

# Willits Weekly

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A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

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Thursday, February 11, 2021

## FBI offers new \$10,000 reward in Khadijah Britton case

Jennifer Poole  
Editor & Reporter  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Mendocino County Sheriff Matt Kendall, in collaboration with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, hosted a virtual Facebook Live event on February 5, regarding the disappearance of Khadijah Britton of the Round Valley Indian Tribes nearly three years ago.

Scott Schelble, assistant special agent in charge of the San Francisco Division of the FBI, announced during the livestream that the FBI was offering a new \$10,000 reward for information leading to an arrest and conviction, to add to reward monies offered already, for a total of close to \$100,000.

Sheriff Kendall started off the event by introducing

Read the rest of  
**Reward**  
Over on Page 11

## Sex assault arrest after Blackhawk Drive party

By Sgt. Wells, MCSO

On February 9, at about 9:50 am, the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office received a call for service regarding a possible sexual assault which occurred in the 2100 block of Blackhawk Drive in Willits.

When deputies arrived they contacted an adult male and an adult female at the location. The deputies learned there had been a party at the location starting the evening before, where alcoholic beverages had been consumed.

Deputies were told a 28-year-old female, of Ukiah, had gone into a bedroom at the location alone on February 9, and closed the door. This adult female fell asleep fully clothed and was awoken by someone touching her body.

This person was identified as Cody Martin, 27, of Ukiah, who the female had previously dated a couple of years ago.

Deputies learned Martin removed his clothes and had gotten into bed with the female. Martin also removed the female's clothing and began penetrating her genital area with an unknown object or body part without consent.

Martin was contacted at the location and was subsequently arrested on the charge of sexual penetration with a foreign object while a person was unconscious (289(D) PC), based upon probable cause.

Martin was booked into the Mendocino County Jail where he was to be held in lieu of \$50,000 bail.



Happy Valentine's Day, Collin & Mandy Love, Mom.



Happy Valentine's Day, babel! Love you!



Love you to the moon and back.



Love you, babe! David and Leizel Woodlee.

## Letter from former police chief Blaylock's attorney

Below is the full text of the December 15, 2020 letter sent to the City of Willits by the attorney for former Willits Police Chief Alexis Blaylock. The letter asks for a \$500,000 settlement from the City of Willits, as well as further training for city employees, and advises that the former chief is "prepared to pursue litigation" if no settlement is reached. This letter has become public information thanks to a Public Records Act request by a Willits resident.

Blaylock's attorney, Brandi L. Harper, a partner at Castillo Harper, APC, in Riverside, has declined further comment.

Although City of Willits officials and elected representatives, while dealing with anticipated litigation from a former employee, cannot speak to the press, or talk at all about what they discuss in closed session about this potential litigation or settlement offer, City Hall has confirmed no claim or lawsuit has yet been filed.

Willits Weekly decided it would serve the general public to release the entire text of the letter, as submitted, in part due to speculation and incorrect information on social media and other outlets. When the City of Willits is able to make a public statement on this situation, we will print that.

– Jennifer Poole, editor

Read the rest of  
**Letter**  
Over on Page 11

## BOS hears update on COVID vaccinations

Jennifer Poole  
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The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors heard an update on COVID-19 on Tuesday, as part of a 9 am to 7 pm meeting full of agenda items.

Mendocino County CEO Carmel Angelo started off the COVID report by citing two key areas the county is focused on, "and attempting to improve upon," she said.

"One of course is vaccines, all things vaccines. We do have a challenge, as every other county does in the state, in getting enough vaccine. And at this point in time, of public information dissemination, when we don't know if we're getting vaccines or not, and not wanting to put messages out that we're having mass vaccination clinics if we don't know that we're getting the vaccines. So

Read the rest of  
**COVID**  
Over on Page 9



Photo by  
Maureen  
Jennison

Happy Valentine's Day! Shawna Handschug & Israel Perry.



To many Valentine's together, my love!! Bruce & Debbie Cartwright.



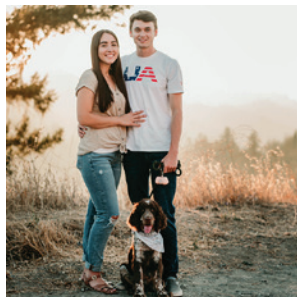
Graeme, Happy Valentine's Day to my love and best friend!!! Love, Natasha.



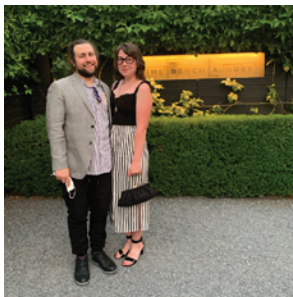
Happy Anniversary, mi amor! Forever and always your wife, Marcela.



Happy Valentine's Day. I love you Kelly always and forever! Love, Jeanette.



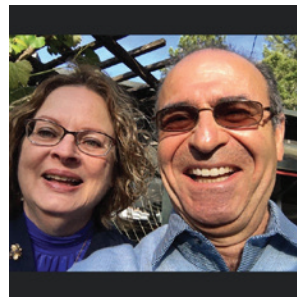
Happy Valentine's Day to my son Garrett Campbell, his girlfriend Alyssa Thornton, and their dog Odin.



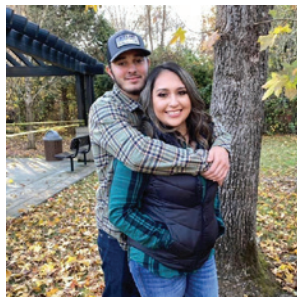
Happy Valentine's Day to my love, Graham! So thankful for ya and love ya very much!!! Xoxoxo – Liv



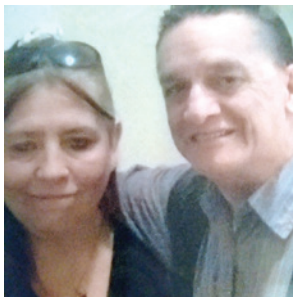
Happy Valentine's Day to my son Tyler Vesey and his wonderful & beautiful girlfriend Nayema Sizemore. I love you.



Our life is a party by choice! Reza & Debbie Ghannadan. Happy Anniversary to us!!



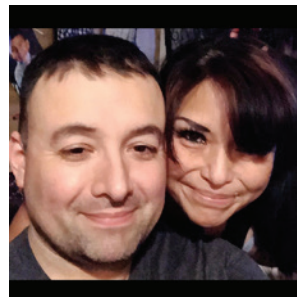
Happy Valentine's Day to my son Carson Miller and his beautiful & sweet girlfriend Danielle Campbell. I love you both so much.



My husband and I have been married for 7 years. He is the love of my life. I love you to the moon and back. Always and forever.



You're the coffee to my cup. There's no one else I'd rather do this life with. Thankful for all the tacos, bacon, and your jar opening skills.



Alma Gutierrez, and my wonderful husband Jerry Gutierrez. Thank you very much for always being there for me, I love you, honey.



Me and my sweetheart, in June 2015!



When I first saw you, I knew you were the one. You are my forever Valentine.



Happy Valentine's Day babe, I love you!



My Love, My Everything.



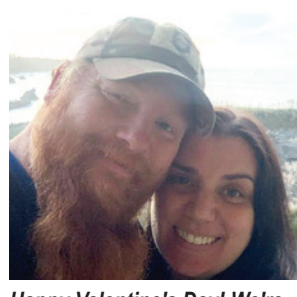
Happy 1st Valentine's Day as my husband; although it's our 7th one together. I love you more and more everyday. Thank you for everything you do for me and the boys. I love you. Robert & Kristin Campbell



Married for 57 years, and even though COVID got them, they still strong and in love, Gloria León and Ezequiel Torres.



Josephine and Victor Gutierrez, married for 46 years.



Happy Valentine's Day! We're hella married and are gonna have a baby! I love you!

Thank you to all who submitted images!  
**Happy Valentine's Day!**







Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

1 8 3 9 8 6 3 6 9

PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PAGE 9

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!

VALENTINE'S DAY WORD SEARCH
T R E S S U E P D S E F S T B O U D Q U E T F U V
D V A A J M E W B N D A L I P E R B M Q I G E J S O L M F N O
I L E N E M L A T Y A Y E I H R O T R Y I E J F T H A C E I T
A N T J E R I O Y T A V A Q F L N Y E K A M I R C R E A R
D L T F U R I D Q T V B C H Y E K A M I R C R E A R
R N E O S T S Y S B J F R O Y Y K A M I R C R E A R
O H H D O V E S B A W S L C E N O O L E R A S U B C F
D I N J P C R B A U S W L C E N O O L E R A S U B C F
P M D P D D G E W R D Q L E U O B E R A S U B C F
E C D L U C F I V W O R A A W S L F C T L E R T B
I A I T C C V W O R A A W S L F C T L E R T B
E R K A I M O S E O A R W S L F C T L E R T B
C A S N D N I T T I E D M V W K D R C B E C
L A A Q Y I L F L O W E R S B L O V E

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

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

CLUES ACROSS
1. Composed
5. Lesotho currency
9. Ethnic group associated with Hungarians
11. Gains knowledge of
13. Gradual destruction
15. Purchase
16. Pharaoh of lower Egypt
17. Where you're going
19. The 6th letter of the Greek alphabet
21. Fishing net
22. Midway between south and southeast
23. A way to sort
25. C C C
26. Popular sports podcast (abbr.)
27. Discount
29. Consumes tobacco
31. A way to run
33. Popular musical awards show
34. Pertains to the male sexual organ
36. Supplements with difficulty
38. Green veggie
39. Deep-bodied freshwater fish
41. Holy fire
43. Usually has a lid
44. Being of use or service
46. Have a yen for
48. Unknowingness
52. Dry white wine drink
53. Unwinds
54. Traveling by sea
56. Outdoor entertaining areas
57. Stringed instruments
58. \_\_\_ Redgrave, actress
59. Moves earth
CLUES DOWN
1. Progressive decay of a bone or tooth
2. Burrowing rodents
3. French/Belgian river
4. A professional cleaner
5. A Russian river
6. Kiln
7. True statements
8. Most private
9. French city
10. Masses of fish eggs
11. Apart from others
12. Monetary unit of Samoa
14. Nanosecond
15. Film
18. Men's fashion accessories
20. Flowering shrub
24. North Carolina university
26. Former monetary unit of Spain
28. Foodies
30. New Zealand parrot
32. Makes very happy
34. A payment required for not fulfilling a contract
35. Emerald Isle
37. The act of terminating someone's employment
38. Gland in some mammals
40. Commoner
42. Large animals
43. Belch
45. Employee stock ownership plan
47. Work units
49. Wagon
50. Nerve fiber
51. Proclaimed
55. Japanese delicacy

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE LOG

February 1 to February 7

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly
The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 142 incidents in this seven-day reporting period.
Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests
February 1
2:41 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Barbara Lane.
February 2
10:17 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 300 block of South Main Street.
11:59 am: Officers responded to a disturbance near the intersection of South Main Street and West Valley Street and issued a warning.
11:40 pm: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 500 block of Raymond Lane.
February 3
7:41 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 200 block of North Lenore Avenue.
February 6
12:38 am: SANDERS, Rhonda Rennee (60) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. She was arrested pursuant to 23152 (F) VC (Driving Under the Combined Influence of Alcohol and Drugs), 14601.2 VC (Driving with Suspended License from DUI), and on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and violation of probation.
8:43 pm: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 1300 block of Hilltop Drive.
February 7
12:07 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 28000 block of Poppy Drive.
2:07 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Marcela Drive and issued a warning.
10:56 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of South Street.
4:23 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.
Arts Council re-grants \$12,630 in CARES Act funding
Submitted by the Arts Council of Mendocino County
The Arts Council of Mendocino County has regranted \$12,630 in CARES Act funding from the California Arts Council to three Mendocino County organizations. These organizations/nonprofits share a mission to serve the Latinx and Native American communities in Mendocino County through the arts and culture and include and represent, at a staff or board level, the communities served (at least 50 percent representation).
The Federal CARES Act recognizes that the non-profit arts industry is an important sector of America's economy, and therefore allocated this money to states (California Arts Council) to be regranted by State Local Partners (Arts Council of Mendocino County).
The purpose of these grants is to aid local arts and culture organizations serving socially vulnerable populations within their communities that are not eligible for the direct CARES Act stimulus grants. The Arts Council of Mendocino County received three applications for relief funding, all of which were deemed to be eligible by an ad hoc grant committee composed of community leaders of color.
The Arts Council of Mendocino County has awarded relief grants of \$4,210 each to the Round Valley Indian Tribe, Sherwood Valley Rancheria, and Flockworks and we thank them for the important work they do for our local community. Additionally, we would like to thank Michelle Frederick for coordinating the grant panel process and Loreto Rojas and Roseanne Ibarra for serving as grant panelists.
The panel's funding recommendations were unanimously approved by the Arts Council of Mendocino County Board of Directors at their December meeting, and the awards were made in January 2021.
The Arts Council of Mendocino County promotes the arts and cultivates creativity to benefit and enrich the lives of residents and visitors in Mendocino County.
For more information please contact us at 707-463-2727 or email director@artsmendocino.org



Images from three of this year's Science Fair projects include:
Above: Daisy Collins (Blosser Lane Elementary). Title of Project: Water Balloons with Household Items. Daisy investigated whether balloons filled with different materials would float or sink.
Far left: Jen Harness, Mingus Gatto, Ayla Hinman-Foss (Willits Charter School) and Evie Artman (Willits Elementary Charter School). Title of Project: Overflow in Covelo. Students feel the thermal reaction of their elephant toothpaste experiment.
At left: Griffin O'Rear and Calvin Loupy (Willits Charter School). Title of Project: Chicken Lights. Griffin and Calvin investigated the effect of different colored lights on the amount of eggs their chickens produce.

Willits Science Fair
now February 23-25

Due to the recent extended power outages, the Willits Science Fair will be happening one week later than originally planned.
This online event will now take place February 23 to 25. All project entries must be uploaded by February 18.
Judging will take place on February 23, and the fair will be open for virtual viewing on February 24 and 25. Virtual viewing will be accessible through the Willits Science Fair's website at: https://sites.google.com/willitsunified.com/sciencefair/home
Any students in grades 3-12 still wanting to register for the fair should email sciencefair@willitsunified.com for late registration.
If you have questions about the science fair, or if you are interested in judging or sponsoring an award, please contact Erin Vaccaro at sciencefair@willitsunified.com or call/text 707-513-8742.

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An online, virtual event
FEBRUARY 23-25, 2021
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www.eckankar.org
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Father Aaron Bandanadam
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If you want to be included in this column please call:
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(707) 972-2475
april@willitsweekly.com





Photo by Mathew Caine

## WCS Winter Fund Drive getting closer to \$35,000 goal

The crew from Willits Community Services updated their Winter Fund Drive signboard on Friday, to show they've raised nearly \$30,000 of their \$35,000 goal for 2021.

Donation checks may be sent to Willits Community Services, 229 E San Francisco Avenue, Willits, CA 95490, to help the Willits Food Bank to continue to safely serve at-risk families and individuals who are hungry or food insecure in the Willits community.

Questions? Call the WCS office at 459-3333.



Above, left: The production line of lunches, with the sandwiches warm in the cooler, proceeds like clockwork. Above: Gerry Gonzalez, left, Rachel Cash, Zoe Bigelow, Carrie Lambert, Davina Sentak and Alex Maxwell, front, gather early at WHS to get the process started.



## Copious Cardboard

Has a mixture of living the Amazon, Mariposa and Costco life left your kitchen and garage inundated with cardboard? Recycle it all for free at Solid Wastes of Willits

Whether you live in the city or county, you are welcome to recycle cardboard and more at Solid Wastes of Willits, free of charge, and in these online-shopping times, that can be a lifesaver on your garage, or your garbage can.

Pre-flattened boxes are preferred, and can be brought without appointment, to the Willits Transfer Station during their Tuesday through Saturday business hours of 9 am to 4 pm. While wearing a mask and respecting social distancing, you just follow the signs to the back, western end of the lot, park in a space, and take your boxes up the ramp and toss them into the large dumpster designated "cardboard only." No muss, no fuss!

Along with cardboard, SWOW also accepts mixed recycling free of charge at a separate designated bin, and will also pay YOU for aluminum, glass and plastic bottles, cans and other CRV-designated items – and you'd be surprised how fast they can add

up, making a worthwhile trip. A full list of accepted recyclables – and any of those with applicable fees – for the Willits Transfer Station (or any of their eight other Mendocino County locations) can be found online at <https://www.swowservices.com/>

Some items that are accepted with a fee include: appliances, tires, dry wall, yard waste, wood, scrap metal, and trash. Some of the items accepted for free include: plastic bottles and cartons, rigid plastic, tin cans, newspapers, and magazines. It's always a good idea to double check to see if your items are marked with the recyclable seal, and when in doubt, you can always ask a friendly yard worker, or call SWOW with questions.

The Willits transfer station is located at 351 Franklin Avenue off of Blosser Lane. For more information, contact SWOW directly at 459-4778.

– Maureen Jennison



Above: Rachel Cash, Alex Maxwell and Zoe Bigelow prepare the lunch bags. Below, left: The annual Sober Grad Pancake Breakfast has been superseded this year by the Pulled-Pork Sandwich Lunch. Below, right: Senior Callie Brown helps to fill the lunch bags with pulled-pork sandwiches, chips, coleslaw and cookies.



## Sober Grad Lunch With no pancake breakfasts this year, fundraising for annual graduation party gets creative with Superbowl drive-thru meal

The COVID-19 forced isolation is especially difficult for socially oriented teenagers. In addition to the education received in the classrooms, a huge component of the high school experience is the interaction with friends, the team spirit of sports, dances and parties, and just basic human closeness.

One of the most anticipated events each year is the Sober Grad Night party, which has been going strong for 35 years, having been started in Willits by recently retired board president Ruth Dell'ara.

"Sober Grad has been responsible for keeping kids safe for many years," Rachel Cash, vice-president of the board of directors of Sober Grad, stated proudly. "We haven't had a death since 1986. Look how many lives we probably saved during those 36 years. We just want to continue that tradition and do what we can."

The purpose of Sober Grad is to provide an alternative on graduation night to parties where drinking alcohol is the norm. This organization enjoys the moral and financial support of the Mendocino County Sheriffs, who wish to see the youth of Willits have a safe, fun evening and avoid having to deal with accidents caused by underage drinking.

Last year, after the shelter-in-place protocols were imposed, the Sober Grad Night was recreated as an online event with photos of the seniors provided by Maureen Jennison, displayed with their choice of music, along with several prizes and gifts.

In "normal" years, the Sober Grad organization provides an all-night party at the Willits Community Center with several fun activities and many gifts, prizes and T-shirts donated by local merchants and concerned parents. The teens have to make the commitment to remain on the premises for the duration of the party, thus ensuring that they are not attending less-than-wise events that involve imbibing adult beverages.

This event is normally funded by a series of social events that can raise money for several aspects of the evening that are not donated. One of these events is the annual pancake breakfast, which for obvious reasons would not be possible in this year of COVID-19 distancing.

However, these funds, this year, are being replaced by a simple drive-thru lunch of pulled pork sandwiches, homemade coleslaw, a bag of potato chips, and a homemade cookie provided by one of the parents of a graduating senior. Lisa Davis, owner of Scoops Frozen Yogurt & Deli, cooked the pork and provided the chips and

buns for the sandwiches. Davina Sentak, president of the board of Sober Grad, donated and created the coleslaw.

The 21 pork butts from which the sandwiches were crafted were donated by parents. Safeway was selling them for only 88 cents per pound, so each pork butt only ran to approximately \$6 or \$7.

The price of all this good eating was only \$15, most of which was pure profit. A family could pay only \$50 for four lunches. The event will net approximately \$3,500, which is more profit than is made on the pancake breakfast, although many residents look forward to that tasty meal and the social comradery each year.

The group pre-sold 200 of the lunches. As many families bought multiple meals in preparation for Super Bowl family gatherings, there was not a long line of cars but all lunches were sold.

Whether the party is online or in person, the approximately 140 seniors from the Willits high schools can earn multiple chances at prizes by participating in the various Sober Grad activities and fundraising throughout the year. The more they participate, the more times their name gets "placed into the hat," according to Cash. In addition, each senior receives a commemorative T-shirt, which is being designed by a committee of seniors who will also design this year's logo.

"I've been involved in Sober Grad since 2008," said Davina Sentak. "It's a passion for me. I love supporting our kids this way, affirming how important their lives and their futures are and we just want to be sure they get a chance to see their future."

According to Sentak, the Sober Grad program is successful because of its consistency throughout the past 35 years for making something great happen for the graduates. Donations of money and prizes from the community ensure that there are plenty of incentives for kids to participate.

"This year," said Sentak, "things are in flux and we hope that we will be able to find an outdoor venue that would be suitable for a party [on June 11]. We have a Plan A, B and C depending on the prevailing conditions. At this point, I believe the most likely outcome will be some sort of outdoor venue."

"That is our primary goal right now," she added, "to find a way to allow the kids to get together. That is what is missing for them. At that age, what matters most is a connection with their friends. All of the traditional senior year activities have been lost to them. If we can make this one happen ... what a gift to them."



Above: Fernando Silveira and Gerry Gonzalez carry boxes of lunches to a party who has bought 13 lunches.

At right: Rose and Bryan Mann look forward to their pulled-pork sandwich lunches.

Photos by Mathew Caine



Above, from left: Rachel Cash dolies out hand sanitizer to help keep things sanitary. Gerry Gonzalez counts the bags and makes sure they are properly filled. Samantha Arms and Callie Brown count lunch tickets. Below: With most of the families ordering multiple lunches, the cars were well spaced out during the two hours.



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## JOHN FORD RANCH

RANCH RAISED NATURAL BEEF

No Hormones, Pastured in Willits, California





At far left: Nancy, medical screener from Adventist Health Howard Memorial Hospital, holds various colored dots which are placed on clothing to indicate that temperature has been taken.

At left: The check-in station is the first stop inside the door.

Below: One of several stations that those who were to be vaccinated need to stop at prior to inoculation.

At bottom: A Willits resident prepares to receive his vaccine.

Photos by Mathew Caine

# Vaccinations at WHS

400 Willits seniors 65 and over receive Moderna COVID-19 vaccine at mass-inoculation event

"Have you ever tested positive for COVID-19?" "Have you ever had a reaction to a vaccine?" "Have you received any vaccine in the last 15 days?" "Do you have a weakened immune system?" "Are you pregnant?" asked volunteer Dillon Longmire on the frosty, foggy Saturday morning as Willits citizens, 65 and over waited in an ever-lengthening line to receive their long-awaited first Moderna vaccine.

Adventist Health's Cici Winiger, one of the organizers of the mass-inoculation event, stated that they were intending to vaccinate 400 people that morning in Willits and 600 more in Ukiah in a day. Winiger decided to lower the age to 65 rather than the current 75 threshold in order to mitigate seniors "coming up from Ukiah and to get more Willits citizens their first vaccine."

Once inside, the seniors were met at the intake tables, where the process of registration continued through use of tablets and laptops, after which they were directed to another table to "get you into the system," said Winiger. "We are supposed to report to the state every person that we vaccinated within 24 hrs."

Like clockwork, people safely went from table to table and finally to the vaccination station to be given the barely perceptible shot, after which they were directed to another table to be given some literature on the COVID-19 pandemic and the vaccine. The last stop was a socially-distanced seat on the bleachers for 15 to 30 minutes for observation to make sure no adverse reactions occurred.

This was a well-run, efficient event, as evidenced by many Facebook comments later as the seniors arrived back home. Those vaccinated received a card, a "Golden Ticket" with a date of their subsequent second vaccination, and were told not to lose it as it would not be replaceable. Many of the people receiving their shots expressed their gratitude that they were able to begin the process in both protecting themselves and healing the nation.



Above, from left: An Adventist Health Howard Memorial Hospital employee reads temperatures in the cold air. Nurse Mikaela De Los Santos of Adventist Health Howard Memorial Hospital checks the registration form. Tom and Sara Mann wait for 15 minutes prior to leaving to make sure they have no adverse reactions. At left: Denise Brown and Jordan Potter of Adventist Health begin the inside check-in process. At right: After receiving vaccines, people are asked to wait for 15 minutes, or longer depending on their allergy history.



The rest of COVID | From Page 1

it's extremely challenging and I'm sure frustrating for this board, and frustrating for the public.

Angelo also mentioned difficulty with "data reconciliation" with vaccine reporting by the county's "community partners" that are administering vaccines, which is taking "a tremendous amount of effort," she said.

"The effort is not the problem," she said, "we have effort in everything we do. The issue is we have no control over data entry when we distribute vaccines to our community partners and they do not input into the state data system. That's what the state uses to determine county allocations, so it becomes a major issue."

Mendocino County Public Health Officer Andy Coren, MD, issued a new health order Monday, February 6, aimed at encouraging the county's "vaccine partners" to comply with the State of California Department of Public Health directives "regarding the allocation, storage, administration, and reporting of COVID-19 vaccines," as the order stated.

Dr. Coren told the board on Tuesday that "in Mendocino County, our average daily new cases is now 20.14. It is definitely trending down. It fluctuates a little bit between 20 and 25, but basically we are slowly decreasing."

"Our seven-day test positivity rate is 7.38," he continued. "The state's positivity rate is 5.6. This has risen up in our county—I believe it's mostly because of a decrease in testing frequency, that people are doing since the holidays, and now possibly because they're influenced by the vaccines coming out."

Coren also discussed current local COVID outbreaks. "Outbreaks include the jail, which has numbered altogether over 140 people [including 17 employees]. We are now testing twice a week. There were no new positives on February 4."

"Another outbreak is in Covelo / Round Valley with 33 cases, and they have tested over the weekend. In Fort Bragg, seven restaurants have been involved with 15 people testing positive over a two-week period. There was a lot of non-compliance with our contact investigators, and that, in addition to this being a complex outbreak involving multiple institutions, the notice and recognition of this as one outbreak was not immediate," Coren said.

Dr. Coren also mentioned a new outbreak, at Mountain View Assisted Living and Memory Care in Ukiah, which "involves, so far, 18 cases," 12 residents and six staff people. He said the county was offering technical advice to the care home to get them into a program of twice-weekly testing.

"The causes are still predominantly community spread, due to gatherings, failure to mask and to do social distancing," he said.

He reiterated that testing is decreasing in the county, and said "It is really too early to relax."

"Vaccines in Mendocino County is doing very well; getting out the vaccines, with about 11,163 first doses administered, as of January 29. That does not include the pharmacy contract. So that number is about 15.9 percent of the population over 18 years old here, and we have also vaccinated over 70 percent of our school staff," he said.

"At this time, the hospital and their clinics and our rural health partners are focusing on vaccinating those people

The rest of Birthday | From Page 3

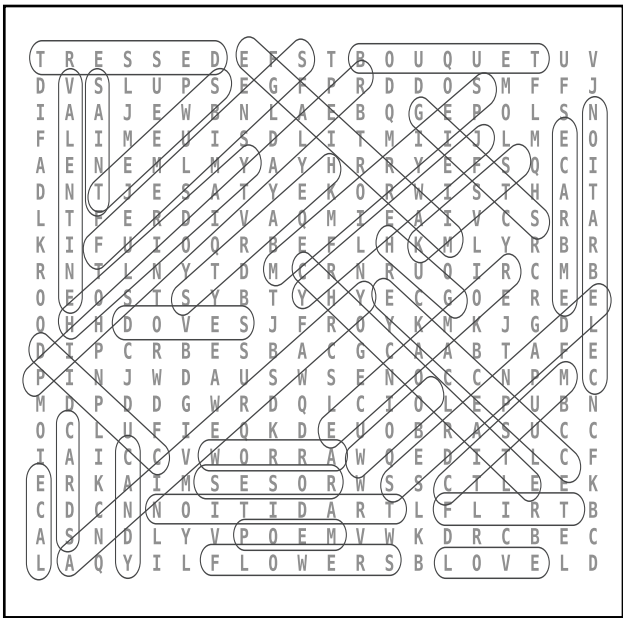
Brad Walton drove his 1930 Model A Ford while Bruce Burton drove what looked to be a Stutz Bearcat or a similar sports model. Saprina Rodriguez's Imagination Station kindergarten class stopped in front of the house to sing "Happy Birthday."

Third District Supervisor John Haschak delivered the annual Certificate of Appreciation from the supervisors. "She's probably my oldest constituent," stated Haschak. "She's someone we should honor for her longevity. It's a life well-lived and a person who's an institution in this community. She gives hope to a lot of people. She's still going strong at 113 years old. It's a great thing for the community to honor a person like this. I delivered a proclamation from the county recognizing 113 years of a life well-lived."

Her caretaker Perla Gonzalez who has been with her for the last five years said, "Edie's doing great! She puts on her own lipstick in the morning. She combs her hair. She walks with her walker. Of course, she gets her red wine for lunch and dinner. Red wine and ice cream. She's doing OK. She has her moments. She comes out here and walks with her walker. She's independent. She seldom calls for help. I have caregivers that are here all the time with her, 24/7, day and night.

"There are days," continued Gonzalez, "that she is very content to just sit in her chair and watch TV. Even when she's not really watching it, she enjoys the talking of the TV. We encourage her to come outside to get some air but she'll say, 'honey, I'm so comfortable here. I'm happy here.'"

Indeed, she is happy and content to enjoy life and to keep on living it. Willits is looking forward to celebrating Edie Ceccarelli's 114th birthday celebration, hopefully up close and personal, next year.



who are over 75 years old," Coren continued. "The county Health Department and community rural health centers are focusing on vaccinating those whose occupational exposures – IHHS [In Home Supportive Services] and school personnel as well as agricultural and food service workers, since they are exposed and represent some of the most vulnerable people, and they're also predominately from the Latino population, who are most affected by this pandemic in our community."

The county's vaccination events are now scaled up to do 200 to 300 a day, he said. The Adventist event in Willits last weekend vaccinated 400 people. "We estimate," Coren said, "with all of the clinics, hospitals and Public Health events, we have the capacity to administer 7,500 to 10,000 vaccines per week. The problem, again, is supply."

Those who'd like to be alerted of vaccination opportunities are encouraged to sign up with Adventist Health's notification list at [http://bit.ly/ahmendo\\_notify](http://bit.ly/ahmendo_notify).

## LEGAL NOTICES

**WW303**  
**NOTICE OF INTENT TO SELL**  
Willits Unified School District intends to sell the property located immediately north of property at 1265 and 1277 Blosser Lane, parcel number 006-210-19 and a portion of 006-210-26, approximately six (6) acres, zoned Residential 2 for single or multi-family. Fair market value \$1,360,000. Interested parties may reach Superintendent Mark Westerburg at (707) 459-5314, ext. 1101.  
Publication Dates: January 28, February 4 and 11, 2021

**WW305**  
**ORDINANCE NO. 162**  
AN ORDINANCE OF THE BROOKTRAILS TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS AMENDING ORDINANCE 76, THE DISTRICT UTILITIES CODE RELATING TO PROCEDURES FOR TEMPORARY DISCONNECTION OF UTILITY SERVICE FOR NONPAYMENT OF UTILITY CHARGES  
The proposed Ordinance will be introduced February 23, 2021 followed by a Public Hearing and Adoption March 9, 2021.  
/s/ Tamara Alaniz, Secretary to the Board of Directors  
Publication Date: February 11, 2021

**WW306**  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
2021-F0035  
The following persons are doing business as The Woodrose, 1540 South Main Street, Willits, CA 95490.  
Registered owners: Dipchand Shah and Varsha Shah, 1119 South Main Street, Willits, CA 95490.  
This business is conducted by a general partnership.  
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 January 28, 2021.  
/s/ Dipchand Shah  
Publication dates: 02/11, 02/18, 02/25 and 03/04/2021

**Willits Weekly**  
**can run your legal notices including fictitious business name statements, foreclosure notices, storage unit auctions, and much more.**  
**Contact us for more information at willitsweekly@gmail.com**

**WW301**  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
2020-F0616  
The following company is doing business as Flying Dog Wood Fired Pizza & Vinyl, 65 S. Main St., Willits, CA 95490.  
Registered owner: Peter Kevin Swanton, 65 S. Main St., 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 December 22, 2020.  
/s/ Peter Swanton  
Publication dates: 01/21, 01/28, 02/04 and 02/11, 2021

**WW302**  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
2021-F0021  
The following company is doing business as Happy Woman Jewelry, 308 Jones Street, Ukiah CA 95482.  
Registered owner: Laura Buckner, 308 Jones Street, Ukiah CA 95482.  
This business is conducted by an individual.  
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on January 13, 2020.  
FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on January 13, 2021.  
/s/ Laura Buckner  
Publication dates: 01/28, 02/04, 02/11, 02/18, 2021

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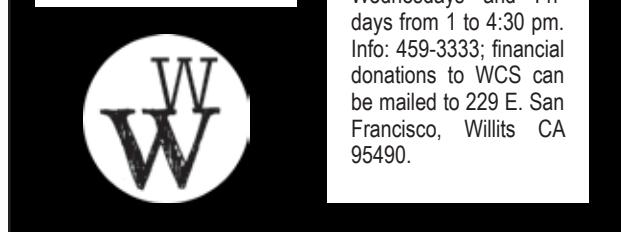
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I'll be back to help you with your Alterations and Sewing Needs when it is safe to do so.  
Barbara the Seamstress

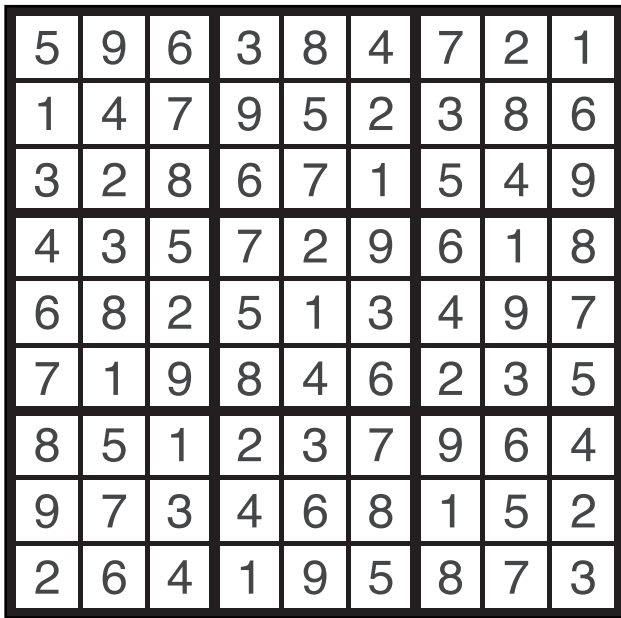
**Willits Food Bank Open**  
Willits Community Services & Food Bank continues to distribute food, following COVID-19 safety provisions, to hungry families and individuals in the Willits area, with an increase in numbers served. The front office at 229 E San Francisco Ave is closed to the public, but the back door area is open for food distribution on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 4:30 pm. Info: 459-3333; financial donations to WCS can be mailed to 229 E. San Francisco, Willits CA 95490.

**Help Wanted**  
Willits Weekly needs another part-time news reporter as we start a new year. News training or experience preferred. Any retired journalists interested in a local beat with as few as 2 stories a month? Email a letter of interest or a resume to willitsweekly@gmail.com.



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# Furry Friends Hoping for a Home

## Huggable Chia

Photos of Ms. Chia do not do her justice, as she is THE cutest dog in the shelter! We had a wonderful time during her evaluation, as everyone enjoyed her friendly, playful personality. Chia likes playing with stuffed toys and sitting in your lap. When Chia came to the shelter, we noticed she did not put weight on one of her rear back legs. Unfortunately, this is still the case even after limited activity, so she will be going for X-rays and a treatment plan will be developed from there. Chia is 2 years old and a svelte 60 pounds of sweetness.

For more about Chia or to see the Mendocino County Animal Shelter's canine and feline guests, and for information about services, programs, events and updates about COVID-19 and the inland shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, visit: [www.mendoanimalshelter.com](http://www.mendoanimalshelter.com). For information about adoptions, please call 707-467-6453.



## Blossoming Flower

Meet our beautiful friend, Flower! Flower and her friend, Bambi, were surviving on their own on Old River Road in Ukiah. A community member said she saw them get dumped there, sadly. Bambi was caught first and a few days later, Animal Control was able to trap Flower and bring her to us, thankfully. Although these two avoided capture, once they were caught, we were thrilled to find out they are very sweet and love people! Once they got here we promised them they would never have to live on the streets again!

Flower is a medium-size gal, weighing in around 45 pounds (shhhh ... don't tell her we shared her weight). She is around a year old, so she is still pretty young! Flower currently is living in one of our wonderful foster homes where she is learning the ropes. She is living with other dogs, is crate-trained, potty-trained, likes to be brushed, and loves to cuddle. Her foster family states she is a sweet, loving and curious girl who has the look that steals their heart every time. If Flower sounds like your girl, you may apply at [www.mendohumanesociety.com](http://www.mendohumanesociety.com) today!



The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County, 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley, is open Wednesday through Friday from 1 to 5 pm, and Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 3 pm, by appointment only, for intakes, adoptions and fostering. For information or any questions, call 707-485-0123 or, for cats, you may email [catteam@hsimc.org](mailto:catteam@hsimc.org) and, for dogs, you may email [dogteam@hsimc.org](mailto:dogteam@hsimc.org). Visit [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com) or the "Humane Society for Mendocino County" page on Facebook to see available dogs and cats, visit [www.mendohumanesociety.com](http://www.mendohumanesociety.com) to learn more.



## Congrats Happy 102nd Birthday!

Family and friends are wishing Georgia Keesey a very happy birthday as she turns 102 on February 15. Born in Crumpler, NC, she has spent 25 years of her life as a Willits resident. She has three boys, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.



## ADVENTIST HEALTH



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Orthopedics



Brian Gould, DO  
Sports Medicine

Dr. Yoshihiro Katsuura is an orthopedic surgeon specializing in complex adult and pediatric spine care. He believes in using surgery only when necessary and utilizes minimally invasive techniques for better outcomes.

A graduate of Royal College of Surgeons in Dublin, Dr. Katsuura went on to complete a residency at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine and a fellowship in spine surgery at the Hospital for Special Surgery and Weill Cornell Medical College. Having spent time in Willits practicing alongside Dr. Bowen, Dr. Katsuura is thrilled to be back home in California, caring for patients at Adventist Health Howard Memorial.

Now welcoming new patients  
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3 Marcela Drive, Suite C, Willits, CA  
[AdventistHealthHowardMemorial.org](http://AdventistHealthHowardMemorial.org)

