's play, not the play in my mind, I got into it," said Samson. "[I was] fascinated by the character interpretations, the overall tone, and the clever use of religious iconography in the visual telling of the story. Terrific original score."

Director Shipp would like to continue to create videos, taking what he and the rest of the crew learned from this of his folly in telling the truth, Ben Strasser as his genius first effort and improving their techniques, honing their craft and expanding the influence of the WCT beyond the borders of the area.

"I hope we can do some more video projects," mused Shipp. "I really enjoyed this. Theater is wonderful and theater is important. Theater will always continue on throughout the history of man but it's not always accessible to everybody. You might be stuck at home. You might not came to realize the striking difference between creating a have the money to go out. I think it's important to recognize piece for the theater and for video. The author, Samson, is that there is a consumer base that can enjoy the theatrical used to letting his work be interpreted as per the director's experience through video and to bring entertainment to them as well.'



Above, left: The file room is filling up quickly. Above, right: Deputy Chief John Thomen has collected many figurines over his 40 years in the department. At left: One of four dorm rooms awaits linens and firefighters who will utilize the facility. Below: The conference room is fully equipped with communications and audio-visual equipment.



McGuire's bill to

help stop toxic

coal train

passes full Senate

McGuire's

The rest of From Page 6 Firehouse

Pick the winning teams of the Sunday and Monday games. Guess total score of the Monday night game for tie breaker.

Top 5 picks each week will win

SHERWOOD

WWW.SVRCASINO.COM

CASINO

For complete rules and details please visit the Players Club. Gambling a problem? Call 1-800-GAMBLER.

Willits Weekly | January 27, 2022 **Pg. 12** Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

For now, the shiny, new, red, state-of-the-art building will be a great asset in the delivery of vital emergency services, having all the engines and equipment at the ready to meet the 800 calls per year that this crew has been handling.

TUESDAY 1-25-2022
Alyssa - BIEEDING CONTROL
Bill /BEN - CHOKING - BADY/Adult
ASULEY - BACK BOARDING / Spider Stape / HE
HARRY - ENVIO EMPERATORIAS
George - Spring

Above: The whiteboard shows upcoming trainings. Below: The mandated workout room has the beginnings of exercise equipment



PG&E offers large-wood removal of trees cut down during 2021 fires

Submitted by the Office of Submitted by recently expanded the voluntary Senator Mike McGuire **PG&E North Coast** program to encompass 2021 wildfires. Mike In response to customer and Senator legislation to stop one of the community feedback, Pacific Gas If approved by the landowner, largest environmental threats and Electric Company (PG&E) is PG&E will be removing wood California and the North Coast has offering customers free removal debris from trees cut down for seen in decades – a proposal from of large-diameter wood from trees safety in response to the following a secret, clandestine operation that were cut down for safety wildfires: that wants to ship millions of tons during the company's 2021 wildfire of coal through Northern California Anderson Fire response. - passed with overwhelming Cache Fire bipartisan support on the Senate As PG&E worked to quickly and safely restore power during Caldor Fire floor Monday. the 2021 wildfire season, crews "The proposed toxic coal train Dixie Fire inspected and cut down hazardous is an environmental disaster Fawn Fire trees that posed a potential in the making," said McGuire. "The Midwest coal would travel safety risk to crews and electric Hopkins Fire through the Sierras, across the equipment. The work was done KNP Complex Fire Golden State through the heart in coordination with agencies • Linda Falls Fire of our thriving communities, responding to the wildfires. ancient redwoods, and directly • McFarland Fire With this work now largely along the banks of the Eel and complete, PG&E is offering Monument Fire Russian rivers, which are the main landowners the opportunity to drinking water source for nearly • North Complex Fire have trees that were cut down for 1 million residents. It is crucial River Fire (Colfax, Oakhurst) safety removed from their property, we stop this dangerous proposal - it transcends politics, and I'm provided it is safe to do so. Salt Fire grateful for the bipartisan support." Because the wood is the Washington Fire SB 307 will protect California landowner's property, removal Photos by Mathew Caine PG&E contractor crews will by preventing all state funding of the wood is optional and from initiating improvements on be performing this work and can landowners must provide written the now-defunct North Coast rail provide identification upon request. permission to PG&E to have line north of the City of Willits. Customers with questions about the wood removed. PG&E is in Further, it bans state money from the Wood Management Program the process of reaching out to being spent on the build-out of any can call 1-877-295-4949 or email impacted landowners to offer the new potential bulk coal terminal wildfiresafety@pge.com. removal services and provide facilities at the Port of Humboldt. permission forms. For additional information about The bill passed in the Senate Earlier this year, PG&E and the program or to download the with 33-2 bipartisan vote on permission form for wood debris contractor crews began removing January 24, 2022 . The bill will and disposing of large-diameter removal in 2021 fire footprints, visit now be sent on to the Assembly wood from 2020 wildfires. PG&E www.pge.com/woodmanagement. for its committee process.



Above: Several patrons enjoy dine-in lunch at the Senior Center on Monday.

Photos by Mathew Caine

Assistance Needed

Now that the Willits Harrah Senior Center is open again for lunch, exercise classes, and support programs, they are in desperate need of volunteers

The Willits Harrah Senior Center, at 1501 Baechtel Road, is open, as much as is safe and reasonable. A dine-in lunch, from 12 to 12:45 pm, is now being served, with tasty and healthy fares in an easily distanced manner, with the requirement that attendees be vaccinated.

Mathew Caine

Features Writer mathew@willitsweekly.com

Other services that can be accessed are the Housing Assistance Program under the experienced eye of Francis Niedermeyer and the Outreach Program with Serena Alexi. Exercise class is every

morning at 9 am with simple chair exercises. All are done with the utmost caution and realization of the current COVID status and protocols. Alexi is currently working with the Willits Chamber of Commerce, through the sponsorship of the Mendocino Community Foundation, to provide and train isolated seniors with computer tablets through which they can connect with friends and family.

In addition, the facility is available for rental for safely run events. Zoom support groups include the Physical Challenges Support Group and the Parkinson's Support Group. The computer lab will be available as soon as the center can find a volunteer to teach the class.

The previously scheduled bingo event has been cancelled for now due to lack of the ability to provide safety protocols for the gathering. The pancake breakfast may revert to a drive-through meal. Details will be announced soon.

The Senior Center is in need of volunteers to be able to continue providing as many of their excellent services as possible during these trying times. For those who have the time, energy and desire to be of service, please call 459-6826 to speak with one of the staff.

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

'West Side Story'

The Story: Steven Spielberg's remake of the brilliant Leonard Bernstein musical. It's usually described

as

and

York

"Romeo

New

Juliet" in the

ghetto, a corner

of the City

trashed by time,



Dan Essman Columnist

social neglect, ethnic strife, and gang warfare.

Young Tony (Angel Elgort), of Polish descent, is an earnest young man recently out of prison and trying to escape his membership in the Jets, an Anglo street gang. Maria (Rachel Zegler) is a beautiful and innocent young woman from Puerto Rico. Her brother Bernardo is proud and macho, he leads the Sharks, a Puerto Rican gang.

There's a big noisy party. It's there that Tony and Maria see each other for the first time across the crowded dance floor. Love at first sight, and "sorry, not sorry" to everyone and anyone telling them "No. Puerto Ricans and Anglos can't mix. Can't love."

My Thoughts: What a flick! True love versus bonehead racism. This is a great story with famous love songs of longing and hope. Spielberg's dynamic camera and editing goes way beyond primo to: So good you just gotta be kidding! Angel Elgort can dance. So graceful. So athletic. And Rachel Zegler sings "One hand! One heart!" liltingly. And with such hope and pathos.

Even knowing the movie's end was inevitable, I wanted, somehow, that it would be different. Of course, no. But this new version proved to me that a brilliantly made, rippingly sad love story still can make me weep in the dark at the movie house. Proved I ain't dead. It's a great feeling.

Parents: Two hours and 30 minutes of song, dance, anger and violence, and especially romantic love. And you know your kids. What they will enjoy. Special note: There is a brief but difficult scene of a woman being threatened by a street gang.

Willitsian Daniel Essman prefers his reality attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination.



Above, left: Senior Center chief cook Nancy Middleton prepares the lunch fare behind the "open" sign. Above, right: Bill Barker volunteers by serving drinks at the Senior Center lunch. Below: Monday's lunch was an artistically presented wet burrito.



Made for more love





Erin Conroy, MD **OB/GYN**

Scott Loeliger, MD Amber Gilmore, MD Family Medicine Family Medicine with Obstetrics with Obstetrics



Sara Martin, MD Family Medicine with Obstetrics



John Sanchez, MD **OB/GYN**



with Obstetrics

You were made for more. More snuggles. More affection. More comfort. That's why at Adventist Health, we offer everything you need to find the doctor and the birth plan that are perfect for you. From private birthing suites and Jacuzzi tubs to leading experts and a Level II NICU, your deepest wishes and your baby's needs are at the center of every detail. Because you deserve to experience the delivery you've always imagined.

Find your birthing team at AdventistHealthUkiahValley.org/OBGYN