

### **KWNE FFC Reports 4 2018**

One of our stations, KMKX, MAX ROCK is off the air because PG&E shut down power to our transmitter site on Mount Sanhedren. PG&E reports trees near power lines and other hazards had them to turn off service about ten days ago to avoid fire hazards. KMKX and the whole mountain top facility has been operating on generator power at the remote, high altitude communication site in northern Mendocino County. Efforts are underway to repair the generator. PG&E has told the site manager, Fisher Wireless Company, they should return to providing power tomorrow or Wednesday. The site is also used by government emergency radio, cell service and other communications.

10/01/18

After months of back and forth the City of Ukiah has reportedly agreed to a settlement with the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District so the lawsuit the district brought against the city ends. The lawsuit from 2014 says the City had breached an agreement regarding the management of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The City Clerk has released settlement documents showing the City's agreed to a \$7.5 million payout to the District in order to dismiss the lawsuit. The City will pay the District nearly 985-thousand dollars in the next month, then pay one million a year beginning one year from now. The City will also transfer \$2.5 million of proceeds after bonds were sold to upgrade the Ukiah Valley Wastewater Treatment Plant, but the money will be managed by a bond trustee to pay down the debt still owed for the upgrade.

A new law goes into effect for anyone buying a firearm in Calif. to be at least 21 years old. The bill drafted by State Senator Anthony Portantino of La Cañada Flintridge after the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High massacre in Florida on Valentines Day. The suspected shooter a 19 year old former student of the school is charged with 17 counts of murder. Portantino says as a dad and senator he's grateful Gov. Brown signed the legislation. But the Firearms Policy Coalition says the Gov. told millions under 21 they can go to war but can't purchase a gun for self defense. There's also a new law banning lifetime gun ownership in Calif for anyone deemed to be a danger to themselves or others and taken into custody twice in a year.

### **The leader of the Broadband Alliance of Mendocino County has left so now tr**

A record amount of women are running for office nationwide. And in Calif. nearly a third of the top two vote-getting candidates in statewide, federal, and legislative races are women. Data from the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers says there's a record number of women running for state and federal office this year. A majority are Democrats. The report shows a third of congressional candidates moving past the primary are women. A little more than the national average. But the same info shows less women ran for jobs like governor or insurance commissioner.

A trio of illegal marijuana grows found in Lake County. The Lake County Sheriff's Office Narcotics Unit goes to a house in Lower Lake finding 271 mature marijuana plants outside and in a greenhouse and pulled them out. They also say the plants may have had a dangerous, illegal insecticide on them known as "Carbofuran." It's illegal in the U-S. Detectives found Pedro Landa-Alvarez on site. They connected him after visiting another house where they found illegal marijuana cultivation and evidence of sales of the drug, plus \$10,000 cash and a 2017 Chevy 2500 truck which they took into evidence. There were also hundreds of plants taken from another property. Jose Trinidad Carrillo-Gonzalez was also arrested at a third property with weapons, processed marijuana and cash. The two charged with various crimes and sent to jail, but were later released after posting bail.

Cuts to firefighter positions are happening at the Lakeport Fire District after a new budget is adopted. As we've been reporting the District had considered cutting three full-time firefighter positions due to a projected \$356,000 deficit. The negotiations between the District and the Lakeport Professional Firefighters Union at a standstill. The Record Bee reports the Fire Chief saying the three firefighters getting axed are the three most junior hires. The union says that doesn't mean the firefighters are new on the job, one has been with the department 12 years.

In Clearlake, the police department has been designated as the go-to for 911 calls. Lake Co News reports the police chief has agreed to the plan to make them the 911 primary public safety answering point, something the chief says they have to do to improve public safety. The proposal presented to the City Council last week. The police dept. has 24/7 dispatch in place for emergency and nonemergency calls for service. Right now the calls are routed to the sheriff, then a dispatcher figures out where the call came from and diverts it back to police or fire officials.

The Lake County Board of Supervisors to get an update on the Mendocino Complex Fire at their next meeting. The board to also consider a formal response to the Grand Jury Final Report, which was released this summer. The county had asked for an extension of time to respond, due to the fires. And the board is also considering the extension of the proclamation of a local health emergency by the Lake County health officer.

A new state law says judges can decide who keeps a pet in a divorce or separation, like they do in child-custody disputes. Currently a pet is considered family property, but now they will be community property under a bill just signed into law by the governor. They find out who mostly cares for the animal and use it as a factor in their decision.

Another new law in Calif., cops have to release body cam footage after critical incidents within 45 days. That includes when an officer shoots a gun or uses force causing great bodily harm or death. The legislation sponsored by the ACLU of California who says before now departments could withhold body cam footage, saying it interferes with ongoing investigations. But now the organization says it closed that loophole. The footage can still be delayed for up to 30 days under the new law related to certain circumstances where its immediate release could jeopardize a current investigation.

A woman and teen have been killed in a weekend head on crash near Willits. The CHP in Mendocino County says a 41-year-old woman was driving Saturday on the 101 north of Willits with a 13 year old girl. The driver from Dos Rios, and the 13-year-old from Willits, their names not released yet until their family was notified. The CHP says they were in a 2008 Dodge Ram 1500 which went into oncoming traffic Saturday afternoon, hitting a Peterbilt tractor-trailer hauling lumber. CHP says the tractor driver tried to swerve away but could not, then the Dodge Ram spun and burst into flames. The trailer spilled the lumber and the highway was closed for a couple hours. The trailer driver had minor injuries, the woman and teen declared dead at the scene.

The National Test of Emergency Alert System (EAS) and Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) that was postponed due Hurricane Florence is back on. Tomorrow FEMA with the FCC is conducting the test using both the Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) at 11:18 AM, then the Emergency Alert System (EAS) directly after at 11:20 AM. When you hear or see the test, it will let you know loud and clear, it's only a test. The cell phone towers will run the text tests for about 30 minutes with the header "Presidential Alert" and that no action's necessary, because it's a test. The Emergency Alert on TV and Radio will be one you may be familiar with, with THIS IS A TEST of the National Emergency Alert System.

10/02/18

The driver of a car at the Ranch Fire burn scar has been killed. The National Forest released a statement that a car crash was found on the Ranch Fire near County Road 308 and Forest Road 20N01 Saturday afternoon around 5 p.m. They say the driver was a contractor working on fire suppression repair work on the Mendocino National Forest. They died in the accident. Their name has not been released. No other details are available. The cause of the accident is being reviewed.

Everyone at the table, discussing Measure B. The Citizens Oversight Committee met up last Wednesday, Sept. 26th, with the meeting going into overtime. The committee reviewed the tax funds expenditure report and gave the thumbs up for an increase for payments to a contractor with the first report on the state of Mental Health Care in the county, Kemper and Associates. The Sheriff, an advocate for mental health care, led the discussion so the committee would come up with a plan of action and deliver it back to the Board of Supervisors, who could then decide how to spend Measure B money. The County CEO says she wants the board to find ways to attack crisis stabilization and a way forward for a crisis residential treatment center. The Sheriff also trying to get the committee to move forward quickly with conclusions.

A union in Mendocino County representing hundreds of employees says it wants the Board of Supervisors to table any management raises until the Classification and Compensation Study is done. The Daily Journal reports SEIU Local 1021 representatives report the board coming in with a proposed 21 percent salary increase over 4 years for the County CEO on today's agenda and another 21.5 percent yearly increase for the Assistant Agriculture Commissioner and an increase for a new Public Defender at 9 percent. This after a board meeting last month where supervisors approved waiting for the study eight months. It shows how below market the wages are for county employees compared to like sized counties in the state. It was supposed to come out this summer, but now it's delayed til next June.

Work's begun in Clearlake for the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. It's part of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 in Calif. So the city has to come up with a list of ways it will be proactive against possible disasters and hazards. There will be a public meeting for the plan tomorrow at city hall in Clearlake at 5 p.m. where there will be a preview of the work ahead to form a committee. The city's Engineering Dept. is spearheading the project. Members of the public have been invited to the meetings which will go about eight months. The same firm that helped form the county's plan will oversee Clearlake's too. Clearlake's is being paid for from a FEMA grant.

The principal at Terrace Middle School in Lakeport's been asked to go on administrative leave, but we don't know why yet. The Record Bee reports the leave looks to have started last Monday with a text blast sent to parents a couple days later saying the principal was put on administrative leave for a confidential personnel matter. The newspaper reports the School Board President wouldn't confirm or deny the leave, and wouldn't confirm if they'd discuss it at the next board meeting, this Thursday at 6 PM. The meeting's open to the public, but on the agenda is a notation of Closed session topics to include a "Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Leave of Absence" as well as some pending litigation. The newspaper also reports by state law, the board cannot discuss administrative leave if it's for a personnel matter, which may be alleged misconduct, criminal investigations, and security concerns.

Trying to get schools repairs, upgrades or total infrastructure overhauls in Calif. So voters will decide whether billions of dollars should be spent on items like school construction bonds. There's a reported 90 school districts with construction bond measures on the Nov. 6th ballot, especially looking for security upgrades after the Parkland, Fla., massacre in February. They're also looking to get new air conditioning units, take lead out of drinking water and more. Many schools need repairs and renovations too.

A big turnout for the Kelseyville Pear Festival. It was the 25th year in a row and a little misty outside, some rain and some sun. Lake Co News reports the festival coordinators saying they thought the festival was as big or bigger than the festival back in 2016, with great attendance, between 11,000 and 12,000 visitors. There were more than 130 booths this year and apparently some of the vendors sold out entirely, for the first time.

A new water year's begun in California. It happened during a bit of a rainy day and more in the immediate forecast after about a year of less than average rainfall. The Department of Water Resources year goes Oct. 1st-Sept. 30th. So the last water year ended Sunday with hot, dry weather and some spotty rainfall. The last year saw average statewide snowpack at 58 percent of average by April 1st about a third it was a year before, when we had a ton of rain, 159 percent of average. Even though we're below average for rain, the agency reported most of the reservoirs in the state have near- or above-average levels of water.

If you were looking forward to staying up later than 2 AM at your local watering hole, you're out of luck. The Governor's veto'd a bill, for the second time, to put last call to 4 am in nine cities, including Sacramento. The Gov. says those extra two hours would mean more drinking, and while he understands it's a good source of revenue for businesses, the CHP says increased drinking will lead to more drunk drivers. The Gov. says he thinks there's already enough mischief from midnight to 2 without adding two more hours of mayhem.

No more bots allowed online for businesses in Calif. The Governor signing a bill that says it'll be against the law for businesses to use bots to be in touch with others and not allow them to know it's a bot and try to get the other person to buy something or to influence them in an election. It starts July 1st of 2019. A bot is not a human, it's an automated online account that seems like, or behaves like a human and has an account of a human. Last year Facebook reported as many as 60 million bots may be active on the social media platform. The bill says bots can be and are often weaponized to spread fake and misleading news, reshape political debates, and influence advertising audiences...

A man in Oregon's arrested for an assault on an FBI agent shot from a booby-trapped wheelchair. Cops went to the man's home in Williams last month after a real estate attorney said the property was for sale, but it was filled with weapons and booby traps. Officers found spike strips and a hot tub on its side which was boobyed to roll over anyone who triggered a tripwire. In the house was a wheelchair with a fishing line, shotgun ammo and other items triggering an explosion, a bullet hit one agents leg. Gregory Rodvel was forced to forfeit his property after an elder abuse case involving his mother. He's arrested again after being released in August to prepare the property for sale.

Three people set to go on trial for the murder and robbery of a marijuana farmer have pleaded guilty to reduced charges. The change after the governor signed a bill about how felony murder charges can apply to accomplices. Michael Kane pleaded guilty yesterday to voluntary manslaughter and first degree robbery charges. Accomplices Jesse Wells and Frederick Gaestel agreed to a deal for robbery of a residence in concert with others just after the governor signed the new law into place. One other man out of seven, Gary Blank, is still in jail awaiting trial. The three had been charged in the murder of Jeffrey Settler in Laytonville in November of 2016. Four others who were also charged for the murder have also accepted plea deals for armed robbery. The law does not go into effect until January 1st so they could theoretically be resentenced if they file for it.

A couple in Mendocino Court to see if they'll be tried on charges of possessing a firearm as a felon. Negie Fallis and Antonia Bautista-Dalson set to be back in court Friday. Fallis is charged with felon in possession of a firearm and his romantic partner, Bautista-Dalson, charged as an accomplice. Both are currently out on bail and Fallis is considered a suspect in the disappearance of Khadijah Britton of Covelo. The Mendocino County District Attorney says he's petitioning the court to have the two defendants tried together. The charges after Fallis' arrest in connection to the beating of Britton who disappeared in February.

It's that time of year again, the free children's health fair in Ukiah. This Sunday, "Wild About Health" is taking place. There will be free health screenings, educational health activities and more. The event at 11 AM at Grace Hudson school. They're offering vision, dental, and diabetes screening. Children can also bring their bikes and have them repaired for free. The kids will get a passport so they can go booth to booth and have it stamped as they pass thru different health-related activities and have a chance to win a prize basket.

For more information on how to get involved, make a donation or if you have questions, please contact Willow Anderson at 707-456-3213 or anderswm. The event is hosted by Adventist Health Ukiah Valley and the Savings Bank of Mendocino, along with a variety of partners.

Ukiah Police are apparently allowing the homeless to camp in the city, which is against a city ordinance. This, according to the Ukiah Daily Journal, which reports Redwood Community Services would try to get their winter shelter open by Nov. 1st, which had already been the plan. The shelter at 1045 S. State Street will operate each year for four months. The organization got a permit to use the building as a community center for the homeless last year, and have one side of the building set aside as a winter shelter. The newspaper also reports the Planning Commission talked about how long it was taking to get the shelter open at their meeting last week. The police department says since there's no homeless shelter right now, so they're not enforcing the city's camping ordinance, per the city attorney.

10/03/18

The Mendocino Sheriff reports to the Board of Supervisors on the Measure B Citizens Oversight Committee. Sheriff Allman asking supervisors to see if they can get more mental health mobile outreach employees since they've done such a great job. There are three teams now, he's looking at adding two more and more days of work. The Sheriff also reported on the money left in the Measure B fund was at about one point four million. The money to help come up with mental health treatment in the county. The Measure B committee is tasked with coming up with short and long term planning. The Sheriff says they're focusing on immediate needs in the county and what facilities would serve the best before coming to any conclusions. They would, however, consider the Howard Hospital facilities.

Since the FCC overturned the Obama era Net Neutrality law, Calif. has come up with its own and the Gov. signed it into law last weekend. The Net Neutrality Act of 2018 co-sponsored by North Coast Assemblyman Jim Wood. He says an open internet is essential for innovation, economic growth and the only way to be sure consumers are protected from internet providers controlling the speed and content of the internet. But the federal government is suing Calif. due to the new law, Atty. Gen. Jeff Sessions says the California Legislature enacted an extreme and illegal law to frustrate federal policy.

#### [Millions of dollars available from CalFire for Fire Prevention and Forest Health](#)

The Lake County Board of Supervisors answering the 2017–2018 Civil Grand Jury Report. Some of the board said they were offended or it was hogwash. The Record Bee reports the board has written responses after the report which said the county was having challenges mitigating and managing disasters at the same time the county has unprecedented budget problems and is severely understaffed. Supervisor Rob Brown at their meeting saying county staff should make the response the lowest priority. Jeff Smith grand jury reports in recent years lacked truthfulness. One of the members of the grand jury at the meeting denied the supervisors claims and says it was county citizens who complained about the issues in the report so they investigated.

A Firefighters Union Group in Lake County says not only were three firefighters let go from the Lakeport Fire District already, three more will be let go as soon as next week. The Record Bee reports the info follows a memo by the Lakeport Fire Chief from September 20th. The newspaper reports the union told them Paul Bergem, Jose Esquivel, and Chris Dodson lost their jobs October 1st and the other three to be let go by the 15th are Odell Landers, Jordan Mills, and Brandon Morin.

After the devastating fires in October of 2017, the Santa Rosa City Council has a budget gap. The Press Democrat reports the city council forecasted a \$7 million budget hole for next year. They've also got about 50 mostly vacant positions, with the city manager saying, will slow down city government. More than 3,000 homes in Santa Rosa were lost so the city had to use nearly \$9.5 million in reserve funds to cover the emergency response. The newspaper reports right now the city's got a year-end deficit close to 15 million dollars which could balloon to \$27.4 million within a decade if cuts are not made.

The name of a contractor killed in a car crash at the Ranch Fire area has been released. The contractor died in the Mendocino National Forest doing environmental cleanup work in burned areas of the fire. 43-year-old Jeremy Lee Appleyard of Oroville had been missing a couple of days when a chopper crew out looking for him saw the crash site down an embankment. The contractor apparently working for J W Bamford Logging. The Ranch Fire part of the Mendocino Complex, became the largest fire to ever burn in the state, burning across 410,000 acres and was contained eight weeks after starting.

An unannounced visit to a private immigration jail turns up nooses, detainees with missing teeth and a disabled inmate left in a wheelchair for more than a week. Homeland Security inspectors apparently showed up at the facility unannounced in May in San Bernardino County. The conditions in a report by the Department of Homeland Security's office of inspector general, which audited the facility in Adelanto which ICE manages right outside Victorville. ICE says they've ordered a full inspection to start this month. It comes after auditors found gross violations in health and safety standards, including nonexistent or delayed health or dental care, some told to use the string in the socks as floss. One detainee hanged himself there and three others tried right after. They've detailed at least seven suicide attempts at the jail.

A cold case solved after the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office exhumes a grave. The Sheriff's office says they pulled DNA from a body in a 33-year-old murder case which identified a dead man as a murderer. They say Joey Lynn Ford raped and killed Virginia Vincent in Danville. He died in 1997 and was a plumber at the time of the murder. She was a realtor whose death had been unsolved for years. She was found by a family member naked with her hands tied on her living room floor. Cops found a couple of bottles of booze near her, but they never found a suspect. In 2002 cops came up with a DNA profile, and last year they used "familial search" to find a relative of the killer and found Ford was a suspect. So they went to the cemetery where he was buried.

Police at Stanford University say a student may have been drugged then groped. Campus police sent out a campus wide alert about the female victim at an event when an unknown man offered her a drink of water, which she thought tasted weird and it apparently affected her memory of the night. Her friends apparently told her the man who gave her the water groped her. It was reported to a "campus security authority" who turned it over to police late Sunday night.

Organizers of the repeal the Calif. gas tax are asking the federal government to make sure no public money's been used against them. It comes after they say emails and documents showed local government workers talked about the repeal, or Proposition 6. One of them saying it was important to "support the anti-repeal campaign." The leader of the Prop 6 campaign says that's "using taxpayer dollars to influence an election." So the Republican Congressman Ken Calvert has requested an investigation by the U.S. Department of Transportation's inspector general.

A woman in Lake County's pleaded guilty to human trafficking. The Lake County DA reports Krystina Marie Pickersgill pleaded guilty yesterday to one count and for this she'll get three years of probation and credit for four months already served, plus she has to have strict mental health treatment. She could go to prison for up to 12 years if she does not abide by the terms of her probation. It comes after a woman reported to the DA at the play in town, "Jane Doe in Wonderland" on sex trafficking, that she was a victim herself. After the play the DA investigated, arresting Pickersgill and her husband Sam Massette for running a sex trafficking ring. The DA says Pickersgill was a victim of trafficking then a participant later after going off her mental health meds. Massette is awaiting a preliminary hearing set for October 17th where he faces 10 counts of human trafficking, pimping, pandering and conspiracy.

The Lake County Board of Supervisors has continued the local health emergencies in the county for the Pawnee and Mendocino Complex fires. The board also got an update on the cleanup of debris from the fires, which is not totally done yet. The proclamations were therefore continued since there are still health risks for the community. The Lake County Public Health Officer and some of the County's Environmental Health staffers at the meeting giving an update. CalRecycle expected to be done with their Pawnee fire property assessments Friday with debris removal starting next Monday. Debris removal starting on the Mendocino Complex already. The County reports there are still properties who have not given their Right of Entry so debris removal cannot take place there. Also at the meeting an update will be coming to the board soon on the Cache Creek landslide near the Spring Valley Lakes subdivision to make sure the land stays stable.

A phone scam's reported in Lake County. The Sheriff's Office says someone's calling and saying they're an Apple Company employee telling folks their Apple account has been breached so they need to get their account information from you. And you can't tell who it is on your caller ID, it just looks like it's actually the Apple Company calling. The Sheriff's Office reminding the public to never share personal or account information unless you are sure you are providing it to a legitimate representative. If you are unsure, you should call the company in question directly.

10/04/18

A swath of Highway 29 is being renamed for a fallen Sheriff's Deputy in Lake County. North Coast Congressional members will be on hand for the dedication of part of Highway 29 next Thursday at 11 AM. Sen. Mike McGuire's office says the state senator will join Congressman Mike Thompson, Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Sheriff Brian Martin and representatives from CalTrans for the unveiling in memory of Deputy Robert Rumpf next week in Lakeport. The "Deputy Sheriff Robert Rumpf Memorial Highway" to recognize the deputy's time in service and his sacrifice to the country and Lake County. The Sheriff calls Rumpf a true American hero who saved lives in the military and in the community of Lake County. Rumpf died in the line of duty last year.

Congressman Jared Huffman and 12 other lawmakers have signed a letter for more research into American grown cannabis. This after the Drug Enforcement Agency approved importing weed from Canada for research. The letter says it can help alleviate suffering and disease, but more research is needed "with only one supplier approved in the U-S to provide cannabis for research — the University of Mississippi. They're looking for more competition within the country, citing an executive order signed by President Trump to encourage "Buy American and Hire American." Huffman says Calif. could easily provide necessary materials for research.

The Planning and Building Services Dept. in Lake County is applying for several grants to recover from the Redwood Complex Fire which burned last year. The department reported to the Board of Supervisors they've made progress on fire recovery, and are going after at least \$18 million in grants and has won \$4 million dollars through Cal Fire and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Some of the grants to help the county and its cities be prepared in case there's another fire emergency, one for a siren feasibility study as an alert system. Another to assist with defensible space.

A celebration for the Community Foundation of Mendocino County. It was their 25th anniversary so there was a celebration at the Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens last Sunday with supporters, elected officials and others. The executive director of the foundation says they've grown their fund the last 15 years from \$3 million to \$37 million, and says fire relief efforts have gone up the last couple of years. They've helped more than 400 households find new housing, helped get folks cash cards and utilities paid and have contributed towards long term assistance too.

Speeding and traffic control on the agenda at the Lakeport City Council meeting. The council discussed projects for 20th Street between Alden Avenue and Hartley Street at this week's meeting. In the past few years there's been several traffic tickets given, not all speed related, but it may have played some factor. The police department educating thru Facebook, and say they've been aggressive in enforcement in the area. They say they've not been able to be as proactive there due to floods, fires and a staff shortage. Residents have also complained about speeding cars in the area. Speed data they collected shows cars tend to hit the 35-40 mph mark.

A man from Piercy's been arrested for arson. 18 year old Charles Levi Kirk accused of setting multiple fires in Willits, Laytonville, Leggett, and Piercy. Two of the fires led Cal Fire to start an investigation along with the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office and the Mendocino County District Attorney's Office. When they searched Kirk's house, they say they found evidence there and arrested him. He was booked into the Mendocino County Jail on \$150,000 bail. CalFire warning that fire danger is still a major risk in the state. They're urging residents to stay vigilant and aware of any suspicious activity when a fire starts.

Millions of dollars from taxpayers going to fight the Trump administration on multiple fronts in Calif. A new report shows the amount of money being spent to fight the federal government has more than tripled since Trump became president. The Sacramento Bee reporting by way of the state Dept. of Justice that the state had filed 44 lawsuits against the Trump administration in 21 months, the big ones were for health care, immigration and energy policy. And in turn the federal government filed three suits against California. Costs pegged at about 9 million dollars to the state.

A man in San Mateo County's been killed by sheriff's deputies. The deputies tased the 36-year-old yesterday after he was seen running in and out of traffic. A deputy tried to stop him,. But was assaulted by the guy. That deputy radioed for help, but they say he kept struggling with them. They finally got him into custody and took him to a hospital where he later died. No word on what exactly caused his death. The deputy who was assaulted also went to the hospital for treatment of unspecified injuries.

The company that makes Plah Doh has a new one out, a play off the poop emoji, called the PoopTroop. It looks like the emoji and is like Mr. Potato Head so you can put arms, eyes, and other pieces into the squishy poop like swirl of Play-Doh. Kids use a mold to make their poop like body and place the accessories on it to add personality. But they remind, "don't forget to clean up after yourself"!

More than a dozen cottages are being built for those impacted by the October 2017 firestorm in Sonoma County. The 15 modular tiny houses in two spots in Windsor and Fountaingrove after the loss of as many as 5,300 homes in the county. They are for short-term use for affordable housing for people who no longer have a house after the Tubbs Fire. Some of them should be ready next month and eventually will end up being granny units to be added to properties with single-family homes. A group of volunteer builders, architects and marketing professionals put together right after the fire have put up one of the homes, a 480-square-foot modular on temporary display at a Fulton winery.

An architecture professor at UC Berkeley who resigned last month after he was accused of sexual harassment, is suing. Professor Nezar AlSayyad was teaching at the university since 1985 is suing the Chancellor Carol Christ and the Board of Regents claiming the Chancellor overruled a disciplinary panel of other professors recommending a shorter unpaid suspension because the sexual harassment supposedly was only quote, "touching her thigh for one to two seconds while in a car". And a faculty panel also found no evidence of abuse of position or power over the student. It's all after a doctoral student said AlSayyad sexually harassed her and manipulated, intimidated and isolated her, forcing her to change departments and the course of her career.

The Mendocino County CEO is getting a raise. The Board of Supervisors gave the green light for Carmel Angelo to stay on as County of Mendocino chief executive officer for four more years and be at a base salary of \$195,000 now, then \$210,000 year two, \$215,000 year three, and \$220,000 in the last year of the contract. She's been at \$180,000 the last four years and \$150,000 before that. In a regional comparison, her salary was thousands lower than most except for Lake County whose CEO is listed at just over \$136,000. Angelo's agreement includes severance pay if she's terminated or resigns. She's getting the salary bump as county employees asked for an eight month freeze until a salary study is completed next summer. The report ordered by the county to see if there needed to be

10/05/18 changes in the county compensation system.

[Cam, the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office K9 is one of several finalists for a](#)

It's over, the lawsuit between the City of Ukiah and the Ukiah Valley Sanitation District. The District, you may recall, filed suit against the city over the management of the Ukiah Valley Wastewater Treatment Plant. Not a lot of info on the settlement except that the City Attorney confirmed both parties signed the settlement agreement. So now there's a new operating agreement for the Treatment Plant also signed by both sides October 3rd. The Ukiah City Manager says the matter will now be removed from the City Council Agenda for status updates. The city to pay the district just over 984-thousand this year, then four yearly payments of a million dollars to settle the whole thing, plus an additional 2.5M for operations held in a bond account.

Public outcry against the Lakeport Unified School District for the administrative leave of the Terrace Middle School Principal. The Record Bee reports community members and supporters of Rachel Paarsch showed up at a board meeting saying there's now a negative atmosphere for teachers and students at the district and a fear to speak out by teachers in the district. The newspaper reports it comes after the school superintendent reportedly put Paarsch out for what's being characterized by some as political reasons. Paarsch denying that herself. But outside the meeting there were signs in support of her and people calling for the superintendent to resign. There's been no information released about Paarsch's leave, but she's confirmed comments her husband made at a meeting about a report he says could have been handled at a lower level.

North Coast Congressmen Mike Thompson and John Garamendi say FEMA is giving help to Lake County for the Ranch and River Fires, the Mendocino Complex. This means money coming to the state and to local governments affected by the fires to help with recovery. The fires started July 27th and burned nearly 460,000 acres. The money can help communities repair critical public infrastructure like roads, bridges, buildings, water infrastructure and sewage collection facilities. The assistance from the federal government for 75 percent of the cost was granted in August. The money to go to residents and businesses with damaged or destroyed properties.

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction announcing a one million dollar grant for the State Department of Education from the federal STOP School Violence Act. The money for violence prevention and mental health training for students and staff in school districts affected by school violence. It's a partnership with Sandy Hook Promise, a nonprofit started by families of those killed in the 2012 shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School. Superintendent Torlakson says the money will go to training and support with the ultimate goal of stopping violence on campuses.

A man in Eureka has been arrested after a stabbing at a home in the city. Police say they got a call to the home after a suspect stabbed someone and left the home, but a witness followed and called cops who found the guy and arrested him. Christopher Matzick accused of attacking his roommate, stabbing him in the chest. The victim had serious injuries and was reported in critical condition. We don't have his name. Matzick booked into the Humboldt County Jail for attempted murder and was being held on \$500,000 bail.

Since the October 2017 firestorm four fire agencies in central Sonoma County are merging as one giant fire agency. The Press Democrat reports the Windsor, Rincon Valley and Bennett Valley fire districts and the Mountain Volunteer Company will become one big fire district next spring. The Board of Supervisors is supporting the plan and has reportedly promised funding. There are 40 fire agencies across the county already. The new district covers 160-square-miles, serving 75,000 residents, about 10 percent of the county. Apparently the merger has been years in the making as fire officials on several county committees had pushed for consolidation.

A public problem in Sonoma County. The Metropolitan Transportation Commission released a report last week showing Sonoma County had the worst pavement in a nine-county region of the Bay Area. Petaluma was the worst in the County. Sonoma and Rohnert Park were the best of the County and Healdsburg and Santa Rosa were somewhere in the middle. The County also recovering after the massive Tubbs Fire in October 2017, so money for road work has taken a back seat. Deferred maintenance on roads in Sonoma County's pegged at somewhere in the \$1.5 billion range by 2027.

Fort Bragg is getting money for a home that burned. The City reported the home was filled with burnable material because there was something of a hoarding situation in the home which burned in January. So there was hazardous materials left behind with locals complaining it was an eyesore. The City reportedly put thousands of dollars into trying to find who was responsible, then cleaning it all up. Assurant Insurance has paid the mortgage holder just over 173-thousand dollars and the city manager was supposed to meet that person listed as Nationstar/Mr. Cooper, but they never showed up. So the city has fined the mortgage holder a thousand a day to clean up.

The facelift of the parking lot and boat ramp in South Noyo Harbor should be done soon. So the Harbor will get a resurfaced parking lot with a new drainage system with runoff into the Noyo River, a new sidewalk, handicapped-accessible bathrooms and a new boat ramp all to be complete by mid-December.

The project at a cost of a million dollars being paid for by a grant from the state Department of Boating and Waterways. The new Harbormaster says the project's on time with the ramp to be completed by next week before the start of fall salmon migration.

Looking grim for the Raiders finding a new home in the Bay Area. There had been rumors the team could possibly park it for a while at UC Berkeley or Stanford's campus stadiums. But at Berkeley a representative says they haven't been contacted by the team and add it's unlikely it would happen for many reasons including not enough parking. And over at Stanford, officials say they too were not contacted, adding they have zero interest in the idea. The Press Democrat reports other options also not viable mean the team may stay another year or two at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas for the time being.

The principal at Terrace Middle School is out. At the meeting of the school board last night with public comment, Rachel Paarsch was ousted as principal but gets to stay as a teacher. The Board President said it was a difficult matter, after two hours they made the announcement. One of the board member's Paarsch's father recused himself from the vote. Paarsch was in the principal position since August 2016. The district also not releasing the details of the demotion. Paarsch placed on administrative leave last month with no word why. But on Sept. 26th, the school district Superintendent reportedly put out an automated phone call to parents, then an email followed with the same info just saying the principal is on leave. Supporters say Paarsch supported three people running for the school board who had been critical of the board.

Someone seen in their car in Clearlake with a gun has been arrested. Police say Jason Compton was pulled over for a traffic stop after it looked like there was false evidence of registration on the rear license plate and it had tinted windows, which are illegal. The man was arrested for the misdemeanor violation of displaying false vehicle registration, but then police saw a 9-millimeter handgun under the driver's seat with no serial number on it. He told police it was not his, but the officer said the man was acting suspicious around the driver's seat. He's now charged with displaying false registration, a misdemeanor, and two felony counts of possession of a concealed firearm in a vehicle and possession of a firearm with altered or removed serial number.

The California Attorney General has announced the arrest of 52 people in connection to the Campaign Against Marijuana Planting, or CAMP. It's a nationwide marijuana eradication program. The program this year alone eradicated more than 614,000 plants in more than 254 illegal grow sites in Calif. alone. Agents also found 110 weapons. There were three arrests in Lake County. Atty. Gen. Xavier Becerra says it was a 12 week operation they partnered with local, state and federal agencies on to eradicate indoor and outdoor marijuana grows and dealing in the state.

It's a been a year to the day that the Redwood Complex Fire started in what's now known as the October 2017 firestorm. It burned in the northwestern part of Potter Valley then spread throughout the valley. Nine people were killed in the fire and 546 structures burned along with more than 36,000 acres. It came the same day as several other fires across Northern Calif. including the Tubbs Fire which burned in Sonoma County and killed more than 20 people. The Redwood Complex started in two separate locations when trees or parts of them fell on PG&E power lines. The fire damaged vineyards and messed up agriculture and grapes. Since the fire many new laws have been signed by the governor to better plan for wildfires and to help with those lacking in insurance coverage, plus tougher arson laws. There's a list of events on the Daily Journal website to mark the

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anniversary. Fire restrictions have been lifted by the Bureau of Land Management in Ukiah. The restrictions no longer in place for neighboring counties to Mendocino including Colusa, Lake, Napa, Sonoma and Yolo counties because there's been cooler temperatures and measurable rain. This means more outdoor activities with camp fires and target shooting is allowed, but look out for red flag warnings. They warn shooters to use the appropriate ammo and non-metal targets and to remove spent shells, targets and any trigger trash. Campfires allowed with a valid California campfire permit.

An alleged shoplifter got a surprise when a witness jumped on their car. Ukiah Police say they got a call Friday to Friedman's Home Improvement on Airport Park Boulevard for a report two people were hit by cars in the parking lot related to shoplifting. They say they got there and heard someone had seen another person shoplifting so they jumped on their car to stop them, and damaged their windshield. An ambulance and fire engine were also on scene. The alleged shoplifter and witness were gone when cops got there though. No word on what was taken from the store.

Controversy continues after the demotion of the Terrace Middle School Principal Rachel Paarsch. The Record Bee reports after Paarsch was demoted to being a teacher and removed as Principal there's been outcry. After a closed session of the Lakeport Unified School District Governing Board they voted unanimously except for one board member who abstained, Paarsch's father. She was first put on administrative leave Monday, September 24th. But even though parents got word of the leave, they've not been told why. Community members and Paarsch supporters say there's now a negative atmosphere for teachers and students at the school. And fear among other teachers in the district for speaking up. The demotion just ahead of an election for the board. The newspaper reports some of Paarsch's supporters say it was a political move because she supported new board members who didn't like the Superintendent. Some say the board misused the Brown Act too, which the newspaper says didn't happen.

A bill to fix a part of the regulations for medical marijuana in Calif has been vetoed. The Gov. vetoed the bill Sunday regarding donated cannabis from nonprofits. A bill was approved by legislators in August though so medicinal weed could be donated to medical users tax free. But Gov. Brown says that the bill would undermine the will of voters who passed Proposition 64 in 2016. He says the bill conflicted with Prop 64. But the bill's author says it was a missed opportunity to help people in desperate need of medicine and says the governor had misinterpreted Prop. 64, he says he's still committed to correcting the issue. The cannabis-advocacy nonprofit Cal Norml, called Brown's veto "outrageous".

A new horse park is coming to Lakeport, just outside the city. Lake Co News reports the Westside Community Park Committee is developing 10 acres of land off Highway 175. They've apparently submitted the first drawings to the city of Lakeport and will apply to Caltrans for an encroachment. After they get the encroachment permit, construction can start. They're looking to put in a 150 by 300-foot arena and parking spots. And apparently, down the road, they'll add a round pen, smaller exercise arena, sprinklers, an area for manure removal, restrooms, overnight hookups and more. They're also working on fundraising for all of it.

For more info: [www.westsidecommunitypark.org](http://www.westsidecommunitypark.org).

Local crisis counselors have been working to help those impacted by the Mendocino Complex and Carr fires. The fires both started in July and apparently crisis counselors saw an uptick in people with sleeping problems or anxiety issues. FEMA funded crisis counselors in Sonoma County say the amount of people getting counseling went from about 2,500 in June to more than 3,800 a month later, a 55 percent increase. There was also a feeling of déjà vu as it's a year after the Redwood Valley fires and the massive fires in Sonoma County. FEMA funds were used to create a crisis counseling center in Sonoma. The Calif. Hope Program they do community outreach, counseling and other mental health services for survivors.

A cause has been released for the Ferguson Fire which broke out in the Yosemite Valley and closed the park this summer. A car ignited dry vegetation on a canyon highway. The U.S. Forest Service says an overheated catalytic converter, underneath a car, is believed to be the cause, after it sparked roadside vegetation on Highway 140, along the Merced River. The fire ballooned to almost 97,000 acres. The area filled with trees that were dead after five years of drought. The fire also started during the hottest July on record in that area. Two firefighters died in the fire and ten structures were destroyed.

A roundup of wild horses in Northern Calif, the US Forest Service says many of the horses will be sold to slaughterhouses. It's starting tomorrow and will last all month to get horses from a herd in the Devil's Garden Plateau Wild Horse Territory in the Modoc National Forest. The Forest supervisor says there's supposed to be about 400 horses but there's almost 4,000 in more than 250,000 acres outside Redding. She says there's not a lot of water there. The U.S. Department of Interior prohibits the sale to slaughterhouses, but the Forest Service is under the U.S. Department of Agriculture, without that restriction. The American Wild Horse Campaign says it's exploitation of a legal loophole.

It's been a year since the Sulphur fire and communities are still working on recovery and rebuilds. Lake Co News reports several dozen residents without homes are suing Pacific Gas and Electric which has been fingered by the state as being responsible for the fire. CalFire had also released the results of investigations saying several fires that broke out in October of 2017 including the Sulphur Fire somehow came into contact with electric power and distribution lines. The fire agency found the same for Lake, Humboldt, Butte, Sonoma and Napa counties which includes the Sulphur fire; the Redwood fire in Mendocino County; the Cherokee fire in Butte County; the 37 and Pocket fires in Sonoma County and the Nuns fires in Sonoma and Napa counties; and the Atlas fire in Napa County. PG&E reportedly working on proactive measures so fires like this don't break out again like a state-of-the-art wildlife safety operations center, weather stations in high fire risk areas, fire defense zones near power lines in high fire threat areas and a public safety power shutoff.

A candlelight vigil by the South Ukiah Rotary Club in memory of the Redwood Valley Fire. A plaque was also dedicated at Lion's Park in Redwood Valley Sunday night a day before the anniversary of the 2017 fire. More than 100 people showed up in memory of the nine lives lost due to last year's catastrophic wildfire. Those in attendance held electronic candles that were later placed by the plaque. The plaque placed at Lions Park after the Rotary Club saw other locations too but found there wasn't enough room. The Rotary also donating money so the Arts Council of Mendocino County can create a mural at the Redwood Valley Grange, plus for other long-term fire recovery projects.

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Fire Prevention Week has started on the anniversary of last year's devastating fire storm. There was a procession of emergency equipment down State Street in Ukiah on Saturday to honor those who have lost their lives in the line of duty and for those saved by emergency responders. This year the Grand Marshal, Fred Kelinger couldn't be there due to illness. He was the chief of police in Ukiah and the first director of public safety. Local residents and kids are taught how to react if there's a real emergency during Fire Prevention Week. The event's been going for twenty years, started by the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority, when Captain David Haas was in charge.

The only debate between the two major candidates running for governor, Republican John Cox and Democrat and Lt. Gov. Gavin Newsom. It was a public radio debate with the two on polar opposite sides of the political spectrum with Newsom warning that Cox would govern like President Trump saying they both represent the majority of Californians who reject his allegiance to the president and so-called Trumpism. Cox leaned into the issues the President has been speaking out about including the state's sanctuary state policy and the border wall. The two agreed though on some issues like housing affordability, homelessness and the cost of living in the state.

Free rides to the polls on Election Day. Uber and Lyft are offering the free rides. There will be a button on the app on November 6th so users can find their polling place and book a ride at the same time. The rides are paid for by the ride-hailing companies in partnership with the nonprofits #VoteTogether and Democracy Works.

Several hundred people may have been improperly registered to vote. The DMV's internal audit shows as many as 1,500 customers were registered to vote in error. That's according to the DMV in a letter they sent Monday to the Secretary of State's Office. The agency does say however they've corrected the error. It comes after another error by the DMV last month when 23,000 erroneous voter registrations were revealed. The new errors when DMV workers processed customer requests at field offices to change their voter eligibility responses on driver license applications.

At an open forum for the Little Lake Fire Protection District, a discussion of Measure J since it'll be on the ballot next month. Willits News reports the Chief of the department, a consultant and an architect were there to answer questions last Thursday. The chief spoke to the audience about what they're hoping to achieve if Measure J is voted in. Right now the firehouse is in a state of disrepair, it was built in 1952. The Chief says it served the community well, but now it's broken. He says there are health and safety issues, like severe mold, a lack of ADA requirements, non-existent seismic standards, and structural damage. They've been trying to sock away money for years, but they need help with the special \$39 per unit tax instead of a city-wide sales tax for the new building. The rest of those in attendance answered questions and made statements too.

A man accused of a murder in Northern Calif. arrested in Nevada. Anthony Bradley arrested after he reportedly shot several times into the windows of a convenience store in Sparks. He's held on \$100,000 bail in the Washoe County Jail on a fugitive warrant and for assault with a deadly weapon, robbery, felon in possession of a firearm and discharging a gun at an occupied building. He's accused of an Oct. 1st shooting death in Stockton, where a 19-year-old man was killed and others there were injured. He's now awaiting extradition back to California.

A couple of people busted in Indiana for selling drugs on Facebook messenger. Police in Indiana say a man called to say he was on the instant messaging app and someone sent him a note asking if he wanted to buy a quarter ounce of meth for \$400. He agreed to work with police to follow thru on the deal. He met the two suspects and cops weren't far behind. Stephen Robinson and his passenger Alison Roettger were arrested with a couple of bags of meth, paraphernalia and scales. They face felony charges of dealing meth, possession of meth and possession of a syringe.

A suspected drunk driver has suffered major injuries after apparently crashing into a home in Fort Bragg. The CHP reports the early morning crash happened today on Pudding Creek Road, just outside northeast Fort Bragg. The driver reportedly headed east on the road which is described as rural, came off the pavement for an unknown reason on a curve, then ran into private property and crashed into the corner of the house. They say the driver then left the car, but was found in the area by emergency workers with a major head wound. They were taken to Mendocino Coast Hospital in Fort Bragg and he was also arrested for suspicion of impaired driving. His name has not been released.

The chief elections official in the state says he's not sure if any of the 1,500 people who were registered to vote in error voted in the June primary. Secretary of State Alex Padilla says they're investigating the mistake the DMV let them know about. The 1,500 were either told they were ineligible or didn't confirm their eligibility and were registered anyway. That might include non-citizens, those under 18 or others who may have been ineligible to vote because of a criminal conviction. This is the second glitch the DMV made since their new voter registration process was put in place which Padilla says may have to be suspended, adding it jeopardizes confidence in the state's elections.

A couple of sagging PG&E power lines hit each other and started a fire that killed four people and injured a firefighter in Northern California. The findings from CalFire related to last October 8th's Cascade Fire in Yuba County that burned 15 square miles and destroyed more than 260 structures. The agency says strong winds were blowing and the lines touched which created an electrical arc which ignited vegetation below it. The findings have been sent to the Yuba County Attorney. It's just one of several fires that broke out that day in Northern Calif. killing 44 people and burning down over 5,300 homes. PG&E is blamed for 12 fires last October in Wine Country that killed 15 people. Still no word on what caused the giant Tubbs Fire, the most destructive fire, to this day, in state history, burning thousands of homes and killing 22 people in Sonoma County.

A water truck crashes and the driver is injured in the Redwood Valley area. The CHP reports Matthew Black of Lakeport was behind the wheel of the 1991 Kentworth water truck on West Road near Road N Monday morning. The CHP reports he tried to gain control of his vehicle, but then flipped and slid on the shoulder of the road, hit a tree and two fences before coming to a stop. Ukiah Valley Fire Authority says they removed the fuel tank from the truck so it didn't leak. The man was taken by ambulance to the hospital. No word on his injuries.

A fire has damaged a mobile home in Calpella. Crews got a call Monday afternoon to a report of a fire in the 4600 block of Sunnycrest Drive. Firefighters say when they arrived there was smoke coming out of the home and the elderly female resident was already outside. Apparently she tried dousing the flames herself but was overwhelmed by smoke. The fire reportedly started in a bedroom, and firefighters worked so it wouldn't spread. The bedroom was damaged badly and a wall was removed during the firefight. Fire officials say it looks to be an accidental fire, that started in an outlet with old aluminum wiring with a lamp plugged into it.

A new law in Calif looks to rein in pharmacy benefit managers or PBMs. North Coast Assemblyman Jim Wood drafted the bill the Governor recently signed as drug prices keep skyrocketing. Wood says he spent two years on the legislation. He says drug prices are a major contributor to health care costs going up. The PBMs are Express Scripts, CVS Health and OptumRX. Wood says his bill calls for more transparency. It bans a gag clause restricting pharmacists from telling a patient they can save money by not using insurance.

A Redwood Valley Rebuilding Town Hall is happening after the Redwood Complex Fire last year. There will be federal, state, and county leaders at the town hall in Mendocino County tomorrow evening at 6:30 p.m. Residents will get the latest updates on the Water District Reconstruction and Improvement Project. Nearly 190 homes in the Water District destroyed by the fire last October, 500 altogether were burned. And now the work to rebuild the water system to meet modern building standards and associated water flow requirements. The money's been raised and the initial design has begun with a start next spring on the project. Senator Mike McGuire will be at the meeting along with Congressman Jared Huffman and Assemblyman Jim Wood at Eagle Peak Middle School.

Two people accused of having a firearm and conspiracy are charged. One of them, Negie Fallis of Covelo is also accused of being involved in the disappearance of his ex girlfriend. Fallis has pleaded no contest to being a convicted felon in unlawful possession of a firearm, and admitted he served a prison term for a felony child abuse in Glenn County. He will be sentenced in December to a stipulated four year state prison sentence. His girlfriend Antonia Dulce Bautista Dalson also of Covelo, also entered a no contest plea to a being an accessory for helping Fallis get away from cops and hiding firearms. She will be sentenced next month too. She may be eligible for probation, but faces a year in jail or three years in prison. There's still an ongoing case for the disappearance of Khadijah Britton.

Coffey Park residents have come together to mark the one year anniversary of the Tubbs Fire which tore thru the neighborhood in Santa Rosa. The Press Democrat reports as many as 500 fire survivors and supporters had a silent vigil and read the names of those who died in the most destructive fire in California history. 24 people were killed in Sonoma County and 5,300 homes burned. Five people died in the Coffey Park neighborhood and 1,321 homes were destroyed. So far 21 new homes have been erected. There are 520 more under construction.

The cause of a fire that burned in July has been revealed by Cal Fire. Investigators say the Steele Fire in Napa County in the Berryessa Highlands area was due to equipment use. But they've not expanded on that. Lake Co News reports reaching out to the agency for further explanation, to no avail. The fire had people evacuating their homes and destroyed eight structures and damaged four others. 135 acres were blackened in the fire. The fire burned at the same time the Ranch and River fires in the Mendocino complex in Lake and Mendocino counties were also burning.

Wildfire debris removal is done in Siskiyou County, but continues elsewhere. The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery and the Governor's Office of Emergency Services announced the work continuing in Lake and Shasta counties. With final inspections to be done by the middle of this month. Since the end of August they've removed more than 13,670 tons of wildfire debris off 49 private properties. They're still working on removing debris after the Carr Fire in Shasta County and in Lake County after the Pawnee and Mendocino Complex fires

Grant applications being accepted by the Division of Boating and Waterways from public government entities to buy and maintain floating restrooms across California's waterways. It's a grant program to help reduce pollution from recreational boater sewage so there are actual bathrooms out in places on the water with limited landside access. About a million gallons of sewage kept out of state waterways every year using the floating restrooms. They're solar-powered and hold about 500 gallons of sewage. They've been redesigned for the 2019 grant cycle to be ADA compliant. For those interested they can submit grant applications at the Division office by 5 p.m. Nov. 15th.

General information on the grant requirements and online application can be found on DBW's Floating Restroom Grant webpage.

5 people have been arrested in Kelseyville after a drug search. The Lake County Sheriff's Office Narcotic Unit served a search warrant and found the five who were detained. After a search of the residence and property, detectives found 16 ounces of meth, 3 grams of heroin, 96 pounds of processed marijuana and more than 500 plants and a couple guns. Jaime Manzo, Enrique Cortesmolina, Angel Milanez Perez, Jeffrey Ariel Ponce, and Dora Melia Wills all of Kelseyville were arrested. The weed was growing near a creek which is a felony violation of the Health and Safety Code. The five charged with several crimes including, possession of methamphetamine for sales, cultivation of marijuana, possession of marijuana for sales and maintaining a residence for the purposes of narcotics sales. They were all released except for one of them who's held on \$500,000 because he was armed at the time of the warrant service.

The Yokayo Bowling Center is facing closure as the lease is about up. The owner of the Center tells the Daily Journal he's made an offer to buy the entire building, but his offer was not accepted. At the same time there's a petition circulating to gather 2,500 signatures in favor of the Bowling Center staying. It's nearing what's needed. Mike Schultz tells the newspaper he's been in the business ten years and was told months ago by the owners of the building they were taking offers from others to lease or buy the building. He says he made two offers. Schultz says his business is a community gathering place. The petition comments include for help to get the attention of the building owners, and calling it an important source of entertainment in

10/11/18 Mendocino County.

An elderly dog is recovering after being attacked by another dog at Low Gap Park. The owner says she was walking her two female dogs Monday near the archery targets and fitness stations when a man with two dogs came along. One of them, a pitbull, got away from his owner, but it attacked her dog and she fell down trying to defend it. The man got hold of his dog and the woman left and called police. The woman took her dog for treatment for an abrasion, with missing skin on her 14 year old dog. She wants the dog who attacked euthanized and is urging others to be alert and aware of their surroundings.

State of the art facilities coming to Kelseyville Unified Schools after another year of bond spending. The 24 million dollar Measure U was passed a couple years ago to raise \$24 million. The school district superintendent says they've got about \$8 million left of the bond money. Some of the projects include portable classrooms, a new shop building, multiuse building, and track and field facilities. Two out of six projects they're working on are done, that includes work on the Riviera Elementary parking lot and moving a portable building from Cobb to the district grounds for a Learning Academy, a home schooling program. Four more projects in various stages of completion.

In Ukiah, South Valley High improvements part 2 nearly done. The Ukiah Unified School District says 2 bathrooms have been upgraded, they've repaved a basketball court and parking lot and replaced the fire alarm system across the district. The Daily Journal reports they're also replacing the old administration building with a new modular Administration building because of hazardous materials. The second phase of the projects should be done by the end of the month and the next phase is to demolish the old Administration building. They'll also add an eating area on campus by the summer of 2019. At the same time the district is seeking alternative funding since they didn't qualify for a grant and went over budget.

A new report by the US Geological Survey shows there could be a damaging mudslide in the Sonoma Valley off Hood Mountain due to last October's massive wildfires in Northern Calif. The report says much of the Valley has a moderate risk of debris flow due to last year's Nuns fire. The fire blackened 56,500 acres in Sonoma and Napa counties. The report also says the area of Kenwood also has a high risk. That could include water mixed with soil, rocks, boulders and woody debris, which sometimes has a consistency of wet concrete. The research hydrologist on the report says Hood Mountain is "a hot spot" for potential debris flows. The Tubbs fire left a moderate risk from the Napa-Lake county line to the northern Santa Rosa and Mark West area and the Redwood Valley fire left a high-risk zone above the west side of Potter Valley.

An Agriculture teacher in Upper Lake has accolades from the state. Erica Boomer is one of five teachers who won teacher of the year. She got a personal call from the State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson. There's a dinner October 20th for the winners and a California Teacher of the Year Orientation Day in Sacramento two days later. Then Dec. 10th, the finalists and semifinalists will get to go to a gala in Sacramento to be honored by Torlakson.

The Clearlake City Council has a full docket for their next meeting. The council first meets in a closed session tonight at 5 to deal with a possible lawsuit, and for property negotiations. They will also present proclamations designating October Domestic Violence Awareness Month and Breast Cancer Awareness Month. There are also several public hearings set for tonight, the City Master Fee Schedule regarding penalties for parking violations and late payment penalties, and some abatement order appeal hearings.

A judge in San Francisco may toss parts of a massive judgment against Monsanto, the weed-killer manufacturer. San Francisco Superior Court Judge Suzanne Bolanos listened at a hearing, taking it under advisement whether or not to throw out the entire jury verdict. It's the first case like it against the manufacturer. The jury ruled in August that Monsanto knew, or should have, that their best-selling weed killer, Roundup, causes cancer, then asked for \$250 million in punitive damages and awarded a man \$33 million in "pain-and-suffering" damages and \$6 million in actual damages. But the judge said she was going to strike down the punitive damages and schedule a new trial on that issue.

A toddler coming home from preschool in New York with something she told her mom were teeth she got from another kid at school, but turns out that was crack cocaine. Serenity Straker gave her mom the drugs and told her she put one in her mouth. So mom called police and cops told her it was crack cocaine, so she took the 4 year old to the hospital. She tested positive for the drug. The owner of the day care facility says someone must have thrown the drugs over the fence and a child found it. Police reportedly looking into it as a case of endangering the welfare of children.

Former Governor and of course actor Arnold Schwarzenegger has come up in the era of the #metoo movement to say he's not always been a gentleman. Back in 2003 when he was running for Calif. Governor, he denied allegations of sexual misconduct, but now he tells Mens Health magazine, he may have "stepped over the line several times" and says he was "the first one to say sorry." He says he feels bad about it and when he was governor he and others took sexual-harassment courses to have a clear understanding legally and for a regular behavior point of view, of what is accepted and what is not. Schwarzenegger was never criminally charged for any of the allegations about him.

3 people being eyed by police for growing marijuana on tribal land. The Mendocino County Sheriff's office reports Carmen Christy of Talmage, Rudolfo Prudente of Santa Rosa and Jorge Luis Arredondo Navarro of Fresno seen after several complaints from community members and tribal members about a cultivation site on the Yokayo Rancheria land. Cops did a flyover last month and saw two plastic greenhouses and more than 50 outdoor plants. The Sheriff's Office found that it was Christy's property and that the cultivation might be using water diverted from the Tribe's general well. The other two living in tents in the grow area. Nobody's been arrested but the case is being followed up on then submitted to the Mendocino County District Attorney's Office to review for criminal charges.

A federal grant to be used by the California Highway Patrol in the Trinity River area for a traffic safety program. The project already began at the beginning of the month. It goes thru next September. Officers will be out on State Routes 299, 3, and 36; and roads in Trinity County where they have jurisdiction. The CHP office says it will help with services they already provide, with more education for motorists and enhanced proactive enforcement in the community. From Oct. 1st 2015 to Sept. 30, 2016 there were nearly 160 people killed and injured in crashes on state routes and highways the CHP Trinity River Area office oversees.

3 people in Eureka have been arrested after complaints there might have been drug deals going on at a local motel. The police dept.'s Problem Oriented Policing unit went out yesterday morning and found the trio, Anthony Jones, Racheal Naze and Chelsey Kidd-Thompson with nearly 52 grams of suspected heroin, about one and a quarter gram of what looked to be methamphetamine, and items consistent with possession for sales of a controlled substance. The three charged with possession of a controlled substance(s) for the purpose of sales or possession of a controlled substance. They were booked into the Humboldt County Prison.

Catching the five fish limit should be a breeze as bass Fishermen flock to the river2sea bass tournament starting tomorrow. The fishing has been rated good at Clear Lake- especially the North end of the lake, so the more than 100 boats carrying hopeful fisherman should be retuning with a good catch. Last years winning bass boasted 36 pounds, caught on a lure baited with lipless crankbaits.

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The chances of an El Nino conditions in our area by December is now 70-75 percent, but ocean temperatures are slightly cooler than past years, so experts are expecting a weaker El Nino, but the closer winter gets, the easier rainfall will be to predict.

She was thrilled to get the call this week, and reacted with excitement when 37 year old Erica Boomer got a call from the State Supervisor of Public Instruction to inform her that she had been chosen as one of California's teachers of the year. The Lake County Educator of the Year award event will be on the 20th in Sacramento. Her co-workers said they picked a good one, and the Upper Lake Unified School District's superintendent feels extremely lucky to have Boomer on the teaching staff- adding that she's one of the best.

Authorities seized two guns and about 16 oz of meth, three grams of heroine, almost 100 pounds of marijuana, about 500 marijuana plants. The drugs were found after a search warrant was executed on Bell Hill Road in Kelseyville. Fifty Two year old Jaime manzo, nineteen year old Enrique Cortesmolina, 29 year old Angel Milanez Perez, 24 year old Jeffrey Ariel Ponce, and 45 year old Dora Melia wills were all taken into custody, then released on bail except Jamie Manzo, who is still being held on \$500,000 bail.

In Nov 2016, 30 year old David Alex Ward of Oalkand and 24 year old Daciniel Floyd McRae of Santa Rosa allegedly showed up at a home and told everyone to get on the ground. When one of the victims refused, there was a struggle and a gun fired, killing 24 year old Brandon McAfee. Both suspects have been arrested and are due in court on the 16th. Police think the incident is part of a drug deal gone bad.

Voters will see Proposition 10, or the Affordable Housing Act on the ballot come election day, and promises to pit landlords against tenants. Landlords don't like it because it prevents them from raising rent, but places no limits on electricians, roofers and other maintenance costs. The proposition effectively repeals a law that stopped cities from controlling rent increases on single family homes and apartments built after 1995.

Proposition 3 will be before voters who already approved two previous water bonds. proposition 3 is 8.9 million dollar water bond to fund water projects.

Over the next 15 years, experts think that the Salton Sea will lose about 40 percent of the water it currently sees, exposing 100 square miles of lake bottom. The worry is that winds will blow on the dry lake bottom creating dust affecting air quality. The Redbud Audubon Society will be hosting a presentation on Oct 18th at the Kelseyville Presbyterian Church Social Hall at 7pm. The presentation will explain why the Salton Sea is important, and how over 400 bird species use the habitat, and discuss conservation efforts.

Ukiah Unified School District says Increment 2 is almost complete at South Valley High School, including bathroom upgrades, a newly paved basketball court, parking lot and a campus wide fire alarm system. The replacement of the old administration bldg is almost done, but the Career Tech Ed bldg is over budget, which was up for discussion at a board meeting yesterday.

Complaints about a marijuana grow site on the Yokayo Rancheria have been received by the Mendocino Co code enforcement office from the community. The land is owned by the Yokayo tribe, but the land falls under the jurisdiction of county and state marijuana regulations. Mendocino County Sheriff's office says that the operation may be diverting water from the tribe's well- which is reserved for homes, not agricultural use. The case has been referred to the Mendocino County District Attorney's office for review.

It's the end of an era as the owner of Yokayo Bowling Center says his lease is up, so he may have to close down operations by 2019 after offering to buy the building- the offer was declined. If the facility does close, the nearest bowling alley would be in Windsor.

A new study shows that a growing number of the youngest kids in the county have not been vaccinated at all, and by some estimates number 100,000 strong. This news has officials concerned after a survey of 15,000 parents. They didn't ask the parents why the kids hadn't been vaccinated, but a separate study by the CDC showed that some of the unvaccinated children came from families with no health insurance. While that may be a contributing factor, researchers fear that parents' misconceptions about vaccine safety may be at play.

[Kanye West made news this week with a visit to the oval office as President 1](#)

San Francisco is known as one of the most beautiful cities in the country, but these days, it's becoming known as a doo doo dumping ground, and has recently been dubbed the doo doo capital of the country by Realty Hop, an apartment search service which claims that San Francisco has the most complaints about the poop on sidewalks. The website estimated just under 500 poopie sightings per square mile last year. As complaints about the fecal matter on sidewalks pile up, the worst offending neighborhoods were Tenderloin, South of Market and Golden Gate Park.

Imagine your four year old showing you the teeth they found at school today. That sounds bad enough, but it's nothing compared to what one three year old brought home from day care. After being picked up by her mother, a four year old girl showed her little containers containing not teeth, but crack cocaine! Daycare workers think someone may have thrown the drugs over the fence where one of the children found it.

Santa Rosa homeowners say their home were first damaged by fire, then further damaged by federal contractors, who were paid by the ton to remove soil in the cleanup, and removed way too much. California emergency officials called out the US Army Corps of Engineers for lax oversight, while AshBritt, the contractor accused of the shoddy cleanup has gotten into politics, donating \$250,000 to the Democratic party earlier this month. A spokesman for the company says they always try to be good corporate citizens, and that there is no connection between the donation and political issues. The company also donated half a million dollars to a Pro Trump Super Pac back in April.

If you've been at a gas pump in Sonoma lately, beware. Two gas stations in Sonoma have discovered credit card skimmers at their pumps, which are thought to have been in place since Oct 5th. The devices are used to skim your credit card info, stealing it with the intent to commit fraud. If you bought gas at a pump recently and have noticed fraudulent activity, call the authorities.

A common cause brought about 150 people to the Lakeport Cinemas Parking. They were there for the renaming of State hwy route 29 as Deputy Sheriff Robert Rumfelt Memorial Highway. The highway was renamed after Senator McGuire introduced a bill to rename the highway for Deputy Rumfelt who grew up in Lakeport, graduating from Clear Lake High. The road was renamed in his honor so the community could recognize his sacrifice to the community.

Hackers have busted into Facebook again, and this time saw the personal info of 14 million users, according to Facebook. In a release today, the social media giant says that hackers took advantage of a security flaw to expose the data that included email addresses, recent checkins and even previous searches. If you'd like to know if your account was hacked, visit Facebook's online help center.

A weak California Dept of Education is hampering support provided to the schools by the state according to a new report by The Getting Down To The Facts Research project. The group says that conditions in the California Dept. of Education constrain the agency's ability to support frontline practice because it cannot help districts directly. The report did make note of the CDE's attempt to step into a new role after significant reorganization – geared towards becoming more of a support organization.

A woman walking the Fryer Creek Trail in south Sonoma one evening was approached by a strange man who groped her from behind, and tried putting his hand up her shirt. After the woman punched the man, he ran off towards Manor Drive. The suspect has been described as a man in his 30's, 5 feet 10 inches tall with a chubby build, dark hair, goatee and mustache. Sonoma County Sheriff's office has increased patrols in the area and are asking residents to be extra vigilant. If you have any info in the case, call Sonoma Police.

A man in Lake County accused of pimping, prostitution and sex trafficking has accepted a deal with the DA. Sam Lindsey Massette pleaded guilty to two counts of human trafficking for the purposes of prostitution and to two counts of pimping women in prostitution. The plea agreement with the DA has Massette getting 20 years ea for 2 counts of human trafficking to be served concurrently, 6 years for 2 pimping counts each for a total of 52 years. Charges against him for human trafficking of another person were dismissed as part of the plea agreement. Massette's wife Krystina Pickersgill, pleaded guilty to a count of human trafficking. And based on her mental health issues, she gets probation with a prison sentence of 12 years if she does not complete probation since she had no other criminal history. She had first been a victim herself. This is the case that came about after a woman came to the DA at a performance of a play on sex trafficking where

10/15/18 he spoke.

#### [A test of the Emergency Notification and Alert System or MendoAlert is plann](#)

Nixle is an alert system which can deliver text messages to residents for any areas requested, regardless of residency. Users may request information in a single zip code, multiple zip codes or County-wide. To register for Nixle, sign up online at <https://local.nixle.com/register/> or, using your smartphone, text 888777 and enter "MendoAlerts" (without the quotation marks) to get all alerts throughout Mendocino County. For a specific zip code, text 888777 and enter the zip code. Please note that Nixle does not provide a voice notification/phone call and will only notify registered users via text message and/or email. The Nixle test is part of the Great ShakeOut Exercise, a national and an international preparedness exercise which happens every year. For more info, [www.shakeout.org](http://www.shakeout.org).

Electricity's slowly being turned back on by PG&E after it was cut because of high winds and the potential of fire danger. The utility giant took a preemptive step Sunday because of concern after PG&E was blamed for some of the October 2017 wildfires, the state's most destructive. Tens of thousands were without power in Northern Calif but were slowly getting their lights back last night and this morning. The same thing done by San Diego Gas & Electric in the south, but only to just over 300 customers. They had their power back on last night. PG&E had warned almost 100,000 customers they might lose power to help prevent wildfires due to red flag

10/16/18 warnings across California.

The jury that found Monsanto's Roundup weed killer had been a factor in the cancer of a school groundskeeper's is urging the judge in the case not to toss the \$289 million award in his favor. San Francisco judge Suzanne Bolanos apparently got a letter from one juror Gary Kitahata who said the jury was convinced by the evidence. Another juror Robert Howard also wrote to the judge saying the jury paid "studious attention" and decision to overturn their verdict would shake his confidence in the judicial system. The judge said last week she's considering throwing out the punitive damages for DeWayne Johnson and dramatically reducing the rest of his award with her final decision due next Monday.

A couple of small fires that broke out in Redding have been mostly contained. CalFire reports the two fires started Sunday, the Masonic Fire, 38 acres, is 100% contained with all roads opened and all evacuation orders lifted. People had been told to leave their homes just after the fire started. One structure had some damage and one person was taken to the hospital with minor burns. The info in a tweet from the local fire dept. The other fire, the Tower Fire was about ten miles outside Redding and was 97% contained yesterday afternoon. It burned 12 acres, but no structures were threatened and no injuries were reported. The two fires started as a Red Flag warning was issued for Northern Calif. and PG&E shut down power.

Robocalls going out in Yolo County have the Elections Office telling residents, it's erroneous info. The robocall sponsored by an unknown campaign says there's an error on the title of a proposition that came in voting materials that were mailed to voters by the local registrar. But the agency says ballot titles are prepared by the state Attorney General and no changes are made by the Yolo County Registrar of Voters. The office says voters should watch out for "misleading claims that can cause confusion, especially during election seasons." They go on to say they're "committed to maintaining the integrity of every election we oversee and will continue to monitor any issues or concerns brought to our attention."

The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors is considering a purchase of the Potter Valley Project from PG&E. It would cost the county \$20,000 for "investigating and negotiating" buying the hydro-electric dam that's being auctioned off. The board will take on the topic this morning at their regular meeting and possibly give permission to put money out for legal fees for the Inland Water and Power Commission, a Joint Powers Authority who represents Mendocino County, the City of Ukiah, Redwood Valley County Water District, Potter Valley Irrigation District and the Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District. Staff is supporting the allocation of money.

A pickup truck with a camper on top crashes and bursts into flames into a tree. The Ukiah Valley Fire Authority reports they responded to the Furniture Design Center parking lot on Airport Park Boulevard last Saturday afternoon and found the truck in flames and the fire moving to the camper area. There was nobody inside the vehicle so they put the flames out. The truck driver was suffering from smoke inhalation and given oxygen. He told firefighters his brakes gave out and couldn't stop and crashed into the tree.

Senator Mike McGuire, Congressman Jared Huffman & Assemblymember Jim Wood with other local officials meeting with community members at a Redwood Valley Rebuilding Town Hall. The event at Eagle Peak Middle School last Thursday night for an update on the Redwood Valley County Water District Reconstruction and Improvement Project. The water district destroyed by the Redwood Valley Fire last October. And since the system wouldn't meet today's standards, it needs to totally be rebuilt. Money's been secured for the project. At the meeting, we learned they've started the design work and now have a project timeline and budget put together. They should be breaking ground next spring.

Multiple search warrants at the Big Valley Rancheria and thousands of pot plants were found. Ten people arrested who the Lake County Sheriff's Narcotics Unit says were part of a cartel drug operation. The deputies working with local and federal law enforcement including the DEA, Mendocino Major Crimes Task Force and the Clearlake Police Department and Lake County DA's Office. Officers found there was a Hispanic drug dealing organization growing thousands of marijuana plants on tribal lands and were committing several environmental crimes. There were some agreements to grow there, but most residents told police they didn't want weed growing nearby. More than 5,200 plants eradicated at 14 locations and more than 500 pounds of bulk processed marijuana seized. All of those arrested charged with various environmental crimes, conspiracy to commit a crime and possession of marijuana for sale.

A man in Southern California who owns the Wisedas Resort in Clearlake may be going to jail for violating his probation connected to an environmental case involving the resort. Edward Sherry Meyer Jr. got 90 days in the Lake County Jail, but says he's filing a motion to have the court take another look at his case. The resort burned down in 2013, then the rest of the resort burned in Oct. of 2016. The DA filed a complaint regarding several environmental crimes after the fires. The owner's pleaded no contest to several crimes and got three years probation and 160 hours of community service. But he had until last October to complete the terms and has not. He was found guilty in May of violating his probation. He's supposed to turn himself in by October 24th or start work on a seawall at the old resort.

A man from Santa Rosa the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office says led them on a chase into Bodega Bay, where a deputy crashed into a house, has been arrested. Ryan Moore is accused of several thefts of generators at campgrounds. The deputy who chased him had apparently been watching a campground in an unmarked car, saw a suspicious vehicle and went after it with other deputies, but they say the Honda wouldn't stop and led them all on a high speed chase through Bodega Bay. One of them lost control around a curve on Highway 1 and went into the vacation rental home, but got out of the car himself. Three people inside were awakened by the incident, but uninjured. Police found Moore at his house in Santa Rosa and arrested him after he left the house. The van he was in was stolen and so was the Honda he was in when the deputy chased. He's charged with reckless evading causing great bodily injury, willfully resisting a peace officer which caused serious bodily injury, possession of a stolen vehicle and violation of probation.

Northern and Southern California counties still in critical fire weather conditions so power's still shut down by some utility companies. The State Operations Center is currently activated along with the Inland, Coastal and Southern Region Emergency Operations Centers to support areas affected by high wind. They're working to coordinate resources and information after Red Flag Warnings and extreme fire weather conditions were in effect. As we've reported, thousands of customers had been without power due to the potential danger of power lines sparking in high wind conditions. Multiple areas and thousands of residents are still without power until assessments can be made by utility companies. Cal OES is also urging families and households to take immediate precautions to be prepared for short-term emergencies or those that might be longer lasting.

All power has been restored by PG&E after it was shut down during a red flag warning. The energy company says the rest of their customers in Lake and Napa counties affected by the outages had their lights back on. They went off Sunday to try to be proactive against potential wildfire risk during fast moving winds and hot weather conditions. There were still a couple hundred without power yesterday, but it was reportedly restored last night around dinner time. About 415 customers in Sonoma County were still in the dark too, but last night, they too have their lights back on. Altogether there were 17,500 customers in Lake, Napa and Sonoma counties without power. But about 60,000 people altogether in Calif. Less than 650 customers were in the dark still in the greater North Bay yesterday.

10/17/18

The Lake County Board of Supervisors hears about the decision by PG&E to shut down power at their meeting. The board took on the matter yesterday at the last minute, since it happened Sunday, just a couple days before their regular meeting. There were as many as 11,000 Lake County residents affected with some schools having to cancel classes. Some PG&E representatives were at the meeting as some supervisors said it was a disorganized plan and that local governments, schools and businesses lost money. The reps said it was the first ever Public Safety Power Shutoff program which is a state law that says they have to shutoff power during conditions where a utility might spark a wildfire that could become a catastrophic event. They also said it was part of their Community Wildfire Safety Program.

A student from Lake County one of four American Indians across the state to win a \$10,000 scholarship from the Morongo Band of Mission Indians near Palm Springs. The award comes from the yearly Rodney T. Mathews Jr. Scholarship program. The scholarship started to reverse trends amongst Native Americans being the most underrepresented group in colleges and universities. Andres Ramos is a member of the Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians. He wants to get his degree in biochemistry at Northern Arizona University. He also wants to go to pharmacy school after so he can be a pharmacist on his reservation because there was a shortage of medical personnel while growing up.

A new building official and code enforcement officer's been hired in the City of Willits. Christopher Morgan, out of Oklahoma, who's been living and working for about a decade in El Centro, which is in Imperial County. This after the last building official John Sherman decided to retire. Morgan's got years of experience working in construction on homes, restaurants and commercial buildings and post offices. He's also a veteran of the Navy and Marine Corp, the National Guard and Army Reserves. He has a master's degree in business administration.

An emergency evacuation route is being researched for the Sherwood Road Corridor. The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors all voted yes to find money to fund the route for emergencies like wildfires. The board had already approved more signs along North Sherwood Road to help with evacuations and to put up a new bridge along the same road. The Brooktrails Township is also getting the proper paperwork together with private landowners to use underdeveloped access routes. The improvements which could include clearing brush and better road conditions on the routes.

The Ukiah City Council's set to consider a rate increase for curbside trash. Ukiah Waste Solutions is allowed to propose rate increases every year per their agreement with the city. City staff will also look at area rates to see how it can be adjusted locally. The cost increases would amount to more than 300-thousand dollars or an 8 percent increase for all residential and commercial customers. Ukiah Waste Solutions wants about \$1.40 more monthly from residents with a 20-gallon can and \$1.50 more for those with 32-gallon cans. The City Council is reviewing the matter tonight, but apparently won't make a decision until next month.

[A prescribed burn's announced near Covelo area. Cal Fire announced the bu](#)  
Willits City Council against Proposition 6 which was quietly passed by four of five council members with three other agenda items. The Willits News reports on the passage and opposition of Prop 6 which will be on the November election ballot to repeal last years gas tax. It would cut back on certain road repairs and transportation money and direct some of the fuel taxes and vehicle fees have to be approved by voters before being instituted. The Willits City Council's agenda summary report says it's important for Willits and other state and local agencies to keep getting the state money. This year they plan to use it for a pavement preservation project, slurry seal and road striping on city streets. But those in favor of Prop 6 say the gas tax costs the average middle class family more than \$700 a year and could mean the state ends up with some of the highest gas prices in the nation.

Cops in Davis say they're investigating to make sure a student did not lace home baked cookies with the ashes of a dead grandparent. Police say a high school student said one of his classmates brought cookies to school that contained her grandma's ashes. The student says the suspected student at Da Vinci Charter Academy had been telling everyone the cookies had human ashes in them. The mother of the boy who told police about the incident said administrators had questioned him, because they were afraid he ate a cookie. They also said they thought the school district was more concerned about protecting themselves than protecting their students.

The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors Cannabis Ad Hoc Committee having a community meeting. On Monday, October 29th the committee will give a brief update and hear recommendations from residents about possible changes to the County's Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance. The committee was created in July by the board, it's made up of two board members who will review the ordinance then report back to the board for possible revisions. The meeting in 2 Mondays from now from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at the Willits Community Center at 111 E Commercial Street.

A woman from Southern Humboldt reported missing. Diana Hahn was last seen Monday in Idaho. She was apparently stopped by police for driving erratically. There's a missing person's be on the lookout alert on now, but it wasn't in place when she was pulled over. It's not known where she may be as she's been out of touch with family and friends and they say she's experiencing extreme paranoia. She reportedly rented a dark blue Dodge Caravan minivan last Thursday. Her son and his dad, Hahn's ex husband reaching out to media for help finding her, saying they're concerned for her welfare, with her son asking the community to help him find his mom.

[First 5 Lake County Commission is looking for a new member. The member t](#)

Two men have been convicted of poaching native succulents on the Mendocino Coast. The two, Minguk Cho of South Korea and Hyeongjae Kim, also of South Korea, found guilty of grand theft of property of greater than \$950, which is a felony. The two got 24 months suspended. But if they don't successfully complete their 3 years probation, they will end up in prison. They were also ordered to pay, \$10,000 each to the California Fish and Wildlife Dept. for habitat restoration and they have to leave the United States and cannot come back unless their immigration status allows it. It stems from them being busted for taking plants and rosettes from an area between Point Arena and Anchor Bay. They took 600 and 700 pounds worth of plants they were planning to sell as global exotic plant vendors.

10/18/18

Poll workers are needed in Ukiah, Brooktrails, Caspar and Albion. The Mendocino County Registrar of Voters office says they had several poll workers cancel because of unforeseen circumstances. They say they've replaced most of them, but they're still in need of more citizens to step up and be poll workers. PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE at 707 234-6808.

Lake County's doing all sorts of emergency drills as part of the Shakeout International Day of Action today. It starts this morning at 10-18 where you can participate in the self-led drill, practicing, Drop, Cover and Hold On. This is where you drop to your hands and knees to protect yourself from being knocked down and allows you to stay low and crawl to shelter if nearby, then cover your head and neck and hand, staying on your knees to protect vital organs. Then hold on until shaking stops. It's in remembrance of the "Loma Prieta" earthquake of October 17, 1989. The 6.9 earthquake hit the San Francisco Bay Area with shaking felt across the region including Lake County.

A man accused of the murder of a woman at a family home in Clearlake Oaks almost two years ago is going to prison. Last Friday Ezequiel Junior Bravo pleaded guilty to killing Theresa Jones in December of 2016. He also pleaded guilty to the attempted murder of his estranged girlfriend Shian Brown, assault with a deadly weapon of Robert Brown, assault with a deadly weapon on Stephanie Brown and assault with a deadly weapon on E.G. a minor. And also to attempted kidnapping of Shian Brown at the Lakeport Cinema. He was indicted last year on the case. Bravo in an abusive relationship with Brown. He abducted her, she got away, then he went to a family home in the Elem Indian Colony and opened fire. He's expected to be sentenced to 45½ years and two life terms.

A tribute to a man from Covelo killed last month with a bike ride. Walk and Bike Mendocino announced the memorial ride for next Tuesday, Oct. 23rd at 5:30 p.m. in remembrance of Xamuel Lara at the Rail Trail on Perkins Street, by the Walgreens parking lot. The one hour ride out to the intersection of Talmage Road and Hastings Frontage Road where Xamuel was hit. They want to bring awareness to improvements they say are needed in the corridor between the City of 10,000 Buddhas or Talmage and the City of Ukiah. Police say Lara died after being hit by a dump truck Sept. 14th near the Arco gas station on Talmage Road. The crash is under investigation.

An extension's been approved for the county's compensation study. The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors approved the move for the consultant, Koff and Associates, to work thru June of 2019, instead of the end of this month. The agreement after talking with the human resources department who said it was expediting work on the study. They're studying benchmark classifications for jobs and considering county employee questionnaires.

Highway 175 is totally closed between Hopland and Lake County for one more day. The work after a semi went down an embankment with a load of lumber last Thursday. Caltrans reports the closure today 5.6 miles east of Highway 101 to Mathews Road in Lake County from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. It's been closed over the last three days to remove the truck and its load. The truck pulled up Monday, but they're still hauling out the lumber.

A fundraiser for the NCO Wildfire Fund for the Mendocino Complex Fire survivors. This Saturday night at 7 pm, the adult dance party "Halloween Blues" at the Big Valley Hall, at the Lakeport / Finley border. All money raised for the Wildfire Fund. Levi Lloyd and Friends are performing and other local musicians have been invited to sit in. If you wear a costume, you could win a door prize. There's also donated wine and beer for sale as well as a lasagna dinner. They're asking those in attendance to bring money to purchase raffle tickets or participate in the silent auction.

Entry to Halloween Blues is \$10 at the door. More information is available on Facebook at: Lake County Fire Recovery Benefits and by phone: 707-278-7126.

[A fire quickly doused after it was spotted by a newly installed fire detection ca](#)

President Trump making comments and threats about California wildfires during a cabinet meeting this week saying other states take care of their forests and don't have fires like we do... Trump blamed state government incompetence and environmentalists for the massive wildfires saying they didn't have to spend the billions of dollars to help the state, when in fact, it was less than 3 billion for all of the United States last year. This year's numbers have not been tallied yet, since we have a couple months left. Mendo Voice reporting federal money's been crucial to fighting fires in the state, but the River and Ranch Fire were mostly paid for by local departments and Cal Fire, but the Ranch Fire did spread into the federally controlled Mendocino National Forest.

The new West Coast earthquake early warning system is online, so businesses, utilities, schools and others can use them, but they're not for mass public notification. The Press Democrat reports it's for California, Oregon and Washington and can supposedly detect when an earthquake is happening and, quickly analyze data to send automatic alerts which are several seconds to a minute before the strong shaking occurs outside the epicenter. It can be enough for trains to automatically slow down, stop industrial processes, start backup generators, pause a surgery or allow kids in school to get protection. The program's been in pilot mode until now, testing for several years and it's not totally done. The USGS says it's about 50 percent complete with funding secured to finish up totally in the next two years in Calif.

Not looking good for the 2019 abalone season. During a discussion Wednesday at the State Fish and Game Commission meeting in Fresno, it became clear abalone no longer have a rich food source to continue to thrive. The state's chief regulator for the recreational fishery previously said abalone seasons may never be the same as the 2018 season was closed due to a kelp die-off and massive amount of purple sea urchins that eat the same food source, starving abalone. The closure may last a couple of years to monitor abalone populations and their habitat. Right now the population of adults is too weak to fish and it could take abalone hatchlings ten years to be legal size.

10/19/18

The rate increase for Waste Management in Fort Bragg has been approved by the City Council. The City Manager Tabatha Miller says they calculated the rate increase incorrectly this spring. They've approved a 3.5% increase instead of nearly 6% because there was an error in the calculation the cost of living index. There was also an amendment to 2013 Waste Management rates never applied. The city and Waste Management worked together to recalculate the rate structure over the last six years. So residential services will pay a little more than 2 percent, commercial services just under 2 percent, and roll off services will be about .73 percent on average.

The Ukiah Police Chief has chosen his second in command. The Daily Journal reports Chief Justin Wyatt introduced Captain Sean Kaeser to be his right hand man, dubbing him, "Capt. Grumpy", but joked he's like an M&M: hard on the outside but soft on the inside". But joking aside said Kaeser will be a strong second. Kaeser's a native who graduated from Ukiah High, got an associate's degree from Mendocino College, then became a police officer. Sgt. Cedric Crook was also promoted to lieutenant, and commander of the dept.'s patrol division.

Three emergency medical staff positions will be created in support of EMS services in Mendocino County. The Daily Journal reports the positions won't be filled until the board fleshes the idea out a little more. They will be an EMS administrator, EMS specialist, and a part-time EMS medical director. The County apparently started mulling the idea after 2017 wildfires strained the system. The County CEO says the current local EMS authority with Coastal Valleys expires next year so the county has to decide if they'll continue or go in another direction or create its own EMS service.

Surplus money discussed by the Lakeport City Council along with their budget review. The city's finance director says account balances were submitted to an independent auditor and that's completed, showing just over \$763,000 left over in the General Fund, \$269,000 or so in water operations and maintenance funds and nearly \$2 million for sewer operations and maintenance funds. The reason there's money left over was from capital projects rolled in from the previous fiscal year, vacant positions in the police department, delayed capital projects and operational saving across all departments. So the city's considering buying new police cars and the Tree Well Electric Project, which had been part of the downtown improvement project in 2016 but it was eliminated due to budget constraints.

More kids are graduating Cal State Universities. The university system says it's due to more counseling and a major push to get students to take a full load of classes. The system says it's on track to meet targets it set for higher completion by the middle of the next decade. Those entering as freshmen and finished within four years went up about three percent from 22.6 percent last year to 25.4 percent this year. And for freshmen graduating within six years or less, that went from 59.2 percent to 61.1 percent. Transfer student numbers also went up, with students finishing in two years going from about 35 percent last year to 37.6 percent this year.

Lake County trying to figure out a way to fill the registrar of voters position after the current registrar is set to retire. The Board of Supervisors gave staff the green light to research ways to permanently fill the position Diane Fridley is leaving after 41-years working in elections. The County Administrative Officer Carol Huchingson asked the board for staff to work on the best way to fill the position, saying various counties handle such openings differently. She says due to financial challenges down the road, they may have to consider a major restructure of the elections office. Huchingson says for now, the board may want to consider appointing interested, qualified staff in the interim.

The two men from South Korea found guilty of stealing native plants off the Mendocino Coast have been ordered to leave the country. The two were accused of uprooting the succulents to ship to their clients in Asia. The Press Democrat reports Minguk Cho and Hyeongjae Kim found guilty of felony grand theft after taking as much as 700 pounds of one plant found in rock crevices just above the ocean. They agreed to pay \$20,000 each to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for habitat restoration. Also state wildlife wardens had previously intercepted at least three shipments of the plants poachers took from the Mendocino and Humboldt coastlines. The District Attorney's Office says they generally sell the plants for about \$50 each or more.

A new report says states that sell marijuana legally are seeing more car crashes. This after an investigation into a crash that killed twelve people on church bus in Texas in March 2017. The NTSB found the driver of a truck that hit the bus had taken marijuana and a sedative. The board, in the report on the bus crash, said there are more drug-impaired drivers across the country with a call to action to curb the problem. The report at the same time as another one released by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety's Highway Loss Data Institute. But another report last year showed recreational cannabis had not increased the amount of fatal accidents. The findings of both studies were presented at the Combating Alcohol- and Drug-Impaired Driving summit at the insurance institute's Vehicle Research Center.

Search warrants served and arrests made in Kelseyville in an elder abuse case. The Lake County DA's office went to both Linda Mafrice and Meghan Demarco's homes Thursday. Demarco is Mafrice's daughter. The two arrested for financial elder abuse in a case that's connected to Barbara Laforge, who was murdered in 2002. The D-A's office says the two women coerced and tricked Dan Hamblin into signing a deed to his home in Kelseyville and say he didn't know what he was doing at the time, then the two women forged medical records and other documents then Mafrice became romantically involved with Hamblin after his wife's death. The D-A says Laforge broke up with him and sold his home and kept the money. And she's a person of interest in Laforge's death. The DA says new DNA evidence has been analyzed in the case and new leads have developed, that may once and for all solve the LaForge case too.

Police in East Oakland on the lookout for a man they say shot at them early this morning. The police officer shot at was not injured and did not shoot back. The officer reportedly in full uniform in a marked patrol car investigating suspicious activity nearby and tried stopping the alleged shooter who ran away. The cop went after the man, who shot at the officer who called for backup. Police officers and Alameda County deputies combed the area to find the suspect with no luck. Many local streets were closed off while the searched for the man. They did find his gun, then the search was called off. They've not released a description of the man. A \$5,000 reward is being offered for information leading to the man's capture.

One of the ski resorts in Lake Tahoe is opened. For the first time in its 65 year history, Mt. Rose ski resort opened a limited number of slopes today. They've got 17 new snow-making machines and reports having the highest base elevation in the region at 8,260 feet so they've got snow very early this year. A spokesperson for the resort says they spent about \$2 million on improvements this summer, including updated equipment. Temperatures have been dropping into the 20's this week, so the resort started their machines churning. Their Wizard chairlift and three beginner runs are now open for season pass-holders. They plan to officially open to all skiers October 26th.

Roadwork gets underway today as crews begin replacing culverts on Forest Road NorthWest of Upper Lake. The work will keep the road closed 9am to 4pm tomorrow through the 25th. The project is expected to add about 15

10/22/18 minutes to your commute through the area.

Last Thursday, Mendocino Co Sheriff's Deputies responded to a burglary and found construction tools missing at a unit under construction in the 31000 block of highway 20 in Fort Bragg. Police collected evidence that led them to two more homes, and were eventually able to connect Aaron Guillory to the burglary and placed him under arrest. During their investigation, police found stolen items related to the burglary in the possession of Devan Tomkins, and arrested him as well. Both men are being held at the Mendocino County Jail.

There's a reason they say it takes a village.. Because everyone must work together to keep our kids safe! That includes the ride to school on school buses. National Bus Safety week is here, and the California Highway Patrol is asking drivers to say alert, don't get distracted behind the wheel, and to please pay extra attention when children are near a school bus. CHP officers will be riding on busses to raise awareness, and drivers are being asked to report any other drivers who illegally pass a school bus this week.

If you want to get more involved in the community, Saturday is your next chance! It's a nationwide day of volunteering, or Make A Difference day, on Oct 27th. Once again in Lake County, there will be a collection of non perishable food items meant for Lake County residents in need. North Coast Opportunities, Community Action and Lake County Hunger Task Force will be holding the collections and setting up volunteers at Clearlake Grocery Outlet in Clearlake and Lakeport Grocery Outlet where busses waiting to be filled will be parked.

[Tomorrow at 9am, Lakeport board of supervisors will consider a tourism impr](#)

This Thursday from 9 to 10:30am, local service providers are teaming with Career Point Lake County for an employer forum at the Joy Madeiros Veteran Museum. Employers, local business owners and the public are all invited to see what local employers think will benefit their businesses when it comes to hiring employees with disABILITIES. A work opportunity tax credit, workplace diversity, reasonable accommodation myths, a \$10,400 a year paid internship and job coaching are all up for discussion.

Back in September, the Bucket Challenge was issued to shoppers at Mendo Mill Stores: designate a school and buy a bucket for \$5.00 to do your shopping, and Mendo Mill matched. Over one hundred buckets were purchased, raising \$2750 for athletic programs at Clear Lake, Kelseyville and Upper Lake High Schools.

The California Department of Education and the California History- Social Science Project have won the American Historical Association's Beveridge Family Teaching Prize for distinguished K-12 history teaching. The accolades also come with a \$1000 award.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has been asked to approve a utility rate hike by PG&E. If given the go -ahead, bills would go up about \$1.50 a month, according to PG&E. The company blames policies holding utilities accountable for wildfires, climate change and extreme weather for the rate hike.

Make that six now looking to fill a seat on the LakePort Unified School District Board of Trustees. Questions about bond funds, a new swimming pool and the funds to complete it, and more are at stake in the race. Local businessman Dan Camacho has now thrown his hat into the already crowded field as a write in candidate. In order to cast a vote for him, voters must write his name in, and place a checkmark in the box next to it in order for the vote to be counted.

As part of Chevron's "Fuel Your School" Program, first graders at Lakeport Elementary got a special package delivered last week- STEM challenge building kits and a "Botey the Coding Robot" to help students learn about engineering and coding- all essential skills kids need to master for success in the future.

As election day approaches, officials across the state are doing everything they can to prevent improper voter registrations. The DMV received a lot of criticism about errors made when customers walked into the office and registered, so the DMV will now review and certify a sample of the registrations taken, and send to the Secretary of State's office.

There's definitely a supply problem after Canada legalized recreational marijuana last week- becoming the first industrialized country in the world to do so. Canadians rushed to get their hands on the drug and supply ran short within the first two days. The new law allows citizens to carry up to 30 grams of marijuana in public, and each home may grow up to four four plants.

The CDC is out with a waring ahead of Halloween.. Do not dress up your chickens for Halloween! The warning comes after a salmonella outbreak across 29 states has officials scrambling to contain it. Health officials saying that holding chickens to put on the costume, or even cuddling the chickens by their owners could spread the disease.

It's probably not how most of us would choose spend a Friday night, but it seemed like a good idea to one Toronto man who stripped down after entering Ripley's Aquarium and jumping into a shark tank. Video of the incident has been posted all across the web showing the man flopping backwards into the tank before security escorted him away. Police say the man had been asked to leave Medieval times earlier in the same night for being unruly.

Tomorrow's Mega Millions jackpot grew to a record \$1.6 billion dollars over the weekend. Cash payout for Tomorrow's drawing now sits at \$904 million dollars. Wednesday's Powerball jackpot is 620 million dollars, cash payout is \$354.3 million dollars.

[If you haven't received your mail ballot yet, you should call the county clerks c](#)

For those living in communities that have banned the sale of Marijuana, you may still be able to get it after the state took steps on Friday to allow deliveries into those communities. There is currently a 15 day public comment period being planned, as those in opposition the deliveries say they could increase certain types of crime like impaired driving and robberies. Some expect the rules to be in place by the new year.

Offenders serving time for non violent third strike offenses may soon be up for parole thanks to a ballot measure voters approved back in 2016. Between three and four thousand prisoners could be eligible for parole under the new rules expected by the end of the year. There will be public safety screenings and parole board hearings before any inmate is ever released under the new rules.

10/23/18 [The Lake County Quilt trail is a tourism project promoting community pride an](#)

Everyone's invited! It's a halloween party on Friday from 5:30 to 8:30 at the Lakeport Senior Center. \$20.00 gets you in, and proceeds benefit the Meals on Wheels. program No party is complete without the music and the band High Notes will be playing their favorite songs that evening.

It was a massive \$289 million dollar judgement against Monsanto in favor of a former school groundskeeper who sued after getting non Hodgkins lymphoma from using a concentrated form of the weed killer roundup at his job for years. The judgement was reduced by a California judge this week from \$289 million to \$78.5 million dollars after decreasing punitive damages by over \$200 million dollars. The jury tried to change the judge's mind but were unable to do so.

A secret report by a top prison psychiatrist in California has not been made public, but the fight is only just beginning after lawyers for inmates asked for the report's release. Lawyers say the report gave a judge misleading and inaccurate information and more whistleblowers have come forward with more information. The judge will now decide if the report can be made public while protecting inmates privacy rights. Lawyers for the state would like any state official names in the report redacted when it is released. A ruling is expected soon.

Whether it's the cooler temps, pumpkin flavored everything or the holiday season on the horizon, most people love fall! Now you can celebrate the season and all that come with it, eating local food, visiting craft vendors, participating in activities for the kids! The Second Annual Harvest Festival is happening this Saturday at the Woodland Community College Campus in Clearlake from 11am to 3pm. You can get more info on their Facebook event page.

She told officers that she didn't deserve to go to jail after shooting her grandson in the thigh for putting a cup of tea on her wood furniture. A seventy-five year old grandma was charged with second degree assault with a dangerous weapon, and arrested before being released on bond. The angry grandma had had enough when her grandson put his tea down on her wooden furniture, even though she had told him not to, so she dumped out the tea and left the room to go looking for a gun. Her grandson went back for more tea, setting it back down on the furniture before his granny returned with a .38 revolver, pointed it at him and pulled the trigger. In the end, the man ratted his grammy out when police arrived.

Tonight's Mega Millions drawing is still sitting at 1.6 billion dollars with a cash payout of 90 million dollars. Tomorrow's Powerball jackpot is still 620 million \$354.3 million cash payout! Tax experts say you can expect 37% or more to go to the government in taxes before you get what's leftover.

If you've been wondering what to do with your old prescription drugs, here's your chance to safely discard them. Saturday is National Take Back Day and the Fort Bragg Police Department at 250 Cypress street in Fort Bragg will be participating. Black out your personal information and bring your prescription and over the counter medications to dispose of with no questions asked. It's free and anonymous.

Some scary moments today for commuters on the 101 freeway after a small plane crashed and landed on the lefthand side of the westbound lanes around 1:45 this afternoon, snarling traffic for miles. LA county fire responded, shutting the freeway down in both directions. There were no injuries were reported.

A report by Kemper Consulting group about a study on the Mental health system in Mendocino County looked at what will be needed over the next 10 years. The takeaway was that the county is struggling with the delivery of mental health services, and the study makes recommendations on funding with a ten year finance plan related to Measure B passed by voters in 2017 calling for a tax and the construction of a facility to offer services and treatment programs. As far as the new facility goes, Mendocino County and the National Alliance on Mental Illness have announced a grand opening on Thursday Nov 1st 2 to 7pm at 564 South Dora Street, Suite E.

This morning's meeting is in the books, and the Lake County Tourism Improvement District is a go! Next step is to form a board and create a non-profit to collect assessments. A new assessment of 1.5% instead of the original 3% percent was proposed which is expected to raise \$170,000 a year, less than the previous proposal's \$340,000 a year and will begin Jan 2019. The goal is to improve the local economy and promote tourism.

If you love LOVE, then you'll love "Artful Liaisons: Connecting Painters Grace Carpenter, Edward Espey, and Grafton Tyler Brown. The exhibit is now open, featuring personal stories from the artists. There will be two tours on Saturday, both limited to 20 persons at 11am and again at 2pm, and reservations are required for the exclusive tours. The exhibit runs through February 17th at the Grace Hudson Museum, Wednesday through Saturdays noon to 4:30pm.

A duplex fire on Saturday required a response by Ukiah Valley Fire Authority, and an investigation is now underway after it took an hour and a half to put out the blaze. Authorities have not announced a cause of the fire, but say a male suspect has been arrested by Ukiah Police. The fire only burned one unit in the building, and there were no injuries reported.

A quick thinking store owner in Belgium was held up by 6 robbers in the middle of the day, and what happened next is right out of a comedy sketch. The salesman at the e-cigarette store told the would-be robbers that they should come back at the end of the day, and he would give them even more money. They agreed and left the store. The group, now being called the worst robbers in Belgium, had a surprise waiting when they returned to finish the robbery right at closing time. Police were also there, waiting to arrest them.

Save the date because it's coming back December on 16th!! The 11th annual community Christmas Carol Sing along is starting to come together. If you want to join in, rehearsals will be on Sundays at 12:30pm at the First Presbyterian church in Ukiah, and are scheduled for Oc 28th, Nov 11th, of 25th, Dec 2 and Dec 9th. Mandatory dress rehearsal will be Dec 14th at

10/24/18 5:30pm. The big event begins at 3:30pm, and will last about an hour.

Three sisters from Ukiah return for a "Bountiful Boutique" with Ukiah Symphony. Holiday in the Pines returns to Lake County for the 15th year on November 10th and 11th, at the Twin Pine Casino and Hotel Event Center from 10am to 5pm. Great new gift ideas like Candles, iron work and knit crafts will be featured for the first time, and original paintings, pottery, jewelry and wood sculptures will be on exhibit by Cobb Mountain Artists.

It's a great idea to raise money for community and recovery efforts in Lake County

The latest research all points to the same conclusion. Students who attended a Pre K program do much better in school than their peers who did not, and now four communities are asking voters for help providing those services to local students. A measure looking for more funding for early childhood education programs in Richmond, Oakland, Capitola, Santa Cruz coast and San Joaquin county will go on the ballot after a 3-2 vote by the board of supervisors.

The lease is up, but Mike Schultz, owner of Yokayo bowling Center doesn't want to close up shop! Erickson Brother's Properties is accepting offers to buy the building that houses the bowling center, but none have been accepted. Now Schultz says he has over 6000 signatures on petitions posted in neighboring businesses for the public to sign. Schultz says he just wants to invite every family member of Erickson Brother's Properties employees to a Special Olympics practice. So far he hasn't heard back from any takers. The business will shutter in the first week of December if no progress can be made.

Changes are coming to cost of living allowances, and employees aren't taking it lying down. Classified and temporary employees of Mendocino Lake Community College district picked up signs and picketed yesterday to raise awareness about changes announced by Mendocino College. State provided cost of living allowances will not be offered in the form of wage increases anymore, but rather as a one time bonus. President of the Mendocino Lake Community College Chapter of classified and STNC employees, Toni Fort, says that morale is down because employees feel disrespected.

Throw less away, and you could have lower garbage bills if two motions proposed last week are approved. Council member Steve Scalmanini says he feels the option to set rates like every other city in the north bay should be available for the county, and moved to consider a 20% discount in the next meeting.

Not in this judge's courtroom! A Seattle judge wasn't having it when two inmates ran out of his Washington State courtroom. He took matters into his own hands, stripping off his robe and giving chase after the inmates down a stairwell, catching up with one of the bad guys at the bottom. Police caught up with his accomplice a few blocks away. The two are now charged with second degree escape.

A duplex fire on Saturday required a response by Ukiah Valley Fire Authority, and an investigation is now underway after it took an hour and a half to put out the blaze on Marshall Street. Authorities say a male suspect was detained for a mental health evaluation by Ukiah Police. The fire only burned one unit in the building, and there were no injuries reported.

How many times have you been asked by your IT person if you rebooted when reporting a technical issue with your computer? Well the strategy was recently employed successfully by NASA after losing contact with the Hubble Space Telescope earlier this month. The famous telescope put itself in hibernation mode, and controllers working to get the telescope back up and running were having no luck. After two weeks of fighting with the telescope, engineers rebooted the system, and it seems to have worked! They are now working to get the scope pointed back in the right direction, and if they are successful, normal operations can be resumed.

After leaving a restaurant carrying a crate of cans, police in the UK posted the mans picture, asking for any information about who the suspect could be. Unfortunately, the responses weren't very helpful, because the suspect was the spitting image of Ross from friends. When police posted a still image of the man leaving with his loot, users jumped on right away with jokes about the beloved character from the 90's. Police are still looking for their suspect, who is definitely NOT Ross from Friends.

Police arrested Denver Broncos Quarterback Chad Kelly yesterday in a bizarre case of criminal trespassing in Colorado. The police report says officers responded to residence after a call came in about a man outside the home. When police arrived, Kelly was already inside the house and had to be chased out. A statement by John Elway, Denver's General Manager, said they are disappointed in Chad, but are still getting all of the facts before deciding how to respond to the incident.

The plan is to focus on updates and the status of broadband in Mendocino County. The Broadband Alliance of Mendocino County will reconvene on Friday Nov 2nd at the community foundation of Mendocino County at 204 S Oak Street in Ukiah from 10am to noon. The alliance has also planned upcoming quarterly meetings for 2019, on March 1st, June 7th, Sept 6th and December 6th.

Nobody would blame you for thinking that the fire season is over. After all, it is almost November. But the ban lingers for Mendocino County, just like it did last year. The burn ban, which is usually lifted in October lasted until the end of November last year, and continues for now, so the burning of leaves and debris piles is still prohibited.

Three suspects were been arrested after leading Mendocino County Sherifs office on a high speed chase that started on Eastbound highway 20, with speeds as fast as 80 to 100mph according to the police report. The chase went into Lake County where the driver started weaving in and out of cars, even crossing over into oncoming traffic to get away from deputies. In the end the bad guys were stopped when spike strips were laid on Red Hills Road near highway 20. All three occupants in the car were arrested on an assortment of charges.

The Crypt Keeper's Maze will be part of this year's event when the Haunted Lake County haunted house will be open this Friday and Saturday from 5 to 10m. Proceeds benefit Lake County Fire victims. Admission is just \$5.00 per person.

A can of raid would probably have done the trick. but a man in Fresno had other ideas about how to kill black widow spiders he found while house sitting for his parents last night. Instead of running to the store, he opted for a blowtorch to get rid of the arachnids. His idea backfired when the house caught on fire, requiring twenty nine fire fighters to tap out the 2 alarm fire. The second story and attic of the home were damaged in the incident.

Headquarters will be the Northshore Fire Protection District in Clearlake Oaks when they 37th annual catfish derby gets underway from May 16th to May 19th. The derby will raise money for scholarships and important causes around the community. Over 1000 people re expected to take part, about

10/25/18 40% coming from Lake County alone

[The wind will come sweeping down the plane when Oklahoma! opens at the 6](#)

Gearing up for election day takes a lot of preparation, and the Lake County Registrar of Voters office is up for the task. The are set to start testing voting equipment on Tuesday of next week at 9am. If you would like to attend, the testing will be in the Registrar of Voters office on the second floor, room 209 of the Lake County Courthouse in Lakeport.

A pet store in San Diego fond a surprise waiting in an black duffel bag left on their doorstep. Inside was a thee fool alligator! The owner of the store told ABC that he is happy the alligator was left at his store instead of releasing it into the wild. The alligator will be kept in a turtle tank until game officials pick it up.

The Clearlake City Council meets today for a closed session at 5:30pm, the public portion begins at 6pm today in the council chambers at Clearlake city hall on Olympic Drive. Updates to the Clearlake Municipal Code and gym equipment for the Clearlake police department are on today's agenda, along with possible approval of a Community Development Block Grant program for code enforcement.

Lake County residents can get up close to nature in pontoon boat rides provided by Redbud Audubon. The guided tours are paid for by one major fundraiser, and volunteers are critical to the program's success. It's a big commitment though, because volunteers must get licensed, and the number of boats and volunteers have decreased in recent years. If you are available to help out two weekends this spring, April 27th and 28th, and May 4th and 5th, contact Redbud Audubon. You must own a pontoon boat in good condition and have experience driving boats.

The lower lake high school football program had a huge need for equipment, and the California Fire Lawyers have answered that call, donating \$2200 to the program for the purchase of new hitting bags for practice and other gear for the team.

Federal money has been allocated by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development in the form of housing vouchers for families in the city of Santa Rosa along with Sonoma and Mendocino counties after last year's wildfires destroyed over 3000 homes in Sonoma county, and 300 in Mendocino County. The three municipalities are expected to receive 3.5 million dollars, a much needed boost amid the state's housing crisis and sky high rent prices.

Thanks to a one year grant, California Highway Patrol will be working at local schools and community events all across the state to address the number one killer of teens in the country- car accidents, many of which are caused by distracted drivers. The Teen Distracted Driver's Education and Enforcement Grant will help spread the message: focus on the road ahead and get where you are going safely. A study by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has found that drivers aged 15 to 19 have the highest amount of drivers who were distracted at the time of an accident.

Today from 5 to 7:30pm at the Middletown United Methodist Church on Armstrong street is your last chance to register for "Spirit of The Season," and help build holiday gift baskets for children. The program offers Christmas presents and food to residents across South Lake County who meet certain requirements. If you want to apply for the assistance, stop by today and bring your kids christmas wish list, and shoe and clothing sizes with you to choose three gift ideas under \$25.00. You'll also need proof on income and residence.

He grew up in Upper Lake and served worked in the fire service for 42 years. Now after 7 years as chief of Northshore Fire Protection District, Jay Beristianos has retired. Mike Ciancio has worked as deputy chief for several years, and will replace Beristianos to lead the district's 21 firefighters.

A thanksgiving staple for years, the Greenbean casserole was invented by Dorcas Reilly back in 1955 after she combined green beans and cream of mushroom soup, calling her creation Green Bean Bake. Reilly passed away this month of Alzheimers, but her road to immortalization began when she went to work in the home economics depart at Campbell's where she first came up with the recipe. The recipe didn't get the highest rating during taste tests at Campbell's, so she kept working on it until she got what we all know and love to see on the table every year for Thanksgiving. The Green Bean Casserole.

Just in case there was any lingering doubt, the man responsible for stealing a case of beer from a restaurant this week in England is NOT Ross from Friends, and David Schwimmer proved his innocence yesterday after a pic of the criminal was released showing a man, who is the spitting image of the beloved character from Friends. Schwimmer posted a video to twitter yesterday of himself in a store, carrying a case of cans dressed just like the suspect. The caption reads "officers, i swear it wasn't me- as you can see, I was in New York. To the hardworking Blackpool police, good luck with the investigation #itwasntme".

Why did the cobra cross the road? Because he had help by a professional snake catcher. In a scene caught on camera, the snake was slithering down a busy road in India when a man who works as a snake catcher saw the Cobra in danger of being run over. The man jumped off his bike and stopped traffic so the snake could safely slither to the other side of the road. Annoyed drivers can be heard honking their horns in the video, but the snake catcher was unfazed.

More than one or two dams in Lake County are listed in a report by the California Department of water resources division of safety of dams- including two operated by Lake County Sanitation district in Clearlake oaks and upper lake and the adobe creek and highland creek dams. All four are

10/26/18 in Satisfactory condition according to the report..

The goal is to provide young people aged 14 to 24 with career pathways and

The chore of cleanup continues after the Pawnee and Mendocino complex fires damaged buildings, and as of the 20th, officials say that all debris had been removed on almost half of 12 parcels for the Pawnee fire. Property owners have submitted rights of entry forms for over 150 property owners, and over 40 of those sites have finished removing debris. There are still about 190 parcels of land damaged by fire that still need work.

Here's something you never considered on a trip to Disneyland... Apparently the park along with Disney World are some of the most popular places to scatter the ashes of loved ones. It happens so much there's a word for it- a HEPA cleanup. That's what employees at the park order when they see visitors scattering ashes around the park. According to Disney insiders, HEPA cleanups happen at least once a month. The Haunted Mansion according to employees is one of the most popular places in the park to leave the ashes. There are human ashes in flowerbeds and water rides. But before you plan a trip to spread you loved ones ashes- a spokesperson from Disney says the practice is frowned upon, and will get you booted from the park.

They probably say they were just doing their jobs, but 40 heroic firefighters are being honored for their work fighting the Mendocino Complex wildfires over the summer. Fire Chief Kenneth Herbert was there to see it in person as the men risked their lives fighting the fires. The 40 being honored were part of a regional strike team, which must always be ready to go with no notice, and has been called out six times this year.

Millions of dollars could be coming our way to help with the state's housing crisis. The state senate is considering a bill that will bring services and programs like permanent housing to rural areas and larger metropolitan areas as well- 6.6 million for Mendocino County alone. The legislation being considered will focus on residents who are chronically homeless, or at risk of chronic homelessness and may be suffering from drug and alcohol addiction and mental health issues.

It took 7 years of careful planning and preparation by the California Department of Public Health, and now a new 14,700 square foot state of the art emergency department, intensive care unit and helipad has opened their doors. The new facility boasts 19 private treatment rooms, negative pressure rooms for highly contagious patients and two trauma rooms. Eight critical care rooms were built with state of the art technology, and space for family bedside. The hospital began accepting patients today.

With the holiday season about to kick off, the whole family will enjoy getting out into nature and picking out the family Christmas tree together, and tree permits will be available starting Nov 1st for a fee of \$10.00. The permits are first come, and can be picked up at the Upper Lake Range Station at 10025 Elk Mtn Road, or you can fill out a form and mail in for a permit <http://tinyurl.com/h8x4hwd>. If you have a fourth grader, present a fourth grade pass, get a free permit courtesy of the Every Kid In The Park initiative. More info at [www.everykidinapark.gov](http://www.everykidinapark.gov)

The results are in, and students at Ukiah Unified School District are improving

After creating a committee back in July to study Mendocino County's Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance with instructions to report back supervisors with recommendations, the Board of Supervisors will hold a meeting on Monday from 5:30 to 7:30pm open to the public at Willits Community Center. The recommendations covered at the meeting will officially set in stone, and meant to inform the community on the committee's progress and hear the recommendations on revisions to the ordinance.

The D-A has investigated a man detained by Lakeport Police in May who died later at a hospital, saying he died from a drug overdose. The Lake County District Attorney's Office reports Anthony Cortez was showing signs of distress when police got to him so he was taken to a hospital. Police responded to the Anchorage Inn for reports Cortez was seen running back and forth on the walkway of the second floor balcony, barefoot with no shirt on, yelling at those around him, appearing agitated and waving his arms. He then walked into traffic and 911 dispatchers received multiple calls. He was handcuffed by arriving officers, who say he seemed to be in a state of cardiac arrest. The D-A reports the officers did nothing wrong. An autopsy showed Cortez died from acute drug toxicity and acute amphetamine overdose and not caused by members of the police department.

10/29/18

Several forged checks passed in Lake County leads to arrest warrants for four people. Police say Joshua Holden of Clearlake, George Meszaros of Clearlake, Maranda Medina of Clearlake and Jocia McCloskey, also of Clearlake have been linked to the manufacture of phony checks to look like they were issued to them by Rainbow AG and the Travelodge in Clearlake plus various other businesses outside of Lake County. Police say they searched Meszaros' home and found items consistent with making forged checks. The four have been referred to the D-A's office for formal charges to be filed. One of the accused is on Post Release Community Supervision probation (PRCS) for drug and weapons offenses with an active warrant for violating probation. The other three are on probation for drug charges.

The first person accused in the marijuana robbery and murder of a man in Laytonville two years ago is going to prison for several years. Michael Kane of Pleasantville, NY got 14 years behind bars for the murder of Jeffery Settler in November 2016. Kane pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter by use of a hatchet, and robbery of an inhabited dwelling while acting in concert with others. At Kane's sentencing hearing last Friday, Settler's parents and siblings were in the court. Many of them addressed the court, traveling to town for the proceedings from Texas. Six co-defendants are due in court this Friday for sentencing hearings. They're all expected to also receive prison sentences.

City leaders in Ukiah give the green light to spend \$20,000 to explore possibly buying the alternative energy, Potter Valley Project, a hydroelectric dam Pacific Gas and Electric says it wants to sell. The Daily Journal reports the city's director of water and sewer agreed with the city council that they should do what they can to save the project. The dam goes back to the early 1900's when it was built as a more reliable source of electricity for the city. It's also not the first time they've discussed selling the project, back in the 1990s, when the Inland Water and Power Commission was formed. Each of the five entities that make up the commission, including the city and county are each expected to approve spending \$20,000 ea to explore the potential purchase of the project.

The State is not enforcing a net neutrality law until a federal court decides if the FCC's net neutrality order can preempt state laws. The Calif. State Attorney General Xavier Becerra working with the Department of Justice and cable and internet service providers so the lawsuit against Calif. is pending. It's part of an appeal of the Federal Communications Commission's recent order to end federal net neutrality regulations which is going to be heard in the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington D-C. The state's own net neutrality law was supposed to go into effect Jan. 1st.

A judge not agreeing with those against California's high-speed rail project, the state's not spending bond money improperly. The case picks up again this Friday with those against the planned project trying to get the judge in the case to change his mind. It comes one day after one small Central Valley town sued too, but that was settled. Voters approved the \$10 billion project about a decade ago, to use bond money to build the high-speed train between Los Angeles and San Francisco. The trips expected to be three hours long and it would be the first high speed train in the country. But there's been a slew of lawsuits and the project's been plagued by giant cost overruns and delays.

A new report says all the fires in Calif. mean more floods and debris flows too. Federal, state and local officials at a press conference in Santa Barbara last week with the warning in the same place there were debris flows and floods last January after the Thomas fire left a major burn scar. 21 people were killed and two people were missing at one point. The state Department of Water Resources reported more than 7 million in the state are at risk of post fire floods. Most of the risk for homes downslope from scorched areas since the ground can't absorb water.

Massive amounts of money spent on elections every year, but one of California's most expensive races this time around, for the state Superintendent of Public Instruction. Two men running, both Democrats, Tony Thurmond, an East Bay state assemblyman and former social worker; and Marshall Tuck, who works in school administration after years in finance. The two have brought in more than \$43 million to win the position. Thurmond getting loads of cash from teachers unions and Tuck by pro-charter school PAC money from outside California.

A man found whipped in the head with a rifle in Southern Humboldt County. The man called dispatch himself and deputies went to the home, finding the caller was in some sort of fight with his dad because of his cat taking food off their barbecue. Red Headed Blackbelt news site reporting the son went next door to make sure the cat was safe, and got into an altercation with his dad, saying his dad, who was armed with a .22 caliber rifle at the time, possibly to shoot the cat, and they got into a struggle over the rifle and the son was hit with the barrel of the rifle in the head. The son hurt and dad got a cut on his hand. Neither wanted to press charges and the son went to the hospital in Garberville for treatment.

Three people have been arrested for heroin dealing in Humboldt County. The Humboldt County Drug Task Force serving search warrants and arriving with a police dog to a home in Eureka finding Carlos Sanchez-Gallego. They say he had almost 9 pounds of heroin ready to be sold with an estimated street value of about \$270,000. Another man with him, Jose Ochoa-Ayon tried speeding away from the area in a different car. He was caught and cited for driving in a reckless manner and was not chased for safety reasons, but he was found soon after nearby. Another man also caught nearby with drugs and possible drug money. The three brought to jail on various charges including possession of a controlled substance for sales, transportation of a controlled substance and criminal conspiracy to distribute heroin.

A young woman from Fortuna's been arrested with a man, the two had more than 100 pounds of pot on them. In Missouri, 22-year-old Rosa Maldonado and Daniel Silva were arrested with 112 pounds of marijuana. Their arresting officer said when they were pulled over he observed the two, quote "sitting in a rigid posture." When the officer spoke to them through the car window he could smell weed and dryer sheets, so he searched. That's when four large duffle bags were found with all the marijuana individually wrapped at about a pound each. The pair were arrested for transportation of marijuana and Silva was also charged with being an undocumented foreign national.

10/30/18

The Fort Bragg City Council has approved Measure H to let voters decide if there should be a new tax to bring in several hundred thousand dollars. The initiative for the so-called add-on transaction to bring in more than 620-thousand dollars a year. City staff is estimating as much as a \$150,000 a year hike in the city's pension costs over the next seven years, then pension costs doubling by 2024, going from about \$1 million to about \$2 million. Measure H will be on the ballot next Tuesday. The City Council also talked about city pools at their meeting last week. The repair of city pools to cost more than anticipated so the city's been doing temporary repairs and they're now trying to find a contractor for the work after the last one stopped answering inquiries from the city.

Work in Ukiah on a fuel break which is supposed to protect the Western Hills is moving along. The Daily Journal reports the Ukiah Fire Marshal says a shaded fuel break will probably be worked on in coming weeks, in late fall or early winter, with completion by next fire season. They're also planning upkeep on dozer lines in the same area, mainly from Low Gap Road to Highway 253. The city's also working with Cal Fire on the Robinson Creek drainage area between Ukiah and Boonville where they're considering a controlled, preventative burn this winter on 600 acres. They're also working with neighborhood groups on preventative measures ahead of the next fire season.

Signups have begun for those interested in getting an apartment on Brush Street. A nonprofit – Resident Services for the Corporation For Better Housing is accepting applicants. The new apartment complex called Brush Meadow Apartments is similar to one in Calistoga which was dedicated to farmworkers and their families. The building, put up by Integrated Community Development said to be a "sustainable development" that will also be run with energy efficient appliances, solar energy and low water fixtures. It's designated for farmworkers who have to meet income restrictions due to its funding thru the USDA. Rent will range from \$400-\$1,000 month depending on size.

For more info, call 833-422-4224 and leave a message with their "name, email address and phone number to get an email with information and an application.

Residents in Clear Lake Riviera concerned about a proposed cell tower. The Lake County Planning Commission may take up the matter in December, residents concerned about possible fire danger. The Record Bee reports some also saying it would get in the way of a safe evacuation in the event of a fire near the tower. It would be put up in a lot near a small vineyard covered in brush and feature an 85-foot tall "mono-pine" imitation tree. The tower could run cell service for up to four carriers. If it's approved construction could start within three months. The Planning Commission has not approved the project yet and there's so far no building permit. The commission is tentatively supposed to consider the project in December.

A vineyard worker in Napa has been killed in an accident with a grape-harvesting machine. The Press Democrat reports emergency crews got a call yesterday that the worker got stuck inside the equipment at Deconinck Vineyards. He's been identified as 49-year-old Leon Marcelo Luna. His family says he was working next to the device and an item of his clothing got caught and the machine pulled him in.

Winds are supposed to be picking up so the Cal Fire Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit is beefing up resources in Lake County and across the North Bay as a precaution. Lake Co News reports on the red flag warning in effect thru tomorrow morning. The National Weather Service forecasting high winds and low humidity for the North Bay Mountains and parts of interior Northern California. It means there could be critical fire weather conditions with fast moving wind, low relative humidity and warm temperatures. Temperatures expected to be in the upper 70's, then in the low 40's overnight. Cal Fire reports hand crews and bulldozers at the ready 24/7 during these conditions with added emergency command center staff and others prepared to be in command and control functions if there's a major fire.

Clearlake Police will now be the point agency for emergencies. The Clearlake Police Department had applied to be a 911 Public Safety Answering Point. They've been approved by the state. The Sheriff's Office had been the answering point, but the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Public Safety Communications, California 9-1-1 Emergency Communications Branch has informed the police department they're approved to take over. There had been complaints that when the sheriff's office would transfer calls to police, there was a delay. So now the police department gets several thousand dollars to buy equipment for the transition. After all is set up, Clearlake Police can answer landline and wireless 911 calls in the city, including new text-to-911 calls.

The Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor has been given to four CHP officers and a deputy in the Yuba County Sheriff's Department. Gov. Jerry Brown and the Attorney General Xavier Becerra presented the awards Monday. The award created in 2003 allows the governor to award the medals to public safety officers recognized by the attorney general for extraordinary valor above and beyond the call of duty. The officer's agencies nominate them. Yuba County Sheriff's Deputy Dan Harris, California Highway Patrol Officers Phil Agdeppa, Pete Gavitte, Whitney Lowe and Chad Millward all received the awards for extraordinary bravery, heroism, and courage.

A beating with a cane over a piece of pizza in San Francisco. Police say a woman beat a man to death with a metal cane. Harvey Grosser was killed in September. He was found with a skull fracture and died in the hospital. Police say it happened after the suspect got mad at the victim over a slice of pizza. Not a lot more is known about the incident. Jamila Moore was booked into county jail on suspicion of murder.

A new agreement's been reached by the Lake County Board of Supervisors and the Lake County Deputy Sheriff's Association. The Association without a contract since January, but the new contract apparently doesn't have a pay raise or an increase in healthcare benefits. The Association says the Sheriff's Office is also facing a critical staffing crisis. The Association says the public isn't really aware of the magnitude of the problem even though the Sheriff and Undersheriff have frequently voiced the problem. There's a 30% vacancy rate currently. The Association warning citizens will have to wait for a response and sometimes they may not get a response at all. They add that it's hard to recruit new deputies if healthcare benefits aren't great. Right now out of pocket for a family is at more than \$1,400 with other law enforcement agencies paying more and with better healthcare contributions. The Association calling on the County Supervisors to make staffing issues at the Sheriff's Office a priority.

Due to dangerous fire weather conditions, with high winds expected in Northern California and Bay Area counties, the Governor's Office of Emergency Services has been strategically placing critical fire response resources including strike teams of fire engines, firefighters, water tenders and emergency dispatchers in designated impacted areas. This means there's staff early this evening into tomorrow in Napa County, Marin County, Sonoma County, Contra Costa, Alameda and the Lake County Operational areas. They will all stay in place until the fire weather conditions have improved, and more staff could be added if needed. The National Weather Service has forecasted low relative humidity and winds that could hit up to 50 miles an hour or higher in isolated areas so there might be Red Flag weather conditions across parts of the North Bay Hills in Northern California well into tomorrow night.

A man in Willits has been arrested in connection to a breaking and entering and rape. A woman called police in January to say Marcus Caldwell had broken into her house and forced himself on her, raping her, then running away. Caldwell had been known to the victim before. Cops say Caldwell also cut electricity to the woman's home before he went inside, but he denied ever being there. He volunteered a DNA sample though, which he said would clear him. Then last week, the results came in showing a match to Caldwell. The Mendocino County District Attorney's Office issued a warrant for his arrest and he was charged with one count of forcible rape and held in the Mendocino County jail on \$500,000 bail. He also has a no-contact restraining order against him prohibiting any contact with the victim.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness, Mendocino branch is opening an office in Ukiah. Tomorrow will be an open house at the new office at 2 p.m. They'll be giving tours of the new space which features a lending library with books on mental illness and related subjects. This is a local branch of the nationwide grassroots mental health organization. The local organization is offering support for family members and others who suffer from mental illness. They also have classes and Crisis Intervention Training for law enforcement and first responders.

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NAMI Mendocino's Grand Opening will take place on Thursday, Nov. 1 at 564 S. Dora St., Suite E, Ukiah from 2 to 7 p.m. For more information, call (707) 485-2008.

A Grant Information Workshop's taken place for the Community Foundation of Mendocino County. The event was Tuesday showing local nonprofits how to apply for several different grants the foundation offers. Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been given out in the past. The Daily Journal reports there are two different grants to be applied for; the Community Enrichment Grant program for community-based projects that can benefit the general public, a significant subgroup of the population, or improve an organization; and the Field-of-Interest Grant focuses on a certain area of interest such as the environment, arts, human services, or keys in on a particular geographical area. Applications are available thru December 20th. PG&E has given \$5,000 to the City of Willits to help update the city's Emergency Operations Plan. The plan updates public safety infrastructure thru the PG&E Better Together Giving Program. Last year the utility company provided more than 1,700 donations to Northern and Central California organizations who support education and workforce development, economic and community vitality, emergency preparedness and safety and environmental issues. The Willits Police Chief says it will help them prepare for natural disasters or other emergency situations. They'll use it along with FEMA money from the past to update their plan with a consultant overseeing it.

A resident of Forestville fighting and winning against PG&E to have a large electrical utility tower taken down. Many complaints and the County itself got involved saying the base of the massive tower impeded roadside drainage and it was bigger than actually allowed. So a couple streets have to be closed down and power turned off for customers near the pole. The whole thing should be done by tomorrow. Sonoma County's Permit & Resource Management Department issued a permit to PG&E last year to replace another pole, but apparently the pole turned out to be not had been applied for.

A campaign against impaired driving with the California Highway Patrol and the state Office of Traffic Safety continues. The program Reducing Alcohol Impaired Driving, also known as RAID officially started October 1st and is set to continue thru next Sept. focusing on education and enforcement. The RAID grant so the CHP can have more checkpoints, DUI patrols and classes to educate the public across the state. They're trying to make roads safer and help educate the public about how dangerous it is to drive impaired. They'll also be heavily involved in the state's Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over efforts.

Another utility company blamed for a massive fire, one of the biggest to ever burn in the state. Southern California Edison admitted yesterday their equipment may have been what started one of two ignition points which turned into the Thomas fire which burned in California's central coast last year. Flames were apparently seen by the utility's power poles in Ventura County last December. Now the company says it thinks their equipment was associated with the ignition. There are also several dozen lawsuits against the energy company associated with the Thomas Fire, but the company had previously not admitted its equipment could be at fault. The company has not said if it may also be responsible for the second ignition area about 6 miles away. The fire was the largest in California history before the Mendocino Complex Fire this past summer. The Thomas fire burned 440 square miles and burned more than 1,000 buildings in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties. Two people died. Then mudslides killed another 21 people due to heavy rain coming down on scarred land.

Three students at a high school in Humboldt County end up in the hospital after eating pot laced brownies. Redheaded Blackbelt news site reports it happened yesterday after three sophomores at South Fork High School overdosed on marijuana laced brownies. The Sheriff's office reports they went to the high school for a possible Health and Safety Code violation. They kept the whole thing on the down low due to minors being involved. Other students reporting a sophomore boy brought the pot brownies to school and handed them out. One girl who ate one had a seizure in a bathroom and hit her head, another threw up in a hallway. A couple ambulances and local fire dept. responded and the three affected students went to a hospital. The sophomore boy reportedly taken from school by a deputy. No word if he was cited or arrested.

Cops called out to an energy company in Charlotte, NC for a suspicious package which turns out to be a cassette tape. The small manila envelope with handwriting addressed from out of state to Duke Energy and then a bomb squad and police investigate finding the Journey cassette inside. The mailroom employees called police and a police dog also came in as the building was evacuated and roads were closed...

Some forest thinning taking place in the Mendocino National Forest after agreements were made with the Mendocino County Blacktail Association and the Mule Deer Foundation. The thinning of 600-acres of wildlife habitat improvement and hazardous fuels reduction if money's available. So far they've cleared 170 acres contributions by partners and agency funds. The clearing of the acreage to protect areas from major wildfires in the Covelo Ranger District. They found some large oak trees crowding other trees which could make them more susceptible to getting infected by too many insects, disease and severe wildfires. They've cleared the area so deer can get the food they need to survive, thinning conifer, and hardwood trees to leave more spacing between trees.

A man in Fort Bragg has been arrested for showing a gun to another person at a campground. Mendocino Deputies get a call to the Wildwood Campground finding Christopher Doty had already left the area, but that he was holding either a shotgun or rifle. But the person who called police said they didn't care to press charges, but did give a description of Doty's vehicle. Deputies found the car later on Highway 20 headed towards the campground and stopped him. They say he would not comply and tried to get away at a high rate of speed. Deputies headed into the campground and heard multiple people yelling and screaming and found Doty nearly hitting another car, then running away, abandoning his car. He was finally found with 12 gauge ammo on him. There had been a loaded 12-gauge double barrel shotgun on his front passenger seat. He's not allowed to have weapons due to his past and on probation. He was held in Mendocino County Jail and held on \$40,000.00 bail.

A man in Ukiah's been arrested on several charges after a reported domestic incident. Mendocino Deputies say Dean Stevens was headed south in the 800 block of North State Street and a sergeant knew there was a Be-On-the-Look-Out notice issued for Stevens. The deputy says Stevens gave him a fake name at a traffic stop then he started the car and took off. The Sheriff's office sent deputies after him for running stop signs and speeding. He finally stopped and was arrested for felony evading, violation of parole, and providing a false name to a Peace Officer. He's booked into the Mendocino County Jail and held without bail.

Big money flowing in the mid terms. In Calif. more than 100 million dollars spent on a ballot measure against Proposition 8, the proposition would mean less profits for dialysis clinics, and if it passes, means clinics would have to give rebates to insurance companies and pay a penalty to the state. This may be the most money on a single side of a ballot measure in the country. Proposition 10 is also getting millions poured into fighting it. This one to allow governments to expand rent control. Essentially landlords have been allowed to raise rent when a tenant moves out. This could curb that. And proposition 5, not nearly as much spent as the other two, but still millions to change California's property tax law. Right now if you sell a home, then buy new, you pay on the sales price of the new home, not on appreciation. The new law, if it passes, would allow some to keep the rate from their previous house.

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A group of supporters of the Yokayo Bowling Center out on the street to bring awareness to the matter. The Daily Journal reports the "Stand Together and Help Save Yokayo Bowling Center" rally happened Sunday in support of the bowling center owner who also started a fundraiser so he could keep the center in its current location. About 100 people came out and another 7,000 have signed a petition to help the business. The owner says it's been some time since he's heard again from the owners of the building or their property manager. The lease ends December 31st and the owner's trying to stay.

An interfaith vigil's being held in Ukiah to memorialize those killed in the synagogue in Pittsburgh. The vigil tomorrow at 6 PM at the Alex Thomas Plaza for 11 minutes in memory of the 11 people gunned down last Saturday in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood. A week later, Nov. 9th will be a community interfaith prayer and study at Kol Ha'Emek Synagogue, 8591 West Road in Redwood Valley.

A man in Covelo's been arrested for battery and criminal threats. Mendocino Deputies get a call last Friday to a home for an assault. A woman there says her boyfriend assaulted her, hitting her several times and threatening her. They found her with several injuries for which she had to seek medical attention. Kenneth Whipple arrested and since he was on probation, he was held by his parole officer for arrest. He's charged with felony domestic violence battery, making criminal threats, violating his probation and his post release supervision and held on no bail in the Mendocino County Jail.

A man in Ukiah's been arrested as part of a gang round up. The Mendocino County Sheriff's office had a traffic stop and found Michael Montano and his 15 year old passenger in gang attire and were known to be part of a local street gang. The teen was on probation and not allowed to associate with gang members or wear gang colors. Then cops searched the car and found a loaded handgun and a couple of masks. Montano was arrested for carry a loaded firearm in vehicle, participating in criminal street gang and violation of probation and held on \$15,000 bail and the minor was taken to Mendocino County Juvenile Hall.

A man in Butte County's been arrested in connection to the rape of a child. Mendocino County Sheriff's Detectives got a call about a 9 year old being assaulted on a camping trip in Fort Bragg. The child's guardian reported the incident which happened at the beginning of September. They identified the suspect as Aaron Burrows. Paradise Police turned over the investigation to the Sheriff's Dept. the D-A issued a warrant for Burrow's arrest for a felony count of sexual assault. He surrendered himself to the Butte County Sheriff's Office and was booked on the warrant with bail set at \$250,000.

The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors are holding an economic vitality meeting. The meeting next Tuesday, election day, from 1:30-3:30 pm at the Board of Supervisors chambers on Low Gap Road. The County's Executive Office working with the Economic Development and Financing Corporation (EDFC) and West Business Development Center for the presentations on current business climate. Plus some industry leaders and stakeholders will give insights for wine, agriculture, cannabis, tourism, real estate and technology sectors. The Chairman of the Board says since they're getting closer to their budget planning cycle, they're looking for any potential changes to the economy and how to invest in economic growth with limited resources.

As much as \$4 billion doled out to Medi-Cal for premiums and claims since the state reportedly didn't follow up on some discrepancies with eligibility. This info for the years 2014 through 2017 in an audit showing nearly a half million people in the state who were recorded as eligible for Medi-Cal in the state's system were listed as ineligible in county systems. The California auditor's office says half of them weren't fixed for more than two years. They add that some who were eligible were improperly denied services. The agency that administers the state's Medicaid program, the Department of Health Care Services says it agrees with the auditor's recommendations and would be fixing the problem.

The man behind the intended repeal of California's gas tax, now says he's going to start a campaign to get the Attorney General recalled if the measure fails. Carl DeMaio, a conservative radio talk host out of San Diego says State Attorney General Xavier Becerra deceived voters with a ballot title that didn't accurately explain that Proposition 6 would reduce gas taxes. The ballot measure's official summary, De Maio says, instead focuses on getting rid of road repair funds. DeMaio says it's consistent with messaging from the initiative's opponents. But Becerra says courts sided with him on a different gas tax repeal with a similar ballot title that didn't qualify for the ballot.

Congressmembers John Garamendi and Mike Thompson in town meeting with veterans in Lake County. The two leaders at the Joy Madeiros Veterans Museum in Lakeport to hear from veterans. Apparently several in the crowd were supportive of using cannabis and alternative medicine instead of opioids as the opioid crisis is big with veterans. They asked Thompson and Garamendi if the federal government will ever get on board and legalize marijuana. But marijuana is currently listed as a Schedule 1 drug, with other more serious drugs, so the federal government can't support research on marijuana.

87 Indian Tribes in Calif. Are getting millions in funding for environmental programs and water infrastructure. The Environmental Protection Agency with an announcement recently at the Pacific Southwest Region's 26th Annual Tribal/EPA Conference which was held in San Francisco. The money to go to help provide safe drinking water for their communities and for other important environmental programs. The money for water quality monitoring, watershed protection and restoration, water and energy efficiency, and wastewater recycling and treatment. The EPA's Pacific Southwest Region covers 148 tribal nations and half of all tribal lands in the country.

A judge has reduced a massive verdict against Monsanto to a Northern California groundskeeper who says the company poisoned him, causing his cancer. DeWayne Johnson was awarded 289 million, but the judge reduced it to \$78 million and Johnson accepted the award. He could have asked for a new trial instead. The jury had unanimously awarded him the money after deciding Monsanto's Roundup weed killer caused his cancer. His doctor took the stand too, saying he has less than three years to live. His lawyer says he disagrees with the settlement, but is accepting it. There are about 8,000 similar lawsuits against Monsanto, similar in nature.

The tallest dam in America is ready to take on winter. After the February 2017 massive fail at the Oroville Dam and more than a billion dollars to fix it, officials say it will be in full working order this winter almost two years after thousands were sent running from their homes. Concrete's been poured but the main spillway still needs to cure for a month. There's also some other finishing touches. The California Department of Water Resources announced crews are pouring concrete on the emergency spillway too. The two dams eroded and came apart during heavy rain in 2017, so nearly 200-thousand people were evacuated. State officials had said they'd be done with the work by November 1st so the dam could dry by December. The cost was \$1.1 billion so far with FEMA paying 75% of that and the rest will be covered by State Water Project customers.

PG&E releasing a report on why they shut down power during a recent red flag warning. The report part of a state mandate to be transparent with the public. It was released Wednesday and says the company shut down power to about 12,000 Lake County residents the week of October 14th. In all 60,000 lost power because of a windstorm and dry conditions. The Lakeport city manager tells the Record Bee an unnecessary shutoff of power for lengthy amounts of time is bad for business. She also says the utility company didn't communicate some areas wouldn't lose power at all, so several thousand people warned never lost power. But she says she expects better communication the next time power has to be shut off. The utility company says they consider temporary shutdowns as a last resort in

11/02/18 extreme weather.

Thanksgiving will be celebrated this year again at the Ukiah Senior Center. The yearly event with a noon meal for a couple hundred seniors and their families. Local organizations donate goods for the shindig so it's affordable for local seniors. Friedman's Home Improvement's donating 20 turkeys and the Savings Bank of Mendocino County is also putting money into the event. The Daily Journal reports the event sells out way in advance with limited tickets sold. They also hold their yearly fundraiser to help support many other events and services at the Center. They say they're hoping to raise as much as \$50,000 to keep operating through the end of 2019.

Tickets can be purchased for Ukiah Senior Center members and a guest for \$8 each, and \$10 for nonmembers.

A budget discussion at a special meeting of the Fort Bragg Unified School District Board of Trustees. Lower enrollment and rising costs for pension contributions is causing a potential budget gap. The Chief Business Officer for the school district says they can pay all projected obligations this year and two more years beyond that, but there's a structural deficit. The board looked at ways they can save money to avoid a budget hole but it could affect student learning. The board agreed they should set aside money for reserves, above the current minimum of 3%. So they're looking at another 6 percent to avoid a budget crisis. They'll keep the conversation going at the next budget workshop after the New Year.

The band program in the Fort Bragg Unified School District's getting a cash infusion. They got two donations of \$4,000 so the band can buy new instruments. The Cummings Foundation with that donation so the schools got a matching donation from the Robert and Mary Kroninger Foundation for another \$4,000. The new band teacher at the schools says the donations will help a lot so students have access to quality instruments. They bought flutes, saxophones and clarinets.

Weed and wine... Francis Ford Coppola's done a deal with the Humboldt Brothers out of Garberville for a limited edition of three cannabis flower strains. The company that owns Humboldt County marijuana farms is producing the Grower's Series by Francis Ford Coppola. It can be purchased at some licensed dispensaries and from a Bay Area marijuana-delivery service called Chill. Coppola commented on the partnership saying wine and cannabis are two ancient and bounteous gifts of Mother Nature and says the Grower's Series reflects California agricultural expertise creating a true blend of art and science.

Money is still available for some who've lost their homes due to fires in Lake County. Lake Co News reports on a family from Cobb who are in their new home built by volunteers with Hope City. The Guzman family got a CalHome loan with 0-percent interest and no payment necessary for 30 years. Hammers for Hope also gave the family a grant thru North Coast Opportunities. The CalHome Loan is made possible thru the state Department of Housing and Community Development for low-to moderate-income households for those who owned or rented a home destroyed in recent fires. There's about a million dollars in CalHome loans expected to be given to those in Lake County still thru the end of the year.

If you would like more information about CalHome Loans, and to see if you qualify, please call Jon Kennedy at 707-489-4647 or email him at jkennedy.

If you have lost your home to any of the recent fires, help is available, please contact Team Lake County case management and Peggy O'Day at 707-994-2910 or email poday.

Ten people in Lake County could be in trouble with the state on suspicion of being unlicensed contractors. More than 2,000 homes destroyed across Lake County in fires the last three years. The last couple weeks of October, the Contractors State License Board working with the Lake County District Attorney's Office worked an undercover sting to find unlicensed contractors near fire zones. They asked supposed contractors to give them bids and ten people who showed up giving bids of more than the \$500 threshold for labor and/or materials. Three of them busted on misdemeanors and could face fines, five for phony advertising and the others on various charges. The cases forwarded to the Lake County District Attorney's Office with a recommendation for criminal filings.

The numbers are looking better for homeless veterans in Lake and Mendocino counties. The U.S. Housing and Urban Development released its annual Homeless Assessment Report showing homeless vet numbers were down nearly 5.5 percent since last year, that totaled to almost half the number of homeless vets reported in 2010. The HUD secretary made the announcement with the Dept. of Veterans affairs. The numbers after the yearly count known as a "Point in Time" which estimates the number of homeless vets in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs and in unsheltered locations. There was a nearly 50% drop in homeless vets in Lake County. The same in Mendocino County and California had about a 5 percent drop.

Two men charged with an armed robbery and murder in Clearlake in court for proceedings ahead of their jury trials. David Ward of Oakland and Daniel McRae of Santa Rosa charged in the Nov. 2016 death of Brandon McAfee and for attempted murder and a botched marijuana robbery. The two men accused of going to McAfee's house with McRae holding an automatic weapon demanding those inside get down, but McAfee apparently didn't comply and ended up in a struggle with the intruders and the weapon discharged with McAfee getting hit in the chest and dying at a hospital. The two men ran from the home but were caught earlier this year. The two men are held in the Lake County Jail with no bail and are expected to be back in court after the Thanksgiving holiday.

Wildlife officials on the lookout for whoever killed an elk with arrows and left it dead on the ground in Elk Meadow in Redwood National and State Parks. A ranger found the dead animal in an area where hunting is prohibited by federal and state law. Redwood National and State Parks and California Department of Fish and Wildlife officers found the animal was left intact. They're asking anyone who may have information to call Rangers or you can call the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and leave an anonymous tip. There are seven Roosevelt Elk herds in the Redwood National and State Parks area on acreage in Humboldt and Del Norte Counties.

A warning from the Centers for Disease Control this Halloween week, telling folks not to use dead bats as Halloween decorations. The national Fish & Wildlife Service reports getting illegal dead bats that were being shipped to the U.S. They say they're supposed to be fully taxidermied because dead bats can carry disease. Since they're coming from outside the country, they can also carry disease not known in the U-S.

More than 100 sex offenders have been arrested in the state during the yearly Halloween sweep. The sweep to try to keep offenders away from kids during trick or treating activities. They say about 9% of all of the 1,252 parolees were contacted statewide Wednesday and on Thursday eight of those arrested were charged with new crimes and the rest were for violating conditions of their parole. Thirty offenders had pornography, two of those kiddie porn. Thirty-one with drugs, drug paraphernalia or violated other parole conditions. Thirteen had weapons. This is the 25th year of "Operation Boo."

A man accused of sending pipe bombs to prominent Democrats, including two former Presidents may have also been planning to send a device to UC Davis. The FBI reportedly telling the school Cesar Sayoc might have been targeting the university. Sayoc accused of sending CNN, Barack Obama, Bill and Hillary Clinton and others the devices. None exploded and nobody was hurt. He was arrested last week and has already had a few court hearings and will be tried in New York. Sayoc reportedly a major fan of President Trump's. Agents say he searched online for the term "UC Davis." Campus security said to be beefing up screening practices.

It won't be long now, the Konocti Harbor Resort has a target date for reopening. The resort mostly used recently as a place for wildfire evacuees. Now the construction for a restoration of the old resort is getting underway and apparently they may start taking reservations for a spring re-opening. The resort got involved in a lawsuit back in 2004 with the U.S. Labor Department, then closed 5 years later. The resort purchased this spring by some developers out of the Bay Area. No word how much, but apparently a lot of money's being put back into the resort. Don't look for big concerts again outside though as there's damage to the amphitheater. But the new owners focus is reportedly on having a quality resort by redoing rooms,

11/05/18 pulling out old carpet, painting, rebuilding the restaurants and the bar.

A man who used to be a defense investigator in Sonoma County is now accused himself of a crime. The Press Democrat reports Jim Baker is accused of trying to change a witnesses mind about testifying against a client of his in a hit and run case. UC Berkeley's top lawyer, Christopher Patti was killed in the crash. Jonathan Ritter of Rio Nido is accused of hitting Patti, then for trying to get a witness kidnapped and killed. Sheriff's detectives are after Baker, taking some of his computer files and turning them over as discovery in the case. Court papers say Baker somehow got involved with Ritter trying to dissuade a witness in his manslaughter case to change part of his statement.

Lake County is considering adding to the County Code regarding illegal dumping and weed abatement. The Board of Supervisors will consider the two items on the agenda tomorrow morning. The draft ordinance to be considered on the items would include fines and penalties for those caught illegally dumping trash. The language in the agenda says the county would encourage the public not to dump illegally as it's a threat to public health, safety and welfare. The money to pay for the program would come from fines and penalties gathered enforcing the proposed ordinance. They'll also consider hazardous vegetation abatement or weed pulling on unimproved parcels of land.

Lakeport's considering new police vehicles. The City Council will take up the matter at their meeting tomorrow night. The Police Chief to ask for permission to buy four fully equipped 2019 Dodge Chargers. There's also other business including work on a hazard mitigation plan.

California officials investigating a school construction accident at Kelseyville High where a worker was killed. The accident October 23rd where a construction worker was hurt on the high school's new shop building and died the next week from his injuries. California's Occupational Safety and Health Dept. has been informed and is investigating the accident. They report it was an apprentice carpenter from FRC Inc. who fell from a scissor lift. Cal OSHA can also issue citations connected to the incident, but that could take up to six months. The man's name has not been released. The construction company is located in Windsor. Lake Co News has reported there's a Go Fund Me page for the man's family. They've identified him as Juan Pablo Cuevas Jimenez, a Marine vet.

Federally restricted pesticide's been found on land in Lake county. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Lake County Sheriff's Office found the pesticide in September on cannabis grow sites on private property. The pesticides severely restricted by the U-S EPA. They found it on two sites in heavy concentrations and three sites had samples taken and the results are not back yet. They were all taken from the Lower Lake area and warning signs will be posted. Carbofuran was the poison found and one bird on the site was dead from it. The pesticide can cause reproductive harm, acute poisoning, and have possible long-term effects.

No more donations are being accepted by the California Democratic Party from the oil industry, but apparently oil companies are still pouring money into Democratic campaigns ahead of tomorrow's election. Oil companies not donating to the party directly, but instead to individual candidates and other groups. A new finance report shows the petroleum industry paid more than \$19 million the 2017-18 election cycle, but a lot of that's for Republicans too. aCALmatters reports says the Republican party has dwindled in Calif. the oil industry is bolstering Democrats who hold the majority in the legislature.

A new report says California is 3rd in the country for identity theft, and that credit card fraud is about half the crimes. The Federal Trade Commission's yearly report on consumer claims has fraud into several categories, including debt collection, identity theft, prizes/sweepstakes/lotteries, and telephone/mobile services. Debt collection in Calif. had the most claims, then identity theft and imposter scams.

A woman in Colorado arrested in a bizarre case at a new fire station. The station in Aurora flooded, ransacked and officials also found a headless bird. It happened last Monday night, firefighters left for a call but when they got back they found the mess. Apparently Yesenia Griego snuck in as the doors opened for the firefighters to drive out to their incident. They found their alarm going off, the doors open and the lights on and a fire hose going off. They found their gear ransacked, a fire extinguisher on and some broken equipment and windows. The dead bird was found in the parking lot. The woman arrested on felony burglary, criminal mischief and criminal tampering charges.

More than a dozen people had to go to the hospital after a fire broke out at the Sonoma County Jail. The Press Democrat reports 13 people had to go to the hospital for various ailments including smoke inhalation among some inmates. Not a lot more info was available except that multiple Santa Rosa firefighters and engines went to the scene including four ambulances. The newspaper site reports emergency officials saying at least one person was injured and taken separate from the others.

A young man from Anderson is dead after drowning in a Northern Calif. lake. A 17 year old girl says she and her family were out hunting and saw something floating in Lewiston Lake. The girl says they heard someone calling for help and saw a man's head and the tip of a boat in the water and called 911. Two other hunters happened upon the scene and helped get one man out of the cold lake. He said his friend drowned in the water. The two other hunters were able to get to the man who was still alive and get him onboard their boat, then bring him ashore. Firefighters arrived to help that man, and then he was taken to a hospital. Apparently the two were out duck hunting and one of their shotguns kicked and tipped the boat over, tossing them into the freezing water. An hour later the other man's body was found. His name has not been released.

A man the CHP says may have been suicidal had to be tazed. The CHP in Humboldt County says they got reports of a car stopped on the Eel River Bridge. Two Garberville CHP officers saw a man outside the car between Rio Dell and Fortuna and tried to talk the man off the bridge. And the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office brought in a crisis negotiator, but the man apparently had a large knife on him and told the officers they should shoot him. They say the man started walking to his car, but they told him to step away. He got in the car anyway as they commanded him to step back. Officers approached and used a taser on the man, he dropped the knife and fell on the ground and was detained for medical treatment. A CHP officer had minor injuries after the incident, but he was treated and released at the

11/06/18 scene.

PG&E once again trying to fight paying for some of the losses after the October 2017 fires across Northern Calif. The CEO of the utility company livestreamed their quarterly earnings report and announced they believe the state's liability policy is, quote "flawed and it needs to be addressed". A bill recently signed by the Governor allows PG&E to have ratepayers help pay for wildfire related costs which could cost billions. A proposal in play now for an average residential customer to pay only \$5 more a year for every billion dollars in financing of bonds. Investigators say the utility company caused 17 major wildfires in Oct. of 2017. Still no word what caused the Tubbs Fire, one of the deadliest and costliest in Calif. history.

Possible changes on cannabis ordinances in Mendocino County considered in Willits. The Ad Hoc community meeting last week at the Willits Community Center ahead of any decision by the Board of Supervisors. The meeting attended by the County CEO, one board supervisor and others from the Planning and Services and Agriculture Departments. The Board of Supervisors created the Ad Hoc Committee this summer to review possible changes in the Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance. Some changes being considered include site specific environmental reviews, new size allocations, outdoor grows to be larger so there are less greenhouses.

The final report from the Lake County D-A on the shooting death of a Kelseyville resident has been released. District Attorney Don Anderson reports Jason Sienze's shooting death by Lake County Sheriff's Deputy Ben Moore was "justifiable homicide" and says the deputy was acting in self-defense. The shooting after calls of a suspicious person, a home invasion and possible shots fired in Nice last February. The D-A's report says while Deputy Moore was responding to the incident he shot Sienze several times as he tried to get away. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Sienze has been arrested 14 times in the past too for various crimes including assault with a deadly weapon, battery and burglary.

A great opening for the recreational Dungeness crab season. The season began Saturday with almost 300 people out on nearly a dozen party boats. They brought in 2,970 Dungeness crab and many also were able to catch rockfish and lingcod. More than 2,800 rockfish, hitting the limit for those who fished for them. There were also hundreds of others on private boats with good grabs too. And the commercial Dungeness season starts next Thursday.

Two men on death row, one a serial killer, the other killed a family and set their home on fire, killed themselves in prison. The two died separately in the country's largest death row, which is in Calif. Corrections officials found Andrew Urdiales while doing a security check at San Quentin last Friday. He got a death sentence last month for the murder of five women. Plus he had already faced the death penalty in 2004 for three murders in Illinois, but that sentence was commuted because capital punishment was outlawed. He was only on death row here for 3 weeks. The other inmate, found dead, alone in his cell Sunday. Virendra Govin sent to his death in December of 2004 for four Los Angeles County murders. Officials say there's no connection to the two inmates deaths. Incidentally Calif. has not killed anyone on death row since 2006.

A problem for toilets in Sacto... folks putting flushable wipes in toilets... and flushing. The Sacramento Area Sewer District reports the so-called flushable wipes are clogging pipes. They've had to use underground pumping stations to ream the pipes monthly, now it's every week or two. Wastewater officials say even though the products are marketed to be able to flush them, they get caught up in the pipes, getting stuck and pushing raw sewage back up with them. The Sewer District now trying to spread the word, no wipes in the pipes, only human waste and toilet paper.

Since Calif. has a mail in ballot system, election officials warn it could take until next month for the official results. Votes will be counted if they're mailed today too, as long as they get where they're supposed to within three days of the election. But if they're not in by the end of the week, it could take more time to verify signatures and get counted. It could even hold up who gets control of Congress, if it's left to California to decide key congressional races. Calif. has the most seats in the U.S. House. 3 are said to be quite close, the 25th, 39th and 48 congressional districts.

Three men arrested on drug charges in Humboldt County after a yearlong investigation. The Humboldt County Drug Task Force also found heroin and cash. Search warrants at two homes and a traffic stop in Eureka turn up more than nine pounds of heroin with a street value of more than 270-thousand dollars. Carlos Sanchez-Gallego of Mexicali, Mexico, Jose-Ochoa-Ayon of Sinaloa, Mexico and Gilberto Castello-Garcia, also of Sinaloa, Mexico all arrested and in court last Friday in the case. Most of the drugs found at one home and the trio held on \$1 million bail. After their preliminary hearings next Tuesday, it's possible the bail can be reduced. The Sheriff's dept. reports this as a record amount this year in Humboldt County. They say one of the three arrested was a mid-to-upper level drug boss for the cartel.

Clearlake considering several additions to the city code. The code to regulate sidewalk vendors and those selling door to door. State law regulates both, so Clearlake is looking to align with the state. The state changed regulations and penalties for sidewalk and door-to-door vendors to promote entrepreneurship and support immigrant and low-income communities. It was signed into law earlier this fall. It limits the way these types of salespeople are punished for not following rules with fines from \$100 to \$1,000 unless there's an exception. Some vendors would only have to pay 20 percent and no other punishment would be considered. Clearlake is considering no vendors on streets or medians, at night in residential neighborhoods, in commercial neighborhoods not during normal business hours in certain neighborhoods and no sound amplifying devices.

Power may have to be shut off again by PG&E because of possible fire conditions. The company looking at a potential shut off tomorrow because of extreme fire danger conditions with a red flag warning from the National Weather Service. It would affect Butte, Lake, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sierra, Sonoma and Yuba Counties. The windy weather is expected late today into tomorrow. The same thing happened last month due to fire danger. The utility company reportedly working with first responders and state and local agencies and was sending messages to

11/07/18 customers about the temporary shut off.

Customers can visit [www.pge.com/wildfiresafety](http://www.pge.com/wildfiresafety) to determine whether their h

Three newcomers chosen over longtime incumbents in the Lakeport Unified School District. Carly Alvord, Jennifer Hanson and Dan Buffalo all decided to run together and early returns show success for the trio. Over in the Konocti Unified School District, they went with Joan Mingori, Bill Diener and Pamela Bening-Hale. In two other school districts, Middletown and Upper Lake, three seats in Middletown for Larry Allen, Latrease Walker and Thad Owens, in Upper Lake — Ron Raetz, Ana Santana, Diane Tomkins Plante, Frank Gudmundson, Claudine Pedroncelli and Don Meri.

Clearlake has a couple of new City Council members. In early returns Dirk Slooten and Russell Cremer beat Russell Perdock for the two open seats. Perdock had been on the council about three of a four year term then resigned in February to go after the Clearlake Police chief position.

Tarney Sheldon looks to be taking over a seat on the Mendocino County Office of Education's board representing Ukiah. But that could change...

Congressman Jared Huffman had almost 68% of the vote for a comfortable lead in his race against Dale Mensing. Because Jared Huffman retained his seat in the U-S House and the Democrats took leadership, it means Huffman will become chair of the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans of the House Natural Resources Committee.

A man driving a BMW SUV has died in a solo crash into a tree. The CHP reports the man north on the 101 south of Laytonville Monday afternoon and for some reason, he went off the road, down an embankment and hit a tree. The SUV burst into flames after it hit the tree. Some folks passing by stopped to try to help the driver out, with no luck due to the fire. The driver was pronounced dead at the scene.

Two incumbents running to stay on the Ukiah City Council look safe. But there's three open seats and Maureen Mulheren was leading followed by the other incumbent, Jim Brown. Mulheren is the vice-mayor so she would be the mayor this time around as Brown was last year. And in early counts it looked like Juan Orozco was leading for the third seat.

It's close but still looks like a healthy lead in the 3rd District Supervisors race in Mendocino County for John Haschak. Hashak with 55% of the vote against John Pinches who picked up 44.5 percent. The two came out on top in the primary in June for a runoff yesterday. Pinches was the 3rd District supervisor in the past... three times. In the 5th District supervisor's race Ted Williams was way out ahead but he didn't have a challenger since Chris Skyhawk withdrew in September due to having a stroke, his name stayed on the ballot though.

The Lake County Cannabis Business Tax, Measure K, looks like it passes to raise taxes on cannabis related businesses other than farms.

The South Lake County Fire Tax, Measure L had favorable support to place a property tax on property owners for emergency response.

Lake County D-A Don Anderson comes up short for the Judge of the Superior Court – Department 4, Shanda Harry took a commanding lead with nearly 59% of the vote to Anderson's 41 percent

Congressman John Garamendi had a healthy lead to keep his seat in the 3rd District of Calif, winning over Charlie Schaupp, same for Mike Thompson who won in a landslide against Anthony Mills in the 5th District of the state.

Mike McGuire handily stays on as a State Senator, fending off Veronica Jacobi in the 2nd District of the Senate. Cecilia Aguiar-Curry comes out way ahead of her challenger Brandon Nelson with a smidge under 70%. Jim Wood easily kept his Assembly seat too.

A couple of school bonds passed, in Middletown, Measure H, in Upper Lake, Measure I and in the Upper Lake School District for school facilities, Measure J easily won.

Here are ballot measures and how they fared: Proposition 1 to put more money into affordable housing easily got the yes vote last night as did Proposition 2, to spend more on Mental Health housing for the homeless. Proposition 3 lost so more money will not go into water projects. Proposition 4 easily came ahead for infrastructure at hospitals. Proposition 5 is a no for Seniors Property Tax reductions, Proposition 6 a repeal of the fuel tax failed, Proposition 7 a change to Daylight Saving Time got a yes, Proposition 8 to regulate kidney dialysis treatments failed, Proposition 10 to regulate rent control was a no and Prop 11 for emergency ambulance workers to be on call was a yes. So was prop 12 for new standards for farm animals.

A veteran who killed three mental health care workers at the veterans home in Yountville this spring apparently threatened the women he killed several times before he actually did it. The Press Democrat reports Albert Wong had said he was frustrated and angry in the past with the Pathway Home and specifically threatened to come to the clinic and shoot the women to death. This is in a report by the Napa County District Attorney's Office released this week. Wong was kicked out of the clinic 2½ weeks before the March 9th massacre. Executive Director Christine Loeber, and therapist, Dr. Jennifer Golick and Dr. Jennifer Gonzales Shushereba, a psychologist were all killed. The report doesn't say when he threatened the women or if they'd reported it.

Water projects in Calif. could be put on hold since voters said they didn't want to borrow some \$9 billion for water projects. Proposition 3 looked to be going down with 53 percent of voters opposed. The money would have been used to fix dams, store more water, work on watersheds, fisheries and habitat protection and restoration. The Press Democrat reports a bunch of the money was going to conservancies and state parks and nonprofits and local agencies for river parkways and for safe drinking water standards. But the Sierra Club and League of Women Voters of California were against it. Only \$200 million was going to help fix the Oroville Dam which has added up to more than a billion in repairs after its spillways were damaged last year.

All eggs in California will have to come from cage-free hens by 2022. Proposition 12 was ahead last night for more humane farming. So in about 3 years there will be minimum requirements for the sizes of pens farmers use for breeding pigs and calves raised for veal. There will be no more sales of any product from hens, calves and pigs raised in other states that don't meet California's standards. This comes after the 2008 ballot measure banning keeping hens, calves and pigs in cramped cages, not allowing them to stand up, lie down or turn around.

A CHP officer finds then rescues a motorcyclist who was missing and injured. Christopher Parlamento found by officer Shawn Bertram of the Clear Lake Area office. Another man, Jeremy Piner called the CHP to report he and his buddy were riding motorcycles in Lake and Napa counties and while they were on Butts Canyon Road, they were separated Monday afternoon. Piner tried to find his friend with no luck and bad cell service. Piner went to Napa County and called for help. Officer Bertram went looking on Butts Canyon Road, near the Napa County line, and reportedly heard someone calling for help. The motorcyclist had come off the road, hitting a tree stump and had major injuries. He was taken by a REACH air ambulance to Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital.

Preliminary election returns in Lake County have four out of five local ballot measures passing. Lake Co News reports the Lake County Registrar of Voters Office has not finished the official canvass which they have thirty days to complete, and reports there are still thousands of ballots to be counted. Measure H, the \$28 million bond for infrastructure work in Middletown Unified Schools passed; Measure I, for the Upper Lake School District, their \$10 million bond measure for Renovation and Modernization; Measure J in Upper Lake as well for Elementary and Middle School Renovation and Modernization; Measure K, the Cannabis Business Tax Ordinance to tax commercial marijuana businesses; and Measure L, a special tax for South Lake County Fire Protection District residents to fund fire and emergency medical services, not strong enough to pass so far.

11/08/18

New positions for two members of Congress from the North Coast since the House was overtaken by the Democratic Party. Congressman Jared Huffman on election night saying, quote "there's going to be a new sheriff in town". As we reported yesterday, Huffman will chair the new subcommittee overseeing oceans and other natural resources. Congressman Mike Thompson will be a senior leader in oversight and investigation, he says, the "swamp needs to be drained". One of the new Chair's Congressman Richard Neal who will oversee the House Ways and Means Committee has made a new case to go after the President's tax returns. That also doesn't mean the returns would be released to the public.

The Governor-Elect Gavin Newsom will take the reins of the state as the current Governor works thru his last projects. Brown is out of office January 7th and is said to mainly be trying to work thru the Sacramento-San Joaquin river delta east of San Francisco. The two men asking the state water board to delay a vote on a plan to bring more water into the Lower San Joaquin River and its tributaries to protect habitat for delta fish, but that could mean less water for farmers. The decision's been delayed by the Water Resources Control Board until Dec. 11th.

There will be a new Superior Court Judge and it's not the current Lake County D-A. Lake Co News speaking to the winner Shanda Harry who had a run off with Don Anderson. Her campaign manager spoke to the news site saying the run off was a lot of work and Harry saying she knew if she knocked doors, speaking directly to voters, she'd have a chance. The news site reports with all precincts reporting in Harry had a commanding lead with almost 60% of the vote.

The former Clearlake Planning Commissioner looks in good shape to take a city on the city Council. Dirk Slooten had a five percent lead over incumbent and appointed city council member Russ Cremer and a 15 percent lead over former Clearlake Mayor Russell Perdock. Slooten and Cremer have worked together the last four years on the Lake Area Rotary Club.

A new illegal dumping prevention program coming to Lake County. The Board of Supervisors looking to put an ordinance in place for fines and penalties for those caught illegally dumping trash. The board will take a final swing at the ordinance Nov. 20th after District 3 Supervisor Jim Steele reported getting several complaints about illegal dumping in his district. He says he investigated after he found 40 percent of his constituents have garbage disposal and 60 percent don't. The garbage piling up would be considered a public nuisance under the ordinance. Anyone who wants to dump would have to get permission from the County health officer and Air Quality Management District.

Two homes in Redwood Valley have burned to the ground. Cal Fire got a call yesterday along with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority and the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office. Deputies closed one road down. Nobody was in the homes at the time of the fires. PG&E also had crews out to shut down power and gas. The fires were out in about two hours and firefighters were still on the scene last night mopping up hot spots. The fire was stopped before it could spread to a nearby vineyard. No word on what started the fire.

The Sheriff's dept. reports to a home in Redwood Valley after a woman there reports she and her husband were in an altercation and he had a weapon. Police say when they got there, they heard a child screaming and knocked on the door, nobody answered, so they forced entry. Deputies say Conor Bird seemed very drunk and a woman with him, identified as Janelle Bird was also drunk and couldn't care for their two children. Deputies say the man shot into the ceiling of the home, no injuries were reported, but they did find a loaded shotgun. Conor Bird was arrested on suspicion of negligent discharge of a firearm and child endangerment and booked into the Mendocino County Jail, with \$25,000 bail. Janelle Bird was also arrested, on suspicion of child endangerment and also booked into jail on \$25,000. The children taken by Child Protective Services

The Clearlake Chamber of Commerce has announced the Christmas Parade for 2018 will be December 1st. The City of Clearlake and the Chamber are hosting. It will take place on Lakeshore Drive and will end with the Annual Tree Lighting ceremony at Austin Park. The parade starts at 6 PM and goes from Redbud Park down Lakeshore. You can register for the parade online, on Facebook, or contact the Chamber for details. The city manager says there will be more lights this year at City Hall and the Visitor's Center.

Due to dangerous fire conditions with high winds in both Northern and Southern California, the Governor's Office of Emergency Services is repositioning fire resources including fire engines, firefighters and emergency dispatchers in several counties. Orange, LA, Ventura, Sonoma, Napa, Marin, Contra Costa, Alameda, San Bernardino and Lake Counties will have proactive measures in place which will be reevaluated every twelve hours then extended as necessary depending on weather conditions. This as the National Weather Service forecasts unusually low relative humidity and winds of up to 60 miles an hour or higher in isolated areas. There's Red Flag weather conditions in parts of Southern California, the East Bay Hills and North Bay Mountains with the strongest winds expected tonight into tomorrow and critical fire conditions through tomorrow, weakening late Friday into Saturday.

Reps from CAL FIRE, Kelseyville Fire Protection District, the Lake County Sheriff's Office, County Administration and folks from the insurance industry to be at a public forum on Fire Mitigation. The focus on the four communities of Buckingham, Clear Lake Riviera, Riviera Heights and Riviera West. The meeting next Wednesday night at 6 at Riviera Elementary School in Kelseyville. Discussion around a proposal for a County Service Area Zone of Benefit as part of the Calif. Government Code to remove brush and fuel sources. Lake County Supervisor Rob Brown of District 5 is hosting the town hall.

For more info (707) 349-2628.

The Mendocino County Air Quality Management District is warning smoke in the air is coming from Butte County. They say it's from the so-called Camp Fire with air monitors showing particulate matter "Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups" and is getting to the "Unhealthy" range for inland Mendocino County. There are other areas forecast to have some "Moderate" conditions depending on the wind. It could be hovering in the area today and tomorrow until the fire is out, with some relief predicted as soon as Saturday. The Air Quality District says impacts are most noticeable at night to early morning hours.

A wildfire in Butte County is spreading fast as conditions are ideal for fire, including low humidity and strong winds fueling the blaze that has charred 70,000 acres so far and destroyed over 2,000 structures. Just as over 20,000 people were forced out of their homes, local students have been forced out of class due to poor air quality. Lake County and Ukiah Unified school district schools closed today, while Ukiah Unified also reminded parents that Monday is Veteran's day, so schools will be closed on Monday as well. Meanwhile a request for A Presidential Emergency Declaration was requested by Governor Elect Gavin Newsom in order to secure FEMA assistance for communities affected by wildfires. A Fire Management

11/09/18 Assistant Grant has been approved.

Economic conditions in Mendocino County are good. That 's the conclusion reached by the Economic Development and Finance Corporation, which studied industries important to the county. There were some worries about agriculture, which lost 70 jobs over the last year, and Ukiah wine grape producers were having problems with smoke taint affecting sales as hundreds of tons of grapes were lost due to fires. Job growth was seen in the construction, healthcare and education sectors.

The process of counting votes continues. There are over 17,00 vote by mail and provisional ballots left to count in Mendocino County. For Lake County, there are just over 11,000 to count including vote by mail, provisional ballots cast at the polls on election day and conditional voter registration ballots cast at the elections office. California State Law allows for 30 days to count all the votes.

Members of the public interested in supporting local behavioral health services are invited to the Mendocino County Behavioral health Advisory Board monthly meeting on the 14th from 10am to 2pm in the Mendocino County Museum at 400 E Commercial Street in Willits. Those attending will have a chance to ask questions and provide feedback.

The Army Corps of Engineers announced this week that more water will be stored in Lake Mendocino over the winter to help improve water supply reliability and environmental conditions in the Russian River. This according to a press release put out the by the Corps that says about 3.8 billion gallons of extra water, or enough to supply over 90,000 people for a year could be stored through the end of February.

Authorities responding to a call about a possible marijuana grow operation in a Ukiah neighborhood found equipment used to make Butane Honey Oil while searching the home. The labs are highly combustible and have been known to explode homes. Ukiah Police also found evidence that the marijuana was being sold, along with \$5,000 cash and assault weapons. 26 year old Trevor Cooper was booked into Mendocino County Jail on suspicion of manufacturing a controlled substance, possessing marijuana for sale and probation violations.

After being in Mendocino County for years, The National Alliance on Mental Illness opened their first office, with a mission to educate, provide support and advocate for residents of Mendocino County suffering from mental health issues. The services will be free, and include meeting spaces, support groups. The site will also be staffed. There is a library with books and DVD to help educate the community. In the future, the organization hopes to launch a helpline for residents.

11/12/18 7 men in Clearlake have been arrested after a search warrant is served and police find several hundred of pounds of marijuana and weapons. Edi Avila-Castaneda of Clearlake, Alejandro Cortez-Cornejo of Clearlake, Edgar Garcia-Ramirez of Clearlake, Gilberto Ramirez-Pineda of Clearlake and Roberto Villasenor of Atwater all detained, then a seventh man tried getting away out a window, Jesus Aleman-Sosa, but he was caught. Police say they also found an assault rifle, body armor, hi-capacity pistol and rifle ammo, military clothing, equipment, and firearm components,. They found marijuana greenhouses, four pounds of meth and more marijuana. The seven all booked into jail on multiple charges including possession of controlled substance for sale, possession of narcotics for sale, committing a felony while armed and possession of marijuana for sale.

A young man in Gualala arrested for attempted murder and assault against his father. Police say they got a call to a report of a gunshot victim, finding Eugene Henderson. The person who called in the shooting reported 18 year old Acea Henderson shot his dad after an argument which got heated. Deputies say the younger Henderson also broke out a window to his dad's car, got a gun and shot his dad in the upper chest. Another family member took dad to the hospital and hid the rifle. Dad's reported in stable condition. Then deputies were called back to the home for another assault, but the father was not prosecuting. Acea was found and arrested anyway and charged with attempted murder and assault with a deadly weapon and held on a bail of \$250,000.

Trash being picked up along Orr Creek turns up signs of a homeless encampment. The trash pickup below Low Gap Road where there was a cooking pit found, piles of clothes, food containers, toys, batteries and other trash. Pac Out Green Team organized the cleanup. The encampment found by mistake. 2nd District Supervisor John McCowen also apparently cleans the area with and without organized cleanups.

The Mendocino County Child Support Services Department is getting a makeover. The Daily Journal reports some of the proposed changes would include getting an assistant Child Support Services director; adding and deleting other positions and getting approval to lay off a full-time chief child support attorney, and sharing some services with Sonoma County. The shared services agreement would include legal services. The county's reportedly looked at Mendocino's caseload and was confident they could cover it too. There would also be no financial cost to Mendocino as the state picks up the tab.

An official Wreaths Across America wreath-laying ceremony at Ukiah Cemetery. Not happening today on Veterans Day, but instead, December 15th. It's one of the 1,400 other locations across the country for National Wreaths Across America Day. The local event in coordination with local 4-H clubs and volunteers for the Wreaths Across America mission of "Remember, Honor, Teach". Some teenagers from 4-H representing the Ukiah Shamrocks and the Redwood Valley/Calpella 4-H Clubs are planning the event at the cemetery which starts at 9 AM.

The newest and most destructive fire in California history still burning. The Camp Fire has killed 29 people. Massive fires burning in Northern and Southern Calif. for a total of 31 dead. The Butte County Sheriff reports nearly 230 people are missing too. There are ten search and recovery teams in Paradise, which was practically decimated Thursday. They've brought in a mobile DNA lab and anthropologists so they can try to identify victims. A missing persons call center was quickly set up and the Governor's requesting help from the federal government. Winds were expected to die down today, but there's no rain in the immediate forecast. Those with missing family members were being urged to register their names. More than 6,700 buildings were destroyed by the Camp Fire, almost all of those are homes. The fire is 25 percent contained.

The CHP continues their distracted adult driver campaign. A yearlong grant is paying for the program utilizing education and enforcement. The program with the help of the California Office of Traffic Safety. The program will have the CHP on at least 60 distracted driving enforcement operations and they'll hold almost 500 traffic safety presentations across the state by the end of September 2019.

An apartment building in Lakeport has a lot of damage after a fire. The Bel Aire Apartments went up in flames last night. A local caught video of the fire and shows firefighters on the scene and cops knocking on doors to evacuate people. The fire was out, but then reignited inside the roof. The police department had shut down several roads surrounding the building on N. Main Street.

Cal Fire's reporting fires due to gusty winds and low humidity. Wind speeds were less by midday today, but afternoon humidity is low and another round of strong Santa Ana winds in the south will go through till Wednesday morning. In Southern Calif. there's another strong fire. And strong winds shifted toward San Diego County. They expect low relative humidity for most of Southern California the next three days and shifting winds with slightly cooler weather by the end of the week. The agency also expecting northeast winds of 20- 25 mph with gusts up to 50 mph in Sierra Foothill valleys thru today. They warn if there's a fire near you, don't wait to evacuate, be prepared to leave early.

A new report says both nature and humans are to blame for devastating wildfires in Calif, but fire scientists say it's not due to forest management after President Trump tweeted about it. The winds are whipped up by nature and human-caused climate change is killing plants and trees. The Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research reports natural factors and human-caused global warming effects fatally collude. And a University of Utah fire scientist agreed separately saying there are several reasons for fires being so severe nowadays, but adds, "forest management wasn't one of them". This comes after the president tweeted there's no reason for the massive, deadly and costly forest fires in California except that forest management is so poor. He also said billions are given each year to the state.

The Camp Fire has tied with a fire in Griffith Park in the 1930's to be the deadliest fire in Calif. History. 29 people have been killed. There are still several people evacuated and roads are closed. Firefighters were working aggressively against flames as the town of Paradise is nearly gone altogether. Everyone in that town, Magalia, Concow, Butte Creek Canyon and Butte Valley were all evacuated. There's a community meeting happening now at the State Theater in Oroville for those impacted. New evacuation centers are opening as many are full. The Camp Fire started last Thursday morning in the Feather River Canyon off Highway 70 and engulfed Paradise taking out more than 6,450 homes and 260 commercial buildings. The fire has burned 113,000 acres and is 25% contained.

The emergency homeless shelter in Ukiah's opening. There are 35 beds there, but they're all already taken. More beds are on the way to the shelter, so they can add about 9 more, for a total of 44. Evenings are getting cold though, it got down to 23 degrees Sunday morning, setting a record from 1978 when it was 25 on the same day. Those who need shelter can head over to Plowshares after 11 am, for only one hour though. Anyone registering will be in their system moving forward. Staff will help them with a housing plan.

11/13/18

The Camp Fire in Butte County has now hit a devastating mark, the deadliest in Calif. history. Another 13 more bodies were found to bring the total dead to 42. The Butte County Sheriff's Office has notified families and named three of the recently discovered dead. They were from Paradise, Concow and Magalia. The Sheriff is asking for more help for search and recovery, bringing in cadaver dogs, portable morgue units and more radio equipment. The fire has burned 4,000 more acres to reach 117,000 acres as of last night. It's burned nearly 7,200 buildings and it's 30% contained. There are 52,000 people still under mandatory evacuation orders and 200 people are still missing. The forecast for air quality is very unhealthy. The Butte County Board of Supervisors had a meeting set this morning to ratify a local disaster proclamation and a health emergency declaration.

The owner of the Town of Pulga says PG&E sent her an email the day before the Camp Fire started, saying they needed to fix something on one of their towers. Betsy Ann Cowley telling local media about the email, but there's no word what the problem was. Firefighter radio transmissions and an alert sent to state regulators may be a clue. The Bay Area News Group reports firefighters found downed power lines and the fire moving quickly under high-tension wires northeast of Pulga by Poe Dam. Investigations are underway already by PG&E and Southern California Edison because of the Camp and Woolsey Fires. And the California Public Utilities Commission is also investigating. PG&E did send a letter to the Commission Friday that they detected an outage on a transmission line in Butte County, that was about 15 minutes before the Camp Fire started. And a day before SoCal Edison sent an alert to the Commission too that a substation circuit near the origin of the Woolsey Fire found a disturbance.

Lake County's got a team going for a chance to be national champions in Cheerleading. The Lower Lake High competitive cheer squad is headed to nationals after getting fourth place in the JAMZ Battle at the Capitol in Sacramento this past weekend. The team had a high enough score to get them to the nationals in February in Bakersfield, then onto the JAMZ national championship Feb. 22-23 in Las Vegas.

A new principal has been chosen in the Lakeport Unified School District after the last one was demoted. Rachel Paarsch was demoted for unknown personnel reasons and Scott Johnson will fill the spot. He was last the principal of a middle school in Rohnert Park. He was first a teacher, then the assistant principal. His resume apparently includes working diligently on truancy and chronic absenteeism, something the schools in Lake County have an issue with. Some in the audience were hoping the board would wait for three new board members who were just elected.

Long term housing already a problem in Butte County, now is made much worse with the Camp Fire. Almost 6,500 homes have been destroyed in the massive fire. The executive director of Butte County's Housing Authority says they were already facing a critical need with low vacancy rates. 15 percent of housing is gone from the Camp Fire. It may take years to rebuild, in Chico alone, they're putting up about 600 units a year, at that rate, it would be more than 10 years for enough new housing for those displaced by the fire. Some folks don't have a business or job to go back to, as many commercial buildings have also burned.

Fresh-caught Dungeness crab could be on the menu for Thanksgiving. The commercial fleet is preparing for the fall season, which starts this Thursday. State regulators have opened up the main fishery on time this year, but only out north to Bodega Head. That's because there's another round of tests that have not come back from the mouth of the Russian River yet after one was found with elevated levels of domoic acid. A week later a six crab test came back within limits, so another round of tests was needed. The fishery normally opens by November 15th.

A major national disaster declaration has been approved by the President due to the fires in Butte, Los Angeles and Ventura counties. The Gov sent a request for the presidential major disaster declaration Sunday. Governor Brown says fires are threatening life. The declaration means impacted counties can have access to crisis counseling, housing and unemployment help and legal services. There's also help for the state itself, tribal and local governments for ongoing emergency response and recovery including repairing or replacing disaster-damaged facilities and infrastructure, like roads, bridges and utilities.

Police in Lakeport continue investigating how a fire started in an apartment building this past weekend. Part of the Bel Aire Apartments on N. Main St. were on fire so the entire complex is closed. Investigators on site all day yesterday, but they've not said if they found a point of ignition. The complex had a lot of damage so it's unsafe for anyone to live there. Some folks have contacted the Red Cross, and anyone who needs help can call City Hall. Those trying to get into the building could face arrest. The city says it's in touch with the Red Cross and will advise anyone there of any new changes.

The owner of the tiny town of Pulga says PG&E sent her a letter that they needed to access her property because power lines were causing sparks. The Press Democrat reports the Camp Fire started near Betsy Ann Cowley's property. Now fire investigators have declared the area around the power lines on her property a crime scene. And apparently security guards are not allowing PG&E inspectors in. Cowley says she was on vacation when the email came and she told the Associated Press about her experience. Firefighter radio transmissions and an alert sent to state regulators may be a clue too. The Bay Area News Group reports firefighters found downed power lines and the fire moving quickly under high-tension wires northeast of Pulga by Poe Dam. The California Public Utilities Commission is also investigating.

The Governor says the White House approved California's latest request for a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration. It was submitted this weekend for fast emergency response to the fires in Butte, Los Angeles and Ventura counties. The Governor says it's a time of sadness, but the state's resolving to pull together to do everything possible to help those in need.

And speaking of that the SBA is at the ready to provide low cost loans to California businesses and residents affected by the disasters in Butte, Ventura and Los Angeles counties from the fires that all broke out November 8th. Disaster loans of up to \$200,000 are available for homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. And renters can also take out loans. Businesses can get up to \$2M dollars. Interest rates are as low as 3 and 3/4 percent for businesses to 2 percent for homeowners and renters with terms up to 30 years.

A teenager has been identified as the driver of a car that crashed in Hopland, killing him. 17-year-old Brian Mendoza of Boonville died last Friday afternoon after crashing into a couple of oak trees. The CHP says he was just north of Hopland then his 2016 Honda Accord came off the road and crashed into the trees. Officers say the impact of the crash nearly split the sedan in half and that it tore the roof off the driver's side. They're investigating how fast he was going and if it's possible either alcohol or drugs were a contributing factor. He was driving on Old River Road, a two-lane rural road that runs along side Highway 101 from south of Hopland north to Ukiah.

Donations are being taken for those impacted by the Camp Fire in Butte County. The Mendo Lake Complex Fire Relief organization is helping, accepting donations in Ukiah for some families staying here. Volunteers are also driving donations to Butte County. 11 families have already been helped. Some of the items needed include, tents, warm blankets, thermal undergarments, air mattresses, pet food, pet beds, cleaning supplies and personal hygiene products. MendoLake Complex Fire Relief is on East Road in Redwood Valley, across from the back of the Redwood Valley

11/14/18 market.

The latest budget report in Mendocino County has been presented to the Board of Supervisors. The First Quarter Budget Report for the 2018-19 fiscal year so the board agreed to amend the 2018-2019 budget. The latest budget for the period between July 1st through Sept. 30th. But the numbers could change by the middle of next year. The budget looks to spend on things like roads, more broadband service, new housing development, emergency services, and homelessness. The County CEO says they know more has be spent on broadband, but they don't have the millions of dollars needed in the general fund. The board looking to focus on fiscal responsibility

Two people in Humboldt County apparently spotted great white sharks this week. Video of the shark sightings put on youtube. One of the sightings at Cape Mendocino and the other at the jetty in Humboldt Bay. One of the videos shot by someone out diving with a friend. The other out kayak fishing when the shark, described as the size of a Prius, got close. One marine expert says it's common for sharks to swim the waters in the North Coast during the fall as they get energy and fatten up for a big migration.

A local group is pooling resources and has started a bulk food buying club. The Local Food Pledge group out of Green Uprising Farm reportedly came up with the idea so folks meet monthly to get their orders. The farm says they have about 70 members and their focus is small-scale bulk-buying, putting together a support network for local farmers and educating folks about the need to eat locally-produced food.

The Camp Fire growing and taking more lives. Now 48 people are reported as deceased and the fire continues to blacken land and destroy buildings. The town of Paradise has been nearly erased with the fire taking out 7,700 homes. There are still people missing, but no exact number. The Sheriff's office brought in help for search and recovery. Several shelters opened, but quickly filled up, so more were opening. The fire has burned 130,000 acres and is 30% contained. In Southern Calif, two people were killed in Malibu due to the Woolsey Fire. The two fires are under investigation.

Air quality an issue because of the Camp Fire so several Lake County school districts are closed for the rest of the week. Kelseyville, Konocti and Middletown schools are closed and Lakeport Unified is closed today. In Kelseyville and Konocti Unified, they will remain closed until Monday, the 26th, after the Thanksgiving vacation. The Upper Lake Unified School District is staying open as is Lucerne Elementary. But Hance Community School and Clearlake Creativity School are closed today. Smoke from the Camp Fire was hovering in Lake County overnight with the majority of areas experiencing heavy smoke or haze and air quality was "unhealthy" to "very unhealthy".

Lake County's got holiday food boxes for people in need. An effort from Lakeport Rotary, NCO Community Action, Lake County Hunger Task Force, Lake Family Resource Center, and the Lake County Record Bee working together to distribute boxes next month before the holidays. The boxes paid for from the Lake County Holiday Fund with funds collected last year during the holiday season and with a grant from the Lake County Wine Alliance. Umpqua Bank branches and WestAmerica Banks will collect money this year for next year's fund drive. Those who want to register for boxes have to show a photo ID and proof of address. The several hundred who register get their boxes at a prearranged, assigned time.

A new commander has been named at the Clearlake office of the CHP. Lt. Randy England actually took over at the beginning of October after being the commander of the Garberville office the last two years. The last commander in Clearlake retired in August. England worked in San Francisco Area for about a year and a half, then it was off to Ukiah where he handled several positions, before heading to the Mendocino Major Crimes Task Force.

A regularly scheduled town council meeting happened in Paradise days after the town is practically decimated by the Camp Fire. All of the council members have been impacted, losing their homes. The council meeting was focused on rebuilding. Utilities, homes, and businesses were destroyed and there are still people reported as missing. The city will probably need a new sewer system because it was still on septic tanks. The Paradise Unified School District is meeting today to discuss when kids can get back to school. They lost three school buildings in the fire.

Animals filling up shelters in northern California due to the Camp Fire so volunteers are looking for their families. Volunteers from the North Valley Animal Disaster group went thru the tangled and torched homes to look for pets, then posted photos of them online.

Some of the people who lost their homes in Paradise are now suing Pacific Gas & Electric. The suit says they should win money from the utility company because it didn't maintain its infrastructure and didn't properly inspect or manage power transmission lines. More than two dozen fire victims filed the suit calling the cause of the fire the result of PG&E's negligence, carelessness, recklessness, and/or unlawfulness. There's been no cause determined, but PG&E told state regulators last week there was an issue with a transmission line in the region of the fire just before it broke out last Thursday. And as we reported yesterday, a landowner near where the fire ignited said she got a notification from PG&E saying they had to access her property because utility wires were sparking.

A man from Lucerne arrested this summer after his roommate was shot has a court date. Michael Finnegan arrested in June for assault with a firearm but he says it was self defense. His lawyer saying there's new info now on the victim. The two sides entering a stipulation into court records regarding certain evidence in the case. The Lake County Sheriff's Office had reported they responded to a man being shot by his roommate and when they got there, they found Finnegan outside and the victim with a wound to his chest inside, saying Finnegan shot him. The man was expected to recover, but Finnegan admitted he shot the guy, because he felt like he was being attacked. Finnegan in custody on \$175,000 bail with his preliminary hearing set for Wednesday Nov. 28th.

A man in Lake County's getting mental health treatment after being accused of shooting his daughter to death in Hidden Valley Lake last year. Steven Miller reportedly sent to a Jail Based Competency Treatment Program in Sacramento for restoration of mental competency, basically so he can stand trial and understand the proceedings against him related to the alleged murder of his daughter, Hannah Welch in May of 2017. Back in March a court found enough evidence to try him for murder and evidence too, that he was mentally incompetent. That meant the court proceedings had to be suspended while he got treatment. He's pleaded not guilty and not guilty by reason of insanity on all counts against him, plus he denied the special allegations.

A new report says Latino students in California are doing better in higher education but colleges and state policymakers need to help more, to close an ethnic achievement gap. The Campaign for College Opportunity, a nonprofit came out with the report after Los Angeles called for reforms including more enrollment at 10 University of California colleges across the state and at 23 California State University campuses so there's more enrollment of those with Latino heritage and to improve community college programs so more transfers are guaranteed for four-year-schools if students take the right courses, getting high schools to offer more college prep classes and bolstering state college financial aid.

Parking meters coming to downtown Ukiah. The City Council voted in favor of the meters. It comes after an ad-hoc committee came up with a plan for the meters in the downtown core. They'll be located in front of free spaces and there won't be any more permit-only spaces in the parking lots. The proposal approved last week to improve parking so the city can make some money on spaces located in front of businesses on School Street. The city's apparently been losing money with some folks using two spaces downtown. The meters will be paid for with borrowed money. The city's getting a \$500,000 draw against future revenues from the parking district. That will pay for not only the new parking meters, but also lights, planters and new

11/15/18 garbage and recycling containers.

More work on homelessness in Mendocino County. The Health and Human Services Agency met Tuesday on the matter, discussing the Homeless Mentally Ill Outreach and Treatment Program and the WholePerson Care pilot program. The Daily Journal reports that program will help find limited transitional housing support for those with mental health needs. The County also looking at creating a closer partnership with the Mendocino County Homeless Services Continuum of Care MCHSCoC which does administrative work and works with more than 20 agencies on homelessness in the County. They will come up with a plan of action to tackle homelessness and housing needs in the County, finding funding and programs to help.

Another tax hike proposal for a fire department may hit the next ballot in Lake County. The Lakeport Fire District Board of Directors is considering the hike just after the South Lake County Fire Protection District's Measure L is behind in votes from the last election. It needed just about a half percent more. But of course it could change in the final tally. The Record Bee reports the Lakeport proposal is said to be a smaller tax though. It's due to staffing cuts and a loss of revenue. The district is at three full time firefighters and three part timers. So the department is considering the tax hike to stay in the black. Tax rates outside the city haven't gone up in 3 decades. They've not come up with how much of a hike in the tax rate they want.

Now 56 people are declared dead from the Camp Fire. 8 more bodies recovered in Paradise and the number of missing at more than 100. The Butte County Sheriff's Dept. has identified 47 of the 56 so far. The latest findings were six people inside structures and two others, outside. They were still searching for remains with several cadaver dogs and hundreds of search and rescue personnel. Today the sheriff's office is going to collect DNA samples from people who think they may have lost someone in the fire. 52,000 residents are still evacuated and more than 1,300 are in shelters. Some roads have reopened between Forest Ranch and Chico. The fire's burned more acreage though, 138,000 acres now charred. The fire's 35% contained. 8,756 homes gone. The fire now active east of Paradise Lake and growing near Big Bar Mountain on the east side of the North Fork of the Feather River, southeast of Pulga where it's believed the fire may have ignited. There's supposed to be rain next week which should help completely douse the fire, depending how long the rain sticks around.

A woman in labor at the start of the Camp Fire. The Mercury News is reporting Anastasia Skinner was waiting for help almost two hours while traffic jammed up in Paradise. The woman says she called her husband, who was elsewhere with their two sons and they said they final goodbyes, sure she would die waiting with thousands of other cars, as her contractions got stronger. She says she called 911 as her baby wasn't due for a month more. So then she honked her horn and screamed for help and a man on a bike, a paramedic, a deputy and several strangers running from the fire helped her. The pregnancy, high risk, and supposed to be a cesarean. They helped her out though and rushed the woman to a hospital in Chico.

PG&E is speaking out after firefighter radio transmissions had announced there was a malfunctioning PG&E power line that might have been the cause for the Camp Fire. A woman who owns the town of Pulga said she got an email there might be sparks on lines near her home, which burned down in the fire. But now the utility company says it was actually a notification about upcoming work on a different transmission line in the email to her, not about any malfunctioning line. They were letting folks know they were going to be doing work on a transmission line which was de-energized and not operational when the fire started. A company spokesperson also says there's been no discussion with any customer about sparks and PG&E infrastructure, and further says it's a different line than one PG&E identified in its Electric Incident Report on Nov. 8, the day the fire broke out. There were downed power lines with flames under high-tension wires when firefighters arrived at the fire's origin northeast of Pulga. The California Public Utilities Commission is investigating. PG&E stockholders have been selling off shares and trading stopped for the utility Monday as shares dropped more than 37 percent, but later leveled off.

PG&E's stock devalued as rumors swirl the energy company could be to blame for the massive Camp Fire. The deadliest and most destructive fire in Calif. history. The utility reported it didn't have enough insurance coverage if found liable for the fire that has killed 56 people and destroyed more than 8,750 homes. The stock fell by 37% Monday but leveled off at a nearly 20% loss. It fell about 7 bucks to \$25.69. The utility reports it's lost 47 percent of its value since the fire started last Thursday. It says they have 1.4 billion in wildfire liability insurance coverage for the year that ends July 31st of 2019. But apparently damage from this fire alone could add up to more than \$15 billion. And a couple dozen residents of Paradise are suing the utility, blaming it for not maintaining its infrastructure and not properly inspecting its power transmission lines.

A man from Clearlake Oaks has died in a fight. Lake Co News reports the Lake County Sheriff's Office is investigating how 54 year old Brian Smeltzer died after a fight. He was found in a car on Hoover Street in Clearlake Oaks. An autopsy will be conducted later this week.

The Gov. Jerry Brown has been out to look at the wildfire damage in Butte Cc

A man in Del Norte County's been arrested for an alleged arson. This after reports of a fire 1.5 miles away from HWY 199 on Siskiyou Fork Road. Kym Kemp reporting one deputy and firefighters went to the scene and doused the fire, they found five more fires, two active and a road nearby blocked off to prevent access. There they found a stolen car, from Ashland, Oregon. Evidence was collected and the next morning the stolen car was taken away. Then the next day more fires. A photo of a man who may have been connected to the stolen vehicle turned up and a hitchhiker matching the man's description was found and arrested a couple days after the initial fires. Michael Lindauer wanted for some warrants and was on probation. He's booked on several crimes including arson, vehicle theft and the outstanding warrants. He was being held in the Del Norte County jail.

56 people dead in the Camp Fire. The most deadly and destructive in state history. The fire's acreage climbing, but so is its containment. Cal Fire reports the fire's burned thru 140,000 acres. Nowhere near the amount charred in the Mendocino Complex, the largest fire ever in Calif. which burned this summer across 4 counties and charred more than 459,000 acres. The Camp Fire's a week old and has taken down more than 8,600 homes and two hundred businesses. It's 40% contained. 130 people are still missing and of the bodies that have been found so far, 47 have been positively identified. Rain is in the forecast next week, but right now it's still dry and warm with low humidity.

Winds will soon blow smoke out of the area bringing much needed relief from the bad air hanging over the state for the last week. Experts say that by Wednesday, Californians should be breathing easier. For now, those struggling with the bad air are advised follow doctor's orders, or if possible leave the area until the smoke clears out. Meanwhile, the news on the ground got worse with the latest update. 63 have died in California wildfires, and some 631 people are currently unaccounted for. Ukiah Unified was open today, and say they will keep watching air quality, providing updates as conditions change. Most lake county schools were closed today, and Kelseyville schools expect to stay closed until after thanksgiving break.

11/16/18 President Trump has planned a visit with authorities and victims of the Camp Wildfire this weekend. He lands at Beale Air Force Base tomorrow.

[Would be volunteer firefighters turned out for Ukiah Valley Fire Authority's we](#)

Ukiah is getting a new Panda Express on Airport Park Boulevard after the planning commission green lighted a permit this week. The new restaurant will have a drive thru and be part of a larger complex that will be home to other businesses.

The 30 day statewide Official Canvas Period continues, as there are still thousands of ballots to be counted. A total of 8152, in fact, including over 6000 vote by mail ballots, over 1200 provisional ballots.

A public meeting will be held at 6pm at the Lake Port City Council Chambers on November 28th, for updates to the city's Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan will address fire, drought and flood hazards along with plans to minimize losses during disasters. FEMA will soon require the Hazard Mitigation Plans to grant funds reimbursing losses.

The Mendocino County Juvenile Hall will stay open. The decision comes as the Mendocino County Board of operators met this week to discuss fears about the long term effects of closing the facility and the negative effects of prioritizing budgets over helping local youth.

A study focused on Math and English and skills needed to attend community college shows California's Latino students making progress, but concludes that colleges and state policymakers can do more to close an achievement gap. The study was commissioned by the Campaign For College Opportunity, and highlights a few areas where reforms would be helpful. Specifically, expanding enrollment at the university of California, more College Prep Classes in high school, and increased state financial aid.

Paradise Elementary school immediately evacuated the morning of November 8th, when the Camp Fire broke out. 3,800 of more than 4,200 students in the Paradise Unified School District lost their homes in the fire, the deadliest and most destructive in California history. Teachers, school board members have no homes and now probably no job, for a time. The fire burned eight of the nine schools in Paradise, more than 10,300 homes in the town of 27,000 residents. 77 people were killed in the fire that's burned 150,000 acres. 993 are still missing as of last night. The fire's 65% contained. Smoke from the fires in Northern and Southern California forced 180 K-12 districts which serve about 1.1 million students to close. The Woolsey Fire in Southern Calif burning in Ventura County and northern Los Angeles County.

11/19/18

A woman in Fort Bragg has been arrested for stealing a bunch of jewelry from her grandma. The Mendocino County Sheriff's Dept. reports Michele Williamson took her 87-year-old grandma from a care facility, drove her home to Little River, where police say she stole about \$20,000 in jewelry, but the grandmother needed medical assistance at home and had to go by ambulance to Mendocino Coast District Hospital. Williamson was apparently not allowed to be in the home to begin with, she was picked up elsewhere and arrested, and the jewelry was found there. Williamson is charged with suspicion of grand theft, stealing from an elder as a caretaker and possession of stolen property.

Nearly \$5 million dollars in grant funding has been approved by the California Community Colleges Board of Governors for an expansion and for support of Veterans Resource Centers at community colleges throughout the state. The Superintendent-President Arturo Reyes announcing Mendocino College was one of 90 community colleges who got a bit of the money. They have an active Veteran's Resource Center for veterans and active duty service members to help with academics as they come out of the military into school. Mendocino College reportedly looking for a better space now for their Veterans Resource Center to accommodate more students and have areas for study sessions, intake appointments, and a student lounge.

A warning from the Mendocino County Sheriff's Dept. about a suspected credit card skimmer at gas stations in Hopland. The Sheriff's dept. says there was a scanning device inside a gas pump. Police went to meet a County Agriculture Department representative who got a call after a possible identify theft at the gas station. The victim said it happened just after they purchased gas, and their pin was stolen. So a County Agriculture Weights and Measures representative investigated all the gas pumps and found four with scanning devices which have been taken as evidence. They then went to another gas station in Hopland and found 3 more scanners for a total of 7 of them found. Unconfirmed reports that several people were potentially affected. No arrests have been made.

A man in Ukiah's been arrested for a domestic disturbance after a call last week from a woman who cops say had visible injuries. The Mendocino County Sheriff's Dept says Miguel Leon-Alvarado got into an argument with the woman he was in a relationship with, and another relative. They say he tried to stop his girlfriend from calling police, reached into her car and grabbed her phone. She then got a face injury. It didn't stop, deputies say all of those there fell to the ground and the woman then hurt her knee too. Leon-Alvarado left the location but was caught later and arrested for domestic violence battery and booked on \$15,000.00 bail

A new proclamation expected by the Lake County Board of Supervisors ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday against light pollution. District 3 Supervisor Jim Steele says 90 percent of the population in our country and in Europe can't see the milky way from where they live so the Dark Skies Proclamation will, quote "set the tone" so there's a review of the county's plans for lighting that prevents nighttime brightness. There's now support from several entities including the Cobb Area Council, Redbud Audubon Society and the Lake County Land Trust. It's to promote an outline by Lake County to protect dark skies and promote "astro-tourism," maintain an aspect of locals' quality of life, and assist bird migration.

A bunch of weapons stolen in Scotts Valley. The Record Bee reports last Thursday morning someone broke into Greg and Kandee Stolesen's home and took 30-40 firearms. They found their garage door open and some of their collection scattered across the floor. Their gun safes opened with a torch and the safe's ripped off of Stolesen's collection of mostly antique guns worth as much as \$40,000. The couple apparently just recovering from the River Fire which scorched land all around their home, but spared it. No arrests have been made as of this weekend.

The president was in Northern Calif. to tour the damage left so far by the Camp Fire in Paradise. The president doubling down on his earlier comments blaming forest management. The president dissed firefighters for raking leaves around the fire, saying that should have been done sooner. The president met the Paradise Mayor and saw what was the Skyway Villa Mobile Home and RV Park. The visit just before the Butte County Sheriff announced five more bodies were found Saturday, now a sixth was found after the visit, bringing the total number of dead to 77. PG&E has also filed a second report about an outage the day the fire started, saying they had a power line failure near where the fire started.

Assemblyman Jim Wood in Butte County with the ominous task of helping to identify victims of the Camp Fire. The Northcoast Assemblyman is also a forensic dentist who's previously been called on in other emergencies for the same thing. He tweeted that he was fortunate to be a #forensidentist who can help identify victims of tragic disasters like the #CampFire to help families with closure. He went on to say he also helped after 9/11 & Hurricane Katrina and would do it again in a minute. He was in Sacramento last Friday where the remains are being shipped to a morgue for identification purposes.

It's a no, the Mendocino-Lake Community College District board of trustees with a thumbs down for a raise for the Vice President of Academic Affairs and the Vice President of Student Services. The raises would have happened every year. The board asked the college administration for more information on salary comparisons for the executive office with other comparable colleges. They had considered it before, at their last board meeting, at which time the board asked for a delay to get that info. Right now the two Veeps make about \$149,000 and if they were to get raises they would have been headed to the \$164,000 to \$172,000 range.

A timber yard manager in front of the Willits City Council saying the timber yard that opened near Willits High is causing abnormally high water bills. These residents asking the city council for a reduction in their water bills now. The Daily Journal reports the timber yard manager oversees other yards in Oroville and Weaverville with access to a river, pond or other water supply where water recirculates to cool logs and that reduces costs, but he doesn't have that in Willits. Instead he uses a mister system, but his water bill was \$9,000. He says the water rates in Willits compared to similar-sized communities were almost twice as high. The city manager says he should speak to the Public Works utilities superintendent for non-potable water options for the timber yard. And the mayor also requested the council get updates on how that turns out.

The Lake County Board of Supervisors to take up a report about the district attorney's use of resources, including a credit card and a county vehicle. Lake Co News reports the supervisors will also discuss some upcoming appointments needed at the Lakeport Fire Protection District Board. The meeting tomorrow morning , you can catch the stream live on the county website too as they discuss outgoing DA Don Anderson's internal controls on county credit cards, expenses, reimbursements, mileage and maintenance of county vehicles. Supervisor Rob Brown also wants Anderson to explain his use of "limited county resources" and justify certain trainings as he leaves office at the end of December. Then the supes will consider a resolution for protocols moving forward on the appointment of director to the Lakeport Fire Protection District and a nomination since there's a vacancy on the current fire board.

Because of the terrible air quality due to the Camp Fire, there's no classes this week at Woodland Community College campuses. That means all three Woodland Community College campuses, in Yolo, Lake, and Colusa Counties are closed today, tomorrow and Wednesday. Thursday and Friday were already set for closure because of the Thanksgiving holiday. There will be classes Saturday though on the Woodland main campus, as scheduled. They will post any new closures on their website, Facebook page or Twitter.

[Campus closure updates will be posted on the college Web site at www.wcc.edu](http://www.wcc.edu)

The search continues for those missing due to the Camp fire. Officials combing thru the wreckage of Paradise in Butte County. So far 77 people are confirmed dead and another 1,200 are missing. More than 10,000 homes destroyed and 150,000 acres have also burned. Much of the town of Paradise, incinerated. Lake Co News has posted the names of the missing on their site. The Butte County Sheriff's Dept. and other allied agencies are trying to find the missing. 300 people who were on that list have been removed. Some people who have left the area or even the state, may not even know they're listed. They want them to call the Sheriff's Office so their names can be taken off the list.

Staff working the Missing Persons Task Force can be reached at 530-538-6570, 530-538-7544 and 530-538-7671.

The Camp Fire has grown this weekend, but the containment is up to 65 percent. Word that the fire won't be fully contained though until the end of the month. However rain is expected. The fire burning actively in the Feather River Canyon near Grizzly Creek. 77 people are confirmed dead after a body was found yesterday in Butte Creek Canyon. The Butte County Sheriff's Office's Missing Persons Call Center is open for those to call in and either report the names of missing people or report they're found or no longer in the area. The fire's blackened 150,000 acres and more than 10,000 homes and nearly 700 other buildings. They've also lifted some evacuation orders. Those going home, if it's still standing, are being told their utilities have probably all been shut off. Anyone trying to get back in will have to show proof they live there.

Assemblyman Jim Wood in Butte County with the ominous task of helping to identify victims of the Camp Fire. The Northcoast Assemblyman is also a forensic dentist who's previously been called on in other emergencies for the same thing. He tweeted that he was fortunate to be a #forensidentist who can help identify victims of tragic disasters like the #CampFire to help families with closure. He went on to say he also helped after 9/11 & Hurricane Katrina and would do it again in a minute. He was in Sacramento last Friday where the remains are being shipped to a morgue for identification purposes.

It's a no, the Mendocino-Lake Community College District board of trustees with a thumbs down for a raise for the Vice President of Academic Affairs and the Vice President of Student Services. The raises would have happened every year. The board asked the college administration for more information on salary comparisons for the executive office with other comparable colleges. They had considered it before, at their last board meeting, at which time the board asked for a delay to get that info. Right now the two Veeps make about \$149,000 and if they were to get raises they would have been headed to the \$164,000 to \$172,000 range.

A timber yard manager in front of the Willits City Council saying the timber yard that opened near Willits High is getting abnormally high water bills. He was asking the city council for a reduction in their water bills now. The Daily Journal reports the timber yard manager oversees other yards in Oroville and Weaverville with access to a river, pond or other water supply where water recirculates to cool logs and that reduces costs, but he doesn't have that in Willits. Instead he uses a mister system, but his water bill was \$9,000. He says the water rates in Willits compared to similar-sized communities were almost twice as high. The city manager says he should speak to the Public Works utilities superintendent for non-potable water options for the timber yard. And the mayor also requested the council get updates on how that turns out.

With over 80 dead, and more than 700 still missing due to wildfires, the difficult job of finding and identifying remains from the Camp Fire is about to become even more difficult with rains on the way. A flood watch has been issued for Wednesday, which will bring much needed relief for crews fighting wildfires, but the rains could wash away remains of victims yet to be identified, who may have run into open fields or drainage areas fleeing the

11/20/18 fire.

Air quality has been a serious issue, so government agencies have been handing out N95 masks with the help of local companies, but are now in need of new supplies after running out. Kelly Moore paint stores are handing out free masks, you can pick one up at the Ukiah store while they last.

[A mural funded by a donation to lake County Rural Arts Initiative will be used](#)

The Ukiah Salvation Army needs your help. If you can volunteer for a day to ring bells and gather donations during the holidays, you'll be helping people right here in the community. Donations collected in Ukiah will stay in the area to help the homeless and working poor. You can volunteer for two hours, 20 hours or more with certain restrictions. Contact the Ukiah Salvation Army for more information.

According to paperwork filed with regulators and recorded radio transmissions, a PG&E power line near Poe Dam had damage reported around 6:15am on November 8th, right before flames were first noticed under the power lines. Another line in Concow was having issues about half an hour later and is suspected of sparking a second blaze. FEMA director Brock Long told President Trump on his visit to the disaster area that this is probably the worst disaster he's seen in his career.

The Vice President of Academic Affairs and the Vice President of Student Services will not be getting a raise after all. The Mendocino-Lake Community College District Board of Trustees voted the issued down during their board meeting after reviewing salary information from other community colleges.

Increased costs are behind the vote by the Mendocino Lake Community College district board of trustees for backing out of the solar power purchase agreement. The agreement would have seen the construction of a solar energy system for Mendocino College. Unfortunately, the additional costs would have reduced the savings expected when the project was initially given the green light. The company has been given more time to find solutions to the extra costs.

Gas prices are down about 6 cents from last week, but Californian's are paying the second highest prices in the country behind Hawaii. According to AAA, the state average is \$3.63 a gallon. With lower gas prices comes more congestion for drivers to deal with, as some 49 million travelers are expected on the roads between tomorrow and Sunday. The most congested travel will be on Sunday between 1-6 with everyone heading back home at the same time.

The Mendocino County Sheriff's office is giving thanks for recent donations made by local groups. Rising Stars Music Showcase of Ukiah donated a Garmin GPS, and remote training device for a K-9 on the force and Chadwick Armory of Ukiah donated a buddy bag that will also be used by a k-9 on the force.

Now more than 80 people have been counted dead as others are allowed to go home after the town of Paradise is destroyed by the Camp Fire. Two more bodies found in the last day as residents of Little Chico Creek and lower Butte Creek canyons and the Honey Run area get to go home. Some residents in the Butte Creek Canyon and Honey Run Road are still not allowed to come home yet. 81 are confirmed dead and as many as 870 people are missing. The fire has burned 152,250 acres, more than 12,600 homes destroyed and more than 800 other buildings have also been destroyed. Thankfully the fire is now 70 percent contained with rain on the way. Full containment is expected by Nov. 30th, one week from this Friday.

11/21/18

There's a flash flood watch in parts of Northern Calif. Caltrans announced the warning on their Facebook page. It includes parts of Mendocino and Lake counties affected by wildfires. The warning from today to Friday, over the Thanksgiving Day holiday. They're warning anyone out driving to be careful while moving through fire areas and to watch for rocks, mud, and other debris. The Mendocino Complex Fire this summer and the Redwood Complex Fire last year could have left vulnerable areas. There will be Caltrans crews out 24/7 cleaning up debris to hopefully make it safer on the roads this holiday. Cooler and wetter weather starts today and continues with heavy rain possible. The National Weather Service is also recommending some in the burn areas make a plan for evacuation with several evacuation routes planned in case of possible mudslides.

A small shed no longer after it burns in a fire in Ukiah. The fire Monday near Old River Road spread to vegetation nearby and burned about a quarter of an acre. Ukiah Valley Fire Authority reports putting the fire down pretty fast, but they're not sure what caused the fire. One firefighter saying it looked like it started inside the shed, then spread to vegetation and power lines. No injuries were reported.

A search and rescue team is coming from Humboldt County to help search for bodies after the Camp Fire. They're following other emergency workers from Humboldt County who worked the fire. They came from the Arcata, Briceland, Miranda, Blue Lake and Humboldt Fire departments. Now the Humboldt County Sheriff's Search and Rescue team is going to Butte County on Thanksgiving with K-9 companions to look for remains.

An armed robbery reported in McKinleyville has Humboldt County deputies out at a gas station. The clerk at the gas station says there were two people wearing masks who came into the station early yesterday, one had a firearm and told the clerk to hand over some cash as the other suspect made off with cigarettes and the two left. Cops say they got about \$250 cash and multiple cartons of cigarettes worth more than \$500.

For the first time since the Tubbs Fire in Sonoma County last year, staff at two elder care homes admit they abandoned elderly and infirm residents. The Press Democrat reports during settlement talks, Oakmont Senior Living officials admitted staff at Oakmont of Villa Capri and Oakmont of Varenna, both in Fountaingrove and owned by Oakmont Senior Living, could not deal with the fire and were ill prepared, so families of residents had to get them out, and staffers left them as the fast moving fire approached, plus they didn't warn residents of the emergency before they ditched the facilities. The admission is part of a 17-page agreement finalized Monday with the state Department of Social Services. One of the two facilities was spared, the other remains and will be allowed to stay in business.

The Lake County Sheriff's office is reporting on possible mudslides with heavy rains falling, saying it's concerning as the National Weather Service issues a flash flood watch. The National Weather Service issued the warning for Lake, Butte and Shasta counties from today thru Friday morning. Lake County though is not expecting an emergency response will be needed, but Highway 20 could get inundated, which is the main route in and out of the county. Cal Trans says they've already done some work along the highway in areas hit by the Mendocino Complex fire, which burned 410,000 acres this past summer. They're removing fire-damaged trees, fixing culverts and planting new trees to control erosion.

A new report says more resources need to be extended for low income families as part of the 2017 local wildfire recovery in Sonoma County. The Press Democrat has a story on the report released Monday by the Alliance for a Just Recovery, which is part of local labor, environmental and faith groups who want more resources to go to low-income families. The report says the group of residents was hit hardest while less housing became accessible, and what's already there started to become unaffordable. The fires in Sonoma County last year destroyed about 5,300 homes in the county.

A new tool will help officials in Butte County identify human remains faster. The system can analyze DNA from bone fragments in two hours. The remains matched to genetic material relatives provide to teams working on the Camp Fire burn area. But apparently they need more volunteers to help. Apparently only about 60 people have provided samples at pop-up labs at the Butte County Sheriff's office in Oroville and at an old Sears building in Chico. That's where FEMA has set up a disaster relief center. Other methods that have been used usually take several days or even weeks.

A woman from Clearlake has been arrested for animal cruelty case including poor care for several dogs and three horses. An animal control officer was investigating Dawn Thompson after reports 10 dogs and the three horses were not being properly cared for. The report says the dogs looked to be in good health, but didn't have good access to food and water. The horses looked like they were ill and also lacked access to food and water. A notice of violation was given to Thompson in June and she had a month to correct conditions, but apparently did not. So the officer had the horses removed for treatment and Thompson is charged with felony animal cruelty.

Caltrans officials and those looking for improvements to part of Hwy 20 on the North Shore may be meeting to consider safety issues that came up at town halls. There's been a disagreement between Caltrans and North Shore residents on how to handle concerns after the town halls, especially focused on shortening the two-way left turn lane which some drivers use to pass slower drivers. A safety concern. So now the Caltrans Chief Traffic Safety Officer sent a letter to get together with concerned parties to discuss investigations and suggested improvements.

A man initially behind in his election to be the next Schools Superintendent in Calif., claims victory. Bay Area Democratic Assemblyman Tony Thurmond has declared victory of only about 2 percentage points. He tweeted that about a week and a half after the, quote "notoriously slow-motion vote count", that Marshall Tuck, a fellow Democrat and former Los Angeles executive of charter schools and educational nonprofits, had called to concede the race to him. But Tuck has not publicly commented on his loss. There are still more than one million ballots to be counted. This is Tuck's second loss running for public office, he lost last time to Tom Torlakson, who, like Thurmond, was backed by the teachers' unions.

Several turkey dinners have been delivered to Clearlake Methodist and Clearlake Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints by the Clearlake Police Officers Association. The Association has been delivering turkey dinners to families for several years. During the year, they meet with families and kids. They also apparently found out the Clearlake Methodist Church and Clearlake Church of Latter Day Saints were donating turkeys to families this year, so they worked with the churches, plus the Association contributed side dishes and desserts. They delivered Thanksgiving dinners to 33 families.

A woman in Pennsylvania arrested for driving her son to the police station in Bethlehem Township on her car hood. Police say Shaurice Jones was trying to take her 12-year-old boy to the dentist but he didn't want to go and climbed onto the hood of her car, so she drove two miles to the police station with the kid on the hood. The woman arrested, charged with child endangerment and reckless endangerment, but was freed on \$1,000 unsecured bail.

The official cause of the Camp Fire has not been announced, but California legislators are already drawing up legislation that would protect PG&E from liabilities related to the fire by passing costs along to customers. Some are criticizing the move, but Lawmakers say the legislation is needed to prevent lawsuits from destabilizing and bankrupting a large utility. When asked for comment, a PG&E spokesperson said that for now, their only focus is helping first responders and customers in the area rebuild. The bill could be

11/23/18 introduced as early as December 3rd.

[Residents impacted by wildfires have more help being connected to state and](#)  
Aaron Rodgers was born and raised in Northern California, and has launched an effort to raise money to help in recovery efforts, donating \$1 million dollars of his own money towards the recovery fund. He posted a video to twitter with the details. Meanwhile, the Butte County Emergency Operations Center has asked that material donations no longer be sent to them, as they have run out of space to store the donated items. The best way to help out now is by making monetary donations, which are being accepted by United way, The American Red Cross, Salvation Army, the North Valley Community Foundation and North Valley Animal Disasters group.

The California Department of Tax and Fee Registration says that taxes on marijuana have increased revenue to the state. The findings are based on returns through the end of last month, totaling over \$93 million dollars. Growth was slower in Mendocino county. The Ukiah Daily Journal reports that based on taxable sales, returns for the county were \$2,364,007.00. Much slower than projected, and growers are blaming regulations making cultivation difficult for the disappointing numbers.

[The Emergency Prescription Assistance Program, managed by the US Depar](#)

The Lake County Registrar of Voters office will be conducting a manual tally of 1% of randomly selected precincts starting on Monday at the Registrar of Voters office, starting at 9am. The public is welcome to observe, but will be asked not to interfere with the process.

A man returning home from work this week arrived to find a broken window, some of his belongings missing, and his front door wide open. The inside of the home on the 2400 block of Mill Creek Road in Talmage had been vandalized, and there was a stranger asleep on his couch. The homeowner, who was armed, called 911 and started going from room to room inspecting the house. When the homeowner returned to the living room, he was ambushed by the man on the couch, identified as 37 year old Marcus D Angelo Davis of Oakland. In the struggle, the homeowner shot Davis twice, holding him at gunpoint until the authorities arrived. Davis was arrested, and authorities are still investigating.

The holiday shopping season is officially underway as eager shoppers flock to local stores looking for Black Friday deals. Today also marks the launch of Mendocino Transit Authority's Holiday Trolley, offering free rides through December 23rd. The antique trolley takes shoppers on an hour long trip from El Azteca Restaurant, to the Alex R Thomas Jr Plaza Downtown, and Raley's on the north side. The trolley leaves hourly from noon until 6:45pm every Saturday and Sunday, and 3 p.m. to 5:45pm on Thursdays and Fridays.

#### Construction got underway this week on the "Ukiah On Ice" downtown skating

Correctional deputies doing a Thanksgiving Day headcount came up one short at the Mendocino County Jail. 26 year old Alexander Ramirez of Fort Bragg had climbed a fence, entering the interior perimeter of the jail. He had been missing for about 50 minutes when he was spotted on a rooftop around 7:20pm. The Mendocino County sheriff's office along with the Ukiah Police Department secured a perimeter around the jail, and Ramirez surrendered. He was booked on additional charges of escape.

A man's been arrested in connection to the burglary of several Cupertino Electric vehicles. Cops say it happened November 17th in Albion. The burglary discovered by an employee of Cupertino Electric who deputies say were hiding in bushes near the location of the crime. They say before they got there one suspect had run away. But they found Aron Hernandez and arrested him, he was held by the tipster to police. But another man linked to the rip off has not been found. Police say about \$11,500.00 worth of tools and equipment were ripped off, and say the forced entry into the vehicles

11/26/18 was about \$5,300.00 in damage.

Police go to a house in Ukiah after they receive multiple hang up calls. Deputies apparently familiar with the home from calls in the past. Bodhi Idarius wasn't allowed to be within 100 yards of an adult female who lived at the home. The woman in front of the home when police arrived and they found out they had dated in the past. They say the woman left for a time and came back to find the guy inside and they had a physical altercation as she tried calling police. She tried to call 911 and says Idarius choked her with the phone cord, hit her with a drill, which she got away from him and hit him. Idarius arrested on several charges including domestic violence battery, damaging phone lines and for a violation of a domestic violence restraining order and held on \$25,000.00 bail.

4 teenagers have been arrested after a gun incident in Redwood Valley. Police say an 18 year old and 4 underage teens were arrested after a call from Lions Park that a juvenile had pointed a gun at the caller. That person said that kid and the four others got into a Ford SUV and left the scene. The victims and a witness followed the SUV and called police. Then the CHP found them and along with the Sheriff's Office and Ukiah Police Department stopped them and detained all five suspects. The driver, the 18 year old id'd as Robert Thing and the other passengers being identified as juvenile males. Apparently the victims were meeting the teens for a marijuana deal when a gun was pulled on the victims/sellers. Police found marijuana in the teens SUV, a pound bag of bud marijuana, knives, a billyclub, two baseball bats and carpet cutters. The five found to be gang members and have been charged with multiple crimes including robbery, conspiracy to commit crime and violating probation.

2 people killed and a man from Fort Bragg's been arrested on suspicion of DUI after a crash Black Friday. The crash on Highway 20 between Willits and Fort Bragg. The CHP reports 62 year old Timothy Beltram in a 2002 Ford Focus on Highway 20 headed west when he turned on the highway, then went over an embankment in the rain. The car rolled and his passengers, a 51-year-old woman from Fort Bragg and a 52 year old woman from Sacramento died. The 51 year old was ejected and died at the scene, the other woman died at a hospital. Beltram arrested on suspicion of DUI causing the death or injury of another.

Police in Leggett looking for a man they say is connected to the death of another man over the holiday weekend. Police say someone reported a car on North Highway 1, just south of Leggett and a man, possibly in his 50's, wearing a white jump suit and heavy logging style boots running from the scene with his legs on fire. The CHP, Leggett Valley Fire Dept. and Cal Fire went to the scene and put out the fire with the dead man inside the car with multiple bullet holes inside the van he was in. They say they also found a gun on the ground nearby. They're investigating it as a possible murder and called SWAT out to help find the suspect seen running onto a private logging road. The man in the van's family reported him missing.

The Ukiah City Council says yes to a possible merger of three agencies for more tourism. They're interested in merging Visit Ukiah, the Ukiah Main Street Program and the Greater Ukiah Chamber of Commerce. The Daily Journal reports the Deputy City Manager asked the City Council for authorization to "continue the negotiations" between the trio of agencies. After that a formal proposal will be brought back to the City Council. The idea is to get rid of any redundancies and strengthen core missions. The City Council voted unanimously for staff to move forward with negotiations.

A local group has pitched in to rescue animals abandoned due to the Camp Fire. The North Valley Animal Disaster Group a nonprofit out of Butte County send volunteers to help shelter or evacuate animals caught in fires or other emergencies. Many from Sonoma County are searching for animals, putting out food and water for pets lost or scared. More than 2,000 animals sheltered or fostered after the fire. And the nonprofit had volunteers in Butte County to set up emergency shelters.

The Camp Fire is finally contained more than two weeks after it started. The deadliest and most destructive fire in Calif. history killed at least 85 people and destroyed 14,000 homes. The fire was declared 100% contained Sunday after starting Nov. 8th and burning more than 153,000 acres. Cal Fire reports more than 18,000 structures in total were destroyed. There are also still about 250 people reporting missing and thousands are without homes. Crews now in mop up phase, taking out any hazardous trees or other items before residents can go back in to burned out areas. No word when that will happen. There are a couple of storms lining up too, one expected tonight or tomorrow, another apparently stronger one by Thursday with fast moving winds and a heavier downpour.

More rain is forecasted for the week. The National Weather Service reports a series of storms lining up to start tonight into tomorrow. The first storm to last into Wednesday, then another from Thursday through Sunday, dousing dry land, but also bringing the threat of mud slides in burn areas. The temperatures in the 40's and 50's during the day and 30's and 40's overnight. There are also winds predicted, that could pack 35 mph gusts later in the week.

Fire victims from Santa Rosa have gifted the town of Paradise with a Christmas Tree. The town's Welcome sign accompanied by the 12-foot noble fir adorned with solar-powered white lights. The gift from fire survivors of Coffey Park who lost their entire neighborhood in the October 2017 Tubbs Fire. More than 5,600 homes and buildings burned in the fire, which at that time was the most destructive in Calif. history. The Camp Fire has trumped it now. The same happened for the Coffey Park survivors from Valley Fire survivors. Last year the 2015 survivors brought a homemade Christmas sign to Coffey Park. 22 people died in the Tubbs Fire. 85 dead from the Camp Fire just over a year later.

A map by PG&E of the Camp Fire area apparently shows where the utility was planning to shut down power lines ahead of the deadly and destructive blaze. The map shows red lines over the towns of Paradise, Magalia and others showing distribution lines PG&E was planning to de-energize ahead of a high wind incident and dangerous fire conditions forecast for Nov. 8th. But it doesn't show a power line that's believed by some to have possibly gone off line or sparked at the time of the fire. Local media reports say the energy company was considering de-energizing a line near Concow which was out 17 minutes after the first reported fire. Then a second fire apparently started near that line.

Lakeport looking for two people to fill seats on the Lakeport Fire District Board of Directors. The City Council with a call for applicants so they can choose two people to sit on the board. You have to live in Lakeport city limits to apply. There are new procedures in the City of Lakeport so the City Council can approve two seats for appointment and the Board of Supervisors can appoint the remaining three from the unincorporated areas of the Lakeport Fire District.

[www.cityoflakeport.com](http://www.cityoflakeport.com)). For additional information, please contact Hilary B

Ukiah's electric company has asked the Ukiah Planning Commission for permission to renovate a property at 1350 Hasting's road, and has plans relocate administration, operations and technical services to the location.

The Daily Journal reports that if approved, the building would also have solar panels on the roof and be fenced in by by and 8 foot steel perimeter.

The request will be considered at a meeting today at 6pm in the City Council

PG&E has released a new report that gives insight into their decision not to shut power down before the Camp Fire sparked. The utility says winds were dying down, and no longer fell under emergency benchmarks observed by the company, which would include “forecast sustained winds above approximately 25 mph and wind gusts in excess of approximately 45 mph”. Since forecasts did not reach those levels, PG&E opted to keep the power on.

A federal judge yesterday gave PG&E until Dec 31 to answer questions about the utility company’s role in California Wildfires. The order issued by the judge demands answers about “any wildfire started by reckless maintenance of PG&E power lines”, and demands information on about any “inaccurate, slow, or failed reporting of information about any wildfire by PG&E.” The judge has been supervising PG&E’s probation following their conviction relating to an explosion in San Bruno back in 2010.

A new Facebook page, Paradise Fire Adopt A Family, aims to help one family at a time recover from the Camp Fire by connecting volunteers who would like to adopt a family. In an update posted to the page last night, the administrators said the effort is already seeing results. There have been offers of donations, jobs and offers of temporary housing. If you still want to help by making a donation, they are being accepted by United way, The American Red Cross, Salvation Army, the North Valley Community Foundation and North Valley Animal Disasters group.

Authorities are trying to find the source of an oil spill in Clear Lake behind the Del Lago HOA building in LakePort. The mess has been cleaned up, and didn’t cause a lot of damage, but where the oil came from is still a mystery to Lakeport Police, Lakeport County Environment Health, Lakeport County Water Resources and Lakeport Fire Department, the agencies investigating the spill.

The FDA says Romaine lettuce is safe to eat, as long as it didn’t come from the California growing region, and now farmers along California’s Central Coast are bracing for softer sales. An E. coli outbreak last week was tied to contamination at the same farms affected by a large spinach recall in 2006. The FDA is working with the food industry to find better ways to label the origin of lettuce and other fresh produce.

A Ukiah man lost control of his car on highway 175 late last night and was transported to Adventist Health Ukiah Valley where he later died. According to California Highway Patrol, 24 year old Jonathan Pejana was driving westbound, just east of highway 101, when he left the road and hit a power pole, becoming trapped inside the vehicle. They say drugs and alcohol were likely not a factor, but high speeds and heavy rains may have been.

11/29/18

[The Butte Humane Society has a pet food and supply pantry, and the need a](#)

The Camp Fire destruction has made a bad housing crisis in Northern California even worse. About 17,000 applications have been received by FEMA for housing assistance, but there just aren’t enough apartments and motel rooms for all the evacuees. Even those with FEMA vouchers are having trouble finding places to spend them. FEMA is currently working with state and local officials for solutions, but it is going to take some time.

California Assemblyman Marc Levine is pushing for a new tax on the sales of semi-automatic weapons. If approved, the new tax would support community gun violence prevention programs. In a statement announcing his measure, Levine said "the gun tax will support the kinds of interventions that make gun violence less likely". The tax will likely mirror ones in Seattle and Chicago that charge a \$25.00 tax on gun purchases.

For the third day in a row, searchers reported no new remains in areas burned by the Camp Fire, giving hope the number of dead will remain at 88. The number of missing in the latest update yesterday was 196. Paradise residents may be allowed to return home as soon as the end of next week, according to Butte county officials.

Vandals are about to spoil it for everyone. Park officials are considering an extended closure of recreational facilities at Lake Mendocino. Everything from raw sewage dumped on roadways, to graffiti, and broken light fixtures have been seen by rangers. The point of the closure would be to make the areas harder for vandals to access, therefore cutting down on destruction. Park rangers are asking anyone with info to call park headquarters.

Mendocino County Sheriff's deputies were out on patrol this week when they heard an alarm coming from Sherwood School in Willits. While searching the school, they noticed footprints, a broken window pane, and saw a man trying to hide. The deputies were able to arrest 58 year old Patrick Haffner of Colorado without incident. As it turns out, Haffner is also a person of interest in residential burglaries being investigated by the Sheriff's office. He was booked into the Mendocino County Jail on vandalism and felony burglary charges.

It's time for third through twelfth graders to start getting ready for the Mendocino County Science Fair. Student registrations are due by March 8th, the fair will be on March 30th at the Mendocino College gym in Ukiah. Students can submit solo or team projects on everything from physical sciences to space and engineering.

The first lawsuits against PG&E have been filed by 35 families who lost everything in the deadly Camp Fire. The families accuse the utility of failing to safely and properly maintain power lines and equipment. Among the allegations are claims that lines had been throwing sparks in the area where the fire started, a problem PG&E had said would be fixed on Nov 7th, but the repairs never happened. PG&E is aware of the lawsuits, but said their main focus right now is assisting first responders and rebuilding

11/30/18 infrastructure.

Three weeks after the Camp Fire started, more misery as flooding closed part of Route 99 in Butte County yesterday, stranding drivers and causing evacuations. Just under two inches of rain fell in burn areas causing debris flows and flash floods. CalFire Butte County Swift Water Rescue Team deployed to Butte Creek canyon to evacuate residents from three homes in the area. The National weather service says more heavy rain could fall in the region through Sunday.

California regulators have given PG&E until July 1st to make changes recommended after an independent firm was consulted about the company's safety practices. Sixty suggestions were made by the firm after reaching the conclusion that the utility company lacks vision for safety programs, and that the company puts programs in place without thought as to how the programs will all work together. The California Public Utilities Commission says they want to see PG&E improve safety culture, and not just give outward appearances they are improving safety. PG&E says they have already adopted some of the regulations, and will implement more.

PG&E is testing a new way to curb wildfires sparked by power lines. Burying them. A pilot project has been rolled out in Western Sonoma County to test the idea. The cables should be installed within then next month. PG&E estimates costs of burying the lines at \$3 million per mile, compared to \$800,000 for overhead lines. If successful, the company will look at burying the lines in high risk areas.

The more than 800 students in Paradise charter schools will be able to return to class on Monday. There were six charters schools in Paradise, two were destroyed, one badly damaged.

Final election results were released yesterday afternoon, confirming Gavin Newsom's victory in the governor's race. For US Senator, Kevin De Leon beats out Dianne Feinstein. For propositions one, two, four, seven eleven and twelve, it's a yes. Propositions three, five, six, eight and ten all given the thumbs down by voters. Measure H is a no for Fort Bragg, Measure I for Willits gets the thumbs up.

The City of Clearlake may change how they budget and track spending if Clear Lake City Council gives City Manager Greg Folsom the green light on Dec 6th. A contract with a California company called OpenGov is on the docket for the meeting on Thursday at a cost of \$160,000.00 over a five year contract. OpenGov provides resources and tools to help with budgets while cutting administration efforts in tracking them.

A man on probation has been arrested again in Fort Bragg on several charges including possessing weapons. Deputies say they saw Luis Pineda and knew him to be on active probation and saw him hiding something in a pocket. They ordered him to show what it was, but deputies say he wouldn't comply, then found a 9mm semi-automatic pistol and ammo. He also had meth in his possession. Deputies did a field sobriety test finding the guy was also high on something so they arrested him for possession of a controlled substance while armed with a firearm, being under the influence of a controlled substance, while armed, possession of stolen property and several other charges. He was held \$35,000.00 bail.

12/03/18

A man in Point Arena's been arrested after a probation search led to gun and ammo find. Deputies went to a home last Tuesday and found Kenneth Morris, who they knew was on active felony probation and prohibited to possess firearms and/or ammunition. A loaded rifle and boxes of ammo were found in Morris's possession so he was arrested for possession of firearm by prohibited person, possession of ammunition by prohibited person, violation of felony probation and held on \$25,000.00 bail.

Several local, state and federal agencies, contractors and utility providers are working in Paradise to help residents and businesses return to the area to assess damage. The Paradise Police Department is helping establish an orderly re-entry process with certain entry points so only residents and property owners are allowed initial access. They require ID or a utility bill and valid photo ID to prove residence or a business was there. They warn of dangerous conditions and exposure to hazardous materials. Butte County Environmental Health will provide re-entry health and safety kits at re-entry checkpoints too.

A drive by in Ukiah over the weekend leaves a home and 3 cars full of bullets. The Daily Journal reports it happened near Todd Grove Park around 7 AM yesterday. Police say they had several calls after about six shots were fired and at least two bullets went thru walls and some windows were broken out. The shooting's under investigation, and there are no suspects so far. There were no injuries to anyone inside the house and the Journal reports nobody inside the home knew why they were targeted.

Final election results have been released by the Mendocino County election office. The numbers finalized last Thursday shows the three top winners in the Ukiah City council race as Maureen Mulheren, Juan Orozco and Jim Brown. John Haschak won the 3rd District Supervisor seat, Ted Williams for the 5th District race and various other races were finalized. The final tallies are noted on the Daily Journal website.

A public hearing's being held on hazardous vegetation abatement by the Lake County Board of Supervisors. This is to require property owners to keep defensible space of 100 feet around their homes so a wildfire burning nearby will unlikely take the home down. This has been a law since the 1960's. Lake County is looking to get stricter with requirements, 100 feet from a neighbor's property too. And if there's undeveloped land nearby, property owners could be responsible for that too. If residents don't follow the rules, they could be fined or face jail time. But that would only be if it's related to high risk fire days or red flag days. There would be a citing, then a period of time to get the weeds or brush out, and if it's not taken out, then fines and possible jail time in severe cases. There would also be an appeal process.

Now 25 people missing in the Camp Fire ruins as opposed to more than a thousand a couple weeks ago. The Butte County Sheriff's Office announced the latest number over the weekend after the November 8th fire became the deadliest and most destructive in state history. Paradise burned down and now thousands have no homes, some lived in the same home for decades and were forced to leave. Some of the missing apparently weren't in touch with family members after finding a safe place to stay, so the missing numbers were really high for several days.

Swift water teams in boats had to go out to fire scarred areas after rains plowed thru Paradise last week. There were rescues at three homes in Chico and people in about 100 cars were told to stay in place. The rain slowed, but a messier pile was left behind with downed trees and power poles. About an inch and a half of rain fell in one hour Thursday. The water rescues in Chico happened where a lot of the fire evacuees from Paradise were staying. The mandatory evacuation orders are still in place for some places after the Camp Fire killed nearly 90 people and destroyed almost 14,000 homes.

Evacuation orders in burned areas of Magalia and Concow to be lifted so residents in Butte County can go assess their properties. No traffic's allowed in the Town of Paradise. Warnings have been given to residents that they may have limited services and they should make sure they have food, water and fuel for their cars. They're also warning against using generators for power and the local health office has issued a hazard advisory against living in any destroyed properties until they're declared clear of hazardous waste, structural ash and debris.

Pile burning operations continue on the Boggs Mountain Demonstration Forest to remove hazardous vegetation. It's supposed to keep on thru the winter next year. This is from the Valley fire and bark beetle infestation. The work's been going on for three years and there's been hundreds of slash piles that have to be burned or taken out. Cal Fire says their goal is to restore the forest to a condition deemed safe for public access. Even though the forest was open to the public this summer, there are still hazards that need tending to. Pile burns will happen on permissive burn days and there will be a large scale smoke management plan in pace.

A woman from Canada stranded days in her car after she got stuck in mud. Terry Harnish of Hubbards, Nova Scotia seeing friends on Thanksgiving and took a wrong turn on a dirt road and was rescued four days after. being found by teenage snowmobilers. The woman had a bad knee so she couldn't walk in thick mud and fell down and laid there two hours, then got back in her car. She says she survived on a bottle of kombucha and a marzipan cake and occasionally turned the car on for heat until she ran out of gas. After a blizzard, the snowmobilers found her after she laid on her horn. The boy's dad rescued her with a tractor.

A man's going to prison accused in connection to the disappearance of his former girlfriend. He pleaded no contest related to the case. Now the Sheriff's office is letting us know about a press conference in the Missing Persons case. Khadijah Britton has been missing several months. Her family says it was Neggie Fallis who's to blame. The press conference is Thursday, two days after Fallis is due in court on a related matter of possessing a firearm. He's supposed to be getting four years behind bars. The Sheriff Tom Allman is expected to be joined at the Press Conference with the Family of Khadijah Britton, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Round Valley Indian Tribal Police Department. No further information has been released.

More than a dozen schools were damaged or destroyed in the Camp Fire and all schools in Butte County, nearly 100 of them, have been closed since the fire started on November 8th. So nearly 32,000 kids have been out of school for nearly a month. Some of them have now returned to their regular classes, but others are now in temporary locations until permanent places are assigned. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction says the schools reopening in the county are a bright ray of hope and shows the resilience and determination of school leaders and community members. So far 87 out of 99 of the schools in the county have reopened. Students from Paradise Elementary are going to Bird Street Elementary School in the Oroville City Elementary School District. And the kids who were at Bird Street are headed to other schools. Students from Concow are going to Spring Valley Elementary School in Oroville.

An insurance company that had been covering some impacted by the Camp Fire in Butte County is no longer, so California regulators are taking over. Merced Property & Casualty Company ends now insolvent after the fire devastated the town of Paradise after breaking out Nov. 8th. The State Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones says they're not sure how many people were insured by the company or how many claims there were after the fire, but those folks will get their claims paid thru the California Insurance Guarantee Association. The company had a note on their website saying there was now a moratorium on new business due to the massive wildfire in Butte County. A judge will also apparently have to approve their liquidation proceedings today. Jones says some insurance companies could stop covering people in high risk fire areas and or raise premiums.

Fun for the family as Ukiah on Ice has opened. The rink at Alex Thomas Plaza opened on Saturday with fanfare. The city of Ukiah, Adventist Health Ukiah Valley, and the Greater Ukiah Chamber of Commerce sponsoring the ice-rink near the plaza. It's open every day thru Sunday, Jan. 6th. There are varied hours during the holidays though, so be sure to check it out. It's \$10

12/04/18 for a skate day session, and a skate pass for ten sessions is \$85.

Some movement at the Capitol regarding the housing crisis in Calif. Democratic State Senators Jim Beall of San Jose and Mike McGuire of Healdsburg working on a solution with a specific focus on affordable housing for seniors, nurses, teachers, veterans and low and middle income Californians. The first of several bills introduced yesterday to fund affordable housing for working families and senior citizens and to spruce up neighborhoods in various communities. This first one known as the affordable housing and neighborhood revitalization bill is part of a series of housing bills they say will help streamline the permitting process and help with strategic density and update surplus property identification.

Critical infrastructure projects on the docket in the Assembly. North Coast Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry of Winters and others in the Assembly working on a constitutional amendment to give local governments more options to fund critical infrastructure projects, including expanded broadband, work on local roads, and affordable housing projects. Aguiar-Curry's office says the bill would reduce the local vote threshold to approve bond and special tax measures from a two-thirds vote to a 55 percent majority. Her office says that would put housing and infrastructure projects on par with school proposals, so that cities, counties, and special districts have a practical financing tool to address community needs. Her office also noting that more than 2,200 local revenue measures have been voted on with about 80 percent of the two-thirds supermajority measures getting more than 55 percent but failing.

More rain on the way with colder weather accompanying it. There should be clear days mid week, then showers headed our way again. The National Weather Service forecasting light rain with snow in higher elevations through tomorrow, with the heaviest downpour tonight. There could also be fast moving wind today, clearing it out before another system this weekend which is supposed to go on thru next week. The temperatures will be in the mid 50's with lows in the 30's and 40's.

A lawsuit back in play now which challenges restrictions on political party preference on ballots. Right now there are six political parties that can appear on ballots, next to a candidate's name. Now the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed a lower court decision dismissing a case after a candidate wanted to list his party preference as Socialist. Emidio Soltysik sued to have it allowed, ending up having to put down no party preference because the Socialist Party was not a qualified party listing.

A new number for the amount of people killed in the Camp Fire. The Butte County Sheriff revised the number from 88 to 85 dead, determining remains collected were from one person, not more. The remains were apparently gathered in separate bags and given separate case numbers. There's been no new remains found so far this week, just like the last few days too. The search is over for human remains in fire burned areas, but they say there could be undiscovered remains as residents return to their homes and properties. The number of those missing has also been adjusted, to 11. They've been able to account for more than 3,100 people since the fire started and continue to try to locate the 11 missing. The Sheriff says they'll continue until they've exhausted all leads.

Evacuation orders have been lifted in some areas of Paradise after last week's storm. The Sheriff's office in Butte County says unless they have some sort of setbacks, they will lift more evacuation orders by the end of this week. One is a major thoroughfare thru town, Pentz Road, which the Sheriff says they're trying to get open so there's passage from Magalia down to the valley. Right now there's a detour which takes a long time. There's also a bus route running from Magalia to Chico which will now be able to travel thru Paradise and the burn zone in lower Magalia. The Paradise Police Chief is also urging residents going home to be patient at police checkpoints and be ready to present a valid form of identification, like a driver's license, state ID card or passport.

A lawsuit's been settled between UC Berkeley and some conservative student groups who were accusing the school of discriminating against certain speakers on campus. So the university will have to pay Young America's Foundation \$70,000 in lawyer fees and has to take a look at its major events policy. There will be an online report published by UC Berkeley as well showing all major events at the end of the school year and the fees the school collected. The University also has to change its security fee schedule and hold it for at least three years. Now the student groups will file a notice to dismiss the suit filed after some events were canceled due to security concerns.

Several thousand green-card holders who want to enlist are going to recruit training. The recruits held up in court in Northern Calif. after a policy by the Trump administration was suspended so their background checks could be done in a stricter fashion. Apparently some immigrants with green cards have been waiting to serve until they had a full background check. A new directive says all armed services have to comply immediately with a preliminary injunction after the ACLU argued in court against the Trump administration's more stringent policies.

Free admission to Redwood state parks in Calif many times a year and now a program to help residents get out and discover the Redwoods has its last free day, this Saturday. So bring a car full of people, because a vehicle is free at 45 state parks. This is all part of the 100th anniversary of Save the Redwoods League, out of San Francisco. They're organizing the free day with the state Department of Parks and Recreation. You have to sign up before you go though, it's not a drop in kind of thing, register for your free day-use pass at [FreeRedwoodsDays.org](http://FreeRedwoodsDays.org).

A man in Austin, TX almost crashes his car, thinking there's a man stuck hanging Christmas lights. Turns out it was a fake Clark Griswold, hanging off a rain gutter. Alfred Norwood Jr. says he slammed on his brakes, stopping his truck and got out to make sure the man he noticed in the blue plaid shirt, jeans and Velcro sneakers was okay, thinking he was tangled in a string of holiday lights. And surveillance video at the house caught the whole thing with Norwood running up to the house saying hold on, can you reach it, pushing the ladder his way. The homeowners say they felt terrible, but then laughed out loud. So they bought Norwood a gift from the jelly of the month club.

Lake Mendocino dam operators looking to store as much as 4 billion extra gallons of water this winter. The water for residents, ranchers and fish in the upper Russian River area and for residents in Sonoma and Marin county neighborhoods. That could give nearly 100,000 people water for a year as part of a \$10 million program. It's over four years, and this will be the test run. High tech weather forecasts and computer models will hopefully zero in on when rain will fall. The four year program approved after an error about six years ago when dam operators released more than a third of the water thinking storms would come, but they never did. That was during the state's multi year drought.

Planning commissioners in Santa Rosa say no to a major hotel project for an area of the city decimated by the Tubbs Fire. The Residence Inn Hotel by Marriott slated for Fountaingrove gets a thumbs down after the commission cited a possible wildfire in the future as one of the major concerns. The vote was 3 to 3 last week. So the city's Planning Commission scrapped the idea, saying no to a use permit for the 114-room, three-story hotel on four and a half acres near the former Hilton Sonoma Wine Country hotel and the Fountaingrove Inn. The two of them destroyed in the fire in October 2017.

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A woman from Lakeport's arrested for DUI with a blood alcohol content five times the legal limit. Police say Angela Fife had also previously been arrested on suspicion of multiple drunk driving related charges, including a DUI conviction while on probation and three other arrests over 10 years. Police pulling her over this time as she weaved thru traffic, veered into the bike lane and onto the shoulder, then crossed into the opposite lane. An off duty officer caught her after she also drove through a crosswalk, passing a nearby pedestrian. She failed the sobriety tests and had a 0.40 percent blood alcohol content, that's five times the legal limit in California. She also ignored her court order not to drive without an ignition interlock device. She was being held on \$30,000 bail.

A man in Lakeport's arrested for human trafficking but reached a plea agreement, something two of his victims say was too lenient. Lake Co News reports Sam Masette got the max of 20 years for two counts of human trafficking for the purposes of prostitution and two counts of pimping women in prostitution, and ordered to register as a sex offender for life. But with credits and time served, he'll end up with only about nine years of that. Some victims say it was a miscarriage of justice. Masette and his wife were arrested in June after another woman told the D-A she had been abused by them after a showing of the play in Lakeport "Jane Doe in Wonderland" which was about how victims are lured into human trafficking. After the couple were arrested, more victims came forward.

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson announcing Tobacco use rates down in schools that educate about tobacco use. Schools funded by the Department of Education's (CDE) Tobacco-Use Prevention Education Office are at lower tobacco usage rates. This is according to a new study by the University of California, San Diego.

Torlakson says it proves the state's efforts to promote tobacco-free schools are paying off. The work being done on campuses since 1989. The study shows students smoke less, and most public schools have signed up as tobacco free. He says they need to keep encouraging vaping bans in

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tobacco-free school policies too.

A federal judge who's supervising PG&E's San Bruno explosion felony trial is now interested in knowing if the large utility company committed crimes from its operations or maintenance of electricity lines near where several Northern California wildfires broke out, including the deadliest, the Camp Fire. A request for more information after a slew of wildfires broke out in PG&E's service territory, including the October 2017 firestorm and the November 8th Camp Fire. The judge asking the Calif. attorney general to hand over information about whether some PG&E actions were reckless and therefore be considered criminal. PG&E has until Dec. 31st to come up with answers for various questions in an order from U.S. District Court Judge William Alsup and Attorney General Xavier Becerra also has until the same date to file a brief on the issue.

Pentz Road, the main thoroughfare in Paradise has reopened, therefore hundreds of cars drove thru town into the parking lot of the Paradise Evangelical Free Church. Paradise police and Butte County deputies looked up addresses for returning evacuees as the County Health Department handed out safety kits including free booties and hazmat suits so folks could dig thru the dangerous ruins that once were their homes. There was also an 8 PM curfew put in place for those returning.

Drugs getting into death row at San Quentin have corrections officials investigating where the gap is. Two inmates died in their cells this week, Joseph Perez and Herminio Serna. They've not linked their deaths to drug use because they're waiting on autopsies. Serna found unresponsive in his cell alone this past Monday, then the same thing with Perez on Tuesday. A spokesperson for the Corrections Dept. would not say if drugs were brought into the prison or how they may have gotten there. Perez got the death sentence in 1998 for a strangling and stabbing of a woman during a robbery and Serna was a gang member sentenced to death in a drug trade in San Jose.

A home in Fort Bragg has burned to the ground, and someone house-sitting the place was there as the fire burned. The Advocate Newspaper reports the homeowners Aaron Morgan and Lynn Escola were out of town when the fire burned last Friday, but their sister-in-law, Verna Escola, was there, asleep, as the fire burned in another area of the house. Two dogs and a cat died in the fire. A neighbor apparently saw the flames and noticed cars in the driveway and pounded on the door which woke the woman up and she escaped out the back door. The woman taken to a hospital and released the same day. Only a lock box and some other personal items were saved. Firefighters have no cause, but say they suspect electricity may have

12/07/18 caused the fire.

The case of a missing woman from Covelo heats up with the FBI joining Mendocino County Sheriff Tom Allman and Round Valley Indian Tribal Police for a press conference to try to spread the word about the case. The officers looking for any info on the disappearance of Khadijah Britton in February. There's no new information, but the officers say they're still working on credible leads as they get them. They say there's already been about 80 interviews, they've searched 20 cars and served search warrants. There's also an \$85,000 reward for any information about her disappearance. The Sheriff said he thinks there's more information out there and is encouraging folks to come forward and says they can stay anonymous. She disappeared in a car at gunpoint, according to her family, with her former boyfriend, Negie Falis.

A witness has come forward to say they saw the car involved in a drive by shooting last weekend in Ukiah. Police say it's related to a shooting Sunday on North Spring Street where officers found three vehicles were hit by gunshots, some windows and walls hit too, nobody was injured though. Several bullets fired off and the witness told officers they saw a "dark, two-door" vehicle in the area. No information released as to why this home may have been targeted or if police had ever responded to the same home in the past. There are no arrests yet and police are still asking anyone who may have seen anything to call.

A State Senator is introducing legislation again to require on-campus health centers at public universities to provide abortion-inducing pills for students who ask for them in order to terminate a possible pregnancy. Sen. Connie Leyva of Chino's reintroducing legislation Gov. Brown veto'd this fall. He apparently thought it was an unnecessary law because abortion-inducing medication's already "widely available" at off-campus clinics. But Leyva is looking for the Governor Elect Gavin Newsom to sign the College Student Right to Access Act into law decrying a lack of access.

Lake County's come up with a new plan to overcome financial troubles by a massive staff cut by 2022. The Record Bee reports the plan includes possibly delegating some county responsibilities to private companies. That's according to the County Administrator Carol Huchingson who spoke at Tuesday's Board of Supervisors meeting. Huchingson attributed some losses to the failure of sales tax measure "G" and has indicated local government offices should get ready for a financial crisis. She said unless more money's found there would have to be cuts, even in public safety, roads, animal services and libraries.

A man accused of stealing millions from borrowers of a financial services company has been arrested as he tried leaving the country. 41 year old Brandon Frere has been charged with wire fraud after a months long investigation into his company, Ameritech Financial, and two other businesses he was managing in Sonoma County, American Financial Benefits Center and Financial Education Benefits Center. The Federal Trade Commission filed the case against Frere and his companies are all in receivership now too. He appealed the ruling and was arrested Wednesday night in San Francisco. Court papers say Frere used his companies as a fraudulent student loan debt relief scheme to get rich, collecting as much as \$28 million.

The former police officer from Central Calif. accused of being the Golden State Killer and East Area Rapist is expected to cost the state millions in court fees. Sacramento county reportedly turning to the state for financial help to prosecute Joseph DeAngelo. The office of Governmental Relations and Legislation says the estimate for the case is at more than \$20 million. That includes his defense and the costs of the prosecution. He has a public defender. DeAngelo faces 26 counts in six counties, 13 for murder and 13 for rapes between 1975 and 1986.

People let back into fire burned areas after the Camp fire, into Paradise, Magalia and Concow. Those who had to run from their homes quickly and have not been back since November 8th, not knowing if they had a house still standing. The fire burned a 240 square mile area and is the deadliest ever in Calif. and in the country in about a century. There are still ten people missing and as many as 85 people were killed in the fire. There's limited services for those returning and PG&E says there are thousands of workers in the area restoring electricity and gas, which may take until the end of the month. Residents are being told not to move back into homes still standing until ash and hazardous waste are cleared from them. And also because rain may bring flash floods and mudslides.

Word now that the cause of a fire tornado in Northern California's Carr fire was created by hot weather, erratic winds and an ice-topped cloud miles up into the atmosphere. 8 people were killed in the Carr Fire this summer outside Redding. One firefighter was killed and more than 1,000 homes burned. The research noted in the Geophysical Research Letters journal showing satellite and radar data saying the "firenado" was as wide as three football fields July 26th. The study also noting the only other documented "firenado" in Australia back in 2003.

Folks frantic in Chico looking for housing after the Camp Fire decimated Paradise, spilling residents into the neighboring town. As many as 14,000 homes destroyed by the fire which adds to the state's long term housing crisis. There were about 240 or 250 homes for sale in Chico before the fire and 200 were in escrow last week. Some realtors say the asking price plus some \$50,000 or more received. Some are reportedly selling to make money on the sale of their home as others are desperate for a place to live, in some cases realtors say, asking \$100,000 above asking prices

A body's been found in the Eel River. The Mendocino County Sheriff's Office reports getting a call about the body earlier this week in Piercy. The body found by a wildlife photographer who took pictures, thinking at first it was an animal. Then showed them to a friend who contacted the Southern Humboldt Technical Rescue Team who went into the river finding the body tangled up in the branches of a tree. They say it was a white male adult, over 6 feet tall, with a heavy build who looked to have been in the water a week or more. He had no ID and may be a man reported missing last month. The cause of death has not been confirmed and his identification also not confirmed until an autopsy next week.

A local woman in Santa Rosa is helping survivors of the Camp Fire. The Press Democrat reports Sonoma County's Jewish Community Center is gathering coats and folks are stepping up. Ann and Bill Krinard of Sebastopol brought 400 coats alone to the drop off at the Santa Rosa community center where apparently some 1,400 coats were gathered this week alone. Word got out through social media after a Jewish Community Center board member got the ball rolling. Lynne Belmont reportedly called a couple synagogues in Chico and asked how she could help. She sent Sabbath candles, Hanukkah menorahs, prayer shawls and other unused items to Sonoma County after the 2017 fires and is now organizing the coat drive for Butte County. Macys even donated 150 unsold coats from its sale rack.

A light agenda for the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors, but heavy on marijuana related ordinances. The meeting tomorrow to look at possible changes to ordinances on cannabis facilities and cultivation. The changes asked for last month of certain definitions of the county code so it goes more with the state. Staff has revised which activities can be allowed at a cultivation site like the way items are packaged. Some other wording changes to processing and the term nursery and cultivation types. The meeting, like every Tuesday, tomorrow at 9 a.m. in the board's chambers, located in the county administration building at 501 Low Gap Road.

12/10/18

The Burn Ban in Mendocino County is over for the winter months. As of today Cal Fire is allowing residential burns without a permit. They say recent rain and colder weather lowers the threat of wildfires. As of midnight last night the burn ban was off until about May 1st. You will have to make sure it's a permissible burn day if you have a pile. They also warn that only dry, natural vegetation like leaves, pine needles and tree trimmings can be burned and no trash burning, painted wood or other debris is allowed. They also remind you not to burn on windy days and be sure to have a shovel and bucket of water nearby.

A water rescue at Big River beach after a couple people apparently got stuck in the water on rocks, one person died. The Mendocino County Sheriff's Office reports it happened November 29th with one victim treated at Mendocino Coast District Hospital and released, but the second, William Guthriegoss of Garrison, NY died. The two men surfing and got stuck in coves with turbulent waves and strong tides. When rescuers arrived they say one of the victims was head down in the water, the other was struggling to stay above the surface. A lifeguard plucked the responsive man out and the other man was put onto a jet ski and taken to shore. The two taken by ambulance to the hospital.

The final election results released in Lake County. Retiring Registrar of Voters Diane Fridley released the numbers from the Nov. 6th election last Thursday showing pretty high turnout for a mid-term election, with nearly 66% of registered voters in the county participating. It was only about 3,600 less voters than the 2016 presidential election. The report doesn't differ much from the final results on election night. One major change, Measure L in the South Lake County Fire Protection District, it was barely failing election night, but now looks to have just barely passed with about .2 percent. All members of Congress kept their seats, the same in the state Senate and Assembly. And Gavin Newsom strong for Governor along with Eleni Kounalakis for Lieutenant Governor. Lake County did go against most others in the state though going for Steve Poizner over the winner Ricardo Lara for insurance commissioner, and for Kevin de Leon over long time incumbent U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein who did win too.

Lakeport police reaching out to the public for help finding out who was responsible for an early morning robbery this weekend at a local restaurant. Police say Renee's Café was robbed around 6:45 a.m. Sunday by someone in a black hood and mask. They got away with an employee's purse as they were opening the shop for customers. There was a surveillance video rolling and it caught whoever it was on tape, but they didn't look into the camera. Police say whoever it was faces felony burglary and grand theft charges and there's a \$5,000 reward for information leading to their arrest and conviction.

The last meeting for the year for the Lakeport Planning Commission and they're going to be busy, considering several new projects. The meeting tomorrow afternoon at 5 to discuss adding another drive thru lane at McDonald's, new signage, and an exterior and interior remodel of the restaurant located at 1077 Lakeport Blvd. And Big Daddy Garden Supply is trying to get a use permit for outdoor sales, a zoning permit for commercial fence and a sign permit too for their Main St. location where there used to be a Napa Auto Parts store. They will also consider some solar canopies at city owned properties.

Lakeport Police on the lookout for package pirates. Police say they're trying to find whoever has been ripping off mail and packages at dozens of addresses. Cops out at the Bank of America building on N. Main Street this weekend due to stolen mail and packages that had items removed. But police say there's been more than 30 addresses, mostly south of First Street, where mail or packages were stolen. They warn residents to be super cautious during the holiday season and if you see something, report it.

A car went over the embankment near Fort Ross, some 200 feet down from Highway 1. Miraculously, police say, the 55-year-old man in the car survived yesterday. He's in critical condition. Hikers saw him stuck. Timber Cove Fire reports the cliff about 1,000 feet down from the highway. The car rolled onto one side, so the man was trapped for a time. Rescuers rappelled down with ropes to get him out. And apparently a visiting firefighter from the East Coast hiking nearby helped too.

There may be free community college coming to some in California. The Calif. State Assembly to consider a bill to waive the second year of tuition at community colleges and expand the so-called "college promise" program which is free tuition the first year. That was already passed by lawmakers last year. So if the new bill passes it would mean free tuition for first-time students going to college full-time. The state already pays for tuition or big chunks of it for students at 114 community colleges. Students are known to have several jobs as there's a housing shortage or they're taking longer to graduate due to cost.

Two people injured after they were thrown from a small pickup during a crash on Highway 116 in Forestville. It happened this weekend, the truck coming off the road, no other cars involved. The driver and passenger both had major injuries and were taken to a hospital. The CHP reports the driver's suspected to have been driving drunk. After the crash, traffic was blocked in both directions and cleared about 90 minutes later.

Could be a much better water year for California as two storms one behind the other mean loads of snow in the Sierra Nevada. More than twice the snowpack level compared to this time last year and it's not even officially winter yet. Last year at this time the Sierra snowpack was 47 percent of average, but this year several feet of the white fluffy stuff fell on mountain areas. Mammoth Mountain got almost 6 feet since Oct. 1st. Of course our mountain snowpack provides around 30 percent of our yearly fresh water supply in the state. It's good news so far for California which dealt with years of drought.

A hotline set up now in Mendocino County for folks to report crimes they may witness. WeTip has a hotline number for anyone to report a crime or hazardous issue. All calls are anonymous and there are also rewards offered of up to \$1,000.00 for tips ending in arrest and conviction. The hotlines run 24/7 and are answered by bilingual tip operators who ask a series of questions and assign a code name and number for the informant. They then pass it on to appropriate law enforcement who conduct an investigation.

WeTip at 1-800-732-7463, You can also visit: <http://www.wetip.com>

Mental health care workers at Kaiser Permanente on a five day strike. Those picketing were planning their walkout today across the state to bring attention to what they say are critical staff shortages and unequal benefits. About 4,000 psychologists, therapists, social workers, psychiatric nurses and others who are part of the National Union of Healthcare Workers are planning a demonstration Friday as well. So if you've got a mental health care appointment this week, you may find it canceled. The president of the union says it's all in long-term best interest of patients, adding right now, they've got to wait a month or more to get a follow-up appointment because of low staffing levels. Kaiser says it's just a bargaining tactic.

A family finds their cat in the ruins of the camp fire. Their home destroyed by the fire that killed 85 people and burned 14,000 buildings. The Press Democrat reports Courtney Werblow and her family went back to her parents' destroyed home in Paradise this past weekend and found Timber, standing there. They recorded a video of when she sees her cat for the first time... you can hear the joy and tears... The woman tells ABC10 TV that it gave her and her family hope after her parents lost everything in the fire.

Final results of the November 6th election have been approved by the Ukiah City Council. And the newest council member, Juan Orozco, the first Latino to be elected to the council, was sworn in. Maureen Mulheren, the new Mayor, got the most votes for her re-election, then Orozco was in second place and incumbent Jim Brown rounded out the top 3, they were all sworn in last Wednesday.

12/11/18

A group of firefighters from Mendocino County working the Camp Fire. The Record Bee reports firefighters from Clear Lake also prepositioned ahead of the fire after the fire chief asked the Lake County Office of Emergency Services for help at local departments after the River and Ranch fires. More than a dozen Mendocino County task force staffers went to Lake County Nov. 6th then they were off to the Camp Fire. They worked two weeks of 24 hour shifts in the Feather River Canyon, then to Big Bend above Lake Oroville.

North Coast U-S Senator Kamala Harris has introduced the Northwest California Wilderness, Recreation, and Working Forests Act to the Senate. It's a companion bill to another by North Coast Congressman Jared Huffman, a bill he's been working on several years. It would mean preservation in wilderness areas like coming up with fire-prevention strategies, protecting rivers, and protecting or repairing areas impacted by illegal cannabis operations on public lands. Huffman says he's excited to work with Harris, a long time champion of public lands and the environment. The bill would protect more than 313,000 acres of federal public lands forever from road-building and other development.

A new mayor and vice mayor are being appointed in Clearlake. The City Council is appointing the two leaders at their meeting Thursday which is the last meeting for the current mayor, Bruno Sabatier who's been elected to the Lake County Board of Supervisors. The mayor and vice mayor are appointed annually by a majority vote of the council. The City Manager Greg Folsom says they've not come up with names yet, and that would be discussed at the meeting. The council is also taking up Folsom's new contract, where he's looking for a five percent raise to nearly \$113,000.

The new board members on the Lakeport Unified School District board, who basically ran together on the same platform, take their seats this week. Dan Buffalo, Carly Alvord and Jen Hanson to be seated Thursday. The Record Bee reports Buffalo saying last month improving teacher retention, reviewing how Measure T Bond money's managed and looking into discipline concerns are his top three priorities. The board's got to make a decision about selling \$4 million more in Measure T Bonds. The new budget, enrollment and chronic absenteeism are also on the agenda.

Power lines across the state will be scrutinized closer after several massive wildfires. California utility companies are going to insulate power lines, do more inspections and build new weather stations in high risk areas. Southern California Edison says it's going to spend nearly \$600 million dollars on the work and Pacific Gas & Electric Co. recently announced it's going to inspect 5,500 miles of power lines and build several hundred new weather stations for better forecasting.

A man in Clearlake injured seriously, found near his mom's house and police are trying to figure out what happened to him. Lake Co News reports 29 year old Nicholas Vining, known as "Caveman," was found seriously injured last Monday, Dec. 3rd with head trauma and other injuries. Cops say they have little info on what might have happened to him. Social media posts, including a GoFundMe page, say he was attacked on Old Highway 53 when school was getting out for the day, and it was three or four teenage boys who jumped him. There are no witnesses though. He apparently made it to his mother's home after the attack but he had a brain bleed and apparently hasn't spoken since. The Lake County Superintendent of Schools has also gotten involved asking the school resource officer in Clearlake to try to help with the investigation.

Here's a link to the GoFundMe page where they're trying to raise \$10,000 to help his mother with travel and lodging costs to visit him, and for other medical expenses.

More than 600 million dollars from Caltrans by way of the California Transportation Commission for several hundred transportation projects including \$80 million from SB 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017. That means almost \$2M for Lake County near Upper Lake between Irvine Avenue and Mid Lake Road. It's to include improved curves and wider shoulders on Highway 20. The director of Caltrans says they're continuing to focus on rehabbing the state highways, with improved pavement, bridges, culverts, and intelligent transportation systems, all part of the performance requirements of SB 1. There's more than 200 planned transportation projects.

Police in Lakeport on the lookout for someone they say stole a woman's purse at a city car wash. It happened a week ago, a 71-year-old woman at the car wash where she says a younger woman was watching her, then when she was distracted, the younger woman went into her car, took her purse, and took off. There's surveillance video, which is posted on Lake Co News.com showing the women stealing the purse. Police say they've not been able to figure out who the suspected thief is though and are hoping someone will recognize her. They're asking anyone who may have info, to call the department or send an anonymous tip by texting TIP LAKEPORT to 888777 or you can also send a private Facebook message to the @LakeportPolice page.

Three civil liberties group saying the Dept. of Justice saying they're violating constitutional privacy rights by collecting and holding onto DNA profiles of those arrested for alleged felonies but never convicted. The groups say the California police agencies were collecting DNA profiles since 2009 when someone's arrested, but now there are advances in DNA technology analysis with results in hours. A lawsuit's filed by the Electronic Frontier Foundation and a former ACLU staff attorney on behalf of the Equal Justice Society and Center for Genetics and Society.

A Baskin Robbins ice cream worker in Seattle being hailed a hero after fighting off a serial armed robber who they say threatened another employee with a large knife. Video from inside the business November 25th shows the employee fighting the would be robber with hands and fists, then they grab a large knife the thief dropped, and they took off... with \$6. The man demanded cash and one employee seen on video grabs the dude's knife tosses it at the suspect who then fights with the guy, gets the cash and takes off. They're offering a \$1,000 cash reward for tips to identify the armed robber.

Harbin Hot Springs says it's reopening some of their pools. The Press Democrat reports they've also got a new sundeck, benches and walkways. This is the first phase after reconstruction of the retreat destroyed in the Valley Fire in 2015. Now the Camp Fire and last year's October wildfires have apparently driven the cost up of rebuilding the resort to double the construction prices expected. A nonprofit religious organization owns and operates Harbin in Middletown, the Heart Consciousness Church. The newspaper reports they got \$11 million in insurance money but the rebuild, which has even been pared down, is estimated to cost more than \$60 million. They were expecting to pay about 50M. The pools were still flowing after the fire, so they spent \$20 million reconstructing the hot and cold pools and they've also completely rebuilt the hot sauna and steam room and other structures.

Turns out a crash on Highway 1 near Fort Ross Sunday was a man trying to kill himself. The CHP now reporting the 55 year old man who survived is at the hospital on a psychiatric hold with major injuries. He is expected to survive. Several law enforcement agencies and fire departments helped pull the man to safety, including the fire chief of Monte Rio who climbed down the hill where he went off the side of the highway, falling 200 feet before coming to a stop by hitting a tree. A passerby found the car Sunday while looking for a place to surf.

Two new fire engines coming to Ukiah. The fleet maintenance supervisor for the city says they're waiting for special gear, but that the engines should be ready to roll within a week or so. The two engines reportedly cost the city more than \$1.1 million after they were authorized last year. The Daily Journal reports the new engines are Type 1, or "structural fire engines".

They are designed for response in rural areas, capable of navigating tighter spaces. The engines will have the city's logo and match the color scheme of the rest of the fleet.

12/12/18

AmeriCorp helping rebuild homes after last year's Redwood Complex Fire. Hundreds of homes were lost in that fire so residents have been in temporary or rented homes. The new homes are for those who wouldn't be able to afford to buy. So for the last month the AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps Green 3 team has been in the burn area building a house with about 10 people. The home's almost done. They're partnering with Hope Crisis Response Network (Hope City) and North Coast Opportunities (NCO) for the rebuilds. They are reportedly planning on building up to 20 homes in Redwood Valley, part of a larger plan to rebuild in Potter Valley too. Some folks staying in mobile homes at the Redwood Valley Church since they fire.

State Sen. Mike McGuire working with his Democratic colleague Sen. Scott Wiener of San Francisco on a new version of a tax transparency bill. Governor Brown previously veto'd a similar bill to require presidential candidates to publicly release five years of tax returns so they can make it on to a California state ballot. McGuire says voters deserve full disclosure. He tied President Trump not releasing his to ignoring his own intelligence agencies and the recent murder of a journalist in Turkey. The bill passed last year, but Brown, at the time said he worried about individual states trying to regulate presidential elections. Apparently the new bill only has minor changes in it and an added urgency clause.

A new leader for Mendocino County's Cannabis Program. The Building Inspector Sean Connell is taking over the job. The Agricultural Commissioner told the Board of Supervisors about the hire at their meeting yesterday, saying Connell will take over Dec. 31st. Connell also addressed the board with excitement. The job's been open for six months after the last manager left in June, only four months after accepting it. The position was created a year and a half ago. There has been some controversy with the position and with the Ag Commissioner job, which also has a new person in it since spring time.

Not a lot of love for a proposed ordinance in Lake County for anyone who violates a fire safety code. Supervisors also considered a hazardous vegetation abatement ordinance. The County Counsel Anita Grant described it to the supervisors saying it's similar in tone to other county ordinances dealing with hazardous vegetation abatement. The new one means parcel owners without a structure on them will have to abate fire hazards so there's 100 feet of defensible space from any structure on an adjacent property. This will go to public comment before any movement on it. But some in the public who've heard about language in the ordinance are speaking out about it, questioning it's legal validity. They also decry fines attached to it or having to abate a neighbor's property. And some supervisors vary on their thoughts, like hurry it up and get it passed, or make sure there's an appeal process in place.

A change of venue is being considered in the trial of a man accused of murder in Chico. A change of venue expert testified in Steven Crittenden's trial yesterday since Crittenden's been accused in the past of murder. His lawyers saying he wouldn't get a fair trial locally. The prosecutors filing for the trial to be held in Butte County . Crittenden confessed to murdering a couple in 1987. And apparently about half the folks being interviewed by this expert did have a recall of the case saying he was "probably guilty" or "definitely guilty" with even more saying he was "definitely guilty." Crittenden was found guilty of the murders when he was a Chico State University student. But the convictions tossed for racism by the prosecutor. Crittenden is black. But he's been in custody on death row ever since.

It could be a long time before there's an abalone hunting season again. California fish and game commissioners are deciding today if the closure should be extended two more years. The closure approved a year ago could be extended to April 2021 due to a decline in the fishery and no signs it's going to rebound. The environmental program manager for the agency says it's not positive news, adding they've seen starving abalone and fresh empty shells. There may be no abalone hunting on the Sonoma and Mendocino coasts like years past. Commercial fishing has been banned since 1997 but there's been a recreational fishery for red abalone.

Firefighters called in Germany outside Berlin after a liquid chocolate overload. Firefighters in the town of Werl had to help mop up the mess which overflowed and poured out onto a street. The street where the chocolate explosion happened had to be closed down and firefighters shoveled about 108 square feet of the mush. A special cleaning company came out after and took care of the mess. The fire department with a statement saying, it was heartbreaking, but they didn't think there would be a chocolate-less Christmas in Werl.

A woman in Clearlake has been hit and killed by a car. Clearlake police say the driver was headed south on Highway 53 when he hit Bernadette Patrick Monday night. They say Michael Jefferson was the driver and that there were no crosswalks or sidewalks in the area and that Patrick was hit near Lakeshore Drive and died on the scene. They say they do not believe drugs or alcohol were a factor in the crash and say Jefferson stopped and cooperated with police, but they're investigating still.

The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery working with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services; Butte, Los Angeles, and Ventura counties and several other state and federal agencies working together to clear the debris after the most destructive wildfires in California history. Managed debris removal in Butte, Los Angeles, and Ventura counties by the state to take out household hazardous waste and other fire debris after more than 14,000 properties were destroyed by the Camp, Woolsey, and Hill fires. Phase one started this week and phase two will follow. There were damage assessments done after Thanksgiving. Cal Recycle crews are finishing up in Shasta, Lake and Siskiyou from earlier fires, the Pawnee, Mendocino Complex, Carr and Klamathon Fires.

The name of a man whose body was found in the Eel River in Piercy has been identified. The Mendocino County Sheriff's office says it was 52 year old Bruce Thompson of Santa Rosa. An autopsy was done on the body found last Wednesday. The Coroner identified the body this week. Thompson had been reported missing from Eureka after he missed a medical appointment. He was reportedly suffering from depression after a serious decline in his health. A missing persons case was then filed with the Santa Rosa Police Department.

Reports of a hold up at the Subway in Ukiah. Police get a call to the sandwich joint on Perkins and North Orchard where the cashier reportedly handed over cash after being threatened at gunpoint. They say the suspected thief was shot twice in the back with a private citizen who had a concealed weapons permit, they had been a customer at Subway when the heist happened. Police say the suspect dropped the money, then ran towards the Ross Dress for Less store and collapsed. Not a lot more info

12/13/18 released.

Only two hours for a Mendocino County jury to find a man accused of murdering his neighbor, guilty. Court papers say Oscar Carrillo shot and killed Salvador Hernandez in April of 2016. Carrillo found guilty by the jury of the premeditated and deliberate murder of his neighbor, plus an enhancement that the defendant personally used a knife to commit the murder. The victim stabbed repeatedly, with eight stab wounds and as many as 67 incised wounds. Carrillo faces 25 years to life in prison and another year for the enhancement. He's due back in court next Thursday for the date setting of his sentencing hearing.

Ukiah Valley Fire Authority, Mendocino County and Cal Fire having a town hall on the "restore and expand" plan. That's a shaded fuel break at the bottom of the Western Hills in Ukiah. The Daily Journal reports the city's fire marshal says the meeting is for those living in the area, adding that the trees are lovely in Ukiah but they could also be a source for another fire, like the Camp Fire in Paradise. So to mitigate that, the marshal says they're working with Cal Fire and others to improve fuel barriers in the hills west of Ukiah. There's another "shaded fuel break" in the city, created more than a decade ago, which helps protect against a wildfire. They'll go door to door to folks in the area to get permission for access to property to create the new fuel break. The meeting tonight at 5-30 at City Council chambers.

A major wetlands project in Lake County. The Lake County Land Trust acquiring 200-acres southwest of Lakeport to become protected wetlands on the shores of Clear Lake. The Wright property will be protected with donations from various entities. Tallman Hotel and Blue Wing Saloon owners are reportedly putting up \$40,000 as a 50-percent match; challenging others to do the same. \$120,000 is the fundraising goal. The shoreline property is south of Lakeport in the Big Valley Wetland area where black-tailed deer, California quail, wild turkey, prairie falcon, otter, bobcat, black bass, catfish, waterfowl, and other habitats are there for Clear Lake hitch and western pond turtle.

Some folks are still combing thru the ruins of their homes in Paradise. Now they're getting support from survivors from Santa Rosa who were victims of last year's Tubbs Fire. The Press Democrat reports victims from Santa Rosa drove to Butte County to talk to other wildfire survivors who just lost their homes. The Tubbs fire in October of 2017 destroyed Larkfield, Fountaingrove and Coffey Park. Members of Coffey Strong were in Chico Tuesday talking to grief stricken Camp Fire victims. The newspaper reports about 75 Butte County residents were at a meeting with contractors where the Tubbs survivors met them. The Tubbs fire burned from Calistoga to Santa Rosa, burning almost 5,300 homes, and killed 22 people. It was one of the most destructive in the state, the Camp Fire has now surpassed that with nearly 14,000 homes destroyed and 86 people dead.

The top firefighter for Cal Fire says the state may want to stop building homes in vulnerable areas. The Director for the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Ken Pimlott is retiring as of tomorrow. He interviewed with the Associated Press saying the government and residents have to act differently to protect lives and property from fires as they continue to threaten large populations. He says it could mean no more subdivisions in forested mountainous areas or dried out canyons. He also says residents should train themselves how to move fast after warnings and be prepared to shelter in place if they can't run from flames. There's a lot more too, like fireproof construction in buildings, like how we prepare for earthquakes, hurricanes or tornadoes.

Cops in Windsor on the lookout for whoever used counterfeit cash to buy some stuff at Walmart. Police say a man and woman used \$1,000 in fake cash to get gift cards. They went in separately about a half hour apart handing the cashier five \$100 bills and bought the cards. Police say the pair used bills that had been identically counterfeited. They have released pictures of the two that were captured by store surveillance cameras while they left the store. Police asking anyone who may have seen anything to call.

Firefighter layoffs and a budget gap end in the Lakeport Fire District Director Bill Whipple stepping down. Whipple says with all that's been going on, he felt like it was a good time to leave. He also says he's been with the department more than 30 years and felt it was a good time to retire. He also said he was happy there would be new energy at the district with a new board member, taking his spot. The Fire Chief Doug Hutchison says he's sorry to see Whipple go, because he's been a good, steady, calm voice on the board. The City of Lakeport is going to appoint two directors to seats representing the city, and the Lake County Board of Supervisors is appointing three directors in unincorporated areas of the fire district.

A month after the most destructive wildfires on record in Calif., federal and state agencies have put up almost \$180 million in grants and loans for recovery. After President Trump approved a disaster declaration Nov. 12th, FEMA and federal and state partners started support survivors in Butte, Los Angeles and Ventura counties. After the first month, FEMA had already approved nearly 30 million in Housing Assistance grants for home repair or replacements and rental expenses and more than \$13 million in Other Needs Assistance grants for repair or replacement of personal property, vehicle repair or replacement, moving expenses and other disaster-related needs. The SBA also approved more than \$125 million in low-interest disaster loans for homeowners and businesses.

A man from Yreka plunges his car into the freezing Klamath River in Siskiyou County. Emergency officials say the man survived for several hours trapped in the upside-down car. They say 28-year-old Michael Finn breathed out of a pocket of air in the car until he was rescued about five hours after he car skidded off State Route 96 into the river yesterday. The Siskiyou County Sheriff's dive team pulled the man out and tow truck pulled his car out of the river. The man was treated for exposure.

A new letter to state regulators says PG&E's equipment in Pulga and Concow had been damaged before the Camp Fire November 8th. The letter says a tower had bullet holes, a fallen hook and a broken tower arm. Plus the utility company says it was one of their workers who first discovered the fire and called 911. There's no determination of what caused the fire so far, but investigations continue into PG&E's Caribou-Palermo electrical transmission line as well as a power pole in the Big Bend circuit, both items are situated in Butte County. There had been two power outages reported the morning of the fire and in between the two outages, the fire was spotted. And the next day the utility company says an employee saw a power pole down with bullets and bullet holes in it. There was also noted damage and failure — including worn-out equipment on one of the lines, a broken C-hook, a flash mark and other problems. Then even later on Nov. 12th more evidence of damage on Concow Road in Butte County where there were several snapped trees, some on top of downed power lines.

An audit for the 2017-2018 budget for Mendocino Coast District Hospital has been approved by its directors. The budget shows a nearly \$2.5 million loss though instead of \$3.5 million which had been estimated last July, the end of the fiscal year. The hospital's auditor says breaking even is about controlling expenses and improving the way they charge for procedures and collect revenue, something they've already been working on. The hospital lost income at about 4 percent last year, apparently lower than most small hospitals across the country, but the debt load is higher than most. The hospital also has a union issue with some workers, at an impasse on contract talks with the United Food and Commercial Workers.

As an investigation continues into the cause of the Camp Fire in Butte County, rules could be drafted by the State Public Utilities Commission over what conditions should warrant the shutdown of down power to lines in high wind situations, after a vote yesterday. Technology upgrades along with brush and vegetation management around power lines are also being

12/14/18 considered to help prevent future wildfires.

PG&E has asked regulators for an increase in monthly electric and gas bills, which could cost customers an \$12.00 a month. The request is not related to recent wildfire liabilities, rather costs over shutting down the Diablo Canyon nuclear plant, and the utility company's general rate case. PG&E says the company is planning an investment of about \$5 billion dollars through 2022, and needs the extra money to help pay for it. The filing did leave open the possibility of future rate increases due to recent wildfires.

A state prison inmate has been acquitted by a Mendocino County Superior Court Jury. 31 year old David Alexander was found not guilty in connection to charges of battery against a correctional officer at the Parlin Forks Conservation Camp after the jury returned from it's coastal deliberations this week.

Law enforcement in Northern California were kept busy yesterday with bomb threats that were sent to businesses and schools all across the country yesterday. The emails demand bitcoin or a mercenary will be sent to bomb the building under threat. The FBI along with state and local officials were investigating the threats which turned out to be part of a nationwide hoax. Although the threats were not credible, authorities are advising everyone to be extra vigilant, and to report any suspicious activity.

A case of Chickenpox has been diagnosed in an Upper Lake Middle School student, and one more potential case is pending diagnosis. Two students were sent home with symptoms this week, and now Lake County residents are being warned to watch for symptoms in their children. Parents of students at the school are being urged to vaccinate their children if they have not already done so, or if there is an objection to vaccination, children should be kept home for 21 days after the onset of the last identified case. Symptoms include a blistering rash that first shows on the stomach and back before spreading to the face, arms and legs. Children may have a fever or stomach ache in the days before the rash appears. Any questions should be directed to the Public Health Department at 707-263-1090.

Riverside Park Closed yesterday afternoon for construction of the recycled water project. The work will continue until December 21st, and there will be no access to the park during work hours, 7am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. The project will deliver water from the wastewater treatment plant to over 600 acres of agriculture, pasture and turf at three parks and a school. More information about the project can be found at [www.cityofukiah.com/projects](http://www.cityofukiah.com/projects).

If your earnings are below 400 percent of the federal poverty level, it's not too late to get federally subsidized health insurance on the exchanges, but time is running out. The deadline to sign up for health insurance through the Affordable Care Act is tomorrow. Even if you don't qualify for a subsidy, you can still purchase insurance on the exchanges if you can't get it through an employer. You can shop for plans, and even find free help at [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov)

In a press conference this week, Butte County D.A. Mike Ramsey and the US attorney for the Eastern District of California promised to investigate price gouging, false home listings and to root out theft and other schemes. They warned survivors of the Camp Fire to watch for criminals trying to take advantage of them. Possible cases of fraud can be reported to the DA's office or the National Center for Disaster fraud hotline. According to the California Insurance Commissioner, losses from the Camp, Woolse and Hill fires total \$9 billion dollars so far, but will likely be increase as more claims are made in the coming weeks and months.

A Southwest airlines flight from Seattle to Dallas had to be turned around when someone realized they had left a human heart on the plane. The heart was headed for a hospital in Seattle from an earlier flight that left Sacramento. When it was discovered the heart had been forgotten, officials said it was absolutely necessary to get the cargo back ASAP. Once the plane landed with the heart, passengers were told to deplane due to a mechanical issue. Five hours later, the passengers were back on their way to Dallas.

The burn scar from the historic Mendocino Complex Fire is massive, but many didn't lose their homes. The Press Democrat with a look back on the fire that burned nearly a half million acres this summer. Thousands were told to leave their homes and at evacuation centers to get food and basic shelter accommodations. The River Fire, part of the complex burned just under 49,000 acres for 3.5 weeks. The Ranch Fire was the larger of the two and kept burning for weeks after the River Fire was contained. The newspaper reports Lake County's had eight major fires the last three years which burned more than half the county's acreage. Several camp grounds on federal land had to be closed too. Now there's thousands of dead trees to remove. There's now concern about the rainy season and erosion control.

12/17/18

Criminal charges may be coming for a wildfire cleanup worker on the Camp Fire who reportedly put pictures up online posing at properties destroyed by the Camp fire and mocking the whole thing. Rob Freestone seen posing in one with a flower pot on his head in front of a burned out home. More with him and a burned cat and a beer bottle while he jumps on a burned-out trampoline with a mocking caption. He and some other workers involved in the pictures last month were fired from the company they were working for, the company calling their behavior an "egregious insult."

Some flooding in low-lying areas along the Russian River with the estuary closed over the weekend in anticipation of the rains. The flooding expected last night into today. The Sonoma County Water Agency reports a barrier beach formed Friday following big swells on its shoreline. Water levels went up more than a foot in five hours with flooding on docks, at boathouses and the Jenner Visitor Center. They were actively monitoring conditions over the weekend. For more info, visit [www.sonomawater.org](http://www.sonomawater.org).

Walnut farmers reportedly struggling this year. The Record Bee reports on Seely Orchards, which grows walnuts, pears and wine grapes. They have only one worker in the fields this winter because of a projected loss this year in the value for walnuts. Even though prices for this year's crop hasn't been determined yet, it's expected to be off up to 40 percent from last year's prices. The final price happens in May. The newspaper reports the price down due to multiple factors, however ongoing trade wars aren't helping. The California Walnut Commission previously said tariffs on several products including walnuts going to China, Turkey and India could mean a \$300 million loss to the California walnut industry.

Major Calif. polluters get some help after an extension is approved on the greenhouse gas cap and trade system. The California Air Resources Board had their meeting last week regarding its implementation of last year's law to extend the cap-and-trade program through 2030. That's because lawmakers made promises to certain industries to get the needed votes to pass the extension. So industries can continue to pollute as long as they buy on the carbon-trading market. The board voted to continue the free carbon credits for some companies even though it was time to start reducing.

A new report not great news for PG&E. The Public Utilities Commission says for five years the utility company had committed multiple violations related to the safety of its natural gas pipeline system. Those violations include doctoring records. They further charge PG&E didn't have enough workers to go out and mark natural gas pipelines, that supervisors were pressured to finish work, and that the utility knew reports from outside parties had discrepancies. The violations reportedly between 2012 through 2017, years after the San Bruno explosion. Now an ensuing investigation to see if PG&E actually followed regulations to locate and mark natural gas distribution pipelines and to follow other rules regarding construction on PG&E's underground pipes. The company already convicted of felonies for the San Bruno explosion that killed 8 people and leveled part of the neighborhood.

Staffing the main topic for the Lake County Sheriff's Office at the next Board of Supervisors meeting. Supervisors to take up the subject at tomorrow's regular meeting after the Sheriff Brian Martin requested the talk. The Sheriff asked for less than a half hour on behalf of the Lake County Deputy Sheriff's Association. Martin says he'll give a presentation on concerns and potential solutions. There also may be statements from departing staff. This comes after the Association president wrote a letter to the editor of the Record Bee saying staffing needed to be more of a priority at the Sheriff's Dept.

A large crowd gathers as the Clearlake Police Chief swears in new members of his team. Last week Chief Andrew White swore in four new employees and one was also promoted. The police dept. being reorganized, so now there will be two lieutenants, including the new one, Tim Hobbs. He will oversee support services, including Code Enforcement and Animal Control. Also sworn in were Robert West as a new police officer, Garrett Copas as a Code Enforcement officer, Sabrinna LaCoy as a police dispatcher and Charmaine Weldon as a kennel technician.

A parrot in Britain uses an Alexa like device while his owner's not around and orders some strawberries, a watermelon and, for some reason, a water boiler. Rocco, the African Grey, got the items from the personal assistant while home alone. But, because the device had a child proof like lock, none of the attempted purchases went through. The parrot, apparently bored home alone has also tried ordering kites and lightbulbs and gets the device to tell him jokes and play his favorite tunes too. His foster mom says he's very sweet, she's come home to romantic music playing and that he loves dancing...

A body's been found after a fire at a home in Laytonville. The Mendocino County Sheriff's Dept. reports the fire this past Saturday just before 8 in the morning. The Laytonville Volunteer Fire Department and Cal Fire went to the home in the 48000 block of Highway 101 and found the structure fully engulfed in flames. The fire put out, but several hours after they went inside and found a body. Now the Sheriff's Office is investigating along with a Fire Investigator from Cal Fire to determine how the fire started. The Sheriff's Office says they've been in contact with the person's family and they are getting DNA samples for comparison which could take several months to get back due to heavy caseloads. An autopsy is set for tomorrow.

The Sheriff's office investigating some mail thefts in Ukiah make a couple of arrests. Deputies went to a home in Redwood valley after a complaint. At the same time the Ukiah Police Department reported on some attempts at fraud at a bank and store in Ukiah. They've identified one suspect as Charles Dale Maxfield who's been arrested in a department store with a stolen checkbook. Another person has also been identified as trying to pass a check from the same checkbook at a bank in Ukiah. But police also found a bunch of stolen mail near a dumpster at a motel where Maxfield had been staying. Madalena Acosta was subsequently arrested with stolen mail in the motel room. They say they also found drugs in the room. The two held in jail on \$15,000.00 bail. Cops say they're looking for two other people who may have been involved.

Warning from state and federal recovery officials to look out for any suspicious activity or possible fraud from scam artists, identity thieves or other criminals trying to prey on fire victims. They same some of the fake offers they've recorded include promises of disaster grants, but first needing a cash deposit or advance. Phony housing inspectors, asking for banking information., something they say FEMA workers never do. Phony contractors without licenses, make sure to ask to see the license and don't rush into hiring someone and get three bids too, then only pay about 10% or \$1,000 whichever is less. And bogus pleas for post disaster donations or of course, what we've seen in the past, price gouging. To register for disaster assistance call 800-621-3362, TTY 800-462-7585, or at [www.DisasterAssistance.gov](http://www.DisasterAssistance.gov)

And further... if you have knowledge of fraud, waste or abuse may call the FEMA Disaster Fraud Hotline at 866-720-5721 or report it to the Federal Trade Commission at DHSOIGHotline.

Six locations getting Mobile Disaster Recovery Centers. There are five northern California counties getting the centers. Starting today those who've been displaced by the November wildfires and had to relocate and cannot travel to fixed-site Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) in Butte, Los Angeles and Ventura counties. The centers will be staffed with folks from FEMA's Individual Assistance and Mitigation teams, the Small Business Administration (SBA) and other state and federal agencies and other nongovernmental service organizations. They're jointly operated by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). They're in Alameda, Contra Costa, Sacramento, Shasta and Tehama counties:

Sacramento County

Citrus Heights Community Center

6237 Fountain Square Dr.

Citrus Heights, CA 95621

Open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Dec. 17, 18, 19 & Dec. 27, 28, 29

Contra Costa County

Public Works

255 Glacier Dr.

Martinez, CA 94553

Open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Dec. 17, 18, 19 & Dec. 27, 28, 29

Tehama County

Red Bluff Fairgrounds

650 Antelope Blvd.  
Red Bluff, CA 96080  
Open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Dec. 17, 18, 19 & Dec. 27, 28, 29

Alameda County  
Sheriff's Station  
4985 Broder Blvd.  
Dublin, CA 94568  
Open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Dec. 20, 21, 22 & Jan. 3, 4, 5

Sacramento County  
Regional Parks  
10361 Rockingham Dr.  
Sacramento, CA 95827  
Open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
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Not a murder after all, that's the findings of the Mendocino County Sheriff's Dept. after interviewing an original witness and family members of the man who died. Reports of a man running from a burning van, then a body found inside that van last month in Leggett. Now a forensic odontologist has made a positive identification of the body found in the burned out van. It was the registered owner of the van, 58 year old Edward Kinckney, of Eureka. His family told police he had been showing signs of mental health problems the last few weeks of his life. So after talking to family and the original witness, detectives say a suspect seen running with his leg on fire, was probably Kinckley, who they say may have run back into the van before he died. His cause of death is still being investigated as there are more tests being run.

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Good news at Eagle Peak Middle School. Board members of the Ukiah Unified School District found the school doing well with Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) programming as they become a STEM magnet school. The Daily Journal reports the school district board decided last year to make the change at Eagle Peak to become a STEM magnet school to help focus students for potential future careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The students get to work on projects like in robotics, electronics, computer coding and programming, 3-D art design, and music technology. The school also reporting more students enrolling in the past five years.

A man from Laytonville found guilty of several crimes including burglary and vandalism. The Mendocino County D-A's office reports a jury came back after deliberations yesterday announcing the guilty verdicts against Frank Cabral, but he was found not guilty of possessing methamphetamine for sale. Instead he was found guilty of a lesser misdemeanor of simple possession. But he's guilty of burglary in the second degree and vandalism causing \$400 or more in damage, both felonies. He will be back in court Thursday. The man also had a previous conviction for murder in the second degree from out of state, if that's found true in court Thursday, it could mean a doubling of whatever his sentence is.

Several marijuana gardens found in the Shasta-Trinity and Six Rivers National Forest and now the cleanup. Kym Kemp dot com reports on the finding from the Integral Ecology Research Center who say they found more than "6 tons of trash removed and close to 6 miles of irrigation line removed from streams being diverted." The sites found in watersheds of the Trinity River and Hayfork Creek where protected species live, including the Foothill yellow-legged frog, steelhead trout and chinook and coho salmon. The Center reports the sites impacting critical habitat for the species.

A car with phony license plates in Fortuna ends in the arrest of two people on drug and weapons charges. The Fortuna Police Department reports the license plates found not to be registered to the car they were attached to. The cop further investigated and found an assault rifle, a stolen handgun from the State of Washington and more than eleven ounces of suspected Meth packaged for sale. Those inside, Janet Mallett and Donnell Campbell were arrested on multiple charges including possession of a controlled substance for sales, possession of a high capacity magazine, possession of an assault weapon. Campbell had a warrant out of Mendocino County too. The two held in the Humboldt County Jail.

Those still evacuated from their homes after the Camp Fire broke out, have been allowed back to see the damage. Most homes were totally destroyed in the fire that started November 8th. It killed nearly 90 people, with a handful still unaccounted for. 14,000 homes in Paradise and other communities nearby burned. They've all been warned, as have others going back in to town, there are limited services and to use power generators and have enough food, water and fuel for their cars. They're also warned not to live on destroyed property until it's declared clear of hazardous waste, ash and debris.

Some archaeologists along with volunteers in Paradise looking for cremains of those previously lost and burned again with homes destroyed in the Camp Fire. The Institute for Canine Forensics and archaeologists from Alta Archaeological Consulting in Paradise. The same group working at the Tubbs Fire burn last year, working in about 50 homes in Santa Rosa. The group will be in Paradise for three days, walking thru sites and bringing in a dog to help. They searched last weekend for the cremated remains of five people who were in urns left behind.

A new sergeant has been sworn in in Lakeport. The Police Chief Brad Rasmussen swore Sgt. Michael Davis into office yesterday at Lakeport City Hall. He was first a deputy with the Lake County Sheriff's Office before coming to the police dept. He's being formally introduced to the City Council at their regular meeting tonight at 6.

Two people from Lake County arrested in Sonoma County for multiple burglaries. Lake Co News dot com reporting Ryan Messing and Tabytha Jarvis were arrested after a call from someone in Forestville who came home and interrupted a burglary in her home. Police say the woman parked her car in the driveway and saw another car there, a woman inside it asked her if "Gina" lived there, then took off. The homeowner saw there was a broken front door window and heard some rummaging in the house while she was still in the garage. She ran back to her car and called police. She says she then saw Messing run out of her house to a nearby vineyard. Messing arrested in the vineyard and his girlfriend, Jarvis, was picked up later, then identified by the homeowner as the woman she saw in her driveway. Detectives found stolen firearms, tools, jewelry and miscellaneous items at her home. The two were being held in the Sonoma County Jail on burglary, possession of stolen property, theft of firearms, possession of a stolen vehicle and conspiracy charges.

The latest Statewide Elk Conservation and Management Plan has been released by the Department of Fish and Wildlife. The release after public review on how to maintain healthy elk herds. They're looking to continue reestablishing elk and continue management practices that have bolstered elk populations in Calif. The agency says it builds on their commitment of a strong foundation for the continued conservation of this iconic species and its future management. The work includes controlling invasive weeds, installing water sources, conducting research and planting food plots.

The family of Scott Peterson, the convicted murderer of his wife Lacey, says there's new evidence that'll prove he's innocent of the murder. Scott Peterson's sister-in-law, Janey on the Dr. Phil show with the news. She says there's a mailman who was involved and police even have a timeline to prove it. She says her brother in law shouldn't be on death row, while there's so many unanswered questions. She went on to tell Doctor Phil police never followed up with more than a dozen witnesses including a mailman she says is critical to the case. She also claims a former CBS reporter is to blame for Scott being on death row. The Peterson family wants a new trial now.

Some new laws take effect on the road in January. One of them, you cannot buy or lease a car and drive off without temporary license plates. The Gov. actually signed this bill into law in 2016. It means dealers have to put temporary tags on cars, not paper advertisements. And drivers with the temporary tags for different cars, or if they make their own temporary license plate, could face felony charges if they're caught. The new law also apparently to cut down on the amount of folks trying to get out of paying for parking and tolls.

The State Attorney General is partnering with the city of Oakland to try to stop a developer from bringing coal through a terminal that's being built on the old Oakland Army Base. Xavier Becerra getting on board as the city of Oakland appeals a federal judge's ruling last May, saying the city violated its development agreement with Phil Tagami and the Oakland Bulk Oversized Terminal project by not allowing the transport. Then the development company sued the city. The Oakland City Council has also voted to approve the transport ban. Now the Atty. General has filed court papers to support the city's appeal to prohibit coal saying the city has the right to apply new regulations to protect residents from health risks to the 2013 agreement with Tagami.

A Northern California utility company has fired a contractor after reports surfaced some workers were posing on burned out Camp Fire properties in a mocking fashion. As we reported yesterday, three workers posted photos on social media with captions or comments making fun of victims. So Pacific Gas & Electric cut off their agreement with Bigge Crane and Rigging Co even after the company said it fired those responsible, calling what they did an egregious insult. The posts went viral showing the workers in front of the destroyed homes, pretending to drive a burned out car and jumping through what was left of a trampoline. In one picture, there was a dead cat with a beer bottle in its mouth.

A man busted in Missouri for poaching deer has been ordered by a judge to watch the movie "Bambi" repeatedly as part of his punishment for poaching hundreds of deer. The Springfield News-Leader reports David Berry Jr. has to now watch the film at least once a month while serving one year in jail. Some conservationists say it's one of the biggest deer poaching cases in state history. The deer killed for their heads, with their bodies left rotting. The man found guilty of illegally taking wildlife. Three relatives paid \$51,000 in fines and court costs related to the case too.

It's going to be after the holidays before we see movement on the foreclosure sale of the Palace Hotel. It was supposed to happen this Friday, but apparently there's been a technical issue. The Daily Journal reports the building's receiver Mark Adams says the new date for the sale is January 11th instead. Adams has been managing the building's makeover since the city declared the building a nuisance and got a receivership since the owner, Eladia Laines, had not followed thru on mandated work. The foreclosure sale set because Laines didn't pay money against the property when she was supposed to. The property is in foreclosure and listed at just over 970-

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thousand. There's been no offers so far. A shelter crisis to be declared by the Ukiah City Council so the city can find more ways to apply for almost \$5 million for Mendocino County homeless services. The Daily Journal reports the City Council will consider the matter at their meeting tonight. Mendocino County is getting about 10% of the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) grant money from the state for cities, counties, and Continuums of Care to work on homelessness. So the city's declaring the shelter crisis after the latest Homeless Point in Time Census and Survey Report. The City Council meeting tonight at 6 p.m. in the council chambers at 300 Seminary Ave. Mendocino Supervisors Dan Hamburg and Georgeanne Croskey honored by the Board as they come to the end of their terms in office. Hamburg wasn't there as he's undergoing medical treatment. No more information's been released about him except that his wife said he appreciated his time on the board for the Fifth District. Croskey was at the meeting and was honored by fellow board members. She was appointed by the Governor to the Third District position last year after Tom Woodhouse resigned for health issues. Croskey announced a year and a half ago that she wouldn't run again.

A man from Lucerne arrested this past summer for suspicion of shooting his roommate has pleaded no contest. Michael Finnegan is accused of shooting his roommate in the chest with a semiautomatic rifle. At the time deputies say they got to the house and found Finnegan outside and the 51 year old victim with a wound to his chest. He was expected to fully recover. Finnegan said he shot the roommate because he thought he was being hostile to him and threatened to kick him out of their house. He's still in jail on \$175,000 bail. He will be sentenced for Assault with Firearm on Person and Battery with Serious Bodily Injury will be dismissed as part of a plea deal. He'll be sentenced January 14th.

A man from Chico has been sentenced to several years in prison for vehicular manslaughter with gross negligence. Raymondo Valero Meza was arrested after the incident. He was found guilty in September. The Lake County Probation dept. denied probation for the man who has drug abuse in his background plus he admitted to prior strike, so his deal was doubled from six years to 12, plus he got another five years for the November 2016 accident where a woman was killed and two others had major injuries after the head-on crash on Highway 20 where he was speeding, crossed double yellow lines and hit Erika Kleit of Weed head-on.

The site chosen to bring Camp Fire debris processing is no longer going to be the Diamond Match property which is surrounded by homes. The City Manager released a statement Monday saying they decided against the site at the City Council meeting last week. Apparently the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other interested parties found the site not suitable, so they're looking for different spots. There were major complaints by community members and businesses over the Diamond Match property as a place where concrete, metal and burned vehicles from the Camp Fire would be taken. The Butte County Board of Supervisors Chair is also working with the state for a more suitable location that can hold multiple burned out trucks and tons of debris and could be reached by rail.

Ron Howard, the director and actor is making a documentary on the Camp Fire. Howard was in Butte County last weekend taking shots of the damage. He apparently was inspired to make the film after watching the stories on the news. He says he and his company is financing the film themselves and that it was such a strong story, he would come to Paradise himself. His mother in law apparently lived in town 2 decades ago for five years or so and he says he also has relatives in Redding. He says he's impressed by the community and how people are keeping it together and looking toward the future.

Police in Eureka arrest a man after a month long sex assault investigation. Kym Kemp dot com reporting David Anderson arrested on rape, sodomy, lewd acts with a minor charges as well as several others including human trafficking. He's being held on a whopping 3 million dollars bail. They've not released a whole lot more except to say it's because they're trying to keep details of the case under wraps while it's still being investigated.

A man in Eureka's arrested after an arson attempt at an apartment building in the city. Police say they got a call to someone running away with open flame, but they didn't find any smoke or flames when they arrived. They arrested Jeremy Notman though after he seemed high on something and found him in possession of part of a device, which they say can discharge flames. It comes after someone who lives in the building reported smoke in the laundry room. The Fire Department also came out and put out a fire, which appeared to have been smoldering in a wall. Notman held on \$75,000 bail for arson.

A new Verizon Wireless telecommunications tower has been approved, by a hair, in North Lakeport. The 3—2 vote yesterday from the Lake County Board of Supervisors, with District 4 Supervisor Tina Scott, who represents that area was in favor of it, saying it will pose minimal impact. She says several of her constituents had previously said they wanted better cell service and internet, so the tower would help. She even said her own house was a dead zone for service. Some who live nearby were arguing against the tower saying it would block their view of the lake, bring down property values, and increase fire risks.

The Ghost Ship, the scene of that massive fire where 36 people died, will be torn down. The building's landlord has demolition plans in place, but the victims families apparently don't want the building sold. They've filed a civil lawsuit and had already asked a judge to preserve the building so that all evidence could be collected and examined, but that's all done now. The landlord applied for the demo last August. But the city says the owner and contractors have to reapply because the address was listed incorrectly on their first demolition application.

2 men have been arrested for a fatal hit and run last month in Upper Lake. Phillip Harrison of Potter Valley has been arrested for hit-and-run, vehicular manslaughter, conspiracy and concealing evidence. Kirk Hamilton of Upper Lake was arrested for conspiring to a cover up, making criminal threats, intimidating witnesses and possession of a dirk or dagger. Harrison accused in the death of Jobe Carpenter of Potter Valley Nov. 19th. The victim seen laying on the side of the road. Harrison told cops he saw Carpenter laying there and went to a nearby home for help and the resident came back with him. It was found out later Harrison was actually the driver of an old water truck that hit the victim after losing control. The CHP says Harrison and Hamilton conspired to cover up the crash, destroy evidence and conceal where the crash happened. They're both in jail.

The CHP set to start its Christmas Maximum Enforcement Period like years past. Beefed up patrols to make sure roads stay safe over the holiday period starting this Friday, continuing thru Xmas. They're looking at speed limit and possible impaired driving. Additional officers will be on the road. The CHP wishing all a happy and safe holiday season. There were 16 deaths last year during the Christmas Maximum Enforcement Period. And there were 917 arrests for DUI of alcohol or drugs. Statewide, 27 people were killed in collisions.

A cop in Lakeport recovering and being exposed to some sort of substance while doing a car search. Lake Co News reports Officer Andrew Welter got sick Monday after the vehicle stop in front of Power Mart. They say he noticed the man driving, Jeremy Griffin of Kelseyville, looked like he was hiding something as he reached into his center console. And the passenger, Anita Aney was on probation. A search of the car turned up a glass pipe, a loaded Smith and Wesson .45-caliber pistol and a rolled dollar bill with a white crystal type substance believed to be meth. The two arrested and the officer requested help after accidentally sniffing a white substance in a bag, believed to be meth. Narcan was used on him for possible Fentanyl exposure. And he went to the hospital and was later released.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company workers walking neighborhoods inspecting transmission lines. Kym Kemp.com reporting the workers looking at the Bridgeville-Cottonwood electric transmission line that goes through Humboldt and Trinity Counties. They're looking at more than 600 PG&E transmission poles and the related components and may go into private properties. The safety inspections of towers and poles in high risk fire areas as a precautionary measure. Crews are putting in six day weeks depending on weather. And they're notifying customers when they need to get onto private property. They have photo id cards on them and wear safety vests. It's all part of their Community Wildfire Safety Program, which is on top of their routine inspections and maintenance programs. They're also doing visual inspections on about 50,000 towers and poles across more than 5,500 miles of transmission lines thru next year.

A new rule could be costly for those frequently traveling across the Golden Gate Bridge. The Bridge District board was hearing proposals today to bring the toll rate up because of a \$75 million dollar budget gap due to higher labor and material fees and because of the demand on transit. The toll fare options are varied, with one to fill that \$75 million dollar void, and another to raise \$25 million more. A spokesperson for the Golden Gate Bridge District says the extra money is needed to cover maintenance for the existing service and to invest in future major capital needs.

A woman wanted in court in connection to the disappearance of a woman in February now has a felony bench warrant out for her arrest. Antonia Bautista-Dalson of Covelo due in court Monday, but she never showed. Now police are on the lookout for her as she was supposed to be sentenced as an accomplice for possession of a firearm by a felon, that felon, Negie Fallis of Covelo. The pair admitted guilt after Fallis was arrested for an incident involving missing woman Khadijah Britton, Fallis' former girlfriend. He got four years in prison . Bautista-Dalson was released on bail after she was arrested in August, showed up in court in October, but not for her sentencing. Britton disappeared after her family says she was first held at gunpoint by Fallis. Baustita-Dalson admitted she was an accomplice, helping Fallis hide guns.

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A Xmas dinner is being offered by the Plowshares Peace and Justice Center in Ukiah. The dinner is actually lunchtime today from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at 1346 S. State St. The volunteer organization is offering the meal to community members including honey glazed ham, mashed potatoes, green beans and bacon, salad and rolls. There's also dessert. They're partnering at Plowshares with Elks Lodge to bring Ms. Claus and Santa's elves, to hand out books to kids there. The gifts provided after the Adventist Health toy drive, so kids will also receive gifts as part of the program today.

The Lake County Board of Supervisors considering higher contributions to the Sheriff's dept. health plan. This after the Lake County Deputy Sheriff's Association asked for it saying they're understaffed and that's partly because of how expensive it is to get healthcare. The Sheriff's office is down 52 people, mostly patrol positions are needed. They're only 37 percent filled. There are also only four of eight sergeant positions filled and 11 of 32 deputy positions are filled. There are also openings in the correctional department. The Sheriff says they have to first fill the correctional positions over patrol positions. Some board members say they're limited with what they can do, but understand the problem, and will try to find solutions.

The State Assembly considering allowing marijuana businesses to be able to take the same tax deductions as other businesses. The businesses are limited because of federal law. Legal cannabis businesses can't take any deductions before paying taxes, so they pay higher rates than other legal business in California. In a past session, lawmakers had passed a similar bill, but Gov. Brown veto'd it saying it would cost too much to the state's general fund. The bill was then reintroduced this session since there will be a new governor pretty soon.

A bunch of registered sex offenders and other high risk offenders arrested as part of a sweep in Clearlake. Police detectives and parole officers arrested more than a dozen people, some were taken to jail. This after a search warrant at one home where there was an ongoing investigation and several baggies of processed marijuana, chemicals and materials associated with the illegal cultivation and sales of marijuana.

An ex Lake County teacher previously arrested in identity theft cases involving his adult children has been sent to prison for grand theft from a Lake County couple. George Tanner McQueen of Sacramento got three years for grand theft and a two-year bail enhancement. The grand theft at the time he was also involved in the identity theft case with his son and daughter. He got time for that crime in Placer and Sacramento counties last year. He's a former Yuba College dean and a former employee of the Lake County Office of Education. For the latest case a couple in Lake County went to McQueen for tax services, finding out he transferred \$103,000 from their accounts to use as his own. He claimed it was a glitch, but never returned their money. He reached a plea deal and will return to court for a restitution hearing in February.

The Soda Creek Station on the Upper Lake Ranger District of the Mendocino National Forest has solar panels. It's all part of the Assisting Federal Facilities with Energy Conservation Technologies, or AFFECT, Off-Grid Renewable Energy Project. The work done last week as one of five pilot projects in the same region. The systems to be installed where stations primary power comes from generators. There will be monthly info collected on the energy used and analyzed for the next ten years to see if more systems should be installed across the Forest Service.

State Sen. Bill Dodd says it's time for new executive leadership at Pacific Gas and Electric Co. The request after a report by the California Public Utilities Commission on falsifying documents for underground gas pipelines, like one that exploded and killed 8 people in San Bruno in 2010. The utility company is also facing possible major fines and is already being sued for last year's fires, now there are more fires this year to contend with. Dodd says the utility giant demonstrated a pattern of poor management and illegal conduct that's shattered lives across California, saying there needed to be systematic change.

Fort Bragg short police officers, with three vacant positions. The Advocate newspaper reports there's also a vacant community service officer position, and reports two officers are out on extended medical leave. And two others taking part in the Family Medical Leave Act. The city's Public Safety Committee met earlier this week to discuss the matter and possible applicants after some recent recruitment. The City Manager says they've been actively looking to fill the positions since July. They're also considering temporarily using some deputies from the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office which the Sheriff has agreed to do on a short-term basis.

A young man in Florida's been cited after workers at a McDonald's say he tried paying with a bag of weed. Port St. Lucie police say the man got a hard no when he offered to trade the pot for the food, but after Anthony Gallagher drove away, he came back and did it again. He was arrested the following day on marijuana possession and driving under the influence charges.

California Gov. elect Gavin Newsom says he's giving up control of his wine and hotel business. That's not all, he also says he'll issue an executive orders so that no state agencies can even do any business with the company so there are no conflicts of interest. The PlumpJack Group has four hotels; four Napa Valley wineries; several bars and restaurants; a couple of wine and liquor stores in San Francisco; and an online liquor store too. He says he's going to transfer title and control to a blind trust managed by Shyla Hendrickson, a family friend and lawyer. He's going to be sworn in Monday, January 7th. He also says he's going to release his tax returns every year to reporters, but not the general public.

Since the Ukiah Zoning Administrator approved two permits for a marijuana dispensary on Airport Park Boulevard they could open as soon as next month. The Daily Journal reports co-owner of Cannavine, Michael Taylor, says they have to file with the state of California for some minor changes to its building which a building inspector needs to then check out. Then he says they could open in January. They first had a permit for medical marijuana in September of 2017, and even back then they applied for a permit to sell recreational weed. They got their medical marijuana permit renewed and now have their recreational permit too. There's a third permit as well at the meeting last week for Kidovation Zone, a kid play place with

12/24/18 computers, karaoke, party and birthday areas.

A paramedic who helped a pregnant woman escape the Camp Fire now has a namesake. Mickey Huber helping people evacuate in Paradise November 8th got to Anastasia Skinner whose baby wasn't due for a month and started having contractions due to smoke inhalation. She got herself and her dogs to a gas station, honking and screaming for help. Police and some women brought her blankets and pillows. Huber, two miles away at the time, got there and helped her along even though a helicopter was coming. Huber arranged for a caravan for her with cop cars and an ambulance. She got to the hospital and her labor was stopped. She had little Mickey, a girl, December 12th. The woman's home burned down in the Camp Fire.

State Senator Mike McGuire is the new assistant majority leader of the Senate. The North Coast legislator got the newly created leadership job for the new year which was created by the Senate President Pro Tem. Sen. Bill Dodd, also of the North Coast, has been reappointed as chair of the governmental organization committee. McGuire is also still the vice chair of the Democratic caucus and chairman of the Senate's governance and finance committee. McGuire was interviewed over the weekend saying representing the needs of small communities and rural counties is extremely important in a legislature made up of mostly urban members.

Pacific Gas & Electric Co. may have to be split up or go thru other major changes after the recent wildfires and some gas explosions. The State Public Utilities Commission considers breaking up the giant utility's natural gas and electric distribution and transmission divisions; replacing part or all of its board of directors and corporate management and several other moves including making PG&E a public utility instead. No final decisions have been made and the commission is taking public comments through Jan. 30th with the President of the regulatory body saying they have to be careful and practical. PG&E responding its open to solutions to make it safer for customers.

One of Governor Jerry Brown's senior advisors is headed to the state Supreme Court. Josh Groban was nominated by Brown and has now been confirmed by a judicial commission. Groban has to still be sworn in before sitting on the seven-member court which will be next month. This is the Governor's 4th appointment to the court, Groban has no experience as a judge, like the Governor's three other picks. He's a Harvard Law School graduate though. He replaces Justice Kathryn Mickle Werdegar who was appointed by Republican Governor Pete Wilson. She announced her retirement last year.

A home in Clearlake has been destroyed in a fire. Lake Co News reports the fire last night in the 2900 block of 10th Street around 7 p.m. The Lake County Fire Chief says the home was in flames when they arrived and it was knocked down in about a half hour. But they were there a couple hours to mop up the mess left behind. The home was a newer modular home and an investigation into how it started has begun. There was also another fire earlier yesterday in the 16000 block of 33rd Avenue with smoke billowing out of the roof of that home. One room was damaged.

A special meeting's being held by the Lake County Board of Supervisors this holiday week regarding local emergencies. The meeting is Friday, instead of tomorrow. It's a short agenda which includes continuing proclamations of local emergencies for the Mendocino Complex, Pawnee fire, Sulphur fire, Clayton fire and the atmospheric river storm.

The helicopter flights that have been continuing as part of a geotechnical project at the Albion River Bridge are done. The Caltrans project to evaluate geology at the base of the bridge. The choppers were bringing equipment in for drilling on the steep bluffs around Albion Cove. Some residents had the voiced concern about the project due to safety and environmental issues, one helicopter caught on video in windy weather by a passerby. The Coastal Commission North Coast district manager says they got no complaints regarding the flights and there were no weather-related matters in written reports to the Coastal Commission.

Governor Brown has a new home in the New Year. He's apparently headed to Colusa County, west of the town of Williams, on property his family's had since the 19th century. His granddad ran the Mountain House Inn there along a stagecoach route where the Governor built his new house. The Inn burned down several years ago. The new home runs totally on solar electricity, and they have 2,500 acres, they're calling it Mountain House III.

A woman who was wanted in court last week in connection to a gun related case, has turned herself in. Antonia Bautista-Dalson, pleaded guilty after being arrested over the summer for being an accomplice to Negie Fallis. She showed up in court in October, but not last Monday for sentencing. Round Valley Tribal Police say she called them Friday and agreed to meet them at the Covelo substation of the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office. Her crime connected to an investigation into the disappearance of Khadijah Britton in February. Britton's family says she was last seen with Fallis who had her at gunpoint. The Mendocino Voice also reports Fallis had was previously arrested for allegedly beating Britton with a hammer.

Three projects in the works for restoration of wetlands. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife awarded more than 4 million dollars for the agency's 2017 Wetlands Restoration for Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Program Proposal Solicitation Notice. The money for projects that help reduce GHG in wetlands and watersheds and benefitting other areas like enhancing fish and wildlife habitat, protecting and improving water quality and quantity, and helping California adapt to climate change. One of the projects a meadow habitat for the South Yuba River Citizens League. The next for the Elkhorn Slough Foundation for work on one of the largest estuaries in California. And finally for the Sierra Fund in the Red Clover Valley.

Another unfortunate delay for the Dungeness crab season. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife reports this is about two weeks worth of waiting due once again to higher levels of domoic acid. So now we're looking at a Jan. 15th start. The quality tests are done for the Tri-State Coastal Dungeness Commercial Fishery. They were supposed to happen this week, but apparently there were rough ocean conditions so ships couldn't safely deploy and retrieve crab traps. They have to test crabs for meatiness, to make sure they're ready to be harvested. The delays are only in Mendocino, Humboldt and Del Norte counties.

A scam out of the Lake County Jail. The FBI's investigating the illegal use of the jail's inmate phone system to the tune of hundreds of thousands of dollars. The Lake County Board of Supervisors got wind of the crimes the D-A says add up to about \$300,000 or more. Also on their agenda the supervisors mulling a report by the D-A after Supervisor Rob Brown accused him of improper spending, something D-A Don Anderson says was just a personal attack by Brown. And Brown motioned for a restriction on Anderson's spending, but it wasn't seconded. Anderson to be out of office soon anyway. In Anderson's report he blames for the vendetta because he launched the investigation into the jail phone crimes saying it involved friends of Brown's. Anderson claims a minimum of 30 inmates were making free calls and illegally skirting fees. It's a confusing case of he said she said, you can pick it up at the Record Bee's website...

A man's been arrested after reports a white GMC Denali was stolen in a robbery in Southern Humboldt County. Deputies reported the man, identified as Franklin Molina also had several firearms, \$30,000 in cash and marijuana, all taken in the robbery. Police found and chased the Denali and used Onstar in the SUV to disable it from moving. Then there was a standoff with Molina, with demands given in English and Spanish. The CHP helping deputies as Molina was not listening to commands. A crisis negotiator was brought in and spoke in Spanish to Molina who they say threatened to kill them. They say he also sprayed something inside the car and appeared to be holding a weapon. So a SWAT team came in and shot him, but he ran away. Then a police dog went after him and took him down. He was taken to the hospital, then cleared for jail and charged with several crimes and held

12/26/18 on \$250,000.

A man from Fort Bragg's been arrested after deputies went to serve an arrest warrant. Luis Pineda on probation and on pretrial release for a pending felony weapons case. He was arrested without incident. But while there deputies saw a couple of emaciated dogs. They had not eaten or had water for a lengthy amount of time, so the dogs were taken and fed and given water. Then taken to Animal Care for further treatment and care. He's charged with cruelty to animals, violation of probation, commit felony while on pre-trial release for pending felony and for the misdemeanor arrest warrant.

A man has been arrested in Fort Bragg with drugs and drug sales paraphernalia on him. Deputies on patrol say they saw Daniel Sanchez who was a passenger in a car and knew he was on parole and had run from them in the past. He had a warrant out for his arrest, but they lost sight of the vehicle. Then soon after they saw the car in a motel parking lot and arrested him. When searching the car, they say there was a good amount of suspected methamphetamine and other items indicative of drug sales. They took him to jail and held him without bail.

A woman in Fort Bragg's been arrested after a call she was disturbing people at a home. Deputies say when they got there they found Amica Wetzler walking away with something concealed under her arm. They found her with a large fixed blade knife and arrested her for possession of a concealed dirk or dagger, without incident. But they found, while holding her, she was on pre-trial release for a pending felony burglary case. So she's charged additionally with committing a felony while on pre-trial release for a pending felony matter. She was being held in Mendocino County Jail on \$25,000.

A vote's been delayed by the Ukiah City Council about whether there should be a declaration of a shelter crisis so certain projects can qualify for the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) grant funding being allocated by the State of California. This was considered at the last City Council meeting since the county is getting almost \$5 million dollars in grant money for homelessness. City staff was reportedly trying to find shovel ready projects to use the money for related to money allocated for Continuum of Care projects, as outlined for these specific grants. A couple of members of the public urging the council to declare a shelter crisis, but the council tabled the discussion until after the New Year.

The so-called Purple Pipe Project in Ukiah gets an infusion of money. The Daily Journal reports the City Council has approved \$700,000 to move utility lines underground. The staff report says it'll help with future needs of undergrounding currently overhead facilities, and to cut possible disruptions to the street after new roadwork was done.

A North Coast Assemblyman has traveled to the border to bring toiletries and other items to migrants. Marc Levine of San Rafael brought four boxes of dental hygiene kits requested by some of the shelters' nonprofit operators. He said he was doing fact finding visits to both sides of the border at San Diego, paying for the trips with his own money. The San Diego-based nonprofit Border Angels operates one of the Tijuana shelters, and says it's a humanitarian crisis. Levine was there to serve Christmas lunch to about 100 men, women and children.

The state's gone up on a list of the healthiest states in the country. We are now 12th in the 29th annual "America's Health Rankings" report. The report did find however, that obesity had hit a record high in the country and say it has affected more than 30 percent of adults for the first time in their reporting. And in California, the obesity rate was 23 percent. The report shows there were more people ranked as obese with lower education. Obesity was lower among college grads than those without a college degree. It showed the national suicide rate 16 percent higher than it was in 2012. And that drug deaths were up by 25 percent across the nation. Child poverty rates were down across the country. The healthiest state Hawaii and Louisiana the least healthy.

A new report shows charitable donations have set a record but along with that goes hundreds of millions lost to fraudulent causes. The fraud cases in 2018 hit a new high with people saying they were scammed out of money supposedly to help the military or veterans. But it had a positive spin as regulators in every state joined the Federal Trade Commission for Operation Donate With Honor. The FTC and the California Attorney General's Office reminding how to be sure your donations are going to real causes... check with the Better Business Bureau and other noted sources like Charity Navigator, CharityWatch or GuideStar. They say if there's no registration for the charity on those sites or if there's no obvious notation of federal tax-exempt status or financial information, it's a red flag.

A woman who lost a diamond ring which was a family heirloom from the Great Depression in the Camp Fire, retrieves it. Heather Thornewood reportedly found the ring in the her home's ruins. The fire burned her home and she thought, the ring her great-great-grandfather gave to her great grandmother, who was around 16-20 during at the time. She says she's not even sure what the ring's worth, to her it's invaluable. She got the ring from her grandma when she turned 16. She has moved since the fire, from Paradise, where they were for seven years, to Yuba City. The ring apparently survived intact, which a little bit of blackening.

The Gov. Jerry Brown has pardoned more than 140 people, including Oroville's mayor-elect, Chuck Reynolds. The pardons on Xmas Eve, a tradition for the Governor who leaves office next month. For his last eight years in office he's pardoned nearly totaling 1,200 people and had 152 commutations, including one man guilty of a 1995 Glenn County murder. So he's now eligible for parole. And has been an exemplary inmate. Others included someone in prison for meth manufacturing, served time and is now a drug counselor who lost her home in the Camp Fire.

A teenage drug dealer busted and pictured being carried down the street in his underwear by police. The photo shows a burly looking cop in the United Kingdom carrying Rhys Williams, over his shoulder, because he said he had sore feet. The cop laughing. The kid arrested for being in an organized crime gang running drugs. He got more than two years in jail with nine other people in North Wales who had heroin and cocaine. The total sentence for their crew almost 32 years. One of the dealers apparently showed up at the police station with thousands of pounds of heroin and crack cocaine, leading to the sting over four weeks.

New rules for deer tag holders. If you want to tag a deer, you've got to submit a harvest report for any 2018 tag by the end of Jan. All tag holders have to turn in their report even if they didn't go out and hunt or if they did, but were not successful. Those with a tag who don't report their harvest will be charged a penalty of about \$22 when they go to buy their 2019 deer-tag drawing application or deer tag. To report your harvest online, please visit [www.ca.wildlifelicense.com/internetsales/customersearch/begin](http://www.ca.wildlifelicense.com/internetsales/customersearch/begin). For more information, please visit [www.wildlife.ca.gov/licensing/hunting#9941260-tag-reporting](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov/licensing/hunting#9941260-tag-reporting) or call (916)

12/27/18 928-5805.

Cops on the lookout for someone who shot a bike rider near the Oregon border. Police say a man was riding his bike across Hwy 96 in Orleans. They say a white passenger van pulled up behind the bicyclist and shot them in the leg, made a u turn and headed south on the Highway. The victim went to the hospital and was treated for what appeared to be a bird shot, ammo commonly used in shotguns. His injuries were said to be non-life threatening.

Good cops on Christmas Eve... Some members of the Clearlake Police Officers Association went with Santa to deliver toys to families in Clearlake. They've been at it for more than 15 years. All year long members of the Association meeting with families and kids in tough times, and thru those contacts, they pick families for visits with Santa. Then Christmas Eve, Santa and officers deliver toys to the kids. This year there were twenty children. The Clearlake Police Officers Association says the program's successful because of community support.

A bunch of new traffic laws start in the new year. Now kids under 18 have to wear helmets on a bike, scooter, skateboard or skates. For those who don't comply, they'll get a "fix-it" ticket and a \$25 fine, but the fine will be waived for a child that goes to a bike safety course. If they don't, the parent or guardian will have to pay the fine. They're calling them correctable citations, not criminal. Another ticket or fine having to do with bicyclists who get into accidents, they will be cited if they leave, just like a hit and run in a car.

A young man from Ukiah busted for DUI Christmas Eve, cops say he hit a power pole, splitting it in 3 pieces and injuring his passenger. The CHP reports the accident on Talmage Road early Christmas eve, his sedan crashing through a fence, shearing off a power pole, then the car came to a stop on its side. The driver, 20 year old Guillermo Mendoza-Gonzalez was arrested for DUI causing injury. Ukiah Valley Fire Authority also responded, reported a 24 year old woman, the passenger, was trapped, but had only minor injuries when they extracted her. PG&E reports more than 1,700 customers lost power after the crash in Ukiah and Boonville for about 90 minutes.

Residents in McKinleyville saying no to a Dollar General Store. The store's already being built across the street from the local high school, but some community members aren't thrilled with the idea, especially the fact the store's applying for a liquor license. The Municipal Advisory Committee reports some residents have been complaining about it because of its proximity to the high school and booze. Others say it just doesn't fit the aesthetics of the community. We're heard this before in Lake County when the planning commission and Board of Supervisors said no the store in Kelseyville.

In one of his final official acts, Gov. Jerry Brown has ordered new DNA tests for a man in prison for a mass murder. Kevin Cooper's lawyers say he was framed for a 1983 hatchet and knife murder of 4 people. A tan T-shirt and orange towel that were found then by the scene of the crime, plus the hatchet handle and sheath will also be tested. The man was found guilty in 1985 for the massacre of Doug and Peggy Ryen, their 10-year-old daughter and 11-year-old neighbor. Cooper's already had DNA testing done, something prosecutors say shows he's guilty. But Cooper and his lawyer say the evidence was planted. The Governor has appointed a retired judge to oversee the case. The case drawing national attention with Sen. Kamala Harris, state Treasurer John Chiang and even reality star Kim Kardashian calling on the Brown to order new DNA tests.

No reports yet on how many jobs have been lost due to the Camp Fire. Just last week the state unemployment numbers were released which actually showed job growth in the state along with some job losses, but nothing out of the ordinary for this time of year. Cuts in agriculture, construction and manufacturing jobs were expected in Butte County. The Employment Development Department reports November unemployment for Butte County at 4.3 percent, up a tick from the 4.2 percent in October, with 4,600 residents actively looking for work. Next month might give us a better overall picture.

A young man from Oroville has pleaded guilty to murder and faces 15 years to life in prison. Court papers say 19 year old Juan Ortega Morales III pleaded guilty last month for the August 2017 beating death of 62-year-old Howard Brimm, also of Oroville. Morales was about to go to trial, but changed his plea, for a deal with the Butte County DA, instead pleading guilty to second-degree murder. Cops say when Morales was 17 years old, in July of 2017, he followed Brimm, beat him, stomped on his head. He died later. He addressed the court last month saying he felt bad and his heart hurt every day since the incident. When he was interviewed after though, he said Brimm called him a name and he felt disrespected by him. A witness didn't corroborate that. Morales remains in jail without bail.

A man in Covelo's been arrested after being caught inside a home stealing items. The Mendocino County Sheriff's Dept. says they got a call to a home after the resident found someone in a bedroom taking personal items. Deputies say S-Nathan Morales was seen with jewelry and a chainsaw. The resident heard loud noises in his sister's room, went to the room and confronted Morales. There was a physical altercation and the suspect took off. Deputies looked around and didn't see Morales, but Round Valley Tribal Police Officers picked the guy up. Deputies then placed him under arrest for burglary, robbery, violation of probation and an outstanding misdemeanor arrest warrant. He was being held today without bail.

Officials in Sonoma County reaching out to the public for help because of the housing crisis. They're asking community members to help find vacant or underutilized properties for possible rezoning so landowners can build future projects. The Press Democrat reports it's a way to work with residents to find housing solutions after the fires that burned more than 5,300 homes in the County. The county's planning and building department says the problem requires extreme actions. The department says they want to work with property owners to find solutions. They're even taking applications online for sites in unincorporated areas with water and sewer access where there could be affordable housing, workforce housing or higher-density housing.

A man in Calistoga arrested for DUI ends up in the hospital and gets arrested, then dies. CHP reports they found the empty and smashed up 1991 Acura TL he had been driving on State Route 128 after the car went off the road and hit a tree and power pole. The driver was not there. CHP says the 26-year-old must have called a friend to pick him up and take him to St. Helena Hospital. Then officers go to the hospital and arrest him on suspicion of DUI. He was taken by air ambulance to UC Davis Medical Center, but died of his injuries. They've not released his name because his family had not yet been notified.

Two members of the Ukiah City Council have voted against issuing Garton Tractor a permit for more space to service farm equipment. The extra space is needed due to the volume of work, and waits of up to ten weeks. The Daily Journal reports that it was concerns over close proximity to the Ukiah Municipal Airport that motivated the members to vote the request down. Council member Doug Crane had concerns about weather or not the FAA and the Mendocino County Airport Land Use Commission had seen the

12/28/18 plan.

Roof replacement for high priority buildings is now a priority for the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors after it's meeting earlier this month. Specifically, the roofs on the Administration Center, Mendocino County Jail, Emergency Operations Center and Jail Programs buildings. Planning is underway for the Main Jail building and the Emergency Operations Center Building at estimated costs of \$865,000 and \$700,000 respectively.

A warning to Lake County residents about a scam reported to the California Highway Patrol's Kelseyville office on Wednesday. A man came in reporting that his girlfriend had been kidnapped for ransom. CHP investigated, finding the woman safe and sound. The scam, which involves a phone call saying a family member is being held captive is not new, but it is popping up again locally. The FBI says indicators that a call is a scam are area codes 787, 939 and 856, or Puerto Rico. Callers make an attempt to keep you on the phone and prevent you from calling or finding the alleged victim.

A reminder by Ukiah Police to never leave your car running and unattended after a 2003 Honda accord stolen as it warmed up outside a home on Ford Street on Wednesday. The car was found by police in a Wall Mart parking lot on Airport BLVD less than an hour later. Two suspects were found near the car going through it's contents and were booked into the Mendocino county jail.

Looking for easier access to research, the University of California is challenging what they see as an outdated subscription model now that their contract with the largest journal publisher is about to expire. UC is threatening to drop all subscriptions with Reed Elsevier, meaning that if there is no agreement reached, over 20,000 faculty and over 250,000 students will lose wide access to new research. The hope is that other large facilities will do the same thing, lowering the cost of access to the research and forcing a more open system of sharing information.

Since 2011, Governor Jerry Brown has pardoned 1332 inmates, far more than previous governors. The governor added 143 to the tally this week, a total 273 for the year. He also ordered evidence in a 1983 murder case that sent Keith Cooper to death row after the murder of four people in Chino Hills to be reviewed.

Willits Police got several calls reporting a possible drunk driver on Saturday, one caller saying the driver had just swerved off the roadway. A Willits police officer who was on a different DUI call left and went to investigate the reports on Sherwood Road. When he arrived, he tried getting the woman in the car to get out, but she put the car in gear, knocked the officer down and dragged him 30 feet under the vehicle. Mendocino County Sheriffs deputies were able to get the officer out from underneath the car and he was transported to Howard Memorial Hospital. He suffered only minor injuries, and was released on Sunday. The woman was arrested for DUI.

New gun laws go into effect in California with the start of the new year on Tuesday. The laws prevent anyone younger than 21 from buying rifles or shotguns unless they are military, law enforcement or licensed hunters. Anyone with a misdemeanor domestic violence conviction will also be banned from owning a firearm. A law going into effect in July requires background checks for ammunition purchases. One that takes effect in January of 2020 says that anyone who has been hospitalized for mental health issues more than once in a year will also be banned from owning guns.

A report out yesterday concluded that a bank established for the cannabis industry would put state funds and workers at risk, possibly tanking an effort to establish a public bank for marijuana companies in California. The issue according to experts, is that since marijuana is still illegal under federal law, most banks wont open accounts for businesses in the sector.

Habitat for Humanity of Sonoma County is hoping to open a no wast factory to manufacture walls and floors for prefabricated homes. They hope to obtain a warehouse in Central Santa Rose for the project, with the goal of building out 600 new homes in Sonoma County over the next eight years where over 5300 homes were destroyed in recent fires.

Garton Tractor gets a no on their request for a permit for more space to service local agricultural equipment. The Daily Journal reports two members of the City Council gave the permit application a thumbs down vote because it would have been too close to the airport. The company was trying to get a permit for a 7,500-square-foot building with five service bays. The Planning Commission said yes last year, but there was one hold out, Council member Doug Crane filed an appeal, but then the company reduced the size of their project. Then it was found the airport didn't have an updated map either. An overrule of the vote failed after 2 Council members voted no.

12/31/18

Some roofs in Mendocino county need replacing so the county has a roof report on high priority buildings in process. County staff putting the report together with some roofs getting priority over others. Some in the Administration Center, the Mendocino County Main Jail, and the Emergency Operations Center and Jail Programs buildings were noted as high priority 1, the highest level. So now the planning begins to get the building's new tops. The Main Jail building and the Emergency Operations Center building will get theirs first and the Board Of Supervisors will consider a future agenda item to place money aside for the Administration Center.

It's been almost a year since marijuana started to be sold in retail outlets in Calif, but Mendocino County is moving slower. The Daily Journal reports the Board of Supervisors recently heard an update from the Mendocino County Cannabis Cultivation program and on compliance efforts. So far the county has received nearly 1,200 applications, but issued only a fraction of that, 200 permits. They've also only denied 21 applications and have 454 applications pending. The County says responses are piled up at the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Some applicants just lacked all the required paperwork too.

A man from Lakeport arrested for attempted murder back in court after first pleading not guilty last summer. Leonso Rangel has admitted he shot the man he thought was having a relationship with his girlfriend. When he was first arrested, it was another story. The arrest after a report of shots fired, the victim saying he was walking on the sidewalk and was shot in the back. The victim identified Rangel as his shooter, saying it had to do with his girlfriend. Rangel saying he didn't mean to hit the victim, but he was charged anyway with several crimes, including attempted murder, assault with a firearm and felon in possession of a firearm. He was being held in jail on one million dollars. He has a preliminary hearing in February.

PG&E increasing their bills. It's not that much, but a raise it is, with a buck more for most customers every month. It's for gas only, and there's an offset, since the electricity portion of the bill is going down. The utility company says there's a slight change due to the implementation of recent regulatory decisions. Customers who get a combined gas and electricity bill will see a \$1.08 a month increase. But it would have been \$2.64 more a month for gas. But there's a decline in electric bills of \$1.56 a month. The utility company is being scrutinized by the state currently having to do with the explosion in San Bruno and the October 2017 wildfires, and now possibly the Camp Fire too.

A new rule for the New Year, hospitals have to list prices online for items and services, as part of new Medicare rules. The rules take effect tomorrow for more transparency in health care, according to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The agency says they want more transparency in health care costs and they're trying to help empower patients. Hospitals that don't comply won't actually be punished, because there's no enforcement of the new rules yet, according to the agency's website.

A kidnapping scam in Kelseyville. The CHP's Clearlake office says a man came in the day after Christmas to their Kelseyville office to report a kidnapping, but after they investigated they found the man was scammed. He told them someone called and said his girlfriend was kidnapped for ransom, but cops say they quickly found his girlfriend was fine and there was a scam going around, but it's not a new one. They remind the public of this and other phone scams. This one targeting Lake County residents of a bogus virtual kidnapping, that a family member's being held captive. They even have someone screaming in the background. There's another one where the person's been in an accident and in the hospital and they have to pay the damages.

PG&E may be facing murder charges for reckless operation of power equipment. The Attorney General Xavier Becerra's office says it's more of a warning there may be criminal charges, but that would come from local county district attorneys, not the state. The Sacramento Bee reports prosecutors would also have to find an actual mental state for the utility to see if they can bring charges from murder to misdemeanor negligence. This opinion was sent to a judge who's overseeing the criminal case against the utility for the natural gas pipeline explosion that killed eight people in San Bruno in 2010. The company has a deadline today to file a response. Cal Fire also found PG&E probably broke the law for 12 wildfires in October of 2017. We still haven't heard about the Tubbs fire though. And now we have the Camp Fire, which may or may have not been caused by PG&E equipment.

A wind advisory for the holiday... The National Weather Service says it'll be a windy one today with the possibility of gusts of up to 40 miles an hour which they warn can cause hazardous driving conditions for small cars or high profile vehicles. Winds of up to 50 mph in south Lake County are also forecasted. The forecast also calls for the 50's during the day and 30's overnight. Showers possible next weekend.

Shots fired have deputies out in Laytonville. A man says he and another person were working at a house when they were confronted by someone, Robert Williams, who they say he thought they were trespassing on someone else's property. They told him they were not and say he threatened them, then he hit a gate with his truck and they were afraid so they left after seeing he had a rifle. One guy ran off and said he heard a gunshot. The other drove away. Williams was later caught with a 22 caliber pistol and arrested, he was also on probation and that's prohibited. A third person had also complained a day before about a man in a truck with a rifle after his car was broken into and that he has assaulted that man. The three men id'd Williams in a line up. He's charged with various crimes and held on \$125,000.00 bail.

2 men and a woman in Ukiah seen running down a street by deputies. Deputies see they're wearing gloves, have their faces covered and are also wearing black hoodies. Deputies say they wouldn't listen to commands, but one of them was quickly caught. Cops say the man, Alejandro Guadarrama had a meth pipe sticking out of his pocket, and they found a baggie of meth and car keys. He was on parole and arrested for violating that with drug possession and other crimes. The other two were caught eventually, one had a loaded semi automatic handgun with scratched off serial numbers, and meth and heroin. Plus paraphernalia in his car for sales of drugs. No word if the woman was caught.

A man in Ukiah's busted as deputies on routine patrol find a stolen car and check the license plates and stop the truck. They say it appeared the driver wanted to hop and run, Mark Beardslee, took off, he was a passenger, and a woman, Laura Adams also ran. Beardslee was gesturing he had a weapon so he was tazed. But he ran anyway to some bushes and was finally caught. He's charged with a bunch of crimes, but was taken to a hospital for the tazing. He was held on more than 25,000 bail. The woman was held on a bench warrant for \$7,500.00 bail. And the stolen Dodge Ram taken back to its owner. Apparently the truck stolen as the owner left it to allow it to warm up.

The Lake County Board of Supervisors has its last regular meeting and talked vacation rentals. They're also considering short-term housing and un-hosted units, and re-consider next month. This after a workshop with the board with the Community Development Director. She says the AirBNB type rentals aren't regulated in the county, and there are up to 300 units, but they're not sure if they're all vacation units or beds and breakfasts. So now there's discussion about how other towns permit these sorts of rentals, saying they mostly have special zoning permits and a maximum occupancy and some even have a limit on daytime visitors. They also have noise ordinances and trash management guidelines.

A reminder from Cal Fire to be careful burning items this winter, especially on windy days, like we're expecting today. Residents in Sonoma, Lake, Napa, Colusa, Yolo and Solano counties should see smoke here and there on burn days. They remind safe residential pile burning of forest residue is a good way to reduce fire hazards. But you need a permit. And you have to follow guidelines and regulations from your local air quality management districts. Only dry vegetation, no trash, not on windy days, piles have to be a certain size and height and you are allowed to add on as it burns. Plus don't forget to clear a 10-foot line down to bare soil around your piles, have a shovel and a water source nearby.

For more information, visit the Cal Fire Web site at <http://www.readyforwildfire.org/Debris-Burning/>.