

Willits endures – and enjoys – five days with no power

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Local heroes stepped up during the five-day PG&E power shutdown in Willits, ranging from firefighters and law enforcement keeping everybody safe to everyday citizens doing each other favors by sharing food, coffee, batteries and even generator power.

When the power shut down Saturday night, few residents had any idea it wouldn't come back on until the next Wednesday afternoon.

Information from Pacific Gas & Electric Company before and during the October 26 and October 29 shutdowns was hard to figure out – and even contradictory at times. Mendocino County earned itself an October 29 story in the San Francisco Chronicle headlined: "Inconsistent and unreliable': Mendocino County officials rip PG&E for outages." That story featured Mendocino County CEO Carmel Angelo's comment on Facebook: "I don't believe anything PGE reports right now.... "Everything they

Read the rest of
Outage
Over on page 6

Measure B Committee meets

Mike A'Dair
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The Measure B Committee held a pleasant if not very productive meeting on Wednesday, October 23. Committee members and the public learned that the county has socked away \$10,463,438 worth of funds from the tax that was implemented by passage of Measure B in November 2017. The county has been receiving payment from the state since June 2018, for tax funds collected since April of 2018.

Second District Supervisor John McCowen told the committee supervisors had approved the \$30,000 sought by the Measure B Committee for a grant writer, had agreed to give Sheriff Tom Allman \$50,000 so that he can begin work on refurbishing the property in Redwood Valley, which Allman plans on using as a mental health training facility for law enforcement and other first responders, and that the supes decided to pay for a new sound system, which the Measure B committee had asked for at the September meeting.

Read the rest of
Measure B
Over on page 13



Great Blackout

Willits goes dark for five days, leaving star gazers a dream scenario

Willits photographer Eric Pham reveled at the opportunity to fulfill an idea he'd been thinking about for some time, during the great blackout which concluded Wednesday, October 30, after five days of darkness over much of California. Pham wanted to take pictures of the Willits Arch with the stars glowing bright behind, and on Monday, October 28, he finally got his chance.

"I always wanted to take pictures of the Willits Arch and the stars, but it is too bright in the city limits most the time," said Pham. "When the power was out, I knew it was the only opportunity I had – it is the darkest time in town."

He went out to set up and capture the stars behind the arch at 2 am that morning, a time, he noted, when the traffic was also super slow.

"It wasn't the perfect time for the galaxy core going through the arch around this season, but I am lucky enough with the tail of stars," said Pham.

With the lineup of circumstances, and Pham's wonderful photographic eye, he was able to catch the beautiful photo above. This is just one of many striking and stunning

landscape images Pham has captured of our local area; Pham also is an avid travel buff and enjoys taking photos during his journeys including everywhere from Vietnam to Mount Lassen to the Mendocino coast.

Night skies and long exposures seem to be an exceptional talent of Pham's, and something he certainly enjoys photographing.

"Did you know about 80 percent of Americans cannot view the Milky Way due to light pollution?" said Pham. "We happen to live in Mendocino where we are still able to see the pristine starry sky. I can't ever resist this beauty, so I want to share this with everyone."

When not behind the lens, Pham is using his same artistic eye and creativity – just in acrylic at his job and family-owned business, City Nails.

Check out more of Pham's work online at www.facebook.com/erichuypham/ or let him work magic on your nails by calling 456-0342.

– Maureen Moore



Top left: This photo by neighbor Paul Futscher shows the CalFire chopper dropping water on the East Fire, that burned down a house on Eastside Road on October 28. These photos of the East Fire, at top and left, show firefighters and a CalFire engine at the scene of the structure fire that was spotting into surrounding vegetation.

Local fire departments busy with Willits area fires

Local fire departments, including Little Lake Fire, Brooktrails Fire, and CalFire, were busy during PG&E's power shutoff. The power went out around Mendocino County after 5:30 pm on Saturday, October 26, and was restored in Willits around 4 pm on Wednesday, October 30.

The "big" fire in the county during the power shutoff was the Burris Fire in Potter Valley. With a start time of 4:19 am on Sunday, October 27, the Burris Fire was an immediate threat to 40 structures. The Sheriff's Office issued an evacuation order for the Highway 20 area east from Potter Valley Road to the Lake County line, and evacuation warnings for wider nearby areas.

But as firefighters – including six strike teams from Oregon – kept the Burris Fire from growing and gained containment – the evacuation order was downgraded to a warning.

Read the rest of
Fires
Over on page 6

Allman gives county a 'B+' during power outage

Mike A'Dair
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Mendocino County Sheriff Tom Allman said that the county government and county residents deserve a B+ grade for their actions during PG&E's recent power shutdown, which kept most of the county in darkness between Saturday and Wednesday evenings.

Allman noted that some 20 generators were stolen throughout the county during the power-down event. He said that he is going to request the state legislature make stealing a generator during a power shutdown event a felony, so that potential thieves will think two or maybe three times about the repercussions of their potential crime before they commit it.

Allman also said, for the first 36 hours of the event, the sheriff's office received a high call volume from the public. Too many of the calls were from people who were notifying the sheriff's office that the caller's power was out and who were requesting that Allman send a deputy out to turn their power back on. After the first 36 hours, Allman said that the sheriff's office dispatch saw "a return to the normal use of 911."

Allman noted there were three structure fires in the north part of the county. "Although I haven't seen the reports on these fires, I think we can assume that these fires started from some kind of open flame," Allman said.

The sheriff said he wants to make sure that, in the future, every one of the sheriff's office's employees have "a generator of some kind at their home, so that they can come to work without having to worry about how things are at home. I want every sheriff's office employee to be able to come to work with their game face on."

On the plus side, Allman said there were many positive takeaways from the recent power-down. He had praise for county CEO Carmel Angelo, and described her daily conference calls with local government as being "critical" – critical in the sense of indispensable.

He noted that the general situation could have been much worse, were it not for the county's efforts at communication in advance of the event.

"In the two weeks prior to this, I am going to say that the majority of citizens began making plans for this," Allman said. "They bought generators. They bought batteries. They were much more prepared

Read the rest of
Allman
Over on page 13

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Sierra Club meeting

To the Editor:
Sierra Club, Mendocino group, meets this month. Join us Thursday, November 7 at 6 pm at the Willits Environmental Center.
Why might this be worthwhile? The Sierra Club has a proven track record of protecting national parks and wilderness, shutting down dirty coal plants, reducing garbage and plastic waste, adding public transportation

components to highway and freeway bills, and lobbying for reduced fossil fuel use and more solar energy and bicycle alternatives. The latest push is adding conservation forestry to plans to ameliorate climate change.
I have been attending local and regional Sierra Club meetings for two years and always return home hopeful, as part of a successful movement towards making a cleaner and more beautiful future.
Robin Leleer, Willits

COLUMN | Third District Supervisor's Report

October 2019

By Supervisor John Haschak

Career and technical education for our county is so important for a healthy economy. I have recently toured several successful machine shops that have apprentice positions open, but are having a hard time finding qualified applicants. Coming from the education world, I appreciate what is going on in the public schools, yet when it comes to technical education, they have limited resources.
To address this issue, I recently met with State Senator Mike McGuire and Mendocino County Office of Education Superintendent Michelle Hutchins to discuss what technical education is currently being offered in our county, areas where we are lacking, and how we can work together to improve our training programs.
Senator McGuire, who was very successful at expanding technical training in Sonoma County when he was a supervisor there, Superintendent Hutchins and I are planning to hold a roundtable discussion with a variety of stakeholders at the table early next year to set an agenda for expanding technical education in Mendocino County.
I have talked to people who have successful businesses (machine shops, construction, etc.) and are looking for apprentices. If you know anyone who might be interested in such an opportunity, please contact me.
Board Chair Carre Brown and County CEO Carmel Angelo asked me to go to Washington D.C. in late

October as part of a team called "Rebuild Northbay," to lobby Congress and federal agencies (FEMA and HUD) for funds to rebuild our communities after the devastating fires last year and to prepare ourselves for the next emergencies.
Our team consists of board chairs from Napa, Sonoma, and Lake counties as well as representatives from private industry. Representation is important, and showing up can make all the difference. Other counties have been much more successful than us at securing disaster relief funds simply by showing up with hat in hand.
The Mendocino County Public Defender's Office provides services to adults who have certain misdemeanor and felony convictions, or juvenile adjudications. These services include reducing criminal records, sealing juvenile records, and expunging convictions for those eligible persons living in Mendocino County. A Public Defender's Office representative will meet with interested persons in the Third District to determine their eligibility and explain what court costs may be involved. If you or someone you know could possibly qualify for these services, please call 707-234-6950.
On October 14, 2019, Mendocino County celebrated its first Indigenous Peoples Day, a recognition long overdue.
I look forward to hearing from you. Please contact me if you have any concerns at haschak@mendocinocounty.org or 707-972-4214.

MCHC Health Centers welcomes Katie Fairbairn to board

Submitted by MCHC Health Centers

MCHC Health Centers is pleased to announce the addition of Katie Fairbairn to its board of directors. Fairbairn is the executive director of the Mendocino College Foundation and the driving force behind 100+ Women Strong Inland Mendocino County, an organization dedicated to magnifying the impact of local philanthropy by pooling funds to support worthy causes.
Fairbairn was invited to join the MCHC board in part because of her dedication to community-building, but also because of her interest and experience involving health insurance benefits. Fairbairn has spent years advocating for people's right to have health coverage, initially as an SEIU field representative and more recently by participating on the Mendocino College Employee Benefits committee.
"I like getting into the minutiae, figuring out what services people need, whether the formulary is being used versus the name brand, that sort of thing," Fairbairn said.
Although Fairbairn has only attended a few MCHC board meetings, she said she is impressed by MCHC's passionate, smart and thoughtful leaders and by the organization's dedication to providing "the most needed healthcare to the neediest populations." She continued: "I like to be involved in systems that work well. So far, it seems to me that patients get good care in a streamlined fashion and that MCHC's leadership is focused on finding and filling gaps in community healthcare while remaining fiscally solvent."
Fairbairn explained how difficult it must be for the leadership to find a balance between keeping costs down while providing excellent care. She is working quickly to come up to speed on the laws governing healthcare reimbursement for federally qualified health centers like MCHC and says she looks forward to being an ambassador and an advocate for MCHC.
"I'm just learning, so I'm not an authority by any means, but I think it's important for people to understand what a resource MCHC is for local people, and to help our elected officials understand how they can support health and wellness in rural communities," she said. She admitted that before she became a board member, she was unaware of all the services offered by MCHC.

"I liked reading the articles in the paper, but I didn't realize what an incredible service MCHC provides," she said. "Without MCHC, the hospital emergency room would be overrun. Patients would suffer more and get a lot sicker; they also wouldn't get connected with other community resources like they do now. MCHC focuses on helping the whole person, not just improving someone's medical condition."
MCHC CEO Carole Press said: "We are very pleased Katie joined our board. She is such a dynamic addition. It's also great to strengthen the partnership between Mendocino College and MCHC since we have so many of the same goals, like helping community members reach their potential, encouraging health and wellness, and supporting education."
Fairbairn stated that Mendocino College Interim Superintendent and President Eileen Cichocki wholeheartedly supports Fairbairn's participation on the board, echoing Press's sentiments about the benefits of a closer partnership for both organizations.
Fairbairn is also excited to find more ways for the college and MCHC to work together. Currently, the Mendocino College Nursing Program trains many of the nurses employed at MCHC, and many Mendocino College students benefit from the healthcare provided at MCHC. Fairbairn says she will continue to raise funds to expand Mendocino College's allied health programs and noted that in 2020, the college will add a physical therapy assistant program.
Fairbairn also raises money for students in need through the Student Emergency Fund, some of whom get their healthcare at MCHC. "When people get the support they need, they can overcome really tough challenges. For example, in recent years a student who is a mother of two left an abusive relationship and we were able to use the Student Emergency Fund and partner with Project Sanctuary to keep her in school and moving forward towards her educational goal," she said.
Fairbairn said it is stories like these that confirm she is doing the work she is meant to do. "I believe in giving back to my community and I believe that providing wrap-around services are essential."
MCHC Health Centers is a local non-profit organization providing access to comprehensive healthcare for people in Ukiah, Willits and Lakeport. All MCHC health centers accept Medi-Cal, Medicare, Covered California insurance and other insurance. Learn more at www.mchcinc.org.



Above, from left: The bluest of blue faces on this Color Runner. A Color Runner with her bandana at the ready. A colorful face – and smile – before the run even started. At left: The runners start off after a "Go!!!!" at Sunday's Color Run at the Willits High School football field. Below: The Color Wars begin at Sunday's Color Run fundraiser for Brookside Elementary School.

Photos by Mathew Caine



Above, left: Orion, already full of color on his face and shirt, is ready with his hands full of purple color powder. Above, right: Blue and yellow highlighted this delighted Color Run participant.

Electric Colors

No power needed for Sunday's annual Color Run fun day and fundraiser for Brookside School

A fine colored mist settled over the Willits High School football field on Sunday, tinting the grass and track and concrete with not-so-subtle hues of greens, pinks, yellows and blues. The kids, and many of the hapless parents who were standing in the wrong place at the wrong time, were covered head to foot in the mixture of cornstarch, baking soda and FD&C food coloring, in a scene reminiscent of a chalk factory explosion.
The Brookside PTO 2019 Color Run event, despite the PG&E power outage and all its extenuating hardships, was a great success, if one could count all the smiles.
The event, in its sixth year in Willits, is part of an international system of raising money for charitable causes, which was created in 2012 by Travis Snyder, an event producer and entrepreneur from Utah. Now people can

participate in North America, South America, Europe, Asia, New Zealand, Australia, Africa, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, which gives the event the feeling of being part of something huge and global, although none of the kids getting covered in color probably thought about anything but how much color they could collect on their bodies, their faces and in their hair, and who they could pelt next.
According to Brookside PTO President Jenny Nelson, the Color Run was first produced in Willits as a joint project of Brookside and Blosser Lane schools, but for the last couple years is solely a Brookside event.
"This is a tradition the kids look forward to," explained Nelson. "It's a fun community event. We invite other schools to participate. They can run. They can walk. They

Read the rest of Color Run Over on Page 15

McGuire bill calls for backup power at cell towers

Submitted by the Office of state Sen. Mike McGuire

Sacramento, CA – As the Kincade Fire burns in Sonoma County forcing the largest evacuation ever in the county during one of the biggest public safety power shutoffs in California history, the cell towers residents have come to rely on have gone dark. This has left hundreds of thousands of Californians in harm's way without their cell phone during a disaster.
Earlier this year, Senator Mike McGuire introduced SB 431, which would mandate telecommunication providers have backup power systems for their cell towers. The bill is currently in the Assembly committee process, waiting to move forward when the legislature reconvenes in January.
"Our phones have become our lifeline. It's how we keep in touch with the rest of the world and how we receive emergency alerts. Telecom executives assured us this worst case scenario, hundreds of cell towers going down due to the lack of power, wouldn't happen. It's simply not true. It's time California steps up and mandates cell towers have backup power. This bill isn't about checking your Facebook status. It's about life and death," Senator McGuire said.
SB 431 requires that telecoms have backup power systems for their wireless towers in California's highest fire risk areas (these high-risk areas are where the majority of power shutoffs

Read the rest of McGuire Over on page 4

The Rules: LETTERS

Letters & Commentaries: Email letters to willitsweekly@gmail.com. Letters focusing on Willits and Third District issues, activities, events and people have priority. Willits Weekly prints letters from residents of Willits and the Third District only. To encourage a variety of voices, Willits Weekly limits letter publication from any one writer to once every four weeks.
Typed letters can be sent to Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490, but email is preferred. Letters and commentaries must be submitted with a name, address and phone number, although only the author's name and city of residence will be published. No letters from an anonymous source will be published, although a request to withhold the writer's name will be considered.



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Willits Weekly's
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Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

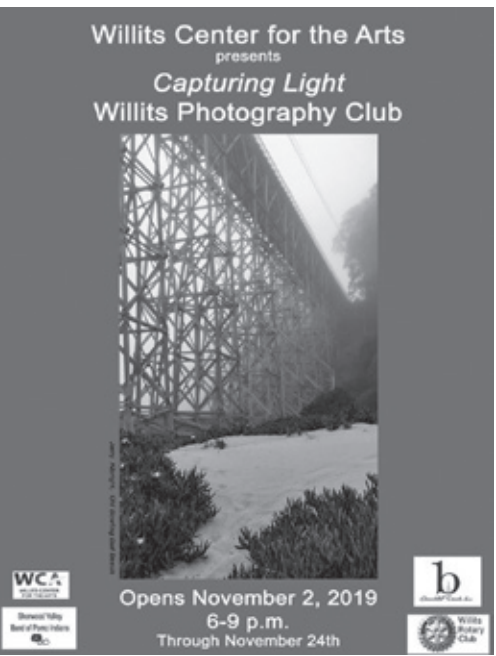
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PUZZLE
ANSWERS
ON
PAGE 11

HOW TO
SUDOKU

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

Below: This print on brushed aluminum by Willits Weekly photographer Mathew Caine, "Mushroom Walk at Chamberlain Falls," will be part of the Mushroom Art Show and Auction at the WCA.



‘Mushroom Mania’
and Willits Photo Club
at the Art Center in November

You'll have a chance to celebrate two events at the Willits Center for the Arts this month. This Saturday, November 2, from 6 to 8 pm is the opening party for the Willits Photo Club's annual photography show featuring premier photography by local camera and software wizards. Appetizers, wine and beer will be available for donations. The public is welcome to this amazing and must-see photography event.

To celebrate "gifts straight from Mother Nature herself," the Willits Chamber of Commerce and the Willits Center for the Arts are proud to kick off "Mushroom Mania" weekend in Willits with a Mushroom Art Exhibit and Auction on Friday, November 8 in the upstairs gallery at WCA. This is part of the countywide Mushroom Feast Mendocino, with many fungi-themed events throughout the county from November 1 through November 10.

The WCA event features 12 career artists from inland Mendocino County presenting their creative interpretations of mushrooms in a variety of mediums: ceramics, fiber arts, mixed media and more. Enjoy a taste of local wines and delicious mushroom-themed appetizers by Lisa Davis of Scoops while bidding on beautiful art.

Beer and wine will be available by

donation; the silent auction is a benefit for the WCA.

WCA Curator Gary Martin has been working hard on both events during the power shutdown. "We're shut down, but I've got enough light to work. So, we're going to be ready for Saturday night's Willits Photo Club show [in the downstairs gallery] and definitely ready for the Mushroom Show [in the upstairs gallery] on November 8," he said.

"Mushroom Mania" in Willits also includes a mushroom-themed ride on the Skunk Train. On Sunday, November 10, the Mushroom Train will depart from the Skunk Train Willits Depot. "Journey deep into the redwoods, while enjoying a delightful mushroom quiche by Kemmy's Pies with a glass of local bubbly, learn about the local bounty, and take part in an Easter-egg style mushroom hunt." Tickets and info at www.skunktrain.com/mushroom-train or call 707-964-7361.

For more information other events in the countywide Mushroom Feast Mendocino, visit <https://visitmendocino.com/event/mushroom-feast-mendocino>.

The Willits Center for the Arts is located at 71 East Commercial Street. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Sunday, from 11 am to 5 pm. More info: 459-1726 or www.willitscenterforthearts.org

‘Natural Expressions: Art Inspired by
Mendocino County’ now opening November 9

Submitted by the Mendocino County Cultural Services Agency

Due to the public safety power shutoff, our new exhibit opening of "Natural Expressions: Art Inspired by Mendocino County" will now be delayed until Saturday, November 9, from 12 to 4 pm.

From the Mendocino County Museum's permanent collection, "Natural Expressions: Art Inspired by Mendocino County" features arts and crafts showcasing the beauty and diversity of Mendocino County's landscapes and resources. The art exhibit includes paintings, fiber art, and various crafts made from Mendocino County's rich natural resources such as mushrooms, driftwood, shells, redwood, and leather.

Works from beloved Mendocino County artists such as Lorenzo Latimer, Grace Hudson, and Mark Walker will be on display. In addition, nature inspired weaving, quilting, woodworking, and leatherworking will be exhibited.

To celebrate the new exhibit opening, the museum will offer free admission on Saturday, November 9. Visitors will be invited to participate in a free nature-inspired art craft from 1 to 3 pm in the museum's new Interactive Room.

"Natural Expressions: Art Inspired by Mendocino County" will be showing at the

The rest of
McGuire | From Page 2

have been happening). It empowers the California Public Utilities Commission to develop desperately needed regulations to keep cell towers energized during extended power shutoffs.

In Sonoma County, during this week's Kincade Fire and public safety power shutoff, as of Monday, 118 cell towers were down. Many evacuated residents from Sonoma County found themselves in Marin County for shelter, where another 160 cell sites were down. Hundreds of more sites were down across California, which puts lives at risk.

This year, Senator McGuire previously passed two laws to streamline communication and notification during outages and public power shutoffs.

SB 670 is a desperately needed step to mitigate the risks during times of phone outages by requiring telecommunications providers to report 911 service outages or outages affecting emergency alert and warning technologies to the California Office of Emergency Services in real time.

SB 560 requires that police, fire, sheriff departments, health care facilities and telecommunication providers receive prior notification of de-energizing events when their facilities will be impacted by a planned power shutdown to help ensure the health and well-being of all Californians. Communities have unfortunately experienced the lack of communication and notification from PG&E, and making it a requirement is the next step in ensuring proper notification is received.



Oktoberfest Dinner
American Legion Post 174 in Willits serves up
German comfort food at annual fall fundraiser

The scene at the American Legion Post 174's annual Oktoberfest dinner, on Saturday, October 19, was reminiscent of a ship's mess hall, with the intimate low-ceilinging room adding to the military motif of the occasion.

The American Legion is a club, for which the requirement for entry is years of service to the country, sometimes even more. It is a fellowship of obligation fulfilled. Each of the members have given back to their nation in order to protect our freedoms and our rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

They have given more than their time. There is a part of them that has never left the battlefields, with memories of friends lost in the horrors of war, lost innocence, and possible physical problems that they will carry for the remainder of their lives.

It is not all loss, though. They have gained discipline, pride of knowing that they have helped secure the freedoms of a great county, and fellowship. They proudly display the caps and other motifs of the places and ships where they served, and they are of a "veteran family" that understands their sacrifices.

The menu of the evening seemed as authentic as the veterans themselves. They showed as much gratitude for the attendees as did the diners for the well-cooked feast, always greeting everyone with warmth. The food was Oktoberfest German retro: The main entry was Schweinebraten, a marinated pork loin. Rotkohl (German sweet red cabbage Kartoffeln mit Petersilie (potatoes with parsley), Grune Bohnen (green beans), Desert (cupcakes and ice cream), and Apfelwein (apple cider) rounded off the rest of the meal, lovingly prepared by the veterans themselves.

The funds raised from the dinner help pay for local American Legion programs, including several scholarships for Willits High School seniors. Post 174 also sponsors an oratorical contest, the subject of which is decided upon by the veterans. There is also Boys and Girls State in Sacramento, where the veterans send young high school students to learn about the workings of the government.



Above: Veteran George Frochl talks about next year's Mac McClellan Memorial Model Sailboat Regatta.

Above, right: Roger Ham, American Legion Post 174 adjutant, guards the desserts.



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Above, left: The American Legion's annual Oktoberfest is an event for friends and family to get together over a good German meal. Above, right: John Frankum dishes out the Schweinebraten, roasted pork shoulder. Below, from left: Larry Cole, John Frankum, Curtis DeShiell are ready to serve the Oktoberfest dinner. Charlotte Ream and Alexandra Titus offer cupcakes to the attendees for dessert. Frank Deuel mans the apple juice station.



Below: A plate of warm and filling German comfort food served at the Oktoberfest dinner.



Photos by Mathew Caine

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Breast Cancer Q&A

with Adventist Health's Dr. Lance Ludington

Submitted by Adventist Health Northern California Region

Adventist Health's Dr. Lance Ludington has over 30 years of surgical experience, performing a wide range of procedures, including breast cancer surgeries. Not every general surgeon takes such an interest in women's health, but Dr. Ludington was inspired when his family was personally touched by breast cancer, as during his early medical education his mother was diagnosed with breast cancer.

Dr. Ludington recalled his feelings at the time: "I remember being fearful of what she would have to go through and wondered if she would live long enough for me to graduate from medical school. She was in her early 60s at the time she was diagnosed. She was fortunate to have a wonderful surgeon who believed in breast conservation (lumpectomy)." After a successful treatment his mother lived a long and full life, passing at the age of 94.

With Dr. Ludington's personal history, education and vast experience caring for women, we thought he would be the perfect person to sit down with to learn more about what a breast cancer diagnosis looks like today.

Q: Is it possible to keep the integrity of the breast after a breast cancer diagnosis?

A: Yes! There has been so much progress in breast cancer treatments that a mastectomy is performed only if absolutely necessary. My approach is to keep the integrity while still removing the cancer. The goal is to remove the cancer with a surrounding rim of normal (noncancerous) tissue. This rim does not need to be a large amount of tissue, but it has to be clear of cancer. This gives the patient the best chance of success. Taking additional normal tissue does not improve the outcome. The next goal is to leave the remaining breast in a way that it can heal and retain its normal size and shape. Leaving a woman feeling as close to normal as possible while also giving her the best chance of cure is what modern breast surgical techniques are about.

Q: Do you find that these techniques leave women feeling more confident after surgery?

A: Yes. Certainly, when women can wear their usual clothes and feel good in them, that can give them confidence. It is not unusual after breast conserving treatment that it becomes difficult to tell which breast was treated even without clothing. I hear this often from women when they go in for their mammograms.

Q: How does early detection impact patient success?

A: The most important factor is diagnosing a breast cancer as early as possible, when it is still small in relation to the size of the breast. This allows for the greatest chance of cure and excellent cosmetic outcomes. 3-D mammography is able to find breast cancers at an earlier stage (smaller) and see more detail in dense breasts than standard mammography. Finding of breast cancer at an earlier stage (smaller size) improves overall survival after breast cancer treatment and will have the best chance of leaving a woman feeling less of a change going through treatment.

Q: Is there anything you would like to share with your patients?

A: Breast cancer treatment is rapidly evolving and the science behind this is very exciting. There is so much information that it can be overwhelming for women when they are diagnosed and making decisions that will impact them for the rest of their lives. Fear is a common dominant emotion when a woman hears the word breast cancer. Fear can often drive people to make decisions they later regret (such as undergoing mastectomy). I feel being a breast surgeon it is my responsibility to help women with their fear by understanding what they are facing and the choices they have for treatment. In most cases of breast cancer there is no difference in cure or overall survival whether a woman chooses to undergo a mastectomy or breast conservation (lumpectomy). I believe knowledge is power. I find women develop confidence as they gain knowledge of their disease and treatment plan.

Dr. Ludington performs these procedures at Adventist Health Howard Memorial and Adventist Health Ukiah Valley. If you are interested in learning more about your options, we encourage you to ask your primary care provider or oncologist for a referral.

To schedule your annual mammogram, call 456-3090.

Adventist Health is a faith-based, nonprofit integrated health system serving more than 75 communities in California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington. Our workforce of 32,900 includes more than 23,600 employees; nearly 5,000 medical staff physicians; and 4,350 volunteers. Founded on Seventh-day Adventist heritage and values, Adventist Health provides compassionate care in 20 hospitals, more than 260 clinics (hospital-based, rural health and physician clinics), 15 home care agencies, seven hospice agencies, and four joint-venture retirement centers. In addition, the Adventist Health Plan serves patients in Kings County. Visit AdventistHealth.org for more information.

The rest of
Fires | *From Page 1*

As of its October 31 evening report, CalFire reports the Burris Fire is at 93 percent containment, and has burned 703 acres, with no structures destroyed and no injuries. The cause of that fire is still under investigation. Fire personnel working on that fire ranged from 229 as of the first incident report, up to 1,008 as of the October 28 evening update, and back down to 169 personnel as of Halloween evening.

The Willits area had several fires, including the East Fire starting around 3 pm on Monday, October 28, that burned a residence down at Eastside Road and Mitomkai Way in the Willits valley. Many Willits area residents watched this fire proceed, as smoke billowed up high, and planes and choppers circled around to fight the fire.

A full wildlands fire response was ordered.

"This was a fully involved structure fire," said Little Lake Training Chief Eric Alvarez, "with active spotting, into the vegetation. We had two of our Type 3 engines, one of our Type 1 engines, our water tender, then as the fire grew, we had aircraft support, two of the little CalFire S-2 planes, two choppers, a dozer, then more resources came in." These ground resources included a task force, made up of members of various fire departments from around the county, standing by to cover any area, as well as some of the Oregon firefighters.

"We had a lot of resources on that fire," Alvarez said.

Mendocino County Sheriff's Office issued an evacuation warning for the immediate area of the fire, but that was cancelled at 5:11 pm. "All residents are OK to return to their homes," the update read. "Please use caution as some roads in the area remain closed."

That wasn't the only fire that broke out in the Willits area on Monday, October 28. Little Lake was called out for a structure fire on the 3300 block of Black Hawk Drive south of Willits, at 3:14 am Monday morning, that was also "fully involved into vegetation," Training Chief Alvarez said. "We had a type 1 engine, a type 2 engine, assistance from Brooktrails and CalFire, and also a Little Lake water tender," he said.

After that fire – reportedly started by a candle – was looking good, Little Lake and Brooktrails still had two engines remaining, with all the equipment left on "in case something else broke out," Alvarez said.

And then another call did come in at 4:54 am, for a structure fire in the Wagon Wheel Mobile Home Park. "The two available engines from Black Hawk responded to the Wagon Wheel incident, with additional Ridgewood Fire folks – we called them in," Alvarez said. "This was actually a structure fire; the trailer went up, but it also torched off trees, and got into the vegetation. "Luckily, the story with

The rest of
Outtage | *From Page 1*

told us was inaccurate."

CEO Angelo's posts on the Mendocino County Executive Office Facebook page were, nonetheless, one of the best sources of information throughout the power outage.

But despite all the problems – including some local fires that multiple officials say would not have happened if the power had not been out – there was good news to report in Willits.

First, Brown's Corner stayed open to sell gas – even lowering their prices and despite a break-in and vandalism early in on in the shutdown that would've discouraged many. The lines were long – often up to two hours long – but Brown's Corner was a lifeline to local residents anxious for fuel for their vehicles or their generators.

After a few days of long lines at Brown's, Phil Roland and a friend from their new business, Cake and Glazed, showed up with a coffee and donut cart, to offer solace and caffeine to those waiting.

When Brown's Corner put out the call for help directing traffic and the gas lines, Sparetime Supply promptly sent somebody over to help out.

Mariposa Market was ready for the five-day blackout, with plenty of generator power keeping the store's lights on and freezers and coolers working as usual. Bread deliveries would be "erratic," a sign on the bread section read, but although the store did run out of dairy at one point, a new delivery filled the shelves back up. Regular customers and new ones, too, waited in line at the Mariposa deli for fresh, hot and organic coffee.

Shopping at the Willits Safeway during the power shutdown was an almost surreal experience. The lights were very low – people were shopping with flashlights and the light from their cell phones. The meat, fish and dairy sections were completely empty, as the perishable foods had been pulled at the start of the power shutdown. But there was plenty of produce, and all kinds of other less-perishable food available.

Also, remarkably, the store was filled with the sound of laughter, as people found the humor in the situation, and also "thanks for being open!" comments directed to the employees, some of them wearing head lamps as they worked.

Adventist Health Howard Memorial kept providing care to the community, too, on backup generator power. Although elective surgeries were cancelled, the Emergency Department, inpatient units, Med/Surg, Intensive Care and the Redwood Medical Clinic were open, and Howard Pharmacy was open for refills and prescriptions ordered through the Howard ER, although there was sometimes a wait, due to the need to use paper forms.

Howard Memorial's Roots Restaurant stayed open to the

that, we were fighting the Black Hawk Fire, and we needed more water, so we sent our water tender down to get more water, and they were able to divert to the Wagon Wheel, to fight that fire."

The trailer was lost, but firefighters were able to keep the fire from taking out other homes, or growing into the field behind the park.

"Three structure fires in one day," Alvarez mused. "Maybe it's happened before.... But usually you might have one, and maybe a second one, that usually turns out to be a 'not as reported' type deal."

There was a fourth, small fire on Tuesday, October 29, at Shell Lane at 1:04 pm. "That was a 50 by 60 spot fire," Alvarez said. "We contained that pretty quick. It was burning when we got there, but it wasn't spreading or going anywhere." Alvarez said it looked like a transient had started that fire, "as there were some clothes in the area."

Throughout the whole power shutoff, Alvarez said, Little Lake Fire was busy with various "assistance" calls – "helping people with generators, and smoke alarms going off" – that turned out to be "non-alarms," Alvarez said.

Little Lake Fire Chief Chris Wilkes (taking a day out of the office on Thursday) praised the response of local firefighters on Facebook.

"I would like to take this time to thank our amazing volunteers which includes Ridgewood Ranch, our mutual aid partners (Brooktrails and CalFire) for their amazing response to multiple fully involved structure fires last night," Chief Wilkes posted. "We also had Ukiah Valley Fire Authority send their air unit up to put our breathing air back in business. I wish I could do more to show my appreciation because you guys are deserving of something special. All of you are the very best!!!"

Wilkes also gave a shout out to a couple of local businesses "that became true partners with emergency services during our local PSPS event. Mendocino Construction and Northern Aggregates are heroes of the fire department for their service!!!," he posted. "Thank you very much from the Little Lake Fire Protection District and all of our community who benefited from your assistance."

Alvarez, too, praised the robust response of local volunteer firefighters during the power shutoff. "We had every engine that went up to these fires fully staffed; we had a lot of help from firefighters on every call," he said.

Regarding the power shutoffs in general, Alvarez said: "I guess this is a first for everybody. I know there were some cold nights, and lot of groceries that got thrown away. It was an eye opener for the public. If this is 'the new normal,' I know I gotta be more prepared on my end at home, too."

public for much of the power shutdown, too. serving their delicious, affordable and healthy hot meals to hundreds more people than usual – including many John Ford Beef hamburgers.

Other restaurants open at various times during the power shutoff included the Taco Ramirez taco truck, Pizza to Go, and the Dogg House. J.D. Redhouse stayed open limited hours for those needing pet food – and Kemmy's Pies, new toys, and other goodies.

The City of Willits opened the Community Center as a device re-charging and socialization station, with board games set up on tables. "We don't have heat," a post on the city's Facebook page read, but the Community Center was warm during the day with incoming sun and body heat.

One woman charging her cell phone told a story about how she'd just bought some D batteries, gotten home and realized she needed Cs. So she went back to Willits Power and got the last set of Cs. Another customer inquired at the counter whether there were any D batteries left. "Not in Willits," came the reply. "So I told him I had D batteries for him, and he followed me home, and insisted on giving me \$20," she said.

The Willits Senior Center checked on vulnerable seniors, delivered carne asada burritos and puddings free of charge to every senior complex in Willits on Tuesday, and announced on Wednesday that it would be serving up free hot food – drive-through or walk-up – to those of any age who wanted a meal outside the main office.

One community-minded resident told Willits Weekly he went door to door at the Little Lake Grange Mobile Park, just checking that the senior residents were all OK and had everything they needed. They did – as residents had already organized any help their neighbors required.

Grocery Outlet was not able to stay open, but on October 29, announced on Facebook they'd be offering free hot dogs, fruit and water "if you or anyone you know is hungry or just looking for something to do!" Grocery Outlet handed out around 1,400 hot dogs that day.

School was out all week, of course, and families with young kids made full use of the City Park, the Skate Park, the Rec Grove and other outdoors play areas. Many kids were visible just playing in their front yards. There were more walkers and strollers on the city sidewalks than usual, too.

Willits was also lucky that the stoplights kept working most of the time – the lights have battery backups that keep the power going for 48 hours, and then can switch to generator power. "Thanks to the Caltrans workers who made sure that our traffic lights were working," the City of Willits posted in their thank you posted after the power came back on.

Family Practice

inspired to keep your entire family healthy this flu season.



It's no secret that the flu season can hit children and our elderly community members the hardest. Getting flu vaccines for the entire family can protect the ones you love the most. Our expert team of providers are ready to serve your family this winter. We are accepting new and existing patients for sick visits, flu shots and other health concerns.

In addition to the flu vaccine, we also recommend the following.

- Wash your hands with soap and water several times throughout the day.
- Get 7-8 hours of sleep each night.
- Stay hydrated.
- Eat a well-rounded diet, full of immune-boosting foods

Howard Pharmacy is welcoming walk-ins for the flu vaccine this season.

3 Marcela Drive, Suite B, Willits

To schedule a sick visit, wellness visit or flu vaccination for your family call 833-AH-Wellness (833-249-3556)

Adventist Health
Howard Memorial

Friday, November 1

Willits High School Football: Willits vs. Fort Bragg. JV 5:30 pm (JV Coach Matt Moratti), varsity 7 pm (Varsity Coach Brandon Norbury). Willits High School's Maize Field, 299 North Main Street.

Willits Friday Night Live: Wildfire Dancers perform, Friday, November 1, 6:30 pm, at this weekly event, set from 5 to 8 pm at the Evergreen Shopping Center, 1722 South Main Street. Vendors, food and entertainment. Pizza by the slice, Margaritas. Free vendor spots – come set up at 4:30 pm and sell your goods.

“Monster Mash Costume Party”: at the Library Commons, 23925 Howard Street, Covelo, Friday, November 1, 8 pm. “Come as you aren’t!” Live music by Blue Luke & the Yolla Bolly Band. Benefits KYBU 96.9 FM and Friends of the Round Valley Public Library.

Shanachie Pub: Mamadou Sidibe & Robert Usher: “Master kamale ngoni player, Mamadou Sidibe is from the Wassoulou Region of Mali, West Africa.” Saturday, November 1, 9 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.



Mamadou Sidibe.

Saturday, November 2

Willits Photo Club Annual Photo Show: The opening party for the Willits Photo Club's annual photography show “featuring premier photography by local camera and software wizards.” Appetizers, wine and beer available for donations. “The public is welcome to this amazing and must-see photography event.” Saturday, November 2, 6 to 8 pm, Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Exhibits are open Wednesday to Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm.

Shanachie Pub: Danny Minch & Friends: An early evening comedy show by Fresno comedian Danny Minch, now touring across the country, will get the night rolling with laughter! Saturday, November 2, 6 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

Shanachie Pub: The Fixins, “Bay Area-based Americana jam band that plays an original and eclectic mix of folk, funk, roots, and blues.” Saturday, November 2, 9 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

Sunday, November 3

Ecstatic Dance: Special guest, Gabriel Francisco. Sunday, November 3, 10 am: Dance is Life workshop with Gabriel. 11 am: Ecstatic Dance with Gabriel. 1 pm: Sound Healing Closing. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Hosted by Chantal Shanti-belle.

Tuesday, November 5

Tightwad Tuesdays: Select films in their 2nd or subsequent weeks are discounted to \$6 on

Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre for all ages, all showings. This week's Tightwad Tuesday movie is “Maleficent: Mistress of Evil.” Visit www.noyotheatre.com, call 459-6696 or check the ad in Willits Weekly for show times. 57 East Commercial Street.

“Winter Wellness: Boost Your Immune System”: The Avenues to Wellness speaker series features local acupuncturist Michelle J. Cummins, L.Ac., this month. Cummins will “share dietary guidelines, exercises, acupressure points and more to boost your immune system as we dive into the depths of winter.” Tuesday, November 5, 5:30 to 6:30 pm, Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Free, donations appreciated! Info: www.avenuestowellness.org, email atwforhealth@gmail.com or 456-9676.

Wednesday, November 6

“Being & Staying Inspired in Our Businesses”: The monthly meeting of the North County Women In Business group is set for Wednesday, November 6, 8:15 to 9:15 am, at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Bring your cards, announcements and energy! This month's special presentation will be by Doris Wier, certified Organization and Relationship System coach (www.embraceconflicts.com) on the subject of “Being and Staying Inspired in Our Businesses.”

Thursday, November 7

Willits Farmers Market: Market moves indoors this week, to the Little Lake Grange, 271 School Street. Thursday, November 7, 3 to 5:30 pm. The last of the summer veggies, fresh salad greens, local meats, sausage and eggs, local grains, savory and sweet baked goods, including handcrafted bread. More: gift items, 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, free herb talks, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

Willits Community Bike Ride: Thursday, November 7, at 4 pm. Meet at Rec Grove Park for a 5 to 8 mile ride. Bring bright colors, helmets and water. Family-friendly event. Info: 707-467-3217 or sburgal@ncoinc.org.

“Twelfth Night”: Willits Community Theatre presents William Shakespeare's comedy about love and mistaken identity. Opening night Thursday, November 7 (delayed from last weekend).

What’s Happening Around Town

Opening night is a benefit for the Willits PEO (Philanthropic Educational Organization). Tickets are \$20 and include appetizers and desserts. Call Kay Wright, 456-1094 for tickets (also available at the door). As adapted by director Billy Hetherington, the play is shifted to America in the 1920s, and staged at Mr. Duke's, a faded nightclub featuring a house band with musical director Craig Mountain. 7:30 pm, Willits High School, 299 Main Street. Plays Thursdays at 7:30 pm, \$15; Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm, \$20; and Sundays, November 9 and 20 at 2 pm, \$15. Tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com or 1-800-838-3006.

Friday, November 8

Senior Center Baked Potato Bar: The Harrah Senior Center presents a Baked Potato Bar: Friday, November 8, from 5:30 to 7 pm, 1501 Baechtel Road. \$10; \$9 members; \$5 kids under 10. Enjoy

a giant baked potato with all the fixins' of your choice. Proceeds to benefit the Senior Center Outreach Program. Senior Center will also announce all the winners of its big FUNDing Raffle. And a Potato Decorating Contest: “Whoever decorates the best potatoes wins a free ticket to the fundraiser” – early entries accepted. Info: 459-6826.

“Paris to Pittsburgh”: This climate film shows how Americans are demanding and developing real solutions in the face of climate change. Friday, November 8, 6:30 pm. The Book Room, 200 Branscomb Road, Laytonville.

Mushroom Art Exhibit & Auction: Enjoy a mushroom-themed exhibit as part of Mushroom Mania in Willits. October 8 and 10 (also including the Skunk Train's Mushroom Train) and get a chance to bring home a one-of-a-kind piece from a local artist. Wine reception with delicious appetizers. A benefit for the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Friday, November 8, 7 to 9 pm.

“Twelfth Night”: Friday, November 8, 7:30 pm. See November 7 listing for details.

Shanachie Pub: Partial Cell and The Syllables, “Partial Cell is dedicated to keeping rock music relevant in the 21st century. The Syllables are a multi-instrumentalist polymorphous

genre-fluid folk-punk-disco war-machine.” Friday, November 8, 9 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

Saturday, November 9

“Natural Expressions”: This exhibit of art inspired by Mendocino County's natural beauty is opening Saturday, November 9 (delayed due to the power shutoff), 12 to 4 pm, Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street. From the museum's permanent collection, the exhibit features arts and crafts showcasing the beauty and diversity of Mendocino County's landscapes and resources. Includes paintings, fiber art, and various crafts made from Mendocino County's rich natural resources such as mushrooms, driftwood, shells, redwood, and leather. On exhibit through March 15. Free admission on opening day, November 9. Museum is open Wednesday to Friday, 10 am to 5 pm, Saturday and Sunday, 12 to 4 pm. Info: www.mendocinocounty.org/museum, 459-2736.

“Afternoon Crafting”: As part of the “Natural Expressions” exhibit, Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street, presents a free workshop on “Jeweled Acorn Caps,” on Saturday, November 9, 1 to 3 pm. “Join us for this afternoon crafting program celebrating the natural beauty of Mendocino

County. Guests are invited to take a brief walk to gather acorn caps, which will then be used to create acorn jewels. While supplies last; all decorative materials will be provided.”

“An Autumn Evening in Willits”: Food, friends and music, a fundraiser for the Cancer Resource Centers, “a local, grassroots nonprofit that provides information, advocacy and support to cancer patients in our county, free of charge.” Saturday, November 9, 6 to 9 pm, at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Folksy trio Just Enough will bring smooth harmonies and acoustic guitars. \$40, includes dinner catered by the Good Earth

Kitchen, featuring rosemary roasted chicken, autumn salad with sweet potatoes, wild rice, apples and kale, and butternut lasagna with mushrooms and sage, plus dessert and beverages. Tickets available at Cat's Meow, 29 South Main Street, or call 707-937-3833 or visit <https://cromendocino.org> for more info or reservations. Tickets for just the music (after 7 pm) are \$10.

Shanachie Pub: Raveis Kole Music, a guitar / songwriter duo out of Bellingham, Washington playing eclectic Americana folk, featuring Laure Raveis and Dennis Kole. Saturday, November 9, 9 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

Sunday, November 10

Mushroom Train: “Journey deep into the redwoods aboard the Skunk Train, while enjoying a mushroom quiche from Kemmy's Pies with a glass of local bubbly.” Easter egg-style mushroom hunt. Kid and pet-friendly. Tickets: www.skunktrain.com / mushroom-train, 707-964-6371. Sunday, November 10, 10 am to 1 pm. \$69 – ask for the special “locals” price.

Elder Talk 2019: The popular Elder Talk series returns Sunday, November 10, 2 to 4 pm, at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, with reminiscences about the Willits School, the former incarnation of the Grange building. Margie Handley, Chuck Persico and Lee Persico, former Willits School students, will lead the panel. “If you went to the Willits School, we would love to hear from you! Private interviews for Willits TV will be made as well. Call Annie at 459-6362 or Rachel at 841-1256 to RSVP for an interview.”

LocalLights:OpenMic++ presents The Back Porch Project: “Hailing from Ukiah and rising up on the indie folk scene, The Back Porch Project combines a variety of musical styles. Their unique sound features a sweet blend of vocal harmonies as well as tasteful instrumentation.” Sunday, November 10, 5 pm, Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Some open mic slots before and after the featured group: To sign up in advance contact 459-7054 or locallights@theSighting.com

‘Twelfth Night’: Sunday, November 10, 2 pm. See November 7 listing for details.



Mendocino County Museum



The Back Porch Project



Just Enough, featuring from left: Kate Black, Clancy Rash, and Helen Falandes.

Winter Wellness: Boost Your Immune System
Tuesday, Nov. 5, 5:30-6:30 PM
Michelle J. Cummins, L.Ac.

Traditional Chinese Medicine views the human system as a microcosm of the universe. In this role, local acupuncturist Michelle Cummins will explore this theory and how our inner physical, emotional, mental and spiritual landscape is affected by our natural environment. As fall moves into winter, cold and damp conditions dominate our environment. Join Michelle as she shares dietary guidelines, exercises, acupressure points and more to boost your immune system as we dive into the depths of winter.

Call 456-9676 for more information.
Email: atwforhealth@gmail.com
Visit: avenuestowellness.org

WILLITS Center for the Arts
71 E Commercial St.
FREE to the public.
Donations appreciated!
Wheelchair accessible.

LocalLights:OpenMic++ presents:

The Back Porch Project

Where: Willits Center for the Arts
When: Sunday, Nov 10 at 5:00 pm

Suggested donation: \$5 – Open to all ages
To sign up for open mic, contact us at
locallights@theSighting.com or call (707) 459-7054

THE BOYS WHO SAID NO!
Draft Resistance & the Vietnam War

www.BoysWhoSaidNo.com

Avenues to Wellness: ‘Winter Wellness’

November 5

Avenues to Wellness presents its monthly speaker series, Tuesday, November 5, “Winter Wellness: Boost Your Immune System,” featuring local acupuncturist Michelle J. Cummins, L.Ac., who will “share dietary guidelines, exercises, acupressure points and more to boost your immune system as we dive into the depths of winter.” 5:30 to 6:30 pm at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. No charge, but donations appreciated! For more info, visit www.avenuestowellness.org, email atwforhealth@gmail.com or call 456-9676.

Veterans Day Breakfast

November 11

Willits American Legion Post 174's annual Veterans Day Breakfast, Monday, November 11, 8 to 11 am, Veterans Memorial Building, 191 North Main Street. Free to all veterans, military and emergency response personnel, firefighters, law enforcement officers, Boy & Girl Scouts.

‘The Boys Who Said NO! Draft Resistance and the Vietnam War’

November 21

The Now and Then Film Series at the Grange presents: “The Boys Who Said NO! Draft Resistance and the Vietnam War,” Thursday, November 21, 6:30 for trailers and shorts prior to the feature at 7 pm. “The Boys Who Said NO!” is the little-known story of a small group of courageous citizens who rose up and took decisive action when they saw their government doing terrible wrong. Draft resisters refused military service to bring attention to their cause. Millions of Americans protested in the streets, and the war was ended.” Donations of \$5 to \$20 or more to support the Grange. Serving organic popcorn with real organic butter, and fair trade chocolate.

Send us your calendar items for events in Willits, Laytonville or Covelo by emailing us!
Monday deadline for Thursday publication!
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Ongoing Events

Friday Night Live: Vendors, food and entertainment. 1722 South Main Street (Evergreen Shopping Center). Starts at 5 to 8 pm.

Linda Posner's “Word Buffet”: KLLG-LP, 97.9, “Poems and Sayings to Start Your Day.” Sunday, 10 to 10:30 am.

Flowers and Sleepwalkers: Local artist Margaret Pirouette's latest show, “Flowers & Sleepwalkers” in oils and watercolors at Brichouse Coffee, 3 South Main Street.

Meatless Mondays: at Roots Restaurant at Adventist Health Howard Memorial, 1 Marcela Drive. “Serving delicious plant-based options every Monday.” 7 am to 5 pm.

Collective Care: A Holistic Support Group: Fridays, 10 to 11:15 am. 44650 Highway 101, Laytonville. Holistic community support and information. Children welcome. By donation. www.ninesistersbotanicals.com.

Eight to the Bar with Les Tarr: Radio active blues programming for tragically hip and twisted. Fridays, 9 pm to midnight. 97.9 FM, KLLG.

Willits International Folk Dancing: Class meets every Thursday, 7 to 8 pm, Willits Charter High School. New dances taught 7 to 8 pm. \$0 - \$5 sliding scale. Info: registrar1989@yahoo.com.

Willits Frontier Twirlers Square Dance Club: Mondays, 7 pm, upstairs gallery of the Willits Center for Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Sliding scale \$0 to \$5/class. 707-484-3385 for info.

Little John's Place: Every Thursday Pool Tournament, 6 pm, \$5 buy-in. “We'll buy the pizza, you buy the beer.” 383 South Main Street. 459-5636. facebook.com/littlejohnsplace/

Free Herb Talks: by the Mendocino Herb Guild. Every Thursday, 4 pm, at the Willits Farmers Market, indoors for the winter at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street.

Roots Engine House Tours: Docent-led tour of the Engine House most Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10 am to 4:30 pm. Join a Roots of Motive Power docent to view classic motorcars, a steam train engine, and more – up close.

Marijuana Anonymous 12 Step Meeting: Every Tuesday at 6 pm. Meeting place is the Back Alley building in Catherine Lane, directly behind the United Methodist Church, which is at the corner of School and Pine, right across from the Grange.

Brown Bag Lunch Program: Lunch served to the hungry in the City Park across from the Willits Police Station every Saturday at 1 pm, served by various community-minded organizations. For information, call the Food Bank at 459-3333.

Boomer's Friday Night Karaoke: 1st, 3rd & 5th Friday of every month. Boomer's Saloon, 45520 Highway 101, Laytonville. 9 pm to 1 am. No Cover. 21+ Please bring I.D. Hosted by DJ-Ken Steely Entertainment with KJ/DJ-Ken Steely & Anna. Come for dinner, stay for the fun.

Willits Farmers Market: Winter Market starts at the Little Lake Grange, 271 School Street, from 3 to 5:30 pm, on Thursday, November 7. The last of the summer veggies, fresh salad greens, local meats, sausage and eggs, local grains, savory and sweet baked goods, including handcrafted bread. More: gift items, 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, free herb talks, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

Emandal Choral: The Choral is open to all who wish to sing a cappella songs of peace and justice. Every Wednesday from 5 to 6:30 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Info: 367-1573.

Friday Potluck Bingo: Harrah Senior Center presents Potluck Bingo on Friday nights. Doors open at 5 pm; games begin at 5:30 pm. Minimum bingo buy-in \$5. 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-6826.

Weekly Parkinson's Discussion and Support Group: Every Thursday, 10:30 to 11:45 am. In the Conference Room at Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-1941.

Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Group: Meets every Tuesday at 6:30 pm, at the Muse, 31 East San Francisco Avenue. Info: 456-9425 or honemaman@yahoo.com.

Willits Community Drum Circle: 7 to 10 pm at the Saint Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church, 66 East Commercial Street. Every 2nd and 4th Friday. Free. Everyone is welcome. Info: 459-4932.

Willits Library Activities: Wednesdays: 3:30 to 4:30 pm “Lego Club” (bring your imagination and start building); 11 to 11:45 am “Play Group” (Self-directed playtime, with toys, ages 0 to 4); 2:30 to 3 pm “Storytime” (Books, songs, rhymes and movement, ages 3 to 6); 5 to 6:30 pm “Stamp Club” (Bring your collection); Thursdays: 11:00 to 11:30 am “Wiggle Time” (Explore movement and self-expression. Ages 4 to 7); 2:30 to 3:30 pm “Storytime and More” (with coloring and board games); Fridays: 3:30 to 4:30 pm “Therapeutic Coloring” (Bring a friend and relax with a coloring book); 5:30 to 5:50 pm “Calming Stretches”; Saturdays, 11 am to 12 pm “Write Live” (We provide a prompt and a space to create writing); 2:30 to 4:30 pm “Drop-In Knitting” All skill levels. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-5908.

Willits Seed Lending Library: Offering information on seed saving and gardening. Seeds of flowers, herbs, and vegetables are free to seed library members, and seed donations are gladly accepted.

Drop-In Knitting Circle: Saturdays from 2:30 to 4:30 pm at the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street. “Bring your own projects or your yarn and needles; we have people who should be able to help solve problems and/or help you learn new techniques. Sign-ups are not necessary – everyone is welcome to drop in.” Info: Lotus Baker at 456-9037, or lotusb3@earthlink.net.

Soroptimist International of Willits: Women's service club aimed at the betterment of girls and women. Meets the second Tuesday at 4 pm and the third Tuesday at noon each month at St John's Lutheran Church Hall, 24 Mill Creek Drive. Women interested in community service are welcome; new members are encouraged to join at any time.

Weekly Life Changes Discussion and Support Group: Wednesdays from 10 to 11:30 am. In the Conference Room at Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road.

Smoking Cessation Program: Free “Freedom from Smoking” class sponsored by Adventist Health Howard Memorial. Every Wednesday at AHIM's Roots Restaurant, 1 Marcela Drive, 6 to 7 pm. Register today: 540-4208. Walk-ins are always welcome.

Free Sheriff's Activity League programs: at Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street. Teen gym: Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 3 to 5 pm. Karate: Thursday, Little Dragons-ages 3 to 6, 5:15 to 6 pm; Youth Karate-ages 6 to 11, 6 to 7 pm; Teens to Adults-ages 11 and up, 7 to 8:30 pm. All SAL programs free to the public. Info: “Mendocino Sheriff's Activities League” on Facebook or Mike Tobin: 354-0565.

Shanachie Pub: Mondays, 7 pm. “Monday Blues & Beyond” with Blue Luke & Special Guests. Tuesdays, 8 pm. “Wabi Sabi” with host Mitchell Holman, formerly of It's A Beautiful Day (“Whitebird”) features different artists every week. Singer-songwriter Aaron Ford gives first Thursday at 7:30 pm. No cover. Jazz Night every second and fourth Thursday, 8 pm. “Local musicians ... take jazz standards and infuse them with funk, hip hop, world, and free form jamming. The outcome is unexplainable.” Open Mic Night every Wednesday. Sign up for the lottery for 20 minute time slots from 3 pm, when the Pub opens, to 7:30 pm. Music starts at 8 pm. “An eclectic array of local musicians and performers from around the world, often turning into an evening full of unexpected surprises.” Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Laytonville Farmers Market: Mondays, from 2:30 to 5:30 pm at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willits Avenue, Laytonville. Local fresh fruits and vegetables, artisan goat cheeses, ranch meats, eggs, handcrafted clothing, live music and much more.

SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

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Amazing Grace Assembly of God Church
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Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Pastor, Bill Nobles
Information: 456-9668
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Celebrating Life In Christ
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Coffee Fellowship - 10:30 a.m.
Worship Service &
Children's Church - 11 a.m.
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Willits, CA 95490
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St. John Lutheran Church
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707-459-5714
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Worship Service - 10:45 a.m.
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Worship Celebration
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Children's Sunday School - 10:45 a.m.
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Above: FOWL Secretary Olga O'Neill displays some of the many selections at the Friends of the Willits Library Fall Book Sale. Above, right: Cora Luna finds a book she wants to take home. Below: Janey Mitchell, FOWL board member, arranges some of the selections. At bottom, left: Jackie Luna checks out the hardback books while her kiddos, Cora and Elias, look through the kids' section. Below, right, top: Melinda Clarke, FOWL board member, helps with the sale. Below, right, bottom: Larger fiction paperbacks were on sale for \$1.50.



Stocking Up

Friends of the Willits Library fall sale offers books to cuddle up to this season

"I just love seeing good people that love books," said Janey Mitchell, Friends of the Willits Library board member and volunteer, at the Fall Book Sale. "There's nothing like holding a book in your hands."

Indeed, there is still something special about the feel, the smell, and the look of actual books, pages that can be turned, dog-eared and bookmarked.

FOWL holds multiple book sales every year to benefit the Willits Library, including the annual big sale at the Willits Community Center. This year's fall sale, October 18 to 20 at the library on East Commercial, brought out an intermittent stream of book lovers attending in order to find bargains on their favorite genres. Some came to discover new authors, recipes, or reference volumes, or any other of the myriad delights contained within the pages of the several hundred books on display.

There were bargains to be had. The hardbound



Read the rest of Books | Over on Page 11

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Dinner Catered by Good Earth Kitchen
Tickets: \$40 Dinner, Dessert & Music or \$10 Dessert & Music Only
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The rest of Books | From Page 10

and the large paperbacks were \$1.50 each, with special volume discounts. The regular paperbacks were only \$.75. Books were only \$5 a bag all day Sunday, and FOWL provided the sack – a sturdy canvas book bag with their logo. The bag was also available to purchase on its own for \$4 on Friday and Saturday. Very popular was the children's book section, with a steady stream of kids looking to discover a new literary or picture delight.

The Friends of the Willits Library work hard to raise money for the maintenance and improvement of the Willits Library. They would love for even more local residents to take advantage of all the opportunities offered at the Willits branch. Recently, they supplied the library with new furniture, including couches to enhance the library experience and to create a comfortable environment for enjoying the literary delights of the building.

FOWL Board Secretary Olga O'Neil said they are looking for Friends of the Library members, and more people to join the board. FOWL currently has 271 members who are dedicated to the continuation and promotion of this fine facility.

The Willits Library is not just a place to read. The building has become a community center where people can meet, discuss ideas, and pass information, as well as enjoy the many activities which the library staff provide to the public.

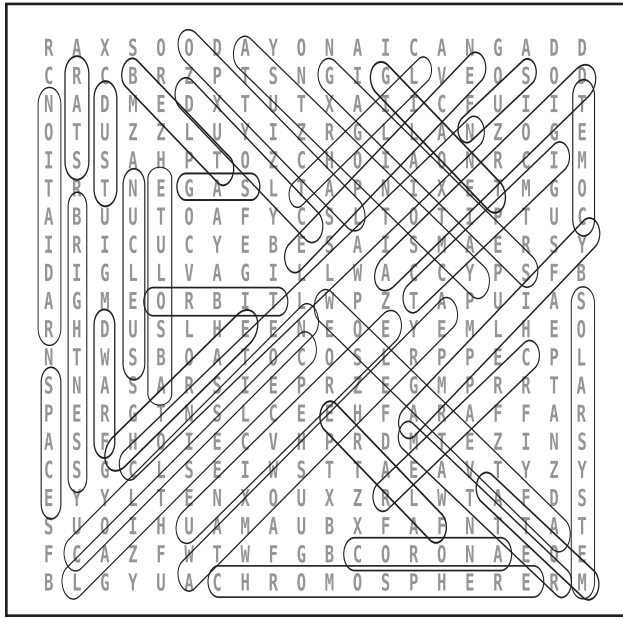
On Friday, October 25 at 6:30 pm, the library will offer its annual Halloween event, the Pumpkin Ball. "It's a carnival-type event with different activities for people to participate in," explained Nicole Bird, Willits librarian. This free event will include a costume contest, a "book-patch" where kids can get a free book, spooky crafts, and fun games like pumpkin bowling and a beanbag toss.

Visit www.mendolib.org to learn more about free activities scheduled at the library for kids and adults, or online resources available with your library card number, including eBooks and audiobooks, entertainment, and access to a wide library of informational resources.

Death Notice | Sylvia Isabell
Sylvia Isabell of Willits passed away on October 21, 2019 at the age of 83.
No services will be held.
Arrangements under the care and direction of Anker-Lucier Mortuary.

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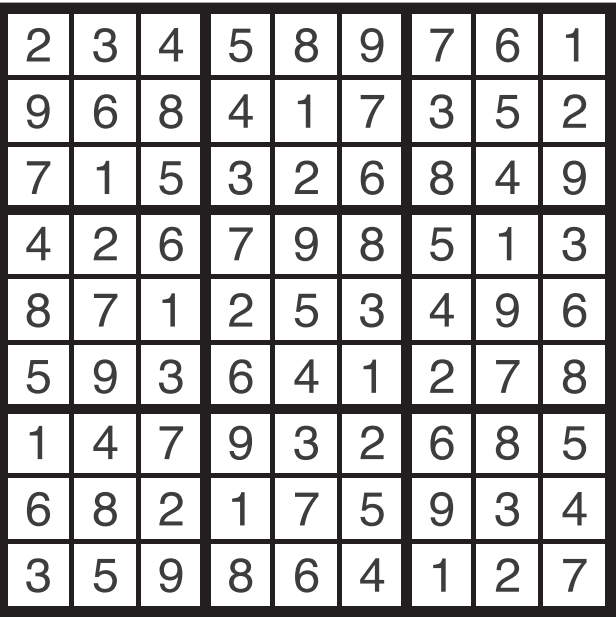


LEGAL NOTICES

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WW252
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2019-F0647
The following persons are doing business as MKBX Consulting, 431 Sherry Drive, Ukiah, CA 95482.
Registered owners: Mark and Danelle Fierro, 431 Sherry Drive, Ukiah, CA 95482.
This business is conducted by a married couple.
The registrants commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on August 16, 2019.
Statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on September 27, 2019.
/s/ Danelle Fierro
Publication dates: 10/17, 10/24, 10/31 and 11/7/2019

WW253
NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: BURLEIGH DON COOK, aka BURLEIGH D. COOK, aka BURLEIGH COOK
CASE NO. SCUJ-CV/PB-27276
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate or both of Burleigh D. Cook, aka Burleigh Cook:
A Petition for Probate has been filed by Sheri M. Cronin in the Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino.
The Petition for Probate requests that Sheri M. Cronin be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: Date: November 15, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept.: E of the Mendocino County Superior Court, located at 100 No. State Street, Ukiah, California 95482.
If you object to granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner: Jennifer M. O'Brien, NEARY and O'BRIEN, 110 S Main St., Ste. C, Willits, CA 95490, Telephone: (707) 459-5551.
Publication Dates: 10/24, 10/31, 11/07/2019

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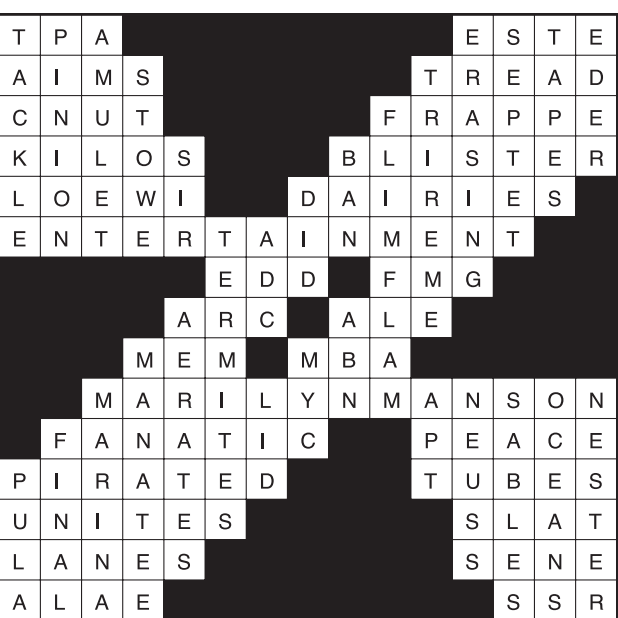
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Volunteer Opportunities
The Willits Senior Center has many areas where your expertise and talents are needed. Front Desk, Thrift Store, Dining Room, Sunday Bingo, Sunday Breakfast, Special Dinners, Landscaping, Garden, Firewood. Come join our team, call Deb at 707-459-6826.
Help for Veteran
Blind disabled Veteran needs help. Looking for volunteers to help set up yard sale and empty a storage shed. October 12th through 20th. Also October 25th through 31st. Maybe again later in November. Brenda 459-9335
Help Wanted
At Covelo ranch: Exchange ranch and outdoors work for rent. Must have trailer/camper. Man or woman, retiree a plus. Must have good work ethic, be clean, healthy, reliable, with references. Call for details: 707-272-6354.

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Costumed Critters

Mendo Mill holds annual costume contest

At top, from left: Winners of the annual Mendo Mill pet costume contest include: Brea, a shih tzu owned by Bernadette, was dressed as a ballerina. Teddy, another shih tzu, this one owned by Peggy, was dressed as Superman. This mixed-breed dog, Sitta, owned by Noelle, was dressed as a Spacetime Supply employee. Asher the cat, owned by Carol, was dressed as an angel. Above, left: Poofy, a bichon poodle owned by Sharon, was dressed as a witch. Mendo Mill's Desiree Penovaroff and Sharon Hull smile with Poofy during the store's annual pet costume contest.



Above: Friends and family of Greg Randrup were once again the winners of the oatmeal raisin cookies auctioned off at the FFA Alumni Fundraiser dinner, including, from left: Danya Davis, Jenn Randrup, Peggy Randrup, and Tyler Burke. In front, Ella and Alissa Randrup, holding the cookies.

Cookies for Jackets

True to tradition, Peggy Randrup was the winner of the "Greg Randrup's Oatmeal Cookies" auction item last Saturday at the Future Farmers of America Alumni dinner. With both grandkids, Ella and Alissa, bidding against each other for the final rounds, the Randrup family raised \$1,400, which was approved for use to purchase FFA jackets for members of the Willits FFA club.

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Above, left: The Grange kitchen was buzzing, even without electricity. Above: Pancakes on the grill, made possible by generator light. Darlene Bixler gives some goods a rinse in prep for the Blackout Breakfast.

The Blackout Breakfast

Little Lake Grange served 242 meals on the second day of the power shutdown

By Annie Waters, Little Lake Grange

I want to rave about how warmth of community was created, in the absence of power and light or heat

Let us use the word "resilience."

We fed 242 people at the monthly Grange Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, October 27, the day after PG&E took

the power down in Mendocino County, using less than 4000 W of electricity – gas generators generously provided by a Grange member for the day.

The community responded by coming out in the highest numbers we have ever

Read the rest of **Pancakes** | Over on Page 15



The rest of **Allman** | From Page 1

for this event than they might have been. We had a lot of people take our suggestions about how to prepare for this."

Allman praised Caltrans, which had set up generators at many important traffic lights throughout the cities and the county. "By doing that, they helped to avoid traffic accidents which would have tied up first responders," Allman said.

The sheriff had praise for county employees, who responded quickly to the failure of a generator at a county communications facility. Allman said that county employees had the generator repaired within two hours.

He also had praise for his own employees, some of whom were pressed into new kinds of duties. "We did stuff we never had to do before," Allman said, "like making sure that communities had fuel."

He was referring to a situation that occurred early in the shutdown, when Highway 20 was closed due to a fire in Potter Valley. During this closure, four big-rig gasoline trucks were stopped at Upper Lake in Lake County and were unable to continue on toward Mendocino County. The call came to Allman, who was able to convince CHP to allow county sheriff's deputies to escort the big rigs through the road closure. "We were able to safely escort those big rigs so we could get fuel to our communities," Allman said.

Allman had praise for Willits businesses Brown's Corner and Willits Power Supply. He said that Willits Power was selling generators "all over the county" and was sending employees out to install and even to start the generators.

He noted that Brown's Corner was the only gas station in Willits that was selling gasoline. Allman said that was because they had a generator from Willits Power, and the generator provided the juice to power the pumps.

Allman had prepared for the power-down in a number of ways, including buying seven satellite phones as back-up systems in case of failure of the department's main communications system. The sheriff's office kept five of the phones, and Allman gave two of them to fire protection agencies on the coast.

"We learned a lot from [the fire of] 2017," Allman said. "Like for example, the fact that in 2017 Howard Hospital couldn't get burn supplies from Sonoma County, because their communication system was down and also because Sonoma County had their own problems. We learned that having effective communications was our absolute foundation," Allman said.

The rest of **Measure B** | From Page 1

McCowan said the supes directed the county to pay for the sound system out of the county's general fund, because they didn't think it was an expense that should be charged exclusively to the Measure B Committee.

Committee member and county CEO Carmel Angelo told the committee the process is well underway to select a project manager for the Mental Health Treatment Act effort. Angelo said the first evaluation of candidates was to be held on October 28 and that a second evaluation would then be slated for around November 4.

As she did in September, Angelo once again defended the projected salary of the project manager. Currently that salary is set at \$80,000 a year, but because of the recent new contracts that have been given to all county employees, is due to increase by close to \$20,000 over the next three years. Angelo said that at the end of 2022, the salary of the Measure B project manager will be close to \$100,000 a year, and when benefits are included, the entire compensation package for that employee will be about \$150,000 a year. "I think that's a pretty good salary," Angelo said.

Deputy CEO Jenelle Rau told the committee that progress is being made on getting an architect for whatever facilities the committee decides to build. She said the evaluation committee has been meeting and has been engaging in negotiations concerning the position of Measure B architect.

She noted that the evaluation committee has created a draft scope of work to be undertaken by the architect. She also said the contract is planned to go before the board of supervisors during the board's November 12 meeting.

Rau would not divulge any further information, only saying: "We have not concluded those negotiations. It is still an open, competitive process."

Committee members asked if they would be able to vote on hiring the architect. Angelo clarified that the full committee would not vote on that person. "The Measure B Committee will not vote, as a committee, on selecting the architect," she said. "That will go to the board of supervisors."

"However, I would like to point out that six persons from this committee [i.e., the Measure B Committee] do sit, and will continue to sit, on the interview committee, and on the RFP [Requests for Proposals] committee as well, to assist with making the decision around the architect contract."

Members of the RFP committee are Angelo, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Director Jenine Miller, county Auditor Lloyd Weer, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Advisory Board Chair Jan McGourty, National Alliance for the Mentally Ill Representative Donna Moschetti, and author and therapist Jed Diamond, who represents the Third District on the Measure B Committee.

The October Measure B meeting was remarkable for several things. First, a group of residents from the area around Willits spoke at the meeting. All were in support of using the old Howard Hospital in Willits as a location for some of the facilities that are now being contemplated by the committee.

Retired Willits realtor Bill Barksdale urged the committee to consider locating the proposed crisis residential facility and the crisis stabilization unit there. Beth Riedel and Josephine Silva both spoke in support of using the old Howard Hospital, and Emmy Good made a plea in defense of the shuttered hospital on the hill.

"I do truly support having Howard Hospital there [as a mental health facility]," Good said, "not only for the jobs, but I want our community to have an identity as a caring community, that we do support mental health services. I don't want people to feel that we're afraid of it.... If you haven't made up your mind yet, I want you to know that there are those of us who really do care."

Sheriff Tom Allman noted those four people mentioned above were the first members of the public who had attended a Measure B Committee meeting, and who had spoken in support of using the old Howard Hospital as a mental health facility.

The meeting was also remarkable for the amount of time in which the public was allowed to speak. In addition to the four Willits residents, several other people, including John Wetzler, former chair of the county's Behavioral Health Advisory Board, and two county supervisors, John McCowan and John Haschak, addressed the committee.

It seemed like the public had ample time to comment on matters. The new sound system that had been set up in the county conference room made the proceedings of the meeting entirely audible.

Haschak nicely summed up the progress that the committee has made thus far, after nearly two years' worth of monthly meetings.

"We are at a point right now where we are starting to see the real seeds of that work coming to fruition," Supervisor Haschak said. "We see that we have a training center, and, with that \$50,000 that we [the board of supervisors] just put in, that hopefully we can get that working very shortly."

"With the project manager and architect request for qualifications [sometimes called the request for proposals] – with those in place, that's what we needed to get everything moving in this whole process. I think the public should be thanking the committee for where we are and, hopefully, this is a springboard for the facilities and the treatment that our communities need," Haschak said.

An individual, stand-alone and independent print piece

WILLITS WEEKLY IS PROUD TO CONTINUE THE REAL ESTATE SECTION IN LOCAL PRINT MEDIA

Runs Second Week Each Month

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Runs on the second Thursday of the month.



Tech Trek

Willits girls who attended science, tech, engineering and math camp this summer honored at AAUW dinner

Submitted by Judi Berdis for AAUW

The Willits branch of the American Association of University Women has been sending girls interested in science, technology, engineering and math to the weeklong STEM Tech Trek camp since 2002.

The first girl that was sent to this exciting camp was

Jennifer Walker, who went to the Stanford University Camp in the year 2002. Since then, our branch has sent an average of two students every year. The young girls chosen to attend this year were Audrey Sherf of Willits Charter School and Kaylen Thom of Baechtel Grove Middle School.

These two exceptional students returned with exciting

and inspiring stories of their experiences to share at the annual Tech Trek dinner given in their honor. The occasion included the girls' families, school faculty, a Willits City Council member, and AAUW members.

AAUW Willits is proud to invest in these worthy young women so that they can expand their dreams and capabilities.



Above, from left: Audrey Sherf attends the dinner with her mother, Ashley; sister, Abigail; and father, Adam Sherf.

Erin Schleintz smiles with her daughter Kaylen Thom, a recent attendee of Tech Trek camp.

Director of Willits Charter School Jennifer Lockwood with her student, Audrey Sherf, and Kaylen Thom with her Baechtel Grove Middle School math and science teacher, Liesl Hendrix, enjoy themselves at the Tech Trek celebration dinner.

At left: Willits AAUW members Carol Orton and Sherrie Ebyam, students Audrey Sherf and Kaylen Thom, and members Ann Maglente and Judi Berdis attend this year's Tech Trek dinner held in honor of the young girls who attended the STEM-themed camp.

Photos by Judi Berdis



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Presented by: Christopher Martin



This is a sweet, light-filled 3 bedroom, 2 bath home on a sunny level lot. Featuring custom cabinetry and trim throughout and custom tile work in the bathroom. Extra wide doors and hallway give a feeling of spaciousness (and wheelchair accessibility). Not just cute, but energy efficient as well! (includes a 3kw grid tied solar array) Good size lot is fully fenced, sunny and surprisingly private. The layout of the house and the generous decks make it great for entertaining friends. Move-in ready. Truly a house you will be glad to come home to.

Offered at \$273,000

Willits Family Dance welcomes folk dancers of all ages

Submitted by Megan Wolf

One of my favorite aspects of folk dance and contra dance is having people of all ages dancing together. Willits Folk Dancers are proud to continue this wonderful tradition. At our Small Ball in March, we had dancers ranging from 8 to 78 years old.

Our weekly Thursday Folk Dance class also has a large range of ages. The one age group we hadn't been serving yet was the under-8-year-olds.

Thus Willits Family Dance was born! A joint event with Willits Folk Dancers and Willits Elementary Charter School's Dance Club. The Willits Family Dance was held on October 6.

The dance was led by caller Evo Bluestein, from Fresno. He played fiddle or mandolin while calling fun dances for the whole family. Kids ages 3 to 12 participated with their families.

We will be hosting our next Family Dance on Saturday, November 9 from 3 to 4:30 pm at Willits Charter School, 1431 South Main Street), with caller Kalia Kliban from Sebastopol. It is guaranteed fun for the whole family, and all dances will be taught and called.

Check out www.willitsdance.com for more info or contact Megan at megster1989@yahoo.com.

At top: Dancers of different ages enjoy the first Willits Family Dance. The next Willits Family Dance is set for Saturday, November 9 from 3 to 4:30 pm at the Willits Charter School. At left: Fresno caller Evo Bluestein, in rear, with the fiddle, came to Willits for the first Family Dance at the Willits Charter School.

The rest of Color Run | From Page 3

come and get squirted with color.

"We usually generate close to \$10,000," Nelson continued, "of which 30 percent goes back to the franchise company, but we still make from \$7,000 to \$8,000 for the school. Some of it goes to the teachers. We buy teacher ink, teacher gifts. We do the Teacher Appreciation Lunch in May. We do book giveaways every couple months. We do Brag Tags for attendance and reading incentive prizes and Spirit Prizes. All the money goes to the school and the kids."

When a kid pre-registers online for \$30, they get a nice clean white T-shirt with a Color Run logo, and they receive a pack of extras: hats, tutus, colored socks, boa, arm bands, hair color, plastic blow-up mallets, and more.

The kids and their parents can also raise extra money through asking friends, businesses and relatives to sponsor. The more they raise, the more colorful swag they can wear during the run. This year 77 kids pre-registered. If the child can raise enough money, they can have people run as part of their Color Club. This year, young Sylvester Santamaria raised more than anyone, \$545, much of that through his mother's co-workers at Mendo Mill. Jarret and Jason Nelson also raised over \$500.

The actual run started at 2 pm, but most of the participants come up to two hours earlier to sign in and start throwing color at each other, or to get the color thrown on them by other children or accommodating parents. As there was a hearty wind happening, the kids had to be aware, or risk having the colors go back into their own face. Some developed a technique for effective color coating at several paces by standing upwind and letting the color loose on their friends.

DJ Ken Steely kept the afternoon lively with his blend of upbeat music. When it was time for the actual run, most of the participants were already sufficiently coated with color. Steely called them up to the starting line, under the huge blow-up Color Run banner. He instructed them all to grab a handful of color and get ready.

At the signal, they all threw the colored powder into the air forming a multi-hued cloud of dust as they took off around the track that girds the football field. Some, like the Swearingen kids, Jed and Jonah, who are distance runners, took off at top speed. Others made this more of a Color Walk, as there were no prizes for coming in first.

As they circled the field, teachers got their revenge on the kids by pelting them with various colors at four or five stations along the route. The run went on until the last of the colors were used up.

By the end of the event, very few people, including the parents, were untouched by chroma. Brushing at clothing created more clouds of color. One can imagine the tint of the water in the washing machines around town (well, that is, any washing machines that were running). On a weekend where everyone, except those off the grid, was touched by the lack of electric power, the kids of Willits created their own joy through colored powder.

Above, left: Field trip attendees learn about roads and culverts from expert Colin Hughes as part of a Mendocino County Resources Conservation District workshop in Willits. Above, right: Gully erosion below a culvert in a grassland.

Photo courtesy Pacific Watershed Associates

Free road design and maintenance workshop in Laytonville

Submitted by the Eel River Recovery Project

Rural roads are an important part of Mendocino County infrastructure and a lifeline for folks living in the hills, but maintaining roads can be enormously expensive and road related erosion is a chronic water pollution problem.

Anyone who is coping with maintaining a rural road or network should come and learn about proper road design and maintenance from an expert at no charge on Friday, November 8 at Harwood Hall in Laytonville beginning at 9 am.

The workshop features consulting geologist and road expert Colin Hughes of Pacific Watershed Associates, who will teach about proper road design and maintenance in the morning, and lead a field trip in the afternoon. An introductory talk by Joe Scriven of the Mendocino County Resources Conservation District will touch on how people can organize to obtain grant funds for road upgrading and maintenance. Fisheries biologist Pat Higgins will also give a short presentation on how erosion effects Eel River.

The event is sponsored by the Mendocino County Resource Conservation District's Eel River Road Sediment Treatment and Inventory Project aimed at reducing sediment yield from roads in the Eel River watershed with funding from the State Water Resources Control Board.

Many road networks utilized to access rural homesteads and farms were originally built as logging roads and were not designed to be permanent. Poorly designed roads cost a great deal of money to maintain annually and poor road drainage can cause road and hillslope failure in major storm events that are even more costly. Strategically reshaping roads to drain properly can cost a substantial amount, but saves money in the long run and ensures transportation security.

Typical rural roads have a berm along the outer edge and an in-board ditch that drains water from the road through periodically spaced culverts under the road. Gullies can form on unarmored hillslopes below the road, causing soil loss and potentially undercutting the road bed. Large rock at culvert outlets can deflect energy and lessen the risk off gully formation. If road drainage culverts are spaced too far apart, too much water accumulates in the ditch, which translates into high erosive force and potentially massive gully formation downhill.

The key to making your road storm-proof is designing contours that shed

Furry Friends Hoping for a Home

Handsome Fin

Fin is oh so handsome! Who will be the lucky family to adopt him? Fin lives in foster care, but we would love to set up a time for you to meet him! Fill out your application at www.mendohumanesociety.com or give us call for more info at 707-485 0123.

Come meet Della soon at the Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County, 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.

Gentle Bella

Bella is one gentle, easygoing gal. She walks well on leash, and we have lots of past-owner information. Bella lived with children and another dog and is house-trained. Bella was dearly loved by her family. So you may ask, why is she looking for a new home? She lived near livestock and went and chased them with the neighbor dog. An ideal home for Bella would be one with secure fencing and no livestock in the neighborhood. Bella is a 3-year-old spayed female mixed-breed dog who currently weighs 62 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 online at: www.mendoanimalshelter.com or visit the shelter. For more information about adoptions, please call 707-467-6453.

Help get every dog at the Ukiah shelter out for some exercise at the "Empty the Shelter" pack walk every second Saturday of the month, coming up on November 9.

The rest of Pancakes | From Page 13

seen, and everyone had a wonderful morning. All the hot food was deeply appreciated, and especially the coffee service.

Some special energy came from being together eating and visiting during this emergency with all the uncertainties and difficulties. We put aside our concerns and ate with friends – both old and new – and shared the news of the day

The all-volunteer crew of 20 Grangers was energized by doing such well-received community service and enjoyed working to put this labor of love together! Over 70 hours of volunteer time was needed to pull it off. We did our best to minimize use of resources – we used compostable paper plates and cups as we could not use our dishwasher/sanitizer – and hand-washing all flatware, kitchen tools and utensils.

Lucky to have hot water, with the generator giving the electrical assist, invaluable for also running the coffeemaker, and we had all of the gas appliances in service. Scrambled eggs, bacon, and sourdough, buttermilk or gluten-free pancakes were lovingly made from scratch as usual. Orange juice, coffee or tea, and a fruit bowl accompanied the hot plate of food.

Little Lake Grange does have a 12kw solar array, but because it is tied to the grid it was not generating power. If we had a smaller array that was an off-grid, battery storage connection, it could be used in such emergencies as electrical outage. We are considering applying for a grant for a 4kw off-grid array with battery backup, and would accept donations toward this community service-based infrastructure.

Thanks to everyone for coming and celebrating community together, the volunteers enjoyed themselves, and it was a great day for everyone.

Below: Creative coffee brewing techniques were underway during the Blackout Breakfast.

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NOVEMBER CALENDAR



EARN ENTRY TICKETS DAILY

NOV 1 – DEC 28 8AM – 10PM
100 points = 1 entry ticket

WEEKEND DRAWINGS

Saturday & Sunday Nov 9 – Dec 28
5PM – 10PM
11 names drawn each day to **win \$100 Free Play and a ticket into the final drawings.**

FINALE DRAWING

Saturday Dec 28 After 10PM
WIN FREE PLAY, CASH & THE CAR

Come play the Charging into 2020 Game Board to win more entry tickets, Free Play and up to \$1,000 Cash! And one lucky winner will drive away in the **new 2019 Dodge Charger SXT!**



Actual make, model and color may vary.

Winner is responsible for any taxes, fees and licensing. Non-transferable. See Player's Club Booth for complete details.



Veterans Day Special

MONDAY NOV 11 8AM – 2PM

Player's Club Members who show proof of past or current military service will receive a **Free Breakfast OR Free Lunch AND a commemorative Matthew Mint \$2 bill*.**



*Limited to one per qualified guest, while supplies last.

— TUESDAYS —

BARRY'S CHARGED UP POINTS

9AM – 9PM

Come play day or night to receive **5X POINTS!** Get charged up to earn Free Play faster.



— THURSDAYS —

FALL INTO FREE PLAY

8AM – 2PM & 4PM – 10PM

Earn 200 points to get a Fall Into Free Play Scratch Card. If you participated in the morning session, then you can get a second scratch card during the night session by earning 100 points. Or you will need 300 points for the night session only. Every card is a winner and you could **win up to \$1,000 in Free Play!**



— Wednesdays —

Take It or Spin It

10AM – 8PM

Give us \$20 cash to get \$30 in Free Play. Or for \$50 cash, you can spin the wheel to **win \$60 – \$200 in Free Play!** Stop by the cashier's cage to get started.

Only those who receive this mailer are qualified to participate.



GIFT OF THE MONTH

EVERY SAT & SUN NOV 9 – DEC 1 10AM – 5PM

Redeem 500 points on Saturdays or Sundays to receive a **Flameproof Casserole Set.*** Get a different piece each week, while supplies last.

*For guests who did not receive a Gift of the Month postcard.



It's back...for a limited time!

FRIDAYS NOV 8, 15, 22 & 29

Time is Money

HOT SEATS

FREE PLAY DRAWINGS 5PM – 10PM


Every 10 minutes, 4 guests will **win \$50 Free Play.** Must be playing with your card in any machine. If we call your name, you'll have 1 minute to claim your prize, or that prize will be forfeited.



NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE DAY

WED NOV 27 8AM – 11PM

Pomo dancers and song, plus redeem 100 points to receive a **FREE T-Shirt,** while supplies last.



Must be 18 & over to play
Gambling a problem?
Call 1-800-GAMBLER.

Management reserves all rights to cancel or alter any promotion with little or no notice.




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