

Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

Online & Print

Willits Weekly newspaper

welcome summer

WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS
"COWBOYS & CADDIS" JUNE & JULY 2024

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits
Donations Accepted Edition No. 555 **Thursday, June 20, 2024**

Brooktrails district budget looking good

Barbara O'Reardon
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

The Brooktrails Township Community Services District board meeting went along like clockwork on Tuesday, June 11. All board members were present as President Tina Tyler O'Shea announced individual public hearings for each item on the agenda.

Tyler-O'Shea read through each item:

- Public Hearing for Resolution 2024-07 Amending Resolution

Read the rest of **Brooktrails**

Over on Page 6

Little Lake Firefighters letter to the community

Submitted by Little Lake Firefighters Association

The Little Lake Firefighters Association is a non-profit organization made up of 40+ volunteers who respond to our community's fires, rescues, and other emergencies 24 hours a day, 365 days a year! The money raised from this summer's 96th annual Open House Fundraiser will be used to purchase specialized equipment to provide the most current training and education to your volunteer firefighters, and to fund other vital activities of the association.

With your donation of \$10 per ticket, you have a chance to win some great

Read the rest of **LLFD**

Over on Page 6

Preliminary hearing in Cubbison case set for July 25

By Mike Geniella, mendofever.com

After weeks of delay and the release of hundreds of pages of internal documents, the long-delayed criminal case against suspended Mendocino County Auditor Chamise Cubbison is set to begin on July 25.

If the preliminary hearing proceeds as scheduled, the public will get its first look at a controversial case filed by District Attorney David Eyster against a fellow elected county official he publicly quarreled with over disputed spending practices involving drug asset forfeiture funds.

The case's outcome is likely to determine

Read the rest of **Cubbison**

Over on Page 6



Photos by Maureen Jennison

Above, from left: Dill already bolted, with the yellow flowers resembling fireworks.

Raised "chaos beds" – above a yellow summer squash – contain nasturtium, salvia, zinnia, parsley, sunflowers, rosemary, sage, and a dogwood tree.

A sunflower bud starts to get down to the business of becoming a flower.

At right: This lovely *Nigella hispanica*, 'Alabaster', is a black-and-white variety of the commonly known blue version of "Love in a Mist."

Gorgeous Garden Growth

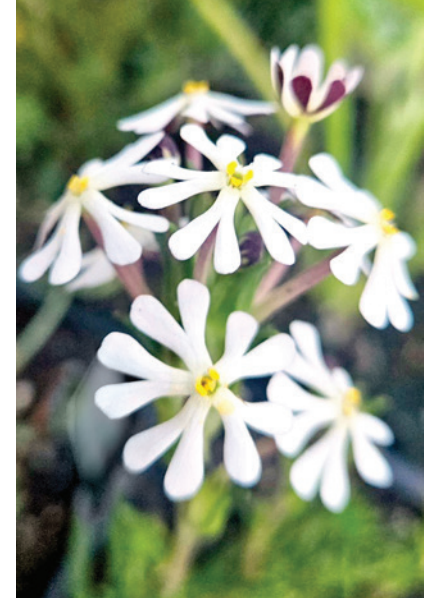
The first few really warm days have rocketed the garden forward, allowing the first blooms to emerge, baby veggies to begin, and a growth spurt for tomatoes, sunflowers, and vining crops, too.

This year, I tried the no-dig, cardboard method for prepping the garden, laying down sheets

of compostable cardboard on top of the non-weeded beds, and then topping with a mix of soil, manure, and compost.

Not weeding, watering less, and still being able to easily puncture the cardboard to plant, and to stake tomatoes, has been amazing. 10/10.

– Maureen Jennison



Above, from left: *Amaranthus caudatus*, 'Love-Lies-A-Bleeding' has blooms in the most amazing shade of magenta, emerging from bright green leaves. Another "chaos box" that was planted with seeds last month contains sunflowers, marigolds, and what I hope will be breadseed poppies, and a volunteer corn stalk which must have been in the compost. *Zaluzianskya capensis*, 'Midnight Candy' blooms only overnight and lets off a fragrance on point with hot butter cake, iced with vanilla frosting, cooling on a windowsill. Recommended to plant outside bedroom windows. Below, left: A tendril from a pumpkin plant grabs on, getting ready to climb.



Above, center: *Nasturtium* flowers shine a bright vivid orange against the green leaves. Thornless blackberries are still in the flowering stage behind the one "Indigo Rose" tomato we were able to find. Below, from left: One of four *Magnolia* trees we planted finally bloomed, the beautiful white petals unfurling to reveal the textured stamen and carpels inside. Named after the flower, Maggie really enjoys picking raspberries. Like many people with an Instagram account, we were inspired to try growing pumpkins and squash on a metal, arched cattle panel for a wow factor and a horizontal space-saver. While cattle panels are the internet's chosen answer for that structure, we used the same garden arch we stood under during our wedding a few years ago instead. Yarrow sits in the foreground.



City prepared for June 22 power outage

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Willits City Council members heard at their June 12 meeting that the city was "well prepared" for PG&E's June 22 overnight power shutdown to 6,000 area customers. PG&E says the complete shutdown is necessary to safely upgrade and replace equipment at the Willits substation.

With an existing backup power supply for city systems like street lights and turn signals, and

Read the rest of **Outage**

Over on Page 6

Little Lake Fire board gets updates

Annie Evarts
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Mendocino County's Third District Supervisor John Haschak shared news on a ballot sent out to Brooktrails / Sherwood Corridor residents at last week's meeting of the board of directors for the Little Lake Fire Protection District.

The ballot asks property owners along the Sherwood Corridor to vote on an annual fee to cover the cost of maintaining emergency access roads. Maintenance for these roads has been paid for by grants in the past.

"It's a one-way-in, one-way-out community" said

Read the rest of **Updates**

Over on Page 6

Highway 101 control burn postponed

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Due to wildfires burning in the north region, the California Department of Transportation announced on Sunday evening that the start of a month-long prescribed burn along Highway 101 had been postponed.

The control burn was planned to start on Monday, June 17, at the Ukiah Ranch Road south of Ukiah, and finish around July 17, at the top of Ridgewood Grade south of Willits. CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit and local fire agencies were conducting the burn, with Caltrans.

This was before the many wildfires that started in

Read the rest of **Postponed**

Over on Page 11

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

No to proposed 'sphere of influence'

To the Editor:

I disappointingly received a City of Willits letter notifying me and my community – I live on Locust Street – of the city's desire to make our neighborhood an "inclusion in the City of Willits Sphere of Influence."

NO... NO... NO...! As I speak with my neighbors, that is their most often-spoken answer.

Many years ago I traveled in the nation of Nepal. We were taken along the border of China. There on the Chinese side of the road was parked road making machinery: graders, bulldozers, trucks.

The Nepalese guides said this equipment was there for some years to let the Nepalese population know that anytime China wanted they can roll over the border into Nepal. That is how the Willits Water Tank on Locust Street always seemed like. A foot into the neighborhood for a possible takeover.

Many here feel if they wanted to live in Willits, we would have bought our homes there. We are glad to shop and give economy to our neighbor community. We do not need Willits to oversee our rules. As county residential properties we are FINE.

Please speak up for or against. If you don't want this political economic land grab ... speak loudly! Should we be allowed to vote on this option, vote no. Write letters to the city and county to express your wishes. Thank you.

David Pollin, Willits

A PROCLAMATION OF THE WILLITS CITY COUNCIL

Designating Willits Western Wear Days

98th Willits Frontier Days, June 21st through July 4th, 2024

WHEREAS, Willits Frontier Days is the oldest continuous rodeo in the State of California and this year's theme, "Cowboys and Cadillacs," marks the 98th staging of Willits Frontier Days, an event that draws visitors from all over to celebrate Independence Day as well as our historic community; and

WHEREAS, each year, this event is run solely by hardworking volunteers, with many hours dedicated to putting together this traditional event; and

WHEREAS, this annual community event instills great pride in all of us who call Willits home, past and present; and

WHEREAS, this past year had its challenges as contractors, Frontier Days volunteers, and City crews, pulled together to complete the repairs to facilities damaged during the December 2022 storm. The dedication shown by these groups ensured the wonderful event will take place at the Rodeo Grounds this year. Therefore, the City Council extends our gratitude to Willits Frontier Days for their patience and understanding during the construction.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Saprina Rodriguez, Mayor of the City of Willits, along with Vice Mayor Gerardo Gonzales, and Council Members Larry Stranske, Madge Strong, and Greta Kanne, do hereby proclaim June 21st through July 4th, 2024, as "Western Wear Days" in the City of Willits and encourage all who enter our community to join us in the rodeo spirit by wearing western apparel.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the Seal of the CITY OF WILLITS to be affixed this 12th day of June, 2024.

Signed by: Saprina Rodriguez, Mayor

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 20: Herbed Pork Loin, Rice Pilaf, Veggies, Roll

Friday, June 21: Shrimp Louie Salad, Garlic Bread
Monday, June 24: Tuna Salad Sandwich, Pickle, Chips

Tuesday, June 25: Smothered Spanish Pork Chops over Rice

Wednesday, June 26: Ground Beef Tacos, Rice & Beans

Thursday, June 27: Chicken Salad Sandwich, Pickle, Chips

Friday, June 28: Turkey, Stuffing, Gravy, Cranberry, Veggies, Roll

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 Jollana 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.



Above, left: Laurie Bee did this rock for Sparetime Garden Center. Above, right: The Brown's Corner rock is a bit whimsical and tells something about the store.

At right: Laurie Bee created this sandwich-looking rock for Subway.

Below: Laurie Bee holds up the Willits Weekly logo rock which will be displayed at the Farmers Market.

Photos by Mathew Caine



Photos by Mathew Caine



'Willits Rocks!'

Laurie Bee entertains herself and supports local businesses by painting logos on rocks

"I can reasonably do about three per day and then things like the dishes don't get done because I just get totally absorbed in doing the rocks," mused rock painter Laurie Burghardt, also known as Laurie Bee. After over 100 painted stones, she is still going strong and looking for great logos with which to adorn her subjects.

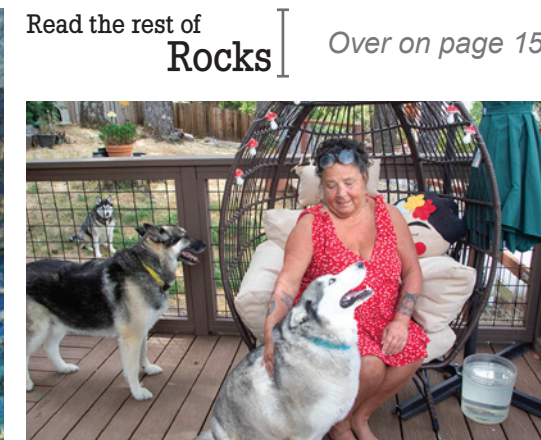
Retirement from teaching has left Burghardt with too much time on her hands that even her three large, sweet canines can't fill. She has been creating the painted rocks to support local businesses and to promote the idea of shopping locally in order to keep revenue in town and help the shops to flourish and stay in business.

"I've always liked painting, but about three years ago, I

retired," Burghardt continued. "I've had a hard adjustment, not having something to do constantly. Our yard is just full of rocks, so I started painting rocks. I joined a Facebook group called Willits Rocks! [https://www.facebook.com/groups/376748052742026].

"Every day is a different challenge in the group," she said. "I was painting things I wouldn't normally paint and wondered what I was going to do with each rock. I started putting them around town. Every day was a different challenge. One day you might paint a parrot and another day, a hamburger. That got me started on the business thing. One of the challenges was to paint a cherry pie and I thought it would be so cute for Kemmy's Pies. Another assignment was to paint a burger. I thought it would be perfect for 101 Burgers."

Read the rest of Rocks | Over on page 15



At left: The Willits Community Theatre proudly displays this rock in their lobby. Above: Laurie Bee's dogs are quick to greet any visitors, except for the shy Allie.

MCOG offers online workshop on Road Safety plans, June 27

Submitted by MCOG

The Mendocino Council of Governments has hired a consultant to update Local Road Safety/Action Plans for the County of Mendocino, and the cities of Fort Bragg, Point Arena, Ukiah, and Willits. These updated safety plans will enable local jurisdictions to enhance safety for all modes of transportation for all ages and abilities, and will aid in seeking state and federal grant funding to implement priority safety projects.

MCOG invites the public to a virtual public workshop on Thursday, June 27, 2024, from 6 to 7:30 pm, to hear a presentation on the project and offer input. The presentation will cover draft safety projects and provide a period for discussion and questions.

For Zoom meeting access and additional information, visit the project website at www.mendoroadsafetyplan.com/. This project is funded with state grant funds provided by Caltrans.

Contact MCOG project manager Loretta Ellard at lellard@dbcteam.net or 707-234-3434 with any questions.

Bureau of Land Management issues seasonal fire restrictions

Posted by BLM

The Bureau of Land Management is issuing seasonal fire restrictions for public lands managed by the Mother Lode and Ukiah field offices effective Wednesday, June 12, due to dry conditions and wildland fire danger. These seasonal restrictions are in addition to the year-round, statewide fire prevention order, the Mother Lode Field Office and Ukiah Field Office seasonal fire order will remain in effect until further notice. See year-round statewide order here: www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/BLM0021206_CA%20Statewide%20Fire%20Order_final_508.pdf.

The BLM-managed public lands affected by these fire restrictions are in Amador, Calaveras, Colusa, El Dorado, Glenn, Lake, Marin, Mariposa, Mendocino, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Tuolumne, Yolo and Yuba counties.

"It has become necessary to implement additional fire restrictions as temperatures rise, leading to increasingly dry conditions in the district," advises Central California District Fire Management Officer Dave Brinsfield. "We ask that visitors follow these restrictions and do their part to help us minimize fire potential when visiting public lands."

On average, human-caused wildfires make up 95 percent of all wildfires in California. Many of these wildfires occur close in proximity to roadways, communities and recreational areas, posing considerable threat to public safety. Taking individual responsibility to reduce wildfire risk, while recreating on public lands, around homes and communities, before a fire occurs, can help keep property, the public and firefighters safe.

The following restrictions will remain in place until the fire danger subsides:

- **No campfires, briquette/charcoal barbeques, or stove fires** are allowed outside of agency-provided fire rings or barbeques at designated developed recreation sites.

- **No smoking**, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, or a developed campground with a three-foot diameter area clear of brush and all flammable materials.

Read the rest of Restrictions | Over on page 13

Willits Weekly publishes Wednesday for 4th of July week

Since the July 4th holiday falls on a Thursday this year, Willits Weekly will publish its Independence Day edition on Wednesday, July 3, 2024.

Newspapers will hit the boxes and distribution points Wednesday morning, but subscribers should expect their 4th of July papers on their regular schedule.

Deadline for submission every week is always end of day Monday, and that won't change - but earlier submissions are especially welcome on a holiday week, and late submissions are less likely to make the paper that week.

Thank you all for your contributions to Willits Weekly!

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.

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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willitsweekly@gmail.com / www.willitsweekly.com

Jennifer Poole, publisher and editor / willitsweekly@gmail.com / 707-459-2633

Maureen (Moore) Jennison, art director and photographer / willitsweekly@gmail.com / 707-972-7047

Jackie Cobbs, features editor

Mathew Caine, photographer / features writer

Barbara O'Reardon, Broctonails reporter

Annie Everts, reporter / features writer

Danya Davis, Police Log

Margi Gomez Guhde, features writer / reporter

Sheri Dockins, sports reporter

Ava Dockins, sports photographer

April Tweddell, ad sales / 707-972-2475 / willitsweekly@gmail.com

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Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

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Above: Laurie Bee displays her Toy Depot rock complete with engine and their logo. Below: This Chamber of Commerce rock has a detailed design.



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ESTD. 1993

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IN WILLITS

LIC# 679517
KARA@GARMANCONSTRUCTION.COM

Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword



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

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!

Level: Advanced

GREAT GARDEN WORD SEARCH

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

- | | | |
|-----------|------------|-----------|
| ANNUAL | DROUGHT | MULCH |
| CLAY | FERTILIZER | PERENNIAL |
| CLIMATE | FILLER | ROOTS |
| CLIMBING | HARDINESS | SHADE |
| COMPOST | HOSE | SOIL |
| CONTAINER | HOUSEPLANT | SUN |
| DAPPLIED | IRRIGATE | TOLERANCE |
| DECIDUOUS | MOUNDED | TRAILING |

	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 Mattingly
- 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

CLUES DOWN

- Witch
- Utilize
- Writing utensil
- Places to perform
- Subsides
- Consume
- Athleisure clothing brand
- California town
- Atomic #50
- Perform in a play
- Indigenous person of Thailand
- Creates anew
- Humorous commentaries
- 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

POLICE LOG

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT

June 3 to June 9

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 38 incidents in this 7-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

June 3

2:40 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 400 block of South Main Street.

June 4

No incidents to report.

June 5

9:01 am: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 100 block of North Main Street.

5:00 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

5:58 pm: MCFADIN, Demeter Rose Gaye (50) of Ukiah was contacted in the 1400 block of Brothers Lane. She was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication), and on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (loitering) and disorderly conduct (alcohol).

June 6

9:02 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of Hazel Street and issued a warning.

June 7

1:50 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 200 block of North Lenore Avenue.

4:23 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 300 block of 300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

June 8

6:21 pm: Officers initiated a missing

person investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

8:21 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of Sequoia Boulevard.

10:45 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

11:09 pm: ARCHUNDIAMORALES, Luis Manuel (30) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of Holly Street. He was arrested on felony charges of attempted murder, battery with serious injury, hit and run resulting in death or injury, willful cruelty to a child, and assault with a deadly weapon other than a firearm.

June 9

3:05 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of Holly Street and issued a warning.

6:38 pm: MORIS, Michael Jack (30) of Willits was contacted in the 200 block of South Main Street following a report of an unwanted

subject. He was arrested on felony charges of elder or dependent adult abuse resulting in great bodily harm or death, and on misdemeanor charges of failure to appear.

7:00 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

3:05 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of Holly Street and issued a warning.

6:38 pm: MORIS, Michael Jack (30) of Willits was contacted in the 200 block of South Main Street following a report of an unwanted

subject. He was arrested on felony charges of elder or dependent adult abuse resulting in great bodily harm or death, and on misdemeanor charges of failure to appear.



Michael Voris of Willits.

Deadline extended to June 28 to apply for 2024/2025 Civil Grand Jury

Submitted by Mendocino County Superior Court

The Honorable Ann Moorman, Presiding Judge of the Civil Grand Jury Recruitment/Selection Committee, has extended the deadline to submit applications to serve on the 2024/2025 Grand Jury to June 28, 2024.

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

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

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

Grand Jurors are compensated \$25 per full panel meeting, and \$10 per committee meeting and committee attendance at

public meetings. Mileage is reimbursed at the current County of Mendocino rate. There is free onsite parking.

Prior to being nominated, each qualifying applicant is interviewed by a Superior Court judge. Training for Grand Jurors will be provided in July 2024, either remotely or in the county offices.

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

- At least 18 years of age
- United States citizen
- Resident of Mendocino County for at least one year
- Sufficiently fluent in written and spoken English.
- Not currently serving on any other governmental board or commission during the term
- Not presently holding a public office
- Not personally active in any campaign of a candidate for elective office
- Computer skills highly desirable

Applications and related information are available on the internet at www.mendocino.courts.ca.gov/general-information/court-operations/civil-grand-jury

The application may also be obtained in person at the Superior Court, 100 North State Street, Rm. 303, Ukiah or by calling the Grand Jury at (707) 463-4320.

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From far left: King likes to do free weights as well as the more sophisticated machines. King chooses the 40-pound weights to work on her arms. Rebecca King loads the leg-press machine with over 500 pounds.

Photos by Mathew Caine



Above: Rebecca King smiles at Good Guys Gym with some of the trophies and medals she has won in competitions.

At right: Rebecca King wins the women's wellness portion of the NPC Mother Lode competition in Reno.

Below: A sample of one of the many medals King has brought home.

Hometown Champion

Bodybuilder Rebecca King wins NPC Mother Lode and heads to national competition in Pittsburg

She is beautiful, personable, smart, and she gets up before the sun. She goes to Good Guys Gym and works out for a couple of hours, and then goes home to her house of seven children (three of her own, two step kids, and a couple visiting nieces), and then she goes to work (at home as a financial advisor for Northwest Mutual). If this were not energetic enough, Rebecca King travels to competitions throughout the country to display the fruits of her physique-building and hopefully return with a trophy or two. She has been very successful in this endeavor, on the doorstep of being able to become a pro at her passion.

"My goal is to become a pro bodybuilder," explained King. "That's what the next show is I'm doing in July. If I win that show, that's where I'll be, an International Fitness and Bodybuilding Federation Pro."

"That will be in Pittsburgh. The show will consist of two parts," the Willits native explained. "The morning part is called 'prejudging.' That's when you do your individual routine. It's your opportunity to get on stage and have the judges focus on you. It's a very short routine, 30 seconds or a minute, something like that. The goal is to show the judges all the work you've been doing. When you're posing, you're bringing in your abs and you're really projecting your glutes, and you're tightening all the muscles, but you're also looking like you're relaxed and smiling."

"That's the morning show, and then the afternoon show is basically when you get awarded. They do a lineup with all the girls, so they'll have 15 to 20 girls on stage, and they'll start moving you around based on where they think you will eventually place. So, if you're dead center, that's like first place. As you move out, that's second, third, etc. In the morning routine, they get to see you individually. In the evening competition, they get to see you next to each other. Then they start moving you around. Dead center is where you want to be. That means you're doing well."

King's routine is very strict, as it needs to be at the 35+ level. Bodies at that age do not stay in perfect shape naturally and require a regimen of diet and exercise to maintain strength, shape, elasticity, etc.

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



At far left: Rebecca King demonstrates how to pose for the judges to emphasize muscle tone and grace.

At left: Rebecca King gets up at 4 am every morning to come to the gym to work out and does at least one hour, sometimes an hour and a half, on the stair machine for her cardio.

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2022-06 to Establish Rates and Fees for Water Services Effective July 1, 2024

- Public Hearing for Resolution 2024-08 Maintaining the Existing Water Availability Assessment Amount
- Public Hearing for Ordinance 165 Maintaining the Existing Sewer Standby Assessment Amount
- Public Hearing for Resolution 2024-09 Adopting a Consumer Price Index-based Increase to the Brooktrails Fire Department Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services Assessment for Fiscal Year 2024-25
- Public Hearing for Resolution 2024-10 Adopting the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Financial Plan for Services, (The Budget)

Following Tyler-O'Shea's announcements of each public hearing, General Manager Tamara Alaniz stated, "We have not received any written or oral comments on this item." There being no one responding with any comments, Tyler-O'Shea struck the gavel and closed each individual public hearing and opened the following one.

It should be noted that all Brooktrails property owners and current occupants had received notices of the Water Base Rates and Volumetric Rates Public Hearing via mail. Notice of the Public Hearing had also been published in Willits Weekly recently.

Alaniz reported that she was going to travel on Thursday, June 13, to Calabasas to tour the Pure Water Demonstration / Water Reuse Plant at Las Virgenes Municipal Water District Treatment Facility to check out the footprint and gain knowledge regarding the construction and setup of the facility as well as the processes involved in water reuse at the plant. This will provide valuable insight into how Brooktrails can proceed in establishing its own future planned water reuse facility.

The board then voted unanimously to approve the Accounts Payable in the amount of \$116,221.91.

Attention was then focused on the board providing unanimous approval of all of the items on the agenda, including:

Monthly Service Base Rate: increase from \$61.50 per month to \$62.37 per month. This is a proposed increase of 1.4% per month, or \$0.87 per month.

Water Usage Rate: increase from \$0.03718 per cubic foot to \$0.04112 per cubic foot. Since a cubic foot equals 7.48 gallons, the new water usage rate still equals less than one-half cent per gallon. This proposed increase of 9.5% will cover cost increases for drinking water treatment.

Water and Sewer Assessment: There is no increase proposed. The assessments will remain at the same amounts as they have been since November 5, 1996.

Fire Benefit Assessment: a 3% increase to the fire benefit assessment, as approved by Brooktrails voters in 2023. The new benefit assessment will be \$81.7305 annually.

Maintaining the Existing Water Availability Assessment Amount: No increase to the water availability assessment is proposed, and the amount assessed will remain at \$5 for developed properties and \$30 for undeveloped properties.

It's interesting to note that the Water Availability Assessment charges provide approximately \$120,000 for maintenance of the water distribution system. Collection of the undeveloped properties' portion of the water assessment averages 15%, while developed properties collect approximately 90% of the water availability assessment.

Ordinance 165: The Sewer Standby Assessment is established by the Brooktrails board of directors, and the process is governed by Section 5471 of the Health and Safety Code. This code authorizes the board to fix a sewer standby charge not to exceed \$50 per year for each parcel that has the capability of receiving sewer service from the district, whether the service is used or not. These fees are used for maintenance of the sewer system. No increase to the Sewer Standby Assessment was proposed, and the amount levied will remain at \$50 for all properties capable of receiving sewer service. The fiscal impact of the Sewer Standby Assessment charges provide an estimated \$190,000 for maintenance of the wastewater distribution system.

The Brooktrails Fire Department Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services Assessment was passed by Brooktrails voters in 2023 with a super majority in favor. The assessment included an annual Consumer Price Index adjustment allowance for the board to consider at a public hearing, but it is not to exceed 3% annually. Although the CPI increases over the last year were more than 3%, the voter-limited maximum of 3% is recommended this year.

Adopting the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Financial Plan for Services ("The Budget"): The primary theme for this year's budget is "Not Upsetting Continued Fiscal Prudence" - Building on the smart budgeting and prudent reserves-building over the last several years places the district in a good position to meet all of the needs of the coming fiscal year.

General Manager Alaniz said: "This item you've seen before, and the only change since our recent budget workshop is the board stipend increase. I have been given the flexibility and authority to transfer funds between budget categories within a department. But, I won't change the bottom line in a department without coming to the board for a budget amendment," she said.

"This board has been so responsible over the last few years, and staff has been diligent and involved in their department budgets, and that has gotten us to the place right now where we have operating funds and reserves, and we are cash funding our capital improvements, and we are not getting into new debt, and we are watching out for our customers' bottom line."

The board then complimented the general manager on the fine job she had done in preparing the well-laid-out budget, and they also thanked her for complimenting them for the fine work they have done. It was acknowledged that they all work together as a cohesive and focused team.

whether Cubbison returns to oversight of a vital county office and whether the county Board of Supervisors will be held liable for damages to her reputation and earnings after suspending her without pay and benefits almost immediately after the DA charged her for felony misuse of public funds.

Eyster's accusation against Cubbison revolves around her alleged use of a little-known county salary code to enable the county's former Payroll Manager Paula June Kennedy to receive \$68,000 in extra pay during the COVID pandemic. In her defense, Cubbison asserts that the additional pay agreement was reached between retired Auditor Lloyd Weer and Kennedy before she assumed office.

Cubbison attorney Chris Andrian said his office is reviewing hundreds of pages of documents county officials finally turned over after a request for pre-trial discovery was expanded to include all information held back by the District Attorney's Office.

"I have seen nothing to change my view of this case and the innocence of Ms. Cubbison," said Andrian.

Eyster stepped back from the case earlier this year after hiring a special prosecutor from Sonoma County at a cost of \$400 per hour to pursue the criminal charges against Cubbison.

The special prosecutor, Traci Carrillo, a former Sonoma County deputy district attorney, said she, too, is reviewing the 700-plus pages of subpoenaed documents the county turned over to the defense and prosecution.

"I will continue to assess and analyze what, if any, effect they have on the merits of the case," said Carrillo.

Carrillo acknowledged the volume of subpoenaed documents supported the earlier defense request for continuance of criminal proceedings against Cubbison.

"We are all hopeful that July 25 is a realistic date for the preliminary hearing," said Carrillo.

Cubbison supporters see the case as Eyster waging a vendetta against an auditor who challenged his expenses, including hosting staff parties at a local steak house despite a county ban on such gatherings.

Eyster has a reputation for publicly combating his critics, and Cubbison became his target when he opposed her interim appointment as county Auditor when Weer retired early. She was subsequently elected to lead the county's key financial review office, which was forced by the Board of Supervisors to merge with the county Treasurer-Tax Collector Office in a political brouhaha that upended the two offices.

Eyster's decision to turn to an outside prosecutor sharply contrasted with his stance in January, when he publicly resisted efforts to recuse himself from a case that rocked county politics and led to the board appointing an administrative staff member to take over after Cubbison was stripped of her duties.

The DA and Cubbison, a veteran county employee known to stand her ground, squared off after she questioned some Eyster office expenses, including repeated annual dinners for employees that he labeled "training sessions" to get around a county ban on office parties. Since taking office in 2011, Eyster has quarreled with three different auditors about his spending practices and use of asset forfeiture funds.

Eyster has repeatedly refused to comment publicly on the Cubbison criminal case or the allegations that he is waging a political vendetta against a fellow elected county official.

The Cubbison case has zigzagged through the court system since last October. In addition to fighting the criminal charges, Cubbison has a pending civil lawsuit against the Board of Supervisors. She contends that her due process was denied because the board suspended her without a hearing a few days after Eyster filed the criminal complaint against her. Cubbison has been without pay or benefits since.

prizes from businesses within our community! The grand prize is a hand-built redwood picnic table by Harbour Quality Redwood, as well as other prizes from within the community, including some of those already making their way from 101 Trailer and RV, TG Customs, Kelly's Diner, Jordan Eads Photography, and Loose Caboose.

The members of the Little Lake Firefighters Association would like to extend this invitation to all within our district to attend the Association's 96th Open House Fundraiser. Bring the family! There will be a cornhole tournament, bounce houses, and a monster truck ride!

Purchase tickets by mailing your information with \$10 per ticket to: Little Lake - Willits Fire Department, 74 East Commercial Street, Willits, CA 95490, or by stopping by the fire station and getting tickets in person.

Thank you for your support of the Little Lake Firefighters Association!
— President Aaron Branscomb and Secretary/Treasurer Harry So:

generators checked and ready to go as required, and even a mobile generator if the in-place generators have a problem, "everything's prepared," City Manager Brian Bender said.

Bender talked at last week's meeting about how the city was coordinating with its partners and stakeholders, first responders, law enforcement, Public Safety agencies – we're trying to bring as many of these groups together, and work through it.... Will we have some of our facilities on generators, like our [sewer system] lift stations? Yes. When we received the first notice [Facilities & Services Director] Walter and his team has gone out and basically powered up all the remote generators, so they are ready to go. Yes everything's prepared."

Services & Facilities Director Walter Kolon said his department "did pick up a backup generator that comes every year from PG&E, that'll power up City Hall, although [the power shutdown] is in the evening hours ... it shouldn't hopefully have too much disruption but everyone's on full alert to take care of any problems."

A June 15 customer email from PG&E, "Alert: Upcoming Planned Power Outage," confirmed the date of the rescheduled outage, Saturday, June 22, 2024, and times of the shutdown, from 11:30 pm continuing through Sunday, June 23, until 5:30 am.

The power shutdown is necessary, according to that press release, to facilitate "important safety work at our Willits Substation. The work 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.

Supervisor Haschak. "We've got these emergency access routes that we're trying to keep maintained because they get very overgrown.... This [mone] will keep those roads open and ready for fire trucks to go in."

The proposed fee is \$30.88 for developed parcels and \$1.39 for undeveloped parcels with the potential to generate about \$56,000 yearly. Residents have until July 23 to vote, and ballots can be returned to a drop box at the Brooktrails office or sent to the county administration office.

Haschak went on to share that CAL FIRE Chief Brandon Gunn will be speaking at the June 25 board of supervisors meeting. Gunn will be speaking on the vegetation abatement program and fuel reduction more generally throughout the county; specifically, what CAL FIRE has done already towards that effort, and what they plan to do.

Board of supervisors meetings can be viewed on the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors YouTube channel at any time for folks interested in hearing Gunn's presentation, but who aren't able to attend the actual meeting.

Little Lake's 2024-25 preliminary budget was also a topic of discussion for directors and staff. Michelle Schnitzius, administrative assistant for Little Lake Fire, highlighted for the board a few new changes to the budget, including increased food costs, maintenance costs, insurance costs, and equipment costs. Schnitzius said she's submitted for several grants to help offset these increases.

During the budget conversation, Schnitzius explained briefly that revenue from Measure P, the ¼ cent general sales tax, and Measure I, the Willits City cannabis-specific business tax, has not been fully realized.

More clarity is needed from both the county and the city on when funds from either revenue source will be allocated for this year's budget, though Little Lake has received about \$60,000 from Measure P since its passing in 2022, out of an anticipated \$300,000. A special board meeting to adopt the preliminary budget is scheduled for this month.

If you're a homeowner with water storage on your property for emergency use, there are reflective "fire fill" signs available to you to denote your water source as open for firefighters' access. Just like reflective address signs, these fire fill signs help firefighters quickly locate usable water without having to leave the scene of an emergency.

Last but not least, the Little Lake Fire Fighters Association is putting on their 96th annual Open House and Fundraiser, Saturday, August 10 from 12 pm to 8 pm at the Little Lake Fire Protection District Station 54.

Tickets can be purchased by mailing in your information with \$10 per ticket to: Little Lake- Willits Fire Department, 74 East Commercial Street, Willits, CA 95490, or by stopping by and getting tickets in person.



Skunk Train is #5 of USA Today's Top 10 scenic train rides

Submitted by Mendocino Railway

The Skunk Train is delighted to announce that we have been named a winner in the 2024 USA Today 10 Best Readers' Choice Awards for Best Scenic Train Ride! Coming in at No. 5 on the 10 Best list, this prestigious ranking reflects the votes of travel enthusiasts across the nation, highlighting the Skunk Train's exceptional Northern California scenery and guest experience.

These nominations were carefully selected by a panel of experts from the hundreds of heritage railroads in the United States. We are immensely proud to be recognized among such an esteemed company and grateful to our dedicated riders and fans for their support.

"We are incredibly honored to receive this award," said Efstathios Pappas, general manager of the Skunk Train. "This recognition from USA Today 10 Best is a testament to the breathtaking beauty of our scenic routes and the unique, memorable experiences we strive to provide every day."

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



Commonwealth Garden's Farm Stand

The Commonwealth Garden's Farm Stand opens Friday, July 12 from 10 am to 1 pm at the Commonwealth Garden, located on Marcela Drive, across the street from Howard Memorial Hospital.

The farmstand will be open every Friday after July 12, through late fall.



Laytonville Lioness / Lions Club presents check for LHS student body

Members of the Laytonville Long Valley Lioness/Lions Club joyfully presented the Laytonville High School Student Body with a check for \$1,874 to spend on fun activities for the student body at large. From left to right, in the photo, are: Deb Saifen, Melanie Sanchez, Annika Kreiling, Jaquie Rubie, Ashley Gouin, Tom Girdauskas, and LHS Principal Tim Henry.

– Submitted by Laytonville Lioness / Lions Club



Willits American Legion's fundraising 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. Once the wagon is full of beer, secondary winners will receive the overflow!

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

Above: Phil Shuster sits behind the all-terrain Radio Flyer wagon, loaded with craft beer, that he won in last year's American Legion's Beer Wagon Raffle.

News from The Munchery

We are extremely excited to announce that Kathy Albright, at right, has joined our team! Kathy is a local hometown hero, who comes to us with a ton of experience. Great things are in the works, stay tuned!!

Cheers,

– The Munchery



Thursday, June 20

Happy First Day of Summer!

Willits Farmers Market:

The weekly farmers market is outdoors for the season, Thursday, June 20, 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 20, Design a Temporary Tattoo, 400 East Commercial Street. Program attendance is included with regular museum admission. Info: www.mendocinocounty.gov/museum, museum@mendocinocounty.gov or 707-234-6365.

Friday, June 21

KLLG Radio Yard Sale: Willits Hometown Radio, KLLG-LP 97.9 FM, hosts a yard sale, Friday, June 21, from 10 am to 5 pm, at the Grange Mobile Home Park, 20 Pine Street. "Make U-turn to get to #11, Look for Jeff Shipp."

Dr. Paltin's Rockin' Retirement Party: All are welcome to celebrate Dr. Sharon Paltin's 31 years of commitment and dedication to Long Valley Health Center and our Laytonville community. Party is set for Friday, June 21, from 4 to 8 pm, at the Laytonville Rodeo Grounds with music, performers, and fun for all ages.

Willits Frontier Days Hometown Celebration: Annual celebration of local businesses, community and fun, Friday, June 21, from 5 to 9 pm, along Main Street in downtown Willits. Live music by Willits' own Palmer Anthony; dance to DJ Marvel at the Aerial Silk Performers; Fire Dance Performance at 8:45 pm; Climbing Wall, Mechanical Bull, Dunk Tank, Bounce House, Face Painting, Henna Artists, Artisan Vendors, Food Trucks, specials at Main Street businesses, and more. A free community event, kicking off the Frontier Days tradition. Info: wfd.hometowncelebration@gmail.com.

WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS HOMETOWN CELEBRATION
FRIDAY, JUNE 21ST
5PM - 9PM

LIVE MUSIC BY Palmer Anthony

AERIAL SILKS | FACE PAINTING
CLIMBING WALL | HENNA ARTIST
MECHANICAL BULL | ARTISAN VENDORS
DUNK TANK | FOOD TRUCKS
BOUNCE HOUSE | & MORE!

A free community event, kicking off the Frontier Days tradition!
MAIN STREET, WILLITS
wfd.hometowncelebration@gmail.com

What's Happening Around Town

Friday Night Pool Party:

Willits City Pool presents a Friday Night Pool Party, Friday, June 21, 6 to 8 pm. Admission: \$5. Willits City Pool is located on the north side of the Willits High School campus at 299 North Main Street. Info: 707-459-5778.

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: A local 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 Catie 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

Willits Amateur Radio Field Day: Amateur radio operators, aka "hams," from Lake and Mendocino counties will participate in this annual event, sponsored nationally by the National Association for Amateur Radio www.arrl.org/field-day and hosted locally by Willits Amateur Radio Society https://w6mmm.club/ Open to the public on Saturday, June 22, from 11 am until dark. Operators will have temporary, portable stations set up and operating from the grove at Baechtel Grove Middle School, 1150 Magnolia Avenue, overnight until Sunday morning, to "practice the skills needed to put stations on the air during emergencies, including operating those stations on alternate power. So, when the lights go out across Willits Saturday night [due to the planned PG&E power shutdown], the radios will stay on."

Saturday, June 22

Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart Judging: WFD Sweetheart candidates Elena Arkelian and Catie 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

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FRIDAY NIGHT POOL PARTY
21 JUNE
ADMISSION \$5
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info@willits.org
707.459.7910
299 East Commercial Street | Willits, CA

The Huckle Bearers at Shanachie: folk-Americana 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.

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 27, Fairy House Travel Edition, 400 East Commercial Street. Program attendance is included with regular museum admission. Info: www.mendocinocounty.gov/museum, museum@mendocinocounty.gov or 707-234-6365.

Willits Gem & Mineral Society Meeting: 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 Opening Day: 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.

WFD Truck & Tractor Pulls: Willits Frontier Days Truck & Tractor Pulls, Friday, June 28 at 6 pm at the Jack Sharp Arena, 945 East Commercial Street. Tickets: \$20 for adults; \$10 kids 12 & under.

WFD Street Dance: Willits Frontier Days Street Dance featuring Flat Busted, Friday, June 28 following the Truck Pulls. Free.

Donnie & Friends at Shanachie: featuring local harmonica (aka "Mississippi saxophone") player Donnie, joined by friends and fellow musicians possibly including Gary Bouley, Jeff Martin, Rasta Sean and Tom G. among others, playing an improvisational variety of Chicago style Blues, Rock, Funk, Latin, and West African music. Friday, June 28 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

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on Wednesdays with your Mendocino County Library Card. Info: www.mendocinocounty.gov/museum, museum@mendocinocounty.gov or 707-234-6365.

Thursday, June 27

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly farmers market is outdoors for the season, Thursday, June 27, 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 27, Fairy House Travel Edition, 400 East Commercial Street. Program attendance is included with regular museum admission. Info: www.mendocinocounty.gov/museum, museum@mendocinocounty.gov or 707-234-6365.

Willits Gem & Mineral Society Meeting: 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 Opening Day: 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.

WFD Truck & Tractor Pulls: Willits Frontier Days Truck & Tractor Pulls, Friday, June 28 at 6 pm at the Jack Sharp Arena, 945 East Commercial Street. Tickets: \$20 for adults; \$10 kids 12 & under.

WFD Street Dance: Willits Frontier Days Street Dance featuring Flat Busted, Friday, June 28 following the Truck Pulls. Free.

Donnie & Friends at Shanachie: featuring local harmonica (aka "Mississippi saxophone") player Donnie, joined by friends and fellow musicians possibly including Gary Bouley, Jeff Martin, Rasta Sean and Tom G. among others, playing an improvisational variety of Chicago style Blues, Rock, Funk, Latin, and West African music. Friday, June 28 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

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African music. Friday, June 28 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Saturday, June 29

WCA Opening: Willits Center for the Arts opens a dual art exhibition with Robert Louis Permenter and Patsy Brixie with a Meet the Artists reception on Saturday, June 29 between 6 and 9 pm. "A unique opportunity to experience the contrasting yet complementary styles of Robert Louis Permenter and Patsy Brixie. Visitors will be able to immerse themselves in the therapeutic and spontaneous worlds created by these two talented artists." 71 East Commercial Street. Gallery hours are Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 11 am to 5 pm.

Clay Hawkins Duo at Shanachie: "Late Night, Boot Stomping, Road Music from the Heart" by slide guitarist and songwriter Clay Hawkins and longtime co-conspirator Andrew Robertson on the upright bass. Saturday, June 29 at 8 pm, at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Sunday, June 30

The Willits Death Cafe: a place to talk about death and dying. The last Sunday of each month, Sunday, June 30 this month. 1 to 3 pm. 2351 East Hill Road. Under the Great Oak tree. This is not a bereavement support group. Questions? Email mere.melvin@gmail.com

Pre-Sale Carnival Wristbands Available Now!

\$35.00 Advanced Purchase
\$40.00 At the Gate

Good for 1-Day Unlimited Rides

Pre Sale ends Friday, June 28th at 12pm

For questions, Contact JD Redhouse & Company 707-459-1214

ARTS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Patsy Brixie Presents Robert Permenter

Opening June 29 - July 28

Meet the Artists Saturday, June 29 6-9 PM.

Willits Center for the Arts 71 E. Commercial St. Willits, CA 95490

Your Arts Center is open weekends 11 AM - 5 PM. willitscenterforthearts.org

We are looking for volunteers in order to open more hours.

WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS Raffle

Specialty Chicken Coop

Handcrafted and Donated by Windsor Mill.

Drawing on July 4th!

CCPRA Rodeo

Need not be present to win!

\$5 Per Ticket!

All proceeds from this raffle will be donated to the Willits 4H Club!

Ask a Willits 4H member for tickets!

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 25 is in RED. All tickets at just \$6!

ONGOING EVENTS

'Nature, Nurture' shows at WCA: the last weekend for the June exhibit at Willits Center for the Arts, which features the evocative works of local artists Judy Chance Hope and Margi Gomez Guhde, 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 June 6 and June 20. Info: outreach@fbfoodbank.org; 707-964-9404

'In the Field' Exhibit: Mendocino County Museum's latest exhibit, "In the Field: Exploring Botany in Mendocino County," celebrates the study of unique plants that grow in our region, reflecting on the pursuits of Mendocino County botanists from past to present, featuring sketches, illustrations, photographs, and pressed specimens. Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street, is open 11 am to 5 pm, Tuesday through Saturday. More info: visit www.mendocinocounty.gov/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 Fired Pizza, 65 South Main Street.

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

Free Kids Karate Classes at Body Works Gym: Sheriff's Youth Activities League offers free classes for kids at the Willits Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street, on Thursday evenings. "We teach Matsubayashi Shorin Ryu Karate, Kenpo Youth/Adult Self Defense, Bujy 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 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 ages 55 and older are invited to bring your dancing shoes to enjoy jazz, pop, swing, and ballroom selections. Don't feel like dancing? Please come and enjoy the music, catch up with friends new and old, and share some light refreshments.

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

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

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

'Inside Out 2'

The Story: Animated sequel. We all know Riley. Now she's 13. She's going to ice hockey camp. She's terribly excited. But then, suddenly: Disaster! It's puberty! Once again poor Riley becomes the flesh and blood avatar of an inner, all-in-her-head cacophony and confusion of rabid noise-makers. Each of these noisy voices fighting (nay, screaming) for control. Of her body And her mind. And her shouting "I know what's best for Riley! Just gimme-gimme face time with the Outer World!"

This strikingly animated movie is about which aspect of her developing nature will dominate. However, it does avoid the deeper questions: Who is our Riley-Girl when she is just being herself? And what exactly is identity? Perhaps the filmmakers are planning a trilogy!

It's all quite a drama! Especially for a young girl entering pubescence with stage-one hormones and at the same time anticipating high school. Heck! Now that I'm replaying her situation in my own head, I'm worried for her and really glad it's just a movie.

My Thoughts: I saw this flick on a Friday night. The theater was packed with families. Lotsa kids. Some quite (maybe too!) young.

I'm not sure how the younger ones were processing Riley's noisy inner drama of nascent teenage angst with all its painful and overwhelming social confusions. I'm pretty sure that "Inside Out 2" was made for (probably) 11- and 12-year-olds, and teenagers. And adults too, I guess.

Parents: I really think this movie is too advanced for younger children. It's not about them, or for them.

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



One Heart Virtuoso Concert

7pm, Friday June 21, 2024

Stadhana Center Recital Hall 225 S Hope Street, Ukiah

Alex de Grassi Guitar
Barbara Bogatin Cello
Jeremy Cohen Violin
Wenbo Yin Saxophone
Maja Radomovic Guitar
Paul Yarrhough Viola

Tickets: \$35
At Mendocino County Convention Center 707-234-6365

One Heart Music Institute

DEMOCRACY! HOW SWEET IT IS!

Mendocino County Democrat of the Year: Honoring Jim Mastin

Sunday, June 23 3-6 pm

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

Featuring speakers Honoring Jim Mastin

Live Music by Barney McClure & Rosanne Wetzel

Wine and chocolate pairings

Tickets \$50 - For Adults and Memory Book additional \$10

www.democracyparty.com

contact: Kilee Stovens at kstovens@democracyparty.com or 707-567-0239

Mendocino County Democratic Party, P.O. Box 38, Ukiah CA 95402 PWP: # 20281 # 20281 # 20281

'Calendar Girls' opens at UPT, June 21

Fighting cancer with nudity? That's just what happened 25 years ago, when a group of women in northern England created a fundraising calendar by posing in discreetly naked photos after the death of one of their husbands. Tim Firth's play "Calendar Girls," based on that true story, opens Friday, June 21 at Ukiah Players Theatre and run through July 7.

Despite the themes of death and grief, the play is extraordinarily funny and playful. It features an experienced cast starring Gloriann Lucero Stipe, Andrea McCullough, Denise Doering, Janet Denninger, Gretchen Anderson and Sarah France as the Calendar Girls, and is co-directed by Jim Mastin and Mary Buckley. Fridays and Saturdays at 7 pm and Sundays at 2 pm at the Ukiah Playhouse, 1041 Low Gap Road in Ukiah. More info: 707-462-9226 or www.ukiahplayerstheatre.org/box-office.

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. 155

Good Farm Fund Dinner, June 23

Join us for live music and dinner at Mendocino Grove on Sunday, June 23, to support and celebrate our local farmers and ranchers! Our first Good Farm Fund Dinner of 2024 will showcase produce from Xa Kako Dile in Caspar, meat from WildHeart Farm out of Manchester, and fresh flowers from Golden Rule Gardens south of Willits. Enjoy live music with Bryan and Blue Souls, organic wines from Bonterra, and local beer. Tickets are \$35 in advance at https://mendocinogrove.com/event-calendar/june-2024-good-farm-fund-dinner (sold out last year), \$20 for kids. Dinner starts promptly at 6 pm so come early to get a table. Stay the night and get 20% off your tent with JUNE20.

NOYO THEATRE Willits, CA

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

Starts Friday, June 28: A Quiet Place: Day One

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 21 thru June 27

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

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



Above, left: Deputy Clayton Murry, left, and Deputy Cole Rabano take their oaths from Mendocino County Sheriff Matt Kendall, with Undersheriff John Magnan, right, on June 14, right after their graduation from the College of the Siskiyous Law Enforcement Academy.

Above, right: Graduates of the College of the Siskiyous Law Enforcement Academy Class #012 on the dais, as Mendocino County Sheriff Matt Kendall, at the podium, right, gives the keynote speech for the June 14 graduation ceremony.

Below, left: MCSO-sponsored Deputy Cole Rabano on the dais with family members, Mendocino County Undersheriff John Magnan, and Mendocino County Sheriff Matt Kendall.

Below, right: MCSO-sponsored Deputy Clayton Murry on the dais right after graduation, with family members, Mendocino County Undersheriff John Magnan, and Mendocino County Sheriff Matt Kendall.



Mendocino County Sheriff's Office welcomes 2 new deputies after academy graduation

Posted by Mendocino Sheriff

The Mendocino County Sheriff's Office is pleased to announce the graduation of two Law Enforcement Academy recruits on Friday, June 14, at College of the Siskiyous in Weed, California.

Academy Recruits Clayton Murry and Cole Rabano were sponsored by the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, and completed their 6-month basic academy training on June 14. They were joined by 20 other recruits, many of which were sponsored by other regional law enforcement agencies, and took their oath as Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputy-corners immediately after the graduation ceremony.



Sheriff Matt Kendall was invited to provide the keynote address for the 22 recruits, who were joined by representatives of numerous law enforcement officials from throughout the region.

Deputy Murry and Deputy Rabano will begin their field training programs next week, which will include approximately 20 additional weeks of training and mentoring from Mendocino County Sheriff's Office training officers.

Please join the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office in congratulating Deputy Murry and Deputy Rabano in their accomplishment of completing their basic law enforcement academy training.



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

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

Services provided by Adventist Health Howard Memorial:

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

Learn more at AdventistHealthHowardMemorial.org



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

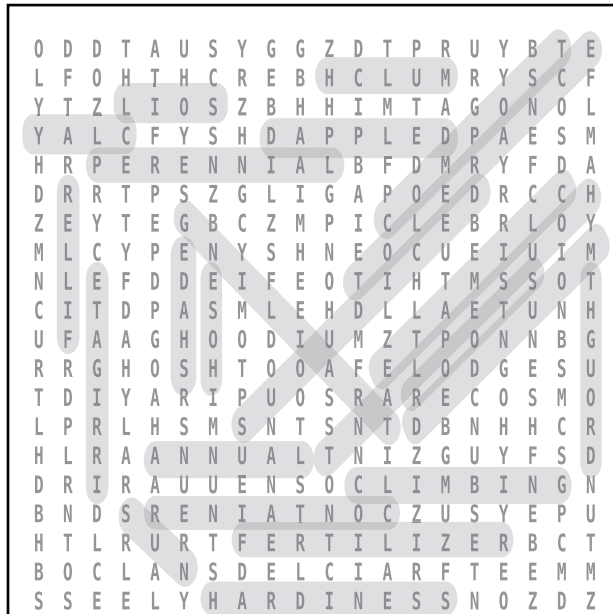


Mendocino County invites applications for:

- Community Health Worker I/II**
\$38,937 - \$47,195
- 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
- Environmental Health Specialist I/II**
\$56,555 - \$75,816
- Facility Project Specialist I/II**
\$67,870 - \$90,896
- Juvenile Corrections Officer - Extra-Help**
\$24.38 - \$29.63 Hourly
- Legal Secretary II**
\$44,740 - \$54,392
- Public Safety Dispatcher**
\$53,102 - \$64,542
- Sheriff's Sergeant**
\$93,516 - \$113,672

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

www.mendocinocounty.gov/jobs
EOE



LEGAL NOTICES

WW495

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2024-F0276
The following person or persons are doing business as Imagination Station Educational Toy Depot, 262 East Commercial Street, Willits CA 95490; 707-459-8697.
Registered owner: Imagination Station Preschool & Childcare Center, Inc., 11 North Main Street, Willits CA 95490.
This business is conducted by a corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on June 5, 2024.

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on June 5, 2024.
/s/ Saprina Rodriguez, CEO
Publication dates: June 20, 27, July 3, July 11, 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

Marc Komer Legal Document Assistant

An Affordable Non-Attorney Service
(707) 459-2775

245 South Humboldt St., Suite B, Willits BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

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



The rest of Postponed | From page 1

California last weekend, including the Point Fire in Sonoma County (started Sunday, June 16, at 60% containment Wednesday evening, with 1,207 acres burned, and all evacuation orders lifted) and the Sites Fire in Colusa County (started Monday, June 17, at 10% containment Wednesday evening, with 19,124 acres burned, and evacuation orders and warnings still in place).

After the Highway 101 burn was cancelled, a Mendocino County Strike Force gathered at the Ukiah Fairgrounds, before traveling south to help with the Point Fire.

The Highway 101 burn is intended to treat approximately 400 acres of grass within the Caltrans' right-of-way along U.S. Highway 101. "This project will contribute to fuel reduction along the highway, providing safety of motorists and emergency responders from roadside fires," the CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit press release on the project states. "This reduction of vegetation will help reduce the chance of catastrophic wildfires in the future, while providing firefighters with live fire training opportunities."

When and if the Highway 101 burn is rescheduled, burning is planned to happen between 6 and 11 pm Monday through Friday, depending on favorable weather conditions, and U.S. Highway 101 will be under controlled traffic during burning operations. Emergency vehicles will be patrolling the area heavily, so please be aware of emergency vehicles along the highway.

As of June 19, CalFire reports: "The number of wildfires is up 9% this spring, but the acres burned have skyrocketed by 1,462% over the same period (January 1 to June 19), which is well above normal for this time of year."

95% of wildfires in California are human-caused and are occurring in areas with grasses and light flashy fuels that have dried out. Additionally, winds are contributing to these fires moving quickly and consuming thousands of acres.

Californians can help by being wildfire-safe:

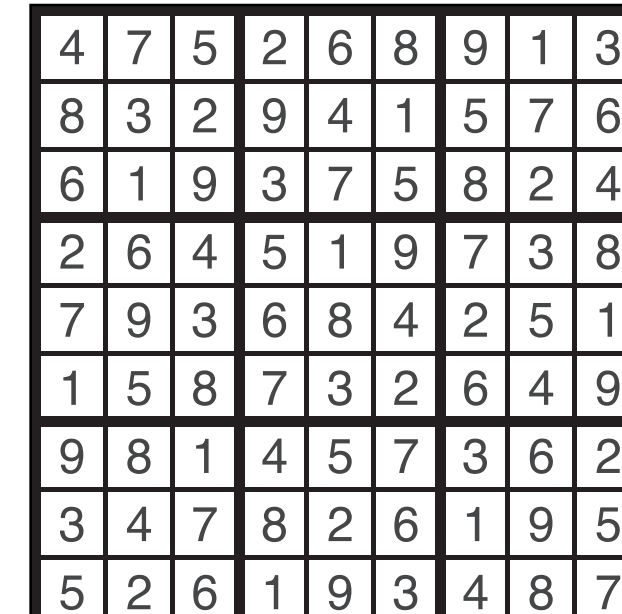
- Don't mow after 10 am.
- Don't allow vehicle tow chains to drag.
- Don't pull your vehicle into dry grass.

One less spark is one less wildfire.

Follow incidents in real-time at: <https://www.fire.ca.gov/> and learn more about preventing wildfire at: <https://readyforwildfire.org/>

Watch Duty is another great resource for following fires, local and otherwise: <https://www.watchduty.org/> This year, Watch Duty has prescribed burns on the fire map, too, with "Rx" icons.

Don't forget to sign up for emergency alerts from the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office at <https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736722865#/signup>.



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.

Office for Rent

Office for Rent: 140 sq ft plus large waiting room. Off street parking, central location, air conditioning and heat. All utilities included. \$210 month. 707-354-2473

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. Pick up, usually every other Friday, at Napa Auto Parts.

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/p>

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.

Willits Food Bank at Railroad Avenue

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.

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)

30 words for \$15 for 2 weeks



Sierra Nevada Fest announces cancellation of June 21-23 event

Posted by Sierra Nevada World Music Festival

With a very heavy heart, SNWMF BNVL LLC must announce the cancellation of Sierra Nevada World Music Festival, June 21-23 at the Mendocino County Fairgrounds in Boonville.

Last year, the SNWMF team beautifully and successfully revitalized the festival after a five-year hiatus. We planned and have been diligently working towards presenting another magical weekend this year. This has become increasingly difficult due to extreme financial challenges.

We have tirelessly explored and exhausted all options. We cannot proceed knowing we are unable to deliver the usual high quality event you deserve.

Please give us a little time to sort this.

We cannot apologize enough for this turn of events and the late notice. We have worked very hard to avoid a cancellation but must face the harsh economic realities. SNWMF cannot express enough our gratitude and love to everyone who has supported SNWMF over the past 30 years.

With regret, love and respect: Gretchen Franz Smith for SNWMF BNVL LLC



Fred ‘Santa’ Schoppet

Fred Schoppet, lovingly known as “Santa Claus” to many, including many in Willits, passed away on June 4, in Modesto, at the age of 68. He brought joy and delight to countless lives with his jolly spirit, infectious smile, and a heart full of love.

Born Frederick Charles Schoppet on October 26, 1956, in Camden, New Jersey, Schoppet was the eldest of six children. He grew up as a devoted son and a cherished big brother, setting an example of love and care for his siblings Nancy, Dawn, David, Ken, and Brian. His pride in his New Jersey roots, his love for the Philadelphia Eagles and Phillies, and his role as a fur dad to several rescue animals were all integral parts of his vibrant personality.

Schoppet’s journey as Santa Claus began humbly when a Christian youth group approached him to play Santa for a visit to seniors 42 years ago, and he found his calling. Each Christmas, he donned the red suit with increasing joy, ready to spread holiday cheer and make every child feel special and loved.

He traveled to J.D. Redhouse for over a decade for the annual Pix with Santa photo event, where he delighted all who attended from 2012 to 2023 with his warmth and genuine care, which left lasting impressions, creating lifelong memories for countless children and families. Schoppet recounted many of the memories he made as Santa in his memoir “Santa CONFIDENTIAL.”

Schoppet lived in Willits before moving to Newman, where he was a member of Saint John Lutheran Church. It was there, with his beautiful voice, he would sing the Lord’s Prayer, and would also sing the National Anthem at sporting events.

Schoppet is survived by his mother Verbena (88) and father George (94), his beloved wife of 16 years, Sandy, sons Jonathon and Patrick, daughter Alison Rose, stepdaughters Kim and Nicki, sisters Nancy and Dawn, and brothers David, Ken, and Brian, as well as four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Santa Photographer Maureen Jennison’s Note: I had the pleasure of photographing Fred as the best Santa ever for those 12 years in Willits and cannot imagine a Christmas season without him. You will be so missed, Santa. Thank you for all of your time, energy and smiles you shared with me and with the Willits community for all the years.



Above: The original photo that was then painted by Willits artist Peggy Hebrard and gifted to Santa in 2018 (below) after he had a special visitor come to be photographed.



Photos by Maureen Jennison

Above: Construction began Tuesday for the remodel of the building which will soon house a Starbucks store. Below: The sign announcing the coming business was hung Tuesday afternoon.

Drive thru, big box brew is coming to town

A stand-alone Starbucks is officially underway, and will fill the vacant building on the northwest corner of Main Street at Highway 20 that once housed the Jack in the Box restaurant, and a Foster’s Freeze before that.

While an in-store Starbucks is already installed inside Safeway, just kitty-corner on the same intersection, the addition of the drive thru will be a benefit to travelers not wanting to get out of their cars, or having to go into the grocery store for their Starbucks drinks.

“Last week Starbucks received a building permit from the City Building Division to remodel the former Jack in the Box at 788 South Main Street,” explained Dusty Duley, director of Community Development for the City of Willits. “Key exterior changes to the site will include reconfiguring the existing parking lot to accommodate a larger drive thru queue line and creating a new outdoor patio area with seating. A pedestrian pathway will be maintained from South Main Street to the building entrance. Additionally, new landscaping will be installed consistent with City of Willits standards prior to Starbucks’ occupancy of the building.”

Tony Ferreira, superintendent of the general contracting company Wells Construction Inc. out of Roseville, California in charge of the project, said about 10 weeks to 3 months is the estimated timeline for the project.

“This first week is demo, and we have BP Drywall & Construction, Inc. out of Cool, California working on the removal of the material inside already,” said Ferreira.

A shipping container arrived Monday, which piqued interest in pending activity, and by Tuesday morning, the crew was already hard at work starting demolition.

By Tuesday afternoon, safety fencing surrounded the parking lot and a sign with the Starbucks logo, and the words “Coming Soon!” was hung up, ending any public speculation as to what the flurry of activity was going to produce.

— Maureen Jennison

Furry Friends Hoping for a Home

Agile Shots

With his striking coat of speckles and a perpetual wag in his tail, Shots is a bundle of joy just waiting to find his perfect forever home. Shots is happiest when he’s on the move, and his energy seems to be never ending. Whether it’s chasing after balls, running through agility courses, or exploring new hiking trails, Shots is ready to go!

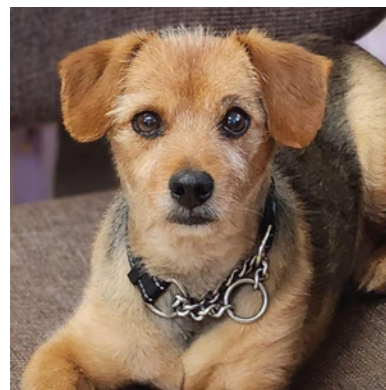
An ideal family for him would love outdoor activities, have a spacious yard for playtime, and be committed to providing him with regular exercise and mental stimulation. Shots will flourish in a home with active and engaged adopters who can keep up with his zest for life. With positive reinforcement and patient guidance, he will grow into a well-mannered and well-adjusted companion.

Embrace the excitement and embark on a journey filled with love, laughter, and unforgettable memories with this delightful cattle dog. Together, you’ll make the most of every moment, and Shots will forever be grateful for the chance to be part of your life.

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



Peaceful Sam



Sam is an adorable senior dog that his foster describes as sweet and gentle. In his golden years, Sam enjoys the simple pleasures of life, especially belly rubs and relaxing in a cozy spot. Sam has been in a foster home with other dogs and cats and has done great. His foster also reports that he enjoys sleeping in his crate at night. Sam is looking for a home to spend the rest of his days in. Come meet him on the weekends!

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

Outgoing Daylite

Daylite is a sweet little gal who loves attention and pets. We think she would make a great addition to any family!

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



Above: Emergency responders near the accident site, showing tires that were ripped off one of the vehicles. Below: The REACH helicopter in the southbound lanes of Highway 20 / South Main Street.



Photos courtesy of Celeste Curry

REACH helicopter lands on South Main Street

South Main Street – officially Highway 20 now – was closed for a couple hours on Monday afternoon, due to a traffic collision in front of McDonald’s, at Gregory Lane.

Reports from the scanner indicated this was a two-vehicle traffic collision happening around 1 pm, with two patients from one of the vehicles needing medical attention, one “unable to move leg” and the other with abdominal pain.

The REACH helicopter landed on the closed-off street – to the surprise of many.

Caltrans had originally estimated time of reopening to be 4 pm, but at 2:15 pm, reported that “Route 20 / South Main Street is FULLY OPEN at Gregory Lane in Willits.”

— Jennifer Poole

The rest of Restrictions

From page 2

- **No welding** or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame.
- **No motorized vehicles** or tools powered by internal combustion engines off designated roads or trails.
- **No target shooting** – Hot bullet fragments, exploding targets, and metal from recreational shooting can spark a wildfire. Hunting in the pursuit of game and non-game species is allowed with a State of California hunting license and in accordance with California hunting regulations. The use of any steel-jacked, steel core, or incendiary ammunition of any caliber is prohibited. Visit www.wheretoshoot.org for alternative recreational target shooting locations.

proper tire pressure for all vehicles, ensure adequate tire tread, and check brakes for overheating. Do not drive or park on brush or grass. Do not drag chains while towing.

- Motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, and chainsaws require an approved spark arrester.
- Remember the use of steel-core ammunition, although legal while hunting, can greatly increase the chance of a wildfire if ricocheted off objects such as rocks.

Anyone found guilty of violating a fire prevention order may be fined not more than \$100,000 and/or face imprisonment for not more than 12 months. Restitution for total fire suppression and damage costs incurred may be borne by the trespasser.

The public can visit CAL FIRE’s website <https://readyforwildfire.org> to learn how to prevent wildland fires. A map of current restrictions and active fire prevention orders are also available online <https://www.blm.gov/programs/public-safety-and-fire/fire-and-aviation/regional-info/california/fire-restrictions>

Help prevent fires

Residents and visitors are reminded to help prevent human-caused fires:

- Make sure all campfires are dead out! Drown it and stir around the fire area with a shovel to wet any remaining embers and ash. If it’s not cool, it is not out.
- Be sure to maintain

The rest of Train

From page 6

This award follows the Skunk Train’s achievement in March, where we received the Poppy Award for “Best Influencer Campaign.” These competitive awards are selected by Visit California to showcase the tourism industry’s best work.

Further reflecting the popularity of the Skunk Train in Mendocino, a record number of guests traveled to both the Fort Bragg and Willits depots over Memorial Day weekend. This success is attributed to our innovative combination of trips, which includes excursion trains, guided hiking and train packages, evening Glen Blair Bar trips, daytime and evening railbikes, and the new Whiskey Train.

We are profoundly thankful to our guests and fans for their support in this nationwide competition. While being recognized as a local treasure in the Bay Area is an honor, achieving a top-five ranking across the entire United States is truly amazing.

For a full list of winners, visit <https://10best.usatoday.com/awards/travel/best-scenic-train-ride-2024/>

For more information about Mendocino Railway – The Skunk Train and its unforgettable rail adventures, visit www.skunktrain.com or call (707) 964-6371.

California Western Railroad / Skunk Train located in the redwood forests of Northern California’s Mendocino County, is a heritage railroad that has been operating both freight and passenger service since 1885. Initially used to move redwood logs to the Mendocino Coast sawmills from the rugged back country, the Skunk Train has become a beloved institution touted as one of the “10 Best Rail Tours in the Country” (USA Today), and a “Top 10 Family Activity in California” (National Geographic Traveler). The Skunk Train journey covers 40 miles of scenic delights and 30 bridges, all while retaining its original charm – minus the historic pungent aroma that once preceded its arrival. Operating year-round, this multi-generational experience welcomes passengers to bring along their families and even their dog, ensuring a memorable and inclusive adventure.

Good Farm Fund Farm awards grants to 16 local farms

Submitted by Good Farm Fund

The Good Farm Fund has awarded over \$44,000 in grants to 16 farms in Mendocino and Lake counties. Grants were awarded in May, and are made possible through grassroots volunteer efforts, private donations and popular farm-to-table community dinners, and foundation sponsorships from Redwood Credit Union and Mendocino Grove.

Tickets are currently on sale for the Good Farm Fund’s next farm-to-table dinner at Mendocino Grove on June 23, at <https://mendocinogrove.com/event-calendar/june-2024-good-farm-fund-dinner>

The dinner will feature ingredients from several grant awardees, including Xa Kako Dile, <https://www.xakakodile.org/> a farm in Caspar that is led by Indigenous women, and focuses on empowering and uplifting Indigenous communities.

“We are so excited about the work they are doing, and it was an honor to award Xa Kako Dile the largest grant of the funding cycle,” says committee member Elizabeth Archer, who co-owns a local beekeeping farm with her husband, Carson Elmer.

Xa Kako Dile will be making improvements to their farmstead, which benefits many farms, as well as providing coastal customers a convenient option for buying local

PG&E reminds outdoor recreationists to be wary

Submitted by PG&E

Water flows are cold and higher in rivers and streams due to the spring snowmelt. Outdoor recreationists should remain aware and cautious as higher flows mean dangerously cold, swiftly moving water.

Pacific Gas and Electric Company urges those who venture near rivers and streams to take extra precautions, especially around hydroelectric facilities and dams, where flow conditions can change rapidly. Swimming in cold, swift water is not recommended.

“The melting snowpack is creating cold, higher flows,” said Dave Gabbard, PG&E vice president of Power Generation. “We encourage everyone recreating in or near water to be situationally aware and have a plan to quickly and safely escape in case of changing water flows and cold temperatures.”

Most California rivers are fed by snowmelt, making them cold even in summer. Simple actions can save lives, such as recognizing if the water is too cold or swift, knowing your limits, wearing a life jacket, or simply by not entering the water when conditions seem unsafe.

Know the risks

Prevention is the best way to save a person from drowning. By the time a person is struggling in the water, a rescue is extremely unlikely and places the rescuer at risk.

Sudden immersion in cold water can stimulate the “gasp reflex,” causing an involuntary inhalation of air or water. It can even trigger cardiac arrest, temporary paralysis, hypothermia, and drowning. When faced with swift water, even the strongest swimmers can be easily overwhelmed.

Cold water entering the ear canal can cause vertigo and disorientation. This can confuse swimmers, potentially causing them to venture deeper into the water.

Cold water also reduces body heat 25 to 30 times faster than air does at the same temperature and causes impairment that can be fatal.

Learn about self-rescue techniques

If you do fall into the water, here are some survival tips:

Don’t panic. Try to control your breathing; don’t gasp.

A sudden, unexpected fall into cold water causes an involuntary gasp (or torso) reflex. It takes less than one-half cup of water in a person’s lungs to drown. If you remain calm, you have a greater chance of self-rescue.

If you have a boat, stay with it. It will help you stay afloat and will be seen more easily by rescuers. If it’s capsized and a portion of the craft is above water, try to climb on top.

Stay afloat with the help of a life jacket, regain control of your breathing, and keep your head above water in view of rescuers.

If possible, remove heavy shoes. Look for ways to increase buoyancy such as by holding onto seat cushions or an ice chest.

If you’re in the water with others, huddle together facing each other to help everyone stay afloat and keep warm.

If you do fall into a river without a life jacket, keep your feet pointed downstream and turn onto your back.

If you fall into the water with waders on, roll onto the shore. Wear a belt with waders.

Know your limits

Swimming in open water is more difficult than in a swimming pool. People tire more quickly and can get into trouble.

Many unseen obstacles can be lurking below the water’s surface. This is especially the case during spring and early summer snowmelt. Rising water can make these obstacles even more treacherous. Guided trips for inexperienced paddlers are recommended.

Wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket

Conditions change quickly in open water, and even the best swimmers can misjudge the water and their skills when boating or swimming.

Adult supervision

Actively supervise children in and around open bodies of water, giving them your undivided attention. Do not assume that someone is watching them. Appoint a designated “water watcher,” taking turns with other adults. Use the buddy system, and never swim alone.

PG&E’s vast hydropower system is built along 11 river basins stretching about 400 miles. The system uses water from more than 100 reservoirs, mostly located in higher elevations of the Sierra Nevada. PG&E’s 61 powerhouses produce about 3,800 megawatts of power.



Volunteers at last fall’s Farmer Dinner at Mendocino Grove. Photo courtesy Thomas Delgado

food. Their project also will provide some funding for produce donations to local tribes. This project is designed to improve the infrastructure and operational efficiency of the Xa Kako Dile farmstead and to enhance its role as a community resource, supporting local agriculture and providing healthy, locally-grown food to the community.

Mendocino Grove hosted three community dinner fundraisers to support the Good Farm Fund in 2023, all of which sold out. Says owner Teresa Raffo: “These dinners were created to showcase local farmers and the beautiful, delicious food they grow. I love to eat locally grown food and support the farmers who grow it. We do this in small ways at the campground by buying as much as we can locally. What better way to build community than around a shared meal, and an understanding of the people who

contributed to it in a sense of our greater belonging.”

Since 2015, the Good Farm Fund has granted over \$400,000 to more than 60 farms and ranches for capacity-building infrastructure projects. Applications are available once a year at www.goodfarmfund.org. Good Farm Fund fundraising also supports the Market Match Program at Mendocino and Lake County farmers markets.

The Good Farm Fund is a community organization dedicated to providing direct support to small farmers in Mendocino and Lake counties, as well as increasing local food access for underserved members of our community. The Good Farm Fund is a fiscally sponsored program of North Coast Opportunities. Find out more about the Good Farm Fund at www.goodfarmfund.org

Destination Adventure

Starting June 3: Redeem every 100 points after earning 100 today’s points for one ticket entry into the drawing!

Random Hot Seat Drawings for Free Play and Bonus Entries from 5 to 9 pm on

Mondays
Wednesdays
Fridays

Earn points for entries into the Destination Adventures

Drawing where
1 Grand Prize
Winner will win an
Outdoor Camping
Set on

June 29
at 9 pm

Camping Set Includes:
1 KTT Family Cabin Tent
4 Sleeping Bags
4 Camping Chairs
1 Portable Camping Kitchen
1 Triton 2 Burner Camp Stove
1 Camping Lantern

SHERWOOD VALLEY CASINO

WWW.SVRCASINO.COM



Above: Children's activities and books about ranching welcome visitors to the museum this month. At right: Hailee and her best friend, Natalie, try their hand at some old-school macramé knotting.

Below, left: Scott Ferleman tries a variety of cording materials on macramé night at the museum. Below, right: Michealle Havenhill, who was an avid macramé crafter back in the day, enjoys a social evening making a key chain.

At bottom: Luna, left, and her sister, Ruby, make bolo ties at the Mendocino County Museum.



Below, left: The museum's June children's books focus is about farming and ranching. Below, right: A variety of macramé knots are on display for DIY key chain design.





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Macramé and Bolo Ties

Summer brings ranch life and new age crafts to the Mendocino County Museum

The Mendocino County Museum is currently presenting two series of history-based crafting classes, one for children and the other for adults and teens. Both series reflect and enhance the museum's summertime focus on ranch life in our county.

A special pop-up exhibit of Willits-area Ridgewood Ranch reveals new history about the storied ranch that was home to local racehorse Seabiscuit, who won 33 races including the Triple Crown. Golden Rule Gardens, based at Ridgewood Ranch, is offering a chance to sign up for their weekly veggie boxes, a sample of which is available in the museum's crafting studio.

Summer family programs kicked off in June with a theme called "Back to the Ranch: Remembering Seabiscuit." Last week's class, "Dress It Up," offered children the opportunity to create take-home Western bolo ties, using colorful braided cord and bling jewels. Youngsters ages 4 to 11 showed up to get in the ranching spirit, munching snap peas and other farm veggies while creating bolo ties to take home.

On June 19, museum staff guided children through the process of designing their own cowgirl or boy bandanna in a class called "Wear It Your Way." And the June 26 class, called "Giddy-Up," will guide youngsters through making DIY

stick horses. Ranch-related stories and play kitchen activities are also featured in June, with a special set of children's books available for children and their parents to read and enjoy.

Another exciting series of craft activities, this time designed for adults and teens also began in June. This evening series, titled "A Fresh Look," was based on the life and times of Andree Connors, the back-to-the-lander whose "hippie van" has long been a popular feature of the Mendocino County Museum's ongoing exhibitions.

On the evening of June 13, the focus was on the art of macramé, which enjoyed a revival in the 1970s, during the time Connors kept her vintage step-van-turned-hippie-house parked mainly in the town of Mendocino.

A companionable all-ages group gathered at the museum, creating a variety of macramé key chains, with the museum's curator, Karen Mattson, sharing a variety of knotting techniques. Some of the busy participants had never tried macramé before, and others had made macramé vests and plant holders way back in their youth in the 1970s.

Family programming for children continues through the summer, every Wednesday from 11 am to 3 pm. July ranch-life-related classes based on the

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



At far left: Ruby, left, and Luna sport their completed bolo ties at the Mendocino County Museum. At left: New lighting inside Andree Connor's hippie van illuminates a lifetime of curios and mementos. Photos by Margi Gomez Guhde

Already have a furry friend?

Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County holds annual pet photo calendar contest

Posted by **HSIMC**

This is our fourth annual contest, and we are so excited to see your pet's best shots. Enter for a chance to win one of our three amazing prizes, and have your pet featured in our 2025 calendar.

The top 13 entries will each grace a page of the calendar, making them the stars of each month.

Ready to make your pet famous?

Here's how to enter: Submit your pet's cutest or funniest picture at this link: www.gogophotocontest.com/hsimc2025

Spread the word: Get friends and family to vote! (at the same link).

Win a spot: Score one of the top spots and enjoy the spotlight!

Voting ends on Wednesday, July 24 at 10 pm.

All proceeds benefit the Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County, so let's make this the best year yet for our furry friends!

Questions or more information: 707-485-0123 or info@hsimc.org

HSIMC'S 2025 CALENDAR CONTEST IS LIVE!



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE



[HTTPS://MENDOHUMANESOCIETY.COM/EVENTS](https://mendohumanesociety.com/events)

START DATE: 6.12.2024 @ 8AM
END DATE: 7.24.2024 @ 10PM



Read the rest of **Bodybuilder** From page 5

"I have a food scale and everything I eat is weighed," King explained. "There's no putting butter or oils on my food. For breakfast, I usually have about half a cup of egg whites and about three ounces of lean ground beef and maybe 50 grams of blueberries. It's like a protein punch with a little bit of natural fat from the meat. I love blueberries. They add a little bit of natural sweetness."

"Then, I'll do a protein shake post-workout, whatever time I work out. The rest of the meals are usually like chicken or turkey, lean meats with veggies. In training, if I'm getting close to a competition, my carbs go way down, my cardio goes way up, but everything else is pretty similar. The idea is to manipulate my body fat without losing muscle."

"I do the climbing stair machine for an hour every morning," said King. "It's cardio."



Photo courtesy centerpodium.com

"I'm doing about an hour of cardio every day right now and we're about five weeks out from the next show. As I get closer, I usually get up to 90 minutes of cardio, than an hour to an hour and a half of weight training."

King loves working out and although she misses sweet treats, she is singularly focused on her goals.

"I enjoy working out. I get a rush from it. My husband can always tell if I haven't been to the gym because I get grouchy. I'm always 'hungry.' It's hard. I love ice cream and I love pancakes for breakfast. That's how I celebrate after a show, with pancakes or an ice cream sundae," she mused, beaming her infectious smile.

"The show that is coming up in Pittsburgh is a national," said King, looking forward to the competition. "Since I've won these regional shows, my coach thought I was ready to go to the next level. If I win this national show, I become a pro. Instead of there being hundreds of athletes in a regional show, there will be thousands of athletes from all over the nation and they have all had to finish in the top like I have."

King seems to know how good she is, but she is not arrogant about her abilities. "I'm definitely coming from a place of gratitude for my opportunities, for my husband, my kids, my parents who are still alive, and a 100-percent gratitude to God."

To follow King's progress, check out her Facebook and Instagram pages: www.facebook.com/becky.fuller.10, and www.instagram.com/becky_king

At left: Rebecca King holds the statuette she won at the Mother Lode 35+ competition.

Have something to say?

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

The rest of **Museum** From page 14

Coli Family Creamery in Willits will include making refrigerator magnets, wooden spoon painting, and tin-can decoupage. The August focus will be on printmaking throughout history, with sun prints, clay impressions, stamp-making and book-press printing. As always, Wednesday museum entry is free for those with a Mendocino County Library card.

Adult and teen "Wonderful Ways to Be" classes planned for the month of June, presented on Thursday evenings from 6 to 8 pm, are based on the Andree Connors exhibit. Classes will include Temporary Tattoo Design on June 20, and a Fairy House Travel Edition on June 27. New lighting inside the Connors iconic house van allows visitors to see a range of vintage curios and mementos, rediscovered and collected by Connors, and viewed through the lens of the back-to-the-land "new settler"

generation of the later 1900s. Added to the fun is recently remixed footage of interviews with Connors, now available for public viewing, which reflects her iconoclastic philosophy and the van life that she lived in Mendocino County 50+ years ago. Program cost for these classes is \$9 and includes museum admission. Materials for all summer classes in these series are provided.

New summer hours at the Mendocino County Museum are Wednesdays through Saturdays from 11 am to 5 pm, and Sundays from noon to 4 pm. Hours have been extended on Thursdays from 11 am to 8 pm. The museum is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays. For more information about any of these interesting and fun hands-on craft classes, contact the Mendocino County Museum at museum@mendocinocounty.gov or call 707-234-6365.



The rest of **Rocks** From page 3

Above: This heavy rock was done to replace a rock that was stolen out of the Mendo Mill Garden department.

On one of her rare forays out of Brooktrails, she thought, "I want to support the businesses. I want them to do well. I always hear how hard it is for businesses in Willits. They're always struggling to make it each month. I thought maybe people would like to have a rock. I'll do a little rock; it could be like advertising. I can post it on my 'Willits Rocks!' Facebook page. And then I posted them on the Willits Fan Page and it just went crazy. I had no idea and now I realize that everybody in Willits either owns a business or their family owns a business. Everyone is connected to a business in Willits."

Burghardt gets many requests for her artwork to be displayed at the businesses. As an analog being, she keeps the requests, completions, interesting logos, and other ideas in a notebook, which becomes fuller each day.

"People have been so nice about not complaining or putting pressure on me," said Burghardt. "Don't stress out. No pressure. Take your time. Whenever it gets done is great. Anything you do is fine." I have this notebook, because I'm not tech. I'm just writing everything by hand. I have two lists. One is requests and the other is just logos I really like, like the Turtle Island Tacos. I just love their little logo. So, I made a list of ones I want to paint because I like their logos.

"I take two off the request list and maybe two off the list that I want to do to keep myself entertained. I do about that many a day, draw them, prep them, paint them, put the details on, put the clear coat on. I



Above, left: This rock was chosen to be painted with the Willits Weekly logo. Above, right: Laurie Bee paints all her rocks freehand and with great care. Below: These rocks are ready to be painted and have the recipients' logos from which to paint.





GRAND MARSHAL JOHN PINCHES

Willits Frontier Days Board of Directors is proud to announce their decision to honor John E. Pinches as the 2024 Independence Day Parade Honorary Grand Marshal. John has always supported Willits Frontier Days, announcing the Junior Rodeos many times, riding in the 4th of July parades. John thrilled spectators at annual rodeo events in Laytonville, Willits and Covelo.

John was born in 1951 at Howard Memorial Hospital into a pioneer family in Mendocino County as his family now spans six generations. His parents were Elmer "Sully" and Eleanor Pinches. His mother ran for Frontier Days Sweetheart in 1937. His grandfather George Pinches was the City of Willits' building inspector. John graduated from Laytonville High School in 1969. He purchased his first retail business at the age of 17.

In 1971 John joined the United States Army Reserves and served six years. Through the year, he operated businesses in Laytonville, Willits and Ukiah. John served as our 3rd District Supervisor for three terms, serving on over 18 government agencies, boards, commissions, councils and districts.

He is a husband, father, and grandpa to five grandchildren. Presently John and wife Debbie own and operate the Island Mountain Ranch in northern Mendocino County, raising cattle, sheep and chickens. John is honored for the opportunity to be the 2024 Willits Frontier Days Grand Marshal.

Thank you to everyone through the years who donates their time and energy so that the show lives on. It's a lot of work. Thank you to all the veterans for their service to their country. Please enjoy all the 4th of July celebrations. Be safe and God bless the USA.



Reprinted with permission from the
2024 Willits Frontier Days program

HONORARY GRAND MARSHAL JIM PINCHES

The Willits Frontier Days Board of Directors proudly announces the recipient of the 2024 Willits Frontier Days Grand Marshal award: Jim Pinches. Jim is a long-time supporter of Willits Frontier Days and is the owner of Laytonville Disposal Septic. When our board needs a helping hand at the rodeo grounds, you just call him and he will be there with a big smile and a joke. Jim not only helps us out, he works seven days a week always helping community organizations when needed.

Jim was born in 1946 at Howard Memorial Hospital to Elmer "Sully" and Eleanor Pinches, raised on the Black Rock Ranch on Dos Rios Road out of Laytonville, graduating from Laytonville High School in 1965. Shortly thereafter, he was drafted into the U.S. Army. During basic training at Fort Ord he was on his way to Vietnam when his plane landed to fuel up his orders were changed and he was sent to South Korea where he served as a generator mechanic on surface to air missiles high in the mountains looking over North Korea on the DMZ.

Jim has five children, six grandchildren and several great grandchildren. Throughout Jim's life he has seen the world change in many ways. He has experienced so much love, generosity, and joy as well as times of tragedy, loss and struggle. Through his examples we see that a good sense of humor, the willingness to persevere and a deep love for family, community, country, and the 49ers can get you through anything.

Thank you Jim, for your kindness and all you have done, and that you continue to do.



First events begin for Willits Frontier Days

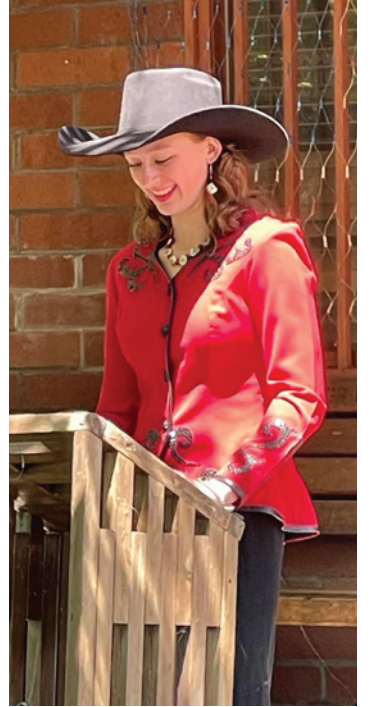
Now in its 98th year, the Willits Frontier Days celebration is ready to get underway for the 2024 season, starting this year with the Hometown Celebration this Friday, June 21.

Sweetheart judging - Appearance and Poise, and Horsemanship - will be held Saturday, June 22 and Sunday, June 23, and the annual Horseshow will be held on June 23.

Next week will include the opening of the Carnival, the Truck and Tractor Pulls, the Street Dance, the Sweetheart Dinner.

The following week, the main attractions start: CCPRA Rodeos and the Junior Rodeo, the Barbecue, Parade and much more.

See www.WillitsFrontierDays.com for more.



Did you not get a 2024 Willits Frontier Days program? Don't fret!

1,500 programs are being distributed in the June 20, 2024 edition of Willits Weekly, but another 1,000 exist around town. Copies are available at many local businesses, at the Willits Chamber of Commerce, and will be handed out at all the upcoming WFD events. The program is also online at www.WillitsFrontierDays.com or www.WillitsWeekly.com



WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS

More info and entry forms:
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

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

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Above: Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart contestants: Catie Spackman, left and Elena Arkelian, right.

Sweethearts selling tickets now upcoming Willits Frontier Days events

Two contestants are hoping to win the title of Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart this year, and both are selling tickets to help make that dream come true.

Catie Spackman and Elena Arkelian have tickets for the Truck Pulls, CCPRA Rodeos, Beef Barbecue, Cowboy Breakfast, Junior Rodeo and the new Bulls and Broncs event. They also have tickets for the Sweetheart Raffle.

Interested persons need to contact the contestants directly as direct sales are needed to count for their tallies.

Along with the ticket sales, Spackman and Arkelian will compete in the Appearance and Poise contest on Saturday, June 22 where they will give a prepared speech, model Western clothing, and answer questions from judges.

They will also compete in the Horsemanship portion of the contest on Sunday, June 23, on horseback, riding a pattern, demonstrating their rodeo and cowboy-lifestyle knowledge, and showcasing their queen run, galloping around the arena.

The tickets will be totaled, and the scores from the Poise and Horsemanship contests will be tallied and the winner will be crowned at the invite-only dinner on June 30.

Contact Spackman at 707-354-3577 or Arkelian at 707-354-2877.