

Planning commission plans to deny cell tower

Mike A'Dair Reporter mike@willitsweekly.com

On Thursday, May 21, the Mendocino County Planning Commission voted unanimously, 6-0, to direct commission staff to prepare a motion to deny the application for a use permit for AT&T to construct and operate a 143-foot-tall, lattice-style cell tower just off Manzanita Road on Pine Mountain.

The commission will take up the motion for denial on June 4 at 9 am.

The main reason given for denial is that a large percentage of local people

Read the rest of Deny

Two Basin group proposes to **remove** Scott Dam

Mike A'Dair Reporter mike@willitsweekly.com

On May 13, the Two Basin Solution Partnership has submitted a feasibility study report to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission purposes for the of demonstrating that it has a plan to take over the ownership and to continue to operate and maintain the Potter Valley Project. The centerpiece of the plan is the phased removal of Scott Dam.



Above: Class of 2020's Valedictorian Jaeva Cash, left, smiles with Salutatorian Brieana Evans just days before their unique graduation ceremony. Below: Cash's medals and cords frame her banner that will hang on the Main Street lampposts, along with banners for the other 2020 graduates during the month of June.



Another event will add to the tally of "untraditional" things taking place during 2020 and the coronavirus complications, but that's not stopping Willits Unified School District staff and students from celebrating the hard work and achievements of the some 100 students of the Class



25 confirmed COVID cases in county

Mike A'Dair Reporter mike@willitsweekly.com

Over the past week, Mendocino County has confirmed 10 more cases of COVID-19, binging the total number of confirmed cases in the county, as of press time Wednesday, to 25.

According to Public Information Officer Sarah Dukett, case number 22 involves a person living in the Ukiah area, who has been hospitalized. Case 23 is a person who lives in the northern region of the county. Case 24, which was confirmed at 6 pm on

Read the rest of Cases

Fire district budget anticipates reduced tax monies

Joanne Moore Reporter joanne@willitsweekly.com

The month of May's Little Lake Fire District Board of Directors virtual meeting was mostly about money; there will be less of it. There was also a report on the amount of calls for emergency assistance; there are less of those, too. And there was an update on new firehouse construction.

Scott Dam, which was completed in 1922, backs up water which forms Lake Pillsbury, which is a major source of water for the Potter

Valley Project. It is located on the Eel River

Read more of

Dam | Over on Page 2

County of Mendocino launches www. Mendocino County Business.org Submitted by Mendocino County Executive Office

As the State of California moved into Stage 2 of business reopening effective May 15, 2020, the County of Mendocino, in collaboration with West Business Development Center, has developed a tool to assist businesses in achieving compliance with reopening protocols.

The newly launched www. mendocinocountybusiness. org website [announced May 21] contains the

Read the rest of Launches

of 2020.

The traditional walk across Maize Field will morph into a car caravan of sorts; students and a small number of family members will be able to come drive on the WHS track in their own vehicle, or even in

a truck offered from Redwood Ford, at the "drive-through graduation" starting at 6:30 pm on June 5.

Students will be allowed to sit in the back of the truck bed to be seen around the track in their cap and gown. Everyone is to remain in their cards for the duration of the ceremony and not exit their vehicles.

Family and grads have to stay in their vehicles, but will have the opportunity to have their photo taken in front of the traditional "Class of 2020" lattice work by Willits High School senior photographer Maureen Moore.

Students will be announced as they come around the track and will park nose-to-tail around the perimeter of the football field. Once all cars are in, student's speeches that have been pre-recorded will be played aloud on the PA system, and Principal Michael Colvig will be in the center of the field with mic to speak to the gathered group of students and their families, and of course, instruct them to

move their tassels at the conclusion of the ceremony.

Some teachers will be stationed around the track, spaced for social distancing requirements, and the entire event will be livestreamed to YouTube from a camera located nearby.

Once the ceremony has concluded, estimated to be around 7 pm, students will be escorted by emergency personnel on a procession through Willits to show off the grads, as no audience or public will be allowed at the main ceremony.

The procession will take students around to Baechtel Grove, Blosser Lane and Brookside Elementary schools as well as through some of the west-side neighborhoods, allowing families and friends a glimpse of the grads.

Read the rest of Graduates

Over on Page 9

Below: Willits High School's Amanda Maciel, left, Michael Colvig and Karen Thiel hold up a few of the vinyl banners featuring the graduates that are to be hung up soon on the Main Street lampposts.



Fire Chief Chris Wilkes presented the board with a preliminary budget—a budget missing three sources of revenue the department had been

Read the rest of Reduced

Over on Page 11

Mendocino College's fall semester 'primarily' online

Submitted by Mendocino College

Mendocino College Interim Superintendent / President Eileen Cichocki announced May 21 that the college will hold classes in the fall "primarily" online. According to Cichocki, "This decision is made with the health, safety and well-being of our students, faculty, staff and community in mind.

"This was a very difficult decision, but after speaking with faculty leadership, deans, the vice president of academic affairs, and

Read the rest of **College** Over on Page 4



What do YOU think? Opinions, thoughts and

principal

thank you letters from our readers

To the Editor: I write this letter to the Willits community as we face an

unprecedented challenge in Willits, and in the nation's, history. As you well know, in short order and in response to rising health concerns, we closed our Willits High School campus in March. During the course of just a few days, our teachers converted all of their classes into a remote-instruction format. Athletics competitions ceased. The rituals that mark the end of our year – the Senior Awards Night, Prom, Senior Trip, and many others - were cancelled.

Many weeks later, the campus remains essentially empty. We miss the day-to-day of life on this campus and other aspects of the community that make Willits High both special and unique. We continue to find cash and gift card prizes. ourselves in a deeply uncertain time.

I want to thank parents, teachers and students for their resilience and creativity and for the steps they have taken to continue the valuable teaching and learning. I also want to take an opportunity to outline plans for our upcoming academic year.

During the past several weeks and through the bulk of the summer, WHS administrators, faculty, staff and trustees have been and are continuing to prepare for the coming fall semester and the 2020-21 academic

In all of our planning, we remind ourselves that Willits High offers an exceptional and distinctive face-to-face education for all of our students and does so while maintaining high levels of academic standards

Our goal, in all of our planning efforts, has been to continue our teaching and student learning during this crisis, while ensuring the health and safety of every member of our community. Our commitment to returning to face-to-face instruction, in conditions that **Pandemic is non-partisan** promote the well-being of all students and staff, might call for new patterns and a high degree of flexibility, but out of the classroom – is the goal.

To that end, it is very important to state, confidently, that WHS will begin instruction whether in person, online, or combination of both, for the fall semester on August 26, 2020.

Our faculty have been working extremely hard, even as they conclude their spring courses, to develop their skills as a teacher in order to provide increased flexibility for our students as we all navigate a complex and ever-changing national and global crisis. It is our great hope that circumstances permit a return to faceto-face teaching in the fall for all those whose health permits, and we are preparing for this outcome, but we must also plan for all possibilities.

We look forward to celebrating the class of 2020 on June 5 and want to thank all of you for supporting the students as they begin a new phase of life. WHS will be following all of the county Public Health guidelines the same.

Michael Colvig, principal, WHS

of Willits Sober Grad, as we prepare to step into some big shoes!

Willits Sober Grad is in its 34th year and has become a valued tradition in our community because of your support and the dedication of three remarkable women: Ruth Dell'Ara, Joyce Waters and Angi Edgar. We will be honoring Ruth, Joyce and Angi during our

"virtual Sober Grad party" this year, as they retire and pass the torch to those of us who have pledged to keep it going

Tune in to our live YouTube broadcast from the Willits Community Center on June 4 from 2:30 to 7:30 pm, as we kick off the graduation celebration with drawings for

At 4:30 pm we will be acknowledging Ruth, Joyce and Angi. Mayor Gerry Gonzalez will read a proclamation and dedicate a plaque from the City of Willits, along with recognition from Willits Police Department.

This is a private YouTube event, accessible only by this link: https://youtu.be/xFRVOAxNYwQ

Please join us in expressing our appreciation for the incredible iob they have done on behalf of our kids all these vears.

Thank you for your continued support of Willits Sober Grad. With your help, we will carry on this important

tradition in honor of Ruth, Joyce and Angi, and all those who have helped make Sober Grad happen over the vears.

Davina Sentak, Heidi Ahders, Rachel Cash and Jennifer Andrews, the next generation of the Willits Sober Grad Board of Directors

To the Editor:

the safe return to this form of education – both in and A pandemic is non-partisan. It doesn't care if you're a Democrat, Republican, independent, Libertarian, or apolitical. Keeping our community safe for everybody

requires cooperation from everybody. Here in Mendocino County, we've been lucky, with very few cases so far and no deaths from the coronavirus. But we're getting impatient with sheltering in place, social distancing, wearing masks and, importantly, economic hardships. So it's tempting to say, why not open up" and lift the restrictions.

But the situation could change at any moment. One non-symptomatic carrier, whether a resident or traveler. could unwittingly infect a few other people, and absent adequate testing and precautions - the virus could spread quickly and exponentially. Or, one large social event could infect dozens or more all at once.

Wouldn't you feel terrible if you opened up your business, church or school, and then found you had caused a chain-reaction of illness and death?

during graduation, and we trust our community to do The economic pain of this pandemic is awful but, with some help, should be reversible. Needlessly losing lives of our neighbors and loved ones is far worse and

New Community Foundation fund offers up to \$5,000 grants for microbusinesses

Submitted by the Community Foundation of Mendocino County

Sheltering in place makes us realize how much we rely on the small businesses in our communities. If small businesses are important to you, please consider joining us to help them survive this COVID-19 pandemic. Micro-businesses (those with fewer than five full-time employees) are especially vulnerable, with many operating on monthly or weekly margins.

In addition, when Mendocino County businesses shut down, paychecks for thousands of employees are jeopardized, with serious long-term impacts on families, communities, and our local economy. This is why the Community Foundation has created the Business Innovation and Resiliency Fund: to help these businesses adapt and innovate in the face of the pandemic crisis and beyond.

Through our new Business Innovation and Resiliency Fund, we will partner with West Business Development Center, who will make small grants (up to \$5,000 each) to licensed, forprofit micro-businesses based in Mendocino County in danger of closing due to loss of income related to the COVID-19 crisis.

By partnering with WBDC, and collaborating with the three chambers of commerce, these micro-businesses will then work with advisors and in groups to develop tools to help them to look beyond business as usual, and instead pivot to find new ways of doing business in this new marketplace.

Jim Mayfield, Community Foundation board member and owner of Rainbow Ag, believes: "This local, private effort will send a message that these risk-takers have community support. This support may make the difference in their ability to survive the shutdown. Entrepreneurs are creative, and sometimes just a little help will encourage and nurture their good idea. This is truly a neighbor-helping-neighbor effort."

Mayfield understands the impact this pandemic can have on our local economy, and has been inspired to become a donor to the new fund. "Private philanthropy and giving back to the community can be strategic by encouraging economic development," Mayfield says.

"Our local jobs, income and tax base," he adds, "are dependent on local small business. Without them, we have no community. Many small businesses in Mendocino County will not survive the COVID-19 shutdown, but others will benefit from a bit of help. These funds may give them the ability to rethink their business model, or buy that special piece of equipment. Most importantly, it will send a strong message that locals can do good locally.

The Community Foundation is fortunate to have an anonymous starting gift of \$100,000 that we are looking to match. We are thrilled to report that lead matching gifts have been received from the J-Olivanti Fund and the Mayfield Economic Development Fund at the Community Foundation. In addition, gifts from our Ted and Wilma Westman Fund, the Jim and Babbie Mayfield Fund, the Kevin and Bree Klotter Charitable Trust, as well as from Pacific Gas & Electric have started off our fundraising efforts toward our goal of \$300,000.

Mendocino County is a community thriving on small businesses, and when COVID-19 hit and we began to shelter in place, these mom-and-pop institutions were the first hit. We know the value of supporting our local economy, and we hope that by partnering with WBDC and our generous donors, we can help these critical businesses weather the storm. We hope you will join us in our efforts.



Popcorn to Go

Novo Theatre offers movie-night snacks and goodies for those enjoying their viewing at home

The Noyo Theatre, after 80 years of existence, has not been showing movies, due to the COVID pandemic. However, on Fridays and Saturdays, 4 to 8 pm, they are now open for business – the business of selling popcorn and other movie-style concessions, ordered at the box office and brought out to

Features Writer mathew@willitsweekly.com enjoying their movie nights - even if they

are at home now – and they're happy to come to the Noyo for their fill of sweets to accompany their viewing.

So far, the popcorn sales have been a great success, enabling the theater to stay current on their bills, while awaiting the OK to reopen. Gift cards are available, also, for concessions and future tickets for the theater.

Lois Hoover, who along with her husband, Jeff, owns and operates the Novo, is extremely pleased at the success

of the concession venture. "We are overwhelmed and grateful by the response. People have been so supportive and worried about our coming back. We would like to thank Raymond Hebel and Greta Kanne for raising awareness in town. We were feeling so discouraged until everything seemed to come together at each weekend," Hoover said. "We're going once."

NOYO THEATRE TAKE-OUT GIFT CARDS IN ANY AMOUNT (\$20 Minimum)

MEDIUM POPCORN WITH BUTTER \$5_ PLAIN \$5_



At left: Cars lined up and riders hopped out to get in line at the Noyo Theatre for its popcorn to-go offerings. Above: Lois Hoover transmits an order to Genevieve Van Meter and Blare Elliott. Below: Van Meter pumps butter into a to-go cup for a grateful customer.







Theatre was approved for one of the forgivable Payroll Protection Plan loans, and was also informed by Tri-Counties Bank that the theater had gualified for the Small Business Administration's mortgage payment debt relief program, which will pay six months of the Hoovers' mortgage

Mathew Caine on the theater. customers' cars. People are still

"I was so excited," Hoover said, "that immediately contacted our employees and hired back three of them that were unable to collect unemployment benefits. They agreed to come in the very next day to start

> concession sales." Most of the new 2020 releases have been moved to Thanksgiving or later, Hoover said, but presuming the Novo will be able to open before then, "in between the few new releases that are left," the couple is coming up with a plan to do a subscription series of classic movies at a reduced price.

> > a classic movie series."

"We have always been touched by

the long-time residents who share their

memories with us about their time attending

or working at the theater," Hoover said,

"and would like to reach those people with

Until then the concessions are a go -

"The first two weekends, we made \$3,000

to keep doing this until we can open again

Hoover reports that on May 7, the Noyo

	irreversible.	
Honoring retiring Willits Sober	We're relieved to finally get more testing locally. The	at

Grad members

To the Editor:

This letter comes to you from the new leadership team

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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



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will help immensely to monitor our situation and be able to carefully and gradually lift restrictions, based on sound public health policies. Please respect this thoughtful, step-by-step approach

to opening things up. We're all at risk, so be patient and continue to do your part to protect yourself and others. With cooperation, we'll get through this safely together.

Madge Strong, Willits

More of From Page 1 Dam

12 miles upstream of the Cape Horn Dam and the Van Arsdale Diversion system, which are components of the infrastructure that diverts an average of 62,500 cubic feet of Eel River water annually into the Russian River system at Potter Valley.

The Two Basin Solution Partnership includes the Inland Water and Power Commission, the Sonoma County Water Agency, CalTrout, the County of Humboldt and the Round Valley Indian Tribes. Inland Water and Power is itself a coalition of Mendocino County entities that are interested in using and protecting Eel River and Russian River water. Its members include the Mendocino County Water Agency, the City of Ukiah, the Potter Valley Irrigation District, the Redwood Valley County Water District, and the Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District.

The plan includes several key infrastructure modifications, including: the removal of Scott Dam; a sediment management plan and a revegetation plan for what would then become the former Lake Pillsbury; modifications to the Van Arsdale water diversion infrastructure; fish passage modifications to the Cape Horn Dam; water facility improvements to address resulting water shortfalls in Potter Valley; and a revised operational plan for the Potter Valley project.

According to Inland Water and Power Commission Chair Janet Pauli, the portion of the plan that deals with Potter Valley water needs is not part of the report submitted to FERC, although it is part of the overall plan agreed to by the Two Basin Partnership. Two strategies have been identified so far to address water issues relating to Potter Valley.

They are to divert water from the Eel, as currently, into Lake Mendocino, and then to pump some portion of that water back into Potter Valley. Another option is to build a large dam, similar in size to Lake Mendocino's Coyote Dam, somewhere in Potter Valley, and to divert high flows water

To learn more, or make a donation, visit Business Innovation and Resiliency Fund at www.communityfound.org/storiesof-our-funds/field-of-interest-funds/business-innovation-andresiliency-fund/.

The Business Innovation and Resiliency Fund is a partnership program between The Community Foundation of Mendocino County and West Business Development Center, in collaboration with the Coast Chamber, Willits Chamber, and the Greater Ukiah Business and Tourism Alliance.

from the Eel into a new reservoir created by that dam. Other options could be considered as well.

> Plan components are expected to cost as follows: to modify the fish passage at Cape Horn Dam: between \$5 and \$20 million; to modify the diversion system at Van

Arsdale Reservoir: between \$5 and \$20 million; licensing costs, including 22 studies, and upgrades to powerhouse: between \$10 and \$30 million; Scott Dam removal: \$30 to \$120 million; sediment management for former Lake Pillsbury: between \$25 and \$100 million; vegetation management for former Lake Pillsbury: between \$25 and \$100 million; and improvements to the Potter Valley water system, between \$30 and \$120 million.

The total cost of the FERC part of the project will be between \$100 million and \$390 million; including the Potter Valley retrofit, project costs range between \$130 million and \$510 million.

A key element of the plan is the formation of a regional entity, which will require legislation at the state level to accomplish. According to IWPC Chair Pauli, this regional entity will likely include most or all of the members of the Two Basin Solution Partnership, but also will likely include other stakeholders.

Once established, the entity will be eligible for state and federal loans, could receive revenue from state bonds, and would be able to levy taxes, charge fees, and issue its own bonds. According to the study, the entity could be organized as early as the first guarter of 2021.

When she was asked what the impact of the removal of Scott Dam and the elimination of Lake Pillsbury would be on Russian River flows below Lake Mendocino. Pauli said that she did not know, and that a study would be done to answer

Over on Page 11



LARGE POPCORN WITH BUTTER \$6_ _____ PLAIN \$6 JUMBO BAG OF POPCORN (One full kettle) Plain only \$20____ Cup of butter___ KERNEL SEASONS SHAKERS \$1.50 KETTLE CORN____ NACHO CHEESE____ WHITE CHEDDAR____ YEAS T___ MEDIUM FOUNTAIN DRINK \$2 ICE OR NO ICE PEPSI____DIET PEPSI____DR PEPPER____MUG ROOT BEER____ORANGE CRUSH___ PINK LEMONADE MOUNTAIN DEW____SIERRA MIST____Small Bottle Water____ CANDY \$2 Buncha Crunch, Butterfinger Bites, Cookie Dough Bites, Gummi Bears

Hot Tamales, Junior Mints, Kit Kats, M&M Peanut or Plain, Mike & Ikes, Milk Duds, Raisinets, Red Vines, Reeses Cups or Pieces, Sno Caps, Whoppers Skittles Original or Sour, Sour Jacks, Sour Punch Straws Blue or Rainbow, Sweet Tarts Chewy

ICE CREAM \$2 VANILLA SANDWICH_____ MUD PIE _____ DRUMSTICK ___

ICE CREAM \$4 HAGEN DAZ VANILLA ____ DARK CHOCOLATE ____ HAGEN DAZ VANILLA ALMOND DIBS CRUNCH

Above, left: Blare Elliott holds a jumbo sack of popcorn, ready to be delivered curbside in front of the Noyo Theatre. Above, right: Blare Elliott delivers Monica Doro her order. At right: All concessions are available for home movie night.



WE HAVE ICE CREAM! /ISA

Willits Weekly's **Puzzle Page**

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

seven-day reporting period.

May 18

Drive

Street.

Road.

Lane and Railroad Avenue.

in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

South Main Street.

Summary of Active Investigations

and Arrests

vandalism in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

8:22 am: Officers initiated a burglary

investigation in the 300 block of Robert

Willits Road and issued a warning.

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

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К С К F	N N Y N	L O G I	S K I A	H T M S	D P S I	U E R T	C R G L	I A E R	I G D H	T D N E	T I R I	S U S E	0 N 0 R	O M A A	E H L P	A U A Y	M N V L	E S N P	R E S I	5:11 pm: Officers responded to of illegal camping in the 200 block Main Street.
E G E	B L N E	C H I T	A B B P A	S V F K	S M A X	- N E M E	L U S C K	C E X O	E O H N	C E M K	M A K M	K I E L	S L C T	E S A O	P S V F W	F R I E	L W C N	F H D C X		6:52 pm: Officers responded to a an unwanted subject in the 100 blo Commercial Street.
L O C T	L N C E W	- Т О G	C A O U	F E D G	E P U I	C N A V	K K B A	G T L U	R R G C	N P A N	M M A D	LEMFD	R N U I	C A C O	T B O E	L L F S	V S T I	AUWEY	Y M Y O	9:34 pm: Officers responded to a suspicious activity in the 100 bloc Street.
V K	P H	D K	A	R T	RS	D A	0 N	M E	С С Н	GR	AW	E C	H S	N A	P A	M M	D E	L B	W S	May 19
C P	U R	U O	K F	R E	S S	E S	B O	A R	G C	R T	S R	Ē	E D	K L	L O	L	R C	N K	A T	1:02 am: Officers initiated a theft inv in the 21000 block of Locust Street.
	ACA	DEN	IIC			СС	OUR	SE		GOWN					PROFESSOR			R	8:29 am: Officers initiated a	
AD	VAN	ICEN	/EN	Т		CR	REDI	TS			G	RAD	ES			RE	SIDE	ENC	Y	investigation in the 200 block Lenore Avenue.
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A	UDI	TOR	IUM			DIF	PLOI	ΛN			G	UES	TS			S	SENI	OR		investigation in the 200 block
CAMPUS DRESS HONOR				RS			ç	STA	GE		Lenore Avenue.									
CANDIDATE EXAMS				Μ	IORT	TARE	BOAI	RD			ASS			12:21 pm: Officers initiated investigation in the 100 block of						
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CON												CES	SIO		10			RSIT		1:11 pm: Officers initiated a ve investigation in the 500 block of East
11	2		3	4			5	6	7	8	5	9		·	10	11	12	: 1	3	





May 18 to May 24 By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police South Main Street Department handled 153 incidents in this

11:19 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing near the intersection of Railroad Avenue and Barbara Lane and issued a warning. 12:38 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block of North 8:09 am: Officers responded to a report of

Lenore Avenue 12:43 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning. 12:55 pm: Officers responded to a report of harassment in the 100 block of East

8:55 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 800 block of Hearst Commercial Street. 1:10 pm: Officers responded to a report 9:56 am: Officers responded to a report of of a suspicious person in the 1700 block of

suspicious activity in the 200 block of School South Main Street and issued a warning. 4:32 pm: Officers responded to a report 10:46 am: Officers initiated a burglary of harassment in the 100 block of East

investigation in the 1200 block of Locust Commercial Street. 6:47 pm: Officers responded to a report

2:02 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of of harassment in the 100 block of East School Street and Wood Street and issued a warning 5:11 pm: Officers responded to a report 7:06 pm: Officers responded to a domestic of illegal camping in the 200 block of North disturbance in the 1500 block of South Main Street. 11:19 pm: Officers responded to a report 6:52 pm: Officers responded to a report of

an unwanted subject in the 100 block of East of suspicious activity in the 200 block of Shell Lane and issued a warning.

9:34 pm: Officers responded to a report of May 22

suspicious activity in the 100 block of Holly 12:18 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of School Street and issued a warning. 1:02 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation 9:01 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of 8:29 am: Officers initiated a burglary West Valley Street. investigation in the 200 block of North 3:24 pm: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 23000 block of Sherwood 11:00 am: Officers initiated a burglary Road investigation in the 200 block of North 5:19 pm: GARDNER III, James Albert (24) of Fort Bragg was contacted in the 100 block of North Main Street. He was arrested on 12:21 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of East Oak felony charges of possession of ammunition by a prohibited person and violation of parole. 1:11 pm: Officers initiated a vehicle theft 8:45 pm: Officers responded to a report of investigation in the 500 block of East Hill Road. suspicious activity in the 200 block of Shell Lane. 1:17 pm: Officers responded to a report of 9:48 pm: Officers responded to a report trespassing in the 800 block of Hearst Willits of suspicious activity in the 1000 block of South Main Street. 4:17 pm: Officers responded to a report of 9:51 pm: Officers responded to a report trespassing near the intersection of Barbara of suspicious activity in the 1700 block of South Main Street. 5:07 pm: Officers responded to a report May 23 of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of

12:30 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of 6:56 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance Marcela Drive.

1:08 pm: Officers initiated a burglary



Artistic Vision

Looking back at the creation of the Willits Center for the Arts as it celebrates 20 years of exhibiting local art

"The art center belongs to the people of Willits," said groups that got funding through the Mendocino Arts Gary Martin, curator and recent board member of the Willits Center for the Arts. Although it is approaching its around the county about what the art needs were. We held 20th year of providing a space for local art, events and classes that have greatly enhanced the aesthetic visions

of the town of Willits, the WCA is now Mathew Caine dormant due to the conditions of the eatures Writer COVID-19 pandemic. mathew@willitsweekly.com

There is very little art on the walls. There is nothing but beautiful spaces awaiting the chance to reopen with new creative endeavors, under rules which will protect both the staff and the public.

It is a building with a rich history, dating back to 1926. when it housed the Women's Improvement Club, an altruistic group of women organized to improve conditions in Willits. Together, they were responsible for placing water troughs on Main Street back when horses were still a mode of transportation, fundraising to build the Carnegie Library, planting and caring for trees on Main Street, and constructing a pavilion in City Park, among other projects. They were recognized as a force for change in the community.

Throughout the life of the building, it has been used as a jail, a senior center, and a place for teens to get together, before being renovated for use as the Willits Center for the Arts. Through the years, the building at 71 East Commercial fell into abandonment and disrepair. Eventually, it came into the hands of the city. In 1995 a group of artists formed a commission to renovate the building and create a center for art.

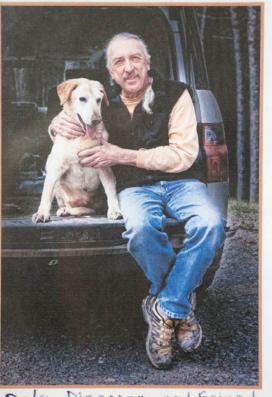
Although the members had varying visions of what the anatomy, purpose, and look of the place would be, they worked together, were granted a lease by the city, raised funds, and worked diligently to create a space where local art could be seen and celebrated, and a meeting place for the artistically inclined.

building and other improvements, including adding to the The Great Room upstairs was not yet in the plans. One general fund which had fallen to \$300. They convinced the of the commissioners, Judy Berdis, recalled: "We were the

At left: Members of a dance class practice at the Willits Center for the Arts.

At right, from top: Some of the early Willits Arts Council: back row, Larry Melious, Dan Taylor, Judi Berdis, Hugh Wiley, Sandy Metzler, Mark Rawitsch and Nancy McHone; front row, Linda MacDonald, Virginia Stranske and Mary Potter. Dale Dingman, who refurbished the WCA Great Room, was a strong supporter of the art center. The Willits Center for the Arts currently awaits reopening. The WCA building originally housed the Women's Improvement Club.





Dale Dingman and Friend





Groceries Beer & Wine

Gas & Diesel

7am - 10pm

P.O. Box 428

1799 So. Main St.

459-4854

Pay at the Pump

39 42					43	40			44	41					person investigat Northbrook Way. 10:33 pm: Off investigation in t Main Street.
45				46				47				48			May 20
			49				50				51				11:27 am: Offic of an unwanted s
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60					61				62		63				investigation in the
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67					68						69				6:49 pm: Office of an unwanted s
CLUES ACROSS 1. Common request 5. Department in France				SS	48. Split pulses 49. Salts 52. Breaking Bad actor Paul 55. Set ablaze					25. Small amount 26. Hem's partner 27. Turkic people 28. Member of the banana family					South Main Street 6:58 pm: Office of an unwanted s Humboldt Street.

23. British Air Aces

5. Departmen 10. Fungi cells 14. Famed inventor 15. Hillsides 16. Cold wind 17. La ___ Tar Pits, Hollywood 18. Resembling a doddering old woman 19. Geological periods 20. Assists 22. Comedienne Gasteyer 23. Jewish spiritual leader 24. English soccer club 27. Body art 30. No (Scottish) 31. Clumsy person 32. Swiss river 35. Belittled 37. Luxury car 38. Single sheet of glass in a window 39. Monetary units 40. Supervises flying 41. Indian term of respect 42. Breezed through 43. The bill in a restaurant 44. Flower cluster 45. Moved quickly 46. Shooters need to do it 21. Units of loudness

47. High schoolersÕ test

Main Street. May 20 11:27 am: Officers responded to a report South Main Street. 1:25 pm: Officers initiated a theft Avenue and Barbara Lane. 6:49 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of South Main Street. 6:58 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 200 block of Humboldt Street. 55. Set ablaze Member of the banana family 10:12 pm: Officers responded to a report of 56. Semitic Sun god 29. Liam Neeson franchise harassment in the 100 block of Mill Creek Drive. 60. Nervous system cells 32. Expressed pleasure 10:31 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run 61. Tourist destination Buenos 33. Inward-directed vehicle collision investigation in the 300 63. A way to bind part of psyche block of Franklin Avenue. 64. Behave uncontrollably 34. Insurgent 65. Feels concern 36. Unhappy May 21 66. Sportscaster Andrews 37. Gateway (Arabic) 67. Subway dwellers 38. Fundraising political group (abbr.) 68. Astrological aspect 40. Well-known 69. You may take one The rest of 41. Satisfies CLUES DOWN 43. '___ death do us part 44. Jailhouse informant 1. Swedish rock group 46. French river 2. Serbian 47. A cotton fabric with 3. Away from wind a satiny finish 4. Actor Oliver 49. Drenches 5. Helps little firms 50. Clouds 6. Intricately decorative 51. Companies need 7. American state to make them 8. Type of tumor 52. Created from seaweed 9. Midway between east 53. One's school: __ mater and southeast 10. On a line at right angles 54. A type of act to a ship's length 57. Member of Russian people 58. Neutralizes alkalis 11. Fruit of the service tree 12. Grouch 59. Monetary unit 13. Romanian city 61. Play a role

southeast

9:27 pm: Officers initiated a missing investigation in the 1700 block of South person investigation in the 100 block of Main Street.

3:48 pm: Officers responded to a 10:33 pm: Officers initiated a robbery disturbance in the 100 block of West nvestigation in the 1300 block of South Commercial Street and issued a warning. 4:04 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1500 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

of an unwanted subject in the 300 block of 6:55 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Magnolia Avenue.

nvestigation in the 100 block of Wood Street. 9:30 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of West 1:31 pm: Officers responded to a report of respassing near the intersection of Railroad Commercial Street.

May 24

12:22 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of School Street. 4:24 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 300 block of North Main Street.

7:52 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of South Main Street and issued a warning. 9:51 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

9:00 pm: Officers responded to a report 9:13 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block of East of a suspicious vehicle in the 1700 block of Commercial Street.

From Page 1 College

others, it became clear that it was best to remotely. For a list of online resources make the decision as soon as possible to currently available for students, please visit: allow time for thoughtful planning for the fall www.mendocino.edu/resources-online. schedule to take place. Registration for both summer and fall Cichocki is using the phrase, "primarily are now open. The summer semester begins June 8, and fall semester begins online" because there will be some courses that must have some limited in-person August 17. More information can be found activities. Any in-person activities will take by visiting www.mendocino.edu and a full place with appropriate safety precautions Summer 2020 class schedule can be found such as physical distance and sanitation at www.mendocino.edu/sites/default/files/ docs/schedule/summer_2020_schedule_ measures, and will be held in small, stable groups. Having most classes online will final_04.27.20.pdf. allow the physical space for these few When the time comes, the staff and classes to meet for limited times in-person. faculty at Mendocino College look forward The college has already announced all to beginning a thoughtful and deliberate summer classes will be held online and transition back to on-campus instruction and 62. Midway between south and all student services continue to be offered services

first art commissioners. Nancy McHone and Judy Hope developed the first physical plan for the gallery. The city let us use the building for a dollar a year. Judy Hope drew floor plans of the two floors, Xeroxed them, and gave us all copies, told us to go home and draw out what we wanted to see in the art center of our dreams, which was a fun

exercise.

"We had to take down the chimney out front," Berdis continued. "The storage room on the side ... used to be the jail cells. We wanted to turn those into offices but Nancy McHone didn't want an office in the building, as she was tired of writing grants and dealing with bureaucracy. She wanted the building to just be space for artists without administrative business activity."

"I was the interim director of an arts council in Mendocino County," said Nancy McHone. "I was the head of several anniversary.



Above: The Gary Martin Gallery sits empty for the time being. At right: June Ruckman asks the Willits City Council to allow the WCA to become a non-profit.

COBURN'S CONSTRUCTION & CABINETRY INC. CA LIC #392108 Preview your completed project with our 3-D Computer Image							
Randy J. Coburn General Contractor P.O. Box 616 Willits, CA 95490 707-459-9719/FAX 707-459-4984 coburn_randy@yahoo.com/ coburnsconst@gmail.com	 Custom Homes New Construction ICF Structures Remodeling Cabinetry Kitchens and Baths Blueprints Plan Drawing Design 						

Willits City Council to allow them to operate as a separate entity

Council. We decided we needed to do some meetings

"It was brought up that we needed a community theater

space." McHone continued. "There was a drive to move the

theater from the Methodist Church to its current location at

an old VW garage. We also wanted the visual artists to

have a space. We assembled all the stats and put a report

together. I found the building where the art center is now. It

McHone's original vision was to have a store in the front

gallery where people could purchase art and curios, but it

The Willits Center for the Arts finally opened in 2000

and has been open ever since. Several different groups

of personnel ran the commission with varying degrees of

success. Much love and energy was put into the building.

The WCA raised funds, although they were not able to sell

steps to get around this. Energetic volunteers like the late

the center going. He totally renovated the upstairs so that

Unfortunately, the center went through some hard times

and could hardly pay the bills. In order to save the center,

501(c)3 non-profit. June Ruckman, Nancy Reed, Ann

Maglinte, Lynn Whiting, Barbara Willens, Sandy Strong

and Jenny Jurgensen were in that original group and were

Emmy Good came on board and created a series of

fundraisers which generated enough money to paint the

responsible for a renaissance of the WCA.

it could be used for meetings, dances and performances.

artwork out of the gallery due to restrictions by the city.

was decided to make both rooms into galleries.

a meeting at the county museum.

had been vacant for a long time.

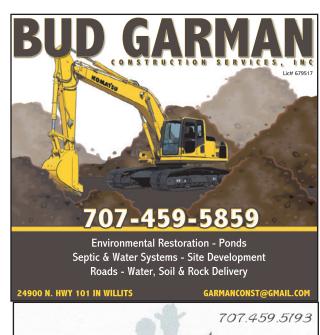
Since then, the WCA has flourished as a cultural center that enriches all of Willits. Martin was brought on in 2017 as curator. He has created a gallery that excellently showcases local talent as well as some artists from out of the immediate area.

In order to survive during the pandemic, the WCA is considering online sales and opening on a scaled-back basis when they are able. Due to the generosity of the people of Willits, they have been receiving donations that have been enabling them to pay the bills while they work on reopening – whenever that may be. Hopefully soon, as the shows are sorely missed as part of the Willits landscape. Eventually there will be a party to commemorate the 20th



R

Family owned since 1983"





No Hormones, Pastured in Willits, California

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∂exp

Mary Mueller

🥣 marymuellerrealestate@gmail.com

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Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Willits Weekly | May 28, 2020 Pg. 4 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com



Virtual Sober Grad for 2020

At left: The Vegas-themed design featured on the 2020 Sober Grad T-shirts. At right: The back of the T-shirt features

all the names of the graduates together, inside the slot machine graphic. Below, from left: Past year's Sober Grad check winners, party attendees, and celebrants enjoy

typical celebrations, but the Class of 2020 will have different memories of their Sober Grad event. Photos by Maureen Moore

2020: The "virtual year," right? I don't know if "Every grad who "signs in" will receive a \$50 everyone to know that Sober Grad is still accepting that's what anyone was hoping for when they talked check and their Sober Grad T-shirt," Waters said. cash and/or gift card donations to help with this about "the future of technology," but hopefully the "For those who came to meetings and/or helped convenience of the internet will at least still allow with fundraisers, their checks will be \$70."

socially distancing seniors to experience Willits' own graduate right of passage: Sober Grad. as well at the end of this week. Instead of gathering all night, sequestered at

the Willits Community Center, which is filled to the All the kids who check in will have their names brim with food, fun, festivities, cash and prizes to added to the proverbial hat where winners will entertain seniors until 4 am when the party ends. be selected during a live drawing. A YouTube the Class of 2020 will get a virtual experience, broadcast has been set up for June 4 from 2:30 instead. But fear not, prizes and cash are still to 7:30 pm that will be accessible only by this link: certainly a part of the plan. https://youtu.be/xFRVOAxNYwQ.

"We want the word to get out, so no graduate "After all the drawings are completed we will will miss out on the opportunity to win checks and/ have a drive-through at the Community Center or gift cards," said Sober Grad's Joyce Waters, where the bags with the T-shirt and the graduates' who will be retiring along with fellow planners Angi winnings will be handed through the window of Edgar and Ruth Dell'Ara at the end of this year. the vehicle," explained Waters. "We would like

project. Because of the coronavirus, we were unable to have our two biggest fund raisers: The Tri-tip Dinner and the Ducky Derby. Consequently, All seniors will receive an email with check-in we were unable to meet our fundraising goal of instructions, and a physical letter will be mailed out \$25.000.

> "We understand that this pandemic has impacted some people and businesses negatively. However, if you are able to donate a \$25 or \$50 gift card or a check for any amount we would be able to pass that on to a graduate. Whatever amount you can donate will be greatly appreciated by Sober Grad and definitely by the graduates," concluded Waters

Donations can be sent via Joyce Waters,

secretary, P.O. Box 126, Willits, CA 95490. - Maureen Moore

Jeanell Aldrich	KC Fales-Brown	Dillon Longmire	Logan Simms
Runer Aleman	Arianna Favalora	Romeo Lopez	Mason Smith
Austin Andrade	Ethan Ferguson	Arthur Loutsis	Savannah Soi
Jacob Arms	Pastteall Fischbach	Skylar Luedemann	Sammie St. Pi
Pablo Avalos	Julissa Flores	Joseph McCann	Micah Stamps
Michael Azevedo	Hunter Ford	Gabriel McGinnis	Craig Stewar
Tyler Bailey	Maddy Forrester	Belen Mendoza	Korvin Swinne
Emily Barbitta	John Foucault	Mariela Mendoza	Mariano Toma
Dominic Bertolino	Angel Gandarilla	Alejandro Meza	Maira Trujillo
Jimi Beshara	Ivana Gilman	Georgia Millsap	Lilly Turner
Beau Betts	McKenzie Gregg	Ryan Miltimore	Patrick Turne
Kody Brandon	Zoe Grimm	Demetri Novoa	Mariah Van VI
Lucas Branscomb	Marissa Gutierrez	Taylor Pardue	Feather Vansi
Martin Bravo	Rachel Hageman	Gage Parker	Jesus Vega
Star Brightman	MaKenzie Hansen	Britney Patel	Carson Vesey
Jessica Brown	Emmalee Harmon	Cheyanne Paulson	Tatiyana Viale
McKenna Buckingham	Samantha Haydon	Victoria Pielaszczyk	Emmy Villega
Jessica Buzzard	Kyla Hendry	Kylei Polen	Mercy Villega
Sierra Caine-Boren	Elizabeth Henning	Taylor Quinliven	Taniah Vossle
Patricia Carillo	Cameron Hernandez	Paul Quintero	Troy Walters
Jaeva Cash	Gwyneth Hernandez	Ryan Reed	Emerald Wate
Natalie Castro	Trent Herrera	Ariel Reyes	Jasmine Wear
Celestial Clearbrook	Joaquin Hudson	Elisa Rodarte	Roman Wiega
Eric Colvard	Laythern Hulsey	Antonio Rodriguez	Grady William
Alton Cooke	Angel Jacinto	Nayeli Rodriguez	Drake Wisdon
Spencer Copperfield	Kayla-Jo Jensen	Yesenia Rodriguez	Rachel Woods
Hanna Corey	Sequoia Jones	Owen Sabastian	Bear Wright
Hope Curtis	Spencer Kendrick	Leticia Sanchez	
Taylor Decker	Gabe Komes	Luis Sanchez	
Joseph Denier	Odalys Lara Lopez	Brandon Schmidt	
Kayla Espaniola Norton	Matthew Licea	Zoe Schoonmaker	
Brieana Evans	Eddie Llamas	Jett Seaton	

2020

Shirt Designers: Rachel Hageman, Ariel Reyes, Jessica Brown, Jaeva Cash, Emerald Waters, John Foucault, Micah Stamps



Willits is Senior Strong

The final group of 2020 Willits Unified School District Graduates!



Korvin Swinney



Mariano Tomas



Maira Trujillo



Lillian Turner





Jesus Vega





- **Tania Vessler**
- **Emmanuel Villegas**
 - **Mercedes Villegas**



Troy Walters



Emerald Waters





Roman Wiegland



Grady Williams





Drake Wisdom



Rachel Woods



Sequoia Wright





Sierra Caine

Kayla Williams

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Connor Wyant



Social Distance Steam-Up

Roots of Motive Power discusses plans for 2020 steam-up festivities amid coronavirus complications

to discuss the plans for how to hold a coronacompliant event for their September steam-up celebration.

After some chat about equipment updates, new COVID practices for Roots work days, and plans for the boiler, along with some dog petting, talk turned to how to hold an event while remaining within the health order quidelines.

Hoping things will clear up by September, the possibility of a regular event is possible,

Nine masked members of the Roots of but virtual plans, including a livestream of Motive Power board gathered - 6 feet apart! - machinery, equipment spotlights, and bringing at the Roots yard during their monthly meeting out different items all floated through the brainstorming session.

Without the public's presence, the Roots crew could be able to demonstrate some of the more tedious-to-operate and "dangerous" equipment, and broadcast it live, or record it for later and compile a Roots DVD or video. Keep ears and eyes tuned as the weeks go

on, but Roots wanted to assure the community that they will be making sure something happens, even if it might be a virtual year.

- Maureen Moore



At left and above: Roots of Motive Power board members gather – while socially distancing! – at the Roots yard to hold a meeting about how to operate within COVID guidelines. Below, left: New business on the agenda: Roots 2020 Festival. Below, right: Rain the dog looks for some attention. Below, from left: Virtual showcases might be a part of the 2020 festivities, similar to this clip of Roots President Troy James talking about one of the pieces of equipment at the yard. Rules and procedures were handed out and read over during the meeting. Rain found just the right person to give a good mid-meeting scratchin'.







LEGAL NOTICES

VW268	Willits
Fictitious Business Name	
Statement	Weekly can
020-F00253	
The following person is doing usiness as Sage Healing, 10 rookside Drive, Willits, CA 95490.	run your
Registered owner: Cassie Lynn lansfield, 10 Brookside Drive, /illits, CA 95490.	legal notices!
This business is conducted by an dividual.	Email us
The registrant commenced to ansact business under the	for cost and
ctitious business name listed bove on N/A.	details:
Statement filed with the lendocino County Clerk-Recorder	
n May 4, 2020.	willitsweekly
/ Cassie Mansfield	
Publication dates: 05/21, 05/28, 06/04, 06/11/2020	@gmail.com

WW269

m **CITY OF WILLITS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NOTICE TO BIDDERS PROJECT NO. 2020-01** NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Sealed bids for: The work shown on the project plans entitled: **CITY OF WILLITS** PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT **PROJECT PLANS** for 2020 Slurry Seal & Pavement Preservation Project -Project No. 2020-01 This project includes slurry sealing, striping, crack sealing, and traffic control for various streets within the City of Willits for an amount not to exceed \$210,000. City of Willits, County of Mendocino, State of California ጼ The work described in specifications books entitled: CITY OF WILLITS - BID BOOK & TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS **CITY OF WILLITS - PROPOSAL PACKET CITY OF WILLITS - AWARD PACKET** for 2020 Slurry Seal & Pavement Preservation Project -Project No. 2020-01 IN

City of Willits, County of Mendocino, State of California will be received by a designated representative, of the City of Willits, County of Mendocino, State of California, until the hour of 2 p.m., June 17, 2020, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud in the City Council Chambers, of the City of Willits, located at 111 East Commercial Street, Willits,

California. CITY OF WILLITS: s/Cathy Moorhead, Deputy City Manager/City Clerk DATED: 05/20/20 Publication Date: May 21, 2020

WW270

From Page 1 Graduates

The rest of

In addition to this year's parade, the Class of 2020 will also have a presence on Main Street with the collage of senior portraits filling the windows at J.D. Redhouse, photos of Willits Charter School graduates in the window at The Book Juggler, and with the large lamppost banners soon to make their appearance. Each vinyl banner features the grad's official senior portrait, and "Class of 2020" and will grace the lampposts, just like the decorations at Christmas or the Fourth of July "Willits High School is delighted that with the partnership of community members such as Carrie Clevinger, Willits Power, Summit Signal and the generous donations of many other parents and community members, the Main Street Banner project will be a reality for the class of 2020," said Amanda Maciel, Willits High School's principal's secretary

and registrar. "Banners should start going up in the next few days," she continued. "The project cost \$14,000, and a good portion of these funds have been community-raised. The high school is still accepting donations to help cover the remainder of the cost if any community members would like to contribute. We would also like to thank Caltrans and the City of Willits for their support of this project.

The rest of From Page 1 Launches

Congratulations to the Class of 2020!"

information and resources for businesses eligible to open in Stage 2 to develop their own Business Reopening Plan. which is a County of Mendocino requirement for reopening.

Business owners will use the Safe Operations Business Protocol checklist to guide the development and implementation of their health and safety protocols and procedures for their workplace. They will also refer to the Business Reopening Plan worksheets that are specific to different business sectors, such as manufacturing, retail, childcare, construction and more.

Currently, only those businesses that can open in Stage 2 have Business Reopening Plan worksheets available. As more sectors are permitted to open, the site will be updated with additional industry-specific plans.

Once business owners have created their Business Reopening Plan, they must self-certify compliance directly on the website. Mendocino County requires each business to submit their business license number, business information, and complete a compliance questionnaire.

Upon completion, businesses will download a Safe Mendocino certificate for posting in the business workplace. Businesses are also required to post their health and safety protocols in their place of business.

Supervisor Dan Gjerde emphasized the importance of building consumer confidence as the county reopens for business, "Participating in this self-certification process will also have the added benefit of making consumers feel confident that businesses are safe, otherwise they won't engage in commerce."

The website is a result of the ongoing work of the county's Covid-19 Ad Hoc Committee consisting of Supervisor Gjerde, Supervisor Ted Williams, and West Business Development Center CEO Mary Anne Petrillo, further cementing the continuation of a successful public sector/ private business roundtables.

CLASSIFIEDS \$10 for 30 words for 2 weeks

Freezer Empty? We can help! Due to health concerns in Mendocino County, John Ford Ranch will be taking meat box orders (not individual pack- age orders) for pick-up: Rancher's Choice Box - 50 pounds: steaks, roasts, and ground beef. Still \$325 (\$6.50 per pound). Hamburger Box: 25 pound box of ham- burger in 1 or 1.5 pound packages: \$150. Natu- ral ranch-raised grass fed beef, no hormones or antibiotics. Call 459- 5193 to arrange pick-up. Leave a message, and we'll call back.	RV/Trailer Space for RentSpace for RV's and Trailers \$425 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 510-5895. See at "http://www. oaknvine.net/tp"Seriously Seeking Granny quarters or small studio near or in Willits. Wishing to focus on art work, design and creative writing. Am a retired widow. Christian woman, loathe alcohol
The Fruit Group Apricots \$33 lug, eating nectarines & peaches	and shudder at drugs totally. Organic, love gardening, no pets. Can pay a fair sum, or garden in part: 707-459-4975.
\$32 lug, June 11 & 18, from 8:30 to 10:30 am. Brenda 459-9335 or thefruitgroup9549@ yahoo.com	Stay Safe I'll be back to help you with your Alterations and Sewing Needs when it is safe to do so.
Help Wanted Sherwood Firewise now hiring! Program Coordinator. Assist with annual program goals, prepares reports and outreach. Need excellent written, verbal, communication, and organizational skills. Requires proficient use of common software programs. \$30/hour, 20 hour/week. 6 month duration. Contact info@ sherwoodfirewise.org for job description and application.	Barbara the Seamstress Virtual Spiritual Exploration To learn more about classes and topics that may interest you visit: https://www.meetup. com/Lake-Mendocino- Counties-Spiritual- Explorers/ Join us on Zoom or via telephone Wednesday evenings, 7 to 8 pm, June 3 through July 29, 2020. Questions? Please call Joy at (952) 999-2288.
New Mini Storage Units in Willits Reserve yours today! 707-459-4599 or 707-259-0159	Willits Food Bank open Willits Community Services & Food Bank is still distributing food, following COVID-19 safety provisions, to
Mendocino Counts! \$\$ Help Your Community \$\$ - the 2020 Census brings our federal tax dollars home. Mail in your 2020 Census form now! Or fill it out online at: www.my2020census.	hungry families and individuals in the Willits area, with an increase in numbers served. The front office at 229 E San Francisco Ave is closed to the public, but the back door area is open for food distribution on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 4:30

We're all made for more



Now there are more ways to take control of your health without leaving home.

Meet your doctor - or any doctor - with a virtual visit. Manage your family's entire health needs through your personal online health hub. It's all quick, easy and secure, from the healthcare professionals you already trust. We offer more ways to manage your health, so you can enjoy more convenience and more connection.



To learn more about managing your health virtually, visit AdventistHealth.org/CareAnywhere. To schedule an appointment, call 833-AH-Wellness (833-249-3556)

WUSD Notice Inviting Proposals The Willits Unified School District is inviting proposals for food and supplies for the 2020-21 school year. You may obtain information by contacting the Director of Food Services, Willits Unified School District at 707-459-7700 ext. 1554, christywisdom@willitsunified.com Proposals are requested to be received by July 15, 2020.

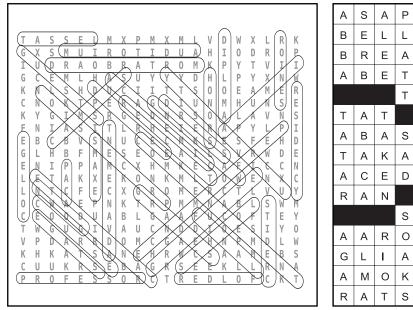
Publication Dates: Thursday, May 28 and Thursday, June 4, 2020.

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In addition to reaching out to industry leaders, the

COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee sought input from the county's Chambers of Commerce and city officials. The site is designed for both English and Spanish speakers.

Supervisor Williams emphasized the importance of compliance and acknowledged the challenges, saying: "The reopening situation is a moving target with new directives coming daily from the state. This site will streamline the process both for businesses and the county as we navigate how to reopen safely. We need to continue the work of the public health officer as we gradually reopen the county."

Mendocino County also requests that business owners complete the business impact survey, which will provide information on the total dollar amount of economic impact of the pandemic crisis. The survey can be accessed at https://mendocinocountysurvey.guestionpro.com/

The County of Mendocino encourages all small businesses in the county to visit their "Business Resources for COVID-19" website at www.mendocinocounty.org/ business/business-resource-for-covid-19.

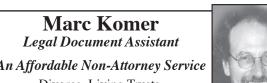
For business-related support with loans, employee relations and digital commerce, contact West Business Development Center at www.westcenter.org.

For more on COVID-19: www.mendocinocounty.org or contact the Call Center: 707-234-6052 or email callcenter@ mendocinocounty.org, Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm.

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A A R O N

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Willits Weekly | May 28, 2020 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 **Pg. 9**



Western rattlesnakes are found in a variety of habitats throughout California including – maybe – your woodpile or your garden.

Submitted by California Department of

As shelter-in-place rules are relaxed

around the state of California, hikers are

undoubtedly anxious to take advantage of

the opportunity to visit their favorite hills,

mountains, paths and trails. It's important

to remember that snakes are enjoying the

With the coming of summer, snakes

of many species are through hunkering

down, making human encounters with

these elusive creatures more likely.

Although most native snakes are harmless,

the California Department of Fish and

Wildlife recommends giving the venomous

rattlesnake plenty of space and knowing

Early mornings and late afternoons are

prime times for when snakes come out -

they avoid the midday heat. In general,

snakes are not aggressive. When people

are bit, it's most often because the animal

what to do in the rare event of a bite.

was surprised.

fine weather this time of year as well.

Fish and Wildlife

Tips for steering clear

of rattlesnakes as the

weather warms up

climbing.

However, the potential of encountering a

rattlesnake should not deter anyone from

venturing outdoors. The California Poison

Control System notes that the chances

of being bitten are small compared to the

risk of other environmental injuries. Most

bites occur between the months of April

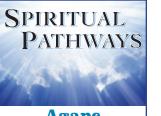
and October when snakes and humans are

CDFW provides tips for safely living

in snake country on its website, at

www.wildlife.ca.gov/Keep-Me-Wild/

most active outdoors.



Agape **Bible Church** 290 S. Lenore Ave Willits, CA 95490 Where love is first and the Bible is central Sunday Services: 9:15 a.m. - Bible Class, adult & children 11:00 a.m. - Worship Awana: Tuesday, 6:15 p.m. Info? 707-459-1905 www.agapebiblechurch.com

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

707-303-5456 Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m Pastor Burton Jernigan EVERYBODY IS WELCOME

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

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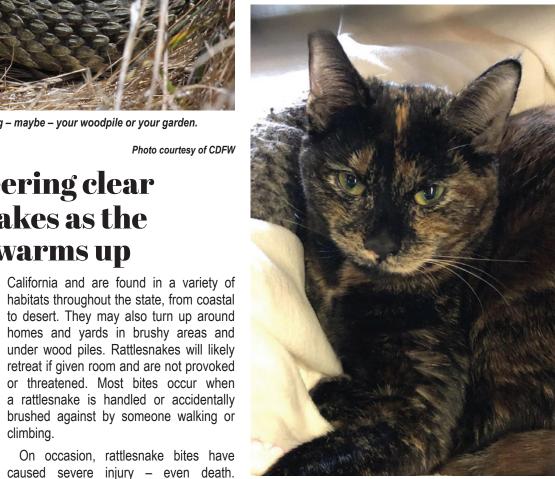
•Sound of Soul events Spiritual Discussions More information? Call 707-456-9934

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Church
Celebrating Life In Christ
25 Hazel Street, Willits
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Young Ellie

Meet our stunning girl Ellie. Ellie is a year-old tortie. She came to us in August of 2019 after she was found wandering alone. Ellie is a guiet lady who would love a easygoing home. She is just a little shy but absolutely loves attention. She is just a kid but has spent most of her life in the shelter. Can you give her a chance at being in her forever home? If so, we would love to talk with you!

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County is open Wednesday through Friday from 1 to 5 pm, and Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 3 pm, by appointment only, for intakes, adoptions and fostering: Call 707-485-0123 for information or any questions. Visit "Humane Society for Mendocino County" page on Facebook to see available dogs and cats, and visit www.mendohumanesociety.com to learn more.







The rest of Cases From	n Page 1	The rest of Reduced From Page 1	The rest of Deny From Page	1
Wednesday, involves another person living in the Ukiah Valley. The 25th case involves	facilitated and processed by the University of California at San Francisco.	counting on prior to the pandemic: a share of Proposition 172 sales tax proceeds, a share of the proceeds from	apparently do not want the cell tower in their neighborhood. Commissioner Madelin Holtkamp	peace, morals, comfort or general welfare of persons residing or working in or passing through the
a person who lives on the north coast.	According to Dukett, as	the last election's successful county Measure D transient occupancy tax,	spoke to that effect when she stated, early on in the discussion	neighborhood of such proposed use, or be detrimental or injurious
Dukett declined to be more	of 7 pm on Tuesday night, the Optum-Serve mobile	and a share of amounts collected via	on whether or not to approve the	to property and improvements in
specific about exactly where	lab at the Redwood Empire	the City of Willits' cannabis excise tax,	permit, "I have a lot of trouble with the people who are supposed to be	the neighborhood or to the general welfare of the county; provided, that
the people who contracted the	Fairgrounds had performed 315 tests since it opened on	Measure I, approved by the voters in November 2018.	served by this, not wanting it."	if any proposed building or use is
disease are currently living. Dukett said contact tracing	Friday May 22.	Proposition 172 is the 1993 voter-	Holtkamp's concern seems to	necessary for the public health,
for cases 22 and 23 was	Sixth revised shelter-in-	approved state measure that created a	be borne out by the numbers. Prior to the item being taken up by the	safety or general welfare, the finding shall be to that effect."
happening on Wednesday. "When the results of the	place order	permanent one-half cent sales tax to be	commission, it received a significant	Section (d) reads: "That such use
contact tracing are in,	With the successful posting	used for public safety purposes, which county fire districts "fought hard to get	amount of public comment. By May	preserves the integrity of the zoning
hopefully the county will be	on May 20 of the county's "attestation for county"	a piece of" and have been sharing in	11, the public had sent 72 letters or emails to the planning commission,	district."
able to announce where they got the disease," Dukett said.	"attestation for county variance," Mendocino County	for the last four years, according to Wilkes.	expressing an opinion on the cell	Pernell had earlier stated that she believed construction and operation
On May 15, Mendocino	has been allowed to proceed	"I'm almost positive we won't see any	tower. Willits Weekly read through them and found that, at a minimum,	of the cell tower would be counter
County announced that it	to Stage 2.5 of California's Resilience Roadmap. Last	of that money," he said. "Everybody's	44 people wrote in opposition to	to the covenants, conditions and restrictions of the Pine Mountain
had confirmed 15 cases of	Thursday, Dr. Doohan	down on tax dollars."	the project and six people wrote in	Estates subdivision.
COVID-19. With the tally now up to 25, that means that over	released a sixth revised	And the department is "still working	support of it. In those first 72 letters, numerous letters were written urging	Although six planning
the past 12 days, the number	shelter-in-place health order, taking effect on May 24, which	with the city on the excise tax," he continued. "But everyone is in a pinch	the commission to reschedule the	commissioners voted to draft a resolution of denial, timber industry
of cases in this county has increased by 66 percent.	allowed additional business	because of the pandemic so we might	meeting, and several writers wrote more than one letter.	representative Randy Jacobszoon
The four most recent cases	activities to resume locally, including in-store shopping,	not see any money."	A recent look at the file indicates	said his primary gripe against the
follow the confirmation of a	limited dine-in restaurants,	And, with "nobody able to camp" in	that people are continuing to write	tower was that he believed it had a bad aesthetic impact. He said that
total of seven cases attributed	and preventive dental care.	private campgrounds or RV parks due to pandemic restrictions, there may be	about the cell tower. As of May 25, 135 letters or emails on the item	he would support the project if AT&T
to Mendocino County that all stem from religious services	The order imposes some serious restrictions upon both	no, or very little, Measure D money to	had been received by the planning	would agree to put faux branches on it to make it look more like a tree.
held at the Assembly of God	in-store retail and dining in	distribute to county fire agencies as	commission.	AT&T said they could not do that,
Church in Redwood Valley on	restaurants.	originally intended by the measure.	Third District Commissioner Alison Pernell told planning	because they are under regulations
Mothers' Day, Sunday May 10.	According to a document called "summary of changes"	"So we're taking a very conservative approach to our budget this year to	commission staff that, in her mind,	that they have to have a setback to the nearest building of five times the
On May 24, Mendocino	to the Stage 2.5 health officer	stay in the black," said Wilkes. "The	the biggest factor in shaping her opinion toward the project was lack	height of the structure. As it stands
County Interim Public Health	order, "The Stage 2.5 Order	final budget is in September; it can change if we get money."	of support by the public. She noted	now, the 143-foot tower yields a setback of 715 feet, which is just
Officer Noemi Doohan, MD, announced that 337 people	requires all businesses, as a condition of re-opening, to	There is some new funding which	that of the 133 letters from the public	under the distance to the nearest
were tested in Redwood	file the local self-certification	may be forthcoming though from	that the commission had received by the morning of May 21, only 15	dwelling.
Valley on Tuesday, May 19,	form, developed by the	new impact fees.	expressed support for the project.	Epic Wireless representative Jared Kearsley told the commission
to gauge the health of the community in the wake of the	County of Mendocino in collaboration with West	These are fees assessed as a	In addition, both sides circulated	that standard operating procedure
May 10 religious service.	Business Development	condition for approval of any new development project located in the	petitions to back up their opinion on the matter. Those in support	for adding faux branches would
Test results from the May	Center, found at www. mendocinocountybusiness.	area served by the fire district.	collected 34 signatures in a	increase the height of the tower by some 10 feet, which would increase
19 testing confirmed that six more people had contracted	org. Businesses that were	Because all new development	petition that was submitted to the commission on March 29. Whoever	the setback by 50 feet, which would
the disease, which brought	authorized to re-open under	represents an increase in the district's responsibilities, the money assessed is	circulated the petition did not sign a	put the then-153-foot tower too close to the nearest building.
the total of people then known	health officer orders issued prior to May 21, will have	used to maintain the department's level	letter of submittal; however, the first signature on the petition was that of	Fourth District Planning
to have gotten the disease from that religious service,	seven days to complete the	of service prior to the development.	Kent Standley.	Commissioner Scott Perkins
or from those who attended	same self-certification."	The authority to impose impact fees	On April 3, Cynthia Raiser	expressed that he was conflicted about his vote. "Last year,
that religious service, to nine, including seven people from	The summary of changes goes on to state that retail	and the amounts assessed ultimately must be codified in a county ordinance.	Jeavons submitted a petition of people opposed to the cell tower,	Mendocino County and the
Mendocino County and two	businesses must follow	Apropos of the amount that will	containing 151 signatures. On May	Economic Development and
people from Lake County.	the statewide guidance for retail found online at https://	be charged for different kinds of	21, during the public hearing, six	Finance Corporation held an economic summit, in Willits, and
The increase in cases here	covid19.ca.gov/pdf/guidance-	development projects, the board was presented with a preliminary report – a	people called in to comment. All were opposed to the project.	people from all over the county
is still under a permissible level of increase, relative	retail.pdf. "Retailers and	"nexus study."	Other reasons for denial	came, and one of the top concerns was broadband capability and safe
to allowing the county to	malls must closely follow their industry statewide guidance	The final "nexus study" report will	mentioned by commission members	cell phone access to rural parts of
proceed further along the road	for specifics in all areas. and	be ready in June, and "at the June meeting we will start the public hearing	included the belief that the cell tower would present a negative	the county," Perkins said.
to reopening. According to guidelines from the California	retailers should still continue	process," said Wilkes. "That won't be	visual and aesthetic impact to the	"And, like I said, I'm swayed by the quantity of letters from the
Department of Public Health,	to facilitate curbside pick-up and delivery," the summary of	completed until the July meeting, and	neighborhood, that construction of the tower could have a negative	local community opposed to this,
if counties have had fewer than 25 new cases per	changes states.	then 30 days after that [the ordinance] will go into effect."	impact on local utilities, especially	but, at the same time, I know this
100,000 residents over the	The new shelter-in-place	Another, perhaps smaller, but very	on the Pine Mountain water system,	has been a priority from the board of supervisors and many folks in
past 14 days, or if fewer than	order also sets a high bar for	appreciated source of income comes	that the location of the tower was	the county to expand cell phone

restaurant dining. Restaurants 8 percent of COVID-19 tests must follow state guidelines show positive results in the found at https://covid19. past seven days, the county ca.gov/pdf/guidance-dine-inmay proceed along the path restaurants.pdf which includes of reopening. "requirements for a worksite-Currently the county is specific COVID-19 prevention in Stage 2.5 of reopening. plan, comprehensive risk Governor Gavin Newsom on assessment of all work Tuesday, May 26 announced areas, employee training, that 47 of 58 counties in the individual control measures state could now allow hair and screening, cleaning and salons and barbershops to disinfection protocols. and reopen, with restrictions, on a social distancing guidelines." county-by-county basis. The county document Dukett told Willits Weekly goes on to elaborate further Wednesday morning that conditions applicable to Doohan was once again restaurants. "All dinerevising the county's shelterrestaurants should in in-place order to reflect the continue to encourage takeout and delivery service new latitude allowed by the governor. Dukett said that whenever possible. Dine-in establishments must also the seventh revised health display clearly visible rules for order would most likely be customers and personnel at published on Thursday. the entrance that are to be a When asked if that meant condition of entry. Additionally, that the county was in Stage all guests and visitors must be 3, Dukett said it didn't. "Where screened for symptoms upon we are is sort of in between arrival, asked to use hand Stage 2.5 and Stage 3," Dukett sanitizer, and should bring said. "Officially we are still and wear a facial covering in 2.5. But it looks like we're when not eating or drinking. moving toward Stage 3, sort of As clarified by the state, the incrementally," she said. expansion of limited dine-in According to the data restaurants is not intended dashboard published on for concert or entertainment the county's website, which venues was updated at 6:30 pm The allowance of eating in Wednesday evening, the restaurants does not extend county has had a total of 25 to "brewpubs, craft distilleries, cases; 12 are recovered and breweries, bars, pubs, and 10 are currently in isolation. wineries, unless they are Three people are hospitalized. offering sit-down, dine-in There have been 4,056 tests. meals and limiting alcohol (for Of those tests, 1,351 on-site consumption) to be have been facilitated by sold in the same transaction the county's Department of as a meal. However, sealed Public Health, 1,342 has been alcoholic beverages may processed by commercial continue to be sold as part of

thanks for two recent ones the district received The Howard Foundation and Pernell stated that she believed Medstar donated funds to help buy supplies for "rescue 5431," a onceambulance donated to the district by Medstar, which is used for a variety of purposes, and the Little Lake Grange Women's Activity League and Jim and Terri Robertson made donations. which will be used to purchase safety equipment. Decreased funding is not the only pandemic-related decrease the department is experiencing. "Most of our call volume is vehicle accidents," said Wilkes. And with nobody driving, our call volume was almost cut in half in April." This quantifiable decrease in vehicle accident calls may be more than matched, however, by an unquantifiable increase in potential for harm when going to medical calls. When those calls come in, dispatch asks screening questions: "Do you have a temperature, cough, etc.?" "If [an answer] is positive, it's possibility they have COVID," Wilkes. "So they tell us, and then have to acknowledge [to dispatch] we could possibly be going to some who is positive for COVID.' Finally, it's finally really close to with the old and in with the new. The old firehouse has be demolished, and the new one is on When it will get here is ... "No matter how hard we try, it's top to give a timeline," said Wilkes. "Ev time we give a line, it gets blown Nothing's on time with this project. Still, the plans are completed being reviewed by the city, and "w hoping to get a bid package out labs. and 1,363 have been retail transactions." couple of weeks," he said.

the county, to expand cell phone appreciated source of income comes bad, and that the proposed land coverage and broadband service.' from donations, and Wilkes expressed use violates the county code in two wavs

The plan for the 143-foot-tall cell Third District Commissioner phone tower on Manzanita Drive on Pine Mountain is to serve about 400 that putting a 143-foot cell tower on the proposed site could legally be parcels located within 5.5 square miles on Pine Mountain. The project denied according to two provisions found under Section 20.196.020 is part of AT&T's Connect America of the county code. They were program. In March 2018, AT&T

sections (c) and (d). Section (c) states: "That representative Rheunette Alums such use will not, under the said that the company planned circumstances of that particular to construct 18 cell towers in case, constitute a nuisance or be Mendocino County by the end of detrimental to the health, safety, 2020.

The rest of From Page 2 Dam

that question.

Pauli was also asked whether overall project costs included a purchase price for the project itself. PG&E is the current owner of the Potter Valley Project. Pauli said, "Negotiations with PG&E are going to be very sensitive. According to Pauli, the feasibility study does not constitute a commitment. "The Proposed Project Plan filed with FERC on May 13th is not a commitment," Pauli said. "The Final License Application, which is currently due to FERC in April 2022 will outline the final Project Plan. Once filed with and accepted by FERC the Final Project Plan will become a commitment.

's a said ì we	Willits Senior	Center Lunch					
that eone	Drive-Thru & Walk-Up Meals	Monday, June 1: Turkey & Dumplings					
out	Available 12 to 1 pm, outside the Willits Senior Center, 1501	Tuesday, June 2: Cheeseburgers					
been In the	Baechtel Road; \$5 per meal, Monday through Friday.	Wednesday, June 3: Eggs Benedict					
1 110	Home Meal Delivery	Thursday, June 4: Ground					
	Call 459-6826 the day before	Beef Tacos					
ough very	needed to schedule home meal delivery; \$5 per meal, Monday	Friday, June 5: Chicken Parmesan					
out. "	through Friday. Delivered throughout Willits.	Transportation for seniors: Call 459-5556 to schedule.					
and /e're	Thursday, May 28: Beef Enchiladas	Pick up and drop off for grocery shopping, banking, doctors'					
in a	Friday, May 29: Turkey Dinner	appointments.					

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Plants Aplenty

Shoppers fill wagons full of vegetable starts, grape vines, flowers, and more at the Grateful Gleaners' annual sale

The Grateful Gleaners Plant Sale is an annual community fundraiser. "The Gleaners' mission is to benefit a wide swath of the community. It also brings people together at the beginning of the season," stated Prana Roberts, one of

Ree Slocum eatures Writer willitsweekly@gmail.com the sale organizers.

By 9:45 Sunday morning, there was a line of people on South Humboldt Street waiting to enter the

sale, located on cool and shaded Tuttle Lane properties. As one entered there was a sanitizing station, which included masks and an attendant squirting people's hands with sanitizer before they entered the sale. By 11 am the Tri Counties Bank parking lot was full of cars.

Grateful Gleaners gardeners provided most of the plants for their sale. Community members also dropped off donations during the day, adding to the variety and volume of plants for sale. Tam Adams from Emandal- A Farm on a River made a large donation again this year. They grew too many starts for their own farm and dug up desirable plants from overgrown peony, horseradish, raspberry and blackberry patches to donate to the popular community event.

Some people grow plants specifically for the annual sale, like one of Grateful Gleaners' founders, Karen Gridley. According to Gridley's husband, Wolfgang Ronnefeldt, "Karen does at least 400 plants at our garden [for this sale]. There's a special area of the garden we fence off from the deer and it's one of the precious garden spots on our place."

Because of all the community efforts, folks found healthy vegetable, fruit, vine, flower and medicinal herb plants for their gardens. For some who come to the Gleaners' plant sale, this could be the place to acquire a certain variety of plant. Others attend with long lists or browse and buy a wagonful and more.

COVID-19 shelter-in-place orders have changed how some people garden. Pat Wilson lives on Redwood Avenue in Willits and came to the sale with her friend, Kathy Uppinghouse. Wilson said, "I spend more time in my yard now. All of my neighbors do, too. There are beautiful yards as you go up and down [Redwood Avenue]." For Gary Martin and his partner, Lou Celaya, it was their first time at the sale. "We saw the ad in the Willits Weekly about it. Because of sheltering-in-place, gardening is all we're doing. There's not much else to do," said Martin who teaches at the college and is the curator at the Willits Center for the Arts, both closed due to shelter-in-place orders.

and use herbs, and that there are many healing herbs that thrive in Mendocino County.

Two women from the Guild were there selling medicinal plants and answering questions. Tina Tedeschi is an herbalist from Potter Valley who brought 160 medicinal plants for all types of ailments. She makes tinctures, teas, herbal oils and poultices, and sells them at the Ukiah Farmers Market. "And there are people [from the Guild] selling at the Willits Farmers Market as well," she said.

Alongside Tedeschi, was Leslie King. She's studied ayurvedic herbs, an ancient East Indian medicine. "I guide people towards wellness using the philosophies of ayurvedic medicine. I love to grow the plants, make medicine out of them, and then distribute them to people who need them," she told.

Richard Jeske and his wife, Jacqueline Morninglight, had a beautiful and extensive collection of tried and true table grapes and goji berry bushes for sale at discounted prices. This was their first time at the sale.

For the second year, Jamie Chavalier from Quail Seeds and Luke Allen, with his son, Bayowyn, from Sundial Seed Company returned with their locally sourced flower, vegetable, and cover crop seed offerings.

All five vendors added spice, variety and knowledge to the Gleaners' plant sale. Each vendor kept their own earnings from their sales.

The Gleaners' plant sale has been in place for about eight years, according to a consensus of six members. It was also agreed that the Grateful Gleaners was established maybe 15 years ago. Since that time, it has functioned as a group of volunteers who donate gleaned fruits and vegetables from people's gardens and orchards to the food bank, senior center, after-school programs, and other foodrelated nonprofits.

The event, advertised for people to plant a modern victory garden, similar to those planted during the first and second world wars, was a huge success. There were well over 1,000 Grateful Gleaner plants. "Especially if you count all the small pots," Roberts informed, and added, "I'd say we sold about 85 percent of them."



At top, from left: Richard Jeske and his wife, Jacqueline Morninglight, sell about 20 different table grape varieties that passed the taste and vitality tests at their East Hill Road nursery. Donna d'Terra, an herbalist and a founding member of the Mendocino County Herb Guild, helps out at the event. Third District Supervisor John Haschak picks up some tomato starts; he and his wife, Janice, have expanded their garden this year and are planting more tomatoes "to freeze and can." Above: Haley Portell fills a box with thriving plants at the Grateful Gleaners Plant Sale on Sunday. Below: A steadily moving line of people wait to go into the Gleaners Plant Sale on Sunday. At bottom: Visitors to the Grateful Gleaners Plant Sale look through plant starts in a large field on Tuttle Lane, which was freshly mowed thanks to members of the Tuttle Lane community.



The Mendocino County Herb Guild is unable to have their Calendula Festival and plant sale live this year, so they joined the Grateful Gleaners Plant Sale. The herbalists provided a wealth of information about medicinal plants. Guild member Claudia Wenning said their mission Sunday was to make people aware of how important it is to grow

Gleaner member Carol Cox reported the Gleaners' part of the sale brought in \$2,378, a whopping \$1,000 more than last year! The lion's share of the proceeds will go to young farmers in need of particular tools or infrastructure like irrigation, vegetable washing stations, or storage sheds to keep produce cool.

The Grateful Gleaners community has far-reaching roots into the greater Willits community. They provide a wide variety of affordable plants for gardeners. There are inspired and knowledgeable gardeners and venders who freely give information. They donate money to farmers in need and food to people through nonprofit organizations.

Call the Gleaners at 707-367-7391 for more information and to join.



