

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

You won't believe this happened

To the Editor:

On Friday, August 20, we three retired teachers were going out for our monthly lunch in Willits. We went to Fish n'Chips at the south end of town but it was closed. So we stepped into Taqueria Maria's next door. Along with me were Paul Ubelhart from Willits and Marv Talso of Redwood Valley, notable author of the history of said place. Paul is 90, I am close to that, and Marv is not close at all to that.

As Marv escorted Paul to the counter to help him order, a nice tall, healthy looking, young man came in behind them. I told him not to worry because those two would only take 10 minutes to order a couple burritos. He smiled.

As Paul picked at his monstrous burrito we talked about his days as a tank commander in the Korean war when his superior officer wanted to sue him for driving his tank in a creek because the bridge was never going to support his tank. I avoided that war with a student deferment as did Marv avoid the Vietnam war.

As we were finishing up our lunch, the same man I spoke to earlier came over to our table and said, "I'm a firefighter and I heard you talking about his

(Paul) service in the Korean war. I am grateful and I want to buy you lunch." That said, he plunked down three twenties on our table and left.

There are some really good people out there.

Ed TePas, Willits

Food Bank and COVID update

To the Editor:

I recently learned some good news about the Delta variant COVID and the Willits Food Bank. There were positive tests in two volunteers who went home and stayed there for most of the month of August, and are now over the disease, feeling much better, and planning to return to help at the food bank in the near future. All is well, for now.

All workers are now required to get tested monthly, mask up, get vaccinated, and get the booster when it shows up, wash hands, use a nearby hand sanitizer often, and stay back from sick people. It's a relief to begin to return to some normalcy during such a non-normal time.

Our recipients are generally helpful with all of the required prevention equipment, and most arrive wearing

their masks. We continue to lease a handwashing station so everyone can wash their hands before picking up their food, that includes hand sanitizer and more masks.

We helpers understand the frustration felt by our recipients whose lives were already so difficult, but now must remask, retest, get vaccinated, or wait for that elusive booster that promises to keep us all safer. However, times are different from way back when, around 1350, the bubonic black plague wiped out entire countries; some folks who were able isolated from the sick, and sanitation eventually became a good idea. The plague mostly faded away after many years without vaccinations, quarantine, or modern medical treatment that might have saved the lives of hundreds of millions.

In 2021, we have a really good chance of knocking this Delta variant out cold by working together to kill it. Our most vulnerable populations need help and protection from the modern plague as well as from hunger and neglect.

Thanks to all who contribute their garden bounty, other food, money, and volunteer hours to help the food bank succeed.

Ruthanne Volz, executive director, Willits Community Services and Food Bank

Willits Senior Center Indoor Lunch

Willits Senior Center's dining room is open for fully vaccinated diners, at least two weeks after their final shot, or those with proof of a negative COVID-19 test in the last 72 hours. New hours: from 11:45 am to 1 pm, Monday through Friday. Indoor meals are still \$5 through December, or \$50 for a 10 meal lunch card. Please bring vaccination card or proof of a COVID test in the last 72 hours.

Volunteers Wanted

Willits Senior Center is seeking volunteers who are vaccinated to come help serve at the Senior Center lunch. Dining room volunteers are welcome anytime Monday through Friday, 11:30 am to 1 pm. Call Volunteer Coordinator Deb Holcomb at 459-6826 if interested or for more info.

Drive-Thru & Walk-Up Meals

The Willits Senior Center will continue to provide drive-thru and walk-up meals, from 12 to 12:30 pm, outside the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road, even after the dining room reopens. Price is \$5 through December.

Home Meal Delivery

The Senior Center Meals on Wheels program delivers lunch Monday through Friday. To sign up call Deb at 459-6826, who can help fill out the application form. Call 459-6826 the day before needed to schedule home meal delivery. Delivered throughout Willits.

Thursday, August 26: Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Veggie, Garlic Bread, Green Salad

Friday, August 27: Turkey w/ Stuffing, Cranberry Sauce, Veggie, Roll

Monday, August 30: Crispy Western Chicken Sandwich, Beans, Corn

Tuesday, August 31: Open Faced Turkey Sandwich, Mashed Potatoes, Beans, Corn

Wednesday, September 1: Shredded Chicken Burrito, wet with Green Sauce

Thursday, September 2: Sausage, Olive & Onion Stromboli, Green Salad

Friday, September 3: Chicken Club Wrap, Chips, Fruit

Wildlife Alliance applauds cancelling of Wildlife Services contract

Submitted by the Mendocino Nonlethal Wildlife Alliance

August 18, 2021 - The Mendocino Nonlethal Wildlife Alliance congratulates and thanks the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors for cancelling their contract with USDA Wildlife Services during their board meeting on August 17.

"The Public Trust Doctrine holds that wildlife is to be managed for the benefit of the public, and yet for decades, Mendocino County has provided a subsidy to private ranchers via a contract with Wildlife Services. This agency has killed hundreds of Mendocino County's bears, bobcats, coyotes, foxes, mountain lions, and other wildlife each year, using shockingly cruel and inhumane methods," said Jon Spitz, MNWA Steering Committee member.

"We are grateful that Mendocino County now joins Marin and Sonoma counties in rejecting this cruel agency. We are proud to be working with the board to ensure that Mendocino County residents will have access to technical assistance in implementing nonlethal wildlife management methods to protect their property and animals," said MNWA Steering Committee member Rose Ireland.

Numerous Mendocino County ranchers already employ non-lethal strategies to protect their livestock and have found that such strategies offer more protection than lethal means.

Gowan Batist, a fifth-generation Mendocino County resident and the farm manager at Fortunate Farm in Caspar, is a strong champion of non-lethal strategies to protect her livestock. "I raise sheep which are extremely vulnerable, but since implementing non-lethal control methods on my farm six years ago, I have not had a single loss to a coyote," she said.

Telephone scam not associated with MCSO

By Captain Gregory L. Van Patten for MCSO

On August 20, 2021 the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office was notified by the Willits Police Department of a reported fraudulent telephone scam received by a City of Willits resident.

This telephone scam is in no way associated with the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office and has no legitimate law enforcement purpose.

The telephone scam was reported to be from a caller who is posing as Sheriff's Sergeant Clint Wyant. Upon establishing contact, the caller told the resident there was an arrest warrant issued for them as the result of missing jury duty.

This fraudulent information is used as a scam to pressure a person (recipient of the call) to provide personal identifying information for identity theft purposes or to demand payment through such things as credit card, gift card or money order transaction.

The public is urged against engaging in this fraudulent telephone scam and should immediately report any such behavior to their local law enforcement agency.

In an effort to combat identity theft during this type of telephone scam, please do not provide any personal identifying information over the telephone to include Social Security numbers, bank account numbers, credit card numbers, or your personal address.

It is also important to refrain from sending any type of payment to the caller as directed.

The rest of Arson From Page 1

The rest of Jail From Page 1

revealed Smith walked up from the nearby creek bed, stopped, lit a portion of the dry grass by the drive-thru on fire, and then walked away. WPD officers were able to locate Smith a few blocks away and detain her.

After the investigation was complete, Smith was ultimately arrested for arson and a drug-related charge.

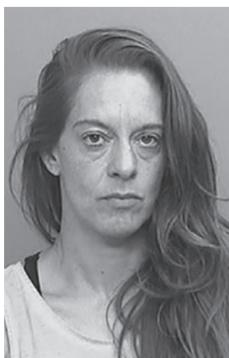
Little Lake and Brooktrails Fire departments were able to contain and extinguish the fire quickly before it was able to spread, causing further damage.

process and were immediately quarantined upon entry into the facility, bringing our current COVID-19 cases to 11.

Jail medical staff currently tests all arrestees prior to entry into the jail. Any person that stays in jail goes through a 10-day quarantine prior to going into any general population housing unit. During that quarantine, inmates are monitored by medical staff and tested prior to their release into other housing.

Correctional staff have been undergoing mandatory COVID-19 testing twice a week since December 2020. On August 16, 2021, all Corrections staff began testing daily in response to the increase in community spread.

There are currently three Corrections deputies that have tested positive; two were detected by our screening process, and one was detected through off-site testing.



Jennifer Smith of Fort Bragg.

The Rules: **LETTERS**

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

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

Willits Weekly

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Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

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Firehouse Dedication

Community event with lunch, entertainment, tours and auctions planned for September 11

The idea of the Little Lake Firehouse dedication ceremony and party began with Jolene Carrillo of the Willits Rotary, but soon blossomed into an event involving most of the service organizations of the area. The date, September 11, was chosen as an homage to the dedication of the first responders on that fateful day in New York City 20 years ago, as well as the projected completion of the new modern firehouse, belonging to the citizens of Willits.

"I love the new firehouse," said Carrillo. "I'm really proud of the fact that we have this beautiful new building. They need money to furnish it and make it wonderful. They need places to sleep which they didn't have before. When we had our last two or three fires, which were quite large, they had no place to sleep. I'm so impressed with the new firehouse. It's a beautiful addition to Willits, something that we need here."

Indeed, the building, which has been a long time in planning, funding and constructing, will serve as a reminder of the dedication of our local volunteers and the foresight of the people of the town. It is a building that will last and serve for many years to come.

The Firehouse Dedication Committee, consisting of Carrillo, Ann Alumbaugh, Jason Korte and Kathy Gerhardt of the Willits Rotary, in addition to Little Lake Fire District board member Skip Lucier, Fire Chief Chris Wilkes, Little Lake Fire Secretary Michelle Schnitzius, and others have spent many hours in the planning of the upcoming event, enlisting the help of the Willits Lions Club, the American Legion, the Willits Senior Center, the Boy and Girl Scouts, 4-H, FFA, and the Willits Wild Bunch, all of which jumped on board without hesitation to make this a city-wide cooperative celebration.

The dedication will begin at 9 am with a flag ceremony by the American Legion Post 174, followed by a 9 / 11 tribute at 9:15 am, a ribbon cutting (with a fire hose) at 10 am, and a firehouse dedication at 10:15 am. Guided tours of the firehouse will run from 11 am to 2 pm to allow the people of Willits to see the amazingly modern and well-equipped firefighting and emergency-services building. Meat and veggie burgers will be cooked by the Lions Club and other lunch treats will be provided by the Senior Center.

In addition to the aforementioned ceremonies and tours, the day will be filled with many activities for the entire

family. As this is a fundraiser, designed to purchase furniture and other accessories not covered in the original funding, there will be a silent and live auction with many generously donated items. A bounce house will be provided for the kids, as well as face painting (a popular attraction for the littles). A troupe of fire dancers will be present to entertain and music will be provided by The Basics.

Sadly, this will be the last day for much-beloved Fire Chief Chris Wilkes, who is going to take his talents and affable nature elsewhere after the dedication. He has served the city well, stewarding the design and construction of the firehouse, and will be greatly missed.

"The upcoming celebration is a well-deserved, long-time-coming get together for the community," said Wilkes. "It's an opportunity for the community to come and see what they built. This will be here long after me and long after us and our grandchildren. I'm hoping to see everybody from the community come down and enjoy what they've put together and funded. We've been lucky enough to be a part of the process but ultimately, it's the community's firehouse. The more people we can get down here and do some walk-throughs and get a good feel for it, the better. It won't be completely done but it will be pretty darn close."

"This firehouse is going to be viable and have a very long life," Wilkes continued. "These newer buildings that meet all the energy codes like the lighting control systems will work for many years. We're used to walking into a building and your lighting controls are a switch for the fixture or the bulb. Here, in the building, there's electronics and timers and occupancy sensors and all those types of things."

Wilkes leaves his position with great memories and respect for his coworkers. "To the people of Willits, I love it here. It's been a great run and it's still home for me. I'm excited to have been a part of this project and I'll leave my position on a super high note."

Come by on September 11 to see the new firehouse, say goodbye and job well done to Wilkes, ride an antique fire engine, hear some music, eat some burgers, play and see old and new friends. Tickets for the lunch, which will go to help fund needed equipment and furniture for the firehouse, are \$25 for adults and \$10 for children, and are available at Sparetime Supply, JD Redhouse, Willits Senior Center, or call 707-841-7758.



At top, from left: Rotarian Ann Alumbaugh and Fire District Board Member Skip Lucier listen in at one of the firehouse dedication committee meetings. Honoring the heroic work of the Little Lake Firefighters, this rock stands in City Park, across from the new firehouse. The Little Lake Firehouse is ready for tours on September 11. Above: Ann Alumbaugh, Jolene Carrillo, Chris Wilkes, Skip Lucier and Michelle Schnitzius pose for a photo in front of the new firehouse.



At top, left: Fire board member Skip Lucier, Secretary Michelle Schnitzius, and Chief Chris Wilkes do some final planning. At top, right: Little Lake Fire Chief Chris Wilkes, who has seen years of hard work and planning come to fruition, stands outside the new building. Above: The Little Lake Firehouse is nearing completion. At left: Firehouse dedication committee members Jolene Carrillo and Ann Alumbaugh inspect the almost-completed firehouse. Photos by Mathew Caine

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Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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



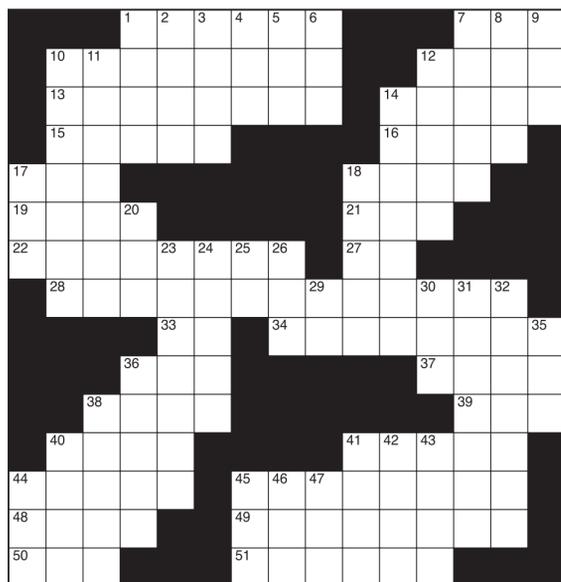
HOW TO SUDOKU

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!

MAKE THE GRADE WORD SEARCH

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

AVERAGE	GRADUATE	RANKING
CLASSROOM	HOMEWORK	REMEMBER
COURSE	KNOWLEDGE	REPORT
EDUCATION	LEARNING	RETAIN
EXAM	MEMORIZE	SCHOOL
FAIL	PASS	SUPPLIES
GOALS	PROFESSOR	SYLLABUS
GRADES	QUIZ	TRAJECTORY



CLUES ACROSS

- Nature expedition
- Take the energy from
- Bungled
- Young salmon
- Botanical gardens
- Source of chocolate
- Country singer LeAnn
- Yokel
- Unit of energy
- Plant of the lily family
- Tusked wild pig
- Form of 'to be'
- Formerly
- Letter of the Greek alphabet
- Former First Lady
- News organization
- Shining brightly and intermittently
- Brew
- Teams' best pitchers
- Edible fruit
- Pitching stat
- ___ or bust

CLUES DOWN

- Nuclear undersea weapon
- Helps the skin
- Evergreen coniferous trees
- Relieve of employment
- A way to drench
- Journalist Tarbell
- ___ and Venzetti
- Alcoholic liquor
- An athlete who plays for pay
- Where to get drinks
- Japanese art form
- Baseball great Satchel
- Winged angelic beings
- One point south of due east

- Group of islands in Polynesia
- A place to play: ___ center
- Masses of gray matter in the brain
- Belgian city (alt. sp.)
- Millilitre
- Beloved Will Ferrell film
- Railway above ground
- Satisfaction
- Aggregate of molecules
- Type of barometer
- Type of college teacher (abbr.)
- Long periods of time
- Native people of Nebraska and S. Dakota
- Deliver
- Thin, narrow piece of wood
- Modern Israel founder
- Small NY college
- Pounds per square inch
- Veterans battleground
- Hollywood talent agency (abbr.)
- Popular kidsO channel

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE LOG

August 16 to August 22

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled **169 incidents** in this seven-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

August 16

2:53 am: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 1700 block of Elm Lane.

6:22 am: SHIVALILA, Ituri Harijain (45) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of East San Francisco Avenue. He was arrested pursuant to 242 PC (Battery), 212.5 (A) PC (Robbery), 243 (D) PC (Battery Causing Serious Bodily Injury), 422 PC (Criminal Threats), 459 PC (Burglary), on felony charges of theft of an elderly person and resisting an officer, and on misdemeanor charges of elder abuse, trespassing, and vandalism.

10:34 am: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

11:40 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block of Monroe Street.

8:24 pm: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 400 block of North Lenore Avenue.

9:41 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Madden Lane.

11:23 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 600 block of Coast Street.

August 17

5:38 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Baechtel Road.

11:10 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Creekside Court.

8:24 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1400 block of Baechtel Road.

August 18

8:17 am: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 400 block of Grove Street.

8:58 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of South Main Street and West Valley Street.

11:50 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

August 19

6:47 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of South Main Street.

6:08 pm: SMITH, Jennifer Leeann (39) of Fort Bragg was contacted in the 1300 block of South Main Street. She was arrested on felony charges of arson of a structure or forestland and possession of a controlled substance, and on misdemeanor charges of possession of drug paraphernalia.

7:19 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 100 block of Hazel Street.

8:49 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of South Humboldt Street.

10:07 pm: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 200 block of East Commercial Street.

August 20

8:39 am: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

12:13 pm: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 800 block of South Main Street.

2:10 pm: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 700 block of Coast Street.

3:30 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Franklin Avenue.

4:27 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of South Main Street.

6:32 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

7:52 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 800 block of South Main Street.

11:01 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

August 21

6:02 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Railroad Avenue and East Valley Street.

8:22 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of South Main Street.

2:29 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 400 block of East Commercial Street.

7:37 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 400 block of East Commercial Street.

9:44 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 100 block of Baechtel Road and issued a citation.

11:17 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of South Main Street and Walnut Street.

11:42 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of California Street and issued a warning.

August 22

6:20 am: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

10:43 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Barbara Lane.

5:53 pm: ELROD Jr., Darrell David (52) of Willits was contacted in the 300 block of South Lenore Avenue following a disturbance. He was arrested pursuant to 273.5 PC (Domestic Corporal Injury) and on felony charges of domestic battery.

6:27 pm: SANDERS, Rhonda Rennee (60) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. She was arrested pursuant to 11550 (A) H&S (Under the Influence of a Controlled Substance), 11377 (A) H&S (Possession of Methamphetamine), on felony charges of smuggling controlled substances or liquor into jail, and on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance.

6:40 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Holly Street.

9:54 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of Margie Drive.

10:46 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 200 block of South Main Street.



Adapting for Success

Flying Dog Wood Fired Pizza and Vinyl adds outdoor seating and begins to clear out CD and DVD inventory

Pete Swanton, owner of Flying Dog Wood Fired Pizza and Vinyl, has exercised amazing resiliency over the years. He has been able to adapt his businesses to suit the changing needs of the Willits community.

In the beginning, Flying Dog was Main Street Music and Video, a CD sales and video rental store. Then he added DVDs when VHSs were becoming obsolete. When DVDs were more available as online rentals and in libraries, Swanton knew he'd better take a look at other options in order to produce a viable income flow and continue serving his community.

One restaurant idea didn't pan out and just before COVID hit, the entrepreneur was rethinking what to do next. It didn't take much to realize that the Willits community needed something different in cuisine offerings and he already had the infrastructure for another eatery. With help and advice from his friend, Olan Cox from Mendocough's Wood Fired Catering, Swanton decided wood fired pizzas were the ticket for his home town.

At the same time, vinyl records were becoming popular, too. He worked with Cherie Sheraque, who books and advertises the band lineup at Swanton's Shanachie Pub, to curate the vinyl collections.

His dog, Link, was the inspiration for Flying Dog Wood Fired Pizza and Vinyl's name and logo, and his new robust take-out business was born, along with the retro vinyl.

Continuing to build on and create new visions, Swanton didn't stop there. He had outdoor dining installed. The pizzeria that only served 12-inch pizzas, now offers personal-size 7-inchers. Lunch hours are also new and becoming popular, along with a monthly Sunday Mimosas Breakfast Pizza Brunch that had its first success on August 4.

The most popular breakfast pizza so far is a sausage and gravy pizza with fried eggs, arugula, and scallions. "And [Chef Ashleigh Caudill] has another one with mushrooms and another that's a margherita with a

hotter sauce," said Swanton. All other pizzas, including design your own and dessert pizzas, are available at the brunch on the first Sunday of the month.

Swanton's looking forward to the next one on September 5. "It's actually really fun!" he smiled.

Something of note is that much of the produce and products Swanton uses for his pizzas – and beers and other libations for the pub – are from local sources.

He was scheduled to get 100 pounds of sausage from Redwood Valley the next day and said, "It's right down the road, it's local, and he'll make the sausage the way I want, and he doesn't put [any additives] in the meat. No nitrates. No preservatives. None of that nonsense." This is just one example of the owner's values, which include abhorring plastics; avidly and conscientiously recycling; and serving his community.

As an employer, he's known for taking advice or suggestions from his employees and encourages their creative expressions. He also runs ideas by some of his customers and friends. Because of this, one can expect newness to appear throughout Flying Dog.

Swanton talked about other offerings like salads, calzones and pasta. Then he said, "I'm putting in some of the old games like tabletop shuffleboard, a billiard table, air hockey, and foosball. I'm also looking at a tabletop Pac Man game."

Some of these changes might be slower in implementing, due to all that's required for expanding the pizzeria's indoor seating, installing the games, and creating more space for the retail vinyl collections. "I'm dedicating floor space to these," he said.

In order for these changes to move along, Swanton and his staff have been clearing out the entire inventory from his last businesses. He's had the vast collection of music CDs on sale for months – they're 75 percent off now.

He added, "We're having a big movie sale right now. That's the beginning phase

Read the rest of **Success** | Over on Page 9



At left: A sign advertises that DVDs at Flying Dog Wood Fired Pizza and Vinyl are now 75 percent off. In the background Pete Swanton and employees are preparing for the lunch hour and filling orders. Above, left: Chef Ashleigh Caudill chops tomatoes. Above, right: Swanton adds a spicy salsa addition to the popular Bug Guts pizza. Below: Flying Dog Wood Fired Pizza and Vinyl owner Pete Swanton throws a thin disc of dough for a customer's pizza order.



At far left: Peter Woods from Leggett is enjoying his custom personal pizza with sausage, sundried tomatoes, artichoke hearts, and mushrooms. "Delicious!" he said, beaming with satisfaction. At left: A vegetarian Bug Guts pizza – named after the local band – is almost done to perfection for a happy lunch customer.

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Rosie needs your help!

This week we are doing something different from our normal pet of the week. We are asking for your help. This year we have had many medical cases. This being said, these cases can be in hundreds to thousands of dollars. I would like to share a story about one of our current medicals, the story of one special girl, Rosie.

A few weeks ago, our friends at Bones Pet Rescue received a call about a dog that was hit by a car and badly injured. A witness said she was deliberately hit. She managed to drag herself home, leaving a trail of blood on the street and driveway. Her owner was devastated and knew they couldn't give her the care she needed, so they reached out for help.

Rosie was immediately brought to Wasson Memorial Veterinary Clinic. The amazing staff at Wasson Memorial gave our girl the best care

during her stay and during all three surgeries. Once Rosie was released, she came into our care. Rosie is currently in a wonderful foster home, working on healing.

With a case like Rosie's, our vet bill gets high fast. We need your help raising funds. We are a non-profit and run solely on donations. No amount is too little. We never want to say no to an animal in need but if we do not have the funds, we sadly have to. We appreciate all of you.

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. Currently we are open by appointment only on Wednesday through Friday, and open to the public Saturday through Sunday from 11 am to 3 pm, no appointment needed on the weekends! You may also look at our available dogs and cats on our website: www.mendocinohumanesociety.com, our Facebook page, and on www.petfinder.com.

You can donate directly by mail or you may call in a donation to Wasson Memorial in Lakeport. Here are the addresses and phone numbers of Bones Pet Rescue and Wasson Memorial:

Bones Pet Rescue
PO Box 1009
Covelo, CA 95428

Wasson Memorial Veterinary Clinic
3083 Highway 175
Lakeport, CA 95453
707-263-5380

Thank you everyone for your continued help and support of our never-ending mission!

Anything makes a difference, whether it's \$1 or \$1,000, it all adds up and makes it possible to do the impossible!



Fair Fey

Fey is a shy but very sweet 4-month-old kitten with short white hair. She appreciates pets and chin scratches once she gets to know you.

For more info about Fey or to see the Mendocino County Animal Shelter's canine and feline guests, and for information about services, programs, events and updates about COVID-19 and the inland shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, visit: www.mendocinoshelter.com. For information about adoptions, please call 707-467-6453.

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

'Respect'



Dan Essman
Columnist

The Story: A biopic filled with dark chapters and the unchallenged triumph of Aretha Franklin, her rise and her collapse, and her struggle to rise again. Her daddy, Baptist Reverend C. L. Franklin (Forest Whitaker) is a highly moral man of forceful conviction.

His precociously gifted daughter Aretha sang in his famous Detroit church since she was 10 years old. He believes grown up Aretha (Jennifer Hudson) has a demon inside her, so he controls every aspect of her singing career. He chooses her record company. He decides what songs she'll sing.

As we all know, Aretha breaks free from her father (and her abusive husband), and proceeds to rule the whole wildly enthusiastic world of popular music. Still, she suffers, as do we all, but her deep deep personal traumas are shocking, and filled with crippling emotional pain.

My Thoughts: This movie has a familiar story arc, and depends on the talents and charisma of its leading lady. Miss Jennifer Hudson delivers. Hudson was hand-picked for this biopic by Aretha (the Queen of Soul herself), and does her proud.

Hudson is a truly gifted singer in her own right. She's an Oscar/Tony/Grammy winner and a fine actress. She lights up the screen. I liked the flick. It entertained me, and it left me thinking about racial attitudes and the genuine psychological scars of folks who just want respect.

Parents: Not for children. Teens and up. Child abuse and rape are parts of Aretha's story.

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

OBITUARY |

Geraldine Jewel



Geraldine Shirley Jewel, 91, of Willits, California, passed away Friday, August 13, 2021 at Holy Spirit Residential Care. Born May 9, 1930 in Boise, Idaho, she was the eldest child of the late Gerald and Maurine (Vreeland) Truitt.

After her family relocated to San Gabriel, California, Geraldine met and married Earl E. Jewel in 1949. They had four children John, Shirley, Harold (Hal) and Gerald (Jerry), which they raised in Baldwin Park, California.

Geraldine had a passion for teaching and caring for children, which led her to becoming a preschool teacher and eventually the preschool director. She loved to share the love of Jesus Christ by telling Bible stories with her collection of puppets.

In 2010, a few years following the passing of her husband, Earl, Geraldine relocated to Willits to be closer to her daughter, Shirley Cronk and family. Geraldine quickly started attending Agape Church where she made many wonderful friends.

In addition to her parents and her husband, Geraldine was preceded in death by her son John Jewel. She is survived by her sister Dorothy Kraft and brother Chuck (Darlene) Truitt. She also leaves behind children Shirley (Bill) Cronk, Hal (Brenda) Jewel, and Jerry (Lisa) Jewel. Geraldine had 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank the staff of Holy Spirit Residential Care. They were wonderful and loving and can not be thanked enough for the care they provided. They would also like to thank Dr. Elizabeth Olson, who was always there to help and advise. She was always very kind and responsive.

A memorial service will be given in Southern California at a later date.

Forest Service closes 9 national forests for 2 weeks

Submitted by USDA Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region

To better provide public and firefighter safety due to extreme fire conditions throughout northern California, and strained firefighting resources throughout the country, the USDA Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region has temporarily closed



nine national forests.

This closure, announced August 19, was effective as of August 22, 2021 and extends through September 6, 2021 at 11:59 pm. Affected forests include: Klamath National Forest, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Lassen National Forest, Mendocino National Forest, Modoc National Forest, Plumas National Forest, Shasta-Trinity National Forest, Six Rivers National Forest, and Tahoe National Forest

Additionally, the Eldorado National Forest is currently closed due to the Caldor Fire until September 30 and has a separate list of exemptions. You can find more info here: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/eldorado>.

"Fires are running very quickly due to the drought conditions, dry fuels, and winds. This makes initial attack and containment very difficult and is even

more challenging with strained resources who are battling more than 100 large fires across the country," said Regional Forester Jennifer Eberlien. "We do not take this decision lightly and understand how this impacts people who enjoy recreating on the national forests.

"These temporary closures are necessary to ensure public and firefighter safety," Eberlien continued, "as well as reduce the potential for new fire starts. I want to thank the public for your patience during this challenging situation."

The closure order can be found at: https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fsepr945702.pdf

Violations of the closure order are "punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both."

The following persons are exempt from this Order:

- Persons with Forest Service Permit No. FS-7700-48 (Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation or Order), specifically exempting them from this order
- Any federal, state, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
- Persons with a Forest Service non-special-use written authorization to conduct non-recreational activities, such as harvesting timber or forest

OBITUARY |

Toni Frey

Toni Kay Silas Frey, age 84, who made her home in Willits, passed away August 19, 2021 surrounded by her loving family.

Toni is survived by her daughters Cathy Koch (Bill), Ann Mosher (Dale), Nancy Taylor (Shawn), Gail Gribaldo, and Suzen Ingle (Wayne); two brothers Donald Serfitt and Vincent Silas, 11 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great-grandchildren as well as a host of nieces and nephews.

Toni attended Willits High School and returned to Willits in 1980 after having lived in Arkansas for many years. She loved Willits, the area and the people. A private memorial will be held in her memory.



COLUMN | The Medicine Chest Garden

Community Immunity now an online event

"Medicine: anything having a healing power or positive effect on our lives"

On Saturday, August 28, from 1 to 5 pm, the Little Lake Grange will sponsor an event with six herbalists and health care providers each talking about some aspect of well-being, including our immune and ancestral herbs.

This event was originally planned to be outdoors at the Grange, but due to smoke, heat and the rising COVID numbers, the event will be offered as a streaming event rather than in-person. Join us live using Zoom (meeting ID number: 353 931 6969; passcode, annie).

The Facebook Event Page named "Community Immunity" will have a direct link to click for live entry once you are on your phone or computer. Also, Willits TV will be making the entire event of six speakers available on YouTube very shortly, the link to be published soon.

Right now, the 10-day projected weather forecast has Saturday at 99 degrees, so make your pitcher of herbal iced tea, find a cool spot in your house, and join us for an afternoon of information sharing. The following is a list of the workshops and speakers. (Information about each of the speakers is provided at the end of this article.)

"Know and Nurture your Lymphatic System", with Diane Smalley. The Lymphatic System is the highway of the immune system and it is easy to influence and support free flow. Diane says, "The body-heart-mind does the healing. I find that knowing the basics of how this all performs helps so much in our ability to visualize and support ourselves. Food, herbs and energy are our first medicine."

"Local and Easy-to-grow Herbs to Support our Immune and Respiratory Systems", with Sara Grusky. This workshop will highlight three amazing healing plants: Bay Laurel, Bidens pilosa, and Tulsi/Holy Basil, that can support us through challenging times.

Stephen Buhner's Covid 19 formula will also be discussed. Sara says, "I love the idea of this event because it shows us what an amazing medicine chest the plants, the animals and the people of our place can provide".

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The Forest Service thanks our partners and the public for their cooperation and understanding of this extreme fire threat. Citizens with specific questions within their area should consult their local forest website or social media pages for more information.

About the Pacific Southwest Region: The Forest Service manages 18 national forests in the Pacific Southwest Region, which encompasses over 20 million acres across California, and assists forest landowners in California, Hawaii and the U.S. affiliated Pacific Islands. National forests supply 50 percent of the water in California and form the watershed of most major aqueducts and more than 2,400 reservoirs throughout the state. For more information, visit www.fs.usda.gov/R5.

National Forest CLOSURE

USFS closes National Forests in Northern California

WWW.FS.USDA.GOV/R5

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Many rare and hard to find foreign, anime independent, musical, western, classical movies in addition to comedy, action, drama, sci fi and horror.

Most CDs 75% OFF

Time to make room for shuffleboard and billiards tables and other games.

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More Back-to-School well wishes to our returning students

First day of school was a success! Aiden & Abigail LOVE their teachers and are so happy to be back at school.

Happy first day of school to Lanie, starting 7th grade.

EJ, 4th grade, and Anabella, 3rd grade.

Arabella Mondo is so happy to be returning to school this year as a 6th grader.

Happy first day of school to Mason, starting her senior year.

First day of 1st grade for Philip Laurent.

Happy first day of school for Caiden, 6th grade and Bailey, 4th grade.

Happy first day of school to Wyler, starting 4th grade.

Danielle Barry beginning her 12th grade year.

See & submit more photos for next week!

WILLITS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

An online gallery with 45 artists and over 500 pieces of art.

willitscenterforthearts.org/artists

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Above, left: The inside of the Scout Hut, which is utilized by both the Lions Club and Scout Troop 42, is a large open space. Above, right: Carol Deuel, a long-time member, helps out in the kitchen. At far left: Jim Hinkle, the meal provider of the evening, and Bobby Robin Lucier pose for a photo in the Scout Hut's certified commercial kitchen. At left: A sign details how the Lions spend the money they earn from fundraisers.



At top: Members line up for a rare vegetarian meal of sweet potato tacos provided by Jim Hinkle. Above, left: Skip Lucier, the new president of the Willits Lions Club, sits at a table inside the Scout Hut. Above, right: Frank Deuel, Lions Club member and American Legion member, smiles with his Lions International hat and button. Below: Willits Lions Club members get together at the Scout Hut for a meeting and to enjoy sweet potato tacos.



'Fun'draising

Willits Lions Club raises money for the community by providing food and drinks – and even the location – for private events

"Our motto is: to serve," said newly elected Lions Club President Skip Lucier. It is a motto with several meanings. "We serve the community. We try and do things on a local level that help the community. We try and raise funds to support many different projects within the community as well as being a part of the community."

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
mathew@willitsweekly.com

Additionally, the term could refer to the serving of food and drink, which is something for which the Lions are known. They can often be seen with their variety of grills, perfectly cooking meats at many of the local functions along with running pop-up bars to raise money for one of their altruistic endeavors.

The Willits Lions Club has been in existence since 1926, only nine years after the founding of the international organization in 1917. Currently, there are over 1.4 million Lions Club members worldwide, with over 47,000 individual chapters in over 200 countries. The organization was founded by Chicago businessman Melvin Jones to help solve social problems, many of which were created by World War I. Four years later, the organization became international.

The Willits organization shares space with the local Scout Troop no. 42 in what is known as the "Scout Hut" on the east side of Recreation Grove Park, next to the Willits Frontier Days rodeo grounds.

"When I joined the Lions in 2016, the outgoing president told me we needed somebody to oversee the scouting program," explained Lucier. "They have to have a charter organization over them. We are the charter organization for scout troop 42. He told me we also needed to remodel the Scout Hut. We had so much community involvement. So many people gave their time, materials and money. It may sound corny, but it was a labor of love for all of us. It took us about a year and a half from inception to completion.

"We're hoping to paint the outside of the building at some point," he continued. "We want to make it look like something. We

believe there are probably a lot of people in Willits who don't even know what that building is, back there in that corner of the grove. This has been a scout hut for at least 50 years." The hut even survived a tree that fell on the corner of the building soon after the renovations had been completed.

The club is back at it after a hiatus of over a year. "We didn't meet in person for about a year due to COVID, while everybody was still shutdown," recounted Lucier. "We couldn't do any fundraisers. Our whole goal is to raise money and pump it back into the community. We had no ability to do that. We didn't even meet on Zoom.

"We always give scholarships to the high school graduates," he said. "This year, we could only do half the scholarships we usually do. I've sat on the committee that decides who gets the scholarships, and it's interesting to see their résumés, and their futures. It gives you hope. We'd like to expand our scholarships to graduates going into vocational trade schools as well. This is an area that has been overlooked."

Other than raising money for worthy causes and institutions, the one thing that the Lions create is fun, fun for the members and fun for those who are partaking of their varied services. They can often be seen with their huge grill wagon at major Willits events, cooking up and serving great amounts of food and drink.

"We have the large grill wagon and a couple smaller grills," explained Lucier. "We do catering, and we can do small or large parties. We can grill for 300 or more people or do a small, private party. We have a full liquor license, so if somebody wants to have a bar at their party, we can do that. There are a lot of services that we can provide that people don't know or remember that we did or do.

"We have two guys that are great grill masters if people want beef or chicken. We can do weddings. Everything we do is reasonably priced. We're not trying to get rich. We're trying to get money to put

Read the rest of **Scouts** | Over on Page 9

LEGAL NOTICES

WW334
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2021-F0439
The following person is doing business as American #1 Psychic Private Investigator, 27060 Oriole Drive, Willits, CA 95490.
Registered owner: Shalene C.P. Steward, 27060 Oriole Drive, Willits, CA 954902.
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on July 1, 2004.
FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on July 26, 2021.
/s/ Shalene C.P. Steward
Publication dates: August 12, 19, 26, September 2, 2021

Willits Weekly can run your legal notices including fictitious business name statements, foreclosure notices, storage unit auctions, and more. Contact us for more information at willitsweekly@gmail.com

WW333
CITY OF WILLITS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NOTICE TO BIDDERS
PROJECT NO. 2021-01
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Sealed bids for: The work shown on the project plans entitled: **CITY OF WILLITS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT PROJECT PLANS** For: **California-Penn Water Main Replacement Project - Project No. 2021-01**
The work for this project includes replacement of approximately 713 linear feet of existing water main with new 6" C-900 pipe, installation of new water services and meters, installation of one fire hydrant, installation of new 6" gate valves, restoration of concrete sidewalks, and trench paving.
IN
City of Willits, County of Mendocino, State of California &
The work described in specifications books entitled: CITY OF WILLITS - BID BOOK & TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS CITY OF WILLITS - PROPOSAL PACKET CITY OF WILLITS - AWARD PACKET
For: **California-Penn Water Main Replacement Project - Project No. 2021-01**
IN
City of Willits, County of Mendocino, State of California **will be received by a designated representative, of the City of Willits, County of Mendocino, State of California, until the hour of 2:00 p.m. on September 7th 2021, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud in the City Council Chambers, of the City of Willits, located at 111 East Commercial Street, Willits, California.**
THE ENGINEER'S ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE COSTS IS: \$322,000.00
Interested bidders should contact the City at 707-459-4605 *1 in order to obtain a complete copy of the Bid Book, Proposal Packet, Award Packet, Contract, General Provisions, Special Provisions, and Project Plans:
A non-refundable fee of \$40.00 will be collected for each set that is obtained from the City of Willits.
Plans and specifications are also available for review at the following Builders Exchange offices:
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San Diego, CA 92130
Phone: 800-479-5314
Email: support@ebidboard.com
Website: www.ebidboard.com
Dodge Data & Analytics
830 Third Avenue, 6th Floor
New York, NY 10022
Phone: 877-784-9556
Email: support@construction.com
Website: www.construction.com
Humboldt Builders Exchange
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Website: www.ncbeonline.com
CITY OF WILLITS: s/Cathy Moorhead, City Clerk
DATED: 08/02/2021
Publication Dates: August 5, 12, 19, and 26, 2021

The rest of **Success** | From Page 5

of creating cash flow and also floor space. I need to get the movies gone," he said with some urgency. "I would love to have [the seating, vinyl expansion, and games installed] by December. I need to get my seating from outdoors to indoors before winter. So I have to think about that and the games and seating inside. But with COVID, it could change. Nobody knows what's going to happen."

In spite of that, Swanton is planning and looking forward to a more COVID-free future, one where people will be able to freely move about and enjoy unmasked freedom. His vision includes having a place for families to eat great locally sourced food with games all can play and old-fashioned vinyl records that have great sound quality – a place where the community will want to gather.

For right now, one can order their pizzas to go and enjoy eating outside on the patio. Vinyl records are for sale, with all the CDs and DVDs marked down for clearance. For a limited time, one can also rent movies.

Flying Dog Wood Fired Pizza and Vinyl is located at 65 South Main Street in Willits; call 459-4747 for more information. Pizza hours are Wednesday through Saturday 4 to 8 pm, Sunday noon to 7 pm. Retail store hours are Tuesday through Saturday 11 am to 8 pm, Sunday noon to 7 pm.

The rest of **Scouts** | From Page 8

back into the community. At the Scout Hut we've had birthday parties, quinceañeras." They are currently considering a horseshoe tournament and a "Breakfast with Santa" event for Christmas.

Lucier told why interested adults should join the club: "If you love your community, want to help your community, and you want to have a lot of fun doing it, this is a great group to join. We don't have a lot of rules. The one thing we want to do is, we want to serve and do things for our community. We like to raise money to take care of all the different needs in the community that might fall through the cracks, and have fun doing it. All adults are welcome and encouraged to join. It's a great group to be in."

For information on becoming a member, or to hire the club to serve food or drink at parties or other events, or for information about renting the Scout Hut (with full commercial kitchen) which is perfect for weddings or get-togethers, email willitslionsclub@yahoo.com or visit their Facebook page.

Computer Help
Need help with your computer? PC, Macintosh, Android and IOS devices. Repairs, configuration and tutoring: \$50/hr. Call Liam 459-2470 or email uicearhail@gmail.com

Firewood for Sale
1 true cord of 16-inch dry firewood, \$300 and up. Will deliver. Call 459-2868.

For Rent
Office space for rent, 400+ sq ft. Central Heat, A/C. Off street parking. Utilities included. \$440. Available Sept 1. 707-354-2473

Freezer Empty? We can help!
Due to health concerns in Mendocino County, John Ford Ranch will be taking meat box orders (not individual package orders) for pick-up: Rancher's Choice Box - 50 pounds: steaks, roasts, and ground beef. Still \$325 (\$6.50 per pound). Hamburger Box: 25 pound box of hamburger in 1 or 1.5 pound packages: \$150. Natural ranch-raised grass fed beef, no hormones or antibiotics. Call 459-5193 to arrange pick-up. Leave a message, and we'll call back.

Fruit Group
PESTICIDE FREE: Freestone Peaches & Nectarines Yellow & White 24lbs \$33; Roma & Regular Tomatoes 30lbs \$34; Pluots 26lbs \$34; and Bartlett Pears 24lbs \$27. August 12 & 26. Brenda 459-9335 or 485-4294 email thefruitgroup95490@yahoo.com

Help Wanted
Long Valley Health Center has the following open positions: RN/LVN, Dental Patient Service Rep, Health Information Tech, Medical Billing, Clinical Applications Specialist, LCSW, Chiropractor, and Patient Transportation. Why Laytonville? We value and invest in our staff! We are so convinced you will like it here we will give you \$150 in gift cards to cover your gas. For more information or to apply visit www.longvalley.org, email careers@longvalley.org, or call 707.984.6131x146 EOE

Help Wanted
Outreach Worker. Earn as you learn. \$15/Hour. 32 Hours Weekly. Send resume to wdsidirector@willitsseiniorecenter.com (please include 3 references) or pick up job application at the Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road, or call Richard Baker at 459-6826 for more information

Classified ads are just \$10 for 30 words for 2 weeks! Deadline is every Monday!

CLASSIFIEDS

Help Wanted
Office Assistant III: City of Willits: Salary: \$39,73.16 to 53,433.84 annually DOQ/DOE. Performs specified clerical and analytical duties in support of City Departments, with an emphasis on Community Development (Planning, Building and Code Enforcement functions). Under close supervision, incumbents perform the more routine office administrative duties while learning planning, building, and code enforcement concepts and City policies and procedures. Incumbents' work is observed and reviewed during performance and upon completion. As experience is gained, there is more diversity in assignments and greater independence of action within established guidelines. Tasks include, but are not limited to: responds to telephone inquiries, greets customers and visitors of the departments; maintains communications with customers regarding permits; customer service, both in person and on the phone; word processing and other office machines/computer equipment, and other duties as assigned. Application Deadline: Thursday, Friday Sept 20, 2021, by 4:00 P.M. Contact Karen Stevenson at (707) 459-7176 or email kstevenson@cityofwillits.org

Help Wanted
Community Service Officer I (CSO I): City of Willits: Salary: \$39,73.16 to 53,433.84 annually DOQ/DOE. Under general supervision, a CSO I performs a wide variety of technical tasks to ensure a safe and humane environment for the prisoners as well as the Willits Police Department Staff. The CSO I will be responsible for the management and day to day operations of the property and evidence room. It is necessary that CSO be available to work a variety of shift assignments including day, swing, and graveyard shifts, weekends and holidays. High School Diploma or equivalent; Successful completion of an STC certified Corrections Officer core course or ability to successfully complete the course within 18 months of employment in the position; Completion of a POST or STC certified 832 PC course or ability to complete the course within 180 days of employment in the position; any combination equivalent to one (1) year experience in public contact work environment, preferably in a law enforcement agency. Possession of a valid CA driver's license, excellent physical condition: free from any disqualifying conditions cited in the document "Medical Screening Manual for California Law Enforcement" published by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training; Achieve an acceptable rating in the City's psychological evaluation prior to initial hiring. Vision: Both eyes corrected to 20/20 or 20/40 uncorrected. Application Deadline: Friday, September 20, 2021, by 4:00 P.M. Contact Karen Stevenson at (707) 459-7176 or email kstevenson@cityofwillits.org

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Help Wanted
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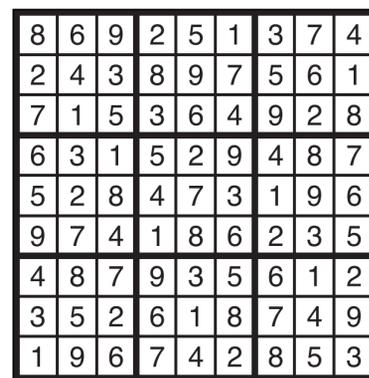
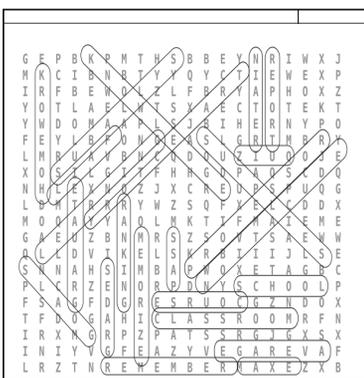
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Willits Weekly



Above: Members of the Willits Otters Swim Club at the final meet of the summer in Ukiah: Gracie McIvor, Alexa Williams, Shelby Bowen, Cora Brunner, Sophie Chavez, Leah Blakely, Larsen Brunner, Aedan Lockwood-Chenelle, Farrow Lockwood-Chenelle, and Kaylen Thom.

SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

Agape Bible Church
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Sunday Services:
10:00 a.m. - Worship
Awanat: Tuesday, 6:15 p.m.
Info? 707-459-1905
www.agapebiblechurch.com

Amazing Grace Assembly of God Church
803 Coast Street
P.O. Box 489, Willits
707-303-5456
Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Pastor Burton Jennings
EVERYBODY IS WELCOME

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

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www.eckankar.org

Grace Community Church
Celebrating Life In Christ
25 Hazel Street, Willits
Modified Worship Service
10 a.m.
Other ministries suspended for now.
For appointments call:
(707) 459-3106

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
61 W. San Francisco Ave.
Willits, CA 95490
Father Aaron Bandanadam
Mass times:
Confessions by appointment:
459-2252
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10:30 a.m. Spanish
Saturday Mass: 5:30 p.m.
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707-272-0177
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ALL ARE WELCOME
The Rev. Betsy Brunneau

St. John Lutheran Church
Karl Biles, Pastor
Church Services:
Sunday 10:00 to 11:00
Bible Study / Sunday School
following the service.
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24 Mill Creek Drive
ALL ARE WELCOME

Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church
707-459-5714
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Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.
https://willitsca.adventistchurch.org
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Rev. Rosemary Landry, pastor
Worship Celebration
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Children's Sunday School - 10:45 a.m.
459-2855
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If you want to be included in this column please call:
April Tweddell
(707) 972-2475
april@willitsweekly.com



Above: Mylinda Shaul of Family Tree Services (and the Willits Wild Bunch), left, Conan McKay (holding the donation!), and Willits Wild Bunch's Kim "Sugar B" Venturi, right, at the August Willits Bike Night at Scoops.

Willits Wild Bunch, Family Tree donate to middle school project at Bike Night at Scoops

At the August Willits Bike Night, which was held at Scoops Deli & Ice Cream on Thursday, August 19, the Willits Wild Bunch and Family Tree Resources made a donation to Baechtel Grove Middle School Teacher Conan McKay for a project Conan has been working on at BGMS.

The project is the Cougar Coffee Cart, which will be operated by the Special Education students at BGMS. When the Wild Bunch heard about the program and that there were still supplies needed to get the Coffee Cart up and running, they contacted Conan to find out just what was needed. Conan advised the cart still needed an ice maker and an 18 cup Brita UltraMax filtering dispenser.

The Wild Bunch decided to help in making the cart happen and with the assistance of Family Tree Resources put together a donation of \$200 to cover the costs of the two needed items. The cart will offer students of BGMS coffee, tea and iced frappuccinos. The students will gain hands-on skills working in the food industry and gain skills that will help them in the career workforce later in their lives. Some of the skills that the students will learn are: time management, how to speak to others in a respectful manner, numeracy, and teamwork.

— Rich Venturi, for the Willits Wild Bunch

2021/22 Willits High School Football Schedule

The "Willits High Football" page on Facebook posted this updated schedule with game times (start of JV game/start of varsity game) on August 20. Home games are played at Maize Field, behind Willits High School, 299 North Main Street.

8/27 - Durham @ Home 5:30/7:00	10/1 - Cloverdale @ Home 5:30/7:00
9/3 - San Rafael (JV only) @ Healdsburg 4:30	10/8 - Kelseyville - Away 5:30/7:00
9/10 - McKinleyville- Away 5:30/7:00	10/15 - Middletown @ Home 5:30/7:00
9/17 - Healdsburg - Away (varsity only)	10/22 - Lower Lake - Away 5:30/7:00
9/20 - Clearlake - Away (varsity only)	10/29 - Clearlake - Away 5:30/7:00
9/24 - St Helena - Away 5:30/7:00	11/5 - Fort Bragg @ Home 5:30/7:00

The rest of Immunity

Grange, Room 4. 707-371-6103

Autumn Whitaker, CMT, CTR, and certified herbalist of 15 years, specializing in supportive care for nutritional deficiencies, chronic illness, and those undergoing cancer treatment. Owner/farmer at Bramble Mountain Farm, growing organic medicinal, veggies and healthy goats.

AnnaHope is an herbalist living at the cutting edge of regenerative environmentalism and social justice. She takes a multi-disciplinary approach to

cultivating deeper understanding of the problems we are facing in these times as well as potential solutions.

Donna d'Terra is founder and director of Motherland Botanical Sanctuary and Herb School, where she has been offering classes and apprenticeships since 1989. Her focus is on local, sustainable, regenerative herbalism.

Donna d'Terra is an herbalist and herbal educator.

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The rest of Schools

From Page 1

the requirement to wear face coverings "outdoors" as well as indoors.

Also added was "what the definition of an acceptable cloth face covering would be," said Aldridge.

The new plan requires that "fabric must be 'breathable' ... should be layered ... [and] washed daily," and is most efficient if made of tightly woven fabrics such as cotton and cotton blend. Neck gaiters are OK if made of "at least two layers or are folded over to make two layers." Bandanas aren't okay "due to the lack of ability to secure under the chin."

The old plan required "vaccinations or weekly testing for all school employees."

The new one "highly encourage[s] ... vaccinations ... for all students and staff who are eligible" and requires weekly testing for all staff "during the current ... surge due to the Delta variant, regardless of vaccination status."

The plan is 24 pages long, detailed, comprehensive, and can be complicated. It's a lot. Take a look at willitsunified.com. Click "explore" and then "news" to find the link to it.

Board members had some questions and concerns.

Trustee Dianne McNeal wondered whether food service areas had "Plexiglas dividers/shields?"

Aldridge explained that such barriers wouldn't be necessary because "they are trying to do a 'grab and go' kind of thing.... The student's just given the meal, and they leave."

Masking requirements prompted the most discussion.

"With respect to masks and testing. Are there trigger points that are going to relieve that?" asked Bowlds. "Right now, the mask mandate is coming down from above, but ... there's a certain amount of latitude for us."

"When you look at the CDC [federal Centers for Disease Control] map.... When we get out of the red, I think that would be a good time for us to reconsider," responded Aldridge. "Currently they have us in the red for our county, and they have for awhile now."

"So our case rates would likely have to fall back down into ... in the old way ... what we would consider the orange tier," he said.

"We're certainly way outside of that," said Bowlds. "I haven't looked at it in the last two days, but I know that late last week we were reaching case rate numbers that were far higher than anything we have seen in the past."

"I think that trend has continued," said Aldridge. "I spoke with the hospital last week, and they were continuing to see record numbers ... that were hospitalized in our county, throughout the whole county, and so it's a concerning situation for sure."

"Hopefully those numbers will turn around soon," said Bowlds. "Now that the Pfizer vaccine has received formal approval, hopefully that'll get a few more people off the fence."

Trustee Jeanne King had some concerns when it came to masks.

"Is there something in there about masks needing to be politically neutral ... not carry political messages?" she asked.

"I believe that would be covered in our dress code for employees, so that we wouldn't need to reiterate it," Aldridge responded.

More generally, "I want to bring up masking," continued King. "Masking bothers me."

"I realize that we have to get masked now, but I want to acknowledge that those kinds of things have consequences for kids," she said. "They don't breathe as well.... Who's washing them? What are they breathing? ... It greatly compromises kids being able to read facial expressions."

She also "had problems with" the plan's requirement that "students who are excluded from campus because they will not wear a face covering will be served through WUSD's Independent Study Program," which is currently the only alternative to in-person education.

"Independent study is an optional educational alternative in which no student may be required to participate," she said. "So I don't know how we can say 'Well, you won't wear a mask so therefore you have to go on independent study,' since we can't require that a kid go on independent study."

"My philosophy on that one is, if a student is choosing not to wear a mask, then they're choosing to go on independent study," responded Aldridge. "That's the voluntary portion of it in that situation."

"They're being given a choice," agreed Bowlds. "Now, whether or not that would stand up for an administrative law judge, that's another question."

King asked how many students were in the independent study program, and Aldridge responded that "right now we have about 144 ... enrolled. That's a pretty significant number ... almost 10 percent of our students."

The rest of Brooktrails

From Page 1

He also appreciated that past bills featured individual customers' monthly gallons of water usage. Alaniz responded that the new billing system had a few kinks to iron out and that in the future, customers' water usage would be listed.

Horrick brought up the fact that, with school starting soon, he had noticed that the portable restroom facility next to the bus stop is in "putrid, horrible condition" and needed to be taken care of by the vendor. Alaniz said that the provider of the restroom facility had been uncooperative when asked to address the issue and getting it pumped out is a daunting task for Brooktrails staff. She assured the board that a new vendor has been contacted and that the issue will be taken care of as soon as possible.

Orth had some items to report: "The fire-district steering committee met with the Board of Supervisors ad hoc last Friday, August 6, and made significant forward progress on a number of issues that need to be addressed for the two Mendocino fire associations." He further noted that the recent allocation of the PG&E settlement fund represents great and significant progress.

The other item he reported on was that the infrastructure bill passed the U.S. Senate on August 10 and was set to go to the House of Representatives next. He said, "Our state is preparing for the potential funding stream, so Caltrans Headquarters put out a call for 'innovative concepts' and there was a whole list of criteria for that. The executive director and planning staff of [Mendocino Council of Governments] put forth six proposals, one of which is the Brooktrails second-access road." To that Williams responded, "Hallelujah."

Orth then read the entire one-page proposal after which the whole board voiced resounding thanks to him and Alaniz noted that it would be included in the board packet.

Utility Bill Arrearages: Alaniz reported that AB 148 signed on July 22 by Governor Newsom requires the State Water Board to conduct a first-step survey to administer the California Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program. The program will distribute \$948 million in arrearages relief funding to water and wastewater agencies to help cover water debt from residential and commercial customers accrued between March 4, 2020 and June 15, 2021. It may also help cover revenue loss.

Under the law, if the total funding is not enough for all of the arrearages, the distribution of funding will be on a proportional basis. Brooktrails staff is preparing all of the information to respond to the survey when it becomes available and will attend a webinar on August 19 regarding the program.

Santos asked Brooktrails Fire Chief Jon Noyer about the BOS approval of \$120,000 to fund the purchase of two Polaris ATV side-by-side rescue vehicles. Noyer said the two all-terrain vehicles will provide excellent access of the trails and both have the ability to transport patients.

Brooktrails resident Shay Wyatt appeared before the board in regard to his family of six going over their monthly 9,000-gallon limit. His family takes timed showers and all water usage is closely monitored by him within his home. Alaniz responded, "I will make a note and watch the situation, and as long as the family doesn't increase its water usage, we will work with them."

William Turner, who owns three lots that are adjacent to Meadowlark Trail, expressed concerns regarding the removal of the gate at the entrance to Meadowlark Trail. He said, "We have repeated traffic of all-terrain vehicles running through the area. We have had people back there camping. Who has authority to drive on Meadowlark Trail? Who is supposed to have access to the Meadowlark Trail on to the greenbelt? I have talked to the sheriff and was advised that I can do a citizen report."

Santos and Orth reside in the area close to Turner, and they both expressed concern about the ATV traffic. Santos proposed the erection of "no trespassing" signage in the area and Orth noted that signage may not be the best answer as signs don't normally last very long. He said that the parents of the vehicle riders need to be approached and spoken to regarding the trespassing concerns.

The board then voted unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar items: The accounts payable in the amount of \$95,789.48 as well as Resolution 2021-09 Acknowledging Receipt of and Authorizing Staff to File the 2020-21 Senate Bill 1205 Inspection Report with the Office of the State Fire Marshall. Alaniz said, "This resolution has to do with the requirement of going to multi-family buildings and making sure that they have annual inspections. So, there is a fee associated with that and this is the first year that we will be implementing that fee."

Ramona Waldman appeared before the board with a complaint regarding the removal of the gate and lock that she had placed at the entrance to Meadowlark Trail and the complaint was addressed by Alaniz. She said, "The district removed the gate on Meadowlark Trail for reasons that are in the staff report and we recommend that there is only one alternative to leave Meadowlark Trail without the gate. In the past we have been locked out by the gate and during fire season this has proven to be unsafe. The sheriff is responsible for enforcing Ordinance 137. The district is not responsible for enforcing the penal code."

The board then discussed an added agenda item: Should the board, due to the new outbreak of COVID-19 Delta variant, plan to start meeting remotely again? It was decided to let the general manager and the chairman make that decision a week prior to the next scheduled meeting in September.

The rest of Board

From Page 1

support of forming the cannabis standing committee, saying there are still many cannabis issues that need to be resolved, and would be best served through the public input format such a committee would involve.

Standing committees typically consist of two supervisors holding regularly scheduled public meetings every other month, rather than the more informal flexibility an ad hoc committee allows in supervisors having meetings and discussions.

"If we can deal with them in a standing committee where we can really look at what the issues are and work through them, and before they get brought back before [the board], it will be a time-saving process for us," said Haschak. "We can say, 'We're not going to do a standing committee,' but the issues are not going to go away."

When asked by Fifth District Supervisor Ted Williams, some of the issues Haschak mentioned that needed attention were fee and tax changes, staffing, streamlining the application process, and sustainable farming practices. Still, Williams and the other supervisors were not convinced.

"I don't know if we want to sort of crowdsourcing ideas," said Williams. "What more could we discuss about cannabis? We've discussed it and discussed it and discussed it, and the idea of putting 'cannabis' and 'streamline' and 'saving time' in the same sentence just hasn't panned out."

Board Chair Dan Gjerde and First District Supervisor Glenn McCourtly both agreed it was essentially time for the board to "take a break" from the county cannabis issue, and let the county cannabis department and Program Manager Kristin Nevedal work through the applications with the rules and regulations in place.

Gjerde said they should "not encourage members of the public to continually re-litigate issues that have been litigated five or 10 times already," and instead "let this program just resolve itself, resolve the applications."

Second District Supervisor Maureen Mulheren opposed forming the standing committee, but felt they should continue to work on cannabis issues as they have been with the full board present.

"We are about to face some very challenging conversations as a board about how we move the cannabis industry forward," she said. "And I believe that this needs to be done by the full board at a public meeting so that it's open and transparent. And in regards to the details of the cannabis program, I do believe that we have a competent leader in Kristin Nevedal, and we need to step back and let her do her job."

McCourtly also felt the board should wait to see what happens with The People's Referendum before making a decision on the cannabis standing committee.

Earlier at the meeting during "public expression," Mendocino County Voter Registrar Katrina Bartolome gave an update on the more than 6,000 TPR signatures which were turned in by its supporters on July 20. She said the county needed to confirm about 870 more signatures as valid out of 3141 left to check in order for the referendum to officially qualify.

So far, she said 2,597 had been found valid by the county out of 3,098 checked at that point. She agreed with an assessment from Supervisor Haschak that, given those numbers, the referendum would likely qualify eventually.

TPR steering committee member Kate Marianchild said in an email that the county has until September 1 to finish the process of going through the signatures. According to Marianchild, once the requisite number of signatures are declared valid, the supervisors would then be required to decide at their next regularly scheduled meeting whether to repeal the ordinance or not, and when the county election would take place if they don't repeal it.

The next two regular meetings for the board are scheduled for August 31 and September 14.

McCourtly did not sound optimistic about the prospects of Chapter 22.18 surviving the referendum effort.

"I think we know what's going to happen, but let's wait until it's official and revisit it at that time," he said. "You know I'm hoping and dreaming of something else which is that the state would actually give us a model ordinance that we can follow, because I kind of feel like we've spent a huge amount of time coming up with 22.18 to no avail. We don't know that for sure, but that's how it's looking. And I think that there's some frustration on the part of the majority of the board members that we want to spend our time productively, and I think that's why we're kind of taking the position that we are."

Mendocino Cannabis Alliance Executive Director Michael Katz called in and was in agreement with Haschak that a standing committee be formed.

"It is clear from the cannabis community and from the public at large that the items related to cannabis in this county have not been resolved," said Katz. "The hiring of one cannabis program manager does not indicate that the entirety of issues that need to be addressed are still being addressed."

"The truth is that we submitted a memo first two weeks ago and again today that lists no less than 11 specific items that a standing committee could immediately attend to," he continued. "So I encourage you wholeheartedly, do not leave your community in the dust in this way. Please create a standing committee and enable us to work together to solve the problems that we have not had the opportunity to solve yet."

PG&E monies

As planned, the board approved from the consent calendar the allocation for nearly \$20 million of the \$22.6 million in PG&E fire settlement money for the 2017 wildfires in Redwood Valley and Potter Valley.

However, they first directed staff to add an amendment to allocate another \$250,000 of the funds toward improvements for the Redwood Valley Grange.

The approval for the grange money stemmed from a suggestion from McCourtly, who said he had heard from some in the Redwood Valley community who were unhappy with how the money was allocated.

"One group that was left out, and I think they have a legitimate issue to be included, is the [Redwood Valley] grange hall," he said. "Because during the fire it served as a very important center for the community in many ways and continues to. And it's a building in need.... They don't have a lot of places where you can have meetings, and I think it would really help a lot if we were to consider providing money to upgrade their facility."

The supervisors also gave direction that the county work with the Mendocino County Association of Fire Districts to "return with a plan for a fair and balanced allocation of \$1 million to benefit fire services countywide," as described by Williams in a motion.

That decision stemmed from Haschak talking about additional requests for fire vehicle money that he had heard from both the Little Lake Valley Fire Department and the Brooktrails Fire Department.

He said that for Little Lake, "there was some miscommunication about what they really needed to do to make the proposal and so they didn't get it in on time," and so their request was never considered by the board.

"And they were part of the response to both the Pine Mountain area and Tomki Road," said Haschak. "So during the [Redwood] fire they were integral in that part fighting the fire."

However, Williams pushed for a more all-inclusive look at various county fire department needs, and the board eventually agreed to that approach.

A cap of \$1 million was suggested by Gjerde so that some PG&E money would still be left as a reserve for future emergencies.

Redistricting Commission

Also at the meeting, the supervisors approved the appointment of all five members of the Mendocino County Community-Based Advisory Redistricting Commission, "who will be working to advise the county on the redrawing of county district lines."

The redistricting process takes place every 10 years, and is scheduled to be completed by December 15 this year following public meetings and other procedures.

Lines will need to be redrawn especially if there have been any significant changes in total population in the districts, since each district needs to have approximately the same population.

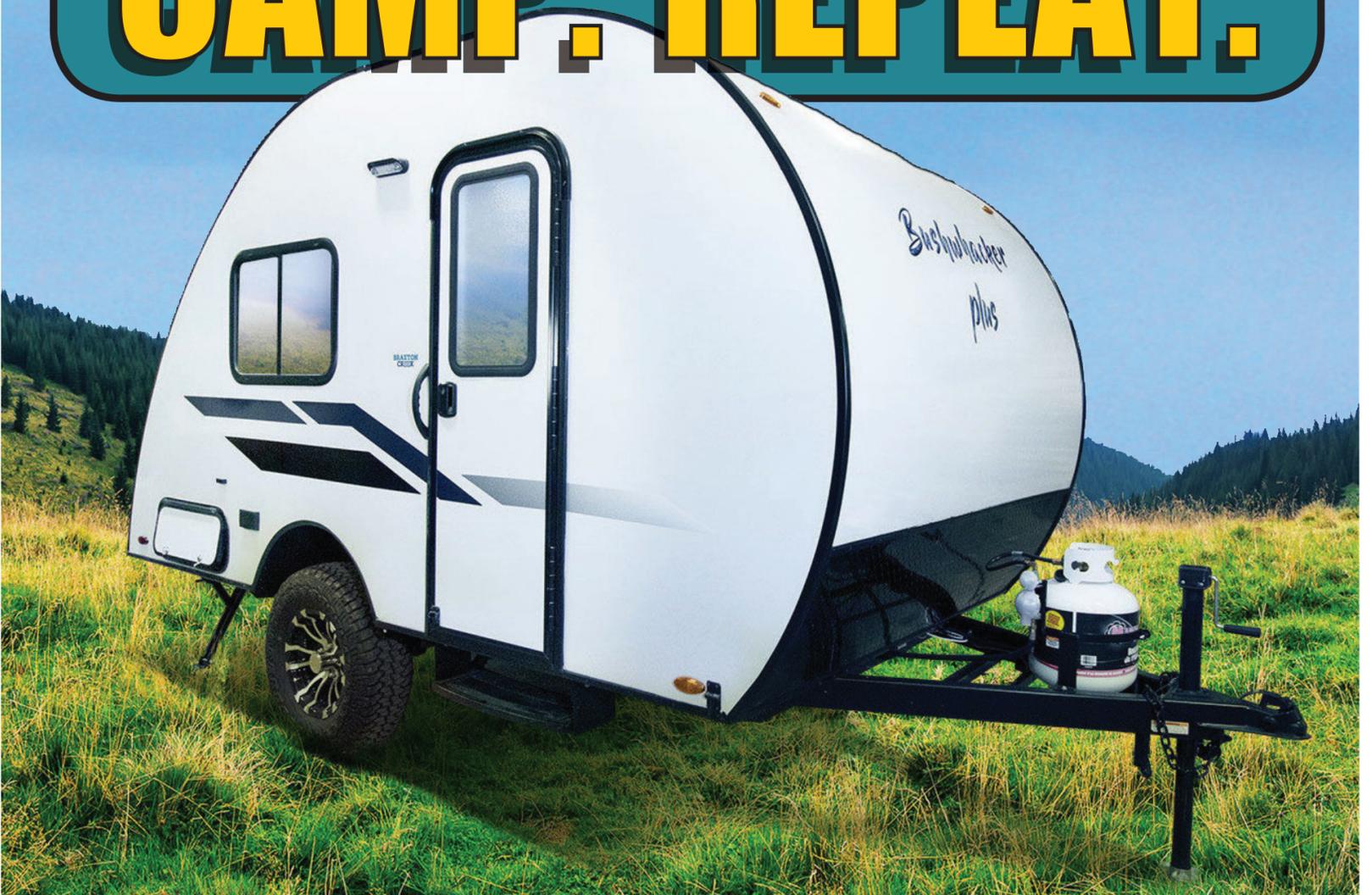
While there were eight applicants listed on the agenda for the commission, only six spoke at the meeting regarding their qualifications. Each supervisor was then asked to recommend one, and generally picked someone from their district.

Supervisor Haschak recommended Mary Ziadly, who has served 12 years on the Brooktrails Township Community Services District Board, and worked 19 years as a nurse practitioner for a rural community health clinic, according to her application.

The others who were appointed to the commission are Paula Cohen, Kyle Farmer, Deanne Pallesen and Clyde Peter McNamee.

For more information on county redistricting including how to provide community input, you can go to www.mendocinounty.org/government/executive-office/redistricting.

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