

Thursday, February 4, 2021

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Cannabis Ad Hoc to host Cannabis Cultivation Virtual Town Hall

Submitted by Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

On Wednesday, February 10 at 4 pm, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors Cannabis Cultivation Ad Hoc Committee consisting of Supervisors John Haschak and Ted Williams will host a virtual Cannabis Cultivation Town Hall Meeting.

The supervisors will give an update on their current discussions with the California Department of Food and Agriculture regarding the state's requirement for site-specific California Environment Quality Act / CEQA review in order for applicants to be eligible for a state Annual Cannabis Cultivation License.

The supervisors and county staff will also give information regarding CEQA pathway options for Mendocino County Phase 1 or Phase 2 cultivators, including the third-party consultant framework that was directed by the board of supervisors on January 5, 2021.

Virtual Town Hall Details

What: Cannabis Cultivation Virtual Town Hall

When: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 4 pm

Who: Mendocino County Board of Supervisors John Haschak and Ted Williams, and Planning and Building Services staff

How to attend:

To join via Zoom, click the link: https://mendocinocounty.zoom.us/j/88027314543

To join via phone, dial: +1 669 900 9128 and enter the webinar ID: 880 2731 4543

The webinar will also be streaming live on Mendocino County's YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/mendocinocountyvideo) and the county's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/mendocinocounty/).

For more information, please contact Mendocino County Planning and Building Services Cannabis Program at 707-234-6680.

Community Foundation offers Field-of-Interest grants for non-profits

Submitted by Community Foundation of Mendocino County

The Community Foundation of Mendocino County is pleased to announce \$168,000 in available funding from its Field-of-Interest grant program. Field-of-Interest funds are established to make grants in specified areas of interest (e.g., the environment, human services), or specified geographical areas, or both. Non-profit organizations from throughout Mendocino County are invited to submit proposals online by February 26, 2021 by 5 pm.

Since the shelter-in-place orders went into effect in March 2020, the Community Foundation has developed a dedicated COVID-19 Relief Program, which includes a focus on the non-profit sector. To achieve this, we have shifted our grant-making programs this year, offering a Non-Profit Relief Grant to Mendocino County organizations experiencing increased demand or reduced funding as a result of the pandemic.

Our traditional Field-of-Interest grant program is now open, with grants available from four different Field-of-Interest funds, thanks to the Non-Profit Relief Program, the Community Resiliency and Disaster Preparedness Fund, the Environmental Education and Conservation Fund, and the ReLeaf Tree Planting Fund.

Available funding includes:

- Community Resiliency and Disaster Preparedness Fund: total \$100,000; grant range \$1,000 to \$10,000
- Environmental Education and Conservation Fund: total \$10,000; grant range \$1,000 to \$5,000
- ReLeaf Tree Planting Fund: total \$8,000; grant range \$1,000 to \$8,000
- Safety-Net Fund: total \$50,000; grant range \$1,000 to \$5,000

Guidelines and a link to the online application are available at www.community-found.org. Questions about eligibility, guidelines or the application may be directed to Amy Lutz, grants administrator, at 707-468-9882 x104.

Field-of-Interest funds are created with a specific area of interest in mind, but anyone can contribute to these funds. You can join with others who have a shared passion to help your giving go further together. In addition to the three funds accepting applications now, there are many more Field-of-Interest funds to choose from, representing diverse areas of interest such as the arts, providing basic needs, and promoting animal welfare.

For more information about applying to the Field-of Interest grant program or about how you can make a gift to any of the Field-of-Interest funds, visit www.communityfound.org.

The Community Foundation of Mendocino County is a county-wide non-profit organization that administers permanent charitable funds established through gifts and bequests from individuals, families, businesses, and other organizations. Our mission is to offer people effective ways to engage in advancing the well-being of our communities. For more information, visit www.community-found.org or call 707-468-9882.

Are you concerned about emergency access for the Sherwood Corridor?

Submitted by Sherwood Firewise Communities

The recent Oak Fire incident provided clear proof of how important it is to have well-maintained emergency access routes. During the mandatory evacuation of the Sherwood Corridor residents, emergency responders were able to access the fire using the recently cleared FIRCO route allowing evacuating resident vehicles full access to both lanes of Sherwood Road. Sheriff Kendall has stated that this was the smoothest evacuation he has experienced in his 30-year career. Following this successful community-wide effort, other emergency access routes serving the Sherwood Corridor are being developed. A means to fund ongoing maintenance is being considered by the County of Mendocino.

At a "One-Way-in-and-Out Communities" workshop following the Redwood Valley fire in 2018, Brooktrails Fire Chief Jon Noyer informed the public that the "emergency travel routes" designated on the Brooktrails Evacuation Plan had been abandoned and were not available for access. Sherwood Firewise Communities was created by local community volunteers with a major goal of reopening these emergency access routes and to develop a way to maintain them into the future.

The Brooktrails Township Community Services District and the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors have unanimously supported these efforts and are providing ongoing assistance in securing, improving and maintaining more emergency access routes. The Governor of California and CalFire have provided emergency improvements for the FIRCO route and the Willits Creek route work to be performed this year.

Supervisors John Haschak and Dan Gjerde continue to provide leadership from the Ad Hoc Committee on "One-Way-in-and-Out Communities," including the formation of a Benefit Zone to provide funding for maintaining emergency access routes into the future. The Community Foundation of Mendocino awarded a grant to assist with the development of this new Sherwood Corridor Benefit Zone and a large law firm, Kronick, is providing a huge pro bono donation of legal support for the Mendocino County Counsel's Office.

A portion of a larger Sherwood Firewise CalFire grant is being used to perform the roadside fuels reduction along the Willits Creek emergency access route. North Coast Resource Management is providing the registered professional forester services and is coordinating with CalFire and Mendocino County Transportation Department representatives in the vegetation management and related environmental review CEQA permitting. CalFire crews are being scheduled to perform the route clearing work before the next fire season.

Work continues on the other emergency access routes with Brooktrails Township, their legal counsel Chris Neary, and Supervisor Haschak communicating with the route-adjacent property owners. The Primrose emergency access route from Highway 20 and Exley Lane looks promising and would provide a much-needed southern slope access from Highway 20. Sections of Ridge Road cross private property with gates blocking a critical route at the top of the ridge that also has a route connecting to Highway 20.

The supervisors have unanimously approved moving the Benefit Zone formation process forward with the next steps being a board resolution to form the Benefit Zone, public notice, workshops, public hearing, and a ballot sent to all owners of improved properties in the zone. Sherwood Firewise is holding a special Zoom Meeting on February 11 from 6 to 8 pm to discuss the Emergency Access Route maintenance through the formation of a Benefit Zone. Please join us.

Join by internet – www.zoom.us Meeting ID: 856 2503 6304 Password: 918795

Or join by phone: (669) 900-6833 Meeting ID: 856 2503 6304 Password: 918795



The rest of Meeting | From Page 1

wide urban forest tree inventory and Urban Forest Management Plan. The purpose of completing the Urban Forest Management Plan is to create a thriving urban forest; make recommendations on planning, policy, and procedures to achieve targeted Urban Forestry goals, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, management methods, and stakeholder opinions; and to increase community outreach opportunities to engage with residents.

The City of Willits recognizes the important role trees play in creating a vibrant and healthy community, the Urban Forest Management Plan Community Meeting is designed to understand the values and needs of residents living in the City of Willits and how the city can manage the urban forest to meet those needs.

The online meeting will begin with an introduction to the project and the importance of trees to living in Willits. The remaining time will be a facilitated discussion between the panelists and participants on tree-related topics specific to Willits.

Questions? Call the City of Willits Community Development Department at 459-7124.

This project is beneficial to our environment and community and is a step closer to improving long-term urban forest management and keeping Willits green! We went to hear your feedback and vision for the future of the city's trees.

Please join us for this important virtual community meeting to discuss the Willits Urban Forest Management Plan on Thursday, February 11 at 4 pm; visit:

https://dudek.zoom.us/j/85625036304/register/WN_3mFrkNdUR_OoR5vejPCvCA

Or join by telephone at:

US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 929 205 6099

Webinar ID: 979 7049 6344

Participant ID: 414007

For more information about the City of Willits Urban Forest Management Plan go to the City of Willits website: www.cityofwillits.org/277/Urban-Forest

If you want to get involved in the project either as a volunteer or someone who wishes to have a new tree planted (or both!) shoot us an email at jrobins@cityofwillits.org

Lastly, we want to extend our gratitude to the firefighters and first responders who are working to protect our land every day from wildfire.



Above, left: Lake Ada Rose is near its highest point. Above, right: The water at Lake Emily reservoir is getting full after the snow.

Uninterrupted Flow

Brooktrails water treatment crew and fire department work 'day and night' to keep faucets running during power outages

Water is ultimately important to all life, including the residents of Brooktrails. Too often the delivery and distribution of that valuable commodity is taken for granted. People twist their knobs to the left and the water begins to flow into their coffee pots, their showers, their dish basins, and their toilets. Few think about the complexities involved for a community government to provide the means to keep that water flowing.

The delivery of the water requires electric power to get the water into the homes. During the recent snowstorm, Brooktrails lost their power for several days, necessitating above-normal efforts on the part of the township, the water, and fire departments to make sure obstacles to the delivery were dealt with and the water flowed uninterrupted.

Tamara Alaniz, city manager of Brooktrails Township, spoke to Willits Weekly about the challenges of water delivery during the recent crisis: "We have been preparing with public safety power shut off in the case of losing power. When we lost power, we knew that we were more prepared and ready to address it after the snow storm, but what happened is that many of our sites were inaccessible. Even though we had mobile and stationary generators, there were some situations where we couldn't get fuel to them. There were a lot of challenges keeping the water flowing.

"We have had to spend the most staff time and energy, fuel and hours on Spring Creek," Alaniz explained. "We think that the snow storm probably caused quite a few leaks out there that we can't access quite yet. We've done some work out there trying to find where some of those are, but it's extremely difficult to keep the one 60,000-gallon tank that we have for that area full. That tank is at a very high elevation, so it took at least five generators to get water up to Spring Creek.

"The utility and fire crews were working day and night. The fire department was able to take on a few tasks to help us gain accessibility to various sites because they rely on water for fire suppression. When we are in a power



At right, from top: The Brooktrails water treatment facility at the Ada Rose reservoir.

The spillway at Lake Emily helps keeps the water level from rising too high.

The Brooktrails Ada Rose reservoir water treatment facility.

The Ada Rose reservoir is getting closer to full capacity.

At left: The spillway at Lake Ada Rose off Mike's Trail is running non-stop thanks to recent rains and snowfall.

Photos by Mathew Caine



DINNERS TO GO FROM EL MEXICANO
Get a meal for the whole family and enjoy at home!

ENCHILADAS (with house meat)
ONE DOZEN - \$27
STREET TACOS
ONE DOZEN - \$24



166 SOUTH MAIN ST



10AM - 8:30PM
MON - SAT

Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

			4		1		8
				3		6	
8			6			5	
	7				5		
			3				8
	9						5
9				4		7	
	1	2			9		
		6	2			4	9

PUZZLE
ANSWERS
ON
PAGE 9

HOW TO
SUDOKU

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

IT'S ALL RELATIVE WORD SEARCH

W	R	E	S	I	S	O	U	Y	T	I	R	O	H	T	U	A
R	M	P	N	A	A	F	A	C	H	A	D	C	I	S	R	C
F	N	G	R	E	N	D	I	S	Y	Y	S	M	S	U	N	R
R	O	N	E	A	M	P	M	E	O	U	E	L	C	N	S	T
O	B	E	S	T	W	L	A	H	O	S	A	P	I	A	I	C
B	R	O	L	E	S	C	O	V	O	U	N	E	C	T	S	C
R	O	M	U	T	S	A	G	P	O	S	Y	A	N	I	N	O
O	T	O	A	U	T	A	N	T	R	E	L	A	N	D	V	A
T	H	E	C	I	L	W	O	F	I	C	P	R	A	M	E	L
N	L	H	O	F	I	C	P	R	A	M	E	L	C	A	N	A
L	F	G	M	M	F	B	L	H	V	M	E	L	C	C	T	A
G	V	E	R	F	E	T	S	O	F	T	H	P	A	N	E	S
M	E	F	B	U	N	I										

ADOPTIVE	CHILD	GUARDIAN	PARENTS
AUNT	COMPANION	HEREDITARY	PATERNAL
AUTHORITY	COMPASSION	HOUSEHOLD	PETS
BABY	DAD	IMMEDIATE	RELATIVE
BIRTHDAY	FAMILY	LESSONS	SISTER
BROTHER	FOSTER	LINEAGE	TRIPLETS
CARE	FRIENDLY	MATERNAL	TWINS
CELEBRATE	GRANDFATHER	MOM	UNCLE
CENSUS	GRANDMOTHER	NURTURE	UNIT

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13		14			15			
16					17		18			19		
20						21				22		
				23		24			25			
26	27	28	29				30					
31							32					
33								34	35	36	37	38
				39	40	41		42	43			
					44	45			46			
								48				
49					50			51		52	53	54
56					57			58				
59					60				61			
62					63				64			

CLUES ACROSS

- Nuclear near reach weapon
- Of she
- Hyperbolic function
- Rice dish
- A team's best pitcher
- Strong and healthy
- Induces
- Popular manga series
- From a distance
- Split
- Consumed
- Cushions
- All over
- One who provides food
- St. ___ Girl, brand of beer
- Walking slowly
- Wood
- Semitic gods
- Bugle
- 60-minute periods (abbr.)
- Congressman
- Plant of the heath family
- Subdivision of an army
- Having many different forms
- Shellfish

- Latin for hail
- Between sixth and seventh
- Maori war dance
- Precious or semiprecious stone
- Teeter totter
- Deity
- A major division of geological time
- Fishing net
- Small Caribbean bird
- Field force unit
- Japanese beverage

CLUES DOWN

- Prevents oil spills
- Monetary unit
- The color of the sky
- Dough used to make tortillas
- Popular comic strip character
- Distinct form of a plant
- Replenishment
- Has its own altar
- Expedition to see animals
- Group of related organisms

- His and ___
- Frenetically
- Small integer
- Unit of energy
- Studies of culture
- Taxi
- Doctors' group
- Don't know when yet
- Former measure of length
- Popular CBS series
- Skin condition
- Christian creator and ruler of the universe
- They ___
- Caused severe damage
- Work done under harsh conditions for no pay
- One point east of due south
- Sea eagles
- Drenched
- State capital
- Italian city
- Sweetheart (archaic)
- Brief talk
- Popular disco group: Bee ___
- First Chinese dynasty
- Military vehicle
- Chinese Moslem

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE LOG

January 25 to January 31

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled **128 incidents** in this seven-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

January 25

Nothing to report.

January 26

12:04 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Bush Street.

1:42 am: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

10:12 am: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 200 block of North Lenore Avenue.

4:44 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 300 block of East Commercial Street.

5:24 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 400 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning.

6:41 pm: Officers responded to a report of unwanted subjects in the 300 block of South Main Street.

6:47 pm: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 100 block of Pearl Street.

9:03 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1200 block of Locust Street.

9:23 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 600 block of Central Street.

9:38 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 200 block of South Main Street.

10:05 pm: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

January 27

8:24 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 300 block of North Main Street.

8:26 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of North Lenore Avenue.

1:20 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 200 block of Margie Drive.

3:33 pm: Officers responded to a report of threats in the 100 block of Holly Street.

7:27 pm: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 100 block of Franklin Avenue.

8:58 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of Alder Court.

January 28

2:03 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

6:52 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 700 block of South Main Street.

2:24 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1000 block of South Main Street.

3:54 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

4:43 pm: LOPES SR., Anthony Frank (50) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of Exley Road. He was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication), and on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol) and violation of probation.

January 29

2:22 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of South Main Street.

5:42 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Sanhedrin Circle and East Hill Road.

11:52 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of Gregory Lane.

January 30

2:26 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 500 block of South Main Street.

2:55 am: Officers responded to a disturbance near the intersection of Hillside Drive and Mill Creek Drive.

9:16 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Barbara Lane and issued a citation.

11:19 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 400 block of Raymond Lane.

1:42 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 400 block of East Commercial Street.

3:40 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

7:20 pm: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 300 block of North Street.

January 31

6:11 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

7:28 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

12:27 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 700 block of Central Street.

2:58 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person near the intersection of East Oak Street and South Main Street.

5:10 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of Barbara Lane and issued a warning.

5:12 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

5:38 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 400 block of Mill Street.

5:41 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

6:42 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1400 block of South Main Street.



Baking a Business

Reza's Breadery artisanal sourdough breads are disappearing off the shelves at Mariposa Market in Willits

Reza Ghanadan and his wife, Deb, are thrilled they can now offer the greater Willits community Reza's sourdough bread. They finished getting the necessary licenses and permits to be able to offer their bread at Mariposa Market and other businesses.

Ree Slocum

Features Writer
willitsweekly@gmail.com

When Willits Weekly stopped at Mariposa Friday to photograph the loaves on the shelves, it was impossible to find them. According to employee Matt Montes, "We started off with 12 loaves of [Reza's] bread at 9 this morning. By 1:30 they were all gone!" That says a lot.

The couple is known to be very generous and use their bread for fundraising. That started when young Reza watched his mother open the back gate to their Persian home to feed the long line of hungry people. According to his wife, Reza is known to "Love to nurture with food."

The artisan baker started making bread about 23 years ago. "That was always my passion," he said. "I just love it! There is an amazing Zen-like feel when you touch the dough that was done with sourdough starter – with the mother," he mused. "It's just very silky and it's very supple."

Baking sourdough bread wasn't always a business. In fact, it was something he enjoyed so much he gave it away to friends and family. Many people he worked with at Adventist Health Howard Memorial were gifted with the boules of warm, hand-crafted, delicately soured and delicious breads. He inadvertently created a following.

The couple decided to use his passion for crafting bread to help out different organizations' fundraising efforts. Because of their generosity, his following of hundreds of people were happy to buy the boules to support a variety of causes. One of their recent fundraising endeavors helped bring thousands of dollars to the Willits Senior Center for a backup generator.

Last year Reza was working for the corporate end of Adventist Health, helping doctors and nurses learn to navigate charting their patients. When COVID-19 hit he was laid off. "We couldn't do any in-person interactions, so they laid off a slew of the people in that program and I was one of them," he told.

The week before he was laid off, the couple had been

working on a fundraising project for Community Crossroads and Our Daily Bread. When they were working on it he said of being let go, "I said, 'OK, we have to transition from a not-for-profit to some profit!'" They laughed. His wife added, "So that thing of 'When one door closes, another opens?'" Well that was seamless!"

Their business started mind-bogglingly fast. Deb created a Facebook group page so their community following could order their bread. They had, and still have, a bread stand at their house where customers can walk up the drive to pay and pick it up. "It's all COVID safe," she assured.

"We always wanted the bakery to have a French village feel," Deb shared. "The neighbors walk up for their bread and serve themselves. If we're upstairs and we see them walking down the hill, it gives us so much pleasure. It's like a village!"

So what's so special about Reza's bread?

His passion for making the bread and the constant care he gives the 27-year-old mother sourdough – he named Ada – are the main ingredients. Those qualities are coupled with the 18 hours the entire process takes, where he pays close attention to details: weighing and measuring ingredients; timing the resting periods; folding the dough; and cutting, forming and refrigerating the boules overnight in controlled-temperature refrigerators.

"By the morning the bread has had time to absorb all the flavors as it works in the very cold, which retards the fermentation and enhances the taste. Then I just start baking it," the bread maker said.

For those who are gluten sensitive, the Ghanadan's have had reports from a few customers that their artisanal sourdough doesn't

Read the rest of
Bread
Over on Page 10

Seed Sharing
Keeping heirloom seeds
in our gardens and on our tables

Saving and sharing seeds can help you become more self-sufficient and independent, can help you build meaningful relationships with your friends and neighbors, and will empower you to participate in building a stronger and more secure food system, by growing heritage seeds, landraces, and endangered plants.

We encourage all local gardeners to participate by requesting seeds from others and offering seeds they've saved from their own gardens. We want to teach and advise with proper seed saving for germination and success, as well as an understanding of what plants can be best saved and shared or replanted successfully by beginners.

Call your local Grange to participate by sharing seeds, with table space to display. Our mission is to conserve and promote America's culturally diverse garden and food crops for future generations, and to share heritage, open pollinated heirloom seeds and plants with all.

Co-sponsored by your local Grange and the Mendocino County Pomona Grange, Seed Swap events will continue in February.

Seed Swap Events

Friday, February 5: The Seed Library at the Round Valley Public Library will be hosting a Covelo/Round Valley Community Seed Giveaway. The giveaway will take place during Farmers Market, between noon and 3 pm, in the Walnut Grove behind the Library at Howard and Main streets in Covelo. Masks and social distancing required. Call the library, 983-6736, for more information.

Sunday, February 7: Seed Sharing at Redwood Valley Grange – from 11 am to 2 pm. Email info@RedwoodValleyGrange.com for more information.

Saturday, February 20: Seed Sharing at Little Lake Grange, from 12 to 3 pm, 291 School Street, Willits. Call or text 707-889-2449 to bring seeds or for information.

Seeds available from many local garden seeds including Quail Seeds and Sundial Seeds.



Above, left: The last batch of the morning was made in this, their largest of three mixers. Above, right: Carbon dioxide bubbles form when flour and water are added to the mother starter. Below, left: These interesting-looking bowls are called banneton proofing bowls – they come in different sizes, get well floured, filled with hand-shaped boules, and set in the refrigerator overnight. Below, right: The 27-year-old mother starter lives in the small container on the left. Her daughters to the right will become the next batches of bread.



Edie Ceccarelli is turning

113

Come celebrate from 1-1:30 pm on
Friday, February 5
during a drive-by parade!

Parade Route:
Go straight at stop sign of Haehl Creek Drive and Grove St. Take a left on Grove St. and continue to Edie's address of 414 Grove St. which will be on your right hand side.

How to celebrate:
You are welcome to drive through with decorations (balloons, streamers, signs, flags) or drive through without decorations to wish her a happy birthday!

This event is hosted by the
Frank R. Howard Foundation

Valentine's Day is coming soon!

Make sure to submit a photo of you and your sweetie for inclusion in our next edition!

Willits Weekly is happy to once again do a special submission event in honor of Valentine's Day – coming up on Sunday, February 14.

As in the past, we will publish a photo and caption for you, free of charge, in our February 11 edition. If you want to be included, please email us your photo and caption to willitsweekly@gmail.com by the end of the day Monday, February 8. We will include as many as we can, like we did with the below photos from 2017.

– Maureen Jennison

Sweethearts in the Willits community share their love

Love at first kiss <3 <3 Leslie and Juan.

Happy Valentine's Day, Mr. Pie Love, Beezer.

Ed and Diane Deaton, married for 32 years.

I love you dad, Ka-chow!! – Grady.

Dorian Vincent de Paule & Billy Turner.

Happy Valentine's Day Bruce! You are the keeper of my heart and my very best friend. Love, Lynnette.

Happy Valentine's Day to my loves Tony, Arabella and Zandria Mondo. Love, your wife and mom, Julie Mondo.

Happy Valentine's Day to my beautiful wife, Kelli. Love you honey-babe...Tim Kozeluh.

To the love of my life, Happy Valentine's Day to my husband, Greg! Love, Eva.

Colton, McKenna, Jack, Ryan, & Tanner. Happy Chocolate & Hearts Day! Happy Valentine's Day too! We love you bigger than the sky is blue, Mom (Shailyn) & D.

Happy Valentine's Day to my amazing family, I love you Garret, Jaidyn, Cheyenne, Heather.

Andrew and Emily Vanbezooyen.

Happy Valentine's Day Matthew! Love Rachel, Gus and Trigger.

We have 50+40+24+1 =115 years of loving marriage between us! Gene & Dorothy Roediger, Troy & Mary James, Michael & Judy McDonald, and Mrs. Kimberly McDonald Miranda & Mr. Chris Miranda (just married on 02/29/2016)



Photo by Deb Schwartz



Storm Zone

Snow and wind battle Brooktrails, leaving roads blocked and thousands without power

The normally narrow lanes of the Sherwood Corridor were made even narrower by the insistent branches and tree trunks insinuating themselves onto the roadway, left by the violence of the unprecedented winter storm.

In the still Wild West area of Willits, the residents need to be of the hearty and adventurous variety of humans, withstanding fires, floods, and the rare but dramatic snowstorms that try to drive them from their homes. But the eight inches of snow in one evening kept them sequestered even more than the raging COVID pandemic.

The people waited patiently for either the snowplows to create paths or for the snow to melt, to the point where they could escape their driveways and journey into the town, only to find several of the major arteries clogged with fallen trees or crews working on clearing the trees and restoring the power.

On Tuesday, January 26, many of the trees lost their valiant battle with the surprising volume of snow and at the higher elevations, blistering forceful winds. The insurmountable weight of the pure white, but deceptively heavy snow tore off branches and snapped trunks. Some trees came crashing down across power lines, cutting off electricity to thousands of Brooktrails residents, one area at a time.

The unexpected brute power of the storm caught residents and utilities unprepared. Some were caught in town, not able to get back to their homes and families, as Sherwood Road, the only reasonable ingress into the area, had been made a war zone from fallen trees, live power lines, and snow that was too high to traverse. Many had to wait for hours on the road, not knowing if they had enough fuel to wait it out while the crews worked tirelessly to make the road passable.

Days later, the force of the snow and wind were visible in the broken trees, which loomed like feathery arches over the roads, with their splintered stumps and piles of branches, awaiting the arrival of road crews.

Many stories of bravery and fortitude and determination emerged from the carnage. The sheriffs had to rescue an Adventist Health worker as she attempted to brave the snow and became mired. Lesalle Coatney found a family of three who had lost a battle with a fallen tree in their BMW and invited them in for the night.

Crews from Caltrans had to "hunker down in the dark of the night," according to a press release, "sheltering from large cracking and falling trees amidst heavy snow and winds." They got through the night "by

rationing a questionable package of beef jerky." As soon as the sun came up, they were back clearing downed trees to free up Highway 101.

A mother and her three children had to wait in the freezing cold for hours in their car on Tuesday night, to traverse up Sherwood Road, only to be saved by the Brooktrails Fire Department, who brought them food and extra gas so they could stay warm.

PG&E brought supplies, over 7,000 blankets, 4,000 batteries, and water to local tribes, including Cahto Tribe of Laytonville Rancheria, Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians, and Round Valley Indian Tribe.

PG&E had their hands full, trying to restore power in their service areas in northern and north coast counties, especially Willits, Laytonville and Covelo. "As of Monday morning, February 1, there were still about 2,260 customers without power, mostly in Willits and Laytonville," PG&E spokesperson Deanna Contreras explained.

"We have Estimated Restoration Times, or ETORs, which customers should be receiving the texts, emails, and automated phone. After assessing the damage, and completing the assessments, we get the ETOR depending on what equipment needs to be replaced, how long it takes to get that equipment to that area and make the repairs and turn the power back on. Most of the ETORs for the 2,260 customers is for tonight." However, at the time of this writing an ETOR went out saying power would be restored by 5 pm, February 2.

"This was the strongest unprecedented atmospheric storm," Contreras continued, "we have seen in several years, that hit, not only Mendocino County and not only the North Coast, but all of the PG&E service territory from Central California, all the way up to Eureka. Because of the prolonged days of the winds and heavy rain, and prolonged and low-level snow in some of the areas that usually do not get snow.

"We have been hardening PG&E's system," she said, "building a more-resilient grid for wildfire mitigation which has been our plan for the last couple years, bringing in the stronger conductor, what we call 'tree wire' that is thicker and stronger and holds up to the trees falling on the line, which has helped us during storms. It's only been about two years that we've been doing this. We're replacing the poles with steel or fiberglass and using thicker conductors in the major fire areas."

Read the rest of Storm Over on Page 10



Photos by Mathew Caine



At top, from left: Crews of vegetation and power line experts work together to perform repairs and remove fallen trees. Crews work to replace a telephone pole on Poppy. A load of telephone pole replacements waits at the Brooktrails Community Center. A snowman sits in a Brooktrails yard, built by some children, who, oblivious to the problems caused by the unprecedented snow, made the most of their snow day.

At left: Highway 101 between Willits and Laytonville looks beautiful but treacherous.

Above, left: This house on Brooktrails Road just missed being crushed or damaged. Broken trees and downed power lines are a common sight on Sherwood Road.

Below, left: Fallen trees and snow make Poppy Drive impassable. Below, right: A massive fallen tree lies next to the Brooktrails home it hit.



Photo by Wes Lowham



Photo by Angela Dyer

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OBITUARY | Stacy Shaul

Stacy Shaul, 44, passed away due to a lengthy illness on Thursday, January 21. He left this world comfortable in his bed and with his mother, Sharon, at his side.

Stacy worked as the bus driver for the Willits Senior Center for many years. He enjoyed his work and loved making the local seniors smile. He often volunteered his time and money to assist in community events. He wore his heart on his sleeve and never thought twice about helping a friend in need, even if it meant giving something up himself.

He loved sports and spent much of his time reading stats and drafting his perfect fantasy teams. He had a passion for cooking and would make nearly enough food to feed the whole neighborhood. He showed his love through food, and if you ever had the chance to try his cooking, you should definitely feel lucky.

Stacy was always the life of the party – laughing, singing, joking, and picking on his nieces, nephews, and children like it was his second job! It was nearly impossible not to laugh when spending time with him. He lived and loved harder in his 44 years than most people do in 80. Anyone who had the pleasure of knowing him should feel blessed for the time they had with him. He was a light in this world that will be truly missed.

Stacy is survived by his three children – Anthony, Dominic and Stacey. He loved nothing more than his family, especially his children, who were (and still are) his pride and joy.

DMV offering behind-the-wheel driving tests again Previously postponed tests will be automatically rescheduled

By DMV, Office of Public Affairs, Sacramento

The California Department of Motor Vehicles has resumed behind-the-wheel driving tests statewide as of February 1, as per a January 28 announcement. The DMV previously postponed all behind-the-wheel tests through the end of January for the health and safety of customers and employees during the statewide surge in COVID-19 cases.

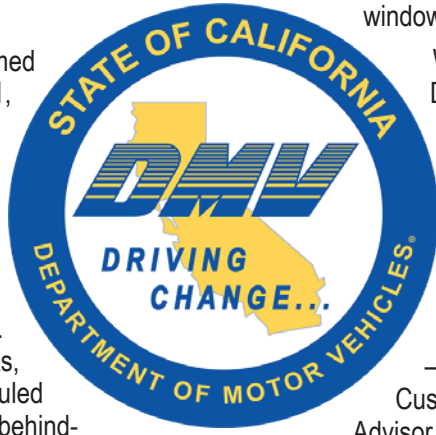
The DMV will automatically reschedule customers for behind-the-wheel drive test appointments that were canceled between December 14 and February 1. Rescheduling is expected to begin in the next two weeks, and customers will be notified by text of their rescheduled appointment. DMV anticipates new appointments for behind-the-wheel tests will be available in mid-February once all previously postponed tests have been rescheduled.

In-vehicle testing is a requirement for first-time driver's license holders and commercial license applicants. The temporary suspension included commercial and noncommercial tests, but did not apply to motorcycle drive tests, which can be conducted at a safe distance.

The DMV previously extended eligible permits with expiration dates through May 31, 2021, for six months from the date of expiration, or to a date 24 months from the date of application, whichever is earlier. This automatic extension requires no paperwork and gives student drivers more time during the COVID-19 pandemic to complete the prerequisites needed for a provisional license. The DMV also has extended expiring commercial driver's licenses, commercial learner's permits, certificates and endorsements through February 28, 2021.

To protect customers and employees, the DMV requires everyone who enters DMV offices to wear a face covering, physically distance, respond to health screening questions and have their temperature checked. To best serve customers and maintain appropriate distance, the number of people allowed in the office is limited, chairs are appropriately spaced and plexiglass has been installed.

Safety measures in place for behind-the-wheel tests include required face coverings, respond to health screening questions, temperature checks, cracked



windows for increased air circulation and seat covers.

While DMV offices remain open to serve the public, the DMV continues to encourage all customers to use its online services (www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv-online/), expanded virtual services and other service channels to complete transactions, including eligible driver's license and vehicle registration renewals.

Nearly all Californians can now renew their driver's license online – www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/driver-licenses-identification-cards/driver-license-id-card-online-renewal/ – even if the renewal notice states an office visit is required.

Customers can also use the Service Advisor (www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/make-an-appointment/service-advisor/) on the DMV website to learn their options to complete DMV tasks.

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At left: An impressionistic painting by Lynn Thompson. At left, below: Laura Fargey's painting of a small eddy along the Eel River captures the movement and reflection on water beautifully. Above: This painting by Laura Fargey, based on a photograph she took of the Eel River, is self-described as "stylized realism."

Abstracts of inconsistencies and 'stylized realism' displayed in the paintings of two talented artists at WCA this February

Submitted by Willits Center for the Arts

The Willits Center for the Arts presents two Willits artists, Laura Fargey and Lynn Thompson. The two women take different views on painting.

Lynn Thompson, who moved to Willits from Florida, takes color and makes exciting abstract and impressionistic images on canvas. "For over 50 years," shared Thompson, "I have had the privilege to communicate my need to connect with the world in dark times, and rejoice in the good times through my art. I find that I best express myself using abstracts to address the inconsistency of life."

Whether it be acrylics or oil paints, her art allows her to present a glimpse of nature in an ever-changing world. When she is creating a painting, she chooses the colors and lines, then lets the piece determine its outcome. It allows viewers to interpret the meaning of the piece for themselves.

Laura Fargey of Willits has been making art since 1967. She paints and draws from her own photographs. She adapts photos as vehicles for a personal statement, which she calls "stylized realism." The working technique is deliberate, slow and methodical, resulting in a tapestry of detail.

"I don't expect certain rendered areas in my paintings or drawings to be literal or recognizable," said Fargey. "There is always a combination of realism and abstraction going on simultaneously in every piece. Some works have more abstract areas than others; some are predominately realistic. The newest series, 'The Eel River,' is a departure from the earlier work, as it focuses on the beauty of a natural setting with no figurative influences."

This show opens Friday, February 5 and will be on display through February 28. Gallery hours are 11 am to 5 pm, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The Willits Center for the Arts, located at 71 East Commercial Street, is located next to the Noyo Theatre. For more information, call 459-1726.

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WW299

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: LARRY MYRON HAVEN, aka LARRY MYRON HAVEN, SR.
Case No. SCUKCPB 21-27477

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate or both of Larry Myron Haven, aka Larry Myron Haven, Sr.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Larry Haven, Jr. in the Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino.

The Petition for Probate requests that Larry Haven, Jr. be appointed as Personal Representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:
Date: February 5, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept. E of the Mendocino County Superior Court, located at 100 No. State Street, Ukiah, California 95482.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. **Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.**

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and in Probate Code Section 1250. *A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.*

Attorney for Petitioner: Jennifer M. O'Brien, NEARY and O'BRIEN, 110 S Main St., Ste. C, Willits, CA 95490, Telephone (707) 459-5551.

Publication Dates: 01/21, 01/28, 02/04, 02/11, 2021

WW304

NOTICE INVITING BIDS

1. Notice is hereby given that the Governing Board of the Willits Unified School District, of the County of Mendocino, State of California, will receive sealed bids for the WHS Main Building Classroom Replacement HVAC South Wing up to, but not later than, 10:00 am, on February 8, 2021, and will thereafter publicly open and read aloud the bids. All bids shall be received at the office of the Superintendent, California.

2. Each bid shall be completed on the Bid Proposal Form included in the Contract Documents, and must conform and be fully responsive to this invitation, the plans and specifications and all other Contract Documents. Copies of the Contract Documents are available for examination at the office of the Superintendent, 1277 Blosser Lane, County of Mendocino, California. Documents are also available online at www.willitsunified.com.

3. Each bid shall be accompanied by cash, a cashier's or certified check, or a bidder's bond executed by a surety licensed to do business in the State of California as a surety, made payable to the District, in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the maximum amount of the bid. The check or bid bond shall be given as a guarantee that the bidder to whom the contract is awarded will execute the Contract Documents and will provide the required payment and performance bonds and insurance certificates within ten (10) days after the notification of the award of the Contract.

4. The successful bidder shall comply with the provisions of the Labor Code pertaining to payment of the generally prevailing rate of wages and apprenticeships or other training programs. The Department of Industrial Relations has made available the general prevailing rate of per diem wages in the locality in which the work is to be performed for each craft, classification or type of worker needed to execute the Contract, including employer payments for health and welfare, pension, vacation, apprenticeship and similar purposes. Copies of these prevailing rates are available to any interested party upon request and are online at <http://www.dir.ca.gov/DLSR>. The Contractor and all Subcontractors shall pay not less than the specified rates to all workers employed by them in the execution of the Contract. It is the Contractor's responsibility to determine any rate change.

5. The schedule of per diem wages is based upon a working day of eight hours. The rate for holiday and overtime work shall be at least time and one half.

6. The substitution of appropriate securities in lieu of retention amounts from progress payments in accordance with Public Contract Code §22300 is permitted.

7. Pursuant to Public Contract Code §4104, each bid shall include the name and location of the place of business of each subcontractor who shall perform work or service or fabricate or install work for the contractor in excess of one-half of one percent (1/2 of 1%) of the bid price. The bid shall describe the type of the work to be performed by each listed subcontractor.

8. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days after the date set for the opening for bids except as provided by Public Contract Code §55100 et seq. The District reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities or irregularities in the bidding.

9. Minority, women, and disabled veteran contractors are encouraged to submit bids. This bid is not subject to Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise requirements.

10. The project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the California Department of Industrial Relations. In accordance with SB 854, all bidders, contractors and subcontractors working at the site shall be duly registered with the Department of Industrial Relations at time of bid opening and at all relevant times. Proof of registration shall be provided as to all such contractors prior to the commencement of any work.

11. Each bidder shall possess at the time the bid is awarded the following classification(s) of California State Contractor's license: **C10, C20 and C38**

12. (Optional) The Governing Board has found that the Project is substantially complex and therefore requires a retention amount of 5%.

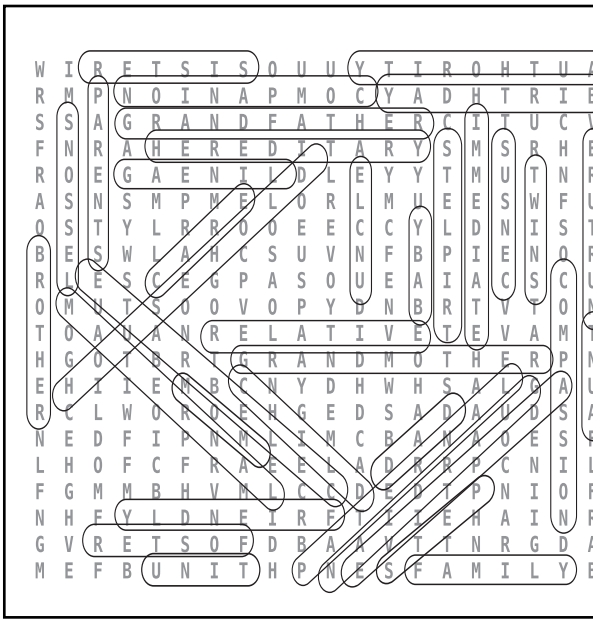
13. Bidders' Conference. A mandatory bidders' conference will be held at Willits High School, 299 North Main St. on February 1, 2021 at 9:00am. For the purpose of acquainting all prospective bidders with the Contract Documents and the Project site. Failure to attend the conference may result in the disqualification of the bid of the non-attending bidder.

Willits Unified School District

By: Terry McEntee

DATED: 1/19/21

PUBLICATION DATES: January 28 and February 4, 2021



LEGAL NOTICES

WW303

NOTICE OF INTENT TO SELL

Willits Unified School District intends to sell the property located immediately north of property at 1265 and 1277 Blosser Lane, parcel number 006-210-19 and a portion of 006-210-26, approximately six (6) acres, zoned Residential 2 for single or multi-family. Fair market value \$1,360,000. Interested parties may reach Superintendent Mark Westerburg at (707) 459-5314, ext. 1101.

Publication Dates: January 28, February 4 and 11, 2021

WW301

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2020-F0616

The following company is doing business as Flying Dog Wood Fired Pizza & Vinyl, 65 S. Main St., Willits, CA 95490.

Registered owner: Peter Kevin Swanton, 65 S. Main St., Willits, CA 95490.

This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A.

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on December 22, 2020.

/s/ Peter Swanton

Publication dates:

01/21, 01/28, 02/04 and 02/11, 2021

WW302

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2021-F0021

The following company is doing business as Happy Woman Jewelry, 308 Jones Street, Ukiah, CA 95482.

Registered owner: Laura Buckner, 308 Jones Street, Ukiah, CA 95482.

This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on January 13, 2020.

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on January 13, 2021.

/s/ Laura Buckner

Publication dates:

01/28, 02/04, 02/11, 02/18, 2021



Current Job Openings:

Account Specialist I/II
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Submitted by the West Business Development Center

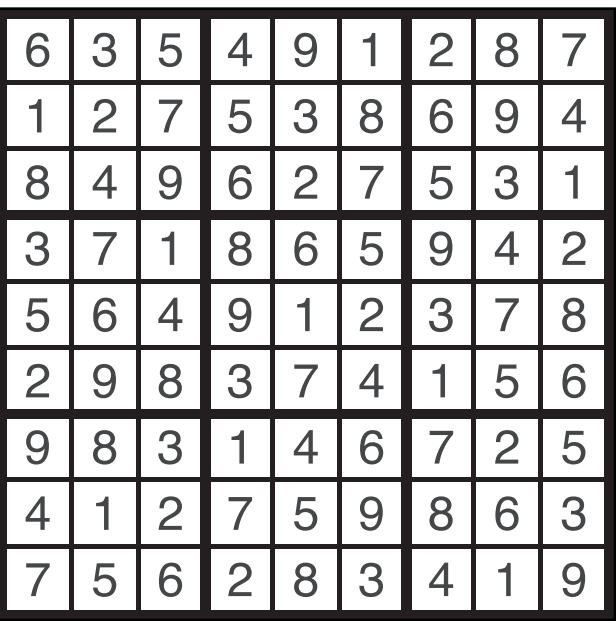
On four successive Thursdays in February, beginning on February 4, West Center will offer free workshops on how to use QuickBooks for your business. Since its launch back in the 1990s, QuickBooks has become the leader in financial-management software. Used both by small businesses and accounting professionals, QB now has a commanding lead in the market.

A great program to use once you're familiar with it, QB can, however, be daunting for new users. And, there are significant differences between the desktop and online versions. Instructor Rebecca Lehman will lead all four sessions focusing on the desktop version of the software.

Lehman has over 25 years of accounting experience and runs her own business, Accounting Advantage. She has extensive experience working with many different business models from construction, manufacturing, retail, restaurants, financial institutes, service industry, and non-profit corporations. Well-versed in several accounting software programs, Lehman prefers QuickBooks over all, making her the ideal instructor.

Here's a look at why QuickBooks is an invaluable partner for your business:

- Save time on bookkeeping and paperwork. Many simple bookkeeping tasks can be handled automatically making it easier to run your business.
- Generate informational reports that show you where your business stands. These make it easy to assess whether you're making or losing money.
- QuickBooks is affordable. A small investment will reap big rewards.
- QuickBooks can help your business grow. You can design a business plan to help secure loans or lines of credit. Create balance sheets, profit and loss statements, and cash flows to help you plan for the future.
- Customize the program to work for your particular business. Did you know that QuickBooks has customized



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Due to health concerns in 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.

RV/Trailer Space for Rent

Space for RV's and Trailers \$425 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 510-5895. See at "http://www.oakvine.net/tp"

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Willits Food Bank Open

Willits Community Services & Food Bank continues to distribute food, following COVID-19 safety provisions, to hungry families and individuals in the Willits area, with an increase in numbers served. The front office at 229 E San Francisco Ave is closed to the public, but the back door area is open for food distribution on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 4:30 pm. Info: 459-3333; financial donations to WCS can be mailed to 229 E. San Francisco, Willits CA 95490.



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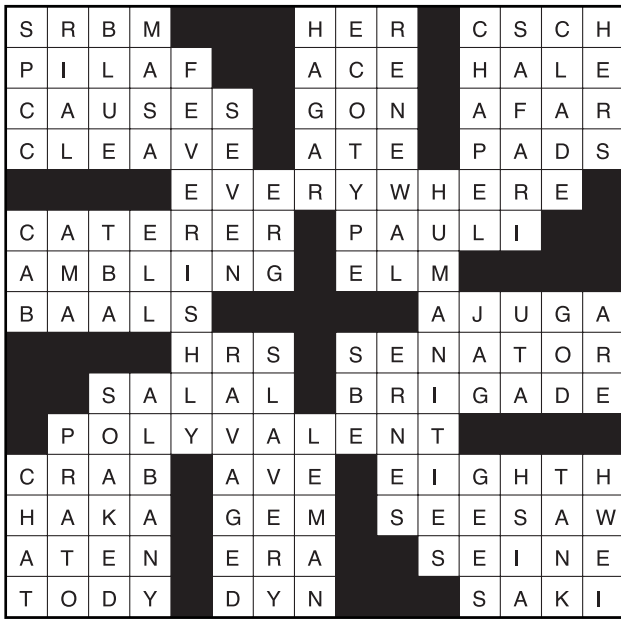
To register for this free webinar, go to www.westcenter.org/workshops/quickbooks-part-1-the-basics-6kkb7.

The West Business Development Center strives to educate and advocate for small businesses so that local entrepreneurs receive the information they need to launch and expand their business. If you need financial advice or assistance, call West Center today at 707-964-7571 to speak with an expert advisor.

West Center has also developed a handy COVID business resource guide that provides information on important topics such as:

- Negotiations with landlords and tenants
- How to help your employees
- Marketing during a pandemic
- Health and safety requirements for your business

The free business resource guide can be downloaded at https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5b69c861e7494096e18d049a/t/5f6e3f9489372d03bb78ff37/1601061029456/WestBDC_BusinessRecov_Booklet_FINAL.pdf.





Stacy Starkey promoted to president of Savings Bank of Mendocino County

Submitted by Savings Bank of Mendocino County

The Savings Bank of Mendocino County Board of Directors has announced the promotion of Stacy Starkey to president. This is a strategic step in the succession process to succeed Scott Yandell at the time of his planned retirement later this year. Scott will continue as the chief executive officer until retirement.

"The bank has a strong executive leadership succession plan in place to ensure a seamless transition for continued growth and stability," said Yandell. "We will ensure that the leadership of the bank continues to serve our shareholders, employees, customers and the community now and in the future."

Scott Yandell has served as president and CEO at Savings Bank of Mendocino County since June 2011. He came to Savings Bank with more than 30 years in the industry as a community banker. With the understanding that a great local bank is a keystone of the community's economy, Scott has been committed to sustaining the bank's position as one of the strongest community banks in the nation.

Stacy Starkey began her career with Savings Bank of Mendocino County in 1994, spending her first few years in the Investment Department before transferring to the Loan Department. Stacy was appointed senior lending officer in July of 2014. Stacy grew up in Ukiah, graduated from Ukiah High School, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance from USC and attended one of the nation's premier masters-level extension programs for senior officers in the banking industry. Stacy is dedicated to ensuring that Savings Bank continues to meet all of the financial needs of its communities the way only a local bank can.

Established in 1903, Savings Bank of Mendocino County is the only locally chartered community bank and the only financial institution with its headquarters in Mendocino County. Savings Bank has nine banking centers located throughout Mendocino and Lake counties.

Sweet Joy

Joy is truly a Joy. She has lots of energy and needs a job. Unfortunately, Joy was adopted and abruptly returned as it was not the right fit. She does not have house manners but is willing to learn with the right person. Dogs don't come knowing what the house rules are and no one has taken the time to teach her. The right adopter will need to understand this will take time and patience. She is very sweet and aims to please and will surely entertain you.

Joy is a border collie mix, only weighs 38 pounds, and is a young pup at only a year old.

She would be a great hiking partner or make a great ranch dog. She is very playful and great with other dogs.

If you think Joy would be a great fit in your home and you're willing to put in the work, call the Ukiah Animal Shelter at 707-463-4427 to make an appointment to meet her.

To see the Mendocino County Animal Shelter's canine and feline guests, and 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.



Confusion Hill open weekends

This lovely bit of fan art celebrates Confusion Hill, the Highway 101 roadside attraction north of Willits. The image by Megan E. was posted on Confusion Hill's January 31 Facebook announcement: "Folks we are gonna continue to only be open Saturdays & Sundays, 10 am to 5 pm in February too (for now, this is our slow season, and we got a ton of stuff to do!) Also, here is some amazing fan art by megane.98 on Instagram!"

Visit www.confusionhill.com to for directions and to learn more: "Since 1949 Confusion Hill has been the home of mystery, fun and family entertainment in the beautiful Northern California Redwoods. Phone: 707-925-6456; email: confusionhill101@gmail.com

Confusion Hill also recommends the 2018 documentary "500 Feet Ahead": "A documentary film about California's Roadside Attractions. Feeling like America has lost its appetite for mystery and wonder, a group of creatives take to the road looking to uncover the real life legends behind California's roadside attractions" including Confusion Hill.

Watch the trailer at www.facebook.com/500feetahead/ or "500 Feet Ahead" is now available on Amazon Prime.



Storm

As for "undergrounding" wires to mitigate problems in the future, Contreras explained that it is "very expensive and there are other factors that we need to keep in mind, such as right-of-way and easements, location of all the equipment, etc. We are currently doing targeted undergrounding as part of the wildfire mitigation to prevent the fires."

Residential customers who are without power for more than 48 hours due to a severe event may qualify for Storm Inconvenience Payments under the Safety Net Program. Visit: www.pge.com/en_US/residential/outages/current-outages/report-view-an-electric-outage/additional-resources/extended-outage-compensation/extended-outage-compensation.page. Customers can call PG&E at 800-743-5002 for additional information.

"The impacts of this winter storm were significant," added Contreras, "with more than 944,000 of our customers throughout Central and Northern California losing power due to heavy wind, significant rain, and intense snow. During initial assessments, crews have found more than 4,700 instances of damaged infrastructure, where equipment needed to be replaced or repaired, including 741 broken poles, 586 crossarms, 350 transformers, and 2,204 spans of downed wire."

The residents of Willits will get through and survive any and all obstacles: snow, wind, rain and fire, with the fortitude of the early settlers. It is the price of living in paradise.

Bread

give them digestive problems. "Sourdough is easy on digestion. It's different than factory yeast and it metabolizes differently," Reza said. He also explained, "We've had diabetics buy our bread and artisan sourdough is one of the lowest breads on the glycemic index."

All of the Breadery's ingredients are organic and some of their add-ins, like the lemons for the Sourdough Blue Lemon, are local. They procure their flour from Petaluma's Central Milling – because their standards are exacting and everything is organic. They hope to, one day, be able to purchase more local organic flour.

They've been delivering their mini boules to Mariposa Market since January 14. Owner Mary Anne Trevey is tracking sales, so expect the choices at the market to vary for a while. They rotate through 18 different kinds with names like: Sourdough Classic, Sourdough Persian Naan, Sourdough Seedalicious, and Sourdough Cranberry Pecan.

They also have a schedule of what kinds of sourdough breads will be available on which days for pickup in town.

The couple will continue giving away bread to fundraisers, organizations, places and people where it's needed. They agree, "Those are things that are making this whole enterprise meaningful. So we keep the money flowing and circulating."

Reza's bread delivery to Mariposa Market is Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9 am.

To order boules of bread for pickup at the Hub, 630 South Main Street, and to find out more about Reza's Breadery, go to www.rezasbreadery.com. Or join the Reza's Breadery Facebook group.

Revised

start the process of re-opening our schools, due to our efforts as a community to avoid gatherings, wear masks, and maintain social distance," explained Mendocino County Public Health Officer Dr. Andrew Coren. Schools are able to start the reopening process for K-6 students because Mendocino County is currently in the state's COVID-19 purple tier.

"In addition to those efforts, we here at Public Health are thrilled that our efforts to vaccinate as many teachers as possible have been successful, with much assistance from the Mendocino County Office of Education, Mendocino County school districts, schools, teachers, staff, parents, community partners, rural clinics and Adventist Health."

"This pandemic has tested all of us," said Mendocino County Office of Education Superintendent Michelle Hutchins. "However, as often happens in Mendocino County, we find that by working together we can achieve a lot. The Mendocino County Office of Education is grateful for the partnership with Public Health, and we are continually impressed by the tireless efforts of school district superintendents and school leaders countywide."

Ukiah Unified School District Superintendent Deb Kubin coordinated events to increase vaccination rates across all districts.

"We are looking forward to welcoming our incredible students back to campuses when local conditions allow it," said Kubin. "We have taken all of the necessary steps to support a safe transition. We appreciate everything Mendocino County Public Health has done to support and guide us during this pandemic."

The process for re-opening schools is complex and will take time, and the public is asked to remain patient as schools complete the process to open in-person instruction for kindergarten through sixth grade. Schools and school district will reach out to provide updates as soon as they can. Other grades may not re-open in-person instruction at this time.

Schools may re-open in-person instruction for students in kindergarten through 6th grade after the completion of the following steps:

- Completion of a COVID-19 Safety Plan, which consists of a COVID-19 Prevention Program document and a School Guidance Checklist. Both documents may be viewed at <https://schools.covid19.ca.gov/>.

- Submission of the school's COVID-19 Safety Plan to Mendocino County Office of Education.

- Submission of the school's COVID-19 Safety Plan to the Mendocino County Public Health Department.

- Submission of the school's COVID-19 Safety Plan to the California Department of Public Health.

- If no identified deficiencies are noted by the state or by Mendocino County Public Health within seven business days of submission, a school may open on the eighth business day for in-person instruction. Note again that this only applies to children in kindergarten through sixth grades.

- A school's COVID-19 Safety Plan must be posted on the home-page of the school's website prior to re-opening.

Schools may re-open to all grades once Mendocino County maintains COVID-19 red tier qualifications for longer than five consecutive days, as stated in the state's Blueprint for a Safer Economy.

In order to address the many question that will arise during this process, Mendocino County Public Health is partnering with schools to create a fact sheet that will be available by the end of this week. "We respectfully ask for the community's patience, as we believe the majority of questions you have will be addressed in the fact sheet," Dr. Coren concludes. The fact sheet will be posted on the county's website and through social media.

To stay abreast of the county's COVID-19 response, follow Mendocino County on Facebook, and Twitter or visit the county's COVID-19 website at www.mendocinocounty.org/community/novel-coronavirus.

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Emails

announcing an event, with a sign-up link to make an appointment, as well as the age group or tier that is qualified.

"We recognize the great need in our community for accurate and timely information around where or how to get vaccinated. One of our challenges has been reaching out to the general public, within the qualified tiers to inform them about vaccination opportunities. There is not one database that exists that includes this demographic and contact information. The goal is to be able to reach as many people as possible so we can vaccinate and protect our community and get one step closer to the end of this pandemic," explains Judson Howe, president for Adventist Health in Mendocino County which manages the hospitals and clinics on the coast, Ukiah and Willits.

Adventist Health has been holding mass vaccination events around the county and has administered over 5,000 vaccines since December 18.

"We continue to improve our processes to make it efficient and safe for everyone. It takes a lot of work and planning, but I'm

Data

population 38,134); 574 cases have been in the North County (Willits, Brooktrails, Laytonville, Covelo, Dos Rios, Leggett, Piercy; approximate population 19,040); 357 cases have been on the North Coast (Caspar, Fort Bragg, Cleone, Newport, Westport, Rockport; approximate population 16,148); 121 cases have been on the South Coast (Mendocino, Little River, Albion, Elk, Manchester, Point Arena, Anchor Bay, Gualala; approximate population 7,693); and 149 cases have been in the South County (Comptche, Philo, Boonville, Yorkville, Hopland; approximate population 6,904).

As of February 2, the deaths of 39 Mendocino County residents have been attributed to COVID-19.

The 7-day average daily positive cases count is 24.14, with the 7-day average percentage of positive tests at 7.24 percent.

Broken down by age, the total COVID case count is now 81 cases among those aged 0-5; 151 cases aged 6-12; 277 cases aged 13-18; 1,146 cases aged 19-34; 905 cases aged 35-49; 590 cases aged 50-64, and 324 cases among those aged 65 and older.

The ethnic demographics of the overall total show 1,772 cases among Hispanics / Latinos; 978 cases among white non

Snow

announcing the results, "but we're still nowhere near out of the woods."

The February 3 snowpack number is also 68 percent of the April 1 average at the Phillips Station snow course.

"We refer to the percent of average for April 1," de Guzman explained, "because in terms of snow water content, that's typically when our snow pack is at its peak each year."

The series of storms over the last couple of weeks in Northern California "brought a significant amount of rain and snow," de Guzman said, "however these storms are not nearly enough to make up the deficit that we have accumulated over the last few months. For the first three months of the water year, October, November and December [2020], precipitation statewide was only 39 percent of average," he said.

"To make up for those early dry months, we'll need multiple days of above-average precipitation. But at this point, it looks like we're just going to continue to be chasing average conditions for the foreseeable future."

De Guzman did explain conditions were better in the northern part of the state. Statewide, California's automated snow sensor network "is currently reporting 70 percent of average to date as of this morning," he said.

"Lack of rain and snow in the southern Sierras is a significant factor in this statewide deficit During typical La Nina years, like this year, a ridge of high pressure

extremely proud of our teams for stepping up to do this very important work of vaccinating the community, in addition to their regular roles of providing patient care for our community" shares Bessant Parker, MD, chief medical officer for Adventist Health.

Anyone can sign up for the email notification and get alerts when there are events and find out when it's their turn for a vaccine. But for now, the hospitals are focused on vaccinating individuals 75 and older due to limited vaccine supplies and following prioritization guidelines from the California Department of Health and Mendocino County Public Health.

"Our challenge is that the vaccine supplies don't match the demand. Our teams are eager and determined to do more of these mass vaccination events, but we are dependent on the supply allocation that we receive from the state. We are encouraged with the great interest from our community to get vaccinated. But we must continue prioritizing those who are most vulnerable and are disproportionately dying from COVID-19 in our community," explains Dr. Parker.

Proof of age and ID will be required for every tier getting vaccinated. As Adventist

Health gets more allocations from the state as a Multi-County Entity, more mass vaccination clinics will be scheduled. Vaccine clinics will also be announced through the media, the three hospitals' social media pages as well as through radio.

Adventist Health manages the three hospitals and affiliated clinics in Mendocino County: Howard Memorial, Mendocino Coast and Ukiah Valley. Adventist Health is a faith-based, nonprofit integrated health system serving more than 80 communities on the West Coast and Hawaii. Founded on Seventh-day Adventist heritage and values, Adventist Health provides care in hospitals, clinics, home care agencies, hospice agencies and joint-venture retirement centers in both rural and urban communities.

Our compassionate and talented team of 35,000 includes associates, medical staff physicians, allied health professionals and volunteers driven in pursuit of one mission: living God's love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope. Together, we are transforming the American healthcare experience with an innovative, yet timeless, whole-person focus on physical, mental, spiritual and social healing.

COVID-19 case breakdown by zip code

Mendocino County Public Health's active COVID-19 case data broken down by zip code. Posted February 2, 8:32 pm, at www.mendocinocounty.org/community/novel-coronavirus/covid-19-case-data

Zip Code / City: Case Count

95415 / Boonville: 0-5
95417 / Branscomb: 0-5
95428 / Covelo: 20
95437 / Fort Bragg: 33
95449 / Hopland: 9
95454 / Laytonville: 6
95456 / Little River: 0-5
95460 / Manchester: 0-5
95460 / Mendocino: 0-5
95466 / Philo: 6
95468 / Point Arena: 0-5
95469 / Potter Valley: 0-5
95470 / Redwood Valley: 7
95482 / Ukiah: 89
95490 / Willits: 22
Total Mendocino County: 221

Death

own recognition.

Anderson had been transferred to the hospital on January 11, 2021 after being evaluated by jail medical staff for breathing issues related to COVID-19. While at the hospital, he was found to have an advanced preexisting medical condition that was likely terminal. Anderson remained at the hospital for treatment until his death.

COVID tests in Covelo, February 6

Worried you might have been exposed to COVID-19? Just curious?

Mendocino County Public Health has announced drive-through COVID-19 testing in Covelo, on Saturday, February 6. The tests will be given first-come, first-served, at 24281 Riffe Road, from 2 to 5 pm. Please arrive with mask on and maintain social distance. No appointment necessary.

"Please get tested if you or anyone else around you has come into close contact with anyone outside of your immediate household or if you work with the public, especially in settings where masks are not always used by either customers or employees."

– Mendocino County Public Health

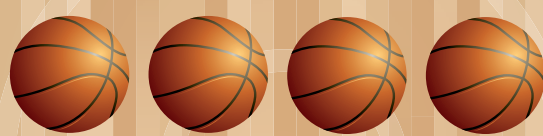
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February 1-28 9AM-10PM

Earn Entries Daily for Weekend Drawings

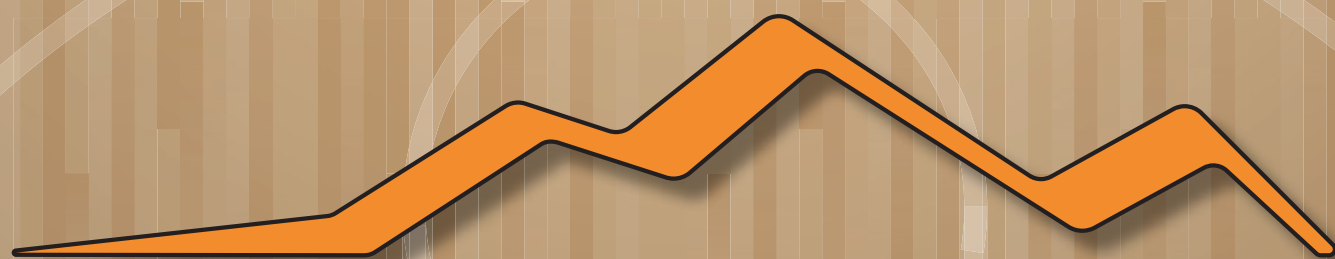
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