

Willits Weekly

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Online & Print



A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

Donations Accepted Edition No. 553

Thursday, June 6, 2024

BOS hires agricultural commissioner, county librarian

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors has hired a new agricultural commissioner after a couple years without a dedicated ag commissioner for the county, and has also appointed the current acting county librarian as official county librarian.

Acting County Librarian Mellisa Hannum was hired for the job at the May 21 board of supervisors meeting by a 5-0 vote, at an annual salary of \$112,257.60, plus county benefits.

Hannum, who is also the Point Arena branch librarian, has been acting as the county librarian for about eight months.

"I just wanted to thank staff and Supervisor Gjerde for working on this on the ad hoc committee," Supervisor John Haschak said, to introduce the agenda item. "It's really a change in the way it's been done. We've eliminated the Cultural Services Agency position and created this county librarian position, {who will} also have the responsibility of being the

Read the rest of **Hires**
Over on Page 13

Court extends deadline for grand jurors

Submitted by Superior Court

May 31 – The Honorable Ann Moorman, presiding judge of the Civil Grand Jury Recruitment/Selection Committee, has extended the deadline to submit applications to serve on the 2024/2025 Grand Jury to June 14, 2024.

Service on the Civil Grand Jury is an excellent opportunity to learn about the inner workings of government while providing a valuable service to the community. The 19 members of the Civil Grand Jury serve for one year and are empowered to investigate the operations of county, city, and district governments; provide civil oversight of local government departments and agencies; and respond to citizen complaints.

The Civil Grand Jury sets its own agenda and meeting schedule. Much of the work is performed in small committees allowing for considerable flexibility in the work schedule and meeting locations.

To attract more residents from the geographically distant regions of

Read the rest of **Deadline**
Over on Page 13



Photos by Maureen Jennison

The Willits High School Class of 2024 stands together for a photo in front of the school.



Above: WHS 2024 Valedictorian Audrey Sherf. Below: WHS 2024 Salutatorian Ethan Winter.



Getting Ready for Graduation

Willits High School Class of 2024 graduates celebrate at Thursday ceremony

On Thursday, June 6, students who have completed their four years of schooling will be honored with a diploma and congratulations, and released into the world as newly minted graduates of Willits High School.

Around 75 students are planning to walk across the stage, set up on Maize Field at Willits High School for the ceremony, which will begin at 5 pm. The public is welcome to come cheer on the Class of 2024 at the event.

Graduates of all local schools will then make their way later that evening to Sober Grad, the alcohol-free party set up to help grads "make it to their futures" and avoid needless tragedies on the night of their achievements. The party is free to attend, starts at 9 pm, all students must check in, and stay in attendance until 4 am when the party ends, to be eligible for any and all of the amazing prizes including \$1,000 cash prizes and much more.

Leading up to the activities of Thursday, graduates spent the last weeks of school celebrating; they participated in spring Spirit Week; held an ASB Convention, Spring Carnival, and held a rally; they attended the Junior/Senior prom; they finished finals, turned in books, and checked out of their classes; watched the historian's video; received their caps and gowns and took their group photo; went on their senior trip to the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk; attended the Senior Awards Night event; walked for the younger generation of students at Brookside and Blosser schools; had their senior breakfast; and spent lots of time practicing for their walk across the field.

See all the graduates of Willits High School, Willits Charter School, Sanhedrin High School, and La Vida Charter, and the 8th grade promoters, too, in the B section of this week's paper.

– Maureen Jennison



Photos by Mariah Rodriguez



Above, left: WHS seniors enjoyed a trip to the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk on Friday, May 31. Above, right: For several years, members of the senior class have also gathered together at the Highway 20 overlook for an emerging new tradition: Senior Sunset.



Above: White-robed graduates hold special positions in the graduating class, including top row, from left: Yearbook Editor Aidyn McFadden; ASB President Mason Rescina; ASB Vice President Kaylen Thom; and Site Council Mariah Rodriguez. Middle row, from left: Historian Bobbi Nunez; Historian Dayana Estrada, and ASB Treasurer Ingrid Mendoza. Front row, from left: Senior Class Treasurer Milagros "Millie" Patino Martinez; Senior Class Secretary Catherine "Catie" Spackman; Senior Class Vice President Isabel Young; and Senior Class President Diana Chavoya.

Crowd attends Sherwood Assessment meeting in Brooktrails

Barbara O'Reardon
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

There was a full audience in attendance at the Brooktrails Township Community Services District meeting on Tuesday, May 28. It was soon apparent that the large group was there to hear what Third District Supervisor John Haschak had to share regarding the Sherwood Corridor Special Benefit Assessment for Maintaining Emergency Access Routes.

Board President Tina Tyler-O'Shea introduced Doug Dove from the engineering firm of Bartle Wells Associates, attending via zoom. Then Supervisor Haschak began the presentation, saying, "For the last 5.5 years that I've been on the board of supervisors I've been working on this project. It has had its ups and downs, starts and stops, and really the idea is: What are we doing about emergency access routes for Brooktrails? Following the Paradise Fire, questions arose. What happened when there weren't sufficient emergency

Read the rest of **Sherwood**
Over on Page 13

Willits man charged with throwing boiling water on relative

By Sergeant Rich Van Baren, for MCSO

On Sunday, June 2, at 9:56 pm, Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to 1 Marcela Drive in Willits (Adventist Health Howard Memorial Hospital) due to a male subject in the Emergency Room claiming he was set on fire by his relative.

Upon arrival, deputies learned the male victim had not been set on fire but had boiling water thrown on him during an argument at a residence north of Willits. Deputies observed injuries consistent with the victim's statement, and the victim was receiving treatment for those injuries at the hospital.

The incident took place during an argument between the male victim, 33, of Willits and his relative, Raymond Cavino, 25, from Willits, at a residence located in the 30400 block of North Highway 101 in the Willits area. Deputies learned the male victim and Cavino were arguing in the kitchen area of the

Read the rest of **Charged**
Over on Page 13

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Keep the rails with the trail

To the Editor:

The report in Willits Weekly that the Skunk Train has obtained financing to repair the collapsed tunnel and resume operations between Willits and Fort Bragg, opens the possibility that passengers could again take a train from Santa Rosa to Willits, and then on to the coast, adding a fun vacation option while decreasing highway traffic and car pollution. And, just coincidentally, offering a perfect lunch break in Willits before transferring trains.

This can only happen if we can convince the Great Redwood Trail designers to rethink their plans, and place their trail adjacent to the tracks rather than ripping out the tracks. The City of Willits has already demonstrated that this is doable, with completed plans to have the trail and the tracks side by side, from the south end of the city to the train depot on Commercial Street.

Even if there is no current money to rehabilitate all of the tracks, it will cost very little to clean up the old track, and save it for the future. Once the rails are gone, they'll never be back. An opportunity lost.

If we don't speak up, the plans are to take out the tracks from Cloverdale to Willits. Why should the hikers and long-distance bicyclists have all the fun – and get all the state financing?

The person spearheading the Great Redwood Trail (and pushing to demolish the railroad) is our State Senator Mike McGuire. He has an office in Ukiah: 200 South School Street, #K. 707-468-8914. You can email him through his website sd02.senate.ca.gov (the "0" is the number, not the letter).

BB Kamoroff, Willits

Support our excellent local theater

To the Editor:

I encourage our community to see an excellent play now being performed at the Willits Community Theatre. Called "Mothers and Sons," directed by Bill Barksdale, the play concerns the loss of one treasured man among so many during the AIDS epidemic.

Of course, the theme predominates of what it meant for the gay community to lose so many young men to a hideous disease – something we can relate to after the recent crush of the Covid pandemic.

But the actors present so much depth, with humor and poignancy, in their performances that they speak to everyone in the audience: The pain of a mother's tragedy, and that of a husband losing his beloved; the love it takes to make our lives anew; and how children – the next generation – can bring hope and joy into our lives as we move through loss.

I recommend everyone support our very own local theater and the wonderful performances available to us right here.

Kim Bancroft, Willits

The Rules: LETTERS

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

Typed letters can be sent to Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490, but email is preferred. Letters and commentaries must be submitted with a name, address and phone number, although only the author's name and city of residence will be published. No letters from an anonymous source will be published, although a request to withhold the writer's name will be considered.



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Proclamation of the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

Recognizing June 2024 as LGBTQ+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, plus)

Pride Month in Mendocino County

WHEREAS, the month of June is recognized globally as Pride Month, a time to celebrate the diversity, strength, and resilience of the LGBTQ+ community; and WHEREAS, Pride Month encourages unity, acceptance, and understanding, and stands as a testament to the progress that has been made, while also acknowledging that the struggle for full equality continues; and

WHEREAS, the Stonewall Uprising of 1969 marked a pivotal moment in the struggle for LGBTQ+ rights in the United States. The events at the Stonewall Inn in New York City galvanized a movement and led to the establishment of annual Pride celebrations around the world; and

WHEREAS, Harvey Milk, born on May 22, 1930, in Woodmere, New York, was a visionary civil and human rights leader; and

WHEREAS, Harvey Milk became one of the first openly gay elected officials in the United States when he won a seat on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1977; and

WHEREAS, his election was a landmark moment in the civil rights movement for the LGBTQ community, providing unprecedented hope and visibility; and

WHEREAS, Harvey Milk served with distinction, advocating for the rights of all marginalized communities and sponsoring a bill banning discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, which was passed with overwhelming support; and

WHEREAS, his life and political career, though tragically cut short by assassination on November 27, 1978, continue to inspire activism and legislation in pursuit of equality and justice for all; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ+ youth in Mendocino County face significant challenges and disparities in mental health due to societal stigma, discrimination, and rejection; and

WHEREAS, research indicates that LGBTQ+ young people are more than four times as likely to attempt suicide than their peers, and the Trevor Project estimating that over 1.8 million LGBTQ+ youth consider suicide each year in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, the intersectionality of identities such as race, gender, and sexuality can compound stressors and increase the risk of suicidal thoughts and behaviors among these individuals; it is imperative that society acknowledges these facts and commits to creating a more inclusive, supportive, and affirming environment for LGBTQ+ youth in Mendocino County. This includes implementing comprehensive suicide prevention programs, promoting mental health education that is inclusive of LGBTQ+ issues, including LGBTQ+ history in the school curriculum, and ensuring access to affirming healthcare and support services. The alarming statistics and the human toll behind them call for urgent action to address the mental health crisis among LGBTQ+ youth and to affirm their right to a future filled with hope and possibility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino, hereby proclaims June, 2024, as: "Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, plus (LGBTQ+) Pride Month in Mendocino County"

Dated, June 4, 2024

/s/ Maureen Mulheren, chair, Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

Report: PG&E to ask for 7 month delay in decommissioning dams

Posted by Friends of the Eel River

June 5 – PG&E announced on Friday, May 31 that it will request a seven-month extension from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in decommissioning the Eel River dams.

Stakeholders were expecting the utility to file its Draft Surrender Application plan with FERC this month, with a final version due in January 2025. PG&E now says it will file the draft plan in January 2025 and the final version in June 2025.

In announcing the delay, PG&E expresses support for the still vague proposal for the New Eel-Russian Facility. This proposal would see a dam-free diversion from the Eel River to the Russian River constructed and managed by the newly formed Eel Russian Joint Powers Authority.

PG&E is working with the proponents of the New Eel-Russian Facility (Sonoma County Water Agency, Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission, Humboldt County, Round Valley Indian Tribes, California Trout, Trout Unlimited, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife) to develop a surrender application MOU "that aligns with PG&E's Surrender Application and Decommissioning Plan."

It would appear that PG&E hopes a short delay now will prevent a longer delay later. We are wary, however, that PG&E appears to be giving ground on their previous position that arrangements for a potential continued diversion will not delay Eel River dam removal. The Eel River's native fish don't have time to spare, and Eel River residents have waited long enough to see the justice that is dam removal.

Learn more at <https://eelriver.org/projects/potter-valley-project/>

Correct contact for Gleaners farm grants

Our letter to the Editor last week included an incorrect phone number. Local farmers are encouraged to call 707-367-7391 or email gratefulgleanersofwillits@gmail.com to send us an application for a farming grant.

– Grateful Gleaners Coordinating Team

47th Summer Arts and Music Fest at Mateel, June 8 and 9

Submitted by Mateel Community Center

The Mateel Community Center is so proud to be able to continue the tradition of our beloved Summer Arts and Music Festival, for the 47th time. This festival had its beginning in 1977 and has followed every year since except for 2020 due to the pandemic. In 2021 we held the festival in and around the Mateel hall, at which we were able to re-create a festival vibe in a smaller and more intimate setting.

This year, on Saturday, June 8 and Sunday, June 9, we are creating that intimate atmosphere again, and holding the 47th Annual Summer Arts and Music Festival at the Mateel Community Center hall. This allows us to continue to celebrate together at a much lower cost to the community center.

There will be 30+ handcrafted artisan booths to showcase the talent that our community has to offer. There will also be amazing food offerings, local beer and wine, and of course an array of great local music will be presented on two stages!

As always this will be a very family-friendly event and kids 12 and under are free (must be accompanied by a parent and/or legal guardian). This smaller setting also allows us to lower admission fees, making it accessible to more members of our community. Please refer to our website www.summerartsandmusicfestival.com for discounted advance ticketing, and more information.

Sustainability is the key for this year as we make plans and look forward to returning to an outside format at another local venue, and a setting that makes the most sense for us financially and otherwise. We have some very good options on the table that will be discussed for 2025 as we move forward throughout the year.

The public Mateel board meetings are held every third Wednesday of the month starting at 6pm at the Mateel Community Center at 59 Rusk Lane in Redway. Anyone may come and speak during the public comment period. You can also email us at board@mateel.org.

We love our community and home and we look forward to celebrating our unique culture at the Mateel Community Center on June 8 and 9!

Tickets: www.summerartsandmusicfestival.com.



At top, from left: This contestant in the Mutton Busting competition, like the others, didn't last more than a couple of seconds trying to ride the lamb. The Willits 4H raises money by selling soda and water. Kaydance Lopez is one of the flag bearers for the grand entry as well as a competitor in several of the contests. At left: The crew serves several hundred hungry people efficiently, with the line moving like clockwork. Above, left: In the mystery scramble event, the kids get to take home either chickens or ducks, if they can catch them. Above, right: Bo "probably might be a cowboy" when he grows up.

Photos by Mathew Caine

Old Friends

Annual Horsemen's Barbecue and Play Day serves up comfort food and traditional rodeo competitions

"Willits Horsemen's Barbecue is the place where you can come if you've lived in Willits for a long time, and you get to see all the people you've known for years and years, and you haven't seen them since last year," said Bobbie Yokum.

Mathew Caine Over 100 people joined old friends at the barbecue to sit in the cool breeze and talk about old times, the state of ranching, and just catch up with those friends they haven't seen since last year.

A lot happens in a year, so there was much to discuss as they enjoyed a traditional meal of tri tip and ribs with salad, rolls, and a special bean recipe that has been handed down through the years, along with the double-walled bean pot.

Traditions offer comfort and a sense of consistency, and they were much in evidence at the annual Willits Horsemen's Barbecue and Play Day. From the secret ranch salad dressing, to the piles of tasty meats, to the aforementioned beans, to the rodeo play day, everything had been done before but seems somehow fresh each year.

"My family does the beans and the Cowboy Margaritas, which have beer and tequila and a few extra ingredients [Sprite and limeade]," explained Jen Drew. "We came down early this morning, at about 6 to start the beans. We slow cook them in that double-walled bean pot that's been here for a million years, so we go and get it every year to keep the tradition going."

During the barbecue and after, attendees were invited to participate in a raffle, to win such prizes as gift certificates, meat from Eastside Ranch, bags of animal bedding from Mendocino Farms, and 25 pounds of ground beef from John Ford Ranch. There was a separate raffle for a beautifully constructed wagon-wheel bench. In addition, people could buy chances to guess the weight of a bull and split the receipts. The winner received \$100 by guessing within a couple pounds of the bull's 1640-pound weight.

After the meal, many of the attendees made their way over to the rodeo grounds for the Play Day portion of the afternoon. Announcer Peter Bauer kept the event going with his introductions. First came the opening procession, with competitors and officials on horseback, carrying the flags of California, the U.S., and the Horsemen's Association. As they lined up, the two Frontier Days Sweetheart candidates, Catie Spackman and Elena Arkelian, rode the circumference and saluted the crowd as they set up for the National Anthem.

Read the rest of **Horsemen** | Over on page 15

At top, left: The park is named after several generations of Yokums. At top, right: The crew starts cooking the tri tip and ribs very early in the morning. Above: Emerald Mueller takes first place in the Barrel Race, which requires skill, maneuverability and balance. Below, from left: The two Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart candidates, Elena Arkelian and Catie Spackman, attend the Horsemen's Barbecue and Play Day. The kids have a blast in the Stick Horse race. Raylene Sizemore uses her skills and speed to win the Breakaway Roping event.



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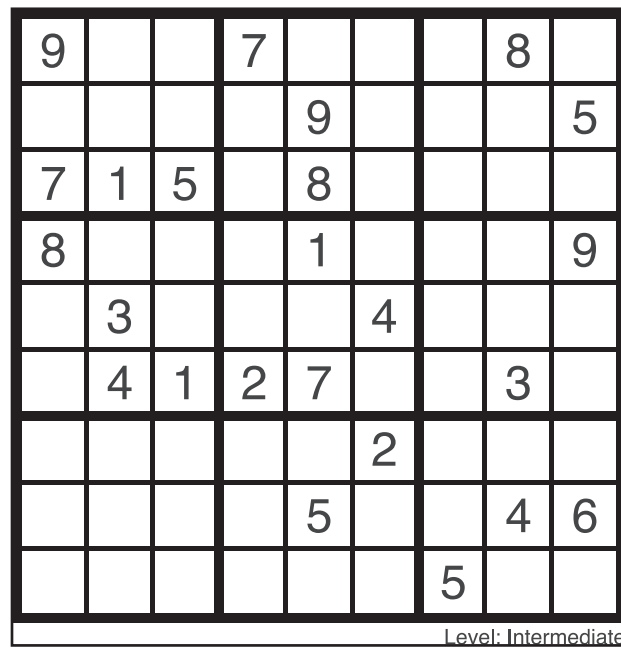
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Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword



Level: Intermediate



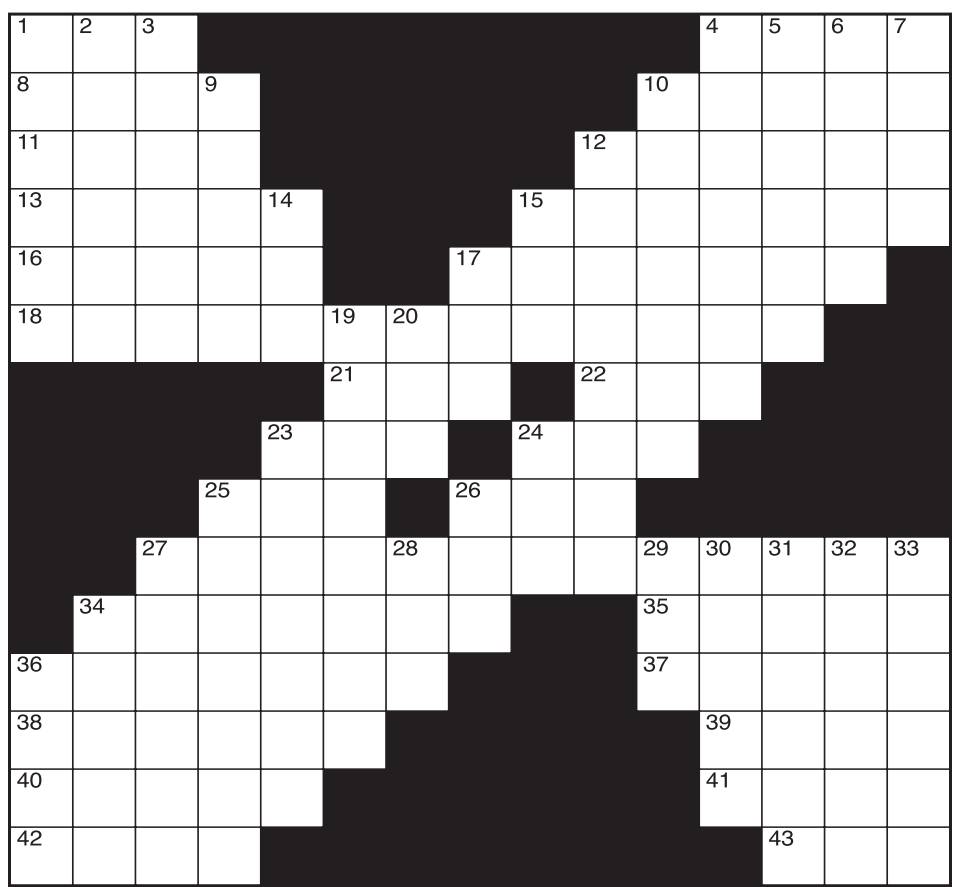
HOW TO SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

MAKE THE GRADE WORD SEARCH

G E P B K P M T H S B B E Y N R I W X J
M K C I B N W O T Y Y Q Y C T I E W E X P
I R F B E W B L Z L F B R Y A P H O X Z
Y O T L A E E L W T S X A E C T O T E K T
Y W D O M A A P L S J B I H E R N Y P O
F E Y L B F O N G E A S L G R T M B R Y
L M R U A V B N C Q D O U Z I U Q O J E
X O S I L G I T F H H G D P A Q S C D Q Q
N H L E X N O Z J X C R E U P S P U D G
L D M T R R R Y W Z S Q F X E L C D D X
M O Q A Y Y A O L M K T I F M A I E M E
G A E U Z B N M R S Z S O V T S A E W E
Q L L D V I K E L S K R B I I J L L W E
S N N A H S I M B A P W O X E T A G B C
P L C R Z E N O R P D N Y S C H O O L P
F S A G F D G R E S R U O C G Z N D O X
T F D O G A H I C L A S S R O O M R F N
I R X M G R P Z P A T S S R G J G X S X
I N I Y V G F E A Z Y V E G A R E V A F
L R Z T N R E M E M B E R M A X E Z X B

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| AVERAGE | GRADUATE | RANKING |
| CLASSROOM | HOMEWORK | REMEMBER |
| COURSE | KNOWLEDGE | REPORT |
| EDUCATION | LEARNING | RETAIN |
| EXAM | MEMORIZE | SCHOOL |
| FAIL | PASS | SUPPLIES |
| GOALS | PROFESSOR | SYLLABUS |
| GRADES | QUIZ | TRAJECTORY |



CLUES ACROSS

- Baby's dining accessory
- Something free
- Ancient Egyptian deity
- Set-like mathematical categories
- Top-quality
- Expansive
- Seizure
- People with congenital absence of pigment
- Gains
- Mocked online
- Clint's son
- Body part
- Humor
- Code number
- Your physique
- Family of regulator genes
- LA football player (abbr.)
- 'The Blonde Bombshell'

CLUES DOWN

- Nestlings
- Induces vomiting
- A place to eat
- Partner in the air
- Offered one's take
- Nobel-winning French biologist
- Farm animals
- Prevent from growing
- Sensationalist

- periodical
- Soft-bodied beetle
- Very fast airplane
- Imaginative creation
- Recipe measurement (abbr.)
- Evoked a response
- French river
- Shiny yellow minerals
- Make illegal
- U.S. military branch
- River in France and Belgium
- A woman of refinement
- Male child
- Type of medication
- German city
- Animal disease
- Mediterranean dietary staple
- Sneak out
- Radioactivity unit
- Performs on stage

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE LOG

May 20 to May 26

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled **64 incidents** in this 7-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

May 20

6:42 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of Holly Street and issued a citation.

7:57 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Central Street and East Oak Street and issued a citation.

8:12 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of North Lenore Avenue and East Commercial Street and issued a citation.

May 21

8:42 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 300 block of East Commercial Street and issued a citation.

9:16 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1500 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

May 22

11:09 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 300 block of North Main Street.

12:02 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Pearl Street and South Humboldt Street and issued a warning.

1:46 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 300 block of North Main Street and issued a warning.

1:53 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 24000 block of North Main Street and issued a citation.

2:14 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 24000 block of North Main Street and issued a citation.

3:09 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1600 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

3:53 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

8:48 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1400 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

8:53 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1500 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

8:58 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1400 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

May 23

8:42 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of Kawi Place and issued a warning.

8:53 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

May 24

2:10 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 800 block of South Main Street.

10:29 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of North Lenore Avenue.

11:49 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of Elm Lane.

12:03 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and East San Francisco Avenue and issued a citation.

5:46 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

6:28 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of California Street and South Main Street and issued a warning.

6:50 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

7:25 pm: JOHNSON, David Duane (57) of Covelo was contacted in the 1500 block of South Main Street following a report of an unwanted subject. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of interfering with business, public intoxication, drinking alcoholic beverages in public, and disorderly conduct (drugs and alcohol).

10:10 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1200 block of South Main Street.

May 25

2:33 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Alder Court.

10:28 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Alder Court.

May 26

7:40 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 700 block of South Main Street.

9:18 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

Food distribution has moved to Blosser Lane

Your Redwood Empire Food Bank food distribution at Laughlin Fields was permanently closed as of June 1. Please join our partners at Mendocino Food & Nutrition on Thursday, June 6 and Thursday, June 20 at 1250 Blosser Lane from 12 to 1 pm.

Food Pop Ups will continue every first and third Thursdays, from 12 to 1 pm. More info: www.fortbraggfoodbank.org/find-help or 707-964-9404. Volunteer Signup: outreach@foodbank.org.

Senior Center menu for the week

Willits Senior Center is serving lunch in its indoor dining room, Monday through Friday, from 11:45 am to 1 pm. Drive-through lunches are available from 12 to 12:45 pm, outside the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Lunches are \$8; \$75 for a 10 lunch card for Senior Center members.

Thursday, June 6: Pepperoni Pizza, Green Salad

Friday, June 7: Italian Sub Sandwich, Pickle, Chips

Monday, June 10: Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Tuesday, June 11: Fish Tacos, Rice & Beans

Wednesday, June 12: Chicken Bacon Wrap, Pickle, Chips

Thursday, June 13: Pulled Pork Sandwich, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw

Friday, June 14: Teriyaki Chicken Stir Fry

Activities: Bingo every Friday night, 5 to 7 pm. Exercise class every weekday morning from 9 to 10 am.

Pancake Breakfast: every second Sunday, on June 9 this month, 8 to 11 am. \$10; \$9 center members; \$6 children

under 8. Menu choices: 1. Pancakes with eggs cooked the way you like them, and choice of sausage or bacon. 2. Biscuits & gravy with eggs cooked the way you like them. \$10; \$9 Senior Center members; \$6 children under 8. Extra meat sides \$2: 3 slices bacon, 2 sausage links. Breakfast includes Peet's Coffee and orange juice or milk.

Meals on Wheels: The Senior Center Meals on Wheels program delivers lunch Monday through Friday. To sign up call Joliana at 459-6826, who can help fill out the application form. Call 459-6826 the day before needed to schedule home meal delivery. Delivered throughout Willits.

Transportation for seniors: Call 459-5556 to schedule. Pick up and drop off for grocery shopping, banking, doctors' appointments. Senior Center Thrift Shop: 459-2176

The Senior Center is in need of volunteers to help with the many activities here at the center, including volunteer Meals on Wheels drivers. "Volunteers are one-third of our workforce, which allows us to offer many services to our members and community." To learn more about volunteering: 459-6826.

Have something to say?

Residents of Willits, Brooktrails, Laytonville and Covelo are welcome to send in a letter to the editor. Please email us: willitsweekly@gmail.com



From far left: Aurelie Clivas brought a bunch of Hula Hoops for kids of all ages to play with. Fur babies and humans listen to the concert together. These kids were reluctant to get on the dance floor but once they started, no one could get them off. Below, left: People brought lawn chairs and blankets to sit on and listen to the music. Below, right: Carmen Day leads her Brazilian dance students accompanied by drumming students.

Photos by Mathew Caine



First Saturday Concert

Dancing, food, vendors, and music at Rec Grove Park event put on by Cosmic Pickle Productions and Willits Lions Club

There was so much to do and see and hear at the First Saturday Concert. Recreation Grove Park was filled with sound, vendors of esoteric crystals, bric-a-bracs, jewelry, plushies, and the aroma of fresh-cooked comestibles.

"We're calling it First Saturday because it's the first Saturday in June," said Da Grand Pooba, promoter of the event.

All that Saturday, beginning at noon, the citizens of Willits showed up with their chairs to sit back and enjoy a pleasant afternoon, listening to the music and delighting in the beautiful day, warm but not too hot. There were plenty of dogs playing and saying hello to the people in attendance, seemingly oblivious to the music.

The concert began with the Farmers Market Band, headed by Richard Jeske, playing the standards from his thick volume of music cheat sheets. Accompanied by a talented cadre of local musicians, the band delighted the attendees with a set of familiar tunes, ranging from Bob Dylan to modern rock.

Prior to the next group, Clay Hawkins, Pooba had a surprise for the attendees. Carmen Day's Brazilian music class, along with a Brazilian drumming class by Julio Cesar Oliveira, created energetic beats and colorful dances in front of the stage. Following the dancing demonstration,

Clay Hawkins, along with his bass accompanist, Andrew Robertson, played some down-home roots music on slide guitar, while Robertson slapped his bass, deftly creating both drum beats and counter point to the guitar.

Up last, the Cosmic Family Band, consisting in this configuration, of several of the Farmers Market Band members, including Jeske, Aleena Adams, and frontman Chris Cichacki, who sang mellow melodies with flowing lyrics.

"Willits has repeatedly asked me to make things happen on the weekends," said Pooba. "I picked this date because it doesn't conflict with anything else happening in town. It's free, but we are asking for donations to benefit the Willits Food Bank. We'll also take canned foods and any non-perishable food items. It's a good organization and we really need to take care of and understand the dignity of people being able to have food to eat.

"We live in a place that can grow a lot of food," Pooba said, "and I'd like to see us doing more of that. We just need to support and work together. The whole purpose of this is to bring organizations together to help the people who need it.

"This has been a labor of

love," said Pooba. "I did this on a shoestring because the city got behind me on this, the Willits Lions Club underwrote the insurance. We don't have a bar here today but that will happen next year. We're just looking for sponsorships now. I was able to pull this together with only about \$400. The bands are working for free. The sound guy, Harry Kaufmann, is working for free."

Virginia Jorge, vice president of the Willits Lions Club and vendor coordinator for the event, told of their plans for the upcoming Blues and Brews Concert and the events for which the Lions Club will be participating: "The proceeds from this event goes to our Willits Food Bank. We're hoping that people will hear the music and come out. We also have applications for any vendors who would like to sign up for the Blues and Brews Concert on August 31.

"The Lions are helping out Pooba, of Cosmic Pickle

Read the rest of Concert | Over on page 15



Above, left: Young Kaya is already a pro at the Hula Hoop.

Above, right: Chris Cichacki of the Cosmic Family Band and the Farmers Market Band plays guitar and mandolin.

At left: Aleena Adams and Richard Jeske of the Farmers Market Band open the concert.

Below: Dan Miller's bed swing is a big hit amongst the kids.

At bottom: Jim Devine acts as security while Kanne of Smokey's BBQ made his sliders.



FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND

June 14, 15 & 16!

ONE GRAND FATHER'S DAY

Win your share of Over \$1000 in prizes!

Starting Sunday, June 14: Win Free Play and Bonus Entries into One Grand Father's Day with Hot Seat Drawings on Friday, Saturday & Sunday. 12 to 6 pm for 25 Free Play and 10 Bonus Entries. Drawing at 6 pm on Sunday.

First prize: Webber Grill

SHERWOOD VALLEY CASINO

WWW.SVRCASINO.COM

Long Valley Health's Dr. Sharon Paltin named an AAFP Fellow

Submitted by Long Valley Health Center

On April 13, 2024, Sharon Paltin, MD, FAAFP, achieved a Degree of Fellow by the California Academy of Family Physicians at a special ceremony in Sacramento. Established in 1971, the AAFP Degree of Fellow recognizes family physicians who have distinguished themselves through service to family medicine and ongoing professional development.

This year's fellowship class brings the total number of AAFP Fellows to more than 17,200 nationwide. AAFP Fellowship entitles the physician to use the honorary designation, "Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians," or "FAAFP."

Fellows of the AAFP are recognized as champions of family medicine. They are the physicians who make family medicine the premier specialty in service to their community and profession. Being a Fellow signifies not only tenure and experience but extensive continuing medical education, additional work in the community, within organized medicine, and within teaching, and a greater commitment to continuing professional development and/or research.

Dr. Paltin has practiced medicine since graduation from St. Louis University School of Medicine in 1988. She is a graduate of the Family Practice Residency in Santa Rosa (at the former Community Hospital) in 1991.

Before medical school, having grown up in Los Angeles, she graduated from UC Berkeley in 1975 in Conservation of Natural Resources. She notes that human medicine follows the same rules of nature as the greater ecological world does and is, in fact, human ecology. She incorporates traditional supports for healing into usual medical practice, as possible, along with up-to-date science-based information.

Dr. Paltin has served the Laytonville community and Long Valley Health Center since 1992 and enjoys living in our community. Her interests include improving Spanish speaking, mosaics, dance, hiking, music, clowning, and street theater.

Congratulations, Dr. Paltin on your honorary Degree of Fellow and your 31 years of commitment and dedication to Long Valley Health Center and our Laytonville community. Hip hooray!



Sharon Paltin, MD, FAAFP of Long Valley Health Center was recognized as a Degree of Fellow by the California Academy of Physicians at a ceremony in Sacramento this spring.

Art historian Gary Martin speaks on Impressionism, June 14

Submitted by WCA

Willits Center for the Arts is delighted to announce an upcoming "Art Talk" lecture on the transformative art movement of Impressionism, to be delivered by art historian Gary Martin, M.A. The event will take place on Friday, June 14, at 6:30 pm at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street, upstairs in the Great Room. This is a free event.

Martin, a distinguished scholar in the field of art history, will provide an in-depth exploration of Impressionism, a movement that revolutionized the art world in the late 19th century. Known for its radical approach to light, color, and brushwork, Impressionism broke away from traditional techniques and subjects, emphasizing the artist's perception and experience.

Martin's lecture will cover the origins and development of the movement, highlighting the works of pioneering artists such as Claude Monet, Edgar

Degas, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, and Mary Cassatt. Attendees will gain insights into the sociopolitical and cultural contexts that influenced these artists, as well as the critical reception of their work during that era.

Martin holds a Master of Art History and Humanities. He has devoted over four decades to the study and teaching of European art movements. His research and publications on Impressionism have been widely recognized and have contributed significantly to contemporary understanding of the movement.

The lecture will be followed by a Q&A session, providing attendees with the opportunity to engage directly with Martin and delve deeper into the nuances of the movement. Refreshments will be served, and wine is available.

For more info about this and other programs, visit willitscenterforthearts.org.



For She's a Jolly Good Fellow!

SHARON PALTIN, MD, FAAFP

DEGREE OF FELLOW
FAMILY MEDICINE CHAMPION

Congratulations Dr. Paltin on your honorary Degree of Fellow and your 31 years of commitment and dedication to Long Valley Health Center and our Laytonville community. Hip hip hooray!

8th Annual
Rural County Photo Contest

Submissions accepted June 1-30, 2024
Enter to win a \$300 gift card

Visit www.rcrcnet.org/photo-contest for Official Rules

RCRC launches 8th annual Rural County Photo Contest

Sacramento –The Rural County Representatives of California is holding its eighth annual Rural County Photo Contest from June 1 through June 30, 2024. The contest invites individuals to submit their photographs capturing life in rural California and showcasing the beautiful scenery, activities, communities, history, and charm of RCRC's 40 member counties.

Photo entries should be sent to photocontest@rcrcnet.org. All entries must be received by 11:59 pm on June 30, 2024,

be the original work of the submitter, and include: Location where the photo was taken, including the county in which it was taken; and Photographer's full name and email address. The grand prize winner will receive a \$300 gift card, and the winning photograph will be unveiled at the September RCRC Board of Directors meeting. The second-place finalist will receive a \$150 gift card, and the third-place finalist will receive a \$75 gift card. Full contest details are available on the RCRC website at www.rcrcnet.org/photo-contest.

Jennifer Poole, Father Herb and brother Herb, 1965

Maureen & Christopher Morn, 1965ish

Father's Day 'Foto Call'

Annual call for photos for upcoming community collage celebrating Father's Day

The day to celebrate our Dads is just around the corner, falling this year on Sunday, June 16. Willits Weekly would like to encourage the community to not only try and track down that no-fail golf tie, or ... erm ... Concho bolero tie in these here parts, but also to submit a photo of you and your dad, or a special father figure in your life, for our upcoming June 13 edition.

Because really, what would be a better Father's Day gift than having your smiling faces published in the hometown newspaper for all to see and have something to be clipped and hung on the fridge for weeks to come?

Photos can be sent to willitsweekly@gmail.com, or, if there's just a physical copy, it can be scanned at Ace Copy and Shipping and then emailed. Please include names of those in the photo, from left to right and or a special message for the holiday. We will try and print as many as we can in our June 13 edition, and look forward to helping create a happy Father's Day for all.

R.A.N.C.H.

"RANCH ART NURTURING CULTURAL HERITAGE"

Please join us!
Opening Reception for Local Artist
MARJO WILSON
and her fellow
ROUND VALLEY R.A.N.C.H. PHOTOGRAPHERS
Susie Rohrbough, Randall Vann, Chelci Barney, Kristi Thieman
Sarah Daniels, Vonnie Daniels, June Marie Drewry

THE GRACE HUDSON MUSEUM

431 South Main Street, Ukiah, CA (First Friday ART WALK UKIAH)

JUNE 7, 2024
5-8pm

Live entertainment by
The MARJO WILSON TRIO
Refreshments provided.
Free admission. All ages welcome.

Ranch Art featured at Grace Hudson Museum, runs June 7-14

Please join us for the opening reception for R.A.N.C.H. – the "Ranch Art Nurturing Cultural Heritage" show at the Grace Hudson Museum, 431 South Main Street in Ukiah. The show features local artist Marjo Wilson and her fellow Round Valley R.A.N.C.H. photographers Susie Rohrbough, Randall Vann, Chelci Barney, Kristi Thieman, Sarah Daniels, Vonnie Daniels, and June Marie Drewry. "Come see the natural beauty of Covelo – paintings and photos of the land and animals, and country life."

The show opens Friday June 7, as part of the First Friday Art Walk in Ukiah, with a reception from 5 to 8 pm, featuring the Marjo Wilson Trio. Refreshments provided. Free admission. All ages welcome. More info about Grace Hudson at www.gracehudsonmuseum.org



City Pool opens June 10

The City of Willits has posted the 2024 City Swimming Pool schedules for this summer, from June 10 to August 17. Willits City Pool is located on the north side of the Willits High School campus at 299 North Main Street.

Monday through Friday, starting Monday, June 10, Lap Swim is 6 am to 12 pm; Swim Lessons are 10 am to 12 pm, and again 4 to 5:30 pm; Public Swim is 12 to 3:30 pm; and Aqua Aerobics is from 5 to 6 pm. Also, Public Swim on Saturdays from 11 am to 4 pm.

\$5 for Public Swim and Lap Swim; \$7 for Aqua Aerobics; see posters for discounts and pass prices. American Red Cross Swim Lessons are one-on-one and tailored to the child's needs. Fee is \$50 per 3-lesson session, with a \$5 sibling discount. Pre-registration required a week prior. Registration for Session 1 will take place at the City Pool, on Saturday, June 8 from 8 to 11 am. Info: City Pool at 707-459-5778.

"We are thrilled to come together with the Willits Unified School District to open and operate the pool as a joint community project and are looking forward to a great season," the City of Willits posted on the city's "Swimming Pool" page, which also has a waiver form, and further information <https://cityofwillits.org/151/Swimming-Pool>.

Above: This quilt by Liz Finn was a double winner at the 2024 Quilty Pleasures show: winning the "My Favorite" and the "Quilt You'd Most Like to Sleep Under" categories.

ESTD. 1993

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CITY OF WILLITS SWIMMING POOL 2024 SCHEDULE

MONDAY- WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY & FRIDAY
6:00AM-12PM LAP SWIM	6AM-12PM LAP SWIM
10AM-12PM SWIM LESSON	10AM-12PM SWIM LESSON
12PM-3:30PM PUBLIC SWIM	12PM - 3:30PM PUBLIC SWIM
4PM-5:30PM SWIM LESSON	4PM-5:30PM SWIM LESSON
5PM-6PM AQUA AEROBICS	5PM-6PM AQUA AEROBICS
SATURDAYS	
11AM-4PM PUBLIC SWIM	

ADMISSION PRICE

PUBLIC SWIM \$5
LAP SWIM \$5
LAP SWIM PASS (20 ENTRIES) \$80
AQUA AEROBICS \$7
SENIOR DISCOUNT \$6
AQUA AEROBICS PASS (20 ENTRIES) \$125
SWIM LESSON \$50
(SIBLING DISCOUNT OF \$5.00 PER SIBLING) (UP TO 4 SWIMMERS)

FOR MORE INFORMATION: (707) 459-5778

2024 'Quilty Pleasures' show featured beautiful color and design

By Jody McGeen, for Long Valley Quilters

The weather was absolutely perfect over Memorial Day weekend for this year's "Quilty Pleasures" quilt show in Laytonville, presented by Long Valley Quilters. There was no sign of the rain, hail, or lightning we experienced at the end of last year's show, so a sign of relief was shared by all. We had a wonderful time visiting with old friends, making new friends, and sharing the beauty of the works of color and design gently swaying in the breeze.

Everyone who attended the show was able to vote for their favorite quilts in set categories, and we congratulate the ribbon winners: "My Favorite" - Liz Finn, "Best Use of Color" - Pat Grisham, "Best Bag" - Deb Kvaka, "Best Home Décor" - Sherry Keys, "Best Wall Hanging" - Katie Coventry, "Quilt You'd Most Like to Sleep Under" - Liz Finn, "Best Quilting" - Kathy McCormick, and "Most Playful" - Elaine Carpenter.

Congratulations also go to the lucky Raffle Basket winners for this year: Dee Pellepen, Liz Finn (twice!), Connie Alders, Beth Hogan (twice!), Kathy Hash, Tina Cresswell, Lynn Schardt (twice!), Judy Owens, and Lani Nagy. Our raffle quilt was won by: Claudia Procktor. Some very lucky winners this year!

Of course we could not have held this event if not for the dedication of our helpers who climbed ladders and lifted heavy rolls of quilts twice a day over the weekend. You are stars in our eyes! Thank you all.

If you would like to join our small group or are curious about what we do, please stop by The Fat Quail quilt shop in Laytonville or call: 707-984-6966 and speak with Debbie Bowles about our group.

Thank you all who attended and supported our scholarship program.

Is a food assistance program. You can be on Social Security, have money in the bank, own cars and still receive CalFresh benefits. Call the Senior Center to schedule an appointment to see if you qualify. 707-459-6826

CITY OF WILLITS SWIM LESSONS

REGISTRATION - FOR SWIM LESSON, SESSION 1, WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE WILLITS POOL, ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:
SATURDAY, JUNE 8TH FROM 6AM-11AM
THE FEE FOR EACH SESSION IS \$50.00 AND THERE IS A SIBLING DISCOUNT OF \$50.00 (UP TO 4 SWIMMER).
SWIM LESSON SESSIONS

-THE CITY OF WILLITS OFFERS A VARIETY OF AMERICAN RED CROSS SWIM LESSONS FOR INDIVIDUALS OF ALL SKILL LEVELS.
-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE DESIGNATED SESSION.
-OPENINGS ARE AVAILABLE ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVE BASIS.
-NO MAKE-UPS & REFUNDS FOR MISSED DAYS
-ALL SWIM LESSON ARE ONE-ON-ONE AND TAILOR TO CHILD'S NEED

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday (3) 30 Minute Lessons		Thursday & Friday (2) 45 Minute Lessons 5 & Over	
Session 1	June 10-12	Session 1	June 13 & 14
Session 2	June 17-19	Session 2	June 20 & 21
Session 3	June 24-26	Session 3	June 27 & 28
Session 4	July 8-10	Session 4	July 11 & 12
Session 5	July 15-17	Session 5	July 18 & 19
Session 6	July 22-24	Session 6	July 25 & 26
Session 7	July 29-31	Session 7	Aug 1 & 2
Session 8	Aug 5-7	Session 8	Aug 8 & 9
Session 9	Aug 12-14	Session 9	Aug 15 & 16

FOR MORE INFORMATION: (707) 459-5778

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Thursday, June 6

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly farmers market is outdoors for the season, Thursday, June 6, at the old Rexall parking lot downtown, 90 South Main Street, 3 to 5:30 pm. Local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Tobin's Tales, story time at the farmers market, from 3:30 to 4 pm, with Library Assistant Tobin Steiskal reading selected juvenile picture books. All are welcome.

Winterlark at Shanachie: San Francisco Bay Area singer-songwriters Kristin Olson, upright bass, and Sweeney E. Schragg, guitar, bring "urban folk musicality that blends literate lyrics; bossa nova and soul rhythms; and the harmonic, melodic, and improvisatory traditions of jazz." Thursday, June 6 at 6 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Friday, June 7

'Mothers and Sons' at WCT: Second weekend for Terrence McNally's famous play of lifestyle and generational conflicts, "Mothers and Sons," at Willits Community Theatre. 7:30 pm on Friday, June 7. Director Bill Barksdale brings the McNally masterpiece of character and insightfulness to life with a select cast of actors. WCT Playhouse, 37 West Van Lane. Tickets are \$20; available online at: www.wctperformingartscenter.org or at the door.

Dezi 5 at Shanachie: A Jah Woods presentation, Dezi 5, an award winning, recording artist and multi-faceted entertainer out of Dallas, Texas, and Latchkey perform for Gay Pride on their Emerald Triangle Tour. Friday, June 7 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Saturday, June 8

Willits Airport Spring Fly-in: Willits EAA Chapter invites the public to the 12th annual Spring Fly-in on Saturday, June 8, at Ellis Field Willits Municipal Airport, 1320 Poppy Drive, from 11 am to 3 pm. The public can see the planes up close and talk to the pilots. Plus a BBQ available from noon to 2 pm with beef and salmon burgers with all the trimmings, cold beverages, chips, and Haagen-Daz ice cream bars for dessert. Info: <http://www.eaa1027.org/>

What's Happening Around Town



Sit-N-Sew: Second Saturdays at the Willits Library, June 8 this month, from 1 to 5 pm. Drop in - bring your sewing project and have fun. 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendocinolib.org/ or 459-5908.

Andrew Victor at Shanachie: Singer/songwriter with unique folk stylings has shared bills in the U.S. and Europe with Sharon Van Etten, Alela Diane, and Damien Jurado. Saturday, June 8 at 6 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

activities inspired by the permanent gallery exhibits on Wednesdays from 11 am to 3 pm. In June, the theme is: "Back at the Ranch: Remembering Seabiscuit." Wednesday, June 12: "Dress It Up: Create a Custom Bolero Tie." Wednesday, June 19: "Wear it Your Way: Design a Bandana." Wednesday, June 26: "Giddy-Up DIY Stick Horses." 400 East Commercial Street. Program attendance is included with regular Museum admission. Info: www.mendocinocoounty.gov/museum, museum@mendocinocoounty.gov or 707-234-6365.

Thursday, June 13

A Touch of Mendocino: Geodes and Gems: George's Geodes and Gems of Willits visits the library, as part of the "A Touch of Mendocino" series. Thursday, June 13, from 11 am to 12 noon. Owners will discuss the history of their business, and the unique properties of the many gemstones, crystals and minerals in their collection. 390 East Commercial Street. More info: visit www.mendocinolib.org/ or contact the Willits Branch Library at 707-459-5908.

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly farmers market is outdoors for the season, Thursday, June 13, at the old Rexall parking lot downtown, 90 South Main Street, 3 to 5:30 pm. Local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Tobin's Tales, story time at the farmers market, from 3:30 to 4 pm, with Library Assistant Tobin Steiskal reading selected juvenile picture books. All are welcome.

'Mothers and Sons' at WCT: Final weekend for Terrence McNally's famous play of lifestyle and generational conflicts, "Mothers and Sons," at Willits Community Theatre. 7:30 pm on Saturday, June 8. WCT brings the McNally masterpiece of character and insightfulness to life with a select cast of actors. WCT Playhouse, 37 West Van Lane. Tickets are \$20; available online at: www.wctperformingartscenter.org or at the door.

Blind Lead at Shanachie: a high-energy and multi-instrumental duo, Blind Lead's goal is to rock your socks off via rock, punk, blues and funk. Saturday, June 8 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Sunday, June 9

'Mothers and Sons' at WCT: Closing performance for Terrence McNally's famous play of lifestyle and generational conflicts, "Mothers and Sons," at Willits Community Theatre. 2 pm matinee on Sunday, June 9. Director Bill Barksdale brings the McNally masterpiece of character and insightfulness to life with a select cast of actors. WCT Playhouse, 37 West Van Lane. Tickets are \$20; available online at: www.wctperformingartscenter.org or at the door.

Wednesday, June 12

Remembering Seabiscuit at the Museum: This summer, the Mendocino County Museum presents family friendly themed crafts and



Thursday Evenings at the Museum: Mendocino County Museum in Willits revisits permanent gallery exhibits this summer, with new content shared by museum docents and a corresponding art activity on Thursday evenings, from 6 to 8 pm. In June, the exhibit is "Andree Connor - Wonderful Ways to Be." Thursday, June 13, Macrame Key Chains; Thursday, June 20, Design a Temporary Tattoo; Thursday, June 27, Fairy House Travel Edition. 400 East Commercial Street. Program attendance is included with regular Museum admission. Info: www.mendocinocoounty.gov/museum, museum@mendocinocoounty.gov or 707-234-6365.

Friday, June 14

'Impressionism' Art Talk: Art historian Gary Martin gives a free Art Talk on the transformative art movement of Impressionism, highlighting the works of pioneering artists such as Claude Monet, Edgar Degas, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, and Mary Cassatt. Friday, June 14 at 6:30 pm at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street, upstairs in the Great Room. More info: visit willitscenterforthearts.org



Twose at Shanachie: London based duo with violin, piano and two voices plays "feelings-forward-folk-pop with a sense of humour and theatrical energy." Friday, June 14 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Saturday, June 15

Magic at the Library: Ready for some magical math? Join us at the Willits Branch Library when Magician Nathaniel Segal, aka "Magical Nathaniel," performs, Saturday, June 15 from 10 to 11 am, inside the Willits Branch Library meeting room. UC Berkeley math and theater graduate, Magical Nathaniel has cast his arithmetic spells all over California. He designs his own illusions and encourages audience participation."

390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendocinolib.org or 707-459-5908.

Blue Luke at Shanachie: "Blue Luke" Andrews is a prodigy guitarist, born and raised in Dos Rios, Mendocino County: "Imagine a band that takes the soul of the blues, the groove of the funk, the grit of rock & roll and the rich harmonies of jazz to create exactly what you've always wanted to hear." Saturday, June 15 at 8 pm, Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

ONGOING EVENTS

Free Food Pop-Ups: Mendocino Food and Nutrition Program's Food Pop-Up in Willits is now offering two events per month, first and third Thursdays, at 1250 Blosser Lane, from noon to 1 pm, weather permitting. Free food for all! In June these food pop-ups will happen June 6 and June 20. Info: outreach@fbfoodbank.org; 707-964-9404

'In the Field' Exhibit: Mendocino County Museum's latest exhibit, "In the Field: Exploring Botany in Mendocino County," celebrates the study of unique plants that grow in our region, reflecting on the pursuits of Mendocino County botanists from past to present, featuring sketches, illustrations, photographs, and pressed specimens. Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street, is open 11 am to 5 pm, Tuesday through Saturday. More info: visit www.mendocinocoounty.org/museum

Willits Tennis Club: Meets Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 to 11 am at the Willits High School courts. New members welcome. Free. Show up or call 707-484-3385.

Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Group: Meets every week on Mondays, 6 pm, at the Muse in Willits, 30 East San Francisco Street. More info: 707-354-1866.

Willits Drum Circle: Every second and fourth Fridays at 7 pm. At St. Francis of the Redwoods Episcopal Church, Main and Commercial 7pm. Info: Bill Bruneau: 459-3390.

Brown Bag Lunch Program: Sack lunches served at the City Park (or across the street in case of rain) every Saturday from 12 to 2 pm. Come early to be assured a lunch! Provided by various churches and community organizations.

Shuffleboard Sunday at Flying Dog Wood Fired Pizza & Vinyl: "Sign-ups start at 4 pm. Games start at 4:45 pm. \$5 sign-up fee, teams of two, winner takes the pot! We'll have the games on all day. Beer, wine, pizza, we've got everything you need!" Flying Dog Wood Pizza, 65 South Main Street.

Willits Boules Club, Tuesdays and Fridays at 2 pm: The outdoor boules course is located across the street from the Willits Skate Park. Info: tgregory@saber.net or visit Willits Boules Club on Facebook.

Free Kids Karate Classes at Body Works Gym: Sheriff's Youth Activities League offers free classes for kids at the Willits Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street, on Thursday evenings. "We teach Matsubayashi Shorin Ryu Karate, Kenpo Youth/Adult Self Defense, Bully and Abduction Awareness/Defense, and Small Child PreSkills." Little Dragons Small Child "PreSkillz" karate class, 6 to 6:30 pm, ages 3, 4, 5, 6 (7) year-olds. Beginner/intermediate class, 7/8 years and above, 6:35 pm to 8 pm. Intermediate/advanced class, all ages, 8 to 8:45 pm. There is an annual \$20 SAL insurance/registration fee (waivable). More info: call or text Sensei Mike Tobin at 707-354-0565.

Shanachie Pub Ongoing Events

Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street

Saturday Scramble: Every 2nd and 4th Saturday from 3 to 6 pm, hosted by Tyler B. Bring any instrument you can play and sign up to perform a 15-minute set with other local musicians. "Meet new musicians, discover new genres and explore your creativity!"

Bluegrass String Jam: Every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month starting at 3 pm - welcomes all Bluegrass musicians! An official jam for the California Bluegrass Association, "so you never know which members from out of the area may drop in!"

Wednesday Open Mic Night: Shanachie Pub presents its popular Open Mic Night every Wednesday, featuring an eclectic array of local musicians and performers from around the world. Pub opens at 3 pm, and from opening until 7 pm, you can be entered for the lottery. Lottery determines order from which you pick your 20 minute time slot starting at 7:20 pm.

Ongoing Events at the Willits Library

Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendocinolib.org or 459-5908.

Story Time: Tuesday through Friday each week, 10:30 to 11 am. "Start your morning listening to a story. Join us in the children's area of the library."

Penny University Coffee Klatz: Tuesdays, 11 am to noon. We will meet in the Willits Library meeting room to discuss various topics while enjoying a "cup of joe". Topics will range and will be announced ahead of time."

LEGO Club: Tuesdays, now 4 to 6:30 pm. "It is LEGO time at the library. Bring your imagination and start building."

Willits Walk and Talk: Join the Willits Branch Library staff for a 20- to 30-minute walk around the neighborhood. Come enjoy a little bit of exercise as well as some pleasant conversation. All ages are welcome. Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 am; meet at the front entrance to the library, 390 East Commercial

Calming Coloring at the Library: Thursdays, from 5 to 6 pm at the Willits Library. An hour of quiet with coloring pages. Supplies provided. All ages welcome.

Chess for Teens: On Fridays, from 4 to 6:30 pm. Teens, ages 12-18 are invited; all skill levels welcome. Library staff will be there to help beginners and those who want to learn. Light refreshments provided.

Senior Dance Hall: Fridays from 2 to 3 pm. Seniors ages 55 and older are invited to bring your dancing shoes to enjoy jazz, pop, swing, and ballroom selections. Don't feel like dancing? Please come and enjoy the music, catch up with friends new and old, and share some light refreshments.

Tech Help: Now every Saturday from 11 am to 12 pm: Is your computer on the fritz? Want to install a new app? Bring your tech questions and get help from the library's tech savvy volunteer

Spinning & Knitting: Every Saturday at the library, from 1 to 4:30 pm. *All skill levels welcome!

ATW Talk on Treatment for Opioid Users

June 19

Avenues to Wellness presents: "Adventist Health's Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Users" on Wednesday June 19, 6 to 7:30 pm. Willits United Methodist Church, 286 School Street. "Presenters will be providers of MAT services as well as clients who have overcome addiction through MAT. Discover the range of services offered and have your questions answered by an expert panel." Free; donations appreciated. Wheelchair accessible. Avenues to Wellness is a wellness program of the Frank R. Howard Foundation. Visit avenuestowellness.org for an online archive of past events. Info: 707-456-9676 or spicetti@howardfoundation.org



Willits American Legion's Beer Wagon Raffle

Tickets go on sale June 12 for the American Legion Post 174's Beer Wagon Raffle. Enter to win an All-Terrain Radio Flyer wagon, loaded with craft beer. Tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25, and proceeds go toward funding the Legion's Boys State and High School Scholarships. Drawing takes place on July 4th. You need not be present to win. To buy tickets, contact a Post 174 Legionnaire, or mail remittance to American Legion Post 174, PO Box 836, Willits 95490 to receive tickets by return mail. Must be 21+; please drink responsibly! For further assistance: Roger at 707-456-9858, or Curtis at 707-513-7561

Harmony Keepers at Brickhouse

June 19

Duo Kate Black and Anita Blu perform at Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South Main Street, Wednesday, June 19, from 12 to 2 pm, and on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. Beautiful vocal harmonies, with guitar and keyboard, and some songs with dulcimer or ukulele. Music from Joni Mitchell, Carole King, James Taylor, Phoebe Snow, Laura Nyro, Leonard Cohen and more. New CD "Tribute to Joni Mitchell" on sale, as well as CD of songs from the '70s.

Willits Youth Soccer registration countdown

It's that time of year to get those soccer registrations in. Willits Youth Soccer is about to kick off summer soccer on June 10. It's a 5 week non-competitive program for only \$50 for children ages 4 to 14 years old. We meet Monday and Wednesday nights at the main field on Commercial Street at 6 pm.

Willits' #1 local soccer volunteer non-profit program with nearly 300 kids will kick off August 1. That's only 8 weeks away! Fall soccer runs through October to November depending upon age. We serve children age 3 to 19 years old, with local recreational programs and with competitive travel teams in the upper division. Registration closes at the end of June so we can form teams and ensure we have sufficient equipment, uniforms, and coaches, and to work on schedules.

Don't wait until the last minute to get that registration in. We don't want to tell you that you're too late. Go to www.willitsyouthsoccer.net

- Posted by Willits Youth Soccer

THIS WEEKEND!

Willits Mini Storage Giant Yard Sale

Bring a wagon to carry all the treasure you will find! Multiple units participating.

261 Franklin Ave.

Senior Center will be doing hot dogs & soda.

June 8, 2024 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS Raffle

Specialty Chicken Coop

Handcrafted and Donated by Windsor Mill.

Drawing on July 4th! \$5 Per Ticket!

CCPRA Rodeo

Need not be present to win!

All proceeds from this raffle will be donated to the Willits 4H Club! Ask a Willits 4H member for tickets!

MARJO WILSON TRIO

ART WALK, UKIAH Grace Hudson Museum RANCH COLLECTIVE ART SHOW June 7th - 5:30 pm - Free Show

DEMOCRACY! HOW SWEET IT IS!

Mendocino County Democrat of the Year: Honoring Jim Mastin

Sunday, June 23 3-6 pm

At a beautiful venue overlooking Lake Mendocino - address provided with tickets

Featuring speakers honoring Jim Mastin

Live Music by Barney McClure & Roseanne Wetzel

Wine and chocolate pairings

Tickets \$50 For adults and Memory Cards \$25

Mendocino County Democratic Party, P.O. Box 28, Ukiah, CA 95422

MENDOCINO COUNTY MUSEUM

SUMMER HOURS STARTING JUNE 10, 2024

11 A.M. - 5 P.M. WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY

SUNDAY - 12 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

THURSDAY - EXTENDED HOURS 5 P.M. - 8 P.M.

CLOSED MONDAY-TUESDAY

Adventist Health's Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Users

Wed. June 19, 6-7:30pm

This talk is a community panel format to discuss Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for opioid and other drug users. Presenters will be providers of MAT services as well as clients who have overcome addiction through MAT. Discover the range of services offered and have your questions answered by our expert panel.

Dr. Michael Young, DO is the Director for the Medication Assisted Treatment Program (MAT). He makes effective medical decisions that are used in the treatment of opioid and other addictions. Marcia Bonnette is a Substance Use Disorder Counselor who brings 22 years of various skills and expertise to the MAT program. Austin Peterson is a Substance Use Navigator for Adventist Health. He provides intervention and harm reduction services including referrals from the hospital system into Substance Use Disorder treatment. Emily Hauser, is a Physician Assistant who is in an Addiction Medicine Fellowship. She is eager to share her knowledge on the process of recovery. Included on our panel are Joey, Chris and Clancy, MAT clients, who have overcome addiction.

Engage with Community Voices on MAT

Explore Opioid Treatment Options, Including Successes

Clear up Misconceptions about Suboxone

Participate and bring questions for our panelists

Willits Methodist Church 286 School Street

FREE to the public. Donations appreciated. Wheelchair accessible.

NOYO THEATRE Willits, CA

57 East Commercial Street - Willits 707-459-6660 www.noyotheatre.com

Next Week: Inside Out 2

Movie Times for June 7 thru June 13

(R) 1 hr 50 mins

Fri.: 5:00 & 7:30pm

Sat.: 2:30, 5:00 & 7:30pm

Sun.: 1:30, 4:00 & 6:30pm

Mon.-Thurs.: 4:00 & 6:30pm

WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS HOMETOWN CELEBRATION

FRIDAY, JUNE 21ST 5PM - 9PM

LIVE MUSIC BY Palmer Anthony

AERIAL SILKS CLIMBING WALL MECHANICAL BULL BOUNCE HOUSE

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A free community event, kicking off the Frontier Days tradition!

MAIN STREET, WILLITS wfd.hometowncelebration@gmail.com

IF (Imaginary Friends)

(PG) 1 hr 44 mins

Fri.: 4:45 & 7:15pm

Sat.: 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15

Sun.: 1:15, 3:45 & 6:15pm

Mon.-Thurs.: 3:45 & 6:15pm

FURIOSA: A Mad Max Saga

(R) 2 hrs 28 mins

Fri./Sat.: 4:30 & 7:45pm

Sun.-Thurs.: 3:30 & 6:45pm

OVER 21 CLUB - Luxury Recliners

SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

Agape Bible Church

290 S. Lenore Ave. Willits, CA 95490

Where love is first and the Bible is central.

Sunday Services: 10:00 a.m. - Worship Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Info? 707-459-1905 www.agapebiblechurch.com

Amazing Grace Assembly of God Church

803 Coast Street P.O. Box 489, Willits

Worship Service - 5:00 p.m. Pastor Kris Strickland EVERYBODY IS WELCOME

Church of Christ

"What must we do to be saved?" Acts 2:37

1095 S. Main St., Willits (next to Super 8) (707) 459-5023

Sunday Bible Study-10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship-11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Service- 6-7:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study- 7-8:00 p.m.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

265 Margie Drive Willits, CA 95490

ALL ARE WELCOME

Sacrament Meeting Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Eckankar: The Path of Spiritual Freedom

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- Spiritual Living Courses
- Spiritual Discussions
- ECK Light & Sound Services

More information? Call 530-224-8703 www.eckankar.org

Grace Community Church

Celebrating Life In Christ 25 Hazel Street, Willits

Modified Worship Service 10 a.m.

Other ministries suspended for now

For appointments call: (707) 459-3106

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church

61 W. San Francisco Ave. Willits, CA 95490

Father Aaron Bandanadann

Mass times: Wednesday-Friday 9:00 a.m. Saturday-5:30 p.m. Sunday-9:00 a.m. - English 10:30 a.m. - Spanish Confessions on Saturday 4:45 - 5:15 p.m.

Or by appointment at 707-459-2252

<https://stanthonywillits.org/> saintanthonywillits@gmail.com

We welcome All Walks of Faith

St. Francis Episcopal Church

1 North Main Street, Willits 707-272-0177

Sunday Service - 10 a.m. In-person and on Zoom Call for information. ALL ARE WELCOME The Rev. Betsy Brunenau

St. John Lutheran Church

Church Service: Sunday 10:00 to 11:00 (707) 459-2988

24 Mill Creek Drive ALL ARE WELCOME

Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church

707-459-5714

Friendly, open worship Saturdays

Bible Study - 9:30 to 11:00

Worship Service - 10:45 a.m. Zoom Transmission Available.

Wednesday Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m. 399 W. Mendocino Ave. All are welcome!

Willits United Methodist Church

Labyrinth and Peace Garden

A place to find comfort where all are welcome

Pastor Rosemary Landry

Sunday Worship at 10:30 am 286 School St. (at Pine) 707-459-2855

xumc.org willitsonline.com www.willitsumc.org

Facebook: facebook/willitsumc

If you want to be included in this column please call:

April Tweddell (707) 972-2475 april@willitsweekly.com



Above: WHS track and field coaches gather for a photo with athlete Nikolas Bloyd after Bloyd received a first-place medal at the CMC league championships: from left, Coach Kristien Keller, Coach Horton, Bloyd, and Coach Matt Moratti.

Photo by Ava Dockins

Community Sports News

Here's a photo of Nikolas Bloyd, who was featured in last week's Willits Weekly story "Community Sports News: WHS track and field crosses the finish line as football begins training." On May 3 Bloyd competed at the CMC league championships at Lower Lake High School. Bloyd fixated on the finish line with strong-willed perseverance and won first in the unified 100-meter dash.

Bloyd was one of two Willits track athletes to qualify for the Meet of Champions 2024 at Dublin High School (top three placers at the Meet of Champions qualifies you for the California State Championships). Bloyd won the 100-meter dash for the unified event (an event where one student with special needs competes against his peers from other schools).

"Nikolas was really excited to compete this year," said Coach Matt Moratti, "and it's awesome to see him have the opportunity to perform with his peers."



Above: An unlikely quartet of characters, from left, played by actors Kathy Vellis, Finn Shipp, Christopher Martineau and Greg Martin, find common ground in "Mothers and Sons" at the Willits Community Theatre.

'Mothers and Sons' at WCT explores love without judgement

By Steve Hellman, for WCT

Love without judgement is not an easy thing to come by, and yet that's what emerges so poignantly in the current production at Willits Community Theatre of the Terrance McNally's gem, "Mothers and Sons."

At the recent opening night performance, the audience experienced the action on the edge of their seats. A mother embittered 20 years after her son's death journeys through raw emotions, tears, and the acrimony and the incredible humor that finally culminate in her catharsis at the play's end.

Kathy Vellis is a natural in her role as the suffering Texas mother Katherine Gerard finally coming to terms with her son Andre's death as a gay man in New York City. Her feelings and words are sparked by a visit to Andre's surviving partner Cal Porter, beautifully and unabashedly portrayed by Christopher Martineau. The two battle head to head in their groping toward an understanding and release.

In the moment when Andre's diary is opened on stage by Cal's current husband, Will Ogden, seamlessly portrayed by Greg Martin, a few telling words read aloud offer the characters for the first time the revelation of what loves means for those who have ever held back.

After the show, audience members Kelly Kesey and Rod Grainger praised the difficult honesty of McNally's portrayal of the parent relationship. Kesey said, "When you have things happen that are traumatic, and you let so much go unsaid for so many years, the pain that builds up, and then the letting go, finding a way through – it's incredible."

Director Bill Barksdale works so closely with his actors, they achieve not only the learning, but also a visceral living inside their roles. The result is a show that touches the audience with an understanding of how humans arrive at their best when they love.

"It was amazing to see how

the grandson started building the bridge between his parents and the grandmother," Grainger said. "His coming in naively and innocently, and just being himself saying, 'I'll take you grandma,' really becomes the moment." Finn Shipp appears in the role of the charmingly gregarious 10-year-old Bud Ogden-Porter

Jody Johnston of Willits summed up the theme simply: "We all have to live life on life's terms. There's no getting around it." The action a touch away at the WCT playhouse with shows at 7:30 pm on June 7 and 8 and a closing matinee at 2 pm on June 9. Tickets are \$20 and available online at: www.wctperformingartscenter.org and at the door.

Below: Kelly Kesey and Rod Grainger praised the difficult honesty of Terrence McNally's "Mothers and Sons" after opening night.

At bottom: Kathy Vellis in her role as an embittered mother seeking solace finds comfort in Finn Shipp's character, her surrogate 10-year-old grandson in "Mothers and Sons."



Photo by Steve Hellman



Photos by Mathew Caine



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LEGAL NOTICES

WW491 Fictitious Business Name Statement

2024-F0251
The following person or persons are doing business as Noyo Theater, 57 East Commercial Street, Willits CA 95490-3101.

Registered owners: James Patrick Devine and Michelle Lynn Hutchins, 1801 Hearst-Willits Road, Willits CA 95490.

This business is conducted by a married couple.

The registrants commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A.

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on May 15, 2024.

/s/ James Patrick Devine
Publication dates: May 23 and 30, June 6 and 13, 2024

WW493 Fictitious Business Name Statement

2024-F0239
The following person or persons are doing business as Ministry of Divine Consciousness, 32 East San Francisco Avenue, Suite C, Willits CA 95490; 707-367-7316.

Registered owner: Tiffany Lynn Woodard, 315 South Main Street, Unit 533, Willits CA 95490.

This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrants commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A.

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on May 3, 2024.

/s/ Tiffany Woodard
Publication dates: June 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2024

WW486 Fictitious Business Name Statement

2024-F0237
The following person or persons are doing business as The Whistle Stop, 280 East Commercial Street, Willits CA 95490; 707-354-2539.

Registered owner: Imagination Station Preschool & Childcare Center, 11 North Marin Street, Willits CA 95490.

This business is conducted by a corporation.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on May 2, 2024.

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on May 2, 2024.

/s/ Saprina Rodriguez, CEO & 100% Owner
Publication dates: May 16, 23, and 30, June 6, 2024

WW489 Fictitious Business Name Statement

2024-F0249
The following person or persons are doing business as Forest Valley Farm, 16750 Walker Lake Road, Willits CA 95490; 707-354-1252.

Registered owners: Evelyn Angelou Fisher and Adrian Christopher Fisher, 16750 Walker Lake Road, Willits CA 95490.

This business is conducted by a married couple.

The registrants commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A.

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on May 13, 2024.

/s/ Evelyn A. Fisher and Adrian Fisher.
Publication dates: May 16, 23, and 30, June 6, 2024



Mendocino County invites applications for:

Auditor/Appraiser
\$68,515 - \$83,283

Corrections Deputy
\$55,369 - \$67,308

Department Analyst I
\$59,904 - \$72,820

Deputy Sheriff-Coroner
\$75,878 - \$93,142

Director Social Services
\$143,083 - \$173,908

Real Property Appraiser I/II
\$59,779 - \$79,664

Real Property Appraiser Technician
\$51,584 - \$62,691

Social Worker Assistant I/II
\$40,976 - \$54,766

Supervising Public Health Nurse
\$110,822 - \$134,721

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

www.mendocinocounty.gov/jobs

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Well-mannered Chuckie

Baby Chuckie was part of our Halloween litter in 2022, his adoption journey didn't go as planned but that's OK, we will try again! Chuckie is ready for his second chance, come see him soon in Kennel 15!



Chuckie is almost 2 years old now and not too big at only 65 pounds. Chuckie is friendly and well-mannered, he's been happy to see familiar faces here at our shelter but a home is what he needs most of all.

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. Feel free to visit us, no appointments needed! We are open Wednesday through Friday, 1 to 5 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 11 am to 3 pm; closed Monday and Tuesday. Check out all of our available dogs and cats on our website: www.mendohumanesociety.com, on our Facebook page, and on www.petfinder.com.

Lively Mitzi

Mitzi is a sweet little cat with your typical calico sassiness. She came in as a pregnant stray but is now spayed and ready to go home!

The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, is open to the public from noon to 5 pm Tuesday through Friday and 10 am to 3 pm (closed for lunch from 1 to 1:30 pm) on Saturdays. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendoanimalshelter.com. Call 707-467-6453 for more information.



Baby Buttercup

Buttercup is a special needs little Chihuahua / Pomeranian mix, with mild mobility and sight impairments. (We have her sibling's DNA results.) She is 15 pounds of love!



Her amazing foster says: "She is super sweet. Child-friendly and dog-friendly; she doesn't bark. She is a smart girl and receptive to training. She loves going for short walks and hanging out with you in your garden or yard. Easy dog to have around the house!"

She is a special girl who deserves an extra-special family that has the patience and time. She is very loving and sweet but need some extra TLC.

To learn more about Buttercup, or to view other adoptable animals, visit www.milofoundation.org or the Milo Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions by appointment only. Please complete a pet-adoption application before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 459-4900.

CLASSIFIEDS

For Rent

2 Bedroom, 2 Bath. Brand New. Close to town and Howard Hospital. Well-appointed kitchens with granite counters and large pantry. Spacious bathrooms. Laminate floors throughout and window coverings. 1200 sq. ft. Air conditioned. \$1800.00/mo. More information call 707-489-1080.

Pearl Street Garage Sale

Pearl Street Garage Sale is back!!!! Tools, plants, antiques, art, etc. Bargains galore! Saturday, June 8, 8 am to 3 pm

RV/Trailer Space for Rent

Space for RV's and Trailers \$425 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 972-4696. See at <http://www.oakvine.net/lp>

Giant Yard Sale

This Saturday, June 8, from 8 am to 2 pm at Willits Mini Storage, 261 Franklin Avenue. Multiple units participating. "Bring a wagon to carry all the treasure you will find!" Senior Center doing hot dogs and rolls.

Weed Eating

Reliable and efficient. Senior discount. Call Mike at (707) 354-5650.

John Ford Ranch Beef

John Ford Ranch still has the 50 lb. Rancher's Choice Box for \$390.00 and the 25 lb. Hamburger Box for \$170.00. Please contact Debbie Arkelian @ 459-5049. (Prices change effective 6/25/23)

Willits Food Bank at new location

Willits Community Services & Food Bank continues to distribute food, pantry staples, hygienic products, and more, to hungry families and individuals in the Willits area, at their new location at 344 Railroad Avenue. Food distribution is available on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 4:30 pm. Info: 459-3333.

30 words for \$15 for 2 weeks

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Write a letter to the editor!

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BEGGIN' FUR BIRDIES



DISC GOLF TOURNAMENT

WHEN: JUNE 29, 2024

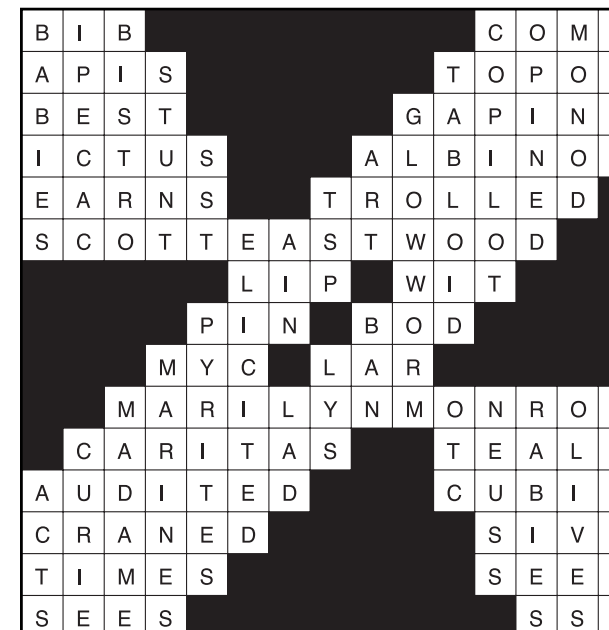
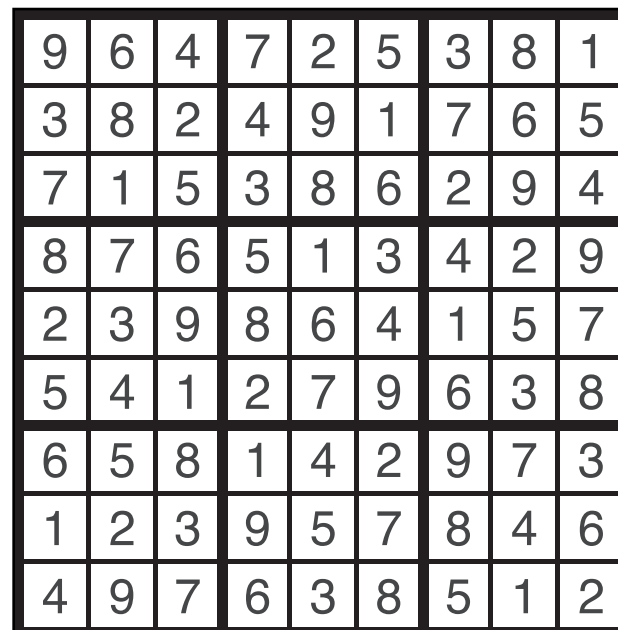
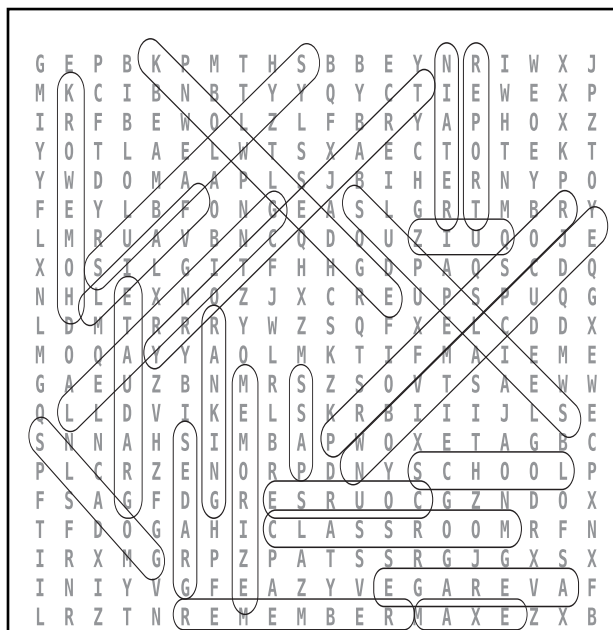
LOCATION: ANDERSON VALLEY BREWING COMPANY

ENTRY FEE: \$45
CHECK-IN: 8:00AM
PLAYERS MEETING: 8:30AM
TEE OFF: 9:00 AM
TWO ROUND-SHOTGUN START

SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER!

*EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MAY 31

IN SUPPORT OF HUMANESOCIETYFORINLAND MENDOCINO COUNTY





Above, left: Blosser Lane Middle School Leadership class students hold the donations they recently collected for the Humane Society of Inland Mendocino County shelter. First row: Camila, Jaci, Aria, Joe, Julian, Alithia, Neveah, and Brooklyn. Second row: Alayna, Saphora, Emily, Itzel, Marlene, Evelyn, Brian, Marcos, and Teresa King. Back row: Mrs. Duran and Petra. Above: The second community project Blosser Lane's Leadership students did this school year was to collect hygiene supplies for the Willits Food Bank. At left: Leadership students at Blosser Lane Middle School pose with some of the socks they collected to donate earlier this year. Back to front, left to right: Champ, Alithia, Julian, Ryker, Finn, Neveah, Piper, Evelyn, Marcos, Brian, Itzel, Marlene, Aria, Maci, Britney, Taylin, and Petra.

Blosser Lane Leadership students donate supplies to Humane Society in latest drive

Karen Patereau's Leadership students at Blosser Lane Middle School put together three different successful fundraising activities during the 2023/24 school year. "These students worked hard this year!" Patereau reports. "First, 494 pairs of socks were donated for students from kindergarten to 12th grades; second, hygiene kits were put together; and finally the students asked for donations to the Humane Society of Inland Mendocino County."

HSMIC said the Blosser students donated "a huge amount of toys, food and supplies to the shelter" on May 29, when HSMIC board member Teresa King visited the school to talk to them about the shelter and how the Humane Society helps the community.

— Jennifer Poole

Blacktail Deer Association announces new initiative for forest and wildlife health

Submitted by Paul Trouette, for MCBA

The Mendocino County Blacktail Deer Association is excited to announce we are launching a new stakeholder initiative, the Forest and Wildlife Health Initiative Agenda 23. The new project has the mission of fostering a collaborative effort between land managers, wildlife managers, non-profit organizations, and other stakeholders to create a balanced agronomic approach to the maintenance of our public lands in northwestern California that restores and maintains healthy forest ecosystems and wildlife populations.

To accomplish this mission, the MCBA is taking a comprehensive balanced view of our public lands and wildlife resources and then launching cooperative projects to tackle specific conservation challenges as they arise. We believe that for far too long non-profit groups and the public have been polarized and not working together to effectively address pressing conservation challenges. We will accomplish our projects through grassroot stakeholder meetings, town halls, securing funding, and building workforces.

Our strategy is to inventory the current conditions of the wildlife and habitat, that is, collect immediate data, in order to directly inform decisions about where to focus conservation efforts, including habitat enhancements and monitoring.

Once areas of need are identified, we will develop strategies and implement collaborative projects based on an ecosystem management approach to tackle the problems. Finally, we will evaluate the outcomes of our projects to measure success and guide refinements moving forward.

We believe that a program that addresses all of these aspects is the best approach and represents the entire public interest.

The Mendocino Blacktail Deer Association was formed in 2008 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit California Public Benefit Corporation with the specific purposes of improving the conditions of black-tailed deer populations and other wildlife through financial support for habitat improvement, education, and research projects. Visit <https://mcbadeer.com/> to learn more.

We are asking for your support on this critical mission to restore and maintain our public lands and wildlife in northwestern California. Together with commitment we can achieve this mission.

For more information on current projects and to get involved please contact Paul Trouette, president, Mendocino County Blacktail Deer Association at 707-489-9663 or mendodeer@yahoo.com.

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At left: Blacktail Deer project members Oscar Ramirez, left, and retired CDFW biologist David Casady work on marking a tree in the project area. Below, left: Project team members, from left, Oscar Ramirez, Project Developer Paul Trouette; retired California Department of Fish & Wildlife biologist David Casady; Edgar Ramirez; and Adam Aldrich. Below, right: Founder of the Blacktail Deer Association Paul Trouette stands with one of the project's cameras designed to collect data about where to focus blacktail deer conservation efforts.

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The rest of Sherwood | From page 1

access routes to get out?" Haschak said.

"So, we've had that problem with being a one way in, one way out community for a long time. This issue has been brought by the Sherwood Fire-Safe Council, by the Brooktrails board, and we're all aware of the situation.

"We had CAL FIRE do some work on the Firco Road in 2020 right before the Oak Fire. That was the saving grace for that fire, because we were able to use that for access into the community – the fire trucks could come in that way, and the two lanes on Sherwood Road were able to be used to evacuate. Sheriff [Matt Kendall] said at the time, that was the most effective and efficient evacuation he had ever seen in his career," Haschak said.

"That's what we're trying to replicate, to make sure that these fire access routes are maintained and kept in a condition so that fire trucks and emergency responders can get into the community quickly to get people out using Sherwood Road.

"That's the reason why we're here now, because we've found a way to make that happen, and it's through this special benefit assessment."

Haschak then introduced Anna Macken, administrative analyst for Economic Development for Mendocino County, who answered the question: Why do we need a "Special Assessment for Emergency Access Routes – Firco Road and Willits Creek Road"?

Macken explained: "These emergency access roads are not county-owned but accessed through easements, and benefit only properties within the local area. 4.3 miles of dirt road need to be maintained, and dedicated funding through an assessment must be raised to maintain them."

The annual assessment amounts that have been determined are, for developed parcels: \$30.88 and for undeveloped parcels: \$1.39. There are 1,617 developed parcels and 4,907 undeveloped.

The repairs include enhanced drainage, installation, repair and maintenance of culverts, roadside fuel clearing, and installation of new gates and turnouts. The assessment also covers costs for ongoing routine maintenance such as vegetation firebreak maintenance, road surfacing, and drainage conduit function for the emergency access routes.

All property owners affected by the special benefit assessment will receive an official voting ballot by mail. Property owners in the assessment area will vote on whether or not to adopt the special benefit assessment. All ballots must be received by the county on or before the July 23 public hearing at the board of supervisors to be counted in the vote – or dropped off during the hearing. Ballots can be returned by mail or dropped in the secured ballot box at the Brooktrails Township CSD Office, at 24860 Birch Street. Detailed voting instructions will be included with the ballot.

The assessment passes if more than 50% of votes returned by property owners are in favor. If approved by those voters, the earliest that the special assessment will appear on the tax rolls is for fiscal year 2024-25. The proposed benefit assessment term is set for 20 years, with a cost-of-living adjustment.

Haschak stepped up and said: "Remember, we got the \$12 million grant to do the second access route, also, to start the environmental study and design. But it could be years before the second access route is built."

Haschak continued, "I want to give a shout-out to Doug Dove, the engineer who is semi-retired, who came out of retirement and met with us three times per week to get this project through." Following this statement, there was a round of applause from the audience.

Before the audience members departed, there were a couple questions posed regarding funding for the project, which were answered by Haschak. There were also supportive statements heard from audience members. All were advised that the detailed project plans could be seen on the Mendocino County website: www.mendocinocounty.gov/business/economic-development/special-benefit-assessment

The board then focused on the Consent Calendar and voted unanimously to approve the Accounts Payable in the amount of \$65,440.50.

Finally, the board heard agenda item "Consideration of Amended Agreement for Legal Services (with Neary and O'Brien, Attorneys at Law." Christopher J. Neary, attorney, has represented the Brooktrails Township district since 1976. "His familiarity with district matters and consistent service to the community of Brooktrails is unparalleled," the agenda report by Manager Tamara Alaniz stated. "His partner, Jennifer O'Brien, has become a valuable resource to the district and regularly provides backup support to Neary on district matters. The district has been operating under the current retainer since 1997. The proposed amendment increases the monthly retainer by 10%, which has been anticipated in the upcoming Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget. Lastly, it updates the extended services cost per hour to \$250."

The board voted unanimously, approving the amended agreement with Neary and O'Brien.

Adventist Health Howard Memorial recognized for excellence in opioid care

Submitted by AHHM

May 31, 2024 – Adventist Health Howard Memorial is pleased to be one of only 45 participating hospitals in California to have achieved the highest recognition with superior performance and to be deemed part of the "Opioid Honor Roll" produced by Cal Hospital Compare for excellence in opioid care.

Cal Hospital Compare releases hospital honor rolls annually to accelerate hospital progress, recognize and celebrate hospital performance, and to support patients and families in choosing hospitals that best fit their healthcare needs.

Every day, more thousands of people in the United States die after overdosing on opioids. The misuse of and addiction to opioids – including prescription pain relievers, heroin, synthetic opioids such as fentanyl – is a serious national crisis.

"It's an honor to be recognized for the excellent patient care we strive to deliver to our community every day," said Linda Givens, administrator for Adventist Health Howard Memorial. "We're incredibly proud of our dedicated substance-use navigation team, counselors and physicians supporting this work. This achievement and the continued work to provide quality care to Willits and our surrounding neighbors through medicated assisted treatment is so important. We're very fortunate to have an outstanding hospital, clinic and staff that provides local care to our community as an invaluable resource for opioid care."

The Opioid Care Honor Roll supports the continued efforts of California hospitals addressing the opioid epidemic and accelerates hospital progress to reduce opioid-related deaths.

Adventist Health is a faith-based, nonprofit, integrated health system serving more than 100 communities on the West Coast and Hawaii with over 440 sites of care, including 28 acute care facilities. Founded on Adventist heritage and values, our compassionate the talented team of more than 38,000 provides care in hospitals, clinics, home care, and hospice agencies in both rural and urban communities. Together, we are transforming the healthcare experience with an innovative and whole- person focus on physical, mental, spiritual and social healing to support community well-being.

The rest of Deadline | From page 1

Mendocino County, the Civil Grand Jury is making it possible for interested members of the public to participate in a safe environment. The Civil Grand Jury has implemented remote meeting protocols to maximize participation while reducing the demand for travel.

Grand Jurors are compensated \$25 per full panel meeting, \$10 per committee meeting and committee attendance at public meetings. Mileage is reimbursed at the current County of Mendocino rate. There is free onsite parking. Prior to being nominated, each qualifying applicant is interviewed by a Superior Court judge. Training for Grand Jurors will be provided in July 2024, either remotely or in the county offices.

To serve as a Civil Grand Juror, the following requirements must be met:

- United States citizen
 - Resident of Mendocino County for at least one year
 - Sufficiently fluent in written and spoken English.
 - Not currently serving on any other governmental board or commission during the term
 - Not presently holding a public office
 - Not personally active in any campaign of a candidate for elective office
 - Computer skills highly desirable
- Applications and related information are available online at www.mendocino.courts.ca.gov/general-information/court-operations/civil-grand-jury
- The application may also be obtained in person at the Superior Court, 100 North State Street, Room 303, Ukiah or by calling the Grand Jury at (707) 463-4320.

The rest of Charged | From page 1

residence about Cavino's groceries.

As the argument escalated, Cavino removed a pot of boiling water from the kitchen stove and threw it onto the male victim, who was seated nearby. The boiling water caused significant burns to several parts of the male victim's body.

After throwing the boiling water on the male victim, Cavino transported the victim to Adventist Health Howard Memorial Hospital and left the area. Deputies were later able to contact Cavino for a statement regarding this incident. After speaking with Cavino and other witnesses, Cavino was arrested for battery with serious injury (243(d) PC) and was transported to the Mendocino County Jail to be held in lieu of \$30,000 bail.



Raymond Cavino of Willits.

The rest of Hires | From page 1

branch manager in Point Arena. That will be a savings of \$120,000 to the library, and we think that [eliminating the CSA position] is a better way to go. We think we have a very capable and passionate person who will be leader of the library."

In spring 2018, the then-BOS decided to form a Cultural Services Agency, consolidating the Mendocino County Library, the Mendocino County Museum, and county parks.

The move was opposed by library advocates, including the Mendocino County Library Advisory Board. The last CSA director left last year after conflicts with staff.

At this week's BOS meeting, County Librarian Hannum thanked the board for their support and help. "I wanted to voice how much I am looking forward to be able to support the Mendocino County Library in the new role of county librarian, and I wanted to let everyone at Point Arena and around know that I'm also still here at the branch, to support all of your needs and questions as well."

Hannum reported that in her eight months as acting county librarian, she's been "managing the staff and volunteers, including the branch librarians, and I have traveled to all of the different branch locations within the last eight months. I have been very impressed with the locations and my entire team," she said.

Ag commissioner

At that May 22 meeting, the board also contracted Angela Godwin to act as the county's new agriculture commissioner /

WCA seeks volunteers for county Art Talks program

Submitted by WCA

The Willits Center for the Arts is excited to announce Art Talks, a new initiative inviting retired teachers and community members to volunteer as Art History instructors for students in grades K-12.

This program is designed to bring the wonders of art history to young learners, fostering a deep appreciation for cultural and artistic achievements.

To prepare volunteers for this rewarding role, a comprehensive training session will be held on June 28-29. The training will equip participants with the necessary skills to deliver engaging and informative Art History lectures. Each volunteer will receive professional PowerPoint presentations and detailed lesson plans tailored to various age groups and learning levels.

The trainings will be held Friday, June 28 and Saturday, June 29 at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street, from 10 am to 4 pm.

The training sessions will cover essential lecture delivery techniques, effective use of visual aids, and strategies for engaging students. Volunteers will be guided through the process of presenting Art History topics, ensuring they feel confident and prepared to inspire young minds.

"We are thrilled to launch Art Talks and bring art history into our classrooms throughout Mendocino County," said Gary Martin, curator of the Willits Center for the Arts. We have already reached three school districts and a reservation serving 2,000 students. We hope to reach all 12 school districts in Mendocino County.

"This program offers a unique opportunity for retired educators and community members to share their passion for art and education, enriching the learning experience for our students," Martin said. The program will take up one to three days depending on the size of your school district.

Interested individuals are encouraged to sign up by contacting Martin at (707) 972-3326 or by emailing gmm1950@gmail.com. While prior teaching experience is not required, a passion for art and education is highly valued.

Art Talks represents a wonderful opportunity for volunteers to make a meaningful impact on the lives of young people, while also staying engaged with the community and the arts. We invite all interested parties to join us in this exciting venture to inspire the next generation through the power of art history.

The Willits Center for the Arts is dedicated to promoting artistic expression and cultural enrichment in Northern California. Through various programs and initiatives, the Center strives to engage the community in the arts, providing educational opportunities and fostering a deep appreciation for artistic endeavors.

sealer of weights and measures, for a term from June 22, 2024 through June 2028, at an annual compensation of \$258,516.96.

Godwin was most recently the deputy ag commissioner for Ventura County.

Devon Boer, director of the Mendocino Farm Bureau, said the bureau supported moving forward with Godwin's appointment, and described the new hire as critical to the county's agriculture community. "I want to voice our appreciation to the board for continuing to work on this process, seeking a new commissioner," she said. Recently Mendocino County has been making do with the Sonoma County ag commissioner helping out.

Boer said the Farm Bureau had several projects she hoped a new ag commissioner – and most particularly a sealer of weights and measures – would help with, including the annual Mendocino County Crop Report, which was last published in 2022. "We are dependent on that data," she said.

Godwin then joined the meeting via zoom. "How honored and delighted I am to have this opportunity," she said. "I bring over 20 years of experience in agriculture and in Weights and Measures" [in Southern California]. I am really looking forward to getting caught up with the crop data."

Godwin also talked about being devoted to meeting the ag department's mandates and goals, "working with stakeholders like Farm Bureau, UC extension, all the industry groups.... I promise to be devoted to accomplishing the department goals of protecting California agriculture, and protecting the environment, and the public health, and farmworker safety."

Willits Frontier Days' 2024 Scholarship Recipients



Logan Sanderson
Received \$1,000 and looks to become a welder after graduation



Hazel Cooke
Received \$1,000 and looks to become a nurse after graduation



Brayden Manus
Received \$1,000 and looks to become a heart surgeon after graduation



Congrats | Alana Smith

Alana Smith, on May 3 at her graduation from a nine-month internship through Project Search and Best Buddies. She did three rotations in different departments at Fresno Community Medical Center. Her goal is to get a job in retail which Best Buddies is now helping her to achieve in the next phase of her life.

– Submitted by Mike and Margie Smith



Congrats | Danielle Barry

Danielle Barry, center, stands proudly with parents Marcy, left, and Fred, right, at her graduation from Feather River College in Quincy.

– Submitted by Marcy and Fred Barry



Willits Rotary Club's 2024 Scholarship Recipients

At left: The following graduates all received \$1,000 educational scholarships: Bryden Manus, Mason Rescina, Milagros Patino, Elena Arkelian, Kylie Bozzo, Jacob Grooms, Audrey Sherf, Mariah Rodriguez, Luca Ritchley, Ethan Winter, Catherine Spackman, Maria Tomas Mendoza, Joseph Smith, Kara Wilkes, Diana Chavoya, and Nevaeh Jones. Vocational scholarships were given to Lily Caine who received \$1,000 and \$500 was awarded to each Logan Sanderson, Kady Martin and Jose Mendoza.

Grad Walk

Walking to inspire the future grads

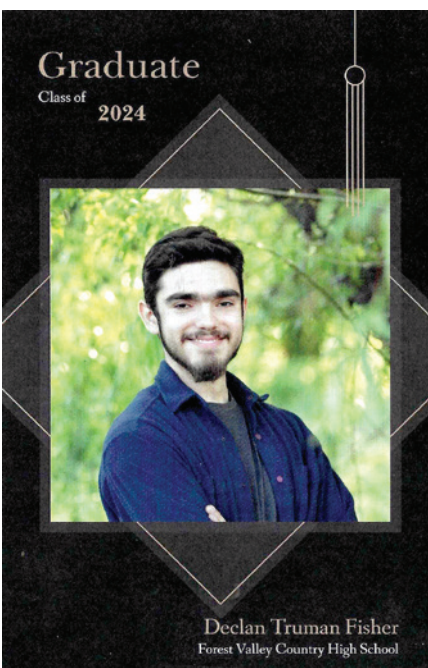
Willits High School seniors and soon-to-be graduates, including from left: Narianny Bertolino, Hazel Cooke, Shyra Greenberg, Charley Lamprich, Elena Arkelian and Haley Kvasnicka, joined other members of their graduating class on a short field trip Wednesday morning to local elementary schools where they walked around the campus in their gowns and sashes to encourage and inspire the young students how hard work pays off, and one day, they, too, will get to graduate.

– Maureen Jennison

See our Graduation 'B' Section for photos of all the 2024 grads!



Photo by Samantha Arkelian



Declan Truman Fisher
Foothill Valley Country High School

Congratulations to the Graduates and Class of 2024 of Mendocino College

Atlanta: Jordan Emory; **Boonville:** Maricarmen Guerrero, David Jackness, Trent Lopez, Rafael Manzo-Damian and Jesus Valdivia; **Bozeman:** Nathan Behr; **Calpella:** Keanu Ordunez; **Citrus Heights:** Carley Mullin; **Clearlake:** Shannan Greene and Madison Rideout; **Cloverdale:** Sonia Ferguson and Alma Garcia; **Cobb:** Nicole Calderon and Melissa Conger; **Colorado Springs:** Brittany Evans; **Comptche:** Mealii Parker-Akau; **Covelo:** Renae Britton-Cano, Kennedy Case, Jessann McLean and Shannon Whitewolf; **Emeryville:** Doniel Johnson; **Eureka:** Amanda Norton; **Fallbrook:** Corina Stampbach; **Fort Bragg:** Maria Bermudez, Elizabeth Brown, Anali Caraballo, Mima Cherras, Tabetha Connell, Heather Currier, Christina Delgado, Lucas Denton, Jackson Deyerle, Ereira Diaz-Pimentel, Alyssa Drake, Avery Epperson, Ana Isabel Flores, Tammie Gilchrist, William Hollett, Gracie Jara, Jordyn Jones, Cheyenne Knight, Jaylynn Lavietta, Eric Lee, Amiah Lopez, Laura Lucier, Naomi Mannonen, Lisa Norman, Karlie Rexrode, Amber Shortridge, Alexandria Smith, Marc Tager, Norma Trejo, Ralene Tuttle, Michelle Vollmer, Lorena Yanez and Alyssa Angley; and **Gridley:** Hannah Norton.

Hopland: Zoe Bigelow, Richard Billy, Sara Brown, Kristina Castorena, Juliana Castro, Margaret Lagorio, Rosa Elena Mendez Fuentes, Yachana Mittal, Mac Morris, Elena Romero, and Brisa Yopez; **Kelseyville:** Christina Acosta, Grace Agustinovich, Ashley Barrett, Avela Carretero, Shantaylah Castner, Jordan Crouch, Taro Davis, Ashley Dicozanzo, Amber Greenwood, Emily Jimenez, Gisselle Lopez Cienega, Jonathan Macnary, Kaylyn McManus, Daniel Meza, Meagan Miller, Angelina Ogo, Veronica Pantaleon, Andrea Perez, Jennifer Perez Lopez, Amy Sant, Patricia Santiago, Yekaterina Sklyarov, Maria Guadalupe Tejada, Jesse Wiles, Myranda Williams and Jason Hanover; **Lakeport:** Kimberly Anderson, Melissa Collins, Diana Cortez, Ashley Dahl, Saul Duran, Laura Falteisek, Keanu Ford, Morgan Fox, Tuesday Gallardo, Nathaly Gomez, Kaylee Horne, Sarah Jansen, Blake Jensen, Brody Jensen, Adriana Landa, Maria Lopez, Alicia Luiz, Enrique Martinez, Cesar Medina, Heidy Mejia Maldonado, Casey Moreno, Michella Murray, Madelyn Paarsch, Dev Patel, Haley Pulawa, Vanessa Reeves, Jazmine Ringer, Jose Rodriguez, Kelsey Rolfe, Hazel Ann Salomon, Gina Shelley, Holly Smith-Martinez, Ximena Soto, Amelia Sparks, Charli Townsend, Ashley Vasquez Higuera, Mikala Welter, Janey Wooten, Antonio Yanez and Kylee Potts.

Laytonville: Ana Maria Almanza, Meagen Hedley, Oliver Hill, Jeff Hughes, Rachael Phillips, and Sarah Vogt; **Lower Lake:** Sarah Tapia; **Lucerne:** Lisa Baker, Nicholas Biane, Carolina Chance, Marco Gonzalez, Narayana Henneberger, John O Bryan, and Megan Vidra; **Mendocino:** Shery Bell, Zenith Hilliard, John Huxsoll, and Aleya Spencer; **Middletown:** Rees Wakefield; **Mission Viejo:** Terrence OHagan; **Munster:** Olivia Truett; **Nice:** Noah De Los Santos and Diego Velasco; **Niceville:** Patrick Sellers; **Ocala:** Aliya Johnson; **Philo:** Norymar Ferreyra, Daniel Garibay, Alan Gonzalez, and Linda Mendoza; **Point Arena:** Katherine Frost; **Potter Valley:** Jessica Alvarez, Nora Bertorelli, Alyssa King, and Samantha Stone; and **Redding:** Jessica Loyola Bautista.

Redwood Valley: Mayra Barajas Jimenez, Erandy Barriga, Shirley Carrillo, Emilie Chairez, Tanya Estrada, Luke Fane, Heather Haendle, Ross Hanes, Sidney Harper, Brian Kajja, Brenda Landeros, Laura Marin, Alma Marin, Jacqueline Matthews, Issac Mosqueda, Amber Nefzger, Anayeli Novoa-Cisneros, Irma Nunez-Cisneros, Maria Ortega, Jacqueline Ortiz Ortega, Melissa Ram, Yobana Ramirez, Heather Robles, Karen Rodriguez, Adrian Villalpando, and Casey Speas; **Reno:** Nevaeh Vance; **Riverside:** Alejandro Ruvalcaba; **Salinas:** Juana Palma; **San Diego:** Michelle Millan; **Santa Rosa:** Sandi Bowen, Marco Donis-Peralta, Luis Fonseca Vasquez, Alicia Lopez Valencia, and Angel Ponce; **Sebastopol:** Maria De Jesus Gutierrez; **Talmage:** Estefania Chavoya, Jesus Lugo, Katherine and Uribe-Fajardo.

Ukiah: Rodolfo Alvarez, Cristina Andrade, Ahmad Artis, Maria Avalos, Rodrigo Ayala, Yessenia Ayala Lopez, Rosa Baleon Colin, Maria Ballesteros, Mariana Ballesteros, Jesus Becerra, Marlene Beltran, Reyna Benites, Juana Bernabe, Bridgette Bjorklund, Rachel Bunter, Nikolas Burns, Mary Therese Calumpang, Aurora Caracoza, Bruce Cartwright, Francisco Castaneda, Jakelin Castaneda, Monica Ceja, Brett Chapman, Naizeth Chavez, Geovanna Chavez, Michelle Chown, Carole Chrysler, Cassidy Clary, Felicia Clayton, Francisco Corona, Maria Cruz, Fabiola Cruz-Hernandez, Adam Curry, Melanie Dahlinghaus, Jessica Dalistan, Kim Davis, Joseph Ditto, Roseleigh Dockins, Vicente Dominguez, Daniel Duenas, Ivan Estrada, Taylor Felton, Christa Fidler, Amaris Florido, Marisela Fuentes, Leyra Fuentes, Heidi Fuetsch, Susana Garcia, Ivan Garcia, Erin Gardiner, Cristobal Gonzalez, Bailey Grothe, Gabriel Grunder, Karla Guerrero, Daniel Guevara, Russell Gussman, Kayla Harrison, Sawyer Hawkyard, Kathleen Hemlock, Eduardo Hernandez, Maria De L Hernandez, Fatima Hernandez, Jorge Hernandez, Leila Hernandez, Veronica Hernandez-Orta, Heidi Herold, Liezel Hilliard, Caroline Hoefer, Brett Hofstetter, Maria Hopkins, Jaclyn Horiguchi, Alyssa Jacinto, Noe Jacinto, Erica Jacinto, Trinity Jarstrom, AJ Johnson, Kylie Johnson, Moira Jordan, Jackson Judd, William Kappelman, Jennifer Kidd-Syfert, Sonia Lau, Maricela Lopez-Reyes, Elizabeth Lu, Veronica Lua, Justin Lucas, Benjamin Macias, Sara Mahan, Felipe Malfavon, Yessenia Manzanares, Sofia Manzo, Brian Martinez, Amy Mattiuzzo, Jami Maxwell, Desiree McCarty, Teresa Mendoza, Heather Metcalf, Isabella Miller, Sara Moreno, Renee Morgan, Rosa Mosqueda, Caleb Mucho, Antonio Navarro, Kaitlin Nelson, Sayla Norbury, Kaitlyn Nordyke, Giselle Noriega, Vanessa Nowlin, Andrew Nunez, Viviana Nunez Molina, Chris O'Bergin, Edgar Ortiz, Stefania Ortiz Ortega, Ivonne Pantaleon Patino, Madeleine Parducci, Dakota Perez Gonzalez, Natalie Perry, Iris Picton, Marian Pohl, Mindy Pratt, Jace Pullins, Rosa Ramirez, Julian Ramirez, Casey Ramsey, Laricel Raneses, Alma Raya, Julayne Ringstrom, Rosalie Rojas, Janet Rosen, Erik Salcedo, Marissa Sanchez, Hugo Sanchez-Garcia, Ma. Luisa Santoyo-Cisneros, Roxanne Scaroni, Lisa Secora, Helen Sizemore, Sarah St-Hill, Amy Sturges, Maria Tellez, Marisol Tielo Perez, Gwendolen Van Wyk, Lucia Vazquez Herrera, Jisell Velasquez Solano, Isabella Vidor, Lyle Vincent, Allison Waddington, Seth Woldemar, Jennifer Zamarron, Giancarlo Zazueta, Marisol Barragan Maciel, and Omar Valadez.

Upper Lake: Christopher Decker, Jasmine Diggs, Tanya Noble and Karlee Zimmerschied; **Waterville:** Theresa Anderson; **Weaverville:** Ashley Luper; **Willits:** Meghan Andrews, Brittney Bahm, Cierra Bakewell, Suzanne Beers, Dustelle Brooks, Taylor Brown, Kaiden Butler, Alexis Camp, Chenoa Cantua, Stephan Coria, Walter Cornell, Leslie Cornell, Cecilia Cramer, Danielle Derby, Jose Diaz, Dusty Duley, Bryce Ferrante, Ginger Franklin, Audrey Franssen, Randy Gonzalez, Rainier Hurley, Capri Jacobs, Taylor Kelly, Mason Kelly, Savannah Laughlin, Carlos Leon, Chrystalyn Lundgren, Alejandra Martinez Garcia, Fabian Mendoza, Jasmine Norris, Amarah Potter, Hazel Ramirez, Miranda Ross, Jose Saldona, Johnathan Sanbeck, Leticia Sanchez, Sakora Scott, Heather Thompson, Michael Throckmorton, Jennifer Tovar, Brittany Tyrrell, Larissa Unangst and Allison Wild; **Windsor:** Kaitlyn Birrell, Jennifer Cabrera, Peter Hernandez, Rachelle Lyles, and Tessara Tatrai; **Witter Springs:** Dominic Gross; **Yorba Linda:** Andrew Salladin and **Yuba City:** Inderveer Dosanjh.

Congratulations!

2024 Ventura Perez Merit Award Winners

Each year Willits Sober Grad gives Ventura Perez Merit Awards to the graduating seniors who have invested the most time throughout the school year fundraising and promoting the mission of Sober Grad. These awards are made possible through a generous bequest from the Estate of Ventura Perez, a 1939 graduate of Willits High School.

On behalf of the Willits Sober Grad Board of Directors, we would like to thank you for all you have done to make the Class of 2024 Sober Grad Party possible.

Elena Arkelian	Milagros Patino Martinez
Narianny Bertolino	Mason Rescina
Hazel Cooke	Mariah Rodriguez
Jacob Grooms	Audrey Sherf
Haley Kvasnicka	Hunter Southwick
Charley Lamprich	Maria Tomas Mendoza
Kady Martin	Kara Wilkes
Aidyn McFadden	Kamryn Wilkes
Jose Mendoza	Isabel Young

WILLITS TEACHERS ASSOCIATION IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THE 2024 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!

Scholarships are awarded to dependents of union members.

Elena Arkelian - Willits HS
Joshua Coletti - Ukiah HS
Mitchell Coughlin - Ukiah HS
Jacob Grooms - Willits HS
Ani McKay - Ukiah HS
Mason Rescina - Willits HS
Luka Ritchley - Willits HS



Andrew Horsford is hard at work, cooking the tri tip and ribs, early in the day.
Photo by Jeff Yokum

The rest of Horsemen | From page 3

Some of the events were serious, but many were frivolous and just plain fun. The first bit of whimsy was an event called Mutton Busting, for kids less than 50 pounds. They rode lambs, or rather, tried to ride, holding on backward and falling off within the first two seconds. The first and second-place winners were Macy Lawrence and Rhett Campbell.

The next event, Breakaway Roping, was more serious. The riders would chase a steer out of the chute and try to rope it on the run to varying degrees of success. The winners were Raylene Sizemore and Maddie West.

Team Roping was an exciting and precise exercise where both of two riders had to chase the steer and rope it in the fastest time. This was won by two brothers who had been working together since a young age, Fred and Walt Niesen. Second place was won by Damon and Walt Niesen, securing a sweep by the Niesen family.

Steer Daubing consisted of chasing a steer and marking it with a long wand to apply a paint daub to its flanks. The event was fast, as most participants wasted no time in reaching out and touching the steer. Lisa Arkelian took first place, with Ignacio Valenzuela in second.

Next up was the traditional Barrel Racing with contestants racing around three barrels and back to the start. This was won by Emerald Mueller and Alexandra Hundley. Steer Stopping's winners were Fred Niesen and Blair Beeson.

Pole Bending was an event where agility and timing are needed as the horse and rider weave between a set of poles in the fastest time without knocking the poles over. Alexandra Hundley took first with Tessa Simpson in second. Goat Tying was won by Emerald Mueller and Tessa Simpson.

A couple of the events were just for kids, to the amusement of the crowd. Boot Scootin' Boogie consisted of a crowd of kids, who had their shoes and boots scattered in the arena. They had to run, find their footwear, put them on, and race back to the start. The Play Day ended with the Animal Scramble where the kids ran to catch chickens or ducks to take home.

In the end, the Senior All Around Cowboy was Fred Niesen and the Senior All Around Cowgirl was Raylene Sizemore. The Junior All Around Cowboy was Ignacio Valenzuela and the Junior All Around Cowgirl was Alexandra Hundley.

It was a fun day for all ages, and it should be an event to look forward to for many years, as the organization has a good portion of young members. "I've noticed that this is one of the few long-running groups where at least half of the people in the group are younger. It isn't just all old-timers. There's a whole up-and-coming group. The club should be sustainable for quite some time," according to member Kathy Decker.

EXPERIENCE DISCOVERY

EXPERIENCE MENDO

Summer classes start June 10, 2024
Fall Classes start August 19, 2024
REGISTER NOW!
WWW.MENDOCINO.EDU/EXPERIENCE-MENDO

Willits Class of 1975 grad runs winery in Lassen County

By Nika Patterson, for Willits Weekly

I'm a Willits resident who was recently visiting family in Lassen County, and saw a wine tasting room in the hamlet of Clear Creek, which impressed me as incredibly optimistic. Clear Creek shares a zip code with nearby Westwood, where you can get groceries and fuel your vehicle.

I met the proprietor, Dana Moore, while he was working on his outdoor seating, and he turned out to be a 1975 graduate of Willits High School.

Moore lived in Willits from 1967 to 1983, while his father was building homes in Brooktrails, and in fact they were one of the first families to live there. He also worked at the Brooktrails Lodge as a teenager and coached youth football.

After a stint in the Bay Area, he moved to Lake County and worked in the school system for 34 years, coaching for 20 of them.

Moore started making wine in 1998 and really enjoys demystifying wine tasting and buying. He opened Cherrywood – the “biggest little winery” – in 2022. The interior is inviting, seats 12, and I felt very comfortable asking questions and tasting wines there. Moore purchases grapes primarily from Lake and Mendocino counties, but also Napa and the central coast.

I came home with a Grenache Rosé, a Sauvignon Blanc aged in acacia wood, and a Pinot Noir. My picks were reasonably priced between \$15 and \$20.

This is a fun place to visit if you like wine in a casual, charming atmosphere and you are road-tripping near Lassen Volcanic National Park or pristine Lake Almanor. Cherrywood is hosting a variety of events throughout the year, which can be viewed on their “Cherrywood Winery” Facebook page.



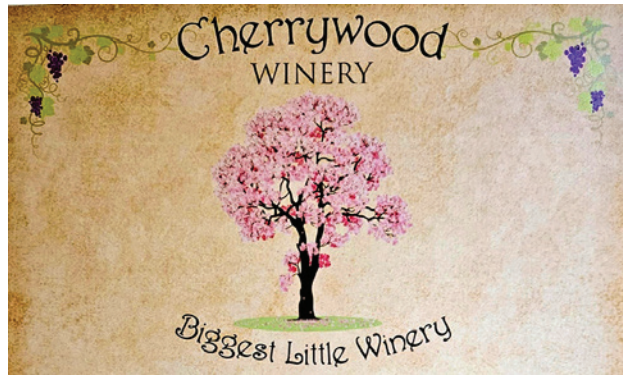
At right, top: Cherrywood Winery owner Dana Moore is a WHS graduate, Class of 1975.

At right: The sign for Cherrywood Winery, off Highway 147 in Clear Creek in Lassen County.

At left: Moore stands in his winery.

Below, from left: A beautiful view of the walkway across Clear Creek, about 200 yards from the winery. The Cherrywood Winery logo. At top: Outdoor seating is under construction for this season at Cherrywood Winery.

Photos by Nika Patterson



MORE
JOYFUL MOMENTS

You're made for living a happy, fulfilling life.

That's why we have top experts for all your healthcare needs, no matter your age or stage of life. We're proud to offer you more choices, expanded access and higher quality care in Mendocino County, as demonstrated by our Planetree Gold Certification for excellence in patient-centered care. We're not just here to put more years in your life, we're here to put more life in your years.

Services provided by Adventist Health Howard Memorial:

- Addiction Medicine
- General Surgery
- Orthopedics
- Pediatrics
- Pharmacy
- Physical Therapy
- Primary Care

Learn more at [AdventistHealthHowardMemorial.org](https://www.AdventistHealthHowardMemorial.org)

