Book of Stewarts Point pioneer's anecdotes available in local stores

For a variety of reasons, it took decades to bring "Tractors, Trains & Shipwrecks — Yesteryear Recollections of Sonoma County" to fruition, since the author, Donald R. Richardson of Stewarts Point, died in 1983.

His daughter, Gualala resident Donna Richardson Robbins, was determined to finish the book, which has just arrived at several Gualala stores as well as other retailers in Sonoma County.

The book, a collection christened "Tom Sawyer-like" by lead-

vember election.

The five candidates who filed are Smith. Richard Wasserman, Scott Ignacio, Jane Jarlsberg and Jonathan

ing historian and long-

time Press Democrat

columnist Gaye LeB-

aron, was spawned by

his daughter receiving

his handwritten stories

recounting his youthful

exploits while growing

these stories of his,

I was startled to dis-

cover they were all

new to me-I don't re-

call him sharing any of

these recollections of

his when I was grow-

ing up," says Robbins

in the book's Introduc-

tion. "Yet they were

still vivid in his mem-

ory decades later as he

"When I received

up in Stewarts Point.

Anna Dobbins, Jim Koogle and Barbara Burkey (Doug Burkey's ex-wife) have filed for the other two council

Neither Doug Burkey as of press time.

wrote these when in his 60s after ill health had him laid up."

Photocopies of these originals comprise Part 2 of the book and are accompanied by vintage black/white photos dating back to Richardson's birth in 1914 which are sprinkled throughout.

The grandson of Herbert Archer Richardson, who arrived in Sonoma County from New Hampshire in 1876 with 40 cents in his pocket and went on to amass 25,000 acres regionally, Richardson was one of nine students who attended the one-room schoolhouse in Stewarts Point, then rode the train from the coast to Santa Rosa High and back weekdays.

Having served as Stewarts Point Postmaster and running the family's longtime general store there, Richardson was also County Supervisor, president of the Farm Wool Bureau and Growers Association. and a professional forester in addition to holding other agricultural leadership roles, both locally and on a statewide basis.

A rancher by trade, Richardson was also an early and avid environmentalist and dedicated steward of the land. He spent his entire life in Sonoma County and the book includes reflections on his later years as well. He penned this collection after falling ill a short while before his death.

Raised in the area, Robbins purchased a home with acreage in Gualala in 2014. Following in her dad's footsteps, she's "dabbling" in raising a small herd of Katahdin sheep for meat, an activity which has reconnected her to her ranching roots. She's also an enthusiastic flower gardener and focused on the care of her orchard.

The new title is available at Four-Eyed Frog Books, Surf Market and the Sea Trader in Gualala and at the Anchor Bay Store.

Fire... from Page 3

reported that through GPS and surveillance investigators footage, had linked Pashilk's car to the sites of several arsons, but didn't have enough evidence to arrest him until after the Clayton Fire started. Hinchcliff said Cal Fire, not the District Attorney's office, made the call on when to arrest him.

"The standard for arresting someone is probable cause ... whether or not a reasonable person would believe someone is committing a crime," Hinchcliff said. But he noted that standard is much lower than the "beyond a reasonable doubt" it takes to convict a person of a crime. "[Investigators] need to have sufficient evidence for a conviction, otherwise it's pointless to arrest someone."

Tolamchoff, Lynne a spokesperson for Cal

Fire, could not disclose many details of the investigation, but noted the year-long process cost the state agency \$450,000 in personnel and equipment.

Pashilk is expected to enter a plea on Sept. 7, and could face 30 years to life in prison if found guilty of the charges, Hinchcliff said. Premeditated arson of inhabited buildings carries a sentence of 10 years to life, and Pashilk could potentially receive 10 years for the first count and 16 months for each count thereafter.

He has a long rap sheet and was previously convicted of felony possession of methamphetamine, possession for sale while armed with a firearm, and numerous misdemeanor crimes. Two of the current charges he faces from his arrest last Monday are for possession of methamphetamine and driving with a suspended license.

See all the events listed in Mark Your Calendar, Clubs, Group and Classes for weeks into the future at

www.mendonoma.com

Choose "LOCAL INFORMATION"

Arrests... from Page 1

be in Sonoma County Superior Court in Santa Rosa at 1:30 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 25.

Burkey was appointed to the City Council in September 2011, and was vice-mayor when he resigned in March 2016. This month, Smith filed for candidacy in a fiveway race for three City Council seats in the No-

Torrez.

seats in a separate race.

nor Smith returned the ICO's calls for comment

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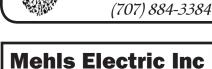
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