

## Primary election set for March 3

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The 2020 California Primary Election, which is scheduled for Tuesday, March 3, is fast approaching, and county employees in the Registrar of Voters Office are working hard to get ready to count the vote.

In fact, on Tuesday, February 18, clerks in that office in the county's Administration Center were inundated by people coming in to register to vote, or to change their registration.

"We've been slammed, all day," said County Assessor/Clerk-Recorder Katrina Bartolomie. Bartolomie said that mail-in ballots were dropped-shipped to the U.S. Post Office on February 3 and should have been received by all voters by Monday, February 10. "If people don't have their ballots by now, call us, and we'll be more than happy to mail them one," said Bartolomie.

The phone number at the Registrar of Voters office is 707-234-6819.

Bartolomie added that the post office has sometimes been sending filled-out ballots, which have been addressed to her at the

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**Election**  
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## October power shutoff cost Brooktrails district \$45,000

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When PG&E turned off the power for fire prevention last October, it cost the Brooktrails Community Services District about \$45,000, a recent report from the township stated.

PG&E has stated it is not taking claims on the township's losses due to notification to its customers about such a shut-off, District Manager Tamara Alaniz stated in a report prepared for the February 11 board of directors meeting which summarized the costs.

"That is over that 4.5 days," said Alaniz, "that is \$10,000 a day." The approximate costs had been finetuned since the typed report in meeting materials from \$41,010 to about \$45,000.

The acronym of "PSPS" abbreviates the public safety power shutoff label given to the outages. If there can be reimbursement from the state or PG&E, the township will be keeping

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Above, left: The crowd at the 2019 Sip Some Soup at the Willits Community Center. Above, right: Lynne and Tom Buske from the Seventh-day Adventist Church made an aromatic and perfectly spiced East Indian Dahl Soup for the 2019 event. Below: Get ready to taste, or cook, for this year's Sip Some Soup event coming up on Saturday, February 29.



Photos by  
Ree Slocum



Photo by  
Maureen Moore



Photos by  
Ree Slocum



At top: Sip Some Soup organizer and executive director of Willits Daily Bread, Cindy Savage, poses with her son Jacob Savage, a soup maker himself. Above: Adventist Health Howard Memorial's Jason Wells puts the final touch of cashew cream on a serving of the hospital's 2019 first-place winning Curry Sweet Potato Bisque. At right: The Willits Charter School's Student Leadership group made an awesomely delicious gumbo in 2019, from left: Zoe, Willow, Leadership advisor Billy Hetherington, and Emily. Far right: A row of soup makers lines the walls of the Willits Community Center at Sip Some Soup last year. Want to be one of them this year? Don't worry, there's still time!



# Get Set to Sip (or cook!) Some Soup

Annual Willits Daily Bread contest set for Saturday, February 29 at Willits Community Center

Cooks and tasters (or both!) will delight to hear that the annual Sip Some Soup contest is just a week away, and there's still time to sign up to compete for first, second or third place in the Best Soup category or try out your decorating skills to win Best Decorated Table.

The contest will be held on Saturday, February 29 at the Willits Community Center, and soup will be served from 5:30 to 7 pm. A donation of \$15 per person or two for \$25 will be requested at the door, which will offer attendees the chance to taste, to vote, and to enjoy Emandal bread and homemade desserts, too, during the event.

Those wishing to compete are welcome to reach out to Cindy Savage, director of Willits Daily Bread, for an entry form by calling 367-5669. Entry fees for soup makers are \$25 each and include two voting tickets, also. Makers already signed up include the Cancer Resource Centers of Mendocino County, Divine Lineage, Empire Mortuary, Coast Hardware, Mendocino Community Health Clinic, and Joey Duenas, but there's room for plenty more cooks!

"We want to encourage everyone to come out and support Sip Some Soup which helps raise funds for Willits Daily Bread," said Savage. "We're excited to announce that we are now also serving our meals out of the indoor dining room at the St. Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church where the soup kitchen is located."

A silent auction will also be held during the fundraiser, Savage noted that she's already received some great items including a weekend stay in Caspar, \$300 worth of goods from George's Geodes and Gems, and \$100 in merchandise from Unique Boutique. There's still time to donate to the auction, too – just call Savage at 367-5669 and she will arrange pick-up of any donations.

– Maureen Moore

## City council increases police department budget

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At a busy meeting last week, the Willits City Council took action on many issues, including a restructuring of the Willits Police Department staff, a new city "Sustainability Policy," and a positive assessment by an auditing firm on the financial statements for Willits' last fiscal year.

There were several items on the agenda related to the WPD, largely addressing efforts to help with the department's recent struggles to hire and retain officers.

The council approved two budget revisions which added higher paying positions to the WPD, with both planned to be filled with in-house personnel at the department, according to city Human Resources Director Karen Stephenson.

The moves will add a police lieutenant to the force, as well as a "police sergeant with an advanced POST certificate," and eliminate some lower positions.

In addition, the council approved giving "incentive pay" bonuses of \$2,000 in February and \$1,500 in

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## School board discusses state and local bond measures

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The February 12 meeting of the Willits Unified School District Board of Trustees was held at Sanhedrin High School and began with a student presentation and a small-group graduation.

Highlights of the rest of the meeting include discussion of local and state school funding bond measures on the March 3 ballot, good news on some recent acquisitions and a high school accreditation report, and a public apology on behalf of the board to the California School

Employees Association for the actions of a board member.

Sanhedrin senior Savannah Southwick opened the meeting with a very well-prepared and well-received presentation of the fruits of her career-path college class.

She's going to be a social worker.

"You have to have a strong drive to help others, which I have," she said. "It runs deep ... I've seen them help."

Superintendent Mark

Read the rest of  
**Bond**  
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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.

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# What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

**Yes on Measure G**

To the Editor:

Education is the foundational bedrock of our culture, community, and our nation. Our children are the future and the salvation of our world. In the beautiful and bountiful state of California we have somehow focused our resources on the symptoms of our social ills, and we have woefully neglected to treat the cause.

Our schools have been underfunded for decades leaving educators to scrape and use their own meager incomes to support students to achieve their educational aspirations.

I am an educator (and mother), and I have been on "the front lines" as a teacher and as an administrator. I know what education has done for my life. I was born to a single mother in abject poverty. During my childhood, I experienced homelessness, the foster care system, and neighborhood violence. I was literally saved from dismal circumstances through the teachers that cared enough to see me succeed.

The Willits community has the opportunity to make a direct impact on the welfare of our children by voting "Yes" on Measure B. Our children and our teachers deserve to learn and work in an environment that is conducive to learning and that will allow our children to achieve their dreams. Please support our children of this community. This is our opportunity to make the difference.

Aurora Chavez, Willits

## A vote for the kids in our community

To the Editor:

Please join me in supporting Measure G! Our Willits school district gives so much to our community and our kids. It is time to give back! Our aging facilities have been a part of our lives, some for longer than even an old-timer like me can remember. *They need repair!* They are leaking, crumbling, refusing to work properly anymore. The boiler at Willits High School was a problem even in the late '50s and early '60s when I was a student there. It's still there!

The cost of repair to our facilities is well beyond what the maintenance budget can ever handle without hurting student programs and reducing staff. Passing this measure will allow our Willits schools to qualify for state facilities funding as well.

Please consider a "yes" vote on this measure, which is offered as a way to repair existing facilities. We cannot, in good conscience, continue to teach our children in such deteriorating conditions! A vote for G is a vote for the kids in our community.

Kathleen Ells Lewis, Willits

## Thank you

To the Editor:

Dear Willits community: "Thank you" is not enough words to express to the Willits Senior Center and all the volunteers at the center who did such a wonderful job for Edie's 112th birthday party. The food was good, the dining room was beautifully set with pink tablecloths and flowers, and the attendance was great!

What an honor for our city and state to acknowledge the oldest native Californian born and raised here in Willits by the proclamations she received from our congressman, senator, board of supervisors and Mayor Gerry Gonzalez, expressing appreciation for her contributions to our community and especially the Kids Club.

A special acknowledgement to Chris Smith from the Press Democrat and his photographer for coming to Willits to take part in this birthday party and then writing such a fun and interesting story about Edie and the party. He said he was so glad that he came, and he felt so much love in the room from family and friends for this "Lady."

For all who would have been there but couldn't due to whatever kept them away, we missed you. But the party

was a huge success for Edie, thanks to all who put in the time preparing for the party and then the cleaning up that followed. It could not have happened without you!

A *big* thank you to Kathy Goss for putting Edie on Facebook, getting her pedicure and manicure at City Nails.

Also, a *big* thank you to Room 6, Second-Grade Class at Brookside School for the birthday book with a dedicated greeting and drawing to Edie from each of the students. What a wonderful class project from kids who are in awe and amazement that there could be a 112-year-old lady in Willits. It was a wonderful gift, and a big thank you to their teacher, Mrs. Coughlin.

We look forward to each day and what it brings for Edie, and she is enjoying hearing from so many people. Edie has received birthday cards from many states and cities in California, and they are still coming in.

Again, our thanks and gratitude to all who honored Edie on her 112th birthday.

The Persico family, Willits

## Yes on Measure G

To the Editor:

My name is Alex Bowlds. I am currently serving as the president of the Willits Unified School District Board of Trustees. I serve with my fellow trustees, retired high school counselor Robert Colvig, retired school administrator Robert Chavez, and retired school teachers Jeanne King and Paula Nunez. We all have strong ties to the Willits community, and serve our community in a variety of ways beyond our involvement as elected volunteer trustees of your school district.

I want to explain to you, the voter, why Measure G is so important to the health of the WUSD. The only financial vehicle provided by California Education Code to build and maintain public schools is through bonds. Because California funds K-12 schools at near-poverty levels, there is very little money available for significant repairs. The state and federal funds we receive are spent, almost entirely, on educating your children.

While we have funds for general maintenance, we do not have funds for numerous high-cost items, i.e. replace roofs, pave parking lots, and replace condemned portable classrooms. These are just a few examples of projects that we struggle to pay for. Instead, we defer these projects year after year so that we can provide salaries and benefits to the people that educate your children. It is these salaries and benefits that enable us to attract and keep highly qualified teachers and staff, and provide the education our children deserve.

Put simply, without passage of Measure G, we will continue to defer significant maintenance and repair projects into the future with the hope that the state will step up. Sooner or later WUSD will be forced to make these repairs. This will severely impact our ability to provide employment to members of our community along with the education of our children.

Ten years ago, WUSD passed a \$43 million bond measure—only \$14 million of the bonds were sold. The economy went into recession, so the additional bonds were not sold because the price would be too high for the taxpayers of our community. We are not trying to restart the old bond measure. We are not attempting to build new. Instead, we will use Measure G funds strictly to fix and repair projects over the next 12 to 15 years. By law, we cannot spend Measure G funds on employee salaries or benefits.

Unlike the last bond measure that provided all of the funds at once, Measure G will provide funds in four installments of \$4.3 million, about every three years. The advantage of selling the bonds in installments is the WUSD board can delay selling them if the state of California comes up with more money, or if the economy takes a significant turn for the worse.

Measure G has still more protection — an oversight committee designed

to protect the taxpayer will work with the superintendent and the director of maintenance to recommend projects for completion to the board of trustees. We will keep the expenditure of the funds local wherever possible, utilizing local contractors, inspectors and suppliers. Unlike the taxes I send to the state or federal government, I will get to see exactly where my Measure G dollars will be spent.

Proposition 13 is a state education bond on the March ballot. If that passes, the state will make money available to public schools and community colleges. The \$17 billion proposed by this bond measure is a drop in the bucket of what schools need across the state, and there will be a lot of competition for these dollars. The state will pay 60 percent, and school districts will have to come up with 40 percent. If Proposition 13 passes and we qualify, it may help WUSD. The passage of Measure G will provide for the 40 percent matching funds. If both pass and WUSD qualifies for some of the new state funds, it is highly likely that the district will not need some of the future Measure G installments.

Like every taxpayer, I don't want more tax burden. However, I see Measure G as the tool that will help insure the school facilities in Willits are well-maintained and safe for our students. It will allow us to focus the federal and state funds on providing the best education possible for the children of our community.

If you are not certain of how you will vote on Measure G, or you plan to vote no based on information that is 10 years old, please talk to a teacher or an administrator at one of the schools, come see the condition of your schools, talk to Superintendent Westerburg, or one of your school board trustees. Whatever you do, please make an informed decision on how you will vote on Measure G.

Alex Bowlds, president, Willits Unified School District Board of Trustees

## Thank you

To the Editor:

I want to thank Willits Rotarians not only for hosting another successful Crab Fest fundraiser, but also for all they do for our community year in and year out.

Special thanks to Ann Alumbaugh who organizes Crab Fest each year. This event is a huge undertaking, and Ann does a wonderful job putting all the pieces together to ensure this event is successful.

I also want to thank all the Willits Future Farmers of America who served food and cleaned up after the event. Last but not least I want to thank all the merchants who donated auction prizes and everyone who bought tickets to the event and purchased auction items.

I hope everyone who contributed to the success of this fundraiser takes a moment to reflect on how the funds raised by Rotary for their High School Scholarship Fund and the Senior Center programs and services positively impact the lives of others.

Richard Baker, director, Willits Seniors Inc.

## Yes on Measure G

To the Editor:

I hope that the voters within the boundaries of the Willits Unified School District will join me in voting "Yes" on Measure G, the general obligation bond on the March ballot to fix our local deteriorating schools.

The way schools are financed in California does not enable school districts to accumulate the large amount of needed funds to fix and repair aging facilities. Even if we were able to apply for state funding, we would have to match whatever funds the state gave us. As an aside, the current administration has applied and received multiple, multiple grants to save the district money and improve

Read the rest of **Letters** Over on Page 10



From far left: Fiona Valley runs the Tommy Castro and the Painkillers swag table. Tommy Castro lights up the room with his hard-driving blues. A couple enjoys dancing to Tommy Castro & the Painkillers at the Valentine's Day concert at the Grange. Below, left: Tommy Castro and the Painkillers get the crowd off their chairs. Twins Maya and Fiona Valley help in the front.

Photos by Mathew Caine



At left: Tommy Castro, Mike Emerson, Randy McDonald and Bowen "Bones" Brown of the Painkillers relax a moment before the set. Below: Sue Clark of John Ford Ranch, left, and Amanda Fairall of Fairall Farm provide the lasagna dinner. At bottom: Plant artist Anthony Ward displays one of his towering creations.

# Valentine's Concert

Tommy Castro and the Painkillers play an evening of dancing and blues at the Little Lake Grange

The Tommy Castro Valentine's Day Concert on Friday, February 14 at the Little Lake Grange was a master class in the art of producing a crowd-pleasing event that will be remembered by all who attended. Beneath the surface of the dinner and music, a group of seasoned local veterans worked tirelessly to produce the happening, bringing with them years of concert and event experience, which culminated in an evening of fun, food and blues.

The evening all came together in a perfect storm of memorable tastes and dance-inducing sounds. An enormous tie-dyed backdrop of hearts, from Ben Jammin of Grateful Dead fame, literally set the stage for the Valentine's Day theme, while the flower and twig table arrangements of local garden artist Anthony Ward added a romantic touch.

The inspired sound design from Marcos DeFluri of Ancestor Radio and the savory lights of Scott Steuer kept everyone entertained. And the food, which included a vegan and meat lasagna from Amanda Fairall of Fairall Farms and Sue Clark of John Ford Ranch, in addition to excellent coffee and vegan desserts from Shewolf Coffee, was local and inspired.

Produced by Marie Blancas of Moon Lady on Main Street and Da Grand Pooba of Cosmic Pickle Productions, the happening seemed to transcend a simple concert and became a whirlwind pleasurable event for all in attendance.

Blancas stressed the use of local vendors, "I've done many fundraisers in Willits in the 30 years I've been here. I brought Tommy [Castro] here about 20 years ago with

Read the rest of **Dance** Over on Page 9

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Thursday, February 20

**Youth Camp Registration:** Youth ages 6 to 17 are invited to register for next summer's Youth Camp at the Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. Register until Saturday, February 29: <https://www.brownpaperickets.com/event/4521312>. The play this year: "OZ: A Dazzling Musical." Camp runs Monday June 30 to Sunday August 5, performances July 31, August 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9. Camp hours: 1 to 4 pm. Info: <https://www.facebook.com/events/618332895593926>.

**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." Thursday, February 20, 3 to 5 pm. Seabiscuit Conference Room, Adventist Health Howard Memorial Hospital, 1 Marcela Drive. Info: Annie, [earleAF@ah.org](mailto:earleAF@ah.org), 456-3132.

**Willits Farmers Market:** Winter market at the Little Lake Grange, 271 School Street. Thursday, February 20, 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.

**"The Great Hack":** The Now and Then Film Series presents "The Great Hack": "Data has surpassed oil as the world's most valuable asset, weaponized to wage cultural and political warfare. 'The Great Hack' uncovers the dark world of data exploitation." Info: [www.thegreathack.com](http://www.thegreathack.com). Donation of \$5 to \$20 supports the film series. Thursday, February 20. Trailers and short films at 6:30 pm; film at 7 pm. Serving heirloom organic popcorn with real organic butter. Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street.

**"Doubt – A Parable":** An award-winning social commentary by playwright John Patrick Shanley. Willits Community Theatre, February 7 to 23. The play follows a conflict that arises within a Catholic church over how to adapt to changing times. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturday, 7:30 pm and Sunday matinee February 23 at 2 pm. Tickets: Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; [brownpaperickets.com](http://brownpaperickets.com); or 1-800-838-3006, available at the door until sold out. 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub). Note: Contains adult themes.

**Donkey Basketball:** 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. Tickets: \$8 adults, \$6 students (grades 7 to 12), \$4 child (grades K to 6). Add \$1 if purchased at door.

**Start a Food, Flower, Fungi, Herb or Other Business February 29**

This workshop will provide a forum for local entrepreneurs to hone ideas, explore markets, learn about permits and regulations, and create actionable plans to move forward in your farm business. Whether your passion is gardening or foraging, growing vegetables or raising poultry, cooking or canning, making tinctures or fashioning clothing, there are business niches through which to share your talents and reward your efforts. This workshop is geared primarily for beginner entrepreneurs. One objective is to help stimulate new businesses in our area. The workshop is also open to those already doing business who are looking for support and advice. Saturday, February 29, 10 am to 12 pm. The Willits Environmental Center, 630 South Main Street. Tickets: school-of-adaptive-agriculture.org.

**– Submitted by the School of Adaptive Agriculture**

**Shanachie Pub:** Fusion Lounge: "New to the Pub is a very special night of jazz, featuring different guests backed by local musicians. Various Thursdays. Tonight Jesse Bessoni and Greg Collosale take you on a magical journey through the world of jazz!" Thursday, February 20, 8 pm, Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

**Friday, February 21**

**Wolf Tree at Northspur Brewing:** "Wolf Tree brings solo acoustic Alt Country and Americana to Willits' new brewery, Northspur Brewing Company, 101 North Main Street. He sings a well-crafted collection of songs by artists such as Son Volt, Townes van Zandt, and Gillian Welch and plays guitar, mandolin, and harmonica. Come for the libations and company, stay for the music!" Friday, February 21, 5 to 8 pm.

**"Doubt – A Parable":** Willits Community Theatre, Friday, February 21, 7 pm. See February 20 listing for details.

**Shanachie Pub:** Piano Mania, Wendy DeWitt and Barney McClure: DeWitt is influenced by Chicago Blues and Texas Boogie Woogie. McClure has performed and recorded with many talented musicians and celebrities. Friday, February 21, 8 pm, Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

**Saturday, February 22**

**KLLG Workday:** Saturday, February 22, 8 am to 4 pm, Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. "We are installing the fence enclosure for our emergency generator. Digging, pouring concrete, fencing and such activities will be the order of the day. Volunteers will get pizza, sodas, and gratitude!"

**"Doubt – A Parable":** Willits Community Theatre, Saturday, February 22, 7 pm. See February 20 listing for details.

**Shanachie Pub:** Performer Leah Tousignant "is bound to dazzle and audience with her smooth vocals, funky piano chops, and irresistible charm." Saturday, February 22, 8 pm, Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

**Sunday, February 23**

**Little Lake Grange Pancake Breakfast:** "Join your friends at the Little Lake Grange Pancake Breakfast, 8 to 11 am, Sunday, February 23 (and every fourth Sunday through October). \$8 buys you a plate of the best 'scratch' pancakes & local farm eggs to be found anywhere around. Our tasty breakfast is a wonderful combination of comfort foods": Choose sourdough wholegrain, Hank's Famous Buttermilk Pancakes or Gluten-

Free, Beeler's Quality Bacon, organic local farm fresh eggs, real butter, juice, organic coffee or tea. \$8; \$7 seniors, \$5 children under 10. Extra: sides of organic fruit and Amish organic maple syrup. Little Lake Grange #670, 291 School Street (2 blocks south of Commercial Street; 1 block west of Main Street)

**"The Stories of Fred Short":** a book party for the publication of "The Stories of Fred Short: American Indian Spiritual Leader." Sunday, February 23 at 1 pm at the Willits Hub, 630 South Main Street. Willits resident Kim Bancroft edited this memoir, interviewing Fred Short (Chippewa) over the course of a year and weaving together his stories: "Given the hardships of his youth, the challenges of years in juvenile detention and prisons, the pounding his body took as a professional boxer, and his transformation through his work in the American Indian Movement (AIM), Fred's life provides tremendous inspiration. His life intersects with many important developments in Native American civil rights history, including the movements for sovereignty, sobriety, and social and environmental justice."

**"Doubt – A Parable":** Willits Community Theatre, Closing performance, Sunday, February 23, 2 pm. See February 13 listing for details.

**Tuesday, February 25**

**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 "Sonic" and "Downhill." Visit [www.noyotheatre.com](http://www.noyotheatre.com), call 459-6696 or check the ad in Willits Weekly for show times. 57 East Commercial Street.

**Healthier Living Workshop:** 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, 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.

**Art Workshop:** Leap Frog, Leap Year: Make an origami frog that actually hops! A more simple craft will be provided for small children and toddlers. Supplies provided. All ages. Tuesday, February

# What's Happening Around Town

25, 5:30 to 6:30 pm and Friday, February 28, 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street.

**Mendocino County Soccer Academy Coaches-in-Training Program:** Learn more about MCSA's free Coaches-in-Training program by attending an informational meeting hosted by club President and Director of Coaching Shane Huff, Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street, Tuesday, February 25, 6 pm. Info: [MendocinoSoccer.com](http://MendocinoSoccer.com) or MCSA's Facebook page. Questions: [lan@MendocinoSoccer.com](mailto:lan@MendocinoSoccer.com).

**Thursday, February 27**

**Willits Farmers Market:** Winter market at the Little Lake Grange, 271 School Street. Thursday, February 27, 3 to 5:30 pm. See February 20 listing for details.

**Movie Night:** Thursday, February 27, 5 to 6:30. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Come to the Library to watch a free movie. Check our online calendar or Facebook page to see what we will be playing.

**Food Truck and Mobile Vendor Ad Hoc Committee Meeting:** "A proposed ordinance has been written after input from those who attended the first Ad Hoc meeting in January & the community gave input. On Thursday, February 27, 6 pm you'll have an opportunity to look over the draft and giving any additional input before it's presented to the full city council (hopefully at the March 11 meeting)." Willits Council Chambers, 111 East Commercial Street.

**Shanachie Pub:** Award-winning, Nashville recording artist, guitarist, and talented singer-songwriter Johnny Young plays rockin' country Thursday, February 27, 8 pm. Visit <https://johnnyyoungcountry.wordpress.com/>. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

**Friday, February 28**

**Art Workshop:** Friday, February 28, 3:30 to 4:30 pm. Willits Library. See February 25 listing for details.

**WEF Take Home Tri-Tip Dinner:** 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, 139 North Main Street (look for lighted sign). 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.

**Saturday, February 29**

**"Start a Food, Flower, Fungi, Herb or Other Business":** Saturday, February 29, 10 am to 12 pm. Willits Environmental Center, 630 South Main Street. A forum for local entrepreneurs to hone ideas, explore markets, learn about permits and regulations, and create actionable plans to move forward in your farm business. Geared primarily for beginner entrepreneurs. Tickets: school-of-adaptive-agriculture.org.

**Sip Some Soup:** "This is Willits Daily Bread's major fundraiser, and it's a terrific evening of delicious food and wonderful community." Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street, Saturday, February 29, to taste many delicious soups along with fresh baked Emandal breads and homemade desserts. Donation of \$15 per person, or two for \$25. 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. Silent Auction. If you have items to donate, or want to be a soup maker, call Cindy, 707-367-5669. Doors open 5:30 pm; food served until 7 pm.

**Art Opening:** Salvador Andrade Paintings and Noel Woodhouse Assemblages. Opening Saturday, February 29, 6 to 9 pm. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Exhibit runs through March 29. Gallery open Wednesday to Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm.

**Shanachie Pub:** Generifus. "The sound is fueled by melodic guitar licks and vocals harmonies." Visit <http://facebook.com/generifus>. Saturday, February 29, 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

**Sunday, March 1**

**Story Time at Mendocino County Museum:** A recurring program for families, a monthly themed "Story Time" on select Sundays. An interactive program to foster interest in

history, community, and reading through the art of storytelling.. March 1: What is a museum? Sunday, March 1, 12:30 to 1 pm. [www.mendocinocounty.org/museum](http://www.mendocinocounty.org/museum). 459-2736. 400 East Commercial Street.

**The Emerald City Museum:** The Cannabis Culture Museum opens Sunday, March 1, with a pop-up exhibit, 2 to 6 pm, at the old Willits Rexall, 90 South Main Street. "An Exhibit of Medical Cannabis History," with speaker Fred Gardner, author of O'Shaughnessy's Sampler: "Highlights of the medical marijuana movement, as reported in the paper of record." Items from the collection of Richard Jergenson, who collected thousands of unique cultural icons for 50 years. Discussion of the medical benefits of cannabis. "Education, not elimination is our best way forward for community economics, protecting our youth, and providing a healthy Willits future based on our proud history as the Emerald City of the Emerald Triangle." Info: Annie at 707-889-2449.

**Free Herb Talks:** by the Mendocino Herb Guild. Every Thursday, 4 pm, at the Willits Farmers Market, indoors for the winter at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street.

**Roots Engine House Tours:** Docent-led tour of the Engine House most Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10 am to 4:30 pm. Join a Roots of Motive Power docent to view classic motorcars, a steam train engine, and more – up close.

**Marijuana Anonymous 12 Step Meeting:** Every Tuesday at 6 pm. Meeting place is the Back Alley building in Catherine Lane, directly behind the United Methodist Church, which is at the corner of School and Pine, right across from the Grange.

**Brown Bag Lunch Program:** Lunch served to the hungry in the City Park across from the Willits Police Station every Saturday at 1 pm, served by various community-minded organizations. For information, call the Food Bank at 459-3333.

**Boomer's Friday Night Karaoke:** 1st, 3rd & 5th Friday of every month, Boomer's Saloon, 45020 Highway 101, Laytonville, 9 pm to 1 am. No Cover. 21+ Please bring I.D. Hosted by DJ-Ken Steely Entertainment with KJ/DJ-Ken Steely & Anna. Come for dinner, stay for the fun.

**Willits Farmers Market:** Winter Market at the Little Lake Grange, 271 School Street, from 3 to 5:30 pm every Thursday. 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, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

**Emandal Choral:** The Choral is open to all who wish to sing a cappella songs of peace and justice. Every Wednesday from 5 to 6:30 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Info: 367-1573.

**Friday Potluck Bingo:** Harrah Senior Center presents Potluck Bingo on Friday nights. Doors open at 5 pm; games begin at 5 pm. Minimum bingo buy-in \$5. 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-6826.

**Weekly Parkinson's Discussion and Support Group:** Every Thursday, 10:30 to 11:45 am. In the Conference Room at Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-1941.

**Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Group:** Meets every Tuesday at 6:30 pm, at the Muse, 31 East San Francisco Avenue. Info: 456-9425 or [honemann@yahoo.com](mailto:honemann@yahoo.com).

**Willits Community Drum Circle:** 7 to 10 pm at the Saint Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church, 66 East Commercial Street. Every 2nd and 4th Friday. Free. Everyone is welcome. Info: 459-4932.

**Willits Library Activities:** Tuesdays: 3:30 to 4 pm "Wiggle Time" (Explore movement and self-expression); Wednesdays: 11 to 11:45 am "Play Group" (Self-directed playtime, with toys, ages 0 to 4); 2:30 to 3 pm "Storytime" (Books, songs, rhymes and movement, ages 3 to 6); 3:30 to 4 pm "Legs Club" (bring your imagination and start building); Thursdays: 2:30 to 3:30 pm "Storytime and More" (with coloring and board games); Fridays: 5:30 to 5:50 pm "Dance Workout" (Fun, upbeat dance); Saturdays: 11 am to 12 pm "Write Live" (We provide a prompt and a space to create writing); 2:30 to 4:30 pm "Drop-In Knitting" All skill levels. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-5908.

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**Shanachie Pub:** Mondays, 7 pm: "Monday Blues & Beyond" with Blue Luke & Special Guests. Tuesdays, 8 pm: "Wabi Sabi" with host Michelle Holman, formerly of It's A Beautiful Day ("Whitebird" features different artists every week. Singer-songwriter Aaron Ford every first Thursday at 7:30 pm. No cover. Jazz Night every second and fourth Thursday, 8 pm. "Local musicians ... take jazz standards and infuse them with funk, hip hop, world, and free form jamming. The outcome is unexplainable." Open Mic Night every Wednesday. Sign up for the lottery for 20 minute time slots from 3 pm, when the Pub opens, to 7:30 pm. Music starts at 8 pm. "An eclectic array of local musicians and performers from around the world, often turning into an evening full of unexpected surprises." Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

**Laytonville Farmers Market:** Mondays, from 2:30 to 5:30 pm at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville. Local fresh fruits and vegetables, artisan goat cheeses, ranch meats, eggs, handcrafted clothing, live music and much more.

## Ongoing Events

**Art Gallery:** Paintings by Mehan Gunter at Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South Main Street.

**Free Firewood at the Senior Center:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 to 11 am. Bring current Senior Center membership card. Info: 459-6826.

**Computer Lab at the Senior Center:** Tuesdays, 2 to 4 pm. Bring questions and your device (or use ours). Learn and get repairs. \$3 donation. Open to everyone.

**"Art Expo":** featuring drawings and paintings by Alma Soleada. Re-Evolution Gallery, 15 West Mendocino Avenue. 11 am to 6 pm, Tuesday to Saturday.

**Friday Night Live:** Vendors, food and entertainment. 1722 South Main Street (Evergreen Shopping Center). 5 to 8 pm.

**Linda Posner's "Word Buffet":** KLLG-LP, 97.9, "Poems and Sayings to Start Your Day." Sunday, 10 to 10:30 am.

**Meatless Mondays:** at Roots Restaurant at Adventist Health Howard Memorial, 1 Marcela Drive. "Serving delicious plant-based options every Monday." 7 am to 5 pm.

**Collective Care:** A Holistic Support Group: Fridays, 10 to 11:15 am. 44650 Highway 101, Laytonville. Holistic community support and information. Children welcome. By donation. [www.ninesistersbotanicals.com](http://www.ninesistersbotanicals.com).

**Eight to the Bar with Les Tarr:** Radio active blues programming for tragically hip and twisted, Fridays, 9 pm to midnight. 97.9 FM, KLLG.

**Willits International Folk Dancing:** Class meets every Thursday, 7 to 8 pm. Willits Charter High School. New dances taught 7 to 8 pm. \$0 - \$5 sliding scale. Info: [megster1989@yahoo.com](mailto:megster1989@yahoo.com).

**Willits Frontier Twirlers Square Dance Club:** Mondays, 7 pm, upstairs gallery of the Willits Center for Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Sliding scale \$0 to \$5/class. 707-484-3385 for info.

**Little John's Place:** Every Thursday Pool Tournament, 6 pm, \$5 buy-in. "We'll buy the pizza, you buy the beer." Saturday nights: Free Pool 9 pm to 12 am during December. 383 South Main Street. 459-5636. [facebook.com/cottlittjohnsplace/](http://facebook.com/cottlittjohnsplace/).

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**Wrestling |**  
**Dominic Bartolino,**  
**18, Senior**

**How Long Playing the Sport:** Six years  
**Breakfast of Champions:** No favorite. "I just eat healthy so I'm in the best physical condition for the sport."  
**Love of the Sport:** "I just love the sport itself."  
**Other Sports Played:** Swim this year. Cross country freshman and sophomore years. Football junior year.  
Dominic made it into the finals of the Redwood Classic invitational in Ukiah, and he placed first, upsetting the fifth and first seeded wrestlers in an early February match.

– Submitted by  
**Coach Brian Bowles**




**Furry Friends**  
**Hoping for a Home**  
**Handsome Reece**

Handsome Reece is a "special needs" doggie, because he can be anxious/worried around strangers. New people make Reece uncomfortable, but once he gets to know you, he is much calmer. During his evaluation/meet & greet, Reece was pretty mellow and dog-friendly. An ideal home for Reece would be one with a quiet environment, without lots of traffic. Best if kids are older and thus able to understand Reece's shyness.  
Reece is interested in toys, and we think that once he is out of the shelter and in a loving home, he will feel comfortable and begin to play. Reece is a 2-year-old neutered male who currently weighs 80 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.mendoanimalsshelter.com](http://www.mendoanimalsshelter.com) or visit the shelter. For more information about adoptions, please call 707-467-6453.

**Playful**  
**Pumpkin**

Meet Pumpkin! Pumpkin is a 3-year-old Australian cattle dog who came to us on July 18, 2019 as an owner surrender. Pumpkin loves people and other dogs so much that she breaks into a playful, exuberant run as volunteers interact with her in our play yards! Which is beyond positive and amazing! This girl also loves water. She would gladly be your river buddy this summer! We promise you won't find a better river buddy and certainly not a cuter one!  
Pumpkin is spayed, weighs about 55 pounds, and is ready for her next chance at happiness and love. Pumpkin would love nothing more than to get her own family. Can you help a girl out?  
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, on our Facebook page, or through our website: [mendohumanesociety.com](http://mendohumanesociety.com). To volunteer, or to help take the dogs for a walk, please join HSIMC on Sundays at noon for an orientation.



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**NOYO THEATRE** Willits, CA

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[www.noyotheatre.com](http://www.noyotheatre.com)

**Friday, Feb. 28th:**  
**The Invisible Man**

**SONIC THE HEDGEHOG**

(PG) 1 hr 40 mins  
**Fri:** 5:30 & 8:00pm  
**Sat:** 3:00, 5:30 & 8:00pm  
**Sun:** 2:00, 4:30 & 7:00pm  
**Mon-Thurs:** 4:30 & 7:00pm

**THE CALL OF THE WILD**

(PG) 1 hr 40 mins  
**Fri:** 5:45 & 8:15pm  
**Sat:** 3:15, 5:45 & 8:15pm  
**Sun:** 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15pm  
**Mon-Thurs:** 4:45 & 7:30pm

**DOWNHILL**

(R) 1 hr 26 mins  
**Fri:** 6:20 & 8:30pm  
**Sat:** 4:10, 6:20 & 8:30pm  
**Sun:** 3:10, 5:20 & 7:30pm  
**Mon-Thurs:** 5:20 & 7:30pm

**Movie Times for 2/21 thru 2/27**

**Tightwad Tuesday Titles for Feb. 25th are in RED - All tickets: \$6**



At top: Veteran service person Aleeana Tribble helps prepare the food. Above: Amaan Bo Naam and Karl Davidek work the bar. Below: Marcos DeFluri of Ancestor Radio works at the sound board.

Photos by Mathew Caine



The rest of  
**Mac Tech** | From Page 5

entertainment systems, web cams, and security systems." He additionally sets up Amazon Echo devices and Philips Hue and Kasa Smart Bulb lighting systems.  
Sorry PC owners, his services are for Apple only. Hannon likes their ease of use, repair and software.  
Hannon and Blue Sky Mac Tech can be reached locally at 707-371-6160, online at [www.blueskymactech.com](http://www.blueskymactech.com), or on Facebook. His work hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 am to 5 pm; Friday, 9 am to 12 pm.

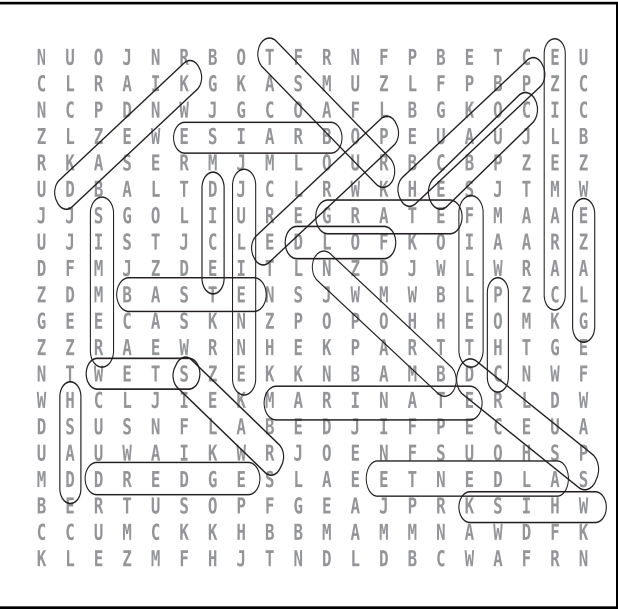


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The rest of  
**Dance** | From Page 3

Dave Madrigal, and we raised about \$30,000 for the skatepark.  
"I like to decorate and create a theme and an experience," she continued. "Tonight we want to raise some money for the Little Lake Grange for an electrical project. We've sold over 200 tickets so far. Our business statement was to utilize local beers, food and desserts. Grocery Outlet generously donated a lot of money for us." Local wineries Frey Vineyards, Felzer, and Bonterra donated wine. Northspur Brewery (the new Willits brewpub) and Hare in the Forest provided the beer.  
Of course, the main attraction was the band, one of Willits' favorites: Tommy Castro and the Painkillers, a hard-driving R&B, funk, and blues band from the North Bay area with decades of experience, many in this same assemblage. The front man and guitarist, Tommy Castro, is a product of Northern California sounds and years of listening to and emulating the likes of Buddy Guy, Taj Mahal, and many more of the blues greats.  
Tonight, Castro designed his sets for a Valentine's crowd, more love songs and dance numbers. "We're going to do two sets tonight, about nine songs each set," Castro said. "We're the only act tonight, and it's a fundraising event. We know this crowd. We've been lucky to play for them several times."  
"Last time we were here," Castro said, "two years ago, it snowed. We had to be really careful with our 45-foot tour bus. All the roads were iced. It was pretty scary." Fortunately there was no snow or ice this year. The weather was made for coming out and having a great time.  
The other promoter, Da Grand Pooba, a Willits original, is a product of the '60s and '70s music scene. His first concert was the Beatles at Candlestick Park, which he snuck out of the house to attend at the age of 12. He grew up on Joan Baez and the Grateful Dead.  
His company, Cosmic Pickle Productions, has produced many concerts and events in the Willits area, including the Hopland Hop last summer for Flow Kana. The name of the company came from his daughter, Kaya, who was nicknamed "Pickle" by Lori Dornholt of Ardella's who used to give Kaya her much-beloved pickles whenever she came in, even with her breakfast pancakes.  
It is Pooba's mission to make people smile. "The event was filled with very happy people. Everyone was dancing, enjoying, filling themselves with a lot of good music," he said. In order to honor the women, Pooba invited them all to the front of the stage to sing "We Are Family" by Sister Sledge, to later be joined by the men, a Valentine's happening.  
Pooba is an inveterate Willitsonian. "I love this town," he said. "It's filled with weirdos, and I love it for that. When the culture of the '60s and '70s happened and people wanted to keep it going, they moved to Northern California, rather than be sucked up by the cities, and ended up in Mendocino County. They kept the spirit alive up here. Last night that blues unified everyone in the room. It was nice to see."

Willits Weekly can run your legal notices! Email us for info: [willitsweekly@gmail.com](mailto:willitsweekly@gmail.com). Deadline is Monday for Thursday publication!



**Current Job Openings:**

Administrative Secretary  
Corrections Deputy  
County Health Officer  
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors I/II  
Deputy County Counsel II/III/IV  
Deputy District Attorney III – Fort Bragg  
Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II  
Heavy Equipment Mechanic  
Senior Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:  
[www.mendocinocounty.org/government/human-resources](http://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/human-resources)  
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8	1	7	9	4	5	2	3	6
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**CLASSIFIEDS**

**\$10 for 30 words for 2 weeks**

**Car For Sale**

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.

**Help Wanted**

Baechtel Creek Medical Clinic is looking to hire a Medical Assistant. Please pick up an application or drop off a resume at 1245 S. Main Street, Willits.

**RV/Trailer Space for Rent**

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

**Computer Help**

Need help with your computer? I will come to your home or business. PC, Macintosh, Android and IOS devices. Repairs, configuration and tutoring: \$50/hr. Call Liam 459-2470 or email [macamerin@yahoo.com](mailto:macamerin@yahoo.com).

**Event Spaces Available**

Event spaces available at the Willits Center for the Arts! • Great Room • Classroom • Ceramic Studio For inquiries, email [manager@willitscenterforthearts.org](mailto:manager@willitscenterforthearts.org) or call 459-1726. For additional information visit: [www.willitscenterforthearts.org/rentals](http://www.willitscenterforthearts.org/rentals)

**Freezer Empty? We can help!**

John Ford Rancher's Choice Box- 50 pounds: steaks, roasts, and ground beef. **Now \$325** (\$6.50 per pound). Natural ranch-raised grass fed beef, no hormones or antibiotics. Call **459-5193**. Leave a message.

**SEWING AND ALTERATIONS**

Seamstress and Sewing Teacher  
Barbara Carlson  
Visit my webpage: [Seamqueen.blog](http://Seamqueen.blog)  
707-367-6182, Willits

**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.

**LEGAL NOTICES**

WW262

**Fictitious Business Name Statement**

2020-F0035

The following person is doing business as Future Electric Energy Co., 1435 A Baechtel Road, Willits, CA 95490 / mailing address: P.O. Box 236, Willits CA 95490.

Registered owner: Wallace Stahle, 24491 Rose Terrace, 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 20, 2003.

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

/s/ Wallace Stahle

Publication dates: 02/13, 02/20, 02/27, 03/05/2020

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I am not an attorney, and can only provide self-help services at your specific direction.



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The rest of

## Budget

*From Page 1*

August for any officer who has been working with the department for more than six months.

"The purpose of the incentive pay is to recognize the hard work and dedication of our WPOA [Willits Police Officers Association] members, who work long hours under difficult conditions for the people of the City of Willits," Stephenson's agenda summary report read.

Overall the moves will add a little over \$100,000 to the city's budget expenditures this year, and Councilmember Madge Strong felt they had little choice in the matter.

"I just want to say that we're all very mindful of our general fund situation, and we are running a deficit and this is slightly increasing that deficit, and we know that," she said. "But having a local police force is absolutely essential to the health and welfare of our city. And right now we're spending an awful lot of money bringing officers from other communities at higher pay scales and paying them overtime to fill in for positions that we aren't able to fill."

"And the existing [WPD] officers are overworked, and we have to be able to pay a reasonable amount," she continued. "We're not going to be able to compete with all the other jurisdictions. We have other benefits that we offer including Willits being a wonderful place to live, but we can't not pay our officers what they should [get].... We just have to do this."

The council also approved three new one-year contracts to help the WPD more efficiently process background checks for hiring new officers at the WPD. The contracts went to Bob Nishima Investigations, Cline Investigations, and Tufts Polygraph and Investigation, and were all for an amount not to exceed \$10,000.

In addition, City Manager Stephanie Garrabrant-Sierra informed the council that Gregory Allen had confirmed to her that he would like to serve as interim Willits chief of police when Scott Warnock retires in March.

Allen is retired from the Los Angeles Police Department, and came recommended by former interim Willits City Manager Robert Perrault with whom he worked recently in Greenfield, according to Garrabrant-Sierra.

"He's excited to come on board, and he has over 40 years of experience," she said. "He came to Willits, he thought it was a beautiful place, and he's very excited."

She said she will bring a contract for the council to approve at the next city council meeting.

### Energy sustainability

The council approved two items relating to the city's goal of striving for more energy sustainability and conservation.

The first is a new "City Sustainability Policy," which sets some general guidelines for city staff to follow.

"The policy is not meant to be prescriptive but rather act as a decision-making and project priority guide," said Garrabrant-Sierra in her agenda summary report.

Among the guiding actions laid out in the policy are "the protection and preservation of our natural environment," and minimizing "negative environmental and social impacts."

"The [City of Willits] will abide by environmentally and socially responsible procurement practices that emphasize long-term values," the policy states. "Considerations such as what material a product is made of, how far it has travelled, and how it is packed will be made."

"By being aware of the inter-connectedness of our community's social and economic well-being to its natural resources, the city is committed to implementing practices that balance the variety of issues, needs and impacts within the context of sustainability."

The second energy-related item passed by the city was to enter into an agreement with Utility Cost Management, a consulting group, to perform billing audits to try to find cost savings in the city's wide array of energy bills.

The contract will be for three years, and UCM will keep half of whatever savings they find for the city as payment.

According to the material they submitted, UCM has worked with clients all over the state, including dozens of cities and more than 100

special districts.

As described in the agenda summary, once the overall picture of the city's energy use becomes more clear and some savings are realized, a third potential sustainability phase is planned for further down the road.

"A request for proposal [will] be developed and sent to professional energy service companies to perform free energy audits," the report states. "In return, the city would receive proposals from ESCOs who could not only perform the audits but offer turn-key (design, implement, manage, monitor, and verify) energy efficiency project solutions based on the audit findings."

The council heard a report from the firm of Moss, Levy & Hartzheim LLP, who issued an "unqualified" opinion for the City of Willits Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.

As explained by the firm's acting audit manager Bin Zeng through a phone interview at the meeting, "unqualified" is the highest opinion an auditor can give a financial statement, and basically means a "clean report" where all the numbers are accurate and in good order.

While the city got high marks on its CAFR, Zeng did note that because of a budget deficit, the balance in the city's General Fund reserves decreased by \$494,333, or 17 percent, from \$2,965,660 to \$2,471,327 during the fiscal year, which was something to be mindful of.

"The general fund fund balance has been decreasing over the years, and it is a cause for concern," said Zeng. "I know the city is doing what it can. The city is not heading towards insolvency."

Among the positive highlights Zeng noted was that reserves for the Sales Tax Transportation Improvement Fund, the sewer fund, and the water fund all increased from the previous fiscal year.

He said that for business-type activities of the city – which include water, wastewater, airport and waste management – assets exceeded liabilities by approximately \$26 million last year, a sizable increase of \$1.3 million over the prior fiscal year.

"However, a decent portion of the increase this year was because of a one-time revenue of approximately \$580,000 from the sale of damaged timber around the watershed," Zeng noted. "And so that revenue shouldn't be counted on as part of the budgeting process as a continuing revenue stream."

The city's watershed property was damaged during the 2017 Redwood Fire, and the timber salvage was part of the recovery effort that followed.

### Speakers in favor of mental health facility

The meeting began with members of the community speaking in favor of the city supporting a mental health facility being placed at the old Howard Hospital building using sales tax money from Measure B.

The measure, called the Mental Health Treatment Act, was passed by Mendocino County voters in 2017 and has been accumulating hundreds of thousands of dollars each month.

Eight people spoke in favor of the idea during public comments, asking that the council and staff welcome the old building to be repurposed.

"A mental health treatment center at the old Howard Hospital in Willits would give the city a way to care for her most vulnerable citizens," said Sally Rohlicek, "those who need special care and help with respect and compassion right here in town. What a wonderful thing."

At previous Willits city council meetings, most people who spoke on the topic were against the idea of that location being used for a mental health facility, and were particularly opposed to it being built as a lockdown psychiatric hospital facility, or PHF.

In May of 2018 the Willits City Council passed a resolution which said the county would be required to allow the City of Willits to evaluate and give approval before a new facility could be placed at the old Howard Hospital.

Former Sheriff Tom Allman, who is on the Measure B Citizen's Oversight committee, spoke at the council meeting and asked that they at least consider supporting that use of the location. Like several others who spoke, he emphasized both the usefulness of having more local mental health treatment available, and also the potential economic benefits of the potential jobs that the facility could bring.

"I've lived in the Willits valley for a

third of a century," he said. "I've seen the ups and downs of the economy.... I'm not here to say that using old Howard Hospital is the perfect answer.... I'm saying that while it's not up to you to say yes, and it's not up to Measure B [committee] to say yes, I think there is a time that we could sit down and say 'maybe,' and answer questions," Allman said.

"If we're going to be a society that accepts all of us, we need to treat all of us here locally," he continued. "And when you send someone out of the area, and they're treated out of the area, they're not going to be treated in their final treatment with the doctors or professionals they were initially treated with."

"And we have the ability right now to utilize old Howard Hospital in a way that we could all be proud. And I don't want public safety compromised. If there was any chance of public safety being compromised, I wouldn't be up here talking about this. I think there's a way we can do this."

While the council couldn't comment much on the subject since it wasn't on the agenda, Mayor Gerry Gonzalez did say that they weren't necessarily opposed to utilizing the old Howard Hospital building, but they were waiting to see an actual plan put forth by the county before weighing in on it.

"In reality what has to happen is that the county brings forth [a project] ... and it goes through our review process," said Gonzalez. "And I have yet to see a project come through.... I haven't made up my mind because I haven't seen a project to make up my mind about. And so I have concerns depending on what would go there ... but I haven't seen a plan yet."

Gonzalez and Vice Mayor Larry Stranske have been regularly attending the monthly Measure B meetings which usually take place in Ukiah, and Stranske said there was still a lack of clarity regarding the total costs a new mental health facility would involve.

"They still haven't told us how much money that the whole thing is going to cost," said Stranske. "They haven't told us that they were going to pay for anything other than just remodeling the building. Nobody has any idea how much it's going to cost for to employ the people that are going to run [the facility]. And so there's just a lot of questions out there.... I just think that we as taxpayers need to know how much money it's going to cost us."

### Blosser Lane intersection

City of Willits Community Director Dusty Duley talked about plans the city and the California Department of Transportation are working on to upgrade the Blosser Lane / Highway 20 intersection to make it safer for pedestrians.

Currently the plans include improved "feedback signs, yellow flashing beacons, some additional intersection lighting, [and] some striping that will reduce the length of the crosswalk at the intersection," according to Duley.

While Caltrans has not given an official timeline, Duley said the goal is to complete the improvements before the beginning of the next school year in late August.

He said that initial hopes for a roundabout at the intersection would not be happening this year, but could be a possibility in the future if these first upgrades are deemed insufficient.

"It was certainly a preferred concept, but due to the price there wasn't existing funding in Caltrans' budget nor our own to pay for such an improvement," Duley said.

Duley also told the council the current construction activity in the Safeway parking lot – which some in the community had been inquiring about – is due to the store converting 11 of their parking spaces into four electric vehicle charging stations.

He explained that Safeway had partnered up with Electrify America to create the stations, and had gone through the appropriate planning process complying with city code, so the city had no real choice but to approve for the project.

### Upcoming mobile vendor committee meeting

There will be another mobile vendor ad hoc committee meeting on Thursday, February 27 at 6 pm at Willits City Hall.

Councilmember Saprina Rodriguez said she and Councilmember Strong, who are on the committee, have come up with an outline for a potential new mobile vendor ordinance for Willits using the input they have gotten from the community, as well as ideas from other city ordinances.

The rest of

## Brooktrails

*From Page 1*

up on developments from legislators in Sacramento.

"We did receive notice to expect that PSPS, and we took that very seriously ... we worked every day up until that PSPS to prepare," Alaniz said.

Throughout the challenges, the township did keep water and wastewater running and powered the fire station, the report stated.

Payroll for moving generators, repairing failed equipment, and staffing the fire department was \$15,517.

Pump equipment that failed in the outage and needed to be replaced at sewer lift stations cost \$14,212, according to the township.

Fuel for generators and vehicles during that time was \$4,675. To adapt mobile generators at pump stations cost the district \$6,606.

Larger districts in the state had even higher expenses during the shutdown, Alaniz said. "These were districts that had impacts in the \$100,000s every day that they had outages."

The township is purchasing propane-fueled generators to use in future incidents that will replace diesel-engine mobile generators relied on in the last electrical shut-off.

### Be careful with fire, folks

Conditions on the mountain in Brooktrails demand caution when burning – scant rainfall in the Willits area of .04 inches this month is not helping.

At the board meeting last week: "The ground is very crumbly even though the dirt is wet and the vegetation is dry," Fire Chief Jon Noyer said. There was an escaped control burn of less than an acre on Blue Lake Drive that week, too.

"I would like to caution people to keep control burns to a regulation 4 feet by 4 feet pile," Noyer said this week. "And be cautious of wind.... It takes one ember, and we are off to the races."

Some locations can be warmer than others as well. Noyer said that he is seeing a 15 to 20 degree difference between weather stations at upper and lower elevations.

### Water supply

The two reservoirs that provide Brooktrails Township its drinking water are full. Earlier this year both Lake Emily and Lake Ada Rose reached full capacity.

The rest of

## Letters

*From Page 2*

the quality of education services that WUSD can provide.

I realize there is lingering negativity in the community from the bond that was passed in 2010. Measure G is completely different bond than the 2010 bond. The 2010 bond was deeply flawed. That bond was shut down after the district utilized \$14,000,000 as the school district realized they had received poor counsel on the bond, property values were decreasing, and a balloon payment was due. Since new construction was being done as part of the bond, monies were going to pay for architects and engineers, as that is what the state requires on new construction. The 2020 bond, Measure G, is set up only to fix and repair our deteriorating schools. No new construction, so no monies are going to engineers and architects. A very clear database has been created by the current administration listing all repairs that need to be done at each school site and the approximate cost of each repair.

This bond is designed to be dispersed in phases, with each phase requiring a vote of the board and a public hearing to move onto the next phase. If property values declined, the board would be able to reduce the tax rate or halt the bond program.

I get not wanting to pay new taxes. Californians pay way more than anyplace else. Personally, I plan on voting "No" on the state proposition, Proposition 13, as I don't trust the state to have the wellbeing of Willits Unified in their mindset. And I will vote "Yes" on Measure G, our local bond, as a caring community takes care of its children and its schools. These are our children and our schools. We need to bring the buildings up to a good state of repair.

Jeanne King, board member, Willits Unified School District

The rest of

## Bond

*From Page 1*

Westerburg praised Southwick as "exactly ... what we wanted out of Sanhedrin ... a different alternative to the traditional high school.

"She got to do college. She got to do high school classes. She participates in things at the high school that she's interested in."

And, as luck or fate would have it, there were three social workers in the audience from child welfare.

"When you get through your schooling, come see us," said one.

Sanhedrin is also a different alternative to the traditional high school when it comes to graduation. No traditional end-of-the-year event for everybody at the same time here. You get 180 credits and a vocational endorsement, and you're out the door, with work skills and diploma in hand.

So far this year, there have been six graduates, four of whom were at the board meeting to receive their diplomas and accolades – Kody Brandon, Arianna Favalaria, Tatiyana Viale, and Taylor Quinliven.

And, though Westerburg may refer to Willits High School as the traditional alternative, that doesn't mean change doesn't happen there.

Evidence for this was contained in the high school's latest accreditation report by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

"We got what I consider to be the gold star, two thumbs up, for the high school," said Westerburg. "When they came a few years ago, we were in the process ... talking about transitioning to trimester. Now we're up and running and functioning really well."

"The same person who came a few years ago came and did this one, so he had an apples to apples comparison, and he was very complimentary. We got the best review you can get," he said. "All our numbers are trending really well at the high school ... [for example] the number of students on honor roll and graduation rates."

Another number trending really well at the high school is the number of plastic water bottles not being used by students.

Thanks to a grant for the purchase of water fountains at all the district's schools, students will be able to bring refillable water bottles to school and fill them up with cool filtered water.

A fountain has already been installed at the high school, and "we think we've found a vendor to put in" the rest of them, said Westerburg.

The fountains keep track of the number of fills, and so far "the high school already has about 5,000 bottle-fills on it," he said. "Our goal is to get plastic bottle-free."

Other grant-funded welcome additions to the district include playground equipment at Brookside Elementary and some "really deluxe ... kitchen equipment."

Westerburg said there will be a "community put-together day sometime in early March" for the playground equipment.

And the kitchens will soon have a refrigerated salad bar, another heated salad bar, a 60-gallon kettle cooker, and a unit to move food around that "literally heats the food up, and you roll it over to a building, plug it in, and keep it warm," said Westerburg.

Last, but not least, the new school farm "will have a grand opening within a month," he said.

"You will be astounded when you see [it]. I can't imagine anyone around us who has a better student farm now."

### School bond discussion

Welcome as they are, these additions are but a drop in the bucket when it comes to meeting the district's fix and repair needs identified by the superintendent and board.

Which is why the board placed Measure G on the ballot.

Willits is not alone. School districts throughout the state face similar funding challenges.

Which is why the state put Proposition 13 on the ballot.

The superintendent and board weighed in on both at the meeting, stressing that the important thing is that people are informed, and they vote.

Westerburg said a recent interview he did on radio station KZYX would be a good source of information on Measure G. That interview can be found via a google search for "elections 2020 KZYX" – which brings up a page of local election interviews.

The interview of Westerburg is part of a larger interview covering the four school bond measures on this year's ballot. Ukiah, Fort Bragg, and Mendocino school districts are also asking voters to pony up for schools.

Trustee Paula Nunez wondered why the

voter pamphlet's description of Measure G didn't contain a statement in opposition.

Westerburg said any group "not supportive" of the measure was "entitled to put in an argument against ... but nobody chose to do that."

Nunez also asked whether Measure G would result in "an entirely new tax, [or be used to] pay off the old bond."

Board president Alex Bowlds clarified.

"They're two totally separate bonds," he said. "People who are already paying the last bond ... this bond will add to that ... It's not going to pay off the old bond."

He stressed, however, that Measure G had "built in protections" for property owners, including "not trying to get \$17 million up front.

"If the economy crashes, we can keep it at a low value," he said. "What it really boils down to is, we built in protections, and we need people to understand that.... They're not voting on the bond based on what happened with the last one.

"Additionally, he suggested that, if the state's Proposition 13 passes, the full amount might not be needed, as Proposition 13 bond sales would "generally produce somewhere around \$15 billion statewide for K through community college infrastructure needs.

"If the state and federal government actually start funding K-12 education like they should, we won't need but a fraction of that [Measure G] money," he said.

The board voted 3 to 2 to publicly support Proposition 13. Trustees Jeanne King and Nunez voted no.

Trustee King said she had "considerable problems with Prop 13," one of which was its requirement that "school districts use union labor on construction projects.

"I have nothing against unions at all," she said. "But when you live in a small community like Willits, and we say we're going to use local contractors on projects who are pretty much not union members ... requiring us to use union members for construction means we have to go elsewhere to find people to work on our schools."

Proposition 13 also "doubles the percentage that school districts can borrow," she said. "That encourages that as a solution rather than the state providing monies for schools."

Westerburg thought the increased borrowing percentage was "not necessarily a bad thing.

"It's a low threshold right now of money you can actually borrow," he said. "There are times you have to borrow to fix. In our case you have to look at the numbers. Does it make sense?"

### Presidential primary

The centerpiece of the March 3 election is the vote to determine each party's candidate for the office of president of the United States. The Democratic ballot contains the names of 20 candidates, who were considered to be candidates on December 6 of last year. Today, however, several of those candidates have suspended their campaigns. Several others have not raised sufficient funds to appear on any of the televised Democratic debates. Of the 12 Democratic candidates who mustered enough financial support to appear on one or more debates, only seven remain.

Those are (in order listed on the ballot): Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren, Minnesota Senator Amy Klobuchar, Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders, businessman Tom Steyer, businessman and former mayor of New York City Michael Bloomberg, former Mayor of South Bend, Indiana Pete Buttigieg, former Delaware Senator and former Vice President Joe Biden, and Congresswoman from Hawaii Tulsi Gabbard.

The Republican candidates on the 2020 primary ballot include the incumbent President Donald J. Trump, as well as Robert Ardini, Rocky De La Fuente III (who is also running as a Democrat, and an American independent), Zoltan Istvan, Matthew Matern, Joe Walsh, and Bill Weld.

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"I just thought it was a major slap in the face to the good works of people being allowed to express their opinions and accept the opinions of others ... really disgusting," she said.

Bowlds agreed, adding that people might want to know that "defacing or destroying political signs is a criminal offense."

### Board apology

Without specifying the transgression, president Bowlds read a public apology to "the CSEA leadership and its members ... on behalf of trustee Nunez and the Willits Unified Schools' Board of Trustees ... for her actions on September 10 ... perceived to be outside board policy."

CSEA president Dan Green then read a statement, which made clear that CSEA was not fully in agreement with the description of Nunez's "actions [as] perceived to be outside board policy."

"The issue is outside board policy," he said.

Whether her actions were governed by and outside board policy or board policy was not relevant to her actions, the incident has been laid to rest.

Green thanked the board on behalf of "CSEA and myself ... for working with the superintendent and the CSEA to resolve this issue.... Not having to revisit any of these issues in the future is the goal of the CSEA."

The rest of

## Election

*From Page 1*

Elections Office, back to the voters. In other cases, her office has been receiving ballots in which the privacy flap on the back of the envelope has been torn off, apparently so that a postal worker could check to make sure that the envelope had been properly signed by the voter.

"I don't know what to say about that," Bartolomie said. "That's our job, to check on that, not the post office's. I've called the post office to see what's going on there."

Probably the biggest change in the elections protocol is a new law, which was just signed by Governor Gavin Newsom last week, which allows voters to change either their party of affiliation or their residential address, at the polls on election day.

When asked to comment on the new law, Bartolomie said: "If this had been put on us six months ago, we could deal with this. But as it is, I would say we're going to have a lot of confused poll workers. This is going to mean more work for us, and more work for our poll workers."

When asked how people who are not assigned to a polling place, but who are being asked to vote by mail, could take advantage of the new law, Bartolomie said they would come into their local polling place and request a provisional ballot. Their newly re-affiliated vote will be counted as a provisional vote.

Bartolomie said procedures were in place to ensure no voter was able to cast two votes at different polling places. "The first vote that we receive will be the one that we count," she said. "Sometimes, we encounter people who vote twice in one day. I mean, sometimes older people forget that they have voted, and they come in to vote again, to make sure. It happens. We don't pursue any kind of legal recourse against that kind of voter. But if we think it's malicious, it will be sent to the district attorney."

Another wrinkle to the election protocol is the ability for people who vote at polling places to request a primary election ballot which is aligned to one of three political parties: the Democratic Party, the American Independent Party, and the Libertarian Party. So if a person is a registered Democrat but wishes to vote in the Libertarian primary election, he or she can go to a polling place and ask to change their party affiliation.

"They don't even have to fill out a voter registration form," Bartolomie said. "All they have to do is just fill out a sheet of paper. What I have to say about all of this is, I would ask the public to have as much patience as possible, because this is all new to us."

### Presidential primary

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### State candidates

The incumbent congressman, Jared Huffman, is facing off against four challengers: Republican Dale Mensing, another Democratic challenger Rachel Moniz, Green Party candidate Melissa Bradley, and American Independent candidate Charles "Wally" Coppock.

For the Second District seat in the State Assembly, Democratic incumbent Jim Wood will vie against Republican Charlotte Svolsos.

For the seat of Mendocino County Court Judge in Office Number 3, Patrick Pekin is running unopposed.

### Local bond measures

Voters living in the Willits area will see one ballot measure or three on their ballots.

All voters living in the Willits Unified School District will see Measure G, a \$17 million bond measure for the Willits schools. According to the county's Voter Information Pamphlet, the bond measure, if approved, would tax

property owners at an estimated rate of 4 cents per \$100 of the assessed valuation of their property.

According to a press release from the Willits Unified School District: "The bond is structured such that property owners will pay \$40 per \$100,000 of assessed value, per year. The median or typical home's average assessed value is approximately \$181,419. Therefore, the annual cost of the bond would be about \$80 per year, per residence. (Assessed value is different than market value and can be found on a homeowner's property tax bill)."

The voter pamphlet states that it is "currently expected" that the tax will be collected until 2055, that is, for 35 years.

Measure G states that the purpose of the bond measure is "to repair aging classrooms and school facilities, fix deteriorating roofs, plumbing, heating and cooling and electrical systems, improve student safety and security, upgrade, acquire, construct and equip classrooms, labs and facilities supporting college and career readiness."

District Superintendent Mark Wester





# ‘Cupboard by the road’

Take a book, leave a book, at the new Little Free Library box out at Hearst

By Tam Adams for the Little Free Library, Hearst

In the leafless craggy shadows of the great white oak trees surrounding the triangulation of roads leading away from the epicenter of the community meeting place beside the Eel River, numerous residents of this outlying nook, 16 miles northeast of Willits, gathered on Sunday morning, February 16, to dedicate the “Little Free Library” of Hearst while enjoying the blue sky and sunshine, the camaraderie of neighbors, getting together for a common purpose, as well as homemade cookies, sparkling cider, and chilled prosecco.

Tulsi and Samara Bixler did the honor of cutting yards of red ribbon encircling the “chiquitito biblioteca” so that everyone involved could place their donated volumes onto the newly sanded wooden shelves ... ready for all who love to read. From “Nancy Drew” to “All the Light We Cannot See” to “Myths and Stories of the Bible” to “Amelia Bedelia” to “Poems of Gary Snyder” ... there appeared to be something of intrinsic worth to all who came.

Little Free Library, founded in 2009, is a 501 nonprofit organization that promotes neighborhood book exchanges, usually in the form of a public bookcase. More than 90,000 public book exchanges are registered with the organization and branded as Little Free Libraries. The one at Hearst is registered as number 97679.

Thanks to the artistry of Jerry Albright, the tenacity of June Ruckman, and the inkling of an idea from Tamara Adams, folks who come to the river in the hot parts of the year to swim, all the citizens of the surrounding area, and even the guests who come to visit Emandal from the Bay Area and beyond can stop by and check out the volumes ensconced in the elegantly crafted “cupboard by the road,” situated adjacent to the rural mailboxes.

Come, take a book, leave a book. Enjoy!



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Above, left: Hearst residents gather at the “Welcome to Hearst” sign to celebrate the opening of their neighborhood’s Little Free Library box. Above, right: Jane Camp, Chuck Ream and Annie Rueb smile in the sun at the community gathering alongside the Eel River.

**The 13th Annual**  
**CHILI COOKOFF**

**MC FOR THE EVENING - TOM ALLMAN**  
**Friday, March 13, 2020**  
**5:30 to 7:00 PM**  
**SENIOR CENTER - 1501 BAECHEL ROAD**  
*Taste and vote for your favorite Chili.*  
 Fresh Baked Corn Bread Muffins,  
 Root Beer Floats, Hot Dogs  
 & Brownies Available  
**Taster Tickets**  
 Adults \$10 • Children \$6  
 Senior Center Members \$8  
**Enter Your Favorite Chili!**  
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 SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR OVER 35 YEARS



At left: Hearst residents get together to celebrate the opening of a free library box, which will allow them to trade books among each other or with any visitors to their small community. Above: Tam Adams, left, pours Annie Rueb a glass of prosecco at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Little Free Library in Hearst. Below: Tulsi and Samara Bixler look at the available books, as their mom, Annie Rueb, right, talks with Tam Adams.



Above, left: Tam Adams and Jerry Albright show off the new Little Free Library on the Heart Willits Road. Above, right: Jerry Albright makes some finishing touches to the wooden library box in Hearst, on the Eel River northeast of Willits.



Above: Willits Otter Kaylen Thom diving on the left at the winter championships.

At right: Willits Otters, from left, Aedan Lockwood-Chenelle, Farrow Lockwood, Kaylen Thom, Emelia Owsiany, and Sophie Chavez.

## Willits Otters Spring/Summer registration open

Submitted by Willits Otters

The Otters Swim Club competed in the Zone 3 winter championships on January 17 and 18. Twenty-five teams participated from Humboldt to San Francisco. The Otters ventured into the championships for the first time in several years after extending the season into the winter months.

The swimmers representing the team were Aedan Lockwood-Chenelle, Kaylen

Thom, Farrow Lockwood-Chenelle, Sophie Chavez, and Emelia Owsiany.

The Otters placed in several of the events with Kaylen Thom placing in the 50 breast, Aedan Lockwood-Chenelle in the 50 butterfly, and Sophie Chavez placing in the 25 freestyle, 50 freestyle, 25 backstroke, and 50 backstroke.

The Otter coaches were very proud of the swimmers as each swimmer improved their previous times. Registration for



the Spring/Summer session is open, and the team will continue to accept new swimmers throughout the spring months. Please come and join a great group of kids and become a competitive swimmer.

Learn more about the Willits Otters at their website <https://willitsotters.weebly.com/registration.html> or Facebook page, or contact robertchavez3130@gmail.com or 559-341-4485 for more information.



## 37th annual Women's History Gala celebrates 100 years of the Vote for Women

Submitted by the Women's History Gala

“Valiant Women of the Vote” is the theme of this year’s Women’s History celebration on Sunday, March 1, from 1 to 2:30 pm at the Saturday Afternoon Clubhouse, 107 South Oak Street in Ukiah. Doors open at noon for refreshments, visiting, and looking over the Silent Auction and New Experience offerings.

California State Treasurer Fiona Ma is the keynote speaker; and this year’s Honorees are Mendocino County women of note Barbara Bristol, Jackie Orosco, and Carrie Durkee. Val Muchowski will receive a Lifetime Achievement recognition.

Kelda Britton from Round Valley will speak on the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women movement, and students will read their essays on “Women and the Vote.” Michelle Sides will give a historical presentation from a famous suffragette. Food from the groups’ best chefs! Music from local women artists!

The 37th Annual Women’s History Gala Celebration is presented by: Mendocino Women’s Political Coalition, American Association of University Women-Ukiah, Mendocino County Office of Education, and the Cloud Forest Institute.

**37th Annual Women's History Gala Celebration**  
**Valiant Women of the Vote**  
 MARCH 1ST, SUNDAY Doors open 12 pm, Program 1-2:30  
 Saturday Afternoon Clubhouse 107 S. Oak St, Ukiah

**2020 Mendocino Honorees**  
 Barbara Bristol  
 Jackie Orosco  
 Val Muchowski  
 Carrie Durkee  
 Kelda Britton  
 Fiona Ma, Speaker  
 CA State Treasurer

In support of education and opportunity for women to participate in leadership and governance.  
 Presented by the  
 Mendocino Women's Political Coalition  
 American Association of University Women - Ukiah  
 Mendocino County Office of Education  
 Cloud Forest Institute

ALL ARE WELCOME  
 \$10 SUGGESTED DONATION AT THE DOOR

The rest of WPD | From Page 4

10:59 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

11:59 pm: PAYNE, George Dean (47) of Browns Valley was contacted in the 300 block of South Main Street following a report of an assault. He was arrested pursuant to 242 PC (Assault and Battery), 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication), and on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol).

February 16

8:33 am: LILLY, Matashia Crystal (33) of Willits was contacted in the 1000 block of South Main Street.

She was arrested pursuant to 166 (A) (4) PC (Violation of a Protective Order) and on misdemeanor charges of contempt of court (disobeying a court order).

10:06 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 400 block of East Commercial Street.

1:18 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 300 block of South Main Street.

5:15 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 1100 block of Locust Street.

8:17 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1100 block of Locust Street.



Above: Henry Moss, president of METALfx, and James Snyder, VP of Sales, accept an award for Valuable Contribution and Strategic Partnership in Malaysia from Keysight Technologies.

Below: METALfx President Henry Moss shakes hands with Keysight Technologies VP Chan Keng Cheong while accepting an award for being a valued partner.

## METALfx accepts supplier award from Keysight Technologies

Submitted by METALfx

METALfx has much to smile about after a recent trip to Malaysia to visit customer Keysight Technologies. Founded as Hewlett Packard in 1939 by industry pioneers Bill Hewlett and Dave Packard, Keysight Technologies is a \$4 billion U.S. company headquartered in Santa Rosa.

Keysight Technologies’ “Supplier Day” is an invitation-only event for the top 2 percent of Keysight’s 4,000 suppliers. Henry Moss, president of METALfx, and James Snyder, VP of sales, made the trip from Willits to Penang, Malaysia to attend the event and accept Keysight’s 2019 award for Valuable Contribution and Strategic Partnership.

METALfx has been a valued partner to Keysight for over 40 years. “Keysight Technologies is a highly valued customer and a market leader,” Snyder shared. “We were pleased to see the integral role our Malaysian contacts play in Keysight’s supply chain.”

“We were introduced,” he added, “to contacts in other divisions of Keysight we aren’t currently working with – but now hope to work with in 2020.”

When asked what lay ahead for METALfx and Keysight, Henry Moss quipped: “another invitation to Malaysia I hope. Seriously,” he continued, “we are honored to be here among this elite group and accept this award from Keysight. It is a privilege to work with such an industry-leading innovator as Keysight Technologies.”

METALfx is a rising Northern California fabricator, headquartered in Willits, of precision metal chassis, control boxes, frames, and other custom enclosures for major OEMs [original equipment manufacturers].







At left: Prayer Breakfast inspirational keynote speaker Sarah Theborge smiles with Adventist Health Howard Memorial president Jason Wells who holds a copy of Theborge's book "Well." Above: Attendees join hands during the blessing of the food and traditional Hebrew prayer. Below: The Willits Community Center was filled with attendees during the Tuesday, February 4 Prayer Breakfast.

## SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

**Agape Bible Church**  
290 S. Lenore Ave.  
Willits, CA 95490  
Where love is first and the Bible is central.  
Sunday Services:  
9:15 a.m. - Bible Class, adult & children  
11:00 a.m. - Worship  
Awana: Tuesday, 6:15 p.m.  
Info? 707-459-1905  
www.agapebiblechurch.com

**Amazing Grace Assembly of God Church**  
803 Coast Street  
P.O. Box 489, Willits  
707-303-5456  
Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.  
Pastor Burton Jernigan  
Information: 456-9668  
EVERYBODY IS WELCOME

**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**  
265 Margie Drive  
Willits, CA 95490  
ALL ARE WELCOME  
Sacrament Meeting  
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

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www.eckankar.org

**Grace Community Church**  
Celebrating Life In Christ  
25 Hazel Street, Willits  
Adult Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.  
Coffee Fellowship - 10:30 a.m.  
Worship Service &  
Children's Church - 11 a.m.  
Mid-week Bible Studies  
Potluck every 2<sup>ND</sup> Sunday  
Alan Klier, Lead Pastor  
459-3106

**St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church**  
61 W. San Francisco Ave.  
Willits, CA 95490  
Father Aaron Bandamadam  
Mass times:  
Saturday confessions - 4:45 p.m.  
Saturday Vigil - 5:30 p.m.  
Sunday Mass -  
9:00 a.m. English  
10:30 a.m. Spanish  
We welcome All Walks of Faith

**St. Francis Episcopal Church**  
1 North Main Street, Willits  
707-459-3066  
Church Services/ Communion  
& Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.  
Healing Prayer 3rd Sunday  
ALL ARE WELCOME  
The Rev. Betsy Bruneau

**St. John Lutheran Church**  
Karl Bliese, Pastor  
Church Service:  
Sunday 10:00 to 11:00  
Bible Study/Sunday School  
following the service.  
(707) 459-2988  
24 Mill Creek Drive  
ALL ARE WELCOME

**Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church**  
399 W. Mendocino Avenue  
707-459-5714  
Sabbath School - 9:15 a.m.  
Worship Service - 10:45 a.m.  
4th Sabbath of every month  
family potluck at the school.  
22751 Bray Road, Willits

**Willits United Methodist**  
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286 School St. (at Pine)  
Rev. Rosemary Landry, pastor  
Worship Celebration  
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Children's Sunday School - 10:45 a.m.  
459-2855  
Facebook: www.facebook.com

If you want to be included in  
this column please call:  
**April Tweddell**  
(707) 972-2475  
april@willitsweekly.com



Far left: Sarah Theborge, keynote speaker at the annual Prayer Breakfast. At left: Elder Fred Short gives a Native American prayer for home and family. Photos by Maureen Moore

# Prayer Breakfast

Adventist Health Howard Memorial's annual Prayer Breakfast was held at the Willits Community Center on Tuesday, February 4 and offered blessings and inspiration from all religions together in one space. The inspirational keynote speaker, Sarah Theborge, spoke about one's ability to make changes in the world "one brushstroke at a time," noting how small changes can affect great change and how if we all did that, how much could be improved in the world. Other religious speakers included Jim Semisch, Sam Senercha and Dale Aboon, among others.

— Maureen Moore

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Above, left: Ace Barash gives the Blessing of the Food. Above, right: Margie Handley shows off the delicious breakfast prepared by Adventist Health Howard Memorial's Roots Restaurant.



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