

Read the rest of
College
Over on Page 6

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Thank you from Willits Charter School

To the Editor:

We feel so fortunate to work at a school focused on the Arts and Sciences, and to work with such incredibly talented youth and adults.

Our Winter Variety & Art Show was held at the Grange on Friday, January 24. Monies raised from this event will go right back into our Arts programs. There was a special Dessert Auction that raised over \$1,000 to help send our seniors to Disneyland as well.

We are incredibly thankful to everyone that helped make this event a great success. To start, I would like to thank Aura de la Fuente for her coordination of this event, and trusting that our Variety Shows have gotten big enough to have it in such a large space!

Special thanks to the generosity of the following people and businesses: Moon Lady, Monkey Wrench, Cat's Meow, the Book Juggler, Keith Monroe, Paul Lockwood, Alejandra Tovar, Northspur Brewery, Frey Vineyards, the Grange, and Shanachie Pub.

Thank you to our WCS parents that helped collect the Silent Auction items, such as Jennifer Hawley. Thank you to Billy Hetherington for his amazing talent as an auctioneer, and

to all of the people that donated desserts. Thank you to our Culinary Arts instructor Katie Lacey and her team for cooking all of the food, and being able to keep costs down so we could share food with as many families as possible.

Thank you to the WCS teachers for sharing their talents with our students, and to the WCS faculty and staff for volunteering their time to form their own rock band led by Tyler Balthrop. The band even featured WCS Director Jennifer Lockwood, who learned to play the bass to show the students that even if it's a bit scary, we can all learn new skills.

To see all of these acts and more, please come to our Spring Carnival on April 25!

Michel Chenelle, stage manager,
WCS Variety Show

Daringly creative

To the Editor:

The recent debate on the Kennedy death offered by two of our most creative, studious locals, Don Sampson and Mike Adair, was another example for me of the daringly creative scene in our little town.

It was a daunting subject to take on, but one that has so

haunted me over the last 57 years, that I feel some deep need to delve into it more.

It could be some final conclusion confronting our shadow there. But for many there seems an attitude to let it be. Perhaps we yearn for the comfort zone to rest with the well-ordered world where trust of government can allow us to be done with it.

But when I gather the courage to be curious, I begin asking questions like why is the killer always this common solo nut case, and can I truly trust the people in power when we are considered worldwide as the greatest treat to peace on the planet?

And it seems curious to me why the Warren Commission needed some 900 pages for their findings, as if truth is found on the surface of the many, rather than in the simple clarity of the few.

Peter Phillips, professor of Sociology at Sonoma State said: "The idea that some one in our government contributed support to horrific attacks is inconceivable too many. It is a state of mind akin to complete unbelievability."

What would it take then to convince? Perhaps revealing pictures worth 1,000 words – those showing our president's head being jolted back not forward as reported.

William White. Willits



From far left: Dusty Duley and Lions Club President Ken Bell inspect the chicken. Lions Club members organize the three pools for participants to win money at each quarter. A variety of appetizers, including pizza rolls and taquitos, are prepared in the new kitchen. Below: Fans cheer for the first field goal at the Lions Club Super Bowl party.

Photos by Mathew Caine

Super Bowl Sunday

Lions Club's newly renovated clubhouse in the Rec Grove was a great place to hang out during the big game

No matter who they were rooting for on Super Bowl Sunday, the party-goers enjoyed an intimate gathering of 70 of their closest friends, staged at the newly renovated Boy Scout Hut / Willits Lions Clubhouse in the Rec Grove, a facility that is as attractive as it is functional.

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
mathew@willitsweekly.com

After years of serving as the meeting place for Troop 42 of the Scouts (combined boys and girls) and the Boy Scouts, the building is now occupied in conjunction with the Willits Lions Club, which has given it a total makeover.

With contributions from many entities in the community, the Lions have completely redone the electric and plumbing, installed a full commercial kitchen, including a new range and refrigerator (from the old firehouse). They also installed a new roof with hard insulation as well as all new insulation within the building, an ADA-approved bathroom, a pantry, two donated 5-ton heating and cooling units, and new flooring.

"There have been so many people who have contributed," said longtime Lions Club member Skip Lucier. "The Community Foundation of Mendocino County gave us an \$8,000 grant for the renovation."

For \$20, Sunday's party attendees were treated to three wide-screen TVs, the Lions Club's traditional Super Bowl cioppino, grilled chicken, garlic bread, salads, and a plethora of traditional football game appetizers: dips, shrimp, chips, and much more. There was additionally a football pool for those adventurous enough to try their luck at winning some money.

Brave Kansas City fans were welcomed even though the vast majority rooted loudly for the San Francisco 49ers, their red and white jerseys blending with the red and white banners hung around the hall.

Super Bowl parties have become an American tradition, and the Lions are no exception. They have been staging a Bowl party for several years, albeit a more private party until this year. They have been invading member Tony Madrigal's workshop building annually, where member Wayne Bashore taught them to make a cioppino (seafood soup) which he purloined from the Catholic Church party in Cloverfield.

The savory mix has, in the past, contained crabmeat, which is in short supply this season, so they made do with scallops, mussels, whitefish, yellowtail and clams (which

Read the rest of Sunday Over on Page 11



Far left: An avocado, olive and corn concoction is one of many tasty dips on the appetizer table.

At left: Lee Persico and Doug Goss (standing) hang out at the new Lions' clubhouse to watch the Super Bowl with other Lions members.

Below: Kevin Tahrir tends the Super Bowl bar.



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Coronavirus Health Advisory

Submitted by Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency

February 4, 2020: The Mendocino County Public Health Department is working closely with the California Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to monitor the novel (new) coronavirus outbreak, which originated in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China in December 2019.

This virus is new, and therefore is more likely to cause serious respiratory (lung) illness.

As of today (Tuesday, February 4, 2020), there have been no cases identified in Mendocino County and only 11 cases in the United States, with no deaths. All identified California cases are related to travel in Hubei Province, China.

Currently, the immediate health risk from the novel coronavirus to the general public in California is very low.

Public health officials are continuously learning about this virus. Mendocino County Public Health, alongside our local, regional and state-wide partners will continue to closely monitor the situation.

It is very important that persons who are residing in Mendocino County who have recently traveled to Hubei Province, China (in January 2020), or have had direct contact with a person with this recent travel history, contact the Mendocino County Public Health Department at 707-472-2600 so we can provide education and guidance. If you have general questions, please contact your health care provider.

As with any virus, including with the influenza virus during the current flu season, Mendocino County Public Health reminds you that there are a number of steps you can take to protect your health and the health of those around you:

- Washing hands with soap and water after being in public.
- Avoiding touching eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick
- If someone does become sick with respiratory symptoms like fever and cough, they should stay away from work, school or other people to avoid spreading illness.
- If you have not already gotten a flu shot this season, please consider getting one now.

Please contact Mendocino County Public Health at 707-472-2600 if you have any questions.

Precauciones de salud sobre el Coronavirus

Submitted by Mendocino County Health & Human Services Agency

El Departamento de Salud Pública del Condado de Mendocino esta trabajando estrechamente con el Departamento de Salud Pública del Estado de California y el Centro de Control de Enfermedades de los Estados Unidos, monitoreando la reciente epidemia causada por el novel (nuevo) Coronavirus que se ha originado en las Provincias de Wuhan y Hubei en China. Este virus es Nuevo y por lo tanto es muy probable que cause serio compromiso respiratorio.

Al día de hoy no hay casos confirmados de este virus en el Condado de Mendocino sólo 11 casos en los Estados Unidos y ningún caso fatal. Todos los casos identificados en California son de personas que han estado en la Provincia de Huabei en China.

Actualmente el riesgo de contraer este virus en la población general en bajo.

El personal de salud está en continuo aprendizaje acerca del nuevo virus. Y estamos monitoreando la situación muy de cerca de manera conjunta con las autoridades estatales.

Es muy importante que las personas que recientemente hayan viajado a China, o hayan tenido contactos con personas posiblemente infectadas con el novel Coronavirus, y empiecen a tener síntomas, contacten el Departamento de Salud Publica del Condado al 707-472-2600, de manera que podemos brindarles orientación y que hacer de acuerdo a cada caso. Si tienes preguntas contacta tu doctor primario.

De la misma manera que cualquier otro virus, especialmente en la temporada de influenza y refrio común, aconsejamos implementar las siguientes medidas para proteger a ti y tu familia.

- Lávate las manos con agua y jabón
- Evita tocarle los ojos, nariz o boca con tus manos sin lavar
- Evita estar en contacto con personas que están enfermas
- Si alguien empieza con síntomas como fiebre y tos, esta persona debería permanecer en casa y no asistir a su trabajo o escuela; así como evitar estar en contacto con otras personas.
- Si aún no te has vacunado contra la influenza, considera hacerlo ahora.

Por favor contacta con el Departamento de Salud del Condado de Mendocino al 707-472-2600 si tienes alguna pregunta.

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
EST. 2013
A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

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Rain Totals in Willits

2019/20 rain season
Precipitation in the Willits area as of February 5
(Note: Willits Weekly's "rain year" started October 1)

National Weather Service, Willits Howard Ranger Station	19.61"	Highway 20/Tranquility Canyon Road	19.9"
Lucky Monkey's Ranch, 2 miles west of Willits	19.8"	Brooktrails	28.14"
Mendocino College North County Center	16.01"	Pine Mountain	21.09"
Southwest of Willits	24.15"	High Horse	19.02"

Willits Weekly welcomes reports of rain and other weather information at willitsweekly@gmail.com.

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Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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

Level: Intermediate

LAW ENFORCEMENT WORD SEARCH

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

ACCESS	BURGLARY	DOCUMENT	HEARSAY
ACCREDITATION	CAMERA	DURESS	PROPERTY
ACTION	COMMAND	EMERGENCY	RECOVERY
ADMISSIBLE	COMMUNITY	ENTRAPMENT	RIGHTS
AGENT	CONFIDENTIAL	EVIDENCE	SAFETY
ALARM	CONSEQUENCE	FELONY	SCREENING
AUTHORITY	CRIMINAL	FIREARM	SECRECY
BACKGROUND	DAMAGE	FRAUD	SECURITY
BARRIER	DISASTER	HAZARD	TRESPASS

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		47		48
49	50		51			52		53			
54		55			56				57	58	59
60					61			62			
63					64			65			
66					67			68			

CLUES ACROSS

- Indicates number of days
- When you hope to get there
- Hairstyle
- Black (Spanish)
- Expresses pleasure
- Away from wind
- Tech pros organization
- Wile E. Coyote is familiar with it
- Clean
- Saints' signal caller
- A way to hunt
- Poetries
- Automobile
- Secondary school (abbr.)
- Indicates before
- Male parent
- Short-billed rails
- It pays to keep yours
- On occasion
- David __, US playwright
- Slang for cigarette
- Vaccine developer
- Returned to health
- Toni Morrison novel
- Period between eclipses
- Veterans battleground
- Gang
- A radio band

- Jaws of a voracious animal
- Elaborate garments
- Chinese province
- Checks
- Horizontal passage
- Steep hillsides
- Fertility god
- Dried-up
- Signs a name
- __ Winger, actress
- German river
- Gov't lawyers
- Take something somewhere

CLUES DOWN

- __ Blyton, children's author
- Colleague
- 'The African Queen' writer
- Crater on the moon
- Toward
- Overhang
- Identifies something close at hand
- Sign language
- Unbroken views
- Ancient Greek City
- Stretch out to grasp
- Alcohols that are unfit for drinking
- Humorous stories

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!

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE LOG

January 27 to February 2

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 163 incidents in this seven-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

January 27

12:59 am: MALCOLM, Joshua Allan (38) of Miramonte, CA and BOSWELL, Jayna Marie (57) of Three Rivers, CA were contacted near the intersection of North Main Street and State Street. Malcolm was arrested on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and being under the influence of a controlled substance. Boswell was arrested on felony charges of possession of a controlled substance while armed with a loaded firearm, and on misdemeanor charges of carrying a loaded firearm on person in a public place, obliterating coloration or markings applicable to an imitation firearm, possession of a controlled substance, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

8:04 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of West Valley Street and issued a warning.

8:20 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 800 block of Railroad Avenue and issued a warning.

9:31 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Wood Street.

9:44 am: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

10:05 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of South Main Street and Baechtel Road.

10:58 am: Officers responded to a report of threats in the 100 block of North Street.

11:49 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Alder Court.

11:57 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of South Main Street.

12:19 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning.

2:34 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

4:14 pm: JOHNSTON, Martin Anthony (56) of Fort Bragg was contacted in the 1700 block of South Main Street following a disturbance. He was arrested pursuant to 415 (3) PC (Disturbing the Peace) and on misdemeanor charges of fighting or challenging another in a public place to fight.

4:56 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism near the intersection of Monroe Street and South Main Street.

5:20 pm: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 100 block of Alameda Avenue.

7:24 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

January 28

7:35 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block of Madrone Street and issued a warning.

12:36 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

5:09 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1500 block of Baechtel Road.

January 29

11:02 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

8:52 pm: Officers responded to a report of unwanted subjects in the 700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

January 30

3:04 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 9900 block of Spring Valley Road.

3:20 pm: Officers responded to a report of threats in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

6:47 pm: Officers responded to a report of threats in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

January 31

7:24 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

11:28 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the 100 block of West Commercial Street.

12:55 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 23000 block of North Highway 101.

4:01 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 300 block of East Commercial Street.

February 1

12:56 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 1200 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

1:24 am: PICKETT Jr., Oharold Avoin (27) of Jacksonville, South

Carolina was contacted in the 700 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 148 PC (Resisting Arrest), and on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance.

8:11 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 400 block of McKinley Street.

1:41 pm: PATEREAU, Rickey Lee (60) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of North Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication) and on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol).

2:10 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1300 block of South Main Street.

2:47 pm: Officers responded to a report of threats in the 100 block of North Street.

4:31 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation near the intersection of North Humboldt Street and State Street.

5:11 pm: LAFLIN, Adam Powell (43) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of North Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication), 1203.2 PC (Violation of Probation), and on misdemeanor charges of trespassing and disorderly conduct (alcohol).

6:34 pm: Officers responded to a report of sexual assault in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

6:43 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1400 block of Baechtel Road.

10:50 pm: HOPPER, Andrew Lloyd (23) of Willits was contacted in the 700 block of Coast Street following a report of a prowler. He was arrested pursuant to 647 (H) PC (Loitering to Commit a Crime), and on misdemeanor charges of disobeying a court order.

February 2

2:50 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 21000 block of Meadowbrook Drive.

10:27 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1600 block of South Main Street.

4:26 pm: BELL, Robert Wayne (37) of Willits was contacted in the 1700 block of South Main Street following a disturbance. He was arrested pursuant to 23152 (B) VC (Possession of a Baton) and 1203.2 PC (Violation of Probation).

8:24 pm: SALTOVANDENDRIESCHE, Gabriel (27) of Barcelona, Spain was contacted near the intersection of Sherwood Road and North Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 23152 (B) VC (Driving with a Blood Alcohol Content of 0.08 Percent or Higher).



1st Annual Bob Colvig Invitational Youth Wrestling Tournament a success

Submitted by Coach Wayne Shull, Willits Grapplin Pack

On Saturday, January 25, just under 200 youth wrestlers, ages 4 to 14, from all over Northern California, converged in the Steve Short Gymnasium for the 1st Annual Bob Colvig Invitational Youth Wrestling Tournament in Willits. Competitors came from as far as Cottonwood, Eureka, and Napa, to the more local Santa Rosa and Lake County teams.

Wrestling started off with the youngest and lightest competitors in the 3- to 4-year-olds at 30 pounds. This match was the first to take place center stage on the Grapplin Pack's newest mat which was purchased and donated by Collicott Construction of Willits.

Following this opening match, wrestling was underway! The Grapplin Pack had over 50 of its current 80 members competing, with some of them wrestling in the middle school division. The stands were packed, the concessions were plentiful, and the day was great!

The tournament is named after former Willits High School Wrestling Coach Bob Colvig. Coach Colvig started the Willits High School wrestling dynasty that is still alive and well today under Coach Brian Bowles. Coach Colvig had the longest streak of 10 consecutive league championships, undefeated in all 10.

Coach Colvig was also named Sports Illustrated's "Coach of the Year" for his success as not only a coach, but also as a teacher and academic advisor. Coach Colvig has played a significant role in shaping and molding the lives of hundreds upon hundreds of Willits High School graduates. He is now retired from teaching and coaching, and prefers to spend his time with family and fishing.

The Willits Grapplin Pack will be hosting its next tournament on Saturday, March 21 at Willits High School. That tournament will be the first-ever USA Wrestling-sanctioned event in Willits. It will be part of the Coastal Mountain Wrestling Association season schedule. Wrestling will start at 9 am.

This Saturday, the Willits Grapplin Pack will be sending kids to Orland for the NorCal Elementary State Championships, while some of the other kids will be going to Windsor for the Kids North Coast Classic. Sunday, all the kids will be meeting up in Vacaville for the St. Valentine's Massacre.



At top, left: Louie LaMere, left, Jordan Shull, Owen Nielsen and Iziah Folsom show off their medals. At top, right: Contestants at the 1st Annual Bob Colvig Invitational Youth Wrestling Tournament gather around the center mat for rules interpretation by the head official, Jeff Andrade. Above, left: Maxwell Watts gets two thumbs up from teammates Corey Rocky and Donnie Glenn. Above, right: Alina Wilson, left, and Alayna Folsom from WGP take to the mat. At left: Joshua Potter works for the pin in a contest against a Ukiah wrestler.

Photos submitted by Christina Wilson and Shannon Folsom

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Willits Weekly | February 6, 2020 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Pg. 5

exactly how claims of damage shall be made or adjudicated.

Second District Supervisor John McCowen cast the lone vote against the motion, which was made by Fifth District Supervisor Ted Williams and seconded by Fourth District Supervisor Dan Gjerde.

The board gave Curtis no direction on what it would like to see in terms of an enforcement strategy. One board strategy, which the board employed in December of last year, when it directed Code Enforcement Manager Trent Taylor to investigate a complaint that a local timber company was guilty of leaving trees allegedly protected by Measure V in a state of having been intentionally killed and left standing in the forest for longer than 90 days, was unsuccessful, when Taylor told the board he was unable to ascertain if there were dead and standing trees where the complainant said there were.

Taylor said he had gone out into the forest to investigate the complaint, as directed by the board. He followed a public road as far he could in the direction that was indicated by the complaint, but, from his vantage point, he could not see any dead and standing trees.

When asked if he had called the landowner to ask permission to go on the landowner's property, Taylor said he had not done so.

"I did not have the resources to hike the 1,300 acres of land, so, no, I did not ask permission to go on that private property," Taylor said.

In the 3.5 years since Measure V was approved by Mendocino County voters, the measure has become a lightning rod for forest activists, environmentalists and those opposed to herbicide use. Although Measure V does not use the word "herbicides" in its text, Measure V is seen as a way of limiting herbicide use by using the fear of forest fires as a shield.

Some large timber owners in the county, including Mendocino Redwood Company, use herbicides to kill tan oaks, which have proliferated on timberlands in recent decades, as redwoods have been cut in commercial logging operations. The tan oaks, which in the modern era have no commercial value, shade out the young redwoods and thus slow down the regeneration of the commercially viable species. Some private landowners, including MRC, apply herbicides, using the hack and squirt method, to kill the tan oaks.

Proponents of Measure V are claiming that the dead trees are more liable to burn in a forest fire than are the living trees, and therefore, that the practice of leaving the intentionally killed trees standing in the forest for more than 90 days, creates fuel for larger and more disastrous fires, thus endangering the public and therefore is justifiably considered a public nuisance.

McCowen asked MRC President of Forestry Policy John Andersen if his experience on MRC land supported that theory. Andersen said it didn't.

"We had 27 fires on our property in 2008, and many of those burned into areas where the tan oak had been treated," Andersen said. "I had six fires that I was working on, and I was seeing the fire staying in the understory in these dead, standing trees. They'd scorch up the trees about 7 or 8 feet. I actually have pictures of this from the Lodge Fire, which was a number of years after that, where CalFire came to one of our roads and said, 'We need to backfire this area, to stop this side of the fire.' And I said, 'We got three areas there where we treated the tan oak,' and they said, 'That's OK. We still want to do this.' And so I personally watched this and took pictures...."

"Again, we saw just scorch marks, staying at the base of the tan oak trees. Because, generally, they've lost their fines [which Andersen later defined as leaves and small branches] – and this is what the John Muir Project is finding – it's not due to treating these trees, but it's from the insect damage and decay that they've seen in the Sierras –

the fines are out of the canopy, and the results of a study which is from Oregon State University is that there is actually a reduction in fire intensity in those areas where the trees have been treated," Andersen said.

Measure V also has become a lightning rod for political activists, for those who support democracy and the rule of law, and who wish to hold local government accountable to the initiative process. One such is Fifth District Supervisor Ted Williams, who, before he became supervisor, was a proponent of Measure V.

"I think the time to have a discussion about, is this a good idea? Is this a best practice? Are there alternatives? – that ended on June 7, 2016, when it was passed by voters," Williams said. "And my worry is, it's a slippery slope. If we start deciding after the fact, to either veto or change the intent of voter initiatives, because the board knows better than the people, that really stifles the voter initiative process. It's a large endeavor to collect the signatures – you need about 5,000 – it takes campaigning. In some cases, spending one-25th as much as the opposition. And to go through the process and then to have the board say, 'No, we don't think it's a good idea,' or, 'We're not going to enact it, or implement it, or enforce it,' doesn't sit well with me."

McCowen had this response to Williams' comment: "Measure V says nothing about the county doing anything. Measure V doesn't appoint an enforcement officer to implement Measure V. Measure V is actually very simple. It declares that certain trees, intentionally killed, are a public nuisance, and it says that the owner of those trees are liable for any damages. Measure V is actually self-enforcing. Anyone that feels that they have been injured as a result of a practice that is being considered a public nuisance, can sue, to recover the damages. On the face of it, there's no role for the county to play. No one is negating the role of the voters," McCowen said.

Willits City Councilwoman Madge Strong criticized McCowen's reasoning on Measure V.

"The voters passed this law, and so, it is a law, and we do expect the county to enforce the laws," Strong said. "I don't think it's self-enforcing. I think the point that this young gentleman [Isaiah Davis, who had spoken before Strong] made, about the fire hazard, which is the main thrust of Measure V, is, to try to keep from having all these dead trees out there. It's an enormous fire hazard."

"And to expect the victims of some future fire to then hold the people who violated Measure V responsible – they might be dead people," Strong said. "They might have lost everything in the fire. This is totally an unreasonable approach. The reasonable approach is to treat it as a public nuisance, under Measure V, and to have code enforcement be instructed to actually investigate these potential complaints and future complaints, and to actually find where these things are happening, where they are threatening the public safety."

In December 2019, in addition to directing Code Enforcement Manager Taylor to investigate the complaint that Measure V was being violated, the board of supervisors also established an ad hoc committee to work with stakeholders and to try to arrive at a course of action that would address the demands of Measure V proponents while also allowing the timber companies to continue to kill or remove tan oak trees.

According to board Chair John Haschak the ad hoc committee met on January 29 and had a productive meeting. They discussed various plans to use the tan oaks commercially, including using them as pulp and also using them as flooring and siding. Haschak said that Supervisor Williams and Mendocino Redwood's Andersen agreed to get together to look at reports on fire modeling. Haschak said the ad hoc committee plans to reconvene approximately April 1 to continue discussions on those topics.

Free Healthier Living Workshop starts February 25

Submitted by the Frank R. Howard Foundation

Avenues to Wellness, a program of the Frank R. Howard Foundation, is hosting another free six-week Healthier Living Workshop starting February 25 in Willits.

This workshop teaches folks how to self-manage chronic diseases such as: arthritis, diabetes, heart disease, and chronic pain. It provides a "tool kit" and a path to improve your quality of life.

Sessions focus on goal-setting, problem-solving, and strategizing ways to reduce pain, fatigue, anxiety and stress. It offers ways to deal with the difficult emotions that can be part of having a chronic condition, including how to talk with your family, friends and doctors about your health.

This program was created by Stanford School of Medicine and Kaiser Permanente 30 years ago and is taught worldwide.

Avenues to Wellness is pleased to offer this effective program to our community free of charge. Space is limited so please call now for more information and to reserve your place. Call Suzanne at: 456-9676 or visit avenuestowellness.org for more information.

The rest of Fires | From Page 1

At that point, with all occupants reported as being out of the house, firefighters focused on containing the fire, and "minor exposure protection" for a nearby car and another structure on the side.

In addition to Little Lake, Brooktrails Fire and Ridgewood Ranch Fire responded. Fire personnel were on scene until about 3:30 am.

Little Lake Fire Chief Chris Wilkes said he was still looking into how the fire on Manzanita Drive started.

Monday night, sometime after 10 pm, Little Lake Fire was called out to a chimney fire on Mill Street in westside Willits.

"We had a heck of a time getting that fire put out," Chief Wilkes said. "That fire was going enough that traditional means of putting a chimney fire out would not even touch it. At one point I thought we might have to break brick out, which we never want to do."

Wilkes said the "chimney bombs" the firefighters employed – basically the powder from a fire

extinguisher – were not effective due to chunks of soot and creosote in place due to a fireplace insert not working the way it should.

Wilkes recommended that any homeowners with fireplace inserts make sure they are installed correctly, and consider calling a professional – a chimney sweep or any business that installs fireplace inserts – to inspect your existing installation.

Cleaning your chimney regularly is important, Wilkes said, and if you haven't yet done that yet this winter, consider doing it now. "We're at that point in the year, where people have been using them," he said, "maybe they cleaned their chimneys out at the beginning of the season, maybe they think we're getting a little further along, closer to springtime...."

Chief Wilkes also said the new firehouse project is moving forward, and that the fire department's consultant thinks the old firehouse on Commercial Street will be fully demolished and "on the ground" by April 1, weather permitting.



Mendocino College Interim President Eileen Cichocki and recent graduate of Sustainable Construction Program Joshua Betts hold a placard representing the \$1 million recently given to Mendocino College by the State of California to expand the construction program. State Senator Mike McGuire, who secured the money for the college, stands to Betts' right in a blue suit. Marie Myers, college trustee for Area 3, which includes Calpella and Redwood Valley, is seen on Cichocki's left. Other people in the photograph are students who are currently enrolled in the Sustainable Construction and Energy Technology program.

Photo by Mike A'Dair

The rest of College | From Page 1

saving buildings and to prepare them to enter the workforce immediately upon graduation.

With the infusion of state money, the college plans to be able to offer more classes and to be able to serve 40 percent more students.

McGuire and the school administration have placed the program expansion in the context of rebuilding Mendocino and Lake counties after the fires that have ravaged both counties over the past five years.

"The fires over the last five years have greatly exacerbated the labor shortages that Mendocino and Lake counties have traditionally witnessed in the construction trades," Senator McGuire said.

"Today's investment will be a shot in the arm for the local economy, but more importantly, an opportunity to provide young people with the tools they need for a construction career and a family-sustaining wage. We're grateful to partner with the college on this potentially life-changing program."

"Mendocino College is thrilled to expand its

The rest of GMOs | From Page 1

technologies that have come into currency since 2004.

According to the language of the ordinance amendment: "Genetic engineering means altering or amending the genetic material of an organism by using (1) methods such as cell fusion, microencapsulation and macroencapsulation, and technology such as gene deletion, gene doubling, introducing a foreign gene, or changing the position of genes, and other similar processes, or (2) gene editing systems, such as CRISPR-Cas9, which directly edits DNA within an organism without necessarily inserting new genes."

The board agreed to strike the following sentence from the new version of the ordinance. "For purposes of this chapter, genetic engineering

critical role in supporting the region's economic development," said Mendocino College Interim Superintendent/President Eileen Cichocki. "This significant investment for fire recovery construction training spearheaded by Senator McGuire for Mendocino and Lake counties will provide tremendous support for our communities' recovery by addressing the labor shortage and preparing our Sustainable Construction and Energy Technology students for improved earnings and living wage attainment. This funding will serve as a catapult to a more robust, self-sufficient and continuously evolving construction program."

McGuire said that the college administration is planning to expand the program over the next three years.

Joining McGuire and Cichocki at the podium were Mendocino County Board of Supervisors Chairman John Haschak and Lake County Board of supervisors Chair Moke Simon. Both supervisors praised McGuire for his assistance, and thanked the college for providing jobs training for local residents.

does not include organisms created by traditional breeding or hybridization, or to microorganisms created by moving genes or gene segments between unrelated bacteria." This sentence was found to be wrong. However, neither the supervisors nor county staff were able to clearly articulate just what was wanted.

Staff was directed to work with a variety of stakeholders, including proponents of Measure H, representatives from the Mendocino County Farm Bureau and also from the Origins Council, a sustainable cannabis group, to arrive at language concerning what technologies will be prohibited.

County Counsel Christian Curtis was instructed to bring the revised ordinance back for a second reading on February 25.



At left: Shoppers mingle as they check out the Valentine's Day gifts for sale at the WCA's pop-up shop.

Photo by Sandy Strong

Below, left: "Spike" from Daphne Gillen displays a stunning silk flower and feather hair accessory. Below, right: Cheryl Thompson's "Under the Sea" vest, top, shawl and skirt comprise a whimsical outfit.

Photos by Mathew Caine

Valentine's Gifts

Handmade textiles and jewelry for sale at Willits Center for the Arts' pop-up shop

A lot of work and effort goes into making an exhibit that is seemingly simple. Just in time for Valentine's Day, the third annual Willits Center for the Arts pop-up exhibit and store has opened. It will be accessible through February 26 for those last-minute and belated Valentine's gifts for the special significant others in one's life or maybe even Mom.

Mathew Caine Features Writer mathew@willitsweekly.com

Choose from the work of about 15 local jewelry artists or, if clothing, wall hangings, or dolls are more to your liking, there are works from six fiber artists in the back gallery, all available to take home on the spot, no need to wait until after the exhibit closes.

Curator Gary Martin would love to see a blank gallery by the end of the run, considering the amount of work the show entailed – it took 40 hours to dress and hang the mannequins. The crew also had to disassemble, paint, and hang all the frames.

"A pop-up is a store that is temporary," explained Martin. "They do these in New York with empty buildings. They'll rent an available space for a short period of time, set it up and ... boom. This a good opportunity to get something special." Martin received valuable assistance in staging the exhibit from Mark Adelderly, display artist and jewelry curator.

Much of the clothing was crafted by Ursula Parch, who curated the fabric section of the store. "Garments are in a variety of techniques," said Parch. "They involve sewing, weaving or dying. We have scarves, shirts, blouses, vests, jackets and hats. We also have wall hangings from Stephanie Hoppe from a simple tapestry loom. Anita Sison practices eco dye which utilizes plant material for the color. Charlotte Tefft makes dolls from a variety of found materials." Additionally, there are clothing items from Cassie Gibson and Cheryl Thompson.

All of the clothing and jewelry is priced to sell with a lot of items under \$100.



Above: Bracelets and necklaces from Tim Cerrato are on sale for \$10 each.

Far left: An imaginative creation by Charlotte Tefft stands on a pedestal in front of her handmade dolls.

Far left, bottom: Ursula Parch talks with a prospective buyer.

At left: A felted vest by Ursula Parch makes a statement with bright colors and asymmetrical flare.

Below: "Lotus II – Into the Light," a tapestry by Stephanie Hoppe, hangs on the gallery wall.

Photos by Mathew Caine



Photo by Sandy Strong



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Thursday, February 6

Snacktime Storytime: "Storytime has never been so tasty. See what kinds of vegetables grow in winter. Try a veggie-tastic creation!" Thursday, February 6, 2:30 pm, Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street.

Willits Farmers Market: Winter market at the Little Lake Grange, 271 School Street. Thursday, February 6, 3 to 5:30 pm. Veggies, fresh salad greens, local meats, sausage and eggs, local grains, savory and sweet baked goods, including pies and handcrafted bread. More: gift items, jams and jellies and savory preserves, olive oil and balsamic vinegar, blue oyster mushrooms, fair trade chocolates, Willits-roasted coffee, tea, fire cider, crafts, knitted goods and jewelry, live music, free herb talks, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

Diabetes Management Education Program: Adventist Health Diabetes Education Program is free to any community member with diabetes or pre-diabetes as well as their family members/support system. Learn about managing diabetes and supporting someone with the condition. Our recipe of the week will be available at each class. Thursdays, February 6, 13, and 20, 3 to 5 pm. Seabiscuit Conference Room, Adventist Health Howard Memorial Hospital, 1 Marcela Drive. Info: Annie.earlsAF@ah.org, 456-3132.

Free HeartSaver® CPR AED Class: sponsored by Adventist Health Howard Memorial at the Seabiscuit Conference Room at AHM, Thursday, February 6, 6 to 9 pm. Classes will continue monthly through November. The March class is March 15, 11 am to 2 pm. Anyone in the community can be part of saving a life. Includes adult, pediatric and infant CPR. The HeartSaver® CPR AED course is accredited by the American Heart Association and intended for all individuals who have a duty to respond to a cardiac emergency because of job responsibilities or regulatory requirements, such as teachers or coaches, or for anyone who wants to know how to save a life in an emergency.. Pre-registration required: 456-3156.

AT THE MOVIES



‘Bad Boys for Life’

The Story: Big budget cop-buddies action comedy. A super gangster (but quite handsome) is knocking-off guys in law enforcement because his mother (Kate del Castillo) wants him to. Apparently, the quite handsome gangster's Mom has a really bad attitude. Why? It's a mystery. Detective "Mike" Lowery (Will Smith) is targeted for assassination. Murders and car chases and motorcycle assaults and massive amounts of high caliber, very noisy gunfights happen. And explosions. Some of the weapons

are semi-automatic, some are fully automatic and require two hands. "Mike" Lowery drives a Porsche. I think that covers it. Oh, a number of women wear expensive cocktail dresses and shoes with spiked heels and look quite fetching.

My Thoughts: I don't take the movie seriously. There's lots of cracking wise, lots of killing. Blood flows. Characters die. Revenge and murders and mysteries have been in the centerfold of melodrama for centuries – no, make that forever. Movie massacres are just "The Iliad" updated. But it's the same old/same old. People like that stuff. Butchery is cathartic. I have no judgment, but somewhat ruefully I acknowledge that "Bad Boys for Life" is well-named.

Parents: Not for children; too many bloody killings. Okay for teens and adults like me (who don't know any better and like this kind of thing).

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



Friday, February 7

"Doubt – A Parable": An award-winning social commentary by playwright John Patrick Shanley. Willits Community Theatre, February 7 to 23. Directed by Steve Marston, the play follows a conflict that arises within a Catholic church over how to adapt to changing times. "Doubt – A Parable" will show at the WCT playhouse Thursdays, Fridays and Saturday at 7:30 pm and Sunday matinees February 16, 23 at 2 pm. Tickets: Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; brownpapertickets.com; or 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out. The WCT playhouse is located at 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub). Note: Contains adult themes.

Shanachie Pub: Greg Colossale Trio on Friday, February 7, 8 pm. "A mix of soul vocals, left hand organ bass, piano and Hammond organ Fusion Grooves." Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

Saturday, February 8

Genealogy Programs: Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street. Mendocino County Museum will be hosting free public workshops to help those who are new to genealogy build their family tree, and learn their family's history. Join Benjamin MacBean, Mendocino County Museum's research librarian, in learning the basics and more advanced genealogy practices. Genealogy 101: How to Start Your Family Tree; Saturdays, February 8 and April 25, 1 to 2:30 pm. www.mendocinocounty.org/ museum or call 459-2736.

Sit n Sew: Saturday, February 8, 1 to 5 pm. Bring a project to work on, sewing machine, and tools. Free event. Info: Rachel 707-354-0605. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street.

"Doubt – A Parable": Willits Community Theatre, Saturday, February 8, 7:30 pm. See February 7 listing for details.

Shanachie Pub: WholeMilk, a surf jazz duo from Denver, Colorado, plays Saturday, February 8, 8 pm. "Intimate soundscape influenced by 1960's surf, bossa nova & spaghetti western." Visit @wholemilkshredz. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

Monday, February 10

Measure G Information Night: Join Willits School Board President Alex Bowlds and WUSD Superintendent Mark Westenburg to discuss and ask questions about Measure G; the school bond initiative for Willits Unified School District coming up in the March 3, 2020 election. Monday, February 10, at 6:30 pm, at the Willits High School Media Center, 299 North Main Street. Info: District Office 459-5314 ext. 1101.

Senior Center Lunch

Week of February 10 through February 14

Monday: Spaghetti with Meat Sauce

Tuesday: BBQ Chicken Drumsticks

Wednesday: Beef Stroganoff

Thursday: Teriyaki Chicken Stir Fry

Friday: Steak Dinner

Harrah Senior Center serves lunch five days per week from 11:45 am to 1 pm. 55 and older, \$6.50 per meal, under 55, \$8 per meal. Includes soup, salad, entrée, vegetable, dessert and drink. (Salad Bar available all year). 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-6826.

Submit your calendar item to Willits Weekly! Email us a poster, photo or info to willitsweekly@gmail.com

What's Happening Around Town

Tuesday, February 11

Tightwad Tuesdays: Select films in their 2nd or subsequent weeks are discounted to \$6 on Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre for all ages, all showings. This week's Tightwad Tuesday movies are "Bad Boys" and "Jojo Rabbit." Visit www.noyotheatre.com, call 459-6696 or check the ad in Willits Weekly for show times. 57 East Commercial Street.

Willits Garden Club: monthly club meeting on Tuesday, February 11, at 1 pm at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road, in the Conference Room. Speaker will be a representative from the Grateful Gleaners, volunteer Willits organization that "collects excess fruit, nuts, and vegetables from local orchards and individual gardeners and distributes it to those in need through community organizations such as the Community Food Bank, Willits Daily Bread, Harrah's Senior Center and more." Garden Club members are invited to first enjoy a no-host lunch at the senior center, 11:45 am to 1 pm.

Willits High School Basketball: Willits vs. Middletown: JV 5:30 pm, varsity 7 pm. Willits High School Gym, 299 North Main Street. (Varsity Coach Tim Conrad, JV Coach Trey Henson).

Art Workshops: Heart Air Balloons. Tuesday, February 11, 5:30 to 6:30 pm and Friday, February 14, 11 am to 12 pm. Craft a Valentine's Day project that will make your heart float like a cloud. Supplies provided. Ages 4 and up. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street.

Wednesday, February 12

Willits Science Fair: The 2020 Willits Science Fair opens to the public today, February 12, 8:30 am to 7 pm, and February 13, 8:30 am to 3 pm, at the Willits Community Center. All Willits students in grades 3-12 can participate as well as whole-class science projects done by kindergarten - 12th grade classrooms. Judges have awarded Mendocino County Science Fair Qualifier Projects chosen in grades 3 to 12, and other winning projects. Info or questions about volunteering, contact Erin Vaccaro, Science Fair coordinator, 707-513-8742 or sciencefair@willitsunified.com.

Shanachie Pub: Award-winning, Nashville recording artist, guitarist, and talented singer-songwriter Johnny Young plays rockin' country Thursdays, February 13 and February 27. "" Visit https://johnnyyoungcountry.wordpress.com/. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

Friday, February 14 Happy Valentine's Day!

Art Workshop: Heart Air Balloons. Friday, February 14, 11 am to 12 pm. See February 11 listing for details.

Tommy Castro and the Painkillers Valentine Dance: A benefit for the Little Lake Grange. An American blues, R&B, and rock guitarist and singer and winner of the 2008 Blues Music Award for Entertainer of the Year. Friday, February

Willits Science Fair: Public viewing, Thursday, February 13, 8:30 am to 3 pm. See February 10 listing for details.

Diabetes Management Education Program: Thursday, February 13, 3 to 5 pm. See February 6 listing for details.

"From the Ashes": Filmmaker Jaye Alison Moscarriello will be screening her acclaimed film "From the Ashes," Thursday, February 13, 5 to 6:30 pm, Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. This documentary chronicles the impact of the 2017 fires and how members of the community used art to process the traumatic events. In conjunction, the Mendocino County Museum will be highlighting the newly acquired work "Burning Ridge" by Moscarriello. Attendees are invited to view the piece with the artist from 4:30 to 5 pm, prior to the screening. "Burning Ridge" will be on display through March 29.

Sherwood Firewise Meeting: Sherwood Firewise Communities General Meeting, Thursday, February 13, 6 to 8 pm, Brooktrails Community Center. Updates and news to share. "We want to be prepared as spring rolls into summer. We have recently become an official USA Firewise Organization. Supervisor John Haschak will give a report on activity that affects our community. Chipper Days updates and planning the March 28 Chipper Days Community Kick-Off Meeting. Brief discussion of additional outstanding projects and grants." info@Sherwoodfirewise.org.

"Doubt – A Parable": Willits Community Theatre, Thursday, February 13, 7:30 pm. See February 7 listing for details.

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14, doors open at 6 pm, music, 7:30 to 10 pm. Advance tickets \$30. Dinner available for \$15. Meal is local farm-to-table Vegetarian and Meat Lasagna. No-host bar plus coffee and dessert bar, and local handcrafted beer and wine. Tickets: Ukiah Co-op; Willits Moon Lady, Main St. Music, Mendocino Book Co. and Eventbrite.com. Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Info: Moon Lady at 707-459-0211.

"Doubt – A Parable": Willits Community Theatre, Friday, February 14, 7:30 pm. See February 7 listing for details.

Saturday, February 15

"Doubt – A Parable": Willits Community Theatre, Saturday, February 15, 7:30 pm. See February 7 listing for details.

Shanachie Pub: Solo show with Tim O'Neil of Sonoma County's bluegrass/Americana band the Tim O'Neil Band, mixes "origin roots of bluegrass with a strong nod to punk rock, folk, and a lifetime and adoration for songwriters and songwriting." Saturday, February 15, 8 pm, Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

Sunday, February 16

40th Annual Willits Classic 10 mile & 5K Run Walk: The North Coast Striders are celebrating the 40th year of hosting the Willits Classic. This is a great way to kick off the new year and meet new years resolutions' goals. More information can be found at active.com or the Striders website: striders.org. Sunday, February 16. Registration: 9 am. Race starts: 10 am. Recreation Grove Park. Entry fee: \$20 adults, \$18 NCS member, \$10 10 - to 18 years, \$40 family. Adventist Health employees race free.

"Doubt – A Parable": Willits Community Theatre, Saturday, February 16, 2 pm. See February 7 listing for details.



chronic pain, etc.), for caregivers, family members, or friends of someone with a chronic condition, for practicing new tools in a helpful and supportive group, for learning ways to maintain your independence. Strategies to reduce pain, fatigue, anxiety and sleep loss. Healthy eating and physical activity. Begins Tuesday, February 25, 1 to 3:30 pm, Frank R. Howard Foundation, 3 Marcela Drive, Suite A. Reservations: 707-456-9676.

Valentine's Day Sitting Service

February 14

Take a break for yourselves on Valentine's Day. Do something romantic or fun and leave your kiddos in good hands. All proceeds go to fund the Travel Club's Washington D.C. trip in June. \$20 per child, \$10 for each additional child in the family. Crafts, movies, games will be provided. Kids will be making their own pizza and baked goods. Thirty spots available. Drop them off at Willits Charter School. Sign up early at Willits Charter School, 1431 South Main Street, 459-5506.

Donkey Basketball

February 20

"All team players have been training extensively for this monumental Donkey Basketball event, featuring Mendocino County Sheriffs Office challenging the Willits Future Farmers of America. Thursday, February 20, 7 pm, Willits High School Gym, 299 North Main Street. Rumor has it that teams have had professional rodeo bronc riders come in to give a few tips to team players. Donkey Sports, Inc. of Entiat, Washington will be providing donkeys and the officials. Officials will be strictly enforcing the rules against players abusing the donkeys; no such rules apply to donkeys abusing their riders." Tickets: \$8 adults, \$6 students (grades 7 to 12), \$4 child (grades K to 6). Add \$1 if purchased at door.

Healthier Living Workshop

Begins February 25

A free lifestyle makeover from Avenues to Wellness. A six-week series of classes held once a week, for adults with on-going health conditions (arthritis, heart disease, diabetes, hypertension, etc.). For caregivers, family members, or friends of someone with a chronic condition, for practicing new tools in a helpful and supportive group, for learning ways to maintain your independence. Strategies to reduce pain, fatigue, anxiety and sleep loss. Healthy eating and physical activity. Begins Tuesday, February 25, 1 to 3:30 pm, Frank R. Howard Foundation, 3 Marcela Drive, Suite A. Reservations: 707-456-9676.

– submitted by Avenues to Wellness

WEF Take Home Tri-Tip Dinner

February 28

The Annual Willits Educational Foundation Take-Home Tri-Tip Dinner, Friday, February 28, with pick-up at 4 to 6 pm at the Willits Future Farmers of America Ag Farm. Dinner for four people \$60. Meal includes: whole Tri Tip, Caesar Salad, Beans, Emandal Bread, Kathleen's Famous Cookies, and a rose donated by Flowers by Annette. Tickets: Cat's Meow, 28 South Main Street, or call Jenn at 707-354-1670, or Windi at 707-354-0755.

‘The Great Hack’

February 20

The Now and Then Film Series presents "The Great Hack": "They took your data. Then they took control. Data has surpassed oil as the world's most valuable asset. It's being weaponized to wage cultural and political warfare. People everywhere are in a battle for control of our most intimate personal details. 'The Great Hack' uncovers the dark world of data exploitation with astounding access to the personal journeys of key players of the explosive Cambridge Analytica/Facebook data scandal. Join us to explore the seismic ripples of social media with this riveting, complex film. 'The Great Hack' forces us to question the origin of the information we consume daily. What do we give up when we tap that phone or keyboard and share ourselves in the digital age?" More info at: www.thegreathack.com. Donation of \$5 to \$20 supports the film series. Thursday, February 20. Trailers and short films at 6:30 pm; "The Great Hack" starts at 7 pm. Serving heirloom organic popcorn with real organic butter.

– Submitted by the Now and Then Film Series

Sip Some Soup

February 29

"This is Willits Daily Bread's major fundraiser, and it's a terrific evening of delicious food and wonderful community. We will gather at the Willits Community Center on Saturday, February 29, to taste many delicious soups along with fresh baked Emandal breads and homemade desserts. For a donation of \$15 per person, or two for \$25, you get to sip some soup and vote for your 'Favorite Soup' and "Best Table Decorations." The Soup Chef's entry fee is \$25. This fee includes two "Taster Tickets" and ballots. This year our terrific Silent Auction will return. If you have items to donate, or want to be a soup maker, call Cindy, 707-367-5669. Doors open at 5:30 pm; food served until 7 pm. We hope to see you for an evening in support of Willits Daily Bread.

– submitted by Willits Daily Bread



BIRDS OF PREY

(R) 1 hr 49 mins
Fri: 6:00 & 8:30pm
Sat: 3:30, 6:00 & 8:30pm
Sun: 2:30, 5:00 & 7:30pm
Mon-Thurs: 5:00 & 7:30pm

Movie Times for 2/7 thru 2/13

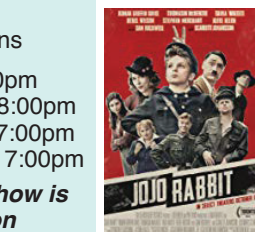
BAD BOYS FOR LIFE

(R) 2 hrs 4 mins
Fri: 5:15 & 8:00pm
Sat: 2:30, 5:15* & 8:00pm
Sun: 1:30, 4:15 & 7:00pm
Mon-Thurs: 4:15 & 7:00pm
*5:15 Saturday show is Open Caption

Tightwad Tuesday Titles for Feb. 11th are in RED - All tickets: \$6

JOJO RABBIT

(PG13) 1 hr 48 mins
Fri: 5:45 & 8:15pm
Sat: 3:15, 5:45 & 8:15pm
Sun: 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15pm
Mon-Thurs: 4:45 & 7:15pm





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WW261

**NOTICE OF INTENT (NOI)
TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION
FOR THE TANK 3 REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Brooktrails Township Community Services District is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and has prepared a Negative Declaration (ND) and accompanying Initial Study (IS) for the Tank 3 Replacement Project (the Project) in compliance with Title 14, Chapter 3, Sections 15072 and 15073 of the California Code of Regulations. This NOI to adopt a ND for the project provides an opportunity for the agencies and the public to offer input on the Project's environmental determination of no significant impact.

PROJECT TITLE: Tank 3 Replacement Project


PROJECT LOCATION: The Project site is an approximately 2.9 acre parcel (APN: 098-112-01) located on Lupine Drive in Willits, CA. The site is located west of the Sherwood Road and Lupine Drive intersection in a sparsely populated residential area on land zoned Public Facilities, with an existing water storage tank.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Project will remove and replace an existing 50,000 gallon redwood tank that has a failing internal bladder with an approximately 330,000 gallon steel bolted tank. Over 200,000 gallons of potable drinking water circulates through Tank 3 daily and a larger tank is needed to accommodate the existing supply and distribution operations. The existing tank will be kept in service during grading activities that are needed to accommodate the new, larger tank. The new tank will be plumbed into the existing pump house.

PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD: The ND will be available for a 20-day public review period beginning January 28, 2020 and ending February 17, 2020. Copies are available for review from our office at 24860 Birch Street, Willits, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING: The Board of Directors will include comments received during the public review period and during the Public Hearing prior to adoption of the proposed ND at its Regular Meeting of February 25, 2020.

/s/ Tamara Alaniz, Secretary to the Board of Directors
Publication Date: February 6, 2020



Current Job Openings:

- Account Specialist Supervisor
- Animal Facility Attendant – Extra-Help
- Corrections Deputy
- County Health Officer
- Deputy County Counsel II/III/IV
- Deputy Public Defender II
- Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II
- District Attorney Investigator
- Eligibility Specialist I/II
- Facility Project Specialist I/II
- Heavy Equipment Mechanic
- Legal Secretary I/II
- Senior Auditor/Appraiser
- Senior Program Manager
- Senior Public Health Nurse
- Social Worker Supervisor I/IIA-C
- Staff Assistant III – Fort Bragg
- Supervising Public Health Nurse
- Supervising Staff Assistant – Fort Bragg

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www.mendocinocounty.org/government/human-resources

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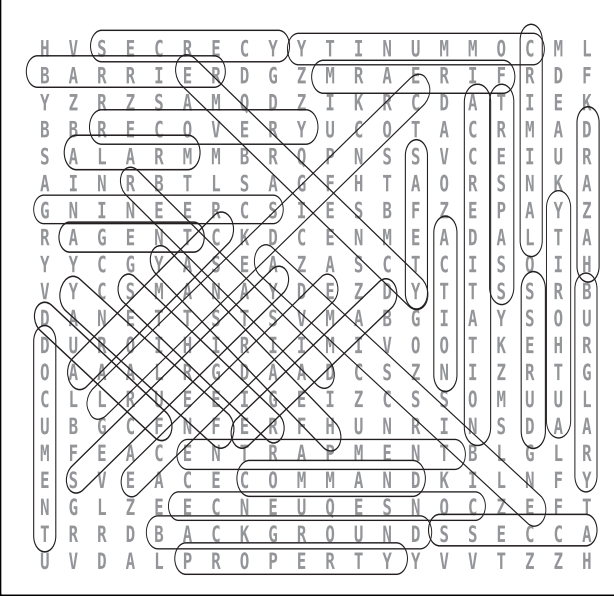
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LEGAL NOTICES

WW258

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2019-F0797

The following person is doing business as Tam's Soap Etc., 27040 Hawk Drive, Willits, CA 95490

Registered owner: Tammy Lynn DeMarco, 27040 Hawk Drive, Willits, CA 95490

This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on January 1, 2015.

Statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on December 30, 2019.

/s/ Tammy DeMarco

Publication dates: 01/23, 01/30, 02/06 and 02/13/2020

WW259

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2020-F0033

The following person is doing business as County Line Property Solutions, 25071 Goose Lane, Willits, CA 95490 / mailing address: P.O. Box 1199, Ukiah CA 95482.

Registered owner: John Lindsay, 25071 Goose Lane, Willits, CA 95490

This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on January 1, 2015.

Statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on January 15, 2020.

/s/ John Lindsay

Publication dates: 01/23, 01/30, 02/06 and 02/13/2020

WW260

CITY OF WILLITS PUBLIC WORKSHOP

The City of Willits will host a public workshop on February 20, 2020, from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM at City Hall (111 E. Commercial St.) to solicit input from the public regarding groundwater quality and quantity in the Little Lake Valley. The City of Willits is developing a Groundwater Management Plan to guide the City's use of groundwater resources to help maintain groundwater supply and quality into the future.

The workshop will offer the public an opportunity to provide input on the Groundwater Management Plan components and help guide the Plan development process. The workshop will consist of a brief presentation regarding the plan goals and required components, followed by an open comment period to receive feedback from the public, and all interested members of the public are invited to attend. Additional information about the Plan can be found on the City's website www.cityofwillits.org. Questions regarding the Groundwater Management Plan and public workshop can be directed to engineering@cityofwillits.org.

/s/Cathy Moorhead, Deputy City Manager/City Clerk
Publication Dates: February 6 and 13, 2020

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The rest of **Sunday** | From Page 3

somehow found their way into Bashore's crab pots).

The party almost did not happen at the new clubhouse. Last month, a huge tree fell, crushing the northeast corner of the roof, luckily not harming the interior structure.

"The scariest part," said Lucier, "was that it was one of the biggest trees in the entire park. When it came down and it hit, all the Scouts and Cub Scouts were in the building. My grandson was in here at the time, which almost gave me a heart attack. If it had come down 5 more feet this way, it could have been a real tragedy."

Luckily, no one was hurt, and the structure has been repaired. The cooperation between the Lions Club and the Scouts has been a beneficial venture for both parties. The Scouts have a basically new clubhouse, and the Lions Club now has a place to meet and put on small events such as breakfasts and barbecues for which they are known around Willits.

The Willits Lions Club has been a mainstay altruistic organization in Willits for many years. They can be seen helping out, cooking on their mobile grill, or serving adult beverages at many local occasions. One can find them at Roots of Motive Power events, the Fourth of July barbeque, Frontier Days, and many more local happenings.

Most of the members have been with the club for many, many years, some over 40 years. They are currently seeking younger members who would like to become involved in helping the community and having fun doing it.

One of the activities of which they are most proud is the

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Rare 1992 Honda Civic Si, blue hatchback. Manual transmission, sunroof, 195K miles, after market rims, runs good with newish transmission. \$4,000/obo. Call/text Matt: 354-4942.

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Rental Wanted

Rental Wanted: Retired female with steady verifiable income, excellent credit and references, looking for 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath home around March 1. Kristin: 707-245-6038

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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.oakvline.net/lp>

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Volunteers Needed

Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital is looking for positive members of the community to volunteer in the gift shop, information/greeting desk, hospitality cart and the garden. Hours are flexible and can include weekends. More info? Call 456-3245.

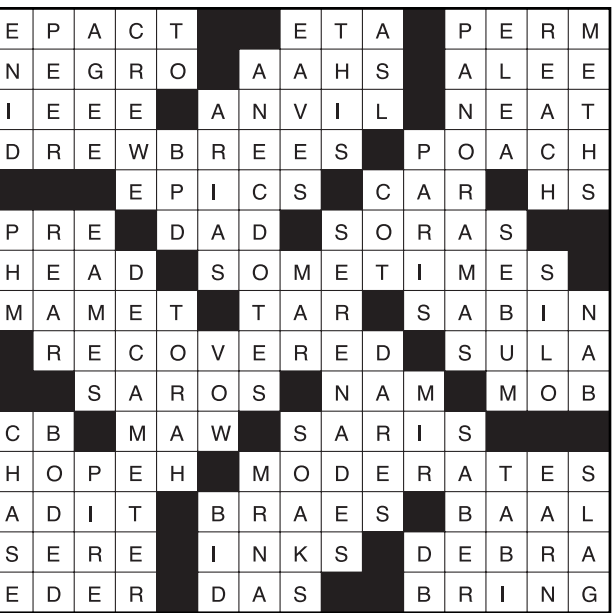
For Rent

For Rent: inner office in healing arts complex. Centrally located, off street parking, central heat and A/C. All utilities included. \$400/ mo. Available March 1st. 707-354-2473

awarding of \$1,000 scholarships each year to deserving Willits High School seniors. Last year the Willits Lions Club gave away three such bequests.

This year they hope to do the same with a special scholarship earmarked for a senior who plans to continue pursuing the arts after high school. It will be named after Lions Club member Diana Hinkle, a local artist known for her lush, colorful figurative paintings, who recently passed away.

Preparation for the Super Bowl party began at 10 am and proved to be worth the effort. All the attendees seemed to enjoy their appetizers, chicken and cioppino, which hopefully moderated the depression from seeing the 49ers leading through most of the second half, only to have Kansas City make a comeback and win. Oh well, there's always next year.





Photos by Mathew Caine

‘Hello ’20s’

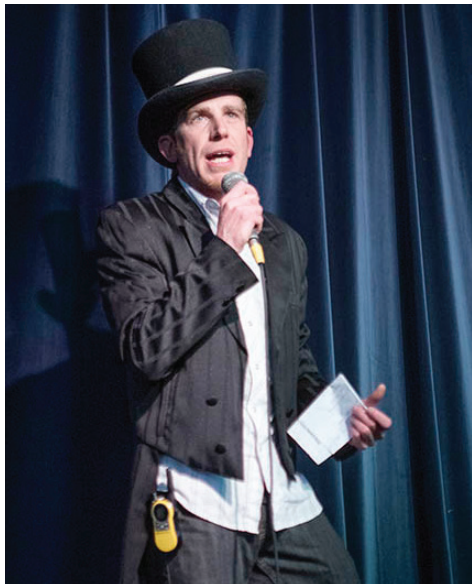
Willits Charter School’s 20th anniversary variety show featured performances by students, and some teachers, too

The Willits Charter School 20th anniversary celebration, “Hello ’20s Variety Show,” at the Grange was an evening of inspired lunacy, serious musical performances, Shakespeare mashups, and a sugary, creamy, auction with a side of “my diet starts tomorrow.”

In keeping with the 20th anniversary and the year 2020, the students chose a theme with a Roaring ’20s motif, a theme reflected in the décor, the stage set, and some of the outfits worn by the kids.

The show began, on cue, from emcee and teacher Billy Hetherington, with a short skit from Hetherington’s Middle School Theatre Arts class, “A Chorus Slime,” described as “a skit exploring what happens backstage when students are forced to perform out of allegiance to school traditions.” The playlet was comically performed by Eva

At top, from left: Caleb Luna and Kael Casey visit their art teacher, Sienna Reno, while attending the Willits Charter School variety show. Kadie Balthrop rocks out with The Voice Cracks. Eva Earnest, Jayden Jordan and Rhyann Holder perform in the skit “A Chorus Slime.” Above, left: The faculty band, The Substitutes, with Michel Chenelle, Tyler Balthrop, Erin Mendoza and Jennifer Lockwood (not shown: Jordan Ugaglia) begins the second act after the dessert auction. Below, left: Miranda Rodriguez shows the brownies she bid on and won. Below, right: Theater instructor Billy Hetherington emcees the Willits Charter School variety show.



OBITUARY |

Arlen Ramming

Arlen James Ramming was born on June 25, 1988 and died on January 20, 2020 at 31 years of age. Arlen had an uncommon ability to make connections with people wherever he lived. The athlete, artist, comedian, musician, mechanic and more.... He was funny, caring, creative, loving, smart, charming and generous. He especially enjoyed fishing and music concerts.

Arlen was raised in Willits, California. He served six years in the U.S. Army working on helicopter electrical systems while stationed in Korea and Afghanistan. He returned to Willits for a few years and helped his brother run Printing Plus before moving to Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, where he lived for four years. While there, he traveled the world, visiting Thailand, Germany, Belgium, Holland, and more. He returned to the United States in 2019 to live near family and continue his education and career in aviation mechanics.

Arlen is survived by his father James Ramming (Janice Bickford), his mother Dorothy (Daniel) Mazzanti, his brother Patrick (Tanya) Ramming, his brother Timothy (Jennifer) Ramming, his sister Sarah (Daniel) Droze, and step-siblings Aly and Dylan Mazzanti, Brandie Webster and Patrick Rodriguez.

Arlen loved being an uncle to his many nieces and nephews: Hanna, Saren, Morgan, Shannon, Ivan, Cameron, Jubal and Aaron.

Friends and family are invited to attend a celebration of Arlen’s life at 11 am on Saturday, February 29, 2020 at the Redwood Valley Community Church-Family Center, 951 East School Way, Redwood Valley, California. In Arlen’s honor, please wear comfortable clothes like you are attending a family picnic; lunch will be provided.

OBITUARY |

Stephen Williamson

Stephen Leroy Williamson was born in Ukiah, California on October 18, 1993 to Mike and Michelle Williamson. He left us on January 29, 2020 after an accident on a dirt bike.

Stephen was a loving father, son, brother, grandson, and nephew to many. Raised in Covelo and Willits, he attended Willits High School. He is survived by his beautiful 8-year-old daughter Summer and her mother Lindsay Flowers; parents Mike Williamson of Redwood Valley and Michelle Williamson of Sebastopol; brothers Kyle and Joshua Williamson of Redwood Valley; girlfriend Chelsea Stroecker and dog Hank of Ukiah; grandparents Lester and Daisy Brown of Covelo; grandparents David Williamson and Christine Chenoweth of Redwood Valley; and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Special thanks to Lt. Shannon Barney and Sheriff Matt Kendall of the Mendocino County Sheriff’s Office.

There will be a graveside service at the Valley View Cemetery in Covelo at noon on Saturday, February 8, with a memorial reception to follow at the Senior Center, 77826 Covelo Road, Covelo.

Arrangements under the care and direction of Anker-Lucier Mortuary.



The rest of
Allman
From Page 1

Purdy Hall, which was filled with folks from decades of connection to the retiring Mendocino County Sheriff, Tom Allman.

“When Tom and I talked about his potential retirement, he mentioned maybe he would want to hold a party for about the 40 people he thought would show up – I let him know that was not going to be reality,” laughed Jennifer Seward, CEO of the Redwood Empire Fairgrounds. “When we connected again later, we decided that the hall was a better answer.”

And better answer it was.

With the larger and more fitting venue secured, it was decided also to have the event be held as a fundraiser for the Mendocino County Sheriff Search and Rescue team, a group near and dear to Allman’s heart, and one which provides an invaluable service to the community.

The unpaid, non-profit and all-volunteer group provides assistance to locate missing persons across the county. They train and develop skills allowing them to utilize ground and underwater search tactics, run ATVs, handle K-9s and fly unmanned air squadrons; they also have recovery divers and also can offer search management and logistical support.

Seward noted tickets sold out in about four days after announcing there would be a retirement party, and even on the day of, people were still clamoring for tickets. The \$25 tickets, along with the sales of alcohol, plus the total from the live auction, earned \$50,000 for Search and Rescue.

“One of the most moving things I heard that day was when David Eyster said to me that he had really never seen anything like this send-off before,” said Seward. “And that he doubted he’d ever again. It was really an amazing event.”

The auction included many prizes ranging from Hawaiian vacations to wine and dinners, and California State Senator Mike McGuire helped Allman auction off the goods with his high-energy auctioneering tactics. Rachel Britton also did some bid calling, as did Allman himself, noting he’d attended an official auctioneers school

The rest of
Variety
From Page 12

Earnest, Rhyann Holder and Jayden Jordan in colorful, playful, imaginative costumes.

Musical instructor Darien Yanez next offered the audience three short difficult pieces from his music ensemble. Riley Faust, Cadence Lewis, Zahyr Lopez, Isabel Mandujano, and Olivia Smith played their hearts out to “Postwood March,” “Diamond Ridge,” and “Windsor Overture.”

Next, Erin Mendoza, opera singer and vocal instructor, brought out her group Alive and Singing to delight the audience of mostly parents and family. They sang “High Hopes” with Jacob Anderson, Charlotte Atwood, Deegan Espaniola-Norton, Shawn Flannagan, Kyle Hall Jimenez, Rhyann Holder, Christopher Lockhart, David Lockhart, Nicole Pinola and Myranda Seddon singing the Frank Sinatra classic.

After that rendition, Mendoza brought out her Willits Charter Songbirds to join in on a rather difficult song, “Dona Nobis Pacem,” with which the group serenaded the audience enthusiastically. At the completion of this song, the Songbirds remained on the stage to sing the theme from “The Never Ending Story.”

Soloists Christopher Lockhart and Knox Chaniet set the tone as they were joined by the remainder of the group: Deegan Espaniola-Norton, Rhyann Holder, David Lockhart, Jade Luna, Derek Nelson, Nicole Pinola and Ever Sorensen.

At the intermission, MC Hetherington, with the able assistance of young Audrey Sherf, created a sugary interlude with their dessert auction to benefit the senior class trip (a planned junket to Disneyland). By the end of the extremely entertaining auction, demonstrating the generosity of the parents and friends, over \$1,000 was raised to help the seniors on their way, as well as the caloric and sugar levels of all in the room.

Once the dessert treats were distributed to the winners and more generously, to anyone who looked longingly at the winners, the second act began with The Substitutes, a faculty band consisting of Tyler Balthrop (guitar), Michel Chenelle (guitar), Jennifer Lockwood (bass), Erin Mendoza (vocals), and Jordan Ugaglia (drums), surprisingly tight for teachers and administrators.

The Voice Cracks, a student rock band, consisting of Kadie Balthrop, Blake Bowman, Eva Earnest, Adam Hill, Zahyr Lopez, Amaya Martinez, Gianni Nelson, Penn Robertson, Sophia Scott and Ryan Walker excited the crowd and got them in the groove with the Eurythmics “Sweet Dreams.”

recently, helping to refine his technique.

Sen. McGuire was one of several dignitaries and colleagues on stage and in the crowd to help honor Allman; some others included U.S. Congressman Jared Huffman, California State Senator Mike McGuire, California Assemblymember Jim Wood, Mendocino County DA David Eyster, Mendocino County CEO Carmel Angelo, new Mendocino County Sheriff Matt Kendall, Search and Rescue’s Commander Jared Chaney, and sheriffs from eight other counties, including Humboldt County Sheriff Billy Honsal.

“It was so nice to have the state and county officials and the other sheriffs able to attend,” Allman said. “But it was the most amazing thing to see the overflow crowd and so many people from my past and some who I haven’t seen in 25 years, that really meant the most to me. What an honor to have them come out for this event, and I was extra-appreciative that they were able to attend.”

Allman also expressed his appreciation to the 80-plus volunteers including Rotarians, Lions Club members and the Mendocino County Sheriff Search and Rescue team, and to all who donated items, time and money for the event.

“There were two people who came up to me during the event and each handed me a check for \$500 for SAR,” said Allman. “That raised \$1,000 right there! We also received a \$2,000 check from the Travel Lodge and Fairfield Inn – Marriott.”

Other donations from bidders at the auction helped raise around \$35,000 of the \$50,000 total. Mike Griggs, Sr. of Sparetime Supply purchased a replica Kubota tractor, outfitted with extra stickers and text making it the “Tom Allman Special Edition.” After placing the winning bid, Griggs noted that he wanted to donate it back to Allman’s granddaughter, Tymberlee, who had been playing on it earlier in the dinner.

With retirement now underway, Allman noted he was still going to focus on his work with Measure B. “The voters trusted me to start it and I’m working hard to continue the momentum.”

Congratulations, Tom!

From the U.S. Congressional Record, February 3, 2020

Remarks honoring Sheriff Tom Allman by Congressman Jared Huffman

Congressman Huffman: Madam Speaker, I rise with my colleague Representative Mike Thompson to recognize Mendocino County Sheriff Tom Allman on the occasion of his retirement from a long and distinguished career in law enforcement.

Thirty-four years of Sheriff Allman’s career were spent with Mendocino County Sheriff’s Department, where he provided the county with steadfast and effective leadership through major disasters and emergencies, while simultaneously working tirelessly to make Mendocino County a leader in mental health reform.

Born in Sylva, North Carolina, Sheriff Allman grew up between Northern California and North Carolina. After graduating from high school in 1979, he pursued a career in firefighting with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection in San Bernardino County. He returned to Northern California and attended California State University, Chico and the Fire Academy at Butte College. He soon transitioned into a law enforcement career with the Fairfield Police Department in 1982, and joined the Mendocino County Sheriff’s Department three years later in 1985.

After his promotion to Lieutenant in 1988, Sheriff Allman made the difficult decision to temporarily volunteer with the United States Department of State as a civilian peacekeeper following the Kosovo War. He served for 12 months as a police presence in 1999, an experience which he has credited with influencing much of his later career, and which began a long history of volunteerism that continued throughout his professional life. He volunteered to support law enforcement efforts following Hurricane Katrina in 2005, and traveled with his local Rotary Club to Southern India in the wake of the 2004 tsunami to build an orphanage.

Sheriff Allman was first elected to the office of Mendocino County Sheriff in 2006, and he served continuously until his retirement in December 2019. Sheriff Allman’s 13 years of service in that role have provided continuity and stability for the county through major disasters including the catastrophic wildfires in 2017 and 2018 as well as numerous other challenges faced by the County of Mendocino. He has been a tireless advocate for making broad structural improvements to mental health resources, while prioritizing the difficult work of investigating serious crimes.

Sheriff Allman’s legacy and achievements will continue to be felt in Mendocino County through numerous anti-recidivism programs he spearheaded at the County Jail, including a baking program, resume writing course, and a robust General Education Diploma (GED) program. One of his most significant achievements was the passage of a funding measure for the Mental Health Treatment Act, which has raised roughly \$10 million to date. Sheriff Allman will continue to serve on the Measure B Committee as the Sheriff’s Designee.

Madam Speaker, Sheriff Tom Allman has shown throughout his long and distinguished career his dedication to public service and the people of Mendocino County. He has drawn from his personal and professional experiences to apply empathy and problem solving for the betterment of the many individuals and groups he has served over the course of his professional and volunteer life. His commitment to the issues that matter most to his community, and his ability to deliver results, are testaments to his skill and his dedication to law enforcement and public service. I hope you will join us and the community, his family, and many friends in celebrating Sheriff Allman’s many accomplishments and in wishing him success and good fortune in his future endeavors.

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Happy Birthday Mathew!

Mathew Caine's friends and family gathered at Northspur Brewing Thursday night to celebrate Caine's 70 years on the planet and enjoy a glass of the micro brewery's Willits-crafted beer. Caine's son, Billy Hetherington, pulled off the celebration with delicious finger food, a cake, and framed photos of his father, along with a slide show of family photos and a humorous narrative. There was a great addition of a number of Mathew-photos-on-a-stick, perfect for photo ops.

Local dignitaries Tom and Laura Allman and John and Janice Haschak stopped by to congratulate the septuagenarian. Caine is known in the community for his wonderful articles and photos in Willits Weekly. Happy 70th, Mathew! We congratulate you for all you bring to Willits!



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Above, from left: Party-goers gathered together for a group "Mathew" photo. Mathew Caine holds an image of a 20-year-old Mathew. Gabriel Varney, at left, Allegra Foley and Holly Madrigal raise a glass of Northspur brew to the celebrant.

Gentle Clipsie

The first thing you'll say when you meet this gal is, "wow!" Her name is Clipsie, and she is a big beautiful mastiff/Lab mix who weighs 123 pounds, and still she gives off calm, gentle vibes that are captivating! She is 5-years-old, loves people, especially children, and seems to have picked up enough of the manners and training so important for a dog of her size.

If you are familiar with large breed dogs and are looking for a big buddy, then hurry down to meet her because she has so much going for her! Stay tuned and we'll keep you posted as we learn more.

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County is located at 9700 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley. Open hours: 1 to 5 pm, Wednesday through Friday; and 11 am to 3 pm, Saturday and Sunday. Please give us a call at 707-485-0123 if you have questions. You can view all our adoptable dogs and cats on Petfinder or through our website: mendohumaneociety.com. To volunteer or help take the dogs for a walk, please join HSIMC on Sundays at 11 am for an orientation.

Delightful Flower

Cuteness alert! Flower is a delightfully happy girl. She walks well on a leash and knows, "Sit." We think Flower would be a quick study in doggie class. Come meet Flower and take her for a quiet walk, or a belly scratch in our play yard. Flower is looking for a home with no feline friends and would prefer to be the only dog in her new home. Flower is a 2-year-old spayed female who currently weighs 54 pounds.

The Ukiah Shelter is located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah. Adoption hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 am to 4:30 pm. To view photos and bios of some of the other wonderful adoptable animals here, please visit online at: www.mendocinoshelter.com or visit the shelter. For more information about adoptions, please call 707-467-6453.

Help get every dog at the Ukiah shelter out for some exercise at the "Empty the Shelter" pack walk every second Saturday of the month, this weekend on February 8.



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RANCH RAISED NATURAL BEEF

No Hormones, Pastured in Willits, California

The rest of Measure B

From Page 1

about Gonzalez' resignation, Moschetti said, "It's a hard job, and nobody thought about infrastructure when we started this."

Williams then said, "She probably needed more staff, which was zero."

To which Moschetti replied, "Most likely."

Moschetti said the county began a recruitment process for another Measure B project manager on January 31. Moschetti added that Mendocino County Deputy Executive Officer Sarah Dukett will "cover the gap until a replacement is found."

Dukett's sister, Megan Dukett, recently was hired as program manager of the county's Cannabis Unit.

The Mendocino County Executive Office has worked for most of the past year to secure a project manager. The Measure B Committee decided to hire a project manager on February 27, 2019. Interviews were conducted over the summer, and two applicants were selected for the final phase of the hiring process. However, in August, both finalists declined the job offer.

A second round of seeking a project manager was begun in September. Interviews were conducted in October and November, and Gonzalez made her first appearance at a Measure B Committee meeting on December 18, when she described herself publicly as coming from the San Diego area and being "100 percent Mendocino illiterate."

Wildlife advocates sue again

The Mendocino Non-Lethal Wildlife Alliance and Project Coyote have sued Mendocino County a second time on the county's decision to engage with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services and to employ its Integrated Wildlife Damage Management Plan.

To be specific, according to a February 4 letter from Jon Spitz of Laytonville, the wildlife alliance and Project Coyote are challenging the county's recent certification of the final environmental impact report for the county's wildlife management plan and also contesting the board of supervisor's decision to renew the county's adherence to the USDA's Integrated Wildlife Management Plan.

The EIR was approved on a 4-1 vote, with Supervisor Ted Williams voting no, and the decision to embrace the integrated Wildlife Damage Management Plan was approved 3-2, with Third District Supervisor John Haschak joining Williams in voting no. Both votes occurred on December 17 of last year.

According to the 915-page EIR, the Wildlife Services approach to Integrated Wildlife Damage Management includes the use of non-lethal techniques including, "frightening devices" such as propane exploders, and canons, pyrotechnics, distress or predator calls, foxlights, shepherd collars, critter glitters, chemical repellent methods such as tactile repellents and olfactory repellents, guard animals, numerous types of fencing such as barricades, barrier fencing, electrical fencing, fladry (a series of cloth or plastic flags attached to a rope or wire), electric fladry, modification of human behavior, traps, including cage or box traps, decoy traps, foothold traps, corral traps, snares, nets, tracking dogs, decoy dogs, and injectable immobilization drugs such as Telazol, Xylazine and Yohimbine.

The arsenal of weapons against unwanted wildlife also includes lethal methods, such as stronger traps, euthanasia methods, including carbon dioxide and physical euthanasia methods, and gunshot.

"Based on advice from legal counsel with decades of expertise in environmental law, the plaintiffs determined that the county's FEIR is fundamentally flawed and does not meet the minimum standards required by the California Environmental Quality Act," Spitz wrote in his letter.

"Plaintiffs reached this decision to sue cautiously, only after, on a 3-2 vote in December, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors chose to ignore the abundance of scientific evidence and dozens of comments submitted by many people in favor of non-lethal alternative programs, and despite the FEIR's conclusion that a non-lethal program was the environmentally superior option," Spitz wrote.

During the December 17 board meeting, David Blatt, an attorney with the Animal Legal Defense Fund, warned the supervisors that the EIR for the Integrated Wildlife Damage Management program did not meet the requirements of CEQA in some significant ways.

"Importantly, Section 21002 [of CEQA] states public entities should not approve projects as proposed, if there are feasible alternatives or feasible mitigation alternatives available," Blatt said. "Now the letter [written by the Animal Legal Defense Fund and sent to the board of supervisors] discusses the non-lethal program, and in fact, not only is it feasible, it's superior.

"Remarkably, the EIR does not address these. It says that efficacy is not within the purview of CEQA. And I take issue with this: It's clearly within the purview of CEQA," Blatt said.

Second District Supervisor John McCowen commented on the Wildlife Alliance's decision to sue: "The people bringing this lawsuit are ignoring extensive evidence in the record that exclusive reliance on non-lethal alternatives will not work in Mendocino County because of our steep terrain and will endanger public health and safety, and will result in more animal suffering.

"Instead of experts removing problem animals, homeowners and property owners will likely take an array of steps, some of which will have the opposite of the intended effect. Who will deal with rabid skunks under your house? And if livestock grazing is reduced and fire danger is increased, who will suffer?" McCowen asked.

The lawsuit by the Mendocino Non-Lethal Wildlife Alliance and Project Coyote in some ways mirrors a recent lawsuit by Keep the Code on the county's decision to certify the EIR and approve the expansion of a gravel extracting operation on Ridgewood Summit. As with the wildlife lawsuit, the Keep the Code lawsuit was filed after previous lawsuits by Keep the Code were filed and adjudicated. The first Keep the Code lawsuit was filed in 2013; the first wildlife alliance lawsuit was filed in 2015.

The rest of Brooktrails

From Page 1

Tank 3 replacement project," Brooktrails Community Services District General Manager Tamara Alaniz said. "There is a notice period required for that, and that is what this notice of intent is."

The tank, named Tank 3, handles a volume of more than 200,000 gallons each day, according to the township.

Work to replace the redwood tank should start in the spring. It will take workers about three months to complete construction of the new steel tank.

Budget report

Alaniz briefed directors on the township's resources through the midway point of the fiscal year.

"One of the keys I like to use is how much of the budget has been spent by how much percent of the [fiscal] year," Alaniz said, talking about how she approaches a budget.

"The district has only received \$39,675, or 8.1 percent of the special assessment dollars, which generate the vast majority of the department's revenues," a report from the township stated.

The fire department remains in the red until those funds arrive, the report stated.

"Here we are at 50 percent of the [fiscal] year, and we have actually only received 17.1 percent of our fire revenue, and that primarily is due to the fact we have only received 8 percent of our county assessment dollars," Alaniz said.

Alaniz said a knowledgeable contact at the county was moved to another position, and it has been like starting over with the new contact.

Golf report

A newly filed report on Brooktrails Golf Course usership covers the months from September through December 2019.

"It just shows how many people came and golfed, and you can see as the winter goes through and we have more rainy days, we definitely have fewer and fewer golfers out there," Alaniz said.

In September, the golf course tallied 532 total players (traditional golf and disc golf combined). September revenue was \$6,375.

By December, usership trailed off to 149 total players. December revenue was \$1,606.

The Brooktrails Golf Course is a stream-side golf experience among the redwoods. Located at the hub of the township, near the fire department and township headquarters, golfers ply their skills beneath redwood trees.

Committee appointments

At a previous meeting, the board assigned members to four committees. Tina Tyler-O'Shea serves on the Recreation, Greenbelt and Conservation Committee. Ed Horrick is an alternate.

Horrick and Ralph Santos serve together on the Finance Ad Hoc Committee.

Tony Orth serves on the Mendocino County Association of Fire Districts, with Santos as an alternate member.

Orth and Rick Williams serve on the Planning Committee. The Sherwood Firewise group will see Brooktrails representation from Orth and Horrick.

Let's get a 'Complete Count' in Mendocino County this year

Submitted by Paula Cohen, chair, Mendocino County Complete Count Committee

It is a new year, it is 2020. A time when many make resolutions, and just as many do not keep them. I was never very good at resolutions so have avoided them altogether. However, this year I have decided to make a "promise" instead. My promise is to work to increase the number of people in Mendocino County who respond to the 2020 Census.

Why am I doing this? The Census determines the number of people we have in the U.S. House of Representatives. Plus, it is the basis for funding more than 250 federal programs. Each person counted equates to about \$2,000 per person for each of the 10 years, or \$20,000 distributed over the 10-year period. These monies come not just to the county coffers, but help fund roads, schools, health care, fire districts, and housing programs for seniors and veterans, to name a few.

When does this happen? The U.S. Census count begins on April 1, 2020 and should close before the end of May. The U.S. Bureau of the Census must report a total number of people in the United States before December 31, 2020.

This year reporting will be primarily through the internet. If your mail is

delivered to your home address, you will receive a postcard with directions of how to go online and file. If your mail is delivered to a Post Office box, you will receive a postcard informing you how to go online and obtain an identification number. Follow those directions to access the questionnaire.

If you do not have broadband or a computer, there will be places in your area to go to log on. There will be an option to call an 800 number (in many languages) and respond to the 10 questions. You will report each member in your household, which should take less than 10 minutes per person.

An accurate count from the 2020 Census is a fast and simple way to bring in money to Mendocino County. We can all agree our county can use more funding to provide necessary services for all our residents. It will benefit us all.

So my promise is to work to increase our count. Remember: April 1, 2020 is "Everyone Counts Day." Will you promise to join me?

To get more information, check out our website: www.mendocinocounts.org or call Paula Cohen at 937-1914.

Mendocino County Fire Chiefs Association: Yes on Measure D and E

Submitted by Dave Latoof, vice president, for the Mendocino County Fire Chiefs Association

The March 2020 election contains two important ballot measures that directly support all fire departments in Mendocino County at no cost to county residents. These are Measures D and E. Both measures are critical, and both measures require a simple majority to pass.

Measure D will raise money through a transient occupancy tax aimed at private campgrounds. Measure D calls for a 10 percent tax per temporary campsite. This measure will "level the playing field," since other temporary lodging establishments such as inns and hotels have been paying a similar TOT for years.

Measure E advises the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors how to spend the revenue raised by the new tax. This measure advises the supervisors to distribute Measure D's proceeds to all established fire companies in the county. Measure E further reads that 75 percent of the tax revenue will be divided equally to all fire agencies. The remaining 25 percent of the revenue will be allocated for common fire agency needs and goals as determined by the Mendocino County Fire Chiefs Association.

It is important to vote on both measures.... Measure D will implement the tax, and Measure E will assure the revenues are distributed equally to all established fire companies in the county.

The total tax revenue is expected to reach \$1,000,000 per year. This would allow approximately \$250,000 to be set aside for common needs and goals, and about \$36,000 to be distributed directly to each fire agency in the county.

This distribution will be valuable income to all departments, and it may double or triple the revenue of many small rural departments that struggle to operate. The topmost critical areas of pressure that will be assisted by this income stream include workers' compensation and liability insurance, the cost of fire engines and equipment, the availability of high-quality training, and the recruitment and retention of volunteers. We will touch on each of these briefly.

Workers' Compensation and Liability Insurance: Each fire department covers each paid and volunteer fire fighter with workers' compensation insurance. This

insurance provides needed protection in the event of injury. Departments also carry liability insurance. In most cases, smaller departments use a large portion of their annual revenue just paying these insurance costs.

Equipment: Fire company equipment is costly to purchase and maintain. A new fire engine can typically cost \$300,000 or more, and each engine requires repair and maintenance to ensure they operate during an emergency response. Many departments seek loans for major equipment, and some purchase engines second-hand. Additionally, each fire fighter is equipped with special gear and personal protective equipment that must fit well and be in good working order to ensure firefighter safety. Many supplies and items that are used on a fire or a medical call are not re-usable and must be constantly re-stocked and ready for the next dispatch. Measures D and E will go a long way to help relieve these pressures.

Training: A high-quality and relevant training program is a critical component of a fire company's continuing education to ensure firefighters respond skillfully and safely. In-house training requires supplies and good planning. Outsourced training is often expensive. Fire agencies budget significant resources to training each year. Measures D and E will help offset these costs.

Volunteers: Volunteer firefighters are the backbone of our county's fire, rescue and first-at-scene medical response. These dedicated professionals are on call 24/7. They are in the fire service because they care about their neighbors and communities. Measures D and E help will help with volunteer recruitment and retention that is critical to the viability of our fire agencies.

Remember, if you live in this county, Measures D and E will cost you nothing. It will be paid by visitors who stay in private campgrounds, and these campers benefit from our local fire response. Measures D and E will help offset costs associated with providing emergency response to campers, tourists and travelers that visit and recreate in our county.

We ask your support by voting yes on Measure D and Measure E.

County Treasurer-Tax Collector/Court Collections Office undergoing renovation

Submitted by Mendocino County Treasurer-Tax Collector's Office

The Treasurer-Tax Collector / Court Collections Office at the county building on Low Gap Road in Ukiah is currently undergoing a major office renovation project to increase efficiency and accessibility in an effort to provide better service to our customers.

The goal is to limit negative impacts to the public whenever possible; however, due to the nature of this project, noise and accessibility impacts may exist. At times, office and phone hours will need to be adjusted to accommodate certain phases of this project.

Information can be obtained by visiting our website at www.mendocinocounty.org/ttc or by calling 707-234-6875. Emails sent to ttc@mendocinocounty.org will be responded to within two business days of receipt.

We apologize for any inconvenience this project may cause.

Help save Willits Weekly!

Thanks to those who've already donated!

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