School board talks school funding

Joanne Moore Reporter anne@willitsweekly.com

The Willits Unified School District Board of Trustees had two extra meetings in September in order to present, discuss, hear from the public about, and approve a state required planning document called the Learning Accountability and Attendance Plan, or LCAP.

The document details how the district will use supplemental funding from the federal government of about \$1.2 million intended COVID-19 for related needs.

It was presented to the board at a September 24 meeting, reported on in last week's Willits Weekly, and unanimously approved at the September 28 meeting.

The rest of September 28 meeting time was taken up by a review and discussion of state Proposition 15, a review of the district's actual 2019-2020 school year revenue and spending (unaudited actuals), and projected budgets going forward.

Proposition 15, known as the California Schools and **Local Communities Funding**

Read the rest of Funding

Over on Page 11

Board OKs hemp pilot program

Mike A'Dair mike@willitsweekly.com

On a 3-2 vote on Tuesday, the board of supervisors approved a two-year pilot program for industrial hemp production.

Supervisors Dan Gjerde, Carre Brown and John McCowen voted to approve the program; supervisors John Haschak and Ted Williams voted against it. Both Haschak and Williams serve on the board's cannabis ad hoc committee.

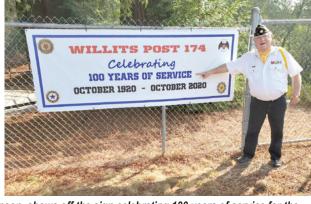
The pilot program will allow a maximum total of five plots of industrial hemp in Mendocino County each year, for 2021 and 2022. Persons who wish to be allowed to grow industrial hemp in this pilot program must apply for a license by a request for proposals process, through the county's Department of Agriculture.

Industrial hemp considered to be agricultural crop by both the federal and state governments. In addition, it is considered to be a row and field crop by the county government. As such, production of industrial hemp would be permitted

Read more of Program

Over on Page 8





Above, left: American Legion Post 174's Post Commander, Fred Branson, shows off the sign celebrating 100 years of service for the local group. Above, right: Legion adjutant and finance officer, Roger Ham, is proud to be a part of the 100 years of service. Below: American Legion members, Ham, left, second vice-commander John Frankum, center, and Branson, right pose in front of the Veteran's Memorial Building near the intersection of Main Street and Sherwood Road on the north end of Willits.



A Century of Service

American Legion Post 174 celebrates 100 years of service on October 15

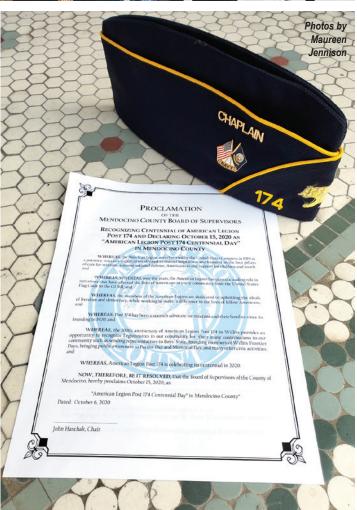
February through December, members of the American Legion Post 174 are hard at work, providing the Willits community with a roster of events in tribute veterans and more.

Everything from the Poppy Drive for Memorial Day, to Color Guard services, to veterans and first responder breakfasts, to flag collections, retirements and raisings, to Wreaths Across America, and more – all bear the stamp of the Legion. This October 15 marks 100 years of service for the Willits group.

The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors recognized the achievements of Post 174 with a special proclamation "recognizing the centennial of American Legion Post 174 and declaring October 15, 2020 as American Legion Post 174 Centennial Day in Mendocino County."

Post 174 is always looking for new members: Anyone who has served in the military or has family associated with the military is welcome to reach out to the group for membership, support and other resources. Contact Roger Ham, post adjutant, for more info at 456-9858.

- Maureen Jennison



Above: A proclamation given to the American Legion Post 174 of Willits by the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors to recognize the centennial achievement of Post 174. Below: John Frankum gives his best Vanna White presentation of the sign showcasing Post 174's upcoming anniversary, hanging on the gate by the Veterans Memorial Building.



Supes move to support Sheriff's Office

Mike A'Dair mike@willitsweekly.com

The board of supervisors Tuesday voted unanimously to take initial steps to respond to a request made by Mendocino County Sheriff Matt Kendall. In interviews on various local radio stations, and in a statement posted on Facebook on September 28 (reprinted in the October 1 edition of Willits Weekly), Kendall made the argument that the Sheriff's Office needs to hire a sizable influx of new deputies.

Kendall described the strain on his department due to growers of illegal cannabis and trying to steal from them, including a recent incident with arrestees "equipped military-grade weapons and body armor," who, Kendall said, planned to "open fire on deputies with these weapons," if they were "discovered and detained."

Next, Kendall said his department had not seen an appreciable increase in

Read the rest of Support

Over on Page 11

County passes 1,000 **COVID** case milestone

Mike A'Dair mike@willitsweekly.com

Mendocino County's COVID-19 cumulative case load cruised past 1,000 as of Sunday's case number update, which notched 1,005 cumulative cases of the disease. After a large gain in Tuesday's update, the number of cumulative cases stands at 1,021.

Of those, 787 are from people who live in the Ukiah valley, and 633 are from people who are of Latinx descent. That means that 77 percent of all confirmed cases are among people who live in the Ukiah Valley, and 62 percent of all cases are among Latinx people.

During a board of supervisors meeting that was held on Tuesday, county Public Health Officer Andy Coren and Departmental Operations Center Manager Bekkie Emery told the supervisors the county is working hard with the Hispanic or Latinx community to control the spread of the disease.

Emery told the supes that the county has hired six bilingual employees

Read the rest of Milestone

Over on Page 11

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Measure I vs. Proposition 15

To The Editor:

Recent conversations have revolved around Measure I and Proposition 15. Both claim to be for the schools, and folks are taking sides. This is what I see when looking into the language of each proposal.

Proposition 15: Increases property tax on commercial and industrial properties. How the money will be distributed (Ballotpedia. org): The ballot initiative to specific areas, rather than the general fund. First ... The revenue would be distributed to (A) the state to supplement decreases in revenue from the state's personal income tax deductions and (B) the counties to cover the costs of implementing the measure.

Second. 60 percent of the remaining funds would be distributed to local governments and special districts; 40 percent would be distributed to school districts and community colleges via a new LCAP fund. Revenue appropriated would be divided as follows: 11 percent for community colleges and 89 percent for public schools, charter schools and county offices of education. There would also be a requirement that schools and colleges receive an annual minimum of \$100 per full-time student (that is 89 percent of the remaining 40 percent)

That's a lot. So why the last line? Let's break it down. Proposition 15 estimates are, upon full implementation, between \$8 and 12.5 billion. California has 6.2 million students (California Department of Education) Recent editorials stated we, the WUSD, would receive \$1.5 million -- or \$1 million. WUSD has 1,520 students. Dividing \$1.5 million by 1,520 equals \$987 per full-time student. So, 6.2 million students times \$987 equals \$6.1 billion. Wow. That is almost all of the minimum estimated collection. Considering what the schools' piece of the pie is (look above at the distribution formula), this \$1.5 or \$1 million to the district is not going to happen.

If you look at the California budget issues going back many years, 70 percent of the general fund comes from personal income taxes (look above at the first bit of the pie). Personal income tax revenue was off by 40 percent in 2018-19. This is before COVID-19.

The \$100 per student really looks like the true number WUSD will realize, a total of

Also, when the property tax is raised on you buy will go up. So you will pay for this, not business.

Measure I: Raises \$17 million over 10 years to pay for repair of existing facilities of WUSD and charter schools. Up to \$40 per 100,000 on property taxes. The up to economy.

All of the money, 100 percent of the pie. stays local.

conditions of the local

\$40 can

When Proposition 15 and Measure I are put side by side, it is clear that the best choice for our schools is Measure I. A "Yes" vote for Measure I is

Dan Green, Willits

Bowlds. Mann for school board

To the Editor:

the best choice.

I hope the community of voters within the Willits Unified School District boundaries will join me in supporting the candidacy of Alex Bowlds and Bryan Mann, who are both running for the school board. I really appreciate everyone who is willing to serve on the school board. There is nothing more important in our community than the children who reside here.

I am advocating for Alex's re-election to the school board as he has such a depth of knowledge to share. He has served on the school board through many school district administrations. During Alex's many years serving on the school board, he has worked successfully with a number of dillerent superintendents and school board

Alex works tirelessly on behalf of the WUSD stall and students. Being a retired firefighter he understands the need for teamwork in any endeavor and brings that understanding to the school board.

During the time I have served on the school board, Alex has been the only member of the board who is not a retired educator, and have really come to appreciate the need for such other perspectives on the board.

I support Bryan Mann's candidacy because he cares about kids. He is a person who has raised children, and his grandchildren will be students here. Except for one, all of the current school board members are retired educators. That is good to a degree, as retired educators bring a depth of experience with schools that is important. But retired educators shouldn't be the only people serving on a school board.

We need community members. Parents. Family members. Since I knew that two seats on the school board would be up for election, I have advocated to parents that I know to run, as families really need to be
Center Director Richard Baker and Parlin represented on the board.

Bryan Mann is the type of person I was hoping would run. He is a family man. He has been actively involved with youth sports for years. He has been an active supporter of youth in 4H and FFA. He really cares about kids. The school district really needs Wednesday, the day before the dinner, to the perspective of parents and families on ensure that the workers do not serve at the

The school board does not need two more retired educators, which the other two candidates are, as it leads to an imbalanced school board. Please join me in voting for be allowed inside the building. They must Alex Bowlds and Brvan Mann.

Jeanne King, Willits

Yes on Measure I depending on the To the Editor:

> I am voting for Measure I because I support children and their education. This modest bond measure will raise about a million

dollars per year through the sale of bonds. Our schools are in urgent need of repair. Our high school is 90 years old: Baechtel Grove and Brookside are 70 years old. Blosser Lane, our newest school, is 30 years old. All bond money will be spent on repairs which is much more cost-effective than new construction. No money will be annual event, please call the food bank spent on administration.

I calculate that my property tax bill will increase about \$120 per year. That's about \$10 per month, an affordable and reasonable price to pay to help upgrade our to pick up their meals. Please call the senior

Some say that distance learning will reduce costs and the need for repairs. Nonsense. Maybe not this year but one day students will return to their schools. Some think that a former school bond measure was wasteful. Perhaps. But this bond measure is different. It will have strict independent oversight and is modest. It has been created by our local school board trustees who are local citizens trying to help our children get a good

Seventy-five percent of voters in Willits passed Measure A in 2013 to support libraries. We willingly taxed ourselves to support a public institution that we love. Now we need to put our money where are values are: our children and their future. Marc Komer. Willits

Community Thanksgiving drive-thru dinner

To the Editor:

Great news for Willits!

The Willits Food Bank will host the annual Community Thanksgiving dinner on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 26, at the Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Due to COVID, the dinner will be a drive-thru event, although some are expected to walk-thru. There will be no seating inside or outside the Senior Center. The menu will be the same as in the past 30 years: turkey with all the trimmings, salad and pie, and a small bottled beverage, all packaged and ready in a to-go bag. Sorry, no hot beverages will be served. Meals may be picked up at the front entrance from 11 am to 3 pm at no cost. Our donation box will be available for those who wish to

Thanks to many helpers, including Senior Fork Conservation Camp firefighters, we will be able to serve more than 500 meals on Thanksgiving Day. As always, the Parlin Fork workers will cook all the turkeys and pies and will bring them to the Senior Center, but this year the delivery will be on dinner, as designed by their supervisors

Primary precautions will be followed in order to ensure everyone's safety from the COVID virus. Only staff and volunteers will be free of virus symptoms, as determined by self-reporting and by taking forehead

temperatures, to be allowed inside. They must observe safety precautions during their work shift. Those interested in volunteering may call the food bank at 459-3333 to sign

Some donations have already been promised. Tom Allman plans to collect cash donations to buy all 36 turkeys that will be needed for the feast. Be on the lookout around town in late October for a man dressed as a turkey. Additional food and supplies are promised by others. If interested in helping with the costs of this or email wcsrav4@gmail.com for a list of

This special meal may be delivered to elders and those who are unable to come center at 459-6826 to sign up for delivery by Meals-On-Wheels within Willits city limits by Wednesday morning, November 25.

Looking forward to a memorable day with many good times,

Ruthanne Volz. executive director. Willits Community Services and Food

Willits Senior Center Lunch

Drive-Thru & Walk-Up Meals

The Willits Senior Center is continuing to provide drive-thru, walkup and delivered meals, now that inside dining has been shut down again by the state. Call 459-6826 for more info.

Drive-thru and walk-up meals are still available 12 to 1 pm, Monday through Friday. Pickup is outside the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road, All Senior Center meals are currently

Home Meal Delivery

Call 459-6826 the day before needed to schedule home meal delivery; \$5 per meal, Monday through Friday. Delivered throughout Willits. Can you volunteer as a Meals on Wheels driver? Call Deb at 459-6826.

Thursday, October 8: Pepperoni

Friday, October 9: Chicken Chili with Cornbread

Monday, October 12: Baked Chicken

Tuesday, October 13: Ground Beef

Wednesday, October 14: Ham & Swiss Melt on Rye Thursday, October 15: Ground

Sirloin with Mashed Potatoes &

Friday, October 16: Tater Tot Casserole

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

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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THIRD DISTRICT SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

October 2020

By Supervisor John Haschak

As the COVID-19 positive cases number passes 1,000 for Mendocino County. I wish you all the best of health in these turbulent times. It is time to do your civic duty and make sure you have filled out the U.S. Census for your household and vote.

This week, I submitted an agenda item requesting CalFire present to the BOS and community in November their plans for vegetation management and greater safety for our communities before the next fire season. CalFire's work last year on the Firco and Schow Roads north of Willits was crucial during the Oak Fire. Their work is greatly appreciated, and I look forward to learning of the critical work they have planned.

Another item I co-sponsored involves the sheriff's request for additional funds for the Sheriff's Office. My request is that we look at the data and trends that justify additional resources. While I am supportive of his request, the budget was just passed in June and additional funding has to come from somewhere. Certainly the Third District could use more law enforcement. The goal is that with more information it will be evident that the sheriff's request is needed

The last item I sponsored is an updated ban on the sale of flavored tobacco and vaping devices to align with the state's definition of tobacco. This is an issue of importance to our schools and public health. Many people have strongly advocated for this health issue since Mendocino County has much higher than average rates for teenage use of tobacco and vaping products.

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

Sherwood Firewise October 8 Meeting

Submitted by Sherwood Firewise Communities

Join Sherwood Firewise at our monthly online meeting on Thursday, October 8th from 6 to 8 pm with presentations from Supervisor John Haschak, the Sherwood Firewise Communities team, and John Lemmer, Great California ShakeOut, on getting ready for earthquakes. You can email questions before the meeting to info@ sherwoodfirewise.org or text via the Zoom Chat Room during the meeting.

This is National Disaster Preparedness Month, and we all need to learn more about what each individual, their household, neighborhood and community can do to prepare for emergencies, including fires and earthquakes. The current pandemic requires new supplies and procedures 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.

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:

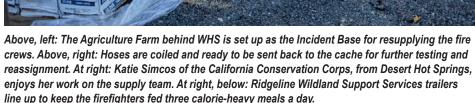
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85625036304?pwd= dWVpYXpnSkwrQkkwbXdRRzd6T3E5dz09

Meeting ID: 856 2503 6304 Password: 918795

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







Incident Base

WHS set up as firefighting support center with kitchens, tents and supplies

It takes an army to fight a major fire like the August Complex. And like an army, even though the public hears mostly about those on the front lines – the firefighters, the ground crews, the air attack pilots, and others – there are also many people involved behind the scenes in supplying, feeding and supporting the firefighting efforts.

Last Friday, October 2, a city began to accumulate behind Willits High School. The Agricultural Farm was taken over by those who make sure that supplies are available and ready to be shipped to the fire sites.

Behind the football field, a sizable catering and food-prep concern, with several semitrucks and kitchens, took up residence, along with tents, portable toilets, everything needed to self-contain and provide three meals a day to those on the fire lines. On the football field itself, a tent city began to assemble, waiting for the main body of workers to

Mark Westerburg, superintendent of schools, was contacted by the U.S. Forest Service to see if they could set up in Willits in order to support fire crews working to the north and

"With the high school in distance learning," said Westerburg, "we are able to accommodate their needs. Without any hesitation, we are privileged to be able to help the firefighters save our state from the fires. The fire service will be here as long as needed and will scale up and down in size based on their needs."

Aaron Woods is the supply-unit leader. "Basically, this is the supply unit," said Woods. "I have all the stuff to support the firefighters out there. We have packaging for shipping the food out to the fire. I have hose. When they need any supplies up there, we send it up

"We got here yesterday," Woods continued, "and pretty much all day long were just unloading trucks. I haven't been up to the fire. I was up at Stonyford, northeast of Clearlake, and I've been here. I have my own little world that I deal with.

"There are other fires in the state that are competing for supplies." Woods explained. "Normally, I would have two or three other people helping me to run this, and I'd be

Over on Page 9









PATHWAYS



Awana: Tuesday, 6:15 p.m. Info? 707-459-1905 www.agapebiblechurch.con **Amazing Grace** Assembly of God Church 803 Coast Street P.O. Box 489. Willits 707-303-5456 Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m Pastor Burton Jernigan EVERYBODY IS WELCOMI The Church of **Jesus Christ of**

Agape

290 S. Lenore Ave

Willits.CA 95490

Where love is first

Sunday Services

adult & children

Latter-day Saints 265 Margie Drive Willits, CA 95490 ALL ARE WELCOME Sacrament Meeting Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

ckankar: The Path Spiritual Freedor Sound of Soul events • Membership Discourses •Spiritual Discussions ECK Light & Sound Service More information? Call 707-456-9934

Grace Community Church Celebrating Life In Christ 25 Hazel Street, Willits dult Sunday School - 9:30 a.m Coffee Fellowship - 10:30 a.m. Worship Service & Children's Church - 11 a.m. Mid-week Bible Studies

www.eckankar.org

Potluck every 2ND Sunday Alan Klier, Lead Pasto 459-3106 St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church 61 W. San Francisco Ave.

Willits, CA 95490 Father Aaron Bandanadan Mass times: Confessions by appointment: 459-2252 Sunday Mass outside: 8:00 a.m. English

9:00 a.m. Spanish

Healing Praver 3rd Sunday

ALL ARE WELCOME

The Rev. Betsy Bruneau

Ve welcome All Ŵalks of Faith St. Francis **Episcopal Church** North Main Street, Willits 707-459-3066 hurch Services/Communic Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.

St. John Lutheran Church Karl Bliese, Pastor

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

Adventist Church 399 W. Mendocino Avenue 707-459-5714 Sabbath School - 9:15 a.m. Worship Service - 10:45 a.m.

Willits Seventh-Day

4th Sabbath of every month family potluck at the school. 22751 Bray Road, Willits Villits United Methodist Christ centered, progressive church ALL ARE WELCOME

286 School St. (at Pine) ev. Rosemary Landry, pastor Worship Celebration Sundays - 10:30 a.m. ldren's Sunday School - 10:45 a.m 459-2855 acebook: www.facebook.con

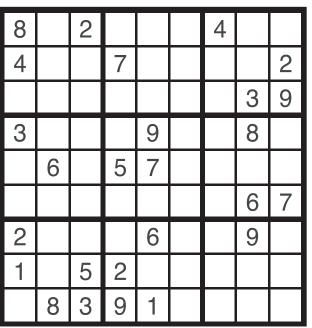
you want to be included ir this column please call: April Tweddell (707) 972-2475

up on the WHS football field. A sign points the way to the Incident

Willits High School.

Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku. Word Search & Crossword



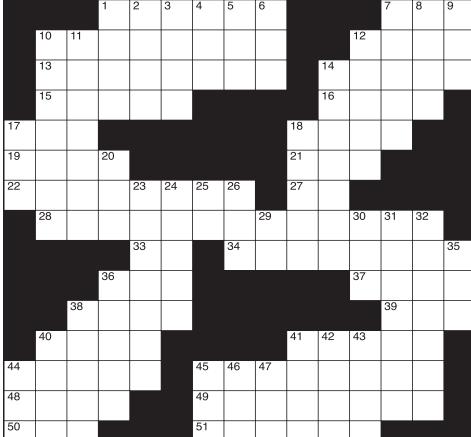
SUDOKU

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

AFFILIATION DEDUCTION ASSISTANCE DONATE **AUDIT** DONOR **BOARD EXPENSES BUDGET FOUNDATION** COMMITTEE **FUNDRAISING**

GRANT INVESTOR INVOLVEMENT LEADERSHIP **MESSAGE NONPROFIT**

ORGANIZATION PHILANTHROPY PLATFORM SOCIAL TRANSPARENCY VOLUNTEER



40. Can repel attackers

44. Cut into small pieces

45. Mexican agricultural

41. Essential oil used

as perfume

worker

48. Best pitchers

49. Benign tumors

50. Danish krone

51. Looms above

CLUES DOWN

1. Make a map of

CLUES ACROSS

- Lunar crater 7. Upstate NY airport (abbr.)
- 10. Fruit 12. Seventh avatar
- of Vishnu 13. Organism that grows
- without air 14. Heals
- 16. Open
- 17. Twitch
- 19. Soon 21. Witch
- complaint 27. Killer clown film
- 28. Keeps us occupied 33. Influential lawyer
- 34. Formation of concepts
- 36. Insecticide 37. Swiss river 38. Actress Lucy
- 15. A book has one
- 18. Plant of the mint family
- 2. Cain and 3. Dried-up 22. Long, mournful
 - 4. Corporate exec (abbr.) 5. Trading floor hand gesture 6. Strongly alkaline
 - solution 7. Yemen capital 8. Military leader (abbr.)
- 9. Maintains possession of 10. Afternoon show 11. Imaginary being 39. Unit of g-force 12. Rearrange

Sudoku puzzles are

6:22 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

Summary of Active Investigations

and Arrests

seven-day reporting period.

September 28

12:09 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 300 block of North Main Street.

3:03 pm: WOOLSEY, Timothy Lee (58) of Covelo was contacted in the 300 block of North Main Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of failure to appear.

3:45 pm: Officers responded to a report of harassment in the 1600 block of South

of a suspicious person in the 100 block of Spruce Street. 7:01 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1000 block of

4:44 pm: Officers responded to a report

South Main Street and issued a warning. 7:11 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1300 block of South Main Street.

September 29

1:04 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 1700 block of South

9:22 am: ELIAS, Bryan Ernesto (23) of Vallejo was contacted in the 23000 block of East Side Road. He was arrested pursuant to 459 PC (Burglary) and 594 PC

10:26 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 300 block of

10:57 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

September 30

7:38 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

8:37 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1700 block of South

9:21 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 600 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning

9:42 am: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 300 block of South Main

1:57 pm: Officers initiated a theft

investigation in the 100 block of South Main

Street. 4:08 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1700 block of

South Main Street. 11:21 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of North Main Street.

October 1

14. Holy person or sage

20. Brooklyn hoopster

24. Extremely angry

25. Indicates position

26. Chinese surname

30. When you think you'll

29. Potato state

get there

32. Bullfighters

36. Small fishes

warfare'

40. Waste matter

41. Skin disease

42. Scandinavian

43. __ and haws

44. Villain

45. Tell on

46. Difficulty

47. Not old

mythological god

38. 'Father of chemical

31. __ Falls

35. Born of

17. __ Mahal

18. Backbone

23. Intervened

4:16 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

8:22 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 400 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning.

8:25 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1400 block of South

9:49 am: Officers initiated a theft

POLICE LOG

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT

September 28 to October 4 By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police investigation in the 100 block of Mill Creek Department handled **196 incidents** in this Drive.

> 11:29 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of South Main Street.

> 6:14 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 500 block of South Main Street.

7:24 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1000 block of South Main Street.

October 2

11:40 am: YADON, David James (49) of Willits was contacted near the intersection of Central Street and Monroe Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance and failure to appear.

4:51 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of North Street and Wood Street.

6:08 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of Bonnie

11:31 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1200 block of Locust Street.

October 3

12:29 am: WOOD, Kelly Christeen (46) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. She was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication), 273.6 PC (Violation of a Protective Order), and on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol).

2:47 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 600 block of East Commercial Street.

2:50 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 500 block of Railroad

3:32 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of Redwood

8:54 am: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 100 block of

10:39 am: SHAUL, Dominic Matthew (19) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of East Commercial Street. He was arrested on felony charges of touching of intimate parts of another against their will.

5:16 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 1700 block of South

5:34 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 200 block of School

6:10 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

October 4

9:29 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle near the intersection of East Hill Road and Sanhedrin Circle.

5:39 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 400 block of East Commercial Street.

6:33 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of Pearl Street and issued a warning.

8:06 pm: Officers initiated a hit-andrun vehicle collision investigation near the intersection of West Highway 20 and

9:12 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

Willits P.E.O. holds Sunday driveway sale to raise scholarship money for WHS student

Women Helping Women

of the oldest women's organizations in North America. among seven young women in

1869, has grown to almost 6,000 local chapters with more than 225,000 members in the United States and Canada," explains the P.E.O. website. "A legacy passed down through generations of women, P.E.O. has deep roots in local communities and our influence reaches to all corners

In accordance with the mission of the organization, women from the Willits Chapter XO of the P.E.O. Sisterhood put together a last-minute driveway sale on Sunday on Northbrook Way. "This was a quickie idea to get the group together," said member Barbara O'Reardon. "It's been great to get together because we haven't been able to, you know. But today, this is special and we're trying to raise a little bit of money for a scholarship for a girl graduating from [Willits] high school this year."

The Willits P.E.O. usually has fundraisers like their Mexican dinner at El Mexicano in Willits or sponsorship of

"P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization) is one one of the Willits Community Theatre plays, none of which can happen this year. So the impressive \$782 gleaned What started as a bond of friendship from Saturday's sales will certainly help fill the P.E.O.'s \$1,000 scholarship purse.

According to the P.E.O. website, the Sisterhood sponsors six international, philanthropic projects to help women with their educational goals, as well as raising funds for local

Since 1927 the Sisterhood has owned and supported Cottey College, an accredited liberal arts and sciences college for women located in Nevada, Missouri. Their five other projects include providing a low-interest loan and a variety of other scholarships that range from \$2,500 to

"Right now, the [P.E.O.] organization is sponsoring a young woman from India. She's going to Santa Cruz," said Joanne Lanz, who started the Willits Chapter in 2003. This International Peace Scholarship is for young women from a country other than the U.S. or Canada. They're currently



Over on Page 9





Above: This colorful, yearround net wreath made by Adrienne Arant was one of the handmade goods for sale Saturday.

Above, right: Joanne Lanz, a member from Ukiah, explains the structure of the international P.E.O. organization.

At right: There were goodies for sale like P.E.O. rose petal jam, pumpkin salsa, carrot cake, and apple pie jams, as well as dishcloths and facial coverings.



1600 S. Main St.

Willits, CA 95490

willitspower@gmail.com



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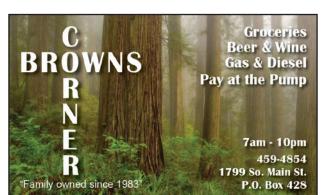
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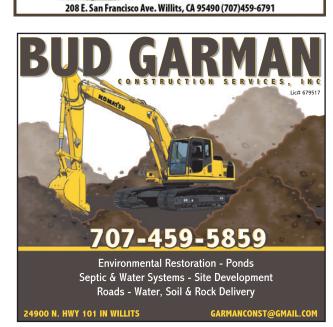
Service: 707 459-0596

Fax: 707 459-6369











Missing since October 2 Auto · Home · Life · Health · Business Last seen off of Shafer

Ranch Road in Willits, CA.

\$500 reward for his return! Any info please call 707-354-0397

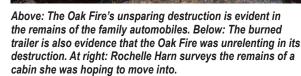


DOG Friendly, black-and-white

named Juice

His family misses him very much!









Photos by Mathew Caine

Oak Fire Loss

Retired ER nurse Rochelle Harn's trailers, possessions and unfinished cabin burned in the fire that scorched her property

Michael Schuette got lucky. His well-insured barn burned in the Oak Fire, less than 10 yards from his

Mathew Caine

beautiful house, which was left untouched. He will be able to rebuild it as a garage and work area, better than before. Not

all his neighbors fared as well. Just up the drive, off Highway 101 north of town, near Ryan Creek Road, it was a scene of selective devastation.

Nature has a way of choosing its victims in a seemingly random manner. The lands owned by retired Howard Hospital emergency room nurse Rochelle Harn were pretty well scorched, with the exception of the house occupied by her son and granddaughter, which escaped unscathed.

Harn had created a virtual paradise amongst the pines and oaks. In addition to her son's house, there vere several other buildings of various types, a cabin that Harn had been working on reconditioning for her eventual occupancy, a couple trailers, one in which she had been living, one belonging to a friend. There was also a rather large (40-foot by 25-foot) storage building. All of these were reduced to burnt pieces of metal by the fire which tore through the area.

She was on the property when the Oak Fire came through. "My daughter got Nixle before I did, because there is no cell service here," recounted Harn. "She called me and told me about the Nixle posting. The ash was coming down. We could feel that it was

"I had one dog that didn't want to get into the car," Harn continued. "He kept running away. We had to keep throwing a stick to get him in the car. We had gotten the cats and the other two dogs already. It eventually was able to coax the dog into the car.

Having the heart of a caring nurse, Harn's concerns were not only for herself. She felt badly for her friend. "I was allowing an old friend to stay in his trailer on the property," she shared. "He got his trailer up eight hours before the evacuation. He lost everything that he brought up here from the Santa Cruz Mountains."

After evacuating the property, Harn ended up at the Golden Rule Trailer Park at the house of a woman she had never met. "She never met me before, and she was leaving to Maine [to avoid the smoke]. Our daughters know each other. This woman never met me before, and she has let me into her home," Harn said through tears.

"I know there are a lot of people who have lost more than I have, and I have been so blessed. This community is amazing."

Harn is very appreciative for all the help she has been given so far and very concerned for all of the others who have lost their homes. "I want to talk about how wonderful everyone has been," said Harn.

"I started and finished my career at the Adventist Howard Hospital. They have reached out to me and offered me help. I need to get some written estimates, which are difficult right now. Everybody is busy. My son works at Flow Kana, and they have been so good to me. They started a drive for me to get little things on my list I'm putting together of my needs. Things like an outdoor camping shower."

Harn's daughter, Yvonne Mayshark, who herself lost her home to fire in Redwood Valley in 2017, started a GoFundMe to help her mom get back on

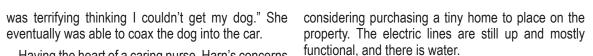
property. The electric lines are still up and mostly functional, and there is water.

our creek ran dry, but we also have a couple of little tiny streams that are still running. The reason I bought this property is because it is rich with water. I still have water, but my tanks are all gone. They will have to be

things. Nobody got hurt. All the things that are really important to me, my family. I have good neighbors. I feel bad for my son. He had everything here to open a martial arts studio, all the equipment, all the bags, all the pads." Harn always is more concerned with others than for herself

Harn's daughter, stated on the GoFundMe page: "My mom has spent her entire life helping others. She has worked over three decades as an emergency room nurse. Anyone who knows her, knows that she is full of compassion and gratitude. It pains me to see my mother in retirement, having to start her life over

her life. Immediately, she is in need of clothing, toiletries, bedding, furniture and money for temporary housing. Long term goals include permanent housing and toxic-waste clean-up of burned materials on her property. Any donation, small or large, is greatly



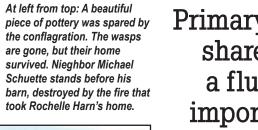
"We also have a well," Harn continued. "Last year

"I always felt like I was going to be OK," said Harn. "I never felt that this was anything but lost

"Any donations made will help Rochelle to rebuild

To donate to the GoFundMe for Rochelle Harn. please go to: www.gofundme.com/f/rochelle-harn-





Primary care providers share why getting a flu shot is more important than ever

Submitted by Cici Winiger, communications manager for Adventist Health

Every year, influenza causes thousands of deaths and hundreds of thousands of hospitalizations in the U.S. During last year's flu season, the Centers for Disease Control estimates the flu caused up to 18 million clinic visits, more than 410,000 hospitalizations, and more than 24,000 deaths.

an overlap of COVID-19 and influenza this winter. You may have many questions about what this means to flu shot. you and your family. Now more than ever, experts are emphasizing the need for getting the flu shot to avoid having a perfect storm of the flu and COVID-19, since each brings its own list

Primary care providers from Adventist Health are answering your most common questions about COVID-19 and the flu:

What is the difference between influenza (flu) and COVID-19?

Flu and COVID-19 are both contagious respiratory illnesses, but they are caused by different viruses. Because some of the symptoms of flu and COVID-19 are similar, it may be hard to tell the difference between them based on symptoms alone, and testing may be needed to help confirm a diagnosis.



Judson Howe, financial officer for Adventist Health in Mendocino County, gets his annual

Both COVID-19 and flu can have varying degrees of signs and symptoms, ranging from no symptoms (asymptomatic) to severe symptoms. Common symptoms that COVID-19 and flu share include: Fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, runny nose, muscle pain or body aches and headaches. Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults. A major difference for COVID-19 may include change in or loss of taste or smell.

Is it possible to get COVID-19 and flu at the same time? "We're still dealing with COVID-19, even as our cases overall

> Over on Page 8 Vaccine

Pretty Princess Meet Princess!! This beautiful McNab and Border Collie mix is about 3.5 years old. Princess came to as an

Madame LaPurr Meet the beautiful Madam LaPurr!! Miss Madam is a senior girl who was found wondering on her own. We believe she is around 12 years old. We would love to get her into her forever home for her to spend her golden years in. Miss Madam is a very sweet gal who LOVES to talk. She seems to always have a story to share with you. She is cat-social as well and wouldn't mind sharing her home with a friend. If you would love to make this

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County, 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley, 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. For information or any questions, call 707-485-0123 or, for cats, you may email catteam@

hsimc.org and, for dogs, you may email dogteam@hsimc.org. Visit "Humane Society for Mendocino County"

page on Facebook to see available dogs and cats, and visit www.mendohumanesociety.com to learn more.

owner surrender when her family was unable to provide her the home they felt she deserved. Which is why we are here! Princess has lived in a home with kiddos and another dog; in fact Princess is fantastic with both. As with most extremely smart breeds, Princess At right: Willits advocate Shannon DeMuth

girl yours, you may fill an application out at mendohumanesociety.com.

would love and needs a home to keep her mind is the featured speaker at this month's active and her cute self on the go. Dogs like her Soroptimist Third Tuesday Speaker Series, love, want, and need jobs. Princess is on the hunt for the perfect home. Could this be with you? If so we would love to chat with you! You may apply to make Princess your new love at www. mendohumanesociety.com.

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino series features local advocate County, 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley, is Shannon DeMuth 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. For information or any questions, call 707-485-0123 or, for cats, you may email catteam@ hsimc.org and, for dogs, you may email dogteam@ hsimc.org. Visit "Humane Society for Mendocino County" page on Facebook to see available dogs and cats, and visit www.mendohumanesociety. com to learn more.

'Dream Big

Soroptimists' virtual speaker

Soroptimist International of Willits invites the public to their Third Tuesday Zoom Speaker Series, on Tuesday, October 20 at noon. This month's featured speaker will be Willits resident Shannon DeMuth, who was awarded the Soroptimsts' "Live Your Dream" award in March of 2015, a \$750 scholarship. To attend, please RSVP to siwillits@soroptimist. net for Zoom link.

"I am a mother, a foster mom, a teen mentor and advocate," Shannon DeMuth writes. "I am a caregiver and Hospice caregiver going on 37 years. I am the founder of Community Crossroads of Mendocino County providing homeless outreach and advocacy to our vulnerable

"Challenging myself to jump in to college and academia as a high school dropout was the best decision I ever made," DeMuth continues. "I graduated in 2016 from Mendocino College with an Associate Degree in Human Service and Social Work. I went on to Sonoma State University where I received my Bachelors Degree in Psychology in 2019. I am now in a Masters program working towards my MA in Couples and Family Therapy (MFT) set for completion in

Visit "Soroptimist International Willits" on Facebook to keep up with the Willits chapter.

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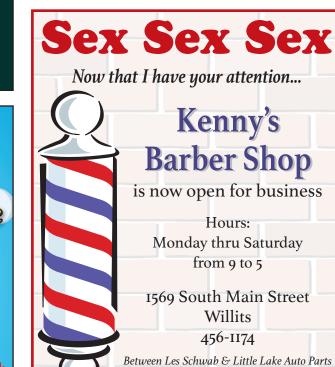


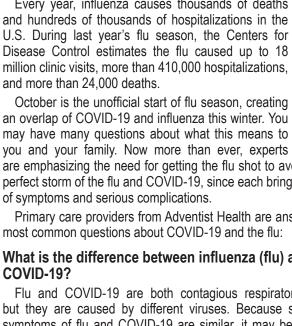


WE ARE GOING TO MISS YOU NICOLE POWELL! THANK YOU FOR INSPIRING US EACH WEEK. LOVE YOU ALWAYS,









#MaskUpMendo

Photo courtesy of Yvonne Mayshark

Masks are Required

WEAR A

MASK.

Our county depends on your support. For businesses, it's the lawfor their employees and their customers

WHY MASK UP?

SELFIE GIVE-A-WAY Take a selfie with this sign using #MaskUpMendo (look for our sticker on social media), tag a friend and be entered to win a weekend get-a-way in Mendocino County. GIVE-A-WAY will be held monthly

For more information visit: www.visitmendocino.com/safemendocino



Thanks to all of you for asking and the answer is YES! **SCHOOL PHOTOS WILL HAPPEN!** Stay tuned to

facebook.com/mphotographress or @mphotographress on Instagram for dates and times in October and November 2020!



pho-tog-ra-phress photography by maureen moore

Yvonne Mayshark.

basroofing@live.cor

From Page 6

are going down," explains Lindsay Helvey, a Ukiah family nurse practitioner. "Flu season starts in October, usually goes throughout February and sometimes Individuals could extends into April." contract both the flu and COVID-19, which have similar respiratory symptoms, at the same time, causing further complications, she says. "Having both illnesses together would likely mean you would have much more severe symptoms And, if your immune system is trying to fight off two illnesses simultaneously, that could put you at higher risk for a poor outcome or a severe illness, especially for those who are high-risk to begin with.

Is COVID-19 more dangerous than flu?

Flu and COVID-19 can both result in serious illness, including illness resulting in hospitalization or death. While experts are still learning about COVID-19, at this time, it does seem that COVID-19 is more deadly than the flu. However, it is too early to say for sure since COVID-19 is a new virus.

Will a flu vaccine protect me against COVID-19?

While getting a flu vaccine will not protect you against COVID-19, getting a flu shot has many other important benefits, including

reducing illness, hospitalization or death. Reducing flu hospitalizations also will free up health care resources for COVID-19 cases, says Zoe Berna, MD, a Mendocino Coast family medicine physician. "We depend on the same health care professionals and equipment to deal with the flu as we do with COVID-19, such as respiratory therapists. ventilators and oxygen. Getting a flu vaccine this fall will be more important than ever, not only to reduce your risk from flu, but also to help conserve potentially scarce health care

Who should get the flu vaccine?

"To be on the safer side, we should all get the flu vaccine not only to protect ourselves, but to protect those who are at risk of having complications," Berna adds. "It's especially important for those people who have elderly members in the household to receive the vaccine." Those who should receive a flu shot includes adults over 65 years old, those with underlying illnesses like asthma or heart disease, pregnant women, caretakers who are exposed to vulnerable groups, most children and essential workers, among others. "Since children under 6 months can't get vaccinated yet, adults who care for them are advised to get the flu shot," she says.

When should I get the flu vaccine?

According to the CDC, October is a good time to get vaccinated. Getting it during the fall will make sure you're protected

through April. Is it safe to go to a hospital or clinic to get a flu vaccine during a pandemic?

throughout the season, which can last

All our facilities, including hospitals and clinics in Ukiah, Willits and Fort Bragg, are taking additional precautions to keep patients safe, including requiring masks, screening for symptoms, limiting visitors and social distancing where possible. If you have concerns or questions about visiting your physician's office, go ahead and give them a call ahead of time.

Can COVID-19 measures protect against a bad flu season?

"The silver lining with us being in a pandemic right now is that everyone is already taking precautions. Anything that we do to reduce COVID-19 transmission will also help with reducing transmission of the flu " shares Berna

Those good hygiene measures you've been taking to avoid COVID-19 can also help protect you from the flu, so be sure to: wear a mask in public places, wash vour hands often, social distance and don't gather with people outside your household.

Many still agree, however, that the most important and obvious precaution people can take this flu season is the flu shot.

While some have put off their health as

in most zoning districts in the unincorporated

One of the key provisions of the ordinance

creating the pilot program is that there shall not

be any male hemp plants allowed in whatever

hemp plantations are permitted by the county.

To eradicate male hemp plants, the hemp farmer

will be required to inspect his fields regularly for

the first five or six weeks of the growing season

After the first five or six weeks of the

growing season, inspectors from the county's

Department of Agriculture will inspect the fields

on a weekly basis, and will remove and destroy

and must remove all male hemp plants.

From Page 1

provider in Ukiah, Willits and Fort Bragg. Flu shots are also available at Howard Pharmacy in Willits. Adventist Health Howard Memorial, Adventist Health Mendocino Coast, and Adventist Health Ukiah Valley are part of Adventist Health, a faith-based, nonprofit integrated health system serving more than 80 communities on the West Coast and Hawaii. Founded on Seventh-day Adventist heritage and values, Adventist Health provides care in hospitals, clinics.

we sheltered in place to stop the spread, it's

time to get back on track. An appointment

with your primary-care provider will be a

great starting point to talk about flu shots

and other vaccinations and important

screenings you and your family should think

about to stay healthy. Call 833-249-3556

to see an Adventist Health primary-care

rural and urban communities. Our compassionate and talented team of 35,000 includes associates, medical staff physicians, allied health professionals, and volunteers driven in pursuit of one mission: living God's love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope. Together, we are transforming the American health care experience with an innovative, yet timeless, whole-person focus on physical, mental, spiritual and social healing.

home care agencies, hospice agencies

and joint-venture retirement centers in both

Program

part of the county.

On September 29 at 1:07 am, Willits police officers responded to Brown's Corner for a

When officers arrived, they saw that the glass front door was broken. Several items were scattered about inside and outside of the store, and there was additional damage to other store property.

A review of video surveillance showed the suspect, later identified as 23-yearold Bryan Elias of Vallejo, had driven his vehicle slowly into the front door of the store in an attempt to break the glass. Elias then reversed, parked his vehicle.

Officers were later able to track Elias to the 23000 block of Eastside Road where they contacted Elias and took him into custody. Officers obtained a search warrant for the premises and recovered most of the stolen property. The vehicle used in the commission of the crime was impounded.

Elias was booked into the Mendocino County Jail for burglary and felony vandalism.



before exiting and leaving the scene.

Burglary at Brown's Corner

Submitted by Willits Police Department

possible burglary that had just occurred.

In addition, the ordinance states that the grower will need to provide "a laboratory test report indicating the THC levels of the hemp as required by law, rule, or regulation prior to harvest." According to state law, industrial hemp cannot contain more than 0.3 percent of THC. by dry weight.

A proposal by Agricultural Commissioner Jim Donnelly pertaining to the pilot program contains a one-page attachment that describes best management practices for the program.

The best management practices include only two provisions. The first: Any plantings of industrial hemp "must be compliant with North

Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board regulations. Techniques like proper grading and avoidance of water runoff must mitigate any soil erosion and sediment delivery into surrounding

The other best management practice states: "Cover crops are used to prevent soil erosion, improve soil quality and provide habitat for beneficial insects and pollinators. The appropriate use of these crops is encouraged, and the grower and a UC Farm Advisor or other crop consultant can assist in making a suitable

The ordinance creating the industrial hemp pilot project does not include any limitations regarding the maximum size of any hemp plot.

The proposal to create a hemp pilot program drew some interesting letters from the public. One of those was from Laytonville attorney Hannah Nelson, who has been a well-informed spokesperson for the cannabis industry for years, and who now represents the Mendocino Cannabis Alliance in negotiations and discussions with the county.

Nelson wrote: "According to a 2019 article by James DeDecker at the Michigan State University College of Agriculture & Natural Resources, "Industry experts recommend a minimum distance of 10 miles

Program | Over on Page 11



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vailable Monday thru Friday

Cost - \$5.50 per meal

Meal Delivery Delivered throughout Willits. Please call to set up delivery. Available 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm **Drive Thru**

1501 Baechtel Road Starting Oct.1st Cost Per Meal: Non-Members - \$8.00

Thursday, Oct. 8 Pepperoni Pizza Friday, Oct. 9 Chicken Chili with Cornbread Accepting donations to aide us in feeding seniors Sheltering in Place Please Visit —

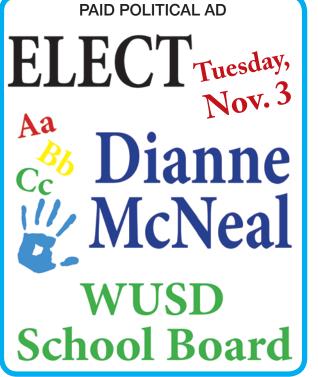


Walk Up Meals Senior Center Members - \$7.00 Menu - Oct. Week 3 Menu - Oct. Week 2 Monday, Oct. 12 Baked Chicken Tuesday, Oct. 13 Ground Beef Enchiladas Wednesday, Oct. 14 Ham & Swiss Melt on Rye Thursday, Oct. 15 Friday, Oct. 16 Fresh See's Candy Nut N Chews, Soft Centers, Milk, DRIVE THRU PICK UP • CALL 459-6826











LEGAL NOTICES

Fictitious Business Name

Statement

The following company is doing

Registered owner: Tony Gera,

4800 Hearst Willits Road, Willits,

This business is conducted by an

The registrant commenced to

ransact business under the

ictitious business name listed

FBN statement filed with the

Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder

10/01, 10/8, 10/15 and 10/22/2020

above on September 1, 2020

on September 2, 2020.

s/ Tony Gera

Publication dates:

usiness as Bigfoot Fab, 4800

Hearst Willits Road, Willits, CA

2020-F0439

CA 95490

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The following company is doing business as Elk Creek General Engineering, 30660 N HWY 101. Willits, CA 95490 / mailing address: 30660 N HWY 103 Willits, CA 95490. Registered owner: Kara Garman

30660 N HWY 101, Willits, CA This business is conducted by an

ndividual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A. FBN statement filed with the

Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder

on September 15, 2020. /s/ Kara Garman Publication dates: 09/24, 10/01, 10/8 and 10/15/2020

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF NOMINEES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following persons have been nominated for the offices designated to be filled at the General Municipal Election to be held in the City of Willits on

For Member of the City Council: (three seats open) Gerry Gonzalez Madge Strong

Saprina Rodriguez

Measure to be Voted On

Measure K: Approval of Temporary Emergency Sales Tax

City of Willits Emergency Funding Ordinance – Shall the City of Willits enact a ¾ cent sales tax, providing \$1,000,000 annually for 10 years, to prevent the elimination of police services; street and sports fields maintenance; closing of city facilities; and loss of other essential city services?

FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the polls will be

/s Cathy Moorhead Deputy City Manager/City Clerk Date Posted: October 2, 2020 Date Published: October 8, 2020



Current Job Openings:

Applications Developer/Analyst I/II -Extra-Help

Code Enforcement Officer I Corrections Deputy Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II Eligibility Specialist II/III Eligibility Specialist Supervisor -Fort Bragg

Employment and Training Worker I/II -

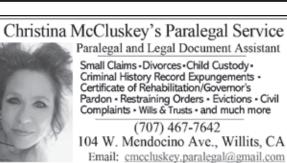
Real Property Appraiser III Registered Veterinary Technician Social Worker I/II/III/IV A-D Social Worker Supervisor I/II A-C

For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:

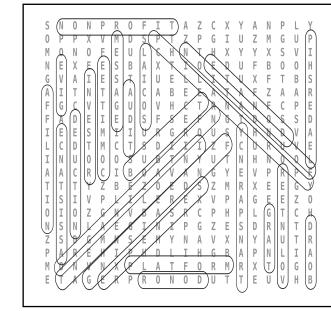
Surveyor I/II

www.mendocinocounty.org/government/ <u>human-resources</u>

EOE



I am not an attorney. I cannot give you legal advice or represent you in court. Mendocino County Registration No. LDA-14, Expires 10/01/2021



Driveway

awarded \$12,500.

P.E.O. member Charlene Ford explained that the women in her family were P.E.O. members in the early 1900s. Ford, herself, received a \$300 scholarship to Cottey College for the years 1961 to 1963. "I wouldn't have been able to go to college if it weren't for that scholarship and help from my family," she said.

The money gleaned from Saturday's fundraiser, along with other funds, will be used to support a young woman graduate from the Willits community. There are over 500 P.E.O. chapters in California doing similar things to raise money for their local female graduates and the other international P.E.O. projects.

"P.E.O. is very wide-reaching and beneficial." stated Della Bennett, as Lanz agreed. "We invite new members," they both added.

To learn more about the philanthropic organization, visit www.peointernational.org

P.E.O. membership is by invitation. If you're interested in joining, contact someone you know who is a member.

The rest of Base

taking care of other things. I do have a CCC [California Conservation Corps] crew helping me, but normally I'd have two or three receiving and distribution managers, who are like warehouse managers, and I'd be the one who oversees them and takes care of all that, but it's just me. Every time I get on the forklift, my phone starts ringing.

From Page 3

"I've got everything here: hose, pumps, tools, pretty much anything that they need out at the fire," he said. "Everything comes out of Redding. We have a fire cache for the fire service there. That supports pretty much everything from Sacramento to the border. There's another cache down in Los Angeles that supports everything from the Mexican border up to Sacramento.

"I contact them with the supplies I need," Woods continued, "after the line contacts me with what they need. We try to forecast ahead of the need. Eventually, ground support will have a bunch of trucks here, and they will transport the goods up to the lines."

Members of the California Conservation Corps could be seen stretching out the hoses returning from service on the fire lines. They try to determine which hoses might be in good enough shape to be reused after having been used under the brutal conditions at the fire frontlines. They then roll the hoses up and ship them back to the cache where they will be further pressure-tested and reassigned.

Eric Fisher of Ridgeline Wildland Support Services is the kitchen manager who has the responsibility of making sure the firefighters and support people are fed a nutritional 6,000-to-7,000-calorie set of three meals daily to help keep them in fighting shape. The company has been working on the meals for about 45 days, having just moved down from Stonyford, on the eastern side of the fire, which has been mostly handled.

"All the action of the southeast corner is basically finished, except for some patrolling and mop up. The fire is growing west and northwest," explained Fisher. "We never get up to see the fire. We're trapped down here trying to feed these guvs three times a day, breakfast, lunch and dinner. That's a whole operation in itself. We've been slowing down a bit, only feeding 500 guys at the moment."

When they were operating out of Stonyford, they were feeding approximately 1,500 people three times a day. Currently, with all the support units working, there are about 4,000 firefighters who are being supported.

COVID-19 has added another degree of challenge to the job, making it difficult to obtain certain meats and cereals. Additionally, the firefighters can't all eat together in a tent, with having to distance, so all food has to be prepared and put in individual containers that keep it hot.

"Breakfast is the typical eggs, potatoes, protein," explained Fisher. "Sack lunches are a whole slew of things - a sandwich, there are seven snack items that get put in there, fruits, veggies. It's a healthy dose of food. For dinner you get the typical protein, starch, veggies, rolls. You gotta have everything for these guys to make sure they're sustained up there on the mountain."

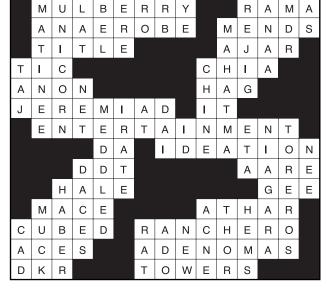
Fisher added that after being situated in the tiny town of Stonyford, Willits seems like a metropolis.

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compassionate. Please

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Wanted: Meals on Wheels Volunteer Drivers

As demand for home-

delivered meals has increased due concerns about the spread of COVID-19, the Willits Senior Center is looking for another Meals on Wheels volunteer driver and a substitute driver: 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 Ser-

vices & 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,

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Support |

the number of sheriff's deputies

in more than half a century. number of patrol personnel that years ago. This has to be dealt with. The safety of our citizens demands it," the sheriff wrote.

on the county's cannabis ad decision in support of the

The plan asks for a historical review of staffing trends in the Sheriff's Office; an overview of occurring; and "an operation,

requested that county board of supervisors affirm its commitment to protect affected communities and law

When Williams asked Sheriff Kendall how many deputies he thought he needed and how much they would cost, Kendall said he imagined it would be in the area of 10 new deputies, at a cost of \$2.2 million.

Williams said it was likely that money would be provided by the county, but noted it would mean that cuts would have to

Second District Supervisor John McCowen said understood that the county had recently received a \$24 million settlement from PG&E, in relation to the 2017 Redwood Fire. McCowen said he thought the needed money could come from the PG&E money.

Kendall said he could provide Hilfinger Messias and her disease. Of that number information they are requesting within two weeks.

Supes move to augment poll workers

The supes voted unanimously to approve a resolution creating public health in the a Mendocino County Employee Poll Worker Program, which is designed to encourage county employees to work as poll workers in the upcoming and in future elections.

The new program will make it and social resources possible for county employees who work as poll workers to receive their regular pay for hours worked as poll workers, plus their poll worker's stipend.

According to county Registrar of Voters Katrina Bartolomie, strict COVID-19 protocols will be in place, including masks, social distancing, and plexiglass shields that will be placed between the poll workers and

Bartolomie said that a poll worker is needed at a dropoff location in Covelo, and two workers are needed in Hopland. She said that polling places in Willits and in Brooktrails are fully staffed, and currently have a waiting list for volunteers.

CalFire to report on fuel reduction program

The board voted 5-0 to direct county CEO Carmel Angelo to invite CalFire personnel to in contact tracing, but attend a virtual meeting in the future to explain its proposed fuel reduction plans and programs in preparation for the 2021 fire year.

The agenda item stated that the board's November 17 meeting was being considered as the date for such a CalFire

Emery also said that the employees to work in it. "We are trying to move that way," Chandler said.

Latinx community groups

Valley in the next few

Tuesday's board meeting

concerned whether the

"Promotores de salud"

is a Spanish phrase

that means, in English,

"health promoters" and

can be more reasonably

health workers." The

CDC states that the term

effectively means "lay

According to a 2013

article by Deanne K.

team of authors, called,

"Promotores de Salud:

Roles, Responsibilities

and Contributions," the

promotores de salud

system has been very

effective at improving

Hispanic community for

"By delivering culturally

tailored health education

serve as bridges between

Emery said that several

including Adventist Health

Community Outreach

Director Roseanne Ibarra,

have advised the county

that the promotores de

salud model would be

very effective within the

Chandler if the county welcome community group to come forward with a proposal to implement a promotores program in this county. Chandler said that such a proposal would be

McCowen asked board COVID-19 testing facility Chair John Haschak located at the Redwood Empire Fairgrounds in interested in working with Ukiah is now open Sunday community ad hoc. The

in Covelo/Round Valley and in Point Arena/ Manchester. Coren did not provide numbers, but county Public Information Officer Sarah Dukett told Weekly that in Round Valley 22 cases purview of Haschak's committee. Haschak told September 14. Dukett McCowen that his ad hoc said the Public Health team is planning to have a testing event in Round

county's Native American tribes. Angelo declined McCowen then went

back to Haschak, and repeated his request, and Haschak agreed to work with McCowen.

"I appreciate your offer of help and I'll take you up on that," Haschak said.

COVID-19 update

Since the first case that was confirmed in the county on March 19, the

As of Tuesday evening the county has 109 confirmed active cases of COVID-19 in the county. Of that number, 104 are being kept in isolation. four are in local hospitals, and one is in an intensive care unit, either in, or out of, the county. Twenty-one people in this county have died from the disease.

information about health Department to Hispanics and their of Public Health has promotores that the new COVID cases is 10. the formal health care The county has a testing system," the article positivity rate of 3.78 percent. Therefore, the county remains in the purple tier, in which the key influencers in the prevalence of COVID-19

> disease from a regional perspective, 787 cases reside in the Ukiah valley; 95 are from the north county; 81 live in the north coast; 40 are from the south county; and 18 are from the south coast.

District Supervisor John McCowen asked if the six new hires would be working according to the lines, 693 of all cases promotores model, Dr. are among people of Coren said they would not. "We are training them we will be moving them "unreported"; and nine

and Human Services Agency Tammy Moss A total of 27,778 tests Chandler clarified that, have been done in this although the county's county. As of Wednesday Department of Public evening, the results of 1,072 tests were pending.

Act, would raise taxes on commercial and industrial properties and provide funding for

schools and community services. The Willits Teachers Association has endorsed the measure, and association president and third-grade teacher Tessa

Ford provided an introduction to the board, after which fourth-grade teacher Dawn McClelland showed an informative studentmade power point presentation.

Board president Alex Bowlds noted the board could not take a position on the proposition because the item had not been placed on the agenda as an action item, but. he said: "We can make our positions individually known.

Later in the meeting, the board agreed it would decide whether to endorse the proposition at their October 14 meeting.

Ford and McClelland made the case for support of Proposition 15 with facts about California's current education funding, the laws that got us here, and how the ballot measure would work.

California is the world's fifth-largest economy, and it ranks 39th in per pupil funding in the nation; in recent years California spent more than \$2,500 less per of \$17 million in local school bonds], at least student than the national average.

In the 1970s, California schools were considered among the best, with local property taxes making up 60 percent of the

Then, in 1978, Proposition 13 was passed, "slashing property taxes by an own buildings," pointing out that most of average of 60 percent," and school funding fell below the national average.

Subsequent laws have shifted education funding largely to the state. But the portion of the state budget gong to schools rises and falls with the ups and downs of the for grapes and pears in Mendocino County.

Increases in sales taxes and personal income taxes "for very high earners" have helped some, but funding is still "below the would be an assurance that "you're going national average.

Proposition 15, Ford and McClelland explained, would "fix the Proposition 13" corporate tax loophole while protecting homeowners, small businesses valued at under \$3 million, and agricultural land."

They estimated the funding for Willits Unified to be a bit over \$1 million annually.

The board weighed in.

President Bowlds explained he would "probably vote for it ... [but] was disappointed in the way it was written.

"I'd love it if Proposition 15 was not in bed with a whole bunch of different agencies trying to get money," he said. "I'd rather the vast majority went to K-12 and community

"Look at our budget of about \$20 million.... We're only looking at a 5 percent increase ... which isn't a whole lot of money and not going to raise us a whole lot above that [39th place]," he continued. "I'm much more in favor of our state reapportioning the money we've already got and quit wasting it to state deferred funding. on pet projects."

if "it should pass it would be more of a quarantee of funds every year ... [and] the burden especially now needs to start on the backs of the people who have been shirking the good," said Agenbroad.

Program

between outdoor cannabis Research has shown that pollen can travel much further than 10 miles, but the amount of pollen transported decreases logarithmically with increasing distance from the source. Therefore, the risk of

pollination should be negligible beyond 10 miles from a pollen source." "This proposal does not include a minimum distance requirement," Nelson

continued. "In fact, as a practical matter, it would be difficult to impose a distance that is sufficient to protect against pollen drift. Nelson also added concerns about the

county's presumption that it would be possible to identify all of the male hemp "The largely held belief that cannabis is a

species (having separate male and

female plants) is not botanically accurate. The Canadian Hemp Trade Association states that "Hemp can be either of the dioecious type or monoecious type.... Prior to flowering, the sex of the plant is indistinguishable except for some general trends in growth habit."

"Large hemp fields raise the risk of male cross-over infestation," Nelson continued. "The county's proposal for a hemp pilot program calls for frequent inspections. At the point that these actually occur, we strongly urge you to contract with a knowledgeable cannabis cultivator to carry out these

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that responsibility for the past 40 years."

California School Employees Association president Dan Green added the results of

research he did to the conversation "If businesses have their taxes raised

they raise the price on consumers." he said He explained that proceeds would be first distributed to the state to "supplement decreases in revenue from state personal income tax ... \$22 billion [projected] for next years." he said. After that, "40 percent of the remainder is distributed [for local education

He did some math and concluded that \$1 million coming to the district would equal "\$657 per pupil.

He did some more math that spread projected proceeds from the proposition over all California's school districts, and concluded that "the math doesn't add up" to being enough money for that amount per

"It doesn't look like we're going to get that much money," he said, noting that the proposition did guarantee a minimum of \$100 per student.

"If Measure I passes [authorizing the sale we know that money comes here," he said

Trustee Jeanne King said she would not vote for the proposition and pointed out that the burden of the tax would "most likely [be passed] on to consumers ... and small businesses in California that don't own their them have leases that require them to pay

"And although agricultural land may not be taxed, buildings on that land can be taxed ... like dairies and processing plants

Superintendent Mark Westerburg pointed

out that a favorable vote on Measure to get your money's worth ... [but] I'll take a million if they'll give it to us for sure."

A million would definitely be helpful as state funding is decreasing in these uncertain economic times, and deferrals, or delays in receipt, of allocated funding are expected for the foreseeable future.

But, at least for the near future, "the reality is, we think we are going to be able to weather the deferments," said Westerburg

His comment came in the context of the presentation of the district's current financial status presented to the board by Director of Fiscal Services Nikki Agenbroad

She explained to the board that there had been a projected deficit for this school year that we "knew we needed to work on and

The result was "estimated reductions million dollars."

Still, she warned, the district would likely experience "cash flow issues this year" due

"I believe, had we not taken action to Trustee Paula Nunez appreciated that bring that in line ... in terms of cash flow we would have been in a very bad way this

"We're closing out the books a little bit to

inspections. The stakes are too high, and the task is extremely difficult to assign it to anyone not familiar with cannabis

Monique Ramirez, a spokeswoman for the Covelo Cannabis Advocacy Group, urged the supervisors to scuttle the pilot program. "As

much as we support a thriving hemp economy, our rural landscape does not support this type of cultivation, especially when it stands to jeopardize our cannabis community," Ramirez wrote.

"We would like the board to take a bold step in banning hemp cultivation in our county. We can look to other states, such as Oregon, and it is clear that crosscontamination of the two types of crops is a reality, and many farms face seeded product as a result. We can't take that chance with our legacy-producing region,

Haschak said he thought the pilot program, as envisioned by Ag Commissioner Donnelly, had some flaws, and he urged the board to postpone a vote on the program until the flaws were worked out. Williams asked his colleagues if they had determined what the county would do if there were cross-pollination of a neighboring grower's cannabis crop. No other supervisor was able to answer Williams' question

ordinance was approved on a 3-2 vote, with Haschak and Williams voting no.

In the end, the first reading of the new



Now open for voting

Local voters can drop off their mail-in ballots at Willits City Hall

An official ballot drop box for the November 3, 2020 election is now open for voting at Willits City Hall.

Jennifer Poole Editor & Reporter willitsweekly@gmail.com

The drop box is outside the main door at 111 East Commercial Street, with a big "Vote By Mail Ballot Drop-Off

Here" sign in red, white and blue. Don't forget to sign your mail-in ballot return envelope.

Mail-in ballots were sent out to registered voters in Mendocino County on Monday, October 5, and the ballot drop box went up that same day. As of Tuesday morning, no ballots had yet been dropped off at the Willits box, said Cathy Moorhead, deputy city manager for the City of Willits. Moorhead will retrieve the ballots from the box twice a day, then store them in the vault at City Hall. A representative from the Mendocino County Elections Office will visit daily, to pick up the ballots from the vault.

All mail-in ballots received at the county Elections Office before Election Day are vetted and counted in advance, and included with results released after the polls close on Election Day.

"Everybody should vote, please," Moorhead said. "This is a big year."

"Yes," agreed Willits City Manager Stephanie Garrabrant-Sierra. "We have some important things on the ballot this year. Measure K is important to the city."

Measure K, on the ballot for residents of the City of Willits, would add a \(^3\)4 cent sales tax to transactions inside city limits for 10 years, before sunsetting. According to the "Impartial Analysis by City Attorney, City of Willits," printed in the Mendocino County Sample Ballot & Voter Information Pamphlet, "the City Finance Director estimates that the tax will generate \$1 million annually to the general fund."

According to the analysis: "As a 'general tax,' the revenue generated by Measure K will be deposited in the City of Willits general fund. The ballot question for the measure states that the new tax is to be used for funding essential city services including police, parks, street maintenance, sports field maintenance, and for other city facilities. As a 'general tax,' the City of Willits would be able to use tax proceeds for any legal governmental purpose without restriction."

Also, "because Measure K is a 'general tax,' the analysis continues, "it will be approved if a simple majority (50 percent + 1) of voters vote in favor of it. If approved, Measure K would become effective in 2021 and remain in effect for 10 years. The tax would expire at the end of the 10-year period unless it is reauthorized by a majority of the voters at a future election that occurs prior to the expiration of the tax."

To read the full text of Measure K, check your Sample Ballot pamphlet or visit www.mendocinocounty.org/ home/showdocument?id=37302.

Mail ballots went out October 5

Submitted by the Mendocino County Elections Office

Mail ballots (aka Vote By Mail or Absentee ballots) were mailed to all active registered voters in Mendocino County on Monday, October 5, and are available now in the County Clerk's Office, for the Statewide (Presidential) General Election, to be held on November 3, 2020, according to Katrina Bartolomie, Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder.

The County Clerk's Office is located in Room 1020 of the County Administration Building located at 501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah. The normal delivery is five to seven days, if you do not receive your ballot within one week, please call our office at 707-234-6819 for a replacement ballot.

Sample ballots (local voter information booklets) were mailed by our vendor and should have arrived in your homes last week. If you do not receive your Sample Ballot by the end of this week (Friday, October 9), please call our office so we can send you one.

According to the Secretary of State's office, the State Voter Information Guides that include information on the statewide propositions have been delayed, but should be arriving later this week.

If you would like to view the State Voter Information Guide online, please visit: https:// voterguide.sos.ca.gov/

> Registrar Bartolomie would like to remind voters who wish to vote in the November 3, 2020 election, that the last day to register to vote to receive a regular ballot in the mail is October 19, 2020. Please call our office for a Voter Registration card or go to: https://registertovote. ca.gov/ to register to vote online.

> For additional information please contact the Election / County Clerk's Office by calling 707 234-6819.



At top, left: Willits City Manager Stephanie Garrabrant-Sierra, left, and Deputy City Manager Cathy Moorhead stand next to the official November 3, 2020 election ballot drop-off box outside Willits City Hall. Above: The drop-off box is ready to receive ballots.

Photos by Jennifer Poole

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