Willits 2013Veek A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits Thursday, April 15, 2021 Donations Accepted Edition No. 398

Water availability is the next county crisis

Jennifer Poole Editor & Reporter willitsweekly@gmail.com

The Mendocino County Supervisors Board of dire heard forecasts about water availability and California's ongoing drought at their meeting Tuesday, at a workshop organized by the board's ad hoc water committee. First District Supervisor Glenn McGourty and Second District Supervisor Mo Mulheren.

"I'd like to report that our next county crisis has arrived - we're barely out of COVID and here comes

Read the rest of Water

Over on Page 11

BOS encourages written comment for April 19 cannabis meeting

Submitted by the Mendocino County **Executive Office**

At the special meeting of the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors on Monday, April 19, the Cannabis Cultivation and Cannabis Facilities Ordinances will be considered. Due to the high level of public interest on these matters, it is anticipated that the board may not have sufficient time to hear from all speakers who sign up. Although the board has scheduled a special meeting for these two items, early indications are that there may be more people wishing to speak on



Fruit Blossom Beauty

Warm weather makes for beautiful blooms, and hopefully fruit, too!

It's sure feeling a lot like spring for the last few days with wonderful sunny weather and blossoms appearing everywhere, including the apple and pear trees. Sunshine is only part of the recipe for a delicious fruit harvest, however; another major component is rain - which we certainly have not had our fair share of yet.

Maybe more rain is on the horizon, but in the meantime, giving fruit trees a little extra boost of water from the hose, any water tanks or catch barrels, or even saving shower water or sink water (with biodegradable soaps!) can help get the trees through this drought.

- Maureen Jennison







Supes approve increased cannabis enforcement

Forrest Glyer Reporter , willitsweekly@gmail.com

itsweeklv@amail.com ഗ

lookina

meet calendar

At Monday's special meeting, Mendocino County Supervisors Board of unanimously approved directions to county staff which, if followed through could dramatically on, increase enforcement measures on non-permitted cannabis farms.

There ended up being six different actions approved at the April 12 meeting. The main targets of the increased enforcement would be non-permitted spotted farms using

Read the rest of Increased Over on Page 11

Willits City Council's proposed 2021 goals

Submitted by City of Willits

The Willits City Council had a goal setting workshop on April 6. Council members have been asked "to identify and approve goals to guide the organization and to aid the development of the Fiscal

Read the rest of Comments

Over on Page 4

County announces reduction in vaccine allocation

Submitted by the Mendocino County **Executive Office**

On the evening of April 7, the California Department of Public Health announced significant vaccine allocation changes. Unfortunately, the State of California is receiving reduced supply of а COVID-19 vaccines from the federal government for allocation to local health jurisdictions and providers.

The Centers for Disease Control indicates there are approximately 1 million first doses available for

Read the rest of Vaccine Over on Page 4

BIGGEST FUNDRAISER Of The Year !! ts Sober Grad Tri-Tip Dinner Friday April 23rd, 2021 Tickets may be purchased at: **Cat's Meow** 29 S. Main St. Willits PRE SALE ONLY ! Or Call : Linda Matz 459-6201 Thiel WHS 459-7700 ext. 1504

Year 2021 – 2022 budget."

The list below, not in ranked order, has 14 potential goals for the city.

The City Council is asking for any public comments on these goals to be submitted prior to council adoption at the April 28 City Council meeting.

Please submit any comments to City Manager Brian Bender at bbender@ cityofwillits org prior to April 22, at 12 pm.

Read the rest of Goals Over on Page 11

MCSO arrests 2 after traffic stop

By Sergeant Mike Dygert for MCSO

On April 8, at about 10:15 am, a Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputy conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle in the 22000 block of East Side Road in Willits.

The deputy contacted the occupants of the vehicle, driver David Mairs, 29 of Clearlake Oaks, and passenger Caytlin Collicott, 23 of Willits.

The deputy conducted records checks on both subjects and learned Mairs had a \$80,000 felony arrest warrant out of Sonoma

Read the rest of Arrests Over on Page 4

Above: 2021's Sober Grad party was a little different, taking the virtual route, but gifts were given out just the same, purchased with funds raised from events like the Sober Grad Tri-Tip Dinner.

> Photo by Maureen Jennison

Below: Previous attendees Melodie Sorace, left, and Cyndi Clark, right, pick up dinners to enjoy, all while supporting the Sober Grad cause.

Photos by Jennifer Poole

Time for Tri Tip Willits Sober Grad holds annual Drive-Thru Dinner fundraiser on April 23

Even as the event draws nearer, there's still some tickets left for Sober Grad's biggest fundraiser of the year, the Tri-Tip Dinner.

The dinner for four includes a complete meal of marinated and barbecued tri tip, baked salad. potatoes, bread, cookies and a rose, and will be available for pick-up at the

April 23.

Tickets for the dinner are \$60 each and are available at Cat's Meow, or from Karen Thiel at Willits High School.

Sober Grad is a non-profit organization that helps all senior graduates in Willits have a safe and happy graduation

Willits High School Ag Farm on night party - one filled with loot and gifts and cold hard cash. The trade-off? Come stay the night at the alcohol-free party.

> Since Sober Grad's creation back in 1986, there have been no senior deaths on graduation night.

More information: 459-6201 or 459-7700.





No on 10% cannabis expansion To the Editor:

To the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors: As a resident of the Willits area, Little Lake Valley, I have a number of concerns regarding the "Wild West" mentality related to cannabis grows in our area

One of these concerns is the extensive burden that will be placed on our already stressed water resources. If the county proceeds with allowing up to 10% of a parcel's land mass for cannabis cultivation. it would be reasonable to postulate that there would be further drawdown of the valley's aquifer. There is more than anecdotal evidence that excessive water consumption by cannabis growers has resulted in existing shallow wells, i.e. approximately 30 feet, to go dry. How many homeowners, whose sole water source is their well, have the financial means to drill a new "deep well," to the tune of \$ 20,000 to \$25,000?

Mendocino County has been in an ongoing drought, with no relief in sight in the foreseeable future. That being the case, then why further exacerbate the situation by The County of Mendocino has given Sober Grad preliminary potentially increasing water usage by 30 to 50 percent?

In case you haven't noticed, there has been a significant increase in the number of water tanker trucks plying our rural roads. Am I so foolish to assume that there are that many construction jobs that require that much water for dust control?

Other issues that I see as problematic:

• The permitting process

Overall cannabis program management

• Compliance, site inspections, i.e. terms and conditions of the permit

Adequate means to actively enforce requirements

Site-specific land usage

Water quality and availability

· Air quality, i.e. odor mitigation

I believe that it is incumbent on our elected officials to adhere to the requirements of CEQA to fully assess the potential impacts as it relates to Phase 3 implementation.

Though not necessarily an environmental issue, when has the quality of life been assessed? What do citizens of this county (not just those with the most money and loudest voices) really wish to see as a desired outcome?

The issue is not unique to Mendocino County; just look south to Sonoma County that is wrestling with similar issues and a populace that is less than enthusiastically receptive and have registered similar complaints as to those locally.

All being said, I would opine that some of my concerns would be valid whether I live in Willits, Redwood Valley, Ukiah, Boonville, Fort Bragg or Leggett. Let's collectively spend the necessary time, resources and effort to "get it right the first time." Vote No!

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Roger Ham, Willits

Sober Grad's biggest fundraiser

coming up To the Editor:

I just want to remind everyone that on Friday, April 23 Home Tri-Tip Dinner for 4! This is the tri-tip dinner that includes not only a delicious marinated and barbecued tri tip and a mixed veggie salad, but it's the one that has those awesome potatoes!



Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

four yummy cookies made by Kay Moen. Tickets are available at Cat's Meow (open Tuesday Saturday, 11 am to 5 pm. They are also available from Karen in the Willits High School office, at the WUSD District Office, and from many WHS seniors.

You can also call 459-6201 to reserve a ticket. Dinners are pre-order only, and there are only 200 available, so get yours early! To the Editor:

approval to hold an outdoor in-person party, so the school board and committee members are busy at work preparing for another variation of our very successful Sober Grad parties. More on that at a later date.

Joyce Waters, Willits

Shared concerns about social media To the Editor:

This letter is a response to Robin Goldner's column "Data Mines and Dopamine" in Willits Weekly.

I share Robin's concerns about the misinformation spread about vaccines and other important health-related issues and ways many large internet companies contribute to these problems. "I am not a conspiracy theorist but I do read and think about the effects of the internet on humans," Goldner said, "In my opinion the vaccine doesn't infiltrate our minds, but big tech companies do. I am convinced that corporations like Microsoft, Facebook, Twitter, Google and YouTube already infiltrate and influence our minds."

We should all be concerned about this problem that has influenced our elections and endangers our democracy and our lives. Shoshana Zuboff is a professor emerita at Harvard Business School and faculty associate at Berkman Center for Internet and Society at Harvard Law School. She is also the author of "The Age of Surveillance Capitalism: The Fight for a Human Future at the New Frontier of Power.

In the book Zuboff offers a disturbing picture of how Silicon Valley and other corporations are mining users' information to predict and shape their behavior. "I define surveillance capitalism," says Zuboff, "as the unilateral claiming of private human experience as free raw material for translation into behavioral data. These data are then computed and packaged as prediction products and sold into behavioral futures markets - business customers with a commercial interest in knowing what we will do now, soon, and later."

Zuboff was also one of the experts in the recent film "The Social Dilemma," a docudrama directed by Jeff Orlowski (who directed "Chasing Ice and Chasing Coral"). The film goes into depth on how social media's design is meant to nurture an addiction, manipulate its use in politics, and is Sober Grad's biggest fundraiser of the year, our Take spread conspiracy theories. The film features interviews with many former employees, executives, and other

2019 JAMA Pediatrics study showing the risk of depression for adolescents rises with each hour spent on social media.

There are certainly many benefits of social media. and most of us use the internet for work and pleasure. Yet, there is a growing concern.

The creators of the film say, "To support the need for bold reform of Big Social's business model, we have ioined the coalition of 40+ advocacy groups led by Accountable Tech calling for a ban on surveillance advertising. As legislators reflect on the testimony shared during last week's hearing, this is a critical moment to make your voice heard."

You can learn more and sign the petition here: https://www. bansurveillanceadvertising.com/

Jed Diamond, Willits

No to big grows

In a recent letter, ex-Supervisor John McCowen tried to make the case that we should allow big grows and give up our Rangeland zone to the cannabis industry. His logic is that because we've allowed water for other agriculture, in fairness, we should allocate water for cannabis, too.

Apparently he is not capable of dealing with the reality of our situation, which is that our water has been overallocated, and we have vet another drought year ahead of us. And this will likely be the norm in years ahead with climate change upon us. Real leadership deals with the science and the facts at hand even if those facts are not desirable. We've seen no indication of leadership so far on this matter, excepting John Haschak. So, heads up folks, they are working hard to shove this one down our throats and rushing this through to avoid an EIR.

A recent memorandum by the State Water Resources Control Board to 40,000 farmers, municipal officials and others warned of potential water shortages. They urged us to start planning now for potential water shortages later in the year and recommended a reduction in irrigated acreage, among other things. Farmers don't truck in their soil and their water and are not artificially supported like the cannabis industry is.

In addition to this cautionary warning, we have recent letters from the Laytonville Area Municipal Advisory Council and the Round Valley County Water District stating they now have quality and/or quantity water problems which they believe are cannabis-related.

Among the over 400 letters submitted to the Planning Commission, (about 98% in opposition to this expansion plan), were letters from folks in both Laytonville and Covelo complaining that their wells had gone dry once the big growers moved in. Some of those big growers are the very growers that John McCowen and Supervisor Ted Williams are favoring with this plan, and the county has done nothing to help those folks with the dry wells. This is why we need an environmental impact report on this plan to know what the cumulative impacts will be. The county is ignoring public opinion, rushing this plan through to avoid the EIR, which would reveal the actual impacts - the science.

McCowen claims there is a cannabis shortage, but actually the market is already glutted and the price is low. Canada and Mexico legalized their industry, and federal legislation is headed to the Senate floor soon, so this price drop is likely to remain the trend. This expansion is all about shortterm gains, if that, with long-term destruction.



Willits Youth Soccer

Kids are thrilled to be back in the game as the spring season begins

exhibition. The teams did not all bunch up on the

more proficient at passing, defending and scoring.

"In the U10 division, they use a goalie and they

pass to each other," Rodriguez explained. "You will

see less bunching up around the ball. Because of the

the first rights to all the fields during their regular

season. As there are not as many kids playing

baseball due to the wariness of the pandemic, they

generously allowed Willits Youth Soccer to utilize

that field on which three soccer fields have been

"We have a contract with the City of Willits,"

continued Rodriguez. "We had to contribute an initial

payment of \$20,000 to help pay for the creation and

maintenance of the fields. It was a condition of the

original grant. We get the fields for a certain amount

"Right now, Little League has the field and they

Soccer Over on Page 12

were gracious enough to let us use this field that

constructed.

of time.

Read the rest of

There's no crying in soccer, unless you're under able to have our fall 2020 season. This is kind of 6. The 3- to 5-year-old athletes had the time of their lives at the Willits Youth August 1st.'

Soccer opening, running, nathew@willitsweekly.com kicking, scoring, laughing, seeing their friends, and finally getting to engage in a social outdoor activity. Sometimes, however, there were little aches and pains and missteps which would cause the littles to run to the sidelines to find comfort in the arms of a parent or other family member. But mostly they had fun.

They had the opportunity to release some of the pent-up isolation energy that had built up over the last year and their families enjoyed the excuse to dote on their kids, interface with other humans, and share some socially distanced interactions with old friends as they watched the children cavort in a semi-organized manner. They could be seen playing in hoodies and princess-party dresses. There was a distinct lack of electronic screens being used by rodeo grounds exclusively as the Little League has the parents. They had better and more entertaining distractions in the activity of their little ones.

Since they missed the 2020 Willits Youth Soccer fall season, organizer Saprina Rodriguez created a short six-week spring season to give the kids a chance to get outside and exercise, have fun, and see old friends. "U6 is always fun to watch," said Rodriguez with a smile. "It's a little bit of 'bunch ball' even though we're only playing four-on-four. There's not a whole lot of passing going on, but they are just so excited to get in there and kick that ball. As you can see, sometimes they run so fast, they run past by the ball.

"Tonight, Wednesday," she continued, "we have our first youth soccer under-6 game. This is the spring program. Typically, we only do spring for older kids, but this year we're including the younger kids because of the COVID situation. We weren't



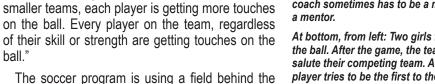
ball. They played positions which allowed for more At top, from left: Organizer Saprina passing and actual defense. One could see that as Rodriguez gives some last-minute instructions to the teams. Some of the the players gained experience, they became more smaller players are the most aggressive to serious about learning the fine points and becoming the ball. Two U10 players go for the ball.

Above: Lucy Button can be found near the ball throughout the U10 game. At right: A young player takes a break from guarding the goal. Below: In the U6 league, the coach sometimes has to be a mother and

At bottom, from left: Two girls fight for the ball. After the game, the teams always salute their competing team. A young player tries to be the first to the ball.







Mathew Caine

Sober Grad's Take Home Tri-Tip Dinner also includes a loaf of freshly baked bread thanks to Tam and Kashaya Adams of Emandal, a beautiful rose from Flowers by Annette, and

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 equest to withhold the writer's name will be considered.



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professionals from top tech companies and social media platforms such as Facebook, Google, and Apple. In response to increasing pressure to address these

issues, the CEOs of Google, Facebook, and Twitter were called to Congress to testify about their role in promoting disinformation and extremism online. While lawmakers on each side of the aisle focused on different concerns, they were united in their belief that self-regulation isn't working and it's time for Congress to step in.

A few highlights of the testimony follow:

"Your business model itself has become the problem," Rep. Frank Pallone Jr. (D-NJ) said in his opening remarks.

There was bipartisan agreement that Big Social's addictive design techniques and algorithmic harms are contributing to a growing public health crisis, similar to the one caused by Big Tobacco. Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) said: "Our kids - the users - are the product. You - Big Tech – are not advocates for children. You exploit and profit off them.

Rep. Kathy Castor (D-FL) asked the CEOs whether they had watched "The Social Dilemma," "where former employees of yours or other big tech platforms say they do not allow their kids on social media?" She cited a



Willits Weekly | April 15, 2021 **Pg. 2** Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

In fairness, I suggest that before any farm tours of cannabis are allowed that we have tours instead of the thousands of acres now littered with abandoned hoop houses, garbage dumps, eroded hillsides, transient camps, miles of fortresslike fencing, and litter-strewn waterways. Only after a cleanup plan is in place to protect our investments, which will no doubt have to be paid for at taxpayers' expense, should a plan for farm tours of the not-trashed-out properties be allowed

County policy has allowed the destruction of our lands and our communities, and it has to be county action to clean it up. We need a cleanup - not an expansion at this time. From what we've seen so far the public overwhelmingly does not support this expansion plan, and if our leadership does not support what the public wants, then it is not a representative government, but tyranny.

I urge you all to flood the board of supervisors with your letters of opposition to this destructive expansion plan before the April 19 special meeting. It is critical that they hear from you now!

Email: bos@mendocinocounty.org or write to: 501 Low Gap Road Room 1010 Ukiah, CA 95482.

Sheila Jenkins, Willits





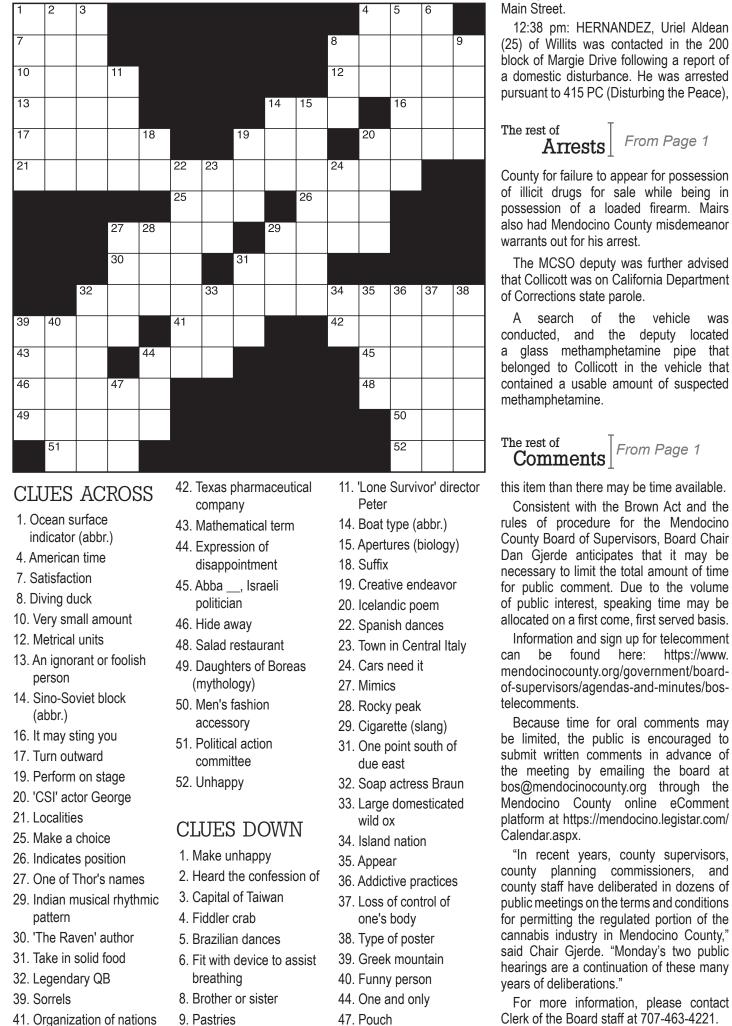


Willits Weekly's **Puzzle Page**

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

					8				HOW TO SUDOKU
5	6		9		7	1	3	8	Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid,
8	7				4	6			broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku,
4				1		5		9	the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column
9	2		8		5		1	4	and box. Each number can appear only once in each
			3				7	6	row, column and box. You can figure out the order
	1			8	6				in which the numbers will appear by using the
3			4	9			6		numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The
		9		7		8	2		more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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April 5 to April 11 By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police and on misdemeanor charges of violation Department handled 123 incidents in this of a protective order, battery against an officer, and resisting an officer. 2:30 pm: Officers responded to a report Summary of Active Investigations of suspicious activity in the 100 block of

> North Main Street. 7:18 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 1200 block of Locust Street.

6:36 am: Officers responded to a April 9 disturbance in the 1400 block of South

seven-day reporting period.

South Lenore Avenue.

April 5

Main Street

Main Street.

Main Street.

April 6

April 7

Lane.

Court.

April 8

Street.

South Main Street.

and Arrests

1:18 am: Officers responded to a

11:24 am: Officers initiated a theft

4:06 pm: Officers responded to a report

9:05 pm: Officers responded to a

disturbance in the 1700 block of South

Highway 20 and Blosser Lane.

South Lenore Avenue.

of an unwanted subject in the 1400 block of

investigation in the 1700 block of South

domestic disturbance in the 300 block of

9:08 am: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 300 block of South Lenore Avenue.

2:42 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of South Main Street and issued a warning. 4:08 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

April 10

6:57 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 800 block of 7:57 am: Officers initiated a theft South Main Street. investigation near the intersection of West

8:35 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1400 block of South 4:49 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block Main Street.

of South Main Street and issued a warning. 11:16 pm: Officers initiated a theft 5:32 pm: Officers responded to a investigation in the 100 block of Alder domestic disturbance in the 300 block of Court

April 11

2:46 pm: Officers responded to a report 3:57 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of of trespassing in the 100 block of Barbara Marin Street 5:55 pm: Officers responded to a 8:27 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of South disturbance in the 100 block of Creekside Street. 5:58 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of 1:36 am: Officers initiated a theft Marin Street investigation in the 800 block of South Main

6:17 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 700 block of South Main 11:10 am: Officers initiated a vehicle theft Street investigation in the 1600 block of South

10:07 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of North Main Street

10:16 pm: Officers responded to a report block of Margie Drive following a report of of suspicious activity in the 700 block of a domestic disturbance. He was arrested pursuant to 415 PC (Disturbing the Peace), Coast Street.

From Page 1 Arrests

From Page 1

Collicott's parole officer was contacted County for failure to appear for possession of illicit drugs for sale while being in and responded to the scene. The parole possession of a loaded firearm. Mairs officer issued a violation of parole hold also had Mendocino County misdemeanor (3056 PC) on Collicott. warrants out for his arrest. Both Collicott and Mairs were arrested The MCSO deputy was further advised and transported to the Mendocino County that Collicott was on California Department Jail. Collicott was to be held without bail due to the parole violation. of Corrections state parole. In accordance with the COVID-19 A search of the vehicle was emergency order issued by the State of conducted, and the deputy located California Judicial Council, bail was set at a glass methamphetamine pipe that belonged to Collicott in the vehicle that zero dollars, and Mairs was released after contained a usable amount of suspected the jail booking process, on his promise to methamphetamine. appear in court at a later date.



At right: Soroptimist

International of

WIllits members.

including, from

left: Vicki Ham,

Marilyn Harden,

and Kitty Norris,

restocked at the

Willits Library.

Below: Jane

McCabe, left,

hand a copy

of the phone

Technician

book to Library

Giselle Delotch.

and Kitty Norris

Jane McCabe

hold copies

of the 2021

Community

Telephone

Directory,

freshlv





Embrace

Conflicts

Relationshop System Coaching



All about the Soroptimists

Local club reminds community about membership drive, 50th birthday, and phone book restock

For 50 years, the Soroptimist International of Willits club third Tuesday at noon, and the public is invited." has been supporting women and girls - since their charter date of April 3, 1971. The club looks to celebrate their birthday month with a membership drive.

"We are always looking for new members, and we welcome men as well as women," explained SIW's Vicki Ham. "We are a service club working to help women and girls in our community. We present scholarships and grants within the community, as well as aiding other service organizations within the community such as Kids Club, Friends of the Library, and more. As a no-guilt club, we will not ask you to do more than you feel you have time to do.



One of the biggest fundraisers for the club is the annual Community Telephone Directory. The 2021 book was printed and distributed initially on March 11, and a restock of directories was just completed at the Willits Library on Tuesday.

"Our community phone book is our major fundraiser, which we use to support our projects," explained Ham. "The book is free to the community as our funds for service come from our advertisers. The book is loved by many in Willits, and residents look forward to its yearly publication.'

Ham explained: "Soroptimist is an international organization of volunteers who work to improve the lives of women and girls through programs leading to social and economic empowerment. We are a global volunteer organization that economically empowers women and girls by providing access to education, the single most-effective anti-poverty intervention. Over 80,000 Soroptimists in 122 countries and territories contribute time and financial support to community-based and international projects that benefit women and girls."

If you are interested in joining the Soroptimists, they are currently meeting via Zoom and the link is available by contacting: siwillits@soroptimist.net or by contacting any member as listed in the Soroptimist Community Phonebook.



All of the advertisers on this page included their ads in the 2021 Soroptimist International of Willits Community Telephone Directory. They also chose to bundle their ads again to run in the paper alongside some Soroptimist content, further supporting the non-profit with their additional run. Thank you, advertisers!

TELEPHONE: 459-2163 Fax: 459-2319

ALFRED F. KERR, D.D.S. FAMILY DENTISTRY

OFFICE HOURS BY APPOINTMENT

12 W. VALLEY ST., WILLITS



– Maureen Jennison

The rest of Vaccine

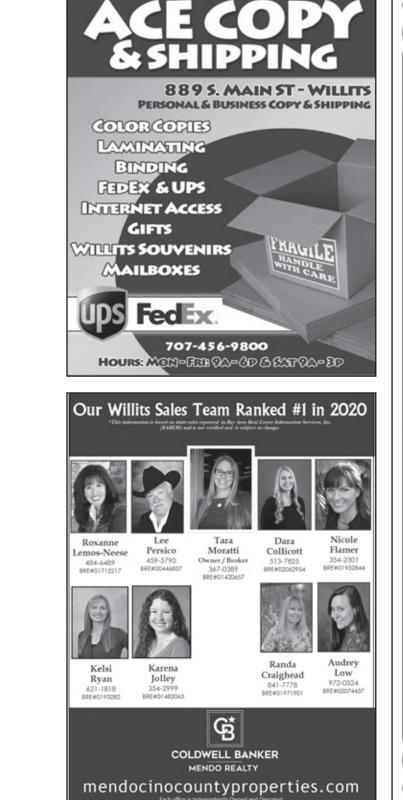


allocation by the state this week. This is a 33% decrease from last week. Specifically Consistent with the Brown Act and the for the Janssen vaccine, this is close to a rules of procedure for the Mendocino 95 percent reduction from approximately County Board of Supervisors, Board Chair 572,000 doses last week to 67,000 doses Dan Gjerde anticipates that it may be this week. necessary to limit the total amount of time

for public comment. Due to the volume This reduction is caused by near-term of public interest, speaking time may be supply challenges at the national level, as allocated on a first come, first served basis. well as increasing proportions of California's Information and sign up for telecomment vaccines being delivered through the can be found here: https://www. federal direct allocation programs. mendocinocounty.org/government/board-The State of California plans to reduce of-supervisors/agendas-and-minutes/bosfirst dose allocations across local health jurisdictions' geographies proportionately Because time for oral comments may across the board. This means that be limited, the public is encouraged to most local areas and providers will see submit written comments in advance of approximately 65 to 67 percent of their last the meeting by emailing the board at week's total. bos@mendocinocounty.org through the This reduction in first doses does not Mendocino County online eComment affect second doses. The County of platform at https://mendocino.legistar.com/ Mendocino will focus on administering second doses, which continue to be timed "In recent years, county supervisors, 3-4 weeks, as applicable, after first dose county planning commissioners, and

allocations. county staff have deliberated in dozens of The state plans, starting with next week's public meetings on the terms and conditions allocation, to begin using both federal direct for permitting the regulated portion of the allocations and available inventory data, to cannabis industry in Mendocino County," adjust allocations at local health jurisdiction said Chair Gjerde. "Monday's two public and provider levels. hearings are a continuation of these many

We continue to expect vaccine supply for For more information, please contact state allocation to increase by the end of Clerk of the Board staff at 707-463-4221. April.

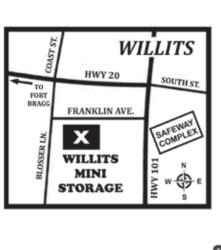




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Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Pg. 5 Willits Weekly | April 15, 2021 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

Agape **Bible Church**

290 S. Lenore Ave. Willits,CA 95490 Where love is first and the Bible is central. Sunday Services: 10:00 a.m. - Worship Awana: Tuesday, 6:15 p.m Info? 707-459-1905 www.agapebiblechurch.com

Amazing Grace Assembly of God Church 803 Coast Street P.O. Box 489, Willits 707-303-5456

Morning Worship - 10:30 a.n Pastor Burton Jernigan EVERYBODY IS WELČOM

The Church of **Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**

265 Margie Drive Willits, ČA 95490 ALL ARE WELCOME Sacrament Meeting Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Eckankar: The Path of Spiritual Freedom

•Sound of Soul events Membership Discourses •Spiritual Discussions ECK Light & Sound Services More information? Call 707-456-9934 www.eckankar.org

Grace Community Church

Celebrating Life In Christ 25 Hazel Street, Willits **Modified Worship Service** 10 a.m. Other ministries suspended for now. For appointments call:

Robert Schloegel Ministries

(707) 459-3106

Media and Television Ministry, reaching the Nations with the Gospel Rsmworldwide.org 808-255-6317, Office P.O. Box 614, Willits 95490 Jesus Loves You

St. Anthony of Padua **Catholic** Church

61 W. San Francisco Ave. Willits, CA 95490 Father Aaron Bandanadam Mass times: Confessions by appointment:









Mathew Caine eatures Writer

the times and changes that it has seen.

However, the operation of the theater as a place for Willitsians to see first-run filmed entertainment is currently in jeopardy due to several factors, among which are the past and present restrictions of the COVID pandemic, the costs of maintaining the

equipment and the buildings, and the intractable policies of the major studios and distributors toward the mom-and-pop small-town movie palaces.

building in 2012, they had a vision of bringing firstclass entertainment to the city. They immediately

D



At far left: The Noyo Theatre is looking for help for the reopening. At left: Jeff Hoover goes through some of the original lettering still used on the marquee. Above: Screen ad for the reopening by Jeff Hoover.



'May the 4th' be with the Novo

could enjoy the film with the best quality available.

They had sold a home in Southern California in

order to finance the venture, a labor of love for Jeff,

who had come from a theater technical background,

and Lois, a film editor. Together, they brought their

extensive experience and what funds they could

muster. In addition to the upgraded equipment,

there were many repairs to be made. They created

Then came the pandemic. The Noyo Theatre was

Owners of Willits' iconic Noyo Theatre are asking for help in order to reopen

Willits does not have just a movie theater. What they have is a beautiful art deco icon of a time when going to the movies was an event, a couple hours of escapist entertainment, a remembrance of the Golden Age of Hollywood.

When the Noyo Theatre opened its doors on May 4, 1940 with a showing of "Dark Command," starring John Wayne, Claire Trevor, Walter Pidgeon, Roy

Rodgers and Gabby Hayes, the Hollywood star system was in full bloom, churning thew@willitsweekly.com

out stars and starlets, egends and disappointments. Although the theater has a new coat of paint, donated by an anonymous benefactor, its style and history are a reminder of

forced to shutter as people were no longer allowed to congregate while the health professionals and politicians struggled to understand and solve the dilemma. Even closed, the theater was costing over \$5,000 per month in mortgage, insurance and utilities

audio space.

The couple kept the theater through their dwindling business reserves, and various grants. They have eschewed applying for more loans as to not incur further debt. "Even after shutting down,

When Jeff and Lois Hoover purchased the it still cost us \$5.000 a month." explained Lois. "At that rate, our business account would be wiped out by March. Then we found out that the CARES Act

upgraded all the equipment to the latest digital was paying for six months of our mortgage and projectors and Dolby sound so that movie-goers we had applied for other grants. We applied for an Economic Injury Disaster Loan and were granted \$110.000, but we decided we didn't want to add that much debt so we turned it down. In November, we asked the bank to help but they didn't do anything."

Lois further explained their recent financial journey: "I applied for other grants. I got an almost \$5,000 grant from Mendocino County in December. Last month we got almost \$15,000 from the State a film palace which was already a local icon but now of California which kept us going, keeping us afloat was able to present "films" in an optimal visual and for a few months. The problem with shutting down a theater is that the projectors are all digital and computerized and are meant to be kept running 24 / 7. Because of the expense of keeping the theater open, we couldn't keep the projectors running. Jeff

> "We found out that one of the projectors is completely shot," said Lois. "There are sound problems in the other theater rooms. The expenses are mounting up. To just open up again, we're probably going to have to spend something like \$50,000 to get all the equipment working again." A technician, who came up from the Bay Area last

Read the rest of





Above, left: A Sacramento pikeminnow hangs out at the bottom of the river. Above, right: Some hikers and their canine companion check out the view along the uppe Eel Salmon Parkway.

Join the happy hour Eel Zoom series on topics of interest about the health of the Eel River watershed

orest health

recoverv

its future. Fortuna City Manager Merritt Perry will express support for this

On May 7, Higgins will be joined by Potter Valley Tribe EPA Director

Gregg Young and Robin Leler of the Redwood Chapter Sierra Club to

talk about the possibility of an Upper Eel River Salmon Parkway. This

concept involves transfer of PG&E lands within the Potter Valley Project

to the Mendocino National Forest so they can restore salmon habitat

between the dams, maximize recreation potential, and also implement

Controlling the invasive pikeminnow will be the subject of a May

14 Zoom, Stillwater Sciences fisheries biologist Abel Brumo assists

discovered pikeminnow in the North Fork Eel River and will talk about

attempts to control them there. Higgins will summarize South Fork Eel

River pikeminnow trends since ERRP studies began in 2016, and make

a case for why this species needs to be controlled to allow native fish

Zoom in on May 21 to listen to David Dralle, who is part of the Angelo

Reserve Critical Zone Observatory study team, and Eli Asarian of

Riverbend Sciences present on the topic of "How Watersheds Work and

Flow Changes Over Time." Dralle will talk about how water storage in

hillslopes works and how geology effects flow in the Eel River watershed.

Asarian will recap the findings of his Eel River flow study, sponsored by

Friends of Eel River, and present hypotheses on why flows changed over

time. He will also include discussion of water conservation and watershed

The final Eel Zoom presentation on May 28 will feature retired Six

restoration that could help augment flows in the future.

project and talk about how it fits into the city's recreation plans.

Submitted by Patrick Higgins, Eel River Recovery Project

The Eel River Recovery Project recently presented Eel Zoom on Friday afternoons at 5 pm from April 9 to May 28 on topics of interest about the Eel River watershed, including forest health, salmon-run trends, Sacramento pikeminnow management, how watersheds work, how flow has changed, salmon parks, toxic cyanobacteria and more. Presentations are made by various experts, but in a fun and playful way suited for the Friday at 5 pm "happy hour" timing of presentations.

Since 2012, ERRP Managing Director Patrick Higgins has been assisting citizen scientists around the watershed with monitoring, visiting hundreds of locations, and all the while documenting fish life on photo the Wiyot Tribe in experimental pikeminnow control and will discuss and video. "Pat will kick off the Eel Zoom series on April 9 by sharing his their project. Bureau of Land Management fish biologist Zane Ruddy best pictures and videos in a presentation entitled the 'Secret Lives of Eel River Fishes Revealed." Topics will include salmon-run trends.

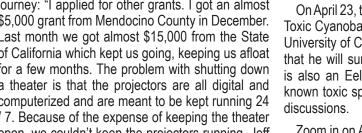
On April 16. Native American sage Ernie Merrifield, who was recently featured in the KEET documentary "Harmony in the Eel River Basin." will join forest-health scientist and organizer Tim Bailey to talk about why we need to work on improving forest and grassland health at the Eel River watershed scale now.

On April 23, three scientific experts will make presentations on Eel River Toxic Cyanobacteria. Keith Bouma-Gregson earned his degree from the University of California Berkeley for his work on Eel River cyanobacteria that he will summarize. Rich Fadness of the North Coast Water Board is also an Eel River cyanobacteria expert, and will talk about lesserknown toxic species. His new associate, Michael Thomas, will also join discussions

Zoom in on April 30 to learn about the Lower Eel Salmon Parkway that Rivers National Forest archaeologist Thomas Keter, who will talk about the little-known North Fork Eel River. He not only studied the archaeology of the watershed, but also helped map its vegetation. Keter concluded that prohibition of Native American burning 160 years ago resulted in Higgins will talk about rejuvenating the river by restoring the cottonwood gallery forests on river terraces to focus river energy and scour a deeper major ecological shifts and drops in productivity and extraordinary fire

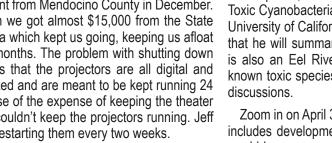
For more information on how to sign up for these Zoom events, see Adam Canter of the Wiyot Tribe Natural Resources Department will www.eelriverrecovery.org or the ERRP Facebook page. talk about the tribe's connection to the lower Eel River and their hope for





has been restarting them every two weeks.

Over on Page 9 Noyo





includes development of a trail along the old railroad right-of-way, that would be a segment of the Great Redwood Trail. Restoration of critical lower Eel River salmon holding habitat is also a part of the concept. channel and pools.

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



1 North Main Street, Willits 707-272-0177 Church Services / Communior by Zoom at noon. Call for information. ALL ARE WELCOME The Rev. Betsy Bruneau

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

Willits Seventh-Day **Adventist Church** 399 W. Mendocino Avenue 707-459-5714 Saturdays:

Bible Study 2 p.m. Worship Service 3 p.m. https://willitsca.adventistchurch.org All are welcome!

Willits United Methodist

A Christ centered, progressive church ALL ARE WELCOME 286 School St. (at Pine) Rev. Rosemary Landry, pastor Worship Celebration Sundays - 10:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School - 10:45 a.m 459-2855 Facebook: www.facebook.com If you want to be included in this column please call: April Tweddell

(707) 972-2475

april@willitsweekly.com



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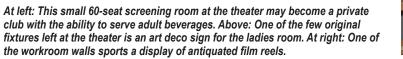
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COMING SOON



Willits Frontier Days is excited to announce that we are planning our 95th annual Continuous Rodeo.Please stay tuned to our social media platforms and Willits Weekly for details. In the meantime, we are accepting applications for 2021 WFD Sweetheart. We anticipate that tickets will be limited, and we want to minimize cash handling and potential long lines at the gate, so we are encouraging presale purchases. Sweetheart applications are available on the website, www.WillitsFrontierDays.com







Willits Weekly | April 15, 2021 **Pg. 6** Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com

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KINGS GARDEN

HIMALAYA

Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Willits Weekly | April 15, 2021 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 **Pg.** 7



Above, left: Rick Williams, Jason Korte and Andrew Hosford get a lesson in car painting from Jeff Yokum. Above, right: Dickey Weinkle and Rotary President Jason Korte team up to destroy a vehicle door. At right: Jeff Yokum, owner of CarStar Body Shop, welcomes the Rotary Club to lunch at his shop. Below: Jeff Yokum gives a lesson in how to paint a vehicle in his climate-controlled paint booth





Playful Taffy

Taffy has been with us since October, and after stays at both the Ukiah and Fort Bragg shelters, she is STILL looking for a home of her own. Taffy is a really sweet and playful girl once you gain her trust. She needs someone who will be patient and kind to her and give her space to come to them on her own terms. We think she could get along with another cat, but might do best in a home without young children or dogs. She has been warming up to us here at the shelter to showcase her goofy and affectionate side! She also absolutely adores playing with her toy mice. Like all good things. Taffy is worth the effort put in to building a lifelong bond. Do you think you might be interested in meeting this lovely girl?

For more about Taffy or to see the Mendocino County Animal Shelter's canine and feline guests, and for information about services, programs, events and updates about COVID-19 and the inland shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, visit: www.mendoanimalshelter.com. For



Willits Rotary Local service club resumes in-person meetings,

makes plans for fundraising projects

Last Thursday, the Willits Rotary Club had their first in-person, albeit distanced, lunch meeting in a year, thanks to the generosity of Jeff Yokum and his Mathew Caine staff, who set up tables in CarStar's work room. The tables were far eatures Write nathew@willitsweekly.com enough apart to allow for plenty of room between the participants. It gave the Rotarians a sense of a return to normality and they were able to raise money for polio and their other altruistic causes through their regular routines.

Jeff Yokum, the guest speaker, gave a talk on positivity, complete with a happy dance with his daughter and Rotarian Andrew Hosford. Yokum then set up a couple car doors on platforms and invited the Rotarians up to beat on them with sledgehammers and other instruments of destruction, after which he offered a tour of the work area with explanations of how to properly repair and paint vehicles.

Jason Korte, president of the Willits Rotary, said that he would like to find venues where, for now, they could meet in situations that would allow for distancing. The Rotarians recently participated in senior interview nights at Willits High School, and are working on several other altruistic projects: senior scholarships, student debt assistance, a firehouse furniture fundraiser, a Noyo Theatre fundraiser, and others.

Furry Friends Hoping for a Home

Enthusiastic

Whiskey Here is a divine beauty available for adoption – meet Whiskey! A sweeter big girl

vou could never meet, she is super great with other dogs, riendly with children and cats

Whiskey would love to have a buddy, definitely a yard. This 75-pound, 1-year-old shepherd mix is affectionate and enthusiastic about life, love and the pursuit of happiness! She is secure in herself and confident, not overly pushy, but quite affectionate. Whiskey walks with a loose leash and needs exercise and playtime. She also does well in the car and is house-trained.

To find out more about Whiskey, who is currently living at the Milo Foundation Sanctuary in Willits, or to view other adoptable animals, visit www.milofoundation.org or the Milo Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions

by appointment only due to COVID-19. Please complete pet-adoption application requesting an before appointment. You can reach

Cuddly Dugan Dugan is the most handsome boy! While evacuating

from the Oak Fire in Brooktrails, his owner fell, broke her shoulder, and had to be hospitalized. Dugan sat alone in the home for weeks before coming to us. He is confused as we expected but sure is a sweet boy. Dugan will not be able to go back with his owner, so we have a chance to help him find a new forever home. This mixed-breed, 65 pound dog lives in a foster home and he is the most wonderful lover boy who could cuddle with you forever. Six-year-old Dugan loves other friendly dogs and even gets along with cats! Apply to love Dugan at www.mendohumanesociety. com and give us a call or email for more info.

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County, 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley, is open Wednesday through Friday from 1 to 5 pm, and Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 3 pm, by appointment only, for intakes, adoptions and fostering. For information or any questions, call 707-485-0123 or, for cats, you may email catteam@hsimc.org and,

more.

for dogs, you may email dogteam@ hsimc.org. Visit www.petfinder.com or the "Humane Society for Mendocino County" page on Facebook to see available dogs and cats, visit www. mendohumanesociety.com to learn



The rest of From Page 6 Novo

week, confirmed that it would probably cost more to fix the bad projector than to buy a new one.

Jeff and Lois are going to need to be resourceful and creative if and when they can get the theater opened again, as movies are not going to be able to pay all the expenses. Some of the innovations they have discussed are dedicating one of the smaller, 60-seat screening rooms at the theater to private parties and recreate it as a bar that shows films with a liquor license, for which they have applied. They are also considering utilizing a theater for internet gaming and / or meeting spaces.

"Dark Command," which will open the theater on May 4, is the same film that was showing on that date in 1940 when the Noyo first opened. The director, the legendary Raoul Walsh, actually had a home at Third Gate where, ironically, the Hoovers now live. Although the film is about the Civil War in Kansas, if one views the film closely, they can see instances of the plains of Kansas morphing into local mountains and trees as Walsh had the clout to bring the film company up to his home for a party / film shoot.

The theater is a place of history and stories. "A lady last week stopped me on the street," recounted Lois. "Back in the seventies,' she said 'when it was still one theater, I knew the projectionist. He was an alcoholic. We'd go to watch a film and suddenly there would be no film. We all knew that he had passed out in the projection room. We would just call out his name and he would wake up and get the film going again."

The Noyo is more than a theater. It is an institution deeply ingrained in the ethos of the community, a sight that all expect to see as they drive up Commercial Street. It would be a loss for the entire community if it was no longer able to operate. "Dark Command" is going to be a fundraiser for the theater, a pay-by-donation event. In addition, for all those who value this form of entertainment and wish to contribute to the ability of the Noyo Theatre to open and to remain in operation, there is a GoFundMe: www.gofundme. com/f/save-the-novo-theatre.

LEGAL NOTICES

WW316

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 6:30 p.m., or soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, the Willits City Council will conduct a Public Hearing via teleconference on the following matter

To consider an ordinance concerning the approval of the Little Lake Fire Protection District's Fire Impact Fee Nexus Study and the adoption of fire impact fees charged on new development pursuant to California Government Code Section 66000 et al. The Public Hearing will be held pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20 issued by California Governor Gavin Newsom on March 17, 2020, and City Council members will attend the meeting via teleconference/videoconference. For those seeking to join and comment at the meeting, the teleconference link will be made available at least 72 hours before the hearing on the City's website and included in the posted Council agenda. The Fire Impact Fee Nexus Study for the proposed fire impact fees can be accessed from the city's website

Members of the public are invited to provide comment at the public hearing or, in writing, to City of Willits 111 E. Commercial Street, Willits, California 95490, Attn: Brian Bender, City Manager, which need to be received on or before Monday, April 26, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

Any person wishing to challenge these fees in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Willits City Clerk at, or prior to, the public hearing. All persons are invited to appear and present testimony in this matte /s Cathy Moorhead Deputy City Manager / City Clerk

Posted: April 6, 2021 Publication Dates: April 8, 15, 2021

WW320

NOTICE OF INTENT TO SELL

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

Publication Dates: April 15, 22 and 29, 2021



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we'll call back

Due to health concerns **RV/Trailer Space** in Mendocino County, John Ford Ranch will be taking meat box orders Space for RV's and Trailers \$425 per (not individual package orders) for pick-up: month, includes water Rancher's Choice Box & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call 50 pounds: steaks, roasts, and ground beef. Tony (707) 510-5895. Still \$325 (\$6.50 per See at "http://www. pound). Hamburger Box: oaknvine.net/tp" 25 pound box of hamburger in 1 or 1.5 pound packages: \$150. Natural ranch-raised grass fed beef, no hormones or antibiotics. Call 459-5193 to arrange pick-up.

I'll be back to help you with your Alterations and Sewing Needs Leave a message, and when it is safe to do so. Barbara the Seamstress

Help Wanted Willits USD is hiring Night Custodians \$15.80 per hour depending on experience, 40 hours per week. Call Trina Cardillo @ 459-5314 or email trinacardillo@ willitsunified.com for an application.

Help Wanted Willits Senior Center now hiring Meals on Wheels Driver. Part time (Mon-Fri). 10:30 am to 2 pm. Call Richard Baker @ 459-6826. Or email resume to wsidirector@ willitsseniorcenter. com. Applicants must pass pre-employment drug test and provide a current DMV print out of clean driving record

Info: 459-3333; financial donations to WCS can be mailed to 229 E. San Francisco, Willits CA 95490

Help Wanted

Accountant: City of Willits: Salary: \$43,701.18 to 53,119.06/ annually DOQ/DOE. Possession of a college degree in accounting, finance or business administration with at least 12 semesters or 16 guarter units of Accounting, including Principles of Accounting, Intermediate Accounting, Advanced Accounting, Governmental Accounting, Cost Accounting or Auditing; or one year of experience in the accounting field. Application Deadline: Thursday, April 22, 2021, by 4:00 P.M. Contact Karen Stevenson at (707) 459-7176 or email kstevenson@citvofwillits.org

Classified ads are just \$10

for 30 words for 2 weeks!

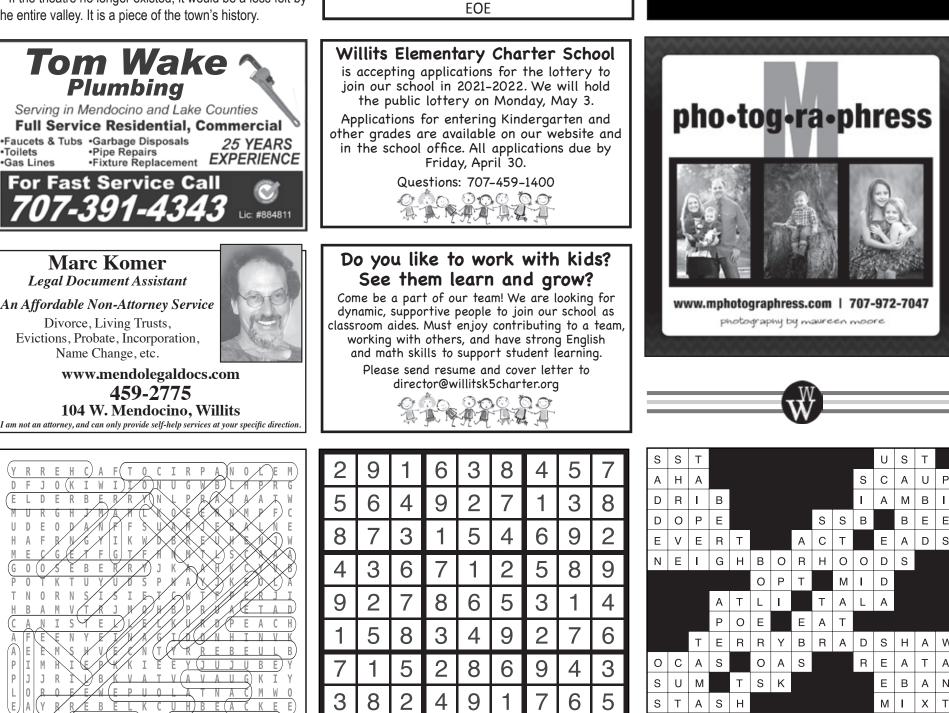
Deadline is every Monday!



Please Support Our BIGGEST FUNDRAISER Of The Year !! its Sober Grad **Fri-Tip Dinner** Friday April 23rd, 2021 **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. Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

If the theatre no longer existed, it would be a loss felt by the entire valley. It is a piece of the town's history.

K D (C I T R O N)F D I (P E A



Willits Weekly | April 15, 2021 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Pg. 9 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

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Above, left: Pete Swanton and Link pose perfectly for the camera in front of the eye-catching logo which includes Link's distinctive eyebrows. Above, right: Pete Swanton and Dan Miller are building a 32 foot by 9 foot platform with planting troughs at each end. The city approved the platform that's taking up two parking spaces. It will have a shade cover and picnic tables for Flying Dog Pizza outside seating. Below: The most recent experiment at Flying Dog Pizza is Blue Oyster Cult – made with blue oyster mushrooms from Mulligan Farms in Laytonville. Below, center: The regular menu is available to take with you. You'll find pizzas with names like Blue Luke (named after musician Blue Luke Andrews) and vegan, gluten-free Bug Guts (named for the local band). Below, right: Employees Indigo Senerchia, left, and Audrey Edwards take time out from making pizzas to pose with the logo and Pete Swanton, right





a new logo on his huge Main Street Ree Slocum window panes. eatures Write

The convertible vehicle filled with friends that was painted on the window for years is now replaced with a stylized rendering

of a dog with goggles around his neck. It's Link, Swanton's

If you look from a certain angle, he might even look a little grumpy, which wouldn't be a surprise. According to Swanton, "Link does not like to fly. He'll go but he's not happy. I don't take him if it's bumpy. If it's not, he'll just sit there and check it out. He barks at people when we land and they come near the plane. We zip all over the place."

s, Roasted Peppers, Mozz/Prov &

animal, and he's my dog that people know around town, so he's familiar. Olan Cox [from Mendo Wood Fired Pizza and Catering in Ukiah] is the guy who helped put [the woodfired pizza oven] together and he came up with the name 'Flying Dog," Swanton told. They added the "Pizza and Vinyl" to include the food and music parts of the business.

The eye-catching logo was created by designer Leo Gerous, who's also an employee at Flying Dog Pizza and Vinvl

The owner was also happy with the final tweaks and printing that were done by Kiersten Hanna from Braggadoon in Fort Bragg. "Kiersten was quite an asset," he said and added, "There's lots of talent in this little town. We're very lucky."

New Read the rest of additions Pizza to the



The rest of From Page 1 Water

the next one," Supervisor McGourty said, to introduce the water supply workshop. CalFire Mendocino Unit Chief George Gonzalez chimed in with the water and

weather experts, suggesting the board should consider declaring a local drought emergency. "I do have high concerns about the fire season, this year, real concerns about the

lack of water we've experienced so far.... From what I've seen in the rivers, from what I have seen physically walking through the forests, and throughout areas of the county, we're in dire need of a declaration," Chief Gonzalez said. "I have stations that are already starting to go dry, those on well systems. Our Covelo station used to have great water, but now the water is slightly colored and starting to smell; we're

Vallev customers."

reaching the limits of the well." CEO Carmel Angelo said the board had declared drought emergencies "early" in previous years.

"We are definitely investigating that as a water community," Supervisor McGourty replied. "There's a few implications we're concerned about ... but I would say it's very much on the horizon" He said he expected to bring the question to the board "within a month. McGourty started his presentation with

the U.S.D.A. Drought Monitoring Map, and pointed out the red band of "extreme drought?" drought" going "right through Mendocino County." He also discussed how none of his weather sources, including the 60day Drought Outlook map, expects any changes to the dry weather. "We're in a drought for the foreseeable

future," he said. "We've gotten 13 inches such a moratorium. Gjerde suggested the out of our normal rainfall of 39 inches. So we're way behind, and things are not good ad hoc water committee might look at that in terms of our weather." possibility. "The issue really," Haschak responded,

Don Seymour, a supervisor/engineer with the Sonoma County Water agency, was the next presenter, focusing on Lake Mendocino in Ukiah. "We don't have a lot to look forward to, in potential changes to the hydrology," Seymour said, "and just to sum it all up: With regards to our water supply conditions, this is the worst it's been since 1976, 1977. I'm

extremely low levels.' Seymour's first slide was a graph showing acre-feet at Lake Mendocino throughout the calendar year – by year – going back to 2014. The black line at the bottom was the 2021 water level – showing 36,427 acre feet as of April 8, hardly more than half of 2020's 70,000-plus acre feet of storage in early April. The year 2020 was declared "the third driest year for Lake Mendocino," by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

District, and Sheriff Matt Kendall. Supervisor John Haschak asked 3 at this point in time until that process is Director Kristin Nevedal, who was hired in Seymour to confirm a report he'd heard Mendocino County RCD is planning a concluded." March. said that she approved of both the that "water storage in Lake Mendocino right 2021 Drought Preparedness Campaign to He went on to say that an "ordinance satellite imagery program, and of setting now is usually what we see at the very end strengthen water conservation efforts, "to adopting new regulations would terminate a strict timeline for those in the Phase of the [season], right before the rain starts. provide positive messaging about proactive the moratorium" on Phase 3. application process to respond to notices steps the public can take to address these "Absolutely," Seymour agreed, "I would Despite all these unresolved issues being sent out. say we're at a point where we're lower than historic lows in rainfall and availability." involving the county's cannabis permitting "A real-time satellite imagery system Supervisors approved the campaign we'd want to be at the end of the water program, the supervisors on Monday would give us not only the ability to process unanimously at Monday's meeting. year, October 1." approved the expanded enforcement complaints, but also if we're going to move actions after hearing a presentation from forward with requiring a provisional license The rest of Humboldt County Planning & Building From Page 1 of our active participants in the Phase 1 Goals Department Director John Ford about the program," said Nevedal. "Or having them strict enforcement measures they've been 7. Community Development/Planning (3) List of potential city goals sign an affidavit verifying that they are not utilizing there, which he said had helped in cultivating. A real-time satellite imagery Develop a plan to encourage the 1.Administrative/Finance/Personnel (1) reducing illegal cannabis operations. program would also give us the tool to construction of new housing and the Develop and implement a long-range "We are seeing a dramatic change in verify that affidavit that it's actually being preservation of old housing stock. terms of the illegal cultivation activity going fiscal sustainability plan for City finances in followed through with. So I think that that's 8. Public Safety on," said Ford. "A lot of the big illegal grow order to promote the City's economic health important." sites are being done away with, and so we by balancing revenues and expenditures to Maintain a public safety agency capable Third District Supervisor John Haschak find what we're doing is successful." solve systemic problems. of maintaining a safe community utilizing at one point suggested that the county As described by Ford, the enforcement wait to get their online "cannabis portal" up to date law enforcement tools and 2.Administrative/Finance/Personnel (2) measures include fines of up to \$10,000 set up to make the application process delivering emergency services to the Create a realistic staffing plan for the City per violation per day, which can often easier before beginning to set timelines for businesses and citizens of Willits in a amount to \$20,000 to \$40,000 a day for Council to budget for appropriate and future kicking people out of the Phase 1 process, responsive and proactive manner. those with non-permitted farms. staffing needs (e.g. Public Works Director). but Nevedal argued that shouldn't really be 9. Environment He said Humboldt County would necessary, since email and other modes of 3. Public Works/Utilities/Infrastructure (1) commonly use satellite imagery to identify Work towards Willits becoming an communication should be sufficient. Maintain and improve infrastructure non-compliant farms and then send environmental model city by reducing the "The fact of the matter is that we've systems of water, wastewater, public notices to the properties about impending City's carbon footprint by 50% to promote essentially trained the applicants into a facilities and streets capable of managing fines that would be coming their way. greater energy independence from utility situation of knowing we haven't done growth while responding to current City He did say that they would generally companies and to strengthen the City's anything when no one responds to a 30allow a 10-day period before taking needs. day notice," said Nevedal. "And I think resiliency and self-reliance. "abatement" actions against a property it's time that we start to require those 4. Public Works/Utilities/ Infrastructure 10. Economic Development owner and starting the fines, and responses. And then have the ability to say (2) Develop and implement economic sometimes longer periods of time would 'Listen if you're not going to respond and Implement a City Street Improvement be given when deemed appropriate. development strategies for the City of Willits you're not going to return those materials, Program capable of bringing 25% of City If total fines on a property reach up we're not in a position to process that that will promote the development and streets to a PCI of 85 or greater within the to \$900,000, Ford said the building permit anymore." maintenance of a strong business sector department would generally go to the next five years. Williams said he supported transitioning including retention and attraction, tourism, Humboldt Board of Supervisors and "ask to a more active form of enforcement. marketing, and revenue generation. 5.Community Development/Planning (1) for permission to basically issue a lien on since the "complaint driven system" wasn't 11. Public Engagement Complete and update the City's General the property." working well enough. Plan to be used to guide future development Develop a program to increase public Ford claimed that Humboldt County "I think the complaint driven system within the City including encouragement didn't start with strict enforcement as their awareness of the City's efforts to maintain works well outside of cannabis," said of housing opportunities and sustainable main tool while trying to transition from an & improve the City. Williams. "I don't know that we want to economic development. Estimated time illegal to a legal cannabis industry. change it. I think cannabis is something 12. Parks and Facilities frame 3-5 years. "I would just say that when Humboldt different altogether, because this is not Increase public use of facilities over the County started going down this process somebody building a granny unit and failing 6. Community Development/Planning (2) next 3 years to foster civic pride, improve of legalizing the cannabis industry, we to tell the county. This is a commercial Develop and complete a plan to annex health, and support recreation efforts for were very much based upon doing things activity - it's a much larger scale. And properties adjacent to the City that are greater involvement in local government, based upon incentive of legalization," there is an environmental impact from a lot currently in the County. depending on financing. said Ford, "allowing people to apply for of these projects at scale." Willits Weekly | April 15, 2021 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Pg. 11

Jared Walker, from the Redwood Valley The rest of County Water District, suggested water rationing was on the horizon for his district.

From Page 1 Increased "satellite imagery," and those who applied "Redwood Valley and Calpella both are probably going to be in pretty dire situations

for Phase 1 permits who have become "non responsive" and the county has here, probably within the next month. deemed are no longer making real efforts Probably gonna be down to what we would to fully make it through the permitting refer to as critical public health and safety process. water only." Walker reminded listeners that

Redwood Valley residents in 2014 were The main actions approved were: "Encouraging denial of non-compliant allowed only 50 gallons per person per day. "That's getting pretty dire," he said, but Phase 1 cannabis cultivation applications; "with these latest numbers ... I really don't approving increased scope of work for existing outside counsel ... to assist with think there's any other option at this point." Phase 1 cannabis cultivation denials; Supervisor McCourty asked Walker obtaining satellite imagery subscription for about the district's plans to discontinue cannabis program and code enforcement providing agricultural water. "That will be on with budgetary request returning on next Monday, the 19th, we will cut off the consent [calendar]; and requiring Phase roughly 200 ag connections to Redwood 1 cannabis permit and embossed receipt

holders to demonstrate state provisional "This is a very dire situation," McGourty license or attest to non-cultivation within responded, "and it's going to be really 45 davs." critical that everybody implement water At the Monday meeting the supervisors conservation measures. This is not the year also approved extending the "moratorium" to expand your garden or your landscaping.

on the original Phase 3 cannabis plan, delaying it until at least February 27. Supervisor Haschak wondered if 2022. At their last meeting they had put a supervisors had any interest in a moratorium moratorium on Phase 3 for 45 days until on new well permits. "One of the issues May 6, 2021. I've been hearing a lot about is wells being dug, lots of wells in the Willits Little Lake All these actions came a week before

Valley, up in Covelo area. So, with this their April 19 meeting when the supervisors water shortage we have, and suddenly had been scheduled to vote on whether to expand outdoor permit sizes and other lots of wells being dug, is there appetite for possible changes in a new ordinance for the board to put on a moratorium for well permits, during this time of crisis with the cannabis cultivation regulations in the county, titled "Chapter 22.18 - Commercial Cannabis Activity Land Use Development Board chair Dan Gjerde asked County Ordinance." (Note: at the time this paper Counsel Christian Curtis if the county had went to print, the April 19 Mendocino legal authority to impose a well moratorium. County BOS Agenda was not available.) His answer was "maybe." Supervisors Fifth District Supervisor Ted Williams McGourty and Ted Williams offered some said at Monday's meeting that if applicants comments on the complexities of imposing

in Phase 1 are removed from the process due to non-compliance, they could potentially reapply for "Phase 3" cannabis applications. However, at a March 19 planning

"is some of these cannabis grows popping commission meeting Planning & Building up all over the place, certainly they aren't Assistant Director Julia Krog indicated that legal, they haven't been in the program, the county likely plans on replacing Phase they're just showing up in Redwood Valley, 3 as originally written, and potentially Potter Valley, Little Lake Valley, Covelo – all adopting some form of the new Chapter over the county. They're just drilling wells, 22.18 ordinance instead. and so there's competition for that aguifer,

The original draft of the Chapter 22.18 and people are feeling like they're in this ordinance contained the controversial kinda arms race about how deep the well expansion of outdoor cultivation to 10% of can go. And ... a lot of people who've had parcel size in many zones in the county. existing wells that have been good wells for The county planning commission ended a long time, their wells are going dry. So I up recommending a maximum of 5%, and think that's a consideration for the county." it was anticipated that a draft would be Some of the other presentations were coming before the BOS at their April 19 from Sean White, manager of City of meetina.

Ukiah's water system, Janet Pauli, with an On Monday, Deputy County Counsel update on the Potter Valley project, Beth Matthew Kiedrowski stated, "The primary Solomon from the Russian River Flood concern is while the county is undergoing Control District. Deborah Edelman from the review of a current process to replace Mendocino County Resource Conservation Phase 3, it is urgent that it not begin Phase

permits and to operate within that system. The thing that unfortunately we quickly found out is that not everyone would respond favorably or appropriately to that incentive. And so there also needed to be a fairly robust enforcement action. We did that by rewriting our code to give a better process."

Ford said that their "success rates" have increased recently in terms of getting people to either eradicate illegal grows or come into some sort of compliance before strict enforcement measures are used.

"We're having a success rate probably in the 70 to 80% range between people who can just clean up without any kind of fines and penalties and people entering into compliance agreements," he said. "In fact in 2020 ... of all the notices that we issued they were all resolved without fines and penalties. So actually we think that's an accomplishment to be able to work with

people and get things done." First District Supervisor Glenn McGourty seemed impressed by Ford's presentation. "I'm a proponent of active code enforcement," said McGourty. "If we don't

> do something proactive here, then we're going to have a complete madhouse. And we already have Covelo which is a mess. and now we see Redwood Vallev and Potter Valley kind of falling in the same category ... of people who just obviously have no intention of following the rules.

"And we have to be able to send a message loud and clear that this isn't OK,' he continued. "And I think that Mendocino County's clear that we want to have a cannabis industry here, but we expect it to be a well-regulated and orderly cannabis industry that we can be kind of proud of in a way like any other agricultural product that we produce. Right now, no one can be proud of this, this is a mess. And we really have to do something about it because people are really really upset."

During public comments, Covelo Cannabis Advocacy Group director Monique Ramirez stated that first and foremost the county should put its efforts into having an efficient process for obtaining legal cannabis permits in the county.

> "The solution to all of this is to have a functioning cannabis program, and unless we have that we're going to have so many problems," said Ramirez. "And people are not going to be able to ever come forward. So as we deny people that have initiated the process ... and don't help them, they're just going to return to the illegal market, which further perpetuates the problem for making it even harder for code enforcement and law enforcement... We need to look at why people are having such troubles being able to get in the

Mendocino County's Cannabis Program

programs."

sure you're all seeing [Lake Mendocino's]

Over on Page 12



Mendocino

LET'S TALK TRANSPORTATION

The Mendocino Council of Governments (MCOG) is updating the region's Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Active Transportation Plan (ATP), and...

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

WHAT TRANSPORTATION NEEDS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED?

- WHAT BARRIERS TO TRANSPORTATION DO YOU SEE?
 - WHAT MOBILITY CHALLENGES DO YOU SEE?

Here are ways **YOU** can be involved in MCOG's Process:

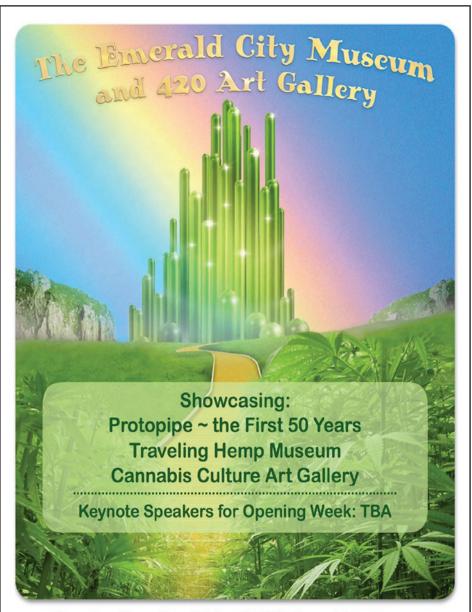
- View the Virtual Presentation - Take our Online Survey -- Visit our Interactive Website -

Use the QR code or click the link below:

https://bit.ly/3bSij6u

www.mendocinocog.org

Questions or comments? Contact MCOG Staff at lellard@dbcteam.net or 707-234-3434 Your Input Matters!



What's New at KLLG Radio

By Earlene Gleisner, for KLLG

On Mondays at 4 pm and Thursdays at 5 pm, Willits Smooth Lounge is hosted by a persona "Ashton Greene" and his son, sometimes known as "Richy Rich Goldwater." It is easy listening with that kind of rock that is great for kicking back and opening up something fine from the vine.



A message from Michael Foley: "To the faithful audience of 'News 'n Views,' I am taking a brief break from the show to pursue the work on the farm. Look for 'News 'n Views' in a month or so. My best and thanks for listening!"

Kyle Neuer is new to Willits and has joined KLLG in response to our call for some engineering help. Having worked on another radio station for 15 years, he will be bringing on a new music program and assisting us with one of the engineering posts we have available.

More businesses are using our broadcasts to announce their reopenings and services through our Community Bulletin Board feature. Earlene Gleisner, a volunteer, will be doing the footwork to see how KLLG can help you with your advertising scheme.

We are still looking for volunteers with a good knowledge of Windows file structure and who are willing to learn how RadioDJ software works. Please consider contacting Jeff Shipp through our website, www.kllg.org. Through our site, you can also access our link for public service announcements, the donation button, underwriting schedule, as well as emailing us any of your suggestions.

The rest of Soccer

From Page 3

they are not currently utilizing because they have smaller numbers this year. We have three fields here where there is usually just one, but we'll take what we can get for this supplemental session. It took us two days to arrange the fields and measure and paint the lines," she said.

It is the hope of Rodriguez that their fall season can approach normalcy, where they are able to field the full complement of 300 to 320 players, with each team being sponsored by local businesses. Willits lost the chance to see the traditional parade of teams last year, a joyous event that brings up to a thousand people to the main soccer field by Roots of Motive Power.

"Here we are just starting the spring v

season, and already we're getting prepared for the fall season," Rodriguez explained. "I just put in an equipment order for that season. I'm working on the website, getting everything ready. I'm getting a lot of inquiries from parents who didn't know there was going to be a spring program. I reassure them that the fall season starts August 1 and it's right around the corner. The registration period will be from May 15 to June 30."

For those who would like to register their kids for the fall season, or for further information, please go to their website: https://willitsyouthsoccer.com or their Facebook page: www.facebook.com/ willitsyouthsoccer.

Plant start giveaway at Commonwealth Garden, May 8, 9

The Frank R. Howard Foundation's Commonwealth Garden invites community members to participate in its plant start giveaway on May 8 and 9 from 9 am to 3 pm. Plants are limited to stock on hand. First come, first served. No holds. Commonwealth Garden is on Haehl Creek Drive, near the new hospital.

The rest of **Pizza**

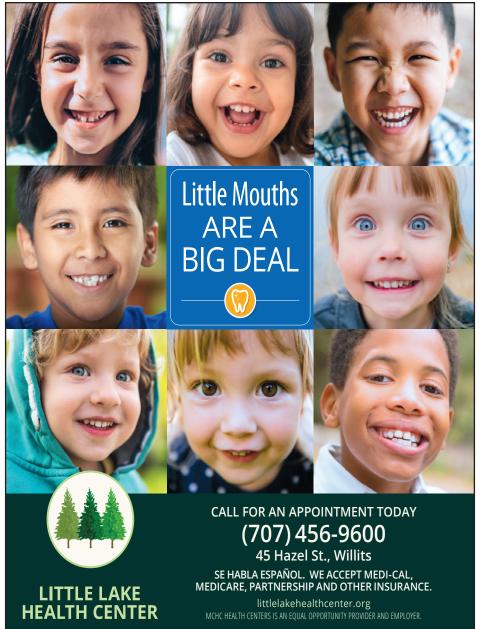
From Page 10

business keep appearing. Well-curated pizzas are constantly being created by Swanton or people on staff. Besides their main menu, definitely check out the dryerase board or fliers on the safety windows where you order pizza to see what's new.

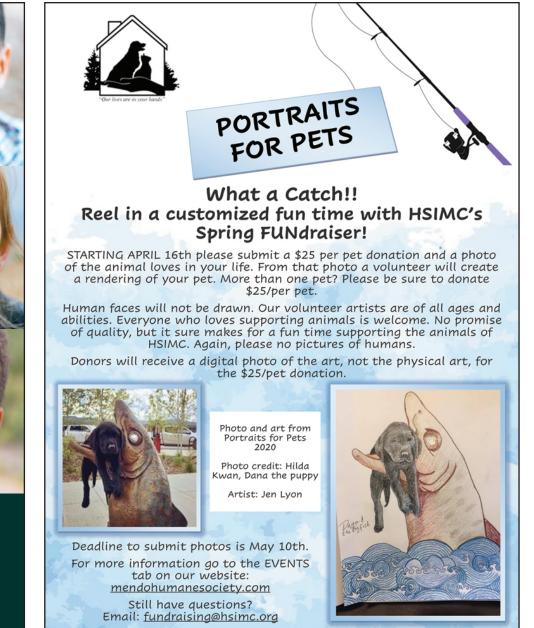
Tuesday, April 13, Swanton and people from the city got together to begin work on the outdoor covered-seating area that will have picnic tables and occupy the two parking spaces in front of the pizzeria. This will be a first in Willits and Swanton said the expansion will look something like Patrona's in Ukiah. plans to have foosball, shuffle board, and air hockey games. "They're good and solid and of a commercial grade," the owner said and added that they're additions to the retro look of the place. "Even the DVDs have become something from the past," Swanton laughed.

Take the time to browse the stacks when you're waiting for your pizza. They have an ever-growing collection of vinyl and still have lots of music CDs and movie DVDs on sale. They'll continue to rent DVDs.

Opening Tuesday, 20 April 2021 from 12 to 5 p.m. Exhibit open on weekends to the end of June from 1 to 5 Old Rexall Bldg at 90 South Main St, Willits



Other changes in the near future include the additions of pasta with homemade, locally sourced ingredients – when they can – for the sauces and salad choices you can order with your pizza. There are Flying Dog Pizza and Vinyl is located at 65 South Main Street in Willits. You know you're there when you see the logo. Their hours are 11 am to 8 pm, Tuesday through Saturday and 12 pm to 7 pm Sunday. To order ahead for pick up, call 459-4747.



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Willits Weekly | April 15, 2021