

Willits Week

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Online & Print

Donations Accepted Edition No. 418

Thursday, September 2, 2021

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Editor & Reporter
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Mendocino County had an almost two-month hiatus from reported COVID deaths, before the July 28th announcement of the 51st death.

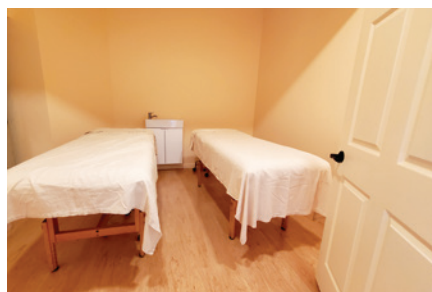
Of the 14 deaths, the press releases announcing the first 3 deaths did not disclose the vaccination status of those who passed; 1 death was described as “fully vaccinated but had multiple underlying comorbidities”; 1 death was described as “not vaccinated but had multiple underlying comorbidities”; and 9 deaths were individuals who were “not vaccinated.”

Art
committee
discusses
**possible
sculpture
park**

Ree Slocum
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The current proposal for Camp's generous donation is to install the piece conceived of as three tall, black and silver pinwheels that spin in the breeze – on a strip of the city's property located behind the Arco gas station along Highway 20. At the meeting people discussed the plan and voiced their concerns and excitement, helping the project move forward.

There was discussion



Above, from left: The entrance from the lobby into the practice room at Thrive Yoga is welcoming and bright. Thrive Yoga owner Shawna Jeavons demonstrates the contactless thermometer installed at the studio. The newly finished doubles massage room features two cozy tables. Below: Jeavons welcomes everyone to come see her new studio and sign up for classes at Thrive Yoga.

New south-town studio offers hot and cool yoga classes, massage, and more



*Photos by
Maureen
Jennison*

Jeavons's new studio, Thrive Yoga.

Jeavons opened her new studio in the Evergreen Shopping Center at the south end of town recently and after much time spent remodeling and updating, is now starting to offer classes at the new space. Hot, warm and cool classes are available: Inferno Hot Pilates classes run with the room at about 94 degrees; Hot Yoga runs about 104 degrees; and cool yoga includes a non-hot Vinyasa flow class.

"I've been teaching yoga since 2005," explained Jeavons. "I like hot yoga because it has many extra benefits! Coming from my skincare / esthetician background: yoga creates health and vitality in all the organs in the body. Your skin is

Keeping things clean and safe in the studio also helps immune systems and Jeavons has many measures in place to achieve just that.

In addition to the class offerings, Thrive also has a newly completed doubles massage room where you can make an appointment with a practitioner for Swedish Esalan, Deep Tissue, and Hot Stone treatments and a new shower is being installed so salt scrubs can be added to the massage treatments. They will also be offering Thai Yoga Massage Workshop later in October.

An official grand opening is planned for September 16 and in the meantime, people can email yogawillits@gmail.com or go to www.thriveyogawillits.com for specific class schedules, to sign up for the workshop and more information.



The new practice room at Thrive Yoga is surrounded in mirrors, and features an easy-to-clean wooden floor. The air purifier and humidifier sit in the back of the room. Below, left: Thrive Yoga owner Shawna Jeavons smiles while holding just-cleaned yoga mats in the studio's front lobby. Below, right: Jeavons demonstrates a tree yoga pose.



Forrest Glyer
Reporter
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Millions of gallons of water could end up being “long hauled” from Ukiah to Fort Bragg with the project, and from there it could be

Willits man pleads guilty to wife's murder

A Willits man has entered a guilty plea to felony voluntary manslaughter in the death of his wife in March of 2020, the DA's Office announced August 30.

Johnson, during the

Results of CHP's enforcement day on US-101

The California Highway Patrol's Northern Division, having jurisdiction over the major transportation corridor of US-101 throughout northern California, had the Humboldt, Garberville, and Ukiah Area offices partnering to participate in an Enhanced Primary Collision Factor Enforcement Campaign.

During that time, the

Local doctors appeal to the public to get vaccinated

Dear Mendocino County community: We are a group of doctors and medical providers living and working in Mendocino County. We need your help. Like all of you, we are heartbroken at the number of lives and livelihoods the COVID-19 pandemic has taken. COVID-19 has proven difficult to control, and this pandemic feels unrelenting to all of us, as healthcare providers and as members of the community.

We work in the emergency departments at Ukiah Valley, Howard Memorial and Mendocino Coast Hospitals, in the inpatient units, the intensive care units, and the clinics in the community. Every day, we take care of more and more patients who are sick with COVID-19. The great majority of hospitalized patients are unvaccinated. Our emergency departments are overflowing. Our hospitals are full. Our ICUs are full.

We struggle to find hospital beds even for the patients who are coming to the emergency department with strokes, heart attacks, or appendicitis. When patients need services that our hospitals cannot provide, we struggle to transfer them, and have become used to hearing the phrase "there are no hospital beds in all of Northern California." We repeat this sentence to our patients, to their worried family members.

Never before have we seen such a surge of sick, young patients with COVID-19, and never before has our medical system faced such a challenge. We can all do our part in this dire situation by getting vaccinated.

We will keep coming to work every day and taking care of everyone who walks through our doors – taking care of those in need is what we do, and we can't imagine working anywhere else. But we need your help to prevent hospitalizations and deaths.

Rumors and misinformation are circulating about the vaccine. Please talk with us, or your primary care provider, about the COVID-19 vaccine. The data and the science are clear: The vaccine is safe and highly effective in preventing severe COVID-19 illness and COVID-related deaths. We are vaccinated. Getting vaccinated will not only protect you, but will also keep your loved ones and your community safe and out of the hospital.

If you would like to get vaccinated for FREE, please visit:

https://www.mendocinocounty.org/community/novel-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccinations/vaccination-clinics

Erica Valdovinos, MD; Georgina Calderon, MD MPH; J. Drew Colfax, MD JD; Mike Hausberger, DO; Martha Montgomery, MD MS; Gigi Lee, MD; Carolyn Boley, NP; Debbie Marks, MD; Gary Fausone, MD; Jennifer Zernec, DO; Katie Hatch, MD; Jorge A Allende, MD; Lisa Gamble, PA-C; Mark Luoto, MD; Duncan Johnston, MD; Tod Imperato, FNP; Jodi Parungao, MD; Brian Gould, DO; Hayley Rousek, MD; Charles Baugh, MD; Gerry V. Lazzareschi, MD; Angela Mapanao, DO; Gretchen Duran, PA; Noah Chutz, PA-C; Marvin Trotter, MD; Mary Newkirk, MD; Sara Martin, MD; Brandon Begley, DO; Cindy Novella, FNP; Barry Sheppard, MD; James Dolan, MD; Chloe Nicolaisen, MD; John Rochat MD; Meghan McCurry, DO; Elaine Yang, MD; Timothy Burger, MD; Andrea McCullough MD; E. Xavier Ortiz, MD; Michael Mian, MD; Cameron MacInnis, MD; Cara Eberhardt, MD; Mark Apfel, MD; Casey Johnston, MD; David Streeter, MD; Robin Serrahn, MD; Kirsten Q. Juliet, MD; Anne Martin-Ko, MD; Ilan Kolkowitz, MD; Paul Hupp, PA-C; Linda K James, MD; Sharon Paltin, MD; Snehal Raisoni, MD; Hengbing Wang, MD; Lawrence Goldyn, MD; Elizabeth Whipkey-Olson, DO; Angus Matheson, MD; D. Mills Matheson, MD; Ziad Hanna, DO; Zoe Berna, MD; Scott Gherini, MD; Jason Uliyott, PA; John Lee, MD; Marisa Zuluaga, MD; Faith Simon, FNP; Jeremy Clay, MD MPH; Cynthia Mockel, FNP; Scott Loeliger, MD, MS; Cayo Alba, CNM; Chris Ayeko, FNP. and Ali Kanat, CNM

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

EST. 2013

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newspaper

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

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

Monday, September 6: Closed – Happy Labor Day!

Tuesday, September 7: Butter Beans with Ham, Cornbread, Green Salsa

Wednesday, September 8: Chicken Rice Casserole, Veggie, Roll

Thursday, September 9: Lemon Garlic Shrimp Pasta, Garlic Bread, Green Salad

Friday, September 10: Chili Cheeseburger, Coleslaw, Chips

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

Local cannabis company announces Kure Mendocino Invitational

Submitted by Kure Wellness

For Russell Green, founder and CEO of the three Mendocino County-based Kure dispensaries, a continuing dream is, showcasing, marketing and distributing top-grade, county-grown cannabis flowers to a broader audience.

"Despite the fact that Mendocino County cannabis has name recognition, very little of our high-grade products are sold south of Sonoma County. To address this issue, we have created the Kure Mendocino Invitational – a consumer-driven contest where customers vote to determine premiere county cultivators," Green says.

The idea for the Invitational is simple. "Come harvest time, we will accept entries from local, licensed farms. The first 28 entrants that meet our high-quality standards will be entered into the contest. Kure staff will do the heavy lifting- testing, packaging, manufacturing and marketing the flower."

The Invitational kicks off on September 10 with a farmers-only informational supper held at Kure's Lake Mendocino Drive store. "We will introduce ourselves to farmers, present the concept of the event, and encourage farmers to sign up." Interested attendees should contact Kure to RSVP.

Kure will begin accepting high-grade flower for consideration

from October 1 to December 31. All 28 entrants will be featured in a commemorative booklet, and all 28 strains will be sold at Kure outlets and to regional partners.

"In February 2022, we will have 28-gram 'sampler' boxes available for purchase by the public. These samplers will contain 28 individual grams from the top 28 farms. We believe the public drives the cannabis market. We respect their opinions and want them to have a say in identifying our region's superior cannabis."

Customers will have the entire month of February to judge the cannabis and submit their votes to a confidential online portal. "Once we've tabulated the winners, we will host an elegant dinner party for our farmers and their guest on April 1, 2022. We want to keep this event simple, safe and focused on the people who are responsible for growing what is arguably the best cannabis in the world."

"We hope there is enough interest to replicate the invitational event throughout the year, thus providing our farmers with reliable outlets to sell their wares, generating much-needed revenue and credibility for our county while creating a fun, memorable event for our customers and supporters," Green concludes.

For information email info@kuremendocino.com, attention Leslie, or phone 707-621-5390.

New Judi Bari exhibit at Mendocino County Museum opens September 18

Submitted by the Mendocino County Cultural Services Agency

The Mendocino County Museum will exhibit artifacts from its permanent collection and the private collection of Darryl Cherney that document the life of renowned activist Judi Bari. The exhibit will reflect on Bari's role in the 1990 Earth First! Redwood Summer movement, an organized effort to protect old-growth redwood forests from logging.

Bari and her longtime organizing partner Cherney were driving in a car when it exploded in Oakland on May 24, 1990 on the cusp of their organizing work for the campaign known as Redwood Summer.

The museum will feature the never-before-seen bombed car and key evidence used in the trial. After the bombing, the community responded with an outpouring of support for Bari's legal defense. A quilt created as a fundraiser and a puppet used at a victory party to celebrate the outcome of their lawsuit against the FBI, in 2002, will be on display.

In conjunction with this exhibit, the Mendocino County Museum will host a series of programs and guest speakers organized by special guests Cherney and Alicia "Littletree" Bales.

Bales joined the direct-action group Earth First! in 1991 and Bari became her mentor on the frontlines of the Albion Uprising in 1992. Bales was a tree-sitter, as well as coordinator of the mass mobilizations and nonstop nonviolent direct-action blockades of the movement to protect the ancient redwoods of Headwaters Forest.

After Bari's untimely death from breast cancer in 1997, Bales joined the legal team of Bari versus the FBI, and dedicated herself to winning the civil-rights case against the FBI and Oakland Police. She is the current program director at KZYX Mendocino County Public Broadcasting, and the former president of the board of directors of the Mendocino Environmental Center in Ukiah.

Cherney has been with the Earth First! movement for 35 years, has written scores of topical songs, and was in the passenger seat of the car when the bomb exploded. He was Bari's co-plaintiff in their lawsuit against FBI agents and Oakland police officers and produced a feature documentary, "Who Bombed Judi Bari?" on the subject. He resides in Southern Humboldt County where he substitute teaches, hosts a show on KMUD-FM, continues to write songs, raises his daughter, and is the executive director of Environmentally Sound Promotions, which is assisting in the curation of this exhibit.

Haschak Town Hall on September 26

Plan ahead: A Town Hall with Third District Supervisor John Haschak will take place by Zoom on Sunday, September 26, at 4 pm. Here's the link: <https://tinyurl.com/484d2pb>

This event is hosted by WELL (Willits Economic Localization) as part of a series of Town Halls with our supervisor. It's a great opportunity to

Read the rest of **Haschak**

Over on Page 11

Read the rest of **Exhibit**

Over on Page 11

Above, from left: Robert Dooley demonstrates the technique of picking pears that are not quite ready. "The Gleaners" by Jean-Francois Millet, 1857. The Gleaners are careful not to stack the pears too full so they don't bruise the fruit.

At far left: Tony Amelunt and John Burt team up to pick the pears together. At left: Robert Dooley climbs a ladder to get at the fruit high up in the tree.

Below: Gleaner Robert Dooley grabs the boxes from the truck.

Photos by Mathew Caine

Pears Aplenty Grateful Gleaners gather fruit at Ridgewood Ranch, amassing many boxes for local groups in need

Gleaning is a tradition dating back hundreds of years to feudal times and was reserved for the poorer residents. It is the act of collecting leftover crops from the fields of the farmers subsequent

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mathew@willitsweekly.com

to the commercial harvesting. The owners of the fields or orchards usually get what they can use or what is most easily obtained and much fruit, vegetables or grains may remain in place. Gleaners go into the fields or orchards and complete the process of harvesting the viable foods.

Here in Willits, the tradition of gleaning has lived on. The Grateful Gleaners began several years ago out of the Little Lake Grange and as a project connected to Willits Economic Localization. "The Gleaners started back in the days when WELL was born and a large group of Willits people came together to see how to make Willits more sustainable," explained Carol Cox, who is the organizer of the local group.

"Various groups were set up to address transportation, business, and other aspects of life," she continued. "There was a food group and one of the outcomes of the food group decided that there was fruit around town that was going to waste and could be harvested and utilized, so the Gleaners were born at this point. Karen Gridley and Marilyn Businger were there at the beginning."

The vegetables and fruits derived from their efforts are donated to such local groups as the Willits Food Bank, Willits Daily Bread, the Willits High School kitchen (from which it is distributed to all schools in the district, including the Sherwood School), Caring Kitchen Project, both of the Willits Charter Schools, Baechtcl Grove and the Kids Club after-school programs, and to Tom Woodhouse's soccer group. In addition, funds that are derived from their

annual plant sale and are left after their expenses are "donated to local young farmers who are helping to provide food security for the local area," said Cox.

"We have a list of donation sites," Cox explained their methodology. "We have a TracFone that is dedicated to the Gleaners. Somebody that has fruit that they think is ready will call. We check to make sure the fruit is ripe and ready to be picked. Once we've determined that the fruit is ready to be picked, we decide on a day and we start to call people.

"At this point," said Cox, "I'm doing all the organizing work that involves the phone and the email. Kimball is in charge of the gleaning part. We've learned to be very selective in our fruit picking. We want to make sure that the fruit is ripe and of a good size. We're trying to pick things that people are happy to get."

The gleaning on Sunday, August 29, took place at the Golden Rule orchard, run by Ellen Bartholomew. The Gleaners were allowed and encouraged to pick any of the pears from the trees, with the exception of one of the trees designated by a sign for the exclusive use of the community.

Kimball Dodge and Robert Dooley packed up the boxes and crates and were met by Tony Amelunt and John Burt at the orchard which is situated across from the Seabiscuit Therapeutic Riding Center. They were later joined by one of the barn cats from the riding center who wanted to find out what was occurring in his neighborhood and to get some petting.

The leftover pears were plentiful and the Gleaners were able to fill up several crates and boxes with the fruit. Interestingly, pears are picked before they are ripe and

Read the rest of **Gleaners**

Over on Page 9

Above: A curious barn cat from the Seabiscuit Therapeutic Riding Center comes over to observe the Gleaners.

At left: Kimball Dodge is outfitted with some of her tools of the trade, the fruit-picker basket and bag that opens on the bottom.

At right: Hundreds of Bartlett pears are ready to be picked.

Roots of Motive Power 39th Annual Steam Festival September 11th & 12th 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Free Events during both days include demonstrations of antique equipment including: •Bucyrus-Erie 50B Steam Shovel •Caterpillar Tractors •Steam Donkeys •Hit and Miss engines

•Mack AB and Mack AC trucks •Kelley Springfield Road Roller •Sea Biscuit Diamond T-truck •Double header locomotives (Bluestone Mining #1 and Port of Olympia #2) •And lots more!

Passenger steam train rides both Saturday and Sunday.

Our famous BBQ is back in the Recreation Grove Park Saturday, Sept. 11th. Tickets on sale soon.

Sunday we will have steam printing in the park

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for more details or at www.rootsofmotivepower.com

Pg. 2 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Willits Weekly | September 2, 2021

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Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

9x9 Sudoku grid with numbers 1-9.



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.

MEDITATION WORD SEARCH

Word search grid containing meditation-related words like ASANA, COGNITIVE, IMAGERY, SENSORY, etc.

Grid of meditation-related terms: ASANA, ATTENTION, AWARENESS, BALANCE, BREATH, CATCHES, CHAKRAS, CHANTING, COGNITIVE, COMFORT, DEVELOPMENT, ELEMENTS, ENERGY, HEALING, HINDU, HYPNOSIS, IMAGERY, JAPA, MANTRA, MEDITATION, MENTAL, MINDFULNESS, NIRVANA, SACRED, SENSORY, SESSION, SPIRITUAL, STRESS, TRAINING, TRUST, YOGA, ZEN.

15x15 Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-61.

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Secret clique
6. Earliest in and out
10. Ancient Egyptian symbol of life
14. Olfactory property
16. Kidnapping
17. Golf prize
19. Helps little firms
20. Cast a spell on
21. Panama is one
22. Dishonorable man
23. Sea eagle
24. Part of the healing process
26. Vin's last name
29. Wings
31. Made older
32. Political device
34. Looks like a rabbit
35. Gurus
37. Philippine Island
38. Not or
39. Hindu model of ideal man
40. Exam
41. Making less difficult
43. Without
45. Dravidian ethnic group
46. A baglike structure

CLUES DOWN

- 47. Buenos Aires capital La ___
49. Dab
50. Singers who perform together
53. Pirates' saying
57. OK to allude to
58. Somaliland diplomat
59. Has to pay back
60. Felix is one
61. Intestinal pouches

The rest of Water From Page 1

"short hauled" to other nearby communities, including the town of Mendocino who is perhaps the worst hit by the drought.

The supervisors agreed to subsidize 100% of the long haul costs from Ukiah to Fort Bragg for coastal residents who need the water, and 80% of the long haul cost for commercial use by businesses there, at least for the next four weeks.

The county is hoping that some state grant and disaster relief money will be coming their way by that time to help them with the financial burden of the subsidies.

At a special meeting last week the supervisors agreed to use some of the PG&E 2017 Redwood Fire settlement money to fund the water hauling, with the goal of eventually reimbursing that money to have for future emergency spending and other needs.

In addition to the grant funding they are hoping for, the county is looking at pulling money from its Transient Occupancy Tax fund and its promotional money typically used to attract tourism.

Third District Supervisor John Haschak, who is on the county's drought ad hoc committee and "task force," said that he and others he's heard from in the community feel that drawing from the promotional fund for the Water Supply Replacement Project, would be appropriate.

"It doesn't seem like we need to be marketing people coming to the coast if we don't have the water," he said. "I think a lot of that resonated with people that I've heard about. And the goal is to replace that PG&E money ... as quickly as possible. Where will we find that is a question I think we need to really grapple with."

One estimate by county staff at the meeting showed that the hauling subsidy plan the supervisors eventually approved could cost more than \$500,000 per month.

While the exact amount of water demand which will need to be met on the coast is not known, Josh Metz, senior adviser at the Regional Government Services who is working with the county drought task force, said that "records indicate" 75,000 gallons of water per day could be needed at this time of year. That would add up to 2-1/4 million gallons per month.

Another slide he showed indicated it could be as much as 118,500 gallons of "potential daily demand" that will need to be met, though it noted "actual values may vary."

Sarah Pierce, a chief analyst with the county, showed in one chart that in order to provide 75,000 gallons per day, 15 truckloads with 5,000 gallon tanks would need to travel every day from Ukiah to Fort Bragg.

The subsidies should significantly reduce the cost for the water consumers in Fort Bragg and nearby areas to use the trucked water.

Another chart produced by Metz during the meeting estimated that filling a 3,500 gallon tank with water could cost \$1,400 to a customer with no subsidies - about 40 cents per gallon. But this would be reduced to about \$400 if 100% subsidies for long hauling are provided by the county - bringing the cost to roughly 11 cents per gallon.

The 80% county subsidy should keep the cost at around \$600 per 3,500 gallons for commercial use according to the chart.

Some of the grant programs the county is seeking state funding from include the Drought Relief Grant Program and the Urgent Drinking Water Needs Program, both of which are intended for residential water purposes.

Metz said that commercial water use grants are much scarcer, though county assistant CEO Darcie Antle noted that they were pursuing one grant which could provide some funding to go towards hauling commercial water.

Metz estimated that about 75% of the water use in that coastal area was commercial and 25% residential.

He noted that the Transient Occupancy Tax revenue brings in about \$5.5 million annually to the county General Fund, and that the coastal area accounts for about 75% of that money

He said that businesses having to shut down due to lack of water could seriously diminish the TOT money for the county as well as sales tax, given that it is still the "high season" for tourism there for another couple months.

Fourth District Supervisor Glenn McGourty, also a member of the drought ad-hoc committee, generally agreed with that assessment. He said that he had heard from some of those in the coastal lodging industry that it could be a struggle for many to stay open if the 3,500 gallon water price went much above \$600.

"And what we have to kind of think about as a board is that this drives the economy of the coast," he said. "So it's not just that

you would subsidize water for the hospitality industry, but there's also significant employment in the coastal community, not just around Mendocino but all the way up to Fort Bragg that depends on this industry doing well. Plus our own income through TOT and sales tax is substantial."

"At the moment they're feeling pretty good about the fact that they've had a great year and all indications are that the next couple months look great as well," McGourty continued. "But obviously it would be a disaster if they have no water or they can't afford water ... So I just wanted to insert that so you get a sense of the angst that they're feeling."

As part of the plan the board also approved a "mutual aid agreement providing for emergency assistance among the County of Mendocino, City of Ukiah, City of Fort Bragg and other signatory cities or special districts (county wide)."

The agreement was designed to make it easier for the different districts to assist one another during times of crisis, both during this current drought and in other emergencies moving forward.

"The parties agree to furnish to each other resources, facilities, personnel, and services to respond to emergencies and unforeseen circumstances in accordance with duly adopted or hereafter duly adopted emergency plans," the agreement read.

Third District Supervisor John Haschak called the agreement "a crucial component of making the water transfer happen".

"This is a really important deal," he said, "and I look forward to having the other cities and other jurisdictions who want to join this in the future come along."

Ukiah is able to help provide the Fort Bragg area with water in part since they sit atop a large aquifer that they have held the rights to for over a century.

Fort Bragg on the other hand is looking at low flows in all three of its surface water plants, and especially its largest - the Noyo River.

The flow there has become so low that saltwater has reportedly begun flowing near the intake pipes during high tide, endangering what little supply it has been providing. The City of Fort Bragg has been pursuing an emergency desalination system to help with the problem.

The dire water situation for the town of Mendocino has become well-known, having been covered by such outlets as The Guardian, the LA Times, and CBS News. The town primarily relies on numerous small wells to provide water, many of which have been rapidly drying out.

Many there have already been shelling out money for expensive water truck deliveries, but most of the coastal water sources they typically draw from, including the City of Fort Bragg, have stopped selling trucked water since they are dealing with their own water shortages.

Willits has been considered as a possibility to send water to the coast, and could still be incorporated as part of the plan according to Haschak.

"We're going to the Willits City Council to see if they're interested in participating in this program," he said. "And if they could provide some water for the coast, then it's a shorter haul from Willits to Fort Bragg, and that would cut down the cost too. So we're looking at those options, too, and we have had water offered from Laytonville also."

Willits' water supply is reportedly doing relatively well- at around 70 to 80% capacity - thanks to some good planning in recent years, including a groundwater management plan involving multiple wells to supplement their main surface water plant south of town.

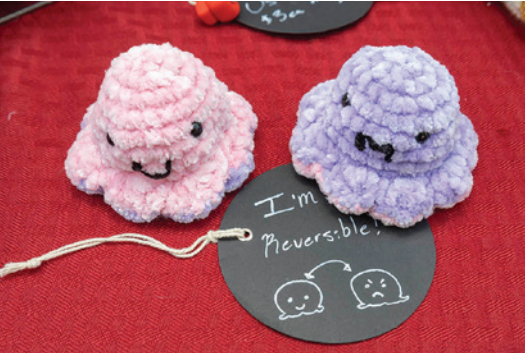
The supervisors agreed that they needed regular updates at upcoming board meetings regarding the Water Supply Replacement Project, including information about incoming grant funding, and the monitoring of water use patterns on the coast.

The supervisors were also in agreement that long-term solutions needed to be explored for future years, such as more use of water storage tanks in the area.

"The coast is just a uniquely bad situation that, long-term, needs to be addressed," said McGourty. "I think the coast has been looking at this for years, and this is probably the time with the way climate's changing. It'd be a good idea to take some action because I don't think this is going to go away."

In another water-related item, the supervisors were in agreement that more needed to be done to enforce against certain types of water trucking, particularly those that use illegal sources and those that deliver to illegal operations.

While no plan was officially voted on, the board gave direction to the drought task force to continue to explore with county staff such options as limiting water trucking to daylight hours, and requiring that all water haulers keep a log book with records including who they pick up water from, and who they deliver it to.



Above, from left: Santa Calderon's intricate paper flowers are for sale at Friday Night Live. Isabelle Grieve's crocheted mood creatures are reversible. Kristin Carter offers a variety of crystals as part of her inventory.



At left: The vendors set up in the shade to avoid the heat and provide a more pleasant shopping experience.

Below, left: Ron Tucker entertains himself on guitar as he waits for customers to see his handmade glass accessories. Below, right: Helen Oglesby sells her spider-plant starts.

At bottom: Although this was the first session of Friday Night Live at the new location behind Coast Hardware, people were still able to find the vendors.

Photos by Mathew Caine

Fresh Start
Weekly craft show, Friday Night Live, moves to a new location behind Coast Hardware

After about three years at the Evergreen Shopping Center, the weekly craft show known as Friday Night Live has moved and the vendors would like their customers to know where they are currently located. On Friday, August 20, the craftspeople in attendance received a notice stating that they were no longer allowed to sell at that location.

Hearing about this, several local merchants and residents with space contacted them with offers of places that they could set up their popular emporium of crafts. Friday Night Live was given a very workable space in the parking lot behind Coast Hardware, through the generosity of the owner Wendy Morgan and manager Pamalee Thrift.

"I saw on Facebook ... they weren't supposed to be there anymore," said Thrift. "We decided to reach out and offer some space to them. We appreciate that they bring customers to their location, so we decided to open our parking lot to them."

"We cordoned off an area at the back of our store," she continued, "where we would like them to set up. They are going to be against the back of our building so as not to disrupt our neighbors. We're going to do this every Friday. They'll have a lot of natural shade and plenty of parking and our traffic will be able to flow, so it looks like a good setup for us. It's a win-win."

In addition to supporting the efforts of the vendors of Friday Night Live, Thrift stated that Coast Hardware is currently looking into restarting some of their art and children's programs when it's safe and feasible.

As they had to move the operation rather quickly, the group was not able to properly notify the public, except on social media. They expect more traffic once the word gets out. All of the vendors expressed gratitude to Coast Hardware and hope that this new location will work out for them and for the

people who enjoy their crafts.

Santa Calderon brought some amazingly intricate and lovely paper flowers to sell. "I just started making paper flowers," explained Calderon. "I really enjoy it. They're time-consuming but I love it. It's my new passion. Coast-to-Coast is being so awesome! I'm hoping this works out and we get more people coming by to see us."

Isabelle Grieve brought her soft plush Custom Crochet goods, including some inventive and cut-reversible mood creatures. In addition to the crafts she brought to show, Grieve does custom work, "I offer custom crocheting orders as well. If you want a specifically colored teddy bear, I can do that." She can be reached through her Instagram page: www.instagram.com/belles_custom_crochet.

Spider-plant aficionados can find a variety of those green plants that can hang attractively and add an accent to any room. Helen Oglesby offers these easy-to-grow spiders.

Ron Tucker just got back into glass blowing after a hiatus of a couple years due to a shortage of oxygen gas during the pandemic, which is used in the heating of the glass. He has been working with glass since 2003 and makes pipes and other accessories.

He additionally creates glass pendants or marbles in which one can place the ashes of a deceased loved one in order to keep them close. Tucker brought his guitar in order to entertain himself and those around him while waiting for customers.

Next to Tucker, Kelly Viss set up her Barefoot Forest Homestead variety of salves, tinctures, balms, and art objects. "The change of location has gotten us a lot of publicity," Viss explained. "It was kind of inevitable. We were doing it so long and it was fine. There's always rules and

Read the rest of Friday Over on Page 9

Mendocino County Democratic Party & the Inland Democratic Club Invite You to the Annual Labor Day Picnic Monday, September 6, 11 to 3 Todd Grove Park, Ukiah. Celebrate in honor of Joe Wildman the work of our hands. Meet Congressman Huffman, Senator McGuire & Assemblymember Wood. Enjoy Food Trucks & Live Music. To avoid Covid risks LABOR DAY GOES VIRTUAL! Contact Susan Savage sksavage2@comcast.com 707-962-7026 for zoom information

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A letter from ...

The Director of Willits Charter School Jennifer Lockwood

Willits Charter School started the school year strong with four Orientations for our new middle school students, as well as a safe, successful Back to School Night where students received information on electives, travel opportunities, purchased Spirit Wear, filled out locker contracts, participated in a Yearbook raffle, engaged in BINAX testing for COVID-19, and obtained important information about the school.

We are so happy to have our students on campus as well as our Independent Study students at home.

Teachers returned a week early for in-service week, starting off with tie-dying T-shirts! Throughout the week teachers engaged in trainings such as "Conscious Discipline," CPR, and spending time revisiting old policies/creating new ones.

COVID-19 testing for screening purposes will be used regularly to help keep everyone on campus safe. We encourage all WCS students ages 12 and up to get the Pfizer vaccine. All students and staff will wear masks indoors, and students will eat outside.

We are proud to introduce Robert Chavez as our substitute director while Jennifer Lockwood is out on leave until October. Robert Chavez has years of experience as a principal and has been the principal of Willits High School. He is also on the Willits Unified School Board. Many of our students know him as the Willits Otters coach! Special thank you to Robert for taking time out of his busy schedule to dedicate to Willits Charter School.

On the first day of school students received schedules and were directed where to go to "Wellness, Community, and Service" class. This is a class they will take every morning where they talk about school rules, events and activities, engage in Social/Emotional Learning, and brainstorm solutions to school, community, and global challenges.

Students were given options from a wide variety of electives such as Ceramics, CP Art, Radio Production, Culinary Arts, Theater Arts, Gardening/Herbalism, P.E, Basketball, Rock Band, and Student Leadership to name a few. Students will be able to choose even more electives after school starts when we begin our Friday Academy program on Friday, September 10.

Willits Charter School won the Jack London Innovation in Education Award for our Friday Academy program in 2020! We are excited to

bring back well-loved classes as well as offer some new classes and new instructors. Friday Academy classes also include programs such as Mock Trial, Driver's Education, and Mendocino College courses for our high school students.

Our WCS community is so excited to see the new Theater/Gym begin construction! We have obtained a building permit, and we will begin the concrete work very soon. It will be exciting for our students to see this being built from the ground up.

Special thank you to the Charter School Association of Willits for making this happen! This entire project could not be possible without the work of our board president, Eric Glassey. He has put countless hours into this project, and we are so grateful to him. Willits Charter School is excited to bring back after-school sports such as soccer and basketball for our middle school students.

Willits Charter School is also excited to bring back our home-cooked food program run by the talented Katie Lacy. Willits Charter School serves food to four schools, and students in our Culinary program get real work experience. Schools that are interested in joining our food program should contact Jason Erick at WCS. Students in Culinary Arts also learn how to bake, make sauces, desserts, and are able to be a part of school events where we serve food such as the Christmas Crafts Fair.

Willits Charter School is a free, public charter school serving the 6th through 12th grade with a focus on the Arts and Sciences. Our program is a college preparatory program, with all of our high school students enrolled in a-g courses. Students must receive C's or higher in order to pass their classes. Students must have C's or higher in Core Classes in order to enroll in Independent Study.

If you would like to apply to attend our school either onsite or on Independent Study, please visit www.willitscharter.org and click on "Apply Now." If you would like to receive updates about what is happening at WCS, please follow us on Facebook @willitscharter. We look forward to a wonderful school year with our faculty, staff, and WCS families!

Willits Charter School prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program.



Well wishes for a great school year from the Willits community



Nevaeh's first day of first grade.



Raylan and Cyrus Bartow are back in school!



Jamie Brennenman was thrilled to start in kindergarten at WECS.



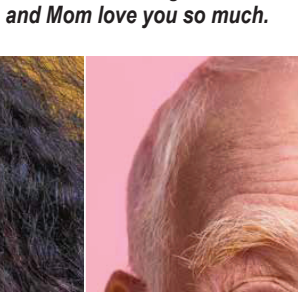
Tinley Logan first day of fourth grade, at the Willits Elementary Charter School.



Konner Maugh is super excited to be back in school!



Hazel Duran on her first day of preschool.



Bayleigh Maugh is super excited to be back in school!



Madalyn Keaton, 3rd grade, Willits Elementary Charter School, 2021.



Phoenix and Ember off to 2nd and 6th grade, and their dad Billy, drama teacher at the charter school.



Oscar Duran on his first day of kindergarten.



Alaska is eager and excited to start kindergarten, and River is happy and ready for 2nd grade. WECS here they come!



Hazel Duran on her first day of preschool.



Bayleigh Maugh is super excited to be back in school!



Madalyn Keaton, 3rd grade, Willits Elementary Charter School, 2021.



Wilkes women are two generations strong at Lady Wolverine Soccer

Jaime Wilkes, left, is assistant coach for the Willits High School Lady Wolverines. She has come full circle from being on the very FIRST girls' soccer team at WHS, back in 1993, to now coaching her girls, Kamryn and Kara, on the current Lady Wolverine team!



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Facebook: www.facebook.com/april@willitsweekly.com
If you want to be included in this column please call:
April Tweddell
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Above, from left: Project Coordinator Oscar Moreno Peredia oversees the transportation of the fresh food from its arrival at allocation sites onwards. Mendo Lake Food Hub's photo of what was in their Local Bounty Box last week, featuring organic or Mendocino Renegade certified produce from a variety of local farms. An NCO volunteer prepares the fresh produce for delivery.

MendoLake Food Hub now offering home-delivery services

Submitted by Jamie Speka for NCO

After observing the empty aisles in grocery stores at the start of the pandemic, the MendoLake Food Hub quickly transitioned to support two issues: the inability of the community to easily access fresh, local foods, and the hardships that local farmers faced in allocating their fresh produce. Once the program took off, the MendoLake Food Hub has continued evolving its program to best meet the needs of the community. Now, the hub provides home-delivery services to families who lack accessibility to locally grown foods.

Before the pandemic, MendoLake Food Hub's goals were different from the present: support local farmers and producers with technical assistance, distribution and access to markets, while providing farm-fresh food to schools, local grocery stores, and restaurants. In post-pandemic Mendocino, these goals, like the community's, pivoted to provide fresh food directly to families in need. After months of reworking the program, the Food Hub's present focus is accessibility, delivering fresh, local produce to businesses, schools, families and individuals in most areas of Mendocino and Lake counties.

The idea for a program redesign developed within the first couple weeks when the team, including Project Coordinator Ana Victoria Salcido, learned of empty shelves lining grocery store aisles; all the while, farmers found themselves unable to allocate their produce during the shutdown. After applying in early 2020, the MendoLake Food Hub was granted a contract of federal funds from

the U.S. Department of Agriculture to build and distribute boxes through the Farmers to Families Program, then later through various funding sources.

The MendoLake Food Hub was making up to 70 direct deliveries per day and up to 200 food boxes per week. Oscar Moreno Peredia and Hector Lopez Martinez were hired immediately after the program took off, to help with deliveries, an endeavor that had them driving from Lakeport to Fort Bragg to cover all the orders. Soon thereafter, Peredia was promoted to project coordinator, where he now helps oversee the large-scale delivery process.

"[After the redesign] the Food Hub immediately picked up and we got hundreds of registrations," says Salcido. "It became a secure and convenient way to get food delivered to your home, which was highly necessary at the time."

Now, expanding on the direction taken at the start of the pandemic, the Food Hub has created an even more robust home-delivery service – utilizing tailored boxes for families that do not need the same large quantities as businesses, continuing support of wholesale clients, and distributing aid boxes.

"We have separated the program into wholesale deliveries and home deliveries that each have different needs," Salcido clarifies.

All the produce distributed from the Food Hub is harvested to order and organically grown. Farmers deliver their goods to one of the five aggregation sites in Willits, Ukiah, Upper Lake, Booneville, and Fort Bragg, where the produce is stored and aggregated for delivery.

There is a wealth of benefits to locally grown food. On a personal level, locally grown food carries more nutrients than store-bought, creating a healthier diet for the consumer. Beyond the consumer, local foods support environmental health by leaving less of a carbon footprint (evident by less distance travelled) and promoting open spaces of farmland devoid of industry.

Further, local food helps to strengthen the community's economy, keeping the consumer and the farmer secure financially. At a time of economic precariousness, the threat of climate change, and destructive fires, the Food Hub's investment in local farms keeps the county on a stable trajectory.

"Right now, funding has become a challenge for us," says Salcido. MendoLake Food Hub relies on grants, but as the country is evolving its outlook on the pandemic, COVID-19 relief grants are becoming less accessible.

"We are excited to continue supporting local farmers in times of uncertainty and times of plenty," Salcido comments. "Moving forward, we encourage people to try our new home-delivery services and do their part to keep local farms in business."

Transitioning into the fall and winter, MendoLake Food Hub will continue evolving to best support the local landscape.

To become a part of the MendoLake Food Hub community, visit www.mendolakefoodhub.org. For more information, call 707-467-3238.

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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

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The rest of Gleaners

From Page 3

are left in refrigeration for about two weeks to complete their maturation process.

"This orchard is under Ellen Bartholomew," said Dodge. "Her people have already picked this area and she said we can pick the rest, with the exception of one marked tree. They don't pick very many. There is a lot of fruit in this orchard."

"You don't want to leave the pears on the tree too long," she continued. "If they come off easily, they are ready. This year, for some reason, the pears are the best I've ever seen them. There are no scabs or blemishes. These are mostly Bartlett pears. There are Anjous here as well. We'll come back another time to pick the apples in the orchard." Dodge showed Willits Weekly the apples on a nearby tree. They were rather small and may be better suited to feeding livestock than people.

Both Cox and Dodge expressed the need for more volunteers, hopefully younger people who would be able to carry on the tradition for many years to come. The Little Lake Valley has many orchards and farms in which gleaners could be performed. Those interested in lending a hand in mitigating the waste of valuable foodstuff can contact the Grateful Gleaners at 707-367-7391, or gratefulgleanersofwillits@gmail.com. The contact info can also be utilized by anyone with orchards that need to be gleaned.

The rest of Friday

From Page 5

regulations and lawyers.

"I think we're keeping the small-town vibe with this new space. We were offered several spots, including a place in Laytonville. It's been really empowering and rewarding how the community has come together to help us."

Kristin and Eric Carter made a family activity out of their vending. They brought their three very young and personable kids as they sold a variety of pipes, crystals and jewelry. Visit www.facebook.com/Kks-Crystal-Closet-103159748199361 to see their work.

Nadith Hannah offered a selection of intricate handcrafted rings, sharing a booth with her mother-in-law, Pam Hannah, who brought charms that can be hung on horse-tack or purses.

It is the hope of the vendors of Friday Night Live that this new location will work out for the long run and prove to be a site that will continue to be a viable alternative and that people will continue to support their efforts with purchases and attendance.



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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

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.

Gleaners Update
Willits Grateful Gleaners harvest fruit to share with people in need. If you have extra or if you are willing to help, call (707) 367-7391.

Gym Yard Sale
Giant Gym Yard Sale – Deep Valley Christian School, 8555 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley (across from the Broiler). Saturday, September 11 – 8 am to 4 pm only.

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
Merchandise Processor /Store. \$14.50 Hour. Part Time (24 hours weekly) Send resume to wsidirector@willitsseiniorecenter.com. Please include 3 references or pick up application at the Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Rd. or call Richard Baker at 459-6826 for more information.

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

RV/Trailer Space for Rent
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Stunning Sadie

Who is that blissful, alluring, beautiful-as-a-blanket-of-snow-on-a-calm-winter-night dog you ask? Let me introduce you! This stunning 9-month-old mix-breed gal is Sadie! She is the happiest, most loving baby who is all smiles and kisses! Sadie is a transfer from our friends over at Bones Rescue. Sadie had a rough start in life. That is okay though, she is ready to put that all behind her and start fresh.

Can you give Sadie the life she deserves? If so, we would love for you to submit an application to meet her. You can find the adoption application on our website at www.mendohumanesociety.com

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.mendohumanesociety.com, our Facebook page, and on www.petfinder.com.

OBITUARY |

Annabelle Frazier Whipple

Annabelle Frazier Whipple of Covelo, CA, at age 88 years, went to be with her loving family in the house of the Lord on August 24, 2021.

Annabelle was a long-time health-care provider having received her RN from the Kaiser Nursing School in Oakland, CA. She later went on to get her degree of FNP [Family Nursing Practitioner] from U.C. Davis. Annabelle was the driving force behind establishing the Round Valley Indian Health Center.

She is survived by her three children: Deborah (Ford) Oliver, William (Olaina) Whipple, and Kimberly (Dwight) Stillwell, all of Covelo; grandchildren: Shane, Aaron, Elizabeth, Thomas Oliver, Monica, Tara, Anthony Whipple, Clayton, Cody Mitchell, and Kerra Stillwell; 21 great-grandchildren; and 5 great-great-grandchildren. Annabelle is also survived by her four remaining sisters: Mary Frances Merrifield, Lola Thompson, Theresa Frazier, and Wilma Frazier.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, August 31, 2021 at the Round Valley Methodist Church in Covelo. Arrangements under the care and direction of Anker-Lucier Mortuary.

SAVE THE DATE A Celebration of Life



For our dear friend David Knudsen who passed away on January 15, 2021.

The Celebration will be held at Rec Grove on September 10, 2021 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. We will honor Dave through personal memories, poems and songs. Please bring your own chairs and water.

Due to current COVID protocols, please don't bring any food or alcoholic beverages. For further information, contact Kathy Rippey at (707) 459-0983 or krippy@yahoo.com.

Donald H. Polen



Donald H. Polen, 88, of Marinette, WI passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, August 26, 2021, at St. Vincent Hospital in Green Bay, WI. He was born on February 8, 1933, to the late Walter and Donna (Buss) Polen in Dover, OH. He graduated from Miami Senior High in Miami, FL in 1951 and Southern Missionary College in 1955 with his BA in Mechanical Engineering. On August 15, 1969 Donald married Earlane Thames in Marietta, GA. He had worked for many years in Willits, CA. He and his wife volunteered at the Wildwood Lifestyle Center in GA, and Weimar Lifestyle Center in CA. Donald was a member of the Over the Hill Hiking Club in CA. And the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Menominee, MI. He enjoyed hiking, camping, building furniture, and panning for gold.

Don is survived by his wife of 52 years, Earlane Polen of Marinette WI; children: Dianne (Dennis) Lash of PA, Donna Erickson of SC, Don Polen Jr. of SC, Doug (Melissa) Polen of AZ, and Eric (Jo-Ann) Polen of Marinette, WI; step children: Marty (Joyce) Tucker of GA, Ken (Anne) Tucker of NC, and Suzen (Wayne) Ingles of CA; 15 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; and one great-great grandchild on the way. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by brothers, Edward and Howard Polen.

A Memorial Service will be held at a later date at the SDA Church in Menominee, MI.

Thielen Funeral Home is assisting the family.

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

‘Candyman’

The Story: Horror flick, slasher flick, pooling blood on the floor flick. A superstition in the old Caprini-Green housing project told of a ragged man with a hook who butchered people. He appeared whenever a person gazed into a mirror and repeated the name “Candyman” five times. (Teenage girls: I know it’s tempting but don’t do it!)



Dan Essman
Columnist

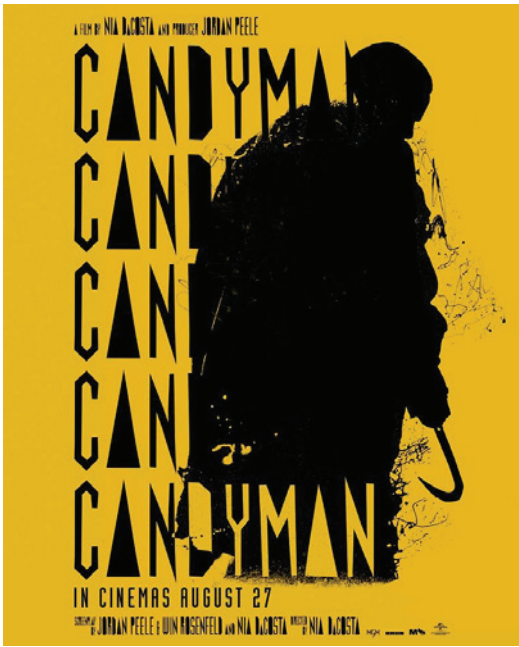
Caprini-Green has been demolished, but the legend survives. Anthony McCoy (Yahya Abdul-Mateen II) is a gifted painter with an upcoming exhibition, but his deeply felt inspiration is failing him. (Apparently by accident), a friend tells McCoy about Candyman and jokes that it’s just a silly scary story. We all know what’s coming.

My Thoughts: Nothing’s by accident. Housing projects, like the old Caprini-Green, sold themselves as compassion for our poor African-Americans, but in reality, they existed to lock black folk away from the mainstream

of our American social order. As some realtors operate: Keep them out of sight, and away from good white people, and that’s how we protect property values. But then, urban renewal happens, and gentrification happens. Where are people supposed to go? The recent flick “In the Heights” was a zappy nostalgic musical (with no visible black folk) about growing up in the projects. Didn’t we all love the bright colors and the singing and dancing? Now take a long slow deep breath. Ultra-violent, nightmarish “Candyman” is that movie’s Dark Shadow. It is not a flimsy Friday night horror flick. It’s got something to say that’s worth saying.

Parents: No children. None. Teens and up.

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



— Formerly —

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HAPPY LABOR DAY WEEKEND!

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2 hrs 12 mins
Fri.: 4:30 & 7:30pm
Sat.-Mon.: 1:30, 4:30 & 7:30pm
Tues.-Thurs.: 4:30 & 7:30pm

PAW PATROL, The Movie

(G)
1 hr 26 mins
Fri.: 3:45, 5:45 & 7:45pm
Sat.-Mon.: 1:45, 3:45, 5:45 & 7:45pm
Tues.-Thurs.: 3:45, 5:45 & 7:45pm

CANDYMAN

(R)
1 hr 31 mins
Fri.: 4:10, 6:20 & 8:30pm
Sat.-Mon.: 2:00, 4:10, 6:20 & 8:30pm
Tues.-Thurs.: 4:10, 6:20 & 8:30pm

Movie Times for September 3 thru September 9

Masks Required *Private Screenings Available. Call Lois @ 707-354-3295 to schedule.*

The rest of Guilty | From Page 1

court hearing, admitted to voluntary manslaughter, a California law defined as the unlawful killing of a human being by a perpetrator who has the intent to kill during a sudden quarrel, in the heat of passion, or based on an honest but unreasonable belief in the need to defend oneself.

Assistant District Attorney Dale Trigg, with the help of sheriff deputies and investigators, pieced together the criminal case that led to Johnson’s guilty pleas.

In 2019, Johnson was ordered to have no contact with Elston during Johnson’s three-year term of probation, and to complete a 52-week domestic violence / anger management counseling program. Johnson’s prior misdemeanor conviction was used by prosecutors to enhance the sentencing that the defendant admitted during a session on August 27 in Superior Court. Johnson further admitted that the traumatic injuries he inflicted on Elston constituted “great bodily injury.”

Johnson, because of Friday’s hearing, agreed to a sentencing arrangement requiring him to receive an 11-year state-prison sentence for his wife’s death, the maximum allowed by California law on a voluntary manslaughter conviction. In addition to the 11 years, the defendant agreed that 4 more years will be added to the sentencing arrangement for the separate felony count and sentencing enhancement, for a combined 15-year prison term. At a minimum, Johnson will have to serve 12 years and 9 months under terms of the plea agreement.

The case began to unfold in March 2020 when sheriff’s deputies responded to the emergency room at Adventist Health Howard Memorial Hospital in Willits for a reported “accidental” fall victim whose injuries appeared suspicious to the hospital’s medical staff. Upon arrival, the deputies were shown a woman who was being treated for major head injuries which had left her unconscious and unable to communicate.

Deputies recognized the female from numerous prior calls. Deputies placed Johnson under arrest at the couple’s Brooktrails home after interviewing him. As the investigation continued, sheriff investigators determined there had been a violent encounter between Johnson and the victim and that he had personally inflicted severe head injuries on the victim.

It was later determined that the defendant delayed seeking medical aid for his obviously injured wife for many hours; instead speaking to his mother twice by telephone, cleaning up the victim and the blood evidence, and staging pictures to support his ruse that the wife had accidentally fallen down an outside staircase to cause her injuries.

Because this was far from an easy case to investigate and prosecute, Assistant DA Trigg gave special recognition to Neuropathologist Bennet Omalu for his forensic work in the victim’s death. It was Omalu’s opinion that the victim suffered and died from brain injuries, and that the injuries were not consistent with a self-inflicted fall down a staircase. A several-hour delay before accused the husband sought medical care increased the probability of Elston’s death from her injuries.

DA: Repeat murderer convicted

On Thursday, August 19, the DA’s Office announced that Mendocino County Superior Court jury had returned a guilty first-degree murder verdict that day against defendant Jameson Wolfgang Jackson, 34, of Ukiah and formerly from Willits. He now faces life in prison without possibility of parole for his recent crime.

[Editor’s Note: Jackson was arrested in Covelo on these murder charges in August 2020, after fleeing from the scene of a fatal shooting there, and sparking an “armed and dangerous” alert from the Mendocino County Sheriff’s Office, which advised citizens to shelter in place.]

Jackson was also found guilty of attempted murder in the first degree. The jury also found true a special circumstance alleging that the defendant committed the murder by firing a handgun from inside a motor vehicle, and the defendant personally and intentionally fired the firearm causing the murder and personally and intentionally fired the firearm to murder a second man.

The defendant’s case was referred to the Mendocino County Adult Probation Department for a background study and sentencing report. Sentencing is set for 9 am, on September 16.

As required by law, the penalty for a non-death penalty murder in the first degree with special circumstances is life in state prison without the possibility of parole. The finding that the defendant personally and intentionally used a firearm to commit that murder carries an additional 25 years to life. The penalty for the separate attempted murder in the first degree is life in state prison with the possibility of parole (seven years to life), plus an additional 20 years for personally and intentionally using a firearm in the attempt.

As mentioned before, these are not this defendant’s first violent convictions. In 2001, Jackson was convicted and sentenced as a juvenile for the robbery / murder of Joan LeFeat, a Brooktrails shop owner.

Jackson’s codefendant in those violent crimes, Christopher Matthew Coleman (then also 15 years old), was certified to adult court, convicted, and ultimately sentenced to 25 years to life in state prison. Coleman, now age 36, remains housed in a CDCR state prison facility in San Diego County serving his life sentence.

While Coleman was certified to adult court, a local judge denied the prosecution’s efforts to also certify Jackson to adult court. Instead, Jackson was convicted in juvenile court and sentenced to serve time in the California Youth Authority until the age of 25.

However, he was paroled two years early from the CYA in 2008, just after his 23rd birthday, having served only seven years for his involvement in the LeFeat robbery / murder. Jackson then timed out on his parole in August 2010 when he turned 25.

The rest of Exhibit | From Page 2

Program Calendar

Saturday, September 18, 1 to 3 pm: Redwood Summer 1990 Retrospective: with Naomi Wagner, Karen Pickett, Dave Walsh, Mickey Dulas, Tracy Kattleman, Darryl Cherney and Pam Davis.

Friday, September 24, 5:30 to 7:30 pm: Remembering Judi Bari: with her friends and comrades, Alicia Littletree, Naomi Wagner, Daphne Martin, Larry Evans, Linda Perkins and Bill Heil.

Friday, October 1, 6 to 8 pm: Songs by and about Judi Bari: A live concert with Alicia Littletree, Francine Allen, Mokai, Rosebud Ireland, Bear Dyken and Darryl Cherney with Edie Morris.

Sunday, October 10, 1 to 3 pm: Judi Bari Versus the FBI: Discussion with the legal team. Attorneys Dennis Cunningham and Ben Rosenfeld, Legal Assistants Josh Morcell and Alicia Littletree, Juror Mary Nunn and Plaintiff Darryl Cherney.

Wednesday, October 20, 5:30 to 7:30 pm: The Day of the Car Bombing of Judi Bari: Firsthand accounts with Darryl Cherney, Karen Pickett, and others.

Sunday, October 24, 1 to 3 pm: Building Bridges: with timberworkers, union organizing and Earth First! with timber workers Ernie Pardini, Art Harwood, IWW union activist Steve Ongert, and Darryl Cherney.

Wednesday, October 27, 6 to 8 pm: Book Discussion of Timber Wars by Judi Bari with Cultural Services Agency Director Deb Fader via Zoom.

Further details regarding the exhibit and program calendar to be announced, please check our website for updates and additional information: www.mendocinocounty.org/museum.

The Mendocino County Museum is located at 400 East Commercial Street.

Contact us at 459-2736 or museum@mendocinocounty.org.

The rest of Haschak | From Page 2

hear what’s happening at the county and to dialog with our elected representative. Please join with your questions and comments!

Contact mstrong@willitsonline.com if you need info on other ways to access the meeting.

– Submitted by Willits Economic Localization

The rest of Enforcement | From Page 1

involved offices along US-101 reported issuing 77 citations, of which 71 were for unsafe speed, including one for reckless driving. The remaining citations were issued for distracted driving, unsafe lane changes, unsafe turning, and seatbelt violations. The area offices also reported issuing 33 verbal or written warnings, stored/impounded five vehicles, and made three arrests for driving under the influence, drug possession, and a felony warrant.

Although this enhanced enforcement detail has concluded on US-101, the CHP will conduct additional enhanced enforcement details along the US-101 corridor at various times and locations throughout the year. The public should continue to practice safe driving habits anytime they get behind the wheel.

The CHP reminds motorists to follow these basic traffic safety rules: Always wear a seat belt, drive at a speed safe for conditions, eliminate distractions while driving, and always designate a sober driver.

The rest of Sculpture | From Page 1

around the placement of the pinwheels. Fisch, WCA Manager Sasha Thomas, and others liked that it would be placed on Highway 20. The vision is that tourist traffic from inland would pass by the art and people would be more curious about Willits. Some would want to stop and view the piece of art. “They might be curious, want to spend more time here and spend some money,” someone expressed.

Bender informed that, “One of the things, from the city’s perspective, that we would like to see – and we touched on that at the last meeting of this committee – is that we don’t want to see artwork being indiscriminately placed. We want to see an overall concept. If we need to make some type of internal features: paths, parking spaces, access. We would like to see that.”

This brought up concerns: the height of the sculpture and its visibility; parking since the only viable place now is the gas station; installation concerns; maintenance; more sculptures, inspired by Camp’s vision of a sculpture garden.

After the last meeting, Martin had a call-out for more community input. Of the nine people from the area who showed up at Friday’s meeting, some were there to listen and others had ideas and concerns to add to the discussion.

Of note was input from Phillip Stewart, an accomplished artist and public art sculptor with years of experience planning, navigating bureaucracies, and fabricating large sculptures. He has had many installation experiences with knowledge of the intricacies that need thought when placing municipal sculptures.

Interest in making the Highway 20 strip of green an official sculpture garden ensued.

Based on experience, Stewart expressed some of his concerns: “There’s a whole sphere of things that should be addressed at the very beginning which will ensure smooth sailing down the line. This is one of the hurdles in the public-art arena: How do you contextualize a group of works into the built environment that doesn’t create traffic nuisances and has enough tooth with their location that they don’t become passé?”

“One of the largest problems,” he continued, “for cities is accepting works onto a municipal collection which they’re then obligated to maintain and, in many cases, it can’t be accessioned.”

He talked further about sculptures that have broken where the municipality doesn’t have the funds to fix it, and it can’t be taken down because it’s public art. It’s definitely something the planning group will look into.

Excitement around having the sculpture garden continued. “In my own vision, down the road, I’d like to see a meander through the sculptures with seats and some sort of parking that would be safe,” Camp described.

“Say there’s a gravel path with benches and X-amount of different site locations. There could be wide spots in the trail, which is classic, with an occasional 14-foot circle where sculptures would sit,” envisioned Stewart.

The rest of Deaths | From Page 1

Public Health Officer Dr. Andy Coren in his report to the county board of supervisors Tuesday described the current surge as “a severe pandemic of the unvaccinated,” with hospitalization and death rates 10 times higher for unvaccinated people.

After giving various information, details and data, about cases, vaccinations given, and the latest news on booster shots, he concluded:

“In summary, we have been seeing increased hospitalizations and intensive care unit admissions. These are stressing our hospital system, and now we’re seeing a commensurate increase in deaths. This is affecting our younger and healthier people. Nearly all are unvaccinated. This is worse than the winter surge.

“Since the vaccine has been fully authorized,” Dr. Coren said, “I’m hoping more will get vaccinated to protect themselves, but then ahead there’s still Labor Day weekend,” and other upcoming holiday celebrations.

“Please note,” Dr. Coren said, “it’s the 18-to-49-year-old group ... that we’re most concerned about, and really want to push the vaccine to that group. It is in that group that we’ve seen significant increases in the numbers of cases and deaths as well.”

Coren told supervisors as of Monday, there were 30 Mendocino County residents in the three county hospitals, with 5 in higher level care hospitals out of the county, and 3 patients from out of the county being cared for here.

“We have 8 COVID patients in our ICU units today,” he said; “with only 3 staffed ICU beds available, this is 18 percent capacity.”

Coren noted: “This number fluctuates pretty rapidly, but we’ve had several days in the last week or two with no ICU beds available.” He also noted he had “not been notified of any staff shortages at this time,

He later added the idea of having concrete pilthns inserted in the circles, ready for installations. “It’s a cool way of doing it. You don’t have to commit to permanency of the work. It’s a good way to get the community more involved where there’s a place with revolving works.”

Martin replied, “The problem, Stu, is coming up with artists who want to do that.” Stewart replied that they could become temporary storage places for various artists if you could convince them to show their piece in a spot for a while.

The group talked about the mission statement Martin presented. They saw the importance of representing all the cultural and historical elements in Little Lake Valley’s public art.

Other sculptural pieces are in the works. Chris Baldo from Roots of Motive Power has offered a small steam engine. Martin mentioned the offering of redwood pieces from a redwood removed from City Park that are available.

Fisch asked the planning committee to brainstorm their ideas for the vision of the project, existing resources, any needs and barriers, and the benefits to the community. She encouraged people to come up with these ideas before the next meeting.

Talk turned to the practical matter of financing. Martin saw the WCA coming up with some grants and looked to the city manager as partnering in this venture. “We do know a lot of donations outside of the public realm,” Bender disclosed. “We do have a grant writer with that talent but they’re stretched, too,” he added. “Collaboration would be excellent,” stated Fisch.

“I imagine, in Willits, maybe the Lions Club wants to raise money for something or the museum wants to put something there. I see the art center being the curator where [the artist / organization] makes [their] application if they have a piece of sculpture,” Thomas said.

It was concluded that WCA is the coordinating driving force for the project and the city does the work to make the Highway 20 city property a sculpture garden. Procuring funds could be collaborative with the city and with other community resources.

The sculptures have to be compliant with building codes. Stewart volunteered to craft a list of constraints that are typically listed in public-art installations. He’ll list the elements such as engineering, access, maintenance and infrastructure as well as the ADA component that needs to be considered.

As the meeting drew to an end, Camp said, “It’s good to have a basic plan.” To which Eric Ward, WCA board member, said, “Even if the plan’s just on paper. You can place [the pinwheel sculpture] and build the plan around it and we can say to the community that this is the first step of a sculpture garden. I do design environmental spaces and I’m happy to draw something up.” Everyone agreed that it was a good idea.

The next meeting of the Willits Public Art Ad Hoc Committee is Friday, September 24, 9 am to 10 am at Willits City Hall, 111 Commercial Street. The public is invited. Masks and distancing are required. Contact Willits City Hall at 459-4601 or WCA at 459-1726 for further information.

which is a measure of quality care they are maintaining.”

Local doctors are also attesting to how the local COVID surge is affecting local medical care, both in a letter signed by many local doctors and health providers at the local hospitals (see page 2) and via individual social media posts.

“Every day, we take care of more and more patients who are sick with COVID-19,” the letter reads. “The great majority of hospitalized patients are unvaccinated. Our emergency departments are overflowing. Our hospitals are full. Our ICUs are full. We struggle to find hospital beds even for the patients who are coming to the emergency department with strokes, heart attacks, or appendicitis. When patients need services that our hospitals cannot provide, we struggle to transfer them, and have become used to hearing the phrase “there are no hospital beds in all of Northern California.”

New health order in the works

Dr. Coren told supervisors he was preparing a new health order regulating restaurants and bars. “We continue to see many high-risk exposure events, that’s especially in restaurants and bars, that contribute to community spread,” he said.

“In response, I’m preparing a new order to require employers in those businesses to adopt policies for employees to vaccinate or if exempt for medical or religious reasons, to show proof of testing. And for patrons, they will have to verify vaccination status if they wish to eat inside, or they may pick up food to go or eat outside.

“I believe this will protect without harming the small businesses or the community’s access to food,” he concluded.

No timeline was given for when that order might be announced.

Sites and Scenery

Willits Center for the Arts
to showcase ‘iconic’ buildings
and natural splendors starting
September 3

Submitted by Willits Center for the Arts

Willits Center for the Arts presents paintings by Sue Sweet and the “Iconic Mendocino Buildings Challenge” by the Ocean Wave Quilters September 3 through 26, 2021.

Sweet grew up in west Sonoma County, where she was forever searching for treasures in nature and creating things out of bone, shells, feathers and twigs. This blossomed into a love for drawing, painting and sculpture.

After graduating from the Academy of Art, San Francisco in 1985 with a BFA in sculpture, she worked in a variety of media from ceramics to bronze casting, to neon mixed-media sculpture, printmaking, and in more recent years, oil, acrylic, watercolors, and mixed media on canvas or paper.

Art has always been a necessary and healing force in her life, which prompted her to become a marriage and family art therapist. “I get a lot of joy by helping others transform their lives through art,” said Sweet.

Accompanying Sweet’s paintings in the September show will be the “Iconic Mendocino Buildings Challenge” by the Ocean Wave Quilters.

In July of 2019, Ocean Wave Quilters member Cindi Jo Willey issued a challenge to guild members to make 18-inch-by-18-inch quilts of Mendocino’s iconic buildings, to be completed by July of 2020. Nine of the members of the Ocean Wave Quilters accepted the challenge. The pandemic delayed the original deadline, but they are excited to share the results.

Each quilt is made with a “raw edge applique” technique, where fabric is fused to the quilt, then secured by stitching around the raw edges. Each quilt has been finished with a “faced edge,” rather than a traditional binding. Some of the quilts use other techniques: thread painting, photographs printed on fabric, appliqued lace, and other trims.

Participating quilters include: Ginny Cooper, Christie Daoust, Dee Goodrich, Evelyn Harris, Nodja Jones, Sharon Lau, Tina Perry, Cindi Jo Willey, and Daisy Woodhams, with assistance from Sharon Gieras and Kim Rietveld in finishing the handwork on the quilts.

In addition to the paintings and quilts, Sandee Zaffarano will be displaying her beaded jewelry. This is Zaffarano’s first show in inland Mendocino.

Come view the work of these talented artists at the Willits Center for the Arts, located at 71 East Commercial Street (next to the Noyo Theatre). Gallery hours are Friday through Sunday 11 am to 5 pm. Visit www.willitscenterforthearts.org for more information.



Above: “Old Baptist Church,” left, and “Mendocino Hotel,” right, by the Ocean Wave Quilters.

At right: “Crane Study” by Sue Sweet.

Below: “Freesia Study III” by Sue Sweet, left, and a painting of seed pods by Sue Sweet.



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Sports Medicine



Yoshihiro Katsuura, MD
Spine Specialist

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