



THIRD DISTRICT  
SUPERVISOR'S REPORT  
**June 2024 update**

**By Supervisor John Haschak**

Around the Mendocino County, Memorial Day was celebrated. I would like to thank all the veterans, American Legion posts, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and other groups who keep the memory alive of sacrifices made. My father was in the army. He was in Day 2 of the D-Day invasion. He only talked about it one time and that was the only time I saw him cry. I was fortunate to have had the opportunity to serve in the Peace Corps. As we look forward to 4th of July celebrations, we honor those who serve our communities, county, and country through public service, military service, or service making this world a better place.

The Board of Supervisors passed a balanced budget for fiscal year 2024-2025. Like last year, we had to use \$7 million of one-time-only money. We will have to continue cutting costs wherever possible. We do have labor agreements with all the bargaining units. We cut about \$8 million in creating efficiencies and reductions, and we will have to continue cost cutting.

In projects that I worked on directly, these were some of the savings this year. We were able to save over \$600,000 in a "golden handshake" incentive and \$120,000 in deleting the Cultural Services Agency department head and replacing that position with a County Librarian position who oversees a branch library. The Cannabis Department lowered their county costs by about \$500,000, and offering permit amnesty for Planning and Building Services brought in over 40 new buildings into the tax system. The museum is transitioning to a non-profit agency, which will reduce county costs in the future.

The budget going forward will have two-year projections. This will help in forecasting how decisions made will play out over a longer period of time. The Teeter Plan, which helps provide stable funding for schools and community service districts, is projected to bring in \$1.5 million, which is good news since it was a negative on the budget. County facilities have seen a 10% drop in electrical usage and a 27% drop in gas utility usage. Cannabis taxes brought in \$3.2 million, when it was budgeted at \$1 million.

Unfortunately, the board approved a Master Tax Sharing Agreement without proper analyses done of how it would affect county services and finances. I was the lone dissenting vote. The tax sharing agreement allows cities to annex areas. This can be a fairly simple proposition in an area where there are just residential properties. However, when areas that are in the county have sales tax and transient occupancy tax generating businesses, it becomes much more complicated and risky for the county. Mendocino County projects a loss of \$3 million if, for example, the area north of Ukiah is annexed. This includes Raley's, auto dealers, motels, and many other businesses (14 of the 25 highest sales tax generators in the county). Yet the county will still be responsible for coroner duties and other law enforcement activities, social services, mental and public health, and other services. This loss of income will affect the county's budget unless there is a huge surge of economic development as the proponents claim.

There will be a Talk with the Supervisor, Thursday, June 13 at 10 am at Brickhouse Coffee in Willits. I am available by email haschakj@mendocinocounty.gov or phone 707-972-4214.

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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**Avenues to Wellness talk on opioid treatments, June 19**

**Submitted by ATW**

Avenues to Wellness presents: "Adventist Health's Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Users," on Wednesday, June 19, 6 to 7:30 pm, at Willits United Methodist Church, 286 School Street. FREE to the public; donations appreciated. Wheelchair accessible.

This talk is a panel format to discuss Medication Assisted Treatment, aka MAT, for opioid users and other addictions. 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 of the Medication Assisted Treatment Program. 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 in the MAT program. Austin Peterson is a Substance Use Disorder navigator for Adventist

Read the rest of **ATW** | Over on page 13

**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 13:** Pulled Pork Sandwich, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw

**Friday, June 14:** Teriyaki Chicken Stir Fry

**Monday, June 17:** Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy

**Tuesday, June 18:** Greek Salmon, Rice Pilaf, Veggies, Roll

**Wednesday, June 19:** Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Garlic Bread, Green Salad

**Thursday, June 20:** Herbed Pork Loin, Rice Pilaf, Veggies, Roll

**Friday, June 21:** Shrimp Louie Salad, Garlic Bread

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

**Pancake Breakfast:** every second Sunday, July 14 next month.

**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.

**Road Closure for 2024 Hometown Celebration**

Notice of Road Closure: Friday, June 21 from 2 to 10 pm: North of the Main / Wood Street intersection to South of Commercial Street.

A portion of East and West Mendocino will be closed as well. A detour will be available.

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**What do YOU think?**

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

**WFD Cowboy Breakfast is on July 5**

To the Editor:

In last week's publication, in the article "First Saturday Concert," there was a statement made that there was to be no Cowboy Breakfast in association with this year's Frontier Days Celebration.

This was incorrect, the Willits Lions Club will be serving breakfast in the Recreation Grove this year on Friday, July 5.

This year was a little problematic as typically the breakfast is held on a weekend prior to the 4th of July. With scheduling conflicts, we worked with Marcy Barry and decided that with the 4th falling on a Thursday, our best date would be Friday, July 5.

Also, in the article it stated that the Lions Club would be selling burritos on the 4th of July. That is also incorrect. What is happening is on the morning of Friday, July 5, in addition to the Cowboy Breakfast, Willits Frontier Days will be conducting the Junior Rodeo beginning at 8 am. The Lions Club will be selling Breakfast Burritos in the stands at the Junior Rodeo.

If you have never been to the Junior Rodeo, you should really check it out. Some of the best young athletes and their horses will be showing off their skills. There could be as many as 300 people attending.

The Cowboy Breakfast has been around about as long as Frontier Days itself. I checked with some of the Lions old-timers, and they think the breakfast was started in conjunction with Frontier Days to raise money for the Fire Department. All monies raised by the Lions at the breakfast are given to Frontier Days who in turn, put it back into the community. The Willits Lions Club and Willits Frontier Days are each proudly celebrating their 98th anniversaries this year.

Lion Tony Madrigal has overseen the breakfast for many years; this year he is changing the menu. This year, the menu will be: Scrambled Eggs, Pancakes, Link Sausage, and Biscuits and Sausage Gravy.

We hope you can come down, enjoy some breakfast, visit with friends, and go see some great kids doing their best at the Junior Rodeo.

Advance breakfast tickets are available for purchase from the Sweetheart contestants Elena Arkelian at 707 354 2877 and Catie Spackman at 707 354 3577.

Skip Lucier, Willits Lions Club

**KLLG Hometown Radio raffle**

To the Editor:

KLLG 97.9, your Hometown Radio station, has been selling these raffle tickets for about 9 months. If you bought a ticket and put your name and phone number on it, the drawing will be Friday, June 21 at the KLLG table at the Hometown Celebration. You don't have to be present to win.

If you want to increase your chances to win one week in a house in Westport, tickets are on sale at Flying Dog Pizza, J.D. Redhouse, and at the Willits Farmers Market.

The winner will arrange with the owner what week they want: There are 10 beds in the house and room on the floor for air mattresses. It is a three-minute walk from the stairs down to the beach.

Just to add to joy, KLLG is also having a yard sale (with some pretty good stuff) earlier that same day, 10 am to 3 pm, Friday June 21, at Space 11 of the Grange Mobile Home Park, that's 20 Pine Street behind the Grange.

We are also looking for underwriters. For \$50/ month or \$500/year we will thank your business (or you personally) on the air at least three times a day. Come talk to me at the Hometown Celebration.

We are always looking for new programmers, come talk to me if you have an idea!

We have other stuff to do behind the scenes. Right now I could definitely use an expert in SQL programming for the newest version of our Automation program. Come talk to me!

Liam UiCearbhaill, KLLG engineer, Willits



Photos by Maureen Jennison



Above, from left: Mariah Rodriguez, ASB Site Council and cum laude graduate, enters the lawn during the Thursday graduation ceremony at Willits High School. At the conclusion of the ceremony, graduates gathered in a circle to toss their hats into the air in celebration. Dayana Estrada, senior class historian and magna cum laude grad, holds her diploma. At left: Sisters and twins, Kamryn and Kara Wilkes, walked together across the stage to receive their diplomas. At left, below: School board members sit behind the green table and listen, as WHS Principal Shane Topolinski addresses the grads and crowd from the podium.

**Graduation Ceremony**

**Willits High School and Sanhedrin High School students walk across Maize Field during annual event**

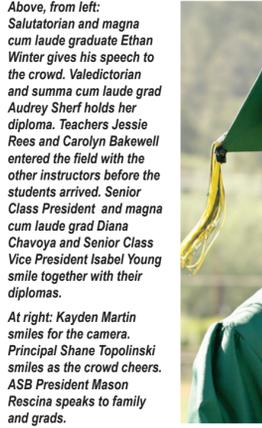
Just over 100 students were announced as graduates during the 117th annual commencement ceremony by the Willits Unified School District held on Maize Field on Thursday, June 6.

This was the first year for Willits High School Principal Shane Topolinski at the helm of the school, and the new leadership created a new look for the ceremony. The grads were back on the grass, and the crowd in the stands, as it was pre-COVID, but the grads were seated in chairs instead of on the mini bleachers. School board members sat at the presentation stage, and teachers sat to the side in rows of chairs set up for them to cheer as the grads walked by, with their diplomas in hand.

The teachers led the processional, walking two by two onto the field before sitting. The grads followed, each one holding a rose donated by Flowers by Annette. The mass of the student body wore green robes; the class officers and ASB officers wore white, and two students also graded gold robes: Valedictorian Audrey Sherf and Salutatorian Ethan Winter.

Many students also wore cords, medals, sashes, and other achievement-based and

Read the rest of **Graduation** | Over on page 6



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# Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword



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

Level: Beginner

## 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!

## LOTS OF LAUGHS WORD SEARCH

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

APRIL FOOLS	COMEDY	LAUGH
BELLY	CONTAGIOUS	LOL
BRAY	CRYING	MOOD
BRIGHT	FUNNY	POSITIVE
CAKLE	GIGGLES	RELIEF
CHEEKS	HAHA	SMILE
CHUCKLE	HICCUP	SNICKER
COMEDIAN	JOKING	SNORT

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

### CLUES ACROSS

- Native American people
- Very long periods of time (Brit.)
- Schoolboard accessory
- Rods
- One who renews
- Sculpted body part
- Chatter incessantly
- \_\_\_ King Cole, musician
- Plates on a turtle's shell
- University of Utah athlete
- The world of the dead
- Singer Redding
- Former Yankee great
- Mattlingly
- Prefix indicating wrongly
- Unhappy
- Anger
- Dark brown or black
- Restaurants have a lot of them
- Made a mistake
- Damp
- Type of gasoline
- Actor LeBlanc
- Perform in a play
- One's mother
- Prohibit
- Swiss river

- Part of a banana
- Indian hand clash cymbals
- Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- Agave
- Noted journalist Tarbell
- Computer firm
- Type of record
- Bacterium that can cause infection
- Sheaths enclosing the spinal cord
- A narrow opening (as in a rock wall)
- Pattern
- Very eager to see something
- Cool!
- Most ignoble
- Soggy dirt
- Designed to be useful
- Hebrew unit of liquid capacity
- High schoolers' test
- One-time internet accessory
- City in India
- Furniture
- You have likely chatted with one
- Pass or go by
- Proof of purchase
- A digital tape recording of sound
- More (Spanish)
- Disfigured
- White (Spanish)
- Building occupied by monks
- Georgia rock band
- Device that generates intense beam of light
- State of agitation
- Make by braiding
- Local area network
- Unit of work or energy
- Indigenous person of Thailand
- Liquefied natural gas
- Distance to top

### CLUES DOWN

- Witch
- Utilize
- Writing utensil
- Places to perform
- Subsides
- Consume
- Athleisure clothing brand
- California town
- Atomic #50
- The Muse of lyric and love poetry
- Creates anew
- Humorous commentaries

# WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE LOG

May 27 to June 2

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 47 incidents in this 7-day reporting period.

### Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

#### May 27

7:49 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 100 block of Hazel Street and issued a warning.

8:08 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 100 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning.

11:08 am: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 300 block of Mill Street.

12:00 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Alder Court.

7:46 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

#### May 28

8:04 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of East San Francisco Avenue and Boscabelle Avenue.

9:09 pm: COLYAR, James Loren (45) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of driving with a suspended license, possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and violation of probation.

#### May 29

9:16 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 400 block of East Commercial Street.

10:44 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of School Street.

2:08 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of West Commercial Street and issued a citation.

2:44 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of North Main Street and issued a citation.

#### May 30

10:00 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of Marcela Drive and issued a warning.

2:19 pm: MCELROY, Jasmine Paige (38) of Clearlake was contacted in the 300 block of South Main Street following a report of an unwanted subject. She was arrested on misdemeanor charges of providing false identification to an officer.

10:22 pm: RAYMOND, Trevor Burns (32) of Willits was contacted near the intersection of Meadowbrook Drive and Crest Drive. He was arrested on felony charges of violation of parole.

#### May 31

No incidents to report.

#### June 1

8:50 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism near the intersection of West Commercial Street and School Street.

5:07 pm: THORNTON, Troy William (27) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of being under the influence of a controlled substance, possession of a controlled substance, and failure to appear.

#### June 2

5:53 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of School Street.

8:33 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Alder Court.

10:49 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 1700 block of Elm Lane.

3:45 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

7:08 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of East Valley Street.

## Clearlake man arrested near Willits on warrant for child sex crimes

By Sgt. Jason Logan, for MCSO

In July of 2023, the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office initiated an investigation into the sexual assault of a minor. Throughout the nearly year-long investigation, Mendocino County Sheriff's Office detectives established that the suspect, Christopher Neil Kiger (40-year-old-male from Clearlake), had allegedly committed multiple acts of sexual abuse against a juvenile victim.

These acts included the continuous sexual abuse of a child, lewd or lascivious acts upon a child under the age of 14, unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor, oral copulation of a minor under 14, and sexual penetration with a foreign object.

Mendocino County Sheriff's Office detectives learned that Kiger, upon learning of this investigation, fled the state of California in a suspected attempt to avoid arrest. This case was submitted to the Mendocino County District Attorney's Office for consideration of an arrest warrant against Kiger. The case was filed with the Superior Court of California in the County of Mendocino, and an arrest warrant was subsequently issued for Kiger's arrest.

In May of 2024, MCSO detectives learned Kiger had possibly returned to the area. Detectives attempted to locate Kiger in Lake County where he has family members. During these attempts, MCSO detectives learned that Kiger knew he was wanted and somehow knew the bail amount of his arrest warrant. Detectives learned that Kiger was avoiding capture until he could obtain the required amount of money for a bail bond. It should be noted that the bail had been set at \$425,000, pursuant to the State of California bail schedule for the above offenses.

On June 6, MCSO detectives were able to utilize investigative tools to track down and locate Kiger at a remote location at the 3300 block of Williams Ranch Road near Willits, where Kiger was believed to be staying and working on an illegal cannabis operation. MCSO detectives located Kiger, who fled the area on foot into a nearby wooded area.

After a short foot pursuit, MCSO detectives were able to capture Kiger and take him into custody without any injuries sustained to Kiger or the pursuing detectives. Kiger was booked into the Mendocino County Jail for the arrest warrant, which included charges of: 288.5(a) PC (Continual sexual abuse of a minor), 288(a) PC (Lewd or lascivious acts upon a child under the age 14), 287(c)(1) PC (Oral copulation of a minor under 14), and 289(j) PC (Penetration with a foreign object with victim under 14).

MCSO detectives contacted a judge with the Superior Court of California in the County of Mendocino and requested an increase for Kiger's bail as a result of his past fleeing of the state of California and his avoidance of being arrested once he returned. This request was granted, and Kiger's bail was set at \$1,000,000.



Christopher Neil Kiger of Clearlake.



Above: "Watercolors for Older Adults" class members from the Mendocino College North County Center art class. Back row: Kris Schuman, Lynn Webb, and Scott Warnock. Next row: Lil McFadden, Judith Tauber, Janie Mitchell, Ken Scarberry, Bev Draudt, Josephine Silva, Chris La Pant, Ann Maglinte, Warren Archer, Judi Butow, and Kim Norred. Seated: Fran Koliner, Margaret Pirouette, Andrea Smith, Ron Woolsey, Maria Rogers, and Jeannie Smith. Not pictured: Stacey Patton, Gretchen Moore, and Terri Reddin. Below, left: This beautiful poppy is by Fran Koliner. Below, right: A Turner-inspired landscape painted by Bev Draudt.



## 'Watercolors for Older Adults' at Mendocino College's North County Center

Submitted by Ann Maglinte

I teach a wonderful class, "Watercolors for Older Adults," at the North County Center of Mendocino College in Willits. The class is on Monday and Wednesday, from 2 to 5 pm, and will continue in the fall semester.

I am in my 17th year of teaching watercolor for the college, and this is one of our best classes yet. There are 22 members with skills ranging from Beginning to Advanced. Each semester we study new techniques by famous artists and learn new skills, as part of our curriculum.

This semester we painted in the style of J.W.M. Turner and Andrew Wyeth. Their styles range from loose, flowing watercolors, to drybrush techniques. Twice a semester we have more formal showings of our work, which is always so inspiring. The students put their work up on the board for all to enjoy and comment on.

We have created a watercolor community of friends that we look forward to seeing each week in class. I also offer an online watercolor class, through Mendocino College, where students work from home, and meet for a once-a-week Zoom meeting, on Tuesdays 2:30 to 4:30 pm. Classes begin August 19.

There is also framed artwork from the students, to view in the main room at the North County Center on Commercial Street. The college hours are 8:30 am to 5:30 pm, Monday through Thursday.

Please stop by and see what we are doing in class, and why we love watercolor! Visit <https://www.mendocino.edu/locations/north-county-center> for a list of Fall 2024 classes at the North County Center. Visit [www.mendocino.edu/admissions-aid/registration/class-schedule](http://www.mendocino.edu/admissions-aid/registration/class-schedule) for more info about the Fall 2024 semester.

Below, from left: "Rust" by Chris La Pant. Kris Schuman with her work. A mountain scene painted by Jeannie Smith.





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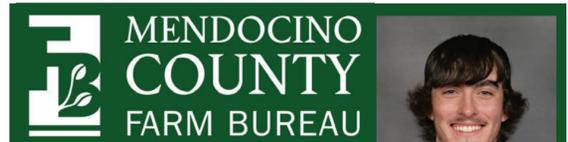
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Below: Logan Sanderson, Willits High School Class of 2024, was one of 15 high school and college students countywide to be awarded a Farm Bureau scholarship this year. Sanderson is heading to Butte Community College, to work on a Certificate in Power Pathway Gas Pipeline Welding.



## Mendocino County Farm Bureau awards \$40,000 in 2024 scholarships

Submitted by MCFB

The Mendocino County Farm Bureau Scholarship Fund was established in 1988 and has helped many local high school, college, and trade school students obtain higher education in production agricultural or an agricultural related field. To be eligible to receive a scholarship, a candidate must be a resident of Mendocino County currently accepted or enrolled in a four-year college/university program, junior college, or accredited trade school, and seeking a degree in a qualified field of agricultural related education.

The MCFB Scholarship Committee interviews eligible candidates, and the committee's recommendations are submitted to the MCFB Board of Directors for final approval.

This year, with generosity from donors and proceeds from our annual fundraiser, we were able to provide \$40,000 worth of scholarships to local high-school graduates and students continuing in higher education programs.

Students who plan to pursue a career in an agricultural related field are encouraged to submit an application no later than March 15 each year. Students can get the application from the MCFB website at: [www.mendofb.org](http://www.mendofb.org)

### 2024 High School Recipients

#### Fort Bragg High School

Nikki Rose Namvar, Butte Community College, Welding Technology

#### Potter Valley High School

Garret Keizer, Mendocino College, Fire Science, Business, and Welding

Cameron Oresco, Butte Community College, Biology

Steven Galindo, Butte Community College, Welding and Diesel Mechanics

Keanna Johnson, CSU Chico, Ag Education

Ronan Solda, Santa Rosa Junior College, Welding and Mechanics

#### Willits High School

Logan Sanderson, Butte Community College, Certificate in Power Pathway Gas Pipeline Welding

### 2024 College Recipients

Claire Case, Texas Tech University Graduate Program, Ag Communications

Erik Ocampo, CSU Sacramento, Criminal Justice for California Department of Fish/Wildlife

Katie Brown, CSU Chico, Ag Business

Adriana Gonzalez, Oregon State University, Registered Professional Forester

Savanah Szupello, University of Idaho, Animal Science Pre-Vet

Jersey Tager, CSU Chico, Ag Education and Business

Allmail Hallman, Cal Poly Humboldt, Wildlife Biology/ Rangeland Resource Science

Carmen Davila, UC Davis, Animal Science and Management



The rest of **Party** *From page 1*

Originally started to be a fun and fruitful alternative to going out and partying on the night of graduation, Sober Grad was created to help the young adult graduates "make it to their futures," and avoid potential tragedy on their big night.

This year's party, which was held at the Willits Charter School for the second year in a row, had an awesome attendance, too, with over 80 percent of the graduates from Willits High, Sanhedrin High and Willits Charter attending the Thursday night celebration. All seniors who attend the event, which starts at 9 pm, with doors closing at 11 pm, and make it through until the conclusion at 4 am, are guaranteed to receive cash and prizes for staying. The grand sum value of \$23,000 of cash and prizes to give away, just for staying until the end, is all the incentive most grads need to come and attend the event.

A bevy of big-ticket gifts were given to the grads throughout the night, increasing in value as the night went on. Everything from big screen televisions, to wireless headphones and Bluetooth speakers, to barbecues and accessories, to dishes, bedding, small appliances, and so much more were given out to the grads, for free.

"We tried really hard to find lots of things that both boys and girls would like to receive," explained Lamprich. "We also tried to do a lot of local shopping, buying lots of great stuff from J.D. Redhouse, Monkey Wrench, and Coast Hardware. Everyone seemed really happy with the gifts they received, and we really focused on trying to make a good selection."

Students are allowed to leave the Sober Grad party early, but once gone, are not permitted back in if they chose to go. Each student who stayed received a \$100 bill at the 4 am exit gate and a prize worth at least \$50, and any who left early, forfeiting their cash, had theirs tossed back into the pot for another lucky recipient to win during the night's drawings.

If the cash and prizes weren't enough incentive, surely the copious amounts of free food, drinks, and entertainment lured in more attendees. Kids enjoyed a Red Bull bar which offered non-alcoholic beverages; Slam Dunk brought boxes and boxes of pizza; there was a build-your-own nacho bar; and those who won tokens from the poker and casino room or the carnival games were able to "buy" additional candy bars and snacks.

The WCS gym was set up with the food and drinks, a DJ, a photo booth, the check room where prizes won and personal items were stored safely, and, of course the display of the amazing prizes.

Outside the gym, carnival games were set up which included things like ring toss and can knock-down, and

the California Highway Patrol set up a set of obstacles for teens to try while wearing the "drunk goggles" which always elicits a lot of laughter. Out on the field, there were cornhole boards set up by the U.S. Army volunteers, and Christian Ramirez and Justin Coleman, who won the touney, won an additional \$150 each at the end of the night.

Bounce houses and an obstacle course also helped grads release their energy and excitement, but the main request of the Class of 2024: a mechanical bull, really got the group laughing and having a great time as the skilled technician spun, bucked, and tossed off most students swiftly, and some Willits High School staff, too.

WHS Principal Shane Topolinski and Assistant Principal Kenneth Mansfield decided to have a battle of the bull ride and faced off on exhibition rides to see who was the best on the bull. While Mansfield technically stayed on longer, it was not really legitimate enough to be called a qualified ride, as he used an illegal two-handed grip. Topolinski's one-handed ride was more technically correct, but he lasted less time atop the spinning artificial bovine before hitting the air-filled "arena" floor. So who was the winner? Well, both – or neither for CCPRA standards – but it was great fun to watch for the gathered grads and staff while it lasted.

"The feedback we received from the kids has all been so positive," explained Lamprich. "It was so wonderful to watch them all play, chat, and have fun with their classmates. I told them when I went to formally invite them to the party during last-week's grad practice that this really will be the last time that all of them are together in one place, basically ever again. Reunions and what have you gather some back, sure, but graduation and Sober Grad is really the time to make any of those memories with the biggest grouping of their class."

Making this party happen is no small feat, and Lamprich expressed her appreciation to all the businesses, community members, volunteers, and parents who helped make this year's event possible for the grads.

"There is NO way that this event would have happened without the assistance from all of the amazing people who donated, helped, and made it happen," said Lamprich. "I want to thank the board of directors for their guidance this year, too, as it was my first year as president, and my first year staying up that late! I'm glad I made it! Around midnight I started checking my phone, assuming more than what turned out to only be 5 minutes passed, but the energy was infectious, and we really had a great time!"

Even though it's still a whole year away before the next party, planning efforts will start soon to ensure another amazing time is available for the Class of 2025. If you're interested in helping out, learning more, getting involved, or donating, contact Sober Grad at willitssobergrad@gmail.com for more information.

At top, left: Graduates from Willits High School, Willits Charter School, and Sanhedrin High School gathered at the WCS gym and field Thursday night after graduation ceremonies to participate in the annual Sober Grad party. Above: Volunteers Juliana Aguilar, Bret Fraser, and Kristin Fraser worked the carnival games outside in the courtyard. Below: Willits High School Assistant Principal Kenneth Mansfield, left, and Willits High School Principal Shane Topolinski, right, each take turns holding onto the mechanical bull during their exhibition rides to determine the best bull rider. Further below: The prize tables were stacked with all sorts of goodies to win, including coffee makers, quesadilla makers, toasters, blenders, Hydroflask water bottles, ice cream makers, crock pots, popcorn makers, waffle makers, hand mixers, and more. At bottom, from left: Sober Grad Committee President April Lamprich chats with Jesse Sauer, Gunner Globe, Kaydn Martin, and Brodey Lamprich about the shenanigans at the CHP obstacle course. Audrey Sherf takes a moment to smile over the thank you cards. Brett Vassar, left, Kristien Kellar and Amber Valente, right, help check in grads at the entrance to the party.



The rest of **Graduation** *From page 3*

decorative adornments, including flower leis, necklaces of intricately folded monetary bills, leis made out of candies, and more.

Senior Class President Diana Chavoya led the Pledge of Allegiance after Topolinski welcomed the attendees, and then Kelley Labus sang the national anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner." Chavoya started the student speeches with her address, then Winter, Sherf, and ASB President Mason Rescina spoke at the podium as well.

Several students also received special recognition for their high GPA scores; summa cum laude graduates had a gold GPA of 3.91-4.0-plus, and included Valedictorian Audrey Sherf, Salutatorian Ethan Winter, Luka Ritchley, Nicole Keough, Damaris Ruiz Fuentes, and Senior Class Treasurer Milagros Patino Martinez.

silver GPA of 3.71-3.90, and included Kaylee Campbell, Senior Class President Diana Chavoya, Brayden Manus, Maci Yokum, Kylie Bozzo, Senior Class Historian Dayana Estrada, and Senior Class Vice President Kaylen Thom.

Cum laude graduates had a bronze GPA of 3.5 to 3.70, and included Senior Class Secretary Catherine Spackman, Jacob Grooms, Aidyn McFadden, Kahlia Rodriguez Lane, and ASB Site Council representative Mariah Rodriguez.

After the seniors walked across the stage to receive their diplomas, they had an official portrait taken with their certificates before returning to their seats. After all grads had their diplomas in hand, Chavoya led them in the transfer of the tassels to complete the ceremony. They were then released to file out of the stage area to gather in a circle on the field for their last senior chant, and then the traditional hat toss. Family and friends then joined the grads for photos, congratulations, and well-wishes for their future.



See all the photos at: <https://photographress.zenfolio.com/graduation>



Congrats to Willits Charter School's 2024 8th grade graduates

Congratulations are in order for the eighth-grade Middle School students of the Willits Charter School, who graduated Wednesday night, June 4, in front of a crowd of parents, grandparents, and fellow students in the new gym/ theater space at the school.

Even though those who came in later had to stand, the occasion was full of applause, laughter, and a few tears, as Dean Sarah France presented the students with their diplomas after speaking about the virtues of each student.

As per the school's tradition, teachers gave a small talk about the matriculating students as they presented them with a book that they felt best exemplified the student's interests or a subject which they thought would aid them through their future education. A particularly poignant moment brought tears as drama teacher Billy "Mr. Billy" Hetherington presented a book to his daughter, Ember.

Adagia Silveira and Ember Hetherington were chosen to give short speeches on their experiences at the school, as well as giving advice to upcoming students. The speeches were both heartfelt and often amusing.

A feast of sandwiches and sweets was provided to the attendees. After the graduation, many of the parents and students stayed awhile to talk about their experiences and plans for the future.

— Mathew Caine



At top, left: Billy "Mr. Billy" Hetherington addresses his daughter, Ember. At top, right: Valeria Mottern walks down the aisle as the names of the graduates are called one by one. Above: The eighth-grade graduates take their place on the stage to listen to talks and receive their diplomas.

Photos by Mathew Caine



At top, left: K'Allannah Arnold listens for her name to be called to receive her diploma. At top, right: Emala Pyle looks to the future after receiving her book and diploma.

Above, left: Drama teacher Mr. "Billy" Hetherington, about to present a book to one of his students. Above, right: Dimitri Calderon gladly walks up to take his place on the stage during the graduation ceremony.

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**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: [www.mendolib.org](http://www.mendolib.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.

**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.mendocinocounty.gov/museum](http://www.mendocinocounty.gov/museum) or [museum@mendocinocounty.gov](mailto:museum@mendocinocounty.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: [willitscenterforthearts.org](http://willitscenterforthearts.org)

**Bug Guts at WCT Playhouse:** The alternative folk duo Bug Guts comes to Willits Community Theatre on Friday, June 14 at 7:30 pm. Dynamic lyrics and witty good times are coupled with intricate guitar weaves by husband-and-wife team of Scott Ireland and Rosebud... with smooth, rich harmonies, mind-tickling lyrics, and guitar work, the duo brings their act to the WCT Playhouse, 37 West Van Lane, for the first time, promising to deliver a deliciously joyous and raucous show. Tickets are \$20 and available online at: [www.wctperformingartscenter.org](http://www.wctperformingartscenter.org) and at the door, 37 West Van Lane.

# What's Happening Around Town

**Towse 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**

**Library kicks off Summer Reading with Magic Show:** Ready for some magical math? Join us at the Willits Branch Library with Magician Nathaniel Segal, aka "Magical Nathaniel," performs, Saturday, June 15 from 10 to 11 am to kick off the Summer Reading Program. Inside the Willits Branch Library meeting room, 390 East Commercial Street. "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.mendolib.org](http://www.mendolib.org) or 707-459-5908.



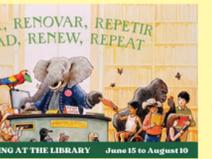
**Blue Luke at Shanachie:** "Blue Luke" Andrews is a prodigy guitarist, born and raised in Dos Rios, Mendocino County. "Imagine a band that takes the soul of the blues, the groove of the funk, the grit of rock & roll and the rich harmonies of jazz to create exactly what you've always wanted to hear."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

**Wednesday, June 19**

**Remembering Seabiscuit at the Museum:** This summer, the Mendocino County Museum presents family friendly themed crafts and 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 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. Enjoy free admission on Wednesdays with your Mendocino County Library Card. Info: [www.mendocinocounty.gov/museum](http://www.mendocinocounty.gov/museum), [museum@mendocinocounty.gov](mailto:museum@mendocinocounty.gov) or 707-234-6365.



**Harmony Keepers at Brickhouse:** 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.



**Singers on Street** 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 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.mendocinocounty.gov/museum](http://www.mendocinocounty.gov/museum) or 707-234-6365.

**Corners S.O.S. Choir:** Every third Wednesday of the month at 5 pm, Wednesday, June 19 this month, gather at the big redwoods in Willits City Park, on Commercial Street across from City Hall to join the Singers on Street Corners S.O.S. Choir. Learn a few songs together, then wander the streets and sing songs of peace and unity. Song selections include simple rounds and well-known classic tunes. People of all ages and backgrounds are invited. The S.O.S. choir aims to promote the power of music, and to lift the spirits of anyone who hears our harmonies. Join in song on June 19, July 17, and August 21. Info: [Prana@28prana@gmail.com](mailto:Prana@28prana@gmail.com).



**Willits Stamp Club at the Library:** Monthly meeting of the Willits Stamp Club is on third Wednesdays, Wednesday, June 19 this month, 5 to 6:30 pm at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Bring your collection and enjoy time perusing stamps. All are welcome. Refreshments served. Info: [talsofam@pacific.net](mailto:talsofam@pacific.net)

**Avenues to Wellness Talk:** ATW presents a talk on "Adventist Health's Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Users" on Wednesday June 19, 6 to 7:30 pm, at 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](http://avenuestowellness.org) for an online archive of past events. Info: 707-456-9676 or [spicetti@howardfoundation.org](mailto:spicetti@howardfoundation.org)

**Adventist Health's Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Users**  
Wed. June 19, 6-7:30pm  
This talk is a community presentation for the 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 an expert panel.

**Willits Gem & Mineral Society Meeting, June 27**  
Join the Willits Gem & Mineral Society for a free meeting. Discuss rocks, lapidary, silversmithing, rock hounding, and etc., with like-minded rock nerds. Thursday, June 27, 7 to 8:30 pm, at the Willits Grange, 291 School Street.

**WFD Carnival opens June 28**  
Johnston Amusements returns to Willits during Willits Frontier Days, across East Commercial from the Rodeo Grounds. Opens Friday, June 28 with carnival rides, games along the midway, food (including corn dogs, candy apples, ice cream, and popcorn) and fun for kids and adults.

**INSIDE OUT 2**  
(PG) 1 hr 40 mins  
Fri.: 4:30 & 7:00pm  
Sat./Sun.: 2:00, 4:30 & 7:00pm  
Mon.-Thurs.: 4:30 & 7:00pm  
Movie Times for June 14 thru June 20

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**WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS HOMETOWN CELEBRATION**  
FRIDAY, JUNE 21<sup>ST</sup> 5PM - 9PM  
LIVE MUSIC BY Palmer Anthony  
AERIAL SILKS, CLIMBING WALL, MECHANICAL BULL, DUNK TANK, BOUNCE HOUSE, FACE PAINTING, HENNA ARTIST, ARTISAN VENDORS, FOOD TRUCKS & MORE!  
A free community event, kicking off the Frontier Days tradition!  
MAIN STREET, WILLITS  
[wild.hometowncelebration@gmail.com](mailto:wild.hometowncelebration@gmail.com)

**THE GARFIELD MOVIE**  
(PG) 1 hr 44 mins  
Fri.: 4:45 & 7:15pm  
Sat./Sun.: 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15pm  
Mon.-Thurs.: 4:45 & 7:15pm  
Masks Optional  
Tightwad Tuesday Title for June 18 is in RED. All tickets at just \$6!

**Climbing Wall, Mechanical Bull, Dunk Tank, Bounce House, Face Painting, Henna Artist, Artisan Vendors, Food Trucks, specials at Main Street businesses, and more.** A free community event. Kicking off the Frontier Days tradition. Info: [wild.hometowncelebration@gmail.com](mailto:wild.hometowncelebration@gmail.com).

**KLLG Radio Raffle Drawing:** Willits Hometown Radio KLLG's Raffle Drawing is set for Friday, June 21 at the Hometown Celebration, 7 pm at the KLLG table. You don't have to be present to win a 1 week vacation at a house on the beach in Westport: 10 beds and floor room for air mattresses. Tickets available at Farmers Market, Flying Dog Pizza, and J.D. Redhouse: 1 for \$10, 3 for \$20, 8 for \$50.

**Cosmic Family Band at Shanachie:** Alocal Mendocino County jam band, "sharing original music that is a reflection of being a part of this amazing community. We're the Cosmic Family Band and so are you." Friday, June 21 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

**Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart Judging:** WFD Sweetheart candidates Elena Arkelian and Katie Spackman will be judged on appearance and poise on Saturday, June 22 at 10 am at the WFD Rodeo Grounds. More info: <https://www.willitsfrontierdays.com>

**The Huckle Bearers at Shanachie:** folk-American duo based out of Denver, Nicholas Fennel and Eric Thompson – "a pair of wandering souls exploring the off beaten paths of this crazy world." Saturday, June 22 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

**Grange Pancake Breakfast:** Join your friends at the monthly Little Lake Grange Breakfast on Sunday, June 23, from 8 to 11 am. "Our tasty breakfast is a wonderful combination of comfort foods: All you can eat pancakes (choose our Sourdough Wholegrain, Hank's Famous Buttermilk Pancakes or Gluten-free), Beeler's Quality Bacon, Organic Local Farm Fresh Scrambled Eggs, Real Butter, Juice, Organic Coffee or Tea." \$10, \$9 for seniors, \$5 children under 10. Also: extra sides of Organic Fruit \$2, Amish Organic Maple Syrup \$1, Fresh-made fruit syrup \$1, Extra Beelers Bacon \$1, Little Lake Grange #670, 291 School Street (2 blocks south of Commercial, 1 block west of Main Street).

**Willits Frontier Days Horsheshow:** Sunday, June 23, starting at 8 am, at the Jack Sharp Arena. Horsemanship judging for Sweetheart candidates Elena Arkelian and Katie Spackman will take place during the horsheshow. More info: <https://www.willitsfrontierdays.com>

**WILLITS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY**  
JOIN US FOR A FREE MEETING!  
DISCUSS ROCKS, LAPIDARY, SILVERSMITHING, ROCKHOUNDING & ETC WITH LIKE-MINDED ROCK NERDS  
June 27th 7-830pm At the Willits Grange

**WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS HOMETOWN CELEBRATION**  
FRIDAY, JUNE 21<sup>ST</sup> 5PM - 9PM  
LIVE MUSIC BY Palmer Anthony  
AERIAL SILKS, CLIMBING WALL, MECHANICAL BULL, DUNK TANK, BOUNCE HOUSE, FACE PAINTING, HENNA ARTIST, ARTISAN VENDORS, FOOD TRUCKS & MORE!  
A free community event, kicking off the Frontier Days tradition!  
MAIN STREET, WILLITS  
[wild.hometowncelebration@gmail.com](mailto:wild.hometowncelebration@gmail.com)

**Willits American Legion's Beer Wagon Raffle**  
Tickets are now on sale 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

**BAD BOYS: RIDE OR DIE**  
(R) 1 hr 50 mins  
Fri.: 5:00 & 7:30pm  
Sat./Sun.: 2:30, 5:00 & 7:30pm  
Mon.-Thurs.: 5:00 & 7:30pm  
OVER 21 CLUB - Luxury Recliners

**ONGOING EVENTS**

**'Nature, Nurture' opens at WCA:** the June exhibit at Willits Center for the Arts features the evocative works of local artists Judy Chance Hope and Margi Gomez Guide, exploring the profound connection between humanity and the natural world. Runs through June 23 at WCA, 71 East Commercial Street. Gallery hours are Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 11 am to 5 pm.

**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 for all June 20. Info: [outreach@foodbank.org](mailto:outreach@foodbank.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: [www.mendocinocounty.org/museum](http://www.mendocinocounty.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 1 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: [itgreory@saaber.net](mailto:itgreory@saaber.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.

**Ongoing Events at the Willits Library**  
Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: [www.mendolib.org](http://www.mendolib.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 Klatch:** 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 age 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.

**COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES**

## 'Bad Boys: Ride or Die'

**The Story:** They're back! And they have a \$2 million price tag on their capture – dead or alive. Will Smith and Martin Lawrence are the familiar and much-loved non-stop yakking hero-cop buddies. This time, and through no fault of their own, they are framed for multiple murders by sadistic, thug-ugly, creepy-scary bad guys. (You all have seen enough movies. You know the kind.)

And then there are the friends who don't know what to believe. And the Bad Boys themselves don't know who to trust. Also (heaven help them), Will and Martin have (beautiful sexy fabulous) wives who are vulnerable. That's never good.

And yes, once again it's the threatened damsels in distress trope. Hollywood loves threatened damsels. A So Cal speciality. It always works.

**My Thoughts:** This is a well-made action flick. If you feel like you've seen this story before, you probably have. That doesn't mean the story didn't grab me. I really wanted to see the poopy bad guys get their bloody comeuppance.

I know I shouldn't like revenge stories. I was raised right. I should be repelled. But I'm not. Revenge rocks! It's sweet like tasty cherries. And besides, it's just a movie, and when you really think about it, Shakespeare's Hamlet is just one long revenge story. And as we all learned in high school, everybody likes Hamlet.

Well, now that I've dealt with my own sense of guilt, let me help you all with yours. Just you all really enjoy the poopy bad guys getting chopped to pieces. Sure it's wrong, but it's popcorn weather in an air conditioned theater, and the righteous and explicit violence just feels good. And anyway: The Bad Guys Had It Coming. So yeah! Righteous!

**Parents:** Too adult and too violent for kids.

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



**Dan Essman**  
Columnist

## Free Summer Meals in Willits

A healthy breakfast and lunch are provided FREE to children 0-18 years old, whether enrolled in the Willits Unified School District or not, and regardless of income.

Breakfast and lunch are available Monday through Friday (started on June 10), through August 9, 2024, at Blosser Lane Elementary School, 1275 Blosser Lane. Breakfast: 8 to 9 am; Lunch: 11 am to 12 pm. Questions? Call: Willits Unified School District Nutrition Services, 707-459-7700, ext. 1554

## Register now for Willits Youth Soccer's Fall Soccer

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](http://www.willitsyouthsoccer.net)

– Posted by Willits Youth Soccer

**WILLITS WEEKLY**

**NOYO THEATRE** Willits, CA  
57 East Commercial Street - Willits  
707-459-6660  
[www.noyotheatre.com](http://www.noyotheatre.com)  
Coming Soon:  
**A Quiet Place: Day One**



At top, from left: Ashley Delbar stands next to an image taken of her by Sarah Daniels. Randall Vann says his love for the mountains, livestock and ranches of Round Valley continues to grow. Bobby Albionico, whose family has been in Northern California since 1882, stands next to his photo taken by Sarah Daniels. Above, from left: Susie Rohrbough has lived in Covelo all her life and loves to share what she loves about the area of the Round Valley. Marjo Wilson Jensen, who created the R.A.N.C.H. show, is a well-respected artist and musician who resides in Covelo. Many of the photos in the show were created on iPhones, as was this image by Randall Vann. Below, left: Chelci Barney loves to share her love of the ranch life, especially what she sees from the back of her horse. Below, right: Marjo Wilson Jensen's band plays during the exhibit: from left, Sid Bishop, Marjo Wilson Jensen, Ross O'Brien and Morten Jensen. At bottom: The gallery opening is well-attended, with people, including many ranchers, coming in throughout the showing.



## Ranch Art

Covelo ranch life explored in photos and paintings at Grace Hudson Museum art exhibit

"Art has a way of preserving the history of human culture in concert with nature," said Margo Wilson Jensen, creator of the current R.A.N.C.H. (Ranch Art Nurturing Cultural Heritage) exhibit at the Grace Hudson Museum. Growing up in Round Valley, Jensen wanted to explore the ethos of Covelo ranch life in a unique and rarely seen viewpoint, through camera images taken by a number of friends that she grew up with, ranchers and people who work the land, people who love and appreciate the beauty and power that surrounds them every day.

Although most of the participants are not professional photographers, and some of the images were accomplished through the tools that were available at the time and place, cell phones and carry-around cameras, with some computer prodding, Jensen was able to find a way to print the images larger than the original resolution, creating an exhibit both stunning and affecting. These images brought the life and nature of the area together and surrounded the viewers with multiple points of consciousness – images of ranch life, flora and fauna, and people who inhabit the area and are in harmony with the land.

The R.A.N.C.H. Collective Art Show will be up in the supplemental gallery at the museum until June 19 and will reappear at the annual Blackberry Festival at the library commons in Covelo through the month of August. Jensen will also have a booth at the festival.

Jensen is a well-respected figure in Mendocino County for her art, an

**Mathew Caine**  
Features Writer  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Read the rest of **Ranch** Over on page 15



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- Physical Therapy
- Primary Care



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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

WW494

### CITY OF WILLITS SERVICES & FACILITIES DEPARTMENT NOTICE TO BIDDERS

PROJECT NO. 2023-08

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Sealed bids for:

The work shown on the project plans entitled:

CITY OF WILLITS SERVICES & FACILITIES DEPARTMENT PROJECT PLANS

For:

**Steel Water and Sewer Main Replacement Project - Project No. 2023-08**

Project Description

**Base Bid Description:**

The work for this project includes the replacement of approximately 2281 linear feet of existing water main with New 6" C-900 PVC and New 6" Ductile Iron Pipe, installation of new water services and meters, installation of fire hydrants, installation to new 6" gate valves, and trench paving.

**Bid Alternate Description:**

The Alternate Bid includes the replacement of approximately 1,250 linear feet of existing sewer main with new 8" SDR-35 PVC pipe, including 48" sewer manholes, 4" laterals, tie-ins to existing sewer manholes, private laterals, and trench paving.

IN

City of Willits, County of Mendocino, State of California &

The work described in specifications books entitled: CITY OF WILLITS - BID BOOK & TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS CITY OF WILLITS - PROPOSAL PACKET CITY OF WILLITS - AWARD PACKET

For:

Steel Water and Sewer Main Replacement Project - Project No. 2023-08

IN

City of Willits, County of Mendocino, State of California will be received by a designated representative, of the City of Willits, County of Mendocino, State of California, until the hour of 2:00 p.m. on July 18, 2024, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud in the City Council Chambers, of the City of Willits, located at 111 East Commercial Street, Willits, California.

**THE ENGINEER'S ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE COSTS IS: \$1,227,955.00**

The contractor shall possess a Class A license at the time this contract is awarded.

Key Dates:

- Mandatory Pre-bid Meeting: July 25, 2024
- Final Questions from Bidders: July 8, 2024 by 5 p.m.
- Final Addendum Issued July 10, 2024
- Bid Opening: July 18, 2024 at 2:00pm
- Project Start Date: August 12, 2024
- Project length: 140 working days (Completion: 12/30/2024)

Interested bidders should contact the following to obtain electronic copies of plans and other bid documents:

Brandy Sanderson  
bsanderson@cityofwillits.org  
(707) 459-7143

CITY OF WILLITS: s/Delores Pedersen, City Clerk

DATED: 6/13/2024

Publication Dates: June 13, 20, 27, 2024

### Marc Komer

Legal Document Assistant

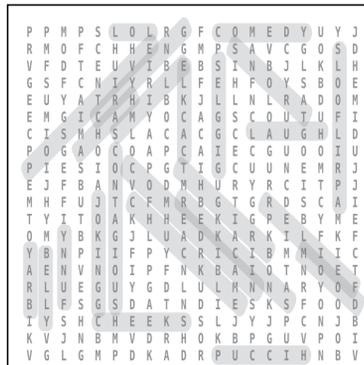
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I am not an attorney, and can only provide self-help services at your specific direction.




**Mendocino County invites applications for:**

- Corrections Deputy** \$55,369 - \$67,308
- Deputy Sheriff-Coroner** \$75,878 - \$93,142
- Deputy Sheriff-Coroner in Training** \$25.08 - \$30.48 Hourly
- Director Social Services** \$143,083 - \$173,908
- Eligibility Specialist I** \$43,201 - \$52,520
- Maternal, Child, & Adolescent Health/ Perinatal Services Coordinator Manager** \$117,104 - \$142,355
- 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
- Women, Infants and Children Manager** \$88,296 - \$107,328

For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:  
[www.mendocinocounty.gov/jobs](http://www.mendocinocounty.gov/jobs)  
EOE

The rest of **Murder** From page 1

approached by Luis Archundia-Morales (an adult male, 30, and Willits resident), who identified himself as the vehicle driver who had struck the minor. Archundia-Morales also provided the officers with the location of the vehicle involved in the incident.

After obtaining statements from Archundia-Morales, other witnesses at the scene, and collecting security footage and other physical evidence, Archundia-Morales was arrested for his involvement in this incident. Archundia-Morales was later booked at the Mendocino County jail for 664/187 PC, Attempted Murder; 245(a)(1) PC, assault with a deadly weapon other than a firearm; 273a(a) PC, Child endangerment resulting in great bodily injury (GBI) or death; 0243(d), Causing GBI to another; and 20001 CVC, Hit and run with injuries.

The victim in this incident was initially treated at Howard Memorial Hospital for his injuries and later flown to an out-of-the-area hospital for further treatment. The victim is currently in stable condition.

The Willits Police Department would like to thank the Little Lake Fire Department, Medstar, Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, Mendocino County District Attorney's Office, and the California Highway Patrol for their assistance in this investigation.

The Willits Police Department is continuing its investigation of the incident and is asking anyone who may have been a witness to the event – and has not yet provided a statement – to call (707) 459-6122 to speak with Officer Pearson, the primary investigating officer, or Officer Angell, the assisting investigating officer.

The rest of **Burn** From page 1

The project is located on privately owned land in the Eel River watershed in the central portion of Mendocino County, east of Highway 162. It is accessed via Highway 162 and privately owned and maintained ranch roads.

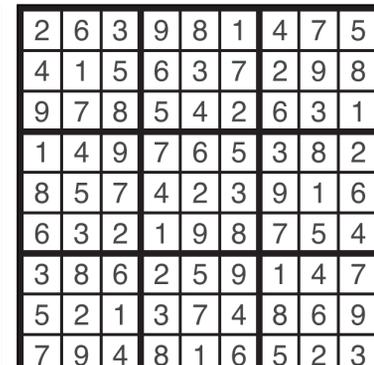
The nine burn units are located east of the main fork of the Eel River and south of the Middle Fork Eel River.

Burning will start at approximately 10 am and conclude at approximately 3 pm daily.

This project adds to significant work underway throughout the state and brings California one step closer towards meeting state fuels reduction goals directed by the California Fire Plan and the California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan.

To track the progress being made, both in your community and throughout California, visit the CAL FIRE fuels reduction dashboard at <https://www.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/natural-resource-management/fuels-reduction>.

This project burn will be conducted under strictly controlled weather and fuel conditions. Smoke and aircraft may be visible in the area.



## CLASSIFIEDS

### 5th Wheel For Sale

2000, 32-foot fifth wheel with 3 pop-outs. Has new queen sized bed. Clean, no smoking, no leaks. Asking \$14,000 OBO. Call Connie at (707) 354-1716.

### For Rent

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

### 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)

### 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/tp>

### Weed Eating

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

### The Fruit Group

The Fruit Group's first 2024 truck arrives Friday, June 21. Will have Apricots, 24 pounds for \$39, and Peaches and Nectarines, \$38 a lug. Tomatoes in mid-July. To order, contact Cressie at 707 459-2713 or [dobbins99@SBCGlobal.net](mailto:dobbins99@SBCGlobal.net). Pick up, usually every other Friday, at Napa Auto Parts.

### Yard Sale

Saturday and Sunday, June 15 and 16, 10 am to 3 pm at 3224 Primrose Drive, Brooktrails. Dining room table, dresser, and more.

### 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.

### Help Wanted

Harrah Senior Center is looking for an experienced maintenance worker. Part-time position, 24 hours per week. Call 459-6826 for more information.

30 words for \$15 for 2 weeks



Luis Archundia-Morales of Willits.

## CAL FIRE still seeking seasonal firefighters

#IgniteYourPassion as a firefighter with CAL FIRE! We are still accepting applications for seasonal Fire Fighter I positions statewide, so submit your application as soon as possible. The next upcoming cut-off date is July 31, 2024.

Click here for more information on seasonal Fire Fighter I, or to apply: <https://www.fire.ca.gov/join-calfire/seasonal-firefighter>

Under close supervision, as a temporary employee, Fire Fighter 1 positions do the heavy physical work involved in firefighting, as a member of a fire crew; assist in building, grounds, and equipment maintenance and repair; and do other related work.

As a member of a fire crew, a Fire Fighter 1 worker receives training in wildland, rural, and structural fire suppression methods and techniques; fights fire as a member of a fire crew using tools and equipment such as a shovel, axe, McLeod, Pulaski, and back pump; clears trails, cuts brush; assists in building, grounds, and equipment maintenance and repair; inspects, cleans and repairs fire hose and equipment; sharpens fire tools; paints equipment and buildings; performs semiskilled or laboring construction work; and performs general station housekeeping and kitchen duties.

For more information, visit [fire.ca.gov/join-calfire](http://fire.ca.gov/join-calfire) or call the Fire Fighter I hotline at (951) 901-5060.





Above: A view of the Willits airport, runway 34, as seen by pilots making their final approach.



At left, from top: This pilot flew in on a yellow Piper. This kit plane has a 360-degree view with the bubble hood, which provides a great view but gets very hot on a sunny day. A family attends the Fly-in together. Granddad Joe Bratt, Dad Ernie Burton, and kids Hattie, Eliza, and Bennett Burton. With the bright yellow coloring, it is easy to spot this Piper in the air, or on the ground.



At right: EAA members and the public enjoy an al fresco lunch on a perfect day. Far right: A great variety of airplanes flew in for the get together.

Below, from left: Dale Doty came up from McClelland (near Sacramento) in this Zenith Zodiac. Bob Gutteridge, of Santa Rosa, has been flying over 40 years; he put this plane together and has flown as far as Alaska. Kirk Wilder, manager of the Boonville Airport, was flown in by his brilliant student, Zhidao, who Wilder has been mentoring since he was 10 years old.

Photos by Mathew Caine



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 Tel 707.923.2179  
 Fax 707.923.9550  
 rcantua@farmersagent.com  
 067822

The rest of **ATW** | From page 2

Health. He provides intervention and harm reduction services including referral into the hospital system.

Emily Hauser, is a physician's assistant who is in a MAT Fellowship. She is eager to share her knowledge and insights into the process of recovery. Also included on our panel are Joey, Chris and Clancy, MAT clients who have overcome addiction.

Avenues to Wellness is a wellness program of the Frank R. Howard Foundation. Visit: [avenuestowellness.org](http://avenuestowellness.org) for an online archive of past events. Info: (707) 456-9676 or [spicetti@howardfoundation.org](mailto:spicetti@howardfoundation.org)

The rest of **Rehab** | From page 1

Local Housing Allocation program. It currently has funds allocated for three years, so the city's loan program can assist as many Willits residents as possible. Although some requirements must be met, the program is expected to help numerous residents throughout the city live in their homes for as long as possible.

The program is a collaborative effort run by Community Development Director Dusty Duley, Building Official Davey Bowles, and Code Compliance Officer Phil Davidson from the City of Willits, and third-party consultants Sandy O'Ferrall with Laco, Jeff Lucas, and Deborah Swartz with Community Development Services.

Duley clarified that the program's mission is to preserve the quality of the town's existing housing stock, while preventing further deterioration and damage, and expanding housing options for all income groups within Willits. The goal is to support residents financially, Duley said, "getting the money to the right people so they can live in their homes for a long time." The team is committed to providing financial support to ensure Willits residents are not displaced due to housing renovation costs.

To be eligible to apply, you must be an existing homeowner and occupy the home undergoing rehabilitation as your primary residence. It must be a single-family or manufactured home, and you must be able to provide the necessary documentation included in the application and information packets.

There is a gross annual income limit of 120% of the area median income, and due to limited funds, there will be an application scoring process to decide who will receive the loan based on income, repair urgency, and length of home ownership during each round. The loan is specifically designed to aid long-time Willits residents and residents whose homes need some tender loving care and repairs.

Restrictions to the loan also apply, and eligible work includes foundational, structural, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, windows, flooring, painting, insulation, and termite repairs, all disclosed in the application, "Sorry everyone, no pools." All repairs covered under the loan must be approved by the city with a home inspection, before choosing a contractor and proceeding with the loan process.

You can pick up applications at Willits City Hall, and the window for submitting applications begins Monday, June 24 and closes on Monday, August 5. Applications will be reviewed based on the scoring details after the application submission window closes on August 5.

To submit your application to City Hall for consideration of the loan, you must also make an in-person application intake appointment to go over all details of your paperwork and begin the customizable process of the loan, meaning you may not drop off or mail in your application. All applications must be submitted in-person. This appointment can be scheduled with Office Assistant Amber Ojeda; contact her via phone at (707) 459-7112 or via email at [aojeda@cityofwillits.com](mailto:aojeda@cityofwillits.com).

A contractor application is also available for local contractors interested in being on the approved loan list. The application will be available at Willits City Hall and can be filled out anytime. Contractors must be pre-approved by the city before they can be selected by homeowners for repairs; however, if a contractor you'd like to do work on your home has not yet been added to the list, they can be added at any time during the early stages of the loan process by filling out the application and meeting city approval.

Receiving the loan in the first round is not guaranteed. However, the next round of loans is scheduled to open in early 2025 to continue to assist as many people as possible. For those seeking more information, please visit City Hall to obtain information packets and applications, then make an intake appointment. Tailored to meet your housing repair needs, the city aims to use loans to provide financial assistance in a way that best fits you. Visit City Hall so you can help the city help you.

The rest of **Poet** | From page 1

County Poet Laureate Committee, Kirk Lumpkin introduced Poet Laureate Baker to the board members. He explained that the committee took nominations for the Poet Laureate position, and got 30 nominations from all over the county for the two-year term. "People put in applications, and we did interviews, and we are so proud and thankful that a wonderful candidate came forward in the person of Devreaux Baker to be our county's very first poet laureate."

"If you want to follow her work ... the next two years while she is our Poet Laureate," Baker said, go to <https://mendocinopoetlaureate.mymcn.org>

The mission statement found on that website reads: "Mendocino County Poet Laureate Program will advocate for the art of poetry across the county through the establishment of a rotating laureate position and other cultural projects to educate and inspire all of our citizens about the value and joy of creative literary expression."

"It is now my pleasure and honor," Lumpkin said, "to introduce to you the first poet laureate of Mendocino County, Devreaux Baker, who's going to read to you a short poem."

After being introduced, Devreaux said: "Thank you, it is an honor to have this title. I really am looking forward to representing this county."

She then read "Imaging Peace":

All morning we worked in the kitchen, bared our feet, rolled up our sleeves, prepared loaves of bread, imagining a recipe for peace

We held the world in our hands, rolling out the dough, pressing and flattening, pulling and shaping

We added spices for a good life, cardamom and cumin, sesame and tears

We stirred in sorrow and joy, a dash of hope to bless the shape of this bread

We imagined creating the taste of peace to feed a world hungry for solace in a time of war and loss

We conjured tables in olive groves, recreating a feast for all migrant tongues with marjoram and soul, rosemary or thyme

We wanted to toss crumbs to birds, so they were filled with a song they would carry in flight across the rooftops of the world and help share our recipe for all people hungry for peace



Above: Third District Supervisor John Haschak and new Mendocino County Poet Laureate Devreaux Baker pose at the board of supervisors' June 6 meeting.

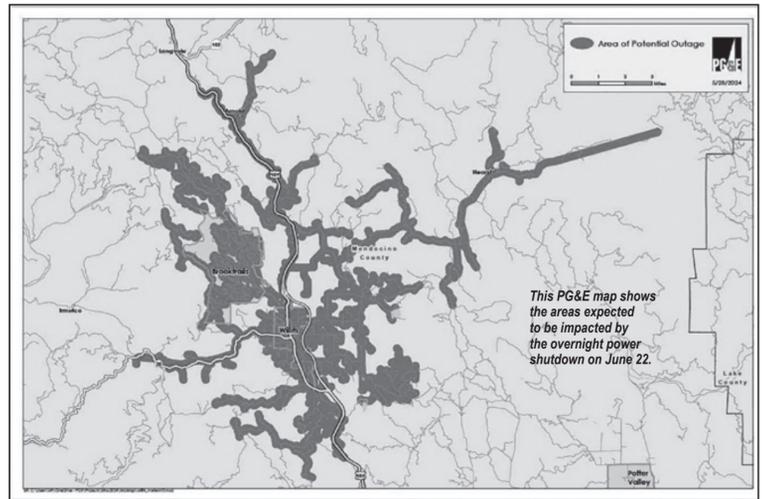
Below: Devreaux Baker, the new Mendocino County Poet Laureate.



In the press release announcing Baker's new position, the Poet Laureate Committee also announced: "At the 49th anniversary and 19th consecutive revival of the Mendocino Spring Poetry Celebration on Sunday, June 16, Devreaux Baker will be 'crowned' by the poetry community at Mendocino High School."

Also noted in the committee's press release are some poetry community names familiar to Willits readers:

"At this time we would also like to acknowledge some of the historic shoulders that our current poetry community stands upon: Mary Norbert Korte and Ruth Weiss (who both died too soon to be honored as our Poet Laureate), Sharon Doubiago (whose health doesn't allow her to travel here anymore), Dan Roberts (whose health didn't allow him to pursue his Poet Laureate nomination), and two poets who in the last few months have left this life, Gordon Black (KZYX programmer, and for many years the principal convener of the annual Mendocino Spring Poetry Celebration), and Bill Bradd."



The rest of **PG&E** | From page 1

involves the upgrade and replacement of equipment and will require that the substation to be deenergized to ensure the safety of PG&E employees conducting work."

Customers who will lose power include all served by the substation, including customers in the City of Willits, the Little Lake Valley, north and south of Willits, Brooktrails and other communities up Sherwood Road, and other areas in the Willits substation grid. See PG&E's outage map at the end of this article that shows areas that are planned to lose power.

According to PG&E "all customers that will be impacted by the outage have been notified," but according to comments by locals and comments on social media about the June 6 announcement, if customers received any notice, it was about the earlier shutdown planned for May 11, then cancelled on May 8, and not this new June 22 date.

"Beginning in late May," the PR states, "PG&E began notifying customers impacted by the planned outage by phone, text and email to ensure that they could plan accordingly. PG&E also notified critical customers in advance, including hospitals and first responders, to ensure the proper resources were in place to support their work."

"This safety work was originally scheduled for May," the PR continued, "but with feedback and input from stakeholders, PG&E was able to reschedule the work and planned outage to ensure ample notification to critical customers."

Willits City Manager Brian Bender, at the May 8 Willits City Council meeting, confirmed PG&E's cancellation of the May 11 shutdown, and said he expected PG&E to "do a much more elaborate campaign on getting notices

out, direct mailings.... They have a serious problem with their grid system, so all the agencies, residents, business owners have the opportunity to respond and prepare."

#### Aerial drone inspections

PG&E also sent out a notice to customers on June 12 about drone safety inspections that "will take place in your area within the next two weeks." This is the same notice that has been sent out every couple of weeks since mid-April.

"Every day, we are making the electric system safer and stronger for our customers," the notice says. "As part of this work, we perform regular inspections of our electrical equipment in high fire-threat areas to help reduce risks and keep our communities safe. We will be in your area using a drone to inspect our electric poles and equipment. These safety inspections will take place within the next two weeks."

The PG&E notice outlined what residents can expect during inspections:

- During inspections, you may see and hear a drone flying close to the equipment.
- The drone may hover in the same location to perform these inspections, and if it does, it will usually be for less than 10 minutes.
- All safety standards and federal regulations will be followed.
- You may also see PG&E and/or contractor trucks in the area.

"Thank you for your patience while we work to enhance wildfire safety for you and your neighbors," the notice concluded.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
 FRIDAY JUNE 21st 4-8PM  
 Laytonville Rodeo Grounds  
 All are welcome  
 Fun for the whole family

**Dr. Paltin's Retirement Party**

# Roberta Sharp

Roberta May Sharp was born on November 17, 1925 in Preston, Idaho and passed away on May 25, 2024 at her home in Willits. She was 98 years old.

Roberta was the third child of Elmer and Louella Sharp. There were six girls and one boy, and they lived on a farm. They all had chores to do. Some of Roberta's chores were taking care of the chickens and helping get in the hay.

After graduating from high school, Roberta went to Business College in Salt Lake City, then got a job at John Deere Plow Co. in accounts receivable. This was a wonderful time for Roberta. She had her own money, and she and her friends went to dances, movies, and roller skating. She met her husband, Kenneth Butin, at a roller skating rink.

Roberta and Kenny were married on May 24, 1947, and a year later Cathy was born. A year after that they moved to Willits, where Mike and Carolyn were born. Roberta worked as a bookkeeper at Plywood and then at Swift Auto Parts, then at Little Lake Auto Parts, where she worked until she retired.

Roberta had many hobbies. She took tole painting classes, quilted, crocheted, tatted, sewed, and raised a garden every year. She canned her own fruit and vegetables from the garden. Roberta also enjoyed traveling with her sisters.

Roberta is survived by her daughters Cathy Mickle, Carolyn Geller and husband Ted, and unofficially adopted daughter Cathy Bouthillier. She was preceded in death by her son Mike, her husband, Kenny, her parents, and five of her siblings. She is also survived by her grandchildren Jeff Mickle, Stacy Cullum, Kenny Butin, Jenny Tayco, Sherrie Anderson, Monica Steelman, Mark Geller, Katie Jeane, Kevin Bouthillier, 20 great-grandchildren, and three great-great-grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the LDS (Mormon) church on Saturday, June 29, 2024 at 11 am.



# Dynamic duo Bug Guts at WCT Playhouse, June 14

By Steve Hellman, for WCT

The alternative folk duo Bug Guts comes to Willits Community Theatre on Friday, June 14 at 7:30 pm. Dynamic lyrics and witty good times are coupled with intricate guitar weaves. as the husband-and-wife team of Scott Ireland and Rosebud highlight songs like "I Gave Away My Favorite Thing" and "Anne Frank's Vision."

The Northern California couple describe themselves as a dynamic duo. "When it comes to us being categorized as alternative folk," Rosebud says, "It's not just kumbaya; it's more complex. We see ourselves as awareness activists, and also we're having a really good time."

It was back in the 1980s in San Diego that the two first jammed together, and their magical connection was made. Now more than 30 years into perfecting their artistry, the duo has experimented through a variety of musical incarnations. They have released five albums under their Bug Guts moniker, all blending Alternative, Folk, Punk, Experimental and Americana genres.

Together the pair have won numerous songwriting awards and shared the stage with such talents as Shawn Colvin, Gillian Welch, Jason Mraz, and Jewel. They sold out their show earlier this year at the 200-seat Borrego Hot Springs Performing Arts Center.

With their smooth, rich harmonies, mind-tickling lyrics, and guitar work, the duo brings their act to the WCT Playhouse for the first time, promising to deliver a deliciously joyous and raucous show. Tickets are \$20 and available online at: www.wctperformingartscenter.org and at the door, 37 West Van Lane.

**Bug Guts**  
Bringing their unique blend of clever lyrics, humor, virtuosic musicianship, & just plain fun.

Willits Community Theatre  
June 14, 7:30 pm  
wctperformingartscenter.org

# MLT to manage conservation easements on Big River, Salmon Creek forestlands

Submitted by MLT

After more than two years working together, The Conservation Fund and the Mendocino Land Trust are pleased to announce that TCF has conveyed two conservation easements of forestland along the Big River and Salmon Creek in Mendocino County to MLT. The two conservation easements, 11,707 acres along Big River (west and south of Willits), and 4,389 acres along Salmon Creek, comprise more than 16,000 acres.

"MLT is delighted to be able to take over the perpetual role of monitoring and enforcing the conservation easements on these two stunning and large acreages," said Conrad Kramer, MLT's executive director. "It is always a pleasure to work with our friends at The Conservation Fund, and we are particularly pleased to be involved with these acreages that benefit our local economy, our local wildlife, and our global climate."

"Land conservation efforts such as this benefit our communities as much as they benefit wildlife," said Holly Newberger, program manager at TCF. "Clean water is something we all need – and the result of this work will help ensure the people, animals and plants around Mendocino County can thrive together well into the future. As the local expert and as a mission-driven organization, MLT is the ideal caretaker for this property. We at TCF couldn't have asked for a better outcome."

These forests are richly productive and particularly important to the conservation of the endangered coho salmon, steelhead trout, and northern spotted owl. The Big River Forest is in the middle portion of the Big River Watershed and contains tributaries, including the Little North Fork, Two Log Creek, and Laguna Creek as well as a central portion of the main stem of the Big River. The Big River Forest is 11,707 acres and the Salmon Creek Forest is 4,389 acres.

The Salmon Creek Forest is located three miles southeast of the town of Albion along the mainstream of Salmon Creek and is situated between Albion Ridge and Navarro Ridge Roads.

Both of these conservation easements and their land are high-priority watersheds for anadromous salmonids as identified in California's "Recovery Strategy for California Coho Salmon."

The combined forests include 34 miles of fish bearing streams, 41 miles of perennial streams, associated riparian

habitats, four major sub-basins currently supporting coho, and an array of additional sensitive species. The size and locations of the forests provide significant contributions to the integrity and ecological viability of their respective watersheds and the larger ecoregion.

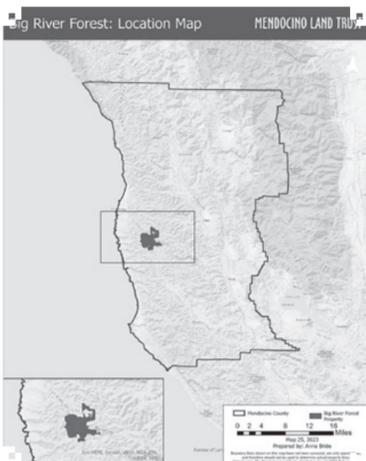
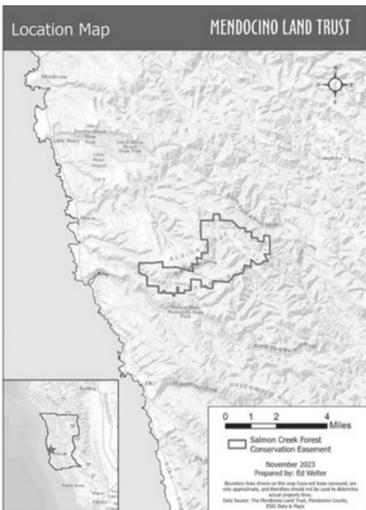
The forests are typical of the north coast of California, dominated by native conifers (primarily redwood and Douglas fir) and adapted to the steep slopes and heavy rainfall common to the region. Old-growth redwoods and other conifer species, along with hardwoods, will be protected forever.

Forest Management Plans have been updated and prepared for both forests. The forests will continue to be managed as working forests that will maintain and enhance habitat conditions for the northern spotted owl, coho salmon, and steelhead trout by increasing structural diversity, high canopy closure, late seral forest characteristics, and the maturity of the riparian forests that promote and restore coldwater fisheries.

The Mendocino Land Trust will be responsible for monitoring activities on the properties, ensuring that the conservation easement provisions are followed and that forest management is consistent with the Forest Management Plans.

Both properties were acquired in November 2006 by TCF with the support of the State Coastal Conservancy, Wildlife Conservation Board, State Water Board, and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. The Conservation Fund will continue to own and manage the properties.

To learn more, visit <https://www.mendocinolandtrust.org/> or <https://www.conservationfund.org/>



Above: A walk among the redwoods in the Big River acreage.

The rest of **Reading** | From page 14

Additionally, for the second year running, Ukiah Branch Library will be attending pop-up events where summer lunches are served with books and activities in tow. Willits, Fort Bragg, and Round Valley Branch Libraries are adding Lunch at the Library pop-up events in their communities as well.

It wouldn't be a Summer Reading Program without some performers. Fort Bragg, Ukiah, and Willits Branch Libraries will be hosting Magical Nathaniel on either June 14 or 15 (Saturday, June 15 from 10 to 11 am at the Willits Library) for their launch events. Coast Community Branch will have Pop and Go Puppets on June 15. All branch libraries will host the swashbuckling, rib-tickling, magical mayhem of pirate Jack Spareribs on July 5 and 6. Finally, as the finale event, Coast, Round Valley, Willits, and Ukiah branch libraries will have the always-popular Conservation Ambassadors' Wild Things on August 9 and 10. Gabe will discuss the diversity of life on Earth and tell the stories of the amazing animals in his care.

There are plenty of literacy activities in store for Mendocino County Library patrons this summer as they "Read, Renew, Repeat."

For more information, please view [www.mendolibrary.org](http://www.mendolibrary.org) or contact the Mendocino County Library at 234-2873. Visit "Mendocino County Library" on Facebook to keep up with events.

# Lee, renueva y repite este verano Con la Biblioteca del Condado de Mendocino

La biblioteca del condado de Mendocino celebra el aprendizaje durante el programa de lectura de verano con el tema "Leer, renovar, repetir".

"Nuestras sucursales de la biblioteca están celebrando el ciclo de la lectura ofreciendo libros para crear bibliotecas personales en muchos de nuestros eventos, tanto en la biblioteca como en la comunidad", dijo Mellisa Hannum, bibliotecaria del condado de Mendocino. "Se ha demostrado que tener una colección personal de libros favorece el desarrollo de la alfabetización en niños y adolescentes".

Las oportunidades de aprendizaje incluyen más que libros, con artistas profesionales y programas centrados en ciencia, tecnología, ingeniería y matemáticas. Además, habrá almuerzos gratuitos durante Lunch at the Library, un programa de comidas de verano financiado por la California Summer Meal Coalition (CSMC) y la California Library Association (CLA).

"Cualquiera que haya trabajado con niños sabe que si tienen hambre, el aprendizaje se detiene", dijo Hannum. "Este año, la biblioteca del condado de Mendocino se complace en ofrecer acceso a almuerzos gratuitos a jóvenes menores de 18 años en una variedad de formatos gracias a asociaciones comunitarias".

Por segundo año consecutivo, la biblioteca sucursal de Coast Community tendrá almuerzos disponibles en la biblioteca de martes a viernes al mediodía a partir del 25 de junio y hasta el 9 de agosto. Estas son las mismas comidas equilibradas y nutritivas que se ofrecen a través del distrito escolar de Point Arena, y Hannum declaró que estaba agradecida por la colaboración continua con el sistema escolar.

Además, por segundo año consecutivo, la biblioteca sucursal de Ukiah asistirá a eventos temporales donde se servirán almuerzos de verano con libros y actividades. Las bibliotecas sucursales de Willits, Fort Bragg y Round Valley también están agregando eventos emergentes de almuerzo en la biblioteca en sus comunidades.

No sería un programa de lectura de verano sin algunos artistas. Las bibliotecas Fort Bragg, Ukiah y Willits albergarán a Magical Nathaniel el 14 o 15 de junio de 2024 para sus eventos de lanzamiento. La biblioteca de Coast tendrá Pop and Go Puppets el 15 de junio de 2024. Todas las sucursales de la biblioteca albergarán el caos mágico, intrépido y tonto del pirata Jack Spareribs los días 5 y 6 de julio de 2024. Finalmente, como evento final, Coast, Round Valley, Willits y Ukiah tendrán el siempre popular Wild Things de los Embajadores de la Conservación los días 9 y 10 de agosto de 2024. Gabe hablará sobre la diversidad de la vida en la Tierra y contará las historias de los increíbles animales que están bajo su cuidado.

Hay muchas actividades de alfabetización reservadas para los usuarios de la Biblioteca del Condado de Mendocino este verano mientras "Leen, Renuevan, Repiten". Los eventos podrán realizarse en inglés.

Para obtener más información, visite [www.mendolibrary.org](http://www.mendolibrary.org) o comuníquese con la biblioteca del condado de Mendocino al 234-2873.



Magical Nathaniel.

**SUMMER READING at the LIBRARY**  
June 15 to August 10 Sign up!

At right: "Magical Nathaniel," professional magician and UC Berkeley math graduate who designs and builds his own magic illusions, kicks off the Summer Reading Program at the Willits Library on Saturday, June 15, from 10 to 11 am.



# Summer Reading at the Mendocino County Library starts June 15

Submitted by Mendocino County Library

Mendocino County Library is celebrating learning during the Summer Reading Program with the theme, "Read, Renew, Repeat." Summer Reading kicks off on June 15 and goes through August 10.

"Our library branches are celebrating the cycle of reading by offering books to build personal libraries at many of their events, both at the library and in the community," said Mendocino County Librarian Mellisa Hannum. "Having a personal collection of books has been shown to support literacy development in children and teens."

The opportunities for learning include more than books, with professional entertainers and programs focused on science, technology, engineering, and math. Plus, there will be free lunches during Lunch at the Library, a summer meal program funded by the California Summer Meal

Coalition and the California Library Association.

"Anyone who has worked with kids knows that if they're hungry, learning stops," said Hannum. "This year, Mendocino County Library is pleased to coordinate with community partners to offer access to free lunches and library activities to youth 18 and under."

For the second year in a row, Coast Community Branch Library will have lunches available at the library each Tuesday through Friday at noon beginning June 25 and continuing through August 9. These are the same balanced, nutritious meals offered through the Point Arena School District, and Hannum stated that she was grateful for the ongoing partnership with the school system.

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

**WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS**

More info and entry forms: [www.WillitsFrontierDays.com](http://www.WillitsFrontierDays.com)

**2024 Schedule of Events**  
Infants aged 2 and under are admitted for free to WFD events. Prices, dates and events subject to change.

**Friday, June 21: HOMETOWN CELEBRATION**  
Main Street - Downtown Willits | 5 to 9 pm

**Saturday, June 22: SWEETHEART JUDGING**  
Appearance & Poise  
10 am | Rodeo Grounds

**Sunday, June 23: HORSESHOW**  
Jack Sharp Arena | 8 am

**SWEETHEART JUDGING**  
Horsemanship:  
During Horse Show | Jack Sharp Arena

**Friday, June 28: CARNIVAL OPENS**  
**TRUCK & TRACTOR PULLS**  
Jack Sharp Arena | 6 pm  
Adult: \$20, Child (12 & under): \$10

**STREET DANCE**  
featuring Flat Busted  
Following truck pulls | Free

**Sunday, June 30: SWEETHEART CROWNED**

Thank you to our major sponsors for 2024

**Friday, July 3: Wednesday, July 3: CCPRA PROFESSIONAL RODEO**  
7 pm | Jack Sharp Arena  
Box: \$25, Adult: \$20, Child (12 & under): \$10

**WESTERN DANCE**  
featuring Chad Bushnell  
Following rodeo | Free

**Thursday, July 4: HORSESHOE CONTEST**  
Rec Grove Park | 10 am

**PARADE "Cowboys and Cadillacs"**  
Main Street - Downtown Willits | 11 am

**COUNTRY MUSIC RODEOLA**  
Rec Grove Park | Noon

**BEEF BARBECUE**  
Rec Grove Park | Noon  
Adult: \$20 & Child (12 & under)/Senior: \$12

**CCPRA PROFESSIONAL RODEO**  
Jack Sharp Arena | 4 pm  
Box: \$25, Adult: \$20, Child (12 & under): \$10

**Friday, July 5: LIONS COWBOY BREAKFAST**  
Rec Grove Park | 7 am  
Adult: \$13, Child (12 & under): \$9

**JUNIOR RODEO**  
Jack Sharp Arena | 8 am  
Adult: \$10, Child (12 & under): \$5

**Saturday, July 6: NEW THIS YEAR! BULLS & BRONCS:** Jack Sharp Arena | 7 pm | Adult: \$10, Child (12 & under): \$5

**DUMP DAYS**  
June 25- June 29; Vouchers Available June 10!

Dump up to 2 Cubic Yards for Free!

We can accept:  
HOUSEHOLD ITEMS ONLY  
FURNITURE • APPLIANCES  
LARGE / BULKY ITEMS  
MATTRESSES  
GREEN WASTE

We CANNOT accept:  
HAZARDOUS WASTE  
BUSINESS WASTE  
CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS  
COMMERCIAL TIRES  
TIRES ON RIMS

Bring your items to:  
WILLITS TRANSFER STATION

Obtain your Voucher today by bringing your ID and proof of Willits Residency to the water/electric bill box.  
FIRST COME FIRST SERVE CITY HALL MONDAY, JUNE 10TH

Contact for details: [Cstack@cityofwillits.org](mailto:Cstack@cityofwillits.org)  
Sponsored by the CalTrans Clean California Local Grant Program

Above: Thanks to a grant from Clean California, the City of Willits is offering free Dump Days vouchers to city residents. Come by Willits City Hall, 111 East Commercial Street, Monday through Thursday, 9 am to 5:30 pm, to pick up the free vouchers.

Make sure to bring ID and proof of City of Willits residence, i.e., a utility bill showing your address. This grant was obtained by the City of Willits for residents inside city limits, so residents of Little Lake Valley, Brooktrails or any other area in the 95490 zip code are not eligible.

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The rest of **Ranch** | From page 10

invocation of ranching and livestock. She is additionally a talented singer. Her band can be heard at many events in the county.

"I've been painting my whole life, but formally for about 35 years, since a little before college. I was down in Los Angeles, where I went to art school for a couple years at the Art Center School of Design. My mom got cancer, so I had to come back to Covelo to take care of her and I ended up just staying here.

"I ended up just painting this place because this is what I know – I grew up on a ranch – so horses, cattle, people, the roads, and the rivers. These ranch kids that I grew up with, neighbors across the field and down the road, they took photos and gave them to me to paint. They've been following my art the whole time," explained Jensen.

"I've been watching my friends' pages on Facebook and could see how good they were becoming at taking photos. So, I thought we should just have a group show of as much beauty as possible. These are the people who have helped me paint, sharing the love of the land and the animals and life and cheering me on all these years." In addition to the seven ranch artists, Jensen's stunning art can be seen throughout the gallery.

Susie Rohrbough has lived in Covelo all her life and is a fourth-generation rancher with two more generations, children and grandchildren following her. "I spent lots of time in the hills on our ranch and over the years to capture this beautiful, majestic area," she wrote in her artist statement.

Randall Vann grew up "in the beauty of Round Valley. I'm honored to be part of Marjo's R.A.N.C.H. show and value our longtime friendship," Vann said. His images, although captured with an iPhone have the look of a professional photograph in their exposure and cropping.

"I've been ranching most of my life," said Chelci Barney, "and I love to photograph all the things surrounding me on the ranch. My favorite photos include views from behind my horse's ears. It's a beautiful life and I like to share it."

Kristi Thieman is a transplant to Covelo and has lived there for more than two decades. "Covelo has provided us with so many life lessons and wonderful times in the dirt, barns, corrals, vegetable gardens, hay fields, and the unforgettable Eel River," said Thieman, loving the spontaneous moments of being in the right place at the right time.

June Marie Drewry and her daughter, Vonnie Daniels, are represented posthumously, as they both passed away in 2020. Vonnie's daughter, Sarah Daniels, was instrumental in helping Jensen mount the show, as well as showing her own work. Sarah Daniels inherited her love of art from both her mom and grandmother and displays their work on her professional photography website <https://bellspringsphotography.com/>.

"Now my focus is on floral, wildlife, and landscape photography. At last, I feel I've found my own vision of what I seek for my photography work. Photography is my passion," explained Sarah Daniels.

For those who know Covelo, and for those who don't, this exhibit is a lovingly realized invocation of life in Round Valley that shows how art can be created out of the artist's environment, how they find the artistic, even in a life filled with dust, dirt, and hard work. It is how they perceive their surroundings and bring the viewers' focus to that which they love.

The rest of **Airport** | From page 12

He went on to tell about the young pilot, who he's been mentoring since the kid was 10, when he asked if he could take a photo of Wilder's airplane: "The young man who is flying it is currently rated for commercial and instrument, and in a couple weeks, he'll be taking his check ride and he'll be a certified flight instructor.

"He knew from age 5 that he wanted to be a pilot," said Wilder. "I've been assisting him to realize his dream. His name is Zhidao. I encountered him in Ukiah with his camera. He asked politely if he could photograph my Piper PA-12. I showed him the airplane and let him sit in it. I flew back to Boonville thinking I'd never see him again.

"I flew there the following year and there he was with his camera, waiting for me. I took him up and let him fly the airplane and he was remarkable from day one. We got him a \$10,000 scholarship from the club in 2020. The program for which he accepted the scholarship is a 12-month course. He completed it in 35 days and got his license."

Bob Gutteridge built his own kit plane which lives at the Santa Rosa Charles M. Schulz Airport. "I've been flying for about 40 years," he explained. "I put this airplane together. It's a Jabiru 230. This has a 100-foot [area] wing. The plane is made of fiberglass. I had to do the assembly work to get the wings bolted on. The hinges for the flaps have to be glued on. Putting the windshield in is the hardest part." Gutteridge has flown the plane as far as Alaska. He enjoys sightseeing and doesn't care if his airplane will go fast.

Pilots landed for the get-together throughout the day, enjoyed some cheeseburgers and the fellowship of others with similar knowledge and interests.

ESTD. 1993

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### Cuddly Goose

Are you ready for a forever companion who's as sweet as they come? Goose is the one for you! This hound boy is bursting with love and looking for his forever home. Goose's hobbies include playing ball, savoring delicious treats, and being showered with affection. He may take a little time to trust, but once he does, you'll have a loyal friend for life.

His gentle eyes reflect the love he's ready to share with his new family. He's a big baby. His favorite thing is to have a warm blanket from the dryer to cuddle with. He's longing for his own people to bond with, and he's ready for new adventures. Come take a walk with Goose and experience his amazing charm firsthand.

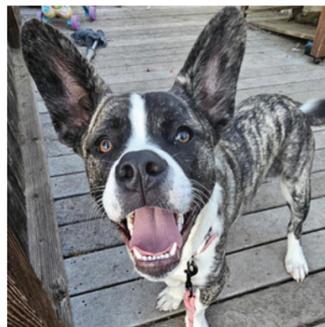
To learn more about Goose, or to view other adoptable animals, visit [www.milofoundation.org](http://www.milofoundation.org) or the Milo Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions by appointment only. Please complete a pet-adoption application before requesting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

### Please help Lucy

With 150 animals in HSMC care, our resources are being stretched thin, and we're asking our community for support once again. One of our rescue dogs, Lucy, has had several medical issues and we need help! We want to give Lucy the best chance at a pain-free life and continue her pathway to finding her a family. Your donations can make a significant difference in her journey.

Lucy arrived at our shelter as an adorable, bright-eyed, fun loving puppy, ready to embrace life. But Lucy was peeing more than a normal puppy and at times without control. Exams with our vet couldn't pinpoint the source of the problem with routine testing, but they suspected an ectopic ureter. We were referred to UC Davis for a consult and ultrasound to get to the root cause of her incontinence.

But then another twist - while waiting for her appointment at UC Davis, Lucy injured her left forelimb. The injury has led to elbow dysplasia, a condition that will cause her pain as she grows unless treated. In addition, her growth plate closed early, making it more complex than initially thought. Lucy went in for surgery in May and it went well but it is far from over for little Lucy.



To get to a less painful life for this young puppy still so full of life and love, we are looking at more appointments, possibly another surgery, and even physical therapy. Her vet costs are adding up quickly. While we help Lucy focus on the next six weeks of healing, we are hoping you can help us help Lucy with donations to alleviate some of the financial burden this surgery and recovery will have.

How you can help: Donate toward Lucy's medical bills (current estimate of \$5,000) and foster or adopt to help us free up resources for pets like Lucy who need the extra support! Thank you for helping us make miracles happen for this deserving girl!

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](http://www.mendohumanesociety.com), on our Facebook page, and on [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com).

### Beautiful Dora



Dora landed here as an owner surrender at no fault of her own. She loves to be petted, is mellow, and seems to enjoy a soft bed. Dora does not like to be picked up, but may jump onto a lap for loves and attention.

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](http://www.mendoanimalshelter.com). Call 707-467-6453 for more information.

## Happy Father's Day

to dads and father-figures in the Willits community!



Happy Father's Day, and Topah's Day! Glad you got 'the loud one' going! We love you!



Happy Father's Day, sweet husband! You are still #thebesthuman and I love you!



Johan Rivera with our new baby Brisa. This is his first Father's Day and we want to give him a huge shoutout for being such an amazing father to our beautiful baby girl! Happy Father's Day Johan!!



Mark and Raylan Brinkerhoff. Happy Dada Day!



Happy Father's Day! We love you xoxo.



Happy Heavenly Father's Day. We miss you.



Billy Potter (my amazing dad) and me, Amarah Potter.



John Julius and Jennifer Darr Julius, December 1991. Happy Father's Day.



Happy Father's Day to the best dad a girl could ask for! Bryan and Jannie.



Happy Father's Day to the best, hardest-working dad in the world. We love you so much.



Sophia Whitman and BJ Whitman, 2024.



Skip Lucier and Alison Daniels.

American Legion Post 174 invites you to a

# BEER WAGON RAFFLE

Funding our Boy's State & High School Scholarships

Enter to win an  
**ALL-TERRAIN RADIO FLYER WAGON,  
LOADED WITH CRAFT BEER!**

Once the wagon is full, secondary winners will receive the overflow!

**TICKETS \$10 EA. (3 FOR \$25)  
ON SALE JUNE 12<sup>TH</sup> • DRAWING JULY 4<sup>TH</sup>**

Tickets can be purchased by contacting one of our Post Legionnaires, or request tickets and have them mailed to you upon receipt of your remittance.

You need not be present to win.

**21+ to participate. Please drink responsibly.**  
American Legion Post 174, P.O. Box 856, Willits, CA 95490  
For further assistance, call one of the following phone numbers:  
Roger: 707-456-9858, Curtis: 707-513-7561

# 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**  
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