

# Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

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Willits Community newspaper  
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A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

Donations Accepted Edition No. 282 Thursday, November 15, 2018

## Juvenile hall to stay open

Mike A'Dair  
Reporter  
mike@willitsweekly.com

The board of supervisors on Tuesday decided to keep Mendocino County Juvenile Hall open for the foreseeable future and to disband the supervisors' ad hoc committee on the juvenile hall.

The vote was unanimous, with Fifth District Supervisor Dan Hamburg absent.

The vote resolves an issue that has hung over the county since the spring 2018, when CEO Carmel Angelo announced she would recommend closing juvenile hall as a cost-saving measure associated

Read the rest of  
**Open**  
Over on page 13

## WUSD 'accountability' ratings 'good' to 'fair'

Joanne Moore  
Reporter  
joanne@willitsweekly.com

Aside from an impressive demonstration of tradition embodied in the opening and closing ceremonies of their meetings presented by the Willits FFA (Future Farmers of America) students, it was a pretty ho-hum Willits Unified Board of Trustees meeting November 7.

Trustees Christopher Neary and Robert Chavez were absent.

Superintendent Mark Westerburg reported district enrollment is "steady in the 1,500 area ... [with an]

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

## Public hearing set on proposed Brooktrails garbage hikes

Dan McKee  
Reporter  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

A December 11 public hearing has been scheduled to consider proposed garbage rate adjustments for Brooktrails Township tentatively scheduled to take effect January 1, 2019.

The rate increase is being sought by Solid Waste of Willits to offset higher pass-through rate and fuel cost adjustments, as well as a cost-of-living adjustment and the collapse of the Chinese recycling market.

The total increase being sought by SWOW is 5.22

Read the rest of  
**Garbage**  
Over on Page 13



Above: Helping make this year's Willits Community Thanksgiving meal happen by picking up the 32 turkeys Monday morning from the Willits Community Services and Food Bank are, from left: Chamberlain Creek Conservation's Chris Oreglia, Officer Veilbig, Darick Borba, Officer Smith, and Jose Erustes, with WCS warehouse associate Michael McDonald and WCS Executive Director Jim Marill. Below: Darick Borba and Chris Oreglia complete the official "Turkey Toss 2018" Monday morning.



Photos by  
Maureen  
Moore

## Turkey Toss 2018

In true November tradition, there were frozen flying turkeys at Willits Community Services and Food Bank in the midday hour Monday, as crew members from the Chamberlain Creek Conservation Camp and their escorting officers came to pick up the birds and supplies for the upcoming Willits Community Thanksgiving dinner. The meal will be cooked out at the CCCC kitchens, which are large enough to feasibly cook the 32 turkeys, 200 pounds of potatoes, around 20 pounds of stuffing, 360 pounds each of yams and green beans, and 180 pounds of cranberries. The crew will return to help serve the dinner, alongside other community volunteers, on Thanksgiving Day. Dinner is provided free of charge to any and all community members are donations are gratefully accepted. Dinner will be served from 11 am to 3 pm at the Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. For more information: 459-3333.

— Maureen Moore

Below, left: Chamberlain Creek crew members Chris Oreglia and Jose Erustes and Officer Smith get into the holiday spirit with another Turkey Toss photo op.

Below: The crew loads in milk and frozen birds to be hauled back to the camp's kitchens where the meal will be prepared before serving at the Senior Center on Thanksgiving Day.



Above: New Brooktrails Fire Chief Jon Noyer, third from right, stands with his group of firefighters at Tuesday's swearing-in ceremony. Below: Chief Noyer, joined by his Junior Fire Chief son Justin as he reads the oath.



Photos by  
Mathew  
Caine

## Noyer named new Brooktrails fire chief

Veteran Brooktrails firefighter Jon Noyer on Tuesday was named the new chief of the Brooktrails Fire Department. He replaces recently retired Chief Daryl Schoeppner, who had served as Brooktrails' fire chief since July 2002.

Dan McKee  
Reporter  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

A Mendocino County resident since 2000, Noyer joined the department as a volunteer firefighter in 2001, advancing to become a volunteer battalion chief in 2004 while working full-time for CalFire at its Mendocino Unit headquarters at Howard Forest. That same year, he left CalFire to become Brooktrails fire prevention officer and later also become a battalion chief before being named deputy fire chief.

The 17-year BFD veteran began his firefighting career at age 15 as a reserve firefighter with the Stockton Fire Department in 1985. A year later, he was hired by the San Joaquin Delta Fire District. During

The 50-year-old Noyer has served as BFD's deputy chief since 2012.

Read the rest of  
**Noyer**  
Over on Page 13

## County voter turnout may hit 70 percent

Jennifer Poole  
Editor & Reporter  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

More than half the ballots in the November 6 election in Mendocino County have not yet been reported, according to a press release sent out by Mendocino County voter registrar Sue Ranochak last week.

The November 8 press release announced that 16,730 mail-in ballots remained to be processed in Mendocino County, along with another 1,011 provisional ballots. There

Read the rest of  
**Turnout**  
Over on page 13

## Supes defer action on homelessness grant

Mike A'Dair  
Reporter  
mike@willitsweekly.com

Claiming that Mendocino County's Health and Human Services Agency and its Homelessness Continuum of Care was too vague about what it intends to do with a potential \$4.9 million grant, supervisors on Tuesday declined to adopt a resolution declaring a shelter crisis in the unincorporated areas of Mendocino County.

Declaration of a shelter crisis in the unincorporated portion of the county is a requirement for eligibility for the grant.

Instead, the board

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

## Supes ask for changes to new contract for retirement board head

Mike A'Dair  
Reporter  
mike@willitsweekly.com

A majority of supervisors expressed dissatisfaction with a proposed new contract for Mendocino County Employee Retirement Association Administrator James Wilbanks at Tuesday's meeting, directing the board's representatives to the retirement board — Fourth District Supervisor (and MCERA Board of Directors chairman) Dan Gjerde — to take the contract back to the retirement board for revision.

Expressing reservations

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







Willits Weekly's  
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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

Level: Advanced

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!

FROZEN FOOD WORD SEARCH

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

APPETIZERS	COOKING	FROZEN	PRECOOKED
BAGELS	CRYSTALS	HAMBURGERS	PRESERVE
BREAKFAST	DEFROST	ICE	REHEAT
BRINE	DEHYDRATE	ICE CREAM	SHOPPING
CAKE	DESSERT	INNOVATION	STOCKED
CHICKEN	FAST	MEAL	SUPERMARKET
CHILLED	FOODS	PACKAGES	TEMPERATURE
CONVENIENCE	FREEZER	PANCAKES	VEGETABLES

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16				
17				18						19				
20				21						22				
23							24	25					26	27
			28				29					30		
31	32						33		34	35	36		37	
38						39	40						41	
42				43						44	45			
46		47	48					49		50				
51					52	53	54			55			56	57
					58					59				
60	61								62	63			64	
65							66						67	
68							69						70	

CLUES ACROSS

- Taxi
- Long periods of time
- Boiled cow or sheep
- Ottoman military commander
- Pig
- Don't go near
- Benin inhabitants
- Pop star
- Removes
- Your sibling's daughter
- Trade
- Dabbled
- Tax collector
- Atomic number 73
- Russian emperor
- Broad-winged bird of prey
- Pale brownish yellow
- A type of bill
- One or a sum of things
- Stiff, untanned leather
- Naturally occurring solid material
- Promotional material
- Beer mug
- Nostrils
- Very rich
- Atomic number 10
- Not even

- Pulls apart
- City in western Finland
- Wing shaped
- Paddling
- Player
- Japanese classical theater
- Manufacturers need one
- Coined for one occasion
- Pitching stat
- 'M' actor
- Some are noble
- Lair

CLUES DOWN

- Places to eat
- Marketplace
- Unoriginality
- Administrative officials
- Female sheep and a loch in Scotland
- Something to drill for
- Midway between north and northeast
- Cassia tree
- Founder of medical pathology
- Long-legged wading bird
- \_\_ and goers
- Go quickly

- Used to cut and shape wood
- Small island (British)
- Dry or withered
- Last of the Mohicans' actress
- Manufacturers need one
- Tidal bore
- Makes free of moisture
- Semitic titles
- Inappropriate
- Gregory \_\_, US dancer
- \_\_, denotes past
- Makes nicer
- Indicates position
- Made a priest
- Sixth month of Jewish calendar
- One who refrains
- Type of top
- Pay increase
- Curved shape
- Keeping down
- Sleep sound
- Tiny Iranian village
- Only one time
- Elected official
- Before the present
- Genus of grasses
- Autonomic nervous system

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT  
POLICE LOG

October 29 to November 4

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled **163** incidents in this seven-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

November 5

6:43 am: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 1100 block of Magnolia Avenue.  
12:37 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.  
1:24 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 300 block of South Main Street.

2:08 pm: Officers responded to a bomb threat in the 400 block of East Valley Street.  
3:17 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.  
7:16 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 200 block of South Main Street.

November 6

7:30 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 400 block of South Main Street.  
10:48 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 400 block of South Main Street.  
1:00 pm: Officers responded to a report of harassment in the 400 block of McKinley Street.

4:34 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 100 block of East Oak Street.  
5:09 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 800 block of South Main Street.

November 7

1:32 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 400 block of Grove Street.

6:08 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of North Main Street.  
12:16 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 400 block of East Commercial Street.

3:12 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

5:07 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 800 block of South Main Street.

10:13 pm: Ee, Adeline (39) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. She was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication) and on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol).

November 8

11:08 am: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 200 block of Margie Drive.  
11:32 am: Officers responded to a report of sexual assault in the 100 block of East Oak Street.  
12:15 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 200 block of Shell Lane.  
1:01 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1700 block of South Main Street.  
5:42 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1300 block of Eva Claire Street.  
6:02 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious persons in the 1300 block of Eva Claire Street.

7:19 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Haehl Creek Drive and East Hill Road.  
7:34 pm: Officers responded to a report of an assault in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

8:00 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 900 block of South Main Street.

8:19 pm: Officers responded to a report of harassment in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

November 9

10:55 am: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of East Oak Street.  
12:17 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 400 block of East Hill Road.  
2:45 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 300 block of North Main Street.  
10:13 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Northbrook Way.

November 10

8:55 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of South Main Street.  
9:35 pm: VANHORN, Holland Ansley (36) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to felony 1203.2 PC (Violation of Probation).

November 11

12:33 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism near the intersection of Highway 20 and South Main Street.  
3:26 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1700 block of South Main Street.  
3:43 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Sanhedrin Circle.

LITTLE LAKE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
FIRE CALLS

November 8 to November 13

by LLFD Training Chief Eric Alvarez

11-08-18 (Creekside Drive)

Medical aid: Little Lake Fire responded to a reported medical aid. Fire assisted the medic unit at scene with patient care. 6 firefighters responded for service.

11-08-18 (Highway 162)

Mutual aid: Little Lake Fire responded to a mutual aid request to the "Brushy" incident on Highway 162. Little Lake Fire sent Water Tender 5493 to assist with fire suppression efforts. 2 firefighters responded for service.

11-09-18 (North Highway 101)

Reported fire: Little Lake Fire responded to a reported debris fire. After thoroughly checking the area, it was determined that the reporting party had seen flames from a barbecue. 7 firefighters responded for service.

11-10-18 (Alder Court)

Medical aid: Little Lake Fire responded to a reported medical aid. Little Lake Fire assisted the ambulance unit with patient care as well as loading the patient into the ambulance. 7 firefighters responded for service.

11-11-18 (Baechtelt Road)

Medical assist: Little Lake Fire responded to a reported fall victim. Upon arrival Little Lake Fire provided BLS care until the ambulance arrived on scene. Fire then assisted with loading the patient into the ambulance. 6 firefighters responded for service.

11-13-18 (Holly Street)

Medical aid: Little Lake Fire responded to a reported resident having difficulty breathing. Little Lake Fire provided BLS care until the medic unit arrived on scene. Fire then assisted with loading the patient into the ambulance. 3 firefighters responded for service.

11-13-18 (Walker Road)

Little Lake Fire was requested by CHP to respond to a reported trailer leaking fluid. Upon arrival, Little Lake Fire put down absorbent to catch the leaking fluids, and was then released by CHP. 4 firefighters responded for service.



Here comes Christmas!  
Old HMH will host Willits Children's Christmas Program efforts this year under the leadership of Willits Rotary Club's Laura Sleeper

"I couldn't have gotten anywhere without all the help from the Willits Wild Bunch and the rest of the previous volunteers," said Laura Sleeper, Willits Rotarian and the new leader of the Willits Children's Christmas Program, which will help provide gifts and cheer to those in need this upcoming holiday season.

Sleeper is taking on the task of connecting with families, handling referrals from schools and official agencies, gathering gifts, coordinating wrappers, and scheduling distribution this year, and all will be coming from the old Howard Memorial Hospital which will serve as "Holiday Headquarters" this season.

With such a task at hand, Sleeper has gratefully accepted assistance from many members of the community and those who have helped in the past to continue the program running smoothly for some 200 families in the community.

"I want to say a big thank you to Kim Venturi and the Willits Wild Bunch; Jerry and Sandy Turner; Anne Hammond; and Rotarians Ann Alumbaugh and Jenny Senter for all their help moving and sorting the items, and supporting me," said Sleeper. "I also want to thank my Superintendent Mark Westerburg, Marcy

Barry and the Willits Frontier Days Juniors who will be helping with stockings, and to Santa Calderon for always being on call for helping!

"And of course, a big thanks to the individuals who have offered to adopt a whole family. I also want to thank Willits Frontier Days, Bob Doty from Mendo Mill, Tom Summers from House Doctor Paints, Sparetime Supply, and Tri Counties Bank for supplies we needed."

They'll also need volunteer wrappers soon, too. After the presents are all purchased, they need to be wrapped, and Sleeper welcomes everyone to come out and lend a hand

Read the rest of  
**Christmas** | Over on Page 13



At far left: Sandy Turner rolls in one of the bikes. At left, top: Santa Calderon organizes books. At left: Jerry Turner plays "tree doctor" for any needing some help. Above: Laura Sleeper fills the tub with a few more rolls of colorful paper. At right, top: New Brooktrails Fire Department Fire Chief Jon Noyer wraps a fire truck. At right: Little Lake Fire Department's Fire Chief Chris Wilkes carries in a donation barrel.



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FANTASTIC BEASTS 2 2D/3D  
(PG13) 2 hrs 14 mins  
Standard (2D) Fri: 6:00pm  
Sat-Thanksgiving: 12:00, 3:00 & 6:00pm  
(3D) Fri-Thanksgiving: 9:00pm

THE GRINCH  
(PG) 1 hr 30 mins  
4:35, 6:40 & 8:45pm  
Sat-Thanksgiving: 12:25, 2:30, 4:35, 6:40 & 8:45pm

BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY  
(PG13) 2 hrs 15 mins  
Fri: 5:00 & 8:00pm  
Sat-Tues: 2:00, 5:00 & 8:00pm

RALPH BREAKS THE INTERNET  
(PG) 1 hr 52 mins  
Wed-Thanksgiving: 12:45, 3:15, 5:45 & 8:15pm

Movie Times for 11/16 thru 11/22  
Tightwad Tuesday Titles for Nov. 20 are in RED - All tickets: \$5

MAIN STREET MERCHANT  
HOLIDAY EVENT CALENDAR

11/23 BLACK FRIDAY  
STORES OPEN EARLY WITH EXCITING SPECIALS AND SALES.

11/24 SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY  
SHOP SMALL. SAVE BIG. EAT, DRINK, & BUY LOCAL.

11/29 THURSDAY TWINKLE SIP & SHOP  
STORES OPEN EVERY THURSDAY TILL 8PM WITH SPECIALS. LOOK FOR LIT UP MASON JARS!

12/8 DOWNTOWN SCAVENGER HUNT & SANTA PHOTOS AT J.D. REDHOUSE

12/13 12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS SPECIALS  
START LOOKING FOR FUN STORE DEALS DAILY LEADING UP TO CHRISTMAS!

THINK LOCAL + BUY LOCAL + BE LOCAL  
SUPPORT THE BUSINESSES IN YOUR COMMUNITY BY SHOPPING LOCAL THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

CHECK OUT EACH STORES FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM!

- WILLITS POWER
- MOON LADY
- MONKEY WRENCH
- BUTTERCUPS
- OFF THE CUFF
- J.D. REDHOUSE
- RE-EVOLUTION
- CAT'S MEOW
- MAZAHAR
- TANGO
- MIRROR MIRROR
- BOOK JUGGLER

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Dr. Claudia Petruncio  
Internal medicine  
specialist.

## Adventist Health welcomes new Internal Medicine specialist

HOSPITAL HOSTS RECEPTION TO INTRODUCE TWO NEW MDS ON NOVEMBER 15

By Cici Winiger, for Adventist Health

Adventist Health Howard Memorial welcomes yet another new doctor to their team. Dr. Claudia Petruncio, internal medicine specialist, recently moved to the area from New Jersey.

Moving here is a big change, but one she was more than ready to make. When asked why she selected Mendocino County as her home she said, "I love the area, it's just so beautiful here." This is a sentiment we hear from many moving to the area.

It is her belief that there needs to be a cooperative approach to healthcare, which is what drew her to Howard. Dr. Petruncio believes it takes a team to provide excellent care, and she knew a team is exactly what she would gain by working with AHHM. Since November 1, she has been working side by side with her new team at Adventist Health Howard Memorial Medical Clinic (formerly Redwood Medical Clinic) to care for patients in our community.

Dr. Petruncio brings over 30 years of experience in the medical field, caring for patients in both hospital and clinic settings. She graduated from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed her residency at the Hospital of Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Petruncio specializes in Internal Medicine, "I love Internal Medicine because I get to treat the whole person, from head to toe. I believe that medicine should treat the mind, body and spirit, and that's what I get to do for my patients."

Internal Medicine is the practice of diagnosing and treating ailments that start from the inside, such as diabetes, thyroid disorders, arthritis and chronic pain. Dr. Petruncio also has an extensive background in geriatric and osteopathic care.

When she is not in the clinic caring for her patients, Dr. Petruncio enjoys ballroom dancing, hiking and reading. She first picked up ballroom dancing after being invited to an event in which she was being honored. "I knew there would be dancing, and I wanted to be prepared, so I started taking classes and fell in love. It is a great way to stay active and have a little fun."

Jason Wells, president of Adventist Health Howard Memorial, is excited to welcome another new doctor to the AHHM team, "Claudia will be a great addition to our care team," he said. "Her extensive medical background and expertise in Internal Medicine is impressive, but what we all noticed about her right away was her kind demeanor and patient-centered care philosophy. Having Dr. Petruncio on our team means our community will have more access to primary care services. This is in line with our commitment to bring quality care close to home and serve the needs of our community."

Dr. Petruncio is now accepting new patients at the Medical Office located at 3 Marcela Drive in Willits. To schedule an appointment, please call 459-6115.

The hospital is hosting a community reception to welcome its two newest physicians who have recently joined the team on Thursday, November 15, at 5:30 pm at 3 Marcela Drive, Suite C, in the building across from the hospital. Community members will have an opportunity to meet Dr. Claudia Petruncio, internal medicine specialist, and Dr. Paul Charpentier, orthopedic surgeon. The event is free and open to the community. Refreshments and appetizers will be served. To learn more about the event, call 456-3591.

Meet Our New Physicians



Join us in welcoming our new physicians to the Willits community



**November 15**  
5:30 – 6:30 p.m.

**Thank You!**

Thank you for the trust in me as your city representative. I would also like to thank everyone that allowed my signs for City Council to be in your yards.

**-Larry Stranske**

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## Two debris piles in Brooktrails set on fire by improper handling of wood stove ashes

Submitted by Brooktrails Fire Department

On Friday, November 9, at 10:01 am, Brooktrails Fire Department and CAL FIRE were dispatched to a reported vegetation fire "between two homes" at the 1700 block of Ponderosa Road. Upon arrival the Brooktrails Fire Department duty officer reported a 20-foot-by-50-foot debris pile, fully involved near a structure.

Brooktrails Fire Engine 5280, Engine 5285, and Squad 5230, as well as CAL FIRE prevention officer P-1121 and CAL FIRE Engine 1193 responded to the scene.

The fire was quickly extinguished with no damage to the structure, or further spread into the wildland. Units stayed on scene for approximately 1 hour extinguishing the fire completely.

During the cause and origin investigation into the fire, it was learned that a property renter had emptied hot wood-stove ashes onto the debris pile at approximately 9:45 am. The evidence at the scene confirmed the statements of witnesses, and the responsible party.

That same day, Brooktrails Fire responded to a second fire, also involving the dumping of wood stove ashes. Both of these fires could have been disastrous. Please use extreme caution when disposing of any burnt material.

Some tips regarding safe handling of wood stove ashes:

- Do keep ashes in a metal container that



Above: This debris pile, set alight by somebody dumping hot ashes on the pile of brush, was the first of two reported "vegetation fires" Brooktrails Fire Department responded to on Friday.

can be tightly closed with a metal lid.

- Do teach other family members about the dangers associated with hot ash disposal.

- Do not dispose of ashes in paper, plastic or cardboard containers.

- Do not dump loads of wood ashes into one pile. The pile can retain heat and insulate embers for long periods of time.

- Do not assume the ashes are cold and pour them onto the ground or into a hole. Leaves can blow onto them or the wind can stir up sparks.

- Do not place ashes in a dumpster. Hot ashes could ignite a fire with material already in the dumpster.

- Do not store your metal ash container on your home's deck, in your garage, or in any location that could allow heat to transfer from those ashes to nearby flammable items.

Wood ash, once completely cooled, can safely be dumped. To properly dispose of hot ashes, pour the ashes into the metal container. Soak the ashes with water.

Place the metal lid securely on the container. Put the closed container outside your home away from combustible materials. Store ashes in the container for several days.

Once you are certain the ashes in your container are "cold," spread them in a garden or a gravel driveway and then prepare your container for the next load.



Above: Brooktrails Fire also responded to this smoking pile of leaves Friday, also started by somebody dumping hot ash from their wood stove.

OBITUARY |

## Eileen Becker

Eileen Judy Becker of Willits passed away October 23, 2018 at the age of 74. She was born January 16, 1944 in Azusa, California, to Joseph Phillip Becker and Ellen "Stark" Becker. Eileen worked as a retail clerk for the May Company in Southern California for 35 years. Once she retired she enjoyed her own company, playing computer games and spending joyful time with her beloved cats, Lilly and Felix, delighting in their antics and unconditional love.



One of Eileen's special treasures is the photo at left, taken with Tommy Smothers of the "Smothers Brothers."

Eileen is preceded in death by her parents, Joseph & Ellen Becker; brothers: Frank, Wayne, Wally and Ronald Becker; and sister, JoAnne Miller. She is survived by her sisters: Jean Ross and Sandy French; nieces: Debbie Jo (Victor) Molina, Cindy Miller, and Judy Lane; nephew, Mike Miller; great-niece, Vanessa Miller; and great-nephews: Joseph Thartheriault and Jole Cunningham.

No services are planned at this time. Arrangements under the care and direction of Anker-Lucier Mortuary.

**REALTY WORLD**

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**Offered at \$415,000**

**M E T A L**



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Located in Willits since 1976 METALfx is one of the area's largest privately owned employers. METALfx manufactures piece part to turnkey assemblies for leading OEMs across the world. We have many career opportunities with **excellent benefits** for motivated individuals who enjoy hands-on work and strive to be the best.

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**ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY**



**Welcome**  
**Paul M. Charpentier, MD**  
Orthopedic Surgeon

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

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

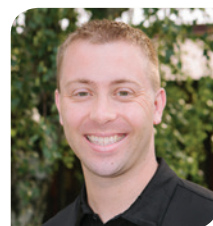
Dr. Charpentier earned his medical degree from Northeast Ohio Medical University, completed a residency at Michigan State University, followed by a Fellowship at Virginia Commonwealth University, specializing in joint replacements.

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

Joining our experienced team at Orthopedic Joint Center of Northern California



William Bowen, MD



Jeremiah Dawson, MD

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**Adventist Health**  
Howard Memorial



Thursday, November 15

**"The Cannabis Hour":** "What's Up At The Cup? Legendary Laytonville cannabis entrepreneur and activist Tim Blake, founder of the Emerald Cup, will offer a preview of the speakers, entertainers, exhibitions and more at the Fifteenth Annual Emerald Cup at the Santa Rosa Fairgrounds Dec. 15 and 16. Thursday, November 15 at 11 am on the special KZYX Pledge Drive show on KZYX Radio, 91.5-FM. Find the archived show at <http://jukebox.kzyx.org/>.

**Willits Farmers Market:** The market is now indoors at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street for the winter, Thursday, November 15, 3 to 5:30 pm. The last of the summer veggies, fresh salad greens, local meats, sausage and eggs, local grains, and savory and sweet baked goods, including handcrafted bread. More: gift items, dog treats, jams and jellies and savory preserves, olive oil and balsamic vinegar, fair trade chocolates, Willits-roasted coffee, tea, fire cider, crafts, knitted goods and jewelry, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

**Meet Our New Physicians:** "Join us in welcoming our newest physicians to the Willits community! Meet Dr. Paul Charpentier and Dr. Claudia Petruncio during our welcome reception on Thursday, November 15, 5:30 pm at AHMM Medical Office (formerly Redwood Medical Clinic) at 3 Marcela

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

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

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

**St. John Lutheran Church**  
Karl Bliese, Pastor  
Church Service:  
Sunday 10:00 to 11:00  
Bible Study/Sunday School  
following the service.  
(707) 459-2888  
24 Mill Creek Drive  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**

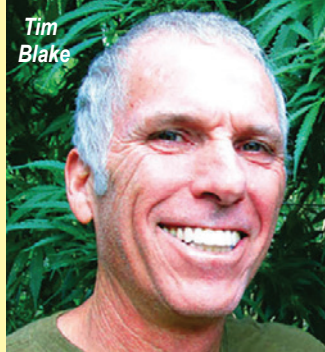
**Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church**  
399 W. Mendocino Avenue  
707-459-5714  
Sabbath School - 9:15 a.m.  
Worship Service - 10:45 a.m.  
1st Sabbath of every month  
family potluck at the school.  
22751 Bray Road, Willits

**Willits United Methodist**  
A Christ centered, progressive church  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**  
286 School St. (at Pine)  
Rev. Rosemary Landry, pastor  
Worship Celebration  
Sundays - 11:00 a.m.  
Children's Sunday School - 11:15 a.m.  
459-2855  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/willitsumc](http://www.facebook.com/willitsumc)

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

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W.C. & G.I. insured

Drive, Suite C. Everyone is invited! Appetizers and refreshments will be served. See you there!"



Friday, November 16

**Harvest Dinner:** The Mendocino County Herb Guild hosts its first Harvest Dinner, Friday, November 16, 5 to 9 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Farm-to-table dinner at 6 pm, followed by a speaker program of local herbalists. Note: Dinner tickets are sold out, but people are encouraged to come from 7 to 9 pm to enjoy the speakers, dessert, elixir bar, silent auction and local

herbal vendors for a suggested donation of \$5 to \$10 at the door. "You'll be able to bid on amazing herbal goodies and purchase herb-infused desserts and drinks at our Elixir Bar!"

**Candlelight Vigil:** The Willits Interfaith Council invites the community to a candlelight vigil on Friday, November 16, 5:30 pm at Recreation Grove Park, Commercial Street and Lenore Avenue. This will be a time to remember the shootings at the Tree of Life Synagogue and Thousand Oaks, and

**Shanachie Pub:** House of Mary: "3 piece Indie rock band. Their style is fun, flirty, clever, sexy, and unique." Visit [www.facebook.com/Houseofmarymusic](http://www.facebook.com/Houseofmarymusic). Friday, November 16, 9 pm. 50B South Main Street.

**Saturday, November 17**

**Vintage Toy Making Class:** Drop in between 1 and 3 pm every third Saturday from November – March, beginning Saturday, November 17, when attendees can make and take home a vintage whirly-gig toy!

Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-2736.

**Film: "Signs of Resilience":** The Eel River Recovery Project is unveiling a new video documentary about Eel River fall Chinook salmon trends entitled "Signs of Resilience" at the Willits Hub, 310 South Main Street, Saturday, November 17, 7 pm. The movie will be preceded by a BBQ at 5 pm, beer and wine available. Free admission; donations accepted. See [www.eelriverrecovery.org](http://www.eelriverrecovery.org), the ERRP Facebook page, or call 707-223-7200.

**Shanachie Pub:** Hominoids: "Afrantic experimental surf rock band from San Rafael. Influences include primitive rock n roll, the ocean, Ernest movies, and free improvisation." Visit [www.facebook.com/thehominoids](http://www.facebook.com/thehominoids). Saturday, November 17, 9 pm. 50B South Main Street.

Sunday, November 18

**Volunteer training:** How to help with an Outlet Creek Chinook salmon assessment will be hosted at the Willits Hub, 310 South Main Street, Sunday, November 18, 10 am. See [www.eelriverrecovery.org](http://www.eelriverrecovery.org), the ERRP Facebook page or call 707-223-7200.



House of Mary

**Vegan Potluck:** Sunday, November 18, 4 to 6 pm. 375 Harwood Road, Laytonville. The annual vegan Thanksgiving potluck. Please bring a dish that contains no meat, dairy, eggs, gelatin, bone

broth or honey, and label if containing gluten, nuts or soy. A labor of L.O.V.E. (Laytonville's Organic Vegan Experience).

Monday, November 19

**FFA Apple Pie Fundraiser:** "Do you love apple pie but wish baking wasn't so much work? Willits FFA has you covered – homemade apple pie just in time for your Thanksgiving meal. Sale runs November 19, 20 and 21. Supply is limited, so reserve your pie now! Pies are \$15 each, made with local apples grown in the FFA orchard. Take and bake, or they will pre-bake on request. Call Marcy at 707-272-5395 to reserve your pie!"



## 'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever'

Opens November 30

This hilarious and heart-felt holiday comedy opens at the Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub), on Friday, November 30. Based on the best-selling young adult novel by Barbara Robinson, the stage production directed by Robert Ford sports a cast of 27, including 17 child actors.

The story focuses on an annual church pageant that is hijacked and turned upside down by the Herdman kids, a rambunctious rough and tumble bunch from the wrong side of the tracks who turn the opening rehearsals into chaos. Their mayhem is so complete, people start taking sides and gossip whirls about a failed pageant. But hold on. A transformation true to the holiday spirit may be in the offing. Director Ford praises the play for being about how a community pulls together to work out its pageant and wider issues. Runs through December 16, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7 pm (note early start times for Friday and Saturday), and some Sunday matinees at 2 pm. A special benefit sponsored by the Willits PEO will be held Thursday, December 6, 7 pm. Benefit tickets are \$20 and available from Judy Corzine, 707-367-3090. Regular advance tickets are \$15 to \$20, at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at [brownpaperickets.com](http://brownpaperickets.com); or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets available at door until sold out.

– Submitted by Willits Community Theatre

## Call for Gallery Hosts

The Willits Center for the Arts relies on the support of our Volunteer Gallery Hosts to keep our center open. We have many volunteer opportunities open for December and into 2019; please email Holly, manager@willitscenterforthearts.org or call 707-459-1726.

**Reserve Your Thanksgiving Bird**

**ORGANIC & NON-GMO WHOLE TURKEYS, DUCKS, GEESE, & MORE**

*Quantities are limited, sign up today!*

**Mariposa Market**  
ORGANIC & NATURAL FOODS

**707.459.9630**      **500 S. MAIN STREET**

**SIGN UP SHEETS LOCATED AT THE DELI COFFEE STATION**

**May's Turkey**

**DIESTEL**

**Senior Center Lunch**

**Week of November 19 through November 23**

**Monday:** Country Fried Chicken

**Tuesday:** Beef Enchiladas

**Wednesday:** Greek Lasagna (Lamb)

**Thursday:** WCS Community Thanksgiving Dinner, free to all

**Friday:** Closed

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

## Senior Center Lunch

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J.W. Teller

**facebook.com/jwtellermusic/** Saturday, November 24, 8 pm. 50B South Main Street.

Sunday, November 25

**Willits Toy Run:** The 26th Annual Willits Toy Run, hosted by the Willits Wild Bunch, takes place Sunday, November 25. Motorcycle run starts at noon at the Evergreen Shopping Center, escorted by the Little Lake Fire Department, and proceeds to the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, where the party continues until 3:30 pm. Live music by King Snake's Blues Band. Raffle, live auction, free lunch and no-host bar. All are welcome to join the party: Admission is one unwrapped toy (for ages 1 to 17 years old) for the Willits Children's Christmas Program, sponsored by the Willits Rotary Club with thanks to Willits Lions Club and Little Lake Fire Department. Info: [roadgidebandit@gmail.com](mailto:roadgidebandit@gmail.com).



Friday, November 23

**WHS Travel Club Package Wrapping:** The Willits High School Travel Group will be wrapping presents to earn money for their upcoming trip to Italy and Greece, at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street. November 23, 24, December 1, 22, 23, 12 to 5 pm.

**Shanachie Pub:** Schindig: Friday, November 23, 9 pm. Annual Day After Thanksgiving Party. Featuring Schindig: "unique eclectic blend of folk, rock, country, blues with a jolt of world music thrown in for good measure." Visit [facebook.com/schindig/](http://facebook.com/schindig/). 50B South Main Street.

## Brookside School Holiday Bazaar and Craft Fair

December 8

"A wonderful day to share with friends." Food, fun, raffle, prizes, 50/50 raffle. Raffles will take place every 15 to 30 minutes. Prizes vary from gift certificates to baskets and many others donated by local businesses. Santa will be at the bazaar from 11 am to 2 pm to pose with your family for Christmas Photos for only \$5. "It's a great way to get your Christmas card photo out of the way!" if anyone is interested in renting a table space, donating an item for raffle, purchasing raffle tickets or purchasing 50/50 tickets to please call Alicia, 707-357-6469. Brookside Elementary School, 20 Spruce Street.



## KPHT 2nd Anniversary Party

December 1

On Saturday, December 1, 12 to 4 pm, "Kay Fat" invites you to come dance to Il Big featuring Indiana Slim and Blue Luke. Corry Hanna opens. Dennis Chrisp and the Eclectic Coyotes as well. At the Garden Club, 375 Harwood Road at Willis Avenue in Laytonville. No cover to come in and dance, but donations are requested for homemade chili, corn bread, hot dogs, beer and drinks.

Saturday, November 24

**WHS Travel Club Package Wrapping:** See November 23 listing for details.

**Shanachie Pub:** J.W. Teller: "Missoula, Montana native has amazing vocal restraint that combines honey-warmth and cracked weariness." Visit

**facebook.com/jwtellermusic/** Saturday, November 24, 8 pm. 50B South Main Street.

Sunday, November 25

**Willits Toy Run:** The 26th Annual Willits Toy Run, hosted by the Willits Wild Bunch, takes place Sunday, November 25. Motorcycle run starts at noon at the Evergreen Shopping Center, escorted by the Little Lake Fire Department, and proceeds to the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, where the party continues until 3:30 pm. Live music by King Snake's Blues Band. Raffle, live auction, free lunch and no-host bar. All are welcome to join the party: Admission is one unwrapped toy (for ages 1 to 17 years old) for the Willits Children's Christmas Program, sponsored by the Willits Rotary Club with thanks to Willits Lions Club and Little Lake Fire Department. Info: [roadgidebandit@gmail.com](mailto:roadgidebandit@gmail.com).

## Willits Community Services and Food Bank

invites you to dinner!

**29th ANNUAL WILLITS COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER**

Thursday, November 22, 2018  
**THANKSGIVING DAY 11 am - 3 pm**

**COME GIVE THANKS AND CELEBRATE THIS HOLIDAY WITH COMMUNITY.**

**Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Rd.**

There is no charge. Anyone may eat for free. Donations are gladly accepted and will benefit WCS and Food Bank in their continuing effort to provide essential human services in our community.

Food Donors include:  
101 Drive-in and individual contributions  
Dinner Prepared and served by Parlin Fork Conservation Camp and Community Volunteers

**PLEASE CALL 459-3333 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS**

## Call for Volunteers: Holiday Craft Fair

Volunteers needed for the Willits Center for the Arts Holiday Craft Fair, December 7, 8 and 9. Many opportunities available: vendor set-up and assistance, food for vendors, raffle table (2 hour shifts), kids craft table activity, clean-up and breakdown. Email [manager@willitscenterforthearts.org](mailto:manager@willitscenterforthearts.org) or call Holly 459-1726.

AT THE MOVIES



## 'The Grinch'

**The Story:** Animated retelling of the Dr. Seuss tale of a green-furred creature who hates Christmas. Mister Grinch (voiced by Benedict Cumberbatch) is a sad, sour fellow. He develops a plan to steal all the presents and colored Christmas decorations of Whoville and thus ruin the holiday for everyone. His loyal dog Max, a true minion, and a goofy reindeer help. Also, the flick depicts Mister Grinch's miserable, lonely childhood at the orphanage. Thus, he has credibly deep emotional issues around happy families, and some serious resentment. Poor Mister Grinch....

**My Thoughts:** So this is the soap opera Grinch story. Poor lonely Mister Grinch, such sentiment. Well, at last we can understand what motivates him. Bad childhoods aside, this flick is silly and funny. The pacing is not frantic, the sight gags and tiny disasters are logical. Every frame has life and color. I liked the flick. Kindness and forgiveness and generosity are celebrated. I laughed. I forgave. Three cheers for Christmas and for a funny, solid, silly slapstick script.

**Parents:** This is a fine Dr. Seuss movie for children. It rewards human kindness. Children will understand.

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



## Willits Community Theatre Presents

**The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!**  
With a cast of 27



**Written by Barbara Robinson Directed by Robert Ford**

**Show Dates**  
November 30 - December 16

**November 30**  
Thurs. Fri. Sat. Sun.  
December 6 7 8 9  
13 14 15 16

**Special Show Times**  
All shows start at 7 PM except for Sunday matinees at 2 PM

**Ticket Prices**  
Thursdays and Sundays, \$15  
Fridays and Saturdays, \$20

**The Thursday December 6 show is a fundraiser for Willits PEO.**

**For tickets for this date call: July Corzine at 367-3090**

**Angel Painting by Ann Magline**

"Story Time." 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.

**Al-Anon Meeting:** Thursday nights from 5:30 to 6:30 pm at the Baechtel Creek Village Community Room (behind Rite-Aid) at the Evergreen Shopping Center. Saturdays at 10 am at St. Francis Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall, 66 East Commercial Street. "Al-Anon Family groups are a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience strength and hope to solve their common problems. We believe that alcoholism is a family illness and that changed attitudes can aid recovery.

**Drop-In Knitting Circle:** Every Saturday of the month, from 2:30 to 4:30 pm at the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street. "Bring your own projects or your yarn and needles; we have people who should be able to help solve problems and/or help you learn to knit or crochet. Sign-ups are not necessary – everyone is welcome to drop in." Lotus Baker at 459-9037, or lotusb3@earthlink.net.

**Soroptimists International of Willits:** Women's service club aimed at the betterment of girls and women. Meets second and third Tuesdays of every month, noon to 1 pm, 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 AHMM'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: [www.facebook.com/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague](http://www.facebook.com/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague) or Mike Tobin: 354-0565.

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

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





Joshua Matthew Chavez, 33 years old, on February 15, 2017. He is survived by two sons. Josh was a ranked specialist (SPC) 4 in the U.S. Army dealing directly with combative situations. He was the one that had to clear out buildings using a rifle grenade launcher. Josh served for six years stationed in New York and was deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq. He was a beloved father and courageous soldier. Josh has received numerous commendations for his bravery. He was the kind of person that took care of others

because he had an enormous heart.

#### Rico Cardona

My big brother, Rico Cardona, 22 years old, is a private 1st class 3 in the U.S. Army and specializes in helicopter maintenance. Rico has been in the Army for almost two years now. He just returned from being deployed in Iraq and is now stationed at Fort Hood in Texas. A commendation medal was awarded to him for serving in Iraq. He told me that the best

# Veterans Day 2018

A tribute to local veterans who served from World War II to Afghanistan

parts of being in the military are that you get to travel while protecting the ones he loves. That's me. He brought me and my sister a stuffed animal when he got back home.

Rico grew up in Fresno, California, but has lived in Willits for a few years now. He went to Mendocino College. I miss my brother picking me up in his arms, spinning me around the room and tossing me on the couch. Rico taught me to be strong and take care of myself. It really makes me sad that he can't be here and spend time with me because he has to protect our country. I am looking forward to hugging him tight when I see him during Christmas time.

– Tribute from Sophie Chavez, age 7

#### Kevin Bailey

This is our Uncle Kevin, Steff Sergeant Kevin Bailey, U.S. Airforce (1984-1994). He loves his football, camping with good friends, and most of all his family. We think he's pretty great, and we love him too. Thank you for your service, Uncle Kevin.

– Tribute from Collin, Catie and Brian Spackman

#### George Scott

Hello! My name is Sophia Scott, and I like to participate in Wreaths Across America to honor all the fallen veterans. I'm writing about my great-grandfather George Scott, who died in World War II. Writing this helps me to feel close to him.

He was born in Scotland on March 20, 1910. He came to America when he was 11 years old, with his mother and father, sisters and brothers. It was a big Scots family.

He met my great-grandmother at the Brown Elementary School in Kensington, Pennsylvania.. Scottish immigrants settled in that neighborhood. As children, my granddad and grandmother lived around

the corner from each other. They fell in love and married. My great-grandmother's name was Dorothy Estelle Campbell. Both my great-grandmother and great-grandfather became bookkeepers and worked for the Stetson Hat Company.

After they were married, they lived in Wissinoming, Pennsylvania (northeast Philadelphia). Together they had two bonnie lasses, Dottie and Marylyn. They were a joyous, happy family, a part of larger families on both maternal and paternal sides. Holidays were fun. My great-grandfather is fondly remembered for his banana sandwiches and his amazing sleight-of-hand and magic shows.

In 1944 he volunteered to join the war effort to help protect the people from the evil of Hitler. He was 34 years old. He became a private first class in the Army infantry. He quickly shipped out in preparation for the Battle of the Bulge, leaving behind his loving wife and two young daughters.

George Scott, my great-grandfather, was killed in action on September 4, 1944. He is buried with his fellow soldiers-in-arms in a military cemetery in Belgium. We all hope to be able to take my grandmother Marylyn to visit his grave in the future. His loss deeply affected his family, and he is still remembered with love and honor to this day.

– Tribute from Sophia Scott

#### Roger Ham

I wanted to do a little tribute to my friend, Roger Ham. He is the past commander of our local American Legion Post 174 and the current adjutant/finance officer. Roger served in the U.S. Navy from 1964-1967, as an electrician's mate, and a 2nd class petty officer. He served in Vietnam from 1966-1967, where his last duty assignment was on the U.S.S. Force, MSO 445 (mine sweeper, ocean).

Roger Ham is always so generous with his time, knowledge and guidance. He always says that: "Like it or not, our youth is our future. They are our next pillars of the community." He feels that if we do not offer the proper guidance and support, we are in

Read the rest of Veterans Over on Page 11



Inspired by your fierce will.

We are on this earth for a reason. Inside of you is a great reservoir of determination. When you set a goal, nothing gets in your way. Excuses don't exist. You're going to forge ahead until you're stronger than ever. You, and everyone with your willpower, inspire us to do more than practice medicine. You inspire us to transform lives.

See inspiration in action at AdventistHealth.org.



The rest of Veterans From Page 10

trouble! I love Roger and I am grateful to call him a friend.

His current goal is to recruit younger veterans and service members to the American Legion. He feels strongly that veterans have a brotherhood, and they need to stick together and support each and every service member. Many of the local members are in their 70s, 80s and even 90s. Younger members are needed.

– Tribute from Natalie Spackman

This tribute to local veterans was organized by Natalie Spackman, one of the local contacts for the National Wreaths Across America Day, on December 15 this year. Last year, Spackman and her fellow volunteers placed approximately 300 wreaths on veterans' graves in the local Cemetery District of the Redwoods' cemeteries, and they hope to gain enough sponsors for 500+ wreaths to honor every veterans' grave.

Each hand-made, fresh, live wreath costs \$15 to sponsor, and are made in the United States with Maine balsam. If more than one wreath is sponsored, the cost is \$10 per wreath. For more information about how to sponsor a wreath, contact, Natalie Spackman, Willits 4-H Club, 707-841-7214, willits4hclub@gmail.com or Kelley Brackett, Willits FFA, 707-272-0871, willits4hclub@gmail.com. Or visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org, using this information to sponsor: Fundraising Group ID: CA0199 (Willits Wreaths Across America); Location ID: CAWCDR (Cemetery District of the Redwoods).

The rest of Sing Out From Page 3

15 percent of that. With us, you don't have to worry about that because you have a patient navigator with you who is taking down notes, audio recording, and they burn a CD, so that later on you can listen again to everything the doctor said."

In addition to the patient navigator program, the centers provide information about medical conditions, treatment options, nutrition, pain management, stress reduction, and relaxation. Additionally, they have a reference library with books, videotapes and relaxation tapes. They refer patients to other community resources and offer medical appointment preparation and decisional support as well as transportation to appointments. There is a boutique in Ukiah which provides wigs, scarves, prosthetics, bras and other needed items totally free of charge.

CRC gets occasional grants, which help, but are usually only for a fixed amount of time. They need to raise their own money, which they do through a couple of annual events. The first of these events is called "Pure Mendocino," which occurs in August at a ranch near Ukiah, with around 300 people in attendance.

In May, they have the "Big River Walk and Paddle," which is a 3-mile pledge walk up Big River Road. It's a family-oriented hike to which you can bring your kids and dogs. This is the first year CRC has had a fundraiser in Willits, even though the executive director lives in the town.

Oslund discussed the possibility of a fundraiser with Don Willis, director of the Emandal Chorale. Willis had been toying with an idea about a large group sing-along for a while, a kind of "group karaoke," which he proposed to Oslund.

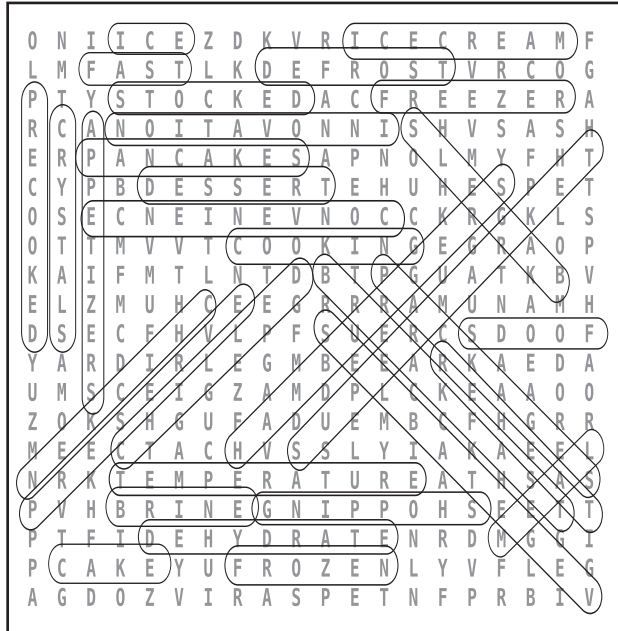
This was the beginnings of "Sing Out! An Autumn Evening of Music and Pie," at the Willits Center for the Arts. Willis enlisted the help of his musical friends, Richard Jeske (Farmers Market Band) and Cherie Sherague (Funkacillin), to lead the attendees in popular songs which were familiar to most people who were old enough to remember the '60s and '70s, as well as those who just like those eras. However, if they didn't know the words, no problem, they had ninth-grade student Jesse Holland to help them run the projector, which provided the audience with the words.

Prior to the singing, the attendees could enjoy pies, mostly provided by Kemmy's. In addition to the apple and chocolate-nut dessert pies, there were some tasty savory pies – chicken pot pie, chile verde, and mushroom. Drinks could be purchased for an extra fee to help support the Cancer Resource Centers. There was also time to peruse the silent auction items, generously donated by local artists.

The trio of musicians then led the capacity crowd, approximately 80 to 90 people, in two 12-song sets of what are by now "old standards." Once they warmed up, the attendees began to add their voices to the mix. Some helped keep the rhythm by clapping, and some even got up and danced when the mood hit them.

Once again, the good people of Willits came through for a worthy cause, and had a great time doing it, proving that the sense of community is strong in this town, especially when paired with an opportunity for fun and fellowship.

For more information about the Cancer Resource Centers, visit www.crcmendocino.org, or call 707-467-3828.





### Current Job Openings:

Animal Control Officer  
Corrections Deputy  
Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II  
Equipment Superintendent  
Program Specialist I/II  
Registered Nurse  
Supervising Public Health Nurse

For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:  
[www.mendocinocounty.org/government/human-resources](http://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/human-resources)  
EOE

## LEGAL NOTICES

WW190  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
2018-F0613  
The following persons are doing business as Dan's Groceries, 75950 Commercial Street, Covelo, CA 95428: Danny Thomson, 75950 Commercial St., Covelo, CA 95428 and Todd Thomson, 75950 Commercial St., Covelo, CA 95428.  
This business is conducted by a general partnership.  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on May 6, 1963.  
Statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk on September 27, 2018.  
/s/ Danny Thomson  
Pub dates: 10/25, 11/01, 11/08, 11/15/2018

WW192  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
2018-F0312  
The following person is doing business as Big Fish Construction, 16750 Walker Lake Road, Willits, CA 95490 / P.O. Box 712, Willits CA 95490: Adrian Christopher Fisher, 16750 Walker Lake Road, Willits, CA 95490.  
This business is conducted by an individual.  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on June 1, 2018.  
Statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk on May 18, 2018.  
/s/ Adrian Fisher  
Pub dates: 11/08, 11/15, 11/21 and 11/29/2018

WW191  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
2018-F0650  
The following person is doing business as Willits Electric, 65 North Marin Street, Willits, CA 95490: Ralph J. Pisciotta, 65 North Marin Street, Willits, CA 95490.  
This business is conducted by an individual.  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above in December 2003.  
Statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk on October 22, 2018.  
/s/ Ralph J. Pisciotta  
Pub dates: 11/01, 11/08, 11/15 and 11/21/2018

Willits Weekly can run your legal notices. Email us for more info: Willits Weekly@gmail.com



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**Computer Help**  
Need help with your computer? I will come to your home or business. PC, Macintosh, Android and IOS devices. Repairs, configuration and tutoring: \$50/hr. Call Liam 459-2470 or email [macamergerin@yahoo.com](mailto:macamergerin@yahoo.com).

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

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

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**Santa Photos at J.D. Redhouse**  
Santa will be making his annual appearance at J.D. Redhouse on December 7, 8 and 9! No appointments, just stop by for your \$5 digital photo and help fundraise for the Willits Frontier Days Juniors, the Willits High School senior class and the Willits 4-H hog group! Times will be announced soon!

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**Help Wanted**  
Wanna have some holiday fun? Skunk train Willits is seeking on board helpers for The Magical Christmas train, several positions open including Santa, Elves and helpers. For details call Pam at 707-459-1052 or send inquiries to [pbskunk@gmail.com](mailto:pbskunk@gmail.com)

**Help Wanted**  
Youth Worker position available. Part Time for The Youth Project in Willits & Laytonville. Find full job description and application requirements on our website, [mcyp.org](http://mcyp.org) or by emailing [rmellius@mcyp.org](mailto:rmellius@mcyp.org)

**Help Wanted**  
Skunk Train Willits is seeking an on board food & beverage server. Job includes cocktail & light snack prep, register/cash handling, stocking & maintaining supplies and excellent customer service skills in a fast paced, fun environment. Send inquiries & submit resume to [mczskunk@gmail.com](mailto:mczskunk@gmail.com) or call Pam at 707-459-1052.

**Traveling Notary Public**  
Traveling Notary Public: Tabitha Sue Atkinson – "I come to you" – Personal Assistant, Driver, Office Work, Blog Writer, Organizer, Needlework Tutor, Knitting and Crochet. 707-972-4211

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Above: Pigments ready for use with mediums line the shelves of Natural Pigments, based in Willits. Above, right: George O'Hanlon stands with his wife, Tatiana Zaytseva, in their storeroom at Natural Pigments. At right: Colors are tested in the laboratory. Far right: A trio of granite stones are used for grinding up minerals for natural pigments.



Above: George O'Hanlon and his son go over some specifications in their shop just off Baechtel Road. Below: Many people show up to listen to the lecture about natural pigments at the WCA.



# Origins of Color

## Owner of Willits-based Natural Pigments lectures on paints used by the masters

The Willits Center for the Arts hosted a talk last Friday about the colors and paints used by the old masters.

**Mathew Caine** Features Writer  
mathew@willitsweekly.com

The center was packed with people who showed up to hear an in-depth dissertation on the elemental makeup of pigments and the reasons for the difference in luminosity between the materials used by the masters and the synthetics of today. They learned that natural pigments have been mined for centuries, they learned about the various elements of creating brilliant and lasting color, and they learned about the methods and working systems of the old masters.

The talk was led by George O'Hanlon, owner of Natural Pigments, which produces world-renowned paints, pigments, mediums, art boards and many other necessities of the painters' arts. O'Hanlon understands color on a molecular, elemental and chemistry level.

His research has taken him to most of the planet, to study the materials and the methods of the masters, such as Rembrandt, Titian, Raphael and others. He has parlayed that knowledge into a successful, 15-year-old business, nestled in an old factory building at 291 Shell Lane, just off Baechtel Road, and he is expanding. Constantly educating himself through research and experimentation, O'Hanlon continues to develop new ways to create old products – the paints and materials that were utilized by the old masters for the most brilliant and lasting colors.

He is currently developing a wax-based paint that will emulate that which was used on some of the ancient Egyptian death masks found in tombs, which have retained their bright colors and luminance through the ages. He has learned how to suspend his pigments in pure linseed oil and other mediums without the use of additives that dull the colors over time and without separation of the materials.

His art boards, from subsidiary Artefex, are the product of years of study of how paintings done on stretched canvases tend to crack from the expansion of the canvas. O'Hanlon blends his knowledge of both art and science to create products that are at the top of the craft. His paint line, Rublev Colours, is named after a renowned 15th century Russian artist of religious icons.

"How did the old masters achieve the effects that we so greatly admire in their works?" O'Hanlon began the lecture. "Many have developed theories and put forth these theories which have been hotly debated. What was the secret of the old masters? We're going to learn that tonight. Was it the product of mysterious recipes devised by alchemy, the use of jewel-like varnishes such as amber, or maybe the mixed complex oleo-resinous mediums that they put in their paint as many claim today?"

"By examining the colors used by these old masters, we find the answer does not lie in any kind of mysterious painting medium, but rather simply the paint that they made

Read the rest of  
**Pigments** Over on Page 13

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## The rest of Pigments

### From Page 12

and their great skill.

"To find the answer," O'Hanlon continued, "we're going to travel back in time to visit a typical artist workshop of the time period. But first we have to understand something about paint. What is paint? We're going to examine a typical workshop, followed by the colors on the old masters' palettes. How the pigments themselves affect not only the color of the paint, but also how the paint behaves, how it flows, and its consistency."

He went on to examine the makeup of the paint itself. "Paint is basically two components. There is a liquid, consisting of the bindery vehicle, and a solid, which is the pigment. Combined, they give paint its pseudo-plastic quality, by which it flows.

"As the vehicle dries," he continued, "it forms this tough, flexible film. The binders used by the old masters included egg, oil from linseed and other nuts, and animal glue. Pigments are granular solvents. What paint really is, is an adhesive and a color.

"There are two basic categories of pigments," O'Hanlon explained, "organic and inorganic. The inorganic pigments include natural as well as artificially made minerals. Organic pigments include those based on dyes from animal and plant sources. During the last two centuries, we have seen most of these actually originate from artificial sources."

O'Hanlon went on to examine the qualities and origins of the most popular colors, both of the masters and the synthetics of today, contrasting the difference in granular size and shape, and how that affects the luminosity, transparency, and lasting qualities of the final product.

The old masters had limited palettes of color, but were brilliant in their knowledge of how to juxtapose colors to blend or abut each other to create the effects they desired.

In addition to being amazing artists, they had to know how to run a business, with interns, protégés and various workers who would grind their colors on a daily basis as there were no tubes to keep the paints from drying out.

The lecture just touched on the depths of the subject, providing a fascinating evening for those attending and leaving many wanting to know more.

The Willits Center for the Arts' lecture series occurs on the second Friday of the month at 6:30 pm and is open to the public. Gary Martin, curator of the gallery and art historian, usually gives the talks on art history but occasionally he will bring in a guest lecturer. Next month's talk, on December 14, is about the art of ancient China, and the following month will bring another guest lecturer, Ruby Ming, who will speak about the Silk Road.

Check out the events calendar on the WCA's website to learn more about upcoming art lectures: www.willitscenterforthearts.org. For more information on Natural Pigments, visit www.naturalpigments.com.



The rest of  
**Noyer** From Page 1

that time Noyer also worked as an emergency medical technician.

In 1991, he became a firefighter for the City of Rio Vista, winning promotion to engineer and later served as the department's training officer.

Before joining CalFire and working the Howard Forest Command Center, Noyer worked for the Montezuma Fire District as an engineer.

The married father of two boys, ages 8 and 17, who enjoys "traveling and spending time with my family and friends," noted he is now working through his 34th fire season.

Noyer told Willits Weekly he is "pleased with my appointment and look forward to leading the Brooktrails Fire Department and its volunteers

and providing the community with the highest level of service possible.

"I embrace the challenges ahead of me," he said.

Acting Chief Tim Goss will become the department's fire prevention captain.

## Rose retires as Brooktrails GM

Denise Rose is stepping down after almost six years as Brooktrails' general manager.

Rose's last full day of work will be Friday, November 15. She'll then be vacationing until December 31.

Brooktrails' new general manager, Willits resident Tamara Alaniz, will begin her duties part-



Above, left: Chief Noyer shakes hands with Brooktrails General Manager Denise Rose, who is retiring this month. Above, right: Noyer pins his son Justin with his very own Junior Fire Chief pin at Tuesday's ceremony.

time on Monday, November 17, and become a full-time township employee on January 7, 2019.

The 43-year-old Alaniz is married and has two children. She currently is general manager for several county water districts, including Millview County Water District, Redwood Valley County Water District, Upper Russian River Water Agency, and the Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation District.

She was previously employed by the City of Redlands, the Twentynine Palms Water District and the Mojave Water Agency.

Alaniz earned a bachelor's degree in environmental studies and a master's degrees in public administration and water resources management.

## The rest of Turnout

### From Page 1

were 15,819 ballots countywide included in the "Final Election Night Report" on the county's election results web page.

With additional conditional and "postmark-plus-3" ballots to add to the count – after verification – the numbers mean that potentially close to 70 percent of the 48,032 voters registered in Mendocino County turned out to vote in last week's election.

In the November 2014 mid-term election, the final certified count showed only 52.7 percent of the then-47,470 registered voters in Mendocino County turned out to vote.

The November 8 press release also broke out numbers from the Third District supervisor and Willits City Council races.

In the Third District, there were 3,288 ballots left to count, with 3,408 ballots counted and reported in the Election Night report. In the City of Willits (applying to Willits City Council and Measure I cannabis excise tax elections), there were 776 ballots left to count, with 859 ballots reported in the Final Election Night Report.

The press release doesn't break out ballots left to count in the Willits Unified School District or the Little Lake Fire District.

In addition, Ranochak told Willits Weekly, 271 additional ballots arrived at the voter office after Election Day and will be counted thanks to California's "postmark-plus-3" rule, which declares ballots postmarked by Election Day that arrive by the Friday of election week to be valid. Some of those ballots, Ranochak said, were dropped off at the polls in other counties and sent along to Mendocino County by the local voter registrars.

Ranochak said 269 local residents took advantage of California's "conditional voting" law to register to vote – and cast a ballot – right up through Election Day. Staff was about halfway through processing those registrations as of Wednesday.

Local voter offices have 30 days to finish counting ballots, do mandated double-checking audits of ballots cast, process provisional ballots, and release the final, certified count. Ranochak said extra help teams and elections office staffers are working on the count.

In recent years, the voter office has been able to announce final, certified results before the 30-day deadline.

It's impossible to get an exact turnout percentage, due to provisional and conditional ballots still up in the air. But, countywide, adding together ballots reported on Election Night (15,819 votes), plus mail-in ballots dropped off at the polls and arriving late as reported last week (16,730) plus provisional ballots (1,011) plus the postmark-plus-3 ballots (271 votes), plus conditional ballots (268 votes) means a total of 34,099 ballots were cast in the November 6 election.

If all the ballots remaining to count are verified as valid – and in Mendocino County, most provisional ballots are counted – that means 70.99 percent of the 48,032 voters registered in Mendocino County turned out to vote.

## The rest of Open

### From Page 1

with preparation of the county budget.

Angelo said running the hall in perpetuity would cost \$2.3 million a year and that was too much money, especially since the hall was currently housing only 12 to 14 youths per day. Angelo felt juvenile delinquents from Mendocino County could be shipped to Sonoma County, where they would be housed and counselled for about \$1 million a year.

During budget hearings in early June, supervisors rejected Angelo's proposal and instead found funds to keep the hall open for one year. The board named Third District Supervisor Georgeanne Croskey and Fourth District Supervisor Dan Gjerde to an ad hoc committee and charged the committee with examining the situation more deeply, including looking into the Sonoma County Juvenile Hall and exploring possible funding sources to keep the Mendocino County hall open.

As it turned out, administrative changes enacted by Chief Probation Officer Izen Locatelli since March were enough to do the trick.

Locatelli shut down one half of the hall and eliminated 38 percent of the staff. He closed down the hall's kitchen and arranged for the Mendocino County Jail kitchen staff to prepare meals for juvenile hall.

In all, according to Gjerde, the staff and plant reductions initiated by Locatelli will result in a savings of approximately \$900,000 a year. In 2017-18, the budget for the hall was \$2.3 million. With the measures instituted by Locatelli, the cost of running the hall in 2018-19 should be \$1.4 million.

Supervisors agreed to make determining what to do with the unused portion of juvenile hall a priority.

## The rest of Garbage

### From Page 1

percent, according to Brooktrails Township General Manager Denise Rose. The hike will hike the cost to residents who put out a 35-gallon curbside garbage cart each week by \$1.78 per month, or \$21.36 per year. If approved by township directors, residential customers will pay \$35.95 per month for pickup service.

Recycling service and carts will be offered to both commercial and residential customers at no charge, Rose said.

Thirty-five-gallon commercial cart pickup will increase to \$45.39 a month for weekly pickup; one-yard commercial yard waste containers will rise to \$243.82 per month.

Pickup of a four-yard industrial container will increase to \$168.34; a 20-yard drop box will cost \$578.37 per month.

Yard waste pickup will not be offered due to "lack of demand"; however Brooktrails garbage customers will still be able to dispose of up to one-cubic-yard of waste per month at the dump.

Following the public hearing, the township board of directors will consider a resolution adopting the proposed increases.

Meetings of the Brooktrails board of directors begin at 7 pm at the Birch Street community center.

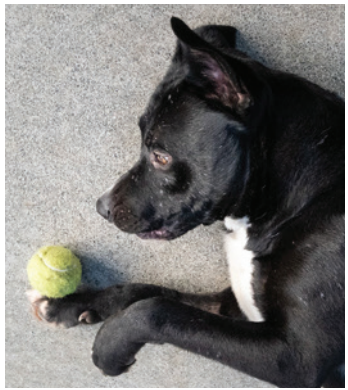
Due to the Thanksgiving holiday on Thursday, Willits Weekly will have an early edition next week. Our 283rd edition will publish on Wednesday, November 21!





**Cross Country**  
**Austen Simms, 14,**  
**Freshman**  
**How Long Playing the Sport:** "This is my first year."  
**Breakfast of Champions:** Cheerios  
**Love of the Sport:** "I like hanging out with everyone and having a goal to get to every time."  
**Other Sports Played:** Wrestling  
As a coach, I really appreciate how Austen fully commits to the race without forgetting strategy. He works hard in practice, and his speed over the 5K has steadily improved, along with his condition crossing the finish line. After injuring his leg in PE last Wednesday, he still managed to finish with a very respectable time of 24:54 at our home meet with Cloverdale.  
– Submitted by Cross Country Head Coach Liz Roripaugh

**Mighty Quill**  
Quill was found out in the boonies of Mendocino County with his girlfriend, Lexi, standing guard. Why did she need to do that? Because Quill had a severely damaged back leg. Try as we might, there was no saving it, and the leg was amputated. Quill is recovering from his surgery, but it would so wonderful if he could recuperate in his forever home. Quill is a 1-year-old neutered male mixed-breed dog who currently weighs 63 pounds. Quill loves the company of people and would love to find a home where he had lots of time to spend with his new family.  
The Ukiah Shelter is located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah. Adoption hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 4:30 pm, and Wednesday from 10 am to 6:30 pm. To view photos and bios of some of the other wonderful adoptable animals here, please visit at: [www.mendoanimalshelter.com](http://www.mendoanimalshelter.com). More info about adoptables: 707-467-6453.



**Zippy Zipper**  
Zipper (aka Oakley) is back for another try. This 1-year-old Red Heeler was adopted into a home that didn't understand his drive for work, and it wasn't gelling with the existing pack. Zipper needs to have an experienced owner and an outlet for his work ethic. He's still young and smart as a whip, so with training and exercise he has great potential! Also, he is neutered and up to date on vaccines, so that makes him ready to go today. Don't wait too long!  
The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County is located at 9700 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley. Open hours: 1 to 5 pm, Wednesday through Friday; and 11 am to 3 pm, Saturday and Sunday. Please give us a call at 707-485-0123 if you have questions. You can view all our adoptable dogs and cats on Petfinder or through our website: [mendohumanesociety.com](http://mendohumanesociety.com). To volunteer or help take the dogs for a walk, please join HSIMC on Sundays at 11 am for an orientation.



**Steven Peter Okerstrom**  
**March 17, 1941 – October 15, 2018**  
Steven Peter Okerstrom passed away on Monday, October 15th, 2018. A resident of Willits, CA, he born to Merle and Astrid Okerstrom in Santa Cruz, CA on March 17th, 1941.

He is survived by his loving wife Rita, sons Ryan and Sean Okerstrom and step children David G. Castino, Sr., Douglas Castino, Laurel Webster and beloved grandchildren David G. Castino, Jr, Sarah Castino, Jacquelyn Castino-Reynolds, Ben Castino & Remo Webster. He loved his sons Sean and Ryan deeply and was their fiercest advocate. He considered it one of his greatest fortunes when he married Rita Rubattino in 1992 and her family also became his.  
Steven graduated from Laytonville High School in 1960. He attended Santa Rosa Junior College and worked at Yeager & Kirk Lumber, before returning to Mendocino County in 1964 to join his father in the family business, Okerstrom Logging. Steven helped grow Okerstrom Logging, as co-owner, then owner. For over 40 years, Okerstrom Logging provided jobs and supported families in northern Mendocino County.  
Steven preceded in death by his parents, Merle & Astrid Okerstrom and his sister, Geraldine Ferreira.  
In lieu of flowers, the family suggests a memorial contribution be made in Steven's memory to St. Jude's Children's Hospital, the Wounded Warrior Project or a charity of choice.  
A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, November 17th, 2018, 2-4 pm, at Willits Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Rd., Willits, CA 95490.

The rest of  
**Homeless**  
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appointed supervisors John McCowen and Dan Gjerde to an ad hoc committee which will meet with county staff and the grant application steering committee of the Continuum of Care to select one or more projects that will address the homeless situation most effectively.  
In speaking to HHSA Director Tammy Moss Chandler and Continuum of Care Program Administrator Maya Stuart, both McCowen and Gjerde said they were concerned about the opened way Stuart was organizing Continuum of Care participants to select a project.

Stewart said she planned to distribute copies of the grant application to member organizations of the county's Continuum of Care next week.

The organizations would fill out the applications and return them to her by December 5. Then a Continuum of Care steering committee would select the project or projects that appeared most worthy of grant support. Since the applications had not yet been distributed, neither Chandler nor Stuart could tell the board what the grant money would be used for.

McCowen said he wouldn't support the request to declare a shelter emergency in Mendocino County "without having more information about what the Continuum of Care will be applying for. What are their priorities? Are there eligible projects or appropriate projects that this money could be applied to?"

"We could potentially spend a lot of money on programs and then be in a position where those programs are turning to us and saying: 'Well, now we need ongoing funding,'" McCowen said.

Both McCowen and Gjerde said they believed the best way to spend the \$4.9 million would be on permanent housing for the homeless.

The grant is being offered by the State of California's Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council. The subsection of the council administering the grant is the Homeless Emergency Aid Program, a \$500 million block grant designed to provide direct assistance to cities, counties and continuums of care throughout California to address the state's homelessness crisis.

HEAP was authorized by SB 850, signed into law by Gov. Jerry Brown on June 27.

Deadline for grant application submissions is December 31. The board said it intends to address the item at its last meeting of 2018, currently scheduled for December 18.

The question of how to address the HEAP grant came up after a lengthy presentation by Chandler and Stuart on how the county is responding to the homelessness issue. According to Chandler, more than 20 organizations in the county have affiliated into an umbrella organization called the Continuum of Care.

Member organizations include Mendocino County Health and Human Services Agency, the Mendocino Community Health Clinics, the Mendocino Coast Clinics, Adventist Health, Manzanita Services, the Mendocino County Aids Volunteer Network, Redwood Community Services, the Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center and other organizations.

According to information provided by the Mendocino County Continuum of Care, in 2017-18 various member agencies and organizations received \$11.2 million and will use that money to combat and alleviate homelessness. The County of Mendocino received \$1.5 million.

According to Chandler, historically the County of Mendocino has spent approximately \$400,000 a year on the homelessness issue. Last year's total for the Continuum of Care would be about 30 times that historical figure.



Above: FFA officers demonstrated their meeting's opening and closing ceremonies to the school board last week. Present, introducing themselves, and describing their duties, were, from left to right: Parliamentarian Demetri Novoa, Sentinel Lucas Branscomb, Reporter Samantha Arms, Vice President Callie Brown, President Claire Case Brackett, Secretary Ryan Reed, Treasurer Taylor Drew, and Historian Collin Spackman.

The rest of  
**Ratings**  
From Page 1

exceptionally large kindergarten last year."

He added school "enrollment all over the state is down."

Westerburg summarized the district's ratings on a state-created "dashboard" accountability system, which, he said, "rates districts in 10 categories, and this year we have to report on five of them."

The superintendent said "deviations" at Willits High School and Blosser Lane Elementary School placed them in the "good" category on the state-mandated facilities adequacy rating, while Baechtel Grove Middle School and Brookside Elementary School were rated "fair."

The district has "fixed them," he noted.

Westerburg remind the board that "our newest facility is Blosser, and it's 30 years old."

The academic standard criteria in the ratings showed the district "needs to do work" on its secondary science and social studies curriculum, he said.

As far as the "parental engagement" category was concerned, Westerburg pointed to the parent surveys that had been done.

"Access to a broad course of study" – another of the assessed standards – indicated WUSD needed more Career Technical Education options, Westerburg told the board, but "we're one of the better schools in CTE for our size."

He noted the new trimester system at Willits High School provides "access to a broader course of curriculum" and independent study students were being offered more because they "can be inside for regular classes."

The final standard assessed – "school climate" – revealed "70 percent of students say they feel safe at school."

"I take that as a negative," said Westerburg, who added the district would "hopefully have [a school resource officer] soon."

Westerburg also cited the prevalence of vaping in school as something that "has become a problem."

It's a growing trend," he said, adding "students are up front about it in a survey."

Westerburg told trustees he was "pleased with the progress" teachers were making with a new method for teaching reading called "unlocking the code" and also that "staffing was in good shape."

Willits Teachers Association President John Haschak said he hoped

The rest of  
**Contract**  
From Page 1

about the contract were supervisors John McCowen, Georgeanne Croskey and Carre Brown. Gjerde supported Wilbanks' contract, but expressed a willingness to take the contract back to the retirement board. Fifth District Supervisor Dan Hamburg was absent from the November 13 meeting.

The contract would have raised Wilbanks' annual salary from \$139,510 to \$157,000. In addition, the contract would have taken effect on December 1, 2018, a year and a month before Wilbanks' current contract is due to expire.

Under the terms of the new contract, Wilbanks would receive a \$15,000 performance and/or longevity bonus on December 31 of every year in which the contract remains in force, meaning, if the contract took effect on December 1, Wilbanks would receive a \$15,000 bonus four weeks later.

In addition, the proposed contract provided that Wilbanks was to have received a 3 percent raise on January 1 of each year in which the contract remains in effect. That means on January 1, 2019, Wilbanks' latest \$157,000 salary would increase to \$161,710.

The proposed contract also provided Wilbanks with a "housing allowance" of \$500 a month, or \$6,000 a year, plus a six-month severance offer – meaning if the retirement board were to terminate Wilbanks' contract, MCERA would be obligated either to give Wilbanks six months' notice or provide him with six months' worth of salary and benefits.

Wilbanks has been retirement board administrator for the past four years.

Gjerde told the board of supervisors the retirement board wants to keep Wilbanks on as administrator for the foreseeable future and that MCERA board members were very pleased with his job performance. Gjerde added, in his estimation, Wilbanks would have no trouble going elsewhere and getting as much as \$50,000 a year more than the figure offered in the new contract.

McCowen expressed dislike for elements of

the contract. He said he didn't like the housing allowance, since no other county employee receives a housing allowance. He argued the six months' severance provision was too long, and he would prefer a two months' severance deal.

McCowen also didn't like the way the proposed contract back-dated the beginning of the contract – from the January 1 start date of the original contract, to December 1 – and gave Wilbanks a \$15,000 bonus for longevity and then, just a few days later, gave him an actual 3 percent raise.

Nevertheless, McCowen did not object to the total payout. He told Gjerde he wanted the contract to lose the sneaky elements but noted "the overall payout would be the same."

Other board members agreed with McCowen. Gjerde agreed to take the contract back to the drawing board.

**Planning and Building declares special hours for new cannabis permits**

Planning and Building staffer Jesse Davis told supervisors his department is requesting that people wanting to initiate the process to obtain a new cannabis cultivation permit come to the Planning and Building Services offices two days a week only: Mondays and Wednesdays, from 8 am until 1 pm.

Davis also recommended those people who want to start the approval process for a new cannabis permit call the department first (234-6650) to set up an appointment.

Davis said people who need to deal with Planning and Building on other matters related to cannabis may come by the office at any time.

**Cobblestone contract to start soon**

In recent years, the county has had a difficult time managing its contracts. One of the most apparent aspects of this difficulty has been the frequent occurrence of "retroactive payments" – times when a contracting company or agency has come back to the

board of supervisors to seek approval of an additional payment to a company, after an original annual payment has been made.

According to CEO Carmel Angelo, Mendocino County has between 800 and 1,000 contracts with outside companies and agencies. The majority of those contracts, she noted, are managed by individual county departments.

In September 2017, the county contracted with Cobblestone, provider of a computer program designed to manage the county's contracts. The \$64,468 contract period was for five years. Kimber Denevi, an administrative analyst with the county's executive office, appeared before supervisors Tuesday to provide a brief update on the progress on the county's efforts to go "on-line" with the software program.

Denevi noted the Cobblestone program will provide "enhanced contract management, will shorten contract approval time, will provide a single point of access for all contract-related information, will track contract renewal and expiration dates, and will leverage renegotiation windows."

She said Cobblestone personnel have held trainings with several county departments in the handling of and interface with Cobblestone, including the Executive Office, the Sheriff's Office, Human Resources, Planning and Building, the Department of Agriculture, County Counsel, Health and Human Services and other departments.

Approximately 10 more county departments are scheduled to have trainings in December and, according to Denevi, the program is scheduled to become operational in early 2019.

Six departments will "go live" with Cobblestone contract management on January 1, 2019, and 10 more on February 1. The Cobblestone program for the massive Health and Human Services Agency will become operational on March 31, 2019.





Above, from left: Wildflowers and naturalized flowers for spring should be sown before the next set of rains, so they can grow with the water that is naturally available. Cabbages like this Red Drumhead can hide slugs that munch away at their insides. Find and trap slugs now that can spoil winter crops. Quinces are ripe now, and often seen at old homesteads, empty lots, and roadsides. They are fuzzy like a peach, hard like an apple, and are used to make wonderful pies, jams and preserves. Cooked, the flavor is like a spiced apple. If you've brought in more peppers than you can eat or dry, fermentation is a flavorful alternative. Most of the famous Louisiana hot sauces are fermented. My recipe is at: [www.quailseeds.com/updates](http://www.quailseeds.com/updates). Squishy overripe or frozen tomatoes can still be a source for seeds for next year. The seeds are visible surrounded by juice. Fermentation is used to kill pathogens and break dormancy.

COLUMN | Garden Tip of the Month

## November: Putting the garden to bed

This dry cold weather has been finishing off the summer crops and making even kale look droopy. But it's also giving us some great opportunities in the garden.

**Jamie Chevalier**  
*Columnist*

The greatest resource we gardeners have right now is fallen leaves. The old gardeners who used leaf compost as potting soil were right – leaves and branches are full of gibberellic acid, which makes seeds sprout better.

Leaves make a wonderful mulch, rich enough that many perennials will need no other fertilizer. I try to put a thick layer on as many beds as possible. Weeds seem to have a harder time poking up through leaf mulch than straw, so I like to put the leaves as a first layer, then straw, which mats down and prevents the leaves from blowing away.

New research also shows that chipped branches are a great winter mulch, and effective compost material. There

are even folks using the heat from composting wood chips to make hot water! (Pain method, Johnson-Su method, and others.)

Our normal wet falls are party time for slugs and snails. Freezing knocks down the number of these pests, giving us the chance to take measures that will keep them down. Cups of beer set near their hiding places will actually attract and drown slugs now, instead of just filling with rainwater. Turning over mulch, taking out dead plants, and moving pots often exposes slug eggs, which look like tapioca. Left open to the air, they will freeze, or be eaten by birds.

Winter-adapted crops like kale – and perennials like rosemary or lavender – often suffer much more from wet than from cold. Raindrops pound down and compact the soil, then wash it away. Nutrients are leached out. Water and compaction leave no room for oxygen in the soil, leading to root rot. Damp leads to mold and disease. A final issue with our winters is the temperature swings, warm days fooling the plants into breaking dormancy, only to freeze at night.

To combat mold, keep plants well-spaced, provide air circulation, and take any dead matter to the compost pile now. To guard against winter soil problems, mulch is very helpful. It protects the soil from compaction and feeds

earthworms. Worm tunnels allow oxygen into the soil and let water drain away. Big temperature swings get evened out, so the plants stay dormant and at their most winter-hardy. This is especially important for shallow-rooted plants like raspberries and cabbages.

Seaweed, in the form of kelp meal or extract, increases winter-hardiness by several degrees in many plants.

I'm using this window to rid of old dead stuff and make the garden healthier. The blackening skeletons of last year's tomatoes are even more depressing when you know that mites and thrips use them as their winter residence. The heat of a compost pile will kill them and turn dead plants into fresh fertilizer.

This year, even if a lot of my grand plans fell through, at least I'm getting a second chance to clear things away, spread some mulch over the weeds, and put it all to bed.

*Jamie Chevalier lives and gardens near Willits. She has gardened professionally in Alaska and California and taught gardening in schools, as well as living in a remote cabin and commercial fishing. She wrote the Bountiful Gardens catalog from 2009 to 2017, and is now the proprietor of Quail Seeds, [www.quailseeds.com](http://www.quailseeds.com).*



## 2019 Soroptimist Community Telephone Directory coming soon!

Get your changes in by December 1, 2018

Soroptimist International of Willits women are currently working on our 47th edition of the Community Telephone Directory. In September, we mailed out letters and forms to our advertisers, and this month many members will be calling or visiting advertisers' businesses. Members will also be visiting new business or businesses who have not taken advantage of the "Biggest Bang for the Buck" advertising, with 4,000 printed copies distributed each year.

Residential customers can make changes to their residential listing by

emailing [willitsphonebook@gmail.com](mailto:willitsphonebook@gmail.com). We answer every email we receive. Because we are a private book, we can list your cell number as well as or instead of your land line number.

If you need personal assistance you may call Loraine at 459-1606. All changes need to be made by December 1, 2018 to be printed in the new 2019 Community Telephone Directory.

– Submitted by Soroptimist International of Willits



# Welcome Dr. Claudia Petruncio

Internal Medicine Specialist at  
Redwood Medical Clinic

We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Petruncio to our community. She brings over 30 years of experience in the medical field, including time spent in clinic and hospital settings. She graduated and completed her medical residency at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. As an Internal Medicine specialist, she cares for patients with a wide range of conditions, including diabetes, thyroid disorders, hypertension, chronic pain and geriatric care.

**"I love Internal Medicine because I get to treat the whole person, from head to toe. I believe that medicine should treat mind, body and spirit, and that's what I get to do for my patients."** –Claudia Petruncio, D.O.

**To schedule an appointment  
call (707) 459-6115**

Redwood Medical Clinic  
3 Marcela Drive, Suite 3  
Willits CA

[www.AdventistHealthHowardMemorial.org](http://www.AdventistHealthHowardMemorial.org)

