

Willits Weekly

EST. 2013



A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

Donations Accepted Edition No. 357

Thursday, June 4, 2020

Council delays vote on COVID enforcement ordinance

Forrest Glyer
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

At their May 27 meeting last week, the Willits City Council decided to hold off on voting for an urgency ordinance which would have put in place administrative penalties for those in Willits who violate county health orders pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The decision came after councilmembers Greta Kanne and Saprana Rodriguez both indicated

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

Measure B committee seeks info from mental health experts

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

The Measure B Mental Health Act Citizens' Oversight Committee spent a bit more than half of its time at its May 27 meeting chasing an elusive phantom, which, when it was finally caught, proved to be a repeat of a motion which it had already approved three months ago.

This time the motion – to ask experts for information about service gaps in local mental health services – was approved 10-0, with one abstention.

The topic of discussion was broached by committee Chair Donna Moschetti,

Read the rest of **Measure B**
Over on Page 11

Bypass closed for 6 hours Tuesday

The Willits bypass was closed on both ends Tuesday for about six hours after a 7:20 am major injury accident at the south end. A concrete truck hit by another driver, who was arrested on charges of driving under the influence, was tipped over and spilled some of its load of cement.

Traffic was routed through Willits on the old Highway 101.

According to a press release from the California Highway Patrol, Ukiah Office, on May 2, around 7:20 am, a red Honda Civic driven by Brenton Michels, 32, of Kennewick, Washington, was traveling

Read the rest of **Bypass**
Over on Page 10



Photos by Maureen Moore



For the Seniors

Willits celebrates seniors downtown, WUSD gears up for Friday events

At top: Willits Unified's Maintenance Department crew, including from left: Bob Luge, Carl Luge, Terry McEntee, director, and Ted Frost, work to get the Class of 2020 backdrop ready for Friday's ceremony. At left, from top: Tools of the trade, zip ties and clippers make installation easy! The two Wolverine panels are placed at the top of the bleachers. Banners for each graduate photographed earlier this year hang on the lampposts in downtown Willits. Prints of Willits graduates also hang in the windows at J.D. Redhouse and The Book Juggler, helping Main Street celebrate the seniors.

In true 2020 fashion, things continue to be different than last year, and the graduation ceremony of the Willits Unified School District's Class of 2020 is no different. Graduation will be held starting at 6:30 pm on Friday, June 5 (instead of the typical Thursday event) and will feature a drive-through ceremony around the track at Maize Field.

Grads will pull through the gate and have their accomplishments announced while they ride in the back of a truck with a small number of immediate family members in the cab. A quick photo of the grad in front of the 2020 backdrop will follow, and grads will then park along the track edge.

Once all grads come through, and "Pomp and Circumstance" is performed (with no live audience or attendees), the grads will do a procession through town to allow family, friends and supporters a chance to honk and wave. The processional route is mapped out below. The public is welcome to cheer on grads during the procession, but no one will be allowed on the grounds at the time of the ceremony at the school.

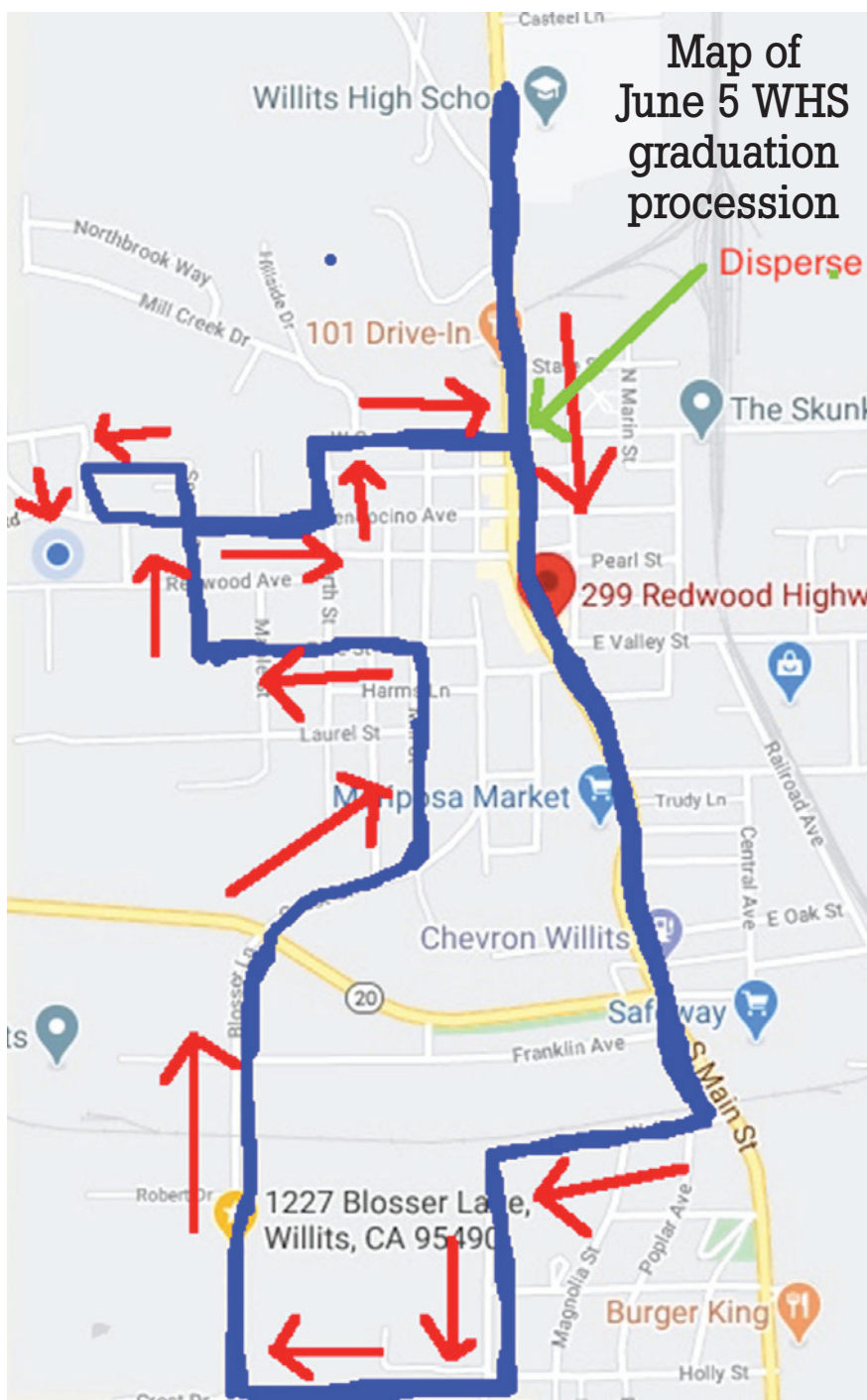
The route will start at Willits High School, head south down Main Street, hang a right onto Walnut Street, then a left onto Locust Street, as they drive by Baechtel Grove Middle School. A right turn onto Della Avenue comes next, then a right to head onto Blosser Lane and pass by the elementary school.

The group will then cross Highway 20 and then turn left to head up and over Mill Street. Another left will happen onto Pine Street, and then a right onto Spruce Street. Spruce Street will bring the group to Brookside School, where they will travel through the parking lot, exiting left onto Brookside Drive and then left again to get back to West Mendocino Avenue.

A final jog will have the group turn left onto North Street and finally, right onto West Commercial. The group will then disperse at the Commercial and Main Street intersection.

Please, respect social distancing and Public Health requirements while watching the group travel through town.

A livestream of the events at the school will be available on YouTube. The link will be posted to the district's page just prior to 6:30 pm on Friday: www.WillitsUnified.com.



County reports 3 more COVID cases

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

As of Wednesday evening's update, Mendocino County Public Health reported three more confirmed COVID-19 cases, making the county total 33 confirmed cases. Of that total, 17 people are recovered, 15 people are in isolation, and one is in the hospital. One case is attributable to community spread.

There was no additional information available about the three new cases.

During a press conference held on May 29, Interim Public Health Officer

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

Motel vouchers for homeless extended a month

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

A motel voucher program for homeless people coordinated by the Mendocino County Department of Social Services and supported by the federal government will be extended for one month, according to Megan Van Saant, who coordinates the program for the county Health & Human Services Agency.

Van Saant said the Federal Emergency Management Agency told the State of California on Monday, June 1 that the program would be extended through the end of June.

In the county, the
Read the rest of **Vouchers**
Over on Page 10

Willits man arrested for social media threats to kill police officers

Submitted by the Willits Police Department

On June 2, at approximately 10 am, the Willits Police Department was made aware of threats made on social media by a Willits resident to "Kill every cop you see ... they desire to die!!!"

The WPD conducted a subsequent investigation and determined that Noel Wickstrom, 52, of Willits had made several threats on social media expressing his desire to kill police officers.

Read the rest of **Threats**
Over on Page 10

Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

9x9 grid for Sudoku puzzle.



HOW TO SUDOKU

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

FOOD SERVICE WORD SEARCH

Word search grid containing food service related terms.

Word search grid containing food service related terms.

10x10 grid for crossword puzzle.

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Swiss shoe company
...
50. Heavy cavalry sword

- 55. Partner to pain
...
64. Cheek

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Indicates a certain time (abbr.)
...
19. Exhausts

- 23. ___-bo: exercise system
...
58. Criticize

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE LOG

May 25 to May 31

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 180 incidents in this seven-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

May 25
7:38 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

9:57 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the 100 block of Margie Drive and issued a warning.

12:22 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 1100 block of Magnolia Avenue.

12:24 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Railroad Avenue and East San Francisco Avenue.

5:36 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

6:18 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of South Main Street.

8:20 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

9:51 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

10:18 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of East San Francisco Avenue.

May 26

4:46 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the 1600 block of South Main Street.

9:52 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal dumping in the 300 block of North Street.

10:44 am: Officers responded to report of unwanted subjects in the 300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

1:44 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

5:33 pm: Officers responded to a report of harassment near the intersection of Poplar Avenue and Hazel Street.

10:16 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

10:46 pm: TRUEBA, Ryan Elliot (32) of Ukiah was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 602.1 PC (Trespassing – obstructing a public business establishment).

10:57 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

11:11 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Alder Court.

11:40 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

May 27

12:06 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

7:47 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

11:32 am: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

12:30 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of East San Francisco Avenue.

12:38 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 300 block of South Main Street.

1:22 pm: STEITZ, Sean Rowland (60) of Willits was contacted in the 1700 block of South Main Street following a pursuit. He was arrested pursuant to 20002 VC (Hit and Run), on felony charges of evading an officer and reckless driving, and on misdemeanor charges of driving under the influence of alcohol.

6:06 pm: Officers responded to a report of threats in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

7:19 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

7:49 pm: Officers responded to a report of harassment in the 300 block of Creekside Drive.

9:59 pm: Officers responded to a report of harassment in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

11:18 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of Northbrook Way.

May 28

8:46 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of East Commercial Street.

2:01 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of Brookside Drive.

5:07 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of West Valley Street.

8:28 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

10:44 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the 1600 block of South Main Street.

May 29

11:43 am: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation near the intersection of Pine Street and School Street.

12:49 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

12:49 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 300 block of South Main Street.

2:01 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

4:15 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of School Street.

4:37 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

5:16 pm: Officers responded to a report of threats in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

5:43 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

9:10 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

10:33 pm: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

May 30

12:39 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of School Street.

9:27 am: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 1700 block of Elm Lane.

7:09 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of East Oak Avenue.

7:47 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 21000 block of Baechtel Road.

9:08 pm: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 400 block of Coast Street.

May 31

5:35 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

8:36 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 1700 block of Elm Lane.

2:04 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

2:08 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

3:24 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

5:08 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of North Street.

7:12 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of East Valley Street and Humboldt Street.

8:33 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of Creekside Drive.

10:26 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 800 block of South Main Street.

10:42 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of North Street and Pine Street.



Above, left: Saprina Rodriguez, owner of Imagination Station Child Care Center in Willits, is loading her car with Willits Unified School District lunches to be delivered to families. Above, right: A class of six children poses with teacher Juan Salinas, right, and Imagination Station Child Care Center owner Saprina Rodriguez, left.



Photos by Ree Slocum

Imagination Station
Willits child care center has remained open for the duration, adapting to changing COVID regulations

When the first shelter-in-place orders appeared in March, there was a statewide scramble in all corners of the population to meet the requirements. It was a confusing and scary time for all, including parents who worked essential jobs and needed child care. Child care facilities had to make hard decisions whether to remain open or to close given the regulations.

According to Jamie Castaldo, resource and referral manager at North Coast Opportunities, there are only three licensed child care centers currently open in the county: one each in Ukiah, Fort Bragg and Willits. There are other licensed or private child care facilities, but they haven't reported being open at this time.

For the Third District, Castaldo reported that there are centers or facilities that are currently closed in the following towns: Leggett, one center; Laytonville, two centers; Covelo, two centers; Willits, six centers – with Imagination Station Child Care Center the only one that is and has been open.

The new orders from the Mendocino County Public Health officer states that there can be 12 children per "Social Bubble" with a teacher when the facilities do reopen. There is a list of other protocols they need to follow. According to the orders: "Social Bubble means a stable group of 12 individuals who form either a household support unit, a child care unit, or a children's extra-curricular activity unit for the purposes of engaging in those activities allowed under this order."

Willits City Council member and owner of Imagination Station Saprina Rodriguez, was able to keep the child care center open since the beginning of the shelter-in-place orders.

Rodriguez knew what was coming by Friday, March 14 before the first orders were announced that Monday, and started reducing the center's enrollment over the weekend. "I didn't want to be in a panic Sunday night," she said, "So I made the decision on Friday to go ahead and reduce our enrollment so I wouldn't have a last-minute crisis on Sunday."

The center usually serves about 150 families, and their daily attendance



Photo courtesy of Saprina Rodriguez

Above, top: Protocols have changed at the center. Parents drop their children at a check-in table and then leave while teachers check the students in and help them wash their hands. Above left: Children clean some of their favorite shared toys outside on a warm day. Above, right: Rodriguez is excited about the UPS package delivery of her favorite hand sanitizer.

Advertisement for El Mexicano restaurant and Carstar Yokum's Body Shop.



At left: The Willits Garden Club and volunteers practice social distancing.

Above: Starts, including lettuce, strawberries and squash, are ready to be planted.

Below: Lucy Kramer of the NCO Gardens Project and Shannon Furr of the Willits Garden Club show off the thriving greenhouse at the revitalized garden at the senior center.

Below: Cory helps remove sod. At bottom, left: The legumes are starting to grow well at the Willits Senior Center garden. At bottom, right: The back garden plots at the garden.

Photos by Mathew Caine



Public Garden Plot

Weeds pulled and vegetables planted as Harrah Senior Center garden is put back to work, with much of the produce going to Meals on Wheels and food bank

The Harrah Senior Center garden seemed destined to belong to the weeds. It was once a flourishing oasis of fresh organic vegetables and fruits. Earlier this year, Senior Center Director Richard Baker contacted Lucy Kramer, overseer of the NCO Gardens Project, a growing network of 56 community and school gardens, to see if she could help revitalize the space.

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
mathew@willitsweekly.com

"That's when we first had the vision," explained Kramer, "of it becoming a community garden. I did a lot of coordinating with the senior center to make sure that the board was excited about the idea. When the pandemic hit, I wasn't allowed in my office anymore and this project fell off my radar in the midst of other pandemic response work."

Baker thought that the garden, due to the circumstances of the pandemic, was not going to be revived. He could not contact Kramer, as she was working from home at the time and very busy dealing with the added difficulties of the COVID-19, as was he with the expanded Meals on Wheels program.

"Then I received a call from Shannon Furr with the [Willits] Garden Club," Baker explained. "She asked if they could come and do a couple rows. I agreed. Then a couple of our Meals on Wheels drivers, Tom Bodell and Bryan Hartke, asked if they could get a couple spots in the back. It just kind of evolved."

"This place was packed with weeds," he continued. "The Garden Club came out and completely weeded this whole area. Lucy has arranged for us to have a drip irrigation system, donated by DripWorks. There were broken faucets that had to be fixed. Everybody is doing a great job. It is becoming a self-sustaining project."

Eventually, Kramer "received a delightful message that Shannon Furr had taken the helm of this project," she said, "and had convinced all these people to join the garden. Since then I've been working with her to support this garden which will support the seniors."

"We got a donation of wine barrels," continued Kramer. "My team and I worked together to cut the barrels in half. We replaced the rings to maintain structural integrity and drilled some holes for drainage, and I brought them with us today. We're going to install them in the garden because half wine barrels are a good way to make a garden more accessible to people of all mobility levels. They're raised and are easier for people who might be in wheelchairs to work with."

The people who will be participating in the community garden agree to donate half of what they produce to the senior center for use in the kitchen and Meals on Wheels which brings food to shut-ins and seniors currently sheltering in place. The Willits Garden Club will additionally be donating the other half to the Willits Food Bank to aid in feeding the homeless who have been hit hard by the pandemic.

If someone is interested in a row in the garden and willing to donate half of the produce to the senior center, they can get in touch with Shannon Furr at 707-321-8760.

Growing a garden, although a lot of work, is an extremely rewarding pursuit. "The benefit of a community garden," said Kramer, "especially in these times, is that it provides fresh local produce that's culturally appropriate for all of the growers, and it brings people together with their neighbors for a safe social interaction."

"Not only does it provide food security," she added, "but food is medicine, and people have the opportunity to cultivate nutrient-dense produce in their gardens and be more resilient to virus as it supports our immune systems. People are also looking for an outlet for their anxieties right now. It feels good to get your hands in the soil and have a project that is empowering in the spirit of hope. When things feel so daunting right now, it is imperative for our mental health."



At left: A large kale plant towers above the vegetable starts. At bottom, left: Gloria McCartney, one-month Willits resident, helps to prepare the grounds. Below: Someone has to supervise. Below, right: Sally Pringle helps prepare the soil.

Photos by Mathew Caine



At left: Manager Kelli Gordon wipes down the counter frequently. At right, top: The store's required certification to open facilities is posted in the window. At right: Handmade masks are available for a dollar. Below: The "OPEN" sign in the Thrift Shop window finally glows bright orange once again.

Photos by Mathew Caine



Resuming Operations

Bargain hunters rejoice as Senior Center Thrift Shop reopens – with safety measures in place

After existing on life-support for the last couple months, the Harrah Senior Center is coming back, within the new regulations in the era of the COVID-19 pandemic. Having to close the Thrift Shop, the center's main source of income, created a shortage of funding for the organization.

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
mathew@willitsweekly.com

The Harrah Senior Center provides many necessary and useful services to the seniors of Willits, as well as others who are able to partake of their healthy, low-priced meals and social services. The Thrift Shop, when it is operating at full capacity, brings in approximately \$1,000 a day or \$26,000 per month. Grants, donations and memberships make up the remainder of the senior center's budget.

With Mendocino County Public Health's latest phase of the reopening, the senior center is able to resume operations at the store, within several reasonable restrictions. According to Director Richard Baker, the restrictions for the thrift shop were easily complied with. A certification was obtained and posted to the front door to proclaim that they meet all the requirements needed to operate within the latest rules. Baker is satisfied that they are doing everything to provide a safe and enjoyable environment for the customers, the staff, and the volunteers.

"You have to go online and do a questionnaire," explained Baker. "If you mark all the county's boxes, they'll give you a certificate to post saying you're meeting all the social distancing and hygiene protocols. We're really glad we got approved for that, and we want to reassure everyone that coming to the thrift store is safe."

We have all the social distancing, signage, sanitation measures in place." Each morning they perform employee and volunteer temperature checks, as well as asking the employees to do a COVID-19

assessment prior to coming to work. The employees are further required to complete training that deals with the proper wearing of masks, hand washing, and social-distancing protocols.

"For right now, we're allowing 12 customers in the store at one time," Baker explained. "We came up with that number based on our aisles; three people per aisle. We have four aisles left. We've taken all of our furniture and moved it inside the Sunshine Room, so we could widen the aisles in the store."

"We're also not allowing people to try on clothing," he continued. "Similar to what a lot of stores are doing, we have one-way aisles. We have Plexiglas shields up to protect the employees. We sanitize all the counters after every customer comes through. We require everybody who comes through to wear a mask and sanitize their hands when they come in. All of the volunteers in the back have materials to sanitize their individual work stations."

"We're doing everything we can," Baker assured. "We have a couple cashiers who are in the age group that is most vulnerable. We wanted to make sure that they felt really safe. I think we've gone above and beyond the requirements."

The store will be open Monday to Friday, 9 am to 4 pm, with special senior shopping hours, 8:30 to 10 am on Tuesday and Thursday. For those who've been asking, donations are also being received again, in the blue container in the back on Mondays and Thursdays, 9 am to 3 pm.

Store Manager Kelli Gordon is ecstatic to be working in the store again. "I'm loving being open again. I get to see all my old peeps. We're having a wonderful comeback. I feel very safe. We're all under control. We have masks, spray. People are being very cautious, patient, and are just glad to be back in the store."

The Senior Center, in addition to their daily drive-through lunches, Meals on Wheels, and monthly commodities distribution, will be helping to provide food boxes on the

Above, from left: A sanitizer station with directions for safe shopping is located at the front counter. Store Manager Kelli Gordon bags a purchase. Wider aisles allow plenty of room to accommodate 12 shoppers at a time. A message board outside the Thrift Shop lists friendly reminders. At left: Director Richard Baker stands at the entrance to the Thrift Shop while a man holding the door makes sure shoppers wear masks and use hand sanitizer. Below: Shoppers excitedly enter the newly reopened Harrah Senior Center Thrift Shop.

Photos by Mathew Caine



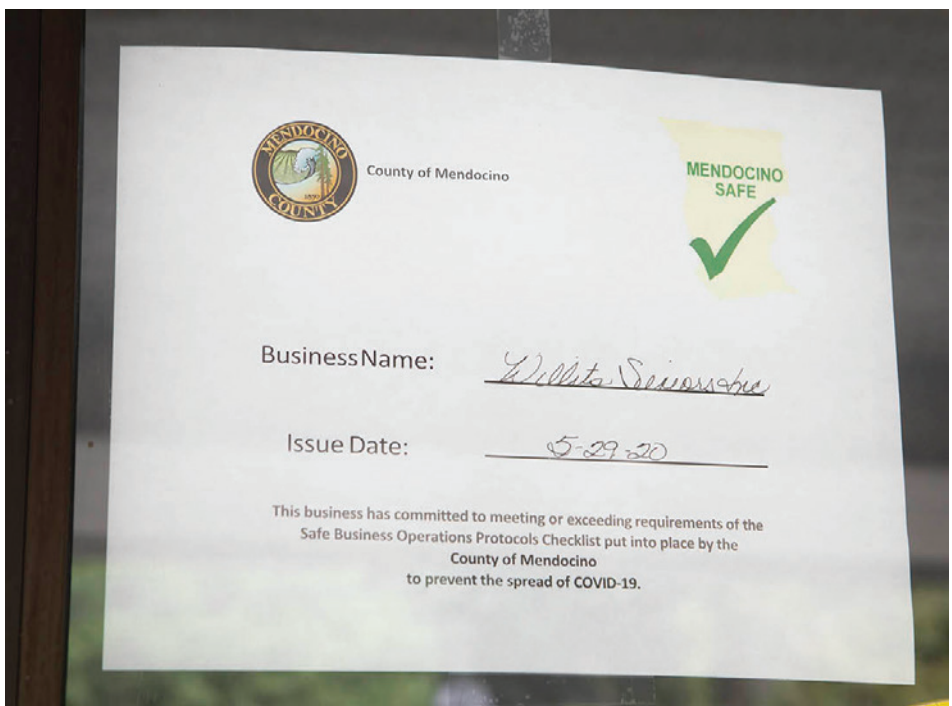
first Tuesday of each month, 9:30 to 11:30 am, at the parking lot in front of the ballfields on East Commercial Street next to the Mendocino County Museum and Roots of Motive Power.

The food is available to anyone and is free. The center is assisting the Redwood Food Bank in these efforts. The distribution will be a drive-through, so no one needs to leave their cars. People are encouraged to arrive early, as there may be many who wish to or need to take advantage of the service.

The Senior Center is currently in the midst of its annual membership drive, which "generates around \$11,000 per year for us," said Baker. "A lot of people send us a little extra every time they send their membership checks in. It's \$30 for a single membership, \$25 if they get their newsletter through email, \$50 for a couple. Most of the time people don't realize all of the services we provide here until they find a need."

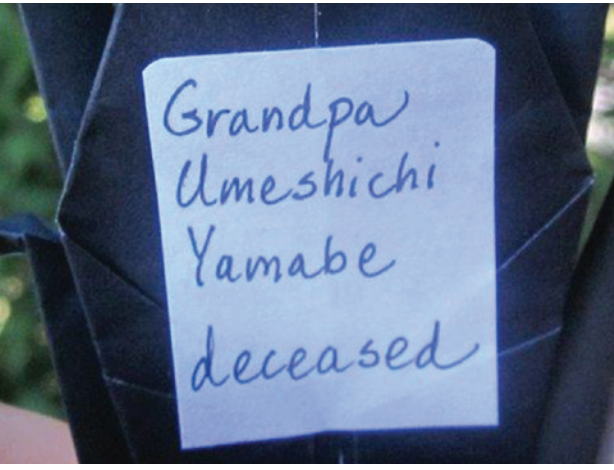
On its opening day, the Senior Center Thrift Shop brought in over \$2,300 for the center. It will probably not be that high every day, but it was an auspicious opening.

"We're pretty excited for it to be open, obviously. We're here early," said customer Mickey DuCharme, as she waited outside the store in her car for the opening. "We can't wait to get in. We missed it a lot. We're grateful that it's reopening. A lot of people have been cleaning their homes and bringing stuff out, so we're excited to see what new things they have in here."



Below: Two hundred origami peace cranes, or "tsuru," have been folded by people in Round Valley and then sent to the White House, along with the demand for human rights and dignity for asylum seekers and all immigrants – 28 tsuru have the names of incarcerated family members in one of the folds.

At right: The name of an incarcerated man is represented on one of the origami peace cranes, or "tsuru."



Round Valley sends 200 origami peace cranes to White House

Submitted by Sandra Wake

People in Round Valley have folded 200 origami peace cranes, or "tsuru," to send to the White House, along with a demand for human rights and dignity for asylum seekers and all immigrants.

Over the past two years, Round Valley children and adults have folded tsuru during events held at the Round Valley Public Library, and at the Round Valley Indian Health Center Fair. Tsuru were saved with the general idea of someday creating a meaningful piece of art for the community. Now these 200 tsuru will join thousands more in a nationwide action.

All across the United States, Japanese Americans are saying: "Stop repeating history! Never again is now!" Japanese Americans remember well President Roosevelt's 1942 Executive Order 9066, which forcibly removed people of Japanese descent from the West Coast and held them in inland internment camps.

Today thousands of immigrant children and families are being held indefinitely in detention camps under deplorable conditions, including

lack of medical care.

"Tsuru for Solidarity" is a non-violent, direct-action project that stands on the moral authority of Japanese Americans, and is in solidarity with all communities being unjustly targeted today.

The goal of gathering 125,000 tsuru to represent the number of Japanese incarcerated in the U.S. and Latin America during World War II has been reached, and a new goal of an additional 400,000 represents the number of children and adults being held in immigration detention centers annually.

The specific demands that accompany the tsuru are:

- Close all immigrant detention camps
- Defund family detention and deportation
- Reunify children and their families
- Fund humanitarian aid and solutions

On June 6 and 7, people will gather in a "Tsuru Rising! Virtual Protest to Close the Camps," and take action to end immigrant detention. More information can be found at www.tsuruforsolidarity.org.

COLUMN | The Medicine Chest Garden

Second Annual Calendula Festival

The Mendocino County Herb Guild will present the 2nd Annual Calendula Festival, online, this Sunday, June 7, from 10 am to 6 pm. This daylong event of herbal education is free to everyone.

This year's festival will focus on information about ways that herbs can be helpful in these times we are in. Eight herbalists will each offer a 30-minute class followed by a 15-minute question/answer period when you can email in your questions.

There will also be an herbal marketplace between classes, showcasing locally made herbal products.

To attend the free online Calendula Festival, visit www.mendocinoherbguild.com, and look for the Festival link.

Here is the schedule:

10 to 11 am: "Community Empowered Health, Health Equity and Herbalism," with Jocelyn Boretta

11 am to 12 pm: "Growing Medicinal Herbs, The Hows and Whys, with a Focus on Echinacea," with Donna d'Terra

12 to 1 pm: "Stewardship of the Land," with Noble and Sierra Hayes and Kirt Rohlack

1 to 2 pm: "Health and Immunity in a Dangerous World," with Dr. Terri Turner

2 to 3 pm: "Jade Windscreen: Exploring the Immune System and Herbs to Strengthen It Through the Lens of Chinese Medicine," with Michelle J. Cummins, L.Ac.

3 to 4 pm: "Building Resilience with Nervines and Adaptogens," with Caitlin Wolf

4 to 5 pm: "Herbal Allies for Fire Recovery," with Anna Hope

5 to 6 pm: "Herbal Medicine Making: Infused Oils and Vinegars," with Yvonne Mayschack

This Sunday morning, make yourself a cup of herbal tea, get comfortable, and join us for this day of learning, sharing, and connecting with each other, the plants, and the herbal wisdom that has been passed down through the ages: Medicine that is good for us and for the Earth.

Donna d'Terra is an herbalist and herbal educator.

COBURN'S
CONSTRUCTION & CABINETRY INC.
CALIC #382108
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

Mendocino County
Herb Guild
Online
Calendula Festival
Sunday - June 7, 2020 | 10am-6pm
FREE Herbal Education & Vendors
Please join us:
www.MendocinoHerbGuild.com

CALENDULA FESTIVAL SCHEDULE
10am-10:10am: Claudia Wenning - *"Festival & Herb Guild Introduction"*
10:10am-11am: Jocelyn Boretta -
"Community Empowered Health, Health Equity and Herbalism"
11am-12pm: Donna d'Terra -
"Growing Medicinal Herbs: The Hows and Whys, With A Focus on Echinacea"
12pm-1pm: Noble Hayes, Sierra Hayes & Kirt Rohlack -
"Stewardship of the Land"
1pm-2pm: Dr. Terri Turner -
"Health & Immunity in a Dangerous World"
2pm-3pm: Michelle J. Cummins, L.Ac. -
"Jade Windscreen: Exploring the Immune System and Herbs to Strengthen It Through the Lens of Chinese Medicine"
3pm-4pm: Caitlin Wolf -
"Building Resilience with Nervines and Adaptogens"
4pm-5pm: Anna Hope -
"Herbal Allies for Fire Recovery"
5pm-5:45pm: Yvonne Mayschack -
"Herbal Medicine Making: Infused Oils and Vinegars"
5:45pm-6pm: Claudia Wenning - *"Festival Closing"*

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

Nicholas Casagrande, EA
855.240.6606
675 S Main St, Willits, CA 95490
105 W Clay St, Ukiah, CA 95482
nicholas@ncfinancialgroup.com
nicholas.casagrande@ceterafs.com**

NC Financial Group
EA #0010934 • CA DRE #01854336 • CA Insurance LIC #0H64896
Advisory services offered through Cetera Investment Advisers LLC. Securities offered through Cetera Financial Specialists LLC (doing insurance business in CA as CIGFS Insurance Agency). member FINRA/SIPC. Cetera is under separate ownership from any other named entity. *These services are not offered through Cetera Financial Specialists LLC **Investment email

Temporary Hours
Monday - Saturday
8am - 6pm
Sunday - Closed
Until Further Notice
Curbside pick up available

SPARETIME
-GARDEN CENTER-
208 E. San Francisco Ave, Willits, CA 95490 (707)459-6791

T and T TOWING
707-459-9116
277 N. Lenore Ave. WILLITS, CA
24-HOUR RADIO DISPATCHED TOWING

LEGAL NOTICES

WW268
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2020-F00253
The following person is doing business as Sage Healing, 10 Brookside Drive, Willits, CA 95490.
Registered owner: Cassie Lynn Mansfield, 10 Brookside Drive, Willits, CA 95490.
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A.
Statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on May 4, 2020.
/s/ Cassie Mansfield
Publication dates: 05/21, 05/28, 06/04, 06/11/2020

Willits Weekly can run your legal notices! Email us for cost and details: willitsweekly@gmail.com

WW269
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.
IN
City of Willits, County of Mendocino, State of California &
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

The rest of Letters | From Page 2

Brutal anachronism

To the Editor:

The Willits rodeo has been postponed, and may be canceled this year. This barbaric spectacle should never return. Rodeos cause animals to suffer merely for entertainment and profit. People who are insensitive to the fear and pain rodeos inflict defend them as a tradition, but one could also defend cockfights, bullfights, foot binding, and female genital mutilation as traditions. Here's some of what Peggy Larson, DVM, has to say about rodeos on the website of the Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association at www.hsvma.org/rodeos_inherent_cruelty_to_animals:

"During the course of my lifetime, I have been a farmer, a bareback rodeo bronc rider, a large animal veterinarian, a medical researcher, a meat inspector, a state veterinarian, and a prosecutor.... Based upon my extensive large animal experience, I have concluded that rodeo events are inherently cruel.

"The cruellest rodeo events are the roping events. In calf roping, baby calves are used. If they were not in the rodeo, these calves would still be with their mothers on pasture.... They are forced to run at speeds in excess of 25 miles per hour when roped. The reason they run at such high speeds is that they are tormented in the holding chute: their tails are twisted [and] ... rubbed back and forth over the steel chute bars.... They burst out of the chute at top speed only to be stopped short – or "clotheslined" – with a choking rope around the neck. They are often injured, and some are killed.

"It is also the case that rodeo calf ropers must spend a great deal of time practicing in order to become proficient. Calves sold to practice pens are roped over and over until they are injured or killed.

"As a pathologist and former meat inspector, I believe my colleagues when they report horrendous injuries to rodeo cattle."

A group called SHARK "Showing Animals Respect and Kindness" has done a lot of work investigating rodeo cruelty. Check out their videos here: <https://www.youtube.com/user/SHARKonlineorg/>. The Professional Cowboy Rodeo Association has humane rules. SHARK exposes their many deficiencies here: <http://www.sharkonline.org/index.php/prca-humane-rules>.

It's time to end this brutal anachronism.
Ron Elterman, Willits

WW270
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.

Sherwood Firewise meeting June 11

Submitted by Sherwood Firewise Communities

Please join the Sherwood Firewise Communities monthly meeting on June 11 at 6 pm for those who live along the Sherwood corridor. A lot of exciting events are happening in our area with funding that we have secured to improve our fire safety. And we will provide updates to the status of the latest emergency routes and other projects.

Due to the current social gathering restrictions, we are still holding our meetings online or by telephone. Contact info@sherwoodfirewise.org with questions!

To join the meeting using the Zoom platform, visit <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85625036304?pwd=dWVpYXpnSkwrQkQkbXRRZkdT3E5dz09>

Meeting ID: 856 2503 6304. Password: 918795.

To join by telephone (audio only or for audio while viewing meeting on computer without mic or speaker): Call 669-900-6833. Meeting ID: 856 2503 6304. Password: 918795.

If joining via Zoom or by telephone is not convenient for you, the meetings are recorded and can be viewed later on SFC's YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpXOE4mDidvmqX822izdOKA>

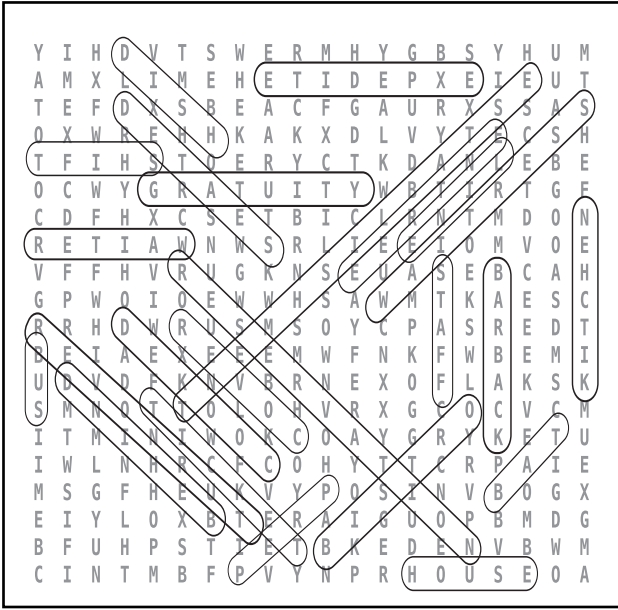
Willits Senior Center Lunch

Drive-Thru & Walk-Up Meals

Available 12 to 1 pm, outside the Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road; \$5 per meal, Monday through Friday.

Home Meal Delivery

Call 459-6826 the day before needed to schedule home meal delivery; \$5 per meal, Monday through Friday.



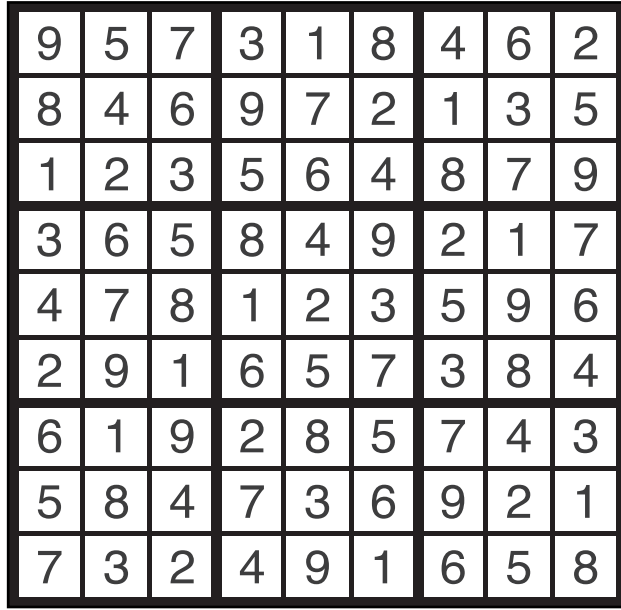
Delivered throughout Willits.

Thursday, June 4: Ground Beef Tacos

Friday, June 5: Chicken Parmesan

Monday, June 8: Ham & Cheese Hoagies

Tuesday, June 9: Chicken Breast with Broccoli & Hollandaise



CLASSIFIEDS

\$10 for 30 words for 2 weeks

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

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) 510-5895. See at "http://www.oakrvine.net/tip"

For Rent
Clean & Quiet, Large 2 Bdrm. 1 Bath, close to downtown area, Garbage & Water paid. Laundry room on site. N/P N/S. \$950.00 per mo. plus Security Deposit. Armo: 707-459-9601

Freezer Empty? We can help!
Due to health concerns in Mendocino County, John Ford Ranch will be taking meat box orders (not individual package 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 hamburger in 1 or 1.5 pound packages: \$150. Natural ranch-raised grass fed beef, no hormones or antibiotics. Call 459-5193 to arrange pick-up. Leave a message, and we'll call back.

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 and shudder at drugs. Totally organic, love gardening, no pets. Excellent references. Can pay a fair sum, or garden in part: 707-459-4975.

Stay Safe
I'll be back to help you with your Alterations and Sewing Needs when it is safe to do so
Barbara the Seamstress

Virtual Spiritual Exploration
To learn more about classes and topics that may interest you visit: <https://www.meetup.com/Lake-Mendocino-Counities-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.

The Fruit Group
Apricots \$33 lug, eating nectarines & peaches \$32 lug, June 11 & 18, from 8:30 to 10:30 am. Brenda 459-9335 or thefruitgroup95490@yahoo.com

Willits Food Bank open
Willits Community Services & Food Bank is still distributing food, following COVID-19 safety provisions, to 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 pm. "For those with room to plant surplus organic greens, carrots, squash, melons, beans, peas and more to share with the food bank, thank you!" Info: 459-3333; financial donations to WCS can be mailed to 229 E. San Francisco, Willits CA 95490.

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.

New Mini Storage Units in Willits
Reserve yours today!
707-459-4599
or 707-259-0159

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.gov. More info at: www.mendocinocounts.org

Ads are just \$10 for 30 words for 2 weeks!

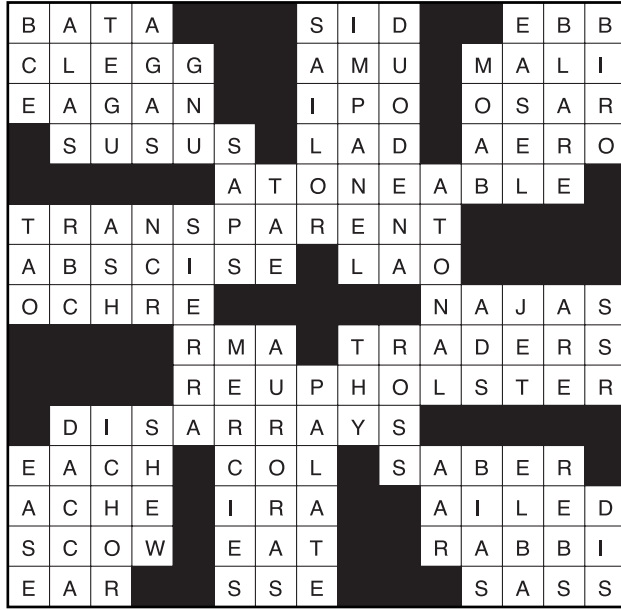


Wednesday, June 10: Salisbury Steak

Thursday, June 11: Pasta Carbonara

Friday, June 12: BBQ Spareribs

Transportation for seniors: Call 459-5556 to schedule. Pick up and drop off for grocery shopping, banking, doctors' appointments.



KZYZ fund drive June 4 to 7

Submitted by KZYZ Radio

Public radio station KZYZ's work keeping the Mendocino County community informed about the coronavirus pandemic has continued unabated since the outbreak of the virus. Daily updates from county officials and health professionals, on-air press conferences, interviews and call-in programs have all been part of the station's daily, unwavering campaign to keep listeners up to date about the latest scientific findings and ever-evolving health regulations.

The pandemic, and particularly the shelter in place and social distancing guidelines, have not left the station itself unscathed. KZYZ had to postpone its on-air membership drive, scheduled for March with a goal of \$100,000. The station's expenses, of course, remain undiminished, and listener support is more essential than ever.

In light of these factors, KZYZ will be holding a four-day Fund Drive from Thursday, June 4 through Sunday, June 7. For the most part, show hosts will be in the studio, with guests most often connecting via telephone or Zoom. So while the atmosphere may be a bit more subdued than during normal fund drives, listeners will still be able to enjoy the special enthusiasm that helping to support our countywide public radio station brings to its members and volunteers.

For the past several weeks, the station has been running a "silent fund drive," whereby each show host mentions the funding situation and asks for new memberships and/or donations. This has brought in approximately two-thirds of the funding needed to keep the station afloat during the coming six months, but that final amount is still sorely needed.

"The response from our listeners so far has been amazing," said KZYZ General Manager Marty Dublin. "The silent drive has been hugely successful, with hundreds of folks signing up for memberships or sending us special gifts to keep KZYZ going. That assistance is crucial, as we really want to focus our efforts and airtime on news and timely information on COVID-19 in our area, as well as providing entertainment for people who have been sheltering at home for months. We thank you, generous listeners, for this outpouring of support."

KZYZ can be found on air at 90.7 FM in Anderson Valley, 91.5 FM in Willits and Ukiah, and 88.1 FM on the coast. The station streams online at www.kzyz.org and has a smart phone app free for downloading.

For more information, please contact KZYZ General Manager Marty Durlin or Membership Coordinator Renee Wilson at 707-895-2324.

A message from MCSO on 'use of force' policies

Submitted by the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office

Following the recent issues which have occurred in our nation, we have received several calls regarding the stance of the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office regarding use of force. We first would like to thank all of the people who have reached out to us during these times. We truly appreciate these calls and conversations.

Currently the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office is working hard on training in various fields including use of force. Sheriff Tom Allman was able to procure a use of force simulator prior to his retirement. This tool will be employed for in-depth training of our personnel as well as deputy sheriffs and police officers from other agencies.

We are working to partner with other law enforcement chiefs to ensure all peace officers within the county receive the training which is needed to deliver the best work product we possibly can.

Senate Bill 978 requires law enforcement agencies to post on their website "all current standards, policies, practices, operating procedures, and education and training materials that would otherwise be available to the public" if a request was made pursuant to the California Public Records Act, located in Government Code §§ 6250 et seq.

To comply with this law, the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office has made available the documents at the below provided link, unless the material falls within an applicable exemption under the Public Records Act.

Mendocino County Sheriff's Office SB 978 materials: <https://www.mendocinosheriff.com/publications/sb-978-materials/>

To open only Chapter 3 of the .pdf, with the "Use of Force" policies, without starting at the page with the full Senate Bill 978 materials, you can use this link: <http://www.mendocinosheriff.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Chapter3-pg59-291.pdf>

Douglas Lyons Stansberry

Douglas Lyons Stansberry, son of John A. (Jack) and Margery Stansberry, was born on Sept. 15, 1941 and passed away on Mar. 31, 2020 in Brookings, Oregon.

Doug was born in Petaluma, but grew up in Willits, Calif. Where he and his older sister Elsie were raised by their grandparents. As a teenager he participated in rodeo and horsemanship events. He attended Willits Union High School and was a member of the Willits Junior Horsemen. As an adult he worked in the trucking industry all of his life until he retired, having jobs hauling logs, lumber and longhaul freight.

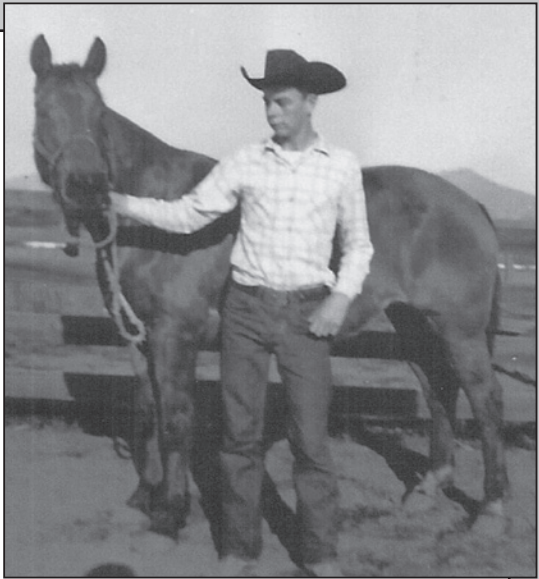
He married Patricia Faye Brummel/Dixon and had five children: Clint, Sally, Michelle, Christina and Robert.

He is survived by his children and his sisters Elsie Smith of Hayfork, CA and Diane Edmisten of Santa Fe, NM; also by his second wife Donna Stansberry of Longview, WA and his uncle Robert Stansberry of Honeydew, CA. He has numerous grandchildren, many cousins, nieces and a nephew.

He was predeceased by his parents Jack and Margery, his grandparents Mr. and Mrs. John Stansberry of Honeydew, CA and Mr. and Mrs. John A. Bondeson of Willits, CA, his uncle Lee (Bud) Stansberry of Harris, CA, his aunt Betty Walsh of San Francisco, his wife Patricia and sister Leah Jean.

We will miss his charm and good natured joking.

Internment and graveside services will be held at 1 p.m. on Aug. 7, 2020 in the Bullcreek Pioneer Cemetery, Bullcreek, CA.



Tom Wake Plumbing

Serving in Mendocino and Lake Counties

Full Service Residential, Commercial

- Faucets & Tubs
- Toilets
- Garbage Disposals
- Pipe Repairs
- Gas Lines
- Fixture Replacement

25 YEARS EXPERIENCE

For Fast Service Call 707-391-4343

Lic: #884811

Marc Komer

Legal Document Assistant

An Affordable Non-Attorney Service


Divorce, Living Trusts, Evictions, Probate, Incorporation, Name Change, etc.

www.mendolegaldocs.com

459-2775


104 W. Mendocino, Willits

I am not an attorney, and can only provide self-help services at your specific direction.



Willits Weekly

We're online and in print



The rest of Threats | From Page 1

At approximately 11:55 am, WPD officers responded to Wickstrom's residence and conducted a follow-up investigation and interviewed him.

Wickstrom admitted to posting the social media threats directed at killing police officers. He was arrested without incident.

Once in custody, Wickstrom continued to make additional in-person verbal threats expressing his desire to kill the arresting officers.

Wickstrom was transported and booked into county jail for

on felony charges of criminal threats and misdemeanor charges of inciting a riot. He received a bail enhancement of \$50,000.

The Willits Police Department wishes to thank concerned community members for making them aware of the social media threats. It is our goal to address all public safety threats and keep the Willits community safe.

Editor's Note: Mendocino County Jail booking records show that Wickstrom was released on bail at 11:22 am on June 3.

Noel Wickstrom of Willits.

The rest of Bypass | From Page 1

in the southbound land of Highway 101 at 65 mph.

A gray Subaru Legacy driven by David Sundberg, 58, of Weott, was traveling behind the Honda at a similar speed. A gray Peterbilt concrete truck driven by Wyatt Phillips, 25 of Ukiah, was traveling in the northbound lane of US-101, at 55 mph.

"For an unknown reason," the press release continues, "the Honda drifted over the solid double-yellow lines and into the [northbound] traffic lane, where the front end of the Honda collided with the front end of the Peterbilt. The Honda was deflected by the force of impact and came to rest blocking the [southbound] traffic lane.

"The Peterbilt rolled on to its right side and came to rest blocking the [southbound] traffic lane and partially spilling its load of concrete. A tire from the left side of the Peterbilt was separated from the vehicle by the force of impact and collided with the left side of the Subaru, which was then parked on the west shoulder of the roadway." Sundberg, the Subaru driver, was not injured.

Michels was subsequently airlifted by Reach helicopter to Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital, then UC Davis in Sacramento with major injuries. Michels was also arrested for suspicion of DUI by the California Highway Patrol.

The right front passenger of the Honda, Robert James, 25, of Covelo, experienced moderate injuries, as did Phillips, the concrete truck driver. James and Phillips were transported to Howard Memorial Hospital.

Assisting agencies included Willits Police Department, Little Lake Fire, Medstar Ambulance, Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, CalFire, Brooktrails Fire, and Caltrans.

During the time the bypass was closed, from 7:48 am to 1:53 pm, the vehicles involved in the accident were removed, debris was cleared, and physical evidence examined.

This report was based on a press release from the California Highway Patrol, Ukiah Office.

The rest of Vouchers | From Page 1

program has provided motel housing for 239 people since mid-March, when the COVID-19 pandemic became an issue in California and in Mendocino County.

Van Saant said that currently the program is housing 178 adults and 22 children, for a total of 200 people.

The past couple of weeks have been "very stressful" for herself and other staff people working on the program, Van Saant said, as FEMA wasn't telling the state whether it was going to extend the program or not. Originally, the program was slated to expire on May 31.

"They were keeping their cards very close to their chest," Van Saant said. "In fact, we had no idea what they were going to do, and we had no idea what we were going to do. People who we were housing kept asking us what they should be planning on doing, and we had nothing to tell them. It was very stressful.

"So now we are going to continue to operate the program on the assumption that it is going to end on June 30," Van Saant said.

After that, according to Van Saant, the county staff doesn't know what it will do. "FEMA pays 75 percent of the cost for the motel program. We wouldn't be able to do this if it wasn't for FEMA. We couldn't afford to do it on our own."

Deputy CEO Darcie Antle told Willits Weekly the program has cost a total of \$540,000 from mid-March through May 31. Antle added that although FEMA says that it will pay 75 percent of that total, what they end up paying isn't always 75 percent – sometimes it's less.

"We give them what we think are realistic and reasonable numbers, and they go through it,

and sometimes they determine that the numbers that we have given them aren't realistic and reasonable. That's their prerogative," Antle said.

Van Saant said one positive thing coming out of the pandemic is that the county received enough money from the state to be able to fund a homeless transportation program. This program can provide money to homeless people who have become convinced that they need to go somewhere else. Depending on where that somewhere else is, the county can provide funding to make the trip possible.

Another positive aspect is that the county has been able to find housing solutions for 21 homeless individuals. Seven people have secured permanent housing, and 14 people have moved into either transitional housing or residential treatment. "That's about 10 percent of our total," Van Saant said. "That's not bad."

Christopher Coffey, a homeless musician who specializes in the blues, has been staying at the Western Village Inn in Willits and became alarmed when it appeared that the program was over and he was going to have to go back to the street. Coffey said that homeless people want to comply with the shelter-in-place orders but can't because they don't have a place to stay.

"There are 28 or 30 of us out here in the bushes, and we're looking for a place to stay but the cops keep making us move," Coffey said. "The homeless people need a place where they can shelter in place."

Asked if he had any quote that he wanted to appear in the newspaper, Coffey thought for a moment and said, "How come the county or the state hasn't figured out a place for me to stay?"

When asked where he was currently staying, Coffey said that he was still at the Western Village Inn. "I was supposed to be out because the program was over, but then Manzanita Services got me three more days," he said.

The rest of Measure B | From Page 1

who wanted to solidify the committee's policy with regard to funding mental health services.

Measure B, which was approved by voters in November 2017, specifies that revenues from the sales tax are to be used in two ways. According to the measure, a maximum of 75 percent of the proceeds from the tax collected over the first five years "may be used for facilities" to house mental health services, "with not less than 25 percent dedicated to services and treatment."

After the first five years, Measure B says, "100 percent of all revenue ... shall be used for ongoing operations, services and treatment."

The committee has successfully designated what kind of facilities it thinks the county needs – a psychiatric health facility, a crisis residential treatment facility, and a crisis stabilization unit – but it has so far failed to identify what kind of mental health services the county ought to provide.

In initiating that discussion, Moschetti may have been responding to an item that was brought up at the last meeting of the committee. County CEO Carmel Angelo proposed that the committee should recommend to the board of supervisors that the county should give as much as a million dollars of Measure B funds to the Community Foundation of Mendocino County, with the direction that that organization provide funding to local organizations who are providing mental health services. That proposal was approved on a 7-4 vote.

However, that proposal died when the Community Foundation declined to accept the funds from Mendocino County for that purpose.

"Our board did decide that we would decline that offer," said Community Foundation Executive Director Megan Barber Allende. "Mainly because it was highly political, and we don't engage in political activity. It's not something that we normally do."

"We talked about it," Allende added. "We decided it wasn't a good fit. So we passed on it. I mean, the foundation is already doing a lot, with this COVID thing. We are dealing with individuals, with companies, with small businesses. On top of that we are dealing with non-profits. We just don't have the capacity to do any more."

"I think, if this proposal comes to the board of supervisors, and the board of supervisors approves it, it's going to have to be somebody else that does it," Allende said. "Our plate is full. Our plate is more than full."

Moschetti began discussion of the item at the May 27 meeting when she said, "My basic goal is to establish as a committee our criteria for the disbursement of Measure B treatment and services funds, within the guidelines of the measure, and how to move forward efficiently and consistently."

Committee members began asking what were the gaps in service that the committee could address by funding. The committee asked Behavioral Health Advisory Board representative Meeka Ferretta to answer that question. Ferretta said that in recent months her committee has had a hard time meeting due to COVID-19 and technological limitations of some of its members.

Director of Behavioral Health Jenine Miller suggested one potential gap that could be remedied is that there is no mental health "after-care" for folks with private insurance, who have been in a psychological hospital and have been released. Miller said that "after-care" for folks on MediCal who have had that experience was good, but for people with private insurance, it often was cursory or sometimes didn't happen at all.

Fifth District representative Ross Liberty urged the committee to "jump on it" without further discussion. "Other than the training center," he said, "what can we point to and say, what have we done for Mendocino County mental health today? What have we done? We've taken in a lot of money. But we haven't done anything, and I just can't do this anymore. I am going to be a client pretty soon. I can't keep just pounding my head against this wall and not getting anything done."

Second District representative Shannon Riley said she disagreed with Liberty. "While I have the utmost respect for the mental health expertise on our committee, and I don't disagree with the recommendation at hand here, I do disagree with the piecemeal approach to spending this money. I've seen how this

works in the homeless arena. We could fill gaps and plug holes all day long and not build a better system – and that's what I believe this money is intended to do."

Riley said she believed the committee needed a budget for the upcoming fiscal year and that it also needed a strategic plan. She said that, as part of the budget, the committee could set aside money that could be spent on small, strategic, mental health projects.

"Maybe as a committee, we decide that we have a budgetary line item that is just discretionary money, and we create a program that can receive these requests. But right now, that's not in our budget. That's not in the Kemper plan.... In the absence of building a better system, we're just filling gaps. And we could do that all day long," Riley said.

Sheriff's Office representative, former Mendocino County Sheriff Tom Allman, attempted to provide a reality check. "We as a committee are not mental health experts. People should be going to the Behavioral Health Board or to NAMI [National Alliance on Mental Illness] and to the county Department of Mental Health, and then those people should be coming to Measure B, saying: 'We're reviewed it. We've looked at it.' It's something that we think would work: let's give it a try."

"But I'm a cop," Allman continued. "Lloyd's an accountant. I don't think you would want us to judge on whether or not something is going to be the best mental health avenue in expenditure of money. We are fiduciarily responsible to the voters. That's what our job is.... I'm counting on the mental health experts coming to us and saying, 'Yes, this is something we believe in and we'd like to give it a try.'"

After nearly an hour of discussion, Moschetti asked for a motion. When no one would give one, she made the motion herself. After speaking for a minute or so, she asked Measure B Project Manager Alyson Bailey to read the motion back.

Bailey rendered the motion as: "This committee allows mental health experts to research and return with information to the committee about service gaps for Mendocino mental health services."

At this point, Allman pointed out that the motion was redundant.

"Madame Chair, we don't need a motion on that. I mean, we have welcomed people to bring their ideas to us from the commencement of our committee. Now, if you want the committee to say, yes, that is still what our idea is, that's one thing."

Moschetti said she did want that, and Allman seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and it was approved 10-0, with one person, Mendocino County CEO Carmel Angelo, abstaining, because she came late to the meeting and did not hear the full discussion.

Online archives of old agendas of the Measure B Committee state that a similar motion was brought before the committee on February 26, 2020. Agenda item 3L for that meeting states, "Discussion and possible action regarding requesting the Behavioral Health Advisory Board to provide recommendations and early intervention service gaps and possible programs that could be funded through Measure B." That motion was approved unanimously.

In addition to approving a motion that essentially mirrored a motion had been unanimously approved three months ago, the committee heard a report by Project Manager Bailey. Bailey said she is nearly done with the operational feasibility study which the board of supervisors requested in December. She said she would likely be finished with the study in two weeks.

The committee also discussed its budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Riley complained that she had no information upon which to begin to construct a budget; her comment was echoed by Liberty. Allman said there was some information and that the committee should start where it could. County Auditor Lloyd Weer said it would be permissible to submit a rough estimate to the board of supervisors and to refine the numbers later.

By direction from the chair, Bailey and Weer were directed to submit a budget to the county executive office on the day following the meeting (May 28), to provide a copy of that to committee members for their review, and with the committee to be prepared to adjust the budget at a subsequent meeting of the committee.

The rest of Enforcement | From Page 1

they were leaning against voting for the ordinance if a vote was held the night of the meeting.

Since it was an "urgency" ordinance, it would have required the approval of four out of five council members to go into effect.

The council asked to put the ordinance back on the agenda for their next meeting, June 10, and both Rodriguez and Kanne did not rule out voting in favor of it at that time.

Kanne said she wanted more time to think on the matter, and to get more public input.

"If we're all in agreement about giving our police department latitude to educate rather than penalize, I wonder why we're rushing an ordinance to give us the opportunity to penalize," she said. "Especially in light of the fact that the situation is so rapidly evolving."

"I feel like if I had two more weeks to think about this and talk about it with the community I would have a stronger sense of what the right call is," she added. "I'm really struggling with this one."

Rodriguez said she felt the city should do more to get information out to the public about what the frequently changing COVID-19 related rules are – especially for people who aren't active on social media and the internet – before approving penalties.

"If we're putting something like this in place, I think that [the county and the city] should distribute something to let people know that the condition of your business license has changed," she said. "I know it's a little challenging because it's always evolving."

"I feel like at this time I couldn't support this because I don't feel like we've done our part as a city to educate or to reach out," she added. "If I was reassured that we had done our due diligence to educate then I would feel better about supporting something."

As explained by City Attorney Jim Lance, the draft of the urgency ordinance that the council was considering was based on ordinances already passed in previous weeks by the County of Mendocino and the City of Fort Bragg, though there were some alterations.

One change was that in addition to the fines the county and Fort Bragg listed for "commercial activity" and "non-commercial activity" violations, the City of Willits draft also separated penalties for non-compliant "mass gatherings" into its own category.

City Manager Stephanie Garrabrant-Sierra explained that – at the time of the meeting – the county and state generally considered 12 or more people a non-compliant "mass gathering," though up to 100 people could potentially attend a church service or a protest if proper social distancing protocols could be met.

In the current city draft of the ordinance (which can be found at www.cityofwillits.org), non-commercial activity penalties would range from \$25 to \$75 (increasing with each subsequent offense), commercial activity penalties would range from \$100 to \$1,000, and non-compliant mass gatherings could have fines as high as \$10,000.

City Code Enforcement Officer Davey Bowles explained that the standard practice for the city's building department is to first communicate and issue warnings to local businesses and other residents, so as to avoid fines and citations.

"We basically give them the option to comply by themselves," he said. "and it usually comes with some sort of time constraint depending on the issue. But usually people self-correct and that's what we strive to do. And then the only reason that you have the citation is there are some people who choose not to do what needs to be done, and to not comply with our code."

Lance pointed out there is a provision in the ordinance where enforcement officials can first issue a "notice of violation" rather than a monetary citation.

At the May 13 council meeting, Willits Chief of Police Gregory Allen said the Willits Police Department was also using an approach based on education and communication with

the community for COVID-19 rules.

Councilmember Madge Strong said she very much supports the education-first strategy, but feels the city shouldn't rule out stricter enforcement should the need arise, such as if there is a sudden surge in local COVID-19 cases.

"So I think having this tool is important," she said of the ordinance.

Mayor Gerry Gonzalez also spoke in support of the ordinance, but both he and Strong were agreeable to delaying the vote.

Lance said the council could schedule a special meeting before their next official council meeting if circumstances changed that led to the desire to pass the ordinance more quickly.

In her city manager report, Garrabrant-Sierra responded to Rodriguez's request for the city to do more to distribute information about the shifting COVID-19 rules.

She said that city staff didn't really have enough time or resources to do much more than what they're already doing, which was in line with what other districts in the area are doing.

"We have over 1,300 business licenses in the city of Willits," she said, "and getting personal notice as to the change of the order is not something any city does. And it's not something that we would have the capacity to do."

In addition, she said that something like a mass mailing wouldn't be very effective since the rules are changing so frequently that there would likely be a new order coming in by the time people received a notification about the old one.

She listed some ways to access information about new county health orders including the city website, the city's Facebook page, the county website, and the doors of City Hall. She also noted the West Company and Willits Chamber of Commerce were good resources for businesses.

"We're sort of doing what the county's doing, and everything we can, but I always love to hear suggestions," she added. "I do get phone calls from the public, and I've talked to business owners and I've tried to help business owners in compliance."

Garrabrant-Sierra also spoke about a recent meeting with County Public Health Officer Dr. Noemi Doohan.

According to the city manager, Doohan was "adamant that her rules are not more strict than [Governor Newsom's], even though she does have the freedom to do that. She's actually trying to be more accommodating, particularly in terms of the 'social bubbles' and the 'household bubbles' which are not [always] allowed in other counties."

"We are told by the health officer that we should expect that as things further loosen, there will be more cases," Garrabrant-Sierra added, "so it's important to stay vigilant."

Mayor Gonzalez and Garrabrant-Sierra both spoke about the Calvary Baptist Church which was planning on opening for services this last Sunday.

Gonzalez said that at a special council meeting on May 22, the city council had voted to send a letter to the church asking that they not go through with their plans to hold services since it would violate the county health orders.

However shortly thereafter, the State of California issued a new order which allows gatherings for church services provided they limit their attendance to either 25 percent of their capacity, or 100 people – whichever is smaller.

Garrabrant-Sierra said there had been a building inspection at the church the day of the council meeting, and Little Lake Fire Chief Chris Wilkes had gone along to discuss plans with church representatives to ensure they were in compliance during their services.

"[Wilkes] reported that there was a good conversation," she said, "and the information of what 25 percent occupancy is was appreciated by the church. And so we anticipate that that's going to go well."

COLUMN | Medicare Notes

Got Medicare? Get a no-cost test for COVID-19

By Seema Verma, administrator, U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

If you have Medicare and want to be tested for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), the Trump administration has good news.

Medicare covers tests with no out-of-pocket costs. You can get tested in your home, doctor's office, a local pharmacy or hospital, a nursing home, or a drive-through site. Medicare does not require a doctor's order for you to get tested.

Testing is particularly important for older people and nursing home residents, who are often among the most vulnerable to COVID-19.

Read the rest of Test | Over on Page 13

Pg. 10 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Willits Weekly | June 4, 2020

Willits Weekly | June 4, 2020 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Pg. 11

Dale Laferty

The life of Dale Laferty of Willits ended on February 24, 2020 after living 14 years with a traumatic brain injury that had been inflicted on him at the age of 17 during a home invasion. He was 31.

Dale was born June 25, 1988 to Gary "Big" Laferty and Shelly Tyler and his older brother Gary "Bubba" Laferty. Before his TBI, Dale enjoyed riding motorcycles, running track, playing basketball, boxing, and making Jackass videos. Most of the time you'd find him hanging out with his brother Bubba and best friends Clint, Brandon, Dean and Jessie.

Dale is survived by his mother, Shelly Tyler of Clearlake, grandparents Deborah Besley of Willits, Gary Laferty of Ohio, Bob and Linda Tyler of Ukiah, Frank and Debbie Kester of Redding, his brother Bubba / wife Kassi Laferty of Ohio, nieces Kayleigh and Kiera, nephew Damien Laferty, and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins. He is preceded in death by his father Gary Laferty.

A Celebration of his Life has been planned for June 26 at Lake Mendocino in Ukiah, subject to be postponed due to park closure. Contact his grandmother Deborah Besley for further information.

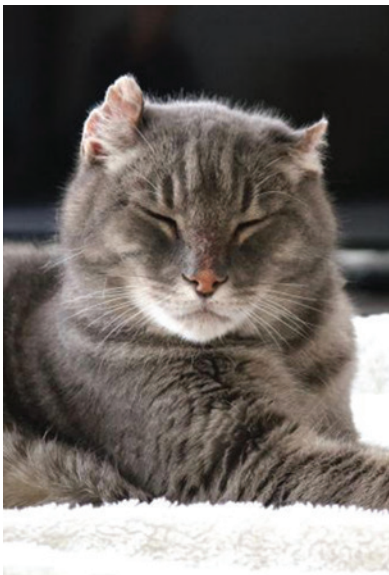


Amazing Joe

Have you met Joe? No? Here let's introduce you! Meet our stud, Joe. Joe is a 7-year-old cat who came to us in January 2020 as a stray. He is the cutest guy around and has the sweetest squeaky meow. He will catch your eye with his amazing personality and his cute as heck ears.

While we are working on getting his ears healthy and in proper working order, we are also looking for a home for him. Joe is always waiting to meet you and always greets you with enthusiasm. Can you picture yourself coming home to him every day? It would be the best!

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.



Senior Snoop

Meet our new handsome senior who goes by Snoop. Snoop is a 7-year-old chihuahua mix who weighs around 10 pounds. Snoop came to us as a transfer from Clearlake Animal Control. We were told Snoop lived in a home with small children and an older child with special needs, and is dog social.



Snoop also loves to ride shotgun with you on car rides. He is not afraid to demand love from you with paw smacks or using his nose to flip your hand onto his head. He is a silly guy! Snoop needs to be neutered, then he will be home-ready. However, we are accepting applications now. If your looking for an adorable new friend who puts a huge smile on your face, Snoop is your guy! Don't miss your chance to make him yours.

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 Page 1

Noemi Doohan, MD explained what the term "community spread" means. "It means, when someone contracts the disease, we don't know where they got it," Doohan said.

Doohan said at last Friday's press conference that she believes the COVID-19 disease pandemic has attained the level of "community spread" in Mendocino County.

For weeks, Doohan has told county officials that one of the silver linings of the disease is that it had not yet attained the level of "community spread." But after last week's surge in cases, which saw the overall case level jump from 22 to 30 cases, Doohan said on Friday she thinks there is now community spread here.

"We have interviewed the people who have the disease," Doohan said. "We know that they didn't get the disease from travel outside the county. We know that they didn't get the disease from contact with people who have the disease. And we know that they didn't pick up the disease from any of the local outbreaks that we have had, for example, in Round Valley. So I do believe we've reached the point now where we have community spread."

On Monday, June 1, the Mendocino County Executive Office issued a press release stating that two of the people who were asymptomatic and who had recently tested positive for COVID-19 had been re-tested and were now negative. The false positives came from two different Abbott testing devices.

After consulting with California Department of Public Health, the press release reports: "Based on FDA information CDPH recommends the Abbott machines only be used for individuals who are showing symptoms and are suspected of having COVID-19," not for asymptomatic people.

The most recent statistics available at press deadline indicated that 3 more cases have been added to last week's total, bringing the total to 33 cases. A total of 5,332 tests for COVID-19 have been done in this county, as of June 3

Last Friday, May 28, a total of 4,056 tests had been done, meaning that over the past five days, 1,276 tests for COVID-19 were done in this county.

Doohan postpones plans to leave

At the Friday press conference, Doohan said she has postponed plans to leave her employment with Mendocino County as the county's interim public health officer, and that she will stay in her position until the county hires a new health officer.

County CEO Carmel Angelo said on Friday the county is in conversation with two "candidates" for the job. "We are hoping to get some applications for the job soon," said Doohan.

When asked if the recent spike in cases could mean that the county will be sent back to the beginning of Stage 2 or even to Stage 1 of the reopening plan, Doohan said that she doesn't want the county to go backwards.

"We need to have patience and hold where we are for two weeks," Doohan said.

The most recent order

As the Mendocino County case count of COVID-19 continues to mount, Governor Gavin Newsom loosened restrictions last week on a few more business types, and the county's public health officer followed suit, issuing her seventh revision of the shelter-in-place health order since March 18.

The new order, which went

into effect at 11:59 pm on Friday, May 28, allows places of worship, hair salons, and barbershops to open for business, and allows in-person political protests — all under significant restrictions.

Places of worship

Places of worship is a term that includes churches, mosques, temples and synagogues. These facilities are allowed to reopen, but are asked to limit themselves to no more than 100 people, or 25 percent of the building's maximum capacity, whichever figure is lower.

Places of worship should follow statewide safety guidelines specifically written for them, including social distancing, use of facial coverings, frequent handwashing, regular cleaning and disinfecting, and training of the facility staff in a COVID-19 prevention plan.

In addition, the state guidelines recommend that places of worship "continue to facilitate remote services and related activities for those who are vulnerable to COVID-19."

The new shelter-in-place order states: "A place of worship may hold multiple religious services or cultural ceremonies in one day, provided that there are sufficient breaks between each scheduled service such that all participants have left the grounds, including parking lots and restroom facilities, and there has been sufficient time for and completion of thorough disinfection of the venue and all other touch surfaces (e.g., microphones, stands, music stands, instruments, items on pulpits and podiums and as specifically referenced in the COVID-19 industry guidance).

"A place of worship may hold an outdoor religious service or cultural ceremony on its grounds at an amount not to exceed 100 attendees provided that the grounds can accommodate sufficient social distancing, hygiene and disinfection pursuant to state guidelines, and provided there are sufficient parking and restroom amenities to accommodate the increased capacity with all appropriate social distancing," the new version of the health order states.

While the state's guideline for places of worship points out that standard church practices, such as singing and group recitation, "negate the risk-reduction achieved through 6 feet of social distancing," they don't prohibit singing or group recitation. The guidelines impose the limits on attendance mentioned above as a way to counter the increased risk brought about by singing and group recitation. The county's new health order does not outlaw singing or group recitation in places of worship, either.

Dr. Doohan's May 28 shelter-in-place order states that the COVID-19 protocols for places of worship will be reviewed at least once every 21 days in order to assess the impacts of the limitations."

The new county health order also notes that funeral services are also now allowed, subject to the same capacity restrictions and other guidelines that apply to places of worship.

Hair salons and barbershops

Hair salons and barbershops are allowed to reopen under the new order, with restriction. Beauticians and barbers can offer "haircuts, weaves and extensions, braiding, lock maintenance, wig maintenance, hair relaxing treatments, and color services." But, "services that require touching the customer's face, e.g., eyelash services, eyebrow services, eyebrow waxing and threading, facials, etc., are suspended until those

types of services are allowed to resume by the state and local health officers." Both the service provider and the customer must wear facial coverings. Barbers are not allowed to shave their customers.

Political protests

Dr. Doohan's new health order specifically allows in-person political protests. The order requires that social distancing of at least 6 feet be maintained and that facial coverings be worn. The order states that participants "must maintain a physical distance of 6 feet from any uniformed peace officers and other public safety personnel, unless otherwise directed." The order also states "attendance is limited to 25 percent of the relevant area's maximum capacity as defined by the local permitting authority."

The new health order strongly recommends that those who wish to engage in political expression "utilize alternative channels such as online broadcasting platforms available in the digital age."

As with restrictions on places of worship, the new health order states that the situation will be reviewed at least once every 21 days to assess impacts before the health officer provides further direction.

Social bubbles

One of the more difficult sections of the shelter-in-place order can be found in Sections 14w and x, the part of the order that defines "social bubbles." This part of the order is not new. It goes back at least as far as the May 8 health order, in the context of childcare establishments.

Section 14g (xxvii) of the May 8 order stated, "childcare must be carried out in stable groups of 12 or fewer" and added that "stable means that the same 12 or fewer children are in the same group each day." The May 8 order went on to state, in the next line, "Children shall not change from one group to another."

Section 14x of the May 28 order has now added more detail and nuance to the directions associated with what used to be called stable groups of 12, and is now called "social bubbles." Social bubbles can exist in three different social areas: a household support unit,

a childcare unit, and a children's extracurricular activity unit.

As before, two leading characteristics of the social bubble is that it must be a stable group of not more than 12 people and that members of the bubble are not required to observe social distancing, although members should continue to comply with all other "applicable requirements."

But importantly, each type of social bubble is regarded as just that: a separate type of bubble. Members of one bubble cannot mix with a different bubble, if the second bubble is the same type of bubble, but they can mix with members of another social bubble, if that bubble is of a different type.

The May 28 shelter in place health order states, "Each type of social bubble is counted separately. By way of example, a child may be part of a Children's Extracurricular Activity Unit and a Childcare Unit, but may not participate in two different Childcare Units."

Swimming pools

The May 28 shelter-in-place health order reprises the rules about reopening swimming pools found in the previous order. Pools must be actively monitored to ensure that the pool "is only used by the same 12 members of a Childcare Unit or Children's Extracurricular Unit (including the provider, swim team coach and/or instructor) at any one time (with staggering of use by groups to allow for cleaning in between each use)."

"Shared pools must also close all shared locker rooms and dry rooms, limit restroom use to the group and staff, regularly clean and disinfect surfaces between each use by groups, increase water sanitation levels within safe limits, and post visible markers for social distancing," the order continues. "As with Childcare and Children's Extracurricular Units, such providers, swim coaches, and instructors are counted as part of the group, and must not change groups more than once every four weeks. A work group of up to 12 individuals may use a shared pool for lifeguard training."

The rest of Test | From Page 11

term stay under Medicare Part A, as the costs for this test, including sample collection, are already covered as part of the stay.)

If you receive Medicare home health services, your home health nurse can collect a sample during a visit. Nurses working for rural health clinics and federally qualified health clinics also can collect samples in beneficiaries' homes under certain conditions.

Or you can go to a "parking lot" test site set up by a pharmacy, hospital, or other entity in your community.

We're doing similar things in the Medicaid program, giving states flexibility to cover parking-lot tests as well as tests in beneficiaries' homes and other community settings.

We also implemented the Families First Medicaid eligibility option, which allows states to cover tests for uninsured people with no cost-sharing. Individuals should contact their state Medicaid agency to apply for this coverage.

Both Medicare and Medicaid cover serology, or antibody tests, for COVID-19. These tests can help identify who has been exposed to the virus.

Medicare generally covers the entire cost of COVID-19 testing for beneficiaries with Original Medicare. If you're enrolled in a Medicare Advantage health plan, your plan generally can't charge you cost-sharing (including deductibles, copayments and coinsurance) for COVID-19 tests and the administration of such tests.

In addition, Medicare Advantage plans may not impose prior authorization or other utilization management requirements on the COVID-19 test or specified COVID-19 testing-related services for the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

We have also required that private health issuers and employer group health plans cover COVID-19 testing, and certain related items and services, with no cost-sharing during the pandemic. This includes items and services that result in an order for, or administration of, a COVID-19 diagnostic test in a variety of medical settings, including urgent care visits, emergency room visits, and in-person or telehealth visits to the doctor's office.

From day one, Medicare has worked to ensure that cost is no barrier to being tested for COVID-19, and to make testing as widely and easily available as possible. As a result, we've seen a surge in testing among Medicare beneficiaries. Robust and widespread testing is of paramount importance as we begin easing back into normal life.

Seema Verma is administrator of the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. You can always get answers to your Medicare questions by calling 800-MEDICARE (800-633-4227).

C
B
R
O
W
N
S

C
O
R
N
E
R

Groceries
Beer & Wine
Gas & Diesel
Pay at the Pump

7am - 10pm
459-4854
1799 So. Main St.
P.O. Box 428

Do it
Best

WILLITS
POWER & HARDWARE

HONDA • HUSQVARNA • STIHL • MQ • CARHARTT
Lawn & Garden Equipment • Generators
Sales, Parts & Service • Pick-up & Delivery

1600 S. Main St.
Willits, CA 95490
willitspower@gmail.com

Sales/Parts: 707 459-6420
Service: 707 459-0596
Fax: 707 459-6369

Online-Remote Mac tutoring & troubleshooting available!

Blue Sky

Mac Tech

"Your Local Independent Macintosh Technician"

• Troubleshooting, Tutoring & Installation of Apple Products & Other Home Tech •

David Hannon
707-371-6160
E-mail: david@blueskymactech.com www.blueskymactech.com
Serving the Willits & Ukiah Area

STAY HOME
SNOKE KURE

TWO LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU:
1788 S. MAIN ST. IN WILLITS & 800 LAKE MENDOCINO DR. IN UKIAH

DELIVERY OPTIONS AVAILABLE - CALL FOR INFO

OPEN DAILY: 10 AM TO 7 PM KUREMENDOCINO.COM 707-459-4200

Kure

Wellness

AAUW Willits announces 2020 scholarship recipients

Submitted by the Willits Branch of AAUW



Brieana Evans

The Willits Branch of American Association of University Women has announced its 2020 Scholarship recipients, Brieana Evans, Belen Mendoza, Star Brightman, and Emerald Waters.

Brieana Evans

Brieana will be attending Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in the fall.

She is planning on majoring in Psychology with the ultimate goal of becoming a clinical psychologist. Says Brieana: "Health, in all aspects and applications of the word, is the driving force in my life. I will be able to pursue the betterment of others' overall health by way of talk therapy, nutrition, and exercise plans. I am determined to make my dream of becoming a clinical psychologist a reality."

Belen Mendoza

Belen will be attending Mendocino College in the fall, majoring in English with the goal of eventually graduating from law school and becoming an immigration lawyer.

According to Belen: "My passion for courses such as English, government, ability to debate, and think critically compel me to seek a career as a lawyer. I want to be a part of creating change in law and policies, including changes that reform immigration law and policies in the United States."

Star Brightman

Star will be attending Mendocino College, majoring in Fire Science. Star holds an ultimate goal of helping others through social work by becoming an Indian Child Welfare Act social worker and getting her degree from Humboldt State University. Star explains: "I realize that because of my Native American culture and personal experiences, I can help others through social work. I want to also be a firefighter/EMT so that I can help people go home to their loved ones."

Emerald Waters

Emerald will be attending UC Santa Cruz, majoring in Business Economics with a goal of becoming a fundraising manager for a nonprofit organization. Emerald spearheaded fundraising drives while at Willits High School that raised \$15,000. Emerald expressed: "I want to do something that can make a difference. It would be more than perfect for me to combine my own experiences with my fundraising abilities to be able to help other people overcome their own challenges."

The Willits Branch, since its founding in 1959, has been associated with the American Association of University Women, the

nation's leading organization advocating equity for women and girls. Its national membership of 80,000 seeks to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

People of every race, creed, age, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, and level of physical ability are invited to join. AAUW California is the state's most active and diverse organization for women with nearly 13,000 members in 140 branches, plus over 5,000 members-at-large.

The Willits AAUW branch may be reached at 459-4444 for membership, donations or further information about our projects: Tech Trek STEM Camp for seventh-grade girls, scholarships, candidate forums, town hall meetings, and the Women's History Project.



Emerald Waters



Star Brightman



– Submitted by the Willits Branch of AAUW

M

pho•tog•ra•phress

photography by maureen moore

ORDER PRINTS

of your grad in vehicle

at 2020 Graduation!

Go online to see photos and order prints:

<https://photographress.zenfolio.com/whs2020drivethru>

Or scan QR code below!

4x6: \$3ea | 5x7: \$5ea

8x10: \$10ea

Order online, ships right to your home!

So proud to have photographed all of you this year!

www.mphotographress.com | 707-972-7047

Willits Weekly: it's local news

“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).