

Donations Accepted Edition No. 369 **Thursday, September 3, 2020**

Joanne Moore
Reporter
joanne@willitsweekly.com

"But," she said, Willits

Over on Page 13

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
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His new bosses want him to sign off on a letter to California Governor Gavin Newsom, advising the governor that Mendocino County wants a measure of “local control” with regard to determining which businesses can enjoy expanded levels of “opening” and which cannot.

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**By Katrina Bartolomie,
Assessor-County Clerk-
Recorder, Registrar of
Voters**

- Official ballots will be mailed October 5, 2020 to all registered voters in the state of California, including

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Above, left and right: Four happy recipients hold up their blue or orange backpacks given out for free by Adventist Health Howard Memorial during their two-day Back-to-School fair. Above, center: AHM's Erica Baumker, Mary Thornton and Cici Winiger hand out the colorful packs. Below: Champ grins from the backseat, pleased his backpack matches his glasses, while Winiger, left, and Thornton, smile from the side of the car.



Photos by
Maureen
Jennison

Adventist Health Howard Memorial gives away 200 free backpacks filled with supplies during two-day event

Even though back to school looks a little different this year, the crew at Adventist Health Howard Memorial still wanted to keep up their annual tradition and make sure local kids were able to have a brand-new backpack to start their school year.

During two events, one held Wednesday, August 26 and the other on Saturday, August 29, the team handed out 200

backpacks to happy students. The Wednesday evening event went very quickly, with 80 backpacks handed out in just under 15 minutes.

Students had a choice to select either blue or orange packs, and each was filled with a variety of items including:

Read the rest of
Backpacks | *Over on Page 11*



Above, from left: Orange was a popular color this year for free backpacks. AHM's Matthew D'Anis, left, hands backpacks to a waiting group, while Erica Baumker gets ready to hand out pediatric paperwork. Parents or children were welcome to choose colors and select backpacks. Below, left: Contents of the free backpacks included art supplies, masks, hand sanitizer, information, and more. Below, left: Cici Winiger and Mary Thornton pose with the last few backpacks remaining Saturday morning. At bottom: Wednesday evening's distribution lasted only about 15 minutes until the AH hand-out crew, including, from left, Matthew D'Anis, Erica Baumker, Mary Thornton and Cici Winiger, ran out of the 80 backpacks they had allotted for the evening.



sworn in

Forrest Glycer
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

On August 26, Alexis Blaylock was sworn in as the new Willits chief of police, just prior to the Willits City Council meeting.

As described in a bio sent out by the city, Chief Blaylock comes to the Willits Police Department with 30 years of law enforcement experience including 25 years as a member of the San Diego Police Department (see the full bio on page 2).

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Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

A lot has happened on the COVID-19 pandemic front over the past two weeks. New Mendocino County Public Health Officer Andy Coren, MD, was sworn into his office by county CEO Carmel Angelo on Tuesday at the board of supervisors chambers.

Although the September 1 meeting was a virtual meeting, as each meeting has been since March 20, a few members of the county staff, including CEO Angelo, Deputy Clerk of the Board Lindsay Dunham, and County Counsel Christian Curtis were present in the chambers to see Coren sworn in.

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**Posted by the Mendocino
County Air Quality
Control District**

The Mendocino County Air Quality Control District put out an Air Quality Advisory for Mendocino County on September 1 at 5 pm, covering smoke impacts from wildfires in Northern California through Friday, September 4.

Expect widespread smoke and haze for most of Mendocino County from active wildfires in Northern California. Currently most of the smoke from the surrounding wildfires remains elevated over the county. However, due to

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What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and
thank you letters from our readers

Patriot's Day, a day to remember

To the Editor:

For the past 18 years, the American Legion, Willits Post 174 has held a memorial service to commemorate those who lost their lives as a result of the 9/11/2001 attack on the United States of America.

This year, in light of the health safety orders that have been put in place to help combat the spread of an ongoing pandemic, we will be unable to conduct a public ceremony.

We believe that is important that all Americans remember the events of that horrific day, lest they let it fade into their memory, or become a footnote in historical texts.

Patriot's Day, September 11, is a day to pause and remember those men and women in uniform who were killed September 11, 2001, as well as those who have lost their lives in the ongoing war against terrorism. (The first responders, whether law enforcement, firefighters, EMTs or fellow citizens helping one another deal with the crisis.)

Nineteen years have past, but the images depicted by the news media are still vivid in the minds of many fellow Americans. For those among us today who need a "jog" to their memory, here is a brief accounting of how the day unfolded.

- At 8:45 am Eastern Standard Time, American Airlines Flight #11 struck the North Tower of the World Trade Center.

- At 9:03 am United Airlines Flight #175 struck the South Tower.

- At 9:43 am American Airlines Flight #77 struck the Pentagon.

- At 10 am the commandeered United Flight #93 crashed near Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

The events of 9/11, and its aftermath, resulted in the loss of 2,996 lives; of that number:

- 343 were firefighters and paramedics.

- 23 New York City Police officers

- 39 Port Authority officers

The challenge facing all the civilized people of the world as they relate to the War on Terrorism will not end until these fanatics are brought to justice. All is not calm in the Middle East, Europe and Asia as ISIS, al-Qaeda or their affiliates present an ominous future for continued terror. World opinion needs to remain focused upon the eradication of these inhuman acts perpetrated around the globe.

One way to accomplish this is to "Never Forget" that those innocent victims of 9/11/2001 did not die in vain. America must remind the world that the deaths of these people will always be remembered and that they will be forever loved.

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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



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COLUMN | WUSD REPORT CARD

Willits schools won't fix themselves

By Mark Westerburg, WUSD superintendent

If school bond measures only required 50 percent approval instead of 55 percent, the Willits Unified School District request for a \$17 million bond would have passed with plenty of votes to spare last March; we were only eight votes shy of success. Since leaky roofs don't fix themselves, we've put another bond measure on the November ballot, this time named Measure I.

The only difference between this bond measure and the one in March is that we've partnered with the local charter schools, both elementary and secondary, so they can raise funds to repair their facilities as well.

We recognize that the pandemic has thrown a wrench into life as we know it, and if we could wait a year to put this on the ballot again, we would. Unfortunately, general elections are now held on even numbered years and our schools cannot wait till 2022.

What would this bond funding allow WUSD to accomplish?

Our older schools require upgrades to meet today's academic and safety standards and to ensure that school classrooms, science labs, technology infrastructure, and other facilities can continue to support high achievement.

With repairs and modernization, we can do an even better job of preparing students for college and in-demand careers in technology, health science, arts, agriculture, and skilled trades. In addition, Measure I funds would allow WUSD to:

- Fix deteriorating roofs, plumbing, heating / cooling, and electrical systems
- Pave parking lots
- Repair old, outdated classrooms and school facilities
- Purchase a pool cover
- Update athletic facilities

In California, public schools receive state funding for operational costs like supporting instructional programs and paying teachers, but not enough funds to pay for facility improvements like the repair of heating / air conditioning units or updating science labs and instructional technology.

All of our school facilities were built with bonds, and they need to be updated through this process as well. Before COVID-19, the state offered limited funding for some capital improvements, but only when districts could match those funds. Revenue from Measure I could supply the matching funds necessary if the state continues to offer that type of program.

How can I vote on this ballot measure?

To vote on this ballot measure, you simply need to be registered to vote in the November 3 election. You can register to vote at www.registertovote.ca.gov. To find out more about voting in this election, you can contact the Mendocino County Registrar of Voters at 707-234-6819 or visit www.fvap.gov/california. Mail-in ballots are scheduled to be mailed October 5, 2020 to all registered voters, we encourage you to mail in your ballot early to ensure it's counted.

While our school sites may be old, we can still be proud of them and with bond-funded repairs, we can keep them functional and attractive for years to come. Willits High School was built in 1929, Baechtel Grove Middle School in 1952, Brookside Elementary in 1953, and Blosser Lane School in 1989. With historical buildings also comes the need for repairs and upgrades.

Since March, we've had to spend \$90,000 on the heating and cooling system at Blosser Elementary and \$35,000 at Willits High School. With no other funds available, the district is currently using general operating funds that take away from student programs.

Community input is welcomed, and I am happy to answer any questions you may have about this bond measure. You can reach me at the district office at 459-5314.

THIRD DISTRICT SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

September 2020

By Supervisor John Haschak

On a smoky morning in Mendocino County, I am hoping that you and yours are staying healthy as these fires rage and the pandemic continues to affect our lives in so many ways. We can be thankful that the fires are not raging in our neighborhoods, hopefully our health is good, and fall is near.

The governor has changed the COVID-19 system from counties on a watch list to a tiered system based on assorted criteria. Mendocino County is now in the purple tier, which is the most stringent. Our daily number of new cases is high, well above the minimum for the "widespread" tier.

Schools are starting the school year mostly in the distance learning mode. I feel badly for students who so look forward to the beginning of the year whether it is to meet their new teacher, be with old and new friends, participate in a fall sport, or even learn something new. Everyone's hope is that in some way their lives will be enriched by the education they receive during this pandemic.

I have been working as part of the cannabis ad hoc committee with Supervisor Williams to break through the logjam that seemed to be occurring with state agencies. The problem was that county-permitted cannabis growers could not get their annual state licenses. The goal is to create a pathway whereby these people could at least apply for their state license so that they can remain in the regulated program.

We have been talking to the heads of the state agencies and with county staff. We have made great progress with both California Department of Food and Agriculture which oversees CalCannabis and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. They have given Mendocino County what it needs to move these permits on. We are very much appreciative of the collaboration in the last few weeks. The next challenge is to untangle the issues within the county's cannabis program and create a streamlined process for these applicants.

Wishing you all the best, and feel free to contact me at haschakj@mendocinocounty.org or 707-972-4214. Stay well.

Willits welcomes new police chief, Alexis Blaylock

Submitted by Stephanie Garra-brant-Sierra, city manager, City of Willits

New Willits Police Department Chief Alexis Blaylock comes to the City of Willits with nearly 30 years of law enforcement experience in various capacities. She spent nearly 25 years as a sworn member of the San Diego Police Department where she served both in patrol functions and in specialized assignments such as in dignitary protection, the border crime suppression team, internal affairs, and juvenile services.

She concurrently spent more than three years as an adjunct instructor teaching Police Investigative Report Writing for the San Diego Community College District.

After retiring from the City of San Diego, Chief Blaylock joined the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training as a training consultant, where she was responsible for state-wide police training programs and was the legislative affairs liaison. She left POST to become a public safety lieutenant at the University of Southern California.

During her time at USC, Chief Blaylock assisted in getting legislation passed to benefit the public safety departments of private



New WPD Chief Alexis Blaylock

Read the rest of
Blaylock Over on Page 15



Above, from left: Chief Arlo shows Officer Damian Angell his favorite spot along his route. WPD's Community Service Officer Brittany Ponikvar demonstrates the dispatch system for the new chief. Arlo salutes his friends and co-police officers after receiving his photo badge. At left: Chief Arlo and his force pose for a photo: Officers Damian Angell, Michael Bennett, Kris Kersmarki, Lieutenant Derek Hendry, Interim Chief Greg Allen, and new Willits Police Chief Alexis Blaylock. Below: Interim Chief Gregory Allen places stars on Arlo's lapels.



Chief for the Day

Arlo Burch, 8, lives his dream of being
head of the Willits police force,
patrolling the streets, and handing out tickets

"Raise your right hand and repeat after me," began outgoing Interim Police Chief Gregory Allen. Young Arlo, raising his alternate right hand (his left) eagerly and proudly followed the command. "I, Arlo, hereby promise to treat my mother well, be good to everyone, and to keep the city of Willits safe."

As the 8-year-old aspiring patrolman repeated the words deliberately, one could perceive the seriousness with which he took his oath. This, to him, was the real thing, a culmination of several months of diligent patrol work, keeping the streets of Willits safe from littering, people who forget to socially distance or wear their masks, jaywalkers, and general scofflaws.

When he finished administering the oath, Chief Allen, pinning stars on young Arlo's lapel and removing his own chief's badge, reseated it onto Arlo's proud blue uniform. "I hereby appoint you Police Chief for the Day." The cadre of observing Willits policemen applauded enthusiastically, having gotten to know this youthful patrolman and befriending him over the last six months.

"As Chief for the Day," Allen continued, "you can order the policemen to do anything you want them to do." Arlo Alvarez Burch, without hesitation requested that they get him donuts. "Anything but that," retorted Allen. And with this short ceremony, Burch became the Willits Chief of Police (for the day).

Burch then posed for photos astride his official electric police motorcycle on which he patrols from the Evergreen Shopping Center, down Main Street to the City Swimming Pool, and back two or three times a week with his dutiful, doting mother, Jessica Alvarado, walking a few paces behind, trying to keep up.

He has become one of Willits' newest icons, the latest of the characters who make the town unique in its quirkiness. As Arlo passes, he receives the adulation of waves and honking horns. What does he want to be when he grows up? Does anyone really need to ask? He never had a television in the house, so his love of the force came from occasional DVDs and just watching and interacting with the Willits police.

Burch does not go out on patrol empty-handed. He carries important tools, both on his body and in the boot of his cycle. He, of course, has his plastic gun (just in case). "This is one of those plastic guns. It shoots smoke out. It makes a popping sound," Burch explains. He hasn't had to shoot anyone yet, but he is ready should the occasion arise.

He, of course, has a couple clips of ammo available. Also included in his tools of the trade, he carries a pad upon which he can write his tickets, mostly costing the recipient the grand total of \$1, which he is saving up to help the city get through their current financial shortfall.

He patrols equipped with hand sanitizer because you never know. He has a radio, keys to his mom's car, a super double-secret diary that only he can open. And a bag of Pop Rocks.

Chief Allen, explaining Arlo to the incoming chief, Alexis Blaylock, says: "We have a young man in the community who is 8. He thinks police officers are heroes. He's fully dressed in a police uniform, and he has a little electric motorcycle. He's been doing patrols around one of our shopping complex areas. I told him that we are going to make him Chief for the Day.

"His eyes lit up like saucers," continued Allen, "when I told him all that he would get to do: Sit in a police car, get to wear my chief badge, sit in my office, get a tour of the department, etc. We're going to give

Read the rest of
Chief Over on Page 11



Above: Officer Arlo patrols Main Street, looking for scofflaws. At left: Chief Arlo seems right at home in his new position of authority. Below: Arlo is ready to step up his game, trading his electric motorcycle for a real police car. At bottom: Officer Arlo allows Tom Mann to clean his cycle in lieu of a ticket.



Photos by Mathew Caine



pho•tog•ra•phress [fuh-tog-ruh-friss]

noun: Maureen Moore: a person who creates fabulous photo moments

Book Fall & Holiday 2020 appointments now!

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Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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

PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PAGE 11

HOW TO SUDOKU

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

Table with 26 columns and 26 rows for an Education Word Search puzzle.

Table with 3 columns and 10 rows listing educational terms: ACADEMICS, ACCOUNTABILITY, ACHIEVEMENT, ALTERNATIVE, BENCHMARK, CHARTER, CLASSES, CONTINUING, CORE, CREDITS, CURRICULUM, DATA, DEGREE, DIPLOMA, DISTANCE, EDUCATION, ELEMENTARY, ENROLLMENT, GAP, GRADUATE, HIGH SCHOOL, INSTRUCTION, LEARNING, PERIODS, PRESCHOOL, PROFICIENT, PROGRESS, REMEDIAL, SCHEDULING, STANDARDIZED, STUDENT, SUBSTITUTE, TESTING, TUTORING, VOCATIONAL.

Table with 31 rows and 31 columns for a crossword puzzle.

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Chop with an ax
- 4. Where a bachelor lives
- 7. Indicates near
- 10. Doctors' group
- 11. It's just a number
- 12. Type of bread
- 13. Lively ballroom dance
- 15. Charles S. Dutton TV series
- 16. A way to use up
- 19. Singular event
- 21. Home of Disney World
- 23. Minerals
- 24. Most insightful
- 25. Consult
- 26. In addition
- 27. Agents of downfall
- 30. Organizations
- 34. Supervises flying
- 35. Bar bill
- 36. Alfalfa
- 41. Dish soap
- 45. Witnesses
- 46. Ancient Greek City
- 47. Newspaper bigwigs

CLUES DOWN

- 50. Discuss again
- 54. Small group with shared interests
- 55. Support
- 56. Popular sportcoat fabric
- 57. Take hold of
- 59. Pre-Mayan civilization
- 60. Woman (French)
- 61. Wheeled vehicle
- 62. Georgia rockers
- 63. Cold War player (abbr.)
- 64. Pitching stat
- 65. Attempt
- 1. Czech monetary unit
- 2. Arousing intense feeling
- 3. Elks
- 4. Muscular weaknesses
- 5. Before the present
- 6. Figures out
- 7. Infinite
- 8. A low wall
- 9. Silly
- 13. Political organization
- 14. Used of a number or amount not specified
- 17. Divisions of the psyche

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE LOG

August 17 to August 30

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 317 incidents in this 14-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

August 17

9:39 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1100 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.
3:02 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1700 block of South Main Street.
10:40 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 800 block of South Main Street.

August 18

12:58 am: Officers responded to a disturbance near the intersection of Tuttle Lane and Madden Lane.
5:13 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 200 block of State Street.
6:44 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of South Main Street.
9:45 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of Blosser Lane.
10:24 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 200 block of South Main Street.
10:26 am: Officers responded to a report of harassment in the 800 block of South Main Street.
12:03 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 200 block of South Main Street.
3:20 pm: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.
4:11 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.
9:47 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

12:03 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 200 block of South Main Street.

3:20 pm: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

4:11 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

9:47 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

August 19

12:06 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

3:06 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block of West Valley Street.

3:07 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 1000 block of Magnolia Avenue.

3:39 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of West Mendocino Avenue.

9:01 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 200 block of South Main Street.

9:30 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of East Valley Street and Railroad Avenue.

August 20

12:08 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

10:57 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Highway 20 and Cropley Lane.

5:20 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Highway 20 and Cropley Lane.

August 21

4:18 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

10:58 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of Sanhedrin Circle.

1:11 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 200 block of North Lenore Avenue and issued a warning.

4:55 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

August 22

3:20 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Gregory Lane.

6:51 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping near the intersection of Poplar Avenue and Madrone Street.

August 23

8:53 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 1600 block of South Main Street.

11:15 am: Officers responded to a report

of vandalism in the 100 block of West Commercial Street.

6:21 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

August 24

6:12 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 100 block of Madrone Street.

9:47 am: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 100 block of Mill Creek Drive.

10:40 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

10:43 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal dumping in the 300 block of Franklin Avenue.

1:05 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 200 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

7:02 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

7:56 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

August 25

12:45 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of Holly Street.

3:35 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of South Main Street.

3:39 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1100 block of South Main Street.

10:52 am: Officers responded to a report of threats in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

4:51 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

August 26

11:17 am: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 1200 block of Magnolia Avenue.

11:56 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 200 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

August 27

9:34 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

9:39 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of Sherwood Road.

10:28 am: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

11:50 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal dumping in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

1:31 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault near the intersection of West Van Lane and South Main Street.

August 28

3:16 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 21000 block of Baechtel Road.

9:13 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 700 block of South Main Street.

11:30 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 700 block of South Main Street.

4:14 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of North Main Street.

7:25 pm: HOGAN, Alan James (64) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of South Main Street following a disturbance. He was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication), 69 PC (Resisting an Officer), and on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol) and failure to appear.

August 29

1:38 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of South Main Street.

7:21 am: SELLMER, Jacob Eugene (31) of Ukiah was contacted near the intersection of Franklin Avenue and South Main Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of failure to appear.

9:45 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of West Mendocino Avenue.

10:31 am: Officers responded to a report of threats near the intersection of South Main Street and West Valley Street.

Read the rest of WPD Over on Page 6



Photos by Mathew Caine

Grave Situation

Willits and Little Lake cemeteries are a fascinating piece of local history, but plagued by trash, transients and partiers

The Willits Cemetery and the Little Lake Cemetery are both an integral part of the history of the region, according to Cemetery District of the Redwoods caretaker Bob Greene, who is fascinated with the stories of how some of the historic figures came to rest on the grounds.

Mathew Caine He recounts the tale of the two feuding families, remnants of the American Civil War, in which they were on opposite sides of the conflict and continued the animosity as they moved west and settled in the Little Lake Valley, at which time the towns were Willitsville and Little Lake.

The feuding of these less-than-civil families culminated in a Wild West-type gunfight in 1867, which resulted in "the death of five men and the fatal wounding of three others," according to the Petaluma Weekly Argus. All eight fatalities can be found in either of the two cemeteries, although the years have been unkind to the condition of the graves.

Later on, in 1879, Elijah Frost and two of his youthful companions were accused of various misdeeds and hanged by about 30 Masons. They are also residents of the two burial grounds.

According to caretaker Greene, the dead are always buried east to west, like the arc of the daily sun; however, there was one gentleman who'd been conscripted by both sides during the Civil War, who insisted on being buried north to south.

A walk through the cemeteries is a path of history. It is also intended to be a place of peace and beauty, a place where loving families and friends can go to commune with their lost loved ones, to take a moment or two to sit with them, or to speak silently with those who have passed on.

The Willits Cemetery and the Little Lake Cemetery, the two local interment locations for the Little Lake Valley, are part of the Cemetery District of the Redwoods, a board-run entity that maintains and administers the two sites, along with the Laytonville Cemetery.

There is only one man, the aforementioned Greene, who is tasked with maintaining the grounds, placing the headstones, doing the actual burials, and communicating with the families, amongst other tasks.

Greene does his best to keep up, but transients and others have been using the grounds for dumping trash. "It makes me angry," said Greene, "that about 85 percent of the trash that I empty around here is all people's personal trash. People use the cemetery as a dumping ground. I find old barbecues, tires, tiles, it goes on and on. I have a whole tub full of people's heroin needles.

"It's disgusting the way a lot of people use the cemetery," he continued. "I'm here for the people. I do everything I can to help them. I help them find their loved ones. I put in headstones. I do the actual burials. I communicate with the families on all their needs.

Read the rest of Graves Over on Page 11



Above: An overgrown gravesite hides the identity of the occupant.

Above, right: Nine years of moss and more is cleaned away from a gravestone at the Willits Cemetery by Veronica Hamilton, who runs a grave-cleaning service.

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1:19 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 100 block of East Barbara Lane and issued a warning.

8:19 pm: Officers responded to a report of threats in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

August 30

10:16 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of Creekside Drive.

10:33 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of North Main Street.

11:08 am: Officers responded to a report of harassment in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

1:09 pm: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation near the intersection of Coast Street and Highway 20.

9:44 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Wood Street.

10:27 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance near the intersection of East Valley Street and Railroad Avenue.

11:09 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 400 block of Camp Lane.

11:23 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 600 block of Central Street.

**Save the
Date:
Sherwood
Firewise
September
10 Meeting**

**Submitted by Sherwood
Firewise Communities**

Join Sherwood Firewise at our next monthly meeting on Thursday, September 10 from 6 to 8 pm with presentations from Supervisor John Haschak and the Sherwood Firewise Communities team. You can email questions before the meeting to info@sherwoodfirewise.org or text via the Zoom Chat Room during the meeting.

Learn about what each individual, their household, neighborhood, and community can do to prepare for emergencies, including evacuations. Because of the current pandemic, new supplies and procedures are needed to be added to existing evacuation checklists and "Go Bags," such as washable facial coverings and hand sanitizers as well as consideration for safe locations to evacuate to where social distancing can be maintained.

Updates will be provided on Sherwood Firewise vegetation management and emergency access routes improvement projects.

The Zoom meeting online offers viewing of presenter materials but can also be attended by telephone for those that want to join with audio only.

To join using the Zoom platform: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85625036304?pwd=dWVpYXpnSkwrQkwbXdRRZd6T3E5dz09MeetingID:85625036304Password:918795>. To join by telephone (audio only or for audio while viewing meeting on computer without mic or speaker), call: (669) 900-6833 Meeting ID: 856 2503 6304 Password: 918795

Blaylock spoke at the meeting after being sworn in, saying: "I am just truly honored to have been selected to be your police chief here in Willits. I look forward to serving and being a part of this community. It's a beautiful town, and I already feel very welcome.... I just want to say I'm really happy to be here and intend to lead a department that offers excellent service to the city and community of Willits."

In addition to several functions and assignments on the San Diego PD, her bio describes a wide array of other experience including as an instructor at the San Diego Community College and a training consultant for the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training.

"She is known for her ability to get things done, her passion and skill in mentoring young officers, her leadership skills, and her strong work ethic," states the bio.

Blaylock follows interim police chief Gregory Allen who also spoke at the meeting, calling her "a great leader" for the department.

City Manager Stephanie Garrabrant-Sierra said that Blaylock had been shadowing Allen the previous week to become familiar with the job.

She described Blaylock as having "an incredibly impressive background," and said she "flew through her boards and her tests and everything we threw at her."

She also pointed out that Blaylock is the first female chief of police to ever serve in Mendocino County, calling it a "milestone."

Garrabrant-Sierra had high praise for Allen's work as interim police chief in Willits.

"We have really appreciated and enjoyed Chief Allen's contributions to our city," she said. "When he came it was a week before COVID hit. And he came with the expectation of doing all sorts of fun things, and then we almost immediately went into lockdown. And he has approached this as a very good sport. We have seen some tremendous changes, and he has been an impressive part of our management team."

She also noted that interim Chief Allen had helped greatly in their search for a new police chief.

Allen thanked Garrabrant-Sierra and many others for making his experience as chief a good one.

"I am very proud of the dedicated members of our Willits Police Department," he said. "And I am equally as proud of our other city employees – my city family. They are awesome. I thank you for supporting your police department as we protect and serve you."

"And lastly I want to thank our community for your support and for your consideration and patience and kindness towards one another during this COVID-19 health crisis," he continued. "I've made many friends here and I have enjoyed my time here. I'm excited for the future of our police department and our city."

Downtown Improvement Project

Also at the meeting, the council approved a resolution awarding a contract for the Willits Downtown Improvement Project to Granite Construction, enabling the city to move forward with plans to install pavers and trees along Main Street.

It will be the first major project in the city's downtown beautification plans since the relinquishment of Main Street ownership to the city in July from Caltrans.

The vote was 3 to 2, with Councilmember Saprina Rodriguez and Mayor Gerry Gonzalez casting dissenting votes.

As described by city staff and council throughout the meeting, the plan includes planting 50 trees of various kinds along the sidewalks in the downtown area of Main Street, and replacing the dirt strips filled with bark with the more decorative and functional pavers.

"It has always been anticipated that new trees and pavers, the first step of the project, would be installed soon after completion of the relinquishment of Main Street," said Garrabrant-Sierra in her agenda report. "The Revit-Ed Committee worked to develop a list of trees that would be appropriate, yet beautiful for Main Street and also came up with the idea of attractive pavers."

The contract to Granite is for \$592,760, and an additional 15 percent contingency is also included should the project cost exceed that total, pushing the total budgeted amount to \$681,674.

Granite Construction beat out one other company whose bid came in at \$764,683. The bid from Granite was \$196,673 over what was originally budgeted by the city according to the agenda report – \$97,471 over the trees, \$58,155 over for the pavers, and \$41,047 over for irrigation.

However, the agenda report stated that no money would be spent from the general fund on the project, and that "over 72 percent of the project is completely covered by either grant funding or by funding from [the Mendocino Council of Governments]."

The funding plan includes covering the entire cost of the pavers with grant and MCOG funds; covering the \$91,047 expense for irrigation with

the city's water fund; and using money from the city's 1/2 cent sales tax transportation fund to cover the extra \$97,471 for the trees. The other \$95,000 for trees will be covered by an Urban Forestry Grant.

One of the main points of contention at the meeting was whether it was appropriate to use the transportation sales tax fund for trees, since when it was approved by Willits voters it was only meant to be spent on the "repair, replacement, construction or reconstruction of the city's road system," as described in the agenda report.

After some research on the matter, City Attorney Jim Lance had come to the conclusion that spending on the "street trees" was an appropriate use for the fund.

"Studies conclude that the shade provided by street trees cools the highway surfaces and extends the life of the asphalt," he said at the meeting. "And so it seems like it is a very important component of constructing a city main street that you would have trees on them, because it benefits not only the motorists and the pedestrians and the bicyclists, but also extends the life of the improvement."

Lance also noted that state regulations generally say that street trees can be considered a component of road maintenance and design.

However, Rodriguez was not swayed by this argument.

"To me it feels like a bit of deception to the public and what we thought our funds were going to be used for, she said. "This isn't the understanding of what most people think the transportation tax is going to be spent on."

She also brought up their current deficit concerns, saying: "We're in a budget crisis right now. I think every decision we make is crucial, and it shows what kind of leadership we have. We know that we have tough times now, we know that we have tough times ahead."

Rod Wilburn, who was Public Works director for the city from 2014-16, spoke during the meeting, and also felt that the transportation sales tax was potentially being misused.

"In 2003 that's not what was sold to the people that voted on this," he said.

He also felt that the city would get a lower bid if it waited until the winter months, since that's when bids for projects like this are typically at their lowest.

To that point Garrabrant-Sierra responded, "If we do wait until December to do a bid, keep in mind that there are no guarantees and there is never a guarantee with (a request for proposal)."

She had noted earlier that approval of the resolution means that the city should finish the project by the end of the year, and if they did not approve, and asked for bids again, it would have delayed the project until at least mid-2021 and possibly later.

Councilmember Greta Kanne also responded to Wilburn's comments and felt that it was important to move forward with the project in a timely manner.

"I understand that technically we just took over ownership of Main Street this summer," she said, "but it's been three years now since the bypass opened, and we have seen little change on what the character of Main Street looks like other than some newly painted lines that have been very controversial in the community."

"It is time for us to do something substantive on Main Street to show the community that we actually meant what we said," she continued, "that we're going to follow through with the Main Street plans. And that we're going to offer up something to our community to make our main street attractive and friendly for pedestrians. Something that we can be proud of and that will make people that come to our community understand that we care about our community."

She also brought up, as did others at the meeting, that the dirt strips have been a tripping hazard and problematic in other ways.

Councilmember Madge Strong also felt that time was of the essence to get the project going, noting that the dirt strip problems would get even worse during the rainy months.

"I agree with a lot of the things [said] and a lot of the reservations," she said. "But I think the downside of not going ahead is just too great."

Vice Mayor Larry Stranske commented: "I think it's what we need to do and I'm looking forward to it. I think it's going to be a real asset to our community."

Regarding the background of the plan, Garrabrant-Sierra said in her report: "The Main Street Improvement project has been in the works for several years. Staff worked with the community to develop a grand plan to create a streetscape that lends to the support of a successful downtown business district."

The report continued: "Extensive public input received through an online survey, advisory group meetings, stakeholder meetings, three council meetings, and the five-day long Main Street Corridor Planning Fair, identified the importance of and community support for implementing this plan that supports the economic vitality of local businesses."

Latest COVID numbers

Coren gave a brief summary of COVID numbers as of Tuesday morning. Since the first case that was confirmed in the county on March 19, as of Wednesday, September 3, the county has confirmed a total of 716 cases of the disease. Of that number, 640 have been released from isolation.

As of Wednesday evening, the county has 59 confirmed active cases of COVID-19 in the county. Of that number, 54 are being kept in isolation; 4 are in local hospitals, and 1 is in an intensive care unit in the county. Seventeen people in Mendocino County have died from the disease.

The Department of Public Health has confirmed 137 new cases over the past 14 days.

Looking at disease statistics along racial lines, 469 of all local cases are among people of Latinx descent; 111 among whites; 32 among American Indians; 2 among Blacks, 2 among Asians, 92 are categorized as "unreported"; and 8 are classified as "other."

Looking at the disease from a regional perspective, 553 confirmed positive cases reside in the Ukiah valley; 61 are from the north coast; 60 live the north county; 31 are from the south county; and 11 are from the south coast.

Of the total cumulative case number of 716, 392 were female and 324 were male. A total of 54.7 percent of the people who have contracted COVID-19 in this county have been female.

Looking at the disease as broken up into age cohorts: 14 cases have been among people between the ages of 0 and 5; 35 cases between ages of 6 and 12; 63 people between the ages of 13 and 18; 259 people between the ages of 19 and 34; 170 people between the ages of 35 and 49; 108 people between the ages of 50 and 64; and 67 cases are among people who are 65 or older.

A total of 23,495 tests have been done in this county. As of Wednesday evening, the results of 1,447 tests were pending.

Department Operations Center Manager Bekkie Emery also reported briefly to the supervisors. Emery said that Mendocino County is going to follow the policy of California Department of Public Health and to reject the recent policy statement by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention which advised that people who have had close contact with people who later tested positive for the coronavirus but who are themselves asymptomatic do not need to get tested for the coronavirus.

The state Department of Public Health is saying that people who have had close contact with people who later tested positive ought to get tested for the virus whether they are symptomatic or not, and Emery said that Mendocino County Public Health will follow that policy.

California revamps road to resiliency

Last Friday, August 28, Governor Gavin Newsom announced that California is adopting a new system for managing the state's response to COVID-19. Instead of having a system where there are good counties and bad counties, with the bad counties being on a watch list, the state is now wielding a four-tiered system which is based on counties' daily rate of new cases per 100,000 people.

As counties' daily case rate drops, the counties descend along the four-tiered system, and, as they descend, the amount of opening allowed in businesses and cultural institutions increases.

According to a County of Mendocino press release issued on August 28: "Counties must remain in a tier for at least three weeks before moving forward. Data is reviewed weekly, and tiers are updated on Tuesdays, beginning September 8, 2020. To advance tiers, a county must meet the next tier's criteria for two consecutive weeks.

"If a county's metrics worsen for two consecutive weeks, it will move back to a more restrictive tier. Mendocino County was assigned the highest tier, also known as the purple tier, classifying COVID-19 as widespread in the community."

In one of her last actions as the county's public health officer, last Friday, August 28, Noemi Doohan issued another revised shelter in place health order, which takes into account changes that are authorized under Governor Newsom's August 28 policy change.

Changes include provisions that hair salons and barbershops can now operate indoors; retail shops are limited to 25 percent capacity; grocery stores are limited to a capacity of 50 percent; and indoor malls are restricted to 25 percent capacity. The number of allowed participants in a childcare unit or a children's extracurricular activities group expands from 12 to 14; with up to two adults allowed beyond that number. The new health order became effective on Monday, August 31 at 8 am.

Big Rexy

Meet our friend Rexy who is soooooo handsome. Rexy is a large, mixed-breed pup weighing in at 63 pounds and is about 2 years old. He's a playful, loveable fellow. Take one look into those eyes of his, and you will melt! Rexy is our longest resident now, but we have been through a lot together. With your support we were able to save his life and treat him for heartworm. It's a long process, but Rexy is just a week away from being cleared of restrictions. He is beyond ready to find his forever home where he can get all the cuddles he wants. Rexy is great with the kiddos, too. He would love to be your loyal sidekick. He is happiest when he is with his people. Rexy needs you! Apply to love him at mendohumanesociety.com and give us a call to meet him!

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



Golden Skye

Meet our lovely friend Skye. This beautiful senior tortoise is around 10 years old, weighs around 6 pounds, and came to us as a transfer from Ukiah Animal Control. Skye is spayed, microchipped, and current on all vaccines. Skye would love nothing more than to find a forever home to spend her golden years. Could this be with you? We sure think so! You may apply to love Skye at mendohumanesociety.com.

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



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**Dog License Amnesty week
through September 5**

Posted by Mendocino County Animal Care Services

Mendocino County Animal Care Services is holding a "Dog License Amnesty" week from September 1 through September 6, at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, from 10 am to 4 pm each day.

Please remember to bring a copy of your dog(s)' current rabies vaccination records from your veterinarian. Your dog must have a current rabies vaccination in order for us to process the updated dog license.

All delinquent charges will be waived in an effort to gain dog license compliance for the dog owners that reside within Mendocino County.

A dog license for a dog that has been neutered or spayed will be \$25.

A dog license for a dog that is intact will be \$55.

At presstime, Animal Services was hoping to add more rabies vaccinations this week, but nothing was confirmed. "We will update our social media web-pages if we can add additional dates," Animal Services posted on Facebook.

The Animal Care Services Clinic is also offering \$5 microchips for your dog or cat on these dates and hours. The benefits of having your dog licensed, vaccinated for rabies, and microchipped include:

- Rabies Prevention = Healthier Community
- Proper identification if impounded / returned to owner faster
- Mendocino County Chapter 10 ordinance compliance
- Financially supports Animal Care Services



MENDOCINO COUNTY ANIMAL CARE SERVICES

Why get a DOG LICENSE?

Let your dog be ever missing, a license tag provides a quick and accurate way of notifying you if someone else finds your pet and calls the shelter. Oh! If your dog comes into the shelter, it also provides proof that your dog has been vaccinated against rabies, as required by law.

Once your dog has been assigned a license, the number and the information about your dog is permanently filed in our computer records. Your dog keeps the same license tag number for life.

The owner of every dog over the age of four months is required by law to ensure their dog or pet is currently vaccinated against rabies.

Revenue from the sale of dog licenses helps our shelter operate, and care for our county's homeless animals.

Purchase your County License at

**MENDOCINO COUNTY ANIMAL CARE SERVICES
UKIAH SHELTER**
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MENDOCINIMALSHELTER.COM

*Joan Clark
Sinclair*

July 26, 1947 - April 18, 2020

Joan was born July 26, 1947, in Howard Memorial Hospital, Willits, CA, the fourth and youngest child of Hugh and Maxey Clark. She died April 18, 2020, in her Hayward, CA home. She was predeceased by Hugh and Maxey and her two brothers Hugh and Paul Clark and is survived by her brother Tom (Piedmont, CA), Tom's daughter and her niece Olivia Clark (Pleasant Hill, CA) and Hugh daughter and her niece Sandhya Clark (Teaneck, NJ).

In June 1946 Hugh and Maxey moved to Willits from Malad, ID and from 1946 to 1956 owned and operated "The United Food Center", a grocery store business on Highway 101, 215 S. Main St., in downtown Willits.

In 1952 Hugh and Maxey bought the DeLong's Motel at the south of town along "Miracle Mile" where Joan lived until 1965 when she graduated from Willits High School (WHS) and moved to the San Francisco Bay Area for college. Hugh and Maxey bought the land and houses adjoining DeLong's Motel where they eventually constructed and in November 1957 opened a modern supermarket, "The Star Super". As a youngster, Joan cleaned and readied the motel rooms for rent, showed the rooms to prospective guests and oversaw their filling out rental cards and paying rent.

Joan was a Campfire Girl and a good student. Joan and a close group of her classmates and friends became WHS Song Leaders in 1961. Joan also became WHS Student Body Vice President and the Sports Editor of WHS's newspaper, "The Wolverine".

After graduation from WHS in 1965 Joan attended Merritt Junior College in Oakland and the University of California, Berkeley. Joan moved to San Francisco where she roomed with a good childhood friend and classmate, Denise McMillan, briefly worked at the San Francisco Cost Plus and Fireman's Fund, and in 1969 moved to Hilo, Hawaii where her brothers Paul and Hugh then resided.

She later reconnected with Dave Sinclair (WHS 1963) who she dated while living in Willits, and they moved to Chico, CA where Dave worked for Peterson Tractor Co. Joan and Dave soon moved to Los Gatos where they bought a house. In 1976 Dave and Joan bought a large parcel in the Hayward hills containing two houses where they lived together in the larger house until 2016. In 1979 Dave and Joan married in Carson City, NV and in 2017 they divorced.

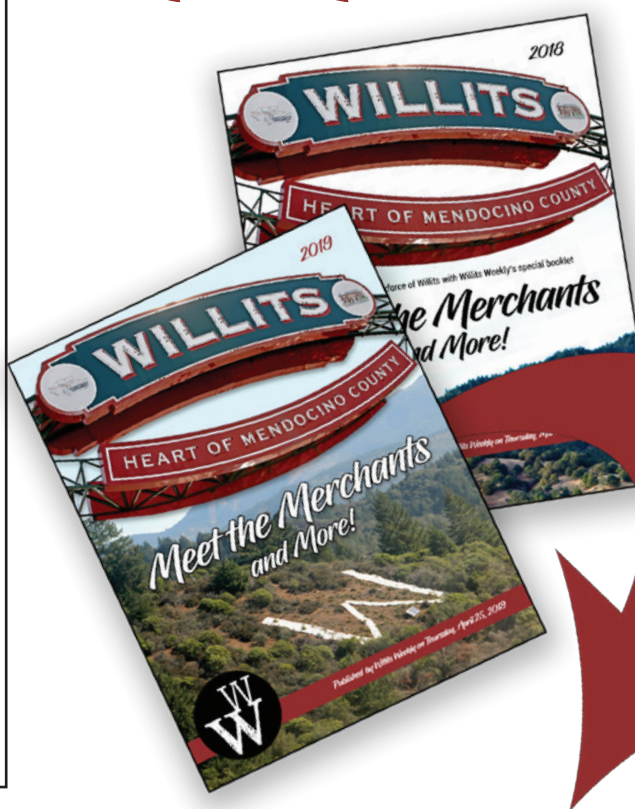
Joan had no children, but raised numerous dogs and cats as well as cows on their Hayward property. Joan loved to travel both in the U.S. and internationally and in the 1970s seriously investigated opening a travel agency. Joan was actively involved in managing residential rental properties she and Dave owned in Hayward, San Leandro and Castro Valley.

Joan was very private and had a very small and close circle of friends, including her cousin James (Jim) Curtiss & Warren Jorgenson both formerly of Willits, and Peggy Cash & Mimi Watts of the SF Bay Area. Joan's ashes were interned at Lone Tree Cemetery in Hayward.



WW's Meet the Merchants

Part 1 of our mini editions for 2020



2020 continues to ask the world – and our community, too! – to make changes as coronavirus continues to be a factor in our daily lives.

Willits Weekly is not exempt, but when faced with challenges, we like to try and rise to the occasion, and finding a way to publish our popular Meet the Merchants magazine was a goal we've been trying to reach since its regular release date in April.

With all the businesses unsure of how long complications were going to last after the initial spring lockdown, Willits Weekly postponed the special MTM publication, hoping that we'd be able to put together our regular magazine when things "returned to normal."

Well, some months later and with things still abnormal indeed, we decided to go ahead and make a mini condensed version of the magazine which could be printed in our regular pages, keeping costs lower for us, and keeping the advertising cost lower for the businesses.

Merchants and businesses who choose to advertise with

us in this Meet the Merchants Mini edition ask that you remember to stop by, check in, log on to their social media pages, peruse their websites, call in orders, and keep them in your minds when looking to make purchases, always, but especially now, during this crazy time.

We plan to run a page or two of these MTM Mini ads each week in September to highlight businesses in our area and support each other, and to keep awareness up in all of our minds.

If you have a local business and would like to be included, please email us at willitsweekly@gmail.com. Ads cost \$100 per week and have a deadline of Monday for that week's Thursday publication. Questions or more info: 972-7047.

– Maureen Jennison

*Please visit these businesses
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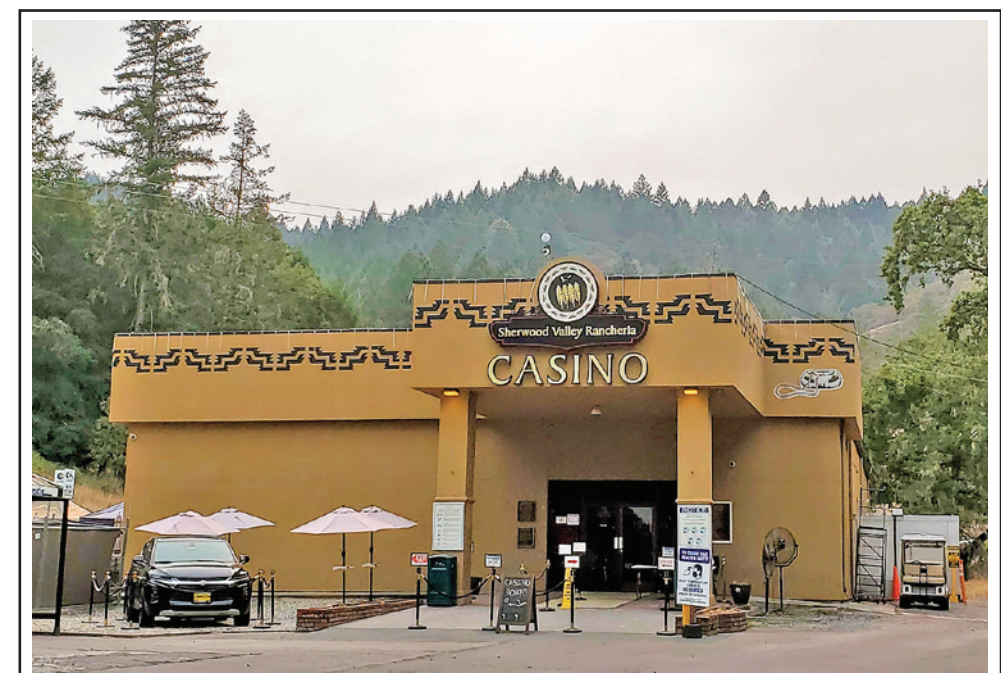
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www.willitscenterforthearts.org | manager@willitscenterforthearts.org



Above, from left: Milo Director Lynn Tingle will make sure this pair of loving donkeys will go to a perfect new home before she'll let them go; she cares deeply about each new home placement. The different animals at the shelter include two pigs, Meet adoptable Cargo, who's smiling from Tingle's attention. This lovely cat has had some over-stimulation issues but is considered ready for adoption.

Photos by Ree Slocum

SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

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11:00 a.m. - Worship
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P.O. Box 489, Willits
707-303-5456
Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Pastor Burton Jernigan
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ALL ARE WELCOME
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Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

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www.eckankar.org

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Adult Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship - 10:30 a.m.
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Alan Klier, Lead Pastor
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Willits, CA 95490
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At left: Tingle talks with Eric Hensley, one of three paid staff. "My outlook on it is to give them the best possible life in the situation they're in. My goal is to get them better and out of here," he said. The pair is watched by Nash, a very friendly, small mixed-breed and adoptable dog. Below: Holly Baroni is from the Bay Area and volunteers at Milo Sanctuary when Tingle is away. Baroni is greeted with a kiss from this pit bull that's sweet with humans but aggressive with dogs, but who's being walked with other dogs and people and making progress.



Second Chances

Milo Sanctuary in Willits saves animals from euthanasia and rehabilitates them so many can find new homes

"Milo is a place where dogs can be dogs and cats can be cats," described Lynne Tingle, founder and director of the Milo Foundation, headquartered in the Bay Area.

Located about half an hour from Willits on the Hearst-Willits Road, the 283-acre Milo Foundation Sanctuary provides a home, food, shelter, spaciousness, love, and one-on-one attention for rescued dogs, cats and other animals. Many are saved from high-kill municipal animal control centers.

Milo's main mission is to rescue animals that are slated for euthanizing and ultimately find them forever homes. Further, they rehabilitate dogs and cats and provide a sanctuary to those who aren't adoptable.

The Milo Foundation started over 26 years ago through Tingle's early love for animals and her heart-warming life experience with her puppy in Berkeley. "I had this Australian shepherd my father had given me once I had a home instead of an art studio to live in. She was an amazing dog he gave me, with the caveat that I'd breed her with his Australian shepherd I was in love with. Most amazing dog!"

This was when the breed was looked at as only a working ranch dog. "We had the pups, and we had Milo. Milo was born deaf and blind. People said, 'Of course, you have to euthanize him.'" That comment was a sign of the times, but Tingle kept Milo and he turned out to be an intelligent and enthusiastic companion. He inspired her continued commitment and work to save other dogs' and animals' lives from being needlessly ended.

Tingle recently picked up eight cats from the Lake County Shelter due to the fires. The shelter needed the room for evacuee cats. There was space in Milo's cat house for the feral or semi-feral felines. She'd also picked up

five dogs the week before.

"Except for the dogs from Lake County, most of the population here are dogs with some form of issue," Tingle disclosed. Sometimes animals spend a short time at the sanctuary, where they can receive much-needed attention from humans in order to learn or relearn behaviors necessary for adoption.

A majority come from Milo's shelter in Point Richmond, a spacious shelter where there are rooms for cats, three dog yards, and a dog park. Yet it's urban, busy and noisy. Some dogs and cats need a break from being overly stimulated and stressed out, so they're transported to the Milo Sanctuary's country setting. There, it's more peaceful and quiet, conducive to calming down or healing from trauma. The lucky ones who settle down or can be rehabilitated, adopt out from the sanctuary or are sent back to the Richmond shelter for adoption.

Unfortunately, some dogs have more severe behaviors. Kennel rage is something dogs can display where they fiercely bark at people walking by their cage, even people they know. Others have similar behaviors when on a leash, sometimes exhibiting over-protectiveness of the person walking them. Still, others don't like or are aggressive toward children, strangers, people of one sex, livestock, or other dogs.

Cats have their fair share of issues that make them unadoptable. Some feral cats continue their anti-human behaviors for a long time, in spite of rehabilitation efforts. Extreme hissing, hiding and attack behaviors can be daunting to employees or volunteers.

Some sweethearts, like Pirate, spray everywhere, and no one

Read the rest of Milo Over on Page 11



Above, from left: In front of the ATV is Harvey, an Australian shepherd who is wonderful with everyone except men; Nash is in the driver's seat, and Charlie takes up the back. Milo Foundation Founder and Director Lynne Tingle talks with volunteer Elle Heller about kittens she's been fostering at her home in Willits. Nala, one of the braver wolf-dogs, stretches to grab Tingle's treats.

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The rest of Milo From Page 10

wants that. There are cats that get over-stimulated from petting and will attack fiercely at first. "There's a few we're working on," Tingle mentioned. "Like Sweetie-Sweetie, I call her. I'm actually getting to pet her more and more [without incidents], and she talks to me with her sweet meow."

Tingle, the other employees, and volunteers spend many hours interacting with the animals: feeding, watering, walking, playing with, talking to, cooing, petting, hugging, and giving treats, while assessing their progress. "But some cats and dogs will never be adoptable, so their permanent home is Milo," Tingle said.

After almost 30 years observing and helping different animals rehabilitate, Tingle has developed a sixth sense about what problems a dog or cat is displaying and what rehabilitative measures might work well for their recovery. She and volunteers also spend time with new residents, getting to know them so they can be introduced to a new pack of dogs in an enclosure where they might do well or go to an area in one of the cat rooms where they'll fit in.

The staff and many volunteers have ideas about and experiences with animals that they draw from, which helps with the animals' healing.

Milo could use your help. Right now, they have about 85 dogs and 60 cats at the sanctuary. They spend about \$7,500 per month on food, medicine, vaccinations, spay and neutering, vet costs, incidental expenses, and staff salaries.

People who love animals and want to help in some way can volunteer their time. The staff helps people find the right activities for their skills and interests. But financial donations are always welcome, too.

Visit their website, www.milofoundation.org, or Facebook page to learn more about the Milo Foundation and Sanctuary, including how to volunteer, how to donate online, and how to adopt a Milo animal. You can also reach the Milo Foundation at 510-900-2275 or send a check to: Milo Foundation, PO Box 6625, Albany, CA 94706.

The rest of Graves From Page 5

"When someone is visiting me," explained Greene, "it's a bad day. They're sad and upset and confused. They don't know how to get everything done. We try to make it as easy as possible. This is the good side of my job where I can help people. I do my best to shine a little light on a dark day."

Shailyn Brewer, whose child, Jayden, was killed in a head-on car crash nine years ago, two months prior to birth, says she's found many instances of maltreatment of the gravesites.

"I've spoken with others," she shared, "who are very upset about the condition of the grounds and grave sites. People just come up here to party and trash things. People don't control their kids. It's disrespectful. It's disheartening."

With only one caretaker for three cemeteries and very little money in the budget (people pay \$600 per gravesite plus a \$100 endowment to maintain the grounds for hundreds of years), it is impossible for the cemetery district alone to properly take responsibility to keep the area as beautiful as the dead and the families deserve.

It would be a worthy project – and a great show of respect for those who are no longer here – a for a local organization to adopt the two sites, to occasionally clean up the cemeteries, cut back the weeds and tall grass that threaten to overtake the graves, and right the fallen statues and askew tombstones.

You can follow the Cemetery District of the Redwoods on Facebook, or reach them at cdotherrdwoods@yahoo.com or 459-5252.

Two interesting links at the USGenWeb Project website, a free genealogy project run by volunteers, show lists of names found on tombstones at both local cemeteries, along with some more information about their histories.

Willits Cemetery:
http://files.usgwarchives.net/ca/mendocino/cemeteries/willits.txt

Little Lake Cemetery:
http://files.usgwarchives.net/ca/mendocino/cemeteries/littlelake.txt

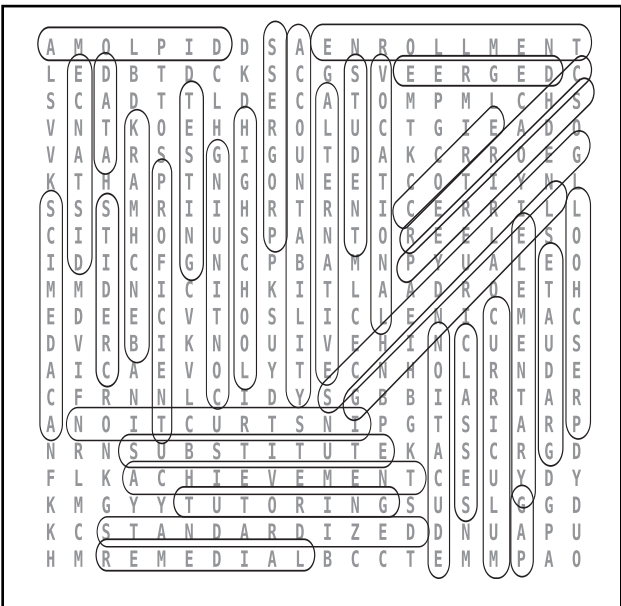
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The rest of Chief From Page 3

him a cadet badge to keep."

Indeed, after posing for his official photos, Burch was encouraged to sit in the driver's seat of the patrol car, where he regaled in pushing every button he could find that made police noises. Then he was led into the station house and given a tour of the dispatch and the chief's office, where he got to sit and imagine himself in command.

Then he went on patrol with his friends, officers Damian Angell and Michael Bennett. They worked Main Street until he had to make his daily stop in front of the Willits Enchanted Toy Shoppe to see their latest offers, which he gladly shared with the officers.

Arlo's dad, Eric Burch, was glad to see his son's enthusiasm: "When I got home from work and asked how the experience was, he lit up and told me how exciting it was!

"He went on to reference the things he got to do, how nice the officers were, and how they made me feel right at home. Jessica also told me that they were very impressed with him; even his stance when talking to the officers was like a cop, haha. Arlo was brimming with pride when he showed me the cadet badge he was given."

Willits City Manager Stephanie Garrabrant-Sierra commented: "It really warms our hearts that such a great kid loves our police department and has been patrolling with his mom to keep our city safe. I am really proud of him!"

The one word that everyone repeated that day, the perfect word to describe young Chief Arlo on his day of triumph: Adorable.

The rest of Backpacks From Page 1

markers, crayons, pens and pencils, pencil pouches, masks, hand sanitizer, "Back to School tips" from Erica Baumker, a pediatric specialist with Howard, information on how to get emergency notifications, and paperwork for resources and health information about COVID-19.

"While we know back to school doesn't quite look the same as last year, we wanted to help our community and help bring back a sense of normalcy for our kids," said Cici Winger, communications manager for Howard Memorial and one of the crewmembers handing out the packs. "The Back to School Fair was an annual tradition our team, and our community has always looked forward to it, so we wanted to still do that while keeping everyone safe. Our hope is that it brought some positive energy and anticipation to the start of the school year for our kids."

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7	9	4	2	3	5	6	8	1
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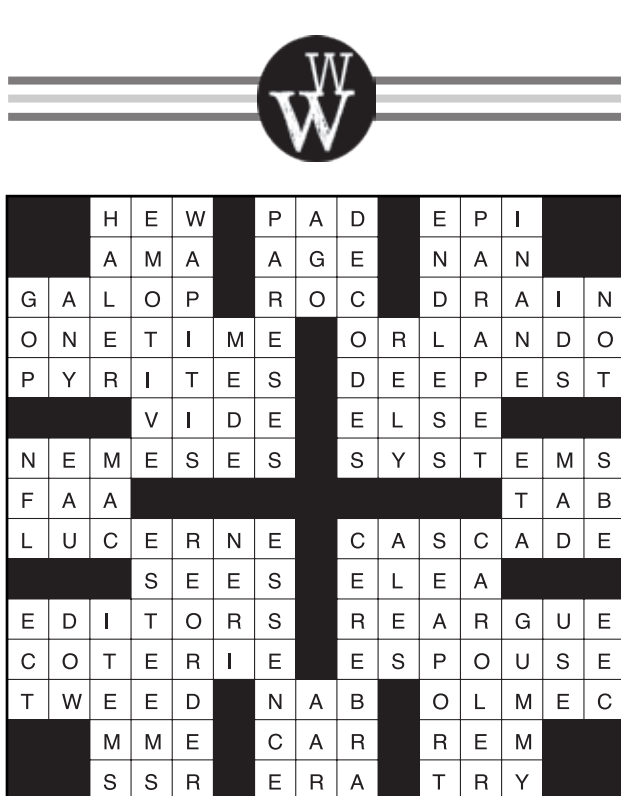
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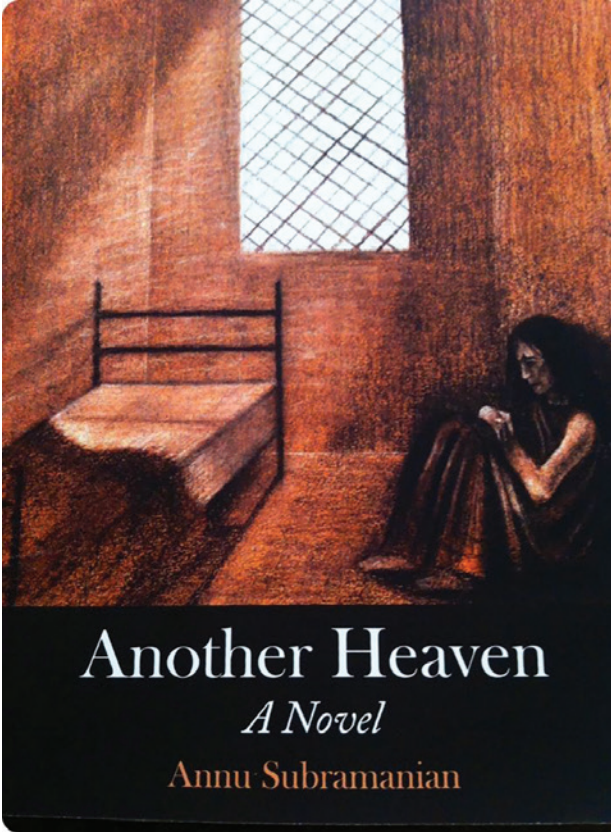
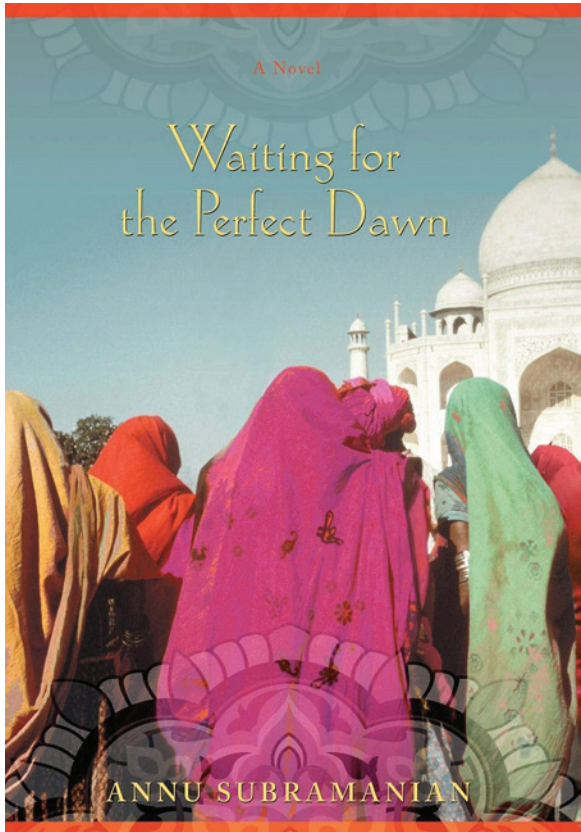
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Meals on Wheels Volunteer Drivers Needed
As demand for home-delivered meals has increased due to concerns about the spread of COVID-19, the Willits Senior Center is looking for a few more Meals on Wheels volunteer drivers: the job takes about 3.5 hours to complete. If you're interested in joining the team, call Deb Holcomb at 459-6826.

Willits Food Bank Open
Willits Community Services & Food Bank continues to distribute food, following COVID-19 safety provisions, to hungry families and individuals in the Willits area, with an increase in numbers served. The front office at 229 E San Francisco Ave is closed to the public, but the back door area is open for food distribution on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 4:30 pm. Homegrown produce donations to share with the food bank are welcome. Info: 459-3333; financial donations to WCS can be mailed to 229 E. San Francisco, Willits CA 95490.

Get included next week! Classified ads are just \$10 for 30 words for 2 weeks!





From far left: Annu Subramanian's debut novel, "Waiting for the Perfect Dawn," benefits victims of domestic violence. Annu Subramanian, a writer and educator from Albany, NY, will speak about human trafficking during the Soroptimist International of Willits Third Tuesday Speaker Series on Tuesday September 15, at noon. Annu Subramanian's second novel, "Another Heaven," deals with issues of human trafficking.



Above: Some attendees at the August 22 "Save the USPS" rally at the Willits Post Office, from left: Melinda Clark, Madge Strong, Maggie Graham, and Sharon Pardun.

'Save the U.S. Post Office' rally held in Willits

Submitted by Maggie Graham

On Saturday morning, August 22, a "Save the U.S. Post Office" event was held in downtown Willits. Sponsored by MoveOn.org, the Willits event was registered as one of over 700 protests planned in all 50 states.

Six women with "Save Our Post Office" and other signs, stood on the corner in front of the Willits Post Office from 11 am to 12:30 pm. They were Maggie Graham, Melinda Clark, Madge Strong, Karen Gridley, Linda Park and Sharon Pardun.

Attendee Maggie Graham said those at the rally were reacting to reports of changes to the U.S. mail "since the new CEO of the Post Office, Louis DeJoy, took over," which include reports from elsewhere in the nation that "hundreds of mail drop-boxes have been removed from locations all over the U.S. and mail-sorting machines have been dismantled and discarded, which has slowed down mail delivery," in addition to reports of reduced overtime and instructions to change efforts to get mail out that day.

"Veterans and seniors are not receiving their prescription drugs in a timely fashion, important checks are not being delivered, and mail is piling up in distribution centers," Graham wrote. "I would urge folks to follow the news and find out for yourselves what is really happening with our United States Postal Service."

Soroptimists host Zoom speaker series about human trafficking with writer Annu Subramanian

Submitted by Soroptimist International of Willits

Soroptimist International of Willits Third Tuesday Speaker Series invites you to Zoom with us Tuesday, September 15, at noon! Our speaker will be writer / educator Annu Subramanian, joining us from Albany, NY. Her topic will be: "Human Trafficking: A Rising Global Epidemic" and how women's networking (or any community-based networking) can take essential steps to raise awareness. RSVP to siwillits@soroptimist.net for the Zoom link.

Annu Subramanian is an educator, a writer of conscience, and a human-rights advocate from Albany, New York. She was chosen as a national finalist by the Norman Mailer Center and National Council of Teachers of English in 2011 for her short story titled "So Fair and Very Lovely" and as an Educator of Excellence in 2011 by New York State English Council.

Using her novels as resources, Subramanian conducts workshops on teaching humanity through literature and speaks at various events to raise funds for grassroots movements, to promote women's empowerment, and to address human-rights abuse. She is using "Another Heaven," her second novel, to benefit victims of human trafficking. Proceeds from "Waiting for the Perfect Dawn" (her debut novel) benefit victims of domestic violence.

Subramanian's projects

Annu's Purse: This project encourages women to collect used purses filled with daily essentials for victims of domestic violence. Annu's Purse has collected and donated over 500 purses since the project was initiated. This community initiative has been adopted by other volunteers across the country.

Purses were donated to Shelters of Saratoga; Wellsprings of Saratoga; City Mission of Schenectady; YWCA Schenectady; St. Joseph's House; City Mission of Albany; and Northern Rivers.

Tulsi and Thyme: A fusion-food blog (www.tulsiandthyme.com) to raise funds for grassroots movements through Dinner for Two and Cooking for a Cause. Funds raised for Southend Children's Cafe (Albany, NY); and Gendercide Awareness Project (Dallas, TX).

"Jaagrata": A dance production by Megna Murali that was inspired by "Another Heaven." Funds raised for You Can Free Us Campaign; Safe, Inc. (Schenectady); and Shelters of Saratoga.

Shakthi: A celebration of women (a grant program of the NYS Council of the Arts) organized by Mathangi Srinivasan, with writing concept by Subramanian. Pilot program: March 7, 2020.

To learn more about Subramanian, check out the following video links:

- <http://news10.com/2016/05/11/albany-woman-starts-purse-drive-for-domestic-violence-victims/>

- <http://vimeo.com/86708210>

https://www.facebook.com/marywilsonnews/videos/1452684388183961/?hc_ref=ARTIZHtauhmURaq6MJ2ncaCKLCYG1JqXK7noBWEK-PLmE1Igv0MZ5jsD3EH9nt5P8

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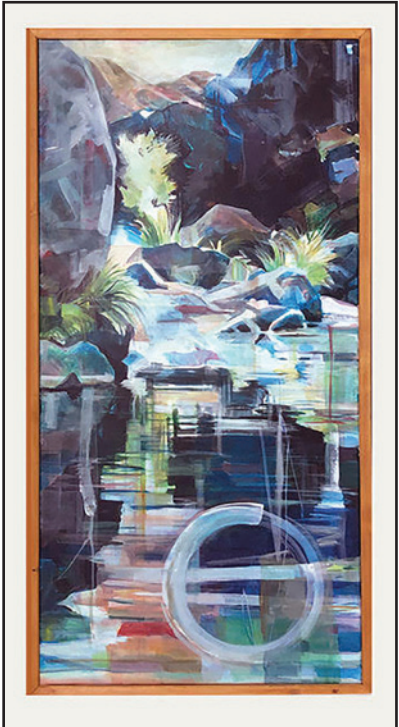
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Above: Marjo Wilson with some of her paintings at the Highland Art Center in Weaverville earlier this summer. At right: Fiber artist Laura Fogg presents her art quilts at the Art Center in September. Below: "Prayer" by Marjo Wilson. At bottom, left: "River Eve" by Marjo Wilson. At bottom, right: "A Dark Angel's Plea for the Salvation of our Planet, an art quilt by Laura Fogg



WCA in September

Art Center presents art quilts by Laura Fogg and Covelo paintings by Marjo Wilson

Submitted by Willits Center for the Arts

Willits Center for Arts is proud to present Laura Fogg's art quilts and Marjo Wilson's paintings of Covelo. Both artists excel at their crafts and bring their work to the WCA for residents and people from the surrounding areas.

Laura Fogg's fiber art is nationally known, and she has shown at both of our country's most prestigious quilt shows, "Visions," and Quilt National. Her quilts show up in both national and international quilting magazines and calendars.

Fogg has also received two notable awards in Mendocino County. She was the proud recipient of the Woman's Vision award in 2008 and Mendocino Art Champion in 2012.

Her work in the gallery is a series of social statements about our current affairs. Fogg's interpretations of disadvantaged people and environmental statements in fabric are remarkable for the way she blends mixed media into expressions of social injustice.

Marjo Wilson brings her love of animals and Mendocino country roads to her remarkable suite of painting expressing her passion for country life. A native of Covelo, Marjo has enriched Mendocino County with her paintings and talent for years. Wilson also presents songs and singalongs for children and parents in Mendocino called "Cotton Dandee Family Style Hoedown."

A recipient of many awards for years of creativity and distinctive paintings, Wilson won first place in painting and drawing in the "Grand National Art Show, 1999," in San Francisco. As recently as last year, she has received the Highland Art Center's first place in painting. Wilson works magic with a paintbrush and passionately interprets her surroundings on canvas.

The Willits Center for the Arts is located at 71 East Commercial St. Open 11 am until 5 pm, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Only 6 people will be allowed in the gallery at one time. Masks are mandatory. This show is open through September 27, 2020.

Please contact Curator Gary Martin for more info at 707-972 3326 or gtm1950@gmail.com

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Congrats Newlyweds The Jennisons

Willits' favorite bearded postman, Matthew Jennison, and Willits Weekly co-founder and local photographer, Maureen Moore, were married at The Lands of Moore at a lovely evening ceremony on August 22, 2020.

The pair looks forward to August 21, 2021, when they plan to renew vows on their one-year anniversary and have a reception and party to celebrate with everyone at that time.

Photo by Carrie Mayfield Photography



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The rest of Control From Page 1

The drive to create a degree of autonomy within the state's new four-tiered system came in part from 5th District Supervisor Ted Williams and Second District Supervisor John McCowen.

Both supervisors have long complained that they have not seen any data which supports the tight restrictions on certain business types, while other business types, which they say could arguably be just as dangerous as the ones that are being restricted, are allowed to operate with few restrictions.

On Tuesday, Williams and McCowen again argued against the state system. McCowen had written a letter to Newsom expressing his views and asking for more autonomy in negotiating the pandemic.

"The increased case rate is certainly concerning," McCowen wrote, "but it is important to recognize that beginning in January, Mendocino County began planning for a significantly greater surge than anything seen to date.

"Mendocino County secured facilities for isolation, quarantine and alternative care sites and developed extensive plans for surge capacity for hospital beds, ICU beds and ventilators. Our three local hospitals are prepared to surge to 100, 200, or more beds dedicated to Covid-19 patients.

"Because our hospitals are part of a larger regional network, they are able to move equipment and personnel within the system on an as-needed basis. In March, based on modeling, we were told that 40 percent of our population, or 36,000 people, would contract COVID-19 and that 3,600 would require hospitalization, with 1,800 in ICU, and that 450 would die.

(Editor's note: McCowen is likely referring to discussion at the March 23, 2020 board of supervisors meeting, when the supervisor asked then-Public Health Officer Noemi Doohan for her assessment on what might happen if the county's recently issued shelter-in-place order didn't slow the spread of the virus.

Doohan said that if the coronavirus wasn't stopped soon, computer modeling of community spread of COVID-19, under a moderate scenario, indicated that some 40 percent of the county's population would contract the disease.)

"More recently," Supervisor McCowen continued at Tuesday's meeting, "based on modeling, we were told that by the end of August we would have 53 people hospitalized. In fact, on August 31, we had three patients hospitalized with COVID-19 with none on ventilators and none in ICU.

"Despite the recent increase in cases, our healthcare system is not remotely at risk of being overwhelmed and, with surge plans in place, is prepared to go well beyond current capacity," McCowen continued.

"Of significant concern, although Latinos make up approximately 26 percent of the population, over 75 percent of all cases identified by ethnicity are Latino, including many monolingual Spanish speakers. We are very appreciative of the assistance of the state in providing bi-lingual case investigators and contact tracers and are committed to allocating the resources to address this dramatic health disparity. We fully support reliance on data and science to guide us in making decisions related to the safe opening of our economy.

"Local data consistently shows that our increased case rate is primarily a result of family and community gatherings. In contrast, we are not aware of any data that points to re-opening specific business sectors as being responsible for the increased case load.

"Therefore, in recognition of the significant variance in local

conditions that influence the risk of COVID-19 transmission, we respectfully request your consideration of empowering our local health officer to make case-specific decisions regarding local business restrictions. We believe this will result in improved public health outcomes, while also benefiting the local economy and individual business owners," McCowen wrote.

In his first morning on the job, new Mendocino County Public Health Officer Coren was asked if he would support the supervisors' push for more localized political power.

"In our county, we had a surge over the summer, and it does look, as we approach the Labor Day weekend, that it is decreasing," Coren said. "And my heart goes out to the men and women who are running businesses, and who can't run their businesses, and they are suffering socially, and their families are suffering, and so on.

"But we also have to look at the people who have been hospitalized, who have been quarantined, who have been isolated and who've died. It's hard to put a price tag on that. It's hard to compare those two.

"Our county, if we were to now say, I were the one responsible for setting these rules, our county would not have access to the kind of expert opinion, data, and research, and a manner to observe what's going on, that would inform my opinions," Dr. Coren said.

"So my opinion would just be one person's opinion — albeit with a different title — and opposing many of the other people who are definitely suffering under this mandate by the Department of Public Health.

"So, although I haven't digested this letter [i.e., McCowen's letter] at this point, and, frankly, I haven't digested all the different sectors of the economy of Mendocino — and I do think there are differences between a small county and a large county — but I can't support giving me total responsibility, on the basis of 'we don't have the research.'

"We don't have the research. We rely on expert opinion because they have the research, and it takes a lot of time and a lot of money to come up with that research. Otherwise, you base your decision on anecdotes," Coren said.

McCowen was not persuaded by Coren's argument and asked the other supervisors to read his letter and to send it to the governor right away. "Dozens — scores — perhaps hundreds — of additional businesses may close if nothing changes," McCowen said.

During the morning part of the board meeting, when the item was being discussed, the supervisors had not all read McCowen's letter. Chair John Haschak agreed to bring the item back later in the day for further discussion. The item was brought back at 4:45 pm in the afternoon. At that point, Coren was no longer in the board chambers and did not appear to be on the phone. McCowen moved that his letter be sent, but his motion received no second.

Williams said it was vital to get Coren's agreement to any policy shift recommended by the board of supervisors. "We already have sent out one letter that the state hasn't responded to: I'm not sure that piling it on is the best [idea]," Williams said.

Williams moved that he and Haschak be placed on an ad hoc committee that would work with Coren to see if the trio can agree on the wording of a letter that would move the county further toward having local control on the matter of business lockdowns and business openings during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The motion was approved 4-1 with McCowen voting no.

The rest of Measure B From Page 13

paper called "Operational Costs for Proposed Crisis Residential Treatment Facility and Psychiatric Health Facility/ Psychiatric Hospital," which was briefly presented to the Measure B Committee at its July meeting. It is not clear that it was ever presented to the board of supervisors.

The paper, together with other reports that were given at the July Measure B meeting, stated that the Measure B project would receive \$38.9 million from tax revenue over the first five years, that a crisis residential treatment facility would cost \$3.7 million to build; that a psychiatric health facility would cost a maximum of \$20 million to build; and that the Regional Training Center will cost \$516,195 to purchase and remodel.

Assuming that the four items that were brought to the board on Tuesday, (items 5J through 5M above) would have cost \$6.3 million had they all been approved, and that staffing over a five-year period will cost just slightly more than \$4 million, would give a total for the Measure B project of \$34.8 million, which would leave \$4.1 million unallocated.

However, Bailey's July report did not go far enough to please Williams or the rest of the board. "The public is entrusting us and the oversight committee [another name for the Measure B Committee] with \$30 million of the public's money," Williams said. "I continue to feel concerned that we're going to spend that money until there's nothing left, and that, however we spend it first, those items will get checked off, but we won't have a holistic plan to meet the necessary continuum of services."

Williams later explained to Bailey and to the board what kind of plan he is looking for. He said that he wants projections on "the life of the roof, the gutters, a projection of what it will cost to maintain and to staff, with footnotes to the sources."

The rest of Election From Page 1

Mendocino County voters. If you do not receive your ballot by October 15, 2020, please call our office so we can get you out a replacement ballot.

• During this pandemic, we encourage you to stay home, stay safe, vote the ballot you receive in the mail, and return your ballot either through the mail or a ballot drop box location (listed below) at your earliest convenience. With this election, we can open and process your ballot as soon as we receive it. We cannot upload any results until 8 pm on election night.

• When returning your voted ballot — NO postage is necessary, whether you drop your ballot / envelope or deposit it into a ballot drop box. Unless otherwise noted by an asterisk *, the drop off locations are available 24 / 7.

	BALLOT DROP BOX LOCATIONS	
CITY OF WILLITS (open 24/7) 111 E COMMERCIAL ST – WILLITS MENDOCINO CO ADMIN BLDG (24/7) 501 LOW GAP RD – UKIAH	CITY OF FORT BRAGG (24/7) 416 N FRANKLIN ST – FORT BRAGG MENDOCINO CO FAIRGROUNDS FAIRGROUNDS OFFICE – BOONVILLE *Open 9 AM – 4 PM Monday – Friday	CITY OF POINT ARENA (24/7) 451 SCHOOL ST – POINT ARENA ROUND VALLEY JUSTICE COURT 76270 GRANGE ST – COVELO *Open 7 AM – 8 PM Election Day Only

• You are welcome to call our office and verify your residence address, to make sure we have your most current information.

• When returning your ballot, don't forget to sign the back of the return envelope, we can't count your ballot if it doesn't have your signature. If you forget to sign it, we will contact you by mail so we can get a signature from you.

• If you are worried that your signature has drastically changed, please re-register at www.registertovote.ca.gov or call our office, we will be happy to mail you a new voter registration card.

• We check every signature – if your signature does not match, we will contact you by mail so it can be corrected.

• We will have "in-person polling" locations throughout the county for those voters who need assistance or need to visit a polling location. You can drop your ballot off at any polling location in Mendocino County on Election Day – we have changed a few locations, they are marked with: ** in the table below. Because we are following our traditional polling place policy, our polling locations are only required to be open on Election Day.

• If you are mailing your ballot through USPS, it must be mailed by Election Day. If mailing on Election Day, be sure to get it postmarked. If you use a ballot drop box location, please drop it off by 8 pm on Election Day.

	POLLING LOCATIONS & ELECTION DAY BALLOT DROP BOX LOCATIONS	
THURSTON AUTO PLAZA 2800 N STATE ST – UKIAH REDWOOD VALLEY GRANGE 8650 EAST RD – REDWOOD VALLEY NEW LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH 750 YOSEMITE DR – UKIAH **UKIAH FAIRGROUNDS – CARL PURDY HALL 1055 N STATE ST – UKIAH POTTER VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL MULTI-PURPOSE RM. 10401 MAIN ST – POTTER VLY HOPLAND FIRE DEPT. 21 FELIZ CREEK RD – HOPLAND	BROOKTRAILS COMMUNITY CENTER 24980 BIRCH ST – WILLITS WILLITS COMMUNITY CENTER 111 E COMMERCIAL ST – WILLITS LAYTONVILLE LIONS FIRE HALL 44920 WILLIS AVE – LAYTONVILLE **FORT BRAGG CITY HALL EAST 213 E LAUREL ST – FORT BRAGG FB VETERANS MEMORIAL BLDG 360 N. HARRISON ST – FORT BRAGG CASPAR COMMUNITY CENTER 15051 CASPAR RD – CASPAR	MENDOCINO FIRE – MEETING ROOM 44700 LITTLE LAKE RD – MENDOCINO **LITTLE RIVER INN 7751 HWY 1 – LITTLE RIVER CHAPEL OF THE REDWOODS 31201 COMPTCHE UKIAH RD – COMPTCHE MENDOCINO CO FAIRGROUNDS DINING ROOM – BOONVILLE VETERAN'S MEMORIAL BLDG 451 SCHOOL ST – POINT ARENA COMMUNITY CENTER - MAIN HALL 47950 CENTER ST – GUALALA

• All of our "in-person" polling locations will follow all public health orders, including social distancing, wearing facial coverings, and having hand sanitizer and gloves available.

If you have any questions, please call the Elections Office at 707-234-6819 or email us at mcvotes@mendocinocounty.org.

The rest of Blaylock From Page 2

institutions of higher learning (AB2361, 2016), expanding their ability to protect their campus communities. While at USC, she also initiated leadership and diversity training to help officers be more effective leaders. She also developed a mentoring and coaching program at USC to help officers better perform their duties and prepare for advancement.

Chief Blaylock graduated Summa Cum Laude from California State University San Marcos with a BA in Criminology and Justice Studies and holds several certifications. She is known for her ability to get things done, her passion and skill in mentoring young officers, her leadership skills, and her strong work ethic.

Chief Blaylock cares for those less fortunate. During an economic crisis when many SDPD officers could not give monetary contributions to charities, she initiated and led a charity event where officers throughout the city of San Diego donated clothing to homeless men, women and children. Donated items were cleaned, sorted, and delivered to four organizations within San Diego County who all agreed to distribute the items to those in need. This was a highly successful event where donations exceeded all expectations. With Chief Blaylock's leadership, officers were able to make a difference in their communities and help those in need.

Chief Blaylock also volunteered at the Sacramento SPCA, where she enjoyed working with shelter animals. She loves gardening, decorating, woodworking, and is an accomplished singer as well. She sang in a number of musical theater productions and at various public events throughout her career.

Chief Blaylock comes from a small town in Florida, so is no stranger to small town life, and says that she looks forward to living in Willits. She is honored to lead the Willits Police Department and be a part of the Willits community. She will be highly visible and accessible, and looks forward to listening, learning from, and meeting with the people of Willits.



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to announce the winners!”**

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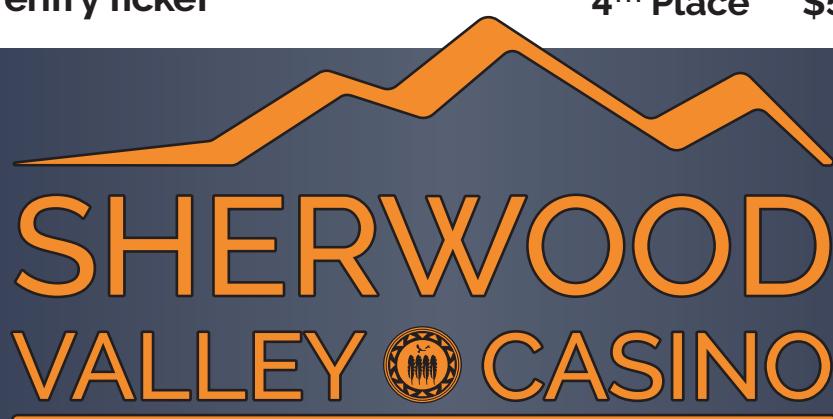
SEPT 14-26 — 8AM – 10PM

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