

City council OKs more funds for Ukiah dispatch

By B.B. Kamoroff

To use an old cliché scaled down to Willits size, ten thousand dollars here, ten thousand dollars there, and pretty soon you're talking real money – and no voiced concern from the city council as they continue to approve more and more unbudgeted expenditures.

Additional sheriff services and costs. At the October 13 City Council meeting, Chief of Police Fabian Lizarraga asked the council for a \$19,000 increase in funding, from \$6,000 to \$25,000, for police dispatcher services from the county sheriff's

Read the rest of
Dispatch
Over on Page 2

Big pot busts at First, Second Gates

Response from CDFW

In response to a media inquiry about activity 6 to 8 miles up Sherwood Road northwest of Willits last week, Janice Mackey, an information officer from California Department of Fish & Wildlife, sent the following information:

On October 11, 2021, wildlife officers with the California Department of Fish & Wildlife served three search warrants in the First and Third Gates area of Willits in Mendocino County. The search warrants were part of an investigation into unlawful cultivation of cannabis.

Over 3,800 illegal cannabis plants were eradicated and over 2,900 pounds (1.45 tons) of illegal processed cannabis was destroyed.

Read the rest of
Busts
Over on Page 11

WPD arrests suspect in brutal assault

Submitted by Willits Police Chief Fabian Lizarraga

On Sunday night, October 10, Willits Police Department officers responded to a call of a "man down, unresponsive with blood everywhere" at the Evergreen Shopping Center, 1718 South Main Street, behind the Grocery Outlet.

Upon officers arrival, they discovered the victim was actually a woman, 61 years of age, bleeding and unconscious. Medical assistance was procured, and the victim was transported to Howard Memorial Hospital, and

Read the rest of
Assault
Over on Page 2



Photos by Maureen Jennison



At top: An early morning drive over the Ridgewood Grade gave the perfect vantage point for Sunday morning's sunrise. Above: Rain dotted red and green leaves in front of the Willits Center for the Arts building. Below: A fallen fall leaf enjoys a bath in the forming puddle.



Chief Lizarraga is newly sworn in as of October 7.

Photo by Mathew Caine

Lovely Sunday

From sunrise to rainfall, autumn showed up in all its weather-filled beauty

What is hopefully a preview of what's to come, Sunday's downpour was a wonderful and welcome weather event to everyone who had the luxury of watching from inside their cozy home.

The day started with the most amazing sunrise to boot, creating an appreciation for the range of sun-to-rain patterns possible this time of year.

This coming end of the week and weekend, too, looks promising for additional rain as well; right now the National Weather Service out of Eureka is forecasting rain for Willits all the way through next Wednesday. Some days do include words like "likely" and "chance," but there's also phrases like "could be heavy at times," and "new precipitation amounts between three quarters and one inch possible," and THAT is good news indeed.

Get out your rain boots and soup recipes, fall has arrived!

– Maureen Jennison

Willits schools have empty positions to fill

Joanne Moore
Reporter
joanne@willitsweekly.com

The October 13 meeting of the Willits Unified School District Board of Trustees was long, and lots of ground was covered. Highlights include current COVID protocols, contract negotiations between teachers and administration, repeated pleas for help with unfilled jobs, a student-lead elimination of plastic bag use, low marks in reading proficiency, and an invitation to a big get-together to "just basically break bread ... as community" from teachers to the rest of the Willits Unified community.

Willits Teachers Association president Tessa Ford publicly invited the administration, school board members, and California School Employees Association members to join the teachers on October 30 at Ohl Redwood Grove to "play some games [and] eat some tri tip."

The purpose, she said, was "to undo some barriers that may have come up over the years between the different entities, [and] ... build a stronger connection with all the people we work

Read the rest of
Positions
Over on Page 11

Brooktrails board hears 'Blue Zones' info

Barbara O'Reardon
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Township board member Tina Tyler-O'Shea had piqued the board's interest when she spoke enthusiastically about Blue Zones during a couple of recent Brooktrails board meetings. She and Brooktrails General Manager Tamara Alaniz were instrumental in bringing special presenters Azucena Chavez-Horta, Ryan Veness and Michelle Duarte to the meeting to share what Blue Zones are all about.

Blue Zones are areas of the world where it has been determined that people live longer; often to 100 years of age. The presenters cited the World Health Organization definition of well-being as the state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, not merely the absence of disease and infirmity. It has been determined that by improving overall well-being there are lower rates of chronic disease and a higher quality of life.

It all began with Dan Buettner's longevity study to find the world's healthiest

Read the rest of
Zones
Over on Page 11

Serving Willits

Fabian Lizarraga, acting police chief since November, is officially sworn in

The City of Willits finally swore in a new chief of police as of October 7, 2021. Fabian Lizarraga, who has been the acting chief since November of 2020, was selected by the Willits City Council in April, and after undergoing background and medical checks, was installed in his position.

Lizarraga is looking forward to serving the people of Willits, having come to the city via Fort Bragg, where he served from 2015 to 2020, and the Los Angeles Police Department prior to that for many years. In the LAPD, he was assigned to juvenile investigations.

On the new chief's wish list is a fully

Read the rest of
Lizarraga
Over on Page 8

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Laytonville redistricting meeting

To the Editor:

An important Special Community Meeting on redistricting is scheduled in Laytonville, with Third District Supervisor John Haschak and Mendocino County Redistricting Commissioners.

Should Laytonville be removed from the Third District? and moved to the Fourth? (the coast).

Removing Laytonville from the Third District removes us from our connections to Willits, Covelo, and Ukiah! Make your voice heard! Join your neighbors.

Thursday, October 21, 2021 at 6 pm at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville, or join via ZOOM: Meeting ID: 894 1918 3268 Passcode: 0yXa6j Or call-in: (408) 638-0968 PASSCODE: 721343

Susan Bradley, Laytonville

Redistricting invitation

To the Editor:

This is an invite [to Fourth District Supervisor Dan Gjerde] from the Laytonville area residents, to attend the Laytonville Area Community Advisory Council meeting to be held Thursday, October 21 at Harwood Hall.

Some of the topics to discuss are the redistricting and the community outrage over noise pollution from Henry's Original.

Come meet and greet the people who do not want to be moved to your district. Convince us by attending that you will represent our interests.

C. Beaumont, Laytonville

The rest of Assault

subsequently airlifted to UC Davis Medical Center due to the extent of her injuries.

Because of the nature of the investigation, the victim's name is being withheld.

The officer's investigation revealed the woman had been severely beaten as well as sexually assaulted. Through numerous follow-ups of investigative leads, officers were able to positively identify the suspect as Jose Perez, 23 years old, from Willits.

On October 14 at approximately 3:30 pm, WPD officers, with the assistance of Mendocino County D.A. Investigators, Mendocino County Probation Department, and the UC Davis Police

Department, a warrant was successfully served at Perez's residence in Willits, where he was taken into custody without incident.

Perez was eventually transported to Mendocino County Jail and booked for: • Attempt Murder (Penal Code 664/187), • Attempt Rape (Penal Code 664/261), • Kidnapping with bodily injury (Penal Code 209), and • Violation of Probation (Penal Code 1203.2)

His bail was set at \$500,000.

Anyone having any further information on this case is urged to contact the Willits Police Department at 707-459-6122, Sergeant Ray Brady or Officer Cody Pearson.

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

Willits Weekly is a locally owned independent newspaper, founded in 2013, covering the greater Willits area.

Volume 9, Number 425

3,500 - 4,000 copies printed by Western Web on Thursdays

P.O. Box 1698 Willits, CA 95490 / 707-459-2633; 707-972-7047 willitsweekly@gmail.com / www.willitsweekly.com

Jennifer Poole, publisher and editor / willitsweekly@gmail.com / 707-459-2633

Maureen (Moore) Jennison, art director and photographer / maureen@willitsweekly.com / 707-972-7047

Mathew Caine, photographer / calendar editor / features writer / mathew@willitsweekly.com

Forrest Glycer, reporter / forrest@willitsweekly.com

Joanne Moore, reporter / features writer / joanne@willitsweekly.com

Barbara O'Reardon, Brooktrails reporter / willitsweekly@gmail.com

Ree Slocum, features writer / ree@willitsweekly.com

Danya Davis, features writer / police log / danya@willitsweekly.com

April Tweddell, ad sales / 707-972-2475 / april@willitsweekly.com

Jackie Cobbs, features editor

Ad inquiries: call 707-972-7047 or email advertising@willitsweekly.com

The rest of Dispatch

From Page 1

command post in Ukiah, to alleviate the shortage of dispatchers in Willits, a result of one dispatcher moving away and another on long-term medical leave due to COVID.

Although the council voted unanimously to approve the expenditure, this brought up some concerns from Mayor Madge Strong. The police dispatchers do much more than dispatch officers to incidents. They also answer the 911 calls, gather the information, and decide what actions to take.

Mayor Strong pointed out that a Ukiah-based dispatcher who may not be familiar with Willits is a less-than-ideal substitute for a Willits-based dispatcher who knows the town, knows landmarks, and can make faster decisions and take more appropriate actions than someone who lives and works in another town. The mayor stated: "Having our dispatchers being local, being here in Willits is important. We get much better service because they know the territory, where someone is calling from."

While the sheriff dispatch expenditure is temporary – and Chief Lizarraga said that he is currently interviewing a candidate for dispatcher – having the sheriff provide temporary dispatch services could be a foot in the door for a permanent change in the future. Mendocino County Sheriff Matt Kendall has been publicly advocating for centralized (that is, sheriff-provided) dispatch services throughout the county. In an online post, Sheriff Kendall stated: "I think a consolidated dispatch system is on the horizon. I think that's an excellent idea." No one on the Willits city council has suggested such a change.

"Somewhat out of the blue:" More expenses. Willits will soon be saddled with an unanticipated and ongoing new expenditure of money, for email and information technology services formerly provided by the county at little or no cost. The county is switching to a new information technology platform that is not compatible with Willits' needs. City Manager Brian Bender, who said the change came "somewhat out of the blue," estimates an additional expenditure of \$3,000 to \$4,000 a month. As this has not yet come up for a vote, no one on the council had any comments. No one was smiling either.

Headed for a deficit? The unanticipated expenses for sheriff-provided dispatchers, a new and expensive email system, the \$9,000 approved at the last council meeting to bail out HazMat, and pay raises that are regularly being given to city staff concern Councilmember Larry Stranske, who says that he does not know if the city can afford more and more added expenditures.

Stranske told Willits Weekly, "We [the city council] have not seen the budget," because the city has had "no luck" hiring a permanent finance director, and the most recent temporary one just moved to Tennessee. Stranske is not convinced that the recently enacted .075% sales tax increase (raising sales tax in the city to 9.125%) and especially the revenue from the city's marijuana excise tax, the Cannabis Industry Tax Ordinance, will continue to balance the budget. Stranske pointed out, "Marijuana prices are falling dramatically," which he thinks is likely to result in fewer marijuana-related businesses and less revenue for Willits.

City Manager Bender, in response to Councilmember Stranske's concerns, told Willits Weekly that the city is still working long-distance with the finance consultant, and that the city council will finally see a proposed new budget the end of this month, which will need to include the latest expense surprises. Bender also said that the marijuana tax revenue is "coming in a little lower" but is still generating a sizable pot of money.

First in California. Councilmembers Greta Kanne and Saprina Rodriguez announced that Willits will be the first city in the state of California to have a fully electric transit bus. The MTA bus will be based in Willits, which already has a fully functional electric-vehicle charging station, a main reason why Willits was selected for this special honor. The city will be planning a celebration and ribbon cutting around the end of the year to welcome Bus #1.

Finally, a well-deserved and heartfelt welcome to no-longer-interim Chief of Police Lizarraga, who was sworn in October 7 as Willits' full-time permanent chief by City Manager Bender: "He is healthy, in A-1 shape, ready to go. He's out there on patrol. And he has a plan that creates a solid equitable police department for this community."

"We have this rather large task before us," Bender continued. "There's going to be some tough decisions, but I think Chief Lizarraga has that experience and expertise. We are looking forward to the challenge and the opportunities."

Senior Center drive-through, walk-up lunches

Willits Senior Center's indoor dining room is closed, but the center is still serving drive-through and walk-up lunches, Monday through Friday, starting at 12 pm and now closing at 12:45 pm, outside the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtcl Road. Price is \$5 through December.

"We are also providing home-delivered meals to anyone who wants a safe food delivery option via our Meals on Wheels Program," center Director Richard Baker said, noting a 203% increase in demand for home-delivered meals during the pandemic.

Meals on Wheels

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, October 21: Pizza w/Sausage, Mushroom & Onion, Green Salad

Friday, October 22: Country Fried Chicken, Mashed Potato, Veggie, Roll

Monday, October 25: Ground Beef Tacos, Rice, Beans

Tuesday, October 26: Pork Stew, Cornbread, Green Salad

Wednesday, October 27: Stuffed Bell Peppers, Rice, Veggie, Roll

Thursday, October 28: Goulash, Veggie, Roll, Green Salad

Friday, October 29: Turkey, Stuffing, Cranberry Sauce, Veggie

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

#BanksNeverAskThat Savings Bank educates consumers with anti-phishing campaign

Submitted by Savings Bank of Mendocino County

October 15 – Savings Bank of Mendocino County and banks across the nation are educating consumers about the persistent threat of phishing scams during National Cybersecurity Awareness Month. Customers lost \$3.3 billion to phishing and other fraud in 2020.

During October, Savings Bank is sharing information provided by the American Bankers Association #BanksNeverAskThat campaign on social media to combat phishing. The campaign provides tips to empower consumers to identify bogus bank communications. It's not just phone calls from suspicious numbers, or numbers that appear to be from a bank. It's also emails and text messages masked to look like they're from your bank asking for sensitive information like passwords and Social Security numbers.

If you're contacted by phone, email or text and are asked for your account number, username, password, date of birth or Social Security number, that's not your bank!

Watch out for emails with misspelled words, poor grammar or that ask you to click a link or provide personal information. The sender may claim to be someone from your bank, but it's a scam.

Your bank will never ask you to sign in or give personal information via text message.

Would your bank ever call you to verify your account number? No! If you're ever in doubt that the caller is legitimate, just hang up and call the bank directly at a number you trust.

You've probably seen some of these scams before. But that doesn't stop a scammer from trying.

Do you think you fell for a scam email, phone call, or text message? Here's what to do next: Take a deep breath. You're going to get through this. Change your passwords. Call your bank and let them know what happened. Notify credit agencies and set up fraud alerts. Protect yourself moving forward by adding multi-factor authentication.

For anti-phishing tips follow Savings Bank of Mendocino County on Facebook and Instagram, and test your scam IQ by taking a quiz provided by the American Bankers Association at www.BanksNeverAskThat.com



At left: Prior to the first event, the riders line up for the national anthem. Above: Siblings Jessica, Christian and Junior Swenson are a family that races together. Below, left: One of the three side-by-sides kicks up a ton of dirt on its way around the course. Below: Seventeen-year-old Breeana Barragan drives with agility and a lack of fear.



ATV Rodeo Laytonville's annual competition teaches young riders the importance of safety and is full-throttle fun

It was loud. It was dusty. It was fast (most of the time). It was a whole lot of fun!

The kids (starting at age 5) and a few adults, raced through a series of six events designed to test their skills and kick up a whole lot of dirt. Luckily, the rain held off or the track could have become thick with mud. What the seventh annual Laytonville ATV Rodeo, held last Saturday and Sunday, October 16 and 17, lacked in audience, it made up for with the joy and daredevil-ery of the young participants, flying around the barrels, weaving in and out through the pole course, or the inspired dusty insanity of the hide race, and several other events.

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
mathew@willitsweekly.com

Keith Swenson, a proud dad of three young riders, enjoyed watching his kids. "They call it an ATV Rodeo because they have events much like a rodeo," he explained. "They have six events. A barrel race where you have to go around the barrels, a pole race where you have to slalom between a line of poles eight to 10 feet apart.

"They have a hide race," added Swenson, "where you have to talk your buddy into riding on a cowhide that's attached by cable to the ATV or quad. Your buddy's riding the quad. You're hanging onto that cowhide. He drags you around the course, getting hammered by the rocks and everything that the quad wheels kick up." Dirt and a few scrapes are a minor inconvenience to the young when they can have this much fun.

Jakob Dryden, president of the Laytonville ATV Committee, part of the Laytonville Rodeo Association, had several purposes in creating the event, amongst which is safety, teaching the kids how to ride in a secure and protected manor with the proper equipment. The first day of the event was a training day, wherein the participants were able to learn proper riding techniques and got to become familiar with the courses so that the next day, when they were racing, they could do so without straying off the course and without injury.

"We usually do two events a year, during the summer, but we wanted to make sure that we didn't get in the rodeo's way, so the rodeo can make all their money," explained Dryden. "Everything we make is a leg up to help raise money for next year's rodeo association, so we can make sure we have the startup money to get everything going.

"With COVID," he continued, "we

Read the rest of Rodeo Over on Page 4

Do it Best WILLITS POWER & HARDWARE

HONDA • HUSQVARNA • STIHL • MQ • CARHARTT

Lawn & Garden Equipment ▪ Generators

Sales, Parts & Service ▪ Pick-up & Delivery

1600 S. Main St. Sales/Parts: 707 459-6420
Willits, CA 95490 Service: 707 459-0596
willitspower@gmail.com Fax: 707 459-6369

FARMERS CANTUA INSURANCE AGENCY

16 W. Valley Street • Willits, CA 95490
Bus: (707) 459-3276 • Fax: (707) 459-3298
www.NorCalQuote.com • rcantua@farmersagent.com

Auto • Home • Life • Health • Business

707.459.5193

JOHN FORD RANCH

RANCH RAISED NATURAL BEEF

No Hormones, Pastured in Willits, California

CLAWS FOR A CAUSE

The Seabiscuit Therapeutic Riding Center

Gives thanks to our community for the incredible generosity that will allow us to continue our mission. At this year's Claws for a Cause, we were able to raise

\$71,865.41

Additional thanks to our 2021 Diamond Sponsors:

Spartan Supply, PureCrop, Adventist Health, MENDOCINO CANNABIS DISTRIBUTION, NC Financial Group

Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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

WATER QUALITY WORD SEARCH																									
S	D	D	R	G	H	O	M	E	T	Y	S	O	C	E	N	K	L	A	C	E					
U	A	I	E	A	R	I	N	O	L	X	H	I	K	A	R	B	E	C	B						
S	K	H	W	F	R	E	L	P	O	T	N	E	U	P	O	P	N	O	G	R	O	X	B	O	
L	C	W	T	I	R	E	N	E	X	A	B	I	O	E	K	T	C	F	L	B	A	U			
C	B	A	R	K	B	L	N	E	M	T	A	P	F	H	D	G	C	F	H	E	B	A	X	Y	
W	F	S	T	Y	L	C	X	S	G	W	E	D	H	M	E	S	C	O	F	I	B	A	W		
M	A	C	L	S	A	D	L	A	C	I	G	U	N	O	L	O	F	F	E	I	G	T	A		
P	I	P	N	L	D	I	R	C	T	U	N	I	X	E	I	S	E	N	I						
Z	A	I	M	N	W	C	A	F	T	I	X	Y	L	P	E	N	L	I							
L	R	N	Z	G	T	S	E	W	I	P	O	L	I	T	R	E	F	X	A	A	E				
T	Y	I	S	Y	R	E	Z	I	L	I															

BACTERIA	FERTILIZER	RECLAIMED
BIOMONITORING	HABITAT	RUNOFF
BRACKISH	IMPACT	SALINITY
CHEMICALS	IRRIGATION	SEDIMENT
DRAINAGE	NUTRIENTS	TREATMENT
ECOLOGICAL	OXYGEN	WASTE
ECOSYSTEM	PARTICLES	WATER
EFFLUENT	POLLUTED	WILDLIFE

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

CLUES ACROSS

- Break
- Ruled Russia
- Having several lobes
- Walked around proudly
- Atomic #77
- Largest living land animals
- The Great Lakes State
- A type of toast
- Partner to feather
- Bristlelike
- Bowfin
- Distributes
- Hairlike structure
- Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- Where wrestlers work
- Blood relation
- A great deal
- Round Dutch cheese
- Move further away from
- Type of wrap
- Furies
- Removes from the record
- Young salmon
- Feline
- Skin decor
- Disfigure
- They __
- Formal term for ŌonŌ

- Weight of precious stones
- Traveled rapidly
- One who sets others free
- Prickly husk
- Expressed pleasure
- Exclamation of surprise
- Most irritable
- Virginia of British India
- Optimistic
- Humorous works
- Arranged systematically
- Emerges

CLUES DOWN

- Wives of a polygamous man
- Where hurt ballplayers land
- Single-celled animal
- Rhythmic pattern
- One from Utah
- A group of seven
- Refrains from inflicting
- Light brown
- Humanistic discipline
- Emits coherent radiation
- It says who you are
- Roundworm
- Group of Native Americans

- Makes wider
- Headgear
- One who sets others free
- Form of communication
- A Brit's mother
- Title of respect
- Famed modernist painter
- One-time province of British India
- Prosecutors
- Motor vehicle
- Non-religious
- Native Americans of Colorado and Wyoming
- Pouch
- Touch gently
- Chose
- Actress Tomei
- Former Broncos coach Dan
- Icelandic poems
- More decent
- Grillmasters use it
- Self-immolation by fire rituals
- Expression of annoyance
- ___ Spumante (Italian wine)
- Consumed
- Body part
- Thus
- Rupee

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE LOG

October 11 to October 17

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled **87 incidents** in this seven-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

October 11

7:31 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

8:38 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

October 12

9:40 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

October 13

1:46 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

October 14

2:35 am: ENOCHS, Michael Bull-Devin (24) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 23152 (B) VC (Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol with a Blood Alcohol Content of 0.08 Percent or Higher).

3:46 am: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 100 block of Muir Lane.

10:25 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 200 block of Margie Drive.

1:47 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of West Mendocino Avenue.

2:18 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 800 block of Coast Street.

5:03 pm: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

7:40 pm: Officers responded to a report

of an unwanted subject in the 300 block of Creekside Drive.

10:33 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

October 15

9:51 am: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance near the intersection of West Highway 20 and Cropley Lane.

6:46 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of North Marin Street.

7:41 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Creekside Court.

9:09 pm: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 1700 block of Elm Lane.

11:03 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of Bonnie Lane and issued a warning.

October 16

1:49 am: BECK, Annelise Katrina (25) of Willits was contacted in the 1500 block of South Main Street. She was arrested pursuant to 23152 (A) VC (Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol), 23152 (B) VC (Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol with a Blood Alcohol Content of 0.08 Percent or Higher), and on misdemeanor charges of driving with a suspended license.

2:43 pm: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance near the intersection of Alder Lane and Elm Lane.

7:56 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 800 block of Railroad Avenue and issued a warning.

8:39 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Alameda Avenue.

October 17

1:01 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

The rest of Rodeo | From Page 3

couldn't have our regular events but we decided to do this now so we could make sure the riders were happy and would want to come back next year, know they had fun. It's all about the kids. We want to make sure the kids come in here with the safety aspect in a controlled environment, so when they go up into the hills, they know all the safety factors.

"No one likes to get those calls at night that someone's kid got hurt in a wreck," said Dryden. "We're trying to eliminate that with what we're doing right here. Yesterday was a practice day, where the riders could come down and practice the events, so today they would be fresh and know how to do all the events and not get eliminated for missing turns on the track, not running it right."

Dryden went on to explain the events: "We start out with barrels. It's basically the same events you'd have for a rodeo but we just substitute ATVs and dirt bikes for the horses. The second event is the poles race. Next is the figure eight. For the younger kids we do a one-lap race, and for the older kids and adults we do three laps. We have the hide race, where you pull your buddy

around a lap on a piece of cowhide. We're supposed to have a bloomer race, where you race down and put on a pair of panties and race back. The last is our race offs. We have a bracket race off. At the end, if you want to call somebody out and challenge them to a race, you can pay \$10."

The winners of each category, in addition to receiving a cast award, will be gifted with an inscribed sprocket, which Dryden explained is more permanent and less breakable than a trophy, not to mention way more appropriate.

One of the riders, Breeana Barragan, a 17-year-old Cloverdale High School student, has been riding before she could walk. She rode the Dust Machine, a large and powerful Polaris side-by-side that can take a passenger and was utilized as a tow machine when other vehicles broke down. When not on motorized vehicles, she says she does all the same events on horses. "My grandpa used to ride with me but he's getting older," said Barragan. "But, he'd probably come with me if I asked." Some people never grow out of the excitement and challenge of these events. Why grow up when youth can be so much fun?

Laytonville ATV Rodeo Winners	
Barrel Race – 11 and under: First place – Arlo Steffen; Second place – Caleb Cabezut	Figure Eight – Adults: First – Dalton Williams; Second – Nico Steffen
Barrel Race – Ages 12 to 17: First – Logan Nielson and Cole Carbaugh; Second – Tyson Simmons	Lap Races – 11 and under: First – Arlo Steffen; Second – Aiden Hill
Barrel Race – Adults: First – Dalton Williams; Second – Derrick French	Lap Races – Ages 12 to 17: First – Tyson Simmons; Second – Logan Nielson
Pole Slalom – 11 and under: First – Caleb Cabezut; Second – Arlo Steffen	Lap Races – Adults: First – Allen Stutsman; Second – Dalton Williams
Pole Slalom – Ages 12 to 17: First – Cole Carbaugh; Second – Dayton Taylor	Bloomer Race – 11 and under: First – Arlo Steffen; Second – Carson Soto
Pole Slalom – Adults: First – Pablo; Second – Dalton Williams	Bloomer Race – Ages 12 to 17: First – Breeana Barragan
Figure Eight – 11 and under: First – Aiden Hill; Second – Caleb Cabezut	Bloomer Race – Adult: First – Dalton Williams; Second – Nico Steffen
Figure Eight – Ages 12 to 17: First – Cole Carbaugh; Second – Dayton Taylor	Hide Race: First – Dalton Williams and Obrien Simmons; Second – Breeana Barragan and Dakota Nielson



Photos by Mathew Caine



From far left: Jerry Albright, veteran of many cleanup efforts, finds no shortage of cast-off items. Kenan O'Shea, Public Works superintendent, gives last-minute instructions to the participants. Kenan and Tina O'Shea, along with Brian Bender, fill up a pickup truck. Below, left: Dr. John Glyer works under one of the bridges where the trash is most concentrated. Below, right: Batteries and nitrous-oxide cylinders are some of the more environmentally harmful items and are treated separately.



Clean Creeks
Volunteers remove multiple trucks worth of garbage from two homeless camps along Willits' streams

The award for the most interesting piece of debris found during a recent creek cleanup went to Dr. John Glyer for his discovery of an electric typewriter, found at the railroad bridge over Baechtlet Creek. He was honored with a coffee mug and a T-shirt from the Willits Chamber of Commerce, but that is not why the almost 25 volunteers spent their Saturday morning engaged in the messy task of picking up discarded trash, clothing, blankets, and other detritus.

"We're doing a somewhat belated Coastal Cleanup Day for the City of Willits," said Rotary Club organizer and past Willits City Manager Stephanie Garrabrant-Sierra. "It's a community effort, a joint project between the Willits Rotary Club and the City of Willits.... We're coming together to clean some trouble spots in our open waterways."

"We do this, traditionally, at least once a year," she said, "before the rains come, so we can clear out these paths, so when the rains do come, debris and filth aren't washed into the Eel River, into our precious watersheds."

"The California Coastal Cleanup happened a couple weeks ago, so other cities did it then," continued Garrabrant-Sierra. "Actually, our timing is pretty excellent because we haven't had any rains yet but we are expected to have some very heavy rains next weekend. I've been talking to the Public Works Department and the Community



Above: Frank Lavine, from Public Works, with his daughter, Cassidy, spent the morning helping make the city cleaner. At right: Rotarian Joe Bratt fills up several bags under the bridge.



NEW

HARPAH SENIOR CENTER
SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Furniture Room
Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Monday thru Friday

SEE'S CANDY YEAR ROUND

FOR MORE DETAILS CALL 459-6826
1501 BAECHTEL ROAD • WILLITS

TO-GO OR DINE-OUTDOOR | 459-5702

WHAT'S SOUNDS GOOD? I KNOW, EL MEX!

166 SOUTH MAIN ST

Restaurant El Mexicano
EST. 1982

**10AM - 8:30PM
MON - SAT**

C BROWNS CORNER

Groceries
Beer & Wine
Gas & Diesel
Pay at the Pump

7am - 10pm
459-4854
1799 So. Main St.
P.O. Box 428

Taxes* | Investments | Insurance
Real Estate* | Payroll & Bookkeeping*

Nicholas Casagrande, EA
855.240.6606
675 S Main St, Willits, CA 95490
105 W Clay St, Ukiah, CA 95482
nicholas@ncfinancialgroup.com
nicholas.casagrande@ceterafs.com**

NC Financial Group

EA # 00109334 • CA DRE # 01854336 • CA Insurance LIC # 0H684096
Advisory services offered through Cetera Investment Advisers LLC. Securities offered through Cetera Financial Specialists LLC (doing insurance business in CA as CRFIS Insurance Agency), member FINRA/SIPC. Cetera is under separate ownership from any other named entity. *These services are not offered through Cetera Financial Specialists LLC **Investment email

208 E. San Francisco Ave. (707) 459-6791

SPARETIME GARDEN CENTER

20% Off All Nursery Stock

Monday - Saturday 8 am - 6 pm
Sunday CLOSED

T and T TOWING

707-459-9116
277 N. Lenore Ave. WILLITS, CA
24-HOUR RADIO DISPATCHED TOWING

Willits Library Halloween Candy Carnival

Friday, October 29th, 4:30—6:00

Happy Halloween!

Willits Library Halloween Candy Carnival

Friday, October 29th, 4:30—6:00

Join the Willits Library staff as we celebrate Halloween. There will be ghoulish games, sweet treats, and photo booth fun.

The candy Carnival will be held outdoors in the parking lot next to the library. Please remember to socially distance. Facial coverings are encouraged.

Happy Halloween!

Firefighters host Halloween drive-thru at Baechtel Road Station 541

Little Lake Fire is hosting a Halloween drive-thru on Sunday, October 31, starting at 5:30pm at Station 541 (on Baechtel Road).

When you pull into the station please slow down and follow the signs and cones.

If you would like to donate bags of candy or decorations for the kids, we will gladly accept them 8 am to 5 pm at our current office on Baechtel Road, or call 459-7777 with any questions.

This was a big success last year, and we hope it will be again for the kids. We will hand out candy while supplies last.

Brooktrails Fire is also offering a drive-thru, as we want to make sure all kids have an opportunity to enjoy the festivities.

I hope everyone has a safe and happy Halloween!

— Aaron Branscomb, president, Firefighters Association



A family drives through the Little Lake Fire Department treat event last year.
Photo by Mathew Caine

MATEEL COMMUNITY CENTER PRESENTS

Halloween MASQUERADE BALL

HOT-BUTTERED RUM

THE ABSYNTH QUARTET TWANGO COSTUME CONTEST + PRIZES!

SATURDAY OCTOBER 30TH 2021

MATEEL COMMUNITY CENTER

\$25 ADVANCE \$30 DOOR AVAILABLE ON EVENTBRITE.COM AND SELECT LOCAL OUTLETS / 12 AND UNDER FREE. PROOF OF COVID VACCINATION OR NEGATIVE TEST REQUIRED TO ENTER. MORE INFO AT MATEEL.ORG

Logos for sponsors: vocality, DYNE FUEL, SAYAGE, Solium, MATEEL, and others.

NOYO THEATRE Willits, CA

57 East Commercial Street - Willits
707-459-NOVO (6696)
www.noyotheatre.com

Starts Friday, Oct. 29th:

LAST NIGHT IN SOHO

DUNE

(PG13) 2 hrs 35 mins

Fri.: 4:00 & 7:20pm
Sat./Sun.: 12:40, 4:00 & 7:20pm
Mon.-Thurs.: 4:00 & 7:20pm

Movie Times for Oct. 22 thru Oct. 28

HALLOWEEN KILLS

(R) 1 hr 45 mins

Fri.: 5:40 & 8:00pm
Sat./Sun.: 1:00, 3:20, 5:40 & 8:00pm
Mon.-Thurs.: 5:40 & 8:00pm

Masks Required

NO TIME TO DIE

(PG13) 2 hrs 43 mins

Fri.: 3:40 & 7:00pm
Sat./Sun.: 12:20, 3:40 & 7:00pm
Mon.-Thurs.: 3:40 & 7:00pm

Tightwad Tuesday Title for Oct. 26th is in Red. All tickets for all ages \$6!



At top: P-Funk Allstar Eric McFadden headlines the Halloween show at Shanachie Pub.

Above: Kate Vargas and her junkyard folk is special guest at the Saturday, October 30 show.

Right from the moment Joe Strummer from the Clash spotted him in San Francisco, nicknamed him "Lightning," and gave him a gig, Eric McFadden has claimed his place amongst the greats.

Visit <https://ericmcfadden.com/> and <https://www.katevargas.com/> for more info about the artists. Get a taste of the duo with "Live from the Red Couch," Mondays at 8:30pm EST on FB live! www.facebook.com/katevargasmusic

Advance tickets to the Saturday, October 30 show will be available for \$20 each, at Shanachie Pub as well as Flying Dog Pizza & Vinyl, for a limited capacity show.

Halloween at Shanachie Pub features Eric McFadden, Kate Vargas, and costumes

Submitted by Shanachie Pub

It will be another truly memorable night with P-Funk Allstar, Eric McFadden, featuring special guests Kate Vargas (junkyard folk), and more! A costume contest with prizes from Shanachie Pub and Flying Dog Pizza and Vinyl will also be happening, so come dressed to impress!

Eric McFadden is a guitar virtuoso/songwriter/vocalist. He has toured the world both as a solo artist, as well as with funk legend George Clinton (Parliament/Funkadelic), and rock legend Eric Burdon (The Animals).

Hailing from the crossroads of the Southwest and the heart of New Mexico, Eric McFadden has crafted a rare and enticing brand of high desert blues and gritty, flamenco-infused rock that leaves listeners spellbound. McFadden's sound has not only charmed audiences all over the world, countless musicians have been taken by his inimitable playing and musicianship.

LITTLE JOHN'S MARESA'S SPOOKTACULAR HALLOWEEN TAKEOVER!

OCTOBER 30, 2021

9:00PM - 1:00AM

383 SOUTH MAIN ST. WILLITS, CA. 95490

MUST BE 21 YEARS AGED OR OLDER!

JELLO-SHOTS - PRIZES - DRINK SPECIALS

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

'Halloween Kills'

The Story: "Halloween" franchise slasher flick, with high body count guaranteed in the title. In 2018, we saw Michael Myers (James Jude Courtney but really could have been anyone) trapped in a raging inferno. Meanwhile, his plucky sister Laurie (Jamie Lee Curtis) had a belly wound and was on her way to a hospital screaming, "Let him burn!" to passing firetrucks. They don't. Michael slaughters all the firefighters quite gruesomely, then slaughters townsfolk, then slaughters even more townsfolk.

My Thoughts: What drives this flick is a hunger for revenge. Think about it. We see a series of atrocities. Ultimately, what we the audience desire is to see Michael Myers vanquished and pulverized, perhaps chopped into little pieces. We the audience want Michael's suffering to match the suffering he's created. Thus, the suspense we feel is magnified by the accumulation of brutalized corpses, and our delayed hunger for revenge. That noted, this flick was so cheaply made, and plot-wise so dumb, and so obviously slasher porn, that it reminded me fondly of the zero budget Roger Corman movies I loved growing up. Quite nostalgic really. The only thing this flick lacked was the chocolate syrup.

Parents: No children. Subjecting a child to this flick would be criminal child abuse.

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



At left: The Brooktrails firefighters and their families pass out many bags of treats at the 2020 Trunk or Treat event.
Photo by Mathew Caine

'Trunk or Treat'

at Brooktrails Fire on Halloween Night

Please join us on Halloween between 5 to 8 pm for our 2nd annual drive-thru Trunk or Treat at the Brooktrails Fire Station 24860 Birch Street. If you would like to donate candy, please contact us at 459-4441.



SPARETIME GARDEN CENTER

Happy Halloween

Drive Through Trick or Treat

Saturday October 30th 2-6pm

Family Photo Booth available now through 10/30

208 E. San Francisco Ave. (707) 459-6791



Above: A giant spider looms over Sparetime Supply's front door. The family photo area with bench to the right is open now – a Sparetime staffer will happily take a Halloween 2021 photo on your device. At left: Some of the bagged up candy Sparetime will be giving out at their drive-through on Saturday, October 30, from 2 to 6 pm (or until treats are gone).



Trick or Treat plus family photo area at Sparetime Supply

Calling all ghouls, goblins, superheroes and more, Sparetime Garden Center will be hosting a drive-through Trick or Treat event on Saturday, October 30 from 2 to 6 pm (or until treats are gone).

Stop in for a Halloween treat being handed out by our spirited staff. Treats are in limited supply, so be sure to come early.

We also have a free family photo area to capture those fall memories, open now through October 30. A member of our staff will happily take a photo using your phone, camera or iPad.

Stop in to Sparetime Garden Center at 208 East San Francisco Avenue in Willits or give us a call at 459-6791.

SEPT 3 – FEB 13

PIGSKIN PICK'EMS

Earn 500 Points Each Week

Tuesdays 1pm – Saturdays 11pm

At the kiosk...

- Pick the winning teams of the Sunday and Monday games.
- Guess total score of the Monday night game for tie breaker.

Top 5 picks each week will win \$100 – \$1,000 FREE PLAY!

For complete rules and details please visit the Players Club. Gambling a problem? Call 1-800-GAMBLER.

SHERWOOD VALLEY CASINO

WWW.SVRCASINO.COM

SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

Agape Bible Church

290 S. Lenore Ave.
Willits, CA 95490
Where love is the priority and the Bible is central.

Sunday Services: 10:00 a.m. - Worship
Awana: 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 Jernigan
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.

Eckankar: The Path of Spiritual Freedom

- Sound of Soul events
- Membership Discourses
- Spiritual Discussions
- ECK Light & Sound Services

More information? Call 530-224-8703
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
Sunday Mass: 9:00 a.m. English
10:30 a.m. Spanish
Saturday Mass: 5:30 p.m.
Covid guidelines apply.
We welcome All Walks of Faith

St. Francis Episcopal Church

1 North Main Street, Willits
707-272-0177
Sunday Service - 10 a.m.
In-person and on Zoom
Call for information.
ALL ARE WELCOME
The Rev. Betsy Brunet

St. John Lutheran Church

Kari Blase, Pastor
Church Service:
Sunday 10:00 to 11:00
Bible Study / Sunday School following the service.
(707) 459-2988
24 Mill Creek Drive
ALL ARE WELCOME

Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church

707-459-5714
Saturdays: Meeting place at church located at 399 W. Mendocino Avenue
Bible Study - 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.
<https://willitsca.adventistchurch.org>
All are welcome!

Willits United Methodist

A Christ centered, progressive church
ALL ARE WELCOME
286 School St. (at Pine)
Rev. Rosemary Landry, pastor
Worship Celebration
Sundays - 10:30 a.m.
Children's Sunday School - 10:45 a.m.
459-2855
Facebook: www.facebook.com/willitsumc

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

Furry Friends Hoping for a Home



Ball-loving Bazinga

Meet Bazinga! This 4-year-old American Staffordshire terrier is a blast and a half! He loves the outdoors and wants nothing more but for you to play ball with him. Bazinga would love a home in a rural setting where he can run and do his zoomies. A city-based home will not be ideal for him. Bazinga loves people, and would need to go to an adult-only home with owners who can provide the appropriate training and socialization. Bazinga will need to be in a home where there aren't any cats, dogs and kids under the age of 18 as he can get over stimulated and be a bit much for some people. He does know his current name and has good recall. He walks well on a leash with a harness. Bazinga's adoption fee is half-off at \$200.

To learn more about Bazinga or view other adoptable animals, visit www.milofoundation.org or the Milo Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions by appointment only due to COVID-19. Please complete a pet-adoption application before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 510-900-2275.

Young Tucker

Handsome Tucker is here for a double shot at love! Tucker is around 11 months old and the most stunning boy you will meet! All of us here at HSIMC marvel at how calm he is for a young man. Plus he gets along well with other dogs. Tucker would love an active family who will help get his energy out and show him the world. Tucker is waiting to meet you at HSIMC! You may apply to add Tucker to your family today at www.mendohumanesociety.com.



Curious Cashew

Meet Cashew! This 4-month-old female tortoiseshell feline gets along well with other cats and can be playful. Cashew can be a little shy at first, but warms up quickly.

For more info about Cashew 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.mendoanimalshelter.com. For information about adoptions, please call 707-467-6453.

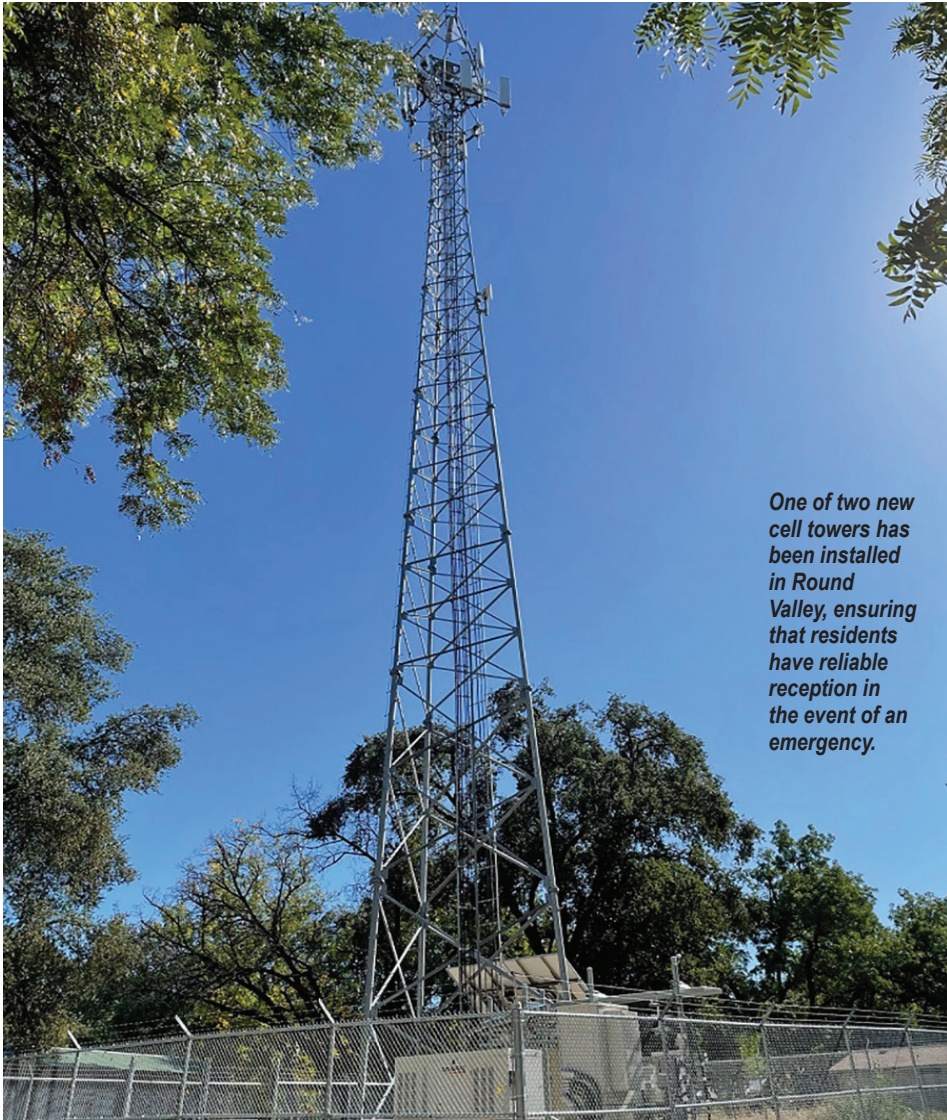


THIS ADVERTISEMENT CREATED AND SPONSORED BY BAECHTEL CREEK MEDICAL CLINIC

140,000 children in USA have lost a parent to Covid

Date/Time	Location	Vaccine Availability	Other Information
Mondays & Wednesdays 12:30pm - 4:15pm	Public Health 474 East Valley St, Willits	All vaccines available	Sign up at Myturn.ca.gov Or Walk-ups welcome 472-2759 Parents & Guardians must print and sign a consent form for minors for Pfizer vaccine
M-F 9am -11:30am 1:30pm-4:30 pm	Baechtel Creek Medical Clinic 1245 S. Main Street, Willits	Pfizer 4 days a week Moderna 1 day a week	Best to make an appointment. Do not need to be a patient 459-6861
M-F 9am -11:45am 12:45pm-3pm	Little Lake Health Center 45 Hazel Street, Willits	Pfizer & Moderna	Best to make an appointment. Do not need to be a patient. 456-9600
M-F 10am -12pm 2pm-4 pm	Adventist Health Redwood Medical Clinic 3 Marcela Drive Suite C Willits	Moderna and J&J	Walk ups welcome. Do not need to be a patient. 459-6115
M-F 10am -12:45 pm 2 pm-7 pm	Safeway Pharmacy 845 S. Main Street Willits	Pfizer & Moderna	Walk ups welcome on weekdays. Appointments required on weekends. 456-1790
M-F 9 am -8 pm Weekend 10 am - 6 pm	Rite Aid Pharmacy 1730 S. Main Street Willits	Pfizer & Moderna	Walk ups welcome 459-0554

VACCINATIONS ARE FREE | Easy | Just Go | Effective | Worth It
HELP US HELP YOU HELP OTHERS



One of two new cell towers has been installed in Round Valley, ensuring that residents have reliable reception in the event of an emergency.

McGuire leads successful effort to get two new cell towers installed for Round Valley area residents

Submitted by Office of Sen. Mike McGuire

In the past, when residents of Round Valley had an emergency, it was hit or miss if they could get ahold of emergency dispatchers because cell service in this region of Mendocino County was so inconsistent. This reality has put lives in danger and caused public-safety nightmares.

For over a year, Senator Mike McGuire has been working with Round Valley Indian tribal leadership, officials from the Mendocino County, the Mendocino County Sheriff's Department, and UScellular to construct two additional cell towers and add new equipment to greatly enhance cell service in the region.

This month, these two new cell towers in Round Valley went live, which has greatly upgraded the network to better connect local residents and improve the public's safety. The Round Valley Indian Tribe, who was the lead entity on the tower build-outs, constructed the tower structures, while UScellular added the necessary equipment to better connect their network.

"Round Valley has experienced some of the greatest impacts of wildfires over the last few years. And, at the same time, inconsistent, and at times inoperable, cell phone service has hampered emergency response and put lives at risk. When we first heard of this issue, we immediately moved on a fix," Senator McGuire said.

"We're grateful," continued McGuire, "to the Round Valley Indian Tribes, the county of Mendocino, state [office of emergency services], and UScellular for the partnership. All sides worked together to get these two new towers built and to ensure residents have the service they need to stay connected on a daily basis, but especially during times of emergency."

The two 150-foot towers that were constructed by the tribe are strategically located and will improve and expand cellular network capabilities in and around Round Valley.

"For too long, the hard-working members of the Round Valley Indian Tribes, along with valley residents, have

Read the rest of Towers Over on Page 9

CLASSIFIED OPENINGS



Do you have a heart for helping children?
Would you like to work school hours and school days?
If so, Willits Unified needs YOU!
Call 459-5314 or email TrinaCardillo@willitsunified.com for more information!

CURRENT VACANCIES

CLASSIFIED POSITIONS:

- Day Custodian, pay \$15.80-\$16.80 per hour DOE
- Night Custodian, pay \$15.80-\$16.80 per hour DOE
- Bus Driver, \$16.80-\$19.67 per hour DOE
- Maintenance/Skilled Trades, \$17.86-\$22.63 per hour DOE
- Special Education Instructional Assistant, \$15.40-\$16.40 per hour DOE
- Special Education Student Intervention Tech, \$15.60-\$16.60 per hour DOE
- Custodial Substitutes (ON Call/days and nights), pay \$15.80 per hour

CERTIFIED POSITIONS:

- Long Term Sub or TPSL, English Teacher, WHS, 21/22 Academic Year
- Middle School Core Teacher, BGMS, 21/22 Academic Year
- SDC Moderate/Severe Teacher, WHS, 21/22 Academic Year

COACHING POSITIONS:

- JV Girls and Boys Basketball, WHS
- JV Baseball, WHS
- Varsity Track Coach, WHS
- Varsity Tennis Coach, WHS

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Open until filled.

CONTACT: Trina Cardillo, Human Resources, 459-5314, ext. 2



Current Job Openings:

Animal Clinic Technician
Animal Control Officer
Animal Control Officer-in-Training
Chief Planner – Fort Bragg
Community Health Services Specialist I/II
Corrections Deputy
COVID – Emergency Response Unit
ExtraHelp Temporary Work
Deputy District Attorney I/II/III
Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II
Museum Administrator – Part-time
Public Health Nurse
Registered Nurse
Social Worker Assistant II
Supervising Animal Control Officer
Supervising Public Health Nurse

For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:

www.mendocinocounty.org/government/human-resources

EOE

WW338

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
PAMELA J. FORNERIS, aka PAMELA FORNERIS, Decedent
CASE NUMBER 21PR00170

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of PAMELA J. FORNERIS, aka PAMELA FORNERIS

A Petition for Probate has been filed by: Henry Shebitz in the Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino.

The Petition for Probate requests that Mendocino County Public Administrator or, alternatively, Cyndi Mason be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration Statutes Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:
Date: November 5, 2021 Time: 9:00 a.m. Dept.: TBA, at the Mendocino County Superior Court, located at 100 No. State Street, Ukiah, California 95482.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner : Christopher J. Neary, Jennifer M. O'Brien, Neary and O'Brien, 150 S. Main St., Ste. C, Willits CA 95490, Telephone: 707-459-5551

Publication Dates: October 21 and 28, November 4, 2021

Marc Komer
Legal Document Assistant

An Affordable Non-Attorney Service

Divorce, Living Trusts,
Evictions, Probate, Incorporation,
Name Change, etc.

www.mendolegaldocs.com

459-2775

104 W. Mendocino, Willits

I am not an attorney, and can only provide self-help services at your specific direction.

LEGAL NOTICES

WW339

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2021-F0419
The following person is doing business as Covello Cutoff Collective, 350 Creekside Drive, Willits CA 95490.

Registered owner: Jeffrey M. Apodaca, 350 Creekside Drive, Willits CA 95490.

This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on July 16, 2021.

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on July 16, 2021.

/s/ Jeffrey M. Apodaca

Publication dates:
Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, 11, 2021

WW336

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2021-F0506
The following person is doing business as Ruthie's Doll Museum & Teahouse, 1195 "A" South Main Street, Willits, CA 95490.

Registered owner: Catherine Lober, 1195 "A" South Main Street, Willits, CA 95490.

This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on January 2016.

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on September 13, 2021.

/s/ Catherine Lober

Publication dates:
October 7, 14, 21, and 28, 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

WW 337

Docket No.: 21CV00647

In the matter of:

JOSEPH DOMINIC JIMENEZ and ADONAI ORION CAMPBELL of Willits, CA
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

To all persons interested in the petition described:

A petition has been presented by **Joseph Dominic Jimenez** requesting that: **Joseph Dominic Jimenez and Adonai Orion Campbell** be allowed to change his/her/their name(s) as follows:

JOSEPH DOMINIC DARROW and ADONAI ORION CAMPBELL DARROW

The Court Orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court of the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objective is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing

Date: October 29, 2021

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Dept.: F. The address of the court is 100 North State St., Ukiah, CA 95482.

WITNESS, Hon. **Patrick M. Pekin**, Judge of the Superior Court.

Publication Dates: October 7, 14, 21, 28, 2021

The rest of Lizzarraga From Page 1

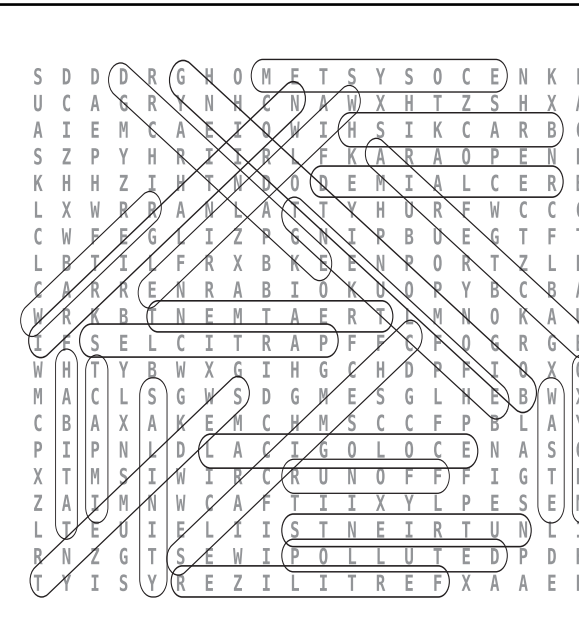
staffed crew, which currently could use three or four more officers, a task made challenging due to lack of housing in the area and low rural salaries.

"I very much enjoy working and living in Willits," said Lizzarraga. "It's a good town and community. There are a lot of challenges for the police department. It's good to take on the challenges and find success on the other side. That's keeping me interested and committed."

In addition, Lizzarraga wants the people of Willits to know: "I'm happy to be here and that you can expect us to continue to deliver public-safety services. We will continue to do that around the clock as we have been, with professionalism and integrity.

"We have a good core of dedicated people here, very committed," he said, "and I look forward to re-establishing us with a full staff and do some of the extra things we can do with a full staff. We could use probably three or four more officers. We're outreaching to the local academies in the Northern California area as well as utilizing our officers, who I believe, are our best recruiters. They are equipped to find people who want to work in this kind of rural area. We're trying to push the beauty of the area."

Tom Wake Plumbing
Serving in Mendocino and Lake Counties
Full Service Residential, Commercial
•Faucets & Tubs •Garbage Disposals
•Toilets •Pipe Repairs
•Gas Lines •Fixture Replacement
25 YEARS EXPERIENCE
For Fast Service Call 707-391-4343 Lic. #884811



CLASSIFIEDS

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.

Freezer Empty? We can help!

Due to health concerns in Mendocino County, John Ford Ranch will be taking meat box orders (not individual pack-age 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.

Help Wanted

Administrative Assistant. Now hiring for 2 openings at Dow & Associates and Davey-Bates Consulting in Ukiah. Starting pay: \$18.00 to \$20.50 per hour with great benefits! Apply on Indeed.com or call 707-463-1806.

Help Wanted

Administrative Assistant. Now hiring for 2 openings at Dow & Associates and Davey-Bates Consulting in Ukiah. Starting pay: \$18.00 to \$20.50 per hour with great benefits! Apply on Indeed.com or call 707-463-1806.

The rest of Towers From Page 8

struggled with inconsistent cell phone coverage," said Round Valley Indian Tribes President James Russ.

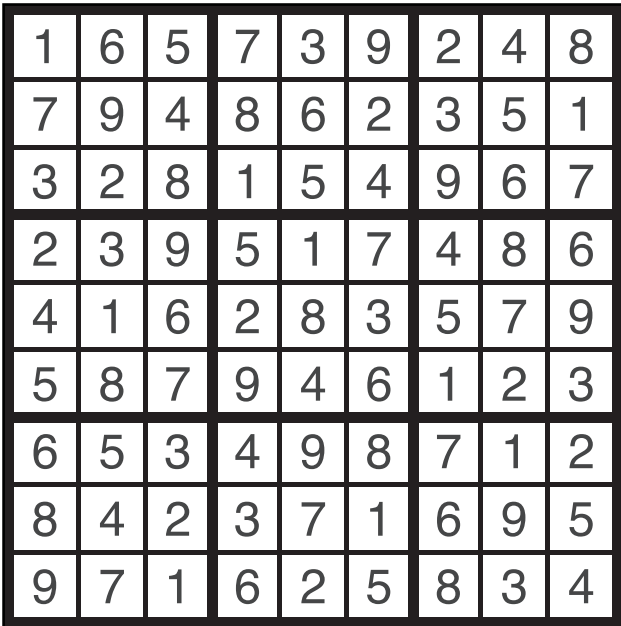
"These two new towers that have been constructed by the tribe and our consultant, Spy Ego Media, are game changers and we couldn't have been more grateful to have partnered with Senator McGuire, the county of Mendocino, and UScellular to get this job done. We know enhanced cell coverage will help make residents safer, especially in times of emergency," said Russ.

"Ensuring resiliency of our county's 911-system is the utmost priority," Mendocino County Sheriff Matt Kendall said. "Over the last couple of years during wildfire events, Round Valley's cell systems became overloaded, which meant residents were unable to call out to 911 or receive inbound calls. This is totally unacceptable. I am grateful to have partnered with Senator McGuire on this critical project that will provide Round Valley residents the coverage they need to keep their families safe."

Supervisor John Haschack commented: "Getting these cell towers constructed has been one of my top priorities. The residents of Round Valley desperately need enhanced cell coverage, especially now with the consistent threat of catastrophic wildfires.

"This project has been a total team effort with Senator McGuire, the Round Valley Indian Tribes, state OES, the county of Mendocino, and UScellular. With this project now complete, neighbors will be able to stay connected during a disaster and have clear access to 911," said Haschack.

"By working together with members of our community to provide a great network experience for our customers, we can make sure that local families and businesses have access to the technology they need," said Anthony Carlson, interim-area vice president and general manager for UScellular in the northwest region. "We want to thank everyone involved for their dedication to finding a solution to enhance wireless service in the area, especially our network team who worked tirelessly with local leaders to ensure increased connectivity for this growing area."





Above, from left: Talulah Gregory is with her grandmother, Annie Waters, at the children's craft table. Attendees enjoy the dinner, including from left: Irene Engber from Irene's Garden, Mic Rueb from Mulligan Gardens, Michael Foley from Green Uprising, Thea Grusky-Foley from Mulligan Gardens, and Allegra Foley from Green Uprising. The Back Porch Trio plays toe-tappin' music throughout the event: from left, Steve Hamm on acoustic guitar, Roseanne Wetzel with ukulele, and Jeff Taylor on bass. Below: Picnic yummies include chicken from Mendocino Meats with honey-chili drizzle from Carson's Bees and Piment d'Ville's spicy heat, buttermilk biscuits made with Mendocino Grains Project grains and jam from Golden Rule fruit, a picnic salad sporting six different farmers' produce, and not-the-usual baked beans.



BUD GARMAN
CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, INC.
EST. 1991



707-459-5859

Environmental Restoration - Ponds
Septic & Water Systems - Site Development
Roads - Water, Soil & Rock Delivery

24900 N. HWY 101 IN WILLITS GARMANCONST@GMAIL.COM

**Roofing applications available
to fit any roofing need.**

Office: (707) 462-4514
Mobile: (707) 367-3786

Online:
www.basroofing.com
Ca. Lic. #927007

Email:
basroofing@live.com
W.C. & G.L. insured



Residential & Commercial
Serving areas of
Mendocino, Lake and
Sonoma Counties

Willits
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & LOCAL MERCHANTS PRESENT

**HARVEST MOON
CELEBRATION**

DOWNTOWN WILLITS, CA **Friday**
OCTOBER 22ND
4-8PM

KICK OFF FALL AND SAFELY
CELEBRATE A TRADITION THAT
HIGHLIGHTS THE IMPORTANCE OF
SHOPPING LOCAL.

STORE SPECIALS
FAMILY MUSIC
COMMUNITY
FOOD & DRINK VENDORS
CRAFT & ART VENDORS
SHOPPING
FUN
FREE TO ATTEND
BOUNCE HOUSE
FACE PAINTING & MORE



Attendees enjoy the dinner of locally-grown food.
Photos by Ree Slocum

Harvest Picnic

Locally grown food, cooked by local chefs delights attendees at fundraising event held by Good Farm Fund

The line outside Barra Winery's tasting room grew as people arrived for the fall Good Farm Fund Harvest Picnic on Tuesday, October 12. Event organizer Elizabeth Archer said, "I'm so delighted we could do an event and I'm really proud of us for designing one that's COVID safe. It's totally outdoors. People who don't want to stay and gather can take their food and bottle of wine or beer home. Folks who crave community can stay, listen to the band, and have a beautiful picnic together."

Almost all of the 200 people who bought tickets stayed at the winery's outdoor event. They enjoyed the picnic dinner prepared by chefs Caroline Radice from Black Dog Farm and Catering, Olan Cox from Mendough's Catering, Bridget Harrington from Patrona Restaurant, and Nicholas Petti and students from the Mendocino College Culinary Arts Program.

Kemmy's Pies, starring heirloom Mendocino Grain Project flour.

Fifteen volunteers filled roles as chefs, picnic-box packers, servers, and raffle-tickets sellers. Folks who stayed, found places to sit at Barra's picnic tables or brought chairs or blankets to sit on under the trees in the colorful flower garden. The Back Porch Trio (BP3 on Facebook) played their harmonic blues, folk, rock and bluegrass-influenced selections, adding a musical touch to the afternoon.

Radice, Sarah Bodnar and Scott Cratty started the Good Farm Fund. "We founded on Earth Day of 2015," Bodnar said. She loved producing farm-to-table events that celebrated local food. Bodnar realized she wanted to use those events to make money for farmers. She talked with Ukiah Farmers Market Manager Cratty and Black Dog Farm and Catering's Radice about the project. They were thrilled and got on board.

The first and subsequent Good Farm Fund summer events were held on the spacious lawns at Yokayo Ranch outside of Ukiah. They invited local Mendocino County chefs and paired them with local farmers. The chefs then created small, usually seasonally grown, delicacies to serve to the crowd. It was a huge success and has become an icon for supporting farms and local food security in Mendocino County.

"It's turned into the essential program in this community," said Bodnar, "that has allowed us to provide funding to local farms in addition to supporting the EBT Food Stamp Match [to use at the farmers markets in the county]. We also provide a disaster-relief program. So we've been able to help farmers if there's a fire or some other catastrophe." Additionally, they're set up so Good Farm Fund can issue those funds directly to farmers' right when they need it," Bodnar added.

Read the rest of **Picnic**
Over on Page 12

Cold Creek Compost Inc.

NUTRIENT-PACKED COMPOST,
PLANTER MIXES & CUSTOM BLENDS
MADE IN UKIAH, CA

WHY USE COLD CREEK COMPOST?



CLOSE THE LOOP



SAVE MONEY



REDUCE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT



GROW MORE



coldcreekcompost.com
(707) 485-5966
f @ColdCreekCompost

"We have containers for hypodermic needles if you find any," continued O'Shea. "That's one of the hazards you're going to want to watch out for. The police department came this morning and did a walk-through, looking for anything that might be hazardous. There is no one currently under the bridge, so we shouldn't encounter any resistance."

Read the rest of **Picnic**
Over on Page 12

The rest of **Creeks**
From Page 5

The areas the group focused on were the railroad and street bridges over Baechtel Creek at the end of Railroad Avenue, and the bridge at Commercial and Lenore streets. Two areas were chosen for their concentration of trash due to the presence of homeless camps. When the transients are forced to move by the Willits Police Department, they tend to migrate to another part of town, creating an ongoing problem for the area and for the streams.

"In the last week there were as many as 12 individuals living here on both sides of the bridge," explained Nigel Swinney of the Willits Public Works Department. "After the police evict them, they usually migrate south and find another bridge to camp under. It's a constant battle for our local police department to keep up with them. They're constantly chasing people around from parking lot to parking lot, from bridge to bridge."

Prior to heading out to the sites, O'Shea addressed the volunteers: "We'd like to try and attack two spots today but we're going to focus mainly on the railroad bridge and see how far we get. The idea is to bag it and put it in cans and buckets and pack it up to the trailer for disposal."

"We have containers for hypodermic needles if you find any," continued O'Shea. "That's one of the hazards you're going to want to watch out for. The police department came this morning and did a walk-through, looking for anything that might be hazardous. There is no one currently under the bridge, so we shouldn't encounter any resistance."

"We have containers for hypodermic needles if you find any," continued O'Shea. "That's one of the hazards you're going to want to watch out for. The police department came this morning and did a walk-through, looking for anything that might be hazardous. There is no one currently under the bridge, so we shouldn't encounter any resistance."

"We have containers for hypodermic needles if you find any," continued O'Shea. "That's one of the hazards you're going to want to watch out for. The police department came this morning and did a walk-through, looking for anything that might be hazardous. There is no one currently under the bridge, so we shouldn't encounter any resistance."

There were additional words from Bender, who cautioned the volunteers to "work within your comfort zone and safety first." Other attendees included Third District Supervisor John Haschak, who said: "We're going to try and clean up the creeks. This is the community where we live. I grew up walking these creeks. This is a great opportunity to get the creeks back in shape before it gets washed down to the ocean."

Rick Williams, president of the board of directors of Brooktrails Township, added: "We certainly want to get all the debris out of the creeks before the rainy season starts. The debris is down there every year, both natural and manmade. Our work keeps Willits beautiful and the creeks happy and the fish are happy, too, if there are any left."

After the cleanup, O'Shea said: "It was great working with Rotary, partnering with another organization to accomplish a mutual goal that benefits the community. So far, I've been with the city for six years and I've participated in a few of these over the years, and this is probably the most successful one I've seen so far. It's great to see everyone come together to benefit the community."

Biodegradable plastic, however, came in at about half the cost of the plastic currently being used, and the district opted to "buy a

The rest of **Positions**
From Page 1

with that make this job possible."

There were more than a few favorable responses with trustee Paula Nunez agreeing "100 percent [that it] ... would be great to have a get together, especially in a neutral spot like the park where some open discussions can go on for mutually beneficial solutions."

One might call this perfect timing, as contract negotiations are just beginning between teachers and administration on what Superintendent Joe Aldridge referred to as a "successor contract."

"We have come to an agreement that we would like to reopen ... the contract for the 2021/22 school year ... and hopefully work toward a multiyear agreement," he told the board.

The district's initial contract proposals, he continued, included "health and welfare benefits, leaves, vacancy, assignment and transfer, reopeners, extra duty pay schedule, and teacher evaluation and evaluation summary."

State law requires negotiating parties in these situations to "sunshine" their initial contract proposals at a public meeting, and the district has scheduled a special zoom meeting at 2 pm on October 22 to consider and approve its initial proposals.

Teachers, represented by WTA, Aldridge said, definitely wanted to "talk about salary and benefits, [and were] going to be soliciting member input for additional items."

One thing that there is no disagreement on is that the district needs to fill a lot of jobs, and soon.

"We've got to fill the missing custodial position ... got to get a seventh-grade core teacher.... We need PE teachers," Ford told the board.

"I believe we have positions open in almost every department at every site. We need help," she said. "So I'd like to reach out to the community, not just to the school board members but to anybody reading these words or hearing these words.... Put in an application. We need you. Your kids need you."

Trustee Nunez agreed. "We really do need just about every part of the district to be beefed up with personnel," she said.

CSEA president Dan Green told the board that the "classified staff ... we're being hammered.... We've been hammered by people not filling positions."

"People are tired and strapped everywhere in the district," he said.

WTA's Ford did not fault the board or the administration for the shortages, saying: "We know positions have been posted. We're not complaining to you. We're reaching out to the community because this is one of the venues where they hear our voice."

Trustee Jeanne King provided statistics from the California School Board Association showing the vacancy trend is statewide.

"More than three-quarters of district leaders and principals say they're experiencing at least moderate staffing shortages," she told the board.

The shortages are having diverse district-wide impacts, one of which is there is less time to spend with kids in the classroom. "Our paraprofessionals are spending more time doing yard duty than being in the classroom with students," Blosser Lane teacher Dawn McClelland told the board. "They want to be in the classroom with the kids."

Being "in the classroom with the kids" is particularly important now as the district has "just completed a first round of testing for first through eighth grade ... in reading," which has revealed "some significant need for intervention," Aldridge told the board.

He reported first-grade statistics showing "we have the average grade equivalent of .4, where we would expect about a 1.0 this time of year, and ... 31 percent are in the urgent intervention category."

In fact, for all the grade levels tested, that category ranged from a low of 30 percent to a high of 49 percent.

Trustee Robert Chavez calculated that, for each grade tested, the "percentages of students who need intervention or urgent intervention [ranged from] 44 percent ... all the way up to 75 percent."

Interventions have been put in place at each of the schools, and "reading specialists" have been hired Aldridge told the board.

"This is our baseline. We will do better than this," he said.

Doing better also describes an initiative taken on by a group of high school students. "There's a student movement to reduce the usage of plastic bags at the high school," said Ford. "That's pretty neat."

Aldridge explained that, in response, the district had looked into the cost of replacing plastic bags with paper, but the cost was "prohibitively expensive [at] about three times as much per bag."

Biodegradable plastic, however, came in at about half the cost of the plastic currently being used, and the district opted to "buy a

case and try it out."

"Perhaps our class that is interested in it could do an experiment and see 'how long does it take to actually biodegrade?'" he said. "I've actually always wondered about that."

And then there is COVID. The district has made some modifications to testing and quarantine protocols, has made some decisions with respect to student vaccinations, and continues to require students to eat outside.

Aldridge reported that testing will now be given to students immediately after an exposure and then once between days five and seven while on modified quarantine, rather than doing the "testing three or four times." He said it would "cut testing by a third."

"We're finding that we're being pretty efficient," he said. "Whenever ... we're catching some cases at that immediate one ... we don't seem to be having it spread. It doesn't go anywhere."

Vaccines were discussed too.

Anticipating that emergency use authorization will soon be granted for vaccines for 5 to 11 year olds, Aldridge said the district is "working with the [county] health department and local clinics to get the word out about [vaccination] clinics."

"We don't think that it's a good idea for kids to come to school and receive [the vaccine] without their parent being with them," he said. "The health department heard us, so they're talking about running clinics in the afternoon from about 3 o'clock to 6 ... so parents can come and be there."

"And also so that a student doesn't get a vaccine and sit through a day of school.... We know that it can make you feel a little bad after having it," he added.

And he stressed: "This is still an optional vaccine. This is the emergency use authorization so we want to make sure that parents don't get confused. I know there was a mandate that came out from the state that once this is FDA approved fully there would be some additional pieces that go into effect as far as mandates," he said. "We'll hear more about that as that comes along."

One aspect of the school day that presents a unique challenge as winter cold and rain sets in is mealtime, where mask-less mixing is inevitable.

"We have discussed some alternative plans with local physicians, said Aldridge. "At this point, everyone I've talked to still recommends that eating outside really does keep kids the safest and the least vulnerable to possible transmission."

After "looking at different plans," the district decided to try carports.

"We've ordered five of them [to] try at Brookside, [and] ordered some additional tables," he said. "

He acknowledged that "there are some parents who are not happy with that decision," And one Brookside elementary teacher voiced strong objection at the meeting.

Special education teacher Morgan Shook told the board that "seeing the kids sitting out on the pavement every day breaks my heart."

"A lot of them don't even have shoes that fit or bring jackets," he continued. "I understand the numbers show that eating outside is better, but we have the capacity to open up and vent our cafeteria ... to keep adequate ventilation."

"It's going to get cold. It's going to get windy, and we don't want the kids to get sick from sitting outside in the rain," he said. "So I want to encourage the board to look at other options."

Equally adamant on the other side, local resident and former teacher Suzanne Matheson urged the board to continue its current practice.

"It is extremely important that students do not eat in the cafeteria. It will be a restaurant situation. You'll be mixing classes of students, cohorts of students, without their masks on," she said.

"Coats is something you can fix. Buy some extra coats for each classroom that can stay in the classroom so kids can go out and be warm," she suggested.

"Do not begin to mix our students in the cafeteria. We will undo all of the extraordinary work we've done for the past 18 months to keep our students back at school and not get COVID."

Aldridge agreed, saying that he thought "the benefit outweighs the risk, [and] I think that we will have students outside for a very short period of time to eat during cold weather ... and then move them to an appropriate area for recess."

Even a short period spent outside eating apparently leaves quite the mess, and WTA's Ford extended a big "shout out and thank you" to Aldridge for doing "a wonderful thing I want the community to know about."

He "pressure washed the sidewalks" at Blosser, she told the board. "The sidewalks were looking pretty bad with a lot of spilled food where the kids sit to eat their lunch."

When she said she'd be out there herself doing the "blacktop at Brookside" if she had the equipment, Aldridge said he'd already done that too.

The rest of **Zones**
From Page 1

people. The author has written several books beginning with "The Blue Zones" which outlines "The Power of 9: Lifestyle Habits of the World's Healthiest, Longest-Lived People." Buettner teamed up with National Geographic and located several long-lived groups: one in Sardinia and others in Okinawa, Greece and Costa Rica, as well as Seventh Day Adventists. After locating the groups a team of medical researchers, anthropologists, demographers and epidemiologists looked for evidence-based common denominators among all of the places, and they found nine things that each group had in common.

1) Move Naturally – The world's longest-lived people don't pump iron, run marathons or join gyms. Instead, they live in environments that constantly nudges them into moving without thinking about it. They grow gardens and don't have mechanical conveniences for house and yard work. 2) Purpose – Why do I wake up in the morning? Knowing your sense of purpose is worth up to seven years of extra life expectancy. 3) Down Shift – Adapt routines that help to shed stress. 4) 80% Rule – Stop eating when you are 80% full. The 20% gap between not being hungry and feeling full can make a difference in an individual's overall health.

5) Plant Slant – Eating a plant-based diet. 6) Wine at 5 – Drink alcohol moderately. 7) Belong – to a faith-based community. The denomination doesn't seem to matter, but attending faith-based services regularly will add 4 to 14 years of life expectancy. 8) Loved Ones First – Successful centenarians in the Blue Zones always put family first. 9) Right Tribe – The world's longest-lived people were born into social circles that supported healthy behaviors.

The presenters at the October 12 Brooktrails meeting pointed up the far-reaching, tremendously positive effects that have occurred in communities that have implemented the Blue Zones plan to live longer better. Any individuals or groups interested in checking out more of what Blue Zones are all about can visit <https://www.bluezones.com/> and follow the "Blue Zones Project - Mendocino County" group on Facebook.

There is a volunteer information/signup event planned for February 2022. Board president Rick Williams asked if the Blue Zones group would be sponsoring an event to kick-off the Blue Zones project in Brooktrails. It is expected that board member Tyler-O'Shea will work with the group to sponsor a partnership event in the future.

Other matters

General Manager Alaniz provided a couple of highlights, reporting that Brooktrails is at a little more than 50 percent of its water supply. With heavy rains expected in the near future, spillway cleanup and general cleanup is taking place now. She also shared that there have been two new employees hired: one new Brooktrails Fire Department firefighter and a utility department water/sewer utility operator. Also, the type 3 engine that was purchased from Hopland has been brought into service and is ready to go. She said, "It's a very fortunate purchase for Brooktrails."

Supervisor John Haschak was present and reported that maintenance projects for the Firco and Willits Creek are proceeding well, and that redistricting meetings were taking place at this time. He said: "It's very important because there are 2,700 more residents in the Third District than in the Fourth District. So, they are going to be looking into moving people out of the Third District into the Fourth and district lines may have to be redrawn."

The board then voted unanimously to approve items on the Consent Calendar with Director Ed Horrick making the motion to approve and Director Ralph Santos seconding, and approved the Accounts Payable, October 13, 2021 in the amount of \$92,384.44. They also voted to accept the July-September, 2021 Golf Course report.

Brooktrails resident Ashley Sherf then appeared before the board on behalf of her husband, Adam Sherf, to address the Brooktrails Area Cyclists' plan to improve two trails: Mike's Trail rerouting and the redoing of a berm on Fawn Lilly Trail. The board commented that the proposal was excellently laid out by Adam Sherf, and Director Tony Orth made the motion to approve the proposal with Director Horrick providing the second. The board then voted unanimously to approve the proposal.

The rest of **Busts**
From Page 1

Support was provided by the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, Mendocino Major Crimes Task Force, Department of Cannabis Control, a CDFW Environmental Scientist, and the State Water Board.

The properties that were subject to search warrant services were in the Sherwood Creek watershed, which is a tributary to Outlet Creek, which is then a direct tributary to the Eel River. The Sherwood and Outlet Creek watersheds support numerous threatened and/or endangered fish and wildlife species, including the western pond turtle, foothill yellow-legged frog, steelhead trout and Coho salmon.

Prior to serving the search warrants, a records check was conducted on the properties to determine what steps may have been taken to secure a state license or a county permit. In these cases, no state license or county permit to cultivate commercial cannabis had been issued.

Numerous environmental violations were documented including deleterious materials located near waterways and placement of trash and refuse where it may enter a waterway. These types of violations compromise the habitat and resources that native fish and wildlife species need to survive.

Formal complaints will be filed with the Mendocino County District Attorney's Office. No other information is available at this time.

Editor's Note: CDFW did not mention which media outlets had inquired, but looks like <https://mendofever.com/> got the info up on Facebook some 14 minutes before <https://kymkemp.com/>.





Above, from left: A line gathers for the Good Farm Fund's Harvest Picnic at Barra Winery. At the table is Elizabeth Archer, the event coordinator. Gowan Batist from Fortunate Farm near Caspar adds more greens to the vases of flowers she grew that will grace the picnic and raffle tables. Golden Rule at Ridgewood Ranch donated bottles of sauces for use on the picnic goodies.

Photos by Ree Slocum

The rest of Picnic | From Page 10

Of special note is that the Good Farm Fund pays the farmers for their products used for the organization's events. Early on, the organizers were committed to supporting farmers so they pay them for what they produce.

For 2020, there is a list of 22 Good Farm Fund recipients, the largest in their six-year history. "In 2020, when everything shut down, the world changed," Bodnar said, "One of the ways it changed for the better was that the federal government got really interested in supporting local farms directly."

Because Good Farm Fund is under the non-profit umbrella of North Coast Opportunities, they were visible to the feds and able to receive an \$80,000 grant. "So, the year we were shut down and couldn't fundraise, and local farms needed the help the most because they were the ones filling the gaps when we had food shortages, we had our biggest grant year ever, simply because we existed."

Of the grantees for 2020, District Three's Buttercup CSA and New Agrarian Collective-Headwaters, along with Golden Rule Garden, received a grant of \$14,000 "which paid for a walk-in cooler and a structure for it to live in and all the renovations and fix-ups

for the farm stand," Ruthie King from New Agrarian said. The farm stand is prominently placed in Seabiscuit's red stud barn located at Ridgewood Ranch.

King's other business, Sheer Mendocino, received a grant for portable, battery-operated sheers. "I sheer sheep all over this county and others, too," she said and added, "I can just show up and wherever the sheep are, I can do a low-stress thing right where they are in the field. I can walk right up to them, flip them, and sheer them in five minutes or less and they're right back in the field."

Irene's Garden in Laytonville got money for two big commercial dehydrators for her garlic-powder business. Mulligan Gardens, also in Laytonville, received funds to purchase equipment which helps them more efficiently produce the medium in which they grow their mushrooms. Both Laytonville farms sell their products at Laytonville and Willits farmers markets as well as others. Mulligan also sells their mushrooms to restaurants in the area.

Stayed tuned for what's coming up next or make a donation by following the Good Farm Fund on Facebook or visiting www.goodfarmfund.org.

We want to protect you and your loved ones

THAT'S WHY WE URGE YOU TO GET YOUR COVID-19 VACCINE.

Vaccines are available at all four MCHC sites. *Call for an appointment.*

MCHC HEALTH CENTERS

HILLSIDE | DORA ST | LITTLE LAKE | LAKEVIEW

(707) 456-9600

LITTLE LAKE HEALTH CENTER

45 Hazel St., Willits

We accept Medi-Cal, Medicare, Partnership and other insurance.

SE HABLA ESPAÑOL.

MCHC HEALTH CENTERS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

The future is open

The future is full of energy-efficient technologies. We invite you to visit our new Advanced Energy Center to learn how to bring your home into the clean energy future.

SCPAdvancedEnergyCenter.org

The future's address is

741 4th Street, Santa Rosa

Sonoma Clean Power

Advanced Energy Center

Pg. 12

Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047

Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com

Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

Willits Weekly | October 21, 2021