

EST. 2013

Donations Accepted Edition No. 449

**Forrest Glycer**  
Reporter  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Read the rest of  
**Forest**  
*Over on Page 11*

Read the rest of  
**Felonies**  
*Over on Page 2*



Above, from left: Lettuce starts, special "Tokyo Bekana" Asian greens, and peppers fill the greenhouse at the Commonwealth Garden. Below: Garden manager Mellisa Bouley holds one of the eggplant starts that is already looking ready for next week's plant sale.



– *Maureen Jennison*



*Asparagus, top, and soon-to-be strawberries, above, start peeking out at the garden.*



*At top, right: Garden manager Mellisa Bouley showcases the onion bed at the garden. Above, right: More lettuce sprouts happily growing in the garden's greenhouse. Above, left: The "pollinator 'nectary' garden" is to the side of the main beds and features a "Prairie Fire" crabapple in the center, hugel-mounds planted with bee-friendly plants and flowers, and a beehive. Above, right: Bouley oversees some 3,000-plus starts in the greenhouse. Below, left: The Commonwealth Garden greenhouse is filled to the brim with flower and veggie starts. Below, right: Flower starts, like these hollyhocks will also be available at the upcoming sale.*



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Read the rest of  
**Budget**  
*Over on Page 11*

Read the rest of  
**Facility**  
*Over on Page 2*



funds, offers social rehabilitation services in a safe, welcoming, non-institutional residential setting.

Operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week, the facility provides activities and services that support client efforts to restore, apply and maintain the interpersonal and independent living skills necessary to return to community living.

Referrals will be made by mental health service providers and Redwood Community Crisis Services. All referrals must meet the admission criteria established by the state Department of Health Care Services. The program is designed to meet the needs of the individuals experiencing a mental health crisis.

*Editor's Note: On Tuesday, April 26, another project funded with Measure B funds held a grand opening, the Behavioral Health Regional Training Center in Redwood Valley. The ceremony was attended by former sheriff Tom Allman, a champion of Measure B, Third District Supervisor John Haschak, and recently retired CEO Carmel Angelo, among others.*

*According to Measure B's Mental Health Oversight Committee, training offered at the regional facility "will be geared toward equipping first responders, law enforcement, mental health professionals, and other individuals vested in mental health with skills to detect and handle mental illness more efficiently."*

the adult female against a wall a few feet away and brandished the knife in front of her face and neck. OjedaMaldonado also made a threatening statement during the incident.

OjedaMaldonado eventually let the adult female go and left the area.

Deputies located OjedaMaldonado at his residence in 76000 block of Main Street in Covelo and arrested him on the listed charges without further incident. Charges included: 245(a)(1) PC (Assault with a Deadly Weapon); 207(a) PC (Forcible Kidnapping); 422(a) PC (Criminal Threats with Intent to Terrorize); 236 PC (Felony False Imprisonment); and 243(e)(1) PC (Domestic Violence Battery)

OjedaMaldonado was booked into the Mendocino County Jail on the listed charges where he was to be held in lieu of \$100,000 bail.

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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

Willits Weekly

Willits Weekly is a locally owned independent newspaper, founded in 2013, covering the greater Willits area.

Volume 9, Number 449

3,500 - 4,000 copies printed by Western Web on Thursdays

P.O. Box 1698 Willits, CA 95490 / 707-459-2633 / 707-972-7047  
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# What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Thank you, David

To the Editor:

I was so sorry to read of David Ohl's passing. I didn't know David well; didn't even know his last name. But over the many years I frequented Sparetime Supply, I always looked forward to his helping me, his sense of humor, his lovely and cynical commentary on all manner of issues: political, economic, or the community. You name it, David would always have a unique perspective.

Once I was in Fort Bragg and was heading home to Willits and as I was leaving town, I thought I saw David stopped by the side of the road looking forlorn with a broken-down motorcycle. I was able to offer some assistance to help him with his situation. That was when I learned of his love of motorcycles.

Otherwise, David was just one of those unique people that make Willits the wonderful community that it is. Thank you, David.

Karen Gridley, Willits

Support for Michelle Hutchins

To the Editor:

Nicole Glentzer, challenger for Mendocino County superintendent of schools, recently sent a negative mass-mailed "personal" fundraising letter over the signatures of six retired Mendocino County Office of Education people. It accused County Superintendent Michelle Hutchins of not being prepared with support and direction to school leaders during the pandemic. They want to "make sure that voters know the truth."

*This is the truth:* (as per The Willits News, October 16, 2021 edition) "On Friday, October 8, the Mendocino County Office of Education and Mendocino County Public Health Department hosted a meeting of local K-12 educators where Public Health Officer Dr. Andy Coren complimented educators, saying that schools have effectively "stopped COVID at the door." Of the 33 student cases reported, all were traced to outside contacts and none to school.

Through this awful, unparalleled time, MCOE was a literal command center for ever-changing directives from the health officer, CDPH, SDOE, and the Governor's Office, sometimes the night before they went into effect. They met sudden, immense staff / student needs for everything from PPE to computers and hot spots through a competitive and often broken supply chain.

From urban sites to tiny, remote schools and isolated homes, *everyone* gave 100% and they're universally exhausted. The retired MCOE people were never involved and couldn't even imagine. Putting their names on such a letter does them a disservice, but displays the caliber of the challenger's campaign. With limited qualifications, experience, and understanding of the office, she apparently can only attack.

Superintendent Hutchins won election to a vacated post filled by an interim. She has built a superior cabinet and initiated proven programs for continuous improvement in every facet of the services and responsibilities of MCOE, all while the pandemic raged in two of her three years in office.

Our schools need to have her continue. Her endorsement by the state Superintendent of Public Instruction shows the prominence MCOE has gained under her leadership. Go to her campaign website for her story, but better, go to the MCOE website and see her efforts in action.

Education is a noble profession and schools are sacred places. There's no place for these tactics in a campaign for such a crucial position.

Charlene Ford, member, Mendocino County Board of Education (Area 3)

*Editor's Note: Charlene Ford signed this letter of support for Michelle Hutchins, which was drafted by Larry Olson, member, Mendocino County Board of Education (Area 2) and also signed by Don Cruiser, member, Mendocino County Board of Education (Area 5).*

## 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 28:** Ruben Sandwich, Pickle, Chips, Green Salad

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

**Monday, May 2:** Turkey & Noodles, Veggie, Roll

**Tuesday, May 3:** Chicken Parmesan, Garlic Bread, Green Salad

**Wednesday, May 4:** Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Veggie, Roll

**Thursday, May 5:** Chicken Enchiladas, Rice, Beans, Green Salad

Friday, May 6: BBQ Spare Ribs, Beans, Veggie, Cornbread 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

## McGuire bill to expedite undergrounding of PG&E lines moves forward

Submitted by the Office of Sen. Mike McGuire

April 21, Sacramento, CA – Senator Mike McGuire's urgent bill, SB 884, that will safeguard communities and save lives by expediting the undergrounding of electric utility lines in California's highest-risk fire zones, overwhelmingly passed two major policy committees last week.

SB 884 is supported by CalFire firefighters, and it passed the Senate Energy Committee and the Governance & Finance Committee this week.

"For far too long, America's largest utility – PG&E – has failed its customers and made California unsafe. For years, the utility underfunded modernization and wildfire safety efforts, which has had devastating impacts. The only path forward is to move power lines underground in the most-high fire risk regions. SB 884 will save lives and ratepayers money."

PG&E has been charged with nearly 100 felonies in the deaths of California residents in wildfires they caused over the past four years. Californians have literally run for their lives to escape flames from these utility-caused wildfires.

Undergrounding electric lines reduces the likelihood of fires starting by 99% and will vastly reduce carbon emissions by stopping mega fires before they start. SB 884 will expedite the undergrounding of 10,000 miles of utility lines, while saving ratepayers money by using federal infrastructure funds. Currently, PG&E undergrounds approximately 100 miles of their electrical lines annually.

"Year after year, these utility-caused wildfires have become our reality. This insanity must be stopped for the health and safety of all Californians," said Senator McGuire. "We'll be working day and night to get this critical legislation passed."

The bill now will be sent to the Senate Appropriations Committee for a hearing.

Here is what the bill will do:

- Mandated performance metrics would be implemented by the California Public Utilities Commission on undergrounding projects, including timelines for completion and penalties for not hitting deadlines, and the utility would have to prove safety protocols are met prior to receiving a rate of return.
- Develops a pathway to expedite undergrounding construction by establishing a shot clock for local government permit approval/denial to just 150 days.
- The legislation would save ratepayers money by mandating that utilities use available federal infrastructure funds to construct the undergrounding project before using ratepayer funds, and it would mandate telecommunication companies to underground their utilities in the same trench as the electrical undergrounding.
- This dig-once policy will help as a cost share and help make our state telecommunication system more resilient, especially in the highest-risk zones.
- Guarantees a 270-day judicial review in California courts if an undergrounding project faces a California Environmental Quality Act lawsuit.

## Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

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Above, from left: Michael Katz, executive director of the Mendocino Cannabis Alliance, attends the Mendocino Producers Guild Cannabis and Artisanal Producers Market in Laytonville. One of the organizers, Traci Pellar of the Mendocino Producers Guild and the Mendocino Wildlife Association, blends her two interests together to help create a sustainable industry. Casey O'Neill of Happyday Farms grows natural outdoor cannabis as well as vegetables. Below: Dozens of vendors attend the Mendocino Producers Guild Cannabis and Artisanal Producers Market in Laytonville.



# Cannabis Farmers Market

Small growers show off their product at Mendocino Producers Guild Cannabis and Artisanal Producers Market in Laytonville

Producing artisanal cannabis is a labor of love. In the current regulatory climate, none of the small farmers who make up the Mendocino Producers Guild are getting rich. They are barely keeping their heads above water but still they persist because they love the plant and all its properties. They love the land on which it is grown. They love the history and the lore that has grown out of the independence that began with the back-to-the-land movement of the '70s when people left their city existence and struck out to create a simple paradise in the hills of Northern California.

Last Saturday, this respect for the plant was very much in evidence at the Mendocino Producers Guild Cannabis and Artisanal Producers Market in Laytonville. They came from all corners of the county, to share stories, explain the intricacies of the art of the grow, inform the public, and make some small sales.

The growers were as much the show as the product. Some were remnants of an earlier time when, although still not legal, the lure of living off the grid and growing the legendary strains was an antidote to the complexities and concrete of the cities. Some of the younger growers, weary of the constraints of society, created farms where their vegetables and cannabis could co-exist in peace, creating markets for both.

"One of the biggest things we promote is environmental responsibility," explained Traci Pellar, who participates in the Mendocino Wildlife Association as well as the Mendocino Producers Guild. "All the farmers who come are small producers. The goal with the guild is to showcase our wares. We're looking at hopefully being a destination spot, a destination market, international market. Come to the market and meet the producers and hear their stories. All of the producers, because of their size, are environmentally sound."

"One of the things that makes Mendocino special with the Producers Guild," said Pellar, "is that we fought really hard to keep it at 10,000 square feet. Our practices directly benefit salmon because of our good practices and consciousness of our watershed. For every market we have, 10 percent goes to an environmental non-profit. I am involved in organizations to preserve wildlife. The small producer and the wildlife can co-exist. That's what we're all about." They are about respecting the land and the nature that provides the soil, wildlife, and atmosphere in which they sustain their lifestyles. They can see the connection.

Read the rest of  
Market  
Over on page 7

Taxes\* | Investments | Insurance  
Real Estate\* | Payroll & Bookkeeping\*

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Thank you for your support at our annual Vendor Day Sale

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NEXT WEEK:  
Dr. Strange in the Multiverse of Madness in 2D & 3D

THE BAD GUYS

(PG) 1 hr 40 mins  
Fri.: 5:10 & 7:30pm  
Sat./Sun.: 2:45, 5:10 & 7:30pm  
Mon.-Thurs.: 5:10 & 7:30pm

FANTASTIC BEASTS: The Secrets of Dumbledore

(PG13) 2 hrs 22 mins  
Fri.: 5:00 & 8:00pm  
Sat./Sun.: 2:00, 5:00 & 8:00pm  
Mon.-Thurs.: 5:00 & 8:00pm

EVERYTHING EVERYWHERE ALL AT ONCE

(R) 2 hrs 19 mins  
Fri.: 4:45 & 7:45pm  
Sat./Sun.: 1:45, 4:45 & 7:45pm  
Mon.-Thurs.: 4:45 & 7:45 pm

Pg. 2 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Willits Weekly | April 28, 2022

Willits Weekly | April 28, 2022 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Pg. 3



Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page
Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

Table with 9 rows and 9 columns for a Sudoku puzzle.

Starburst graphic: PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PAGE 9
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!

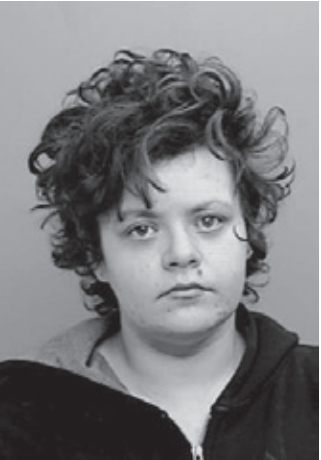
Table with 13 rows and 13 columns for a crossword puzzle.

CLUES ACROSS
1. North American people
6. Chinese surname
10. Fit in at the last minute
14. 'Very' in musical terminology
15. Underwater displays
17. Crosby's bandmates
19. Belong to he
20. Informed about the latest trends (archaic)
21. Sequences of alternating turns
22. Genus of grasses
23. Satisfy
24. Petty quarrel
26. Made level
29. Ruler of Iran
31. Historical region of Syria
32. Food suitable for babies
34. Something to lend
35. Zone of oceanic trenches
37. Philippine island
38. Domesticated animal
39. Plant of the lily family
40. Bluish green
41. \_\_\_ Tomei, actress
43. Without (French)
45. Lilly and Manning are two
46. Apply pressure to
47. Divide in half
49. Bad deed
50. Don't know when yet
53. Hollywood's greatest honor
57. Aiming to exhort
58. Faked
59. A way to pierce
60. Midway between northeast and east
61. Points
CLUES DOWN
1. Chop up
2. \_\_\_ Spumante (Italian wine)
3. Egyptian goddess
4. Split pulses
5. Afflict
6. Type of area rug
7. Tide
8. Affirmative
9. Sudden change
10. One picked
11. Debauched man
12. Stiff bristles
13. Famous arena
16. Established rules and methods
18. Injection
22. Father
23. Protein-rich liquids
24. He delivers gifts
25. Advanced degree
27. Fencing swords
28. Chinese mountain range
29. Shaft horsepower (abbr.)
30. Precursor to hemoglobin
31. Much \_\_\_ about nothing
33. Compound fabric (abbr.)
35. A way to act slowly on
36. Ottoman military commanders
37. Popular kids' network
39. Hard compound
42. Sympathize with
43. Northeast college
44. Blood group
46. Frosted
47. Turn away
48. Benefit
49. Dry or withered
50. Bangladeshi monetary unit
51. Reproduced
52. Contributes
53. Thrust horse power (abbr.)
54. Wear
55. Promotes retention of water (abbr.)
56. Very small

VEGGIE GARDEN WORD SEARCH
M A T U R I T Y F A N O E H M C I P B N O M T
Y L B E A D F L A I N N M E I O P D I R E G S I S N
P E W O R T E R U F T R E D G I N G Y Z U L T B I
B S O N L C A T N O S C Y A S R E B M H C G N G
A C R E N I A T N O C I Y A S R E B M H C G N G
T A A Z O P B T F N H Z D G O P E N S A C O I W E
E H I A L S U U A F H Z D G O P E N S A C O I W E
R F N S K V U U C N E D A R I E A O M E C E T
I L T P T A W A C N E T I N G V I F N M N A T
A P E P U O L P G T F B W I D P D C S Y
K I R D M R O I S S I R S B C I Y O C S Y
A U A E S W Y R H I C N W I H S I V D
V N N U D A P C F N E A L R T A M T D P R
K V N E I A M E N D U M E N T L K G I Y L
H P E U A A T H G O R D Z R P O C L A H
P M O E A B Z O T S E V R A H O W A Y K
H T Y K E L D W R S G S T C E S N I V
ACIDIC BIENNIAL FURROW PEAT
AERATION BLOSSOM HARDY PREDATOR
AIR COMPOST HARVEST ROOTS
ALKALINE CONSERVE HERBS ROT
AMENDMENT CONTAINER INSECTS SANDY
ANNUAL DROUGHT MANURE SOIL
BACTERIA EDGING MATURITY SPACING
BEDS FERTILIZER MULCH TOP DRESS
BENEFICIAL FLOWERS NETTING WATERING

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE LOG

April 10 to April 23
By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly
The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 151 incidents in this 14 day reporting period.
Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests
April 10
11:21 am: Officers responded to a report of a prowler in the 100 block of West Oak Street and issued a warning.
1:16 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of South Main Street.
7:46 pm: WALKER, Katelyn Ada (27) of Willits was contacted near the intersection of North Street and West Mendocino Avenue. She was arrested on felony charges of carrying a loaded firearm in public, and on misdemeanor charges of trespassing and failure to appear.
April 11
8:57 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1100 block of South Main Street.
11:53 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1500 block of South Main Street.
April 12
11:50 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.
April 13
3:56 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Marcela Drive and issued a warning.
4:43 am: LAMBOY, Mara Debora (64) of Clearlake was contacted in the 100 block of Marcela Drive. She was arrested pursuant to 653X (A) PC (Annoying 911 Calls) and 148 (A) (1) PC (Resisting Arrest).
9:22 am: MARTINSON, Brian Christopher (33) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of East Commercial Street. He was arrested pursuant to 273.6 PC (Violation of a Protective Order) and on felony charges of violation of probation.
3:50 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 500 block of Raymond Lane.
7:01 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Wood Street and issued a warning.
April 14
9:21 am: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of West Mendocino Avenue.
6:06 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 200 block of South Main Street.
7:13 pm: BAKEWELL, Nicholas Britton Dills (33) of Willits was contacted in the 25000 block of Madrone Drive. He was arrested pursuant to 459 PC (Burglary), 182 PC (Conspiracy to Commit Crime), and on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance and failure to appear.
April 15
6:36 am: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.
12:20 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 300 block of Franklin Avenue.
4:03 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of East Commercial Street.
10:01 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1500 block of South Main Street.



Katelyn Walker of Willits.



Above, from left: Colorful roses from Flowers by Annette were handed out with each dinner. WHS senior Angel Homampha distributes dinners in the drive-thru line. WHS senior Willow Dawn-Widner preps the salads included with the meals. Below, left: Gerry Gonzalez, Willits Sober Grad board member, assembles dinners. WHS senior Tanner Drew and WHS senior parent Shannon Germann wrap up the tri tip. At bottom: WHS seniors Tanner Drew and Dominick Kvasnicka start the BBQ.



Photos courtesy Sober Grad



Sober Grad Dinner
raises \$7,500
Annual tri-tip dinner event gives graduation night party fund a big boost

"The biggest fundraiser of the year" lived up to its name for the members of Sober Grad this year, as the total of their annual tri-tip dinner fundraiser tally came in at a whopping \$7,500 – after expenses!
"The 210 tickets we sold represents 840 dinners that were prepared!" said Willits Sober Grad President Davina Sentak. "We received many wonderful comments on social media about how delicious everything was. The BBQ Crew cooked the meat to perfection, the yummy fresh-baked bread from Emandal, giant baked potatoes donated by Cattlemens and baked by the amazing kitchen crew at Willits High School, homemade cookies from Kay Moen, fresh salad donated by Safeway, and a lovely rose donated by Flowers By Annette made for a completely wonderful dinner!"
Sentak also noted that the weather was beautiful and the drive-thru pick-up went smoothly on Friday, April 22 at the Willits High School Ag farm, "thanks to Linda Matz and Joyce Waters managing the distribution of the dinners. There was a line at times, but people were patient and happy to chat while they waited."
A total of 18 seniors and 16 adult volunteers and parents showed up to make the dinner happen – seniors get credits for attending and helping out at Sober Grad events during the year, which add up to cash and prizes during the graduation night party.
"A special thank you to Tanner Drew and Dominick Kvasnicka for showing up early and getting the BBQ going and doing all the behind-the-scenes stuff that it takes to pull off an event like this!" said Sentak.
Miss out on this fundraiser? No worries, there's still two events to support before graduation: on May 14 there will be a Cornhole Tournament in the old Rexall parking lot, sponsored by Flying Dog Pizza and Coldwell Banker, Mendo Realty, as well as a Lumpia Sale on May 29 from 11 am to 4 pm at the Roots of Motive Power yard, where senior class members will be selling Filipino eggrolls.
Another way to get involved with supporting Sober Grad is by volunteering at the graduation-night party on June 9. Shifts throughout the night are available to sign up for, and more information can be had by reaching out to Windi Kvasnicka at 707-354-0755.
"We want to thank our sponsors and the Willits community for their continued support," said Sentak.
Sponsors for the dinner included: Cat's Meow and Linda Matz; Jenn Drew and the BBQ Crew; Flowers by Annette; Safeway; Mariposa Market and Mary Anne Trevey; Loose Caboose and Jill Persico; Emandal and Tam Adams; Kay Moen; Ace Copy and Shipping and Martin Rodriguez; Broiler Steakhouse; Ukiah Paper Supply; and Cattlemens Restaurant in Petaluma.
– Maureen Jennison



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Other ministries suspended for now.
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Sunday Mass inside: 9:00 a.m. English 10:30 a.m. Spanish
Saturday Mass: 5:30 p.m. Covid guidelines apply.
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Wednesday
Prayer Meeting - 6:00 p.m. 399 W. Mendocino Ave.
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**Pg. 6** Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 **Willits Weekly | April 28, 2022** **Willits Weekly | April 28, 2022** Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 **Pg. 7**



California's in-person hunter education instruction returns; online courses remain a permanent option

Submitted by CDFW

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is bringing back in-person instruction as an option for prospective hunters to take the required hunter education course. Until 2020, students were required to attend at least part of the course in person, prior to earning a hunting license; during the COVID-19 pandemic, the department shifted to an online-only instruction model. While in-person classes are being offered again, the online-only course will remain an option.

CDFW administers the Hunter Education Program along with managing nearly 1,000 volunteer hunter education instructors who conduct the actual instruction. The in-person portion of the instruction involves hands-on training, including safe handling of firearms, loading and unloading, storage, etc. Many in-person courses also include live fire exercises at a shooting range.

There are now three formats available for earning a hunter education certificate.

Traditional: The traditional hunter education course is the same as it was pre-pandemic, consisting of a minimum of 10 hours of classroom instruction, homework and field instruction. The traditional course allows for individual interaction with an instructor and is most often preferred by and recommended for first-time hunters. Traditional courses are offered in multiple languages throughout the state.

Hybrid: This option, which was offered prior to the pandemic, allows the student to complete the majority of the academic based learning online. Once this is complete, the student attends a four-hour follow-up class which includes instructor lead review and hands-on training.

Online-only: The online-only certification course was implemented as a result of COVID-19 and will remain an option to earn hunter education certification.

Prospective hunters may go to <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Hunter-Education> for more information on how to sign up for a course.

To raise safety and conservation awareness, California's first hunter education law was enacted in 1954. California requires hunter education training for those who have never held a California hunting license, who do not have a hunter education certificate, or who do not have a hunting license from another state or province issued within the past two years. In-person instructor-led courses are offered throughout the state by Hunter Education Instructors with an extensive track record of dedication to educating new hunters about firearm safety and handling, sportsmanship and ethics, wildlife management and conservation, archery, black powder firearms, wildlife identification, game care, first aid and survival.



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**Mother's Day Brunch!**

SUN MAY 8TH  
10:00 AM-1:00 PM

"Roses, Rosé & Rosie"  
Treat Mom to a special day that includes a delicious brunch buffet, a glass of our brand new rosé, and live music from Steve & Rosie from the Back Porch Project.

Tickets: \$35 wine club members (limit 2) / \$45 adults / \$15 for 12 and younger

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**ATTENTION**

Willits Unified School District has immediate openings for **Bus Drivers**

The School District will pay for all licensing costs plus 50 hours of training for qualified applicants selected for this opportunity

Applications available at the Willits Unified School District Office 1277 Blosser Lane (south end of Blosser Lane campus)  
Contact Mattie Pinon, DMOT Assistant 459-5111 or Trina Cardillo, Human Resources 459-5314, ext. 1102

**LAKEPORT CITY WIDE SALE**

April 30, 2022  
[www.lakeportmainstreet.com](http://www.lakeportmainstreet.com)

**CANDIDATE'S NIGHT**  
**MONDAY MAY 9TH 6 PM**  
**UKIAH CIVIC CENTER**

Bring your questions. Be an informed voter.

6 pm - WELCOME FROM MODERATOR WENDY DeWITT

6:05 - KATRINA BARTOLOMIE INCUMBENT CLERK RECORDER

6:15 - DAVID EYSTER INCUMBENT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

6:25 - TWO CANDIDATES FOR 5TH DISTRICT SUPERVISORS

6:55 - TWO CANDIDATES FOR MENDOCINO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

LIVESTREAMING BY THE MENDOCINO VOICE

Brought to you by The American Association of University Women (AAUW)

The Mendocino Women's Political Coalition (MWPC)

The Ukiah Daily Journal

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RE-ELECT **HASCHAK** FOR SUPERVISOR

**CAMPAIGN KICK-OFF EVENT**

Bud Snider Memorial Park (Willits City Park)  
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

**LEGAL NOTICES**

WW385  
Fictitious Business Name Statement  
2022-F0189

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)**

**Current Job Openings:**

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Eligibility Specialist II/III  
Employment and Training Worker III  
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Juvenile Corrections Officer Extra-Help  
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Mental Health Clinical Manager  
Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist  
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Registered Nurse  
Senior Program Manager – Nursing  
Senior Public Health Nurse  
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WW383  
**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: STEVEN D. METOYER, aka STEVE METOYER**

CASE NO. 22PR00052

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

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

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

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

**A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:**  
Date: May 12, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. in Dept.: TM of the Mendocino County Superior Court, located at 700 S Franklin St., Fort Bragg, CA 95437.

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

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

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

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

Publication Dates: April 14, 21 and 28, 2022

WW385  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Willits City Council, at its teleconference meeting on May 11, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., will conduct a public hearing on the following matter at the time listed or as soon thereafter as the item may be heard:

CASE: General Plan Amendment #GPA 21-02 and Zoning Change #ZC 21-02.

APPLICANT: David Lovell

PROPERTY OWNER: Margie Handley Family Trust

REQUEST: General Plan Amendment to amend the current General Plan land use designation for APN 007-231-10 (1.97 acres) and APN 007-231-11 (1.07 acres) from Commercial General (C-G) to Residential Low Density (R-L) and Zone Change to rezone the current base zoning designation from Heavy Commercial—Planned Development (C2-PD) to Single-Family Residential (R1). The properties are currently vacant, and no physical development is proposed at this time.

LOCATION: In the City of Willits, lying on the south side of Grove Street, approximately 450 feet east of its intersection with Haebl Creek Drive; APN 007-231-10 and 007-231-11. No situs address assigned.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: This project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), Common Sense Exemption and Section 15162(a) Subsequent Environmental Review.

The City of Willits encourages all interested parties to participate in the Public Hearing and to comment on the issues being discussed. Members of the public may participate and provide public comment as follows:

- Written public comments regarding the proposed project may be submitted by email to the Community Development Department, [dduley@cityofwillits.org](mailto:dduley@cityofwillits.org) or the City Clerk's office, 111 East Commercial Street, Willits, California, 95490, no later than 5:30 p.m., on Tuesday, May 10, 2022. All public comments received will be provided to the City Council and uploaded to the City's website in advance of the meeting.
- Oral public comments may be presented to the City Council via teleconference during the public hearing. To address the Council during the live meeting please find the meeting-specific link to the teleconference included on the agenda for the May 11, 2022 City Council meeting that will be posted on the City's website.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the public meeting, please contact the City Clerk at (707) 459-4601. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will assist staff in assuring that reasonable accommodations are made to provide accessibility to the meeting.

Additional information regarding the above-noted item may be obtained by calling Willits Community Development Department at (707) 459-7124, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

s/ Delores Pederson, City Clerk for the City of Willits

Publication Date: April 28, 2022

Number search grid containing numbers: 4, 7, 3, 5, 6, 8, 1, 9, 2, 1, 9, 5, 2, 3, 7, 4, 8, 6, 6, 8, 2, 4, 1, 9, 7, 3, 5, 2, 6, 4, 1, 9, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 3, 8, 7, 4, 5, 6, 2, 1, 5, 1, 7, 8, 2, 6, 9, 4, 3, 7, 4, 1, 3, 5, 2, 8, 6, 9, 8, 2, 9, 6, 7, 1, 3, 5, 4, 3, 5, 6, 9, 8, 4, 2, 1, 7

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**Brookside Registration Open**  
Brookside TK / Kindergarten registration now open. To register go to [www.willitsunified.com](http://www.willitsunified.com). Kindergarten: age 5 by Sept. 1, 2022; TK: age 5 between Sept. 2, 2022 and Feb. 2, 2023.

**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 Arkelan @ 459-5049.

**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.

**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 [uicearbhail@gmail.com](mailto:uicearbhail@gmail.com)

**For Rent**  
Property for Rent: Shimmins Ridge, 30 acres, 24' x 30' outbuilding, Kitchen Area, Bathroom, Water, Septic, RV hookup. \$2,600 monthly. Credit Check required; best results. Text 707-841-1670. Appointment only.

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**Help Wanted**  
North Coast Opportunities, Project Coordinator II. Community Wellness – Ukiah Vecinos en Accion (UVA). Recruiting for Mendocino County. Make a difference in our community by working with UVA, a grassroots organization committed to empowering, engaging and informing the Latino Community in Mendocino County. Must be passionate about equity, community engagement and willing to work both independently and collaboratively. Spanish/English Bilingual required; bicultural community members encouraged to apply. 20-40 hrs per week. \$20.00 – \$24.00 per hour (DOE) For full job description details & required employment application form, go to <https://www.ncoinc.org/about-us/jobs/> or call (707) 467-3200 ext. 302 or ext. 331.

**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.oakvnr.net/p>

**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.

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

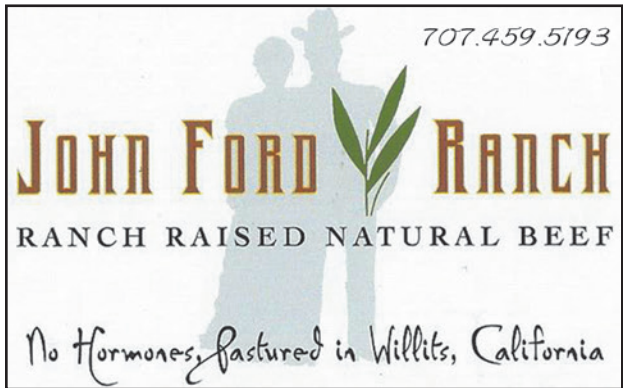
**Spiritual Food?**  
**No Money Needed!**  
**Come Hungry. . . Leave Happy**

Church of the Nazarene  
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon  
20690 So. Main St. & Muir Mill Rd.  
Willits, CA

**Come As You Are.**

Crossword puzzle grid with words like: HAIDA, ANYU, C RAM, ASSAI, DEEP, SHOWS, STILLS, NASH, YOUNG, HIS, HEP, ESSSES, POA, SATE, SPAT, EVENED, SHAH, ARAM, PAP, HAND, HADAL, CEBU, PET, SEGO, TEAL, MARISA, SANS, ELIS, RUB, SPLIT, SIN, TBA, THEACADEMY, AWARD, HORTATORY, DEKED, POKE, ENE, HEADS





**BROOKSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
*TK-Kindergarten Registration Now Open*

To pre-register go to [www.willitsunified.com](http://www.willitsunified.com)  
Para registrar a su estudiante ve a [www.willitsunified.com](http://www.willitsunified.com)

Kindergarten - age 5 by September 1, 2022  
Transitional Kindergarten - age 5 between Sept. 2 and Feb. 2, 2023  
Kinder - 5 años antes de Septiembre 1, 2022  
Trancision de Kinder - 5 años en medio de Septiembre 2 a Febrero 2, 2023

Once you have completed the online registration, please bring the following documents to Brookside:

- Birth Certificate
- Certificado de nacimiento
- Immunization records
- Registros de inmunización (vaccunas)

If you have any questions please call the Brookside office at (707) 459-5385 or visit our Website at [www.willitsunified.com/o/brookside](http://www.willitsunified.com/o/brookside)

Si tiene alguna pregunta, llame a la oficina de Brookside al (707) 459-5385 or visite nuestro sitio web [www.willitsunified.com/o/brookside](http://www.willitsunified.com/o/brookside)



## Paintings by Salvador Andrade and Nancy Collins to grace the walls of WCA

*Submitted by the Willits Center for the Arts*

The Willits Center for the Arts presents paintings by Salvador Andrade and Nancy Collins. Andrade's show was in March of 2020 and had to be closed because of the pandemic. He is back two years later with new works and new looks. His portraits of women range in size from 48 inches to an incredible six feet. His remarkable lines and colors combine to make thought-provoking faces of women in different and curious expressions.

Collins' stunning watercolors are usually painted with warm colors toward the center of the painting and cooler colors around the parameters, giving the illusion of a glow. Collins teaches her technique around Mendocino County, and she will be holding classes at the WCA in June this year.

Collins' and Andrade's work will be on view at the WCA from April 29 through May 22. Join us for the opening reception for the artists on Saturday, April 30, between 6 and 9 pm.

This May the Willits Center for the Arts Gift Shop Gallery is featuring the steampunk jewelry of coastal-resident Annette Jarvie, who describes her unique work this way:

"My work is a mash-up of the Victorian age of invention, futuristic punk rock, and steampunk. My pieces incorporate fine metals, salvage, Victorian antiques, and found objects, rolling up American culture into a tiny package."

For more information about the WCA, visit: [www.willitscenterforthearts.org](http://www.willitscenterforthearts.org) or call 459-1726.

**WILLITS CENTER FOR THE ARTS**  
Presents Paintings by  
**Salvador Andrade**

Artist Reception  
Saturday,  
April 30,  
6-9 P.M.

**Nancy Collins**

This show is being sponsored by the Baechtel Creek Inn

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## 'The Bad Guys'

**The Story:** The Story: Clever, very funny, animated saga of a raucous criminal gang of baddies: Bad Wolf, Bad Snake, Bad Tarantula, Bad Shark, and Bad Piranha – bad,

but not really. They're bank robbers. Jewelry thieves. Art thieves. They've terrorized the City (not named) for years.

But now, bad Mr. Wolf wants to become a "Good Guy." O' the humanity! The gang is at odds with each other.

(Alert: spoilers, kind of): The rest of the flick is as follows: the Bad Guys turn out to be a decent caring bunch of guys and gals. Ultimately, the gang reunites, and saves the City (which looks like L.A.) from a zombified horde of guinea pigs while getting the stolen money (did I mention stolen money?) back to the orphanage and back to the hospital.

The Bad Guys in the flick manage to be both bad bad guys and good bad guys. And everybody is happy at the end.

**My Thoughts:** Plot is secondary to the gags, and I laughed. There is an odd note in the story. It seems that sometime in the recent past, a heart-shaped meteor struck the City. Why heart-shaped? I do not know. What I do know, and you lucky readers won't find this anywhere else, is that said meteor looked a lot like a well-known San Fernando Valley (L.A.) landmark.

On the corner of Laurel Canyon and Magnolia boulevards, a huge (very huge!) plaster donut is perched atop the Big Donut donut shop. A giant plaster donut is just the sort of Hollywood icon that could inspire a silly comic flick featuring zombified guinea pigs. I think that maybe (could be) the heart-shaped meteor stands for the kindness at the center of friendship.

**Parents:** Bring the kids. This is a lovely movie. There is silly humor for pretty much all ages.

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

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

concern for the county. According to the budget report, it's projected to fall from the \$6.15 million it received in 2020/21 down to \$3 million this year, and then to \$1.5 million in 2022/23.

"Cannabis revenue has been unpredictable over the last few fiscal years," the report read, "which has the ability to significantly affect funding for core mandated services in varying departments, and adds a level of uncertainty in projecting revenue and balancing the budget."

Non-departmental revenues are also down, around \$1.5 million lower than those initially projected in the 2021/22 adopted budget, which Antle said meant cutting \$4.3 million out of the revenue projections for 2022/23.

Thankfully for the county, they were allocated \$16.85 million recently through the American Rescue Plan Act to help with the budget woes this year.

ARPA was a \$1.9 trillion bill passed by the U.S. Congress in March of 2021 meant to help with the economic recovery and public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic throughout the country.

In their report, Antle points out that the supervisors gave some direction in November that "the ARPA funding be designated for county core services, infrastructure projects, and emergency funding before other considerations."

As laid out in the budget report, the current plan is for \$10 million of ARPA money to be used on county core services and infrastructure, \$300,000 on parks, and \$1.7 million on "staffing to pre-COVID levels."

The remaining \$4.8 million is already obligated to go towards "public health COVID response" (\$1.47 million), addressing "negative economic impacts" such as "food and financial support to community through non-profits" (\$1.1 million), and "water and sewer infrastructure" (\$2.2 million).

The report also suggests that the county "consider allocating ARPA funding towards a portion of the county's ... health plan expenses to alleviate deficit."

Antle said that the \$10 million for county services and \$1.7 million for staffing would be the maximum allowed based on the ARPA funding rules.

Third District Supervisor John Haschak felt that the county should have sought out more community input about how to spend the ARPA money.

"It doesn't sit well with me that we haven't done any community outreach with the ARPA funds and how they're going to be spent," he said. "Obviously we're in a time when we need to fix our budget. But I think we should have been doing community outreach and seeing how the community wanted to use this, because it was meant for COVID relief."

In addition to using the ARPA funds to balance the budget, Antle had some suggestions that the board could consider to reduce county expenses in the future.

These included cutting 5% of the county's service contracts, which she said could save up to \$1 million; removing some county staff positions that are not state mandated; reviewing all property owned and leased by the county to consider selling some; and reducing travel and mileage of county staff.

"We're currently projecting 2.1 million miles in fiscal year 22/23, and that's at about 50 cents per mile, which includes the fuel and the garage into that up to \$5.50 per gallon," she said.

Second District Supervisor Maureen Mulheren said she was supportive of departments looking through their staffing roles to see if they could eliminate positions that were unnecessary.

"As a former county employee and as someone that's been watching the county for many years the idea of keeping positions that are funded and not filled seems nonsensical to many people," she said. "So I really look forward to having the departments take a very quick look at their positions and see which ones are truly necessary."

"I think that there are probably departments that have employees that are working really hard because they are understaffed, and I want to make sure that those employees are

being supported," she continued. "We currently have around 400 vacant positions; only 287 of those are being recruited for at this time so I think there's real opportunities, especially when we're looking at general fund positions."

Board Chair Ted Williams questioned whether there were many county staffing positions which could be cut, given all the departments that have been reporting understaffing issues.

"Our departments are already very lean," he said. "There's not a lot on the table. And I think all eyes are on where we can make minor cuts – not to staffing, not to the pay of our employees, but maybe it's outside contracts. What can we do to get through this next year?"

Patrick Hickey, whose labor organization SEIU 1021 represents most of the unionized county workers, asked during public comments that the county look to other sources of revenue and possibly dipping into the general fund reserve money before making staffing cuts.

Antle said that currently the county's general fund reserve was around \$12 million, their overall reserve was roughly \$20 million, and their monthly expenditures were about \$18 million.

Hickey added that "the county has a number of unfilled positions that are revenue generators," and pointed to some things the board has considered previously to increase revenue for the county like ramping up enforcement on property tax and transient occupancy tax payments.

Later at the same meeting, the supervisors directed staff to look into increasing enforcement of cannabis taxes as well, though it is also considering reducing the percentage for those who pay.

Michael Katz, the executive director of the Mendocino Cannabis Alliance, asked that the county do what it can to ensure that the ailing local cannabis industry survives.

"The truth is that if we don't see some cannabis tax relief, then this resource which has become such a reliable resource for the county is going to go away," he said. "Because people are continuing to find it harder and harder to maintain their position in the licensed cannabis market."

"And so when we're talking about how to invest in areas that bring revenue in," Katz continued, "we should also be talking about how to invest in keeping revenue here and keeping the community that's producing that revenue here."

Peter McNamee suggested that the county look to alternative energy sources and energy conservation for their vehicles and buildings, which could lead to cost savings as well as benefiting the climate. He noted that reducing carbon energy use had not been listed in the county's budget goals and priorities for the year, despite it being named as a goal by the board last summer.

"In particular what I don't see hear is clear direction to county departments to look at how they can use solar and battery systems," he said, "to produce the energy necessary to not only fund county buildings but also generate additional electricity that could be sold on the grid to bring in additional revenues to the county.... I also don't see energy use reduction as a goal and priority in terms of cutting county costs."

Eventually the board approved moving forward with most of the staff recommendations for the 2022/23 budget, but added some additional directions. These were to "direct departments to review all positions, direct staff to focus on revenue sources like the transient occupancy tax and property taxes, and adding the board's climate initiatives to the board goals."

Williams agreed with a suggestion from Antle that the county would likely need to change their approach to the budgeting process in future years.

"Because the ARPA funding is helping us get through this difficult time, but it won't help us in the next fiscal year," he said. "If we were to chart the next five years, I think we might see that we have a real problem on our hands."

The 2022/23 budget will be taken up again at the next board meeting on May 3, and will continue with two days of hearings in early June.

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

Conway said at the board meeting that a pause in "timber sales" at Jackson forest was currently in effect.

"So we have slowed down our operations, first off to give us some time and space to increase our public engagement," said Conway. "We have not entered into any timber sales in 2022 in order to give us an opportunity to do a public tour of the sales prior to going out – give us the ability to include any types of recreation, wildfire resilience, or aesthetic type projects that the community wants to see in there. We can work those then into our sale to make sure that what comes out the back end is what the community expects to see."

However, following the presentation, many from the community spoke who were still critical about what they had seen from state agencies such as CalFire so far in managing JDSF, and remained skeptical that they would follow through on sufficiently taking into account environmental issues and local concerns.

After hearing the discussion, the board approved a motion from Third District Supervisor John Haschak to request that the state allow the county to have a "formal position" on the Jackson Advisory Group, in order to have more input into the management of the state forest.

Jessica Morse, deputy secretary for the California Natural Resources Agency, said at the meeting that the state's scientific review of JDSF was still ongoing.

"The forest and wildfire resilience task force at the state has a science advisory panel made up of members with PhDs in sciences from the UCs and other institutions, and we've asked them to do a scientific review of the Jackson," said Morse. "That study is underway right now, and they'll be reporting back to us in the coming months which we are very excited to share with you."

Morse also talked about some of the more general goals they had regarding JDSF.

"Given the climate crisis and some of the climate stressors facing this 50,000 acres of coastal redwood, it's clear that Jackson does need to modernize to not only answer questions about forest resilience and forest health," she said, "but also questions that are both current to the climate crisis and some of the environmental justice questions that this administration is really grappling with."

Morse noted that Jackson is "by far the largest" of the 10 demonstration forests in the state, which she described as "living laboratories" for studies that "shape the forest practice rules on the 8 million acres of commercial timberlands in California."

She said the state invested \$10 million in funding for the demonstration forests last year, "so that there's not any pressure to be able to harvest trees to cover operational costs."

"The demonstration forests had never had their own funding," Morse continued. "Timber sales were actually funding the operations historically on these forests."

"We also think that funding is being invested on the forest in a way that the community can tangibly see some results," she said. "So not only covering operational costs, but also removing slash piles from old sites, improving some of the facilities and trails, investing in critical fuel breaks ... funding prescribed burns, and also expanding research on things like forest hydrology and climate resilience.... So we hope that you'll start seeing the results of these investments – that work is starting already."

Morse also said ongoing studies at JDSF had been

providing valuable information for forest practices in the state.

"The Caspar watershed study happening on the Jackson right now is one of the largest forest hydrology projects happening in the western U.S.," she said. "It's the only one happening in a coastal redwood ecosystem. And so this has allowed us to have uninterrupted long-term studies that allow us to better understand forest hydrology which is that critical link between forests and drought."

Morse said another goal of theirs was to make the management of JDSF more inclusive to local voices such as native tribes.

"One of the most critical things we are doing on the Jackson is really investing and looking at tribal co-management," she said. "And so we have reached out to all of the local tribes to start consultations. Tribal co-management is going to be defined by each individual tribe in consultation with the state."

CalFire's Conway talked about some of the recent actions CalFire has taken regarding the Caspar 500 Timber Harvest Plan at JDSF, which he described as "the most controversial last year."

"We've also done a number of public tours and outreach around the Caspar 500 specifically," he said. "In those tours we've had outside experts from the Department of Fish and Wildlife, Regional Water Quality Control Board, the Board of Forestry, and academic researchers."

Conway said that based on the input they've heard, they are looking at implementing some changes to the Caspar 500.

"They'll likely include some modifications to timber harvesting, some changes and improvements to recreation in the general area, and some discussion of potential research to incorporate into that plan," he said.

Conway encouraged the community to participate in the next Jackson Advisory Group meeting on May 2, where more changes will be discussed.

During public comments, community members pushed back on many of the statements made by Morse and Conway, with several saying they had not yet seen the protective changes at Jackson which were described.

Marie Jones, a member of the Mendocino County Climate Action Advisory Committee, said that she had "been involved with the Jackson Demonstration State project for over a year and a half," and was both heartened and disheartened by the presentation she heard at the meeting.

"The ways that I'm heartened is at least CalFire is now at the table," she said. "I was disheartened by some of the incorrect statements that were made."

"In fact, the climate action committee was taken on tour of this site by the Mendocino Redwood Company, and the fact that CalFire notes this as a project that they did illustrates to me the lack of separation between the forestry industry and CalFire's management of JDSF."

"And in that same vein," Jones continued, "the JAG is mostly made up of foresters and loggers, and until that changes and we have more community representation, scientists and environmentalists on the JAG, we can't expect the mission of the forest to change."

Morse did report that two new members had recently been added to the Jackson Advisory Group – Reno Franklin, the chairman of the Kashia Band of Pomo Indians in Sonoma County, and Joanna Nelson, the director of science and conservation for the Save The Redwoods League.

But Jones said she wanted to see more clear details about the state's plan for a scientific review of JDSF moving forward.

"It sounds a little haphazard and like the advisory group will actually be doing some of the work," she said. "Is it possible to provide us with an outline of the proposed study so that we can look at it and be sure that our issues will actually be looked at?"

Ravel Gauthier, age 12, a climate activist and a co-founder of the Mendocino County Youth For Climate group, spoke passionately about protecting the forest.

"We do want a public dialogue and we appreciate CalFire's attempts at making this review and making changes and making research," he said. "But we want a moratorium on all logging until this [scientific] review is conducted and until the management plan is changed...."

"CalFire argues that their plan is to thin and manage the forest in order to reduce catastrophic fire danger," Gauthier said, "but they cut second and old growth redwood trees. They're centuries of years old, and they're fire-resistant to the extreme."

"The board of supervisors voted unanimously to adopt a resolution calling for this scientific review," he continued. "You must not allow yourself to settle for industry greenwashing and continued party lines. You must continue to push for independent scientific review and stand with us in supporting a moratorium while this review is conducted."

David Martinez, a Winnemem Wintu tribal member and activist, said that he has continued to see destruction to native sites in his visits to Jackson Forest.

"I've been out into the forest many times, especially in the Caspar 500 and Soda Gulch," he said. "What I see is the road building and the destruction of sacred sites, cultural properties, and I see the proposed destruction of cultural gathering zones. And it's all been approved and OK'd.... This has to change."

First District Supervisor Glenn McGourty, who had attended a recent JDSF meeting with Conway and others, said that he envisioned a plan for the forest which incorporates both commercial and environmental interests.

"What I expect from Jackson State Forest is everything," he said. "We want to do timber production, we want ecological services of the forest, we want recreation."

"We're having to change some of our management objectives," McGourty continued, "given that climate change is upon us and sequestration is clearly one of the things that's important. Carbon sequestration takes place best ... when you have large trees, so there's a lot to be considered here."

McGourty said of the recent JDSF meeting that he was "pretty impressed with the level of conversation that went on," though "there obviously was some tension in the group, because there was a lot of different stakeholders."

Jones felt that the differences in opinions regarding JDSF goes beyond a lack of conversation.

"A lot of the talk this morning was about – seems like CalFire thinks there's a problem in communication, and I don't really think that's the problem," she said. "I think the problem is much more fundamental than that, and it's the mission and the role of this publicly owned property that composes 50,000 acres in our county. And the value it can provide in terms of addressing climate change, and providing jobs in the tourism and recreation industry, and those things are negatively impacted by the relentless focus on cutting down trees."





**MAY 29, 2022**

**10 AM - 3 PM**

## AT THE REC GROVE PARK

# ***WILLITS LIONS CLUB BREAKFAST***

## 7 AM - 10 AM AT THE BOY SCOUT HUT



**SATURDAY MAY 28**

## 11 AM - 2 PM

**AT LITTLE LAKE AUTO PARTS - 1571 S. MAIN STREET**




# Happy Birthday, Glenda!

A happy birthday to my wife, Glenda Brown. This amazing woman has a job that helps so many in this town, both at home and church and as a caregiver! She works non-stop, and May 5 is her birthday! Happy Birthday, Glenda, with love from your husband, Doug Brown.

# Furry Friends Hoping for a Home

## A close-up portrait of a small, brown and white dog with large, upright ears, looking directly at the camera. The dog has a white blaze on its face and a white patch on its chest. The background is a wooden wall.

Meet our little buddy, Parsley. This fella is around three months old and came to us as an owner-surrender with three of his siblings and mom. Parsley was lucky to be swooped straight into a wonderful foster home where he is learning all about dog stuff. Parsley's foster family describes him as confident, outgoing, and can hold his own even with his 80-pound foster hostess. He loves praise, is almost potty-trained, is a quick learner, and is treat-motivated. When he is tired and ready for a nap, he will even climb up for a good snuggle with you! Parsley is current on his vaccines and neutered! Meaning he is ready to start his forever life with you today! Don't miss your chance to add him to your family! Apply today at [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).



Meet Trooper! Don't be fooled by his devilishly handsome face – Trooper is a big-old sweetheart who adores his people more than anything! This loyal companion will love you forever, especially if you take him for long hikes or walks! Trooper, who is 2 years old, can sometimes take a little bit to warm up to new people, but once he does, you are friends for life. He knows how to sit on command with a treat. Don't miss out on the chance to be loved unconditionally by this precious boy!

To learn more about Trooper 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.

TJ is a very friendly 1-year-old cat that likes to explore. He is curious, active, and likes to play with toys. We think he would do well in a home with both other cats and children. This boy has his adoption fee reduced for the 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 TJ or our other canine and feline guests. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at [www.mendoanimalshelter.com](http://www.mendoanimalshelter.com).



## HOPLAND FIREFIGHTERS



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Tickets available at firehouse or the gate

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