

# Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

Online & Print



It's Real Estate Thursday!

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

Donations Accepted Edition No. 310

Thursday, June 13, 2019

## Public Health director says she was fired

Mike A'Dair  
Reporter  
mike@willitsweekly.com

There is a controversy swirling in Mendocino County concerning the sudden firing or resignation of Barbara Howe, who was formerly the director of the Mendocino County Department of Public Health, a division within Mendocino County's Health and Human Services Agency.

Howe says she was fired on May 24 by her immediate superior, Health and Human Services Agency Director Tammy Moss Chandler. According to Howe, Mendocino County Director of Human Services Heidi

Read the rest of **Fired**  
Over on page 6

## Supes hear report on fire recovery work

Mike A'Dair  
Reporter  
mike@willitsweekly.com

In two agenda items at Tuesday's meeting, county supervisors reviewed work that has been done in the wake of the Redwood Fire, the October 2017 blaze that burned 36,523 acres, extending from Potter Valley, across Redwood Valley, reaching as far north as the hills just to the southeast of Willits and as far west as the fence line of Ridgewood Ranch.

Community Foundation of Mendocino County CEO Megan Allende reviewed some of the achievements

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

## Laytonville man drowns at Lake Mendocino; son missing

The body of a Laytonville man was discovered floating in the waters at the south end of Lake Mendocino on Tuesday, and search teams are looking for the man's missing son.

The body of 62-year-old Carlos Soto was found near an empty boat by a curious visitor at around 6:10 pm at the southeast end of the lake, according to the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office. The man who discovered Soto's body said he became curious after seeing the boat with no one on board.

With assistance from Ukiah Valley Fire Authority personnel, deputies located and recovered Soto's body some 50 yards away from the empty boat.

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



Above, left: Lake Emily in Brooktrails is filled and overflowing. Above, right: A reminder about proper use of the reservoir is posted near the parking area. Below: The beautiful green-blue water glistens at Brooktrails' Lake Ada Rose.



Photos by Maureen Moore

# Reservoirs Are Ready

Let's hope the water can be used for fishing and fun, not fires!  
Be careful and fire-safe – summer officially starts soon

The two Brooktrails reservoirs, Lake Emily and Lake Ada Rose, supply water to Brooktrails Township and the Spring Creek subdivision. Together, the two lakes hold a total of 400 acre feet of water. Fed mostly by Willits Creek, Lake Emily feeds Lake Ada Rose before water is transferred to the Brooktrails water treatment plant.

Below, left: Lake Emily's spillway makes several small waterfalls at the end of the reservoir. Below, right: Walking the trail around the south end of Lake Ada Rose is a beautiful way to enjoy a view of the water.



Photos by Forrest Glycer

Above, left: A liquid chromatography system in line with a mass spectrometer – the "workhorse" devices used to test the levels of impurities in cannabis at MPS. Above, right: Modular Processing Systems partner David Kurzfeld, at left, Glen Richards, head of research, and managing partner Michael Doyle stand in front of the cannabis activity permits at MPS. At left: A jar containing approximately 1,700 grams of purified cannabis oil processed at the MPS facility in Willits.

## MPS offers hard-to-find cannabis services

There is a sense of excitement at the Modular Processing Systems facility in Willits, one of the first of the five cannabis businesses now up and running under the city's cannabis ordinance which passed in late 2017. Those at the company believe they have found a niche which will give them a foothold in the competitive legal cannabis industry in California.

Forrest Glycer  
Reporter  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

The focus of MPS is not on creating products, but rather on offering a hard-to-find service to cultivators and distributors: To remove impurities from extracted cannabis oils left by pesticides, fungicides and fertilizers. This allows the end products for other companies to come into

Read more of **MPS** Over on Page 7

## 5 cannabis businesses now operating in Willits

Forrest Glycer  
Reporter  
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The first cannabis businesses in Willits are officially up and running now, and City Planner Dusty Duley says things are going very smoothly on all fronts.

"I think the city can be proud of the applicants we've had so far, who have been able to maneuver their way through our permitting process to establish cannabis activities in the city," said Duley in a phone interview. "Our applicants have shown a high level of sophistication and dedication to following the regulations the city diligently established when we crafted the cannabis ordinance."

At the time of the interview, Duley said five cannabis businesses are now operating legally in the city, having gone through the permitting process laid out in the cannabis ordinance passed in September 2017. Another 19 businesses were "in various stages of constructing their buildings to support their cannabis businesses."

In addition, four applicants are now slated to compete for three dispensary

Read the rest of **Cannabusiness**  
Over on page 6

## Supes create new pot tax appeals board

Mike A'Dair  
Reporter  
mike@willitsweekly.com

Supervisors on Tuesday approved an amendment to the county code, establishing a new Cannabis Business Tax Appeals Board that will hear appeals to decisions made by the Treasurer-Tax Collector concerning the cannabis business tax.

Unhappy with his colleagues' refusal to consider abolishing the tax and with their unwillingness to order a study to estimate the county's costs in enforcing all aspects of the waiver process, Fifth District Supervisor Ted Williams cast the lone dissenting vote.

The Cannabis Business Tax, which was approved by a 63 percent of Mendocino County voters in November of 2016, provides that cannabis growers shall be taxed at a rate of 2.5 percent of gross receipts for the calendar year, or alternatively shall have to pay a minimum tax. The minimum tax is \$1,250 for growing areas of up to 2,500 square feet, \$2,500 for cultivation areas of up to 5,000 square feet, and \$5,000 if they have a permit

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

# What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

## Willits Pool is open

To the Editor:

Now that the days are hot, the Willits Pool offers a great way to cool off and exercise, too. As of June 10, Aqua Aerobics are offered twice a day, from 12 to 1 pm, and after work in the evening from 5 to 6 pm.

The instructors are fun and they offer a great work-out. For more information please call 459-5778.

Lena Hofmaister, Willits

## Thank you

To the Editor,

The Willits Center for the Arts would like to thank all of the members and the community for their support of the recent Art Auction. We had more donations than we have ever had, and the money raised is being used for improvements to the building and for classes and events.

An auction is a big undertaking, and we could not have done it without the help of our wonderful volunteers who sit the show and volunteer their time wherever it is needed, including Rose Smith, Peggy Weber, Dennis Siota, Barbara Sullivan, Robby Olsen, Jennie Jergenson, Wendy Wilmes, Kathleen Ferri-Taylor; our board members and their spouses, including: June Ruckman, Jerry Albright, Carole Aleshire, Bruce Haanstra, Laura Wiecek, Lynne Whiting Robinson, Barbara Willens, Sandy Strong, Tom Strong, Jon Maglante, Mathew Caine, and Robin Coomer; our manager, Holly O'Rourke; and our curator, Gary Martin.

Thank you for the jazz music by the Aaron Bellomo Trio,

and the delicious food from our caterers: Adam's, and Roland's. A big thank you to Willits Weekly and The Willits News for all the publicity and support, and to all the local businesses for their generous donations. We would not have such a vital art center without the support of our community. Thank you again.

Ann Maglante, auction chair, Willits

## 'Freedom from PTSD'

To the Editor:

A free informational event will be held in Willits: "Freedom from PTSD."

This is a local wellness workshop to share information about available tools and services to support family or friends who have gone through traumatic experiences.

The event is hosted by Annie Waters: She has envisioned and created the workshop for all who care about friends and family who suffered through fires in the past, last year and before.

A team of counselors and advisors will share their expertise in the field and explain or demonstrate applicable tools that are available. The intention of the event is to provide helpful information; it is not meant as medical or therapeutic advice.

The event is at the Little Lake Grange, on Saturday, June 22, from 1 to 5 pm. Entry is free.

Sponsored by Little Lake Grange, WELL and the Community Foundation.

Claudia Wenning, Willits

## Ecology Action seeks bio-intensive farming interns

Submitted by Ecology Action

Did you know that small farms can actually help fight climate change and restore soil fertility? Did you know that Ecology Action offers short- and long-term internships to teach you how?

Whether you're a recent college graduate from North Carolina figuring out the next steps in your journey, a Central American subsistence farmer looking to improve your sustainability and yields, or a retired public school teacher from California opening a new chapter in life as a community-sustainability resource, our internships provide an excellent opportunity to learn to use and teach sustainable, regenerative, small-scale bio-intensive farming.

Participants gain experience with the GROW BIOINTENSIVE® Sustainable Mini-Farming method and learn unique teaching skills so they can share it with others. Our program focuses on training individuals to be farmer-leaders and community-sustainability resources.

Many of our interns have started their own projects, demonstration sites, and nonprofits all over the globe teaching the GB method.

Compared with conventional farming, GB has been shown to:

- Use 67 to 88 percent less water.
- Use 50 to 100 percent less purchased fertilizer.
- Use up to 99 percent less fossil fuel energy.
- Produce 2 to 6 times more food per unit of area.
- Produce a 100 percent-plus increase in soil fertility through carbon sequestration.
- Require 50 to 80 percent less land.
- Grow up to 20 pounds of fertile soil per pound of food eaten – in contrast with conventional agriculture (even standard organic, due to resource importation), which can lose up to 4.7 to 18 pounds of soil per pound of food consumed.

Interns spend two to eight months living in beautiful Mendocino County at our coastal Victory Gardens for Peace site or inland at The Jeavons Center for Bio-intensive Research and Education site, learning and working in a fully immersed, hands-in-the-dirt, sweat-on-the-brow environment.

An internship at Ecology Action is an opportunity to learn valuable sustainable farming and teaching techniques and information, to experience an alternative living style, to make lifelong ties with other interns from different states and countries, and to assist Ecology Action in its mission to help farmers, gardeners and communities around the world to raise food, conserve resources, and improve soil fertility.

Application deadline for our 2020 season is fast approaching. Dates, fees, and possible scholarship opportunities for our long-term eight-month internships are at [www.growbiointensive.org/Internship/](http://www.growbiointensive.org/Internship/).

Don't have time for an eight-month program? We've also got two-, four- and six-month internships to fit your schedule: [www.growbiointensive.org/SummerInternship](http://www.growbiointensive.org/SummerInternship).

We look forward to a long and productive future together. Join us in 2020!

Ecology Action is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, established in 1971. Our mission is to teach people worldwide to better feed themselves while building and preserving the soil and conserving resources. Victory Gardens for Peace and The Jeavons Center are projects of Ecology Action.

Below: Keith and Lotus Baker prepare for their walk. At right: Friends from Redwood Community Services meet at J.D. Redhouse for the start of the walk: from left, Rebecca Diaz, Rosanna Franceschini, Nancy Riggs and Carrie Mags. Far right: The walkers reach the final hydration station in front of the soon-to-open Toy Depot on Commercial Street. At right, below: The walkers smile for a group photo before their trek across Willits on Sunday.

Photos by Mathew Caine



## 10,000 Steps

### Willits Walk for Health and Community Wellness promotes exercise while touring the town

W.H.A.T. happened. On a warm but pleasant Sunday morning, the Willits Healthy Action Team held their 21st annual 10,000 Steps Willits Walk for Health and Community Wellness.

Around 20 people, one child in a stroller, and a dog gathered before 9 am for a foot tour of many of the iconic areas of Willits. Organizers Martin and Saprina Rodriguez decided to hold the exercise on an early Sunday morning this year, trying to complete the walk before the heat of the day set in.

The timing was additionally designed to take advantage of the Calenda Festival which was taking place at the Recreation Grove Park. The walkers were encouraged to stop in and see the festival or to come back to it after completing the 10,000 steps.

The Rodriguez duo took over stewardship of the walk a couple years ago, after they were handed the reins by the original organizer, Jed Diamond. Walking 10,000 steps is the equivalent of 30 minutes of exercise, which is recommended to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Walking is a great way to interact with one's neighborhood and see parts of Willits that are not usually noticed. Getting out of one's vehicle allows the walker to notice the interesting, historic and idyllic areas of the town, while reaping the obvious health advantages.

The walk began at the J.D. Redhouse parking lot under the brilliant mural by Malakai Schindel, where the people were signed in, given T-shirts and a laminated mini map of the route.

Making sure their water bottles were filled and their Fitbits were in position, the walkers set off at 9 am, turning north on Main Street past El Mexicano, Buster's Burgers & Brews, Moon Lady, Willits Online, and Café 77.

They passed two new restaurants, Bangkok Thai and The Dogg House, good signs that Willits is attracting

Read the rest of **10,000** Over on Page 11

# T and T TOWING

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At left: The crew turns onto the new part of the walk by Blosser Lane School.

Below, left: The walkers are in good spirits as they begin.

Below, right: Walk organizer Martin Rodriguez explains the route.



## KZYX hires Alicia Bales as new program director

Submitted by KZYX Radio

Radio station KZYX announced on June 6 that Ukiah resident Alicia Bales has been hired as the station's new program director, replacing Alice Woelfle, who left the station last month to begin a news internship at KALW in San Francisco.

Bales, who KZYX listeners may remember as Alicia Littletree, produced the bi-weekly program "Truth to Power" on the station from 1997 through 2004. As a KZYX veteran, Bales is knowledgeable about the station's diverse audience and well-versed in the station's programming philosophy and mission. She officially stepped into her new job on June 3.

Beginning in October 2017, as the board president of the Mendocino Environmental Center in Ukiah, Bales helped oversee KMEC-LP, the organization's low-power community radio station. She produced a weekly two-hour talk show on KMEC called "Edgewise Radio." Bales' experience there with both with fundraising and with coordinating volunteer programmers will help her substantially in her new role at KZYX.

"I see the program director position at KZYX as a great opportunity," Bales says, "to combine my background in teaching, voice coaching, community outreach and radio production to recruit and train new programmers throughout Mendocino County, and, of course, to work with our great cast of current hosts to become the best programmers they can be."

Bales earned an AA degree in Theater Arts at Mendocino College and a BA in Theater from UC

Berkeley. She went on to earn a MA in Voice Studies from the University of London. For several years, Bales owned the Alicia Bales Voice and Speech Coaching Studio in San Francisco. She has taught "Voice for Actors" in the Theater Department at Mendocino College since 2014.

"Above all," she says, "I want to help KZYX excel in its role as a vital resource for diverse, high-quality music and public affairs programming, and as a reliable news source every day, and especially in the crunch of disasters like the catastrophic fires we have experienced these past two years. Emergency information broadcasting is one of the most important services we offer."

KZYX, the region's primary NPR affiliate, broadcasts as 90.7 FM in Anderson Valley and points south, as 91.5 FM in Ukiah and Willits, and as 88.1 FM in Fort Bragg.

The station streams live via its website at [www.kzyx.org](http://www.kzyx.org), and offers a free KZYX app for iPhones.

For more information, please contact KZYX General Manager Marty Durlin at 707-895-2324.



## The Rules: LETTERS

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

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

## Willits Weekly

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# Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

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## Willits Weekly – the locally owned newspaper!

# Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

			5		1			
8	6		1					5
9								8
		9						
4			7		3			
	2		4				5	
2			5					4
	1			8			3	
6		2		4				7



## 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!

Level: Advanced

## SUN SAFETY WORD SEARCH

L O S A T S B M O Y L P P A E R L F U A S  
 G N N A I N G G R A L S E R O P V F F U D  
 I S S A O G G L B E I P B P F I N N E  
 A F P U N O V M U V F H A S I Y H S M P F L  
 D T M E R O M U I F O T O I U C N D R L  
 R M E H C A P Y R T R N B G E B R N C B C E  
 H O Y L H T Y A O O R N Y E S U B O Y C  
 E D N A L O P P R S R I C F E L U E D D O U D T V  
 C A N A L Y I T U G T N N A U E V R S R V  
 O T C D A A V H M O I Y A B U U M N I N  
 G N V R B C T A I H E C N R T G T T E  
 S P D L E E I T R R O H L R U L N Y N N H  
 R H E S A R D C M N T D O N E Y V E N V C  
 E C A U H E Y V E A L D F M S M N A U R  
 C H M D T R F S U H B U N H G C L A P A E  
 N D I O E H M F G O C S V I P P R M I E  
 A B R T B V G T F Y M R E S P F I L T E R S E  
 C P N E V I G T I S N E S P O I T O L S E  
 A M O N A L E M P I V I Y Y B C C G C R E  
 N F L N R G L S T O P S I O R U L M V E

- |          |               |            |             |
|----------|---------------|------------|-------------|
| BRIGHT   | LOTION        | PORES      | SHADE       |
| CANCER   | MELANOMA      | PROTECTION | SPECTRUM    |
| CHEMICAL | MINERAL       | RAYS       | SPOTS       |
| DEFLECT  | NANOPARTICLES | REAPPLY    | SUNBURN     |
| FILTER   | PHOTOSTABLE   | RESEARCH   | SUNSCREEN   |
| LAYER    | PIGMENT       | SENSITIVE  | ULTRAVIOLET |

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
		10			11			12			
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			25			26					
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47	48	49					50		51	52	53
54							55				
56						57	58		59		
						60			61		62
						63			64		65

## CLUES ACROSS

1. Mathematical term (abbr.)
4. Seaport (abbr.)
7. 'Unforgettable' singer
10. The GOAT
11. Used to harvest agave cactus
12. Luke's mentor \_\_\_-Wan
13. Muses
15. IBM operating system
16. Hungarian village
19. Popular conversation topic
21. N. Atlantic island
23. Fail to discern correctly
24. The President has one
25. Irish Gaelic language
26. Gasteyer and Ivanovic are two
27. Garnished
30. National capital
34. Basics
35. Initial public offering
36. Winged horse
41. English synthpop duo
45. Mars crater
46. A lot
47. Small organs
50. By reason of
54. 'Growing Pains'

## actor Kirk

55. Free from contamination
56. Genus in the mahogany family
57. Body part
59. A belief in a supreme being
60. Talk a lot
61. Actors' group
62. Unit of measurement
63. Slick
64. No seats available
65. A way to change color

## CLUES DOWN

1. Belongs to the daughter of Chaos
2. Wardrobe
3. Derek and Jeff are two
4. Disfigured
5. Hawaiian dish
6. What a hack drives
7. Horse gear
8. Do away with
9. Narrow straits between Sinai and Arabian peninsulas
13. Corrie
14. Hawaiian flower necklace

17. Midway between northeast and east
18. Insecticide
20. Comfort
22. Town in Galilee
27. Informal greeting
28. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
29. Used to check the heart
31. Western India island
32. Credit card term
33. Female deer
37. British football team
38. Persian jurisdiction
39. Freshwater mussel genus
40. Opposite of happiness
41. Ban on trade
42. Bitterly regrets
43. Assented
44. Well-proportioned
47. Part of (abbr.)
48. Indigenous people of Thailand
49. A man of your stature (abbr.)
51. Advantageous
52. Female sibling
53. Electronic countermeasures
58. Swiss river

# WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE LOG

June 3 to June 9

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 252 incidents in this seven-day reporting period.

## Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

### June 3

4:14 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.  
 9:33 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 7000 block of Third Gate Road.  
 9:44 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 2100 block of Valley Road.  
 10:01 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 400 block of Coast Street.  
 12:12 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 300 block of Mill Street.  
 1:48 pm: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 100 block of California Street.  
 2:12 pm: WALKER, Claud Alexander (31) of Willits was contacted in the 1100 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on felony charges of violation of parole.  
 4:19 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of South Street.  
 9:49 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of East Mendocino Avenue.  
 9:50 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of Haehl Creek Court.  
 11:21 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1000 block of Magnolia Avenue.

June 4  
 1:15 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of Gregory Lane.  
 8:13 am: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 200 block of Alice Drive.  
 8:43 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 100 block of Monroe Street.  
 1:34 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 400 block of Coast Street.  
 6:12 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of East Mendocino Avenue.  
 7:01 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of School Street.  
 7:18 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 900 block of South Main Street.  
 8:39 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 100 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning.  
 10:37 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 400 block of East Commercial Street.  
 11:07 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Creekside Court and issued a warning.

June 5  
 12:15 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle near the south end of the Willits bypass.  
 2:30 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Mai Street.  
 11:29 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 300 block of South Lenore Avenue.  
 12:23 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 200 block of North Main Street.  
 9:44 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 100 block of Creekside Court.  
 9:20 pm: MASSEY, Aaron Wayne (30) of Ukiah was contacted in the 1700 block of South Main Street following a disturbance. He was arrested pursuant to 166 (A) (4) PC (Contempt of Court), 594 (B) (2) PC (Vandalism), on felony charges of domestic corporal injury and defacement, and on misdemeanor charges of violation of a protective order.  
 10:56 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of East Mendocino Avenue.

June 6  
 2:46 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of North Lenore Avenue.  
 5:18 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 300 block of East Commercial Street.  
 8:03 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 500 block of South Main Street.  
 8:38 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Creekside Court.  
 7:48 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1400 block of South Main Street.  
 10:02 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Marcella Drive.  
 10:47 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of Gregory Lane.

June 7  
 4:21 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.  
 11:48 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1600 block of South Main Street.  
 2:37 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Alder Court.  
 6:08 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 1400 block of South Main Street.  
 8:08 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1400 block of South Main Street.  
 8:46 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Alder Court.  
 9:10 pm: Officers responded to a report

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

# LITTLE LAKE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FIRE CALLS

June 5 to June 7

by LLFD Training Chief Eric Alvarez

## 06-05-19 (Highway 101, mile marker 54)

Traffic accident: Little Lake Fire responded to a vehicle vs. deer. Upon arrival four occupants were out of the vehicle and uninjured. The vehicle was off the roadway and the incident was turned over to CHP. 10 firefighters responded for service.

## 06-05-19 (Highway 20, mile marker 20)

Traffic accident: Little Lake Fire responded to a reported motorcycle down. Upon arrival Rescue 5430 assisted with patient packaging, and Engine 5480 assisted with pre-empting traffic. CalFire B1115 provided landing zone coordination with REACH 18. 14 firefighters responded for service.

## 06-05-19 (North Main Street)

Traffic accident: Little Lake Fire responded to a reported vehicle vs. pedestrian. Upon arrival Rescue 5430, Engine 5480 and Chief 5401 assisted the medic unit package the patient for transport. Willits Police provided traffic control around the incident. 12 firefighters responded for service.

## 06-07-19 (Mariposa Creek)

Structure fire: Little Lake Fire responded to a reported structure fire into the vegetation. Upon arrival it was observed as an approximately 1,500-square-foot barn-style structure that was fully involved and on the ground. Tactical water tender 5493, Engine 5468, Engine 5469 as well as CalFire resources extinguished the fire with minimum spread to the wildland. 15 firefighters responded for service.



Above, from left: Mercy Matheson keeps her feet on the ground as she delivers the balloons. One of the high school program volunteers explains the use of some of the equipment. Marilla Bruno and Alareo from Argentina check out the inside of a fire engine. Below: Members of the Long Valley Fire Department, from left: Captain Sue Carberry, Captain Dillon Matheson, Maria Diaz, Daniel Hill, Matt Matheson, Liam Brynn, Russel Kasick, Andre Lammerer, Cody Lent, and Dustin Medina.



# Open House

## Laytonville gets an up-close look at fire trucks, ambulances and more at the Long Valley Fire Department

There's something about kids and fire engines that is both familiar and heart-warming. Children love the excitement of all the shiny equipment, the visions of speed, and the thought of these brave volunteers who do their best to keep us all safe.

Mathew Caine  
 Features Writer  
 mathew@willitsweekly.com

This was in evidence on Saturday, June 8, when the Long Valley Fire Department and the Laytonville Lioness Club opened the doors of the firehouse so the kids could get up close and personal with the big fire trucks, ambulances, helicopters, and the people who use them to fight flames and tragedy.

There was much to keep the little ones amused and engaged. They, of course, had the bounce house where they could siphon off any extra energy that they brought with them. There were water games that tested their skill in directing a hose to spray at a "burning" house and a water balloon toss.

Many of the really young ones could only throw them about as far as their own feet, but the supply of water balloons was plentiful, and the kids loved to watch them explode on the pavement.

Inside the cavernous firehouse, visitors were treated to photographs with – or in – the fire trucks. There was also a table full of giveaways: fire hats, transfer tattoos, firehouse sippy cups, and little plastic fire trucks.

Better even than seeing the fire trucks, was riding in them. There was a rather large fire truck that was giving short rides around the neighborhood off of Branscomb Road in Laytonville. Families could buy T-shirts with the Long Valley Fire Department logo or

enjoy free (or by donation) hot dogs, drinks and sweets provided by the Lionesses and high school students.

If all that wasn't enough, REACH, the air ambulance service, had a presence at the event and flew in one of their helicopters as the kids looked on with wide eyes at the pounding sounds and blasts of wind. They were then able to talk with the three-person REACH crew that consisted of an air nurse, a paramedic, and a pilot who invited the young fans to sit in their whirlybird as they learned how they worked and what each of the crew did in an emergency.

The firehouse was built in 2001, entirely by donations from the small Laytonville community, according to Fire Chief Sue Carberry. The station, and a satellite facility in Branscomb, have 30 volunteers and only two paid employees, a paramedic, and a battalion chief.

They additionally, have a high school training program, as explained by Carberry: "They are in a class called 'Community Classroom,' which is available ninth through 12th grade. They come over one period every day and get their training. They get to go out on calls and fight fires. They get to go out on the ambulances as well."

"They save us," Carberry continued, "because they are available during the day, which many of our people are not. They get well-trained and apply to CalFire and go through the CalFire Academy, and they get hired. We've placed around 12 to 15 with CalFire. It's a good employment opportunity."

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



Above, left: Ray Blumenthal, who was a firefighter for 27 years, tends to the music at the open house. Above, right: Students Haley and Paige Whitcomb help pass out hot dogs.

Below: Chris Brennan gets his blood pressure checked by Dave Fentress, EMT. At bottom, left: A young girl has the bounce house to herself. At bottom, right: The REACH helicopter crew arrives: Mathew Bousvield, paramedic; Stephanie Webber, flight nurse; and John Wilson, pilot.



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**THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS 2**  
 (PG) 1 hr 26 mins  
 Fri/Sat: 2:00, 4:10, 6:20 & 8:30pm  
 Sun-Thurs: 1:00, 3:10, 5:20 & 7:30pm

**ROCKETMAN**  
 (R) 2 hrs 1 min  
 Fri/Sat: 2:30, 5:15 & 8:00pm  
 Sun-Thurs: 1:30, 4:15 & 7:00pm

permits, the maximum allowed by the city. A five-person committee, consisting of Duley and other city officials, will select which three dispensary applicants will be allowed to move forward in the permit process based on the quality of their business plan and other factors.

“So we’re excited to see some dispensaries succeed in the city now as well,” said Duley.

He noted cannabis businesses have already had some positive impact on Willits with construction and development.

“So far, the cannabis industry moving into Willits has led to millions of dollars of new construction,” he said. “Not only brand-new buildings, but also rehab of some of our existing industrial buildings that were in various stages of disrepair. We’ve set building permit activity records since the cannabis industry has come here, largely due to their activities.”

Duley explained that as the first cannabis businesses come up on their one-year anniversary of receiving a permit, they will be required to submit a jobs report to the city.

“And so I’m looking forward to seeing how many jobs they’ve created,” he said, “and also how many of those jobs they were able to [fill by hiring] people from the local area.

“In visiting a number of these facilities that are up and running,” Duley continued, “we certainly see quite a bit of new hires. So, I can say that it has been a positive economic benefit to the city already, and we have a lot more businesses that are within the process and also talking to us about submitting brand-new permits. So again, it definitely has the potential to be a big economic driver to the city.

“Having said that, I’d like our portfolio to be diversified,” he continued. “So although I’m very grateful for all the cannabis businesses that are coming in, I’m anxious to see other types of economic development happening for the city as well.”

Duley said there have been no major issues with any of the permit holders thus far; all have been eager to comply with the regulations and cooperate with city agencies.

“It sounds like they’ve been having a good rapport and experience with all the various departments here at the city,” Duley said of the permit holders. “Part of our ability to provide good service to these applicants ... is because everybody’s on board and wants to be helpful. And that goes to [the Little Lake Fire Department], that goes to our police department, that goes to our engineering department, and that goes to our city manager, that goes to our city council.

“It’s not just a community development department thing. If there’s any success it’s been tied to a team effort on behalf of the whole city.”

He noted the goal of the city is to be strict in enforcing regulations, but also to be fair and respectful to those starting the cannabis businesses.

“All cannabis activities allowed in the city are permitted by right, and we don’t require them to go through a discretionary review process,” he said. “Rather we rely on stringent standards, such as no cannabis odors can be detectable from outside the building. We have limitations on the type of signage the cannabis business can have.

“The intent is that someone otherwise unfamiliar with where a cannabis business is operating ... could drive or walk right by the business and not be aware a cannabis activity such as cultivation or manufacturing was occurring.”

Duley made it clear that violations of regulations would not be tolerated by the city.

“We have had, I would say, a very positive relationship with our applicants, because again they’ve shown a strong dedication to wanting to follow the regulations. Having said all that, though, the city definitely reserves the right to revoke a cannabis activity from an applicant if they’re not interested in or otherwise incapable of following the rules.

“We’re not trying to be someone that’s moving the target,” he added. “We’re going to set the target on the ground. If you can’t hit it, then Willits isn’t the place for you. But we’re also not trying to put something out there, any regulations or requirements, that aren’t warranted. If there’s a regulation or requirement in place, it’s there for a reason.”

Duley said many cannabis business owners have made efforts to be involved in the community, including sponsoring the recent Springing out of Winter concert hosted by the city at Recreation Grove.

“All of our major sponsors were from cannabis businesses in Willits,” he said. “What I believe and understand these cannabis businesses are looking for is ... acceptance within the community. And so when I reached out and told them about this opportunity to sponsor this one-day wonderful music in the park event, they didn’t hesitate to help pay for that event.”

Duley sees more positive effects coming from Willits cannabis businesses in the future, as long as the pool of applicants continues to be high-quality and eager to follow all the rules.

“It’s amazing what can happen when people are on the same page,” he said. “I think there are some good things happening for Willits, and I’d like to get the word out there that we’re a good place to do appropriate development.”

One of the next big steps for Duley and city staff regarding cannabis is to bring a proposal of amendments to the ordinance for the Willits City Council to consider. The amendments are designed largely to make the city cannabis ordinance line up with changes in state regulations.

But one of the more impactful changes planned to be brought forward would allow recreational/adult use permits in the city instead of only medical permits as allowed now.

to cultivate up to 10,000 square feet.

Prior to the effective date of the new ordinance change, the body hearing growers’ appeals was the board of supervisors; after the effective date, the appeals body will be a new entity comprised of the Mendocino County chief executive officer (or her designee), the director of the county’s Department of Planning and Building Services (or his designee), and the Mendocino County ag commissioner (or his designee).

A staff report to the board by Planning and Building Services Director Brent Schultz suggested reasons why the business tax might be waived.

Schultz’s list included proven crop loss or “acts of God,” financial hardship, withdrawal of applications, denial of permits, and state licensing issues as valid reasons to waive the business tax.

The Mendocino Cannabis Alliance sent a letter to supervisors, noting the alliance supported the reasons outlined by Schultz and listing several other circumstances under which cannabis taxes should be waived.

The MCA recommendations included those instances where the grower did not receive a state temporary license in a timely manner, or when cultivators changed license types in a given year. The MCA suggested victims of the 2018 fires who can provide evidence of crop loss or crop damage also should be relieved of tax obligation, and victims of distributor fraud or breach of contract who can provide proof of legal action taken against that distributor should have their taxes waived. The MCA added that growers who can demonstrate a crop was stolen also should be eligible for the appeal process.

Supervisors, however, decided there will be only two causes for which payment of the cannabis business tax may be waived – that the appellant can prove he or she cultivated cannabis in the tax year in a square-foot area that would put them into a lower permit type than the one for which taxes had been assessed, or that they can prove he or she did not cultivate cannabis at all in the year for which taxes are being assessed.

During the public comment section of deliberations on the item, 10 people from the audience spoke, opposing the cannabis minimum tax. All urged supervisors to amend the ordinance or do away with it.

Covelo farmer Joey Gottheld refused “to call this a tax. Taxes are based on income. This is a penalty based on the business that we’re in.... All other industry-specific sales taxes are based on product produced and sold. To apply a minimum tax to any production-based agriculture or industry is unethical and unreasonable.”

Marty Klein, a Willits resident who has a farm in Covelo, told supervisors that, although he has a Type II permit [for up to 10,000 square feet of canopy], he has a premises diagram certified by the state of California which authenticates that he is growing 3,000 square feet.

“I paid \$2,600 this year,” Kein said. “I’d prefer not to pay the other \$2,400 if I don’t have to. So, I’d like to appeal. And if there’s a reasonable amount of money [which will be assessed to him as an appeals fee], I think that’s the route I’d like to go.”

Supervisors directed board Chair Carre Brown to work with CEO/Clerk of the Board Carmel Angelo to bring back a resolution for a future board meeting, that would establish the Cannabis Business Tax Appeals Board and recommend a fee to file an appeal.

Board discussion touched on what a reasonable fee might be: Second District Supervisor John McCowen said \$1,000 might be a reasonable figure. Fifth District Supervisor Williams said \$1,000 was unacceptable to him. However, the board did not make any recommendation to the Cannabis Business Tax Appeals Board about what the fee should be.

Dunham was with Chandler when Chandler fired Howe.

Also according to Howe, Mendocino County Public Health Officer Dr. Gary Pace has submitted his resignation to the county, to express his sense of injustice at what was done to Howe.

Medie Jesena Parrott, a pediatric nurse practitioner in Ukiah who does not work for Mendocino County, but who has worked with Dr. Howe in the past, has attempted to garner support for Howe, and she also says Pace has resigned, effective as of the end of this month.

In a letter to the Willits Weekly, Parrott wrote, “We have not yet felt the reverberations of the firing of the Mendocino County Public Health Director Barbara Howe, nor the subsequent resignation of the county Health Officer, Dr. Gary Pace, in solidarity with her.”

Willits Weekly attempted to contact Dr. Pace to discuss his alleged resignation; however, Pace declined to be interviewed by this newspaper, stating through an intermediary that, as he was still an employee of Mendocino County, he was not in a position to talk about it.

According to Parrott, Howe had done an outstanding job during her tenure with Mendocino County Public Health, a position that Howe held for a year and a half. “She has eliminated redundant services and improved the department’s capacity to meet the medical needs of citizens in a shelter during a fire,” Parrott recently wrote. “She has pre-deployed air scrubbers to inland schools to protect the health of kids with asthma; and she has made sure that at-risk folks experiencing homelessness got the Hepatitis A vaccine. She and Dr. Pace have worked with the sheriff to bring medical treatment for substance use to county inmates while in the jail, thereby reducing recidivism for drug crimes.

“Her other achievements include pursuing national public health accreditation, bringing modern epidemiologic surveillance programs here so that Public Health staff can monitor local emergency room data in real time, and committing Public Health financial resources to the county’s Community Health Improvement Plan. All this in 18 short months.”

Contacted recently by Willits Weekly, former Public Health director Howe said she does not know why she was fired. “[Tammy] wouldn’t tell me,” Howe said. “What they said was that my job was an ‘at-will’ position and that my services were no longer needed. Then they pressured me into signing a statement that I had voluntarily resigned. That isn’t the truth.

“Now, I did sign that statement, that is true,” Howe acknowledged. “But I signed it minutes after they had dropped this bombshell on me, and I wasn’t thinking clearly. The truth is they forced me to resign. I offered to talk to them about it. But they wouldn’t talk. They said they had to be someplace else in fifteen minutes and that I had fifteen minutes to get out.”

“If I had to guess, I think I could come up with one thing that that happened, two weeks before I was fired,” Howe said. “This was on May 15. I had convened a meeting with the Office of Emergency Services and PG&E. Public Health did a training on how to handle our most vulnerable people during those planned PG&E power shut-downs. We had a guy from PG&E there, and he spoke for an hour.

“After it was over, I led a discussion on what emergency services would need to

Identification found in the boat was used to identify Soto.

While the “cause of death in this case has not been determined, there were no obvious signs of foul play being involved,” said sheriff’s Lt. Shannon Barney. A Thursday autopsy has been scheduled.

Investigators also found a wallet with identification and a cellular telephone belonging to 40-year-old Vincent Soto inside the boat, Barney said.

Family members told investigators father and son had had planned a day of fishing at the lake and should still be together. Deputies discovered the younger Soto’s vehicle with a boat trailer at the lake’s north boat ramp.

An initial search found no signs of the missing man, Barney said, and deputies contacted members of the Mendocino County Sheriff’s Search and Rescue Team, who initiated a search by boat using divers and side-scan sonar. Search teams also scoured the shoreline of the lake.

The Mendocino County Sheriff’s Office, Mendocino County Search and Rescue, personnel of the Army Corps of Engineers, family and friends of the missing person, and a helicopter were all deployed and utilized

take care of people, people who wouldn’t make it during a prolonged power outage. This is what we call in Public Health talk, a ‘gap analysis.’ And one of the things we came up with was, well, we would need power in our regional center. Now, I had four generators sitting there gathering dust in the Public Health storage shed. So I said, ‘It’s highly likely that we can put generators in our regional center.’”

Howe said, in the days following the training, she received a series of three emails from Chandler, which indicated that Chandler was interested in what happened at the training. “The first email asked, who was at the training? The second email asked, what was the name of the representative from PG&E? And the third email asked if I had committed any county resources at the training,” Howe said.

Howe was fired on May 24, seven work days after the May 15 training.

“The irony of all this is that they say that they are trying to encourage what they call ‘leadership at all levels,’ to get county staff to be leaders and not followers. But when I tried to be a leader, what happened?” Howe said.

According to a request for a Civil Harassment and Workplace Violence Restraining Order filed by the Mendocino County Counsel’s Office on behalf of Chandler on May 31, within hours after Howe was fired, she initiated a series of seven text messages to Chandler expressing her anger and predicting that Chandler would soon come down with a disease. According to a document called “Declaration of Tammy Moss Chandler in Support of Civil Harassment Restraining Order,” which was filed with the Court of Mendocino, Howe told Chandler via a series of text messages that Chandler would soon contract stomach cancer.

“I am personally familiar with Ms. Howe’s work history and education, as reported by her,” Chandler’s declaration reads. “I am aware that she holds a Masters of Science degree and has more than a decade of experience working in nutrition and public health. The nature of her work and education leads me to believe that she holds more knowledge of infectious agents and toxics than the average person.

“Her repeated statement that I will get a disease, along with the specificity of her statement that it will be ‘some sort of stomach cancer’ and her comment that it will occur in the ‘near future,’ has made me afraid that she intends to expose me to some sort of disease, contaminant or poison.”

Asked about those messages to Chandler, Howe admitted that she sent them, but she contends that Chandler misinterpreted her intention. “My point in my texts to Tammy was to tell her that I think she is a decent person, and that when a decent person does things that they know are wrong, the body tells them. You experience dis-ease. Dis-ease is the step before disease.

“I wouldn’t harm anybody, ever. I’m the kind of person who takes the spider out of the garden and puts it someplace safe,” Howe said.

A hearing on the request for a Workplace Violence Restraining Order will be held in Judge Jeanine Nadel’s courtroom in the Ukiah Court House at 9 am on Wednesday, June 19.

Willits Weekly called county CEO Carmel Angelo asking if she had any comment about the firing of Howe. As of press time, Angelo had not responded to the call.

compliance with strict state regulations.

MPS, which has a manufacturing permit from the City of Willits, offers extraction, distillation and purification services, but emphasizes the company’s ability to purify as what sets them apart.

“We do what no one else does,” said David Kurzfeld, a partner and investor at MPS who grew up in the Redwood Valley area. “We’re always full. We have parameters of our technology that we’re still working on because we can always make it better, but it’s working. We’re cleaning oils. They’re coming in, they’re quarantined, they go back to them clean. So it’s working and it’s working in Willits.”

Michael Doyle, managing partner at the company, said there is only one other business in the state offering a similar purifying service, operating out of the Los Angeles area, but their technique is less efficient than the one used and patented by MPS.

“We developed a whole new approach to it to minimize yield [loss],” he said, “and to selectively go in and grab the compounds we want. And all aimed at minimizing yield loss and also not affecting the oil. And so it’s been a hard road, but we’re having success.”

Inside a large room at the Willits facility, several devices are monitored by staff as cannabis materials are put through a multitude of steps in the purification and distillation processes.

“And what you’re seeing is all of these components are all steps that we are completing our research on,” said Doyle. “And I would say by within a year, this will all be condensed into a single piece of machinery.”

Doyle and others at MPS say that the purification process, called “remediation”, is a crucial service for farmers and distributors to have access to, since California has put in place such strict regulations on cannabis products.

“I’ve got to tell you- I’ve been in the Ag business for years,” said Doyle. “There is nothing as stringent as what they’ve applied to the cannabis field for purity. It’s beyond the food we eat. It’s beyond tobacco compounds. They put a heavy burden on purity.”

The strict guidelines are especially impactful because if any cannabis in the state system is tested and found to not be in compliance, as it very commonly is, it can

### Momma Bindi

This sweet little momma has had a rough start, but she kept her four babies safe until help brought her to a shelter. Now Bindi and her family are being cared for until they all find new homes. She is a 3-year-old mixed breed that, now that her pups are getting old enough, would love a family of her own. Don’t you think she deserves it? Come meet her and her young ones to see for yourself what a good job she’s done. Applications are available now!

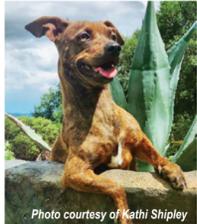


Photo courtesy of Kathi Shipley

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County is located at 9700 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley. Open hours: 1 to 5 pm, Wednesday through Friday; and 11 am to 3 pm, Saturday and Sunday. Please give us a call at 707-485-0123 if you have questions. You can view all our adoptable dogs and cats on Petfinder or through our website: mendohumanesociety.com. To volunteer or help take the dogs for a walk, please join HSIMC on Sundays at 11 am for an orientation.

### Cute Lily

We took Lily out for her photo shoot and off-leash romp-o-rama; she was easy to get geared up and walk. We think Lily may have beagle or some hound in her DNA, and maybe Lab??? We would love to see her DNA test results! What we do know is Lily likes to get butt scratches, and has the softest and most gentle mouth.

Lily is cute as a button – though a very big button!! This girl will feel much more chipper after shedding some pounds. She does love her treats! If you’re looking for a partner to get you out walking, and help with losing a bit of weight, Lily would be a great “hound around town” buddy. And we know she would love to hang out on the couch after her walks! Lily is looking for a home where she is the only canine getting all of the love and attention. She is an 8-year-old spayed female who currently weighs 80 pounds.

The missing man has three tattoos: “One Love” on his chest, which is multicolored, an English mastiff on his left shoulder, and a Native American with feathers on his right shoulder.

Anyone with information related to this case is urged to contact the Mendocino County Sheriff’s Dispatch Center at 707-463-4086.

This report was based on a press release from the Mendocino County Sheriff’s Office.

be quarantined and then destroyed after 30 days if no remediation plan is put in place.

“A lot of the cannabis companies are struggling,” said Doyle. “They have a lot of material quarantined in lockers and freezers. A lot of green matter is parked. So there’s companies in this state that are holding large volumes of product waiting for someone to come up with a solution to make them compliant. And we’re starting to do that.”

“And I think it’s massive for this area,” he continued. “This will turn into a pure technical business in this industry. We’re really excited, I’m glad to be up here.”

Doyle estimates that they’ve invested around \$1 million into their Willits facility, and a large amount of their efforts have gone towards calibration of their machines. Calibration is challenging because the state measures down to 1 part per billion when testing impurity levels in cannabis.

The result of all that calibration is that MPS can now be confident in telling clients that the cannabis oils will pass the state tests when they return them. The oils can then be used by companies to create various types of products, such as edibles or oil cartridges for vaporizer pens.

There are two testing devices at the MPS facility regularly used on the cannabis oils there – one that measures levels of cannabinoids (such as THC) to make sure that the potency is intact, and another which examines levels of impurities.

The MPS remediation technique was designed by their head of research, Glen Richards, who holds several degrees including a PhD in chemical engineering from Princeton.

Richards said the state looks for about 66 different pesticides when testing, but that only a small number of them typically show up.

“What we’ve found in general with all these people sending us oils to test, there’s maybe a set of 10 that keep coming up again and again and again,” he said. “So even though there may be 66 pesticides out there that we have to calibrate our machines for, actually it’s rare to find something that has more than two or three in it.”

“Most people are trying to be clean,” added Kurzfeld. “They’re just not quite getting there. Most people bring us stuff that is not the biggest challenge for us. Some people bring us stuff that is ... super, super dirty, but that’s more rare.”

Doyle said that unlike many new cannabis businesses, MPS put the brunt of their investment money towards research and hiring the right people.

“Some companies throw everything into their appearance to begin with,” he said. “We threw everything into our knowledge and getting proper people.”

“The luxury we have with all of the partners and investors is Glen has the luxury to sit in here and truly think, which is not typically made possible in small companies,” said Doyle, who noted the company is self-funded, and has resisted taking any outside money.

“To have someone like Glen in a company this size with his Merck Pharmaceutical background is pretty powerful,” Doyle said.

Richards said he has worked in the pharmaceutical and plant research and development fields for over 40 years. He’s already worked on many other patent designs and projects for MPS as well, but said that special emphasis was placed on developing the purifying technique.

“The highest priority was pesticide remediation, because that’s a show stopper in the industry if you can’t overcome that problem,” he said.

According to Doyle, the vast majority of the cannabis material that comes through the facility is in need of some remediation, and Kurzfeld said that even compost can taint cannabis during cultivation, such as the commonly used bat guano which contains high amounts of heavy metals.

“It’s almost a guarantee that there’ll be some [impurities] in some of the plants,” said Richards. “It’s interesting to see that even people supposedly getting organic dirt from organic farms – it’s not a guarantee.”

All those Willits Weekly spoke to at MPS say their interactions with the city agencies in Willits have all gone very well throughout the permit and inspection process, and that city staff have been very supportive, even helping them work through state inspections.

“They’ve been very nice,” said Richards. “The preconceived notion is that the relationship would be confrontational or antagonistic, and it’s been the opposite.”

Kurzfeld said both Mendocino County Sheriff Tom Allman and Willits Police Chief Scott Warnock were helpful to them while planning their security, which includes 24-hour surveillance.

“We took a lot of advice from both Scott and Tom, and we took it to heart and followed

it,” he said. “They came in and gave us their thoughts on running a safe business.”

He said that City Planner Dusty Duley, Assistant Planner Michelle Johnson, and Little Lake Fire Chief Chris Wilkes have all been great to work with.

“[Duley’s] strict and he’s nice,” he said. “That’s the way it should be. He follows the rules, he enforces the rules, and he does it with respect. And at the same time caring about your success – not just trying to shove things down people’s throat. He’s a really good guy for his position.”

Doyle likewise had positive things to say when asked about MPS (see “5 cannabis businesses now operating in Willits” for additional comments from Duley on local cannabis businesses).

“They’re another one of our responsible applicants,” said Duley. “We have found them to be cutting edge. They’ve got an interesting business model and seem to be a company that is growing every day as far as their business activities. I know they’ve been successful in hiring a number of new employees, including many folks here in the Willits area, and we’re expecting that to be one of many companies that’s going to grow in the future.”

Doyle said, as of last month, MPS has hired about 15 people in Willits, including several engineers, and they always look to hire locally. He added they are seeking to hire another five or so, and estimates they will have 25 or 30 on their team in Willits eventually.

Doyle also estimated that about three-quarters of all the money they’ve spent getting the business going – such as for materials, equipment and contractors – has been spent locally.

Miriam Carrera is the facilities director and account manager at MPS and was one of the first people hired at the business. She also grew up in the Redwood Valley area, and has experience working in the wine industry.

“This is way different, this is way more interesting,” she said of working at MPS. “Wine chemistry is pretty boring. I got bored pretty quick there; [there’s] just a few basic tests. This is really interesting. Pesticides are super fascinating, there’s just so many of them. Even cannabinoids are really interesting. So we’re never bored here.”

**JOIN LOCAL MERCHANTS AND VENDORS IN KICKING OFF WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS!**

# HOMETOWN CELEBRATION

An official Willits Frontier Days event

**SHOP LOCAL STORES FOR A CHANCE TO WIN GIFT CERTIFICATES**  
**STOP BY VENDOR BOOTHS FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN A FAMILY PACK OF WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS EVENT TICKETS**

**CLASSIC CARS & MOTORCYCLES ON DISPLAY**  
**HORSE DRAWN CARRIAGE AND FIRE TRUCK RIDES**

**LIVE MUSIC BY PAVLOS GARAGE**  
**KID’S ZONE WITH BOUNCE HOUSE**  
**FACE PAINTING & PETTING ZOO**  
**FORTNIGHT TOURNAMENT**  
**GREAT FOOD & SPECIALS**  
**LOCAL VENDORS & MORE**

**FREE TO ATTEND - JOIN US ON FRIDAY, JUNE 21 FROM 5 TO 9 PM IN DOWNTOWN WILLITS**

**Thursday, June 13**

**Willits Farmers Market:** Summer market is located on West Mendocino Avenue next to the Rexall parking lot. Thursday, June 13, 3 to 6 pm. Spring greens and veggies, fresh strawberries, local meats, sausage and eggs, local grains, and savory and sweet baked goods, including handcrafted bread. Jams and jellies and savory preserves, fair trade chocolates, olive oil and balsamic vinegar, Willits-roasted coffee, tea, fire cider, crafts, live music, free herb talks, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

**"Ride Safe, Bike Happy":** Walk & Bike Mendocino offer a Bicycle Education and Safety Course for adults of all ages and kids age 10+ with existing beginner biking skills. Learn traffic skills, being visible, mapping out safe routes, understanding the law, and more. Thursday, June 13, 3:30 to 5 pm, Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Followed by a group bike ride to the Willits Farmers Market. Helmet required for bike ride.

**Sherwood Firewise Communities General Meeting:** Thursday, June 13, 6 to 8 pm, Brooktrails Community Center. "We will be providing Communication, Emergency Prep and Planning & Funding Team reports, status of current neighborhood groups for home hardening and creating defensible space, current grant applications, and testing of the SFC SafetyNet system. More details of the Evacuation Planning workshops during the summer. Provide your thoughts on preparation for the coming fire season. The last 30 minutes will be utilized for working team meetings." Contact info@Sherwoodfirewise.org for more information.

**Friday, June 14**

**Art Night:** Rock Friends: Friday, June 14, 1 to 2 pm. Bring your imagination & create a new pal using a rock, paints, and other fun additions. Supplies provided. All ages. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. 469-5908.

**Drive Thru Chicken Dinner:** Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Friday, June 14, 5 to 6:30 pm. Dinner for two for \$25, including BBQ Chicken (courtesy of

the Willits Lions Club BBQ crew), Potato Salad, Corn on the Cob, Garlic Bread & Cookies. Pre-sale tickets only! Available at the Senior Center. Info: 459-6826.

**Herb Track: The Medicine Bundle:** Friday, June 14, 5 to 7 pm, School of Adaptive Agriculture, Ridgewood Ranch, 16200 North Highway 101. "In some of the old traditions, medicine carriers made a bundle that contained the herbs that were not easy to find and each of which had many uses. This class will examine herbs that may be a good fit to carry in one's bundle. We will examine how to develop plant relationships on the deep and subtle levels and do a

short herb walk." Register at: <http://www.school-of-adaptive-agriculture.org/event/the-medicine-bundle-what-we-carry-with-us/>

**"Art of the XX Century":** Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Friday, June 14, 6:30 pm. Lecture by Gary Martin, WCA curator: "How Modern Art made it to America and what happened next. A trip through the century noting the

movements and lives of those artists that changed the world through art."

**Shanachie Pub:** TC Culp & the Blue Reptiles, Friday, June 14, 9 pm. "TC Culp is back with his band of brothers, the Blue Reptiles, performing Jazzy-Blues." Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

**Saturday, June 15**

**Willits Otters Swim Competition:** "The Willits Otters Swim Club will host a swim competition on June 15 and 16, 7:30 am to 1:30 pm, at the Willits High School pool – the Willits event is renowned for its hospitality and welcoming atmosphere. The Otter meet is a fun-filled weekend for everyone with raffle prizes, camping out on the deck with movies, and a BBQ. Please come out and support our team." Visit [www.willits-otters.org](http://www.willits-otters.org).



**AT THE MOVIES**



**"The Secret Life of Pets 2"**

**The Story:** Max the timid doggy from the animated slapstick comedy "The Secret Life of Pets" is back for more adventures. Max (voiced by Patton Oswald) leads an oddball gaggle of talking animals. What a list: a noble alpha dog, a big goofy dog, a romantic poodle, lots of narcissistic cats (aren't they always), a wacky turkey, an evil monkey, sheep. There are chases. There are mean wolves. There's a particularly threatening tiger trainer with whip. There's a bunny named Snowball (voiced by Kevin Hart) who dresses in a superhero outfit, does karate, and has a wildly exaggerated self-image. Also, Max has a Boy who loves him.

**My Thoughts:** 8 am, Friday, June 7, me and Jeff watch the "Pets 2" movie. I don't usually enjoy animated slapstick funnies, but this one had me laughing. Jeff Hoover, the co-owner of the Noyo hippodrome, laughed louder, and let me tell you that despite Jeff's movie-loving sentimental nature, he can be a tough audience. Film history note: When the Marx Brothers rehearsed for a new movie, they used to perform before a live audience to perfect their timing. They invented the "laugh-o-meter" to test out the laugh points in their scenes. If we applied the same technology to "Pets 2," the big red needle on the laugh-o-meter would be pinned all the way to the right. It's non-stop drollery. So check out the flick, Willitsians, it's a keeper.

**Parents:** Bring the kids, they will love it. And, moms and dads, there's a plus, the animal heroes learn to face new situations and deal effectively with personal anxieties, so give the filmmakers a gold star for values.

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

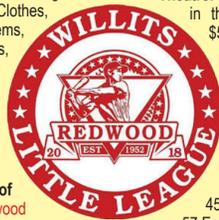


**Toy Grand Opening:** Imagination Station Education Toy Depot ribbon cutting, Saturday, June 15, 10 am. 262 East Commercial Street. 20% off sale the first two hours. "Our toys are S.T.E.A.M. focused, meaning that we are looking to inspire the next generation with Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics all through play." Hours: 9:30 am to 7 pm every day. Info: 459-TOYS (8697).

**Paint the Town Painting Party:** Sunday, June 16, 11 am, Main and Commercial streets. "Now that school is out, and summer is arriving it's time to paint again! Have you reserved a hydrant? Do you need paint? Get involved again, reserve a hydrant, or just help out. Paint the Town is a project of WELL, Willits Economic Localization. WELL will provide painting supplies. Donations to help this effort are appreciated!" Send your membership or donation to WELL at PO Box 42, Willits CA 95490. To volunteer for future painting projects, adopt-a-hydrant, etc., please email Paul at 4paulj@gmail.com.

**Tuesday, June 18**

**Tightwad Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre:** All 2D movies that are in their second week are \$5 on Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre for all ages, all showings. This week's Tightwad Tuesday movies are: "Rocketman" and "Secret Life of Pets 2." Visit [www.noyotheatre.com](http://www.noyotheatre.com) or call 459-6696 for showtimes. 57 East Commercial Street.



**Thursday, June 20**

**Willits Farmers Market:** Summer market is located on West Mendocino Avenue next to the Rexall parking lot. Thursday, June 20, 3 to 6 pm. See Thursday, June 13 listing for details.

**Science Night:** Marshmallow Catapults: Thursday, June 20, 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Learn about force and trajectory by building a mini-marshmallow catapult. Supplies provided. Ages 6 and up. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. 459-5908.

**"Living the Change":** The Now and Then Film Series presents: "Living the Change: Exploring Solutions to our Global Crisis." "Solutions to the global crises we face." <https://livingthechangefilm.com/watch/> Donation of \$5 to \$20 to support the film series. Trailers at 6:30 pm. Serving at heirloom organic popcorn with real organic butter. Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Thursday, June 20, 7 pm.

**Sunday, June 16**

**Willits Otters Swim Competition:** Sunday, June 16 is the second day of this competition at the Willits High School pool; see Saturday, June 15 listing for details.

**Shanachie Pub: Tim O'Neil: Thursday, June 20, 8 pm. "Solo show from T.O.B., a national touring bluegrass/American band based out of Sonoma." Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.**



brownpapertickets.com or 800-838-3006. Rotary Club benefit Thursday, June 27, 7:30 pm. Tickets for the benefit are available for \$20 through Tamara Alaniz, 707-354-3388.

**Shanachie Pub: Blue Luke: Friday, June 21, 9 pm. "Blue Luke Andrews is a prodigy guitarist, born and raised in Dos Rios." Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.**



**Sunday, June 23**

**Little Lake Grange Pancake Breakfast:** "Join your friends at the Little Lake Grange pancake breakfast, 8 to 11 am, Sunday, June 23 (and every fourth Sunday through October). \$8 buys you a plate of the best 'scratch' pancakes & local farm eggs to be found anywhere around. Our tasty breakfast is a wonderful combination of comfort foods." Choose sourdough wholegrain, Hank's Famous Buttermilk Pancakes or Gluten-Free, Beeler's Quality Bacon, organic local farm fresh eggs, real butter, juice, organic coffee or tea. \$8; \$7 seniors, \$5 children under 10. Free breakfast for firefighters; one breakfast per official ID. Extra: sides of organic fruit, \$2 to \$3 and Amish organic maple syrup, \$1. Little Lake Grange #670, 291 School Street (2 blocks south of Commercial Street; 1 block west of Main Street).

**"Off the Map":** Willits Community Theatre, Sunday, June 23, 2 pm matinee. See June 21 listing for details.



**RIDE SAFE, BIKE HAPPY!**

Do you want to ride your bike more? Are you concerned about safety? Want to ride with confidence? Join our FREE course and learn to enjoy riding like you never have before!

**THURSDAY JUNE 13 3:30PM TO 5PM WILLITS LIBRARY**

- Bi-Wheel Ride and Step Out: Soft Start
- How Your Riding Skills
- Understanding Road and Lane Laws
- Advance to Safe Street Conditions
- Control Proficiency on the Road with Drivers and Pedestrians

Enjoy a Group Bike Ride After the Course at the Willits Farmers Market to Practice Your New Skills!

Call 707-457-5217 or email [willits@willits.org](mailto:willits@willits.org)

**Saturday, June 22**

**Freedom from PTSD:** A free health workshop to help families and individuals regain joy, serenity and relief from the anxiety and depression following a traumatic event. A panel of professional therapists, community roundtable discussion, short movie trailer and more. Free family event. Saturday, June 22, 10 to 5 pm, Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street.

**Author Talk with C.C. Mitchell:** Saturday, June 22, 4 to 5 pm. Join local author C.C. Mitchell to discuss her new book "Breaking the Fog," the first book in the series of "The Essence Chronicles." Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street.

**"The Rendezvous" Solstice Gathering:** Leppard Collective presents a free gathering, Saturday, June 22, 5 to 11 pm. Music, art and a silent auction. Music by DJ Blesse, Electroworm, DJ Gatsby. Portions of the art sales go to Willits High School Art & Music program. 109 North Main Street.

**"Off the Map":** Willits Community Theatre, Saturday, June 22, 7:30 pm. See June 21 listing for details.

**Shanachie Pub:** Music Off the Grid Band: Saturday, June 22, 8 pm. "Playing a mix of



**HOMETOWN CELEBRATION**  
An Official Willits Frontier Days event

WIN A FAMILY PACK OF WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS EVENT TICKETS!  
CLASIC CARS & MOTORCYCLES ON DISPLAY  
HORSE DRAWN CARRIAGE AND FIRE TRUCK RIDES  
LIVE MUSIC BY PAVLOS GARAGE  
KID'S ZONE WITH BOUNCE HOUSE  
FACE PAINTING & PETTING ZOO  
PORTHOLE TOURNAMENT  
GREAT FOOD & SPECIALS  
LOCAL VENDORS & MORE!

FREE TO ATTEND - JOIN US ON  
**FRIDAY, JUNE 21**  
FROM 5 TO 9 PM IN DOWNTOWN WILLITS

**Senior Center Lunch**

Week of June 17 through June 21

- Monday:** Spaghetti with Meat Sauce
- Tuesday:** Beef Tips with Noodles
- Wednesday:** California Chicken Bacon Wrap
- Thursday:** Stromboli: Sausage & Mushroom
- Friday:** Egg Salad Sandwich

Harrah Senior Center serves lunch five days per week from 11:45 am to 1 pm. \$6 lunch special for all June! Lunch includes salad bar, entrée and sides, dessert, and drink. 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-6826.

**POP Club at Farmers Market**

June 13, 20, 27

All kids 5-12 participating in the Power of Produce Club get \$4 of green bucks to spend on any fruit, vegetable, or plant start at the Willits Farmers Market. "Enjoy your green bucks and see you at the market! If you receive CalFresh/EBT benefits, you can come to the farmers market and participate in the Market Match program. Spend up to \$15 in EBT benefits, and the market will match that amount, making it \$30! What a great way to eat affordable local food, support local farming businesses, and bring our federal tax dollars back to the community!" Thursdays in June, 3 to 6 pm at the Willits Farmers Market, West Mendocino Street, downtown Willits.

**The Willits Community Theatre**  
Presents  
**Off The Map**

TICKETS AT MAZHAR & BROWNPAPERTICKETS.COM  
By Joan Ackermann  
June 21 - July 7, 2019

Directed By  
Jim Williams

Show Dates  
June  
Th Fri Sat Sun  
21 22 23  
27 28 29 30  
July  
5 6 7

Times and Prices  
All Th-Fri Sat shows 7:30 PM  
Sun Matinees 2PM  
Fri & Sat shows \$20  
Th & Sun shows \$15

\*The June 27 show is a benefit for the Willits Rotary Club, support Young Women for tickets \$100-\$150

Cast:  
Caitlin Bell  
Tara Bondhusen  
Frank Brubaker  
Red Granger  
Kelly Keeg  
Steve Mouton

**FRONTIER DAYS**  
A COLLECTOR'S JOURNEY  
New Acquisitions from Dusty Whitney Exhibit

EXHIBIT OPENING  
JUNE 29, 2019  
2 P.M.

**Hometown Celebration**

June 21

Join local merchants and vendors in kicking off Willits Frontier Days at the annual Hometown Celebration in downtown Willits. Shop local stores for a chance to win gift certificates. Stop by vendor booths for your chance to win a family pack of Willits Frontier Days event tickets. Classic cars and motorcycles on display. Horse-drawn carriage and fire truck rides. Live music by Pavlos Garage. Kid's Zone with a bounce house, face painting, and petting zoo. Fortnite tournament. Great food and specials. Free to the public. Friday, June 21, 5 to 9 pm, downtown Willits. Questions? Email [ashitan@dredhouse.com](mailto:ashitan@dredhouse.com).

**Haschak Town Hall**

June 27

Third District residents are invited to a Town Hall with Third District Supervisor John Haschak. Thursday, June 27, 6 to 8 pm. Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Sponsored by the American Association of University Women, Willits Branch, and Little Lake Grange. Info: 707-972-7070.

**'Living the Change'**

June 20

The Now and Then Film Series presents: "Living the Change: Exploring Solutions to our Global Crisis," which "explores solutions to the global crises we face today – solutions any one of us can be part of – through the inspiring stories of people pioneering change in their own lives and in their communities in order to live in a sustainable and regenerative way." See trailer at: <https://livingthechangefilm.com/watch/> Donations of \$5 to \$20 will be used to support the film series. Trailers at 6:30 pm. Serving heirloom organic popcorn with real organic butter. Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Thursday, June 20, 7 pm.

**'Frontier Days: A Collector's Journey'**

New acquisitions from Dusty Whitney Opens June 29

"Frontier Days: A Collector's Journey. New Acquisitions from Dusty Whitney" opens Saturday, June 29, at 2 pm at the Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street. "Join us for a special exhibit opening, featuring history, artifacts, images, and memorabilia pertaining to the Willits Frontier Days Rodeo, Sweethearts, and the Fourth of July Parade." Exhibit opening is free; includes a ribbon-cutting ceremony, refreshments, Frontier Days-themed crafts, a stunt photo opportunity and more. Visit [www.mendocinocounty.org](http://www.mendocinocounty.org) for more details.

Send us your calendar items for local events by emailing us!

Monday deadline for Thursday publication!  
[willitsweekly@gmail.com](mailto:willitsweekly@gmail.com)

**Mendocino County Museum Special Hours**

June 25

In conjunction with the Great Race lunch at Recreation Grove, Mendocino County Museum will be open and offer free admission from 12 to 4 pm, Tuesday, June 25. "We invite the public to visit the Museum and learn more about Mendocino County history, before or after enjoying the Great Race lunch." To learn more about the Great Race stop in Willits, visit <https://business.willits.org/events/details/the-great-race-2160>. The Museum is located at 400 East Commercial Street. Info: [www.mendocinocounty.org/museum](http://www.mendocinocounty.org/museum) or 707-972-6458.

**Ongoing Events**

- Meatless Mondays:** at Roots restaurant at Adventist Health Howard Memorial. "Serving delicious plant-based options every Monday." Info: [www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/322072.php](http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/322072.php).
- Willits Center for the Arts:** Eva Strauss-Rosen (drawings and paintings) and Satoko Barash (ceramics) present their art through Sunday, June 23 at the Center, 71 East Commercial Street. Gallery open to the public, Wednesday to Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm.
- Collective Care:** A Holistic Support Group: Fridays, 10 to 11:15 am. 44650 Highway 101, Laytonville. Holistic community support and information. Children welcome. By donation. [www.minesisterbotanicals.com](http://www.minesisterbotanicals.com).
- Eight to the Bar with Les Tarr:** Radio active blues programming for tragically hip and twisted, Fridays, 9 pm to midnight. 97.9 FM, KLLG.
- Willits International Folk Dancing:** Class meets every Thursday, 7 to 9 pm, Willits Charter High School. New dancers taught 7 to 8 pm. \$0 - \$5 sliding scale. Info: [megster1989@yahoo.com](mailto:megster1989@yahoo.com).
- Willits Frontier Twirlers Square Dance Club:** Mondays, 6:30 upstairs gallery of the Willits Center for Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. \$5. Come alone or bring a friend. 707-484-3365 for info.
- Little John's Place:** Every Wednesday Pool Tournament 12:30 pm, \$5 buy-in. Wednesdays, 3:30 to 5 pm, "we'll buy the pizza, you buy the beer." Thursdays, Pool Tournaments starting at 5:30 pm. 383 South Main Street. 459-5636. [facebook.com/littlejohnsplace/](https://www.facebook.com/littlejohnsplace/)
- Free Herb Talks:** by the Mendocino Herb Guild. Every Thursday, 4 pm, at the Willits Farmers Market, at West Mendocino Avenue at Main Street next to the Rexall parking lot.
- Roots Engine House Tours:** Docent-led tour of the Engine House most Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10 am to 4:30 pm. Join a Roots of Motive Power docent to view classic motorcars, a steam train engine, and more – up close.
- Marijuana Anonymous 12 Step Meeting:** Every Tuesday at 6 pm. Meeting place is the Back Alley building in Catherine Lane, directly behind the United Methodist Church, which is at the corner of School and Pine, right across from the Grange.
- "Believe":** Alcohol Ink paintings by Julie Bullock, alcohol ink art. Brickhouse Coffee, 3 East Commercial Street. Each painting is a one of a kind, as she does not offer prints of any of her original paintings. More info: [www.facebook.com/DbDesigns17](https://www.facebook.com/DbDesigns17), [www.instagram.com/dbdesigns17](https://www.instagram.com/dbdesigns17).
- Brown Bag Lunch Program:** Lunch served to the hungry in the City Park across from the Willits Police Station every Saturday at 1 pm. If rain: Under the overhang at City Hall, across the street. Served by various community-minded organizations. For information, call the Food Bank at 459-3333.
- Boomer's Friday Night Karaoke:** 1st, 3rd & 5th Friday of every month, Boomer's Saloon, 45020 Highway 101, Laytonville, 9 pm to 1 am. No Cover. 1+ Please bring I.D. Hosted by DJ-Ken Steely Entertainment with KJ/DJ-Ken Steely & Anna. Come for dinner, stay for the fun.
- Willits Farmers Market:** Summer market is located on West Mendocino Avenue next to the Rexall parking lot. Spring greens and veggies, fresh strawberries, local meats, sausage and eggs, local grains, and savory and sweet baked goods, including handcrafted bread, jams and jellies and savory preserves, fair trade chocolates, olive oil and balsamic vinegar, Willits-roasted coffee, tea, fire cider, crafts, live music, free herb talks, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more!
- Emandal Chorale:** The Chorale is open to all who wish to sing a capella songs of peace and justice. Every Wednesday from 5 to 6:30 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Info: 367-1573.
- Friday Potluck Bingo:** Harrah Senior Center presents Potluck Bingo on Fridays. Doors open at 5 pm; games begin at 5:30 pm. Minimum bingo buy-in: \$5. 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-6826.
- Weekly Parkinson's Discussion and Support Group:** Every Thursday, 10:30 to 11:45 am. In the Conference Room at Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-1941.
- German Conversation Class:** Ongoing non-denominational German conversation/book reading class is open to new members (middle to advanced German speakers). No charge, but donations gladly accepted. St. John Lutheran Church, 24 Mill Creek Drive. Mondays from 7 to 8:30 pm. Info: Doris Wier, 456-9246.
- Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Group:** Meets every Tuesday at 6:30 pm, at the Muse, 31 East San Francisco Avenue. Info: 456-9425 or [honemann@yahoo.com](mailto:honemann@yahoo.com).
- Willits Community Drum Circle:** 7 to 10 pm at the Saint Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church, 66 East Commercial Street. Every 2nd and 4th Friday. Free. Everyone is welcome. Info: 459-4932.
- Willits Library Activities:** Wednesdays, 3 to 4:30 pm "Legs Club" (bring your imagination and start building); Wednesdays, 11 to 11:45 am "Play Group" (Self-directed playtime, with toys, ages 0 – 4); Wednesdays, 2:30 to 3 pm "Storytime" (Books, songs, rhymes and movement, ages 3 to 6); Thursdays, 11:30 am to 12 pm "Movement for Kids" (Explore movement and self-expression. Ages 4-7); Fridays, 3:30 to 4:30 pm "Therapeutic Coloring" (Bring a friend and relax with a coloring book); Saturdays, 11 am to 12 pm "Promoting Creativity" (A space to create a piece of art or writing for teens and adults); Fridays 5:30 to 5:50 pm "Calmning Stretches" teens and adults, Saturdays 2:30 to 4:30 pm "Drop-In Knitting" All skill levels. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-5908.
- Willits Seed Lending Library:** Offering information on seed saving and gardening. Seeds of flowers, herbs, and vegetables are free to seed library members, a seed donations are gladly accepted.
- Drop-In Knitting Circle:** Saturdays from 2:30 to 4:30 pm at the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street. "Bring your own projects or your yarn and needles, we have people who should be able to help solve problems and/or help you learn to knit or crochet. Sign-ups are not necessary – everyone is welcome to drop in." Info: Lotus Baker at 456-9037, or [lotus63@earthlink.net](mailto:lotus63@earthlink.net).
- Soroptimist International of Willits:** Women's service club aimed at the betterment of girls and women. Meets the second Tuesday at 4 pm and the third Tuesday at noon each month at St. John's Lutheran Church Hall, 24 Mill Creek Drive. Women interested in community service are welcome; new members are encouraged to join at any time.
- Weekly Life Changes Discussion and Support Group:** Wednesdays from 10 to 11:30 am. In the Conference Room at Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road.
- Smoking Cessation Program:** Free "Freedom from Smoking" class sponsored by Adventist Health Howard Memorial. Every Wednesday at AHM's Roots Restaurant, 1 Marcela Drive, 6 to 7 pm. Register today: 540-4208. Walk-ins are always welcome.
- Free Sheriff's Activity League programs:** at Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street. Teen gym: Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 3 to 5 pm. Karate: Thursday. Little Dragons-ages 3 to 6 and 5:15 to 6 pm. Youth Karate-ages 6 to 11, 6 to 7 pm; Tweens to Adults-ages 11 and up, 7 to 8:30 pm. All SAL programs free to the public. Info: [www.facebook.com/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague](http://www.facebook.com/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague) or Mike Tobin: 354-0565.
- Shanachie Pub:** Tuesdays, 7 pm: "Wabi Sabi" with host Mitchell Holman. formerly of It's A Beautiful Day ("Whitebird") features different artists every week. Singer-songwriter Aaron Ford every first Thursday at 7:30 pm. No cover. Jazz Night every second and fourth Thursday, 8 pm. "Local musicians... take jazz standards and infuse them with funk, hip hop, world, and free form jamming. The outcome is unexplainable." Open Mic Night every Wednesday. Sign up for the lottery for 20 minute time slots from 3 pm, when the Pub opens, to 7:30 pm. Music starts at 8 pm. "An eclectic array of local musicians and performers from around the world, often turning into an evening full of unexpected surprises." Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.
- Laytonville Farmers Market:** Mondays, from 2:30 to 5:30 pm at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville. Local fresh fruits and vegetables, artisan goat cheeses, ranch meats, eggs, handcrafted clothing, live music and much more.

At right: Willits business owners Jeff Yokum of Carstar Yokum's Body Shop, Tanya Musgrave of Family Tree Service, Eric Mehtlan of Mehtlan Insurance, and Martin Rodriguez of Ace Copy & Shipping are ready to give this Ford Fusion to the winner of the 3rd annual Car Giveaway.



Photo by Ree Slocum

### 3RD ANNUAL CAR GIVEAWAY!

**Make a difference in Someone's life**

How would a free car change your life? It might make all the difference for someone that you know!

This year, 5 local businesses have teamed up to give away a car to a deserving person who desperately needs one. This year's local businesses are participating in our 3rd annual car give away. You can nominate a deserving person simply by visiting one of our participating businesses: Carstar Yokum's Body Shop, Family Tree Service, Warranty Motors, Ace Copy and Shipping or Mehtlan Insurance Agency in Willits.

Make a huge difference in someone's life only takes minutes! Nominate a deserving person today!

## SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

### Agape Bible Church

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

### Amazing Grace Assembly of God Church

803 Coast Street P.O. Box 489, Willits Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m. Pastor, Bill Nobles Information: 456-9668 EVERYBODY IS WELCOME

### Eckankar: The Path of Spiritual Freedom

- Sound of Soul events
- Membership Discourses
- Spiritual Discussions
- ECK Light & Sound Services

More information? Call 707-456-9934

### Grace Community Church

Celebrating Life In Christ 25 Hazel Street, Willits Adult Sunday School - 9:30 a.m. Coffee Fellowship - 10:30 a.m. Worship Service & Children's Church - 11 a.m. Mid-week Bible Studies Potluck every 2nd Sunday Alan Klier, Lead Pastor 459-3106

### St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church

61 W. San Francisco Ave. Willits, CA 95490  
Father Aaron Bandendamm  
Mass times: Saturday confessions - 4:45 p.m. Saturday Vigil - 5:30 p.m. Sunday Mass - 9:00 a.m. English 10:30 a.m. Spanish  
We welcome All Walks of Faith

### St. Francis Episcopal Church

1 North Main Street, Willits 707-459-3066  
Church Services / Communion & Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. Healing Prayer 3rd Sunday ALL ARE WELCOME  
The Rev. Betsy Bruneau

### St. John Lutheran Church

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

### Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church

399 W. Mendocino Avenue 707-459-5714  
Sabbath School - 9:15 a.m. Worship Service - 10:45 a.m. 1st Sabbath of every month family potluck at the school. 22751 Bray Road, Willits

### Willits United Methodist

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

## 3rd annual Car Giveaway

Do you know a deserving person who desperately needs transportation and would benefit greatly from getting a free car? You have one last chance to nominate that person for the 3rd annual Car Giveaway: Friday, June 14 is the last day to submit a nomination.

This year the complete package includes the car – a Ford Fusion – plus a year of insurance and a \$500 gas card.

You can fill out your nomination application at one of the businesses sponsoring the giveaway: Carstar Yokum's Body Shop in Willits, Warranty Motors in Ukiah, Family Tree Service in Willits, Ace Copy and Shipping or Mehtlan Insurance, both in Willits, or you can email yokumsbodyshop@gmail.com.

The recipient will be announced to the community at the Willits Hometown Festival on Friday, June 21.

"We're so happy we can do this for the community," said Eric Mehtlan from Mehtlan Insurance. "The community gives so much by supporting us, their local businesses."

"It feels wonderful to give back to the community by being a part of the Car Giveaway," added Tanya Musgrave from Family Tree Service.

– Ree Slocum



## Paint the Town

### begins again on Sunday

We've had a lot of rain, and everyone's been busy with life. Now that school is out and summer is arriving, it's time to paint again!

Another Paint the Town painting party will be held Sunday, June 16, beginning at 11 am, to create beauty color, and fun in Willits. Meet at the k-rail murals, at the corner of Main and West Commercial streets.

Have you reserved a hydrant? Do you need paint? Does the hydrant you painted last year need a clear coat, or finishing touches? Come by and get involved again, reserve a hydrant, or just help out.

Some of us will work on finishing touches or putting a sealant coat on our beautiful murals. We will distribute paint, answer questions about fire hydrants or trash receptacles, and begin again, to paint around town.

Paint the Town is a project of WELL, Willits Economic Localization. WELL will provide painting supplies. Donations to help this effort are appreciated! Send your membership or donation to WELL at P.O. Box 42, Willits, CA 95490. To volunteer for future painting projects, adopt-a-hydrant, etc., please email Paul at 4paulj@gmail.com.

– Submitted by WELL, Willits Economic Localization

Above, left: Paint the Town volunteer and Willits artist Laura Corbin works on the newest "art bin" in town – the receptacle in front of Taco Bell.



## Spring & Summer Hours

Monday - Friday 8am - 7pm  
Saturday 9am - 7pm  
Sunday 9am - 5pm



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The rest of Laytonville | From Page 5

Chief Carberry has defined ideas about the responsibilities of the citizens in keeping the upcoming fire season as safe as possible. "They always say the upcoming fire season is going to be the worst season ever. That's our standard line. It'll depend on how quickly it dries out. The grasses are tall from the wet winter, and the late rain kept more moisture in the ground. PG&E is being very proactive with the whole power issue.

"We're all doing the best we can to anticipate the worst," the chief continued. "I think the biggest key is that people need to be careful, careful about weed eating, careful about dragging chains on the highway, [sparks from] tire blowouts. Lightning strikes are natural, but the accidental stuff ... I just saw the other day that the large 100,000-acre fire that started in Potter Valley was a hammer into a post that sparked. It just takes a little spark.

"People don't think about that. I think that's a key part, getting the community to be aware that the mowing, the weed eating, anything can start a fire. Do it in the morning when the humidity is high, and then stop for the day and have a water source ready to put it out if something happens."

Sue Poindexter of the Lioness Club is grateful for the local emergency medical service provided by the fire department. "We have a wonderful EMT service here," she said. "It's such a soothing feeling knowing we've got this service close."

The department has two ambulances. One is an advanced life support ambulance, that has a paramedic, and the other is a basic life support ambulance, with an emergency medical technician and a driver.

The Open House and Fundraiser was a win-win situation for all involved. The kids loved seeing the fire engines and fire people up close, and the fire department volunteers enjoyed interacting with and teaching the kids – and creating smiles.

The rest of 10,000 | From Page 3

new business. The colorful and eclectic clothing / toy store, Mazahar, was on their left before turning west on Commercial past the Pizza To Go and the TNT Market / Indian restaurant.

Leaving the business section, they entered an area of older, colorful and well-kept homes. The walkers wandered through the newly repaved streets and stopped momentarily at Pine and School streets in front of the Grange for water, oranges, and to get their step charts signed, testifying that they had completed the first 2,000 steps or the first fifth of their slow-speed journey.

For the most part, the group stayed together, finding camaraderie in their shared experience. One of the participants, Lotus Baker, even utilized the time to work on her knitting as she walked, resulting in a slight stumble which caused her to give up on her multi-tasking, at least for a few thousand steps.

After leaving the hydration station at the Grange, the group continued south on Coast Street, passing Saint Anthony's Catholic Church, turning west past fields and lovely stands of trees to their next hydration station at Coast and Highway 20. After walking over the highway to Blosser Lane, they could see the redwood lumber yard and the Skunk Train tracks and yard with its historic old lumber and passenger cars.

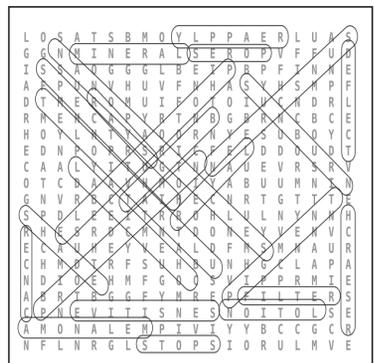
After passing Blosser Lane School and another hydration station, they were encouraged to try a new portion of the route, a short section whose access was recently opened by Willits Superintendent of Schools Mark Westberg, a pleasant, tree-lined path that came out by the two triceratops dinosaurs at Holly Street.

The route then crossed Main Street at Burger King and went north past the Baechtel Creek Medical Clinic, The Old West Inn, Earthlab Energy Systems, the Willits arch, and the old Remco plant, with another stop at Ace Copy before going through the Safeway parking lot.

They passed Willits Furniture, some older houses, Jeff's Gas Appliances, Clark Trailer Park, then went right on San Francisco Street. Sparetime Garden Supply and the Willits Food Bank were on the way to the Recreation Grove Park as well as the Agape Bible Church and the sheriff's substation.

As previously mentioned, the Mendocino County Herb Guild's Calendula Festival was going on in the park, so those walkers who wanted, could stop there or continue to the end. The last water station was in front of the Rodriguez's Toy Depot which is a part of Imagination Station and will be holding its grand opening on Saturday, June 15. From there it was just a short walk back to J.D. Redhouse.

By the end of the 10,000 steps, the participants were ready to continue their day, go back to bed, or go back to the Calendula Festival for a more leisurely stay. The walk was at an easy pace, but had the desired result of treating the people to a nice amiable tour of the city and the equivalent of 30 minutes of exercising in a gym.



## LEGAL NOTICES

WW220  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
2019-F0387  
The following persons are doing business as FLO Vibes, 20970 Baechtel Road, Willits, CA 95490.  
Registered owners: Rylee A. Vigil, 20970 Baechtel Road, Willits, CA 95490 and Tyra Riley, 158 Pearl Street, Willits, CA 95490.  
This business is conducted by a General Partnership. The registrants commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A.  
Statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on May 14, 2019.  
/s/ Rylee A. Vigil  
Publication dates: 5/30, 6/6, 6/13 and 6/20/2019

WW219  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
2019-F0360  
The following is doing business as Sherwood Firewise Communities (SFC), 121 W. Commercial St., Willits, CA 95490 / mailing address: 75 N. Main Street, PMB 234, Willits, CA 95490.  
Registrant: Renewable Energy Development Institute (REDI), 121 W. Commercial St., Willits, CA 95490 / mailing address: 75 N. Main Street, PMB 234, Willits, CA 95490.  
This business is conducted by a corporation. 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 2, 2019.  
/s/ Keith Rutledge, Director  
Publication dates: 5/23, 5/30, 6/6 and 6/13/2019

WW221  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
2019-F0446  
The following person is doing business as Cake & Glazed, 50 South Main Street, Willits, CA 95490 / mailing address: 2054 Lupine Drive, Willits, CA 95490.  
Registered owner: Philip Roland, 2054 Lupine 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 June 7, 2019.  
/s/ Philip Roland  
Publication dates: 6/13, 6/20, 6/27 and 7/4/2019

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5	1	4	7	8	9	6	3	2
6	9	8	2	3	4	5	1	7

## CLASSIFIEDS

**Brookside Elementary School**  
Transitional Kindergarten (TK) and Kindergarten enrollment going on now at Brookside Elementary School. Register online at www.Willitsunified.com then call the office at 707-459-5385.

**Help Wanted**  
At Covelo ranch: Exchange ranch and outdoors work for rent. Ideally with a trailer. Man or woman, retiree a plus. Must have good work ethic, be clean, healthy, reliable, with references. Call for details: 707-272-6354.

**Housecleaning**  
Vacuuming, dusting, thorough sanitization of counter tops, appliances, floors and bathrooms. \$25 hourly, includes stainless and granite clean and shine. Monica: 707-510-6626. Business License No. 119837.

**Multi-Family Yard Sale**  
Multifamily yard sale at the Haehl Creek Subdivision (behind Howard Hospital). Baby stuff, toys, tools, furniture, bike, electronics, DVDs, video games, electronics, kitchen stuff. Saturday, June 15, 9-3.

**Event Spaces Available**  
Event spaces available at the Willits Center for the Arts! • Great Room • Classroom • Ceramic Studio For inquiries, email manager@willitscenterforthearts.org or call 459-1726. For additional information visit: www.willitscenterforthearts.org/rentals

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**Volunteers Needed**  
Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital is looking for positive members of the community to volunteer in the gift shop, information/greeting desk, hospitality cart and the garden. Hours are flexible and can include weekends. More info? Call 456-3245.

**Freezer Empty? We can help!**  
John Ford Rancher's Choice Box- 50 pounds: steaks, roasts, and ground beef. Now \$325 (\$6.50 per pound). Natural ranch-raised grass fed beef, no hormones or antibiotics. Call 459-5193. Leave a message.

**The Fruit Group**  
Apricots 24 lbs, \$32; Yellow & White Eating Peaches & Nectarines 23 lbs, \$31. Deliveries Thursdays June 13th & 20th & 27th. Brenda 707-459-9335 thefruitgroup95490@yahoo.com

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Above, from left: Isabelle Burton and Ian Roche ham it up in the photo booth. Heidi Herold, Taylor Brown, Araceli Arellano, Jasmine Mendoza and Lilah Garman wait for the announcement of mega prizes. The first guests wait to be checked in at the start of the Sober Grad party.



Above: Breanna Legere and Samuel Heller were both winners of the \$1,000 cash prizes which were made possible with specific donations from Mendocino Construction Services, Inc., Northern Aggregates, Inc., and East Hill Veterinary Clinic. At left: Angel Avalos was the winner of the La-Z-Boy recliner, which was donated by Mike and Margie Smith of Willits Furniture. Below, left: Miranda Maglente and Jon Jessup model the Yeti cooler and tumbler. Below, right: Heidi Herold chose a George Forman grill for her prize. "Who's George Foreman?" she laughed.



Above, left: Lions Club members were dealers in the Casino Room. Above, right: DJ Ken Steely announced names of winners that Joyce Waters pulled from the bag. Below, left: Brown's Corner gift cards were some of the prizes. Below, right: Neon was the theme for the 2019 Sober Grad event.



## Celebrating Sober Grad

Willits graduates spend night at Willits Community Center and win big for staying 'til 4 am

Each year, senior graduates of Willits are welcome to attend Sober Grad, a free party out to offer an alternative to drinking and partying after graduation.

Attendees must arrive by 11 pm and stay inside the Community Center until 4 am when the event ends. The idea was created to allow seniors to "make it to their futures" after several fatal accidents happened on graduation night in years prior to the party's conception.

To entice attendance, the Sober Grad committee spends the year fundraising and planning to create a party filled with free food, free games, free prizes, and cold hard cash.

This year, 61 graduates attended out of a possible 102 (approximately 59.8 percent in attendance) along with 38 guests. Graduates from all the Willits Unified School District were invited, including Willits High School, Willits Charter School, Sanhedrin and La Vida. As always, some grads are unable to attend because of family parties, work responsibilities, or they have already left

Read the rest of **Sober Grad** Over on Page 13

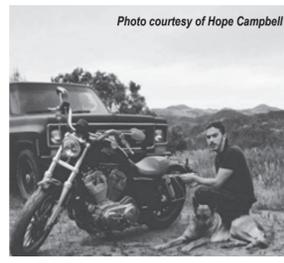


Photo courtesy of Hope Campbell

Above, from left: KingRoyal Industries logo. Dray King works on his motorcycle outside his home in Willits. Dray King, a Willits native who has had success in the stablecoin industry, stands outside one of the local projects he's involved in, the future Good Guys Gym, at the former La Bodega.



Photo by Mathew Caine

## Cryptocurrency

Local entrepreneur Dray King talks about his projects, online and on the ground

The spirit of entrepreneurship is what built America, that and hard work. These are people who have visions of new products or new paradigms and the pragmatic methods to make these visions into real and palpable companies that are able to employ people and bring outside money into a town.

One of these entrepreneurs is Willits native, Dray King, a young man in his mid-20s who already has a number of successes in the world of computers and finance, and wants to help make Willits thrive.

King attended La Vida Charter School "until eighth grade. At that point," shared King, "I quit going to school, took the equivalency exam and passed. After quitting school I went to work with Mobile Equine Veterinary Service for Dr. Sheri Cronin. I worked under her for almost seven years. During that time I started the first of my companies, KingRoyal Industries, a software development service."

He used his proficiency with computer programming, rebuilding some of Cronin's faulty software and debugging her x-ray system.

After he left the veterinary service, King's company evolved into a blockchain consulting service, then a blockchain development firm, and eventually into finance, the KingRoyal Trust. His latest venture involves the creation of a bank that is based on the blockchain model.

"Blockchain is either a de-centralized or a distributed ledger," explained King, "rather

than the way that traditional computer systems work, where you have a main server that holds all the information, and then other computers contact that server to get information from it.

"The way that blockchain works is that there is no central server," he continued. "Instead, a copy of all the data is kept on each individual computer and then cross-referenced with each other to maintain consensus. As long as enough machines say that the information is correct, it is verifiable."

"What we're specifically using the application of blockchain technology for, is we are building a bank that is different on several levels. First of all, it's non-fractional which means it's unlike traditional banks where you become a creditor of the bank when you deposit your money.

"For every dollar you deposit," said King, "they're allowed to loan out \$10. Some credit unions and other entities are allowed to loan out 7 to 1 or some similar ratio. There are different state and federal regulations for different levels of bank institutions, but most loan out at a 10 to 7 to 1 ratio against the dollars they receive."

"In our case we hold a 1 to 1 reserve, so for every dollar that is in a client's account, we're actually holding a physical dollar bill in one of our vaults. That is helpful on several levels to prevent what happened in the 2008 housing crash, the 1994 crash, the crash in the '70s. They were largely caused by over-inflation, primarily from loans provided by banks," he explained.

The rest of **Sober Grad** From Page 12

speakers, and several \$50 gift certificates to local businesses, made possible by the donations from the parents of the Class of 2019 graduates.

There were 15 "mega" prizes including RCA mini refrigerators, Vizio flat screen TVs, Sony XB30 portable Bluetooth speakers, Beats by Dr. Dre over-the-ear headphones, \$100 Amazon gift cards, a Yeti cooler donated by the WHS parent group, and several more of the \$50 gift certificates to local businesses, donated by the parents of the Class of 2019 graduates.

There were 43 "special helper" prizes for grads who helped fundraise and volunteer with Sober Grad during the school year. These prizes were similar to the higher value and mega prizes.

"If a grad helped at least three times, he/she was eligible for one ticket in the drawing," explained Sober Grad's Ruth Dell'Ara. "Happily, there were many grads who had several tickets in the drawing, and the Sober Grad Committee thanks these grads for all their good help!"

In addition to all the cash and gift prizes that were awarded to graduates, much of it earned from Sober Grad fundraisers during the year and from the very generous community members, there was also a casino prize table where graduates and their guests were able to exchange their "funny money" for prizes earned in the "Casino Room" hosted by the Willits Lions Club.

During the party, there was a great amount of food including pizza from Old Mission Pizza (a thank you goes out to

Sparetime Supply for buying the pizzas!) and lots of other food items donated by parents and friends of the grads. There was also a "no-alcohol" beverage bar where the grads enjoyed "designer" glow-in-the-dark themed drinks.

The Climbing Wall was again a feature of the party as well as two cornhole games, ping pong, and handmade henna tattoos, all of which, coupled with music from DJ Ken Steely, kept everyone busy and awake!

Finally, at approximately 4 am, the party came to an end, and each grad who stayed until the party ended was given a check for \$50. Some received an additional \$20 if the grad helped during the school year.

"The Sober Grad Committee members thank the community at large for supporting our fundraisers and for their monetary gifts that we were able to present to the grads," said Dell'Ara. "You are a great community, Willits! And remember, we do this to remind everyone that our kids are our future, and we want them to be responsible young adults who will carry on the tradition of a drug- and alcohol-free sober graduation event."

PS: The Sober Grad board members would gratefully welcome new board members. It truly does "take a village" to make this fantastic party happen! If you would like to learn more about what the committee does, please email Joyce Waters at jw46@gmail.com or call her at 459-0439. Waters will let you know when the next meeting is for the class of 2020!

Thanks to Ruth Dell'Ara for submitting the prize and winner information.

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Above, from left: Massage therapist Lucy Sharp, herbalist Beth Riedel, and festival coordinator Prana Petru hang out in the Wellness Tent, which was set up by Petru. Benjamin Rueb explains how to grow the blue oyster mushrooms he is selling to Tammy Orvis. Everyday Alchemy Tonic Co. owner, guild member and workshop instructor Sarah Adams discusses her alcohol-free herbal tonics with Carolyn Peterson. At right: Willits Weekly garden columnist Jamie Chevalier sells her Quail Seeds, which include a wide selection of medicinal herbs. Far right: Visitors celebrate late spring under the tall valley oaks while learning about the beneficial uses of herbs at the Mendocino Herb Guild's Calendula Festival on Sunday.



Above, left: An attendee totes some starts she picked up at the herbal plant sale – the sale was one of the ways the guild made money to help pay for expenses. Above, right: Taqueria Ramirez serves tasty selections of authentic Mexican food. At left: Children and adults make gorgeous flower necklaces in front of the beautiful tent set up for the Kid Zone.

Photos by Ree Stocum

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JUNE 22 - 30, 2019

**SATURDAY, JUNE 22**  
START: Mission Inn Ave., Riverside, CA - 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
LUNCH: California Plaza Old Market, Riverside, CA - noon  
OVERNIGHT: The Boulevard, Lancaster, CA - 4:30 p.m.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 23**  
LUNCH: Inland City Park, Redondo, CA - noon  
OVERNIGHT: Lancaster Park, Lancaster, CA - 5:30 p.m.

**MONDAY, JUNE 24**  
LUNCH: Hill Street, Ukiah, CA - 11:45 a.m.  
PIT STOP: Cedar Theater, Market Street, Ukiah, CA - 2:30 p.m.  
OVERNIGHT: City Plaza, Ukiah, CA - 5:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 25**  
LUNCH: Hemmings Motor News, Ukiah, CA - 11:30 a.m.  
OVERNIGHT: 2nd Street, Old Town, Ukiah, CA - 5:30 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26**  
LUNCH: Curry Chevrolet, Eureka, CA - noon  
OVERNIGHT: Southport Street, Ukiah, CA - 5:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 27**  
LUNCH: Hemmings Motor News, Ukiah, CA - 11:30 a.m.  
OVERNIGHT: 2nd Street, Old Town, Ukiah, CA - 5:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JUNE 28**  
LUNCH: Hemmings Motor News, Ukiah, CA - 11:30 a.m.  
OVERNIGHT: 2nd Street, Old Town, Ukiah, CA - 5:30 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 29**  
PIT STOP: Maritime Museum, Astoria, OR - 10 a.m.  
OVERNIGHT: Lafayette Avenue, Langdon, WA - noon

**SUNDAY, JUNE 30**  
FINISH: Lakeway - America's Car Museum, Tacoma, WA - 1:30 p.m.

Hemmings Motor News HAGERTY

**Tuesday, June 25, 2019**  
11:50 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Willits Recreation Grove Park

Locally Sponsored By:

Roots, Willits Weekly, Willits Shorter Days, Willits Weekly



# Calendula Festival

## Mendocino Herb Guild organizes a convergence of local herbalists and healers at the Rec Grove

The Mendocino Herb Guild's Calendula Festival on Sunday in Rec Grove Park was a great place to celebrate late spring under the tall valley oaks while learning about the extensive beneficial uses of herbs. The old trees kept the public and vendors cool as the day got hotter.

Vendors and members of the guild came from all parts of the county to set up and sell their wares. Many products were made from anything herbal, ranging from refreshing, delicious and unusual herbal elixirs at the Elixir Bar, to waters, snow cones and kombucha, as well as tinctures, salves, tonics, seeds and plants. There were also mushrooms – dried and fresh – along with vegetables, crafts, books, handcrafted walking sticks, soaps, macramé and more.

There was an attractive Kid Zone set up with activities inside a tent and an outside grouping of adults and kids. Outside they were stringing beautiful flower wreaths for head, neck or body adornments. The wreaths were seen throughout the festival and contributed to the merry, celebratory tone of the event.

The Wellness Tent, set up by Prana Petru, one of the organizers, was in a quieter place and complete with an herbal apothecary, a library filled with books and information on healing. There was a quiet place to rest in case of overheating and a Self-Care Station with a rehydrating drink.

Anna Sommers, massage therapist and new mother, spent some relaxing

Read the rest of **Calendula** Over on Page 15

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## The rest of Recovery From Page 1

of the Mendocino: Rebuilding Our Community committee, otherwise known as "M-ROC."

Allende told supervisors that M-ROC has received \$4.5 million in donations from individuals as well as grants totaling \$1 million. In addition, the organization has received in-kind contributions totaling \$1.45 million.

Of the \$5.5 million M-ROC has received in funds, it has so far distributed \$3.3 million in grants, including 99 large housing grants.

Mendocino County Department of Disaster Recovery Director Nash Gonzalez told supervisors the county's Department of Planning and Building Services has received 178 applications for building permits, including applications for 80 single-family dwellings, 52 manufactured homes, and 46 accessory buildings. The department has issued final approval for 85 permits.

Gonzalez noted Mendocino County was one of the few counties in the state that has written and adopted a fire recovery plan. When asked by Second District Supervisor John McCowen if having an adopted fire recovery plan had been helpful to the county in applying for grants, Gonzalez affirmed it had.

According to a staff document, "Fiscal Year 2019-20 Proposed Budget," which was presented to the board of supervisors on May 24, the county has received \$6.1 million in grants associated with recovering from the Redwood Fire. Those grants include \$494,554 for Phase One of the Redwood Valley Water District infrastructure retrofit; \$1.9 million for Phase Two and the rest of Phase One of the Redwood Valley Water District infrastructure retrofit; \$1 million for a hazardous tree removal program; \$88,382 for a planning grant for the "Redwood Complex Fire Restoration Project"; \$656,902 for the implementation phase of the restoration project; \$397,180 for the Disaster Recovery and Economic Resiliency Planning Project; and \$1.65 million for creating a fuel reduction network in the hills west of Ukiah.

In addition, the county has submitted another \$10 million in grant applications and is awaiting notification on their status.

Regarding the hazardous tree removal program,

people who have trees that were damaged or destroyed by the 2017 fire and who need or would like financial assistance to deal with the trees are encouraged to contact Resource Conservation District Program Manager Imil Ferrara at [firesafe@pacific.net](mailto:firesafe@pacific.net).

### Measure V enforcement

Tuesday morning, a number of Mendocino County citizens urged supervisors to follow up on Measure V, the 2016 ballot initiative addressing trees that have been intentionally killed with herbicides and left to stand dead in private forests.

Large timber companies, including Mendocino Redwood Company, routinely use small amounts of herbicide to eliminate tan oaks to make room for young redwood trees.

On June 7, 2016, Measure V was approved by 62 percent of the voters. Measure V calls on Mendocino County to declare the practice of leaving dead trees standing in the forest for more than 90 days a public nuisance, and asks the county to enforce that declaration using standard nuisance abatement procedures.

However, after it was approved by voters, Mendocino County took no steps to enforce Measure V. It appears state law relegates the regulation of forest practices in California to the state, not to local jurisdictions.

The former board of supervisors (that is, that board of supervisors that included former Third District Supervisor Tom Woodhouse and former Fifth District Supervisor Dan Hamburg) sought a legal opinion from the state attorney general as to whether Measure V could be enforced. The county did not receive a ruling.

More recently, Third District Supervisor John Haschak and Fifth District Supervisor Ted Williams, a major proponent of Measure V, went to Sacramento and personally delivered a request for a ruling on Measure V to the attorney general.

During the June 11 board meeting, Second District Supervisor John McCowen said, "We have a statement from the attorney general's office that their office will render an opinion within 30 to 45 days."

## The rest of MPS From Page 7

Carrera said MPS has worked with many local farms directly in providing their services, and also several distribution companies. Among her tasks is writing remediation plans for clients.

"So when a local farm goes to sell their flower and it doesn't pass, they can call me and say, 'Hey, can you remediate this for me?'" she explained. "I actually have to write a remediation plan, I turn it into the California Department of Public Health, it gets accepted, and then we can get their product and we can actually remediate it and purify it for them."

There was a high level of confidence at MPS among those Willits Weekly spoke with that their business model will be a successful one.

"We're being noticed now by a lot of the big companies because they've all sent samples here," said Doyle. "We've sent it back compliant, and now it's resulting in larger contracts.... So we're hoping that it just continues at a good trend upward. And so we're now starting to invest in production equipment to raise the volume."

Kurzfeld, who works at finding customers for the company along with Carrera, also spoke about business continuing to ramp up.

"Since we have this niche, people call us from all over the state," he said. "And there's nowhere else to go for them to get it remediated."

He said he was excited to bring this unique business to Willits, which he called "the heart of Mendocino County," and hopes that cannabis businesses can give the town a needed economic boost.

"This is like a tech boom," he said. "Everybody wants to invest in cannabis, everybody wants a piece of the pie. [Willits] just shouldn't want to miss out on the boom."

"That's why I'm glad that they're allowing us to function here and working with us because Willits could use a boom. That's one reason why I brought it here. I worried as legalization was coming, I was worried about our locals.... And everybody [at MPS] makes a good wage. We pay good living wages here."

Doyle said the salaries at MPS are comparable to those with similar jobs, including engineers, in more urban centers such as Silicon Valley.

## Youth voter registration project signs up hundreds of students

Submitted by MCOE

In collaboration with the Mendocino County Elections Department, the Mendocino County Office of Education supported a countywide youth voter registration project funded by the League of Women Voters of Mendocino County. Twenty-two volunteers compiled 1,000 voter information packets and distributed them in high school civics classrooms and at public events.

LWVWC Co-President Cindy Plank said: "Our experiences have been varied, but all of them have been wonderful. We visited 14 high schools, representing seven of the 10 Mendocino County school districts, as well as Mendocino College, helping hundreds of students register to vote."

For classroom presentations, volunteers were allowed between 15 and 50 minutes, during which time they answered questions, informed students about how to register to vote, and tried to inspire them to engage in the process.

"We encouraged students to use the power of their vote," Plank said, "and to use their own eyes, ears and excellent brains to make wise choices. They seemed to like the challenge of becoming the highest voting population, and not letting old people do all of the voting!"

Depending on how much time the volunteers had with students, they either shared information about registering to vote, or they helped interested students complete the process. In California, 16- and 17-year-olds can pre-register to vote. Then, once they turn 18, they are automatically registered.

It takes approximately five to 10 minutes to register to vote at [www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration). Teens can pre-register or register online or via paper registration forms.

## The rest of WPD From Page 4

of harassment in the 100 block of East San Francisco Avenue.

9:12 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of East Mendocino Avenue.

11:46 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

June 8

8:53 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1600 block of Camellia Court.

9:17 am: Officers responded to a report of harassment in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

9:47 am: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

11:02 am: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation near the intersection of Elm Lane and Manor Way.

12:10 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 1500 block

South Main Street.

5:36 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of Nancy Lane.

5:45 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of South Main Street.

5:48 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 800 block of South Main Street.

7:01 pm: Officers responded to a report of panhandling in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

7:45 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 300 block of McKinley Street.

10:19 pm: Officers responded to a report of threats in the 200 block of East San Francisco Avenue.

June 9

11:17 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

## The rest of Calendula From Page 14

time at the Wellness Tent and visited with a few friends.

"The Herb Guild is awesome," said Sommers. "They're a community-inspired group that not only celebrates the varied ecosystems in the county, it also celebrates the wealth of knowledge of people in our communities."

There were vendors who creatively employed various herbs in their wares or classes. Of note was Niko Ramsdel and Evita Sikelianos' "Wilder" brand of kombucha. While they make regular kombuchas, they began experimenting by fermenting kombucha with herbs and received rave reviews. They concocted a delicious "Calendula Festival 2019" brew infused with calendula, black pepper, turmeric, ginger, and the usual tea, sugar and culture blend.

Caitlin Rowe, owner of Herban Biophilic, offered sample tastes of her flower essence-infused glycerin. A drop of essence awakens the mouth to the taste of the flower's scent. Young and old enjoyed the samples.

There were nine free workshops at the event throughout the day. Michelle Cummins held a workshop that revealed the secrets of teasel, a beneficial, local "weed" that has a variety of uses. Rye N. Flint unlocked the secrets of absinthe in his workshop, "Absinthe, the Green Fairie," and Donna d'Terra, mentor and member of the Mendocino County Herb Guild, talked about "Every Day Herbs." One person was reported as attending all the classes and needed a gentle herbal pick-me-up to make it through the last class.

Also of note were the various business collaborations. Kaitan Tripaldi and Beena Balasico from The Village Health in Covelo brought a sampling of different

"We really just want to be a great business partner to the community," he said. "And the employees here should be able to work some place where it's safe, it's efficient, they're paid well, there's benefits. All those things that go with a properly run business."

Being supportive and involved in the local community is another goal of the company according to Doyle, and MPS was one of a group of Willits cannabis businesses that were the main sponsors for the recent Springing out of Winter Music Festival hosted by the city at Recreation Grove.

The first tax cycle is also coming up soon for MPS under the cannabis excise tax ordinance passed by Willits voters last year, which will send money directly into the city's general fund.

Kurzfeld said he has noticed local attitudes towards cannabis shifting as the new legal recreational era comes rolling in, with more people seeing how professionally run businesses like MPS are operating, as opposed to the black market activity that many were used to.

"The perception of cannabis, it's now becoming a normal business," he said. "So the whole entire stigma is changing. And it'll change here too. It just takes time because we've had so many bad experiences around here. We've had great ones too. But the bad ones stick with us.... But when they bring up those past events, that's not what's happening now."

"Everything that comes through [MPS] has to come from a licensed facility," he noted. "And it has to be transported legally through a licensed distribution, and then it has to be picked up by a licensed distribution and transported out legally."

Doyle and Kurzfeld said part of the business plan for MPS also includes further research and development for medical use cannabis, which the company has already worked on patents for. They believe that to be a big part of the future for the cannabis industry, despite a current focus by many on recreational use.

"And truthfully all of us here – we believe the future which is where this is going to end up is some sort of pharmaceutical medical-grade compound," said Doyle. "Once the United States allows it to be studied to find out the benefits through clinical trials, then you'll find these components making their way into true medical treatments."

## Youth voter registration project signs up hundreds of students

The LWVWC Youth Voter Registration Project was a non-partisan, grant-funded project that did not include support for any political campaigns or specific legislation. Its sole purpose was to encourage students' civic engagement, initially by increasing voter registration. This year's efforts focused on high school seniors, but Plank hopes to expand in the years to come. She thanked the many volunteers who helped make the project so successful.

"Several Fort Bragg High School students helped assemble approximately 200 voter registration packets. We also received help from Ukiah Mayor Mo Mulheren and Mendocino County Board of Education Member Tamey Sheldon, who organized several others in the area to join in with the packet assembly," she said.

County Superintendent of Schools Michelle Hutchins said: "We wanted to reach as many students as possible and to help mitigate the widespread disparities in youth voting among Latinos, African Americans and young people with no college experience. We're proud to have participated in this wonderful project."

California's Presidential Primary Election is scheduled for March 3, 2020, approximately nine months from now. Plank encourages students (and adults) to confirm that their voter registration is up-to-date so they can participate. She also invited people to learn more about the accomplishments of the League of Women Voters locally, statewide and nationally at [www.facebook.com/LWVMendo](http://www.facebook.com/LWVMendo).

She implored, "Use the power of your vote. Every vote does count. Pledge to vote in every election for what matters to you, your family, and your community!"

The Mendocino County Office of Education is a public agency whose primary purpose is to provide educational leadership, resources and services to schools to ensure wide-ranging educational opportunities for all students.

products sold at the store and café made by locals. The two women also had their soaps for sale.

La Tierra Buena Collective sold tinctures and beauty products. The collective was started by Ana Victoria Salcido-Cobbe, one of Mendocino Herb Guild's founding members. "It's great!" she said. "We're able to showcase the variety of possibilities with herbs at La Tierra Buena Collective." They have an online presence at [www.latierrabuenacollective.com](http://www.latierrabuenacollective.com).

The Raging Grannies sang familiar tunes with changed words or original songs with thought-provoking lines on stage at the pavilion. "The Monsanto Rag" was an original with a changed verse: "Hey you Mendo folk, Herbicides are not a joke, Old Monsanto go away, Measure H is here to stay. If the bees are gone, it'll be too late. Who's gonna pollinate?"

Wonderful melodies from the Cosmic Family Band, Clay Hawkins, and The Honey Hive Ensemble were also heard throughout the day as people sat and ate in the cool grass or strolled through the event.

This successful event was attended by hundreds of people from all parts of the county and beyond. According to organizers, it was difficult to make an accurate tally since no admission tickets were sold.

Will there be another next year? Stay tuned. Some organizers think this might have been the 1st annual Calendula Festival.

Visit [www.mendocinoherbguild.com](http://www.mendocinoherbguild.com), "Mendocino County Herb Guild" on Facebook, or #mendocinoherbguild on Instagram for more information.



OBITUARY |

## Doug Sawyers

Douglas Bahn Sawyers, 80, of Willits, passed away at home on Saturday, June 8, 2019 after battling cancer.

Born March 1, 1939 to James Harvey and Muriel Evelyn Irwin Sawyers in Woodland, Doug grew up in Willits, attended Willits schools and graduated from Willits High School in 1957. After high school, he served in the United States Army and spent much of his career as a draftsman for Mendocino County, until his retirement.

A lifelong learner, he frequently took classes at Mendocino Community College in ceramics and plant propagation. A consummate do-it-yourselfer, he built both homes his family lived in. He had a heart tender toward animals and was interested in horticulture, architecture and foreign countries.

Doug volunteered in the Willits Fire Department, was an active member of Kiwanis, and was a member of the First Baptist Church of Willits and Redwood Valley Community Church.

Doug was preceded in death by his parents, Harvey and Muriel Sawyers, and by his beloved dog, Sam. He is survived by his wife of almost 54 years, Sue Ann Taylor Sawyers; his children, Carlene (Patrick) Naughton of Cincinnati, Ohio, Martin (Kristine) Sawyers of Chandler, Arizona, and Andrew (Dena) Sawyers of Cape Girardeau, Missouri; his grandchildren, Benjamin, Pierce and Ian Naughton of Cincinnati, Ohio, Makenzie and Connor Sawyers of Chandler, Arizona, and AJ Sawyers of Cape Girardeau, Missouri; and his siblings, Warren Sawyers of Willits and Vernlyn Farnsworth Sawyers of Willits.

A memorial service will be held Wednesday, June 19 at 10:30 am at Redwood Valley Community Church. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Redwood Valley Community Church, the Willits Senior Center, or Deep Valley Christian School.



### Congrats to the Orensteins

"What could be better than celebrating a 60th wedding anniversary? Celebrating your granddaughter Rylee's graduation! Onto Concordia U!" Congratulations to Ron and Brenda Orenstein of Willits on their 60th wedding anniversary.



### Congrats to the Willits Horsemen's June winners

The Willits Horsemen's Association held its first Junior Horsemen's gymkhana of the season on June 1, and the annual Rodeo & BBQ Playday on June 2, at the arena on East Commercial Street. The group of buckle winners at the event, see photo above, included, from left: Briana Jenny (Barrel Racing 17 & over); Nicol Kunka (Goat Tying); Sienna Radelfinger (Breakaway Roping); Stony Bauer, up front, (Barrel Racing 16 & under) and (Pole Bending 16 & under); Mark Lucchetti, behind, (Steer Stopping); Chris Darger, (Steer Daubing) and (Pole Bending 17 & over), and Clayton Cooley (Calf Riding)

Point winner and Chris Darger was Senior High Point Winner at the weekend competition.

For more information, visit "Willits Horsemen's Association, Inc." on Facebook.

Willits Junior Horsemen's Association is for kids, ages 7-17, who ride or have an interest in horses. Meetings every second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm at 850 East Valley Street. Visit "Willits Junior Horsemen's Association" on Facebook, or call Kathryn at 707-489-6565.

— Submitted by the Willits Horsemen's Association

Photo at left: Stony Bauer, left, was Junior High

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