

# Willits Weekly

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Online & Print

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits  
Donations Accepted Edition No. 448 **Thursday, April 21, 2022**

## Firehouse contract almost ready to 'close out'

Joanne Moore  
Reporter  
joanne@willitsweekly.com

It's all running smoothly is one way to describe the discussion at the Little Lake Fire Protection District Board of Directors' April meeting.

The finish line is on the horizon for some long-term projects. And the rest of it, the daily business that keeps the fire department functioning and the public safe, is moving along at a steady pace.

The contract for the biggest longest-term project, the new firehouse,

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

## Brooktrails board hears water appeals

Barbara O'Reardon  
Reporter  
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Water usage issues were at the forefront at the April 12 Brooktrails Community Township Board of Directors meeting. On the agenda were two appeals from two Brooktrails residents about water disconnection notices at their homes. Both residents had spoken at the previous board meeting.

At the March 22 meeting, 28-year Brooktrails resident Roger Patereau appeared before the board to dispute the meter readings that indicated water over-usage at his 1759 Hawk Lane residence.

Patereau shared with the board that he and his

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

## Public Health eases COVID exposure rules

Submitted by Mendocino County Public Health

Mendocino County Public Health Officer Dr. Andy Coren announced Monday he is rescinding the local isolation and quarantine requirements for COVID-19 for the general public who've been exposed but don't test positive themselves.

As of April 18, persons who have been in close contact with someone infected with COVID-19 – but who have no symptoms and who test negative – are no longer required to quarantine after their exposure, regardless of their vaccination status, unless they live or work in a high-risk setting.

This change in local  
Read the rest of **COVID**  
Over on Page 4



Above, from left: Adventist Health Howard Memorial Volunteer Marla Schroeder holds a Sudoku puzzle book available for patients from the book cart. HMH volunteer Diana Franceschini shows potential shopper, Holly, a coffee cup made locally by artist Jan Hoyman. Fort Bragg volunteer Norma Holmes arranges jewelry in the Adventist Health Mendocino Coast gift shop. Below: The wonderful group of volunteers who help out at Adventist Health Howard Memorial including, back row, from left: Michael Ward, Leigh Austin, Sandy Smith, Lois Edwards, Pat Wilson, Paul Haley, Peggy Klier, Aileen Gaynor, and René Rodriguez. Front row, from left: Marla Schroeder, Millie Lehrman, Beverley O'Ferrall, Sharon Gaynor, Regina Valente-Payne, Becky Hope, Bev Roach, Diana Franceschini, Jennifer Sookne, Diane Collins, and Laura Azevedo.



Photos by  
Maureen  
Jennison

# Making a Difference

Hospital volunteers provide care and comfort

By Adam Istas, for Adventist Health

In recognition of National Volunteer Week (April 17-23), Adventist Health in Mendocino County would like to honor and thank the dozens of volunteers who donate their time so generously to the hospitals in our community. Volunteers play a critical role in everyday operations at each of our campuses, and we are extremely grateful for their time and commitment to our community's well-being.

At Adventist Health Howard Memorial hospital in Willits, volunteers are often the first face a visitor sees when entering. From greeting each visitor warmly to helping them find their way, the Howard Auxiliary exemplifies the selfless spirit and dedication to patient care that the hospital is known for. Volunteers work in other areas of the hospital, too, providing information, assistance and good energy to both visitors and staff.

"We're so grateful to our volunteers for the work they do

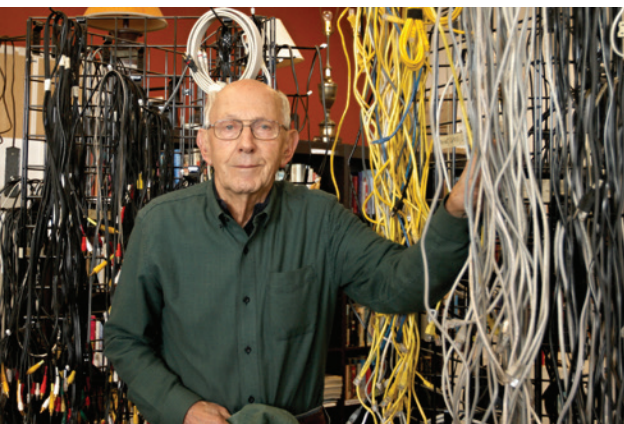
every day," says Rebecca Hope, volunteer coordinator for Adventist Health Howard Memorial and Adventist Health Mendocino Coast. "Our volunteers are members of our care teams and members of the community, and we can't thank them enough for their compassionate contribution to patient care."

Far beyond the front desk, members of the Howard Auxiliary can be seen providing care and comfort throughout the hospital. Patient Ambassador volunteers spend time visiting with patients, inquiring about meal satisfaction, helping patients understand room amenities and sharing the gift of time and attention. Other volunteers tour the hospital with a well-stocked hospitality cart, providing coffee, tea and snacks to both patients and visitors, as well as hospital staff often too busy for a break.

Read the rest of **Volunteers**  
Over on page 15



Above, from left: One of the junior volunteers, Katherine Wang, helps at Adventist Health Ukiah Valley. AHUV volunteers Dale Herndon, left, Vicki Bitonti-Brown, Richard Towle, Amy Burke and Tony Marsh smile for a group photo. Volunteer Liz Crook has been working with AHUV since 2014. Below, left: At HMH, volunteer Aileen Gaynor checks in patients and visitors near the front desk. Below, right: Wilma Woods and Assistant Supervisor Michael Hervilla volunteer at the registers at the Fort Bragg thrift shop. At bottom, left: Wireman Bill Westfall handles all the electronics at the thrift shop in Fort Bragg. At bottom, right: Trio of volunteers Judy Griffin, left, Norma Holmes and Carol Steele volunteer on the coast campus.



## City council OKs groundwater plan

B.B. Kamoroff  
Reporter  
bb@willitsweekly.com

Water and the contentious Elias well were back on the agenda at the April 13 city council meeting. And like an old steam-powered locomotive roaring down the tracks, the water was boiling and the pressure building for two hours of intense discussion, disagreement, and trust – or lack of it – in the city's plan for the future of the Willits water supply.

Willits gets all of its

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

## Supes to look at reducing cannabis tax

Forrest Glycer  
Reporter  
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The board of supervisors directed staff to make multiple changes to the cannabis tax code in Mendocino County on Tuesday in an effort to lighten the burden on some of those in the industry, while at the same time tightening up enforcement.

The supervisors asked that staff craft an ordinance to reduce county cannabis taxes levied on operators, possibly by 50%, but also asked that those who are delinquent on taxes be

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

## Willits attacker pleads guilty, to serve 15 to life

Posted by Mendocino County DA on Facebook

Defendant Jose Miguel Perez, age 24, of Willits, was convicted by guilty plea Friday morning of two felony offenses and one special allegation.

Pursuant to a negotiated disposition, defendant Perez entered guilty pleas to kidnapping for the purposes of rape, a felony, and assault by force likely to cause great bodily injury, a felony.

The defendant also admitted a sentencing enhancement that he personally inflicted great bodily injury on the victim by "causing the victim to

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



# What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

## Thank you

To the Editor:

Thank you to Willits Weekly and Mathew Caine for the coverage of our Experimental Aircraft Association chapter #1027's Spring Fly-in on Saturday, April 9. That was a nice write up and pictures.

EAA plans to have two more events this year, and we very much appreciate your articles inviting the public up to the airport to enjoy them, which creates good community relations and enables the community to learn about local aviation and to enjoy a good barbecue.

Paul Trexel, EAA chapter #1027,  
Willits

## Demand the plan

To the Editor:

Neighbors dismayed over the hazards and messes left by some of PG&E's contractors are justified in demanding better practices for fire prevention. How to get the demands met? Walter Smith, a faller and landowner in Willits, points to a need to see

documentation when a contractor comes.

Do they have a timber harvest plan that shows what trees will be cut? PG&E can cut trees 12 feet, 6 inches from their center line. The rest, legally, belong to the landowner. Does the THP include cleanup so the slash doesn't create a fire hazard? Will the trees to be cut affect a water course shared by neighbors? Damage to water affects everybody and everything downstream.

Perhaps more than a THP is needed. Several local environmental groups are calling for EIRs when large old trees are to be cut. We can call on our representatives Jared Huffman, Mike McGuire and Jim Wood for help putting environmental impact reviews in place. They all have offices at 200 School Street in Ukiah.

The time it takes to implement EIRs might slow things down. Those who plan to make money cutting big trees might complain that slowing down could affect the economy. However, it's becoming more and more obvious that the environment IS the economy.

Sheryl Smith, Willits

## Seeking medicines, more for direct aid to Ukraine

Willits area resident Michelle Glover posted on Facebook about her husband Dave Caspino's volunteer efforts in Ukraine in March. "Hey it's Dave, an EMT/ex-Army medic," the post started. "I volunteered for two weeks in the Ukraine last month. I hurt my back from a land mine, and returned home. I was able to bring about \$60k worth of donated medicine and supplies, body armor, and VHF radios to Northern Kyiv.

"Nightly I would teach battlefield medicine and prehospital care. Daily I would exfiltrate orphans, families, and young girls (401 total) susceptible to sex trafficking and deliver them to Poland via the Red Cross. After an MRI confirmed my back will be better in two weeks, I will be returning to Eastern Ukraine for the same humanitarian work. Russians are targeting hospitals, schools, churches, etc. – there's absolutely no medicine left in Eastern Ukraine.

"We all have medicine cabinets with expired or no longer needed medicine that would save so many lives in Ukraine. If you could donate anything that is non-liquid (insulin, which is in high demand is the only liquid I can take), I will personally fly it to Warsaw, then drive it to Eastern Ukraine.

"Michelle will be in charge of Nor Cal drop-offs (Willits/Ukiah, 3691 Blackhawk Drive, and I will be taking So Cal drop-offs in Los Angeles (Woodland Hills) 22736 Erwin Street (April 23 to 26 for Woodland Hills, 9 am to 6 pm). Please find it in your heart to help these innocent people in these distressing times. God bless.

Michelle Glover's cell is 805-857-7303 and David Caspino's cell is 818-307-6723.

To see pictures of Dave in Ukraine, and to learn more, visit [www.facebook.com/michelle.glover.5680/posts/10228810119417366](http://www.facebook.com/michelle.glover.5680/posts/10228810119417366)

## CSEA endorses Glentzer in county superintendent of schools race

Submitted by CSEA

California School Employees Association is proud to announce the endorsement of Nicole Glentzer for Mendocino County superintendent of schools. After careful review of the two candidates' professional histories and qualifications, Glentzer's endorsement was supported by all eight Mendocino County chapters of CSEA.

Lisa Rantala, CSEA Chapter 194 president, explained that before a decision was made, Mendocino County chapter leaders interviewed both candidates for the office. "After discussing the reputations of each candidate and getting to know them better through our endorsement interview, it was clear that Nicole is the right person to lead Mendocino County Office of Education," said Maggie Butler of the Potter Valley Education Support Professionals, the only chapter of California Teachers Association to endorse a candidate in this race.

The more than 500 school employees represented by CSEA join the more than 100 teachers, principals, administrators, school staff, and Mendocino County Office of Education employees who have already endorsed Nicole Glentzer for superintendent of schools.

"There's a reason Nicole is the educator's choice for Mendocino County superintendent of schools," said Maggie Butler of the Potter Valley Education Support Professionals, the only chapter of California Teachers Association to endorse a candidate in this race.

"We need a superintendent who respects teachers, administrators, and staff – who makes our schools work better and takes the time to foster success for our kids. Anyone who has worked with Nicole understands that she is the right choice for our schools."

Fort Bragg CSEA Chapter President Martha Lopez also voiced strong support for Glentzer's candidacy saying: "She's the right leader to provide the support our schools need. She understands the incredible dedication our educators have shown to keep our schools running. She respects our efforts and will hear our voices."

Glentzer has stated several times along the campaign trail that schools are continually faced with complex problems that can best be solved by working collaboratively with the principals, teachers, administrators, and staff who keep our schools running.

"School employees who work most directly with students, from driving the bus, preparing the food, or teaching in a classroom have a perspective that needs to be heard," said Glentzer. "Schools are facing new challenges: staffing shortage and recovery from COVID. As county superintendent I will ensure that students, staff, community members, and families are heard as we do the work of improving our schools."

To learn more about CSEA visit [CSEA.com](http://CSEA.com)

To learn more about Nicole Glentzer visit [ElectNicoleGlentzer.com](http://ElectNicoleGlentzer.com)

## 'The Struggle for Civil Rights' online lecture at Mendocino College

Submitted by Mendocino College

The next lecture in the Mendocino College Symposium series is scheduled for Tuesday, April 26 at 6:30 pm via Zoom. In his free online lecture, attorney and long-time civil rights activist Charles O. Prickett will discuss "The Struggle for Civil Rights: From Dr. King to Current Voter Law Reform."

Prickett is a civil rights worker, lawyer, judge, and educator. He attended the March on Washington in 1963, was a project co-director during the Mississippi Freedom Summer in 1964, and helped organize the Selma-Montgomery March in 1965. He is the author of "Remembering Mississippi Freedom Summer" and was honored by the NEA with their

Read the rest of  
Rights

Over on page 4

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

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

Monday, April 25: Ham and Scalloped Potato Casserole, Veggie, Roll

Tuesday, April 26: Chinese Chicken Salad

Wednesday, April 27: Country Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Veggie, Roll

Thursday, April 28: Ruben Sandwich, Pickle, Chips, Green Salad

Friday, April 29: Turkey w/Stuffing and Gravy, Cranberry Sauce, Veggie, Roll

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



### The Rules: LETTERS

Letters & Commentaries: Email letters to [willitsweekly@gmail.com](mailto: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.



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Above, from left: Cyndee Logan partakes in the first course of free food at the Shanachie Pub's anniversary event. Page Fender, right, enjoys a beer with a friend on the patio. Clay Hawkins and friends are the first to entertain the attendees. Tyler Balthrop, of the Sherwood Mountain Boys bluegrass band, practices on the patio.



At left: Pete Swanton, behind the bar, helps to take orders and greet his guests.

Below: The intimate venue tends to get packed with dancers and music lovers. At bottom, left: Pub owner Pete Swanton smiles with friend Deb Schwartz. Jazz-Minh Moore does a quick sketch of Clay Hawkins.

Photos by Mathew Caine



## Pub Anniversary

### Shanachie celebrates 20 years in business with free food, musical performances, and an art show

"It's been a great 22 years and there's a whole lot more to come," said Pete Swanton, owner and proprietor of Shanachie Pub (also known just as "the Pub"). "The friendships and the relationships – the Pub has turned into more than I could ever have imagined. It's not just one person doing it. I was fortunate to have all the pieces of the puzzle together with the help from friends and staff. Like the song, I've gotten by with a lot of help from my friends."

The Pub threw a party last Friday to celebrate its 20th anniversary, albeit two years late due to the rigors of the COVID restrictions, which jeopardized the Pub, but did not lead to its demise. Twenty-two years of music, beer and relationships have made the Pub the go-to venue for music in the town of Willits, especially on Wednesday evenings with the open-mic events that attract musicians from around the world to share their music with the accepting crowds. An eclectic array of performances, mostly with a down-home folksy, bluesy vibe, has delighted the Pub-goers for many years in the small but warm room where people go to be with their friends.

Of course, the other draw is the beer. Swanton keeps the robust beer menu fresh with local and international

Read the rest of  
Anniversary

Over on page 13



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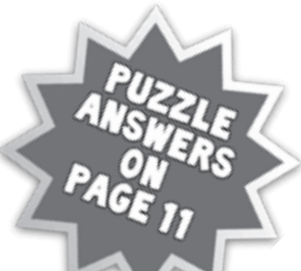
**SELFIE BOOTH**



Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

9x9 grid for Sudoku puzzle



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!

15x15 grid for crossword puzzle

HELPING HAND WORD SEARCH

Word search grid containing words related to helping hands

Table with 3 columns: ASSISTANCE, EMERGENCY, RELIEF; BLOOD, FIRE, SAFETY; COMPASSION, FIRST AID, SHORTAGE; CPR, HEALTH, TRAINING; CRISIS, HUMANITARIAN, URGENT; CRITICAL, LOST, VICTIM; DISASTER, MISSION; DONATION, READINESS, VOLUNTEER

The rest of COVID From page 1

requirements comes after the California Department of Public Health ended its quarantine recommendation for the general public. Exposed persons should still get tested for COVID three to five days after an exposure and wear a mask around others for 10 days, but can continue to work, go to school, and participate in normal activities – as long as they have no symptoms.

The statewide COVID-19 isolation order remains in effect for people who have a positive test, COVID symptoms, or been diagnosed by a provider. Isolation can end on day five with a negative test, and if no fever is present and symptoms are resolving. For those with a positive test on day five, isolation may end after 10 days if there is no fever and symptoms are resolving.

"I am rescinding the local quarantine order in order to align with California Department of Public Health guidance and to reduce confusion around quarantine requirements in Mendocino County," Dr. Coren said.

"This change recognizes that transmission levels are decreasing, and that safe, effective vaccines and oral treatments are available. We know the pandemic will continue to evolve, and we will continue to monitor the situation closely.

"It's important to get tested early and continue with isolation protocols if you test positive for COVID," Coren said. "We want to limit transmission and protect our vulnerable community members as much as possible."

As the incubation period of circulating COVID variants has grown shorter (now averaging two to three days), quarantine has become less useful, with many exposed persons receiving notification of an exposure after their incubation period ended.

California Department of Public Health quarantine instructions continue to recommend quarantine for employee and resident close contacts in certain high-risk settings where transmission risk is high and the populations served are at increased risk of severe COVID-19 disease. These settings include homeless and emergency shelters, healthcare settings, correctional facilities, and long-term care facilities.

COVID-19 information and various data dashboards are available on the Mendocino County Public Health website at: www.mendocinocounty.org/covid19

Public Health confirms COVID cases at Shanachie Pub

Submitted by Mendocino County Public Health

In an April 20 press release, Mendocino County Public Health has confirmed more than one positive COVID-19 case in Willits that is linked to Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Members of the public who visited this facility on Friday, April 15, 2022 may have been exposed to COVID-19, and are advised to seek COVID-19 testing. For information about testing, visit www.mendocinocounty.org/community/novel-coronavirus/covid-19-testing

Effective anti-viral treatments are available but must be taken soon after becoming infected. Contact your health care provider if you test positive either by a home test or PCR.

The facility's management is responding quickly to the positive case. We appreciate the cooperation to find those who could be exposed, and Public Health only publishes the business names and locations because it is impossible to specifically identify everyone in the public who could have been exposed.

Despite the lessening of prevention mandates, masks are still strongly recommended indoors to prevent virus transmission. Public Health urges the public to exercise their best judgment when making decisions that might affect their own health, that of their close contacts, and the health of the community.

Public Health Officer Dr. Andy Coren would like to emphasize the importance of staying home from work and social events when exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19 and getting tested.

Common symptoms are fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Other symptoms may include chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, fatigue, congestion, runny nose, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or new loss of taste or smell.

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. A woman of refinement
7. Body part
10. One who imitates
12. Tropical Asian starlings
13. A type of delivery
14. W. Australian capital
15. Many wombs
16. Wings
17. Expression of amusement
18. Brews
19. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
21. Mild expression
22. Solitary
27. Distance to top
28. The rebirth of a soul in a new body
33. Police who investigate police (abbr.)
34. Begrudged
36. Popular sports league
37. Autonomous republic of Russia

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Inspiration
2. Resembling wings
3. Form of Persian
4. Consumed
5. Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand
6. Sea eagle
7. Jaguarundis
8. Poker stake
9. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
10. South American nation
11. A colorless, odorless gas
12. Disturbance

- 38. Double-headed drum
39. Type of light bulb
40. Czech River
41. Male servants (Span.)
44. Previously
45. Minor
48. Metrical foot
49. Days that follow Mondays
50. Small European viper
51. News shows have one
20. Bird-like dinosaur
23. Drinking glass
24. Central Florida city
25. One's mother
26. To do it is human
29. Atomic #10
30. Used to write
31. The branch of medicine concerned with the ear
32. Adversaries
35. Have already done
36. One of conspicuous wealth
38. It flies over sporting events
40. Geological times
41. Net
42. Musical phrase
43. Chadic dialect
49. Private Internet Access (abbr.)
45. Lizard genus
46. Woman of the church
47. Having ten

The rest of Rights From page 2

Carter G. Woodson Memorial Award in 2019.

At Mendocino College, part of our mission is to be an intellectual, economic and cultural anchor for the region, and it is our responsibility and honor to act in a leading public role in the district. Many Americans today are standing up demanding change throughout the U.S. and in our own communities. This is not an easy time, but it is an important one. Change, and open, honest discussions are needed.

To better serve our community, we have launched a public lecture series focused on our social and community challenges. This series features our professors speaking

on topics of interest/research for them and invited speakers from the community or outside sharing their experiences and expertise.

These lectures are a forum for our students and our community to explore the challenges facing our home and our country. We hope this provides a chance to learn, examine and grow in positive and meaningful ways as we strive for a more equitable world where we come closer to achieving the promises of the American Dream for equality, justice and opportunity.

For direct links to the lectures and for ongoing updates about the series, please visit: https://www.mendocino.edu/symposium

PROCLAMATION OF THE
Mendocino County Board of Supervisors
Recognizing April 17 – 23, 2022 as Volunteer Appreciation Week in Mendocino County
WHEREAS, National Volunteer Appreciation Week, April 17 - 23, 2022, is a time to honor the thousands of individuals who take action year round to strengthen their communities; and
WHEREAS, during this week all over the nation, volunteers will be recognized for their commitment to service; and
WHEREAS, established in 1974, National Volunteer Appreciation Week has grown exponentially, recognizing the incalculable contributions that volunteers make every day across the country and challenging all Americans to step forward to help wherever there is need; and
WHEREAS, the County of Mendocino volunteer force is a great treasure, with 309 volunteers giving over 3,996 volunteer hours to the Mendocino County community by assisting in county departments and offices, and during the COVID-19 pandemic by creating cloth facial coverings, grocery shopping and delivery of foods to those quarantined, assisting with contact tracing and at vaccination sites, and surveillance locations; and
WHEREAS, National Volunteer Appreciation Week reflects our appreciation for County of Mendocino volunteers; and
WHEREAS, the County of Mendocino Board of Supervisors encourages all citizens to volunteer in their communities.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino, hereby proclaims April 17 - 23, 2022, as:
"Volunteer Appreciation Week"



Field Trip Fun
Imagination Station students learn life lessons and have a good time visiting local attractions

Hurray for field trips! Young students at Imagination Station Preschool and Childcare Center have been resuming local field trips now that COVID pandemic restrictions have eased.

"We have always done field trips," said Imagination Station Director Saprina Rodriguez, "but have had to hold off on many of the traditions during COVID."

As evidenced by these heartwarming photos, posted by Imagination Station on their Facebook page, the students are loving it.

In recent weeks, they've visited the Post Office, taken a tour of the County Museum and Roots of Motive Power facility, and enjoyed a nature exploration at the Rec Grove.

Kids from pre-Kindergarten through fifth grade watched "Sonic 2" at the Noyo Theatre last week. Then the K-5 students went to the Mendocino County Museum and Roots of Motive Power for special tours.

For their trip to the Post Office, pre-K students learned about how the postal service works. They "wrote letters to themselves or parents," the Facebook post explained. "They learned the importance of knowing the parents' full name and address. They learned how to address an envelope and letter, what kind of special stamp is required, and the process of how it goes from their hand to the mailbox at home."

Amy Wolitzer from Mendocino Land Trust led a nature exploration for the kids at the Recreation Grove Park. "Thank you, Amy," Imagination Station's post with those photos read: "Our students were so engaged and asked many inquisitive questions."

Teacher Juan Salinas gave a presentation on the art of archery in the school's backyard, discussing "the



Above, far left: The nature exploration at the Rec Grove included using a magnifying glass to look closely at a feather. Above, left: This girl reaches for the top slot to mail her letter.

Above: Students enjoyed a special tour of the Mendocino County Museum.

At left: Imagination Station pre-Kindergarten students line up under the Willits Post Office sign during their field trip.

Photos by Imagination Station Director Saprina Rodriguez and teacher Adalyd Gonzales



Above, left: The Tooth Fairy from Little Lake Dental Program demonstrates proper tooth brushing technique. Above, right: Feeling the moss and bark on a tree at the Rec Grove. Below: The Imagination Station crew lines up for a photo at the Noyo Theatre.



VIRTUAL FORUM • SUNDAY, APRIL 24 10:30 AM-NOON WITH MENDOCINO COUNTY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT CANDIDATES MICHELLE HUTCHINS AND NICOLE GLENTZER
Please join us for a Virtual Forum with the two candidates for Mendocino County School Superintendent. The Zoom event will feature a panel of local educators who will interview Michelle Hutchins, the incumbent Superintendent and Nicole Glentzer, the current Assistant Superintendent of Schools for the Ukiah Unified School District. As a service to the Mendocino community the event is open to everyone.
For sign-in information please visit www.redwoodcoastdemocrats.org at any time between April 20 and April 24
Read the rest of Trips Over on page 15

RE-ELECT HASCHAK FOR SUPERVISOR
CAMPAIGN KICK-OFF EVENT
Brickhouse Coffee
Friday, April 29th
5:00-6:30
Food Beverages Lively Discussion
Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Haschak for Supervisor 2022, FPPC# 1442639

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.

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Read the rest of **Mural** | *Over on page 13*







Above, left: Ayla was more willing to participate with just the live bunny sitting next to her at the Photos with the Easter Bunny fundraising event last Friday. Above, right: Lucy Button, granddaughter of Soroptimist International of Willits President Barbara O'Reardon, smiles with a bunny at the end of the event.

## 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](http://www.agapebiblechurch.com)

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

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

**Eckankar: The Path  
of Spiritual Freedom**  
• Sound of Soul events  
• Membership Discourses  
• Spiritual Discussions  
• ECK Light & Sound Services  
More information?  
Call 530-224-8703  
[www.eckankar.org](http://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:  
(707) 459-3106

**St. Anthony of Padua  
Catholic Church**  
61 W. San Francisco Ave.  
Willits, CA 95490  
*Father Aaron Bandanadam*  
Mass times:  
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**  
1 North Main Street, Willits  
707-272-0177  
Sunday Service - 10 a.m.  
In-person and on Zoom  
Call for information.  
*ALL ARE WELCOME*  
*The Rev. Betsy Bruneau*

**St. John  
Lutheran Church**  
Church Service:  
Sunday 10:00 to 11:00  
(707) 459-2988  
24 Mill Creek Drive  
*ALL ARE WELCOME*

**Willits Seventh-Day  
Adventist Church**  
707-459-5714  
Friendly, open worship  
Saturdays  
Bible Study - 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service - 10:45 a.m.  
Zoom Transmission Available.  
Wednesday  
Prayer Meeting - 6:00 p.m.  
399 W. Mendocino Ave.  
*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](http://www.facebook.com)

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

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## NEARY and O'BRIEN


Attorneys at Law

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At right: Giovanni and Stephanie Villavicencio, left, hold little Emilia, and smile with Stephanie's brother Tito Duran, right, and his family: Courtney, Kolson and Harper, right. At far right: Besties Nevaeh and Suki perch on the Easter Bunny's knees for a smiley photo.

At left, from top: High fives and hugs were offered to, sometimes, win over reluctant sitters, or upon request for those brave enough to ask. Below: Kassidy Lavine smiles with the Easter Bunny and one of his live furry friends, too.

Below, right: Siblings Emma and Grayson Jones smile with bunnies during the fundraising event.

Photos by  
Maureen Jennison



At left: Honorary Soroptimist member and co-bunny wrangler, Keeley Ahders, left, smiles with the Easter Bunny and SIW members Vicki Ham, Marilyn Harden, Secretary/Treasurer (and bunny-wrangler) Heidi Ahders, and club President Barbara O'Reardon. Above, from left: Colter Basler was all smiles for the bunny. Swayze and Sam Munderloh were half-happy with meeting the big bunny. Skyler and Bennett were happy to sit and smile.



# Photos with the Easter Bunny

Fundraising event for Soroptimist International of Willits  
at J.D. Redhouse raises \$424 for local non-profit

It felt almost like a pre-pandemic party during the annual Photos with the Easter Bunny event held last Friday at J.D. Redhouse. The warehouse of the mercantile was used as the bunny location – as opposed to the usual outdoor setting – due to the wonderful, but complicating rain. Even though a quick location rearrange was temporarily a hindrance during set up, the funky weather sure didn't faze any of the hundreds of kids who came to meet the big bunny.

As is the case each year, the event is held as a 50/50 fundraiser, and the Soroptimist International of Willits club received half the proceeds from the two-hour event: a whopping \$424.

Soroptimist Heidi Ahders (and her daughter, Keely – dubbed an honorary SIW member) provided the rabbits for kids to hold on their laps from their farm Ahders Acres. This year, bunnies who joined the party included a black-and-white bunny named "Pence" and a dark grey "blue-coated" bunny named "Bitterblue."

"We were glad to be back helping make this year's bunny pictures a success!" said Heidi Ahders.

Kids and the big bunny himself held the live rabbits for the photos, and some kids even opted to just pose with the live bunnies in an attempt to have a less scary experience than sitting with the big bunny.

"I was so pleased to see such a wonderful turnout on a rainy night," said SIW's Vicki Ham. "You can tell both children and parents have missed these events. Soroptimist was honored to be able to help Maureen with the bunny photo shoot again this year. And the kids loved the live bunnies that Keely and Heidi brought."

Money raised from this event and other fundraisers, including the recent Willits Telephone Directory Community Phonebook, go to help fund scholarships and other women-and-girl-focused support in our community.

Interested in joining Soroptimists? They're always looking for new members. Contact them via email at [siwillits@soroptimist.net](mailto:siwillits@soroptimist.net) or call 456-9858. For more information about Ahders Acres and their bunnies, contact Keely Ahders at 707-391-9169 or Heidi Ahders at 925-934-0970.

– Maureen Jennison



At top: Natalie Lippincott smiles with a dark bunny.

Above: Jazmin Duarte and her son Oliver smile with the Easter Bunny.

Below: Kyana and brother Torin get a cute sibling photo with the bunny.

At bottom: Brothers Callen, Conner and Coltin enjoy a photo (and noogie afterwards!) with the bunny.





## Furry Friends Hoping for a Home

### Serene Ana Banana

Ana Banana is a shy girl who takes her time getting to know you. This 4-year-old long-haired kitty is mellow and likes her naps but also likes to come out to explore. She appears to get along with other cats. This beauty has her adoption fee reduced for the entire month of April.

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 Ana Banana or our other canine and feline guests. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at [www.mendocinoshelter.com](http://www.mendocinoshelter.com).

### Wagner the Protector

Meet Wagner! This big boy is a classic Great Pyrenees with all the quirks of that breed. In true Great Pyr fashion, he exhibits guardian behavior and likes to roam land which he can "protect." This handsome dude is dog-friendly but dominant. Wagner is 4 years old. We encourage breed-experienced people to apply.

To learn more about Wagner or view other adoptable animals, visit [www.milofoundation.org](http://www.milofoundation.org) or the Milo Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions by appointment only due to COVID-19. Please complete a pet-adoption application before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 510-900-2275.



### Soulful Davey Jones

Meet Davey Jones! This 1-year-old large, mixed-breed dog is a new transfer from our friends at Bones Pet Rescue. Davey Jones has a soulful face, big old ears and eyes that will make you want to be his best friend ASAP! Davey is a must see, so don't wait to meet him! If you would like to foster or adopt Davey Jones, head over to [www.mendohumanesociety.com](http://www.mendohumanesociety.com).

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





## DON'T MISS THIS MEOW-VALOUS Cat adoption event

AT THE UKIAH & FT. BRAGG SHELTERS!

it's raining cats & cats at our shelters, and we need to make room for kittens. So...we're having a

# HALF OFF SPECIAL

for SPAYED/NEUTERED cats aged 1 year and up!

Ongoing thru April

**FT BRAGG SHELTER**  
19701 Summers Lane  
961-2491

**UKIAH SHELTER**  
298 Plant Road  
463-4427

# LEGAL NOTICES

WW385

### Fictitious Business Name Statement

2022-F0188

The following person is doing business as Second Chance Enterprises, 3590 Hearst Willits Road, Willits CA 95490.

Registered owner: Lawrence Allen Lucier, 3590 Hearst Willits Road, Willits CA 95490.

This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on January 5, 2022.

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on April 11, 2022.

/s/ Lawrence Allen Lucier

Publication dates: April 21, 28, May 5, 12, 2022

### Willits Weekly

can run your legal notices including fictitious business name statements, foreclosure notices, storage unit auctions, and more. Contact us for more information at [willitsweekly@gmail.com](mailto:willitsweekly@gmail.com)

WW384

### BROOKTRAILS TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Directors of Brooktrails Township Community Services District will conduct a public hearing on the Financial Plan for Services – Budget, effective July 1, 2022.

The public hearing will be held in person and remotely on Zoom at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 24, 2022. Information on remote access to the meeting will be provided on the meeting agenda at its time of publishing. At this time and place, interested persons including all people owning property in Brooktrails Township Community Services District, may appear personally or submit written comment on the proposed budget.

If approved by the Board of Directors, the proposed Financial Plan for Services – Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23 would become effective on July 1, 2022. A copy of the proposed budget is available for review during normal business hours at the Township Office, 24860 Birch Street, Willits, California 95490 or by request from [btcsd@btcsd.org](mailto:btcsd@btcsd.org).

Dated: April 11, 2022

Signed by: Tamara Alaniz, General Manager/Secretary to the Board of Directors

Publication Date: April 21, 2022

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 the Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino.

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

# CLASSIFIEDS

### Computer Help

Need help with your computer? PC, Macintosh, Android and IOS devices. Repairs, configuration and tutoring: \$50/hr. Call Liam 459-2470 or email [uicearhail@gmail.com](mailto:uicearhail@gmail.com)

### Love Willits Weekly?

Help support our free-circulation community newspaper by becoming a "street subscriber"! You send in an annual donation, and pick up the edition on the street each week! We love our regular subscribers too: \$50 for home delivery in the Willits area; \$75 for a year's subscription in the U.S. mail. Visit <https://form.jotform.com/61915582053153> for a sign up form and more info.

### 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.

### Moving Sale

Drastic downsizing. Golden Rule Mobile Village, Space 72. 6 miles south of Willits. Furniture, books, tools, hardware, hobby, kitchen, etc. Sat. and Sun. April 23 and 24, 9 to 3.

### 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.oakrivine.net/p>

### Indoor Yard Sale

Giant Indoor Yard Sale – Deep Valley Christian School, 8555 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley, (across from the Broiler). **Saturday, May 7** from 8 am to 4 pm.

### KM Cabinetry

Cabinet maker/finish carpenter for hire:

- Custom cabinets.
- Reface existing cabinets.
- Refinish existing cabinets.
- Install premade cabinets.
- Install doors and windows.
- Install moldings.

See my custom cabinetry at [kmcabinetry.net](http://kmcabinetry.net) Phone 707/605-1540. CA License # 833892

### 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.

## Earn Entries Daily April 1 – June 26

200 points = 1 entry

3X ENTRIES ON MONDAYS + 10 BONUS ENTRIES for Hot Seat winners on weekends



Actual model may vary.

# HONDA PIONEER DELUXE Giveaway

PRIZE DRAWINGS SUNDAY JUNE 26 AFTER 10PM

1st Place 2021 Honda Pioneer Deluxe

2nd place – \$1,000 Free Play • 3rd place – \$750 Free Play

4th place – \$500 Free Play

## Customer Appreciation Days

— TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS — 10AM – 10PM

Players can stop by the cage and pay \$20 cash to get **\$40 Free Play**.

## SUPER SENIOR DAYS

— THURSDAYS — 10AM – 8PM

Age 55+. Stop by the cage and pay \$20 cash to get \$30 FP plus a 50% off meal coupon at Creekside Café.

## HIGH, LOW, RED, OR BLACK

FRIDAYS • 5PM – 10PM

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

## HONDA HOT SEATS

SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS • 5PM – 9:50PM

Must earn 100 same-day points and play with your card in any machine during drawing times to qualify. Six (6) winners each hour will get **\$50 Free Play plus 10 Bonus Entries for the Honda Giveaway** on June 26.



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## Current Job Openings:

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Animal Facility Attendant – Extra-Help-Fort Bragg  
Building Inspector III  
Chief Planner  
Chief Planner – Cannabis Program  
Corrections Deputy  
Deputy County Counsel IV  
Deputy District Attorney I/II/III  
Deputy Probation Officer I/II  
Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II  
Eligibility Specialist II  
Employment and Training Worker III  
Juvenile Corrections Officer – Extra – Help  
Mental Health Clinical Manager  
Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist  
Public Health Nurse  
Registered Nurse  
Senior Business Systems Analyst  
Senior Program Manager – Nursing  
Senior Program Specialist  
Senior Public Health Nurse  
Supervising Public Health Nurse  
Vocational Assistant

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

[www.governmentjobs.com/careers/mendocinoca](http://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/mendocinoca)

EOE

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Above, from left: Eva Semisch, Emelia Owsiany, Leah Blakely and Sophie Chavez have fun at the Sebastopol competition. Alexa Williams places second in the 100-yard butterfly. Annalee Gonzalez competes in the 500-yard freestyle. Below: Eva Semisch swims in the 200-yard relay. Below, right: Willits Otter teammates Graham Olson, Emelia Owsiany, Leah Blakely, Sophie Chavez, Annalee Gonzalez and Alexa Williams attend a swim competition in Sebastopol.



## Willits Otters Swim Team begins the spring season competition in Sebastopol

By Arora Chavez, for Willits Otters

The Willits Otters Swim Club traveled south to the Sebastopol Sea Serpent swim meet. The swimmers were excited to be back into competition waters. Representing Willits were Graham Olson, Emelia Owsiany, Leah Blakely, Eva Semisch, Annalee Gonzalez, Sophie Chavez and Alexa Williams.

The seven Otters placed in nine events and all the Otters improved their individual times in one or more events. Gonzalez placed second in the 50-yard breaststroke and placed in the 500-yard freestyle. Williams placed second in the 100-yard butterfly, placed in the 50-yard breaststroke, and the 50-yard freestyle.

Olson placed third in the 50-yard freestyle. Owsiany placed in the 50-yard breaststroke. Chavez placed first in the 50-yard freestyle, first in the 50-yard backstroke, and second in the 50-yard butterfly. Blakely swam the fastest 50-yard freestyle of the day with 31.98 seconds. Semisch had the fastest 50-yard freestyle in her leg of the 200-yard relay. The Otters had a fantastic meet in Sebastopol with lots of fun.

The Willits Otter Swim Team will be in the pool through the month of July and will return in September and go through January. They are accepting new applicants throughout the season and extend a warm invitation to all children up to age 18. If interested, call 559-417-4157. For more information about the swim team, visit the "Willits Otters Swim Team" Facebook page or [www.willitsotters.weebly.com](http://www.willitsotters.weebly.com).

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The rest of **Brooktrails** | From page 1

wife, Karen, were hospitalized for a time between November 2021 and January 2022. He stated that there were relatives staying in the home during this time. Following the hospital stays, Patereau said he received a water bill indicating that 85,000 gallons of water had been consumed by the household.

Brooktrails resident Angela Scarberry also appeared before the board at the March 22 meeting to appeal the water service discontinuation at 1861 Primrose Drive. The owner of the property is Barry Thomas. Thomas was notified by mail that water service would be discontinued due to non-payment.

Prior to the December and January shut-off notice, Brooktrails staff had multiple contacts with Thomas about problems with squatters at this property. Thomas states that Angela Scarberry is not his tenant. However, Thomas has not asked the district to turn the water off in an attempt to forcibly remove the squatters from his property.

Background information provided by the township office states: "California's two year-long water shut-off moratorium ended February 2022. Over the past two years Brooktrails has not discontinued customers' water service due to non-payment. With the expiration of the water shut-off moratorium, customers need to pay their utility bills to avoid having water service discontinued.

"In March 2021, the Brooktrails board passed Ordinance 162, amending the district's Utility Code to ensure compliance with the California Water Shutoff Protection Act. Water service discontinuation occurs when an account has an over 60-day past-due balance."

Patereau requested that the water at his residence be left on and not shut off for non-payment in March 2022. In a phone conversation with Patereau, Brooktrails General Manager Tamara Alaniz said she had offered forgiveness of half of the water usage charge, despite his denial both that there was a leak and that a leak had been fixed, which are the regular terms of the district's leak policy.

Patereau refused the account credit and stated that he will not pay for the water usage above his "regular usage" each month. Following discussion at the April 12 meeting,

the board voted to recommend that the 60-day past-due amount on the account of \$177.10 be paid to avoid water disconnection.

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In February 2022 water service was discontinued to 1861 Primrose Drive for non-payment. When utilities department staff made a routine check a week later, they found that the water had been illegally turned back on at the meter, and that the meter was completely removed. There was no water theft penalty applied to the account.

At the end of March the over-60-day past-due balance was \$1,180.59. This is the amount that would need to be paid to reinstate water service to the account. Thomas said he does not have a tenant agreement with Scarberry. But Brooktrails staff will abide by the decision of the property owner to allow service reinstatement with payment of the full 60-day past-due balance.

After brief discussion at the April 12 meeting, the board voted to support the staff recommendation that the water service to 1861 Primrose Drive remain discontinued until payment of the 60-day past-due balance is received.

The board then unanimously voted approval of the March 12 Accounts Payable in the amount of \$96,646.75.

The rest of **Anniversary** | From page 3

selections. "I'm fascinated by how many different flavors can come out of water and malt and barley and hops," mused Swanton. "There are many different breweries out there and people are trying different things. Some are trendy and some of them stick and some don't.

"As far as the beer goes, this is an IPA-crazed world right now. Everybody loves the IPAs. We're not going to change that," Swanton said, "but we're going to be changing our lineup in terms of beer styles.

"We've just brought in a hefeweizen from Germany which went over well last night. We're going to be putting in non-alcoholic cold-brew nitro coffee on tap in the next few weeks. We're going to go more towards pilsners and lagers and malt-ier beers more than we have in the past.

"Beer is so complex and there are so many different varieties and so many different recipes and influences from around the world. It's amazing," Swanton said. "We have our Belgian beer tap and it's been taking off really well. I'm thinking that we might want to do a rotating international tap.

The Pub lends itself well to an international flavor. It's a reputation that we've developed. We have a very international crowd at certain times of the year. It's amazing how many different types of beer there are."

In addition to the beer, unfiltered sake, wine, alcoholic and non-alcoholic kombuchas, and the music, Swanton treated his guests to various free comeestibles throughout the afternoon and evening. Beginning with pizza from his own Flying Dog Wood Fired Pizza, he also brought in Thai food from the Bangkok Pho Thai Food Express in front of the Pub on Main Street, and from Hatake Farm Kitchen behind the Pub.

As part of the festivities, local artist and teacher Jazz-Minh Moore created a gallery of her musician drawings, gathered from several

The rest of **Firehouse** | From page 1

is almost ready to "close out."

Legally, that means the structure is built, all administrative actions are completed, all disputes are settled, and final payment has been made.

"We're really close to closing out the contract with ACGC [Adams Commercial General Contracting, Inc.]," said Board President Tony Madrigal.

"We're really really close," agreed administrative assistant Michelle Schnitzius.

"I've sent out 30 'Notices of Completion,' with 35 days to respond," she said. "If I don't hear anything by April 28, we can close it out."

And delivery of the department's new Wildland Type 3 fire engine is also finally about there.

"We're hoping to get it in June," deputy chief John Thomen told the board. "Two of us go back [to Boise, Idaho] and look at it, and they deliver it and give an orientation."

The new Explorer Scout program is also almost there, with only "some documents in hand to finish up, [and completion of] an online child protective portion by scout troop leaders" left to do.

"It's actually moving forward after all this time," Chief Bill Carter told the board. "Hopefully, next month or so, we'll be there."

Boys and girls from 14 to 21 are eligible to participate in this demanding program.

"We've got to be stringent with these kids ... make sure they're dedicated, and they know what they're getting themselves into," said Carter. "It's like a new volunteer firefighter. We want to make sure they understand the commitment and the need to move forward with it and take it seriously."

Madrigal asked if there were restrictions on what the scouts could do.

"There's a whole list," said Carter. "They won't be able to participate in any active fire, rescue scenarios until they're well-trained, and that's going to be an ongoing process.

"They'll mark off their task book as they train with it, and when they reach a certain level, they'll get on the engine and duty rig and go with the chief," he continued. "They'll gain those skills and responsibilities as they're in the program."

Training is rigorous. "We do some IDHL [immediately dangerous to life and health] stuff, but it's not a real environment," he said. "But they do need to dress according to the exercise. Mainly what we're using right now is wildland training-type stuff: friction protection gloves, goggles, things like that.

"Once they're 18, they can start training in what we call Explorer 2 programs," he continued. "Now they can actually go into those environments with proper training once they're ready. And once they're 21, they become full members.

"A lot of these kids, they age out. They don't drop out," he told the board. "It's exciting to think about that."

"Gearing them up is kind of a big deal to make sure they have what they need," he said. "Right now, it's just piecemeal stuff; we're going through some old gear and making sure it fits the criteria, but fitting can be an issue. They're quite a bit smaller than most of us."

And gear is expensive.

Clothing costs were brought up as part of a look at the district's preliminary budget, which was presented at the meeting by Schnitzius.

She often interspersed the discussion of budget items with phrases like "everything is expensive and it's just going up ... fuel is super high and getting worse."

On the revenue side, there's one thing that isn't going up: That would be payments from the 2018

The rest of **Mural** | From page 7

the high school. The theme was then changed to include all murdered and missing indigenous women.

Bourassa contacted Shane Grammer, who, through his Hope Through Art Foundation, has been dedicated to creating art to honor and bring awareness to missing and murdered indigenous women. Grammer created a manual and a curriculum on how to build a mural, from concept to execution, and stewarded the students through the process, showing them how to do a design, prepare the surface, which materials to use, the technique, etc.

Students Audrey Sherf and Willow Daun-Widner created the design and were joined by several other students in the painting, which took place over a very rainy week in which there were periods of hail. Luckily, the mural was situated under an overhang, so work could continue. The mural has several elements that have meaning to the Native Americans, a large red hand as a symbol of the missing and murdered women, and roses as homage to Khadijah Britton, among others.

On Thursday, the painting was completed enough to invite some of the members of local Native American tribes to place red handprints on the larger red hand in order to merge themselves with the cause. This practice continued on Friday when the community was invited to the unveiling of the almost-complete mural.

The Friday ceremony brought out the sponsors

voter-approved Measure I cannabis business tax collected by the city, which the department gets a percentage of.

Initially budgeted by the department for an expected \$75,000 last year, the amount was dropped to \$30,000.

In contrast, money is flowing in when it comes to preparing for wildfires, and Chief Carter described one recent large PG&E grant that "Mendocino County fire chiefs are working on [which will pay for] two big training units, one on the coast in Fort Bragg and one in Ukiah."

It's "a million dollars from PG&E to put in two state-of-the-art training towers, burn rooms, the whole thing," he said.

The fancy new towers, however, will not replace the department's reliance on its own tried and true tower (at the Baechtlet Road substation) for training purposes.

"Our own burn room is great because we can plan any exercise we want and move forward with it. We don't have to get permission or schedule a time," Carter told the board.

"Ours, in reality, is more realistic than the ones that are custom-built because they're using propane props and making their smoke, where ours, it's like you're in a real structure fire," explained board member Skip Lucier.

Which is characteristic of the rigorous ongoing training always taking place at the department.

Currently, "we're in wildland training season," Carter told the board.

He described some of the recent training exercises, including a timed "3 mile hike with 50 pound pack, [that] I think almost everybody had done."

And also a new addition to the training schedule: a "monthly basic operation training, [during which] we do whatever they think they want to work on ... muscle memory, hands-on ... getting that hose off the right way...."

All of it vital so that when the real deal calls, everyone's ready.

For example, Carter described a recent "big incident ... [a] multi-family structure fire at Oak Glenn Apartments.

"The lower story was fully involved when we got on scene ... pushing up into the second story apartment above it and just starting to spread. We had one victim picked off of the balcony.

"AB [Aaron Branscomb] went for a quick walk around I asked him to do, while I sized up resource needs," he continued. "And he found a lady standing on the balcony kind of frozen with smoke and fire around her.

"Luckily, a resident or passerby, somebody, came up with him, and they were able to get her off the balcony, [which was] pretty impressive with flames pushing out over the top of them.

"A few more minutes up there could have been a whole different scene, but ... crews contained it to the affected area, with very little spread to the main apartments," he said. "It could have been really a big deal and luckily it wasn't."

The 44 calls for the rest of March included six fires, 14 emergency rescue and medical aids, 16 traffic collisions, three calls for hazardous conditions not fire-related, four service calls to the public, one false alarm, and one good intent.

Asked what "a good intent" call was, Carter responded that training chief Eric Alvarez "label[ed] those, but 'maybe it could be a smoke alarm ... find out if their batteries are good, something like that."

Or maybe it's like a call that Thomen described.

"I still get a kick out of the one you guys got. You got that cat out of a tree, brought it down. And it went right back up."

of the mural: Sherwood Valley Casino, the Community Foundation of Mendocino County, Willits Rotary Club, the United Methodist Church, Whitney Eads, and others who were honored with signed photos of the mural and the students who worked on it. Tribal members and members of MMIW attended to bless the artwork with prayer and song. Third District Supervisor John Haschak and Superintendent of Schools Michelle Hutchins also attended and placed their handprints on the mural. After the ceremonies were ended, the students went back to work to put the finishing touches to the painting.

"We hope that people can start raising the voice of the voiceless," stated Bourassa. "The indigenous people need their voices to be heard and have more resources. Each of us has a part to play in that, even though we don't think we do. I believe we do, even if it's just nudging your spouse or your partner or other family members, saying: 'hey, did you hear about so and so's daughter missing or murdered? What's happened? Where are our resources? There's a disconnect between local and state and federal authorities. How do we fix that? How do we connect each of us together?'"

The mural can be seen on the Willits High School campus on the west end of the Audio-Visual Library.

For further information on the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women movement, visit [www.mmiwusa.org](http://www.mmiwusa.org), or for more info on the Hope Through Art Foundation, visit [www.hopethroughartfoundation.com](http://www.hopethroughartfoundation.com).









OBITUARY |

## David Ohl

On January 8, 2022, David Ohl passed. To most of the community he was known as "the man behind the counter" at Sparetime Supply. David was employed by them for 32 years.

David enjoyed living on his land, Mustangs, Dodge Darts, hanging out with his family and friends, and most of all, riding his motorcycle.

David was born April 2, 1948 to Virgil and Leona Ohl in Attica, Ohio. When he graduated in 1966, the Vietnam war was happening and so was the draft. He chose to join the Navy and was located in Southern California.

He is preceded in death by his father Virgil Ohl, his mother Leona Ohl, his brother Duke Ohl, nephew Gary Laferty, and great-nephew Dale Laferty.

He is survived by his sister Deborah Besley of Willits, great-nephew Gary Laferty and Kassi, great-great-nephew Damien Laferty, great-great-nieces Kayleigh and Kiera Laferty, and aunt Twila Gardner, all of Ohio, and his friends Dan and Sandy of Alaska.

No memorial service is planned. Please make donations to any animal foundation of your choice.

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

## 'Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore'

**The Story:** Evil is afoot across the J. K. Rowling pre-Harry Potter landscape of Magicks and Muggles. The hero of this tale is magizoologist Newt Scamander (Eddie Redmayne), a mage of extraordinary gentleness who is quite adept at handling magical beasts. Some beasts are droll, some nightmarish, and some are almost holy.

The famous sorcerer Albus Dumbledore (Jude Law) gathers a crew of powerful mages starting with Scamander to disrupt the murderous plans of the psychotic mage Grindelwald (Mads Mikkelsen) who wants to control the world and enslave all the Muggles (people like me and probably you). It's a war of good vs. evil. Fantastical beasts are involved, and magic wands, and so many arcane



lightning bolts that the theatre-house is illuminated.

**My Thoughts:** This visually extravagant film is worth several viewings. Firstly, for the basic story and the imagery. Secondly, for the complexities seen in the primary characters. J. K. Rowling (she wrote the novel and the screenplay) has novelistic sympathy for her creations. Most every major character has backstory and motivation. Usually in a fantasy flick, characterization and behaviors are limited to: He or she is just a good person or a bad person.

This film is about Dumbledore's past, his secrets, his heretofore private relationship with a special friend, and his twisty family dynamics. Revelations are forthcoming. We find out who he is, beyond just the kindly and wise Master of Hogwarts. I liked the movie, and I am going to watch it again.

**Parents:** Kindness, love and courage are the virtues preached in this flick. It might be confusing, or too nightmarish in parts for the little ones. Great creatures!

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

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