

Willits Weekly

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Online & Print

Willits Weekly

newspaper

It's Real Estate Section Thursday!

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

Donations Accepted Edition No. 487 Thursday, February 9, 2023

WELL hosts 'Building Community' talk

Margi Gomez Guhde
Features Writer
margie@willitsweekly.com

It was a full house this past Saturday, despite the winter cold and rain, as an intrepid group of Willits-area residents of all ages crowded into the Willits Fire Station 54 on Commercial Street. Sponsored by Willits Economic Localization, those attending were there to discuss the many challenges that Willits and the nation face, including the state of our food systems, housing and the lack thereof, the need for community revitalization, the importance of entrepreneurship in small communities, and more.

WELL is a 501(c)(3) non-profit membership organization formed in 2004, which envisions an enduring local economy that provides health and security for the Willits community. Its mission statement reads as follows: "To foster the creation of a local, sustainable economy in the Willits area by helping residents to learn valuable skills and take action, and by partnering with other organizations to share knowledge and support projects that build a thriving economy."

The meeting, led by Jane McCabe, gave a wide range of eclectic and community-minded people the opportunity to meet and share their passions for community building and problem solving. Speakers ranged from founding members of WELL to recent transplants to Willits, all connected by their desire to see positive change in the Willits community. A bit of poetry, a few songs, and food and refreshments

Read the rest of
WELL
Over on Page 11

Public invited to Willits Science Fair

Submitted by Willits Science Fair

The annual Willits Science Fair takes place from February 10 through 16 at the Willits Community Center. Judging of student projects will take place February 10 through 12, and classroom visits are set for February 13 through 16.

The public is welcome to come tour the projects on Wednesday, February 15, from 3 to 6 pm. Qualifying projects are eligible to compete at the 2023 Mendocino County Science Fair on March 12 at the Redwood Empire Fairgrounds in Ukiah.

Willits Community Center is located at 111 East Commercial Street. More info: sciencefair@willitsunified.com or visit https://sites.google.com/willitsunified.com/sciencefair/home



Above, from left: Train singers and son/father duo Malakai and Greg Schindel sang "Happy Birthday" to Edie Ceccarelli for her 115th celebration last Sunday. The sun poked out just enough for some of the gathered crowd to see the honoree, who was stationed in the garage of her care home for the parade. Signs from previous years' celebrations hung around the inside of the garage. Below: People gathered on the driveway in addition to those who drove by for Edie Ceccarelli's birthday celebration.



Photos by Maureen Jennison



Birthday girl Edie Ceccarelli on her 115th birthday.

Cheers to 115 years

Willits' Edie Ceccarelli has 115th birthday on Sunday, February 5 with drive-by parade and two cakes

The clouds parted and the sun shone on the damp group of family, friends and onlookers – and on the decorated cars, too – for the 115th birthday celebration of Willits' eldest resident, Edie Ceccarelli.

Not only does she hold the title in Willits, but Ceccarelli is also the oldest person in the United States, and the third-oldest verified living person in the entire world.

Read the rest of
Edie
Over on page 5



Above, left: Before making her appearance at the celebration, Ede enjoyed a last-minute cup of butterscotch ice cream. Above, right: A party-goer gave Edie the perfect gift: a bag of Hershey's Kisses, which Edie promptly asked to be opened by Holy Spirit Care Home owner, Perla Gonzalez, right, and enjoyed mid-parade. Below, from left: Law enforcement and civilian vehicles drove by the Holy Spirit Care Home in the Haehl Creek subdivision for the 115th birthday parade. At bottom, left: Nick Kombs and Jim Montalvo of Auto Mart wave out from the antique police car driving on the parade route. Below, right: Press Democrat photographer, Kent Porter, left, smiles with Edie's cousin-by-marriage Evelyn Persico and Press Democrat's retired reporter Chris Smith.



BOS looks to ease tree rules for pot sites

Forrest Glyer
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

On Tuesday the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors directed County Counsel Christian Curtis to craft a resolution "clarifying" certain rules of "vegetation modification," i.e. tree removal, for cannabis cultivation permit applicants.

In general, the board directed staff towards ways to add more flexibility for applicants to overcome tree removal issues, which have bogged some down for months or even years in their permit process.

As described by county staff at the meeting, the 10A17 county cannabis ordinance, passed in 2017, has strict regulations against clearing of any new "restricted species" of trees for cultivation areas, though it does allow for exceptions for safety reasons or if the trees are dead or dying.

However county staff explained that there's been a lot of confusion on what classifies as a safety reason, and with other definitions in the vegetation modification section of the ordinance.

Read the rest of
Rules
Over on Page 11

Mendocino County added to 'major disaster' declaration

Submitted by County of Mendocino, SBA

The Federal Emergency Management Agency in partnership with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, the United States Small Business Administration, and Mendocino County Disaster Recovery and Office of Emergency Services have been tracking, documenting, and verifying storm damages for several weeks with the goal of bringing additional recovery resources to Mendocino County.

As of February 2, 2023, the County of Mendocino has been added to the major disaster declaration for California's severe storms and flooding. The county has been approved for both public assistance and individual assistance to support recovery efforts related to damage and / or losses from the storms that began on December 27, 2022.

The county is currently working with state and federal partners to establish Disaster Recovery Centers. FEMA Disaster Recovery

Read the rest of
Disaster
Over on Page 4

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Thank you

To the Editor:

Thanks to the Weekly and Mathew Caine for covering the Willits Charter School talent show in your February 2 issue. Those shows surely rock for all that the kids bring.

It's also really great how much the Weekly devotes to consistently covering our young people and their all-important creative, athletic and scholastic endeavors. Good clean fun all around.

And congrats to the school for developing their new SPAC facility for students athletics and performing arts. I can't imagine a better, healthier venue funded and built for our young people.

Steve Hellman, Willits

Senior Center menu for the week

Willits Senior Center is serving lunch in its indoor dining room, and continues to serve drive-through and walk-up lunches, too. Lunch is available Monday through Friday, from 12 to 12:45 pm, inside and outside the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Price is \$7.

Thursday, February 9: Chicken Fritter, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Veggie, Roll

Friday, February 10: Bacon Breakfast Burrito, Fruit Salad

Monday, February 13: Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Garlic Bread

Tuesday, February 14: Beef Stroganoff, Veggie, Roll

Wednesday, February 15: Chile Rellenos Casserole, Rice & Beans

Thursday, February 16: Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Veggie, Roll

Friday, February 17: Teriyaki Chicken Stir Fry

February Pancake Breakfast: Sunday, February 12 from 8 to 11 am. Menu choices: 1. Pancakes with eggs cooked the way you like them, and choice of sausage or bacon. 2. Biscuits & Gravy with eggs cooked the way you like them. \$8; \$7 Senior Center members; \$6 children under 8. Extra meat sides: 3 slices bacon, \$2; 3 sausage links, \$2.

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

Meals on Wheels: The Senior Center Meals on Wheels program delivers lunch Monday through Friday. To sign up call Deb 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

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.

Willits Weekly

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Ecology Action holds first Grow Biointensive workshop on Zoom

Submitted by Ecology Action

Ecology Action is excited to announce we are holding our annual Spring Introductory GROW BIOINTENSIVE® Workshop, online via Zoom, over four consecutive Saturdays: February 25 and March 4, 11 and 18, 2023.

Our in-person workshops are usually held over a single three-day weekend, requiring travel, food, lodging, and more time from participants. This year, everyone with an internet connection can participate from the comfort of their homes and gardens, while enjoying the same informative curriculum as our in-person workshops, over a relaxed four-Saturday time frame.

In place of live demonstrations on topics like double-digging and bed preparation, we have prepared demonstration videos detailing these methods, with question-and-answer sessions after we watch together as a group. Many of us use Zoom to connect with friends, family and work; for those new to the program, Zoom is about as simple to use as YouTube.

GROW BIOINTENSIVE Sustainable Mini-Farming is the original regenerative, sustainable, organic agriculture, rooted in heritage farm-craft and proven with science. John Jeavons and Ecology Action developed GB over 50 years of field research and teaching, based on centuries-old agricultural principles that enable you to feed yourself by feeding your soil with healthy, nutrient-rich compost grown right in your garden.

Jeavons wrote the best-selling book on the subject: "How to Grow More Vegetables, Fruits, Nuts, Berries and Other Crops Than You Ever Thought Possible with Less Water On Less Land Than You Can Imagine!" and he leads the workshops assisted by Matt Drewno, Mini-farm manager for Ecology Action's research and demonstration site Victory Gardens for Peace on the Mendocino Coast.

Both Jeavons and Drewno are Certified Master-Level GROW BIOINTENSIVE teachers. If you're interested in learning proven ways to grow great soil and abundant harvests in less space with less water, energy, and fertilizer – not new fads but time-tested approaches – we would love to see you at this workshop.

Over the course of the workshop, you'll learn how to use up to 66% less water, save up to 94% in energy, and grow soil up to 60 times faster than nature – all while increasing your garden yields – plus much more.

This is an introductory course where we discuss a range of topics, from seed-starting and compost- building to harvesting crops and saving seeds. The program provides a strong introduction to Ecology Action and the GROW BIOINTENSIVE method of sustainable and regenerative gardening and farming. Many workshop participants enjoy it so much they move on to our more advanced courses or even take an internship with us after completing the four-Saturdays workshop.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn simple yet powerful techniques that will keep you growing food for a lifetime, right where you are! Cost is \$380 per person and includes a digital workshop manual. Other required publications need to be purchased if you do not already own them. Get more information at growbiointensive.org/workshop.html and start a new chapter in your sustainable life today. Or contact: Ecology Action, 707-459-0150 or contact@growbiointensive.org

Registration closes February 23, 2023. We hope to see your smiling faces this spring!

Ecology Action is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, established in 1971. Our mission is to teach people worldwide to better feed themselves while building and preserving the soil and conserving resources. You can read a recent article about our work here: <http://www.pri.org/stories/2016-08-24/small-farmers-around-world-learn-how-they-can-grow-far-more-food>

'Borrow' a State Parks pass at your local library

Submitted by Mendocino County Library

California State Parks and the California State Library have partnered with California public libraries to create an opportunity for library card holders to enjoy our state parks for free.

The Mendocino County Library is happy to announce the opportunity for safe and equitable outdoor access to all Mendocino County residents who hold a library card to check out the passes provided through the California State Library.

These passes will allow free vehicle day-use entry at more than 200 participating state parks.

This amazing resource exists as part of a three-year pilot program through the California State Parks and the California State Library. The California State Budget for 2021/22 included initiatives for equitable access to our state parks and open spaces for all Californians. A \$9.1 million one-time General Fund investment was included in the budget to launch a state parks pilot to expand parks pass distribution.

"Libraries are trusted community hubs where Californians know they can find what they need to work, play, and thrive," said California State Librarian Greg Lucas. "This partnership with State Parks now allows Californians to 'check out' California's great outdoors at their community library."

Mendocino County Library has received a total of 95 parks pass hangtags distributed to each of our six branches and the Bookmobile. Each branch has passes that may be reserved and some that are available on a walk-in basis. Mendocino County Library card holders will be able to check out the pass and then return them to the library branch for other community members to enjoy.

Each pass is valid for the entry of one passenger vehicle holding up to nine individuals or one highway-licensed motorcycle at participating state park units.

For more information on this program, including an interactive map, visit www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=30806

For more details, visit www.mendolib.org/borrow/california-state-library-parks-pass

Visit your local Mendocino County Library branch or contact the Mendocino County Cultural Services Agency at 707-234-2873.

Willits Library holds community forum February 10

The Willits Branch Library is hosting a drop-in community forum on Friday, February 10, 2023, from 11 am to 1 pm. We are asking the public to help us complete our strategic plan by letting us know what they want the library to look like in the next five years. Your opinions are important to us and will help guide decisions made around the County Library.

This event is open to all ages. We want to hear from everyone about what they like, dislike, and want to see in their library. Staff will be available for the duration of the drop-in period for any community members that have questions.

Light refreshments will be provided. For more information, please visit www.mendolib.org or contact the Willits Library at 707-459-5908.

– Submitted by Mendocino County Library

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TO MAKE A CHANGE

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Above, from left: Grant Fisher works diligently to produce a product he can be proud of. Grant Fisher meticulously does the cross-hatching on his peanut butter cookies. Fourteen-year-old Grant Fisher carefully measures out the proper amount of peanut butter.

At far left: Richard Jergenson peruses the selection of cookie dough. At left: The Farmers Market sample tray offers oatmeal raisin and peanut butter cookies.

Below, left: Grant's newest addition to his repertoire: chocolate crinkles. Below, right: Grant's peanut butter cookies are ready to go in the freezer and be sold at the Farmers Market.

Grant's Goodies

Frozen cookie dough now available at the Willits Farmers Market from 14-year-old entrepreneur

"Grant saw a need," said proud mom Evelyn Fisher about her entrepreneurial son, Grant Fisher. "All he saw were the

Safeway slice 'n bakes. There was nothing like he's doing, using mostly organic ingredients,

high-quality butter, and those sorts of things. They're homemade. We're testing gluten-free recipes. We're working on finding something that works well because we don't want to have just any cookie. It has to be high quality.

"Right now, he makes raw cookie dough balls," said Evelyn, "frozen so you can just take them from the freezer and put them on a pan and place them in your oven. He makes chocolate chip, peanut butter, and oatmeal raisin, currently.

"We're about to introduce chocolate crinkles, which are amazing. They're a deep dark-chocolate cookie with chocolate chips inside as well. Before you bake them, you roll them in powdered sugar. When they bake, they crack, so you get this contrast between the dark chocolate and the white powdered sugar. We've been testing recipes and he finally found one he liked. We tweaked that one a little bit," explained Evelyn.

Luckily for the young Fisher, one of three boys, his mom homeschooled him with an entrepreneurial curriculum that has enabled

him to have the training and knowledge in order to fulfill his chosen track.

"I knew he wanted to start a business," continued Evelyn. "I searched and searched and found a really cool entrepreneurship curriculum. He did that as a semester program. During that curriculum, they have you start a business. We were going to do this anyway, so it just coordinated really well.

"He's done this from both the business side – 'how do you start a business' and 'what's that process?' He's gone through all of the legal requirements, all the certifications, permits. This isn't a kid in a popscicle stand. Because I homeschooled, I've been able to customize towards my sons' interests. I've been able to nurture what Grant already knows what he wants to do."

Of course, Grant is too young, at 14, to sign contracts and hold the proper licenses. However, his mom is aiding him at this point.

"I'm helping Grant with the business now," said Evelyn, "but part of his entrepreneurship program is to understand how to keep records and all of the financial parts of a business, going through the permitting process of all the different entities that required permits and record-keeping.

Read the rest of Goodies Over on page 10



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Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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Level: Advanced

VALENTINE'S DAY WORD SEARCH

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ANNIVERSARY	DESSERT	HUG	RELATIONSHIP
ARROW	DOVES	JEWELRY	ROMANCE
BOUQUET	EMBRACE	KISS	ROSES
CANDY	FEELINGS	LACE	SAINT
CARDS	FLIRT	LOVE	SERENADE
CELEBRATION	FLOWERS	MARRIAGE	SWEET
CHOCOLATE	GIFTS	MEMORIES	TRADITION
CUPCAKE	HEARTS	MUSIC	VALENTINE
CUPID	HOLIDAY	POEM	WOO

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CLUES ACROSS

- Functions
- Records electric currents associated with contractions of the heart
- Trigonometric function (abbr.)
- Secret political clique
- Type of gibbon
- Nocturnal S. American rodent
- Famed American playwright
- Mesopotamian goddess
- Abba __, Israeli politician
- Long ridge of gravel and sediment
- A place to stay
- Actor Idris
- One who behaves in a rebellious way
- A way to measure movement
- Distinguish oneself
- Type of drug (abbr.)
- Basketball great Baylor
- Masses of salivary matter
- Calls balls and strikes
- Plant that grows along the ground
- A recreational activity in the air
- Consumes too much
- Island nation
- Pistol
- Mixtures of soul and calypso
- Ancient Greek City
- Similar
- Roughly trimmed tree trunk used in a Scottish game
- Semitic fertility god
- Born of
- Frogs, toads, tree toads
- School in the northeast (abbr.)
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- '__ the Man' Musical, baseball player

CLUES DOWN

- Fiddler crabs
- Discount
- Partner to 'flows'
- Ethnic group of Laos
- Beloved 'Seinfeld' character
- Book of tickets
- The last name of 'Hermione'
- Type of TV package
- Helps to heal a cut
- Town in Galilee
- Actor Horsley
- 'Hocus Pocus 2' actor Ed
- Bird-loving group (abbr.)
- They respond when someone is sick
- Emerged
- Midway between south and southeast
- Monetary unit of Afghanistan
- Unit of work or energy
- Indicates near
- Famed river
- For each
- News organization
- CNN's founder
- They __
- Areas off to the side
- Satisfies
- A spare bed
- Legendary singer Diana
- Frothy mass of bubbles
- A kind of sorcery
- River in South Africa
- Philippine Island
- County in China
- S. American plant
- Beverage containers
- Edge
- Protein-rich liquids
- Moved quickly on foot

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE LOG

January 15 to January 21

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled **75 incidents** in this 7-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

January 15

6:22 am: GOUBER, Jack Edward (55) of Ukiah was contacted in the 1400 block of South Main Street following a disturbance. He was arrested pursuant to 602 PC (Trespassing).

4:55 am: GOSS, John

Paul (43) of Laytonville was contacted in the 1700 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on felony charges of carrying a loaded concealed weapon, sale and/or transport of drugs, and possession of a controlled substance for sale, and on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia.



John Goss of Laytonville.

January 16

1:24 pm: Officers initiated a traffic investigation in the 1600 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

January 17

6:20 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of State Street.

January 18

4:16 am: ARMS, Daniel Leigh (35) of Susanville was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of domestic battery, driving with a suspended license, no evidence of current registration, and failure to appear.

2:36 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 500 block of Raymond Lane.

7:03 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 1600 block of South Main Street.

January 19

12:24 am: Officers initiated a traffic investigation near the intersection of Hazel Street and Locust Street and issued a citation.

1:01 am: KENYON, Douglas Paul (56) of Willits was contacted near the intersection of Mill Street and Coast Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor

charges of failure to appear.

9:27 am: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

2:37 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1100 block of Marcela Drive and issued a citation.

January 20

9:42 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1100 block of South Main Street.

12:33 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of South Main Street.

1:28 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Casteel Lane and North Main Street.

10:50 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 700 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

January 21

12:09 pm: GUNDERSON, Joshua (52) of Ukiah was contacted in the 700 block of South Main Street following a theft investigation. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of shoplifting, disorderly conduct (alcohol), and possession of drug paraphernalia.

1:14 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 500 block of Coast Street.

7:08 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

7:13 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

9:48 pm: LEONARD, Joshua Miles (23) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of North Lenore Avenue. He was arrested pursuant to 211 PC (Robbery), 422 PC (Criminal Threats), 242 PC (Battery), 148 PC (Resisting Arrest), 836.6 (B) PC (Attempted Escape from Custody), 591.5 PC (Damaging a Communication Device), on felony charges of failure to appear, and on misdemeanor charges of vandalism.



Joshua Leonard of Willits.

MCSO reports in-custody death

By Lt. Sotiris Siderakis, for MCSO

On February 7, 2023, at about 12:30 am, an intoxicated 64-year-old male from Ukiah was brought into Mendocino County Sheriff's Office custody for Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, Refuse Disposal in State Water, and a Violation of Parole. The arrestee was on parole for Failure to Register as a Sex Registrant.

The arrestee was brought into the Mendocino County Jail's intake room where he was evaluated by our inhouse medical staff. Our medical staff took the arrestee's vital signs and cleared the arrestee to enter the facility. The arrestee was housed in the Jail's Sobering Cell where the arrestee was monitored for a minimum of four times per hour.

At about 6 am, Corrections staff were checking on the arrestee housed in the Sobering Cell, the sole occupant of the cell. Corrections staff did not get a response from the inmate, and summoned our in-house medical staff. Staff checked the arrestee for a pulse, and they were unable to find one.

Staff started resuscitation measures and called for an ambulance to come to the jail. When the fire and ambulance staff arrived, they assisted the jail staff with life-saving measures until death was pronounced at approximately 6:32 am.

The Mendocino County Sheriff's Office Investigation Bureau was called to investigate the cause of death.

The rest of
Disaster

From page 1

Centers are accessible facilities and mobile offices you can visit to learn more about FEMA and other disaster-assistance programs.

Additional information will be released as soon as specific details become available.

SBA disaster loans now available

The Small Business Administration has also announced that low-interest federal disaster loans are now available to Mendocino County businesses and residents affected by severe winter storms, flooding, landslides and mudslides that began December 27, 2022.

SBA offers low-interest, long-term loans to businesses of all sizes, private non-profit organizations, homeowners and renters who need help to recover from the storm. These loans are available in Alameda, Calaveras, Contra Costa, Mendocino,

Merced, Monterey, Sacramento, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz and Ventura counties.

SBA can lend up to \$200,000 to homeowners to make repairs to their primary residences and up to \$40,000 to help homeowners and renters replace their personal property. The application deadline for physical damage assistance is March 16, 2023.

Applicants may apply online at https://disasterloanassistance.sba.gov. Those who have questions should contact the SBA Customer Service Center at FOCWAssistance@sba.gov or by phone at (800) 659-2955, Mondays through Sundays from 9 am to 9 pm, Central Time.



Above, from left: Edie Ceccarelli gets a birthday corsage from Flowers by Annette pinned to her coat with help from Diana Gomez. Almost ready for her party, Ceccarelli awaits the final touch: a fancy red hat lent to her by Jill Persico, that Ceccarelli personally selected from a hatbox filled with options. Members of the Scouts BSA, Troop 42 carried American flags at the front of the parade including from left: Mason Caspino, Isabella Lopez-Mora and Annalee Gonzalez.

Below, left: Genaro B. Gonzalez, Jr., business partner of Holy Spirit Care Home's owner Perla Gonzalez, shows Ceccarelli the beautiful four-tier cake made for the celebration by Schat's Bakery in Ukiah. Below, right: A group of friends and family gathered for a photo with a county proclamation shown off by Third District Supervisor John Haschak, including from left, in back: Cici Winiger, Caprice Hardy, Christian Hardy, John Haschak, Evelyn Persico and Chuck Persico. In front, from left: Edie's niece Beverly Davidson of Red Bluff, Jill Persico and Lee Persico.



Below, from left: This chocolate and strawberry cake was made for Edie Ceccarelli's 115th birthday by the crew at the Roots restaurant at Adventist Health Howard Memorial. Emergency vehicles were decorated with balloons and more to celebrate as they drive by the care home. Umbrellas were needed while waiting for the parade to start Sunday, but the sun did pop out just long enough for most to enjoy the event. At bottom, left: Colorful daisy spinners, placed by Kristi Ross and students from St. Mary of the Angels Catholic School of Ukiah, filled the front lawn of the care home, cheering up the visuals of the gray day. At bottom, right: Edie Ceccarelli poses from behind the birthday table with two cakes, two signs, and a lot of love and support on her big day.



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'Knock at the Cabin'

The Story: Horror home invasion slaughter flick set within the Christian Mythos of Armageddon. Set in a cabin in the woods, Eric (Jonathan Goff) and Andrew (Ben Aldridge) are a gay couple living with their adopted (maybe 10-year-old) daughter Wen (Kristin Cui). She's adorable and collects grasshoppers.



Dan Essman
Columnist

A quartet of strangers approach the cabin, one of whom is steroidal muscle-bound and fully tattooed Leonard (Dave Bautista). Despite his truly fearsome size, he's actually kind and soft-spoken. He informs Eric, Andrew, and little Wen that one of them must willingly choose to sacrifice his (or her) life in order to prevent God from destroying the World. A helluva choice, and by implication almost Satanic.

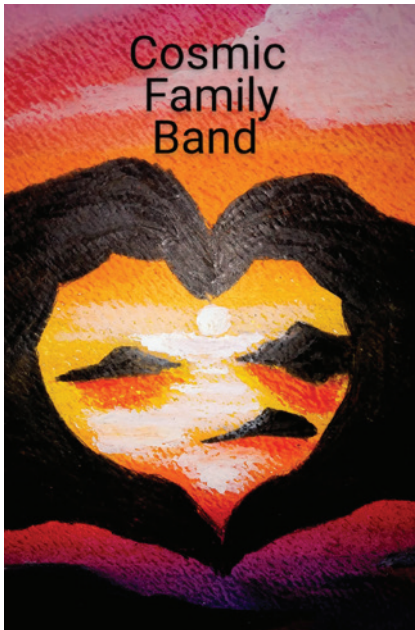
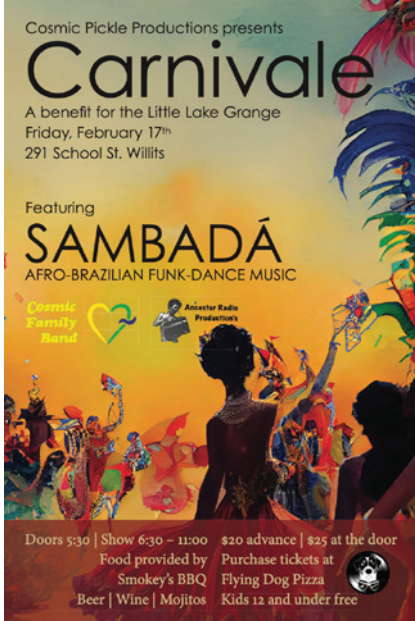
My Thoughts: But this is an M. Night Shyamalan movie, and I always feel his flicks are like crackerjack. After you've eaten the caramelized peanuts and popcorn, you search the empty box for the promised prize, but there ain't one. And you're disappointed. And your tummy hurts.

The premise of the screenplay is that God will save the World if Eric, or Andrew, or little Wen commits suicide. Somehow, in Shyamalan's whack job pseudo-Christian theological pretzel-ism, it's actually Mankind who controls God. A notion both morally topsy-turvy and pretentious.

I really want to call this self-important flick "Shyamalan Candy." It's all soggy-soft nougat. Gushy, chewy, vaguely sweet, and bleah! On the plus side: the flick is bloody and suspenseful. (Spoiler!) Though some characters do get chopped up with quite creative and quite unusual metal choppers, the gory charcuterie takes place quite tastefully off-camera.

Parents: Don't bring your kids. Teenagers might like the flick. When I was 13, I probably would have thought it was profound.

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



'Carnivale'

Grange concert to feature SambaDá and the Cosmic Family Band on February 17

On February 17 music will once again fill the main room of the Little Lake Grange for "Carnivale," a show featuring the Afro-Brazilian samba-funk band SambaDá, opens the Cosmic Family Band, festive food from Smokey's BBQ, and more.

Forrest Glier
Features Writer
willitsweekly@gmail.com

According to show organizer Pooba, this will be the first larger-scale concert at the Grange since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, and many in the community have been asking for more such events in Willits.

"The reason this is happening is because of an

overwhelming request for something different," said Pooba. "And SambaDá is that, they put on a really great show."

The event will be a benefit for the Little Lake Grange to help them push through some financial challenges they've been dealing with recently, brought on by a lull in activity during the COVID era, high-cost repair work needed on the building, and other factors.

"This isn't going to go away quickly," said Pooba, who is a

Read the rest of **Carnivale** Over on page 11



Above: SambaDá with longtime band members Papiba Godinhno, center left, and Dandha da Hora, center right. Below: The Cosmic Family Band playing at Koko's in Fort Bragg in January.



LEGAL NOTICES

WW415

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2023-F0051
The following people are doing business as Greenstone Landscapes, 6301 Ridgewood Road, Willits, CA 95490.

Registered owners: Johan and Erin Henckell, 6301 Ridgewood Road, Willits, CA 95490.

This business is conducted by a married couple.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on July 30, 2008.

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on January 27, 2023.

/s/ Johan Henckell

Publication dates: February 9, 16, 23, March 2, 2023

WW410

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2023-F0012
The following person is doing business as Mendo Timber Construction i Mendo Timber, 3815 Chiquapin Drive, Willits, CA 95490.

Registered owner: Eric C Hackney, 3815 Chiquapin Drive, Willits, CA 95490.

This business is conducted by an individual.

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

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on January 10, 2023.

/s/ Eric C Hackney

Publication dates: January 19, 26, February 2, 9, 2023

WW411

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JOANNE WIMBERLY

Case No. 23PR00009

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate or both of Joanne Wimberly:

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Judy Shelly in the Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino.

The Petition for Probate requests that Judy Shelly be appointed as Personal Representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The Petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:

Date: March 2, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. in Dept. TM of the Mendocino County Superior Court, located at 700 S Franklin Street, Fort Bragg, CA 95437.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) **four months** from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) **60 days** from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. **Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.**

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner: Jennifer M. O'Brien, NEARY and O'BRIEN, 110 S Main St., Ste. C, Willits, CA 95490, Telephone (707) 459-5551.

Publication Dates: February 2, 9, 16, 2023

WW413

NOTICE OF SALE OF GOODS TO SATISFY SELF STORAGE FACILITY LIEN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property pursuant to Sections 21700-21716 of the Business & Professions Code, Section 2328 of UCC, Section 535 of the Penal Code and provision of the Civil Code.

The undersigned will sell at public sale by competitive bidding on the 11th day of February, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. or immediately following the GLENMARK SOUTH auction, on the premises where said property has been stored and which are located at GLENMARK NORTH 395 North Main Street, Willits, CA 95490, County of Mendocino, State of California the following:

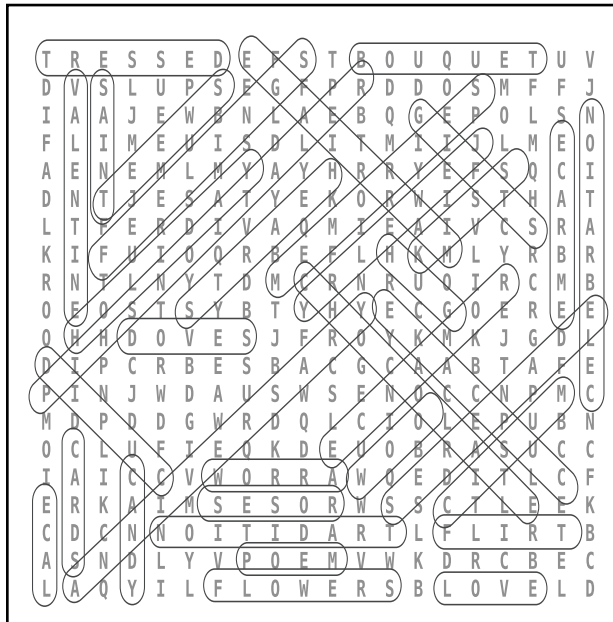
Karen Sue Davis	523
Tal Johnson	513
Kerry Lane	530
Heather Schmidt	206
Sierra Simaro	149
Susan Tacker	156

The goods are described as: Bicycles, bicycle parts, furniture, artwork, meditation bowl, misc tools, misc totes.

Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase in cash only. All purchased items sold as is, where is, and must be removed at the time of the sale. Sale subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and the obliged party.

Glen Green
Bond-#70784656
(707) 459-4628

Publication Dates: February 2 and 9, 2023



Mendocino County invites applications for:

Account Specialist II/III
\$39,977 - \$53,684

Air Pollution Control Officer
\$113,464 - \$137,924

Community Services Officer
\$48,984 - \$59,529

Corrections Deputy
\$54,184 - \$65,873

Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer
\$90,896 - \$110,489

Deputy District Attorney I/II/III
\$74,921 - \$120,411

Deputy Probation Officer I & II
\$51,937 - \$69,617

Deputy Public Defender I/II
\$74,921 - \$103,168

Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II
\$62,628 - \$87,214

Director of Public Health
\$138,673 - \$168,833

Juvenile Corrections Officer
\$50,710 - \$61,630

Juvenile Corrections Officer - Extra-Help
\$24.38 hourly

Payroll Manager
\$84,032 - \$102,148

Program Manager
\$88,296 - \$107,328

Senior Substance Abuse Counselor
\$58,385 - \$70,990

Sheriff's Coroner Investigative Technician
\$58,156 - \$70,699

Substance Abuse Counselor I/II
\$45,739 - \$64,376

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

www.governmentjobs.com/careers/mendocinoca

EOE

LEGAL NOTICES

WW413

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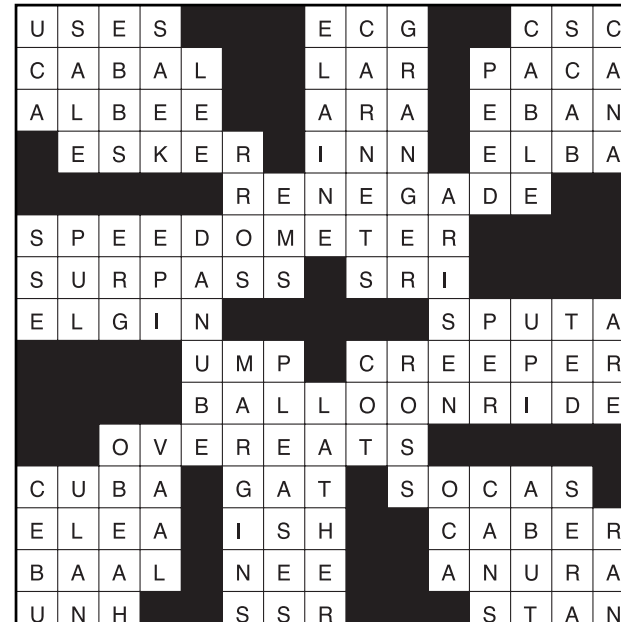
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Glen Green
Bond-#70784656
(707) 459-4628

Publication Dates: February 2 and 9, 2023



CLASSIFIEDS

The Chamber needs YOU!

Willits Chamber of Commerce is looking for volunteers to help answer phones, meet and greet the public, help with fundraising and mixers, and much more! Interested in getting involved? We need enthusiastic, energetic and excited people to help with all the Chamber needs. For info: (707) 459-7910 and ask for Lou Celaya, the volunteer coordinator.

Indoor Yard Sale

Giant Indoor Yard Sale - Deep Valley Christian School, 8555 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley, (across from the Broiler). **Saturday, February 11** - 8 am to 4 pm

John Ford Ranch Beef

John Ford Ranch still has the 50 lb. Rancher's Choice Box for \$375.00 and the 25 lb. Hamburger Box for \$160.00. Please contact Debbie Arkelian @ 459-5049.

Computer Help

Need help with your computer? PC, Macintosh, Android and IOS devices. Repairs, configuration and tutoring: \$50/hr. Call Liam 459-2470 or email uicearbhail@gmail.com

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.oaknvine.net/tp>

For Rent

2 Bdrm. 1 Bath in country setting. Clean, newly decorated, washer & dryer hook-up, garbage paid. \$1,200.00 per month & Deposit. 707-459-9601 Armo.

For Sale

Manufactured Home For Sale. To be moved. 2022 manufactured home double-wide two-bedroom two-bath. 935 ft located in Willits. \$79,500. Call 559-999-5080.

Help Wanted

NCO Rural Communities Child Care: Recruiting for Ukiah: Program Assistant. Participates as a team member to assure the efficient and professional operation of the office. Two years' experience working in a business office setting required. Salary \$20.72/hour. For full job description details & the required employment application form, go to www.ncoinc.org/about-us/jobs or call 707-467-3200 x 302. Open Until Filled. EOE

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

"It was a little more difficult because he's 14. Banking presented a problem. It was a little bit of an issue as to not being straight forward and easy to accomplish but we figured out a way. The Savings Bank of Mendocino County was great about helping us to figure out how to make this work until he's old enough to sign contracts and other age-limited aspects.

"We take credit cards and debit cards through Square. I had to sign those contracts," Evelyn explained. "We couldn't do a business savings or checking account. We ended up navigating all the little hurdles."

Currently, Grant and his Goodies can be found every Thursday, at the Willits Farmers Market in the Little Lake Grange, from 3 to 5:30 pm, where he rents the kitchen to prepare his tasty, take-home-and-bake treats, but look for his business to grow.

"We're going to continue to make the cookies here for a while," explained Evelyn. "Grant's plan is to eventually add the Ukiah Farmers Market and hopefully be picked up by Mariposa Market and / or The Co-op, and see where it goes from there. He likes baking all sorts of things, so at some point he might branch out into other baked goods or mixes."

One of the features of Grant's frozen dough is that the buyer can choose to bake one or the entire bag, depending on whether they want a late-night snack or treat the whole family to fresh baked cookies.

Grant can be found sometimes in the grange kitchen, working on his tasty peanut butter cookies which require a little more advanced preparation. "I put them on the pan, smush them [do the crosshatching with a fork on each], and then I freeze them on the pan," explained the young business owner.

"Before the market sets up, we bag all the cookies," said Grant. "Then we replace them in the freezer, so they stay frozen until we place them in the cooler under the table. The cookies need to be baked at 375 degrees for about 12 minutes."

Grant would like to encourage people to pre-order and then come pick them up at the Farmers Market. He has an Instagram and Facebook page and can be reached at grantsgoodies@icloud.com.

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Phoenix.



Daphne



Maria.

Furry Friends Hoping for a Home

Cheerful Phoenix

Phoenix is sweet and loves to play with toys. This 3-year-old is curious about her surroundings and likes to explore. Although she is very happy and loving with adults, she would do best in a home with no young children.

The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, requires a reservation to view adoptable animals. Call 707-467-6453 to make an appointment to meet Phoenix or our other canine and feline guests. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendoanimalshelter.com.

Full-throttle Daphne

Daphne is a real cuddler. She loves people and wants to crawl up into laps. She is also a firecracker! Daphne loves to play with other dogs and really loves to fetch. She is a true character, full of fun and love.

Daphne has a lot of stamina and is a fairly demanding breed of herding dog, who is looking for a job and plenty of action! She is protective, a bit on the dominant side, full-throttle, and a ready to take on the world kind of gal.

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mendoanimalshelter.com

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Ft. Bragg Shelter • 19701 Summers Lane • 707-961-2491

She is super bright, agile, affectionate, eager and alert.

To learn more about Daphne or 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 due to COVID-19. Please complete a pet-adoption application before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 510-900-2275.

Golden Maria

Maria is the most beautiful girl and looking for her second shot at love! Maria is easily a volunteer and staff favorite. She loves people of all shapes and sizes – even young kiddos who were smitten with her. This lovely lady even likes other dogs! Maria has the most gorgeous golden eyes that draw you in! We don't know about you, but we think Maria is the best gal who deserves an equally best home. Is that with you?

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. We are open Wednesday through

Friday from 1 to 5 pm and Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 3 pm. Closed Mondays and Tuesdays. You may also look at our available dogs and cats on our website: www.mendohumanesociety.com, our Facebook page, and on www.petfinder.com.

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were shared, as members and interested participants settled into the evening.

Community organizations such as the Little Lake Grange, Willits Center for the Arts, the Blue Zones Project, Manzanita Services Inc., and more were represented, along with Green Uprising Farm, the School of Adaptive Agriculture, the Mendocino Grain Project, and many other farmers, gardeners and environmentalists.

Individual wellness practitioners and other small business owners added to the conversation, and founding WELL member and city council member Madge Strong, along with Third District Supervisor John Haschak, were also in attendance, giving updates on the latest challenges in the county, as well as the progress being made on a variety of ongoing projects.

longtime grange member. "So I felt I needed to step forward and do what I could to help raise money for them."

Brazilian Papiba Godinho formed SambaDá in Santa Cruz about 24 years ago, and he said that the lineup for the band will be a bit different than usual for this show, with five of the seven performers being Brazilian musicians, including two percussion players and the bass player.

"So we have a very, very genuine sound right now playing a lot of different songs with a very authentic Brazilian sound," said Godinho, who plays guitar, cavaco and percussion, and sings for the group. "It's great to have musicians who are used to playing professionally in Brazil play with us, because they bring this really fun, authentic sound and I notice that our shows are like very groovy. They bring very beautiful sounds for our sets."

The "Carnivale" theme of the show is in reference to the massive celebration in Brazil which begins February 17, and Godinho said that SambaDá plans to bring that spirit to the Willits show.

"I have a feeling because it's Carnivale time, Dondha [Da Hora] and I, we get excited ... so all people should expect a high-energy show," Godinho said.

Dondha da Hora is the longtime singer, percussionist and dancer for the band, who Pooba said is considered to be one of the top-three samba singers in the world.

SambaDá has played in Willits before, including for a New Year's Eve show at the Grange in 2016, and Godinho said they're happy to be returning.

Pooba encourages those attending to dress up and wear costume-style masks for the festive event if they like.

"I think it's sort of appropriate, being that we've been in the COVID thing, that it's 'Carnivale,' so it's appropriate to mask up," he said with a laugh.

Godinho is also a master of capoeira, and said that he's planning to do a demonstration of the martial arts / dance form during the break between bands, and hopes that other enthusiasts in the area will join him.

Pooba said he also has other surprises in store for the "halftime entertainment" portion in between bands, but didn't want to reveal them yet.

Leading off the evening at 6:30 pm will be the Cosmic Family Band, a local six-piece group who also has an eclectic style with fiddle, guitars, bass, and two percussionists in the mix.

Original band member Chris Cichacki said the group has been playing together for more than five years now, and described their sound as having a "psychedelic folk-rock" jam-band feel that at times incorporates jazz, gypsy music, and bluegrass.

"We play all original music that is a reflection of this world that we live in and our lives and how it affects us," Cichacki said. "And it comes out in all different ways."

Smokey's BBQ will be selling food at the event, and Pooba said the menu, while not finalized yet, is planned to include seafood gumbo, ribs, kale salad, red beans and rice, and cornbread.

The Lion's Club will be running the bar at the event, serving beer, wine and mojitos, and Pooba said that members from other local groups like the Willits Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club have also shown support.

"Working together with different organizations and also the residents of Willits – it's what it's going to take to bring this town back," Pooba said. "We really need that. We've gone through some hard times ... It's really important that we as a community work together in the spirit of what we have, and while having fun doing it!"

Pooba said he plans on putting together a few more big shows in the Willits area before the end of the year, including a second annual "Blues & Brews" concert.

For Carnivale, doors will open at the Grange at 5:30 pm on February 17, and the show will go from 6:30 to 11 pm.

Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, and you can purchase them at Flying Dog Pizza in Willits. Kids 12 and under get in free.

Many community members spoke to the need for more support for Willits youth, homeless people, town beautification, potential collaborations between organizations, and much more.

It was an inspiring evening of old friends and sharing new ideas and making connections, with regular meet-ups planned for the coming months.

To learn more about WELL, check out their website at www.well95490.org or their Facebook page, or email WELL at office@well95490.org or phone them at 459-1493.

Join WELL or renew your membership at a sliding-scale rate of \$20 to \$35 for individuals, or \$35 to \$50 for a family, by sending a check to P.O. Box 42, Willits, CA 95490 or join via PayPal at www.well95490.org. Donations are also welcome!



Above, left: WELL founding member and city council member Madge Strong sings at the recent WELL meeting on building community. Above, right: Lucy Bartholomew from the Blue Zones Project contributes her perspective on thriving in community. Below: Diverse community members meet to share their perspectives on surviving and thriving in Willits.



Essentially, applicants have had to show proof that any trees removed from a cultivation area were either done so prior to May of 2017, or were done so due to safety reasons, which has been problematic in many cases.

After more than three hours of discussion between the staff, the board and community members, most were in agreement that the status quo should not continue, since too many cannabis applicants who are in general "good stewards of the land" were being held up due to restrictions in the ordinance which are vaguely written and much more strict than for any other purpose in the county.

So one direction the board gave to county counsel was to define "developing a cultivation site" in such a way to allow the removal of restricted species of trees to build things like roads, irrigation ponds and ADA bathrooms needed for the sites.

In other words, applicants still couldn't receive permits to grow cannabis anywhere restricted trees have been cleared since 2017, but if the trees were cleared for the supporting structures and roads that would be OK.

This was the most lenient of three options given to the board for the definition.

Another direction given by the board was for staff to generally trust affidavits signed by applicants as proof of a reason for tree removal, unless clear contradictions in their statements come up through inspections or from state agencies.

For the rules on affidavits, the supervisors asked that Curtis incorporate the language of longtime cannabis attorney Hannah Nelson who had written a 12-page memo to the board on the vegetation modification subject, and spoke at the meeting.

"The affidavit is to be accepted as sufficient proof," she said, "unless a CalFire violation or code enforcement violation specifically contradicts the affidavit, or other evidence wholly contradicts the affidavit."

While Curtis said he would like to tweak the language a bit from what Nelson suggested, he said that something close to that should work.

Curtis did recommend that the county go with CalFire stipulations for when a tree is allowed to be removed for safety reasons, though it wasn't entirely clear if the board wished to go with that.

Nelson talked about some of her clients who had gone through "veg mod hell," trying to appease the county over months or even years to get some limited tree removal approved as they attempted to become fully licensed.

One of those clients was Theresa Sischo, who also spoke at the meeting, telling about the long saga since 2017 of she and her husband attempting to obtain an annual license for cultivation.

She said that they had picked a spot on their property which a 2013 fire had struck to put a cannabis garden of less than 5,000 square feet, obtained legal counsel, and applied for a permit in 2017.

To her surprise they eventually received a "veg mod" notice from the county, and were told to hire an arborist to document any dead and dying trees in the garden area, which she did.

They were also advised by the Mendocino Cannabis Department to move their garden to another spot according to Sischo, but that spot was actually too close to a waterway and would've been in violation

As a result of all the delays, Sischo said they were refused a cannabis equity grant they applied for due to the tree issue, and a dead tree eventually ended up falling on one of their hoop houses as they were awaiting approval to remove it.

"I am relieved that no one was hurt from the fallen tree inside the garden, but also upset that I had to wait so long to know if it was OK to deal with the dead trees on my property," said Sischo. "I've spent thousands of dollars dealing with the dead trees and countless hours trying to prove they were indeed dead and were not cut down to expand our cultivation area."

"I've had a permit since 2017, and I consider myself an environmentalist and a land steward," she continued. "Unfortunately it's been very stressful and financially draining coming into compliance. It should not be this difficult to be legal and obtain a license, especially as a good player and a tax-paying community citizen."

Third District Supervisor John Haschak said he had personally visited Sischo's property and seen the garden area, and saw no reason why a permit shouldn't have been allowed there.

"I think that they're very good stewards of the land, and it's a beautiful setting," he said. "And if we can't get a permit for that farm, then there's something really wrong with the program. And to put them in the 'veg mod hell' for these last couple years is really an injustice too I think. I hope that we can fix that."

Curtis talked about some of what led to the heightened vegetation management restrictions on tree removal for cannabis farmers in 2017.

"The reasons for that are a bit odd, and it really comes from the unique history of this ordinance," he said. "The board wanted to create a ministerial process and it wanted to do a mitigated negative declaration at the adoption of the ordinance."

"And what that means is that we've got some restrictions in here that are built into the ordinance as environmental protection measures that go beyond what you might have in other areas," he continued. "And so if you're cultivating for the purposes of cannabis, certain acts that would otherwise be permissible ... are simply prohibited under the existing ordinance."

Fourth District Supervisor Dan Gjerde was the only current supervisor in office at the time the 10A17 ordinance was enacted, and talked about some of what led to the heightened vegetation management restrictions on tree removal for cannabis farmers.

"Remember at the time this ordinance was written I think the common thought was that the price of cannabis was about \$2,000 a pound," he said. "And there was quite a bit of public testimony raising concerns that people were going to come into Mendocino County – which in fact people did come into Mendocino County – buy up land and start clearcutting the hillsides."

"And so they didn't want to see

the county create an ordinance that would incentivize or reward that behavior," he added. "And so that's why we have the ordinance we have. Maybe it wasn't perfect. Maybe there was a different way of phrasing the ordinance, but that was I think the reason for the ordinance we have."

County Counsel Curtis said that to make actual amendments to the 10A17 cannabis ordinance, such as allowing more tree removal for cultivation, would take a much longer time period and possibly need an environmental impact report. And with a state license deadline coming up on July 1, he warned against such a delay.

"So what we've been trying to do is prioritize the things that hopefully won't be quite that lengthy," he said. "That doesn't mean that you can't still do that longer process. But the applications that are in now are probably going to have to get to a determination before we can finish that."

Curtis said that about 20 to 30 applicants were currently being held up by vegetation modification issues, which is a small percentage of the hundreds of applicants who are still in the permitting process.

Fifth District Supervisor Ted Williams, as he has at other recent meetings, urged strongly for leniency in regulations in order to get more applicants through.

He tried to push for the county to find a way to get all 30 applicants being held up by the vegetation modification issues through the permitting process, but could get no such guarantee from staff.

"I think you could draw a parallel between 'The Trial' by Kafka and what these cannabis applicants have gone through," said Williams. "And I think our staff's put in a lot of work and I appreciate it.... But I zoom out and I look at the bigger picture here. I'm elected by the people to represent the people, and sitting out there looking at this, it seems outrageous."

"Six or seven years in and we're talking about a few trees removed a long time ago," he added. "And how to prove, and how to trust them and under what conditions and did they sell the wood, how did they dispose of it.... I feel like we're going to get sued.... I think we're going down a really bad path here."

MCA asks state to intervene

While it isn't the lawsuit that Supervisor Williams feared, on Wednesday morning the Mendocino Cannabis Alliance did announce that they had submitted a 16-page letter to California Governor Gavin Newsom and other state officials "documenting the county's failure to establish a process capable of moving small and legacy cannabis cultivators towards state annual licensure."

"We are out of time," said MCA Executive Director Michael Katz in the announcement. "The bottom line is that there is no functional permit program in Mendocino, and no plan to create one. We cannot move forward if the county continues to obstruct local licensees. We need the state to intervene, and intervene now, if our legacy cultivators are to survive."

(Willits Weekly plans to cover the MCA letter and the response from the state and the county more thoroughly in upcoming weeks.)

Happy Valentine’s Day to and from the Willits Community



Dani & Carson, I love you both to the moon and back I can't wait to watch you two become parents! Happy Valentine's Day! Love, Mom/Mimi.



Happy Valentine's Day to my best friend, soulmate and my rock. I love you Robert.



Happy Valentine's Day to Harper and Kolson. Love Pop and Gigi.



Happy Valentine's Day to my soldier. I love you to the moon and stars and back. I am so proud of you Tyler. Love, mom.



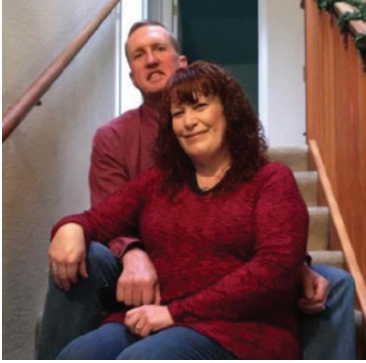
Happy Valentine's Day to the best, sweetest and cutest little grilled cheese sandwich eater ever. We love you, Maggie!



Happy Valentine's Day! We love you all! Love Dad and Mom.



Happy Valentines Day, Wayne. I'll love you with my whole heart forever! Love, Suzen.



Happy Valentine's Day to my love, Stacy Gregory. Love, Jules.



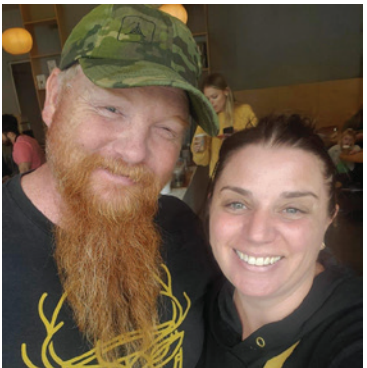
Happy Valentine's to my Forever Valentine! I'll always love you more.



Todd and Crystal Southwick living our best lives together. You're always and forever my Valentine!



Hollie and Casey loving life in Vietnam. You're always my sweetie, especially on VDay!



Loves you the mostest, Happy Valentine's Day! Love our little Maggs, too.



Thank you mom, for always believing in me and for your continuous love and support. Liam and I love you! Happy Valentine's day!



The love of my life and best friend, Darren!! I love you, Necole.



Thank You Janet . . . David.



Teagan, Grandma & Grandpa love you so much & we love watching you grow and explore. Happy Valentine's Day princess.



Kiley Marie and Allie Grace you're growing up too fast. Thank you for always making every day Valentines Day with you two. Love Dad and Mom.



Happy Valentine's Day Nik. I am very proud of the young man you have grown up to be. I love you to infinity & beyond. Love, mom.



Heather and Andy snowboarding up in Lake Tahoe enjoying an early Valentine waycay. Love you both to the moon and back! Love, your soul sisters for life.



I love you!! JB Vandermei and Colleen Pappadakis.

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