

Two held in violent Highway 20 attack

Two transients were arrested on suspicion of attempted murder following a violent confrontation at a Highway 20 park early Tuesday afternoon that left their victim unconscious.

The incident, which remains under investigation, took place at about 1:30 pm, in the grassy area on the south side of Highway 20 just west of Main Street, according to Willits police Sgt. Ricco McCoy.

Officers detained two suspects at the scene: Kevin Flanagan, 34, of Baltimore, Maryland, and Cassady Vaughn, 27, of Sebastopol. Both claimed to be transients who were passing through Willits, McCoy said.

The victim, whose name was not released, was taken to a local hospital. Read the rest of **Attack** Over on Page 4

Supes signal willingness to consider small growers' concerns

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You won't find it in the draft of the first revision of Mendocino County's medical cannabis cultivation ordinance, but supervisors are hinting of a shift to a position more favorable to the desires and needs of small-scale county cannabis growers.

That hint came toward the end of Tuesday's meeting. During the public comment portion of the meeting, 34 people – many of them from Covelo – addressed supervisors, seeking major changes to the ordinance, including provisions for

Read the rest of **Concerns** Over on Page 9

3rd District November ballot: Measure B is only item

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Third District voters will see only one item on their ballots for the November 7 consolidated districts election this year: Measure B, the Mendocino County Mental Health Treatment Act, designed to address county services, treatment and facilities for the mentally ill.

If approved by a "super majority" of county voters (66.66 percent plus 1) Measure B would impose

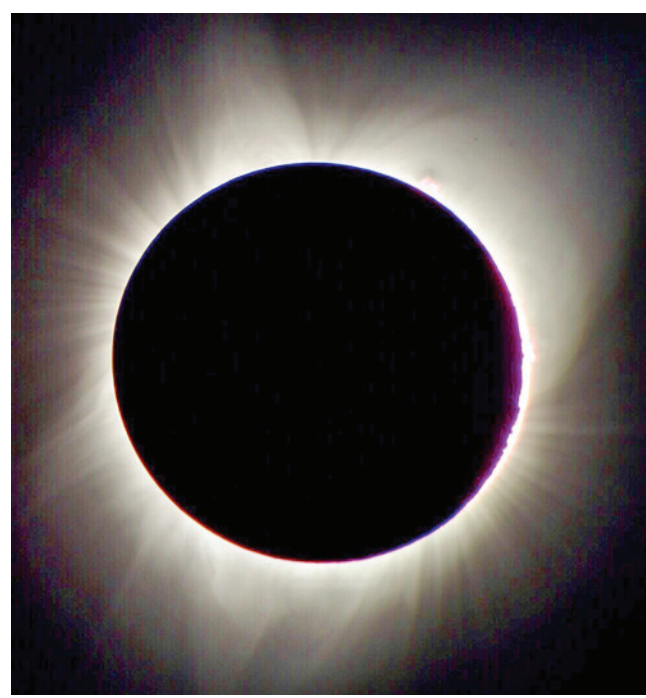
Read the rest of **Ballot** Over on Page 9



Above, from left: Aaron Griggs looks on in awe and wonder at the eclipse. Brady Griggs builds his own eclipse-viewing contraption. (Photos by Kerri Griggs) Mike and Christine Griggs: "What a surreal moment! The lighting was otherworldly!" (Photo courtesy Christine Griggs) Roxie the German shepherd brushes up on her eclipse trivia. (Photo by Maureen Moore) Roni McFadden and twin granddaughters Kamryn and Kara Wilkes watch as the eclipse begins. (Photo courtesy Roni McFadden)



Above: The "Diamond Ring" effect, seen just after the moment of totality. (Photo by Eric H. Pham Photography) Below, left: Gretchen Moore, center, and Christopher Moore, right, check out the eclipse, while Kyle Laver, left, smiles for the camera. (Photo by Maureen Moore)



At top, right: Lory Petersen Lucier, Miranda Driver, and Andy Hilkey pose in Redmond, Oregon after the eclipse. Above: Image taken by Miranda Driver during eclipse totality at 10:20 am in Redmond, Oregon. Image was digiscoped using a Vortex Razor HD spotting scope, Nikon D750 with a solar filter. Photo by Miranda Driver Photography

Above: Roxie did her best to keep her retinas safe, too, during the August 21 eclipse. Photo by Maureen Moore

Below, from left: The beginning of the eclipse as the moon started to make its way across the orange sun. Eric Pham, left, and Andy Vu on a trip to Zion National Park in Utah on March 25, 2017. Andy Vu sets up next to Eric Pham's equipment at Smith Rock State Park in time to catch the 2017 total eclipse. Photos by / courtesy Eric H Pham Photography



Totality

Great American Eclipse inspires photographers and sightseers from across the country

Time seemed to stop in the morning hours of Monday, August 21, when grocery lists, laundry, and exercise classes all seemed insignificant as the country turned their eyes skyward to see the once-in-a-lifetime coast-to-coast solar eclipse.

Willits Weekly handed out a dozen pairs of certified solar sunglasses at last week's Willits Farmers Market to a gleeful few who certainly utilized them Monday morning; others pulled out welding helmets or made pinhole viewers to catch a glimpse of the crescent shadows cast on walls, sidewalks and clothing.

Thankfully, Willits' smoky skies cleared for the 10:14 am peak of 82.1 percent coverage in the area, but some locals were able to get the amazing full totality view: those who made the trek north to be in the right place at the right time Monday morning.

Willits' Eric Pham and his friend and travel buddy, Andy Vu, made just such a trip to Oregon to catch the Great American Eclipse in all of its grand totality.

"Andy actually was the one who talked me into going," Pham said. "He lives in Houston, and decided to fly up here, and travel to Oregon with me. I jumped at the chance. Some people planned to make this trip a year ahead of time, but we decided three weeks ago!"

The pair arrived at Smith Rock State Park in Terrebonne, Oregon at 2 am on Monday, where they found people already waiting along the road to get into the park. Around

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

Supes refine cannabis cultivation ordinance

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Supervisors approved numerous changes to the county's medical cannabis cultivation ordinance on Tuesday, the first step of a two-step process of ordinance revision that includes this week's first reading of the ordinance and a second reading scheduled for August 29 at 9 am.

If adopted after the second reading, the changes incorporated into the ordinance will become law on September 28.

The changes made to the ordinance on Tuesday did not address many of the comments made by the public during the August

Read the rest of **Ordinance** Over on Page 4

Robinson Creek bust response stuns supes

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An August 10 enforcement action by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife against a cannabis operation by a farmer who had applied for a Mendocino County permit has raised concerns on the part of county officials and prompted Supervisor John McCowen to write and then withdraw a letter, resulting in a "busting" of the board of supervisors by coastal performance artist and peace activist Sherry Glaser.

The enforcement action took place on the property

Read the rest of **Robinson** Over on Page 9

County crime up; Willits property crime decreases

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Violent crimes and homicides in Mendocino County ticked upwards for a second year in a row, according to California Department of Justice figures, which also include the first detailed look at peace officers' use of force.

State-compiled data shows 606 violent crimes were committed in Mendocino County during 2016, the latest year for which statistics are

Read the rest of **Crime** Over on Page 9

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from readers

Summer Expo

To the Editor:

Spartetime Supply had its third annual Summer Expo at the Rec Grove on August 10-12. The Expo is a buying show where our wholesale customers meet our vendors to learn about their products. The show went very well; we filled the hotels in Willits and brought hundreds of people into our community who had the opportunity to enjoy the local eateries and hangouts. Events like this are what allow Spartetime to support many of the community activities throughout the year. I apologize to the people and families that were unable to use the park during our event.

Thank you to everyone involved with the production. I especially wanted to thank Marcy Barry and her crew from Willits Frontier Days for their time and effort to support our event. It was important to Spartetime Supply and me. Thanks to Willits residents and the City of Willits for allowing the use of the Rec Grove. I don't think we could, nor would want to, do it elsewhere. This is a great opportunity to share our hometown with our vendors and customers, and boy do they enjoy it.

Michael A. Griggs Sr., Willits

Poll workers needed

To the Editor:

The Mendocino County Elections Department is currently looking for poll workers in our Willits, Fort Bragg, Mendocino, Little River and Point Arena polling locations for our November 7, 2017 Consolidated District Election.

We also need an inspector and a judge in our Little River polling place due to the retirement of our longtime workers. This would be a great opportunity for service organizations to help their communities. All of our workers receive a stipend from the county for their work.

Please call Gina at 707 234-6808 for additional information. Your help would be greatly appreciated!!

Mendocino County Elections Department

Pampered at HMH

To the Editor:

This community is so fortunate.

To have the new Howard Memorial Hospital, but even more, the people that work there. I recently had a hip replacement surgery done. When there are a large number of people working together, you normally find dissension among them. I didn't see any sign of that – these people work as a team. If a problem arises, anyone close by pitches in to help.

I would like to thank each and every one of them, from the surgeon (Dr. Bowen) to the anesthesiologist, to all the nurses that cheerfully attended to me, to the physical therapists who convinced me I could do what seemed impossible. On my discharge day, Dr. Bowen came in and asked if I was ready to go home. I told him no way. I haven't been this pampered and spoiled my whole life. Can I stay another week? He laughed and said you're ready. By the way, the food is simply awesome. Thank you so much to all the personnel.

Jim Montalvo, Willits

Thank you all for the truck

To the Editor:

I had previously submitted a letter to the editor regarding the Harrah Senior Center's need of a truck for our thrift store. This truck enables us to pick up some of the bigger donated items such as furniture. I cannot stress how critical the thrift store revenue is to our financial stability. It helps fill some of the financial shortfall in our Outreach, Transportation and Nutrition departments. We literally would not be able to keep our doors open and provide these much-needed services without the income generated by our thrift store.

In response to the previous letter, a caring individual who wishes to remain anonymous walked into my office with a check for \$7,000. I also had Cathy Ortiz and John Smoot, both longtime residents of Willits and members of the senior center, come and sit and talk with me about carrying out the wishes of Wellington "Mac" McClellan. Mac was also a member of the senior center for many years. Cathy was a close friend of Mac, and John is in charge of Mac's trust. Mac's only stipulation was the money be distributed to support local non-profits here in Willits. Cathy's mom Bettye Bays and Bettye's father John Bromley helped establish the senior center in 1978. So the senior center was an appropriate place to be the recipient of Mac's generosity and kindness.

I received a check in the amount of \$15,000 from Cathy Ortiz. Cathy and John shared the sentiment that the senior center is such an integral part of the community the donation would help the senior population and honor Mac's wishes. So I began the process of looking for a truck. I quickly realized how much it would cost for a used truck that would fill our needs. I ran into our anonymous donor at Frontier Days and was asked how the process of securing the money for the truck was proceeding. I said I was still looking and was told if we ran a little short to feel free to reach out for additional money.

I found the ideal truck, a used 2016 GMC Sierra 1500 Regular cab long box 2-wheel drive with only 14,853 miles, practically brand-new. Scott Silveira of Silveira Buick GMC gladly knocked about \$1,000 off the price of the truck after I mentioned we were a non-profit. I had the out-the-door costs and made the call to the aforementioned anonymous donor who without hesitation gave an additional \$4,000.

As a non-profit we survive on the generosity and kindness of others. People in this small town of Willits care about their community; they realize the importance the senior center plays in the daily lives of so many people. Individuals donate money and volunteer their time. Last year volunteers donated 39,500 hours of their time. Businesses donate items for our yearly Fun-Ding raffle and other fundraising events. They buy advertising space in our newsletter. People donate household items and shop at our thrift store and look forward to shopping at our Christmas Store every holiday season. The response we receive from the community as a whole is overwhelming.

I would like to give a special thanks to Cathy Ortiz and John Smoot for their donation on behalf of "Mac" and to our anonymous donor who together made it possible for us to purchase the much-needed truck for our thrift store. I would also like to thank each and every one of you who have supported us over the years. You are all making a difference, not only in the lives of seniors but also in the lives of their family members who entrust to us their most precious gifts, their mothers, fathers and grandparents.

Richard Baker, director, Willits Seniors Inc.

An amazing gift

To the Editor:

Dear Bodyworks Gym: I want to thank you for the amazing gift I was given in 2016: the 6-month membership you gave me to continue working on my weight loss. It made all the difference and helped me tremendously. I started working on my weight in 2013 by joining Weight Watchers, which I am still active in. By February of 2014 I had lost 100 pounds, all from just eating better. At that time I could not exercise from the severe back pain I had, and I could barely walk or stand for five minutes at a time. From 2014 to 2015 I had stopped losing weight, I had plateaued, and whether I gained or lost weight, I was always within a couple pounds of the 100 I had lost.

In May of 2015 I ended up needing emergency back surgery, and it turned out to be a complete success, even if I didn't think so at the time. I started to become depressed, and I turned back to food for comfort and ended up gaining 60 pounds back of what I had lost. In January of 2016 I started to focus on what was positive in my life, and then on my weight. I started going to Weight Watchers meetings again and walking.

It was in July of 2016 that I started going to the gym. That is when something amazing happened. Tammy Long of Adventist Health and Hospice Services and Michael Tobin of Bodyworks Gym surprised me with the gym membership. I started exercising, and I still am going to the gym faithfully each week. Exercise was what was missing from my life; it is exactly what I needed and it makes my day have a much better outlook.

Your gym has been a great environment to work out in. Everyone I have encountered there from staff to members has been very friendly and supportive.

In September 2016 I contacted a local personal trainer, Matthew Arlich, to seek guidance to make sure I was exercising with weights correctly – I wanted to be safe. Matthew Arlich is the best and ended up being a great friend, too. I highly recommended him.

I want to thank everyone for all the encouragement, support and love I have received from my friends and family as well as the local community. I especially want to thank my friend Bernadette for talking me into going to Weight Watchers in the first place. To Carol, Mary, Vickie and Laura all of Weight Watchers who encouraged me along the way and have been so supportive. Jackie for being my walking buddy. Dr. Rasha Germain, who did my back surgery and gave me back my life, pain-free. Adventist Health Home Care and Hospice Services for being such a supportive place of work and encouraging LivingWell. Every one of my co-workers who are so supportive. Trudy for being a constant beacon of happiness and support. Matthew for guidance, education and working out with me each week. You became such a good friend. There are so many more people that have supported me, encouraged me, and helped me in some way that the list could go on and on. I sincerely thank every single one of you.

When I started my weight Loss journey I weighed 446.7 pounds, and as of August 14, 2017 I weighed 221.2 pounds, for a total loss of 226.4 pounds. I have lost 50 percent of my body weight. My progress amazes me every day. Thank you for your help in changing my life.

Matthew Hartke, Willits



Above: Tucker's Tech Repair is located upstairs on the north side of Brown's Corner. At right: Tucker the dog graces the company's logo.

Photos by Joanne Moore

Tucker's Tech Repair

New business at Brown's Corner repairs phones, tablets, game consoles and more

Exceptional customer service and customer satisfaction are guaranteed at Tucker's Tech Repair at Brown's Corner.

Tucker himself – customer service rep, business namesake, and dapper border collie/greyhound mix – provides a unique and heartfelt welcome to customers dropping off their precious electronic devices in need of repair.

Technician and business owner Byron Aberle then brings years of experience and education to the task of quickly and expertly repairing that phone, or drone, or game console, or headphones, or other small device.

Aberle and his wife, Codi, came to Willits from Sacramento last June, but they're not newcomers. They grew up here and are glad to be back, bringing big city know-how in the rapidly changing electronics world to their hometown.

Common phone fixes include cracked screens, water damage, charging port replacement, and battery replacement.

Less common fixes are also welcome. Aberle is able to solder very, very small electrical components using a microscope and micro-solder iron. He's certified in

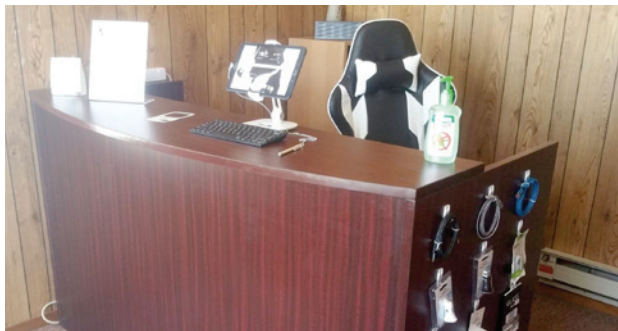
board rework and can fix circuitry in a wide variety of products: think tablet, piano, electronic control module, AC unit... One of his current projects is a gate controller that stopped working.

He agrees with one of his old bosses who had a saying: "If it has an on/off button, bring it on in." He says he'll take a look at anything – "if you have to plug it in."

In addition to bringing over five years of hands-on experience to his work, Aberle has a solid educational background, with one year to go to receive his bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering at Arizona State University. After that, he plans on a master's degree and maybe a Ph.D.

Aberle guarantees his work, prices are very reasonable, there's a quick turnaround time, and he will help you decide whether repair or replace is the better choice for you before you spend anything. "It's worth seeing what we can do," he said.

Tucker's Tech Repair is open Monday through Friday from 11 am to 7 pm and Saturdays by appointment. It's located at 1781 South Main, up the stairs on the north side at Brown's Corner. Call 707-518-3241 or go to www.tuckertechrepair.com for more information.



At right, clockwise from top left: Byron Aberle of Tucker's Tech Repair in his new office at Brown's Corner. Customer service rep Tucker is ready to help with repairs. Aberle at work soldering small things. Tucker loves to greet customers.

Ar left: Ready to help! The front desk at the new office of Tucker's Tech Repair.



The Rules: **LETTERS**

Letters & Commentaries: Email letters to willitsweekly@gmail.com. Letters focusing on Willits and 3rd District issues, activities, events and people have priority. Willits Weekly prints letters from residents of Willits and the 3rd District only. To encourage a variety of voices, Willits Weekly limits letter publication from any one writer to once a month.

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 5, Number 220

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Friendly Posey

Posey is a 1-year-old neutered male mixed-breed dog who currently weighs 52 pounds. Posey can be a little shy but warms up quickly and loves playing off leash with all his canine friends. Posey would love a home with a playful canine friend. He also enjoys playing in water, so trips to the river or even a kiddie pool in the back yard would be Posey heaven. Posey has been so patient waiting for his new family to find him and is one of our longest guests. Come down and take this soulful dog out for a walk and see what you think!

The Ukiah Animal Shelter is located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah. Adoption hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 4:30 pm, and Wednesday from 10 am to 6:30 pm. To view photos and bios of some of the other wonderful adoptable animals here, please visit online at: www.mendoanimalshelter.com. More info about adoptions: 707-467-6453.



Sweet Bean

Bean is a very sweet 1-year-old Lab mix puppy who needs the typical guidance that will help him grow into a well-adjusted dog. Lots of exercise, training and love will be just the ticket to make one very handsome young dog into the perfect addition to your family. He loves his toys and chews to play, with so stock up and meet him soon!

For more information on Bean or other adoptable animals, call Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County at 485-0123, check www.mendohumanesociety.com, or visit the shelter at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley.

Open hours: 1 to 5 pm, Wednesday through Friday; and 11 am to 3 pm, Saturday and Sunday.

Hung jury in attempted murder case

A mistrial was declared Monday evening in the attempted murder trial of a 28-year-old San Jose man.

While the jury deadlocked, 11-1, on the attempted murder charge, they did find Ryan Joseph Maxstadt guilty of assault with a firearm on a California Highway Patrol officer, including a finding that Maxstadt had personally used a firearm in the commission of the assault. They also found Maxstadt guilty of being a felon in possession of a firearm.

The jury foreman announced the 12 jurors "were deadlocked and unable to reach a unanimous verdict," on the attempted murder charge just before 6 pm after a four-day trial, said Mendocino County DA David Eyster, who prosecuted the case, in a post on his "Mendocino County District Attorney" Facebook page. The jury was split 11-1 in favor of finding Maxstadt guilty, the DA said, and Judge Ann Moorman declared a mistrial on that count.

A date for a new trial on the attempted murder charge was expected to be set Wednesday.

Maxstadt was arrested in Willits on December 20, 2016, after leading Ukiah police and state traffic officers on a high-speed chase up Highway 101 that reached speeds of up to 100 mph.

Willits Police Department officers deployed a spike strip at Highway 20 and Walker Road, flattening the Kia sedan's tires, but failing to stop the vehicle. Just north of Holly Street, he pointed a handgun out of the driver-side

window and fired multiple rounds at pursuing officers. The Kia continued north for a short distance before Maxstadt abandoned the car and ran into a nearby creekbed.

Sheriff's deputies used a K-9 dog to track Maxstadt, who was found approximately 100 yards north of his car, in the 1100 block of South Main Street.

Maxstadt, the Sheriff's Office reported at the time, "refused to comply with orders by deputies, or to show his hands." The police dog was deployed and bit Maxstadt "multiple times," holding him in place until deputies could take him into custody.

Maxstadt was treated for his injuries at Howard Memorial Hospital, and then booked into Mendocino County Jail on multiple charges.

The chase began after the Sheriff's Office received a call regarding mail theft from a resident on Robinson Creek Road in rural Ukiah.

Deputies located one package of stolen mail in a home in the 2200 block of South State Street, and arrested 24-year-old Amanda Delvalle on suspicion of possessing stolen property, violating probation, conspiracy, and mail theft.

They identified Maxstadt, a wanted felon, as the driver of the vehicle seen stealing the mail. Deputies and Ukiah police officers began searching for the Kia in the greater Ukiah area, and just before 7:30 p.m. found it near Talmage Road and Hastings Road.

When officers tried to stop the vehicle, Maxstadt fled and the pursuit began, with state traffic officers joining the chase up Highway 101.

The rest of Attack | From Page 1

identity has not been made public, "was found violently beaten and unconscious," McCoy said.

Medical aid was rendered, and the victim was immediately flown to an out-of-town hospital for treatment. The victim's current condition remains unknown.

WPD officers said the suspects allegedly assaulted the victim for several minutes before police arrived.

Both Flanagan and Vaughn were arrested on suspicion of attempted murder and booked into county jail.

The Willits Police Department is asking anyone who was in or around the Highway 20 park at the time of the incident, and who may have information, to call 459-6122.

This report was based on a press release from the Willits Police Department.

The rest of Ordinance | From Page 1

8 board meeting, when 62 persons addressed the board, or the August 22 board meeting, when 35 persons spoke.

Most of those who spoke during the two meetings called for significant changes to the ordinance, including provisions that cultivation permits can be transferred to new property owners, or that persons who have not cultivated before in Mendocino County may get permits to cultivate cannabis on rangeland.

Under the current version of the ordinance, permit transfers are limited to family members or trusts only, and expansion of new cannabis cultivation into rangeland is prohibited, except in special circumstances.

Instead of addressing these major issues, the changes proposed by supervisors on Tuesday appeared to be "policy work" changes that cleared up internal inconsistencies within the ordinance, or closed loopholes.

In some cases, the changes incorporated into the ordinance seem to liberalize the measure in relatively small ways.

For example, the deadline for applying for a permit for phase one of the ordinance was changed from December 31, 2017, to June 30, 2018. Language stating that inspections for a mixed-light or indoor permit "shall" include a representative from the Department of Planning and Building Services was changed to "may" include a representative from planning and building. Language specifying a limit on the amount of wattage of artificial light that may be cast on any square foot of cannabis grown indoors or using a mixed-light method was removed.

In the definitions section (10A.17.020), the board decided daycare centers and youth centers are to be added to the definition of "youth-oriented facility." In 10A.17.030, the section dealing with exemptions to the ordinance, language was clarified to state that the limit for an exemption given to a qualified patient or patients per legal parcel is 100 square feet. The next subsection was clarified to state that the maximum total area in which a primary caregiver or caregivers can grow cannabis for qualified patients on one legal parcel is 200 square feet.

A new subsection, 10A.17.080(B)(5), was added, stating: "Persons eligible to apply for a permit during phase one may apply for a different and/or larger permit type in subsequent years, subject to all the requirements of this chapter."

The board agreed to include "time out" language for cannabis cultivators taking a break authored by Supervisor John McCowen into the ordinance. The addition occurs in section 10A.17.080(B)(2)(d). The old language stated, in effect, once you are out, you will always be out. But new language allows for a one-year timeout period every five years.

Here is the old language: "If a permit is granted pursuant to this paragraph (B)(2) in these zoning districts, any future revocation or lapse in renewal of such permit shall extinguish the ability of any person to obtain a permit for such cultivation site."

The new language adds the provision, "except not more than once every five years the person qualified to apply for a permit to cultivate on such site may file a notice of non-cultivation with the Department of Agriculture."

Compliance plan

Supervisors also refined Section 10A.17.100, which regulates how permits are to be issued. Previous language stated: "If, during the pre-permit site inspection, violations of any building, health and safety or other ordinance or

regulation are discovered, the applicant shall be required to submit a written plan to remediate the violations at the earliest feasible date, but in no event later than one year after the issuance of the permit. Said plan shall be signed by the applicant, approved by the relevant enforcement agency or agencies, and compliance with said plan shall be a condition of the permit."

The new language states: "Discovery of any violations of any Mendocino County Code during the permit application process will be treated in a similar manner to violations that are self-reported during an active amnesty program, that is, the violations will still need to be corrected, but any investigative or penalty fees associated with an after-the-fact county permit will be waived.

"If the violations are directly related to a phase one permit application, and/or if it is discovered that the permit would authorize a particular use for which a separate permit is required, but has not yet been obtained, the applicant shall be required to agree in writing to a compliance plan prior to issuance of the permit. Failure by the applicant to agree in writing to the required compliance plan shall be grounds for denial of the permit.

"In no event will more time be given to correct all violations and/or submit a complete application for each required permit than one year after the date of the issuance of the permit.

"After the applicant has signed the compliance plan ... the Agriculture Department may issue a permit restricted as indicated in the compliance plan, so long as no other barriers to such issuance exist. Failure to abide by the compliance plan shall be grounds for permit termination or non-renewal, pursuant to Section 10A.17.040."

After the board had gone over the changes proposed by staff, discussion opened to include other areas of the process of cannabis regulation not included in the revisions.

McCowen said he thought it would be important to come up with a protocol for determining whether applicants could be deemed in some way to be in "good standing." Such good standing would be the county's best effort to comply with state requirements that, before obtaining a state permit, growers of medical cannabis must first have a county permit.

The permitting process in Mendocino County is glacial. After Tuesday's meeting ended, Interim Commissioner of Agriculture Diane Curry told Willits Weekly the county has, since May 4, received exactly 700 applications for permits, but has issued only three.

In a memorandum to supervisors written early Tuesday morning, McCowen noted: "It is foreseeable that not all qualified applicants will be fully permitted by the time state licenses become available."

McCowen offered as pre-conditions of a status of "good standing," "the submission of a complete application, completion of an initial site review, and no glaring issues that appear to jeopardize the issuance of a permit."

McCowen also said he wanted to open the process of revising and refining the cultivation ordinance to the public, preferring the working group model over that of establishing a cannabis advisory board. "I do believe the conference call/working group approach will be more flexible, fast-paced and effective than the appointment of a more formal committee dealing with multiple issues," McCowen wrote in his memorandum.

Supervisors Georgeanne Croskey and Carre Brown also liked the working group model better than an advisory board.



Above, left: Willits Charter School for the Arts and Science on Main Street sure knows the art and science of growing giant sunflowers! On the left in the WCS garden is gardening teacher Gwyn Ware; in the center is WCS graduate Josh Wear; on the right is ninth-grader Jasmyrn Rosado. Thanks, Director Jennifer Lockwood, for sending in this great photo. Above, right: Sunflowers given away as starts by Chris Hardaker of the 1,000 Sunflowers Project, now in bloom. At left: Saprina Rodriguez of Imagination Station Preschool poses with the sunflowers she planted in front of the school's colorful façade on East Commercial Street this summer. Rodriguez said she decided to plant these sunflowers as a way to be part of the Willits community, and to further community spirit – plus her students liked sunflowers! – Submitted by Paul Jacobson 1,000 Sunflowers Project



Sunflowers bloom around Willits

Willits Economic Localization's 1,000 Sunflowers Project has inspired businesses and locals to plant sunflowers around town – and with the end of the drought, there's been plenty of water for these thirsty, giant blooms. Leave your sunflowers up at the end of the season, and their oily, nutritious seeds will attract seed-loving small birds to your garden.

Chris Hardaker, one of the organizers of WELL's 1,000 Sunflower Project in Willits, died on Saturday, August 19. Hardaker brought sunflower starts to the Willits Farmers Market to give away earlier this summer. The photo below, center, is one of the beautiful results, posted on a Facebook thread about his passing, by friend Becky Button who wrote: "This is one of the sunflowers he gave us blooming at my house." 🌻 🌻 🌻

Button noted that on Saturday, September 2, at 2 pm, there will be a memorial gardening activity at the Brooktrails Community Garden where Hardaker was a founding member. Community members will plant perennials in Hardaker's honor, share stories, and make mosaic stepping stones. The public is welcome to attend the memorial.



Celebration of life for Jon Green

Come join family and friends to celebrate the life of Jon Green. A short service and lunch will be held at 11:30 am at the Recreation Grove Park on the corner of Commercial Street and Lenore Street in Willits, California, on August 26. We will be sharing our favorite, silly, wild, crazy, treasured, and beloved memories of Jon.



Below, left: Shawna Reese, pictured at left with Mariposa's current sunflower garden, is the floor manager at Mariposa Market. Reese says the sunflower display in the beds outside the store right now is the best floral arrangement she's ever seen at Mariposa. Reese was inspired to plant some sunflowers at her home. Mariposa owner Mary Anne Trevey decided on the sunflower display after reading about WELL's 1,000 Sunflowers Project. She said it seemed like a really cool idea to help beautify Willits. Mariposa Market has been in business in Willits since 1979, and has been at its current location at 500 South Main Street since 2009. – Submitted by Paul Jacobson, 1,000 Sunflowers Project.

Below, center: One of the sunflowers given as a start by Chris Hardaker, now in bloom.

Below, right: Thanks to Debi and John Vau who sent in this photo of a row of sturdy, lovely blooms growing in their sunflower garden in Brooktrails.

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Thursday, August 24

“The Cannabis Hour”: “Kids and Cannabis” will be the topic, with guest Amanda Reiman, MSW, PhD, cannabis and drug-policy expert and educator, and current head of Community Relations for Flow Kana, a branded cannabis distribution company working with small farmers in the Emerald Triangle. How do you talk to your children about cannabis? Does just say no work? Are Emerald Triangle kids at special drug risk? With host Jane Futcher. Thursday, August 24, 9 am, on KZYX Radio, 91.5-FM. Questions at 9:40 am: 895-2448.

Duplicate Bridge at the Library: All bridge players are welcome. Duplicate bridge games in the Willits Library Conference Room, 390 East Commercial Street. Thursday, August 24 at 4:30 pm, and continuing: Thursday, September 28, Thursday, October 26. Info: Donna 459-9035.

Willits Center for the Arts August Show: Last chance this weekend to see the iconic images of saints and angels by artists Marco Donner and Sue Ellen Parkinson in their show, “In the Realm of the Spirit.” Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Gallery hours: Wednesday through Sunday, 11 am to 6 pm. Info: visit www.willitscenterforthearts.org.

Hot Topics in Diabetes: Howard Hospital’s Clinical Nutrition Manager Annie Frassinello talks about “Garden Fresh Cooking,” Thursday, August 24, 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Seabiscuit Conference Room, Howard Memorial Hospital, 1 Marcela Drive. RSVP: Dietitian’s Office: 456-3132.

Friday, August 25

Open House & Reception: Baechtel Grove Middle School has been refurbishing their gym. “Join us to celebrate and see the newly improved gym ... promote Willits pride and a healthy lifestyle.” Refreshments will be served. Friday, August 25. 5 pm. Tom Tilton Gymnasium, Baechtel Grove Middle School, 1150 Magnolia Street. Info: 459-2417.

Opening Game WHS Football: Home game to start the season: Willits High School versus Ukiah High School. Friday, August 25. No gate fee. JV game at 5:30 pm; varsity game at 7:30 pm (Varsity Head Coach Chris Bickford).

Youth Poetry Night: “Behind the Mic” open mic poetry reading at Brickhouse Coffee at the corner of Main Street and Commercial Street. It’s called “Youth Poetry Night” but people of all ages are invited to perform: read poetry, prose, play music and sing. Hosted by Tristan Cockrell. Friday, August 25 from 7 to 10 pm.

Shanachie Pub: Gun Hill Royals, “Their sound is a melting pot of many styles ... country waltzes to rug cutters.” Friday, August 25. 9 pm. \$5 cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.



Gun Hill Royals

Saturday, August 26

“Customer Appreciation Day” at Mariposa: 38th Anniversary Celebration of Mariposa Market, selling organic natural foods since 1979. There will be food preparation demos, live music, a “Prize Wheel,” and food. Everyone invited.

Saturday, August 26, 10 am to 4 pm. 500 South Main Street.

“Quilty Pleasures”: the annual free outdoor quilt show by the Long Valley Outdoor Quilt Show, Saturday, August 26, 10 am to 4 pm, and Sunday, August 27, from 11 am to 4 pm, behind the Fat Quail Quilt Shop, along Highway 101 in Laytonville. “With 70 quilts [a few for sale] entered in the show this year it will be worth the trip to Laytonville just to see all of the color and pattern floating on gentle breezes in the sun.” On Saturday (only) Ron Crane will display his collection of antique washing machines. Raffle tickets on sale for the 2017 quilt plus themed baskets. All proceeds from raffle ticket sales go toward scholarships for Laytonville High School graduates. Raffle drawings will be on Sunday afternoon; no need to be present to win. Info: 984-6966 or visit <http://thefatquail.com>.



Hank’s Famous Buttermilk Pancakes or gluten-free, Beeler’s Quality Bacon, organic eggs, real butter, juice, organic coffee or tea. Live music! \$8; \$7 seniors, \$5 children under 10. Extra: sides of organic fruit and Amish organic maple syrup. Little Lake Grange #670, 291 School Street.

Crawfish Boil in Laytonville: 11th annual food and music festival features crawfish, authentic jambalaya, pulled pork, goat, chicken, lamb, and oysters, plus other culinary treats. Music by Johnny Sketch and the Dirty Notes, Lost Bayou Ramblers, Ray and the Revelers, and more. Festival proceeds to improve Harwood Park, the health center, the rodeo grounds, local radio station 105.1 FM, and others. Tickets: \$100. Available at The Big Chief in Laytonville or at the gate. Sunday, August 27. Laytonville Rodeo Grounds. Info: the Big Chief at 984-6770.

Crawfish Boil in Laytonville

Sunday, August 27

The 11th Annual Crawfish Boil in Laytonville will be rocking once again! Gates open at 1 pm and festivities go until 10 pm this Sunday, August 27 at the Laytonville Rodeo Grounds. Chefs will prepare crawfish, authentic jambalaya, pulled pork, goat, chicken, lamb, and oysters to be served along with other culinary treats. Music provided by Johnny Sketch and the Dirty Notes, Lost Bayou Ramblers, Ray and the Revelers, to name a few. This year’s proceeds from the fundraiser will go to improving Harwood Park, to the health center, rodeo grounds, local low power FM station 105.1 and others. Tickets are \$100. Includes all food and entertainment. Please no dogs. Call the Big Chief at 707-984-6770 for tickets and information.

– Ree Slocum, Willits Weekly

Free Bridge Lessons

Start Saturday, September 2

“Beyond Basics” for bridge players who would like to spruce up your game, review what you already know, or just to meet new friends. Nine weeks beginning Saturday, September 2, 10 am to noon. Baechtel Creek Village Community Center. (Behind Grocery Outlet at the end of Alder Lane turn at Lumberjack’s Restaurant, 1700 South Main Street.) Information: Donna 459-9035.

– Donna Vaiano



Robin Rule

“Trailer for Rent” Book Reading at Willits Library

Thursday, September 7

On Thursday, September 7 from 6 to 7 pm at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street, Robin Rule, award-winning local poet with four books of poetry published, is celebrating a new collection of 30 short stories, “Trailer for Rent: The Redbud Jane Stories.” It is young adult book about the methods an 11-year-old trailer girl uses to combat poverty, parental alcoholism, child abuse, and hunger. Redbud Jane refuses to lie down and just give up. She finds a way out of each of her problems of injustice, bigotry and people who have no sense or motivation to step out of ignorance. She is a one-girl circus, and she tries to put a smile on your face no matter how tough your problems are. There will be a book signing following the reading. Refreshments will be served.

– Dan Essman, Willits Weekly

“Quilty Pleasures”: Final day for the Long Valley Quilters annual free outdoor quilt show at the Fat Quail Quilt Shop in Laytonville. See Saturday, August 26 listing for more details.

Tuesday, August 29

Tightwad Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre: All 2D movies that are in their second week are \$5 on Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre for all ages, all showings. This week’s Tightwad movies: “The Dark Tower,” “Kidnap” (Halle Berry), and “Leap” (animated feature about a ballerina). For showtimes: www.noyotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6696.

Wednesday, August 30

WHS Soccer Games: First home games of the season, Willits High School versus South Fork High School. Wednesday, August 30 at WHS. Girls game (coach Tatiana Cantrell) starts at 4 pm; boys game starts at 6 pm.

Thursday, August 31

Dan Chesser’s 90th Birthday: “Dan is 90. Come celebrate with him. Everyone welcome for cake and celebration.” Thursday, August 31. 4 to 7 pm. At the new John’s Place, 377 South Main Street.



Wendy DeWitt

Shanachie Pub: Wendy DeWitt returns to the Pub with a night of booty-shaking blues and boogie. Thursday, August 31, 8 pm. \$5 cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Friday, September 1

Free Back-to-School Clothes: the Mendocino County Youth Project will be providing free back-to-school clothes for middle-school and high school students in Willits. Friday, September 1. 1 to 5 pm. 30 San Francisco Street. Info: Aurelie Clivaz: 489-1258.

WHS Football Home Game: Willits High School versus Ferndale High School at home. . Friday, September 1. No gate fee. JV game at



Ramana Vieira sings at WCT

Sunday, September 10

Portuguese romantic folk singer Ramana Vieira and her ensemble will perform at the Willits Community Theatre on Sunday, September 10 at 2 pm. Be immersed in the rapturous rhythms and stirrings of traditional “Fado,” dramatic expressions of love, loss and redemption. “Fade” literally means “fate” or “destiny” and is the most widely recognized genre of Portuguese music, dating back to the early 19th century.

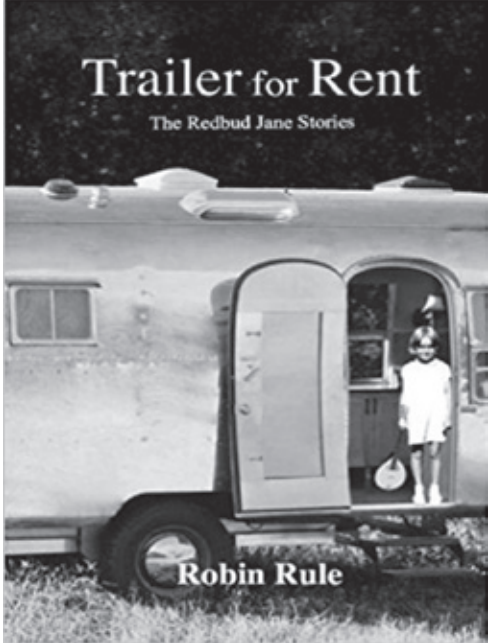
Vieira captivates her audience with the haunting laments, and she infuses her performance with innovative instrumentation, creative layers, and soaring vocals. Her ensemble includes Brad Bivens on guitar, Ela Polak on violin, and Steve Fowler on bass. The ensemble also performs American blues, pop and jazz.

Advance tickets are \$20 and available in person at Mazahar; online at brownpapertickets.com; or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets are also available at the door until sold out. The WCT playhouse is located at 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub).

– Steve Hellman for WCT



Ramana Vieira



5:30 pm; varsity game at 7:30 pm (Varsity Head Coach Chris Bickford).

Shanachie Pub: Burnside from Sonoma County plays originals, soul, folk, indie and American. Friday, September 1, 9 pm. No cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.

Saturday, September 2

Free Bridge Lessons: “Beyond Basics.” Bridge players who would like to spruce up their game, review what they already know, or just to meet new friends. Nine weeks beginning Saturday, September 2. 10 am to noon. Baechtel Creek Village Community Center located at the end of Alder Lane behind Grocery Outlet at the end of Alder Lane. Info: Donna 459-9035.

“Claws for a Cause” Benefit Dinner: Willits Rotary Club, South Ukiah Rotary, Seabiscuit Therapeutic Riding Center, and members of the Redwood Empire Lions Club dinner & auction “Claws for a Cause.” Maine lobster & filet mignon, appetizers and dessert by Adam’s Restaurant. Wine tasting by Barra. Music by Ed Reinhart Band. Proceeds to benefit the Seabiscuit Therapeutic Riding Center. Tickets: \$80, available at Willits Furniture, or call Erin Holzhauer 391-3873. Saturday, September 2. 5 to 9 pm, At the historic Howard House on Ridgewood Ranch, 16200 Highway 101. To make a contribution or be one of the event sponsors. Contact: Diane Cannon, board president, Seabiscuit Therapeutic Riding Center: 489-8372, or Mike Smith, Willits Rotary Club event coordinator: 972-2471.

“Maintaining Inner Light – A Seven Year Journey”: Opening reception for the September show at the Willits Center for the Arts, Saturday September 2, 7 to 9 pm, features the enigmatic and brilliantly colored wall sculptures of String Creek artist Nancy McHone, plus the jewelry of Megan West. McHone, MVMDesigns.com. Appetizers by Chef Marie Blancas. Wines by Naughty Boy Vineyards from Potter Valley. Saturday, September 2. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-1726.

Shanachie Pub: Traptoon Network, a three-DJ event including heavy bass, lighting, a fog machine, and a danceable vibe. Saturday, September 2, 9 pm. No cover. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. Info: 459-9194.



Mariposa Market Anniversary

Saturday, August 26

Mariposa Market, the Willits center for organic natural foods since 1979, is having their 38th anniversary annual “Customer Appreciation Day” from 10 am to 4 pm, Saturday, August 26, 500 South Main Street. There will be food preparation demonstrations, live music, a “Prize Wheel,” and food. Everyone invited.

2017 Roots of Motive Power Steam Festival

September 9 and 10

Roots of Motive Power’s annual September steam-up is set for Saturday, September 9 (starts at 9 am) and Sunday, September 10 (goes through 4 pm) at the Roots of Motive Power facility at 420 East Commercial Street. “This is our big one-time-a-year steam-up. If you only come to one of our events, this is the one. Plumes of steam and the shrieks of steam whistles will fill the air as a variety of steam-powered equipment – everything that runs – is fired up. Our big Bucyrus Erie steam shovel will be out back digging on the dirt pile along with the bulldozers. The Heisler locomotive will be pulling the riding cars and giving rides to the public.” Free admission; kid friendly! Roots’ famous BBQ is back this year, at the Rec Grove Park, featuring beef, lamb and pork, along with many different salads. Raffle and live auction after the BBQ. Visit <http://www.rootsofmotivepower.com> for more information on one of Willits’ truly unique organizations.

Holiday Crafts Fair call for artists

Willits Center for the Arts is accepting entries for the 31st Annual Holiday Craft Fair to take place on December 8, 9 and 10, at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street, and the Willits Center for the Arts Upstairs Gallery, 71 East Commercial Street. All interested artists, handcrafters, and specialty foods entrepreneurs should request application forms by e-mail to: Bonnie Belt at belt.bonnie@gmail.com, or by mail: Willits Holiday Craft Fair c/o Bonnie Belt, 2291 Buckeye Drive, Willits, CA 95490, and enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Applications will be e-mailed to all previous year’s applicants and to all new requests by August 31. Please note: acceptance is subject to quality of work and earliest postmark date.

COLUMN | At the Movies



“The Dark Tower”

The Story: The good guys sometimes win, but evil never really dies. The first Stephen King movie of 2017. This is an action flick with monsters ... supernatural monsters from outside the Universe. There is a Boy. The Boy has bad dreams. He dreams of a Tower. He dreams of a Man in Black who wants to destroy the Tower. He dreams of a Gunslinger who is the guardian of the Tower. No surprise ... the dreams are real.

My Thoughts: The “Dark Tower” does what it’s supposed to do. It entertains. I loved it. It’s based on a series of Stephen King books. It’s not the books. But movies rarely are. If you amuse yourself by reading critics, you will most probably avoid this movie. On the other hand, if you read me you will be bewildered because I contradict the critics. Like the heroic Gunslinger, I go my own way. Maybe I’m a hero. The critical establishment casts shade on Matthew McConaughey. He plays a really bad man and makes you want to kill him. That’s good acting. Idris Elba is the Gunslinger who’s world-weary, who’s been beaten down by so much evil. He is suffering. You feel for him. Again ... good acting. And there is the Boy played by young Tom Taylor. He’s a buddy, you root for him. So ... whom should you believe? Those outsiders, those supernatural monsters from outside the Universe of common decency? Or me Dan your neighbor, the defender of all that’s good and kind.

Parents: Mothers and fathers are killed. Don’t bring your little ones. This flick is not for children. Teens and up.

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



Save the Date:

Special PEO Theatre Night, September 14, Willits Community Theatre
Seafood & Pasta Dinner, September 15, Harrah Senior Center
T Sisters and Pick & Pull, September 29, Little Lake Grange

The Willits Community Theatre Presents

Picasso at the Lapin Agile

A Comedy by Steve Martin
Directed by Jim Hastin

At The Willits Community Theatre Playhouse
37 West Van Lane, Willits

	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
14	8	9	16	17
21	15	22	23	24

Tickets for the Thursday September 14 show will be sold at Willits Playhouse, 37 West Van Lane, Willits, CA 95490. To purchase tickets, call Marilyn Harden at 459-5649.

Tickets: Thursdays at 7 PM - \$15
Fridays & Saturdays at 8 PM - \$20 - Sundays at 2 PM - \$15

Tickets Four Ways:
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Ongoing Events

Willits Farmers Market: Outdoor market Thursdays at the Rec Grove Park on East Commercial Street. 3 to 6 pm. Veggies, local meats and local grains, dinner, savory and sweet baked goods, gift items, jams and jellies, artisan and fair trade chocolates, crafts, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

Twice-Monthly Parkinson’s Discussion and Support Group meets 2nd and 4th Thursday, 10:30 to 11:45 am. In the Conference Room at Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-1941.

Tibetan Buddhist meditation group meets every Tuesday at 6:30 pm, at the Muse, 31 East San Francisco Avenue. Info: 456-9425 or honemann@yahoo.com.

Final days for August show “In the Realm of the Spirit” at the Willits Center for the Arts featuring iconic images of saints and angels by Willits artists Marco Donner and Sue Ellen Parkinson. 71 East Commercial Street. Gallery hours: Wednesday through Sunday 11 am to 6 pm. Those interested in volunteering to be a docent, can call the art center at 459-1726.

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

Willits Library Activities: Wednesdays: 11-11:30 am “Play Group,” and 3:30 to 5:30 pm “Lego Day” (bring your imagination and start building); Thursdays: 11 to 11:30 am “Story Time,” 4 pm “Farmers Market Story Time”; Fridays: 3:30 to 4:30 pm; Fridays: 5 to 6 pm “Youth Game Night” (ages 10 to 14). Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: 459-5908.

The Willits Seed Lending Library: Offering information on seed saving and gardening. Seeds of flowers, herbs, and vegetables are free to seed library members, and seed donations are gladly accepted. “We look forward to seeing you at the Willits Library!”

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

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

Soroptimists International of Willits: (On summer break until September 12). Women’s service club aimed at the betterment of girls and women. Meets second and third Tuesdays of every month, noon to 1 pm, at Old Mission Pizza, 1708 South Main Street, in the back room. Women interested in community service are welcome; new members are encouraged to join at any time.

Life Changes: Discussion and support group with Linda Posner, Wednesdays from 10 to 11 am. Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road.

Volleyball Open Gym: at new location for the summer: Willits High School, Sundays 7 to 9 pm, and Tuesdays at 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Some experience desired, but not required. \$5 per night; first night free. Info: Jeff at 354-1850.

Smoking Cessation Program: Free “Freedom from Smoking” class sponsored by the Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital. Every Wednesday at the MHM Conference Room, 1 Madrone Street, 6 to 7 pm. RSVP to Jennifer Barrett at 540-4208. Walk-ins are always welcome.

Free Sheriff’s Activity League programs: at Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street. Teen gym: Monday to Friday from 2:30 to 5:30 pm; Boxing: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6:30 pm; Karate: Thursday, Little Dragons-ages 3 to 6, 5 pm to 6 pm; Youth Karate-ages 6 to 11, 6 pm to 7 pm; Twins to Adults-ages 11 and up, 7 pm to 8:30 pm. All SAL programs free to the public. Info: www.facebook.com/MendocinoCountySheriffsYouthActivitiesLeague or Mike Tobin: 354-0565.

Shanachie Pub: Singer songwriter Aaron Ford every first Thursday. New time 6 pm. No cover. Jazz Night every second and fourth Thursday. 8 pm. No cover. “Local musicians ... take jazz standards and infuse them with funk, hip hop, world, and free form jamming. The outcome is unexplainable.” Open Mic Night every Wednesday. Sign up for the lottery from 3 pm, when the Pub opens, to 7:30 pm. “An eclectic array of local musicians and even performers from around the world!” 50 South Main Street, behind Adam’s Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

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

Do you have an event to include in our calendar?

willitsweekly@gmail.com

End-of-day Monday deadline for Thursday!



Above, from left: Apprentices working at Live Power Farm in Round Valley, Mirjam from Germany, behind, and Tanvi from India, in front, were at the commons to view the eclipse on Monday. Fifth-grade teacher at Round Valley Elementary School Hannah Scherzer brought her class and the viewing instruments they made to see the eclipse. Josh Bennett, library associate at the Round Valley Library, thoroughly enjoyed the awesomeness of the eclipse. Erika Molnar, from Ithaca, NY, was in Covelo to take part in John Marshall's indigo-dying class. She said she was impressed by and enjoying the Covelo community.

Photos by Ree Slocum



At far left: Zack, one of the Round Valley Elementary School's fifth-grade students who constructed an eclipse viewing tube, helps the photographer align the tube so the partial eclipse is projected and safely visible without glasses.

At left: One of the unusual and exciting phenomena one can experience watching an eclipse are the crescent shapes seen in shadows cast through small openings. In this photo the crescent sun shapes are from light passing through leaves and projected on a dark shirt.

Solar Eclipse

Enthusiastic sun watchers gather at the Round Valley Library Commons

Josh Bennett, library associate at the Round Valley Library in Covelo, took his love for astronomy and turned it into a community event on Monday as the sun was slowly being covered by the moon in a pathway across North America – and the Covelo Library Commons. Close to 50 people – including the fifth-grade class from the Round Valley Elementary School – donned the approved glasses, looked at projected-eclipse images, read provided materials, and talked with one another about this amazing phenomenon. The eclipse peaked at 10:14 am – when people saw the sun only as a small crescent – and the moon finished passing over the sun at 11:34 am.

A solar eclipse takes place when the moon moves in front of the sun and slowly blocks the light hitting the Earth. A total eclipse is an unusual event where – for two minutes – the moon totally blocks the sun.

At the Covelo Commons on Monday, people experienced the moon covering about 83.4 percent of the sun's light at the peak. The closest viewing places to see "totality" for this eclipse were in Oregon. A total eclipse is a magical time where day becomes dusk, birds are known to quiet, and other animals become still and noiseless. One can feel the awesomeness that humans have felt for eons – some wondering what they'd done to the gods to make them angry.

People all over the world chase eclipses to re-experience the magic and wonder of a full eclipse. Covelo didn't boast a full eclipse, yet people from different states and countries were at the Commons to view the eclipse. In addition to Covelo community members, there were people from Ukiah,

Willits, New York, Germany and India. Internationally known textile artist John Marshall was teaching an indigo-dying class to some non-local students, and two apprentices with Live Power Farm from Germany and India were there. All took time to view the celestial event.

Amongst some of the first to get to the Covelo Library Commons to view the eclipse were schoolchildren. Round Valley Elementary School fifth-grade teacher Hannah Scherzer brought her class and the viewing instruments they made to see the eclipse. Zack, one of the fifth-grade students who worked on the viewing tube, helped the photographer align the tube so the partial eclipse was projected and safely visible without glasses. Using one of the viewing boxes from the fifth-graders, the library's Bennett placed blueprint paper in the back, projected the eclipsing-sun crescent on the paper, and will later process the paper in water to see the image.

Bennett, who hosts other astrological gatherings at the Round Valley Library, got the idea to have a large eclipse event from an email announcement from the American Library Association. Bennett followed the link to the Great American Eclipse website, where they had reams of information and certified viewing glasses for sale. Bennett applied through the library for the glasses and was sent 1,000 – way more than needed for Covelo! He was happy he could give them to other libraries in the county library system. For the Monday eclipse, he'd given away over 100 pairs to locals and saved about 50 for the viewing at the Commons.

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At left: Orion stands transfixed as families, friends and fellow students gather.

Below: A page from the Great American Eclipse "manual," showing this year's eclipse path and future eclipses in North America.



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The rest of Ballot From Page 1

a special one-half-cent sales and use tax on retail transactions for five years, and one-eighth cent thereafter in perpetuity, raising an estimated \$6.8 million annually for the first five years and \$1.7 million annually thereafter.

A previous attempt in November 2016 at raising the sales tax to provide funds to build or rehabilitate physical mental health facilities, Measure AG, won by 66.22 percent of the vote, but failed to gain the required super majority.

The official language for Measure B will be: "To provide funding for mental health care and facilities in Mendocino County to diagnose and treat mental illness and addiction, shall a transactions and use tax of one-half cent be enacted for five years, and thereafter reduced to one-eighth cent, with annual audits and a citizen's oversight committee to ensure funds are properly spent, and a requirement that funds cannot be taken by the state and spent for other purposes?"

Some local elections that usually happen in November of odd-numbered years have been postponed for a year, thanks to a new state law that allows local jurisdictions to consolidate elections to even years to save money.

Other races don't have more candidates than open seats, so the county board of supervisors will appoint incumbents or new candidates who filed paperwork for the seats in lieu of holding an election. Three incumbents serving on the Brooktrails Township Community Services District have filed for the three open seats, so supervisors will be appointing Brooktrails incumbents Ed Horrick, Tony Orth and Rick Williams to serve another term.

The Little Lake Fire Protection District board has two long-term seats and two short-term seats open, and with four candidates filing for the seats, supervisors will be appointing Tom Herman and Skip Lucier to the long-term seats, and Nancy Stipe and Arnie Mello to the short-term seats.

Supervisors will also be appointing members to the Covelo Community Services District, the Covelo Fire Protection District, the Long Valley Fire Protection District, the Laytonville County Water District, and the Round Valley County Water District, due to not enough candidates having filed to hold an election.

The rest of Concerns From Page 1

the transfer of cultivation permits to people not part of the grower's immediate family, or the inclusion of rangeland onto the list of zoning districts upon which the cannabis cultivation by new growers can legally occur after 2020.

After the public spoke, the board returned to putting finishing touches on the first revision of the ordinance, addressing such as issues as: how is one to measure the 1,000 feet which must intervene between a grow site and a "sensitive receptor," such as a school, church or youth-oriented facility, or whether tree removal would disqualify a person from getting a cultivation permit, and under what conditions would tree removal be compatible with receiving a permit?

The hint came after the public had spoken, and after board had adjusted the cultivation ordinance to its satisfaction.

Board Chairman John McCowen asked his colleagues if they had any additions to the changes to the ordinance county staff and the board supervisors had already made.

Supervisor Georgeanne Croskey told McCowen she wanted to talk about transferability. McCowen replied, "I certainly don't want to go there today."

Then McCowen asked Supervisor Dan Hamburg if there was anything that he wanted to add to the list of discussion topics. Hamburg was not physically present at the meeting. Instead, he was attending the meeting by telephone while on vacation in Dunsmuir.

"I agree with Supervisor Croskey that we need to further address the issue of transferability," Hamburg said. "I don't believe we should go there today, or in this go-round with the amendment, but I want to remind anybody who is listening to us that this is not the last rodeo.

"We are going to continue to be looking at the ordinance," he said, "and I think there are a lot of other issues that need to be further hashed out. Those include track-and-trace, the treatment of cottage industry, the overlay issue, the whole issue of buildings and Class K, and ADA and ag exempt, provisional permits, rangeland, and whether an annual permit should be required.

"I think there are a lot of issues, and whether we deal with them through an advisory board or through working groups, or through a cannabis unit – I don't know which is best – I do think we need to find some way that we can get these issues hashed out and brought back to the board."

Many of the 100 or 150 people in the supervisors' chambers standing and silently waving little signs that said, "I support." No board member present at the meeting – including Croskey, McCowen and First District Supervisor Carre Brown – said they disagreed with Hamburg.

Supervisor Dan Gjerde was absent from the meeting, by pre-arrangement.

Earlier in the meeting, McCowen had said he favors creating small working groups that can evaluate and make recommendations on aspects of the board's attempts to regulate the cannabis industry. Which means that, sometime in the future, the full board likely will consider many of the topics mentioned by Croskey and Hamburg, perhaps after being discussed by a working group.

The rest of Robinson From Page 1

of Anna Marie Borges, who lives on or near Robinson Creek Road, southwest of Ukiah. At the August 8 board of supervisors meeting, Borges identified herself as "the evil landowner" whose large cannabis grow sparked a wave of opposition by residents in the Woody Glen neighborhood. Since mid-July, a dozen or more Woody Glen residents have complained to supervisors about negative impacts on their lives, lifestyles, peace of mind and property values by what they term an out-of-control, unpermitted marijuana grow.

Although not forthcoming with any details about the bust or the contents of Borges' permit application, Interim Commissioner of Agriculture Diane Curry confirmed on August 22 that Borges was the person whose cannabis crop was destroyed by Fish and Wildlife on August 10.

An August 18 story in the Press Democrat, "Raids of Emerald Triangle marijuana farms could threaten industry's legal compliance," by staff reporter Julie Johnson, quotes Department of Fish and Wildlife Officer Lt. Chris Stoots as saying the raid took place "because they suspected a well was diverting water from a nearby creek."

The Press Democrat story said Fish and Wildlife officers eradicated all of Borges' crop, nearly 200 plants, which she valued at \$350,000.

Curry said she was "really surprised" by the Fish and Wildlife action. "The person [whose crop was destroyed] was in the application process," Curry said. "I had recommended that a Fish and Wildlife biologist look at the well. It was my understanding that the applicant would be able to come into compliance. They were doing everything they could to come into compliance with us.

"When they were busted, I was really surprised. I thought, these were not applicants who should have been busted," Curry said.

In response to the Fish and Wildlife enforcement action, board of supervisors Chairman John McCowen, sometime prior to August 22, wrote a letter to John Laird, secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency, which oversees the operation of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

"The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors is concerned that recent activities by the CDFW may prove counterproductive to our efforts to bring cannabis cultivators into a regulated system.

"Environmentally damaging practices and illegal water diversion, whatever the intended purpose, must be stopped," McCowen's letter stated. "But we question the necessity and advisability of heavy-handed summary eradication of small-scale cultivation operations that are in the permit process.

"We are very concerned that actions of this type will have a chilling effect on the willingness of cultivators to apply for permits. We strongly encourage that consideration be given to those small-scale cultivators who are actively attempting to comply with the requirements of our regulatory system."

However, at the start of Tuesday's board meeting, McCowen withdrew his letter from consideration, while Mendocino County Sheriff Tom Allman and Mendocino County District Attorney David Eyster were in the room. Allman commonly attends at least a portion of the board of supervisors meetings, but Eyster's presence in board chambers was unusual.

Contacted by Willits Weekly, Allman explained why he was in the board room that morning. "In the third paragraph and in the fifth paragraph of McCowen's letter, there was language that was inflammatory," Allman said. "What he was saying was, we, the board of supervisors, are asking you not to take enforcement action against

people who are breaking the law.

"I personally didn't think that was the right thing to do, because that is the county stepping in and telling Fish and Wildlife how to do their job. I would be offended if Fish and Wildlife stepped in and told me how to do my job.

"And so, I didn't want Mendocino County to step in and tell them how to do their job. The letter was not appropriate, and I was prepared to stand up there and say that to the board of supervisors," he said.

Allman added he had spoken to DA David Eyster the night before, and that Eyster, too, was there to give the supervisors an earful.

Asked why he chose to withdraw the letter from consideration by the board, McCowen said: "I thought it was a good letter, but the top law enforcement officials in Mendocino County did not have the same opinion. Rather than have the letter be a time-consuming diversion, I chose to withdraw it so we could get on with the work of revising the ordinance."

After the letter was withdrawn, supervisors moved on to consideration of revisions to the medical cannabis cultivation ordinance. Deputy county counsel gave a review of many of the changes being proposed, and then McCowen asked the public to speak.

Twenty-nine people rose to address the board, many of them focusing on what they claimed are major deficiencies of the ordinance.

Then activist Glaser came to the podium. "See, what I don't get from you is that you understand that peoples' lives are at stake here, ruined by this long, long, drawn-out process. What you can't seem to understand is, what we need immediately are provisional licenses, Mendocino medical marijuana licenses that cover us for cultivation, processing, transportation, distribution and sales, and let us pay, as independent contractors, our taxes.

"The busts, the raids going on, with people who were in the permit process, are unacceptable. I hear, Mr. McCowen, that you had a letter today, to Fish and Wildlife, asking them to lay off, and you withdrew that letter and I want to know why....

"The people who were raided over the past couple of weeks already spent money on permitting and compliance and now they have nothing," she said. "Do you understand? Do you understand what it's like to lose your entire livelihood for a year? Do you? Those plants are cut! Why can't Fish and Wildlife, why can't the sheriff, why can't the DA go in and issue a citation – something civil – give them a ticket?"

"Have you ever been busted? Have you ever been raided? Have you? Do you know what it's like to have soldiers come to your property, to terrify your children, your grandchildren, yourself? Do you know what it's like to have PTSD from being raided? Do you have any idea?"

McCowen told Glaser her time was up and she had to sit down – Chair McCowen has been strictly enforcing a three-minute limit on public comment for any one speaker.

But Glaser continued: "You are here to protect us. We elected you to protect us and nurture us, so you're telling us we have to come here and deal with all this compliance and deal with all these permits? I'm gonna bust you!"

At this point Glaser opened her gown to expose most of her bosom, upon which was written, "Breasts Not Busts," and chanted the slogan a couple of times.

Contacted by Willits Weekly, Glaser said the slogan a few more times, and left the hall. The next speaker, Kate Marianchild, came to the podium, and after Marianchild, four more members of the public got up to speak, bringing the total of those who spoke on the topic of marijuana to 35.

The rest of Crime From Page 1

available, compared to 578 in 2015 and 512 in 2014.

Those figures include eight murders, 55 forcible rapes, 64 rapes and nine attempted rapes. Three forcible rapes and three rapes occurred in Willits in 2016, down from four each in 2015 but up from one in 2014.

"The good news," says Mendocino County District Attorney David Eyster, "is that Willits remained steady, with no increase in violent crimes and a healthy decrease in property crimes." The report shows a 15.6 percent decline in property crimes in Willits in 2016.

Ukiah, he noted, "experienced a small decrease in violent crime, as well as a decrease in property crimes, in 2015-2016 from the prior reporting year, while violent crime in Fort Bragg jumped more than 27 percent and property crimes rose almost 27 percent."

The Department of Justice's inaugural use-of-force report, required by recent state legislation, covers incidents that caused serious bodily injury or death. There were 782 such incidents in California in 2016, including 328 that involved the discharge of a firearm, according to the agency.

Only two occurred in Mendocino County, according to DOJ data, one during a call for service and one during a crime in progress. One of those use-of-force incidents occurred in Willits, and involved a suspect and two police officers.

Of the use-of-force on civilians by peace officers statewide, 39.9 percent featured the discharge of a firearm, with more than three-quarters of the shots hitting their target, the DOJ reported. Of the use-of-force received by officers, about 10 percent involved the discharge of a firearm, with almost nine out of 10 shots missing their target.

Some 174,701 violent crimes were reported statewide in 2016, an increase of 4.9 percent from 166,588 violent crimes in 2015. Last year's total is 15.4 percent higher than the violent crime tally in 2014.

Mendocino County property crimes dipped slightly, with 1,444 being reported compared to 1,449 in 2015 and 1,546 in 2014. This continued a downward trend from 2010, when 1,518 property crimes were reported. The highest property crime rate occurred in 2013, when the DOJ tallied 1,851.

"The DOJ report indicates residents living in unincorporated areas of Mendocino County experienced an almost 6 percent increase in violent crime, and an almost 7 percent increase in property crime, which cumulatively adds to increases reported for 2014-2015," Eyster said adding that most "law enforcement activity in Mendocino County happens through the Sheriff's Office."

He also noted the State Department of Parks and Recreation experienced "a whopping 66.7 percent increase in property crimes during the 2015-2016 reporting period!"

Statewide, violent crime in California increased 4.9 percent last year, Eyster said, and has "increased over 15 percent since 2014."

He lays the blame squarely on the state's experiment with "realignment," which began in October 2011, and "prohibits more than 500 types of felons from being sentenced to state prison."

Instead, he says, individuals convicted of one or more of those 500 crimes must be kept in county jail and dealt with locally.

"This continues to be an example of saving money at the state level by forcing the counties and cities to spend from their more limited budgets," Eyster charges.

"Jail credits were also significantly increased," he added, "so that those being punished – whether in the county jail or state prison – are back out on the streets a lot sooner."

Then in November 2014, voters approved Proposition 47, which downgraded numerous drug and theft felonies to misdemeanors, Eyster says. "These Proposition 47 offenders are not even arrested and taken to the jail these days; it now is a matter of 'catch-and-release,' meaning they are briefly detained, given a citation, and sent about their business – which often means continuing to do the same old thing all over again after police move on and leave the scene."

In November 2016, voters approved another new set of laws (Proposition 57) that focused on "further expediting the release of inmates serving time in state prison," Eyster noted. "The first inmate committed to state prison from Mendocino County to be granted expedited release is, of course, a serial burglar."

As of August 21, the state Board of Parole Hearings has issued six "nonviolent parole review" decisions for inmates serving state prison commitments from Mendocino County, the DA reports.

The three inmates granted expedited release to date include Crystal Sue Aikens, David Matthew Andrews, and Donald Gordon Powell.

Three other inmates have been denied expedited release: Larry Pewee Commander, Steven Gene Hensley, and Jeremy Lee Simms.

However, Eyster notes, while an inmate "denied expedited release has the right under the new rules to appeal the decision denying expedited release, the district attorney and victims have been denied by the new rules a like right to appeal a decision granting expedited release."



Above, from left: Faculty and staff of Willits Charter School all take a moment from setting up their classrooms to check out the eclipse on Monday, August 21. (Photo courtesy Jennifer Lockwood)
A handful of Willits Elementary Charter School kiddos check out the eclipse, including, from left, Kadie Balthrop, Cayleigh Balthrop, Ezra De La Fuente, Xavier De La Fuente and Audrey Sherf. (Photo courtesy Holli Woodhouse)



The rest of Totality |

From Page 1

5 am, the rangers started letting people in, and Pham and Vu got set and ready to capture the moment of the eclipse, which peaked there at 10:20 am.

Pham has been shooting landscapes and night-sky images since 2016 with his Canon 7D camera and regularly shoots with his favorite super wide-angle lens, a 10-20 mm Sigma. However, he was set with his long 300 mm lens to get an up-close view for this special event.

"The eclipse was so special," Pham said. "At that moment, you could feel how powerful the sun is, even as it was being covered by the moon. The most amazing moment was when 'totality' happened; it created a ring of light surrounding the entire moon. Everyone was cheering at that moment."

"I want to encourage the young people of Willits to travel and enjoy nature," Pham continued. "Even if it's just in your backyard of Mendocino County."

Above: A welding helmet cast a green hue on the otherwise orange eclipse.

Photo by Maureen Moore



Above and below: BGMS students observe the eclipse during their first day of school.

Photos courtesy Tessa Ford



Above, left: Image taken just after eclipse totality at 10:21 am in Redmond, Oregon.

Photo by Miranda Driver
Photography

Above, center and right: Crescent-shaped shadows were evident everywhere dappled light was found: through the trees, center, or the holes in a colander, right.

Photos by Maureen Moore

At left: This photo of the eclipse and reflection was captured with a smartphone, while looking through a welding lens. The photo was taken on the outskirts of the Laytonville area, Monday morning.

Photo by Carol Anderson

A Must Read Essay on Charlottesville

By John Pavlovitz, North Carolina pastor and blogger

As a writer and pastor, my job is to weave together words so that those words will hopefully reach people in their deepest places; to frame the experience of this life in a way that is somehow compelling or creative or interesting, causing them to engage with the world differently than before.

But there are times when to do this would be actually be a disservice to reality, when any clever wordplay would only soften the jagged, sickening truth; when clever turns of phrase might succeed in obscuring the horrid ugliness in front of us.

Sometimes we just need to say it without adornment or finessing. What we've watched unfolding in Charlottesville, with hundreds of white people bearing torches and chanting about the value of white lives and shouting slurs, is not a "far Right" protest. When you move that far right, past humanity, past decency, past goodness—you're something else.

You're not a supremacist, you're not a nationalist, and you're not alt-Right.

This is racism.

This is domestic terrorism.

This is religious extremism.

This is bigotry.

It is blind hatred of the most vile kind.

It doesn't represent America.

It doesn't represent Jesus.

It doesn't speak for the majority of white Americans.

It's a cancerous, terrible, putrid sickness that represents the absolute worst of who we are.

No, naming it won't change it, but naming it is necessary nonetheless. It's necessary for us to say it—especially when the media won't, when our elected leaders won't, when our President won't. It's necessary to condemn it so that we do not become complicit in it.

This is our national History being forged in real-time, and to use words lacking clarity now would be to risk allowing the ugliness off the hook or to create ambiguity that excuses it. And yes, there are all sorts of other ways that racism and privilege live and thrive; ways that are far less obvious or brazen than tiki-torch wielding marches. There are systemic illnesses and structural defects and national blind spots that we need to speak to and keeping pushing back against, and we will.

But in moments that are this clear, when the malignancy is so fully on display—we'd better have the guts to say it.

White people especially need to name racism in this hour, because somewhere in that crowd of sweaty, dead-eyed, raw throated white men—are our brothers and cousins and husbands and fathers and children; those we go to church with and see at Little League and in our neighborhoods. They need to be made accountable by those they deem their "own kind." They need to know that this is not who we are, that we don't bless or support or respect this. They need white faces speaking directly into their white faces, loudly on behalf of love.

Though all of us can eventually trace our lineage back to oneness, all carrying a varied blood in our veins—the surface level differences matter to these torch-bearers. They value white lives and white voices above anything else, and so we whose pigmentation matches theirs need to speak with unflinching clarity about this or we simply amen it.

So I'm saying it.

We are not with you, torch-bearers, in Charlottesville or anywhere.

We do no consent to this.

In fact we stand against you, alongside the very beautiful diversity that you fear.

We stand with people of every color and of all faiths, people of every orientation, nationality, and native tongue.

We are not going to have this. This is not the country we've built together and it will not become what you intend it to become.

So you can kiss our diverse, unified, multi-colored behinds because your racism and your terrorism will not win the day.

Believe it.

This piece was reprinted with permission from Pastor John Pavlovitz's website, "Stuff That Needs to Be Said," at www.johnpavlovitz.com.

This ad paid for by Jay Gordon, who loves Willits and all it represents.



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Below, from far left: Raymond Lee Tyler and Raymond Lee Tyler Jr. move a heavy box. Heavy machinery is ready to resurface the parking lot and a new basketball court. Jason Erlich, business manager, sneaks a pizza break.

Photos by
Mathew Caine

WCS Work Party

Willits Charter School for the Arts and Sciences gets ready for the new year

School starts next week on August 28 at the Willits Charter School for the Arts and Sciences, but the campus has been abuzz with activity and projects in preparation for the coming school year, including new improvements to the grounds.

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
mathew@willitsweekly.com

Additionally, there was work to be done in the prolific garden, some minor repairs, painting, moving furniture, removal of unused boxes, and general maintenance.

School is much more than just a building, but the building provides a place for learning, study, research and fun. It needs to be maintained and cared for. As the day wore on, students and family came and provided their time and efforts to this end. There was a steady stream of participants throughout the eight hours; some stayed most of the day, as did WCS Director Jennifer Lockwood, who directed most of the day's activities. She expressed her gratitude for the help provided by the participants.

“There is a big list of duties on the wall that need to be performed. We get different shifts of people all day, the morning people, the afternoon people – and the late people

Read the rest of **Charter** |
Over on Page B6



Above, left: Joshua, Patricia and Roger Weir work on boxes for the garden. Above, right: Ellemae Skinner sorts colored pencils and crayons. Below, left: Billy Hetherington introduces the end-of-the-summer show by his summer youth program actors, presented at the end of clean-up day at WCS. Below, right: Jennifer Lockwood, WCS director, stands in front of the donor wall.



From far left: The experimental garden – complete with the periodic table of the elements – awaits new students. Ember Hetherington, the talking puppet, and puppet master K'allana Arnold. The Willits Charter School has undergone many improvements – including an exterior paint job finished last year.



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Happy back to school Samantha!



Bobby Washburn, first day of kindergarten.



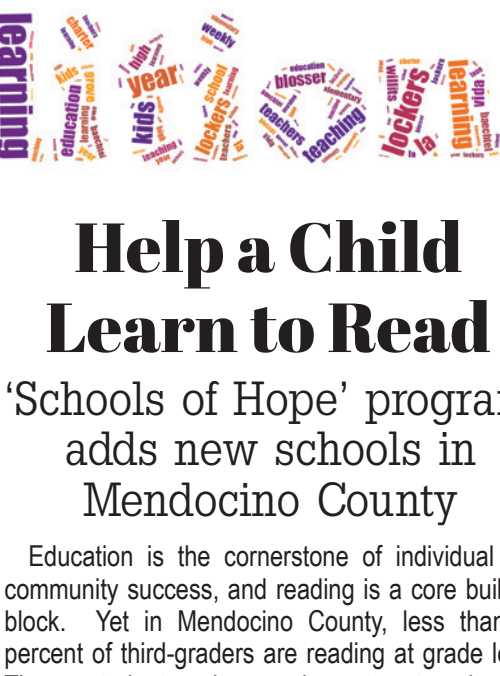
Katelyn Germann and Ella Garman in 7th grade.



Haileigh Gregg, 7th grade and McKenzie Gregg, 10th grade.



We have a Junior (Camryn) and a preschooler (Grace).



At right: Schools of Hope tutors Lisa Doster and Cherie Johnson with Lillian, center, a first-grade student at Frank Zeek Elementary.

Help a Child Learn to Read

'Schools of Hope' program adds new schools in Mendocino County

Education is the cornerstone of individual and community success, and reading is a core building block. Yet in Mendocino County, less than 25 percent of third-graders are reading at grade level. Those students who continue to struggle with reading into adulthood are likely to have trouble finding and keeping a job with a livable wage and health benefits.

The success of this program depends upon volunteers willing to work one-on-one with students for 30 minutes a week. Those who wish to tutor more than one student may do so provided they are able to commit an additional 30 minutes of volunteer time per student. Training and materials will be provided so tutors can feel confident.

Is it successful? An evaluation of Schools of Hope by Sonoma State University in 2014 found that first- and second-grade students who received tutoring showed reading proficiency growth between 28 percent and 50 percent higher than non-Schools of Hope students who started with similar scores.

An information and orientation session will be held in Willits on Thursday, August 31 at 1 pm at the Willits Library. Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer or hearing more about the program should plan to attend. NCO is located at 413 North State Street, Ukiah. For more information or to RSVP for an orientation/information session, please call the NCO Volunteer Network at 462-1959 or email Joan Reynolds at jreynolds@ncoinc.org.

— submitted by North Coast Opportunities

A letter from ...

The Waldorf School of Mendocino County

The Waldorf School of Mendocino County is joining with over 1,000 other schools worldwide to prepare for the 100-year anniversary of Waldorf education. In 1919, Rudolf Steiner founded Waldorf education for the working-class parents of the Waldorf-Astoria Cigarette Factory.

Along with factory owner Emil Molt, Steiner recognized the dangers inherent in the strict state education system, which focused on creating citizens obedient to the increasingly rigid fascist state. In contrast, Waldorf education sought to impart meaning, purpose, beauty, and academic excellence, all still relevant today, as we again slide toward narrowing conformity and commodification of human thought and life.

Life is about more than just conforming to the dictates of the economy. It involves passion, imagination and joy. This realm of the emotions and senses is often left behind in modern classrooms, reinforcing the alienation and lack of connection in modern society. In addition, children are routinely forced to tackle subjects inappropriate to the developmental stage of their brains.

At The Waldorf School of Mendocino County, we aim to bring the heart into the learning experience. Children do not just learn to obey, but to understand and care deeply for whatever endeavor they are currently exploring, in an age-appropriate time and manner. A sense of connection with the subject matter, and with each other, leads to inspired action and a sense of responsibility for the world. This is not just a world to inhabit, but a world to create.

Starting in preschool, children are invited to explore their physical and social environments in emotionally warm and safe surroundings. Their creativity is cultivated through an abundance of unstructured play and stories, along with simple crafts, painting and music. At the same time, they learn to take care of themselves through cooking and cleaning chores. In first grade, children are introduced to letters and numbers through stories, forming an emotional connection that helps make reading, writing and arithmetic a living experience. Through the grades, care is taken to ensure that math is understood intuitively, and not just followed by rote.

Every part of the curriculum is integrated, including music, creating a living whole and nurturing connections. Students learn much about the basic processes and technologies surrounding them, as well as practical skills, so that they leave school as empowered participants in the world around them. Much of their education occurs outside, encouraging a connection with the nonhuman world from which we evolved.

The Waldorf movement is the largest and fastest-growing alternative and nonsectarian education system around the world. This growth is occurring organically, from a felt need for something different. In its 45th year, WSMC is currently accepting applications for the 2017-18 school year, from preschool to sixth grade. We will also be offering an expanded Roots and Shoots parent / toddler program in the fall. Please contact us at 707-485-8719 or enroll@mendocinowaldorf.org, or visit us at www.mendocinowaldorf.org. This year's starting date is Tuesday, August 29.

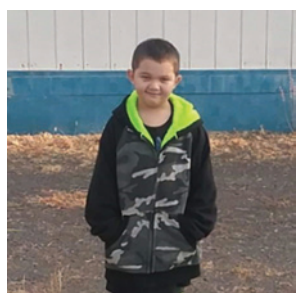
Room To Bloom Preschool
Where the love of learning grows
239 South Main Street • Willits
Morning & School Day Programs
8:30 am - 5:30 pm
Art • Circle Time • American Sign Language
Outside Play • Snacks • Group Activities
Inquiry Based Learning • Spanish • Infant Care
Call Today to Enroll Your Child!
RoomToBloomPreschool.com 707-456-9743
Preschool #253008710 & Infant #253008719

The Waldorf School of Mendocino County
Inspired Education. Preserved The Way We Were.
6280 Third Street
Calpella, CA 95418
707-485-8719
Founded in 1972.
Safe, leafy campus.
Hands-on activities and field trips.
Visual performing arts.
Preschool through Eighth Grade
Practical arts and skills.
Age-appropriate curriculum.
Allowing individual freedom.
Long-term teacher relationships.
Teaching compassion, integrity, confidence, and self-motivation.
www.mendocinowaldorf.org • enroll@mendocinowaldorf.org

Bailey, today is your first day of kindergarten! Mommy is so proud of you!! I hope you make a lot of new friends in Mrs. Racina's class! I wish you the best and hope you have a great first day! We love you Bailey!



Oh how the time has gone by too fast! Hope you had a great 1st day my babies, 8th and 9th grade, love you Mandy and Jarred!!



Aidan McKinnon's first day of 1st grade! We love you and hope you have a wonderful year. Love, Mom, Dad, Sissy and Papa.



I would like to wish Jessalyn Harwood a great year as a first grader and Averi Bulcke a great year in the green triangle class!! You both will do great. Love, all your family.



The Drew boys are heading back to school! Super proud of both boys Tanner heading into the 7th grade at Baechtel and Taylor into 9th grade at the Willits High!



Hailee Lopez 5th grade.



Ella and Alissa Randrup Swinney 1st grade.



Happy first day of kindergarten Lane.



First day for Micah McGee. Starting first grade at Brookside School. He is very excited about this year.



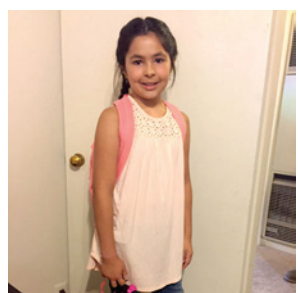
Jerett is very excited to be back at school and make new friends! Good luck pal. Mom, Dad and brother love you!



Cole Moyle 6th grade and Claire Moyle (Case-Brackett) 9th grade.



We would like to say we love and believe in you boys! Happy first week of kindergarten and 3rd grade Jonas and Jedediah Swearingin. Love, Mom and Dad.



Nicole Sylstra, fourth grade.



Luke's in 4th grade! Looking way too handsome!



You continue to amaze us everyday. Have a great kindergarten year. Love Mom and Dad.



Today is your day! You're off to great places! You're off and away! Kelsey's first day of kindergarten.



Brayden Sylstra Dolphin at Mendocino College Child Development Center.



We have a 7th grader (Aden) and a 1st grader (Josiah).



Nora started kindergarten today, and she is really excited to be in the clown classroom at Brookside.



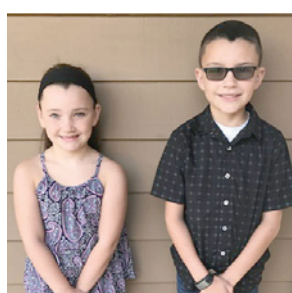
Our beautiful granddaughter Arianna Marie Nunez on her first day of kindergarten. Grandma and grandpa love you to the moon.



Nene and Triniti.



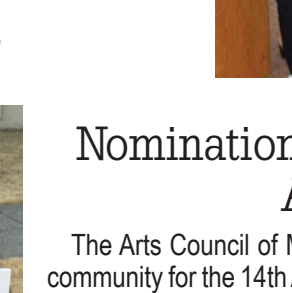
Gracie Crook, 6, Colby Crook, 3, and Charlie Rose Leon, 5.



Maelie, 2nd grade & Garin, 4th grade.



At right: 2016 Mendocino County Arts Champions receiving recognition last October. Nominations are now sought for 2017.



At right: 2016 Mendocino County Arts Champions receiving recognition last October. Nominations are now sought for 2017.

At right: 2016 Mendocino County Arts Champions receiving recognition last October. Nominations are now sought for 2017.

Nominations sought for Mendocino County Art Champion awards

The Arts Council of Mendocino County is now seeking nominations from the entire community for the 14th Annual Mendocino County Art Champion Awards. Art Champion awards will be made in the following four categories: Business Champion for the Arts; Individual Champion for the Arts; Artist Champion; and Educational Champion.

Nominations are due by September 8. The awards will be presented before the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors in October. A public reception to honor the Art Champions will immediately follow the awards presentation.

The Art Champion awards are annually presented in October to coincide with National Arts and Humanities Month. National Arts and Humanities Month is a coast-to-coast collective celebration of culture in America, dedicated to giving millions of Americans the opportunity to explore new facets of the arts and humanities in their lives and encourage them to begin a lifelong habit of active participation. To learn more about National Arts and Humanities Month, visit the website for Americans for the Arts at www.americansforthearts.org or the website for the California Arts Council at www.cac.ca.gov.

Last year's arts champions were: Savings Bank of Mendocino County (Business); Debbie Bowles of The Fat Quail Quilt Shop in Laytonville (Individual); Elliott Little (Artist); Pavlos Mayakis (Educator); and SPACE (Arts Organization).

To submit a 2017 Mendocino County Art Champion nomination form, to review the award criteria, or to see a list of past winners, go to the website of the Arts Council of Mendocino County at www.artsmendocino.org. You may also request to receive a nomination form by email or mail by calling 707-463-2727.

— Submitted by the Arts Council of Mendocino County

Free Back-to-School Clothes

Friday, September 1

Willits Mendocino County Youth Project will be providing free back-to-school clothes for middle-school and high school students on Friday, September 1 from 2 to 5 pm at 30 San Francisco Street in Willits. Info: Prevention & Early Intervention North Inland Program & Signs of Safety Coordinator Aurelie Clivez: 489-1258.

LEAP!



(PG) 1 hr 29 mins
Fri: 5:30 & 7:45pm
Sat/Sun: 1:00, 3:15, 5:30 & 7:45pm
Mon-Thurs: 4:30 & 6:45pm

THE DARK TOWER



(PG13) 1 hr 34 mins
Fri: 5:00, 7:15 & 9:30pm
Sat: 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15 & 9:30pm
Sun: 12:30, 2:45, 5:00 & 7:15pm
Mon-Thurs: 5:00 & 7:15pm

KIDNAP



(R) 1 hr 21 mins
Fri: 5:30, 7:30 & 9:30pm
Sat: 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30 & 9:30pm
Sun: 1:30, 3:30, 5:30 & 7:30pm
Mon-Thurs: 5:30 & 7:30pm

Movie Times for 8/25 thru 8/31

This Week's Tightwad Tuesday Titles are in RED - All tickets: \$5

NOVO THEATRE Willits, CA
57 East Commercial Street - Willits
707-459-NOVO (6696)
www.novoytheatre.com
Coming Soon:
THE HITMAN'S BODYGUARD

Amazing Athletes

Compiled by Willits Weekly's Leah Paeyneers. Thank you to new WHS Athletic Director Marian Lohne and Athletic Coordinator Aaron Branscomb for spearheading the Amazing Athletes program for Willits Weekly this year.

Football | Jacob Arms, Age 15, Sophomore

Started playing football in third grade

Of Note: One of only three sophomores on the varsity team this year

Position: Wide receiver (offense) and linebacker (defense)

Breakfast of Champions:

Crunchberry Captain Crunch and a glass of chocolate milk

Love for the Sport:

"Everything [you go through] in a normal day, you can take it all out [while] you're on the field."

Sophomore Jacob Arms has been the cornerstone of the Willits High School football program's summer workouts this year. He is the first to show up, and the last to leave. Jacob is one of two Amazing Athletes this week from the WHS football program.

– Varsity Head Coach Chris Bickford

Football | Ben Branscomb, Age 17, Senior

Started playing football in sixth grade

Position: Wide receiver
Breakfast of Champions: Scrambled eggs with salt and pepper

After a Big Game:

Likes to go home and eat chocolate ice cream straight out of the carton.

Love of the Game: "I love to catch the ball and make the touchdown, just put it all on the field."

Senior Ben Branscomb also hardly missed a WHS football workout this summer, and has showed a lot of improvement. Ben has a lot of heart and passion for the game, and is the second Amazing Athlete from the WHS football program this week.

– Varsity Head Coach Chris Bickford



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At top: Snapchat (Audrey Sherf) searches for butterflies while The User (Jeffrey Moorhead), Siri (Aisha Shoemaker), Instagram (Lilah Crane) and Facebook (Alex Castro) try to get her to focus. Above: First day of school is coming soon for Willits Charter School students. Below: A peek inside the greenhouse. At bottom: The Electro Circus, in front, Priscilla Skinner, Dixie Marchi and Amanda Da Cruz; in back, Ember Hetherington, Amie Lou Marchi and K'allana Arnold.

Photos by Mathew Caine



The rest of Charter | From Page B1

who come after we're done," Lockwood added with a hint

of humor.

Although the school looked a mess with boxes strewn throughout, tables and desks askew, bits of paper, pens, crayons and other materials seemingly situated with no perceivable pattern, it was obvious that with the efforts of these dedicated participants, the building would come together in time for the school year to begin.

WCS is undergoing a revival with several changes occurring over the last few years and more to come. Two years ago, the school reimagined itself as the Willits Charter School for the Arts and Sciences and has been striving to make changes with those goals in mind.

Physically, they changed the exterior colors to make the building more attractive and modern in order to attract new students. Additionally, they installed a new AstroTurf field to help maintain the grounds and to provide a place for students to do in-school sports. At a cost of over \$100,000, the artificial turf is less expensive to maintain and more environmentally friendly than regular grass, including not needing to be watered, and will pay for itself over the 15 years of projected life.

The current physical project at WCS is blacktopping the parking lot and a space for basketball and volleyball, furthering the school's quest for more physical outlets to go along with their academic changes.

Staff is being added as well. There are changes in the front office in order to provide better communication and systematic fluidity. There is a new art teacher, Jazzminh Moore, who will head a variety of art classes and Friday Academy (where classes can be developed creatively with a variety of subjects and interests).

Billy Hetherington has been brought in full-time to augment his theater arts program and student leadership with peer education and a new Friday Academy program where students will be producing a radio show weekly. Students will design this show themselves, and it will be presented on KLLG from 11:15 am to 12:15 pm every Friday.

"I'm really interested in seeing how these kids are going to utilize the airtime," Hetherington said. "Plays, stories, interviews, silly commercials or current issues? They will use the time to get their voice out there."

At 6 pm, the kids from Hetherington's summer program, a joint project of WCS, the Willits Elementary Charter School and the Mendocino County Youth Project, presented their end-of-the-summer show. First up were the seven 11-year-olds and their Electro Circus, consisting of lion tamers, a talking puppet act, tightrope walkers and electro-acrobats to delight the crowd of mostly parents. The second part was the older kids who wrote, produced and starred in a short play from a theme provided by Hetherington, "Modern Mythology."

"We looked at what that stood for them," Hetherington explained, "and technology seemed to be a main theme, so we went with a story about a kid getting sucked into his iPhone and having to battle his way through the virtual world, encountering apps as deities and oracles on his way to battle the Trojan Virus."

Willits Charter School for the Arts and Sciences is looking forward to a very rewarding an interesting 2017/18 school year. Now if they can only get those classrooms back together....

The rest of WPD | From Page B2

August 19

3:59 am: Officers responded to a report of a subject brandishing a weapon in the 29000 block of Highway 20.

5:36 am: Officers responded to a report of a shooting in the area (gunshots heard) in the 2600 block of Mitomka Way.

4:47 pm: Officers initiated a death investigation in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

6:33 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1400 block of Buckhorn Road.

August 20

12:54 am: Officers responded to a report of harassment in the 300 block of Fort Bragg Road.

1:26 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1600 block of Highway 20.

7:08 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 200 block of Margie Drive.

12:40 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Mill Creek Drive.

12:43 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1000 block of South Main Street.

8:14 pm: Officers initiated the theft investigation in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

9:17 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 100 block of Alder Court.

10:15 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious person in the 800 block of South Main Street.

10:53 pm: **JONES, Jedidiah William** (38) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of California Street. He was arrested pursuant to felony 245 PC (Assault with a Deadly Weapon), felony 594 PC (Vandalism), and 1203.2 PC (Violation of Probation).



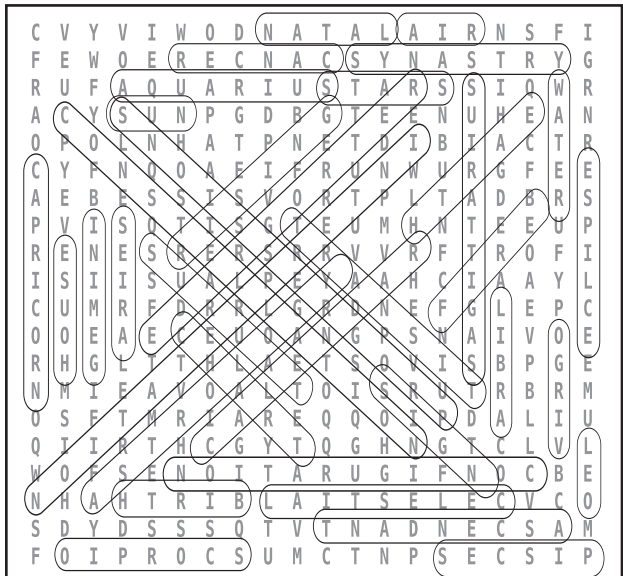
Jedidiah William Jones of Willits.

The rest of Parent | From Page B6

should play. Respect should always be shown to coaches and referees. • Let your child have fun regardless of his or her performance. Too often parents get swept up in how their children are performing when the goal for young athletes should be to enjoy themselves. Resist the urge to focus on performance and focus instead of whether or not your child is having fun. • Recognize that college scholarships may not be in the cards. Although some children are destined for athletic greatness, many will not play sports after high school. Pressuring older children to improve their performance in the hopes of landing college scholarships can make the little time they do have to play their favorite sports less enjoyable.

• Take cues from the child. Children are often great indicators of parental behavior at sporting events. Parents whose children seem unenthusiastic about mom and dad attending their sporting events may be trying to tell you they don't appreciate your behavior at the games. • Provide constructive criticism. Early coaching and practice with parents can give kids a leg up on the competition. But keep your advice constructive. Parents who become pushy or force constant practices can make sports unenjoyable. • Place emphasis on fun and learning skills. Find out what the kids hope to accomplish by playing sports and help them to achieve those goals. Focus on being supportive rather than emphasizing winning, as doing so can help children view sports participation in a more positive light.

If children seem to have lost interest in sports, parents can ask why in an effort to make sports fun again or can encourage other pursuits. Many sports now require year-round participation, which can cause burnout in some youngsters. Sometimes a brief break and some finetuning may be all that's needed to rekindle a child's passion for sports.



LEGAL NOTICES

WW121
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2017-F0583
The following person or persons are doing business as: Water Surveys, 1025 Hearst Willits Road, Willits CA 95490. Water Surveys is conducted by an individual, Donald G. McEdwards, 1025 Hearst Willits Road, Willits CA 95490..
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on: 8/1/2017.
Statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk on July 31, 2017.
s/Donald G. McEdwards
Pub dates 08/03, 08/10, 08/17 and 08/24/2017

Run your legal ad with Willits Weekly!

Email willitsweekly@gmail.com or call 459-2633 for info

WW120
NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: John Arthur Gilfillan CASE NO. SCUK-CVPB -17-26854
1. To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: John Arthur Gilfillan.
2. A Petition for Probate has been filed by Sherrie L. Gilfillan in the Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino.
3. The Petition for Probate requests that Sherrie L. Gilfillan be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
4. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: Date: August 25, 2017 Time: 9 a.m. Dept.: E Address of court: Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino, 100 North State Street, Ukiah, CA 95482.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. Attorney for Petitioner, Alexander Rich, Carter Momsen PC, 716 South Main Street, Suite A1, Willits, CA 95490; 707-456-9210. Pub dates: 08/03, 08/10, 08/17/2017

MENDOCINO COUNTY

Current Job Openings:

- Administrative Secretary
- Bookmobile Driver (Extra-Help)
- Environmental Health Technician
- Legal Clerk II
- Legal Secretary I/II
- Substance Abuse Counselor II
- Sr. Substance Abuse Counselor (Fort Bragg)
- Staff Services Administrator
- Veteran Services Officer
- Vocational Assistant
- Welfare Investigator I/II

For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:
www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hr
EOE

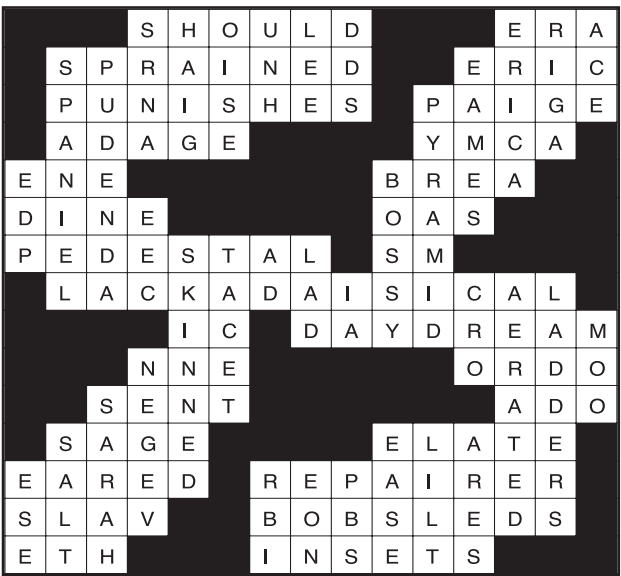
The rest of LLFD | From Page B2

08-20-17 (22000 block of Tomki Road)

Responded to an unknown type fire. Upon arrival, a small unattended bonfire was identified. Fire personnel extinguished the fire. Thirteen firefighters responded for service.

08-20-17 (East Hill Road)

Responded to a reported structure fire. Upon arrival, the owner reported a strong smell of burning electrical. After investigation fire personnel were unable to recreate the smell. Thirteen firefighters responded for service.



CLASSIFIEDS

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Cannabis Growers!!!

Need a Water Board NOI prepared? Call Don McEdwards. 707 354-4618. The McEdwards Group, Willits.

Community HU Song

In our fast-paced world, are you looking to find more inner peace? Join us for a Community HU Song: Wednesday, August 30 (note: 5th Wednesday this month!), at 6 pm at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. HU (pronounced hue) is a simple, uplifting prayer or mantra that can help you experience divine love and an inner calm. All faiths are welcome. Sponsored by Eckankar: The Path of Spiritual Freedom. Information? Please call 972-2475 or visit miraclesinyourlife.org.

RV/Trailer Space for Rent

Space for RV's and Trailers \$425 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Rhonda (707) 367-6178. See at <http://www.oaknvine.net/tp>

Help Wanted

Shuster's Transportation, Inc seeks Class A Drivers for Full Time Chip Truck position. Benefit package includes medical, dental, and holiday pay. Min 1 year experience and current DMV report required: (707) 459-4131.

Help Wanted

Driver needed to cover vacations/days off. Local transport for seniors and disabled. Must be able to pass drug test and have clean driving record. Bring DMV printout for interview. Pick up application at Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road, Willits CA 95490.

Help Wanted

Currently looking for owner operators and Class A Drivers. F/T year round work. Come by 400 N. Lenore Ave. to fill out an application, Mon-Fri 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (707) 459-3555.

Help Wanted

Adventist Health Home-care & Hospice Services – Mendocino County. Part Time or Per Diem Speech Therapist needed. Call H/R Trudy #456-3230.

Hydrogeologist

Well testing; stream gauging; pond surveys; spring development.

Don McEdwards, HY153 dba The McEdwards Group 707-354-4618

RV/Trailer Space for Rent

Space for RV's and Trailers \$425 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Rhonda (707) 367-6178. See at <http://www.oaknvine.net/tp>

SEWING AND ALTERATIONS

Seamstress and Sewing Teacher Barbara Carlson Visit my webpage: Seamqueen.blog 707-367-6182, Willits.

The Fruit Group

Pesticide Free Tomatoes, yellow & white Freestone peaches, nectarines & Bartlett pears Willits: Brenda 459-9335 Ukiah: Deanna 391-7736 Laytonville: Heather 984-7430 Lakeport: Linda 279-8840 Covelo: Debi 489-0742 Brooktrails: Crystal 916-764-1746

Weight Watchers

Join us! New location: Willits Center for the Arts - 71 E. Commercial St., 5 pm every Monday. Feel better. Look better. Have fun. More information? Call 707-841-7758.

Yard Sale

Yard Sale, Friday 8/25 & Saturday 8/26 8 am-2 pm: Sunday 8/27 10 am to 1 pm. 1090 Poplar Avenue. Clothing, drums, tools, etc.

Add your ad!

459-2633

972-7047

willitsweekly@gmail.com

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

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Purchase credits available 8/8/17 – 10/31/17 or while program funds and/or vehicle inventories last. Customers are solely responsible for the negotiation of final purchase or lease terms. SCP pays for charging equipment; customer pays sales tax, handling and installation. Limit two chargers per SCP electric account. Must obtain a Verified SCP Customer Certificate at driveEV.org for maximum savings. Limit one certificate per individual; two per SCP electric account.