

School board adopts required gender discrimination policy

Joanne Moore
Reporter
joanne@willitsweekly.com

Discussion and decisions about student discipline, protection, and education, and consideration of a proposal to establish and fill a new assistant superintendent position, highlighted the April meeting of the Willits Unified School District Board of Trustees.

There were some legal matters when it came to students to take care of: a punishment for breaking the law and the adoption of procedures for enforcing the law.

After a closed session hearing, Superintendent Joe Aldridge reported that the board voted unanimously to expel a student for violating sections of the California Education Code that prohibited “possession of a knife or any other dangerous object that is of no reasonable use to the pupil ... and unlawfully selling a controlled substance.”

Read more of **Policy**
Over on Page 6

Cancer Resource Centers in Mendocino County

By Susan Baird-Kanaan, Community Foundation

Imagine – or perhaps remember – life in Mendocino County without the Cancer Resource Centers. No help in understanding a cancer diagnosis and navigating the medical system, no decision support, no emotional and logistical help.

This is the situation Sara O'Donnell faced in the early 1990s when she was first diagnosed with cancer. Then 40 and the mother of three, the rural Mendocino County resident says she felt “lost in the health care system” with nothing to guide her but a pamphlet. And a vision began to grow of making a difference for others facing cancer who were also feeling alone and searching for answers. “That fed the fire in my belly. We would put something together, somehow.”

Sara and a few others started networking and “verbalizing the dream” of creating an organization that would leave no one behind. Some hosted

Read more of **Resource**
Over on Page 2



Above, from left: After a two-year hibernation in his rabbit hole, the Easter Bunny is back and ready to smile with kids from around the community like he did in 2019 with Sam Munderloh, left, Alissa and Ella Randrup-Swinney, center, and Colter Basler, right.

The Bunny is Back!

Fundraising event with the Easter Bunny and his live, furry friends for the Soroptimist International of Willits at J.D. Redhouse on Friday, April 15

The public is welcome to come meet the Easter Bunny and have their photo taken with him and his live, furry friends on Friday, April 15 from 5 to 7 pm at J.D. Redhouse, during local photographer Maureen Jennison's annual fundraising event. This year, the Soroptimist International of Willits will share in the proceeds from the event which charges \$5 per group for digital images. There's no appointments;

just come by the store and get in line. Due to the pending rain, the bunny will be set up inside the warehouse inside the store! Images from this year, and previous years, will be available online to view and download at <http://photographress.zenfolio.com/easterbunnypotos>. More info: 972-7047.

– Maureen Jennison



Above: Eggs dot the softball fields at the Willits High School hunt. At left: The Easter Bunny cheers on hunters. At left, below: WHS Senior Alvaro Mendoza smiles with the Easter Bunny. At bottom, left: WHS Senior Lily Barrett, left, smiles with WHS sophomores Nicole Keough, Kylie Bozzo and Diana Chavoya, right, who sold goodies at the Snack Shack during the April 2 event. Below, right: The bunny greets hunters before the whistle blows to begin.

WHS Egg Hunt

Willits High School's Senior Class holds early Easter Egg hunt for excited kids

Submitted by Tiana Dalton, vice-president of WHS Senior Class

The Senior Class of 2022 held an Easter Egg Hunt for the community on Saturday, April 2 at the Willits High School. The seniors, alongside the Easter Bunny, hid approximately 2,000 eggs for children ages 3 to 17. In addition to the festive Easter Egg Hunt, the Junior Class had a face-painting station set up, and sophomores sold delicious donuts and water.

Additionally, the Senior Class sold raffle tickets for a large basket full of goodies donated by our wonderful local businesses. Tickets are being sold through the end of April, and a single winner will be announced at that time.

Read the rest of **Bunny** Over on page 14



Supes OK pretrial program, hiring incentives for deputies

Forrest Glycer
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

At their April 5 meeting, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved moving forward with a pair of law enforcement-related items – a hiring incentives program for the sheriff's office to help with deputy understaffing issues, and a “Pretrial Services Program” to allow more who are arrested in the county and can't afford bail to stay out of jail as they await their trial.

According to county Chief Probation Officer Izen Locatelli, the pretrial program will use a designed risk “assessment tool” and a “release matrix” chart for those arrested, looking at the likelihood that they might commit another crime or fail to appear for court. Then it will be determined if they should be released without bail and the extent of monitoring used as they await trial.

The pretrial program will be administered by the county's probation department in coordination

Read the rest of **Supes**
Over on Page 13

Fatal crash north of Laytonville Monday closes Hwy 101

Submitted by CHP Garberville

On Monday, April 11, at approximately 2:35 pm, a brown Nissan Titan pickup truck with one occupant was traveling northbound on US-101 south of Spy Rock Road, in cold, cloudy daylight conditions.

A white Peterbilt truck tractor with a flatbed trailer hauling pallets of soil with a solo occupant was traveling southbound on US-101 south of Spy Rock Road just north of the Nissan.

For reasons still under investigation, the Nissan crossed from the northbound lane over the solid double yellow lines into the southbound lane into the direct path of the Peterbilt. The Nissan struck the Peterbilt head on, and both vehicles and the Peterbilt's load came to rest, blocking the entire portion of US-101.

As a result of the crash the Nissan became fully engulfed in flames, and the driver died at the scene. The driver of the Peterbilt, Cody R. Sanderson, 35, of Willits, sustained major

Read the rest of **Crash**
Over on Page 6

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Solving Mendocino County's water problem

To the Editor:

Solving Mendocino County's water problem: 1. Fire Jared Huffman who said, "If you tear out Scott Dam you would have more water" – a stupid statement.

Scott Dam creates Lake Pillsbury which gives year-round water to Lake Mendocino down to Sonoma County and two North Marin water districts, one of which provides water to Huffman's home. We cannot afford leadership like this.

2. Scout Lake can be raised, which would provide water in dry years by gravity flow to Redwood Valley and North Ukiah Valley. This is a cheap and quick project, as the waterline can be laid along PG&E's natural gas pipeline right-of-way.

3. Sherwood Valley is a high and wet valley where a couple of wells can be drilled, and water can be piped to Fort Bragg via the county road, mostly gravity flow. Above ground, very cheap, and quick. A downhill pipe is cost-effective compared to hauling water from Ukiah uphill in diesel trucks.

These projects can be done in less than a year with financing from the state from the \$7 billion water bond which was approved by the voters in 2014. Very little of the money has been applied for. (Mendocino County has never applied for any project money.) All we have done is have senseless meetings, hiring a consulting firm for \$330,000 to say, "We are in a drought."

Let's do something.

John Pinches, former Third District supervisor, Laytonville

Support Cancer Resource Centers at Safeway in April

To the Editor:

The Cancer Resource Centers of Mendocino County is a local, grassroots nonprofit that provides vital services to anyone facing cancer in Mendocino County. All of our services are free of charge.

For about 20 years, CRC has received a grant from the Safeway Foundation. The money for this grant is donated by our generous community, a dollar or two at a time, at the checkout when shopping at Safeway stores. This collection is happening now, during the month of April, at all Safeway stores in Northern California.

If you shop at Safeway, and can spare a few dollars, your support of the campaign will increase the chances that grant funding will be available to CRC, your local cancer support nonprofit.

We are grateful to the Safeway Foundation

and to the local people who support their efforts by donating at the checkout.

Finally, if there are people in your life who are coping with cancer, be sure they know we are here to help: Go to crcmendocino.org or call 707-467-3828.

Karen Oslund, executive director, Cancer Resource Centers of Mendocino County

Questions for PG&E

To the Editor:

These are the most pertinent questions we would like PG&E to answer to any community being faced with "Enhanced Vegetation Management Program," on your private property in Mendocino County.

Is there a pamphlet explaining the objective and criteria for tree removal?

Has a CEQA, EIR or THP been completed on the scope of this project? Specifically, for either all the marketable timber being wasted, as well as proceeding within a watershed, which may or may not be used for the community's municipal water source or impact individual wells.

Are PG&E subcontractors, MCG, CNUC and Tree Solutions following industry Registered Professional Forestry standards, i.e. fire season timing, wildlife considerations, and the dispersing of chips and remaining piles of brush?

Or following the practices recommended by CDF, homeowners insurance guidelines, or fire safe council recommendations for "fire hardening" infrastructure?

Is there any oversight agency involved? Or is this PG&E and individual subcontractors self-monitoring?

Isn't there an obvious conflict of interest when a financial incentive is at play with a per tree-based fee structure?

Ingress/egress 12 feet for 12K volt lines, what or whom gives PG&E the authority beyond that on private property?

Are the algorithms being used by PG&E and subcontractors specifically written for properties in rural mixed forest designated "Remote Residential," or simply "Residential"?

Any alternatives to ironically only leaving PG&E's "dead wood pole," left standing utterly exposed and vulnerable to accidents, elements, fire, and inclement weather? i.e., emergency shut-off on all poles, insulated lines, or metal poles?

Perhaps PG&E could offer an alternative option on private property, at the owners' expense, for fire-hardening alternatives?

Randy and Mary MacDonald, Pine Mountain, Willits

Senior Center menu for the week

Willits Senior Center is serving lunch in its indoor dining room, and 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 \$7.

Thursday, April 14: Pepperoni Pizza, Green Salad

Friday, April 15: Tuna Casserole, Veggie, Roll

Monday, April 18: Baked Ham, Sweet Potato, Veggie, Roll

Tuesday, April 19: Western Crispy Chicken Sandwich, Chips, Green Salad

Wednesday, April 20: Orange Chicken, Asian Slaw

Thursday, April 21: Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Garlic Bread, Green Salad

Friday, April 22: Carnitas Burrito, wet, w/Green Sauce

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

National Dispatcher Week, April 10 - April 16, 2022

Posted by the City of Willits

The second week of April is National Dispatcher week – dedicated to celebrating and honoring the men and women that are available 24/7, seven days a week to help us during some of the worst moments of our lives. They are the first line of communication to officers, paramedics and firefighters. They are prepared for any type of emergency, from a car crash, a medical emergency or helping locate a missing child. They are calm, compassionate, resilient, intuitive, and are a critical component of getting the public the life-saving emergency services they need.

Did you know they have one of the most stressful jobs in America? They work 12 hours a day, many six to seven days in a row due to staffing shortages, to ensure people with emergencies who are disoriented, panicked and unable to think get the help they need.

Please join us in celebrating and thanking these unsung heroes who work for the City of Willits and keep not only our public safe, but the officers they support as well.

Stop on by the Police Department and thank a dispatcher. You may also leave positive comments and share your experiences. Or, check out 911treeoflife.org and share your inspirational story of a dispatcher that answered the call in your time of need.

Sherwood Firewise online meeting April 14

Submitted by Sherwood Firewise

Please join the Sherwood Firewise Communities quarterly meeting on Thursday, April 14, at 6 pm, if you live along the Sherwood corridor.

The agenda includes guest Third District Supervisor John Haschak, a special presentation on the Home Hardening Inspection Program funded by the Community Foundation of Mendocino County, and guest speaker Thomas Clegg, of Labyrinth Fire Resistant Solutions.

Join the online Zoom Meeting by clicking this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/856250363047>

Join by phone only, by calling (669) 900-6833

Meeting ID: 856 2503 6304

Password: 918795

Learn more about Sherwood Firewise Communities at www.sherwoodfirewise.org and www.facebook.com/sherwoodfirewise.org

MCSO thanks volunteers

Posted by MCSO

April is volunteer month, and the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office would like to extend a sincere Thank You to our affiliated volunteers. Mendocino County Search and Rescue (SAR), Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), and Auxiliary Communications Services (MACS) all provide essential skills during times of emergencies.

Please visit Mendoready.org if you, your family, or friends would like to get involved. SAR and MACS trainings take place monthly. CERT training will be held April 30 in Ukiah and May 21 in Caspar.

Register at: www.mendocert.com/training.html



Above, from left: El Mexicano's owner, Tony Madrigal, poses outside of his Mexican restaurant beside the specials board. Noelia Flores, left, Emilio Flores, and Fran Madrigal smile for the camera – Tony Madrigal considers them to be the day-to-day managers of El Mexicano. Madrigal says: "I've been here for 40 years. It's a great town and a great community." At right: The restaurant is known for its fresh-made menu items, created from Esperanza Madrigal's recipes from Guanajuato, Mexico. On Friday nights, they also serve beans with their chips and salsas. At right: Below: This group of couples who've been eating at El Mex on Friday nights for 25 years, is making a toast to the restaurant's 40th anniversary with alcoholic beverages of choice: from left and moving around the table, Bob Colvig, Bob Borba, Alice McAllister, Linda Colvig, and Kathy and Phil Shuster.

'Good People, Good Food'

Family recipes, friendly longtime employees, and dedicated customers keep El Mexicano thriving after 40 years

Community has been important to El Mexicano restaurant owners and employees since its inception in the 1950s. When you enter the Willits El Mexicano restaurant at 166 North Main Street you're greeted by bright, friendly smiles from Emilio Flores, Fran Madrigal (co-owner), Noelia Flores, and other employees. Their welcoming warmth sets the tone for your dining experience.

The Madrigal family was originally from Guanajuato, Mexico and brought that inland style of cooking to Fort Bragg. At the time, there weren't many Hispanic people in the county. The Madrigals attracted more of their family and friends from Mexico to join them as did other Hispanic families in the area from different parts of Mexico and South America.

Although you won't see owner Tony Madrigal's face in El Mex all the time, he's behind the scenes, handling the administrative and financial part of the business. Madrigal is also a longtime volunteer with the Little Lake Fire Department, currently serving as president of the board of directors.



Photos by Ree Slocum



Read the rest of El Mex Over on page 15

VENDOR DAY SALE

Saturday, April 23rd

25% OFF Most Items

Saturday 8 am - 6 pm Vendors 8 am - 2 pm

All Sales Final, Subject to Stock on Hand, No Special Orders, No Deliveries

208 E. San Francisco Ave. (707) 459-6791

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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



More of Resource From page 1

private events to raise money. "We started relationships of sharing," she recounted. "I knew nothing – except that the need was real."

The Cancer Resource Centers of Mendocino County became a nonprofit organization in 1995 with a five-member board, some of whom still serve today, and a sparsely furnished office on a Mendocino alley. A small donated seed fund and periodic raffles sustained it for the first five years.

Gradually, CRC expanded its programs, human resources, and funding base. In 2002, a large grant enabled them to add an office with paid staff in Ukiah. At every stage, Sara served as a dynamic catalyst, finding and channeling support and resources from near and far.

According to current national data, 500 Mendocino County residents are newly diagnosed with cancer every year. CRC's services for people and families living with cancer, all free, include a tailored list of questions for the oncologist and/or surgeon, accompaniment to medical

appointments, a recording and summary, and a host of other practical and emotional supports. Sara recalled that doctors were unused to having anyone in medical appointments other than patients and family members, so introducing these critical CRC practices required a lot of relationship-building.

The organization had help in honing its services from a Bay Area researcher, Dr. Jeff Belkora, who was writing a PhD thesis on decision support when a CRC board member connected him and Sara in 1998. The two collaborated on a state-funded, four-county project to train volunteers in decision support, followed by a decade-long research project on decision support, conducted by CRC and UCSF and funded by the California Breast Cancer Research Program.

Environmental advocacy and action grew naturally from Sara's personal experience and drive to reduce the burden of cancer. Growing up, she had worked in the agricultural fields of San Joaquin Valley during summers and been exposed to what she called

the "spray, spray, spray" ag practices of the day. She watched five close family members die of cancer and was affected herself. In 2002, CRC joined other environmental health advocates in a successful campaign to get 10 county school districts to stop using pesticides on their fields.

Next came "Pure Mendocino," CRC's public education and fundraising event promoting organic farms and healthy living. With farm tours, produce and wine tasting, and a bounteous final dinner, it started in 2005 and became a high-profile annual affair that has widened awareness of CRC's mission and raised a hefty portion of its annual budget. CRC also depends on individual donations and grants from the Community Foundation of Mendocino County and other foundations.

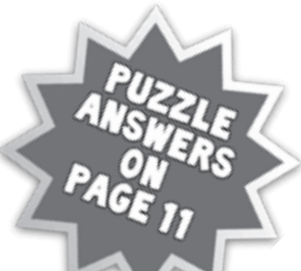
The year 2007 brought Sara national recognition. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation named her as one of 10 recipients of that

Read the rest of Resource Over on page 13

Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

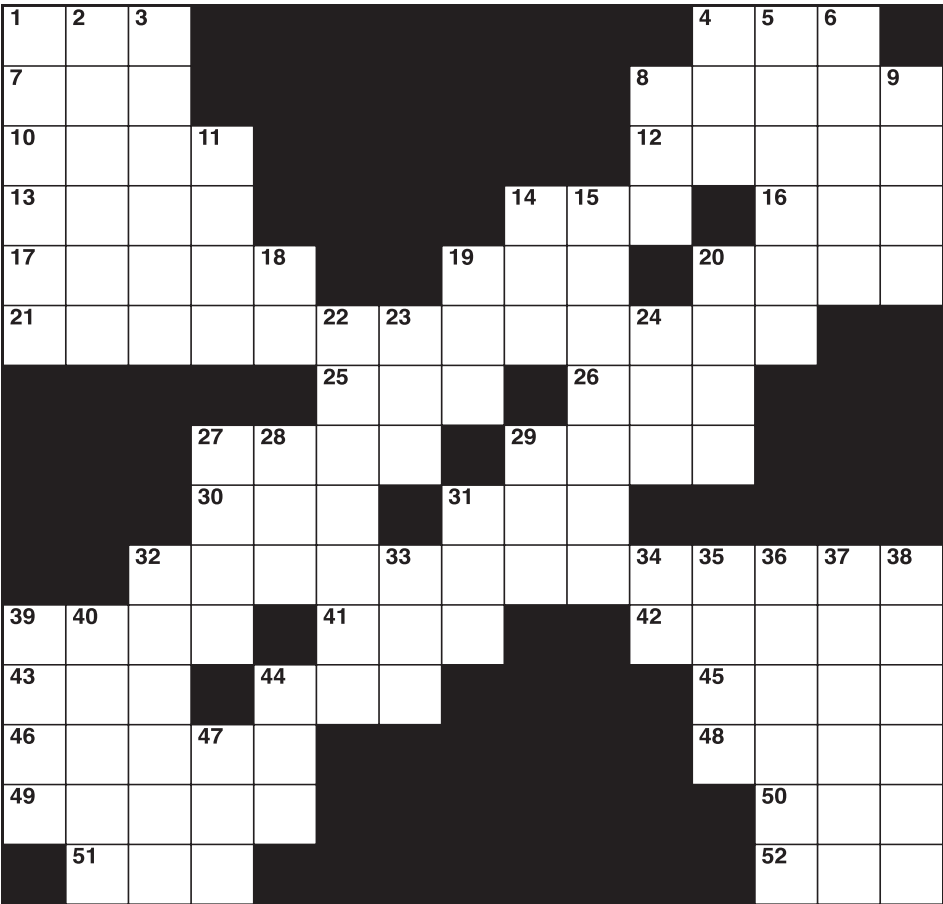
Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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



HOW TO
SUDOKU

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



CLUES ACROSS

1. Runs PCs
4. An entertaining, eccentric person
7. Small, faint constellation
8. Indigo bush
10. Not excessive
12. African antelope
13. A way to fly a glider
14. Tough softly
16. In the course of
17. Early Mesoamerican people
19. A way to drop down
20. Mistake!
21. Housing developments
25. Baseball stat
26. No (Scottish)
27. Type of cuisine
29. British Army infantrymen (abbr.)
30. Marry
31. Buffer solution
32. Legendary rock band
39. Recording industry show
41. A way to consume
42. Lake in Botswana
43. Political action committee
44. Field force unit (abbr.)
45. Very eager
46. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
48. Nocturnal insect
49. Challenged to perform
50. Thus far
51. Famed NYC arena
52. Commercials
14. Dash
15. Sufferings
18. Clearinghouse (abbr.)
19. Indian title of respect
20. Poems meant to be sung
22. Actor Cooper
23. Luke's mentor __-Wan
24. Clumsy person
27. Figures
28. Polish Baltic coast peninsula
29. Old cloth
31. Explosive
32. Automobiles
33. 007's creator
34. The Volunteer State
35. Old Irish alphabet
36. Japanese city
37. Portrayed emotion
38. Observers
39. Mimicked
40. Polite reference to a woman
44. Male parent
47. Peter Griffin's daughter

CLUES DOWN

1. Small, purple-black fruit
2. Baltimore ballplayer
3. Highly seasoned sausage
4. Split pulses
5. Northwestern Mexico town
6. Edible fruit
8. Upper-class southern young woman
9. Sums up
11. The most worthless part

At right: Kai gets his first flying lesson, on the ground. After the barbecue, an aircraft takes off for the return trip to Ukiah or Lake County. Piper Super Cub pilot Marr Olsen has many hours in the air. Below: A lineup of mostly Pipers and Cessnas entice attendees to take a closer look. Below, right: An aircraft is taxiing out to the runway for a windy takeoff.

Photos by Mathew Caine



At far left: A youngster watches the event from the balcony of the clubhouse. At left: Austin Spence of Embryonic Devourment takes the opportunity to work on his rock video with the aircraft in the background.

Airport Fly-in

Willits' Ells Field in Brooktrails hosts get-together of Experimental Aircraft Association members

The members of the Experimental Aircraft Association chapter #1027 braved reports of high winds and flew in from mostly regional airports in Ukiah and Lake County to meet with their compadres and fellow pilots for one of their periodic fly-ins on Saturday, April 9. The event included a barbecue, what the participants refer to as their "S100 hamburger." Although, they remarked it was more in the area of \$200 with the rising price of aviation fuel. Regardless of the cost, this disparate group of high-altitude adventurers spent the afternoon comparing the features of their individual aircraft, swapping stories of life in the air, and generally enjoying the company of those with whom they share a love of escaping gravity and earthly pursuits.

"This is a fly-in, aircraft display, and a barbecue. The public is invited to see the planes, meet the pilots, and have a good time," explained Paul Trexel, president of the organization, and the one in the neon vest directing the landings with his handheld radio. The six pilots that braved the high winds over the Ridge, and a couple hundred feet above the newly resurfaced tarmac of Willits' Ells Field, flew in on mostly vintage aircraft from the '50s, '60s and '70s.

This was not the annual Airport Days, produced each year by the City of Willits, who owns and maintains the airport, but rather a smaller club get-together to which the public was invited.

Three of the planes were Pipers, two of which were Super Cubs, designed for agriculture (crop dusting, etc.) with the ability to fly low and slow, helped by larger wings for lift and are lightweight. One of the Pipers, a 1959 model belonging to Marr Olsen, known as "the Flying Muleskinner" (at least what he calls himself) was still equipped with "a hopper and a flat back," he said. "There are three flap settings instead of two. Then the second seat was put in. I kept the hopper door in there so it would look like the old-school stuff. It won a Lindy Award at [a gathering] in Oshkosh, for being a classic airplane," quipped Olsen who almost always flies with his dog, Lilo, strapped into the second seat.

To many uninitiated, especially those with automobiles, 1959 planes seem old and dangerous to operate in an environment so far off the ground, lacking an easily accessible parking space. However, as Eric Mercer, member of the board of directors of

RE-ELECT
HASCHAK
FOR SUPERVISOR

Stands up for the people of the 3rd District and Mendocino County

Supports small & local businesses who respect our community/environment

Believes in a sensible cannabis ordinance that works for all citizens

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Haschak for Supervisor 2022, FPPC# 1442639

WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS

2022 Schedule of Events

More info: www.WillitsFrontierDays.com

Friday, June 17:
HOMETOWN CELEBRATION
Main Street - Downtown Willits | 5 to 9 pm

Friday, June 24:
TRUCK & TRACTOR PULLS
Jack Tharp Arena | 8 pm
Adult: \$20, Child (3+): \$10

STREET DANCE
featuring The Flat Busted Band
Following rodeo | Free

Saturday, June 25:
SWEETHEART JUDGING
Appearance & Poise
Noon | Rodeo Grounds

WFD JRS. BARRELS & POLES
Kick off series event
1 pm | Jack Tharp Arena

Sunday, June 26:
HORSESHOW
Jack Tharp Arena | 8 am

SWEETHEART JUDGING
Horsemanship: 8/26/22
During Horse Show | Jack Tharp Arena

NATIONAL ANTHEM
Rodeo Grounds | Noon

Saturday, July 2:
JUNIOR RODEO
Jack Tharp Arena | 1 pm
Adult: \$10, Child (2 and under): free

Sunday, July 3:
LIONS COWBOY BREAKFAST
Rec Grove Park | 7 am
Adult: \$12, Child: \$8

CCPRA PROFESSIONAL RODEO
7 pm | Jack Tharp Arena
Box: \$25, Adult: \$20, Child (3+): \$10

WESTERN DANCE
featuring Lance Michael Cornwell Band
Following rodeo | Free

Monday, July 4:
HORSESHOE CONTEST
Rec Grove Park | 10 am

PARADE "Western Heritage"
Main Street - Downtown Willits | 11 am

COUNTRY MUSIC RODEOLA
Rec Grove Park | Noon

BEEF BARBECUE
Rec Grove Park | Noon
Adult: \$20 & Child/Senior: \$12

CCPRA PROFESSIONAL RODEO
Jack Tharp Arena | 4 pm
Box: \$25, Adult: \$20, Child (3+): \$10

Sweetheart will be crowned on Friday, July 1

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE LOG

March 27 to April 9

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled **229 incidents** in this 14-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

March 27

2:43 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious activity in the 100 block of Wood Street.

3:55 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

3:58 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of Alder Court.

March 28

12:49 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of Franklin Avenue.

2:07 am: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 700 block of Coast Street.

2:48 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

4:04 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Creekside Court.

7:42 am: DODD Jr., James Monroe (29) of Willits was contacted in the 1400 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on felony charges of violation of probation and on misdemeanor charges of failure to appear.

8:10 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

9:00 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1200 block of Locust Street.

March 29

1:57 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of Alder Court.

8:18 pm: Officers initiated a theft

investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

10:16 pm: Officer initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of Margie Drive.

March 30

3:46 am: ALVAREZ, Jack Steven (59) of Ukiah was contacted in the 100 block of Catherine Lane. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance, disorderly conduct (alcohol), and failure to appear.

1:52 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 200 block of North Main Street.

7:29 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Wood Street and issued a warning.

March 31

5:40 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

9:01 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

10:23 am: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 100 block of School Street.

12:25 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 800 block of Railroad Avenue and issued a warning.

4:42 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

11:12 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 300 block of North Main Street.

April 1

4:37 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

9:19 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1600 block of South Main Street.

10:30 pm: HIRSCHFELD, Robert Anthony (28) of Willits was contacted in

the 200 block of North Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 23152 VC (Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol), and on misdemeanor charges driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.08 percent or higher and second offense within 10 years.

April 2

12:14 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious activity in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

2:18 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the 1100 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

4:22 am: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 300 block of Maple Street.

10:09 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block of West Mendocino Avenue and issued a warning.

11:05 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 200 block of South Main Street.

4:43 pm: STONE, Scott Joseph (33) of Conway, South Carolina was contacted in the 200 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 11379 H&S (Transportation or Sale of Methamphetamine), on felony charges of possession of a controlled substance for sale, and on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance.

8:53 pm: PHILLIPS III, Rickey Wayne (29) of Willits was contacted in the 200 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on felony charges of violation of parole, and on misdemeanor charges of driving without a license.

9:49 pm: TUCKER, Alexander Wilson (28) of Willits was contacted in the 300 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 243 (E) (1) PC (Domestic Battery), 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication), 1203.2 PC (Violation of Probation), and on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol).

April 3

12:51 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 1500 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

6:57 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 500 block of Raymond Lane.

April 4

7:46 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of Alice Drive.

April 5

9:24 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1100 block of Locust Street.

11:52 pm: GOFORTH, William Roylee (54) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on felony charges of failure to appear, and on misdemeanor charges of violation of probation and failure to appear.

April 6

1:50 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

3:33 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

8:10 pm: GOWER, Jason Andrew (30) of Eureka was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 459.5 PC (Shoplifting), on felony charges of grand theft, possession of a controlled substance or paraphernalia, and selling a lost access card, and on misdemeanor charges of providing false identification to a peace officer, receiving stolen property, and shoplifting with intent to commit larceny.

April 7

2:21 am: MURDEN, Evan Harlan Elwood (29) of Willits was contacted near the intersection of Walnut Street and Locust Street following a pursuit. He was arrested pursuant to 2800.1 (A) VC (Evading a Peace Officer), 12500 (A) VC (Driving without a License), and 11377 H&S (Possession of a Controlled Substance).

7:54 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 400 block of Redwood Avenue.

12:34 pm: CALDWELL, Cody Walker (22) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of Holly Street. He was arrested pursuant to 243 (E) (1) PC (Domestic Battery) and on felony charges of cruelty to a child (inflicting injury).

4:46 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 100 block of South Main Street.

6:07 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 100 block of Bush Street.

Read the rest of WPD Over on page 6

Earth Day Celebration

Friday April 22

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Organic & Natural Foods

Aldridge also “pulled out” what would normally have been a routine and non-controversial consent agenda item for discussion and decision.

The item was board adoption of legally required policy and enforcement procedures relating to nondiscrimination/harassment, specifically with respect to “gender based discrimination ... issues unique to intersex, nonbinary, transgender, and gender-nonconforming students.”

Aldridge explained he had “received some concerns about the policy ... that there are some areas that involve or potentially don’t involve parents in the process when a minor is transitioning regarding their gender.

“The specific concern was that the school district is overstepping the family boundaries,” he said. “Unfortunately, this policy really does reflect what state law is,

8:07 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

11:15 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1100 block of Locust Street.

April 8

9:52 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of South Main Street and East Mendocino Avenue.

5:15 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 1200 block of Locust Street.

8:40 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 800 block of South Main Street.

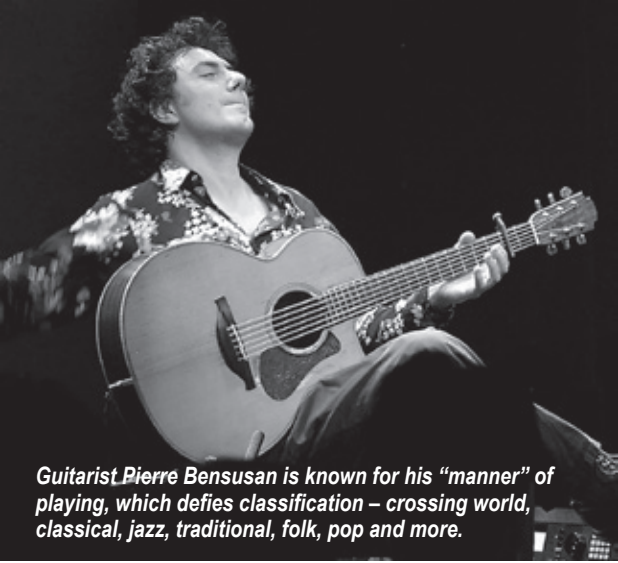
11:23 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

April 9

9:28 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of East Commercial Street.

6:57 pm: YOUNGBLOOD, Kevin Adam (36) of Willits was contacted in the 1400 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 273.6 PC (Violation of a Protective Order) and on misdemeanor charges of wilful cruelty to a child.

11:58 pm: PHILLIPS, Jake (36) of Santa Barbara was contacted in the 1500 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 273.5 PC (Domestic Corporal Injury) and on felony charges of domestic battery.



Guitarist Pierre Bensusan is known for his “manner” of playing, which defies classification – crossing world, classical, jazz, traditional, folk, pop and more.

Guitar virtuoso Pierre Bensusan in concert May 1 at the Art Center

World-renowned guitarist Pierre Bensusan comes to Willits, Sunday, May 1 at the Willits Center for the Arts. Doors open 7 pm / showtime 8 pm. The guitar virtuoso is doing a West Coast, New York and beyond tour to present his new album, “Azwan.”

Winner of the Independent Music Award for his triple live album “Encore,” voted “Best World Music Guitarist” by Guitar Player Magazine Reader’s Poll, winner of the Rose d’Or at the Montreux Festival for his debut album at the age of 17, Pierre is recognized as one of the greatest guitar players of the 21st century.

Described by the L.A. Times as “one of the most unique and brilliant acoustic guitar veterans in the world music scene today,” Pierre’s name became synonymous with contemporary acoustic guitar genius, long before the terms “New Age” or “World Music” were invented. He has literally created a style of playing with the ability to make a single guitar sound like an entire band, as he brings the audience on a mesmerizing musical journey. Bensusan is more than what any musician or music lover expects from a guitarist.

Immortalized by the tune “Bensusan” written in tribute by the late Michael Hedges, and referenced to as an important inspiration for many other great musicians, Pierre Bensusan is a one-of-a-kind artist whose music transcends genre and time, with an uninhibited sense of musical freedom and expression, a sense of something both playful and serious, otherworldly yet right here right now.

His “manner” of playing defies classification – crossing world, classical, jazz, traditional, folk, pop and more. None can be isolated as simply “World Music,” “Celtic,” “Arabic,” or “French”; rather, they represent Pierre’s genuine vocabulary and the best part of our world in its current state, a world sharing itself. Not to be missed!

For more information or to order the new album “Azwan,” visit www.pierrebensusan.com. Tickets, \$25 advance and \$30 at the door, are available at J.D. Redhouse in Willits, or contact Bruce Potter of Potter Guitars (www.potterguitars.com) at bpotter@mcn.org or 707-354-3326 / potterguitars.com

so that’s why we’re recommending that.

“I understand that concern certainly, and I think that we’ve really got to ... make sure that students feel comfortable connecting with their families around some of these issues,” he continued. “But we as a district will do everything possible within the law to involve parents in conversations on these topics.”

Board reaction was mixed.

“I’ve come to see this policy as a state policy, not district policy,” said trustee Jeanne King. “The state tells the district that we have to have this policy ... and it’s come to be an issue for me, because we adopt these policies because the state requires we adopt them.”

Trustee Alex Bowlds agreed “that’s entirely accurate, but it still boils down to, in terms of this particular policy ... unless it’s in policy then some people might feel they have the right to harass or discriminate in one form or another unless it was written out in specific format.

“And, unfortunately, due to the litigious nature of some of our population, it has to be spelled out so that people can be protected from harassment

injuries and was transported to Howard Memorial Hospital from the scene for medical care.

US-IOI was closed in both directions for approximately six hours for the investigation, clean-up, and vehicle recovery. It is unknown at this time if drugs or alcohol were a factor in this crash.

There were two dogs in the Nissan at the time of the crash. One of the dogs died as a result of the crash, and the other was taken to the Mendocino County Animal Control Shelter.

The California Highway Patrol, Caltrans, Laytonville Fire Department, CalFire, Mendocino County Sheriff’s Office, and Mendocino County Animal Control all responded to the scene.

This collision remains under investigation by the California Highway Patrol -Garberville Area.

As of Wednesday press time, CHP was not yet able to release the name of the driver of the Nissan Titan, still pending notification of their family.

Virtual open house for GreenLeaf Cohousing

Learn about GreenLeaf Cohousing, a recent venture to establish an affordable, eco-friendly, senior-friendly and kid-friendly cohousing community in the Willits area. Our vision is to build a supportive village where young people can grow up and elders can gracefully age in place.

We invite folks to join us for a virtual open house to learn more. We are having two calls to offer more opportunities for people to join us: one on Monday, April 18 at 7 pm and another on Sunday, April 24 at 11 am. Please email greenleafcohousing@gmail.com for the Zoom link.



Art Center Spring Classes: Registration Open

In addition to our monthly exhibits, art talks, and various dance classes and events, Willits Center for the Arts will offer a diverse set of art classes and workshops this spring and summer for adults, teens, and families. Register easily online for classes at <https://www.willitscenterforthearts.org/events-and-classes>.

Courses currently available for registration include:

6 Weeks Ceramics Course with Sofia Alaoui: April 30 to June 4 (hand building and wheel throwing).

Mothers’ Day Clay Workshop for two: with Sofia Alaoui, Sunday, May 8.

Acrylic Painting Workshop with Lisa Galindo: Instructor encourages participants to learn the techniques and to add their own style and to express their feelings in their artwork. Two classes: Saturday, May 21 and Sunday May, 22. Adults and teens 16 plus.

Portrait Workshop: with live model taught by Jazzminh Moore, May 24-25.

Flowers with Pizazz Watercolor Workshop: with Nancy Collins, June 10-11.

Family Mixed Media Workshop with Lisa Galindo: Start the summer making art as a family! Introduction to watercolors, pastels, and color pencil techniques. Create beautiful and fun paintings, learn new art skills, and take home a complete project after each class. Family class for parents/caregivers and children 6-13 years old. Four classes: June 13-17.

Register easily online at <https://www.willitscenterforthearts.org/events-and-classes>

Your art center also offers partial scholarships for classes.

For information and inquiries email manager@willitscenterforthearts.org

and discrimination,” he said. “We need these tools to be able to take care of kids that do feel like they’re being harassed or exploited.

“These kinds of policies, most policies in general, they didn’t develop in a vacuum,” he continued. “They came about as a result of incidents that occurred ... that drove these things, and court cases decided subsequent to those incidents.

“Most of this is housekeeping. And in cases like this, where we’re trying to protect people from discrimination and harassment, I think it’s good policy.”

Trustee Paula Nunez was “very pleased that the state takes it upon itself to do things that some districts don’t deal with, that they have children that require this type of language and policy.

“I am concerned that a lot of the kids that have trouble have trouble in their house ... how they’ve grown up,” she continued. “For me, it’s a bigger concern that parents have to be involved after a kid hits a certain age. Just like a long while back, young girls had to have the permission of their parents to decide if they have birth control.

“That’s why policies like these are important,” Nunez continued, “so you as an individual can make sure that you take care

of yourself.”

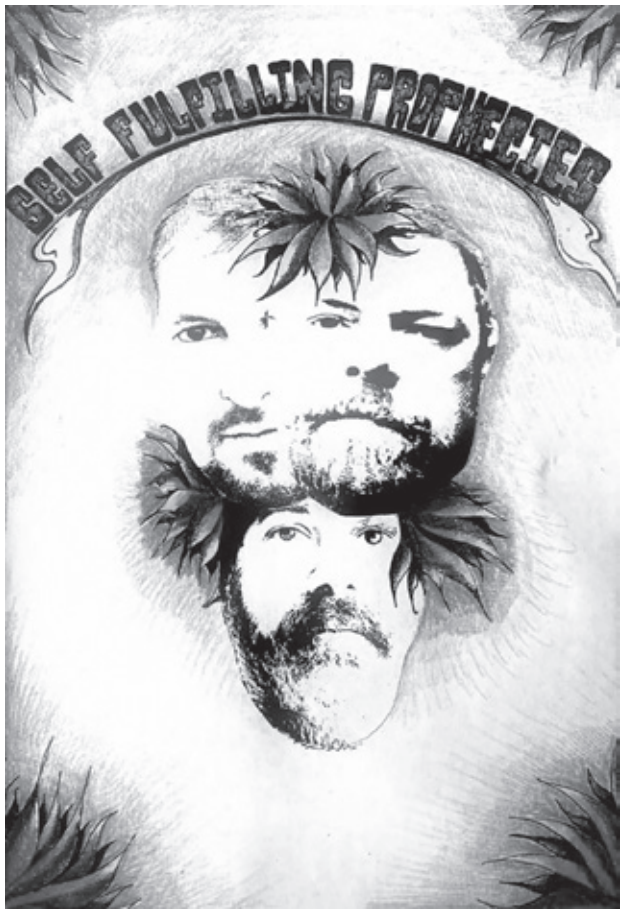
The vote to adopt the policy was 4 to 1, with King voting no “in protest of the state telling the school districts what their policies have to be.”

The state’s reach extends to educational programs as well, and there’s a new freshly funded one that will require considerable effort on behalf of the district to implement.

Called the “Expanded Learning Opportunities Program,” it will require the district to provide elementary-aged English learners and low-income, homeless, and foster students with significantly expanded educational opportunities, including 30 days of summer school, participation in before and/or after school programs, and nine-hour school days.

“That is a huge undertaking to try to arrange that many programs for that time period ... a big ask from the state,” Aldridge told the board.

And that workload increase, along with “the recent events of COVID, [which] have necessitated an increased focus on programs to support student achievement,” were two of the reasons Aldridge cited in explaining to the board why there is



Shanachie’s 20th anniversary – two years late

Shanachie Pub is celebrating their 20th anniversary – two years late – on Friday, April 15, starting at 7 pm. Food will be available from Flying Dog Wood-Fired Pizza & Vinyl and Hatake Farm Kitchen, and on our south wall, check out new artwork by Jazz-minh!

Music will be provided by Forrest Glyer and friends, opening for the Self Fulfilling Prophecies, a popular local group featuring Morgan Stocker (Nacho the Stockrocker), Buckminster West and Bodhi Idarius, who all grew up in Ukiah, formed a band, moved to Portland, and came back to their hometown. The music has elements of punk, folk and rock – all original compositions. A favorite at the Pub!

Shanachie Pub is located at 50 B South Main Street.



Anita Blu, left, and Kate Black of The Harmony Keepers perform their debut concert at Brickhouse Coffee, April 21, from noon to 2 pm.

Live at the Brickhouse

Kate Black & Anita Blu – The Harmony Keepers – will be performing their debut concert at Brickhouse Coffee this Thursday, April 21, and every third Thursday, from 12 to 2 pm.

Enjoy beautiful vocal harmonies accompanied by either guitar, ukulele or dulcimer, as well as piano. Sip on a delicious latte, eat lunch, and listen to easy-listening music of Joni Mitchell, Carole King, Leonard Cohen, and Laura Nyro, to name a few.

Brickhouse Coffee is located at 3 South Main Street on the corner of East Commercial Street, in Willits.



Above, from left: Fire crew member Nathan Ziegler enjoys kitchen duty, while his crewmate tests the spaghetti. This mural is a relic of the inmate crews. Ryan Smith shows the chain display which makes it easier to size and identify chains in the shop. At far left: Chief Frank Engelbert, administrative chief for the facility, talks with a crew member. At left: The tour guides for the press day at Chamberlain Creek Fire Center pose for a photo.



Photo by CalFire

One of the fire crews at Chamberlain Creek Fire Center poses for a photo.

Photos by Mathew Caine

Home Base

Chamberlain Creek Fire Center, once a facility for inmates working on fires, has transitioned to a headquarters for career firefighters

There has been a Renaissance occurring at the Chamberlain Creek Fire Center, halfway between Willits and Fort Bragg, on Highway 20. Gone are the inmates, who, as wards of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, assisted CalFire in the suppression of the many fire incidents over the last several years (more so in recent history) and assisted in the mitigation efforts to keep the fires from so easily igniting and spreading. As instrumental as the inmates were in these activities, it was time to create a home base for the regular career firefighters, including some ex-inmates who wanted to be able to utilize the skills they gained as prisoners.

The facility needed much upgrading to bring it up to non-inmate standards and to create an environment, both of comfort to those who live and work there, and of up-to-date technical and communication capabilities. The hard stainless-steel utilities, designed to mitigate the hiding of contraband, had to be replaced with more comfortable, homey ones that afforded a higher grade of privacy, in order to make livable conditions for the new crop of professionals who would be headquartered there for nine months of each year.

“I don’t think a lot of people in the public realize that when our crew buses are showing up at fires anymore that there aren’t a bunch of inmates in the back like they’ve seen in the past,” explained Ryan Smith, division chief for the facility, during a recent press tour. “We’ve expanded a ton in the unit and now we have a diversity in our crews that we’ve never seen. I want the public to know what we

have and who’s showing up to defend their homes and their property. It’s been a huge lift for all of us involved over the last year and a half to make this what it is today.” The last inmates left the facility in December of 2020 and were reassigned to the Parlin Fork Camp, as well as several other camps. Their invaluable experience in firefighting was not to be lost with the closing of Chamberlain.

Although Smith is still working on fully staffing Chamberlain Creek Fire Center, he spoke of what the full complement of staff would look like. “We have 80 firefighters housed here, six permanent captains, six permanent engineers,” Smith said. “We have a staff service analyst, a heavy-equipment operator, and a water and sewer-plant operator. We have cook positions advertised but so far, we have no applicants. We’re kind of in the middle of nowhere, so getting a person who wants to commute is difficult.

“Right now, we’re taking turns with the firefighters cooking,” said Smith, “but that really cuts into the day when they could be training. When they’re out fighting fires, they might get back at midnight and still haven’t eaten dinner and they have to still prep and make a meal. We want a staff that hopefully can have a meal prepped and ready when the firefighters return.” Several of the new crews, who are not experienced cooks, rely heavily on spaghetti as their go-to meal to prepare.



Photo by CalFire

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Sunday 9 am - 5 pm

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Saturday April 23rd 2022

Imagination station

11 N. Marin Street

Willits, CA 95490

11:00 am to 5:00pm

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Saturday April 30 - 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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Admission Free

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Into The Clouds

WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL JUNIOR SENIOR PROM NIGHT

Sat May 7th, 2022

7 PM - 11 PM

LOCATION- THE LITTLE LAKE GRANGE

TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT SCHOOL

4/19-4/20

SINGLE- \$40

COUPLE- \$60

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Above, from left: The intermediate class learns the ins and outs of the Buffalo Springfield steam roller. Beginning students learn how to work the valves on the steam donkey. Chris Baldo, one of the founders of Roots, begins the morning class. David Gilbertson, a Healdsburg science teacher, wants to eventually work as a fireman and engineer on the locomotives. Don Nelson, longtime trainman and Roots member, works as an engineer.

At right: Two of the advanced students work at coupling and uncoupling the cars.

Below: Beginning students start their practical journey with one of the steam donkeys.

Photos by Mathew Caine



Above: Willits High School seniors pose together with tickets and posters for the upcoming dinner on April 22.

Photo by Maureen Jennison

Steam Safety

Railroad enthusiasts learn the ins and outs of steam machines at annual Roots of Motive Power class

"If we find out that someone knows more than me, I'll just leave and go home," said Chris Baldo in his opening remarks to the group of attendees at the Steam Engineering and Safety class at Roots of Motive Power. The class is a once-yearly weekend of instruction into all aspects of steam machines, how they work, the physics involved, safety protocols, and their general operation.

Along with the Railroad Safety class in June, the classes are designed to be an introduction into the world of steam, the force which powered the industrial revolution and created machinery to make the local logging industry more viable, up until the internal combustion engine was developed.

The classes began each day with four hours of classroom instruction, filling willing heads with diagrams, numbers, science, materials, troubleshooting, and the general safe operation of these mighty machines. The afternoons were filled with practical applications of the knowledge, hands-on familiarity with the actual devices, practice in operations, and safety protocols.

At the opening session on Saturday, each participant was asked to introduce themselves and say a few words that would indicate their interest and experience, during which it was evident that this was a varied group of steam enthusiasts, novices, and more-experienced operators wanting to hone their skills.

Jay was participating in his second class (it is suggested

that they take the class every two years to be kept current and add to their knowledge). He told the class, "I still consider myself a beginner because my brain filled up in the first hour." Indeed, the manual was several inches thick and full of technical knowledge that few could absorb in one class.

David Gilbertson, a science teacher from Healdsburg who utilizes many of the principles in his classes and had recently created engines in one of his classes, wants to ultimately become a fireman and an engineer. "This is my first Steam Safety class. I took the Railroad Operators Safety class. Both classes have a lot of information. It's very engaging and full of critical information. We find out what can go wrong. Like Murphy's Law, anything that can go wrong, will go wrong. You really have to pay attention to all the details because anything that could go wrong can lead to bad consequences."

The class was filled with people, both local and from other counties. Bear Kamoroff runs the Roots Library at the Mendocino County Museum. "I figured I should learn what I'm talking about," he said, wanting to give better tours of the engine house.

Bob came down from Seattle for the class. Otto, who stated he was "totally new to this," said it was a passion project for him. Chuck Jones, a retired Little Lake Fire crewman, said, "Roots is one of the only places in the country where you can learn about steam

Read the rest of

Roots

Over on page 15

Please Support Our **BIGGEST FUNDRAISER** Of The Year !!

Willits Sober Grad Tri-Tip Dinner

Friday April 22nd, 2022

Tickets may be purchased at: **Cat's Meow** 29 S. Main St. Willits

PRE SALE ONLY !

Or Call : **Linda Matz 459-6201** **Karen Thiel WHS 459-7700 ext. 1504**

Dinner Includes:
Complete meal for 4 people. Marinated, BBQ'd Tri-Tip, Baked Potatoes, Salad, Bread, Cookies, and a Beautiful Rose Donated by Flowers by Annette.

Willits Sober Grad is a non-profit organization that works each year from September through June to raise funds which are used to put on a safe, sober party for graduating Seniors of the Willits Community Schools on Graduation Night. These schools include: Willits Charter School, Willits High School, San Hedrin High School, La Vida Charter School. Since it's inception in 1986, no High School Senior has died on Graduation Night.

Tri Tip Time

Support Sober Grad with to-go meal on Friday, April 22

Word on the street is that there's still a chance to snag a ticket for the annual Sober Grad Tri Tip dinner, but you gotta be fast! They're presale only, and the dinner is coming up soon: Friday, April 22.

As usual, the dinner will be done in a pick-up style: A dinner for four of tri tip, potatoes, salad, bread and cookies will be ready to grab – complete with a rose for the table! – at the Willits High School Ag Farm between 4 and 6 pm.

Tickets are \$60 each and are available from Willits High School seniors or by calling Cat's Meow at 459-6201.

The dinner is a huge fundraiser for the annual graduation night party held for graduating seniors to offer them an alcohol-free event to attend after the ceremony. The party is free to attend for the grads and is full of fun, prizes, games, activities, and much more. Fundraising events like the tri-tip dinner help finance this amazing event.

Sober Grad expressed their appreciation to the community and to dinner sponsors including: Cat's Meow and Linda Matz; Ace Copy Center and Martin Rodriguez; Safeway; Mariposa Market and Mary Anne Trevey; Loose Caboose and Jill Persico; Emandal and Tam Adams; Kay Moen; Broiler Steakhouse; Ukiah Paper Supply; Cattlemen's Restaurant in Petaluma; Jenn Drew and the BBQ Crew; and Flowers by Annette.

SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

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290 S. Lenore Ave.
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Sunday Services:
10:00 a.m. - Worship
Awana: Tuesday, 6:15 p.m.
Info? 707-459-1905
www.agapebiblechurch.com

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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.

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• Membership Discourses
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www.eckankar.org

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For appointments call:
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St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church

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Father Aaron Bandanadam
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Confessions by appointment:
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 Faith

St. Francis Episcopal Church

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Sunday Service - 10 a.m.
In-person and on Zoom
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ALL ARE WELCOME
The Rev. Betsy Bruneau

St. John Lutheran Church

Church Service:
Sunday 10:00 to 11:00
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24 Mill Creek Drive
ALL ARE WELCOME

Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church

707-459-5714
Friendly, open worship
Saturdays
Bible Study - 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service - 10:45 a.m.
Zoom Transmission Available.
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Children's Sunday School - 10:45 a.m.
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If you want to be included in this column please call:
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Troy James is ready to explain how to measure the thickness of the walls of this porcupine boiler.

JESSE PITTMAN FUND
5K RUN/WALK



11th Annual
Jesse D. Pittman Fund
5K Race

Don't Run, Charge !

Saturday June 18, 2022
5K Run & 5K Walk

Recreation Grove Park
Willits, Calif.

Starting @ 9 AM

Jesse D. Pittman Fund Memorial Scholarships
This race supports the Jesse Pittman Fund which offers college scholarships for Mendocino County high school students in honor of Jesse Pittman, who died serving in Afghanistan on August 6, 2011.

Runners, walkers, of all ages, kids too, are welcome!



Jesse D. Pittman 1984-2011 was a Navy Seal from Mendocino County A native of Willits

For more Information and to Register go online today @ :
www.jessepittman.run

The course is all on flat, paved roads. Runners and walkers of all ages are welcome. Strollers too!

To make donations, go to:
www.jessepittmanfund.org

On Site Food Vendors : Slam Dunk
Pizza & Big Earl's BBQ



Above, from left: You can start peppers now for planting outside in June. They need warm soil in a greenhouse or indoors. These Ancho or Poblano peppers are versatile for cooking and drying. These deep-blue cornflowers like to be planted now before the last frost. They are edible, make nectar for bees, and last a long time after cutting. Beets are a great choice for their nutrient density, sweet flavor, and drought-tolerance. Cabbage is a versatile and easily stored choice for leafy greens that are good raw or cooked. This is Golden Acre, also known as Primo. These Hopi Black Dye Sunflowers are at home in our hot summers. But they prefer to sprout while the soil is still cool.



Above, left: This pairing of calendula and penstemon is easy and keeps blooming all season. Local nurseries carry a choice of penstemon starts, and calendula is easy from seed, when you plant it now. Above, right: Early Mizuna is a foolproof spring green, often found in salad mix.

At right: Another Hopi Sunflower, with an admirer. At far right: A local specialty, Juwarot carrots are sweet and juicy. They have more vitamin A than other carrots too. Seedkeeper Ellen Bartholomew stewards this variety at Ridgewood Ranch.

Below: Broccoli is a favorite spring vegetable that can go outdoors now. At bottom, left: Bees, butterflies, and aphid-eating beneficials love the pollen in sunflowers. Hybrid types often have no pollen, so choose open-pollinated ones. At bottom, right: Carrots and parsnips need planting while the soil is moist and cool. They grow well with little fertilizer and moderate water. For easy sprouting, pre-soak them.



Photo by Moria Peters



★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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Photos by Jamie Chevalier

COLUMN | Garden Tip of the Month

April: It's spring! Time for sunflowers!

Spring is always too short. The wildflowers, the longer days, the pleasant temperatures for working outside – it never lasts long enough. For gardeners, putting seeds or plants into fresh soil is the very image of hope. Once the oaks leaf out, you can plant spring crops outside and see some real growth.

April's combination of warming temperatures and more daylight stimulates growth. Peas, roots (like carrots and beets), leafy greens, and the whole cabbage/kale/broccoli clan can be sown or transplanted outside now. These are all plants that can survive a bit of frost, and keep growing during the daytime.

Spring feels so fresh and warm after the long winter. But spring isn't summer, so hold off on warm-weather crops. Those plants that need warm soil for their seeds and warm air for their tender leaves don't belong in the garden yet. Some people get excited when the days turn warm, and plant tomatoes/basil/peppers, only to lose them on the next frosty night.

If the part you eat is a seed or contains seeds – think tomatoes, beans, corn, squash, okra, eggplant or melon – that crop probably needs to be planted after frost. (The exceptions are peas, favas and grains.) The last frost in Willits is typically in late May. If you plant lettuce and broccoli right now, you'll be eating them when you set out your tomato starts.

Sunflowers stand above all the rules. These classic summer flowers do best with April to May planting. They are bushier and more vigorous when the seeds can sprout and root in cold soil, about a month before the last frost date. Strangely enough, sunflower seedlings lose their frost-hardiness when they are about a foot high. After that,

frost will kill them – and usually does at the end of the summer.

Quinoa is another summer crop that likes to start in cool spring soil and should be planted during April. Others are echinacea, calendula, mache, love-in-a-mist, milkweed, poppies, and cilantro. Calendula and mache may not sprout at all in warm soil. If you plant too late, the seeds will just sit there until fall, and sprout when the fall rains come. Sunflowers are more forgiving; they will still give you flowers from a July planting – just not so many.

Sunflowers are fun and easy to plant. You can start them indoors or out, direct-sown or transplanted. (The main reason for transplants is to evade birds and slugs that can decimate outdoor plantings.) There are varieties for every taste and purpose, but keep two things in mind while choosing: One is that some varieties, bred for the cut-flower trade, have no pollen, and are useless to bees and butterflies. Stick with heirloom pollen-bearing types to feed garden pollinators and make seeds for you or the birds.

The other consideration is whether you want primarily flowers or primarily seeds for food. Most purely ornamental types have many small-to-medium flowers on long stems, and very small seeds. Oilseed types have medium-sized black seeds and bear a large flower on top, followed by 1-2 dozen smaller (but still substantial) flowers. They are prized for birdseed and for making high-quality oil. This type is also used for microgreens. Birds (including chickens) love the seeds, which are featured in the more expensive birdseed mixes. Hundreds of acres of these are grown in Ukraine.

Read the rest of **Garden** | Over on page 11

Willits CAR AND BIKE Show

40TH ANNIVERSARY

COME OUT & CELEBRATE THIS YEARS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

MAY 29, 2022 AT REC GROVE PARK

PRE CAR SHOW MAY 28 AT NAPA AUTO PARTS NEXT TO LES SCHWAB

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LEGAL NOTICES

WW383

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: STEVEN D. METOYER, aka STEVE METOYER

CASE NO. 22PR00052

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate or both of STEVEN D. METOYER, aka STEVE METOYER

A **Petition for Probate** has been filed by Candace Metoyer in the Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino.

The Petition for Probate requests that Candace Metoyer be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

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

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:

Date: May 12, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. in Dept.: TM of the Mendocino County Superior Court, located at 700 S Franklin St., Fort Bragg, CA 95437.

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

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

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

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

Publication Dates: April 14, 21 and 28, 2022

The rest of **Garden** | From page 10

The largest flowers and seeds come from the confectionery type. These make the seeds used for snacks. The biggest seeds come from a variety called "Humongous." It is easy to grow, and the seeds are easy to shell with just your fingers. To ripen those big seeds, confectionery varieties stop blooming after making a handful of truly immense flowers.

At Quail Seeds, we carry some of each type – Humongous for giant flowers and easily shelled seeds. Hopi Black Dye and Oilseed Sunflower for large flowers followed by copious seeds for oil, bird feeders, chickens, or sprouting. And if you just want lots of flowers all season, we offer the China Cat Ornamental Sunflower Mix.

The China Cat Mix also plays a part in a fun new seed collection where each variety is named for a Grateful Dead tune. The others are Sugar Magnolia Pea, Stella Blue Squash, and Dark Star Zucchini, bred by organic farmers (and music fans) Bill Reynolds and Alan Kapular.

One of the great things about gardens is that they are at once silly and serious, personal and universal. So whether it is sunflowers, salad, strawberries or musical zucchini, go plant yourself some joy. After all, it's spring.

Jamie Chevalier lives and gardens near Willits. She has gardened professionally in both Alaska and California, as well as teaching, homesteading, and working with several national seed organizations. She started Quail Seeds in 2018 as a locally focused seed company. Her website quailseeds.com offers over 400 varieties of seed adapted to the Northern California climate, as well as extensive how-to information.

Willits Elementary Charter School

Kindergarten spots open!

Willits Elementary Charter School is accepting applications for the lottery to join our school in 2022-2023. We will hold the public lottery on Tuesday, May 3. Applications are available on our website and in the school office.

All applications due by Friday, April 29.

Questions: 707-459-1400

Employment Opportunity: Accountant

Annual salary is \$43,701 to \$53,119/Annually DOQ/DOE

Position Summary: Performs accounting and analytical work assignments including the analysis, maintenance, reconciliation and verification of financial records; works with accounting, budgeting, cost analysis and financial reporting using financial management information systems; and performs related duties as required.

Distinguishing Characteristics: Requires knowledge of accounting principles and practices and skill to readily apply this to accounting systems and software. Incumbents are expected to independently perform the work to completion.

Application Deadline:
Friday April 15, 2022, by 4:00 P.M.
Contact Karen Stevenson at (707) 459-7176 or email kstevenson@cityofwillits.org

Current Job Openings:

Air Quality Management District
Administrative Coordinator
Chief Planner
Chief Planner – Cannabis Program
Corrections Deputy
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
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
Juvenile Corrections Officer – Extra-Help
Mental Health Clinical Manager
Program Administrator
Public Health Nurse
Registered Nurse
Senior Business Systems Analyst
Senior Community Health Worker
Senior Planner - Cannabis Program
Senior Program Manager – Nursing
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5	9	8	7	6	2	3	1	4
3	6	1	9	4	5	8	2	7
6	7	9	3	8	4	1	5	2
4	1	2	5	9	6	7	8	3
8	3	5	2	7	1	9	4	6
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Estate Sale
Call 707-459-5464 for information (land line, so can't text) about this ongoing estate sale. Call in afternoons to late evenings. Lots of kitchen stuff, furniture, appliances, tools, tool boxes, etc.

Horse Pasture for Rent

Horse Pasture for rent. \$150 / month. Also, free horse manure and free large bird cage. Call Bobbie: 707-459-9228.

John Ford Ranch Beef

John Ford Ranch still has the 50 lb. Rancher's Choice Box for \$325.00 and the 25 lb. Hamburger Box for \$150.00. Please contact Debbie Arkelian @ 459-5049.

Help Wanted

Medical Scribe Needed. Full-time, onsite in Willits, self-motivated, organized, and professional medical scribe with experience in orthopedics, Spanish speaking. Willing to train. Please send resume/questions to Daisy at MaesTopNotchNotes@gmail.com.

Photos with the Easter Bunny

Come get your photo taken with the Easter Bunny and his live, furry friends on Friday, April 15 from 5 to 7 pm at J.D. Redhouse in Willits. Digital images are \$5 each and the event is a 50/50 fundraiser with the Soroptimist International of Willits. No appointment needed, just come by! Info: 707-972-7047

RV/Trailer Space for Rent

Space for RV's and Trailers \$425 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 972-4696. See at <http://www.oakvine.net/tp>

Willits Food Bank Open

Willits Community Services & Food Bank continues to distribute food, following COVID-19 safety provisions, to hungry families and individuals in the Willits area, with an increase in numbers served. Donations can be mailed or dropped off at the front office at 229 East San Francisco Avenue, Willits CA 95490 – knock or leave in the locked mailbox in front. Food distribution is available at the back door on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 4:30 pm. Info: 459-3333.

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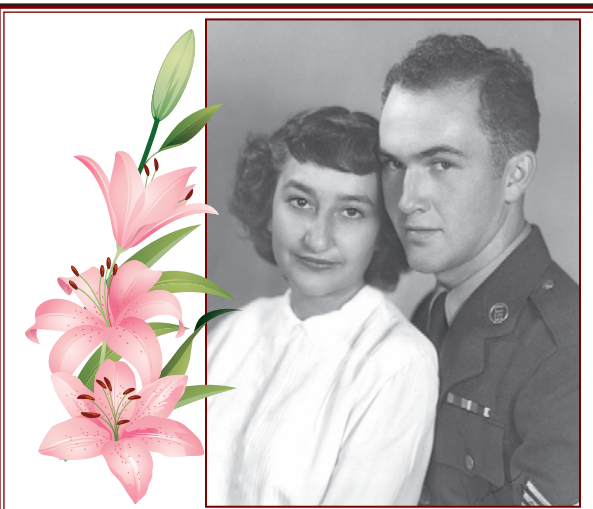
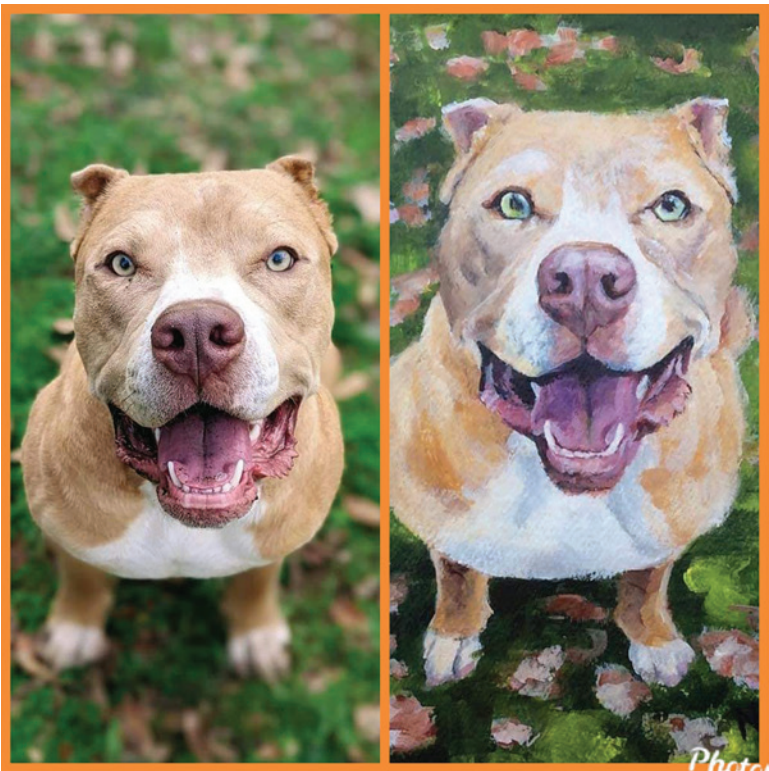
The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, requires a reservation to view adoptable animals. Call 707-467-6453 to make an appointment to meet Boomka or our other canine and feline guests. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendoanimalshelter.com.



Portraits for Pets

The Humane Society of Inland Mendocino County's annual Portraits for Pets fundraiser is happening this month! You can get your pet's portrait done for a \$25 donation and for an additional donation, you can get the original! The art is done by our local artists of all ages and skill levels. Visit www.mendohumanesociety.com to enter your pet's photo! All kinds of pets welcome!

What are you missing out on if you aren't participating? A one-of-a-kind work of art created by our amazing volunteer artists! Check out HSMC alumnus Biggens (formerly known as Hoss) showing off his portrait created by Jake Milliken. We think Biggens' mama is going to be very happy with her portrait of this boy! Portraits for Pets is a great way to honor the pets you love and help us save more lives at HSMC, and they are great gift ideas too! Join us in this fundraiser, there are only 19 days left to submit your pictures!



Yvonne Chester

January 30, 1934 – April 1, 2022

Yvonne Joan Chester, an amusing lady of great wisdom, wonderful understanding, and exceptional love, was born on January 30, 1934 in Berkeley, CA and sadly passed away in Reno, Nevada on April 1, 2022 under the care of Hospice.

Yvonne was always energetic and fun, cheerful and vivacious, and she lived a full and wonderful life for 88 years. She was the daughter and the treasure of Bob & Neil Meador. As a youngster, Yvonne's family lived in Honduras while her dad was on assignment as a Diplomatic Attaché, but after he was reassigned the family moved back to the San Francisco Bay Area. At which point Yvonne attended Vallejo High School, where she made life-long friends and was awarded a lifetime scholarship to U.C. Berkeley.

On December 8, 1950, at the age of 16, Yvonne married the love of her life, a handsome young man from Covelo, CA named Dick Chester, in San Antonio Texas, where she immediately became an "Air Force wife" and quickly went to work making a happy and loving home for her husband, Dick and their children to come. After traveling the world, Dick retired in 1968 from the Air Force, and the family settled in Fairfield, CA where they lived for many years.

In 1977 Yvonne and Dick moved to Alturas, CA; where they purchased and operated a motel, and it wasn't long until they were joined in Alturas by the families of their son, Robin, and their daughter, Cathy, that gave Yvonne and Dick the opportunity to spend many precious years with their grand-children.

In 1984, Yvonne and Dick moved to Willits, CA, and it's been said: "Only because Willits was as close to Covelo as Yvonne would go." And they were again joined by Cathy and her boys. So while Yvonne & Dick were again celebrating their family, they both also became involved with their schools as well as the community, and Yvonne began work as a teacher's aide at the Brookside Kindergarten with her youngest grandson in attendance.

This new circumstance gave both Yvonne & Dick an opportunity to reach far beyond themselves, as they cared and gave all they could to enhance and improve the condition of both the Willits community and its schools as well as their family treasures. These efforts were recognized and acknowledged by the Willits City Fathers, and in 1995 Dick & Yvonne were honored as the City of Willits 1995 "Citizens of the Year"

Due to illness, Dick passed away in 1995. Yvonne continued as a teacher's aide until her retirement. Yvonne cherished her students and the teachers she worked with, and she treasured gardening, and cooking (she made the best chesapeake ever), and she loved laughing and spending as much time as possible with her family and her dear, dear friends.

On Yvonne's 70th Birthday, she was given a Surprise Party at the Broiler Steakhouse in Redwood Valley where over 400 attendees happily praised, applauded, and cheered for her! It was a very special and welcome Birthday Surprise!

In 2017, Yvonne moved to Nevada, where she lived happily in a house on the north bank of the Truckee River right next-door to her loving daughter Cathy until she passed away from complications of Parkinson's disease.

Yvonne is survived by two Brothers: Bob and Jerry; and one Sister: Sharonne. She is further survived by her Son: Robin; and her Daughter: Cathy; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers - Yvonne's family asks you to please consider sending a remembrance donation to your local Hospice in Yvonne Chester's name. Thank you.

SNAP

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of Mendocino County

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- 3) Care-A-Van calls you to make an appointment. IMPORTANT: appointments are 1-2 months out, so plan ahead!

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OBITUARY |

Marcia Babcock

Marcia Babcock, age 82 and a resident of Willits, passed away on March 18 surrounded by her children after losing her battle with dementia. She joins her husband of 65 years, Jim, in heaven after he passed on October 15, 2021.

She is survived by her three children Mike (wife, Barbara), Patty (husband, Steve) and Chris (wife, JoAnn); her five grandchildren, Jenny, Marcus, Brian, Kelsey and Hailey, and her five great-grandchildren.

Marcia was born in Chicago. Her family moved out to California, eventually settling in Fort Bragg, where she met her future husband, Jim. They moved to Arcata where Jim attended Humboldt State. The couple got married on September 8, 1956. The Babcocks returned to Fort Bragg where Jim started his teaching/coaching career. They moved to Willits in 1967, when Jim got a teaching/coaching position at Willits High School.

Marcia took a teacher's assistant position at Brookside School. She worked at three schools in the district for over three decades. She was recognized for her "Outstanding Service for Education" in 1998 by Willits Unified School District when she retired.

She loved ballet, music, reading, meeting new people, and traveling, taking trips to destinations in the USA and Mexico, including a cruise to Alaska and her favorite adventure with her granddaughter Jennifer to New York. Her children and grandchildren always came first, from planning a trip to making sure they were healthy and happy. She raised them on gratitude. She taught them the importance of the written thank-you note to show appreciation for a gift or gesture. She raised them to be grateful for others' good deeds.

There will be no public memorial or service. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation on her behalf to the Hospice of Ukiah. Please send condolences to P.O. Box 21302, Concord, CA 94521.



David Glenn Hatton

David passed away 2-12-2022

We are having a Memorial Gathering on
Sunday, April 24, 2022
from 1 pm to 4 pm at
Willits Recreation Grove
Located on East Commercial St.

A light lunch, coffee and soft drinks will be served.
For your comfort bring a chair.

*We look forward to seeing you and sharing
in a day of remembrance.*

The rest of Supes | From page 1

with the local Superior Court, and the vote at the meeting approved a memorandum of understanding between the county and the court.

The new pretrial program will help the county come into alignment with new state guidelines following the "Humphrey decision" by the Supreme Court of California last year.

The case involved Kenneth Humphrey, who spent a year in jail unable to pay \$350,000 in bail, after being charged with robbing \$5 and a bottle of cologne from an elderly man.

An appeal by Humphrey and his counsel eventually sent the matter up to the state Supreme Court, which ruled that the bail set did not meet legal standards in California.

"Courts must consider an arrestee's ability to pay alongside the efficacy of less-restrictive alternatives when setting bail," the court decision read. "When making any bail determination, a superior court must undertake an individualized consideration of the relevant factors. These factors include the protection of the public as well as the victim, the seriousness of the charged offense, the arrestee's previous criminal record and history of compliance with court orders, and the likelihood that the arrestee will appear at future court proceedings."

Some of the monitoring measures Locatelli mentioned which could be used on those released include ankle monitors, home visits, cell phone reminders for court dates, and drug testing.

As shown in the release matrix chart at the meeting, some of the criteria that will be used in determining who is eligible to be released without bail include age, violent nature of conviction, prior convictions and prior "failure to appears."

"The candidate that you're looking for is somebody with a minimal prior history of criminal conduct, but they've committed a felony," said Locatelli. "You know, \$20,000 bail might be impossible for someone to afford if they don't have a job. So you want somebody who's going to be released from custody, they're essentially being taken care of by the county, there's less liability, they're back in the community potentially going back to work and contributing while they go through the court process. But you also don't want to release them with no supervision, monitoring, expectation, terms – that also doesn't warrant public safety."

Locatelli said the program was designed with a county workgroup that has been meeting since June of 2021. This group included Fourth District Supervisor Dan Gjerde, the District Attorney, the Public Defender, the Sheriff's Office, and the Executive Office.

Locatelli noted that currently a defendant can be released "on their own recognizance" without bail at an arraignment hearing by the county court. However, the method used to determine who can be released isn't very clear, and there's no monitoring system in place once they are released.

"Those decisions are made on the fly, a gut instinctual feeling," he said. "There's no assessment that they're looking at. They don't have any criminality studies except for what the DA has at that time."

"The court has to go through an analysis, but it's essentially an analysis during arraignment with the defendant in front of them and their defense attorney scrambling to provide information," he said later. "There isn't anybody doing any type of assessment work between the arrest and the arraignment. [This] pretrial functionality would fill that gap for you, and allow the court to have a better way to make determinations on who's safe to release and who shouldn't be released."

Locatelli also said he believed this pretrial program would be far superior to the "zero bail" method the county and state sometimes used during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic as an emergency action to reduce jail crowding and COVID transmission.

"That's the zero bail theory where people were just being let out, meaning that you don't have to post any type of bail," he said. "That's just a revolving door theory, that a law enforcement officer could make an arrest, they go to jail and they're immediately released with no type of monitoring or supervision, and they're

back committing crime, and the cycle doesn't get them out of the system. And they're not afforded the treatment that they may need because there's no carrot and stick model here. It's just release, release, release."

Locatelli added that using the pretrial program would hopefully eliminate the need to consider releasing other inmates to prevent overcrowding.

"We shouldn't be releasing people early who are convicted of a crime, to keep people incarcerated who haven't been because we're out of room," he said.

According to Locatelli, this will be the first program of its kind in the county since a short-lived program ended in October of 2015, which included assessments but not monitoring. He said that Mendocino County was one of only six or seven in the state that currently did not have such a program.

The MOU approved at the meeting will be through June of 2024, and the county will be receiving \$406,368 in Senate Bill 129 state funds for the program for startup costs and some initial ongoing costs.

Some county funds will be needed annually to pay for increased staffing, and the county is currently attempting to hire three more full-time employees for the probation department.

Locatelli estimated that the program could serve as many as 40-60 arrestees in the system at a time, and that the county could see some cost reductions over time with fewer people in the jail.

He said that some estimates put the costs of jailing someone in the county at about \$110-150 per day, with liability and medical expenses being among the highest.

"It sounds like a positive tradeoff to me," said First District Supervisor Glenn McGourty. "And then hopefully somewhere along the line maybe some people wisen up a little bit when they've had a close brush with incarceration, and possibly they're going to behave themselves and stay out of trouble."

Third District Supervisor John Haschak commented in support, "It's just kind of crazy to think that we don't have any kind of [pretrial] programs at this point."

New hiring incentives for MCSO

The hiring incentives for the sheriff's office approved by the board on April 5 include one-time payments to new sheriff deputy hires of \$7,000 for "police academy graduates who self-financed their attendance," and \$20,000 for "lateral transfers from another law enforcement agency."

In a letter that county Sheriff Matt Kendall wrote to the board in support of the incentives, he talked of some of the understaffing struggles.

"Without these incentives the sheriff's office will see a continued erosion of staffing levels," said Kendall. "Lower staffing may result in salary savings (partially offset by increased overtime and workers compensation costs), but also results in increased stress and officer safety issues. Workplace issues in turn contribute to deputies taking early retirement or moving to other agencies at an accelerated pace."

"Despite authorized staffing levels, the number of deputies is extremely low," he continued. "There has been only one other time in my 30-plus year career with the sheriff's office that we have seen personnel numbers this low."

At the meeting Sheriff Kendall talked about the specifics of unfilled deputy positions.

"Currently we're 15 corrections deputies down, and we have three out on light duty and other things," he said. "We're 10 patrol deputies down, we're six out with long-term injuries."

He added that not including injuries, this put them at a 15% vacancy rate in patrol and 24% in the jail.

Kendall said that the marijuana unit, the hard drugs unit, and the investigative unit were all at "bare bones minimum."

"We also have some pretty big concerns about what will occur during this year's fire season," he added. "With a lot of the climate change things that we're seeing – all of us who grew up around here, we've never seen a time like this before. The demands on public safety have grown in a fashion that we are no longer just investigating crimes."

"We're also out working, doing alert and warning, and going door to door," he continued. "When we had the Hopkins Fire, the Broiler Fire, the fire out by City Well there, 100% of the staff including my captain and lieutenants were out knocking on doors because that is where our staffing levels are."

While he had high praise for those currently working at the sheriff's department, he described the staff as "completely overworked," often working with no days off each week.

"We've got a lot of young folks who absolutely love working here, but they also have obligations and duties at home," he said. "We are also mothers and fathers and sons and daughters, husbands and wives. And you begin to experience pressure at home.... And we work very hard to make sure that the needs of the family are met, because if we can't meet those, then we aren't keeping our employees healthy."

He said that his understanding was that the sheriff's deputies currently working at the department were supportive of the incentives program.

"The Deputy Sheriffs Association and the Law Enforcement Management association went into a meet and confer on this item," said Kendall. "Undersheriff [Darren] Brewster reported to me that they were not upset about it, because it would help them be able to get their days off instead of working 21-24 hours of overtime a week."

He also said it was not the sheriff's department policy to recruit officers from local police departments, many of whom are also very short-staffed.

"We have not been recruiting from the cities," he said. "If someone comes over and knocks at my door, I spend 15 minutes attempting to talk them out of it because ... if all cities are not healthy, then the sheriff's office is not healthy. Because if one collapses, then I take on their work.... I'm in a meeting once a month with all the police chiefs, and we're all trying to work together on these things."

Kendall also talked of their efforts to recruit troops in the Deferred Action For Childhood Arrival program to work for the department and to help them obtain citizenship.

"I've got a couple of buddies who've reached out to me and said, 'My sons, my daughters want to go to work for you, but they're DACA,'" said Kendall. "Well, we have this wonderful thing going on where we have a young man who is doing all my hiring for me who is a sergeant – he was raised in Israel and was not a citizen when he first came to the United States. So he's been through that process. And so we're going to start reaching out to those folks and helping them to get their citizenship in the exact same fashion that he got his."

Kendall noted that high incentive programs and higher salaries in other Northern California law enforcement agencies make it difficult to compete in hiring.

"One-time targeted incentive payments are necessary to protect public health and safety," he said in his letter. "Without these payments, I'm concerned that we'll see severe impacts to public safety."

As directed by the board, the incentive program process will continue to be worked on by Kendall and a "labor negotiations team," and the sheriff will report to the board on the results of the program after six months and then 12 months.

Supervisor Gjerde suggested that the incentive money be spread out over some time to help prevent turnover, and Kendall agreed that was a good idea.

"That's an excellent point, and several agencies have broken it down between one and four years," said Kendall. "And one of the things that I've looked into is that they're actually paying for the experience that that person is gaining and garnering as they work for that agency, because that person is becoming more and more valuable to that agency every day that he works in a community. Every day that he learns who lives in various locations and what the needs are."

Some funding for the incentives program should be able to come from the American Recovery Plan Act money allotted to the county, according to Interim County CEO Darcie Antle.

The rest of Policy |

From page 6

a need to create and fund a new two-year assistant superintendent administrative position.

Approval of the assistant superintendent job description, rather than approving the creation of the position, was on the agenda.

Other responsibilities of the new assistant superintendent would include administering federally funded programs, curriculum development, adoption of instructional materials, adult education, and small schools administration, among other duties.

Aldridge acknowledged that "adding another admin is not always a popular decision."

And there were some who agreed, arguing that other vacancies should be filled first.

Blosser Lane Elementary teacher Amy Grooms reminded the board "about positions that have been eliminated over the last five years ... two English learner, [at least] two instructional aides ... two PE coordinators ... and a PE teacher at the high school."

"Years ago, there was a librarian at each site," she said. "Currently we are in need of one at Brookside and Blosser, and I believe the high school. And our K-5 students would greatly benefit from an art or music teacher."

High school teacher Brandon Ludwig supported creating the new position, but urged the "board to first consider hiring full-time PE teachers at the very least."

"Our elementary schools are short staffed, and our elementary teachers are overworked," he said, "and I think this should be priority number one ahead of hiring a new administrator."

Others wondered why the additional workload couldn't be taken on by someone other than a new administrator.

Director of Fiscal Services Nikki Agenbrood reminded attendees that

The rest of Resource |

From page 2

year's Community Health Leader award for her leadership in providing accessible support services for cancer patients and their families and her environmental health advocacy. Along with a large monetary award to continue CRC's work, she gained membership in a national network of honorees who meet every year to share learning and mutual support.

Sara began a careful transition to retirement in 2015, gathering advice from her wide network, and with a Community Enrichment grant from the Community Foundation to support a leadership transition, she retired as CRC's executive director in December 2016. She was succeeded by Karen Oslund, whom she praised as "a brilliant choice" by the board. Asked what was important in the transition to new leadership after 22 years, Sara laughed and gave a simple answer: "I got out of the way of the process."

The most rewarding thing about her work, she said, was "accompanying people to medical appointments and having them come out with less anxiety and more clarity. It's vital that the community continue to support CRC," she added, "because cancer isn't going away."

Asked to reflect on the Cancer Resource Centers' impact in Mendocino County, Sara summed it up this way: "I want to think that people get better care because they're active participants in choosing and understanding their treatment plans. And it's just not as lonely. They have a one-stop-shop for information, support, and advocacy. And that makes for a healthier community."

Learn more about CRC at <https://www.crcmendocino.org>

CRC's Fort Bragg office is located at 510 Cypress Street, B-200 / (707) 937-3833. The Ukiah office is located at 5 West Gobbi Street / 707-467-3828.

CRC is seeking more volunteers, including more drivers to take people to medical appointments, support groups, etc. Call to learn about this and other volunteering opportunities.

To donate (tax-deductible): Donate online, or send a check, payable to CRCMC, to the Fort Bragg address.



The rest of Bunny

The event turned out great! Many children received plenty of eggs in their baskets. Also, they seemed delighted that the Easter Bunny himself showed up to help them hunt for eggs, take photos, and put smiles on their faces.

There seemed to be quite a few families that were happy to join the Egg Hunt, which was heartwarming to see.

During the event, the seniors raised approximately \$400 (and counting) for their senior trip to the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, planned for June 1.

We are so grateful to the community for supporting us throughout our journey in our last year of high school. We are thankful for the help we received thus far, and we were proud to show our gratitude to all of you.



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NEXT WEEK:

THE BAD GUYS

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 2

(PG) 2 hrs 2 mins

Fri.-Sun.: 2:00, 4:45 & 7:30pm

Mon.-Thurs.: 4:45 & 7:30 pm

Movie Times for April 15 thru April 21

FANTASTIC BEASTS: The Secrets of Dumbledore

(PG13) 2 hrs 22 mins

Fri.-Sun.: 1:45, 4:45 & 7:45pm

Mon.-Thurs.: 4:45 & 7:45pm

Masks Required

THE LOST CITY

(PG13) 1 hr 52 mins

Fri.-Sun.: 3:00, 5:30 & 8:00pm

Mon.-Thurs.: 5:30 & 8:00pm

No Tightwad Tuesday film this week due to seat installation...

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

‘Sonic the Hedgehog 2’



Dan Essman
Columnist

The Story: Whimsical “good guy vs. bad guy” comedy/melodrama. Sonic (Ben Schwartz does the voice) is an insanely speedy (animated) bright blue hedgehog from a parallel dimension. As the flick opens, Sonic stops a robbery but his show-off style endangers others. Apparently, young Sonic has some growing up to do. His adopted dad Tom (James Marsden) gives young Sonic thoughtful “father-style” guidance: “Helping and caring for others is what makes a genuine hero.”

And then, the evil Dr. Robotnik (Jim Carrey) escapes from exile on the mushroom planet with the help of Knuckles (Idris Elba), a red-orange hedgehog with a bad attitude. Dr. Robotnik promises to destroy his nemesis Sonic, and pretty much everybody else on Earth. The rest of the flick features chases, battles, static electricity bolts, and laser-firing robot drones. And more advice from Dad.

My Thoughts: A fine movie for children. It is also a nostalgia blast for older gamers who remember Sonic the Hedgehog video game marathons. The makers of “Sonic 2” clearly believe that children’s movies teach right from wrong. Movies can emphasize the virtues children should develop as they mature, such as: Have concern for others, help strangers and even enemies when they’re in need, be courageous even when the odds are against you, and love your family. This funny silly movie specifically preaches these virtues. That’s respectable. Hats off to the filmmakers

Parents: Ages 8 to 10 and up. I believe this is a morally solid movie for children to see. It preaches courage and decency. And it’s noisy and fun. And the good guys win. On the other hand, for the very littlest ones, this movie might be just a lot of noise.

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

Above, left: The Easter Bunny greets even the littlest of kids at the Willits High School egg hunt. Above: Eggs were hidden a little harder on the big kids’ side of the fence. Below and across the bottom: The bunny poses with children before and after the hunt. At left, bottom: And they’re off! Hunters race into the field to collect eggs.

Photos by Maureen Jennison



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The rest of El Mex

Madrigal went to college in Colorado and moved back in the 1970s to take over managing the Fort Bragg restaurant. Soon he wanted to start one in Willits and opened another El Mexicano restaurant on March 9, 1982 in the old Country Mall that’s now J.D. Redhouse.

“After 10 years there, we decided we’d like to have our own building,” Madrigal said. Goldie owned the buildings across the street to the north and when she passed away, her husband sold the properties to Madrigal. They remodeled the structures that are now home to El Mexicano, Loose Caboose, and Upper Level Beauty Salon.

Madrigal estimates it took nine months to do the work transforming the former dress shop into the El Mexicano eatery. He brought with him the recipes and ways of cooking that infused his life and formed the basis for El Mex’s menu offerings.

“My mom’s menu was what she used to cooking, which she did very well,” told her son. His mother, Esperanza Madrigal, passed on recipes and preparation traditions that made for special and different Hispanic food offerings.

“She’s always, ‘No canned beans, everything has to be fresh-made.’ We stay with the old recipes like the beans and rice, enchiladas, the tacos, rellenitos sauce the way she made it. The Chile Colorado sauce. The chicken we still do the way she made it. We buy the breasts fresh, thaw them in a pot, and boil it. Then strip all the meat off the bones and use the broth and potatoes to cook and use it to make rice so it has more taste. Enchilada sauce we make here. Our hot sauce Emilio makes every day in the morning. We make our chips, too. A lot of stuff you can buy premade but we make it here.”

Through the years he’s realized, “You have to expand to see what your customer base wants. That’s the direction you have to go. You’ve still got your roots and your foundation and add to that.” In doing so, they’ve added specials like Mahi-Mahi Tacos, Achote Pork Shoulder Tacos, Chile Relleno Cheeseburgers with bacon and Curly Fries.

He has longtime employees and said, “Most of the people who work here have been here for years. Some of our cooks have been here for 20 years. We’re very fortunate to have loyal employees who stick with us even through the pandemic. It was a hard time for us. It is even now.”

Since COVID, Madrigal’s main job has been to deal with the product shortages. “We have to look for them or find something to replace them. Sometimes, things are back-ordered three weeks,” he lamented.

And prices have gone up. “We make our own chips. We take our tortillas and cut them up and fry them every day. We do it so they’re fresh. Before the pandemic the oil was \$19 for five gallons. It went up to \$59 for five gallons! And we go through a lot. It’s the same thing with cooking oil, the better-quality beans, and to-go boxes. It’s pretty much a full-time job to check prices and find out where I can get good products at a better price.” They’re continuing to hold the same price point for their dishes and he finds it challenging.

“I love living in Willits,” Madrigal said. “It hasn’t changed that much. It’s still pretty quaint and down to earth. This community has been good to my family and the restaurant. I’m very appreciative of that. We try to do as much as we can for our community. We still enjoy coming to work every day and we enjoy people coming in and the different generations coming through.

“I’ve had kids who worked for me and now they have kids and their kids have kids. We’ve seen the generations with our customers, too. They’ve come in with babies and now their kids have kids. We’ve been here that long!”

There are two illustrations of that: “I’ve been coming to El Mex since the ‘90s when it was in the old Country Mall right across the street,” said Dawn McClelland. “I order the same food. I get a taco and quesadilla with rice. The staff is wonderful. They know my name. I went to high school with Emilio and my dad comes with me. They call him ‘papa.’”

There’s a group of six who showed up Friday night and disappeared in the back room that’s made for parties and larger tables. It turns out they’ve been going to El Mex every Friday night for 25 years, except during the COVID shutdown. Then they ordered takeout and went to one another’s home, often eating outside. “We come for the good people and good food,” they all chimed in.

El Mexicano is a family-friendly kind of restaurant. It has outside seating with booths and tables inside. There’s Hispanic music playing softly in the background.

Look for the specials board outside the restaurant as Madrigal has plans to add new specials throughout their 40th year.

The restaurant is located at 166 South Main Street. Call 459-5702 for reservations, takeout or questions.

The rest of Chamberlain

“I think we ended up with about 67 [firefighters] last year,” Smith continued. “We’re hoping to hit our full 80 this year. What that builds in is our ability to get them time off. With the fire season seeming to be non-stop, we need to be able to get these employees rotations and breaks, get them off the fire line and home for a shift. Come July, we will be funded for a California Conservation Corps crew. We had a seasonal crew with them last year, with their vehicles with one of our captains. This year, they will actually be in our vehicles. We are permanently funded for two crews with the three C’s [CCC].

“A crew is 15 corps members and a fire captain plus a C1 from the CCC,” Smith explained. “They will also be type-1 hand crews. They are trying to hire a second C1 right now for the second crew which may come online, we anticipate, in August. After fire season, we will be transitioning to project-type work with those crews in the winter, fuels reduction and vegetation management, which they will be doing when not on a fire. That should be a pretty seamless transition as they have been doing this type of work currently, the same work with a different sponsor and logo.”

According to CalFire: “The firefighter hand crew’s primary responsibility is to construct fire lines with chainsaws and hand tools. This is done by removing vegetation or burning with a hand torch ahead of the oncoming fire.” They can also be used to protect structures. “Firefighter hand crews can also assist in efforts to contain and mitigate any major disasters, including floods, earthquakes, heavy snow, and search and rescue operations.”

With the prohibitive cost of rebuilding, all of the facilities are



The rest of Roots

operation.” Amy is a volunteer with the Nevada County Narrow Gauge. “I need to learn this stuff to get ready for Carson,” she stated referring to an upcoming steam railroad gathering in Carson, Nevada to which Roots will be bringing one of their locomotives and other steam equipment. Dan Lloyd is the shop foreman at Nevada County Narrow Gauge Railroad Museum.

One by one, 24 students and instructors introduced themselves and the class was handed over to the instructor, Baldo, who was listening to determine the level of each student in order to assign them to the proper area of practical equipment instruction later in the day.

Baldo began with a short history of Roots: “Our first show at Roots was in 1982. We’ve been running steam here for 40 years. It’s been a process, starting with one spool donkey to quite a collection of stuff out here now. We do a lot more than just have a collection. Our focus has always been having a collection that operates. We have some railroad equipment but we don’t consider ourselves a railroad museum but more of a logging-history museum. Railroads are a big part of logging history but there is so much more to it than that. We have a broad selection of equipment, some of it is steam-operated and some is diesel. Steam is a big part of what we do. To maintain any level of operating safety for ourselves and the public, we have to maintain a training program.”

Alexis England, president of the board of directors, added: “The Steam Safety classes and the Railroad Operation classes are basically a way that we can get people in. We’re a working steam and logging museum with a lot of operational equipment that we like to bring out of the barn and show during our events, like the steam festivals. The classes are step-one for our volunteers. We encourage our volunteers to do the classes every two years to keep sharp on their skills. We all know that steam vessels can be very dangerous. We hold these classes to make sure that our volunteers are safe.”

Engineer Don Nelson has been an engineer, a fireman, and an instructor at Roots and in museum railroading for over 35 years. “The students have a lot of information to remember,” said Nelson. “They have to keep doing it until it all sinks in. Railroading, especially steam railroading, uses all your senses. You literally operate by the seat of your pants. What does the locomotive feel like? You really have to spend hours with the equipment to really get the ‘personality.’ If you know the personality of the locomotive, you can adjust for whatever conditions. I’m listening for things. I’m watching the smokestack. If it is sunny or it is cold, the steam engine operates differently. You have to constantly adjust to the current conditions. The other thing you have to do is watch out for people. In a museum environment, there are people all around and they don’t always do the right thing.”

To look into becoming a student, to become a volunteer for one of their twice-monthly work days, or to become a member of Roots, visit their Facebook page or https://rootsofmotivepower.com, or email rootsinwillits@gmail.com. Roots of Motive Power is located at 420 East Commercial Street, just east of the Mendocino County Museum.

Above: The advanced students work with the actual steam engine. Below: Roots member Eli Mosher hones his skills in the advanced class.

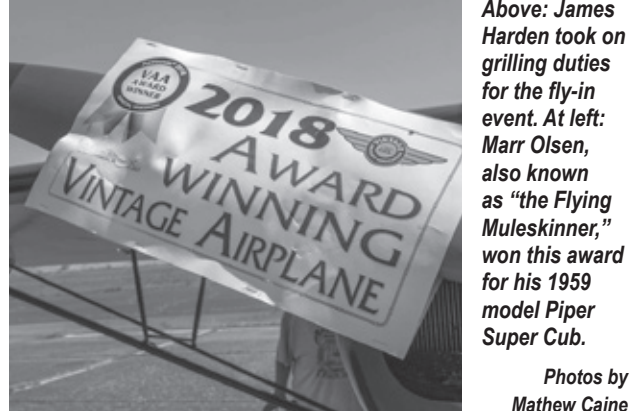
Photos by Mathew Caine



being retrofitted, repurposed, and generally brought up to code for the new crop of firefighters, in order to create a camp where the crews are able to most efficiently arrive at fires in a timely manner and have the equipment and training to best bring the fires to bay. The camp will also be a place where firefighters will be able to train and live in a reasonable environment which affords them to have, at least, the minimum of comfort, even though it is a paramilitary (per Smith) organization.

Keeping in mind that the fire seasons have become longer and much more destructive in recent years, any efforts to improve the response to these environmental and life-changing events is to be welcomed. Hopefully, the administration will be able to fully staff the camp in a timely manner in order to be prepared for the challenges to come.

Visit www.fire.ca.gov for more information about employment.



Photos by Mathew Caine

The rest of Airport

the local Experimental Aircraft Association said: “Just flew in the light-green plane, a 1979 Grumman Tiger. As cars go, it’s really old but not so for airplanes. Every year you take it in and it’s basically rebuilt. It’s called an annual inspection. Anything that’s not right gets repaired or replaced.”

Pilots are a breed of human all to themselves. Once one has experienced the freedom of being in the air, traveling in whichever direction they choose, or feeling the moments of having to deal with glitches in the engines while aloft or choppy air that necessitates quick action, there is a comradery that is known only to the participants.

Zhidao, a young man in his early 20s, always knew he wanted to be a pilot and went after his dream. “I just kept at it and got my license when I was 17. I did the course in 34 days because I had been flying since I was 12, so when I eventually went to flight school, I just zoomed through it. I soloed within four hours. I’m currently working on my commercial license. When I was younger, I wanted to fly for the airlines but now I’m open to whomever will hire me. I could do some back-country flying for hire which is more fun than flying for the airlines. Maybe I’ll fly seaplanes.” As long as it involves being in the air, Zhidao is up for it.

There is no shortage of stories, listening to the aviators, tales of daring, scary moments, or encounters with other pilots. Duell Parks, a helicopter and airplane pilot, told of one of his trips to Australia: “I flew around Australia in a Cessna 172 sometime in the early ‘80s. As I was coming back into Sidney, the plane starts backfiring and I had to land at a smaller airport. As soon as I got down, I heard a voice saying, ‘Hey Yank, you wanna go for a ride in a MIG?’ I said ‘why not?’ I just went through a scary time with my Cessna, why not? We take off and as we get to the air he went right over the top of the sailboats. I think we were flying upside down half the time. My stomach was about as weak as it could get by that time. We did a couple rolls coming back.

“Then I went to Melbourne years later, to the Royal Air Force museum field,” continued Parks, “and got a chance to fly in a Sopwith Camel [WWI biplane]. It’s made out of cloth. It’s hardly there. The guy asked me if I wanted to do a roll. I said ‘no thanks.’ I was afraid, looking at the cloth and all the strings and wires.”

One of the many factors that pilots of small aircraft have to keep in mind is weight. They cannot carry more weight than the design and power of the plane is capable of. During the barbecue, Olsen was offered a hamburger and ice cream but refused. “I have to fly my Super Cub back and I don’t want to add too much weight to it,” he said wryly.

For more information on the Experimental Aircraft Association, visit www.eaa1027.org.

Community Crossroads of Mendocino County

Dear Leonard and MedStar,

Thank you for your generous contribution of \$2000 on 11/04/2021 !

Your support has immediately put a roof over the head of a homeless mom and daughter for 7 days, as well has afforded the family to have minutes on their cell phone. This effort gave them the time and ability to regroup, work on getting her Social Security reinstated, and have the ability to navigate services and has now applied for affordable housing. That was just a \$480 dent in the funds. We were able to provide a cell phone and pay for 3 months of service for another critically homeless individual, who can now receive calls from outreach workers to get his SSI reinstated, and reach out for support and assistance. This individual is in rural Laytonville... on the ground. These are just two examples of the enormous impact you have made on our homeless community, and will continue to make through the availability of sleeping bags, plastic sheets and tarps, wool socks, hand warmers, pads and many other life saving supplies that truly make the difference when living in the elements... as you well know!

Thank you for your support and for recognizing the need of this precarious population. Your generosity will get us through to spring!

Blessings,
Shannon DeMuth
Founder/Program Manager
Community Crossroads of Mendocino County,
a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization



Medstar Ukiah Ambulance, a 501(c)(3) non-profit community service, has donated more than \$157,000 to local fire departments and community causes over the last two years!

Ukiah Ambulance has served the residents of Mendocino County for more than 80 years. The organization was founded in 1937 by local volunteer groups (including the Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, the Active 20-30 Club and Druids), and keeping in mind their deep-rooted history serving our community, has made it a priority

to continue paying it forward and giving back. Len Winter, who owned Ukiah Ambulance for 40 years, was a pillar in our community who donated thousands of hours and dollars to local causes, from non-profits to youth sports.

Today, Len’s son: Leonard, and granddaughter: Lea, continue to carry on Len’s legacy of giving back. In 2012, Leonard and Lea transformed Ukiah Ambulance into Medstar Ambulance of Mendocino County Inc. dba Ukiah Ambulance: a 501(c)(3) non-profit community service – ensuring Len’s legacy of community philanthropy endures well into the future. Since obtaining their non-profit status 10 years ago, Medstar continues to reinvest in our community, part of their commitment to serving all of us.

Medstar Ukiah Ambulance’s generous donations have supported more than a dozen local fire departments and valued community non-profits:

Beneficiary/Recipient	Amount Donated	Purpose
Anderson Valley Fire Department	\$18,500	Help buy a new ambulance & wildland fire engine
Hopland Fire Protection District	\$17,000	Equipment, Supplies and Training
Little Lake – Willits Fire Department	\$16,200	Equipment, Supplies and Training
Brooktrails Township Fire Department	\$15,000	Personnel Training and Equipment Upgrades
Covelo Fire Protection District	\$15,000	Stair chairs, pulse oximeters & other equipment/medical supplies
Laytonville Fire Department	\$15,000	Last funds needed to buy a new ambulance
Potter Valley Fire Department	\$15,000	Jaws of Life and other Needed Supplies and Equipment
Redwood Valley-Calpella Fire Department	\$15,000	4 Automatic Defibrillators, Supplies and Medical Equipment
Mendocino College	\$12,500	EMT Scholarships for Mendocino College students
Elk Volunteer Fire Department	\$10,000	Power gurney to transport ill or injured patients
Ukiah Senior Center	\$5,500	Sustaining programs and services for seniors
Community Crossroads of Mendocino County	\$2,000	Temporary housing for homeless mother and her child
Boys and Girls Club of Ukiah	\$500	Supporting programs for local youth enrolled in the club

Medstar Ukiah Ambulance has also made generous non-monetary contributions to support:

Beneficiary/Recipient	Good Donated	Purpose
Covelo Fire Protection District	Quick response vehicle	Improved emergency response times
Mendocino County Search and Rescue	Ambulance	Converted vehicle into a Dive Team Support Vehicle
Hopland Fire Protection District	Ambulance	Converted vehicle into a rescue truck
Redwood Coast Fire Protection District	Ambulance	Improved emergency response times
Little Lake-Willits Fire Department	Ambulance	Converted vehicle into a rescue truck

Hear from community leaders on how Medstar’s generosity has improved their outlook:



“We would like to thank Medstar Ukiah Ambulance for their many years of support. Their donations have been used for supplies, equipment, and training.”
— Chief Mitch Franklin, Hopland Fire Protection District



“With your faithful financial contribution, you’ve demonstrated your deep commitment to our work. Your support will play a key role in our success in helping us maintain and buy a new ambulance, new wildland fire engine and equipment.”
— Chief Andres Avila, Anderson Valley Fire Department



“Thank you for your donation, the years of support and your commitment to the citizens of Redwood Valley.”
— Chief Kerry Robinson, Redwood Valley-Calpella Fire Department



“We would like to express our appreciation to Medstar for their donations. We used the money to purchase jaws of life and other needed supplies and equipment.”
— Chief Bill Pauli, Potter Valley Fire Department



“We greatly appreciate your monetary donation and the donation of the ambulance. The ambulance is now our being used as Rescue 5431. The money donated was used for equipment, supplies, and training.”
— Deputy Chief John Thomen, Little Lake – Willits Fire Department



“Medstar’s generosity benefits our community by allowing us to upgrade our equipment and training.”
— Jon K. Noyer, Chief, Brooktrails Township Fire Department



“Thank you (Medstar) for your donation! This is the final money we need for our new ambulance.”
— Retired Chief Sue Carberry, Laytonville Fire Department



“We are so thankful to Medstar for generously donating a quick response vehicle to our department. The cash donations they gave us helped us get the medical equipment we needed for the vehicle.”
— Chief Doreen Freeman, Covelo Fire Protection District



“Medstar’s donation will go a long way towards purchasing a new power gurney for our department.”
— Chief Bob Matson, Elk Volunteer Fire Department

Medstar Ambulance of Mendocino County Inc. dba Ukiah Ambulance, a 501(c)(3) non-profit community service, is proud to support important community causes across Mendocino County!

www.MedstarMendocino.org