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Thursday, October 25, 2018

Joanne Moore
Reporter
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The audience was sparse, the atmosphere congenial, at Willits High School on October 18, as seven candidates vying to fill four open seats on the Willits Unified School District Board of Trustees gathered to answer questions at a forum sponsored by the Willits Teachers Association, California Schools Employees Association, Blosser and Brookside elementary schools PTO, and the Willits branch of the American Association of University Women.

There are four open seats on the five-member board. Three incumbents are seeking re-election: Bob Colvig (short-term seat), Christopher Neary, and Robert Chavez. Four newcomers also are vying for seats: Dany Laurent (short-term seat), Jeanne King, Dianne McNeal, and Paula Nunez.

Read the rest of
Candidates
Over on page 4

Mike A'Dair
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Lee Kemper, president and CEO of Kemper Consulting Group, reviewed his firm's August 2018 needs assessment and answered questions about the report during Tuesday's board of supervisors meeting.

Kemper covered the report's most important recommendations: that the level of psychiatric hospitalizations for Mendocino County residents was too high considering the level of population; that the county needed to get those numbers down; that creating and funding supportive and supplementary mental health services would accomplish that, but inpatient hospitalization services would still be necessary.

Kemper said the county has "twin and equal priorities": funding the joint crisis stabilization unit and crisis residential treatment facility proposed by Redwood Community Services and building or assisting creation of an in-patient psychiatric facility.

He clarified the county's

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Kemper
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Below: Tons of items are available in the plethora of departments found throughout J.D. Redhouse, including, from left: The Sweet Shop and gift departments; arts and crafts and toys in the kid's department; and farm, work and contemporary options for men, women and children in the clothing departments.



Local family-owned mercantile, J.D. Redhouse, celebrates 11-year anniversary this November



Like many things last fall which became derailed by the fires, the story Willits Weekly had planned for J.D. Redhouse's official 10th anniversary was also lost in the smoke. However, this year, Willits is welcome to celebrate the mercantile's 10 + 1 year anniversary and stop by to say "hi" to the hard-working crew, do a little shopping, and connect with a business that is deeply connected to this community.

Maureen Moore
Graphics & Photographress
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Both her daughter, Ashtan, then 20, and son Dylan, then 19, were very involved in raising and caring for the family's animals and livestock and when the opportunity arose to find a way to reduce trips over the grade and create a needed business in Willits, they jumped at the chance.

"We really found that we were traveling to Ukiah all the time to get feed and supplies which we really thought we could be getting here in Willits, yet there was nowhere we could," explained Bixler. "We really started it all for the kids, and it's turned into a really wonderful business."

Along with the farm essentials, ranging from grain and hay to chicken brooders and bee suits and everything in between, J.D. Redhouse has continued to expand and

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



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With so many coming out to publicly support Measure J on the November ballot, area residents have likely heard by now at least some of the reasons why a new Little Lake Fire Department firehouse would be beneficial for the safety of the community.

The simple fact is if Measure J fails to pass on November 6, plans are in place to close the current firehouse on Commercial Street with nothing to replace it. So, for the first time in decades there would be no fire station open on the north end of Willits near downtown.

Instead, all Little Lake fire personnel – four paid employees and around 40 volunteers – would be housed at the Baechtel Road substation on the south end of town.

Little Lake Fire Chief Chris Wilkes believes such a move would have a major impact on emergency response availability in the

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Measure J
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Mike A'Dair
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Six proposed cannabis overlay zones won unanimous approval at the Mendocino County Planning Commission's October 18 meeting.

The commission said it liked consultant Michael Baker International's decision to create cannabis accommodation zones (formerly called "opt-in" zones) for four neighborhoods in Mendocino County: the core area of Covelo, the Fairbanks Road neighborhood of Covelo, a district in Laytonville and another neighborhood in South Leggett.

Commissioners also said they liked Baker's decision to recommend approval for two cannabis prohibition districts ("opt-out" zones): for the Deerwood neighborhood in the hills east of Ukiah, and for the Woody Glen community on Boonville Road southwest of Ukiah.

The commission agreed with Baker's decision not to recommend approval of a cannabis accommodation district for two neighborhoods in the coastal community of Mitchell Creek near Fort Bragg because of strong community opposition to the establishment of

Read the rest of
Cannabis
Over on page 11



The county could also contract with one or both of the county's Adventist Health hospitals (in Ukiah and Willits) and have Adventist add dedicated mental health beds to those facilities.

Kemper recommended supervisors direct county CEO Carmel Angelo to send out requests for proposals for both the PHF unit and the hospital-run psych beds.

He also strongly recommended supervisors consider allocating money to the joint crisis stabilization unit and crisis residential treatment center proposed by Redwood Community Services.

In his report, Kemper placed funding the CSU/ CRT center as his first priority in terms of time, recommending the county allocate \$4.75 million to construct that facility in 2019.

"This is an alternative to in-patient psychiatric care," Kemper said. "It would centralize psychiatric assessments. Law enforcement could bring patients to one central location. You wouldn't have to rely on the hospitals to provide space, or security, or patient oversite. It would free up space in the emergency rooms of the various hospitals in your county.

"By having the crisis stabilization unit next to the crisis residential treatment facility," he noted, "you have the opportunity to move people right from the CSU to the CRT. You're making treatment much more immediate and making it possible for people to move into that care setting as quickly as possible.

"If you were to only have a crisis stabilization unit with the crisis residential treatment center, I think you would see an impact on the level of placement in out-of-county in-patient psychiatric facilities," Kemper added. "I think that number would come down. It would reduce the number of out-of-county placements. It would come in at roughly half the cost of putting somebody into placement out-of-county, so it would free up resources for other services."

"If the county were to follow Kemper's advice and pursue both the supportive mental health services path, and the PHF unit path, would the wrap-around services eliminate the need for the psychiatric health facility?" asked Third District Supervisor Georgeanne Croskey. "Are we going to get to a point where we build our psychiatric health facility and we build our wraparound services, and then we no longer need it?"

Kemper felt there was little chance of that happening. "Some of the data we gave you in our report gives you, I think, a pretty clear picture that there is a dearth of capacity for psychiatric care in California, and in Northern California in particular," he said. "So, there is a ready supply of people needing this kind of care."

Second District Supervisor John McCowen wondered why Kemper and his firm appeared to favor building the crisis residential treatment facility more than the psychiatric rehabilitation facility, which was – to put it in terms of 45 rpm records – sort of the B side of the psychiatric health facility proposed for the old Howard Memorial Hospital in Willits.

Kemper said he leaned toward the Redwood Community Services proposal because of the work that had already been done. The Redwood Community Services proposal was reviewed by the Mendocino County Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery Services in 2015. However, at that time former BHRS Director Tom Pinnizzato did not support the project and refused to apply for a grant to fund it.

However, after Pinnizzato was fired, newly hired Behavioral Health Director Jenine Miller recommended applying for a Senate Bill 82 grant on behalf of the proposal. The county asked for \$2.1 million; it was award \$500,000. It used the money to buy the property at 631 South Orchard Street in Ukiah.

In 2017, RCS applied for a Community Development Block Grant to construct the project. That proposal included plans for a crisis access center, a crisis stabilization unit, and a crisis residential treatment center. That grant was not awarded.

In August 2018, Kemper Consulting Group estimated the cost of building the facility at \$4.66 million.

"We concluded that you've got work underway, you've got community support for this, you've made an investment, you've got plans, you've got costs," Kemper said. "If the Community Development Block Grant had come through, I think you'd be pretty close to having a building.

"We're pretty pragmatic people and saw that as a pragmatic strategy," he said.

The Measure B Citizens Oversight Committee, which was set up to advise supervisors on spending Measure B funds, was set to meet on October 24, with an agenda item that included possible action on a presentation by RCS on "facts and figures for the Ukiah Orchard Avenue project," but that meeting was cancelled.

Questions for the candidates were by and large hypothetical, reflecting situations that may or may not come up for individual board members or the entire board, and their answers reflected a considerable degree of agreement with respect to those situations.

This may reflect the absence of any current burning controversies at the district – a supposition supported by statements made by some candidates during the evening about the district's current operations.

Neary described the current district administration as "the best line-up ... for many years," noting the "upward swing [of it] present trajectory."

Colvig said the district had "made good changes [and he wanted] to continue to assist that improvement.

"Currently, Willits Unified School District is doing very well," King said, adding she wanted to "be on this board of education because this board and superintendent have turned things around, and I want to be a part of that."

Candidates shared information about themselves, as well as their thoughts and positions on school board matters.

Laurent – a mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother who has been in the community for 33 years – consistently identified doing what was best for children as most important to her.

King – a retired Willits Unified special education teacher (1981-2005) who has been in Willits since 1980 – was the first in her family to go to college and has earned both bachelor's and master's degrees. She volunteers in her grandson's classes and is an active board member of the Willits Rotary Club.

King said her "only agenda" was that she "cares deeply about children."

Nunez, an employee in the district for over 40 years, has been attending district school board meetings for more than 30 of those years. She said she understands "every position in the district except superintendent and bus driver."

Colvig graduated from Willits High School in 1966. Now retired, he was employed by the district in many capacities – from teacher to principal to counselor.

Colvig said he has "a passion for education" and just wants to see kids "happy, healthy, and safe, who want to come to school."

Chavez grew up in an impoverished neighborhood in Fresno but said he didn't know he was "very poor." He credits the public education system with changing his life and allowing him to "rise out of that poverty."

He said the "tough decisions" he had to make during his long career as a principal and superintendent in other districts weren't all that difficult. "Ask what's best for children, and that makes it easy."

Neary, a local attorney and rancher, graduated from Willits High School in 1966. He was on the school board from 1980 to 1992 and returned to his present seat in 2013. He sees public schools as a "great equalizer in society."

McNeal began teaching third and fourth grade in the district in 1978; she retired two years ago. She's been a Willits Otters swim team coach and has sat on their board.

Asked about the primary duties of board members, Colvig, Neary, King and Chavez agreed the primary duty was to set policy and hire a superintendent, with Chavez adding that the board also functions as "somewhat of a watchdog."

"We are not administrators and need to stay out of day-to-day affairs," said Neary.

Laurent and Nunez noted representing the community was important. McNeal said she didn't know but would "find out," and emphasized education and "making sure our kids are progressing." Laurent thought the "board [is] responsible to push our children to reach their highest potential possible."

Most candidates felt the key issue

currently facing the district was the need to fix school facilities. Neary and Colvig placed this as No. 1, joined by King, who added that the need to improve academic success and scores was also high on her list.

Having experienced working in larger districts, Chavez pointed to the small size of the district as an issue, because it limited the choices in courses and activities that could be offered to students. He wanted to "get choice to our children to make them competitive."

Laurent urged more focus be given to helping students whose education was being impacted because their families were in crisis.

McNeal emphasized the board's responsibility to ensure all students receive solid basic reading and math foundations.

For Nunez, attracting and retaining teachers and making sure people hired to teach had proper credentials was paramount.

A budget question asking for candidates' views on the sufficiency (or not) of a state-mandated reserve of 3 percent of the general fund for economic uncertainties elicited general agreement that 3 percent was sufficient.

Laurent said she would need to do further research, while Colvig advocated looking at the issue in the context of cash flow.

Chavez, however, said he'd like to see 30 percent in a "perfect world," having seen cuts happen when he was in the Central Valley, including the state having to intervene in a couple of districts.

When asked how they would respond to an upset parent, the general consensus was to listen and make it right.

Nunez stressed the need for consistent responses for all students. McNeal pointed out there was a protocol for dealing with complaints, to which Neary agreed. "First thing," he said. "Don't start with a board member." The progression, he said, went from teacher to site administrator to superintendent, then to the board.

Candidates were asked what they'd do with a million-dollar windfall. Neary admitted to dreaming of this and said he would spend it on facilities. The other candidates agreed that facilities would get some of the money but added compensation to teachers and other staff as well, after meeting with the stakeholders involved.

A questions about whether candidates would support a bond on the ballot to raise money to fix facilities prompted the most diversity of response.

Nunez said no, we "need to study other approaches first."

Chavez said a bond would be necessary "if we want to fix facilities," noting he had been at five different districts and observed many bond issues. He pointed out that, although "mismanagement and a changed economy" could cause negative results, he had "seen bond measures do amazing things," including attracting considerable matching funds.

McNeal said she needed more information but had heard people wouldn't vote for a bond measure, and suggested there were things that could help financially on the state level, which should be looked into.

Neary noted the 2010 bond offer was "doomed to failure because of a precipitous drop in assessed valuation" of property and expressed caution.

Colvig emphasized the need to fix facilities and that a bond measure had to be considered because there "was not enough in the general fund" to pay for necessary improvements.

King emphasized a bond offering was a matter "not [gone] into lightly" while acknowledging the budget was inadequate to fix the facilities needing repair.

Candidates were also asked what they'd do if \$300,000 had to be cut from the next year's budget.

Laurent's call to keep the impact of the cut "as far away from the classroom as possible" was the general consensus. Nunez added looking at cutting "the most expensive people in the district," and King thought, "maybe not buy new curriculum."

Making a list and consulting with stakeholders in deciding what to cut was recommended by Colvig and Chavez, who added that they had been through it.

Neary pointed out the district "doesn't really have much discretion in spending. Eighty percent of it is salaries," he said.

When asked how they would make themselves available for interaction with the community and stakeholders, all the candidates agreed it was important and that they would be readily available, be it by email (incumbents' email addresses are at willitsunified.com), telephone, the checkout line in Safeway, etc.

Beyond generally agreeing they were available and open to contact, Nunez added she was "a firm believer that board members have to go to all school sites." King agreed, saying board members "need to be seen in school."

Colvig said he "tries to go to as many [school] functions as possible," and Laurent thought it important that board members "walk a day in the shoes of employees. It's important to know the jobs they do," she said.

Responses were generally in accord when questioned about support for a mobile phone ban on campus based on research showing such bans improved academic performance. Neary supported a case-by-case approach. Methods that would make cell phones allowed on campus but not available while in the classroom were supported by King, Nunez, Chavez, McNeal, and Colvig. Laurent said she didn't know how a ban would work, and she didn't have a phone.

When asked about support for implementing robotics and coding to the curriculum, there were varied responses. Neary said he wasn't "sure what that means," but he supported integrating new curriculum, which, he added, didn't start with the board. Nunez wasn't sure it belonged here, but "we could think about it a little bit."

Chavez was the most gung ho. "If we had a staff member who could do that, I'd say 'heck, yeah,'" adding there had been a robotics competition in a district he had worked in, and it was "amazing."

McNeal acknowledged robotics was "amazing," adding that girls needed to get involved and said it "sounds like an after-school program." King said the idea could be looked at if there was "money available."

Laurent agreed with Chavez, adding if students want it she "would definitely have to look at it."

A question about high-stakes testing and its impact on students and teachers elicited a variety of responses.

McNeal noted there was a technical part to testing at the elementary level that needed to be addressed, since students used computers to take the tests.

Neary found testing helpful to show general trends. King thought scoring high on tests shouldn't be a "be-all, end-all." It's important, she said, to see the child as "a whole human being – head, heart and hands."

Nunez saw testing as most valuable to show year-to-year growth.

Chavez said he'd seen the "full pendulum" of standardized testing, which is here "whether we like it or not. I've seen some teachers rise, and I've seen it stifle some creative teachers," he said.

There may not have been many people at the forum, and there may not have been a lot of disagreement expressed among the candidates, but the position of school board trustee is of consequence to community members in many respects.

Those who missed the school board candidates' forum can watch the video, posted on YouTube at this link: www.youtube.com/watch?v=LH1_w9kdEOk



Above, from left: Sarah Touchstone of Roots Restaurant offers a taste of the smoked salmon with apple and fennel. City Manager Stephanie Garabrant-Sierra hands out water to a runner. Byron and Meghan Leisek keep warm next to their Thirst and Rescue coffee truck. Below: The runners start their race.

Wild Willits Fest

Visit Willits Tourism Board is off to a great start with new, fun, healthy event

It was a perfect day for a run, cool but not too cold for a fall day. The approximately 170 participants (130 registered and 40 free runners age 10 and under) came from all over Mendocino County, Santa Rosa, Lake County, Sacramento, and the Bay Area to enjoy the beauty of the Little Lake Valley as they ran and walked and jogged over the roads on three separate courses.

There was the most popular 5K (3.1 miles) run, the 10K (6.2 miles) and a half-marathon (13.2 miles). For several of the participants, this was their first or second run. Some were apprehensive at the start, but all were glad to be in the town for the inaugural Wild Willits Fest, the first project of the newly formed Visit Willits Tourism Board.

Friends and co-workers ran together. Others made new friends prior to and during the races. All were happy to cross the finish line and to congratulate themselves and others on a race well done. Some wanted to win, planned to win, practiced and worked out in preparation. Some were athletes, on cross-country teams or members of soccer teams such as the Under 14 League 'Red Hots,' who have won one game this year, but were just as determined and motivated as the veteran runners. Most of the runners came to challenge themselves and enjoy the comradery of those sharing a common activity on a beautiful day.

But the races were just the beginning. They were only the first event of the day of food, art and music that was the Wild Willits Fest, as imagined and spearheaded by Hayley Schmidtke, a director of the Visit Willits Board of Directors, local business owner of U.S. Cellular, and long-time runner. Along with her husband, Evan (who acted

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Fest | Over on Page 9

ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY

Welcome

Paul M. Charpentier, MD

Orthopedic Surgeon

We are pleased to welcome to Dr. Paul M. Charpentier to the Orthopedic Joint Center team. Dr. Charpentier will be working with Drs. William Bowen and Jeremiah Dawson doing what he loves most – helping patients get back to moving without pain.

Born and raised in Mendocino County, Dr. Charpentier is excited to care for the community he loves. He specializes in minimally invasive hip and knee replacement, arthroscopic surgery and complex reconstruction of the hip, knee and shoulder. He is an advocate for non-operative treatments, but is highly trained in surgical joint replacement and revisions. He believes multi-modal pain protocols and post-operative rehab protocols are key to a speedy recovery.

Dr. Charpentier earned his medical degree from Northeast Ohio Medical University, completed a residency at Michigan State University, followed by a Fellowship at Virginia Commonwealth University, specializing in joint replacements.

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Charpentier and his wife and three children to our community.

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Jeremiah Dawson, MD

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3 Marcela Drive, Suite C | Willits, CA



Thursday, October 25

Willits Farmers Market: At the City Parking Lot, just north of Main Street Music, Thursday, October 25, 3 to 6 pm. Willits Farmers Market will move indoors to the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, as of November 1. The last of the summer veggies, fresh salad greens, local meats, sausage and eggs, local grains, fresh fish from Fort Bragg, and savory and sweet baked goods, including handcrafted bread. More: gift items, dog treats, flowers, jams and jellies and savory preserves, olive oil and balsamic vinegar, fair trade chocolates, Willits-roasted coffee, tea, fire cider, crafts, knitted goods and jewelry, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

Friday, October 26

Sherwood School Fall Festival: Friday, October 26. Carnival games and dinner from 4 to 6 pm; the kids will perform at 6 pm. 32600 Sherwood Road. 707-984-6769.

Haunted House at Willits Charter School: Open 6 to 8 pm on October 26, 27 and 28. This year the theme is "Infested Laboratory" where you will see how a harmless science experiment went horribly wrong! With a kids' room full of fun activities, in case your child is easily scared. Tickets: \$5, \$3 under 7 years, available at the door. Proceeds for future WCS events. 1431 South Main Street. Info: 459-5506.

Behind the Mic: Youth Poetry Night. This poetry and music event will be at Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South Main Street, Friday, October 26, 7 pm. This is a free event for all ages.

Shanachie Pub: The Apollo Era: "Three-piece band from Arcata, who play dance music you can rock to." Friday, October 26, 9 pm. 50B South Main Street.

Saturday, October 27

Willits Color Run: "Join us for this year's fun Color Run!" Registration starts at 9:30 am. Brookside and Blosser schools will be selling food and goodies. If you pre-register and pay \$30 for the event you get a free T-shirt, sunglasses and dye pack. The color is thrown while walking and comes out easily. The money collected goes to the schools to help pay for assemblies, free book giveaways, and teacher supplies. Willits High School, 299 North Main Street. Saturday, October 27, 11 am.

Model Ships in Motion Regatta: The American Legion Post 174 presents a regatta of radio-controlled model boats from the Redwood Empire Model Shipwrights Club of Rohrert Park. Saturday, October 27, 10 am to 2 pm. "Come and see the extraordinary detail in style and function of these beautiful model ships playing the waters of the Willits

City Pool." Just north of Willits High School, 299 North Main Street. Info: 463-4226.

Howl-O-Ween Pet Costume Contest: Calling all dogs, cats and their humans. Free family and pet-friendly event. Costume contest, with a treat bag for your pet and some light refreshments. Saturday, October 27, 11 am to 2 pm. Awards for Best Look Alike Owner and Pet, Funniest, Scariest and Most Creative costumes. There will be pets available for adoption at the event, and vaccinations will be on site. Mendo Mill, 305 East Commercial Street.

St. Anthony's Fall Fiesta: St. Anthony's Catholic Church, 61 West San Francisco Avenue, will hold its Fall Fiesta on Saturday, October 27, 11 am to 5 pm (food served 12 to 4 pm). Pre-sale tickets; adults \$12, children \$6, available at El Mexicano, Loose Caboose and Adri's Salon.

A chicken or beef fajita barbecue, marinated in Mexican spices and served with rice, beans, tortillas and a dessert. Hot dogs for the kids. Mariachi band, bounce house, raffles and games for the children.

Haunted House at Willits Charter School: Saturday, October 27, 6 to 8 pm. See October 26 listing for details.

Hot Buttered Rum Halloween Bash: The 4th Annual Hot Buttered Rum Halloween Bash, a benefit for the School of Adaptive Agriculture, Willits' own farm school, will kick off with The Real Sarahs. Silent auction. Food by Zocolo Collective (Roast Pork in Tomatillo Sauce with Black Beans, Sweet Corn Cakes, & Local Mixed Green Salad with Avocado Vinaigrette and more). Costume contest. Cash bar. Dessert by She Wolf Coffee. Kids room. \$25 advance, \$30 door. Tickets available at J.D. Redhouse, the Ukiah Natural Foods Co-op and online (Eventbrite & http://www.school-of-adaptive-agriculture.org/product/hbr18/). Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Saturday, October 27, 6 to 11:30 pm.

Shanachie Pub: Halloween Party with The Irie Rockers: "From the coastal ridges of Northern California. As a band of experienced musicians rooted in Reggae, the Irie Rockers together reflect their similar, yet unique

upbringings through music." Saturday, October 27, 9 pm. 50B South Main Street.

Al's Redwood Room: 3rd Annual Halloween Costume Party: Special guest host, Stotie Bro. DJ Cozmo rockin' you all night. 21 and over, I.D. Required. Full bar, outside patio. Stotie Juice giveaway. Saturday, October 27, 9 pm to 1 am. 207 South Main Street. 459-2444.

Sunday, October 28

Little Lake Grange Pancake Breakfast: Last breakfast of the year. "Join your friends at the Little Lake Grange pancake breakfast, 8 to 11 am, Sunday, October 28. Free breakfast for firefighters! (one breakfast per official ID). \$8 buys you a plate of the best 'scratch' pancakes & local farm eggs to be found anywhere around. Our tasty breakfast is a wonderful combination of comfort foods": Choose sourdough wholegrain, Hank's Famous Buttermilk Pancakes or Gluten-Free, Beeler's Quality Bacon, organic local farm fresh eggs, real butter, juice, organic coffee or tea. \$8; \$7 seniors, \$5 children under 10. Extra: sides of organic fruit and Amish organic maple syrup. Little Lake Grange #670, 291 School Street (2 blocks south of Commercial Street; 1 block west of Main Street).

Bake Sale for the WHS Cross Country Team: Sunday, October 28, 12 to 4 pm. In front of ER Energy (next to Safeway). Money received will help pay for pop-up tents and tarps, and food/drink for home races, and help for athletes to participate in paid running events outside the WHS season.

FFA Carnival: "On Sunday, October 28, join us for a good old-fashioned carnival with kids games, festive food and Cotton Dandee as the special musical guest." Festivities will take place from 1 to 5 pm. Costume contest 3 pm. Willits High School, 299 North Main Street.

Haunted House at Willits Charter School: Sunday, October 28, 6 to 8 pm. See October 26 listing for details.

Monday, October 29

Marijuana Ad Hoc Meeting: The Board of Supervisors Cannabis Ad Hoc Committee holds a community meeting on Monday, October 29, 5:30 to 7:30 pm. An opportunity to hear a brief update and share recommendations with the Ad Hoc Committee regarding potential revisions of the county's cannabis cultivation ordinance (Code Section 10A.17 and 20.242). "This community meeting will give residents a chance to hear directly from the Ad Hoc Committee on the ordinance revision process and allow us to better understand the thoughts and concerns of residents, stakeholders and interested parties throughout the county on potential amendments." Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. Info: 707-463-4441 or duketts@mendocinocounty.org.

Senior Center Lunch

Week of October 29 through November 2

Monday: Turkey Tetrazzini

Tuesday: Meat Ball Sub

Wednesday: Monster Mash Corned Beef Hash

Thursday: Pulled Pork Sandwich

Friday: Hot Dogs

Harrah Senior Center serves lunch five days per week from 11:45 am to 1 pm. \$6.50 for those 55 and older; \$8 for those under 55. Includes soup, salad, entrée, vegetable, dessert, and drink. Salad Bar available all year. 1501 Baechtcl Road. Info: 459-6826.

Sing Out! For Cancer

November 10

A community sing-along is planned for November 10 at the Willits Center for the Arts from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. The event, called "Sing Out!" is a fundraiser for the Cancer Resource Centers of Mendocino County, includes food. Sweet and savory pie and non-alcoholic beverages are included. Beer and wine will be available at an extra cost. Richard Jeske, Don Willis, and Cherie Sheraque will play live music, with the crowd invited to sing along to '60s and '70s rock-and-soul hits. The lyrics will be projected on a screen – like a group karaoke, but with pie. Tickets \$10 in advance, at Cat's Meow and online at crcmendocino.org, also may be purchased at the Cancer Resource Centers' Ukiah office at 590 South Dora Street, during business hours, or by calling the CRC administrative office at 707-937-3833. \$15 at the door.

Tuesday, October 30

Tightwad Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre: All 2D movies that are in their second week are \$5 on Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre for all ages, all showings. This week's Tightwad movies, "Halloween 2018," "Venom," and "A Star is Born." For showtimes: www.noyotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6696.

FFA Haunted House: "If you are in the hunt for something scary come to the Willits FFA Haunted Barn. On Tuesday, October 30 and Wednesday, October 31 we will be putting on one scary show! From 5 to 7:30 pm we will leave the lights up so that the little kids can enjoy the haunt. From 7 to 9 pm be prepared to scream. \$7. We have partnered with the Willits Food Bank so if you bring two canned food items you will receive \$2 off admission." Willits High School, 299 North Main Street.

Shanachie Pub: New weekly show with Mitchell Holman, "Wabi Sabi": "Mitchell Holman, formerly of the San Francisco iconic band It's A Beautiful Day ("Whitebird") will be featuring different artists at this new weekly event." Tuesday, October 30, 7 pm. 50B South Main Street.

Wednesday, October 31

Happy Halloween!

Free Halloween Makeup Glitter Party: Wednesday, October 31 at the Glitter My World Studio, 132 East Valley Street (studio in the back). "Come on in and let us glitter you up! Glitter hair, glitter tattoo, glitter beards, glittering skin, scary glitter makeup. All ages welcome!"

FFA Haunted House: See Tuesday, October 30 listing for details.

Spooktacular Costume Contest: Sherwood Valley Casino's Costume Contest: Earn 100 points to qualify for \$10 in free play and an entry for one of the three costume categories: scariest, most creative, funniest. Each category will have a 1st and 2nd place prize of \$1,000 and \$500. Wednesday, October 31, 6 to 10 pm at the Sherwood Valley Casino, 100 Kawi Place. 459-7330.

Shanachie Pub: Halloween Open Mic: "Our Open Mic events this time of year are better than ever, and with Halloween falling on a Wednesday, it's sure to be an epic one." Wednesday, October 31, 8 pm, 7:30 sign-ups. 50B South Main Street.

John's Place Halloween Party: Annual Halloween Party at John's Place, Wednesday, October 31, with a costume contest at midnight, drink specials and free music. "Come join the fun and dress to impress." 377 South Main Street. Info: 459-5636.



Mitchell Holman

delicious as homemade combread." Thursday, November 1 at The Muse, 30 San Francisco Street. Suggested donation \$5 to \$20.

Friday, November 2

Soup & Dessert Luncheon: Friday, November 2, 11 am to 2 pm. \$7 per person. Enjoy soup and dessert, along with handcrafted items for sale. Drawing for a one-night stay at Benbow Inn with a gift card for meals, painting by Margaret "Peggy" Hebrard, award-winning afghan, and other items. At the Fellowship Hall of Saint John Lutheran Church at 24 Mill Creek Drive. Info: 459-2988.

Shanachie Pub: The Cult of Ours: "brings a tribal groovejam vibe through a mix of skilful electric improvisation and the blending of energies between the audience and the band." Friday, November 2, 9 pm. 50B South Main Street.

Thursday, November 1

"The Cannabis Hour":

"Until last year, the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office ran and enforced the county's permitted cannabis program and sometimes shut down black market operations. Now that county and state laws have changed and the county Ag Department and Planning & Building oversee the program, what role does the sheriff play? Mendocino County Sheriff Tom Allman will tell us who he's busting and why." Thursday, November 1 at 11 am on the special KZYX Pledge Drive show on KZYX Radio, 91.5-FM. Find the archived show at http://jukebox.kzyx.org/.

Willits Farmers Market: moves to the Little Lake Grange for the winter, 291 School Street. Thursday, November 1, 3 to 6 pm. See Thursday, October 18 listing for details.

The Dumb Supper: "In many cultures, ancestor worship is an ancient practice. The Day of the Dead, or All Souls Day. The Dumb Supper is a silent (a.k.a. 'dumb') sharing of food with the dearly departed. Bring small remembrances and things to honor your dear ones. Build family altars with the objects. We will also share any favorite food of your departed. It can be as simple as a bar of chocolate, cookies, a bottle of beer, or as



only reception at 6 pm; the public is welcome at 7 pm. Show runs through November 24 at WCA, 71 East Commercial Street. Gallery hours: 11 am to 5 pm. Info: 459-1726.

Shanachie Pub: The Self Fulfilling Prophecies: "This local group features Morgan Stocker (nacho the stockrocker), Buckminster West and Bodhi Idarius, who all grew up in Ukiah." Saturday, November 3, 9 pm. 50B South Main Street.

Dirty Cello

November 11

"The San Francisco band, Dirty Cello, brings its high energy blues, bluegrass and rock with a unique spin to the Willits Community Theatre on Sunday, November 11 at 2 pm. Led by vivacious cross-over cellist, Rebecca Roudman, Dirty Cello is cello like you've never heard before. From down-home blues on a wailing cello to virtuosic stompin' bluegrass, the band gets the heart thumping and the toes tapping. Besides Roudman on cello, fiddle and vocals, the band includes Jason Eckl on guitar, bassist Colin Williams and drummer Cory Aboud." Music journalist Nick Diamantides says, "When lead guitar is replaced by the sound of hot licks on a cello, blues, rock and bluegrass rise to a new dimension." Advance tickets are \$20 and available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at brownpapertickets.com; or by phone 24/7 at 800-838-3006. Tickets available at the door until sold out. The Willits Community Theatre is located at 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub).

North County Women in Business

November 7

North County Women in Business is proud to have one of their charter members speak at the Wednesday, November 7 meeting at the Willits Center of the Arts upstairs gallery. Kitty Norris, longtime volunteer and Christyna Lynette Patterson, the managing director of the Willits Community Theatre, will discuss the history of the theater, current happenings, and how it all comes together to create the local community theater. 8:15 to 9:30 am. Arrive at 8 am for networking and coffee provided by Shewolf and healthy refreshments by Diane Smalley of Abundant Health Acupuncture & Herbs. Denise Rose of Brooktrails Township/Community Services will facilitate. First-time attendees and Willits Chamber members, free. \$5 for returning non-Chamber members. Please RSVP by November 4 for food count.

Halloween Happenings

October 26: Haunted House, 6 to 8 pm. Willits Charter School, 1431 South Main Street. Info: 459-5506.

October 27: Howl-O-Ween Pet Costume Contest, 11 am to 2 pm. Mendo Mill, 305 East Commercial Street.

October 27: Harvest Fest, 11 am to 5 pm. Testa Vineyards, 6400 North State Street, Calpella

October 27: Hot Buttered Rum Halloween Bash, 6 to 11:30 pm. Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street.

October 27: Haunted House, 6 to 8 pm. Willits Charter School, 1431 South Main Street. Info: 459-5506.

October 27: Halloween Open Mic, 7:30 pm sign-up, 8 pm start. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

October 27: KMUD & Mateel Halloween Boogie featuring Jamaican artists Anthony B and Warrior King: 8 pm doors, 9 pm show. Mateel Center, 59 Rusk Lane, Redway.

October 27: Halloween Party with The Irie Rockers, 9 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

October 27: 3rd Annual Costume Party, 9 pm to 1 am. Al's Redwood Room, 207 South Main Street. 459-2444.

October 28: Haunted House, 6 to 8 pm. Willits Charter School, 1431 South Main Street. Info: 459-5506.

October 30: FFA Haunted House, 5 to 7:30 pm for little kids, 7 to 9 pm for others. Willits High School, 299 North Main Street.

October 31: Enchanted Pumpkin Path, 4:30 to 8:30 pm. Waldorf School, 6280 Third Street, Calpella.

October 31: FFA Haunted House, 5 to 7:30 pm for little kids, 7 to 9 pm for others. Willits High School, 299 North Main Street.

October 31: Spooktacular Costume Contest, 6 to 10 pm. Sherwood Valley Casino, 100 Kawi Place.

October 31: Annual Halloween Party at John's Place, with a costume contest at midnight. 377 South Main Street. Info: 459-5636.

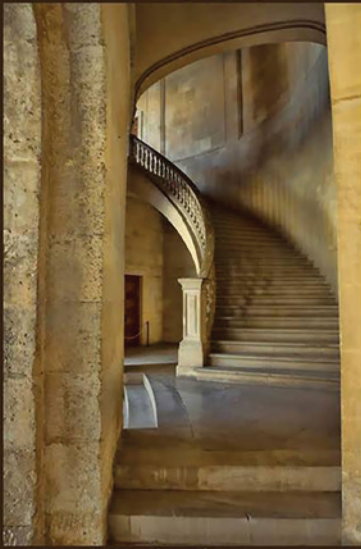
November 1: Dumb Supper, 6:30 pm. The Muse, 30 San Francisco Street.

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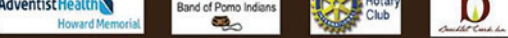
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Harvest Fest

at Testa Vineyards
October 27

Testa Vineyards will be hosting its first-ever Harvest Fest this Saturday, October 27 from 11 am to 5 pm at their Ranch in Calpella. Admission is free. Wine and food can be purchased. Their harvest theme is highlighted with a grape stamp, pumpkin patch, photo opportunities, wine sales and more. This is a family-friendly event, with an area for games for the kids and a face painter. Food will be made available by Kiwanis Club of Ukiah. There will also be desserts from Schat's Bakery available and other delicious fall treats. Testa Vineyards, 6400 North State Street, Calpella, 707-485-7051. TestaRanch.com



AT THE MOVIES



‘Halloween’

The Story: Sequel to the original 1978 slasher classic featuring legendary psychokiller Michael Myers and his nemesis Laurie Strode (Jamie Lee Curtis). It's 40 years after the events of the original "Halloween." Michael has been chained-up in a looney bin for homicidal maniacs. He escapes. He slices, he chops, he impales, he smashes (he squashes!!!), because he's got somewhere he really wants to go and something he really wants to do. Michael wants to kill Laurie. But

Laurie has been waiting and training for the day of Michael's return. It's a slam bam kill or be killed showdown that's not vegan appropriate.

My Thoughts: Slasher movies are favorites of teenage girls. This "R" for violence film will not disappoint them, assuming they have the moxie to get in. As an honor to slasher fans, the teenagers who make out are appropriately butchered. It's traditional. The critics at large pretty much like this movie, though not as much as the John Carpenter original, which is a horror classic. Let me say from my heart that this 2018 sequel has got its admirable moments. I loved it. No really, I loved it. Burn in Hell, Michael Myers!

Parents: Not for children. It's a slasher flick fergawdsakes.

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



Singers Wanted: Christmas Carol Sing-Along

Directed by Denise Beckler and Carole Hester. The popular family event is Sunday, December 16 at 3:30 pm at First Presbyterian Church-Ukiah (corner of Dora and Perkins Streets). Call for rehearsal schedule, which starts in late October. Singers are invited to join this community choir under the direction of Les Pfutzenreuter, recently retired as Chair of the Music Department at Mendocino College. Among the featured artists are 4Euphs4Him euphonium quartet under the direction of Marshall Merklin. Capt. Jim Howlett of the United States Navy, with Barbershoppers. Lori Schafer will be at the organ. Info: Beckler at 707-468-9235 or denise@fpckukiah.org or Carole Hester at 707/972-2795 or carolehester@uno.com

Sherwood Valley Tribe names new general manager for casino

Submitted by the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians Tribal Council

After an extensive regional and national search, the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians Tribal Council recently announced they selected Michael J. Broderick as general manager of Sherwood Valley Casino, a business wholly owned and operated by the Tribe. Broderick brings over 25 years of experience in gaming and resort management to his position. He will be responsible for the overall management and success of the current gaming enterprise for the Northern California property.

"I'm honored to have been selected by the Tribal Council, and I am grateful for the opportunity to work for the Tribe and its membership," said Broderick. "It is a great opportunity for me, both personally and professionally, to be part of this organization. I look forward to helping this company and the Tribe continue with its efforts of economic growth and self-sufficiency."

Prior to the Sherwood Valley Casino, Broderick served as the general manager for the Cahuilla Casino and Mountain Sky Travel Center in Anza, California, and director of marketing for the Sky Ute Casino Resort in Ignacio, Colorado. He has also held numerous executive leadership positions in gaming and hospitality throughout



Above, from left: Sherwood Valley Casino, located at 100 Kawi Place in Willits. Michael J. Broderick, the new general manager of Sherwood Valley Casino.



his career, including tenures in Washington, Rhode Island, Colorado, Oregon, New Mexico, Florida, Wisconsin and for the Trump Organization in Southern California.

"We are excited and looking forward to working with Mr. Broderick," says Michael Knight, Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indian's chairman. "We believe his experience, creativity, and successes in gaming and hospitality make him an exceptional fit for our casino. He is a well-versed, dynamic and successful leader with an impressive track record, and we believe Mr. Broderick, along with the casino team, can take this property to the next level."

Broderick is Harvard University Graduate School-certified and a former degree candidate at Harvard University Extension School, and he received his bachelor's degree and MBA in business management from California Coast University in Santa Ana, California and his associate in science degree in business administration

from the Corporacion Nacional de Education Profesional in Santiago, Chile. He is also a veteran of the United States Marine Corps Reserve.

The Sherwood Valley Casino is gently nestled against a backdrop of the lush coastal forestry that forms the signature scenery of Willits, the heart of Mendocino County. Featuring over 220 of the newest and best slots, Sherwood Valley Casino is reputed to be "The Friendliest Little Casino in Mendocino County." Dedicated to providing our guests with an exceptional gaming and entertainment experience, Sherwood Valley Casino's 6,000-square-foot, action-packed gaming floor features the Creekside Café for a delicious bite to eat, the most generous players club in the area, and the friendliest customer service around! We are open 24/7, 365 days a year.

For more information please call 459-7978 or visit us online at www.svrcasino.com.

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PAULA NUNEZ

for the

Willits Unified School Board

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— PAID POLITICAL AD —

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WHY MEASURE J

The Board of Directors of the Little Lake Fire Protection District/ Willits Fire Department would like you to be as informed as possible on MEASURE J. We would like to address some of the questions that we have been asked.

- What exactly will the tax money raised from Measure J be used for?
 - The taxes raised from Measure J will be used to replace your fire station on Commercial St. and can ONLY be used for debt reduction of the new firehouse.
 - This Special Tax money CANNOT be used for F.D. operations, wages, or benefits.
- How much is the new firehouse going to cost ME?
 - A single parcel with no structures = 1 unit = \$39.00 per year on your Prop. Tax.
 - A single parcel with a residence = 2 units = \$78.00 per year on your Prop. Tax.
 - Commercial properties vary depending on use.
 - If you have questions about your specific property tax bill, call the FD at 459-6271.
- How long will it take to pay for the new station?
 - The loan for the firehouse is a maximum 40 year loan. We are anticipating an earlier pay-off, at which time it would be removed from your tax bill.
- Why do we need two Fire Stations?
 - The Station on Baechtcl Rd. is a garage for emergency response only and is not adequate for full-time personnel.
 - Your Fire Department covers almost 360 square miles. Forty volunteer firefighters respond to these stations from their respective homes and workplaces 24/7, so location is essential for quick response.
 - Logistically, we need a station at each end of Willits which allows for full coverage and adequate response times.
 - We have to protect over \$8,000,000 worth of life saving equipment.

Signed/ Board of Directors,

Tony Madrigal, Tom Herman, Arnie Mello, Nancy Stipe, Skip Lucier

Paid for by the Firehouse Political Action Committee, #1401763

The rest of Apples From Page 3

apples, Allman spoke about the process of producing the cider. "Three years ago, I convinced Laura to allow me to put in this cider house. I'm not licensed because in California there is a prohibition on peace officers having their names on an ABC license. I went to Sacramento, and I spoke with the director of the Alcohol Beverage Control, whose last name, coincidentally, is Applesmith.

"He heard my plight, listened to my story, thanked me very much for coming over, and said there's nothing they're going to do to change it. Thank you very much. So I can make 200 gallons a year, as can you. When you look at the tank, you can see the top part, the 'bubbler' is bubbling. A real simple chemistry lesson: Sugar inside the fruit juice gets eaten by yeast which turns it into alcohol."

After making the alcohol, Allman force-carbonates it to create the final product. Then he will bottle it and distribute the bottles to friends, especially the ones who help him with apples and labor. Eventually, when he is able to sell Satisfied Apple cider, he wants to have a pizza oven so people can come in

the good weather, sit outside, and buy hard cider and pizza, and enjoy the beautiful outdoor surroundings under the Willits "W" on the mountain behind his property.

Hard apple cider is experiencing a renaissance of late. It can be found on the shelves of grocery and liquor stores and on tap in the pubs. "When the Mendocino agriculture report was presented to the supervisors this year," explained Allman, "apples were the only product that went up in value because of the hard apple cider trend across America right now. Hard apple cider has displaced approximately 5 percent of all beer sales in America."

For an area such as the Little Lake Valley that is looking for an economic boost, apples – and all the products associated with the fruit – might be one of the ways to help. Allman asked the people at Gowar's why they were being so helpful with their advice and expertise, as he might become a competitor eventually.

"Their answer was simple," he said. "They said that if Mendocino had only one winery, it would not bring anyone up here, but all the wineries together create an attraction. If we have half a dozen or more apple cider places in our county, we can actually start some kind of tourism."

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More of Measure J From Page 1

community as well as for motorists traveling through on the bypass. It would impede the department's access to downtown, to the northern on-ramp of Highway 101, and to the Brooktrails area where Little Lake Fire is mutual-aid partners with the Brooktrails Fire Department, he says.

"We'll try to do our best to operate out of that station, but it creates serious logistical and response issues for us," Wilkes says. "In very layman's terms it would not meet the needs of fire protection in our district and within our city limits."

The old Commercial Street firehouse has been plagued by a myriad of problems for decades, including severe mold, structural damage, leaky roofs and walls, ADA compliance issues and unreinforced masonry walls that no longer meet earthquake safety standards.

A new station would eliminate these problems, and also allow the department's equipment to fit properly, including a ladder truck Wilkes says really should be housed at the Commercial Street station, but is too big for the current firehouse.

"We're one of three ladder trucks in the county," he notes, "and that ladder truck was always meant to be in city central. It's meant for commercial business; it's meant to be downtown. We keep it at station 541 because that's the building that can house it. It would not fit here in any bay. But ultimately to utilize [the truck] for what it's built for, it needs to be downtown. It's the right spot for it."

In addition, the new firehouse design would allow some Little Lake fire personnel to remain on duty at the station overnight if necessary during an emergency in small dorm-style rooms – currently an impossibility with the condition and structure of the old station.

Wilkes says Little Lake Fire volunteers wanted to stay on duty overnight at the firehouse as last year's Redwood Fire encroached on Willits but had to "sleep" on chairs because there were no facilities for staffing the firehouse overnight in an emergency.

And there are other memories and lessons that stood out to Wilkes about the devastating Redwood and Sulfur fires, which occurred one year ago this October.

"Just the impact on our community, how it impacted us as a whole," he says. "Mostly to me – as the fire chief – how vulnerable we are where we're at as far as communications go and where we're located;

The rest of Letters From Page 2

falsely claiming that the full project cost would fall to locals. Actually, such a district would provide a local contribution for short- and long-term roadway needs, leveraging county, state and federal transportation funds for Sherwood corridor projects.

As Pinches stated at a recent debate in Willits, "we must put up real money" to achieve any local priorities. But his only solution for the second access project, to hope "we get lucky and get a federal grant," contradicts his own statement.

Candidate Pinches spoke about priorities during that debate, yet he displayed his true priorities in 2013 when he killed the Brooktrails second access project. He failed to support it at the point of a funding commitment decision for \$3.5 million of state and federal funding in the Regional Transportation Improvement Program.

As Third District supervisor, Pinches recommended to the board of supervisors to pull this project, ranked No. 2 in the Mendocino Council of Governments' list and sponsored by the county. On his recommendation, both the supervisors and MCOG board abandoned the project, allowing the \$3.5 million to be redistributed almost entirely to three of the cities for their local projects. Public health and safety batted last that day.

No further funding has been forthcoming for this needed project, thanks to former Supervisor Pinches, who cost us five years of delay. The final direction of the board of supervisors in 2013 was "to not continue project development until a reliable source of funding ... was identified," according to the transportation director. MCOG had to follow the supervisors' direction and is now waiting for a local share from the Sherwood community to demonstrate local support for this critical project.

Haschak has demonstrated a constructive approach to this and many other complex issues a county supervisor must face. He is everywhere and has shown a big ear and a studious ability to gather and process current information. Haschak is a lifelong learner and will not get stuck in the sands of the past, but instead will help to move us all to a better day. My wife, Janet, and I enthusiastically endorse John Haschak for supervisor.

Tony Orth, Brooktrails

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how easily we can be sealed off from the rest of the world.... That a fire can sweep through and literally take all your communications away. Your power, your gas, the internet.

"As far as operations goes, the fact [is] you have only 40 volunteers and only so many people that can do the work. You can only offer so much service. We have to be able to fend for ourselves and rely on our local partners to get the jobs done.

"And the biggest thing for me as fire chief – other incidents did not stop happening," Wilkes says. "We had engines out on the Redwood fire, we had engines doing work there. We still had to respond to medical aids. We had structure fires in the middle of that time. We had vehicle fires in the middle of Highway 20. We had a multi-casualty incident on the ridge, and we had to do that with local response because there was nobody else available. And those responses were provided by Little Lake with help from Brooktrails – by volunteers."

Plans for the new firehouse, he adds, would include a new communications system that could function as a backup emergency operations center for the area, and could be crucial during another such emergency.

A backup EOC would also be helpful, considering the number of calls the department now handles – about 600-650 per year, according to Wilkes.

Like many local firefighters today, the Little Lake Fire Department is trained to help the community in a variety of ways other than fire protection, including emergency medical responses, hazardous material cleanup, urban search-and-rescue, swift-water rescue, and vehicle accidents, which Wilkes notes make up the majority of the department's calls.

The Little Lake Fire Protection District covers 240 square miles surrounding Willits, and has a "sphere of influence" that extends to 360 square miles. In addition, Little Lake firefighters sometimes work with strike teams at larger out-of-area fires. This year teams helped on the Carr and Delta fires, among others.

Wilkes praised the personnel in his department, and volunteer firefighters in general.

"I can tell you what inspires them to do it," he says. "We interview all of our volunteer firefighters, and they all say the same thing: 'I just want to help my community.'"

"They're held to the same standards training-wise as any professional firefighter. When they come in here, they leave work, they don't get paid, and they do the same training and same job as everybody else," he says. "It's an incredible amount of dedication.... I think that sometimes gets lost."

Measure J would tax property owners in the Little Lake Fire Protection District on a unit system at \$39 per unit annually. A typical lot and house count as two units, meaning taxpayers would pay \$78 per year.

Other commercial properties and larger buildings with more fire protection needs would pay more, with, for example, convalescent hospitals and gas stations at 5 units, restaurants and bars at 6 units, light manufacturing and hospitals at 10 units. Voters who'd like to know what number of units their properties would be assessed are welcome to call the firehouse at 459-6271 and ask.

Read the rest of Measure J Over on page 11

The rest of Fest From Page 5

as racemaster) and several other directors of Visit Willits and valuable volunteers, Schmidtko created a full day of eclectic treats. The aim was to bring people to the town, show them the beauty of the Little Lake Valley, entertain and feed them, and leave them feeling positive about the area and wanting to return, hopefully bringing others with them.

"This was absolutely a success!" beamed Schmidtko. "I've had people come up to me all day with ideas for next year, that they can't wait for next year, or that they wish they would have run, they want to run next year. It's the mark of a good event when people want to come back. It's a first-year event. We were hoping that if we had 200 people here it would be a great event. So the fact that we had 135 runners, not including 10 and under.... Taste of the Harvest has been busy all day.

"The more that we can demonstrate to the community that we can build it ... people will come. I don't just mean the people who are attending. I also mean the artisans, the wellness folks, the chefs. People want things like this to happen in Willits. The more that we have events like this, the more that people start to show up to them.

"I have a group of about four or five people that are really instrumental: Bekah Allen who helped with the beer and wine, Jaynene Johnson with the food and Taste of the Harvest, Saprina Rodriguez for a lot of the detailing and permitting, Evan Schmidtko with his race knowledge, and Ian with Radiant Tribes."

After the races, everyone was welcome to attend the free event which included over 35 vendors

of art, jewelry, information and other goods. There was the Ramirez food truck and Ethiopian food by Tenadam Catering, as well as the Lions Club to serve lunch and snacks. The live music, arranged by DJ Joey D, who also kept the beats going all day, started out with Billie Kerr soloing on guitar and voice, then Dennis Chrisp and the Eclectic Coyotes, and the Fat Chance Truckin' Band.

One of the most popular sections of the festival was Taste of Harvest, an epicurean competition with a varied group of participants. People could purchase tickets to enter the pavilion, decorated deftly in agrarian motif by Lyndsey Burns. Inside they could taste the creations of local food growers or preparers, and then vote on the entry which appealed most to them.

The winner, Alive Retreats, with their vegan raw sprouted hummus tartine, was in competition with Nurturing Seed Farm (potato latkes with apple topping), Roots Restaurant (smoked salmon with apple fennel), Mariposa Market (focaccia), Big Chief of Laytonville (pork-chicken sausage with sauerkraut aioli and pickled mustard seed), New Agrarian Collective of Ridgewood Ranch (apple pulled pork with a slice of Eliot's Wholegrain Bread and apple coleslaw), Green Uprising Farm (picadillo vegetarian / Mexican apple chutney). Those inside the Taste of Harvest section could also taste the bourbons, ryes and gins of the Low Gap Craft Distillers and several wines from Barra.

All in all, for a first-year event, Wild Willits Fest was more successful than Schmidtko and the Visit Willits Board could have hoped. Board members are looking forward to building on this success and providing even more events and promotions in the quest to help revitalize the City of Willits and to provide fun, safe and healthy venues for visitors and residents.



Above, from left: The new kiosk with the plaque near the southern end of the Haehl Creek Trail. Stepping stones at the southern end commemorate major donors, like the Sherwood Valley Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians, Savings Bank of Mendocino County, and Northern Aggregates. One of the benches along the Haehl Creek Trail on a foggy morning.

At right: This plaque lists the names of volunteers and supporters who helped build the Haehl Creek Trail.

At right, below: The trailhead at the southern end of the trail.

Below, right: The volunteers got emotional as they sang "Amazing Grace" – led by Ananda Johnson – to commemorate the successful completion of six years of work. Below, far right: The Haehl Creek Trail volunteers pose at the new kiosk, from left: Alan Falleri, Mike Aplet, Keith Johnson, Ananda Johnson, Dave Madrigal, Linda Buletti, Donna Stropes and Larry Stropes.

SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

Amazing Grace Assembly of God Church
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P.O. Box 489, Willits
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Pastor, Bill Nobles
Information: 456-9668
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Grace Community Church
Celebrating Life In Christ
25 Hazel Street, Willits
Adult Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship - 10:30 a.m.
Worship Service &
Children's Church - 11 a.m.
Mid-week Bible Studies
Potluck every 2nd Sunday
Alan Klier, Lead Pastor
459-3106

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
61 W. San Francisco Ave.
Willits, CA 95490
Father Aaron Bandanadam
Mass times:
Saturday confessions - 4:45 p.m.
Saturday Vigil - 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Mass -
9:00 a.m. English
10:30 a.m. Spanish
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& Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Healing Prayer 3rd Sunday
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St. John Lutheran Church
Karl Bliese, Pastor
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Sunday 10:00 to 11:00
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Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church
399 W. Mendocino Avenue
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Worship Service - 10:45 a.m.
1st Sabbath of every month
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If you want to be included in this column please call:
April Tweddell
(707) 972-2475
april@willitsweekly.com



Photos by Jennifer Poole



Haehl Creek Trail

Kiosk honoring volunteers, donors and supporters is final project for walking trail

The dedicated volunteers who created the delightful Haehl Creek Trail out by the new hospital have now finished the last improvement planned for this shady little walking trail that welcomes the public.

Runners, mountain bikers or horseback riders are welcome, too.

The group recently came together for a photo opportunity and brief get-together – the highlight of which was a couple verses of "Amazing Grace" – to celebrate the trail completion.

"This is our 'swan song,' said organizer and volunteer Larry Stropes, about the beautiful kiosk near the southern end of the trail that features a bronze plaque engraved with the names of volunteers, donors and supporters who made the trail happen over the last six years. The kiosk also features timbers put up by Dave Bixler of Garfield Construction, and will soon feature rebud trees planted by trail volunteer Dave Madrigal.

The plaque is installed on a beautiful rock from Margie Handley's ranch on the Eel River. Handley's Howard Foundation donated a strip of land for the trail, along

with the land designated for a public trail as part of developer Ed Mitchell's negotiations with the City of Willits to get his Haehl Creek Homes subdivision approved.

When the volunteers, some of whom live in Haehl Creek, were asked if they see people using the trail, Madrigal and volunteer Ananda Johnson chimed in together: "All the time."

"We see [hospital] employees in their scrubs walking, and a lot of community members," Johnson said.

"I walked the trail a couple days ago at 1 pm on a weekday, and I passed five different groups of walkers," Stropes said. Dogs are also welcome on the trail, which features doggie bag dispensers at each end and in the middle of the trail. There are trash cans on each end, too.

Two energetic dog walkers then arrived at the kiosk, including Richard Jeske, who says he uses the Haehl Creek Trail "almost every day" with his canine companion. "There's not a lot of places to walk in Willits that aren't on the street," he said. Jeske

Read the rest of Trail Over on Page 11





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The rest of Measure J From Page 9

Wilkes says he understands people's hesitancy to vote to pay higher taxes, but urges them to look at what the money will be spent for.

"Nobody wants to pay more taxes," he says. "However, I'd like property owners to look at the fact that we are their local fire department; this is their firehouse. We're not an arm of a bigger budget. The money doesn't go to the state, then gets trickled down to us.

"The dollars our property owners spend for fire protection with the Little Lake Fire District, they stay here dollar for dollar. It's their money.... It's our communities and, literally, it's tangible. Every dollar they spend here stays here to protect our local community."

Wilkes also responded to claims from some community members that plans for the firehouse are overly luxurious. He says the "gymnasium" some have talked of is only an office-sized room – maybe big enough for a few exercise machines – and would likely be used for storage initially. And the four dorm rooms for sleeping are only 80 square feet each – big enough for a bunk but not much else.

"People say: 'Well you just want a new firehouse,'" Wilkes notes. "We're not actual-

The rest of Trail From Page 10

ly lives a mile away, but drives to the trail and walks, to take advantage of the non-paved, but easy-to-walk gravel surface. "I went to the City Council when the trail was proposed to endorse it," Jeske said, "and I told them you already have a great slogan: 'Take a hike, go to Haehl.'"

Originally, as trail volunteer and former City of Willits planner Alan Falleri explained, the Haehl Creek Trail was part of a proposed "Willits Creekside Trail System," which was envisioned to stretch from Haehl Creek on the south to Willits High School on the north. The city submitted a California River Parkways grant back in 2005, and was awarded \$135,000.

But before actual construction work began on the trail, Falleri said, the Willits City Council at the time decided not to pursue the project and to return the grant to the state. "The project advocates were deflated for some time," Falleri said, "but got re-energized about six years ago and started a volunteer effort to build the trail."

The goal of this volunteer effort was to construct the basic trail – about 6/10s of a mile long – without using any city resources. With the support of a number of local volunteers and businesses that donated time, money and materials to the project, the project has been successfully completed, complete with benches to rest on and picnic tables that also honor supporters of the trail.

For those interested in exploring this "real community trail," there are three entry points. Visitors can park on East Hill Drive before the Haehl Creek Drive turnoff to the hospital, look for the Haehl Creek Bridge, and enter on the north trailhead. The north end of the trail also has par course equipment that was installed thanks to a grant from Adventist Health Howard Memorial.

Turning in to Haehl Creek Drive, look for the cupola on the top of the hill and the big Commonwealth Garden greenhouse on the right side of the road. You can park on the street, walk past the greenhouse, and find yourself in the middle of the trail. To enter on the south end, keep driving down Haehl Creek Drive, then take the right "Y" onto Haehl Creek Court, park before you get to the big gate, and look to the right to see the southern trailhead.

ly building what we want. If we were building what we want, it would be two stories, it'd be brick on the outside.... We're literally building what we need. It's a metal building with office space that fits the appropriate apparatus and provides for future service to our community and meets [National Fire Protection Association] standards for what's expected of a firehouse in 2018.

"We've done all of the value engineering we can do in this building," he adds. "Aside from literally taking stuff out and making it to where it's almost unusable, we've done everything we can do to back down the size of the [new] building. We've done everything we can do to minimize the building to our needs."

Estimated cost for the new firehouse, based on a preliminary architectural report, is \$7.25 million which, accounting for interest, is expected to be paid off in about 40 years using Measure J monies. At that point the tax will be "unsettled" out.

Wilkes says there was hope the district could reduce that 40-year time span by possibly lowering costs and or with interest rates that might be lower than the budget anticipates. He also emphasizes that Measure J funds will be used only for the cost

grew to meet requests of customers and the needs of the community. "We always wanted to create a family place to come and shop, which includes our Sweet Shop," said Bixler. "Maybe the kids and dad could come have and ice cream while mom did some shopping, or it could serve as a one-stop-shop for lots of things for the whole family."

Snacks for people and pets are certainly two of those one-stop items. J.D. Redhouse puts together delicious and interesting salad and sandwich combinations, breakfast croissants, and even peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to go along with their smoothies, coffees, and delicious ice cream and old-fashioned candy selections.

J.D. Redhouse also took over the production of the beloved fudge that was once made at Rexall. When the business closed, the recipes and machinery headed down the street to J.D. Redhouse where they continue old favorites like "Killer" and "Chocolate Walnut" but have also started their own best-sellers including their No. 1 fudge: "Dark Chocolate Caramel Sea Salt."

Pets of all sizes relish the options of chewies and crunchies as well as a variety of top-notch kibble brands. There's also a freeze-dried raw bar with pet-flavored options galore. Pet food and treat purchases made at Redhouse are also eligible for their rewards program, including the popular "Buy 10 Bags, Get 1 Free" Taste of the Wild loyalty program.

They've also started a store-wide rewards program where purchases made will tally up points on a frequent customer card. Once the card reaches 100 points, shoppers can enjoy a free \$5 back.

What would you buy to add up those points? Well, any and everything, including some 60 feet of art supplies, a cut-your-own soap station, the best lavender-scented EO Essential Oils hand sanitizer money can buy, Stance brand socks and undies, Zippo lighters, Strider bikes, greeting cards, and cast iron pans.

The store's clothing and footwear sections for men, women and children boast wide varieties of casual and contemporary brands like Volcom and Sanuk, as well as work and farm brand essentials like Wrangler and Carhartt.

Supporting the community which supports the store is huge for the J.D. Redhouse family; they are consistent donors and or sponsors to local youth sports teams, the Willits Rotary Club, Willits Frontier Days, 4-H and FFA, the Willits Educational Foundation, Sober Grad and a myriad of other groups, organizations and individuals.

The shop also hosts the Mendocino County Care-A-Van's low-cost and free vaccinations and surgeries van, and makes regular donations to the Mendo Shelter Pets Rescue and more.

As Willits looks to settle into its new future, J.D. Redhouse plans to continue to evolve and adapt to changes in the community while keeping up their friendly atmosphere, helpful staff, wide selection, and unique buying experience that can only be found at Willits' very own hometown mercantile.

Stop by J.D. Redhouse, located at 212 South Main Street, reach them by calling 459-1214, or connect with them online on Facebook and Instagram under "J.R. Redhouse & Co."

The rest of Cannabis From Page 1

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The rest of Cannabis From Page 1

an opt-in zone there.

The package of ordinance amendments is scheduled to go before the board of supervisors at a special meeting on Friday, November 16.

Consultant Paul Junker, an employee of Michael Baker International, told commissioners he used a two-pronged approach to canvass the populations in the communities proposed for either the opt-in or the opt-out zones. He and his associate Mark Corcoran sent out postcards to property owners and followed up with an on-line survey. In the case of Laytonville, South Leggett and Covelo, they sent out a second mailing of postcards.

Junker said that in no case did he believe he received responses from 60 percent of property owners. Instead, Junker and Corcoran tabulated the responses from those who responded to the surveys and the postcard mailings.

To the survey question: Shall a cannabis accommodation district be approved for your neighborhood? The results were: for the core area of Covelo: 81 percent yes; for the Fairbanks Road area of Covelo, 60 percent yes; for Laytonville: 80 percent yes; for South Leggett: 88 percent yes; for the northern reaches of Mitchell Creek: 10 percent yes; and for the southern reaches of Mitchell Creek: 33 percent yes.

To the survey question, shall a cannabis prohibition district be approved for your neighborhood? the results were: for the Deerwood area, 94 percent yes; and for the Woody Glen community: 92 percent yes.

What is a cannabis accommodation district?

Junker explained the proposed regulations for both cannabis accommodation and prohibition districts. Accommodation districts are being proposed for residential zoning districts, that is, RR1 and RR2.

For any future neighborhoods to be identified and approved by the BOS as an accommodation district, at least 10 parcels must join together to apply for an accommodation district. To form an accommodation district, at least one property owner who lives inside the proposed district must apply to the Department of Planning and Building Services and must accompany the application with a petition signed by at least 60 percent of the property owners who also reside or own property within the district.

Applications to form an accommodation district must be submitted to Planning and Building by November 1, 2019.

Within the boundaries of a cannabis accommodation district, the sunset provisions in the county's cannabis cultivation ordinance – which provide that commercial cannabis cultivation in residential parcels under 5 acres in size must cease by May 4, 2020 – are extinguished.

Instead, small-scale cannabis cultivation, defined as outdoor cottage, indoor cottage and mixed light cottage – cultivation sites with a plant canopy of up to 2,500 square feet – may take place on existing cultivation sites located on any parcel subject to the planning and approval requirements of Section 20.242.040 (C) of the cannabis ordinance.

Minimum setbacks shall be 20

of the facility, not redirected toward equipment or salaries.

He points out that a 2013 measure for replacing the Commercial Street firehouse failed to win a two-thirds majority by less than 100 votes. The cost for virtually the same design has more than doubled since then because of inflated building costs and new regulations. And those costs, he adds, could continue to grow in the future.

Wilkes also points out that all the funding dedicated by previous Little Lake Fire boards and local fundraisers for a new station will still be put towards that cause. That money, he says, is the reason the district won't need to seek interim financing if the measure passes, and can begin the work on constructing the new facility more quickly.

Willits City Councilman Gerry Gonzalez, former Willits police chief, has been very public in his support of Measure J (the entire council planned to discuss officially endorsing the measure at their October 24 meeting) and says he's seen firsthand – both as a cit-

izen and a longtime police officer – the work Little Lake Fire does and how important quick response times are.

"As a police officer in a small town I was very dependent on the fire department at accidents," he says. "It would be really hard waiting for somebody else to respond because the fire department couldn't respond and you're tied up on a law enforcement thing."

Chief Wilkes says he appreciates everyone who has expressed support for Measure J, and notes the importance of community as a reason to vote for it.

"As we found in the Redwood [fire], we need to take care of ourselves," he says. "We need to make sure we have the ability to respond to incidents in our local area ourselves."

"And the way we do that is through community support and making sure all of us have a stake in what's here – and to make sure we're self-sufficient. That we can provide for our own fire service, we can provide for our own means of fire protection."

The Planning Commission also agreed with Michael Baker International's proposal that it will take a high bar to annul an accommodation district.

After an accommodation district has been approved by the board of supervisors, an application to dissolve or amend the district shall not be accepted by Planning and Building for 10 years after the date of the formation of the district.

Again, when a petition to dissolve the district is submitted, it must be accompanied by a petition signed by at least 60 percent of the property owners in the district.

As proposed by Baker, and as approved by the Planning Commission, after an accommodation district has been dissolved, people who are growing cannabis within the boundaries of the district may continue to do so for three years. After that time, they must cease operations.

What is a cannabis prohibition district?

Within a cannabis prohibition district, permits for commercial-level cannabis operations may not be issued. After a cannabis prohibition district has been declared by the board of supervisors, people growing commercial-scale cannabis within a prohibition district have three years in which to cease operations.

The guidelines for forming any future cannabis prohibition district are the same as for a cannabis accommodation district: there must be 10 parcels joining together, and the application must include a petition signed by at least 60 percent of the property owners within the district.

The guidelines for dissolving a cannabis prohibition district are also the same as for an accommodation district except, unlike the cannabis accommodation district, there is no deadline by which an application to form a prohibition district must be submitted.

Exceptions

The commission also approved the consultant's recommendation that certain exceptions should be incorporated into the cultivation ordinance. Chief among those would be a provision that setbacks separating cultivation sites from adjoining parcels could be 20 feet, if an administrative permit were approved by the Department of Planning and Building Services.

The commission also assented to a proposal that fudge factors could be incorporated into the cultivation ordinance. Baker recommended that parcels between 3.5 acres and 4.99 acres in area may be granted permits that are currently limited to parcels that are 5 acres in extent. Likewise, Baker is proposing parcels between 7 acres and 9.99 acres can be given permits previously limited to parcels at least 10 acres in size.

The public speaks

Twenty-eight people addressed the commission during the public comment portion of the meeting. Several approved of the proposed

regulations, but many said they disapproved of certain aspects.

Mitchell Creek grower Chris Harris said he and his brother, who together grow 1,400 square feet of plant canopy, paid 5 percent of the cannabis taxes collected by Mendocino County in 2017. "The sunset that is being subjected to us, will force us to leave our community in Fort Bragg," Harris said. "There is not another parcel available for sale today that I can move my operations to. "We are environmental stewards. We have been operating one of our farms for 13 years with zero complaints. I would invite each of you to come to our farms and see how we are stewards and protect the environment," Harris said.

Gabriel Martin also grows cannabis in the Mitchell Creek neighborhood. "I've been operating in the location that I hold for 10 years. I've received little to no complaints and have great working relations with my neighbors.

"I understand completely the concerns of the overall RR2 zone in the area," Martin said, "and I am completely sensitive to those concerns.... We are talking about an area that is roughly 300 parcels, and we are talking about eight small farms in that area.

"I am recommending another path for generating longevity for these farms that have jumped through all the hoops and have complied with all the regulations and are good players in the game," Martin said. "I strongly recommend the commission recommend to the board that the board create a use permit path or an administrative permit path, that would handle each permit on a case by case basis, which would be directly impacted by their immediate neighbors."

Third District Planning Commissioner Alison Pernell made the following comments toward the end of the meeting.

"The hard part of today, and the hard part of this conversation," Pernell said, "is that the overlay zone is the right thing for Laytonville and Covelo, and that it is not as clear-cut for Mitchell Creek. I am sensitive to this conversation about an exodus happening, because I am personally experiencing that in my community, in my schools, in our friendship network. I have had like 25 percent of my friends leave in the last six months. So, it's very personal.

"On the other hand, I also think this overlay zone issue is a community sovereignty issue. And the beautiful thing about land use issues in general, is that land use decisions are local," Pernell said. "It's not the state telling us what to do. We are here today to make decisions and recommendations to the board of supervisors about our community and about the best land use.

"I would be supportive about further conversation about use permits for Mitchell Creek. I don't know if it's the right thing, but it would be very interesting to explore," Pernell said. "However, the survey results also speak very clearly about what the vast majority of residents would like to see there, so I don't want to discount that.

"So, it's a toss-up for me on Mitchell Creek, but it's very clear to me that the overlay is the correct thing for Laytonville and Covelo."



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Alumni Banquet

Former FFAers and friends enjoy an evening to benefit the ag program at Willits High School

The Willits chapter of the Future Farmers of America held an Alumni Banquet fundraiser at the Willits Grange Hall on Saturday, October 20. Over \$13,000 in donations was raised in support of the students. The funds go towards sending students to the State FFA Conference, supplies for the Ag Farm on the Willits High School campus, and other agricultural project needs of the chapter. Funds raised at a previous banquet allowed the Willits FFA to purchase a new truck for the faculty to use in assisting the students with their various agricultural projects.

Danya Davis
Features Writer
willitsweekly@gmail.com

The event began with the FFA officers introducing themselves and their stations. Andrew Hosford then explained a bit about the FFA Alumni Advisory Committee and how they contribute to the students. A silent auction was open throughout the evening with numerous items donated by community members and local businesses.

A delicious dinner was served and enjoyed by all attendees. Following the meal, a live auction ensued with auctioneer Sheriff Tom Allman, with amazing desserts prepared by FFA Alumni and community members that were enjoyed by the highest bidders, along with several large ticket items such as a load of base rock and a smoker donated by local businesses.

Ag teacher and FFA advisor Kelley Case-Brackett mentioned the accomplishments of the students at the Redwood Empire Fair and the current projects that they are working on. The evening closed with the FFA officers performing their closing ceremonies.

Read the rest of
Banquet Over on Page B6



Clockwise from left, bottom: FFA's Claire Case Brackett addresses the crowd. FFA supporter Jane Camp was the highest bidder on a griddle that was donated by Marcy Barry and family. Willits FFA officers serve dinner at Friday's Alumni Banquet. Future Farmers of America officers line up during the closing ceremonies for the event. A fall-themed table at the FFA Alumni Dinner, with information about current FFA projects. FFA vice-president Callie Brown displays a cake prepared by Natalie Campbell. Peggy Randrup sits with granddaughters Ella, left, and Alissa, right, enjoying the "Randrup's Oatmeal Raisin Cookies" made by Maureen Moore. Sheriff Tom Allman auctions off tasty treats prepared by Annette Pinon and displayed by Alexis England.

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SATURDAY
OCTOBER 27TH
11AM - 2PM

Awards for:
OWNER/PET BEST LOOK A LIKE
FUNNIEST
SCARIEST
MOST CREATIVE



Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

8				9	3		1	
		2			6	8	9	3
		6					5	7
6	2				8	5		
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Level: Beginner

FRIGHT NIGHT WORD SEARCH																			
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BAT	CRYPT	HALLOWEEN	SPIDER
BLACK CAT	DARKNESS	HAUNT	SPIRIT
BONES	EERIE	HOWLING	SPOOKY
BROOMSTICK	EVENING	MOANS	TOMBSTONE
CARVING	FRIGHTEN	MUMMY	VAMPIRE
CAULDRON	GHOSTS	PUMPKIN	WEREWOLF
COFFIN	GHOULS	SCARY	WINGS
COSTUMES	GOBLINS	SCREECH	WITCH
CREEP	GRAVES	SKELETON	ZOMBIE

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	69							70						

CLUES ACROSS

1. Rhythmic patterns
7. Ethical theory
13. Nightclub
14. Upsets
16. Type of railroad
17. Home of The Beatles
19. Political organization
20. Disgraced cyclist
- Armstrong
22. Seven
23. Enlarges hole
25. Some are big
26. August __, German socialist
28. Unappetizing food
29. Cast out
30. Adult male
31. After uno
33. Midway between northeast and east
34. Kenyan settlement
36. Oxygen deprived
38. British writer
40. Synchronizes solar and lunar time
41. Vehemently expressed
43. Hurt
44. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
45. Gradually weaken

CLUES DOWN

1. Spanish seaport
2. Equal to one quintillion (abbr.)
3. Powders
4. One of the 'Great' ones
5. Increase motor speed
6. 'E.T.' director
7. Caught sight of
8. Congressional investigative body
9. Aroma
10. Runs without moving
11. Southeast

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!

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE LOG

October 15 to October 21

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 178 incidents in this seven-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

October 15

- 1:07 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.
- 4:11 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 100 block of South Street.
- 4:34 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 800 block of South Main Street.
- 5:07 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 400 block of Coast Street.
- 3:58 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of South Main Street.
- 5:09 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.
- 5:33 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 200 block of North Street.
- 8:14 pm: Officers responded to a report of aggressive panhandling in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

October 16

- 8:50 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 200 block of South Humboldt Street.
- 11:09 am: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 300 block of North Main Street.
- 2:42 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 400 block of McKinley Street.
- 3:01 pm: Officers responded to a report of threats in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.
- 4:44 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.
- 6:08 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 21000 block of Baechtel Road.

- 11:55 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of East Valley Street.
- October 17
- 1:03 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of North Lenore Avenue.
- 8:53 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 400 block of East Commercial Street.
- 6:37 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 200 block of North Main Street.

October 18

- 7:22 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1200 block of Locust Street.
- 1:52 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation near the intersection of Wood Street and South Main Street.
- 4:21 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 300 block of Boscabelle Avenue.
- 7:35 pm: Officers responded to a report of harassment near the intersection of South Main Street and East Commercial Street.
- 8:48 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block of Hazel Street.

October 19

- 12:47 am: TARBAH, Robert Karim (51) of Fort Bragg was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication) and on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol).
- 9:29 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of South Main Street.
- 3:16 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1700 block of South Main Street.
- 4:37 pm: Officers responded to a report of panhandling in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

Read the rest of WPD Over on page B6

LITTLE LAKE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

FIRE CALLS

October 10 to October 16

by LLFD Training Chief Eric Alvarez

10-17-18 (East Hill Road)

Medical aid: Little Lake Fire responded to a reported choking patient. Upon arrival the patient had coughed up the food item. Medical personnel at scene cleared the patient. 8 firefighters responded for service.

10-17-18 (Spruce Street)

Medical aid: Little Lake Fire responded to a medical call. During response Little Lake Fire was canceled. 7 firefighters responded for service.

10-18-18 (Pepperwood Way)

Vegetation fire: Little Lake Fire responded to a reported vegetation fire on Highway 20 and Pepperwood. Upon arrival Little Lake Fire initiated structure defense and conducted a progressive hose lay on the east side of the structure. With the assistance of Cal Fire, the fire was controlled and the threat was mitigated. 7 firefighters responded for service.

10-18-18 (Hearst Willits Road)

Medical assist: Little Lake Fire responded to Hearst Willits Road to assist the current medic unit at scene. Fire personnel assisted with removing the patient out of the residence and assisted with loading the patient into the ambulance for transport. 10 firefighters responded for service.

10-19-18 (Eastside Road at East Hill Road)

Motorcycle accident: Little Lake Fire responded to a reported motorcycle accident. Upon arrival, the patient had already been transported in a personally owned vehicle to the hospital. 11 firefighters responded for service.

10-20-18 (North Highway 101)

Traffic accident: Little Lake Fire responded to a reported traffic accident.

Upon arrival a pickup truck was viewed on its side off the roadway, the single occupant self-extricated. Fire checked for fluid leakage, and the patient was cleared by medical staff at scene. 8 firefighters responded for service.

10-20-18 (Highway 20)

Traffic accident: Little Lake Fire responded to a reported traffic accident; upon arrival two vehicles were blocking the east- and west-bound lanes. Fire extricated a single occupant from the vehicle. The occupant was then loaded into REACH and flown from the scene. The occupants from the second vehicle both self-extricated and were transported by ground ambulance. 12 firefighters responded for service.

10-20-18 (100 Kawi Place)

Vehicle accident: Little Lake Fire responded to a reported vehicle into a ditch. Upon arrival the vehicle was approximately 10 feet over the edge. Fire checked for leaking fluids, and medical staff cleared the patient at scene. 11 Firefighters responded for service.

10-22-18 (Della Avenue)

Medical call: Little Lake Fire responded to a reported patient with breathing issues. Upon arrival, Little Lake Fire provided basic life support until the ambulance arrived. Once the ambulance arrived the patient was loaded into the ambulance and transported to Howard Memorial Hospital. 9 firefighters responded for service.

10-22-18 (Northbrook Way)

Medical call: Little Lake Fire responded to Northbrook for a reported sick person. Upon arrival Little Lake Fire was on standby. The patient was awaiting transport to Howard Memorial Hospital for evaluation. 8 firefighters responded for service.

COLUMN | Health Matters



Healthy aging

Sarah Alvord, MD
Columnist

As we age, it can become more difficult to foster new relationships, engage in fun activities, and stay physically strong, but it is worth the effort!

I often tell patients that, had I been on the "Human Body Design Committee," I'd have done things differently. It seems to me we should be rewarded for living longer, not punished with slower metabolisms and prolonged healing times. But, since no one asked me, here we are.

Patients often ask for suggestions on how they can age well. That is to say, how can they maintain independence and continue to enjoy life?

It is a simple question with a complex answer. Health is influenced by physical and emotional elements, as well as the blend of people's personality traits and life experiences. However, I believe these recommendations can help most aging adults increase health and joy.

- Focus on your health, but don't become obsessed with it. Concentrate on what you can achieve, not what you cannot.

- Remember that you deserve to be happy. Make each day a new opportunity to pursue happiness, whether that means finding time to garden, focusing on all the things you are grateful for, volunteering to help others, or whatever else you like to do.

- Allow for grief, but do not let it consume you. As we age, friends and family members pass away,) leaving us lonely and sad. If you need extra support, consider talking to

Read the rest of Aging Over on page B7

Cross Country Amazing Athletes of Willits High

Briana Evans,
16, Junior

How Long Playing the Sport: Three years
Breakfast of Champions: Cinnamon apple oatmeal.

Love of the Sport: "It's an individual sport so there's not as much pressure. You're running for yourself."

Other Sports Played: Track.

Briana is a strong leader as captain of the women's team this year, motivating athletes to do their best and leading the core workout after every practice. She started the year already conditioned from summer workouts, and she has built upon that foundation all season. As a consequence, her times in the 5K have improved significantly this year over last. She also trained extra all season in order to compete in last weekend's Wild Willits half marathon, where she finished first with a time of 1:51:00.



Cross Country
Teo Labus,
15, Sophomore

How Long Playing the Sport: Three years

Breakfast of Champions: Honey Nut Cheerios

Love of the Sport: "It's fun and fresh."

Other Sports Played: Swimming

Teo Labus is varsity boys' team captain. Teo's positive attitude fosters a climate of competitiveness and respect among the young men, and consequently he has led them to a 2 and 3 season, despite their relatively small team of eight members. Teo has worked hard to improve his time in the 5K this year, running a personal best of 17:40 on our home course last Wednesday. He also trained extra on Saturdays in order to compete in last weekend's Wild Willits half marathon, where he finished first by a broad margin with a time of 1:30:54. Still to come for Teo this year are two more home races, one on Halloween and CMC championships on the afternoon of November 5, both at the Brooktrails par course.

– Submitted by Coach Liz Roripaugh

– Submitted by Coach Liz Roripaugh

Mama Dot

Dot is a sassy little lady. She loves attention, when she wants it. And once you start petting her, she won't let you stop until she's done. She is the ultimate attention hog with all the energy of a kitten. After being cooped up after having her five kittens this year (her babies are all adopted) she is now spayed and ready for a home of her own!

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

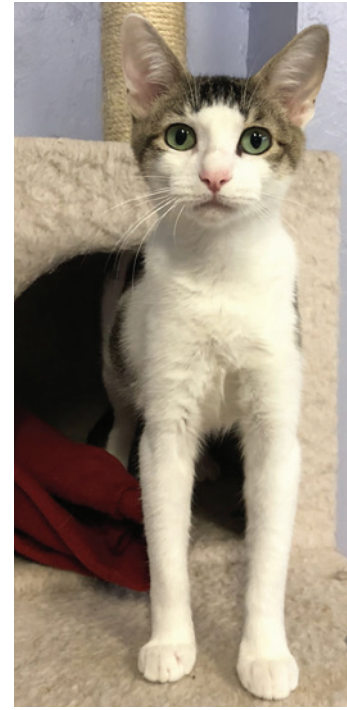


Furry Friends Hoping for a Home

Joyful Frisky

This darling, dainty girl is the perfect combination of sassy and sensitive! Uber-friendly during her photo shoot, Frisky is beautiful, with big, loving eyes and a personality to match. She's joyful and enthusiastic, and we think she would be a smarty-pants in doggie classes! This lithe and athletic dog is a little shelter gem! Frisky is a 1-year-old female who currently weighs 28 pounds.

The Ukiah Shelter is located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah. Adoption hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 4:30 pm, and Wednesday from 10 am to 6:30 pm. To view photos and bios of some of the other wonderful adoptable animals here, please visit at: www.mendoanimalshelter.com. More info about adoptions: 707-467-6453.



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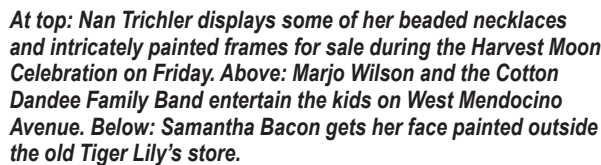
St. John Lutheran Church welcomes the community to attend a
Soup & Dessert Luncheon
on Friday, November 2
from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
\$7 per person
Wonderful handcrafted items for sale!
Drawings for:
•A one-night stay at Benbow Inn with gift card for meals
•Painting by "Peggy" Margaret Hebrard
•Award-Winning Painted Rose Afghan
•Thanksgiving and Tea Party Baskets - and other items
Event to be held at the Fellowship Hall located at
24 Mill Creek Drive in Willits
707-459-2988

11:18 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.



Photos by Danya Davis

A haunted barn will be available to enjoy October 30 and 31, 5 pm for young children, 7 pm for older kids and adults, \$7 (\$2 off with 2 canned food items to be donated to the Willits Food Bank), located at the WHS Ag Farm. A cornhole league is being formed that will have monthly tournaments beginning November 7; for more information call 459-6588.



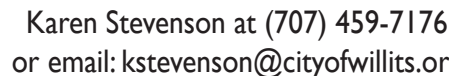
The Hometown events, put on by the Willits Chamber of Commerce's Local First committee in the fall and by Willits Frontier Days in the summer, are designed to draw Willits residents and visitors from elsewhere to downtown Willits. Brick and mortar merchants offer special sales, too, to reward and entice people to "shop local."

With sidewalk construction and road repaving and painting making navigating – and parking – downtown more difficult than usual in recent months, the Harvest Moon Festival was a timely reminder to soon-to-be holiday shoppers of what hometown Willits has to offer.



Photos by Mathew Caine

Karen Stevenson at (707) 459-7176
or email: kstevenson@cityofwillits.or

/s/ Wendy Morgan, CFO
Pub dates: 10/11, 10/18, 10/25,
11/01/2018

Publication Date: October 25, 2018

someone

- Seek the company of

others, humans and/or pets. We are social creatures. Companionship is an essential part of what makes most of us happy.

- Challenge yourself to overcome problems. It is hard to develop new friendships. It is hard to adjust to living without driving a car. It is hard to change any habit you've developed over decades. But if you think back over your life, it is often overcoming the hardest things that have resulted in your local senior center.

One of the common adjustments we must make as we age is to learn to manage chronic disease; this often includes taking regular medication. Patients tell me they feel they're throwing in the towel once they begin this process. I think they're doing exactly the opposite. When diet and exercise are not enough to conquer high blood pressure, high cholesterol, heart disease, or diabetes, for example, regular medication can give your body the help it needs to lower risk factors and keep you feeling good.

As people age, they sometimes drop bad habits, and as they do so, their need for medication can drop, too. When this happens, I'm very happy to take people off medications – in fact, it is one of my favorite things to do. The wisest course of action is to work with your healthcare provider to create a lifestyle plan that feels achievable.

While you are still able, it is best to prepare end-of-life plans and share them with your children or whoever will attend to those details. Ask your physician to complete an advance directive with you and put it in your medical chart. Taking care of these things early will take a huge burden off your loved ones as the end approaches.

Aging can be difficult for the person aging, of course, but also for friends and family members. It can be incredibly painful to watch your mom or dad lose function and/or decline cognitively. One of the ways you can help them is to spend time with them and encourage them to spend time with others. Isolation often hastens their decline.

Allow them to make their own decisions, as long as they remain safe, and try to find ways to allow them to continue to serve in the role of the parent. Ask them for their opinions and advice, and remind them how they've helped you become the person you are. This will be good for both of you.

Sarah Alvord, MD, is an internist at MCHC Health Centers, a local, non-profit, federally qualified health center offering medical, dental and behavioral health care to people of all ages in Lake and Mendocino counties.

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A 20x20 word search grid. The words are highlighted in yellow. The words are: HONEY (row 1, col 10 to 15), BEE (row 2, col 10 to 13), CAR (row 3, col 10 to 12), FLOWER (row 4, col 10 to 16), SUN (row 5, col 10 to 13), BUTTERFLY (row 6, col 10 to 18), WAX (row 7, col 10 to 13), and others.

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

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