# Willits Online & Print A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits Thursday, March 3, 2022 Donations Accepted Edition No. 441

Supes accept 'first' legal pot crop report

Jennifer Poole Editor & Reporter willitsweekly@gmail.com

Supervisors accepted "Mendocino County's first cannabis report in the modern cannabis era" on February 1 - without a presentation or any discussion. The 2020 cannabis report was posted as an addendum, a separate document, to the annual 2020 Crop Report.

for years Advocates wanted the Mendocino County Department of Agriculture to include the crop value of the then variously illegal marijuana crop in the annual report about timber, wine grapes, livestock, apples and pears, and other aspects of the county's ag production.

It was a lively and colorful issue that brought public and political opinion to the fore.

However, the actual first cannabis crop report the county Ag Department ever produced was not until 2019 – a cannabis addendum that was never approved by the board of supervisors. The reliability of the data and the sample size in the 2019 report were questioned back when the

Read the rest of Report

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## MCSO arrests Laytonville man for child sex abuse

By Detective Sergeant Luis M. Espinoza, for **MCSO** 

On February 16, 2022, a Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputy was dispatched to make contact with a concerned parent regarding sexual abuse of their 9-year-old child which reportedly occurred over the previous year in the 45000 block of Meadow Lane in Laytonville.

An initial report was taken documenting the allegations, and investigation was turned over to the Sheriff's Office Investigations Bureau (Detective Unit).

During the next several Sheriff's Office detectives continued the investigation and identified the suspect as being Wilmer Jack Mitchell, 38, from Laytonville.

Mitchell was identified as having recurring access to the child, and evidence was discovered which identified multiple acts of sexual abuse beginning in 2020 and continuing through February of 2022.

Based on the information discovered, Sheriff's Office

Read the rest of Arrest

Over on Page 11



# A New Chief in Town

Bill Carter sworn in as new fire chief of Little Lake Fire Department

Willits has a new fire chief – but he's not new to Willits. Longtime Little Lake Fire volunteer Bill Carter was sworn in as fire chief on Tuesday, with family, fellow firefighters, and board members in attendance.

Administrative Assistant Michelle Schnitzius led Carter in his oath, including: "I will well and faithfully perform the duties and responsibilities of fire chief for the Little Lake Fire Protection District to the best of my abilities."

After applause, Fire Chief Carter said a few words, with many rounds of thanks, including to the fire board, the hiring committee, the staff, the volunteer firefighters, and his family - who filled the first two rows of seats. "It's really important that they have our backs," he said. "Sometimes we carry home more than the smell of smoke."

- Jennifer Poole

At right: New fire chief Bill Carter talks to the gathered crowd during his swearing in Tuesday evening. Below: Little Lake Fire Department staff and volunteers posed together including, from left: Deputy Chief John Thomen, Board Chairman Tony Madrigal, Administrative Assistant Michelle Schnitzius, new Chief Bill Carter, Association President anscomb and Training Chief Fric  $\Delta$ 









Above, left: New fire chief Bill Carter stands next to the brass bell that hangs at Station 54.

Photo by Maureen Jennison

Aove, right: Willits City Councilmember Gerry Gonzalez, left, and Third District Supervisor John Haschak, right, stand with new Little Lake Fire Chief Bill Carter and Willits Mayor Saprina Rodriguez.

At left: New fire chief Bill Carter stands with his family after Tuesday's ceremony.

Photos by Aaron Branscomb

## Council hears how staff keeps the city rolling

B.B. Kamoroff

bb@willitsweekly.com

For many years, Jim Baskin was the locomotive engineer on the Skunk Train out of Willits. He used his skills and experience to make a ride on his clicketyclacking old train as smooth as cruising in a 1957 Cadillac Eldorado. When those lumbering passenger train cars crested summit west of town and started down the hill, Jim would grin at a partner in the locomotive and ask, Did you feel it? Passengers never felt the jarring of the old loose couplers, thanks to a dedicated professional.

Jim Baskin has departed this world, but his brand of talent and dedication is alive in the Willits city employees, who are keeping an old and sometimes clanky city infrastructure on track, running smoothly enough that most city residents, like Jim Baskin's passengers, don't even notice.

This became strikingly apparent from the city department reports presented at the February 23 city council meeting, as one department after another provided a long list of the completed, inprocess, and soon-to-start

Read the rest of Council

Photo by Aaron Branscomb

Over on Page 11

## **Brooktrails** board hears county services area updates

Barbara O'Reardon Reporter , willitsweekly@gmail.com

All directors were in attendance for the February 22 Brooktrails Community Township Board of Directors meeting. Director Tony Orth reported, "The fire associations are continuing their meetings and things are moving forward to get power adopted, with talks to get the fire warden's office established."

And, Orth added, "I'd like to thank Supervisor John Haschak for the letters regarding CSA3 [County Services Area #3] and Sherwood Road, sent out by County Engineer Howard Dashiell. Everything is moving forward, and we are looking ahead to the Board of Supervisors' action in March."

Supervisor Haschak was also in attendance and reported that the board of supervisors has three meetings coming up where CSA3 is an agenda item: March 1 and 15, and the first meeting in May.

The board then unanimously approved the accounts payable in the

Read the rest of Brooktrails |

Over on Page 11

# What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

#### Thank you

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Rotary Club of Willits, I would like to thank everyone who donated to our music project by throwing money into my fiddle case at Grocery Outlet. You may have seen me out in front of the store with my fiddle every once in a while, trying to raise money to buy instruments for our Willits Wolverines High School

People were very kind and donated what they could. They even said some nice things about my tunes once in a while, and I can say that I was never heckled even

Because of your generosity, I was able to contribute \$519.32 to the project so far. A thank you also goes to Grocery Outlet who gave me permission to play. Grocery Outlet has been a great community partner and also contributed food to our last Bluegrass Dinner Concert (pre-COVID) which raised money for high school scholarships.

As reported earlier, Willits Rotary successfully applied for a \$4.800 grant to Rotary International to buy new instruments for the high school. As a condition of the grant, \$2,400 needed to be raised by our club with \$2,400 being matched. We have now received over \$6,000 in donations! Many local businesses donated generously to the cause, including \$1,000 donations from the Baechtel Inn and from KOZT FM radio station. and \$500 donations from Metal F/X and Willits Mini Storage among many others that you will hear about soon. So far, we have raised over \$6,000 to buy band

The fundraising project ends in the next couple of months and so will my fiddle-playing, but I just wanted to express my gratitude to the generous people of

Join us for an ONLINE

Stephanie Garrabrant-Sierra, president-elect, Rotary Club of Willits

**Community Meeting on** 

the Willits Rail Trail!

**PUBLIC EVENT** 

RSVP ONLINE

the event.

The Rules: LETTERS

once every four weeks.

Willits

Volume 9, Number 441

mathew@willitsweekly.com

Jackie Cobbs, features editor

6:00-7:00 pm via Zoom

Thursday, March 10th, 2022

Register in advance to join us by

visiting the project website:

Letters & Commentaries: Email letters to willitsweekly@gmail.com.

Letters focusing on Willits and Third District issues, activities, events

and people have priority. Willits Weekly prints letters from residents

voices, Willits Weekly limits letter publication from any one writer to

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

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of Willits and the Third District only. To encourage a variety of

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#### **Grassroots Soccer Academy**

Last year, Mendocino County Soccer Academy experienced tremendous growth in Willits and the North County. Over 20 Willits players advanced from our Grassroots Academy to our Select Teams where these youngsters receive professional coaching and high levels of competition. It's exciting to see local kids create new pathways for themselves and accomplish things they never thought possible!

MCSA's goal is to provide opportunities for kids of all ages, interests and experiences a chance to learn the beautiful game of soccer in a safe, dynamic and fun environment – regardless of a family's ability to pay.

A new 6-week Grassroots Academy begins in Willits on March 21 and is the perfect introduction to the game for kids 3-11 years old. Our under-6 age group is already sold out, but opportunities remain for the older ages.

As the club's administrator, coach, and a local native, I'm thrilled to be the lead Willits coach. I recently earned my US Soccer National D Coaching License, and I'm fired up for a return to soccer after a winter break!

For more details about MCSA's upcoming programs, please visit MendocinoSoccer.com/Spring-Grassroots or look for us on Facebook and Instagram.

See you on the pitch!

Ian Fitzpatrick, MCSA director. Willits

Do you want to submit a letter to the editor? It's easy. We print letters from residents of the 3rd

#### District, just email us yours: willitsweekly@gmail.com

## Senior Center menu for the week

Willits Senior Center's indoor dining room is open, and the Senior Center continues to serve drive-through and walk-up lunches, too. Lunch is available Monday through Friday, from 12 to 12:45 pm, inside and outside the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Price is \$5 through March 31, 2022

Thursday, March 3: Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Roll, Green Salad

Friday, March 4: BLT, Mac & Cheese, Fruit Monday, March 7: Biscuits & Country Gravy,

Scrambled Eggs. Hash Browns Tuesday, March 8: Shrimp with Garlic Wine Sauce, Garlic Bread, Green Salad

Wednesday, March 9: Ground Beef Burritos, wet with Red Sauce

Thursday, March 10: Ortega Chicken

Sandwich, Onion Rings, Green Salad Friday, March 11: Beef Tips & Noodles, Veggie,

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

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

The Senior Center is in need of volunteers to help with the many activities here at the center, including volunteer Meals on Wheels drivers. "Volunteers are one-third of our workforce, which allows us to offer many services to our members and community." To learn more about volunteering: 459-6826

## Mendo-Lake College District refinances bonds to save \$12.7 million

Submitted by Mendocino-Lake Community College District

February 17, 2022 - The Mendocino-Lake Community College District recently locked in \$12.7 million of savings for local taxpayers by refinancing a portion of its existing general obligation bonds. The district had previously taken advantage of a similar refinancing opportunity in 2015. saving taxpavers over \$36.5 million. The combined savings from both bond refinancings now totals approximately \$49.2 million, which will be realized by district taxpayers in the form of lower property tax bills.

Under the leadership of the College District Board of Trustees, the district administration chose to take advantage of lower interest rates to refinance bonds from its Measure W authorization without extending the term of those bonds. The district was able to reduce the interest rates on the prior bonds from an average of 5.13% to 4.23%, reducing the community's tax bill by a total of \$12,680,680 over the life of the bond refinancing.

Prior to the bond sale, the Mendocino-Lake Community College District received a credit rating upgrade from Moody's Investors Service. In its credit report, Moody's noted that the rating increase from "A1" to "Aa3" is reflective of "continued solid growth in District tax base," "steadily improving and strong reserves," and "prudent fiscal management." This high rating allowed MLCCD to attract a broad base of investors which included banks, insurance companies and investment/ asset managers.

While the college district will not receive any part of the savings, the board of trustees and district administration pursued this opportunity strictly on behalf of local taxpayers as part of their continued support for college district students.

"We are thankful to the residents of the Mendocino-Lake Community College District for approving Measure W in 2006," says Superintendent/President Tim Karas. "Bond funds were expended in December 2014 to build the North County Center (Willits), Lake Center (Lakeport), Library/ Learning Resource Center (Ukiah), and provide other much needed facility improvements. As prudent stewards of public finances, we took action to lower local taxpayer bills.

### March is Social Work Appreciation Month

Submitted by Mendocino County Department of Social Services

March is recognized nationally as a month to give appreciation for those serving as social workers. In Mendocino County, social workers are engaged within a range of supportive services including Family & Children's, Adult & Aging, and Employment & Family Assistance Services.

"Social workers play an important role in helping the most vulnerable members of our community, from newborns to the elderly, live safely in their homes and in their communities. Social workers work in partnership with individuals, their families and others who are important to them to help stabilize crisis situations, assess their needs and connect them to services and supports to promote their long-term stability and well-being," said Jena Conner, deputy director of Family & Children's Services.

In the calendar year 2021, Mendocino County Family & Children's Services social workers reunified 73 children with parents who successfully addressed child safety issues; assessed and approved 45 resource parents to provide care for children in the foster care system; provided services and support to a monthly average of 321 children, young adults, and their families involved in child welfare services or the juvenile dependency system; and investigated a total of 954 reports of child abuse and neglect.

The CalWORKs job services social worker, through the Family Stabilization and Cal-Learn programs, assisted 27 families consisting of 49 children in addressing issues preventing them from pursuing their employment goals. In Adult and Aging Services, social workers investigated 775 referred cases of neglect/abuse, served as conservator for 15 older adults needing protective intervention, addressed housing needs for 20 disabled/older adults, and secured permanent housing for 14 homeless community members.

The social work profession has existed for more than a century and the need for social workers is great, especially as our nation continues to face entrenched issues that have stressed our society, including the COVID-19 pandemic,

Read the rest of Appreciation

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Above: The new volunteers, staff. and horses Freya and Timazon pose for a group photo.

At right: Timazon has a sweet and friendly nature that makes her perfect for working with at-risk clients. At far right: Spartacus (Sparky) decides to join the entourage. Below: The new volunteers meet under the tree to









At top: Erin Holzhauer explains the ins and outs of the program to the prospective volunteers. Above: Erin Holzhauer introduces Spartacus to the volunteers.

# **Helping Through Horses**

Seabiscuit Therapeutic Riding Center holds orientation for new volunteers as they look to expand their program 4-H, so this was the 4-H project that I was lucky to be part

"We're going to let everybody know what we're doing and then they can figure out what they want to do from there," explained Erin Holzhauer, director, trainer, and one of the original founders of the Seabiscuit Therapeutic Riding Center at a volunteer training session. "This is a

Mathew Caine

one-day introduction training. We'd like to see what they'd like to do, because there are so many different

"There's cleaning, to working with the horses, to participating in lessons, to side-walking, where they're supporting clients," she explained. "There's leading horses, assisting with a facility care project. There are so many things we can have the volunteers do."

Seven prospective volunteers showed up for the training and tour. Two, Isaiah and Thomas, had been clients in the program and wished to continue their journey to selfdiscovery through horsemanship as well as continue to work with the beloved animals that had shown the students so much about their own abilities.

Gina Henebury, a physical-therapy student at Mendocino College, brought her two young daughters, Laura (17) and Emily (14), who wanted a chance to assist others in finding their best life path through the utilization of the strength and therapeutic motion of horses. Suzanne is a physical therapist with a rotation in hippotherapy, a discipline in which the motion of horses is used to help heal those who have mobility problems. Rebecca had ridden horses for about four years and desired to help through the volunteer

The orientation began with each of the participants introducing themselves and saying a few words about their desired involvement. Isaiah and Thomas, past students, form a triumvirate with another friend, Quinn, who Thomas stated was on a date and could not be talked into attending. They stated that they love chores, including mucking out the stables and wished to continue their equine involvement.

Calayan introduced herself as someone who has been in the program for 10 years and is working on becoming an instructor. She is currently a volunteer and helped Muffin, the mini-donkey, lead the tour around the facility.

Erin Holzhauer introduced herself: "I grew up here on the ranch. Because of that, I'm very lucky to have horse experience from a very young age. I had the opportunity to help start the program in 1993. Lydia [Senter Colvig] has been volunteering with the program since then. We were in

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of. I've seen this project grow quite a bit over the years.

"I worked at San Diego Hippotherapy and also with

Magic Horse Therapeutic Riding Center," said Holzhauer.

"I came back here to help take over the program. We've

been Ridgewood Trail Riders and TRAIL which stood

as an acronym for Teaching Riding as An Access to

Independence and Learning. And now, we are Seabiscuit

Therapeutic Riding Center. It's fun to connect what we do

with the incredible history of the ranch. This was the home

of Seabiscuit. He was retired and was buried here. We're

Holzhauer and Muffin (everyone's favorite) then led the

Over on Page 6

group around the facility to meet the family of horses, and

Riding

Is a food assistance program.

You can be on Social Security,

have money in the bank,

own cars and still receive

CalFresh benefits.

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to schedule an appointment

Fresh

glad to be part of this intricate story of healing."

Read the rest of





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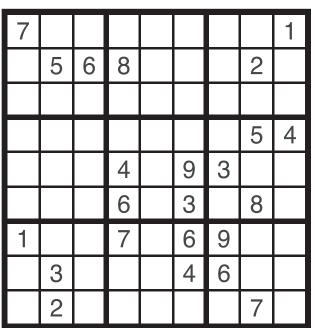
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**BROWNS** 

# Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword



#### HOW TO SUDOKU

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



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70

15. Cheese dish

or things

26. Chum

24. Circumference

27. Electrocardiogram

32. Showed old movie

35. Important event

39. Eastern Canada

42. Slang for gun

47. Call it a career

50. Musical groups

52. Yellowish-brown

55. Beloved late

57. Fill up

62. Frost

63. Jewel

66. Atomic #45

68. Top lawyer

54. Lowest point of a ridge

sportscaster Craig

59. Cardinal number that's

the sum of 5 and 1

46. Fathers

49. Productive

coastal region

43. High schoolers' test

on Wall St.

30. Sandwich chain Jimmy \_

37. Where wrestlers work

38. Free from contamination

18. Make a mistake

21. Done by all people

51. An idiot

53. Performed with

55. Body fluids

58. '\_\_ my i's'

61. Carousel

65. Molding

69. Verses

70. Surface

67. Closes again

59. Type of wrap

the voice silent

56. Rhythmic patterns

60. It shows who you are

64. Type of college degree

CLUES DOWN

3. Animals of the horse family

4. Very important persons

5. Folk singer Di Franco

1. Short, thick stick

2. Rhode Island

Boredom

7. Long speech

9. Expression of

sorrow or pity

10. Linear accelerator

11. One quintillion bytes

12. Smallest interval in

Western music

8. Footballer Newton

**CLUES ACROSS** 

1. Neckwear

7. Fish parts

13. Cooking

14. Quality

Rural delivery

19. Partner to Pa

20. Shivering fits

22. Wrath

17. Popular superhero

23. Linguistics pioneer

28. Group of badgers

26. A way to prepare food

29. Peyton's little brother

33. Take from with force

38. Hebrew alphabet letter

40. Independent member

34. Baroque musical

instrument

36. Zodiac sign

of a clone

43. Satisfy

48. Bar bill

41. Type of garment

44. One point south

45. A way to wipe out

47. Moved quickly on foot

of due east

25. Large integers

30. Rock out

31. Danish krone

Commercial Street and issued a warning.

7:20 am: MCCAIN Jr., Derrick Lamar (28) of Willits was contacted in the 1700 block of Elm Lane. He was arrested pursuant to 243 (E) (1) PC (Domestic Battery), 211 PC (felony Robbery), 422 PC (felony Criminal Threats). 591.5 PC (Damaging a Communication Device), 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication), on felony charges of willful cruelty to a child, and on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol).

Commercial Street and issued a warning.

5:19 pm: ALVAREZ, Jack Steven (59) of Ukiah was contacted near the intersection of Coast Street and Raymond Lane. He was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication), 166 (A) (4) PC (Violation of a Court Order - Contempt of Court), and on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and disorderly conduct (alcohol).

#### February 13

Willits was contacted in the 100 block of West Mendocino Avenue. He was arrested pursuant to 23152 (B) VC (Driving with a Blood Alcohol Content of 0.08 Percent or Higher) and on misdemeanor charges of driving under the influence of alcohol.

7:43 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 800 block of South Main

9:55 am: Officers responded to a report of 7:14 pm: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 1700 block of South Main

8:48 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the 100 block of Spruce Street.

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT

# **POLICE LOG**

## February 6 to February 23

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police February 15 Department handled 354 incidents in this

**Summary of Active Investigations** and Arrests

February 6

21 day reporting period.

6:46 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of North Main Street and State Street.

February 7

6:57 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 200 block of North Main Street and issued a warning.

February 8

5:16 pm: SULLIVAN, Justice Charlo (25) of Willits was contacted in the 600 block of Coast Street. He was arrested pursuant to 243 (E) (1) PC (Domestic Battery).

11:58 pm: WINTERS, Phillip Lawrence (38) of Willits was contacted in the 200 block of South Lenore Avenue. He was arrested pursuant to 273.6 PC (Violation of a Protective Order) and 242 PC (Battery).

February 9

8:13 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 900 block of South Main

12:07 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Bush Street. February 10

No incidents to report.

of vandalism in the 1200 block of Locust

(24) of Willits and MCCANN, Robert James (44) of Willits were contacted in the 200 block of East Commercial Street. Martinez was arrested on misdemeanor charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and failure to appear. McCann was arrested on felony charges of violation of probation and on misdemeanor charges of a felon in possession of a stun gun, possession of drug paraphernalia, violation of probation, and failure to appear.

1:12 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

5:36 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of Creekside Court.

February 12

12:29 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 500 block of East

8:19 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 100 block of East

12:13 am: KELLY, Anthony Lee (31) of

vandalism in the 100 block of South Street.

February 14

February 11 10:46 am: Officers responded to a report

12:53 pm: MARTINEZ, Renee Naomi

No incidents to report.

6:47 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1000 block of

9:22 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 300 block of North Main Street.

February 16

2:39 pm: SALES, Jonathan Martin (38) of Willits was contacted in the 200 block of South Main Street following a report of a robbery in progress. He was arrested on felony charges pursuant to 211 PC

5:14 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 500 block of Redwood

February 17

No incidents to report

February 18

2:28 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of Holly Street.

2:28 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block of West Valley Street and issued a warning.

4:21 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1500 block of South

6:57 pm: LYONS, Dallas Darlene (36) of Willits was contacted in the 300 block of South Main Street. She was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication) and on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol).

February 19

9:40 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1700 block of South Main

5:33 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1200 block of

February 20

10:31 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of Highway 20.

11:28 am: BLANTON, Jesse Ezekial (43) of Fort Bragg was contacted near the intersection of East San Francisco Avenue and Central Street. He was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication) and on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol).

12:39 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 700 block of South Main Street.

7:50 pm: PORTER, James Bryan (44 of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of East Oak Street. He was arrested pursuant to 243 (E) (1) PC (Domestic Battery) and on felony charges of bringing a controlled substance into jail.

10:23 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 300 block of South Main Street.

#### February 21

8:05 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 800 block of South

11:39 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

February 22

12:25 pm: YOUNG, Jonathan Austin (41) of Ukiah was contacted in the 200 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 417 PC (Brandishing a Weapon), 422 PC (Criminal Threats), on felony charges of assault with a deadly weapon, and on misdemeanor charges of violation of probation and failure to appear.

6:25 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1500 block of South Main

7:31 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1500 block of South

February 23

9:43 am: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 100 block of Creekside

10:54 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Bush Street.

7:11 pm: MATTSON, Cheryl Kathleen (49) of Ukiah was contacted in the 100 block of Barbara Lane following a disturbance. She was arrested on felony charges of violation of probation and on misdemeanor charges of violation of a protective order and violation of probation.

8:30 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 200 block of East Commercial Street.





At far left: Little League players and families work to clean the warning track on the baseball fields next to the Willits Skate Park.

At left: Volunteer Amiel shows the photographer a big hunk of sod he cut out. He's going to play ball this year and said, "I like to pitch. I'm not good at

Below, left: Some of the volunteers stop for a photo: from left. Russ Rountree, Andrew Hosford Clayton Cooley, Cail Lustig and Chris Bartow.



# (Almost) Spring Cleaning

Willits Little League Baseball volunteers get the playing fields ready for a new season

their

Willits Little League Baseball was kids experiences. It's good development chartered in 1952. For 70 years volunteers for eye-hand coordination, getting them have groomed the grounds, baseball fields, baseball diamonds, bases and warning tracks to keep them clear after winter's encroaching grasses. It's hard work that keeps a committed group of volunteers busy for a few days a few times each year.

Ree Slocum and older, board

spouses and children as well as a few from the community, shoveled and used hand tools to get the sod and dirt into tractor buckets – this is a first for using tractors and excavators. The loads were piled off field, almost effortlessly.

"There's about double the people who came out to help this year. People came together with equipment instead of oldschool manual labor," said Shailyn Brewer who has twin daughters in Little League. "We want our kids active. They need to be out, moving. These kids were here and working at 7:30 this morning," she said with

There was a sense of easy camaraderie among the groups working efficiently together. They're committed to having safe and well-groomed playing fields and stands for this next season.

Tim King, vice president of the Little League Board and father to a 12-year-old player, played baseball himself and said, "It's really a good turnout today!" He said the volunteers cleared the warning track around the two baseball field perimeters. "It's most important in the outfield. If an outfielder is chasing a ball that's against the fence, they're looking at the ground, and when they see the warning track, they know the fence is coming up soon." The warning track is essential to avoiding

"[Baseball] is a great way to give the

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out there and moving," said Cail Lustig who has boys in Little League. "It's good to learn how to lose, how to win, and how to be part of a team. It's a good lesson to get up in the morning and they have to do something. Being forced to show up for practice and play the position they may not like or maybe they have to sit on the bench for a bit or whatever, is all part of being a person. Those are life lessons." Volunteer and baseball player Clayton

Cooley is a freshman at Willits High and said, "I've been in Little League all my life. My dad is on the board, so I came down here to help today." When asked about what character-building things he's learned, he replied, "I'm learning how to win and how to lose. There are life lessons, like everybody messes up. As a team you just try to get over it. Build them up and the next play is new. I'm playing on JV this year. I like outfield and second base, mainly, It's exciting and has more action!"

"My older boy plays and my younger boy plays also. They both started playing T-ball when they were 4 years old and moved their way up," said board member Chris Bartow, who also played ball. "The kids that play here potentially play high school baseball. It's something they can carry with them. It's a great environment and the games are a lot of fun. Come out and support it even if your kid doesn't play. Come out and watch Little League Baseball and the high school

Russ Rountree has two boys in the league. His oldest is in the junior league while his youngest is in the minors. "My kids are way into it, even more so than I was," he admitted. "My oldest just can't wait for baseball season!"

Read the rest of Baseball

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Over on Page 6





Above: A crew of young boys is ready to work: from left, Cyrus, Raylan, Lukas, Tanner and Presley. Below, left: Behind home base are the bleachers and a sign donated by CalFire. Below, right: Tyler Ojeda, who serves on the board and has two kids in Little League, shows the hand tools used to cut ood from the running lines and warning track.







break from shoveling dirt from the baselines into the bucket of board member Russ Rountree's tractor. Below, left: Board President Andrew Hosford and volunteers shovel dirt and sod to make the warning track along the fence line. Below, right: Baseball players from the high school pitch in to help

At left: Tim King, Little

League Board vice









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# 'Death on the Nile'

The Story: Third movie remake of Agatha Christie's murder whodunit. It's 1937. Super-wealthy Linnet Ridge (Gal Gadot) organizes a huge multi-day soiree with all her besties, in a big white steamboat on the Nile. Curiously,



Dan Essman

Branagh) is in attendance as well. Of course, when one is as rich as Linnet, none of her besties are actually friends. And perhaps, they might have murderous thoughts and/or actual plans, hence:

Hercule Poirot (Kenneth

Monsieur Poirot, the greatest, most famous detective in the World (Sherlock Holmes being dead for some decades)

Foul murder happens, but whose sinister hand held the weapon of death? There will be, most certainly, a great unraveling in grand Agatha Christie fashion of the identity of the bloody assassin. "Oh the humanity!"

My Thoughts: Gal Gadot is stunningly draped in 1930s fashions. She's not just a clothes horse, she's a thoroughbred. I always judge a director by his ability to make his leading lady into a goddess. Of course, this is a Kenneth Branagh flick, an actor-director who understands glamour and theatricality, and he does love women. Quite successfully! Miss Gadot takes one's breath away. Meanwhile: Murder happens. Suspicion points in all directions. Most everyone on the cruise seems to have a motive. Oh my! A fun flick. And quite pretty.

Parents: No, not for children. Adult dialogue. Almost sex scenes. Murder. And it's 2 hours and 7 minutes long.

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



## Adventist announces new communication manager for Mendocino County

Submitted by Adventist Health

February 22 - Adventist Health welcomes Adam Istas as communication manager and public information officer. Istas will lead external communications for Adventist Health Ukiah Valley, Adventist Health Howard Memorial, and Adventist Health Mendocino Coast serving as the organization's public information officer for the county.



Adam Istas, new public information officer for Adventist Health in Mendocino County.

Istas comes to Adventist Health with more than 20 years of experience in life-science communications, working most recently as a strategic consultant and writer for several clinical research focused companies. He is also a public affairs disaster responder for the American Red Cross and worked extensively in the field during the 2021 California

"We are thrilled to have someone with Adam's deep experience join the Adventist Health family in Mendocino County," says Judson Howe, president of Adventist Health for Mendocino County. "Adventist Health's mission is communitycentric, so we're excited to have Adam's expertise to help us better engage, inform and understand the community we serve."

Istas previously directed thought leadership initiatives for global biopharmaceutical services provider Quintiles in Durham, North Carolina; served as editor-in-chief for a biopharma industry trade magazine in Chicago; and managed a stroke and cerebrovascular website at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. He is also a long-time board member for a non-governmental organization providing soccer and educational opportunities for orphans and refugees in

"I'm looking forward to deepening the connection between Adventist Health and Mendocino County," says Istas. "Part of that is listening to the community we serve, and another part is communicating consistently and transparently. I'm excited to do both."

A Northern California native and graduate of California State University, Fresno, Istas has recently settled back into the region after spending 25 years in the Midwest. He looks forward to enjoying the area and beautiful outdoors that surround us.

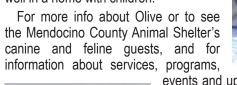
Adventist Health is a faith-based, nonprofit integrated health system serving more than 80 communities on the West Coast and Hawaii as well as others across the U.S. through its Blue Zones company, a pioneer in taking a systemic and environmental approach to improving the health of entire cities and communities. Through this work, Adventist Health is leading a 21st century well-being transformation movement.

Founded on Seventh-day Adventist heritage and values, Adventist Health provides care in hospitals, clinics, its innovative Adventist Health Hospital@Home program that provides virtual in-patient care at home, home care agencies, hospice agencies and joint-venture retirement centers in both rural and urban communities.

#### Olive is a very sweet 6-monthold girl who loves to be close to you. She appreciates head scratches and snuggles. Olive gets along well with

Amiable Olive

other cats, and we think she would do well in a home with children.





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

#### Dazzling Milly

Milly is a gorgeous and sweet Labrador Great Pyrenees-mix dog. Her size and beautiful white fur will remind you of a polar bear. This 2-year-old has completed her puppy manners training, knows many basic commands, and is housebroken.

Submitted by Jessica Farfan, community

On February 5, 2022, the community lost a

longtime voice and supporter for not only our

4-H members, but many youth organizations

in Mendocino County. The Mendocino County

4-H program and volunteers would like to share

some dear memories of the beloved Nadine Boer

to both cherish and recognize her vital influence

volunteer and parent, writes this tribute

to her dear friend who shared common

goals during their time volunteering for

"A very good friend passed away this month

and I will attempt to share and summarize the

things I know to be true about Nadine Boer

and her 4-H life. She shared memories about

her in her mission to see children thrive.

Tascha Whetzel, a longtime 4-H

the 4-H Ukiah Shamrocks Club:

her younger years

in 4-H. Nadine

grew up in Salida,

California with 4-H

and learned many

sewing and baking.

Her 4-H leaders

she appreciated the

time these ladies

helping youth. She

wanted to do the

same thing with her

own kids and our

community's kids.

first

Boer in

continued

family, and community members.

goats, and sheep.

and would get the struggling club up and running.

In 2007. Nadine and I became co-community

leaders. From here. Nadine was on a mission

to create learning opportunities. She would ask

the kids, 'what do you want to learn?' and then

she made it happen by reaching out to friends.

"I had to consult my kids and my 4-H files,"

wrote Whetzel, "and found the following

projects offered through the Ukiah Shamrock

Club during Nadine's tenure: fiber arts, felting,

sewing, quilting, sun dying, spinning, cake

decorating, fly tying, fishing, bee keeping,

scrapbooking, gourd painting, flower arranging,

photography, computers, plant science, hiking,

welding, woodworking, rifle, shotgun, archery,

communications, Wreaths Across America, dog

care, horses, cavies, rabbits, poultry, swine,

"Please take note," Whetzel pointed out,

"that this list primarily includes non-market

animal projects. Although Nadine supported

the local auctions and believed the skills

taught in these projects were important, she

felt strongly that kids should learn a variety of

skills and experience successes that did not

have monetary incentives. Nadine believed kids

items, to share their skills with others, and to

"She also believed that leadership and public-

speaking opportunities were paramount," she

continued. "Nadine was famous for reaching out

to kids and asking them to try something new

within the club: becoming an officer, chairing

a committee, setting up community-service

activity, becoming a junior or teen leader for a

should have the opportunity to learn, to make

have pride in a job well done.

Nadine Boer and her brother, John, as 4-Hers.

spent

teaching

Nadine

2006,"

including

cherished.

modeling,

and

education specialist, UCCE Mendocino

County 4-H

She's energetic, so outdoor space to explore and run around is a must. An adult-only home would be ideal. Milly will do well with someone who understands resource guarding and is comfortable and experienced with training. She is not a first-time dog but has a lot of love to give.

To learn more about Milly or view other adoptable animals, visit www milofoundation.org or the Milo Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions by appointment only due to COVID-19. Please complete a pet-adoption application before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 510-

#### Calm Storm

Meet Storm! This little lady is 5 months old and loves other dogs of any shape or size, nothing is better than playing with a furry friend. Storm loves a good belly rub, car rides, walks well on a leash, and enjoys the peacefulness of quiet time. Don't let that fool you, though, she still gets bursts of puppy energy but overall is a chill gal. Storm would do best in a home with another friendly pup as she is

still learning how to navigate the human world. Once Storm is comfortable with you, her cuddles are the sweetest ever!

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

but in being able to brush Muffin, and be around him,

and work and partner with him, they were able to feel

comfortable enough to transition to the other horses.

He always seems to pick out the person that needs a

Finally, Holzhauer introduced Freya. "We refer

to Freya as a Hoover vacuum because she will eat

anything. In the time I've known her she's eaten a

After the introductions, Holzhauer showed

video and spoke to the volunteers about duties and

responsibilities, having them fill out some paperwork

The Seabiscuit Therapeutic Riding Center would

like to expand its excellent and beneficial program

at the Ridgewood Ranch, just south of the Ridge.

Those who might be interested in working with horses

and helping developmentally challenged people find

their potential, should message the organization on

Facebook, call Holzhauer at 707-391-3873, or email

earrings. She's a Norwegian fjord."

seabiscuitridingcenter@gmail.com.

chip bag with the chips inside. She has eaten people's Whetzel. "when our



'Voices of the Earth' art fundraiser at WCA in March

Submitted by WCA The Willits Center for the Arts is excited about presenting our March 2022 show, "Voices of the Earth." The show involves the interpretation of poetry visually through the eyes

of 35 different artists. delight audiences of all ages with work by artists young and old. All media of artwork will be presented. ago and postponed due to the pandemic.

The Art Center is celebrating its 22nd year with this show, the first fundraiser held at the center since 2019. The success of the 2021 year's craft fair at the Community Center was smaller than usual because of the pandemic, but very well-attended and successful for the artists involved.

Gary Martin, the curator, told us: "We are looking forward to art lovers in Willits enjoying the 'Voices of the Earth' show and hoping people who might be looking for art will find something they can't live without."

The Art Center has some and this fundraiser will help us address them. Times have been difficult. but this show will offer some relief to our citizens during these trying times and help the art center.

"Voices of the Earth" will open for four weekends, Friday, March 4 through Sunday, March 27. The galleries are open from 11 am until

From Page 3 Riding

one donkey. The animals are an integral part of the program, which combines developmentally challenged people (mostly young at this point) with equines in order to enhance their confidence, provide them with certain skills to help them to get along in the world, and give them a sense of responsibility, and fun. A few of the horses were retirees, having served the program nobly in their careers and now were able to enjoy the beautiful surroundings and the attention of loving students.

The first horse they met was Spartacus (Sparky), a He's our 'heavy lifter' but can work with kids as well," by Donna d'Terra, promises to Holzhauer explained. She introduced the volunteers to Tazzy who has an extremely interesting marking on her forehead that resembles a ballerina with her leg up in the air. Timazon is a friendly, gentle, but hard-working This show was planned two years horse who came up to greet the volunteers.

> Holzhauer spoke about Muffin, who shares a pen with Dan, the pony, who likes to control Muffin: "He has been the gateway for specifically six students that I can think of that have autism that were very uncomfortable about approaching and working with horses initially,

The rest of From Page 5 Baseball

Here's what the kids said when asked what they like "I think it's really fun," Presley said and added, "I like

first base because it has a lot of action.' "I enjoy baseball when I pitch a lot. I love the mechanics of pitching," Raylan articulated.

Lukas said, "I like third base and outfield. Mostly outfield, left field. I like hitting more. The best thing I like about baseball is hanging out with my friends."

"I like playing catcher and second base," said Tanner. "On second you can get as many kids as you can, out."

Willits Little League needs more players and volunteers. "We need T-ball coaches, umpires, coachpitch leads, someone to run the Snack Shack - that's a big moneymaker for us. We also desperately need umpires," said Little League President Andrew Hosford, who was volunteered to be board president two years ago when he was away. He took it on and laughingly told them, "As long as you guys keep showing up like gmail.com.

THE BATMAN

Movie Times for March 4 thru March 10

Fri.:

you do and we all do this as a team, I'm happy to be the board president.

Would your child – girl or boy – like to play ball? Here are the different Little League teams and the ages: T-ball, 4 to 6; coach-pitch, 6 to 8; minors, 8 to 10; majors, 10 to 12; juniors, 13 to 15.

#### Mark your calendars:

March 8: is Little League Baseball registration closing

March 26: is another workday where they'll be finetuning and moving the fields.

**April 2:** is the opening ceremony with 15 to 20 games on the newly groomed fields.

For further information, to volunteer, or to register your child for Little League, contact Andrew Hosford at 707-354-1218, andrew@sparetimesupply.com or Tim King at 707-391-7369 or email: wrllbaseball1952@

encouraged and supported the other adult club leaders to provide opportunities for kids to help our community in the areas of veterans, senior citizens, food banks, and healthy living.

Above, left: Nadine Boer, longtime 4-H supporter, smiles at a past Redwood Empire Fair awards ceremony, Above, right: Nadine Boer poses for a photo at a Wreaths

"Nadine was a strong advocate for Mendocino County 4-H kids and was not afraid nor shy to question some of the practice and policy changes that occurred at our county and state level," said Whetzel. "When local money was diverted away on many who were fortunate to work adjacent to from the clubs and when traditional record books and uniforms became optional, she shared her feelings with the county and state leadership. She did this because Nadine knew that the 4-H she grew up in and the 4-H she helped build in our community was important and made her and our members better citizens and contributing

members of our society.

"Nadine impacted many youth in our county, and this included my own children. My son, Tanner, at age 16 wrote in his record book: 'She is always helping and is always there when

you need her. She keeps you updated all the time by sending emails and

only asks of you when she knows vou can do it right. She puts a lot of her time into 4-H, even though she doesn't have a kid in it anymore. I admire her for that, and I hope she keeps doing what she does best.' "Nadine leased

her horse to my daughter, Shannon, when she was 15 so that she could learn to ride, to

kids, Audie and Megan, joined Ukiah Shamrock. show, and know more about horses," Whetzel continued. "Shannon shared: 'Nadine made the horse project happen for me because expressed an interest for a project I could not do from our home in town. Because of this project learned about responsibility, confidence, and hard work on a whole new level. This is so typical of Nadine, helping others and making the

"My daughter, Megan, at age 16, wrote in her record book, 'she always does everything above and beyond the expectations. You can go to her with any problem, and she will help you to the best of her abilities. She is my shoulder to lean on and the one person I feel like I can go to with anything that's bothering me or something great that happened. She truly is my second mom and basically does everything behind the scenes. Barely anyone knows what she does for our club, but I do, and I am truly thankful to have her

"I was so fortunate to get to know Nadine, work with her, have fun with her, and share our families with each other for the past 16 years. We had so many wonderful and humorous times. Thank you, Nadine, for being a great friend and a great role model for our children and our community," Whetzel

Linda Edgington, the former 4-H community education specialist for Mendocino County, writes about their partnership in reinventing one of the 4-H Clubs and leading it into great success:

"I met Nadine Boer through 4-H

Mendocino County 4-H pays tribute to Nadine Boer project, and speaking at the club meetings. She when she and Tascha restarted the union of the Ukiah Shamrocks 4-H Club. She was the best person I had ever worked with and she taught me so much and questioned everything about 4-H. Her love of children was very clear in everything she did! Through her pumpkin patch and her knitting group, 'The Knit Wits,' I would

love dropping in on her meetings to watch the

loving interactions she had with her members.

AMERICAN LEGION

"She and I had some memorable moments," continued Edgington, "driving to Brookville Fair to set up a feature booth and several seed tables. She taught me how to dye hats of nylons for fun. She was always willing to help members with their demonstrations. Some of my fondest memories were of her endless volunteering at various 4-H events: primary introduction to 4-H for younger members 5 to 8 years old, pumpkinpatch activities where she gave each student an opportunity to pick their own pumpkin or taught how to make pumpkin pie in a cup. Nadine was tireless and kind, she will leave a huge hole in Ukiah for the children and her beautiful family.'

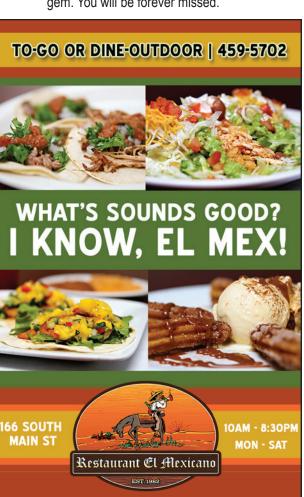
#### Amy Harper also worked alongside Nadine as a 4-H parent volunteer and recalls Nadine as a force to be reckoned with and encouraged her to return to the 4-H world despite the fact that her own children had aged out of the program.

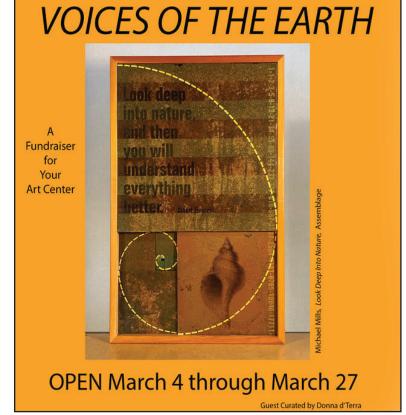
"Nadine was a committed and passionate organizer and leader," said Harper. "Her energy was contagious. I first worked with her on the 4-H centennial celebration in 2013, assigned to gathering and curating historical information from Mendocino County. After that I let her talk me into coming out of 4-H retirement to create and lead a Ukiah Shamrock project in food preservation (I was a Shamrock Club leader in he '90s and also led multiple projects)

"Produce from her pumpkin patch on Boonville Road really added to our project," continued Harper. "Nadine tapped me again to fill a parttime vacancy at Mendocino Book Company, a perfect post-retirement job, which unfortunately had to be dropped because of grandmothering commitments. Nadine's work ethic was beyond compare. The world could use a lot more of that force for good. I will miss her!"

#### Our current 4-H Ukiah Shamrocks Club leader, Gina Weaver, shares on Nadine's incredible generosity amidst being a new leader in the community:

"Nadine was such a giving person. Always giving, especially to 4-H. My flower-arrangement project for Ukiah Shamrock 4-H didn't know what to do when COVID-19 hit and we still needed to make money to buy the flowers for our project. Nadine said, 'Bring them here to Pirate Pete's Pumpkin Patch and we can sell your pumpkin arrangements for you, I will even donate the pumpkins.' Such an unselfish and giving person. Every year she would let us hold our Halloween party for our 4-H club there, too. Again, what a gem. You will be forever missed."







# UNCHARTED





(PG13) 1 hr 56 mins Fri.: 5:30 & 8:00pm 2:30, 3:00, 5:30 & 8:00pm



Fri.: 5:00 & 7:45pm Sat./Sun.: 2:15, 5:00 & 7:45pm Mon.-Thurs.: 5:00 & 7:45pm

DEATH

ON THE NILE

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Special Previews Thurs., March 3rd

THE BATMAN at 3:45 & 7:30pm



Above, from left: Some hats crafted at an old millinery store in Ukiah are on display. The Mendocino County Museum has an extensive collection of wagons. Steve Prochter created this model of the Frolic, which sank near Point Cabrillo and was an integral part of the history of the county.

At right: Curator Karen Mattson tells about the museum's tie-in with the Willits Frontier Days.





Mendocino County Museum and Roots of Motive Power offer a





Above, from top: Museum Technician Briana Brooks demonstrates the new information stations to be installed at various locations around the museum. Sharon Kamoroff visits her husband, Bear, the new Roots librarian. This muslin Dutchwindmill designed quilt is one of the many textiles preserved by the museum. Below: Roots board member Lee Bryant leads the tour through the history and equipment in the engine house. At bottom: Volunteer docent Scott Furleman tells of the history of the McNamee General Store in Gualala.





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Museum has only part of its collection presented in the

public viewing rooms. The remainder of the models,

letters, artifacts, art, textiles, books, wagons, automobiles,

Most of the archives, available through the research

library upon requested appointment, are there to be utilized

in piecing together the rich history of the loggers, tribes,

railroads, back-to-the-landers, ranchers, farmers, and

cannabis cultivators who were integral in the formation

of the modern society of Mendocino County, a unique

In order to educate the public as to the depth of history

available at the facility, Curator Karen Mattson and her

unique group of docents and volunteers, are offering

tours of the exhibit rooms, the archives, and the attached

Roots of Motive Power engine room, full of relics of the

Age of Steam that was integral in the growth of the logging

Last Saturday, February 26, was the first day of this

series of tours, which began at three different times: 1, 2

and 3 pm. Two more Saturdays: March 26 and April 30 are

scheduled for the events and pre-registration is suggested

to ensure a place on the tour, which was mostly full last

Mattson and the museum staff are working to inform the

public, bring them back to the museum with the opening

of COVID restrictions, and prepare for the upcoming June

11 kickoff of the museum's 50th anniversary-year set of

events. "For the 50th anniversary," said Mattson, "we want

to have one of our wagons out front of the museum so

people can have their photos taken in front of or possibly

"We'd really like to get back into having a float for the

parade," she said. "Although it's not ironed out, we're

definitely going to have a kickoff event with a slide

presentation of the 50 years. We'd like to get some past

history from our past staff. We're going to celebrate the

The tour began in the lobby, where Briana Brooks,

the museum technician, demonstrated the new video-

pad information stations which will be placed at strategic

locations, to allow museum browsers to access more in-

depth information for each exhibit. "They will be at the major

collection of steadfast rugged individualists and artists.

Mathew Caine

data, and all other materials live in

the back rooms, mostly catalogued

and photographed and accessible



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ugh Cetera Financial Specialists LLC (doing insurance business in CA as CFGF



them, call up clips, oral histories, etc."

People were encouraged to wander through the current public exhibits prior to the actual tour so that they could see the wagons, archived correspondence, Seabiscuit history, restored creamery, Dusty Duley-donated objects, the Wanscott Photography exhibit, the Native American arts and culture, and many other main areas.

Mattson led people into the classroom, where they watched a prepared slide show of the history of the museum, which was opened to the public in 1972, through the efforts of the Historical Society, among others, and given to the County of Mendocino to maintain and administer.

The next stop on the tour was in the part of the museum that few of the public get to experience, the archives behind the public exhibits. Mattson explained how the museum was closely tied in with the Willits Frontier Days, having received objects, including wagons, from the now-defunct Frontier Days Museum.

Next, the group walked back to where the volunteers had set up some mini-exhibits. First of these were viewings and talks on the McNamee General Store of Gualala and Mark Walker, last of the true Willits pioneers and a unique artist who lived to be 107 at best estimate. The talks were given by Scott Ferleman.

Next stop were the artifacts and history of the Frolic, with a talk by Steve Prochter. The Frolic, a unique squaresail opium runner, was on its way to San Francisco, after giving up its life of crime and attempting to supply San Francisco with needed goods, when it ran aground near the now Cabrillo Lighthouse. The mission to salvage the ship resulted in the realization by some of the members of the party that there was a fortune to be made in logging the redwoods that could be found near the ocean.

After the Frolic talk, the attendees were shown hats from an old millinery shop in Ukiah where people would gather socially and an old muslin guilt which was one of the many items in the textile archives, shown by Brent Walker. Benjamin McBean, the museum research librarian, explained what could be found in the archives, how to access the information, and the cost of some of the services.

The final stop on the tour was led by Roots of Motive Power board member Lee Bryant, who showed the

> Read the rest of Over on Page 10





#### **Current Job Openings:**

Administrative Analyst I Administrative Secretary Agriculture Technician

Ag Measurement Standards Specialist I/II

Air Quality Management **District Administrative Coordinator** Branch Librarian Branch Librarian - Non - MLS **Building Maintenance Mechanic II** Chief Planner - Ukiah

Chief Planner - Cannabis Program Corrections Deputy Custodian

Deputy County Counsel II/III/IV Deputy District Attorney I/II/III Deputy Probation Officer I/II Deputy Public Defender I/II/III/IV Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II

Deputy Sheriff - Coroner in Training Heavy Equipment Mechanic **Human Resources Director Juvenile Corrections Officer** Juvenile Corrections Officer -Extra-Help

Planner II – Cannabis Program Program Specialist II Public Health Nurse Real Property Appraiser I

Registered Nurse Road Maintenance Supervisor I/II Road Maintenance Worker I Senior Agriculture Technician Senior Planner - Cannabis Program Senior Program Manager - Nursing

Senior Public Health Nurse Social Worker Assistant I/II Staff Assistant II Supervising Public Health Nurse

For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:

www.governmentjobs.com/careers/ mendocinoca EOE

#### **SUMMONS**

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: JETT JENNINGS, also known as LAWRENCE J. JENNINGS; DOES 1-50, inclusive, Case Number: HG21100522

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: CHERIE Y. SONG, THE BAYSIDE COURT OWNERS ASSOCIATION, a California

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpfcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: the court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

The name and address of the court is: Alameda County Superior Court, 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544 The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: Christopher J. Neary, 110 S. Main St., Ste. C, Willits, C 95490, Telephone: (707) 459-5551

Publication Dates: March 3, 10, 17, 24, 2022

Christina McCluskey's Paralegal Service Certified Paralegal, Legal Document Assistant, Notary Public Divorces = Deeds = Chapter 7 Bankruptcy =

Evictions • Conservatorships • Guardianships • Small Claims = Power of Attorney = Criminal History Expungement • Name Changes • Wills and Trusts = Estate Probate = Licensed = Bonded • Member of CALDA • Notary Public

(707) 467-7642 I'm not an attorney. I cannot represent you in court.

20690 S. Main St., Willits, CA 95490

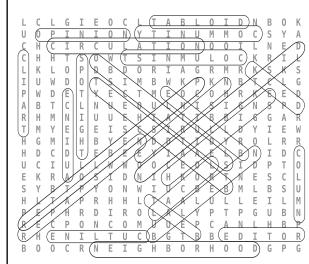
#### **NOTICE INVITING BIDS**

Notice is hereby given that the Governing Board of the Willits Unified School District, of the County of Mendocino, State of California, will receive sealed bids for the WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM BOILER REPLACEMENT up to, but not later than, 1 pm, on March 25, 2022 and will thereafter publicly open and read aloud the bids. All bids shall be received at the Willits Unified School District Office, 1277 Blosser Lane, Willits, CA 95490.

- included in the Contract Documents, and must conform and be fully responsive to this invitation, the plans and specifications and all other Contract Documents. Copies of the Contract Documents are available for examination at the office of the Superintendent, 1277 Blosser Lane, County of Mendocino, California. Documents are also available online at www.willitsunified.com.
- Each bid shall be accompanied by cash, a cashier's or certified check, or a bidder's bond executed by a surety licensed to do business in the State of California as a surety, made payable to the District, in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the maximum amount of the bid. The check or bid bond shall be given as a guarantee that the bidder to whom the contract is awarded will execute the Contract Documents and will provide the required payment and performance bonds and insurance certificates within ten (10) days after the notification of the award of the contract.
- The successful bidder shall comply with the provisions of the Labor Code pertaining to payment of the generally prevailing rate of wages and apprenticeships or other training programs. The Department of Industrial Relations has made available the general prevailing rate of per diem wages in the locality in which the work is to be performed for each craft, classification or type of worker needed to execute the contract, including employer payments for health and welfare, pension, vacation, apprenticeship and similar purposes. Copies of these prevailing rates are available to any interested party upon request and are online at http://www.dir.ca.gov/DLSR. The Contractor and all Subcontractors shall pay not less than the specified rates to all workers employed by them in the execution of the Contract. It is the Contractor's responsibility to determine any rate change.
- The schedule of per diem wages is based upon a working day of eight hours. The rate for holiday and overtime work shall be at least time and one half.
- The substitution of appropriate securities in lieu of retention amounts from progress payments in accordance with Public Contract Code §22300 is
- Pursuant to Public Contract Code §4104, each bid shall include the name and location of the place of business of each subcontractor who shall perform work or service or fabricate or install work for the contactor in excess of one-half of one percent (1/2 of 1%) of the bid price. The bid shall describe the type of the work to be performed
- No bid may be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days after the date set for the opening for bids except as provided by Public Contract Code §§5100 et seq. The District reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities or irregularities in the bidding
- Minority, women, and disabled veteran contractors are encouraged to submit bids. This bid is / is not X subject to Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise requirements.
- LO. The project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the California Department of Industrial Relations. In accordance with SB 854, all bidders. contractors and subcontractors working at the site shall be duly registered with the Department of Industrial Relations at time of bid opening and at all relevant times. Proof of registration shall be provided as to all such contractors prior to the commencement of any
- the following classification(s) of California State Contractor's license: C4 and/or B- General Contractor.
- strongly encouraged to attend a bidders' conference that will be held at Willits High School, 299 N Main St. Willits, CA on March 14, 2022 at 11:30 a.m. for the purpose of acquainting all prospective bidders with the Contract Documents and the Project site. Following the bidders' conference a tour will be held. Bidders must examine and judge for themselves the location, surroundings, physical condition and nature of any work to be done. Submission of a bid shall be construed as conclusive evidence that the bidder has made such an examination.

WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Publication Dates: March 3 and 10, 2022



# **CLASSIFIEDS**

Computer Help Need help with your computer? Macintosh, Android and IOS devices. Repairs, configuration tutoring: \$50/hr. Call

Liam 459-2470 or email

uicearbhaill@gmail.com

For Rent

Free Puppies

FREE Golden Retriever

Puppies to Forever

temperament! House

Male,1

Excellent

Homes!

Female.

Spacious

Indoor Yard Sale Giant Indoor Yard Sale - Deep Valley Christian School, 8555 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley, (across from the Broiler). Saturday, March 12 - 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

#### Help Wanted Thrift Store Merchan-

dise Processor /Stocker. apartment with kitchen \$15.00 Hour Full Time and bath for one person. (40 hours weekly). Send In nature, within walking resume, including 3 refdistance to town. erences to wsidirector@ \$900.00 per month plus willitsseniorcenter.com wood for heating. Call or pick up application at (707) 459-2101 for more the Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Rd. or call Richard Baker at 459-6826 for more in-

#### **RV/Trailer Space** for Rent

formation. Must be able

to lift furniture and have

valid CA driver's license.

Willits Food Bank

Open

Willits Community Ser-

vices & Food Bank con-

tinues to distribute food.

following COVID-19

safety provisions, to

hungry families and in-

dividuals in the Willits

area, with an increase

in numbers served. The

front office at 229 E San

Francisco Ave is closed

to the public, but the

back door area is open

for food distribution on

Wednesdays and Fri-

days from 1 to 4:30 pm.

Info: 459-3333; financial

donations to WCS can

be mailed to 229 E. San

Francisco, Willits CA

trained with very good trainable natures & Space for RV's and perfect for families with Trailers \$425 per children and other pets! month, includes water I will not re home to just & garbage. Close to any-one. Please email Safeway in Willits, Call me first at: stephanie Tony (707) 510-5895. christensen59@gmail. See at "http://www. com and Text 828-229oaknvine.net/tp"

#### Freezer Empty? We can help!

Due to health concerns in Mendocino County. John Ford Ranch will be taking meat box orders (not individual package orders) for pick-up:

Rancher's Choice Box 50 pounds: steaks, roasts, and ground beef. Still \$325 (\$6.50 per pound). Hamburger Box: 25 pound box of hamburger in 1 or 1.5 pound packages: \$150. Natural ranch-raised grass fed beef, no hormones or antibiotics. Call 459-5193 to arrange pick-up. Leave a message, and we'll call back.

Help Wanted

Our program is growing!

# Love Willits

The Waldorf School of Mendocino County is Hiring Administration and Teaching positions. Visit our website to apply: https://www.mendocinowaldorf.org/employment-opportunities Apply today!

Help Wanted DripWorks is looking to hire a FT Purchasing Coordinator. Purchasing, Excel, AP/AR exp. \$16-\$20. Send resume to employment@dripworks.com

Weekly? Help support our free-cir-

culation community newspaper by becoming a "street subscriber" You send in an annual donation, and pick up the edition on the street each week! We love our regular subscribers too: \$50 for home delivery for a year's subscription in the U.S. mail. Visit https://form.jotform. com/61915582053153 for a signup form and more info.

## Tom Wake **Plumbing**

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25 YEARS
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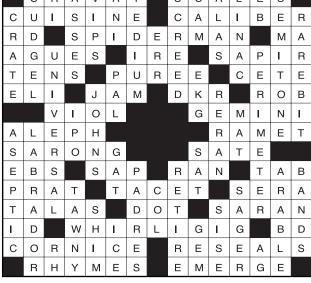
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Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

2. Each bid shall be completed on the Bid Proposal Form

- by each listed subcontractor.

- 11. Each bidder shall possess at the time the bid is awarded
- 13. Bidders' Conference. Prospective bidders are invited and

Signed by: Terry McEntee, Director of Maintenance **Operations and Transporation** DATED: 2/28/22

5 6 3 8 9 5

3

2

6

attendees around the engine room and educated them as to use and history of the engines, motors and vehicles stored there.

"We're hoping, through the tours, that people will become interested in becoming volunteers and docents," said Mattson. "We have a signup list for Friends of the Museum, which is the new non-profit, and a quarterly newsletter that people can sign up for, delivered online. It gives behind-the-scene things that are going on, information about upcoming programs. A good way to keep in they pass.

To access more information on the museum, delve into the archives and historical photos, and find out about events. the public can go to: www.mendocinocounty. org/government/cultural-services-agency/ museum. The museum, located at 400 East Commercial Street, is open to the public Wednesday through Friday 10 am to 5 pm, Saturday and Sunday 12 to 4 pm.

"What we're really preserving are stories. Every object has a story," mused Mattson.

SPIRITUAL

Agape

**Bible Church** 

Willits,CA 95490

Where love is first

and the Bible is central

Sunday Services:

10:00 a.m. - Worship

Info? 707-459-1905

vww.agapebiblechurch.cor

**Amazing Grace** 

803 Coast Street

P.O. Box 489, Willits

707-303-5456

Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Burton Jernigan

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.

Eckankar: The Path

of Spiritual Freedor

•ECK Light & Sound Services

More information

Call 530-224-8703

www.eckankar.org

**Grace Community** 

Church

Celebrating Life In Christ

25 Hazel Street, Willits

10 a.m.

Other ministries suspended

for now.

For appointments call:

(707) 459-3106

St. Anthony of Padua

Catholic Church

61 W. San Francisco Ave.

Willits, CA 95490

Father Aaron Bandanadan

Confessions by appointmen

459-2252

Sunday Mass inside:

9:00 a.m. English

10:30 a.m. Spanish

Saturday Mass: 5:30 p.m

Covid guidelines apply.

We welcome All Walks of Fait

St. Francis

**Episcopal Church** 1 North Main Street, Willits

707-272-0177

Sunday Service - 10 a.m

In-person and on Zoom

Call for information

ALL ARE WELCOME

The Rev. Betsy Bruneau

St. John

Lutheran Church

Church Service:

Sunday 10:00 to 11:00

(707) 459-2988 24 Mill Creek Drive

ALL ARE WELCOME

Willits Seventh-Day

**Adventist Church** 

707-459-5714

Saturdays: Meeting place

at church located at 399 W. Mendocino Avenue

Bible Study - 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service - 11:00 a.m

nttps://willitsca.adventistchurch.org

All are welcome!

Willits United Methodist

Christ centered, progressive church

ALL ARE WELCOME

286 School St. (at Pine)

Rev. Rosemary Landry, pastor

Worship Celebration

Sundays - 10:30 a.m.

Children's Sunday School - 10:45 a.:

459-2855

Facebook: www.facebook.co

f you want to be included in

April Tweddell

(707) 972-2475

april@willitsweekly.co1

this column please call

•Sound of Soul events

Spiritual Discussions

Membership Discourses

Assembly of God Church

290 S. Lenore Ave

## Happy Birthday River

Congrats

I am not what I was yesterday, River is my name. I am made in a smooth and beautiful way. red and full of flame.

I dance above the wisps of in the sunny air. I observe in awe the clouds and love is everywhere.

From my chrysalis I've into something great. And for this turn around the



# Poetry at the Playhouse

Submitted by Willits Community Theatre

Mendocino County poets Daniel Essman and Theresa Whitehill are featured readers at Starlight Lounge, a bi-monthly poetry series at the Willits Community Theatre. The reading is scheduled for 7 pm on Saturday, March 12.

An open reading will be held after the featured readers have read. Entry into the reading is by donation, and no one will be turned away from lack of funds. Audience members must show proof of vaccination upon entry, and the wearing of facial coverings by the audience is recommended

Poet and letterpress artist Theresa Whitehill served as Poet Laureate for the City of Ukiah from 2009 through 2011 and has been involved her entire career in the production of poetry readings and literary events. Her interrelated focus on literary and book arts came out of her studies at Mills College in the early 1980s. Since 1984 she has lived in Mendocino County, where she is well-known to local poetry audiences. Her collections of poetry include "A Natural History of Mill Towns" (1993) and "A Grammar of Longing" (2009), both published by Pygmy Forest Press.

Daniel Essman is a Willits poet who for several decades co-hosted the Car Lords Poetry Series in Willits along with his wife, Robin Rule. He also has gained a following as the film reviewer for the Noyo Theatre and is known for his signature statement, "He likes his reality attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination."

The Willits Community Theatre is located at 37 West Van Lane in downtown Willits. That is, one block west of Mazahar Boutique at the north end of Main Street, and one block south of Pizza To Go on the first block of West Commercial Street.



Poets Theresa Whitehill, below, and Daniel Essman, above, will read at the Starlight Lounge poetry series at the Willits Community Theatre on Saturday, March 12.



# PATHWAYS





**NOW - MAR 27 SUNDAY DRAWINGS** 5pm - 10pm \$500 Free Play winner every hour Get 1 entry for every 25 points earned

\$6,000 CASH DRAWING • SUN MARCH 27 AFTER 10PM 1ST PLACE \$4,000 CASH • 2ND PLACE \$1,500 CASH • 3RD PLACE \$500 CASH

FREE PLAY Maximum of 3 scratchers per day

MON – FRI 10AM - 10PM Redeem 500 points to get a scratcher for a chance to win up

\$1,000 Free Play.

10AM - 10PM Redeem 250 points to get a scratcher for a chance to win up \$1,000 Free Play.

**SAT & SUN** 

Customer Appreciation Days

- TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS -10AM - 10PM Players can stop by the cage and pay \$20 cash to get \$40 Free Play.

SUPER SENIOR DAYS — THURSDAYS —

10<sub>AM</sub> - 8<sub>PM</sub>

Age 55+. Stop by the cage and pay \$20 cash to get \$30 FP plus a 50% off meal coupon at Creekside Café. HIGH, LOW, RED, OR BLACK FRIDAYS · 5PM - 11PM

Get 1 entry for every 50 points for a chance to play the "High, Low, Red, or Black" card game and win up to \$200 Free Play. Drawings every hour.

SATURDAYS · 5PM - 11PM Get 1 entry for every 50 points earned for a chance to shoot basketballs. Win **5 Free Play** for every shot made in 40 seconds. 3 winners each hour.



VALLEY © CASINO

WWW.SVRCASINO.COM

Management reserves the right to cancel or modify any promotion at any time without details please visit the Players

Club. Gambling a problem?
Call 1-800-GAMBLER.

The rest of Report

Assistant

report was discussed by supervisors in 2020, and again at the February 1 reporting a total of 290.68 meeting this year.

From Page 1

and approved).

in Mendocino County,"

acres in legal cannabis

cultivation, under a total of

1,310 licenses "(provisional

The acreage includes a

total of 126.26 acres in the

Small Mixed-Light (10,000

square feet) category, with

550 licenses; a total of

73.73 acres in the Nursery

(up to 22,000 square feet)

category, with 146 licenses;

a total of 60.15 acres in

the Small Outdoor (10,000

Licensing

Cultivation

Commissioner Aaron Hult had paused his February presentation to supervisors had any questions about the neverapproved 2019 cannabis addendum. By the time supervisors had decided to scrap the 2019 report altogether, Chair Ted Williams asked the board if they accepted the 2020 Mendocino County Crop Report, and it was accepted any specific without presentation or discussion on the data in the 2020 cannabis addendum.

That 2020 addendum identifies the "combined production value" cultivating legal cannabis in Mendocino County in 2020 as \$131,426,125.

This, the emphasizes, is a "gross production value": "Capital expenditures, labor, profits, fees, taxes, and other overhead costs are not reflected in this total, and it does not represent the net profit of the industry, or any individual cultivator.

The report charts average prices of the 2020 permitted cannabis crop: \$1,500 per pound for indoor flower (4,360 pounds of it, for a total value of \$6,540,000); \$950 per pound for outdoor/ mixed light flower (111,165 pounds of it, for a total value of \$105,606,750); and \$800 per pound for smalls (indoor) (1,453 pounds of it, for a total value of \$1,162,400).

More charted values: \$400 per pound for smalls (outdoor/mixed (37,055 pounds of it, for a total value of \$14.822.000): (indoor) (1,453 pounds of it, for a total value of \$145,300); and \$85 per pound for trim (outdoor/ \$3,149,675.

The report also has a chart showing "2020 California Department of Food and Agriculture CalCannabis

The rest of

other crises.

#### From Page 2 Appreciation

systemic racism, economic inequality, and

"The need for social workers is great," deputy director Conner says. "Filling vacancies will help reduce caseloads so social workers can spend more quality time

working with their clients and helping them achieve their goals. "Staff employed in Family & Children's Services are eligible to apply for educational financial assistance with schools of Social Work to pursue bachelor and/or master's degrees in Social Work with a commitment

to work in the field of child welfare post-

graduation," Conner explains.

Social workers, who are often unsung heroes, are on the front lines, helping people overcome their most difficult times. They are trained to help people address personal and systemic barriers to optimal living. The goal is to effect positive change with individuals, families, groups and communities to overcome issues that prevent them from reaching their full potential

This National Month of Social Work Appreciation allows us to recognize all the social workers that serve our county and their important contributions. Everyone is encouraged to thank a social worker for their service not only this month, but throughout the year.

"I have a deep appreciation for the dedication and empathy our social workers provide to our most vulnerable members every day," said Stephen White, acting deputy director of Adult & Aging Services.

If you would like information on a career in social work with Mendocino County, please visit our website at https:// www.governmentjobs.com/careers/ mendocinoca.

The rest of Brooktrails

From Page 1

amount of \$111,013.93. The general manager's

report cited: The lakes are full - Lake Emily is still spilling and Lake Ada Rose is holding its maximum. Current water storage can provide up to 440 days of water supply with average usage. Brooktrails, at the water treatment plant, had just under 36 inches of rain this

square feet) category, with for water theft. Background 262 licenses; and a total of information provided by 10.45 acres in the Specialty General Manager Tamara Mixed Light (5,000 square Alaniz: Senate Bill 427 was feet) category, with 91 signed into law in 2021, establishing uniform penalty fees to be used by local Other licensed cultivation agencies providing water categories were all under 10 services for occurrences of total acres, including a total water theft. This item proof 7.92 acres of Specialty poses that Ordinance 163 Outdoor (5,000 square be adopted by the board to feet), with 69 licenses; implement the consequenca total of 5.45 acres of es identified in the legislation and provide administrative remedy to water theft.

Specialty Cottage Outdoor (2,500 square feet), with 95 licenses; a total of 3.78 acres of Specialty Cottage Mixed In addition, Ordinance 163 Light (2,500 square feet), will give Brooktrails staff the with 66 licenses; a total of ability to charge a penalty 1.61 acres of Small Indoor fee when they have repeat offenders who are not com-(10,000 square feet), with plying with the water-us-7 licenses; a total of 1.32 acres of Specialty Cottage age cap. The board voted unanimously to approve Indoor (2,500 square feet), Ordinance 163 and moved with 23 licenses; and 0.01 to consider final adoption acres of Specialty Indoor at the upcoming March 8 The rest of (5,000 square feet), with 1 board meeting.

Finally, the full board vot-The report also printed "a ed to continue meeting via big thanks to the cultivators Zoom for that March 8 meetthat participated in the data collecting process that resulted in Mendocino County's first cannabis

The rest of

cannabis era. The annual Crop Reports, back to 1985, are posted on the Ag Department's page on the county website at https:// www.mendocinocounty. org/government/agriculture but neither the main 2020 Crop Report or the cannabis addendum is yet posted.

report in the modern

They can be found and garbage pickup - all of it constantly requiring mixed light) (37,055 pounds downloaded as part of the attention of it, for a total value of supervisors' agenda packet Cretins: "Constantly requiring attention" is, sadly for the February 1, 2022 the ongoing vandalism in Snyder Park (City Park). meeting, at the BOS agenda Morons have been damaging the restrooms and page: https://mendocino. legistar.com/Calendar.aspx

the children's playground equipment and spraying graffiti. The city's Public Works Department has spent long hours repeatedly rescuing the park, making repairs, repainting walls defaced by

cretinous pinheads. The city is planning to install security cameras in an attempt to catch the brain-dead vandals who seem to hate kids and everything else.

Council

and training, vehicle replacements, tree mulching,

storm drain clearing, sewer maintenance, weeding,

Trouble in Tesla Land: Chief of Police Fabian Lizarraga reported on the latest Irritated Citizens' irritations: Gasoline-powered cars parking in electric charging station slots which, probably unknown to many, is against the law. Our local Tesla patriots are not hesitating to do their civic duty and calling the police and especially the manager of the Safeway, who contacted the police to report that the store was "inundated" with complaints, and asked the police department for help.

The police, after a period of issuing warnings, are now ticketing the scofflaws. Due to the citations. Chief Lizarraga said habitual recidivism is down

Actual crime in Willits is not increasing, according to the 2021 year-end report presented to the city council; but arrests nearly doubled, from 212 in 2020 to 402 in 2021. Chief Lizarraga explained that 2020 was the height of COVID, and protocols to slow the spread of the coronavirus resulted in less interaction between police and the public. This was further exacerbated by COVID-constrained county jail limits.

The year 2021 saw an easing of COVID restrictions and an increase of police presence in the community – and a more settled police department with the hiring of our new and finally permanent chief of police – much to the dismay of our town's second-rate

Help for business: Local businesses impacted by COVID will get a helping hand from the city's new Business Loan Assistance Program that will offer loans between \$15,000 and \$40,000, loans that in many cases will not have to be paid back. City Planner Dusty Duley, who has been quarterbacking this project since last fall, announced that there will be an in-person public meeting on Tuesday, March 8 at 6 pm at the Community Center (City Hall Building, 111 East Commercial Street). Duley encouraged local businesses to attend and to contact him at City Hall for more

The loan program is part of the city's ongoing championing of locally owned small businesses, years-long efforts to encourage economic development, to bring more businesses to town, and encourage local residents to shop in Willits. A well-known U.S. Small Business Administration study reported

that 80% of the money spent at locally owned businesses stays in town, re-spent and re-circulated in town. Of the money spent at

Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047

Convicted murderer Jameson Jackson sentenced to life without parole+

Posted by Mendocino County

defendant Jameson Wolfgang Jackson ran

out of excuses late Wednesday morning

and was sentenced to life without parole -

California Department of Corrections and

Defendant Jackson, age 36, formerly

of Redwood Valley and Talmage, was

convicted most recently by jury in August

2021 of murder in the first degree and

The jury found true a special circumstance

alleging that the defendant committed the

murder by firing a handgun from inside

a motor vehicle. The jury also found true

Highway Patrol, the Round Valley

Tribal Police Department, the California

Department of Justice forensic laboratory.

and the District Attorney's own Bureau of

District Attorney David Eyster also

extends a special thank you again to Pure

Gold Forensics for their speedy DNA work

The attorney who prosecuted the case to

verdict and argued for today's sentencing

outcome was Assistant District Attorney

attempted murder in the first degree.

DA on Facebook

Keith Faulder presided over Wednesday's sentencing proceedings. Ukiah, February 23 - After delaying Unfortunately, as some may remember, his sentencing for six months, murder

Mendocino County Superior Court Judge

these are not this defendant's first violent In 2001, Jackson was convicted and plus an additional 32 years to life - in the

sentenced as a juvenile for the robbery murder of Joan LeFeat, a Brooktrails shop Jackson's co-defendant in those violent crimes. Christopher Matthew Coleman (then

also 15 years old), was certified to adult court, convicted, and ultimately sentenced to 25 years to life in state prison. Coleman, now age 36, remains housed in a CDCR state prison facility in San Diego County serving his life sentence. Online state prison records indicate Coleman

will be eligible for parole consideration in the special allegations that the defendant December 2023. personally and intentionally fired a firearm causing the death of the first man, and While Coleman was certified to adult personally and intentionally fired the same court, a local judge denied the prosecution's firearm in an attempt to murder a second efforts to also certify Jackson to adult court.

Instead, Jackson was allowed to remain The law enforcement agencies that in juvenile court, was convicted of murder, developed the evidence used to convict and sentenced to serve his time in the defendant Jackson were the Mendocino California Youth Authority not to exceed his County Sheriff's Office, the California 25th birthday.

> Jackson was paroled by the state authorities just after his 23rd birthday in 2008, having served only 7 years for his involvement in the LeFeat robbery/murder. Jackson then timed out on his parole in August 2010 when he turned 25.

> Jumping forward to 2022, family members of Mrs. LeFeat addressed the court Wednesday morning in support of defendant Jackson being forever ineligible for parole and never again being allowed outside the walls of the California state

From Page 1 Arrest

detectives believed there was sufficient probable cause to arrest Mitchell for 288.5 PC (Continuous Sexual Abuse of a Child Under 14 years of Age).

On February 24, 2022 at about 3 pm, Mitchell was located in the Ukiah area booked into the Mendocino County Jail Dispatch Center at 707-463-4086

where he was to be held in lieu of \$200,000

Anyone with information concerning this investigation or Wilmer Mitchell is asked to contact the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office Tip-Line at 707-234-2100 and arrested. Following the arrest, he was or the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

From Page 1

repairs, maintenance, upgrades, and projects corporate chain stores, 85% leaves town and never comes back. water pipe replacement, street repaving, sidewalk Another rung on the city's ladder to a better business environment rehabilitation, city hall roof patch, airport runway is the recently enacted and now-being-enforced building vacancy cleaning, rail-trail construction, police recruiting

ordinance, a semi-friendly arm twisting to encourage owners of unoccupied commercial buildings to work a little harder, or for some long-time cases a lot harder, at finding tenants. A better and maybe bigger Willits is the focus of the city's proposed 2022 Work Plan, an aspirationally ambitious agenda

involving innovations that meet the changing climate and the changing world head on. One goal is to become an "Environmental Model City" by reducing the city's carbon footprint and promoting greater energy independence. Part of this mission is to convert the city's vehicle fleet to electric power, and to enact regulations restricting use of Styrofoam, plastic bags, and herbicides.

Willits is also moving to adopt an urban forestry management plan that includes a tree care ordinance, which the city does not presently have. And if that wasn't a full year's worth of major machinations, the city is also seeking out property developers willing to explore new housing opportunities and projects, some of which will require revisions to the city's zoning ordinances.

The city is continuing its attempts to expand city limits by annexing county property. The first step in the process is establishing a "sphere of influence" which is defined as "a plan for the probable physical boundary and service area" of the city. The city already provides water and sewer to some parcels outside city limits, so the sphere already has some influence. So far, the city has gotten little cooperation from the county, which does not want to share the property tax money with Willits

Poseidon, primeval god of water, continues to favor his Willits acolytes with an abundance greatly appreciated by everyone, especially the city water department. Department head Scott Herman reported that our reservoirs are still overflowing despite a month with no rain. Herman was hopeful that the continuing flow will allow the city to install the dam boards, raising the water level and the storage capacity in the reservoirs.

An inactive, forgotten special tax district with real money to spend caught the eagle eye of the California State Controller, and then caught the attention of the county's LAFCO (Local Agency Formation Commission) committee. LAFCO committee member and Willits city councilman Gerry Gonzalez reported that the state was going to shut down the obscure agency, which at one time was a cemetery district "or something" unless it was reactivated pronto. Which our clever council member and his fellow LAFCO partners did, resuscitating the phantom agency, rescuing the money, and inviting cities and government districts in the county to apply for the funds. Reviving what councilmember Madge Strong called a "dummy agency" shows that sometimes our elected representatives are no dummies.

**New campus:** Progress on the future California Conservation Corps campus in Willits is wending its way along, according our very busy city planner Dusty Duley. The CCC center, located on 27.7 acres adjacent to East Hill Road, will have 12 buildings including residences for 120 permanent Corps members. The project is expected to take 2.5 years to complete. The California Conservation Corps is a state department, part of the California Natural Resources Agency. Corps members, who are 18-25 years old, work on environmental projects and respond to natural and man-made disasters. The CCC motto is "Hard Work, Low Pay, Miserable Conditions and More.

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The board then moved





Above, left: Dr. Austin Tidwell, an internal medicine physician at Howard Memorial in Willits, was just promoted to the rank of Major in the National Guard. Above, right: Tidwell holds his new pin received when he was promoted to the rank of Major by the Pennsylvania National Guard after a 17-year career in the U.S. Army.

Photos by Maureen Jennison

# Dr. Austin Tidwell: A major force for good

By Adam Istas, public information officer, Adventist Health Mendocino County

Adventist Health Howard Memorial has major news. In January, Dr. Austin Tidwell -- an internal medicine physician at Howard Memorial in Willits -- was promoted to the rank of Major by the Pennsylvania National Guard after a 17-year career in the U.S. Army.

Dr. Tidwell first enlisted in the military at age 17, and he credits that early experience for helping to shape his perspective on relying on others; a perspective he carries with him into the overnight shift at Howard. "Joining the military at such a young age gave me a lot of exposure to diversity," says Tidwell. "I met many people all over the world with different socioeconomic backgrounds and religious beliefs, and I immediately learned that if we don't stand together, we lose."

The Pennsylvania native would later attend medical school at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, then complete his residency in Binghamton, New York – all while continuing to serve in the National Guard. Dr. Tidwell was promoted to Lieutenant in 2010 and to the rank of Captain in 2014. This latest promotion comes after he was offered the position of brigade physician with the 56th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, an elite brigade combat team of the Pennsylvania Army National Guard located outside of Philadelphia.

Dr. Tidwell has now been part of the Adventist family for almost five years, having spent the first three years at Adventist Health Ukiah Valley before coming to Howard -- and he loves it. "The care we provide is less contractual and more human," he says, also noting that colleague stability and a lack of turnover are key drivers in keeping him in Mendocino County. "Everyone has been here a long time, and I've found the people here to be good for their word."

After being deployed with the National Guard to Washington, D.C. to protect the Capitol last January – followed by a four-month deployment to Eastern Europe in 2020 -- Dr. Tidwell will retire from the military later this year, and is looking forward to further deepening his connection to the region and his patients.

"In the end, the pay is the same and the patient conditions are the same," he says. "What makes the difference is the quality of the people you run into and work with every day. I learned in the military that you rely on the person who has your back, and everyone looks after each other. And I see that Adventist Health. When you have that kind of camaraderie, it makes work enjoyable."







Above, from left: 2021 winner in the fifth-through-eighth-grade category, Veronica Cid. 2021 winner Dagny Tang of Palos Verde Estates. Millie Bricker of Fair Oaks is the artist of this 2021 award-winning drawing.

# Fish & Wildlife sponsors Invasive Species Youth Art Contest

Submitted by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife

On February 9, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife is sponsoring the ninth annual California Invasive Species Youth Art Contest. This year's theme, "Unite to Fight Invasive Species," reflects the need for all Californians to work together to prevent the spread and impacts of invasive species.

"The Youth Art Contest is an opportunity for students to combine science with artistic expression while learning about an important environmental issue," said Elizabeth Brusati, an environmental scientist with CDFW's Invasive Species Program. "We want young people to look for ways to stop the spread of invasive species.

"Helpful actions," explained Brusati, "could include choosing native plants for landscaping, not releasing unwanted pets into the wild, reporting invasive species sightings, and cleaning clothing and gear to prevent

unintentionally moving organisms from one location to another."

The contest is offered by CDFW's Invasive Species Program in conjunction with California Invasive Species Action Week, which will be June 4 through 12 this year. There are three age divisions for youths in grades two through four, five through eight, and nine through twelve.

All types of media are welcome and encouraged, including (but not limited to) drawings, paintings, animations, comic strips, videos and public service announcements. Entries must reflect the 2022 theme: "Unite to Fight Invasive Species."

The top three winners in each division will receive awards and have their entries announced on CDFW's social media.

Additional details and inspiration, including prior years' winning entries, can also be found on the CDFW website.

The deadline for art-contest entries is April 1. Completed entries and entry forms should be submitted electronically. Submission instructions can be found on the CDFW website: https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Invasives/Action-Week/Poster-Contest.

The goal of California Invasive Species Action Week is to increase public awareness of invasive-species issues and encourage public participation in the fight against California's invasive species and their impacts on our state's natural resources and biodiversity.

The mission of CDFW's Invasive Species Program is to reduce the impacts of invasive species on the wildlands and waterways of California. The program is involved in efforts to prevent the introduction of these species into the state, detect and respond to introductions when they occur, and prevent the spread of those species that have established.



