

EST. 2013

Donations Accepted Edition No. 444

**Thursday, March 24, 2022**

[illegible]

**Jennifer Poole**  
Editor & Reporter  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

According to an update from Willits Unified School District Superintendent Joe Aldridge, an investigation undertaken by WUSD

Over on Page 11

**Posted by the  
Mendocino County  
District Attorney's Office**

The principal of court-ordered restitution, if left unpaid in whole or part, grows at the legal rate of interest – 10% per annum.

Over on Page 11

**By Sgt. S. Gray for Willits  
Police Department**

The suspect, identified as Robert Spicer, 35, from Willits, confronted family members with a knife and told them he was going to kill them.

Over on Page 4



Above, from left: J.D. Redhouse's chick selection included Rhode Island Reds, Black Australorps, Buff Orpingtons, and Barred Rock varieties. Below: These four (hopefully) ladies are ready to head home now, or as part of your Easter baskets next month! Chick orders are coming to local stores several times between now and the Easter holiday, with varying breeds, too!



*Photos by  
Maureen  
Jennison*

Raising a small flock is fun, pretty easy, and really rewarding.

Let this year be the year you get on the chick bandwagon – you'll thank yourself when those beautiful eggs start appearing!

– *Maureen Jennison*



*At top: Whether in a tray, left, or in a tub, right, chicks hang out together awaiting their final coop assignments at homes around the community. Above, from left: Four varieties that were available at Coast Hardware included the Columbian Wyandotte, Sapphire Gem, Speckled Sussex, and Americana. Below, left: Baby girl, meet baby chick ... neither seemed too sure about the impromptu introduction. Below, left: Supplies for chicks include heat lamps and water dishes. At bottom, left: Chick grit, feeders, and probiotics are also important items for chick raising. At bottom, right: A chick drinks from an outside-the-coop water tray.*



**Forrest Glycer**  
Reporter  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

During public comments Willits Environmental Center co-founder Ellen Drell said in a voicemail that she and a group of local citizens are working on their own water protection ordinance for the county, and encouraged the board to hold off on any action for the time being.

Over on Page 11

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Johnson-Rutherford's name was not immediately released, pending notification of next of kin, but the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office confirmed his identity Wednesday.

“During the investigation,” the CHP report said, “it was determined Party #1 was driving a 2011 Suzuki Hayabusa, northbound on SR-1, at an undetermined speed. Due to the speed of the Suzuki, Party#1 was unable to negotiate the curved roadway, and the Suzuki traveled onto the east shoulder of SR-1 where it collided with a metal guardrail.

"At this time, it is unknown if alcohol and/or drugs are to be a factor of this collision. The cause of this collision is still under investigation."

## Senior Center menu for the week

Willits Senior Center's indoor dining room is open, and the Senior Center 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, March 24:** Spinach Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Green Salad

**Friday, March 25:** Turkey w/Stuffing, Cranberry Sauce, Veggie, Roll

**Monday, March 28:** Corned Beef Hash, Scrambled Eggs, Biscuit

**Tuesday, March 29:** Chicken Bacon Ranch Wrap, Mac & Cheese, Green Salad

**Wednesday, March 30:** Chicken Fajitas, Rice, Beans

**Thursday, March 31:** French Dip, Potato Wedges, Green Salad

**Friday, April 1:** menu not available

**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

## Museum, Roots tours on Saturday

**Submitted by Mendocino County Cultural Services Agency**

Did you know that most of the Mendocino County Museum Collections are in storage? Our vast collection contains artifacts that tell unique stories about historic events, such as the Frolic shipwreck and the 1906 earthquake. A plethora of early logging tools, historic furniture, and wagons are waiting to be shared and ... wait ... is that an X-ray machine or a time-teleportation device?

If you have ever been curious to see more of the intriguing and sometimes unusual collections in our care, and learn how we manage and store objects, join us for a Behind the Scenes Tour!

The Mendocino County Museum will partner with Roots of Motive Power, who will open the Engine House and provide a closer look at permanent collections and special loans from the community. Explore the cab of a 1916 Steam Locomotive made by Heisler Locomotive Works! Find out more about the Blue Stone Mining and Smelting #1, and the Northwestern Pacific Railroad #13. The 1909 Standard Steel Car Company Caboose will be open for viewing. Don't miss this chance for a personalized tour from Roots members.

Tours are included with standard museum admission – \$4 adults; \$1 for ages 7 to 18; free for under 6; and \$7 family/household. To reserve a tour space please call 459-2736 or email [museum@mendocinocounty.org](mailto:museum@mendocinocounty.org)

## Do you want to submit a letter to the editor?

It's easy.

We print letters from residents of the 3rd District, just email us yours: [willitsweekly@gmail.com](mailto:willitsweekly@gmail.com)

# What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

## Thanks to Willits Water Department

To the Editor:

This morning when I drank my first glassful of Willits' cold, delicious water I was overcome by a strong sense of gratitude. There, from my own, rusty old mobile home pipes, comes a strong flow of pure water whenever I want or need it! From doing the dishes, to showering, flushing the toilet, and doing the laundry, to giving my pets and plants a drink, it is always there.

Thank you so much for your work in providing us with what many people in the world go without or struggle to obtain daily. I so appreciate your efforts in giving me this precious and priceless gift of life, WATER.

Maggie Graham, Willits

## Letter to BOS from former CEO Carmel Angelo

**To the Honorable Board of Supervisors:**

On January 6, 2022, I announced my retirement from county service. As time quickly draws near, please note that March 19, 2022 marks my final day. I have enjoyed my tenure as your first female chief executive officer and the longest-serving CEO in Mendocino County, only to be out-served by Chief Administrative Officer Al Beltrami who became my friend and mentor in those early years.

There has not been a day that goes by, that I am not grateful for the opportunity to serve the Mendocino County community with the guidance and support of the board of supervisors, both past and present. Throughout these past 12 years, we have responded to numerous challenges ranging from wild fires requiring a coordinated emergency response between state and local staff, recruiting and training of disaster service workers, implementing prudent budget planning to ameliorate potential deficits, and striving for adequate staffing levels for all departments along with equitable salary negotiations.

As I retire, I am mindful of the work that the county does that impacts our community, not the least of which, is the remnants of a worldwide COVID-19 pandemic. Also, there are never-ending challenges that accompanied the legalization of cannabis, the crisis of homelessness, and ongoing lack of access to mental health services in areas of high need.

That being said, I am very proud of the work we did as a team to serve this community, even through the most difficult times. As a county team, we mitigated structural deficits, eliminated a \$120 million OPEB liability, saved close to \$20 million in Dedicated and General Reserves, purchased a hotel as permanent supportive housing for unhoused community members, built a mental health/public safety training center and a crisis residential center for our community members effected by mental illness, brought CSAC education and credentialing to our employees, and many other worthwhile projects that will serve Mendocino County into the future.

Throughout the years, we focused on the board's goals of fiscal stability, financial sustainability and organizational development. An example of organizational development that I am most proud of is the Leadership Initiative, started by a small group of 40 county heroes that wrote and presented a "Leadership Philosophy" to the board of supervisors and the whole county organization.

This Leadership Initiative lives on today to serve our greatest asset, our employees. I believe it will be the Leadership Initiative that will carry this organization forward as the county embarks on implementing a strategic plan in the midst of future budgetary constraints, labor negotiations, community requests greater than county resources, and many other ongoing and new challenges.

As I leave, if I can give any words of caution, it is to save county dollars, not to spend them on non-mandated services. Your workforce is the most important asset as that is how the work of the county is accomplished. The workforce should be considered first before money is spent on community requests.

Another area I am concerned about is the ongoing public disillusionment with government. As the legislative body, it is critical to seek information, rather than listening to the vocal minority that defames county representatives for self-satisfaction and personal gain. These attacks damage the county's ability to recruit and retain good employees. Public comment and criticism come with the job of elected and appointed officials, but those constant false allegations make it difficult to promote a career in public service.

Lastly, as I retire, I am appreciative of and confident in the administrative team, department heads, staff and emerging county leaders that are currently serving Mendocino County today. Thank you!

Again, I leave with a grateful heart.

Carmel J Angelo, CEO

## MCOE hosts Education Job Fair in Ukiah on Saturday

**Submitted by MCOE**

Job seekers interested in pursuing a career in education are invited to attend the Education Job Fair on March 26 from 9 am to 12 noon at the Mendocino County Office of Education Cedar Building, located at 2240 Old River Road, Ukiah.

Employers from local school districts across Mendocino and Lake counties are hiring for more than 50 open positions. Job seekers are invited to interview with prospective employers and should bring multiple copies of their current resume, any credentials or licenses, letters of recommendation, and copies of academic transcripts.

Representatives from Mendocino College and National University will be available to talk with applicants about requirements for teaching credentials and opportunities to acquire additional education and job skills.

Mendocino County Superintendent of Schools Michelle Hutchins said: "When we talk about jobs in education, most of us think of teaching. The truth is education requires a whole host of people doing all sorts of jobs to provide

students with the support they need to succeed. If you're looking for work and like the idea of helping children, consider working in education."

In education, there are two main employee classifications: classified staff and certificated staff. Classified employees fill a variety of roles such as accounting, payroll, food service, bus drivers, and clerical support staff that do not require a teaching credential. Certificated staff such as teachers, administrators, and academic counselors must have specific credentials and sometimes additional licenses, training, or degrees.

At the upcoming job fair, open positions include both certificated and classified options, ranging from educators, administrators, and facilities specialists to school health care workers. The fair will also feature programs designed to provide training, coaching, mentorship, and affordable certification pathways for new teachers.

Teaching positions typically require a bachelor's degree and a teaching credential. Emergency permits are available that allow people to be the teacher of record while completing the requirements of a full credential.



Above, from left: Malakai and Greg Schindel perform a set together. It seems everyone is a little bit Irish on St. Patrick's Day. Forrest Glycer plays a tune on harmonica.

At left: Northspur Brewing Co. is filled with people, happy to see each others' faces and hear some familiar music on Saint Patrick's Day.

Below: The room is filled with leprechauns of all sizes. People of all ages and generations dance to the beat of the music. Malakai Schindel plays the didgeridoo, an instrument native to Australia.

Photos by Mathew Caine



# Seeing Smiles

Saint Patrick's Day crowd at Northspur Brewing Co. enjoys a mask-less event as they listen to the sounds of Malakai and Forrest

"It's so amazing to see people out and about getting to hear music again," said Forrest Glycer, one of Willits' best-known entertainers, at a Saint Patrick's Day music event at Northspur Brewing Co. on Thursday, March 17.

"It's a beautiful thing. It's been way too long. I've been having the singer / songwriter nights at the [Shanachie] Pub but there hasn't been this many people. It's been good just getting back out there and this is such an amazing venue. I hope they start having music here all the time."

According to Sarah Foley, co-owner of Northspur Brewing Co., there are no plans currently to have regular music nights, "We might do more of these gatherings for special occasions. We leave the music to Pete. He does that well. But it's great to have the stage."

The Northspur Brewing Co. was filled to capacity with green-clad leprechauns and other Irish-for-the-night attendees, almost all with a touch of green to celebrate the driving of snakes out of Ireland many years ago or just to have a chance to celebrate the lifting of COVID restrictions and the ability to see smiles once again. The happy faces were brought on by the sounds of high-energy eclectic sets of music by Glycer and Malakai Schindel.

"It's really a good turnout," said Foley. "We're so grateful that Malakai and Forrest could perform tonight. They were supposed to play on St. Patrick's Day two years ago but COVID hit and it got cancelled. I believe this is the day that everything got shut down."

The hope being, in everyone's mind, that this openness would last and the pandemic would finally have become endemic, workable and relatively safe with regular regimens of vaccinations and testing. The thought of pandemic faded as the revelry and joy of finally being with old friends became the overriding emotion of the evening.

"This is beautiful to see everybody together with such a nice, positive vibe," beamed Katie Madison. "It's like an early summer. It's so nice and warm." There were more smiles on more naked faces than had been seen at a venue in many months, a welcome sight.

"It's like pre-2020 where COVID never happened," according to Laytonville farmer Mic Rueb. "It's fantastic. Live music, lots of people, good beer, good times." His significant other, Thea Grusky-Foley, was feeling the joyful

vibe, "I feel very privileged to be here right now. I don't think I've seen this many people here since the Dirt Floor Show right after the opening for Northspur. It's really awesome to see a whole crowd again. It feels good."

For those who were not ready to be inside with so many unmasked people, the outdoor patio was the place to sit and have some beer (green or regular) and enjoy some conversation without having to shout over the music, although the sounds wafted through the large open doors. It was also a place to get some air and respite from the crowd.

Schindel, with his creative efficiency with many different instruments, performed a wealth of older standard folk tunes as well as some more modern ones. He sang and played along with Glycer and sometimes with his dad, Greg Schindel, the Train Singer and Thursday-morning KLLG radio personality on the Bi-Polar Express show. The elder Schindel did a set of his own at one point during the evening's entertainment. "It doesn't get much better than this," said the younger Schindel. "The entire community is full of support. It's great to sing in front of people again. It's a form of catharsis for the entire community."

There was, indeed, a representative Willits crowd, with farmers and business people, babies and octogenarians, all enjoying the music and the comradery, dancing together or simply, drinking the home-brewed specialties created by owner and brewmaster Jakob Foley.

Many partook of the selection of food now offered at Northspur, from a menu created by Kitchen Manager Allegra Foley.

"It's so fun to be out and about after all that time," stated Allegra Foley. "The food is going great here. People are excited to have a new place to eat in Willits. We had a really busy time in the kitchen tonight. It's been getting more consistently busier in the kitchen since we started serving food. People appreciate what we're doing, which is more local and organic options. This is the right town for that."

People were hoping that this high-energy, joyful event would be the harbinger of more gatherings to come and that the pandemic that had created the uncertainty and isolation of the last two years would not reemerge in any more unmanageable manner. It was hopefully, both an end and a beginning.

TO-GO OR DINE-OUTDOOR | 459-5702

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Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

9x9 grid for a Sudoku puzzle.



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!

10x10 grid for a crossword puzzle.

Thanks for the feedback, Bill, hopefully this change keeps the puzzles all above the fold :)

POULTRY WORD SEARCH
ALEKTOROPHOBIA, BIDDY, CLUTCH, ANTIBIOTIC, BIRD, DUCK, AVIARY, BOOTED, EGG, AVICULTURE, BROILER, FEATHER, BANDING, CAPON, HATCHED, BARBICELS, CARUNCLE, HEN, BARRING, CHICK, POULTRY, BEAK, CHICKEN, TURKEY

CLUES ACROSS
1. One who regrets
5. Time zone
8. Subway dweller
11. Bend in a river
13. Alias
14. Isodor \_\_\_\_, American Nobel physicist
15. Very (music)
16. Zero
17. Phil \_\_\_\_, former CIA
18. Competitions
20. Unwell
21. Puts in place
22. Gets rid of
25. Allows light to pass through
30. Climbed quickly
31. We all have it
32. There's a North & South
33. Emaciation
38. Supervises flying
41. Very dark colors
43. Unwanted
45. Grants
48. Three visited Jesus
49. Wife of Amun
50. Broadway actress Daisy
55. A Spanish river
56. I (German)
57. French opera composer
59. Six (Spanish)
60. Last letter
61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
62. A curved shape
63. Make a mistake
64. Tall plant
CLUES DOWN
1. Computer memory
2. 'Et \_\_': 'And wife' (Latin)
3. Ancient Syrian city
4. College army
5. Cassava
6. Talented
7. Capital of Estonia
8. Finger millet
9. In a way, assists
10. Men's fashion accessories
12. Misery
14. Skin disorder
19. Selling at specially reduced prices
23. Good friend
24. Stationary portion of a generator
25. Expression of disappointment
26. The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet
27. Where birds fly
28. Midway between north and northeast
29. Chaotic states
34. Comedic actress Gasteyer
35. Kids' dining accessory
36. Snake-like fish
37. Midway between south and southeast
39. Assign lifelike qualities to
40. One who cites
41. Midway between east and southeast
42. North wind
44. One or the other
45. Cavalry sword
46. Of the Hungarian language
47. Life stories
48. Flat tableland with steep edges
51. Swiss river
52. Plant that makes gum
53. French cleric
54. One point east of northeast
58. Free from

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE LOG

March 13 March 19
By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly
The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 112 incidents in this 7-day reporting period.
Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests
March 13
10:52 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 200 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning.
2:32 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 300 block of East Valley Street.
March 14
1:31 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 500 block of West Mendocino Avenue.
5:56 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1100 block of South Main Street.
7:48 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.
8:04 pm: Officers responded to a domestic disturbance in the 400 block of East San Francisco Avenue.
March 15
No incidents to report.
March 16
10:48 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.
3:21 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 300 block of East Commercial Street.
4:01 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 200 block of South Main Street.
4:43 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.
March 17
9:42 am: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 400 block of Grove Street.
4:31 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block

MCSO arrests Washington man wanted for kidnapping

By Sgt. Mike Dygert for MCSO
On March 15, 2022, a Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputy contacted Jack Waldrop, 53, of Kennewick, Washington, who was sleeping in the driver's seat of a pickup truck parked in the 200 block of Sherwood Road in Willits.
The pickup truck was running and parked alongside the road and partially blocking the southbound traffic lane.
The MCSO deputy contacted Waldrop and asked him for his driver's license. Waldrop refused and sped away in the vehicle. The deputy pursued Waldrop as he proceeded to drive towards the city of Willits in a reckless manner.
Waldrop eventually drove back towards



Jack Waldrop of Kennewick, Washington.

The rest of Arrested | From Page 1
Spicer's family members fled the residence and contacted law enforcement. Spicer subsequently locked them out of the residence. A family member (brother) attempted to regain entry into the residence, but Spicer confronted the brother and tried to stab him. The brother was able to use a metal rod to push Spicer back into the residence.
Spicer is known to WPD officers due to several recent calls involving him and his behavior toward his family. Spicer believes he is the sole owner of the residence and claims his family members who live with him are strangers.
In January and early March of 2022, WPD responded to address issues between Spicer and his family at the residence. In both instances, it was decided by family members that it would be addressed via working with mental health and going through the civil eviction process. Throughout all these incidents, Spicer's family has remained committed to helping him seek the help he needs.
Given Spicer's penchant for exhibiting escalating violent behavior, his actions this night, and his family's feeling of being at risk, WPD officers requested assistance from the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office. An arrest warrant was requested and approved by an on-call judge after being briefed on the incident and history. The WPD officers and MCSO deputies formulated a plan of action, which included one of the MCSO deputies' K9.
Family members provided WPD and MCSO with keys to the residence, and they gained entry after announcing themselves numerous times. Spicer was contacted on the second floor and ordered to come out of his bedroom and submit to arrest.
Spicer refused, and forced entry was made into his bedroom. Spicer was observed sitting on his bed with a 4 inch double-bladed throwing knife next to him.
Spicer was uncooperative and continually refused officers' commands. At one point during their interaction he managed to slam the door to his bedroom shut. The door was pushed open immediately, and officers observed Spicer back on the mattress and reaching for his knife before the K9 was deployed. The WPD officers and MCSO deputies entered the room, where Spicer fought with the officers and deputies before being placed in handcuffs. The knife was recovered under Spicer.
Spicer was taken to Howard Memorial Hospital where he was medically treated for injuries incurred from his forceful resistance prior to being booked for 245(a)(1) PC (Assault with a Deadly Weapon), 69 PC (Resisting Arrest with Violence), 422 PC (Criminal Threats), and 417(a)(1) PC (Brandishing a Weapon Other Than a Firearm).
The Willits Police Department would like to thank the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office for their valuable assistance and support in this case.



Congrats
Lisa Mace wins Sober Grad Spring Raffle

Willits Sober Grad would like to congratulate Lisa Mace! Lisa won our Spring Raffle Basket! Sober Grad would also like to thank all our sponsors who helped make this basket a success:
Greg and Tanya Musgrave with Family Tree Service, Shauna Martin with Brown's Corner, Carolyn Dixon with Scentsy, Katie Gray with Mary Kay, Diane Deaton with Our Little Country Kitchen, Windi Kvasnicka with Pampered Chef, Diane Carr with Tupperware, Angela Duran with Cheesecakeery, Stan Cooley with Cooley Logging, Emily Matheson, Dominick Kvasnicka, Lisa Davis with Scoops, Northern Aggregates, Brewed Awakening, J.D. Redhouse, Shannon Germann with Monkey Wrench, and Jennifer Drew with 101 Trailer & RV Supply.
Thank you all for supporting Willits Sober Grad and our 2022 Senior Class.
- Willits Sober Grad Committee



Willits Sober Grad raffle winner Linda Mace, center, holds her bin of winnings. With Willits High students Dominick Kvasnicka, left, and Tanner Drew.

Local Adventist hospitals lit in Ukrainian colors

From a Tuesday post on Adventist Health Howard Memorial's Facebook page:
"Our hospitals are illuminated in yellow and blue as a symbol of peace, solidarity and support for the people of Ukraine.
"Even though we're halfway around the world, we're still connected. We're lighting our buildings to show the people of Ukraine how much their courage, strength and determination inspires us and that we are with them, praying for a resolution to this conflict," explains Judson Howe, president for Adventist Health in Mendocino County.
"Our Adventist Health hospitals in Ukiah, Willits and Fort Bragg will be lighted in the Ukrainian flag's colors all month. "
Photo by Maureen Jennison

WILLITS VENDORS FAIRE
SATURDAY MARCH 26 2022
11:00A.M TO 5:00P.M
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Refreshments next door in the Center for the Arts after the showing, plus receive a FREE copy of the most requested book on the life of Jesus from the Library of Congress (while supplies last).
No admission fee! Limited seating. See more of The Chosen on Facebook.



THE BUNNY IS BACK!
PHOTOS WITH THE EASTER BUNNY!
FRIDAY, APRIL 15
from 5 to 7 pm at J.D. Redhouse
Digital images by Maureen Jennison are just \$5 each!
No appointments, just come by and get in line!
The snuggly, live bunnies are back too!

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# Furry Friends Hoping for a Home Snuggly Danny

Danny came in with his brother, Dirk, and both are fairly mellow cats. Danny likes to sleep, but when he's not sleeping, he appears playful with other cats and we think he would do well in a home with children. He can be your perfect snuggle buddy. Danny is a 2-year-old medium hair tabby.

For more info about Danny 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.mendoanimalsshelter.com](http://www.mendoanimalsshelter.com). For information about adoptions, please call 707-467-6453.

# FIRE

## ARE YOU READY?

Thursday March 31, 6:30pm

By Zoom:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81586789184>

What are public agencies doing to prepare?  
How can YOU be prepared?

**Moderated by Supervisor John Haschak**

**Panelists:**

- **Scott Cratty, Mendocino FireSafe Council**
- **Bill Carter, Little Lake Fire District Chief**
- **Jon Noyer, Brooktrails Fire District Chief**
- **Brentt Blaser, Co. Office of Emergency Services**
- **Keith Rutledge, Sherwood Firewise**
- **Drew Rhodes, CalFire Cell Leader**

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For more information, contact [mstronga@willitsonline.com](mailto:mstronga@willitsonline.com) or (707) 459-1493

## Cheerful Odie

Odie is a sweet love bug but he needs an owner who is going to work with him to provide reassurance in training and have the patience and time to introduce him slowly to new things. While he is initially nervous around new dogs and he may bark or growl, he also plays with a happy, wagging tail. This is not uncommon in a stray that has

had to find his way on the streets. A little reassurance and more socialization with friendly dogs will be helpful to get him over his concerns. This young guy cannot be around small animals as he does have prey-drive. He needs a rural setting to live in as he would not do well in an urban or city environment.

To learn more about Odie or view other adoptable animals, visit [www.milofoundation.org](http://www.milofoundation.org) or the Milo Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions by appointment only due to COVID-19. Please complete a pet-adoption application before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 510-900-2275.

## Gentle Frank

Meet our new friend Frank! Frank came to us from Pet Life Line in Sonoma County. Frank has feline leukemia, but that's not stopping him from being the most wonderful cat. This handsome 2-year-old guy is gentle, a lap sitter, loves to play, and LOVES treats. He has had quite the journey but just wants to spend the rest of it with you.

What does it mean to adopt Frank? He needs to be indoors only, and live as a single cat or with other FeLV kitties. FeLV is only contagious to cats, so he can live with dogs, and any other non-feline animals. He needs a nutritionally complete and balanced diet as this is one of the best ways to help keep your FeLV kitty healthy. The best way to think of cats like Frank is that they are not sick until they are. FeLV cats deserve all the love as any other cat and we are hoping to help take the fear out of FeLV. On average, FeLV cats can absolutely live long, happy and healthy lives – no matter how many years he has, we want him to spend all of them in a home with a family that loves him.

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. Currently we are open by appointment only Wednesday through Friday, and open to the public Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 3 pm, no appointment needed on the weekends! You may also look at our available dogs and cats on our website: [www.mendohumanesociety.com](http://www.mendohumanesociety.com), our Facebook page, and on [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com).

PEOPLES THEATRE PRESENTS:
APRIL 2ND
ILLUSION
DOORS OPEN 6:30PM / SHOWS 7PM
THEATRE LIVE MUSIC POETRY
COMEDY FOOD/DRINKS/MARKET DJs
LOCAL & INTERNATIONAL CAST
Base Space - 109 North Main Street, Willits, CA (Formerly known as Leopold Collective)

# ‘ILLUSION’ at the People’s Theatre

People's Theatre is at it again! The theme of our upcoming variety show is "ILLUSION."

Bring the whole family out for an evening of living art! Set for Saturday, April 2 at BAC SPACE (formerly known as the Leopold Collective), 109 North Main Street. Doors open at 5:30 pm; show at 7 pm. Suggested donation: \$10-\$20.

Enjoy a rainbow of performance art: comedy, dance, music, skits and clowns! There will also be food, drinks, and other items for sale.

The last show was a joyful experience. Come be a part of the magic.



Above, from left: Skip Lucier, president of the Willits Lions Club, chairs the meeting. Traditional Irish corned beef and cabbage with all the trimmings is served at the Lions Club St. Patrick's Day dinner. Karen Oslund, executive director of the Cancer Resource Centers, receives a donation from the Willits Lions Club for her organization. Lions Club Mendocino Regional Chairperson Sheryl Mitcham enjoys her St. Patrick's Day meal.

At left: Jim Holmes, Skip Lucier, Dean Bauman, Jim Hinkle and Bill Barker enjoy a St. Patrick's Day beer.

Photos by Mathew Caine

# Charitable Fun

## Willits Lions Club serves up large helpings of corned beef and generosity at St. Patrick's Day dinner

The green Saint Patrick's Day accessories fit in well with the club's usual yellow vests, festooned with badges, name tags, and other symbols of the Lions Club service to the community. The traditional dinner of corned beef and cabbage, brought to the United States by Irish immigrants who traded their traditional "corned bacon" for the less expensive beef when they celebrated the holiday here, has become a staple of many organizations on this day.

The Willits Lions Club has continued this tradition at their Saint Patrick's Day meeting each year and along with the corned beef and cabbage, which is provided by one of the members, a potluck of side dishes and sweet treats are brought by participants and shared generously.

The meeting this year, attended by Sheryl Mitcham, regional chairperson of the Lions Clubs, had a more serious presentation by invited guest Karen Oslund, executive director of the Cancer Resource Centers of Mendocino County. The centers provide much-needed counseling and support for victims of this debilitating and frightening disease. Oslund spoke and presented a slideshow of the work that has been done by her organization, after which she was presented with a check from the Willits Lions Club to help in the administration of the organization.

Fundraising for the Cancer Resource Centers, as is true for most non-profits in the last two years, has been difficult due to the inability to gather people together for events. However, they have persevered and continue to provide such services as patient navigation (assisting people who have been diagnosed as they traverse the intricacies of the cancer patient process), emotional support, medical appointment preparation (helping people understand the process), medical appointment recording and transcription (recording the oncologist conversations and presenting the patient with a written document or audio recording to reference later), transportation and lodging, a lending library, and generally helping victims navigate the complex health care system. More information can be found at [www.crcmendocino.org](http://www.crcmendocino.org).

"We didn't really know anything about [Karen Oslund's] organization, but Carol Deuel, one of our members, brought it up and we looked into it," said Skip Lucier, current president of the Willits Lions Club. "What they do is pretty amazing for this area. We had already allocated all of our monies to be given out for this year and they were one of them. She asked if she could speak to us."

The Lions Club, a Willits fixture since 1926, has donated much of their time and funds to helping the less fortunate of the area. "We had a good fundraiser with our very successful Super Bowl pool," explained Lucier. "We had a World Series fundraiser last year that was good."

Read the rest of Dinner Over on Page 12

# “Deathtrap” opens March 25 at Willits Community Theatre

In its return to live stage shows, Willits Community Theatre will present the much-heralded comedy-thriller "Deathtrap" from March 25 through April 10. The two-act play by Ira Levin has been the longest-running hit of its kind on Broadway. The show features five true-to-life characters caught up in an intrigue of deadly intentions.

Tickets for "Deathtrap" are available through the WCT website at [www.wctperformingartscenter.org](http://www.wctperformingartscenter.org). Audience members will be asked to show proof of vaccination and the wearing of facial coverings will be recommended.

At right: Willits Lions Club members and guests enjoy the meal and comradery on March 17. Below, left: There was quite a spread, as usual for a Lions Club meal, featuring corned beef and cabbage. Below, right: Second Vice President Bill Barker shows his Irish spirit.



COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

# ‘X’

**The Story:** It's 1979. It's rural Texas. There's a pond. Perfect for nude swimming. There's an old two-story farmhouse with a basement. If you've ever seen a slasher flick, then you know that's perfect, too.

A small troupe of Hollywood-fame hopefuls arrive ready to make a porn movie. They're cheerful and gung-ho and are quite oblivious to the fact rural old folks who cling to their guns and Bibles and their psychoses can be rubbed the wrong way by nudity, porn, and the filmmakers' lifestyle – seriously 'rubbed the wrong way.' Sex, drugs, and slashing gore-porn follow. Who will survive? Will anyone?

**My Thoughts:** I'm not a slasher maven, but I like cheap thrills, bloody executions, wheezing and moaning porn, and actors with pretty chests. As they say: The distasteful done tastefully. "X" is self-consciously an homage to great flicks. To "Psycho" and to "Boogie Nights," to Francois Truffaut and the French New Wave, and probably many movies which

I've forgotten, or maybe never even seen.

Shout outs! and huzzahs! to writer/director/editor Ti West and his savvy cast of experienced actors, and especially gifted camera person who put together this fine, fun (not-for-children or psychopaths) movie. A carnival freak show: scary-bloody-sexy, all unapologetically bravura crassness, all ready to be wallowed in for just the price of a ticket. It's why we go to the movies. Some of us, anyway.

**Parents:** Explicit nudity and sex, drug-taking, bloody impalings? I don't think so.

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

57 East Commercial Street - Willits  
707-459-NOYO (6696)  
[www.noyothatre.com](http://www.noyothatre.com)

Next Week:  
**MORBIUS**

(PG13) 1 hr 52 mins  
**Fri.:**  
5:45 & 8:15pm  
**Sat./Sun.:**  
3:15, 5:45 & 8:15pm  
**Mon.-Thurs.:**  
5:45 & 8:15pm

## THE LOST CITY

(PG13) 1 hr 52 mins  
**Fri.:**  
5:45 & 8:15pm  
**Sat./Sun.:**  
3:15, 5:45 & 8:15pm  
**Mon.-Thurs.:**  
5:45 & 8:15pm



## X

(R) 1 hr 47 mins  
**Fri.:**  
6:00 & 8:30pm  
**Sat./Sun.:**  
3:30, 6:00 & 8:30pm  
**Mon.-Thurs.:**  
6:00 & 8:30pm

## THE BATMAN



(PG13)  
2 hrs 56 mins  
**Fri.-Thurs.:**  
4:00 & 7:30pm

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## SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

**Agape Bible Church**  
290 S. Lenore Ave.  
Willits, CA 95490  
Where love is first and the Bible is central.  
Sunday Services:  
10:00 a.m. - Worship  
Awana: Tuesday, 6:15 p.m.  
Info? 707-459-1905  
[www.agapebiblechurch.com](http://www.agapebiblechurch.com)

**Amazing Grace Assembly of God Church**  
803 Coast Street  
P.O. Box 489, Willits  
707-303-5456  
Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.  
Pastor Burton Jernigan  
EVERYBODY IS WELCOME

**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**  
265 Margie Drive  
Willits, CA 95490  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**  
Sacrament Meeting  
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

**Eckankar: The Path of Spiritual Freedom**  
• Sound of Soul events  
• Membership Discourses  
• Spiritual Discussions  
• ECK Light & Sound Services  
More information?  
Call 530-224-8703  
[www.eckankar.org](http://www.eckankar.org)

**Grace Community Church**  
Celebrating Life In Christ  
25 Hazel Street, Willits  
**Modified Worship Service**  
10 a.m.  
Other ministries suspended for now.  
For appointments call:  
(707) 459-3106

**St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church**  
61 W. San Francisco Ave.  
Willits, CA 95490  
Father Aaron Bandenadam  
Mass times:  
Confessions by appointment:  
459-2252  
Sunday Mass inside:  
9:00 a.m. English  
10:30 a.m. Spanish  
Saturday Mass: 5:30 p.m.  
Covid guidelines apply.  
We welcome All Walks of Faith!

**St. Francis Episcopal Church**  
1 North Main Street, Willits  
707-272-0177  
Sunday Service - 10 a.m.  
In-person and on Zoom  
Call for information.  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**  
The Rev. Betsy Bruneau

**St. John Lutheran Church**  
Church Service:  
Sunday 10:00 to 11:00  
(707) 459-2988  
24 Mill Creek Drive  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church**  
707-459-5714  
Friendly, open worship  
Saturdays  
Bible Study - 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service - 10:45 a.m.  
Zoom Transmission Available.  
Wednesday  
Prayer Meeting - 6:00 p.m.  
399 W. Mendocino Ave.  
**All are welcome!**

**Willits United Methodist**  
A Christ centered, progressive church  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**  
286 School St. (at Pine)  
Rev. Rosemary Landry, pastor  
Worship Celebration  
Sundays - 10:30 a.m.  
Children's Sunday School - 10:45 a.m.  
459-2855  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

If you want to be included in this column please call:  
**April Tweddell**  
(707) 972-2475  
[april@willitsweekly.com](mailto:april@willitsweekly.com)

Below: Honoree Cindy Savage is surrounded by her adoring and loving family. In back are Mark Savage, Dean Taylor, Re Savage, Cathie Gernhardt, Patti Wright, and Clint Taylor; in front are Cindy Savage, her father Bill Meyerhoff, and stepmother Linda Meyerhoff. At right: Analee Olsen has been a volunteer at Willits Daily Bread since she was 14: "I started when I was in Scouts and we did volunteer hours. I really like working here," she said.

Photos by Ree Slocum



Above: After delivering an inspiring and uplifting speech, featured speaker Malia Cohen introduces honoree Cindy Savage to the audience of over 100 county community members. Below: Event coordinator Val Muchowski and Third District Supervisor John Haschak take a moment to pose with honoree Cindy Savage, right. At bottom: Lois Lockhart, left, the youngest daughter of Chief Lumkih, the Sherwood Rancheria Band of Pomo ceremonial chief, smiles with event coordinator Val Muchowski, who was instrumental in starting Women's History Month and honoring women leaders in Mendocino County.



## 'Promoting Hope'

Cindy Savage of Willits Daily Bread receives recognition at Women's History Gala for her work helping the homeless

Willits' Cindy Savage was honored at the 38th Women's History Gala Celebration on Sunday at the Saturday Afternoon Clubhouse in Ukiah. The event was well attended by community members from around Mendocino and Lake counties. They were there to celebrate and honor three women who exemplify this year's theme: "Providing Healing, Promoting Hope."

Willits resident Cindy Savage, executive director of Willits Daily Bread Corporation, was honored for being a woman who has volunteered and worked feeding the homeless for over 32 years, 15 of those years in Willits.

"I think it's important that people aren't hungry. I don't want anybody to be hungry," she said.

Two other women were honored for their community work in the county.

Shirley Matilton-Feather was honored for having a vital business in Ukiah. Matilton-Feather opened a Native American-owned salon, Feathers Hair Artistry, to give "the minority community a safe place to put the trauma and fears behind them," read a statement about her. Her work is an inspiration for other female Native Americans.

Camille Schraeder was honored for her extensive history of community involvement and for being a strong advocate for abused, neglected, and at-risk children, youth and families at the local, state and federal levels. She currently leads Redwood Quality Management.

The event also included Georgina Guardado, who is a poet laureate fellow with the Academy of American Poets and is a Lake County Poet Laureate.

The featured speaker was Malia Cohen, who's the chair of the California State Board of Equalization and former president of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. She's in the lead position of the Board of Equalization's second district which includes Mendocino County.

More about Cindy Savage:

As a child, Savage was inspired to help people after she saw a program on television about Mother Teresa. "The passion she had in her work compelled me to be a better person: to be kinder; to be understanding of people who are all just going through life." Savage knew she couldn't stop world hunger, so she decided to do what she could in her own community.

When she was a teen, she volunteered as a candy stripper at the hospital where her mother worked as a nurse. "I loved helping, especially in the nursery with the babies," she said.

For 17 years she lived, worked and volunteered in Maine while raising her children. She found a volunteer position at a church's soup kitchen, where she began working as a cook every Thursday. Through those years she learned "all aspects of running a soup kitchen, from scheduling volunteers, planning meals, purchasing supplies, cooking



Above, left: After thanking the Mendocino Women's Political Coalition, Cindy Savage said, "It's a bit awkward receiving praise for what I feel is just a regular thing I do."

Above, right: A typical food bag given out each day, Monday through Thursday, includes variety of food, including treats and a bowl of soup which is included in a separate container.

for large numbers, serving the meals, fundraising," Savage said to the audience at the gala celebration on Sunday.

When her biological mother passed away, Savage moved back to California to help her father and stepmother on their Willits ranch. She wasn't sure what she'd do next and took peer-counseling classes and hospice training. Then she heard from her dad that Willits Daily Bread President Eric Glassey was looking for someone to run the organization. She applied and in her interview she told them her vast experiences with the nonprofit soup kitchens. "Eric called me and told me they voted to hire me before I reached my car. I have been there ever since," she smiled.

Savage believes that the knowledge she gained, by being a volunteer all those years in Maine, gave her the experiences to land the job "that makes me feel I'm on my right path, that I'm doing what I'm meant to do."

She told the crowd on Sunday, "We serve anyone that wants a meal, there is no criteria, no forms to fill out. It is run on grants and donations." Their annual fundraiser, Sip Some Soup, was postponed last year due to COVID.

"Her ability to make people feel cared about and involved, whether they are being served or are serving alongside her, is her true strength," wrote one of Savage's supporters in an excerpt addressed to the Mendocino Women's Political Coalition. "Cindy has been a successful mentor because she is not in it for the accolades or recognition. She simply cares about others and wants them to have support. She will feed anyone who is in need, and will give anyone willing a chance to work, develop skills, and give back. She is a believer of and embodies 'paying it forward.'"

Today, Savage has secured funding to make the parish hall at Saint Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church a space for people to come out of the elements and socialize while having a cup of coffee or eating tasty and nutritious meals.

"Life's hard and they may not have the skills or mental capacity, or they've got problems and are self-medicating. They have reasons and need help. There are no institutions to help people anymore. They're homeless. They're downtrodden. Somebody's got to help them and that's what I do," explained Savage.

Willits Daily Bread Corporation is located at 66 East Commercial Street in the Saint Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church's parish hall. Hours are Monday through Thursday, 4:30 to 5:30 pm. For more information, to volunteer, or make a donation, call 459-3947.

For more information about Mendocino Women's Political Coalition and Women's History Month, visit their Facebook page.

**WILLITS**  
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SATURDAY, MARCH 26TH 2022  
WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL 299 N MAIN STREET WILLITS, CA 95490

**ENTRY FEE**  
\$5 PER 12 AND OLDER  
WRESTLERS  
\$15 ONE STYLE  
\$20 FOR BOTH

**WEIGH-INS**  
7 - 8 a.m. (PeeWee-Schoolboy)  
10 - 11 a.m. (Cadets & up)

**AGES**  
K THROUGH OPEN  
AGES: PWK,C,J,O,W

**AWARDS**  
TROPHY'S FOR CHAMPIONS  
MEDALS FOR 2ND & 3RD  
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### Current Job Openings:

Account Specialist II/III  
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Animal Control Assistant  
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Business Systems Analyst  
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Chief Planner – Cannabis Program  
Communication Technician  
Corrections Deputy  
Department Analyst I/II  
Deputy County Counsel II/III/IV  
Deputy District Attorney I/III/III  
Deputy Probation Officer I/II  
Deputy Public Defender III/IV  
Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II  
Eligibility Specialist II

Food & Laundry Services Supervisor  
Heavy Equipment Mechanic  
Human Resources Director  
Juvenile Corrections Officer –  
Extra – Help  
Legal Assistant  
Mental Health Clinical Manager  
Public Health Nurse  
Registered Nurse

Registered Veterinary Technician  
Senior Business Systems Analyst  
Senior Planner - Cannabis Program  
Senior Program Manager –  
Family Children's Services  
Senior Program Manager – Nursing  
Senior Public Health Nurse  
Senior Substance Abuse Counselor  
Social Worker Assistant I/II  
Social Worker I/II/III/IV A-D  
Social Worker Supervisor I/II A-C  
Staff Assistant I/II/III  
Substance Abuse Counselor I/II  
Substance Abuse Treatment Supervisor  
Supervising Public Health Nurse  
Supervising Staff Assistant

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

[www.governmentjobs.com/careers/mendocinoca](http://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/mendocinoca)

EOE

WW375

### SUMMONS

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: JETT JENNINGS, also known as LAWRENCE J. JENNINGS; DOES 1-50, inclusive, Case Number: HG21100522

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: CHERIE Y. SONG, THE BAYSIDE COURT OWNERS ASSOCIATION, a California corporation.

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: the court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

The name and address of the court is: Alameda County Superior Court, 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544 The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: Christopher J. Neary, 110 S. Main St., Ste. C, Willits, C 95490, Telephone: (707) 459-5551

Publication Dates: March 3, 10, 17, 24, 2022

WW377

### AMENDED NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: WENDY LEE HILDERBRAND

Case No. 22PR00003

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate or both of Wendy Lee Hilderbrand.

**A Petition for Probate** has been filed by Verle E. Hilderbrand in the Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino. The Petition for Probate requests that Verle E. Hilderbrand 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: April 7, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. in Ten Mile Court of the Mendocino County Superior Court, located at 700 S Franklin St., 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.**

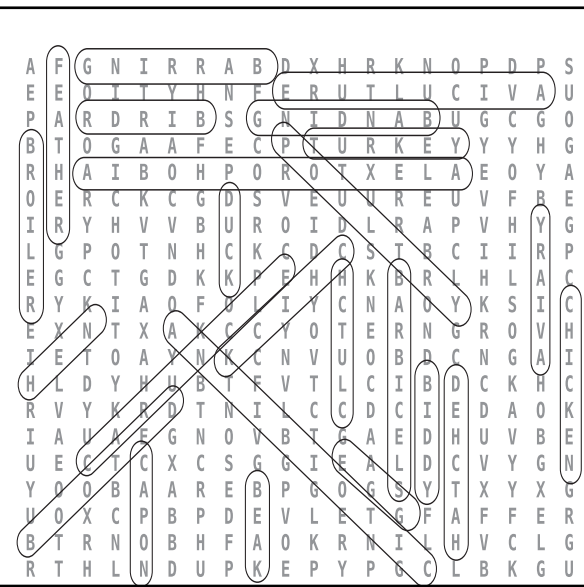
**You may examine the file kept by the court.** If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

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: March 10, 17, 24, 2022

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## LEGAL NOTICES

**Employment Opportunity:**  
**Water and Wastewater Plant Operator**  
Annual salary is DOQ/DOE.  
Operator in Training: \$36,926.77 - \$44,884  
Operator I: \$42,256 - \$51,363  
Operator II: \$43,266 - \$52,591

**Employment Opportunity:**  
**Public Works Maintenance Worker**  
Annual salary is \$36,969 - \$44,936 DOQ/DOE

**Employment Opportunity:**  
**Community Development Specialist**  
Annual salary is \$60,996 - \$74,141 DOQ/DOE

**Employment Opportunity:**  
**Community Services Officer**  
Annual salary is \$41,866 - \$56,105 DOQ/DOE

**Employment Opportunity: City Planner**  
Annual salary is \$67,234 - \$81,724 DOQ/DOE

**Employment Opportunity: Engineering Tech II**  
Annual salary is \$50,579 - \$61,479 DOQ/DOE

Application Deadline:  
Friday March 25, 2022, by 4:00 P.M.

For a full job description and application instructions contact: Human Resources at (707) 459-7176 or email [kstevenson@cityofwillits.org](mailto:kstevenson@cityofwillits.org), go to our website: <https://cityofwillits.org/219/EmploymentOpportunities>

WW378

### NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: RANDALL CARL SMITH aka RANDY CARL SMITH aka RANDY C SMITH aka RANDY SMITH

Case No. 22PR00028

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate or both of Randall Carl Smith, Randy Carl Smith, Randy C Smith, Randy Smith.

**A Petition for Probate** has been filed by Sarah Henighan in the Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino.

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

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: April 7, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. in Dept. TM of the Mendocino County Superior Court, located at 700 S Franklin St #144, 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.

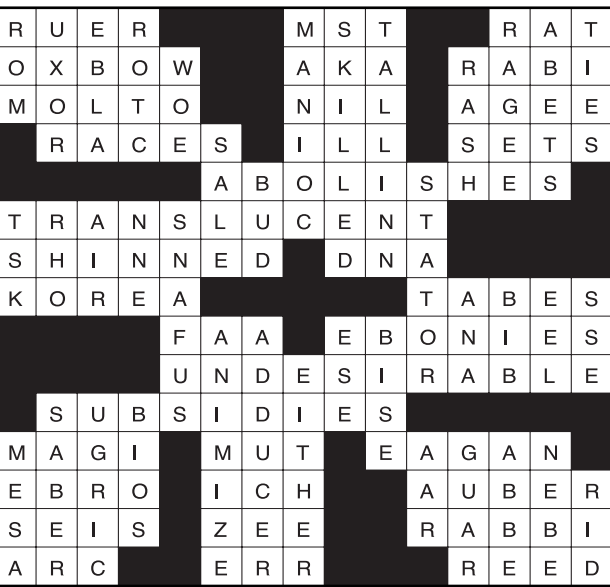
Attorney for Petitioner: Jennifer M. O'Brien, NEARY and O'BRIEN, 110 S Main St., Ste. C, Willits, CA 95490, Telephone (707) 459-5551.

Publication Dates: March 17, 24 and 31, 2022

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Baechtel Creek Medical Clinic is looking to hire for the front office. Please pick up an application or drop off a resume at 1245 S. Main Street.

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Due to health concerns in Mendocino County, John Ford Ranch will be taking meat box orders (not individual package orders) for pick-up: Rancher's Choice Box - 50 pounds: steaks, roasts, and ground beef. Still \$325 (\$6.50 per pound). Hamburger Box: 25 pound box of hamburger in 1 or 1.5 pound packages: \$150. Natural ranch-raised grass fed beef, no hormones or antibiotics. Call 459-5193 to arrange pick-up. Leave a message, and we'll call back.

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## LEGAL NOTICES

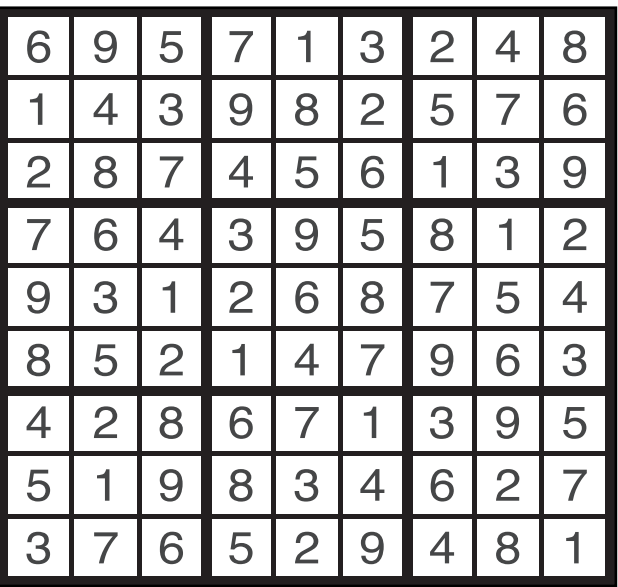
WW380

### CITY OF WILLITS NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

The City of Willits (City) has prepared this notice to inform agencies and interested parties that it is releasing a CEQA Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/Proposed MND) for the Willits Rail with Trail Project. The Project would construct an approximately 1.6-mile Class I Trail (pedestrian and bicycle trail) from East Commercial Street to East Hill Road within the Great Redwood Trail Agency (formerly the North Coast Railroad Authority) right of way, within the City limits. Installation of this 1.6-mile trail would improve access and safety for pedestrian and bicycle users as well as create opportunities for nature study and recreation. The trail would include at-grade bridge crossings over Broadus, Baechtel and Haehl Creeks, lighting, signage, benches, landscaping, and other features related to public access, and may include enhancements to existing street crossings. The trail would be a paved pathway Class I facility, approximately ten-foot wide (five feet per travel lane) with 2-foot shoulders. The Project would not conflict with the Skunk Train rail excursion or other railroad use. Small areas of inactive track may be removed, primarily associated with grade crossings or inactive spurs. The Project is located in the vicinity of several sites enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

A 30-day public review period for the IS/Proposed MND will extend from March 24 to April 22, 2022. The IS/Proposed MND will be available for public review online within the Community News section at [www.cityofwillits.org](http://www.cityofwillits.org), as well as at the Willits Community Development Department office at 111 E. Commercial Street, Willits, California. Please e-mail any comments on the IS/Proposed MND by 5 PM on April 22, 2022 to [dduley@cityofwillits.org](mailto:dduley@cityofwillits.org). After the review period closes, the Willits City Council will consider adopting the IS/Proposed MND and approving the Project during a public meeting tentatively scheduled for April 27, 2022 at 6:30 PM. We encourage you to check the City's webpage to confirm the date, time, and location of the Council meeting at the following website address: [www.cityofwillits.org](http://www.cityofwillits.org).

Publication Date: March 24, 2022



Adventist Health  
Mendocino  
County  
to hold career  
fairs

Submitted by Adventist Health

Adventist Health will be hosting three career fairs throughout Mendocino County to help the organization fill many clinical and non-clinical positions available currently. The organization will be looking for mission-minded community members to join their teams at Adventist Health Mendocino Coast in Fort Bragg, Adventist Health Howard Memorial Hospital in Willits, and Adventist Health Ukiah Valley in Ukiah on the dates and times below:

Thursday, March 24, 12 to 5 pm at Adventist Health Mendocino Coast, 700 River Drive, Fort Bragg

Wednesday, April 6, 12 to 5 pm at Adventist Health Howard Memorial, 1 Marcela Drive, Willits

Thursday, April 21, 12 to 5 pm at Ukiah Valley Conference Center, 200 South School Street, Ukiah

Adventist Health offers competitive wages, exceptional benefits, and a connection to purpose. As the organization continues to build careers around inspiring patients in their health, wholeness and hope, these career fairs are hoped to connect community members with a career path in health care, close to home.

Career fair attendees are asked to wear face masks and maintain social distancing. For more information on job opportunities, please contact Jolee White at 707-963-6588 or whitej@ah.org, or visit www.adventisthealth.org/careers.


Adventist Health is a faith-based, nonprofit integrated health system serving more than 80 communities on the West Coast and Hawaii as well as others across the U.S. through its Blue Zones company, a pioneer in taking a systemic and environmental approach to improving the health of entire cities and communities. Through this work, Adventist Health is leading a 21st century well-being transformation movement.

Founded on Seventh-day Adventist heritage and values, Adventist Health provides care in hospitals, clinics, its innovative Adventist Health Hospital@Home program that provides virtual in-patient care at home, home care agencies, hospice agencies, and joint-venture retirement centers in both rural and urban communities.

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Above, from left: Anna Frassinello Earsley is a registered dietitian nutritionist and a certified diabetes care and education specialist and manages the Adventist Health inpatient RD team and outpatient teams and programs throughout Mendocino County. Anna Herby works with the Adventist Health team for outpatient clinic coverage and inpatient nutrition care; she also teaches some of the fantastic community classes and programs offered through Adventist. Mark Maples is a registered dietitian working in outpatient services as a dietitian for both Adventist Health Howard Memorial and Adventist Health Ukiah Valley.



Adventist Health celebrates their registered  
dietitians for National Nutrition Month

Submitted by Adventist Health

This month is National Nutrition Month, and we have such a great team of six wonderful registered dietitians on our Nutritional Services team to celebrate. Today we'll highlight three of these team members for our community as we say thank you for everything they do!

First up we have Anna Frassinello Earsley who is a registered dietitian nutritionist and a certified diabetes care and education specialist and manages our inpatient RD team and our outpatient teams and programs throughout Mendocino County. Earsley is passionate about sharing lifestyle-management practices with her patients to assist them in preventing and managing health conditions through diet, physical activity and social support. She practices in both the clinical and outpatient environments as well as instructing interactive group nutrition, cooking and wellness classes for patients and community members. Earsley is also a Food for Life instructor and enjoys demonstrating and sharing plant-based recipes with patients, friends and family. As a mother of three, Earsley is up for the challenge of creating meal plans and lifestyle interventions that work for individuals and families alike!

Next up we have Anna Herby who works with our team for outpatient clinic coverage and inpatient nutrition care as well as our fantastic community classes and programs we offer. Herby is a graduate of the University of Bridgeport where she received a doctorate in health science with a focus in clinical nutrition. She wrote a dissertation on the economic benefits of lifestyle medicine with a focus on improvements in metabolic-syndrome outcomes related to plant-based nutrition and participation in the Complete Health Improvement Program.

Herby studied dietetics at Bastyr University in Seattle, Washington and has been helping people

to prevent and reverse chronic diseases ever since. She enjoys cooking and sharing the power of plant-based nutrition with her community as a Food for Life instructor. Be sure to watch for our upcoming cooking classes with Herby as one of our featured instructors! In Herby's spare time she loves taking really long hikes and has completed both the Continental Divide Trail and the Pacific Crest Trail.

Mark Maples is another of our great registered dietitians working in outpatient services as a dietitian for both Adventist Health Howard Memorial and Adventist Health Ukiah Valley. Maples is a motivated dietitian who joined our team in May of 2021. He received a BS in nutritional sciences with a focus in dietetics from UC Berkeley, followed by the completion of his dietetic internship with Golden Gate Dietetic Internship. While in his internship, he had the opportunity to work with nutrition professionals all around Mendocino County, from multiple Adventist Health facilities and the Ukiah Unified School District. Maples is devoted to empowering the rural communities of Mendocino County through nutrition education and counseling.

We are so grateful for their phenomenal work and love seeing them in our halls helping patients and staff. Join us as we say thank you to our registered dietitians in honor of National Nutrition Month!

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The rest of **Hauling** | From Page 1

But Fifth District Supervisor Ted Williams in particular felt that some of the new rules were so broad in scope that they would unintentionally impact those who need water delivered for drinking and other essential needs.

While many ideas have been brought up by the drought ad hoc committee for tightening up water regulations, the March 15 agenda item was asking the board to consider three proposals in particular.

These included to "ban commercial water hauling to any destination at which the end user will be using the water for non-permitted commercial activities," and to utilize and clarify existing county laws which restrict water extraction and hauling.

McGourty talked about some of the proposals the drought task force had been working on.

"There already exists an ordinance requiring use permits for businesses selling drinking water, so it may be possible to amend it to include all water sales," he said. "What we've also discussed is that people selling water will have to have meters on their wells and track all sales with receipts and records of who they sold it to. People hauling water will have to keep a log book with the destination of where they are delivering water. No sales to illegal cannabis operations would be allowed. Mendocino County Code Enforcement will check for compliance, inspecting logs of both water purveyors and trucks filling up. They seem to be the logical agency."

Haschak said that in coming up with their recommendations they had met and consulted with many in the community, including local water district representatives, water haulers, the Mendocino County Farm Bureau, the Mendocino Cannabis Alliance, environmental groups, law enforcement, code enforcement, planning and building staff, county counsel, and "normal citizens worried about their water conditions."

"So we had quite a few meetings on those lines and the recommendations we came up with are representative of that," said Haschak. "But I still think that even if we adopt the recommendations there's probably a few public meetings that Supervisor McGourty and I could have where it's open up to everyone."

"Because we found out some interesting things along the way about what laws are already in existence in the county code," he continued. "And the limitations of our code enforcement, law enforcement, regulatory system. And so we've been trying to balance all of these issues with coming up with something that really does provide an effective way of regulating water extraction, mining and water hauling."

Haschak said, in researching the matter, one of the county rules they found was already in place, which didn't seem to be enforced much, was that "a major use permit is required for water extraction."

He added that the county code which imposes this rule "is the same code for oil and gas, and comes from a ruling in 2011 that the board of supervisors upheld."

Williams said he was worried that even enforcing such

rules on the books could put some people's basic water needs in jeopardy, considering the epic drought currently happening, which he said was the biggest the area has seen in 1,200 years.

"I would ask the ad hoc to – in its analysis – imagine if the county were to enforce the current rules," said Williams. "How much water would we lose that's used for legitimate ag and drinking purposes? I think it would be good to know – ballpark."

"On the coast I think there's millions of gallons that maybe don't meet code," he said. "And if we were to go enforcing the rules today, we'd have a problem on our hands, that some legitimate sources wouldn't have any water available. And I know the county can't afford to haul it, and I don't know if Ukiah is willing to give up that much water, even if we could pay for it."

Williams was referring to the water hauling program the county put in place last August to truck hundreds of thousands of gallons of water from the City of Ukiah to the City of Fort Bragg, which was desperately in need.

"I feel pretty bad about the line items for that," Williams said of the hauling. "It was expensive. And I feel bad about the carbon footprint of hauling water across the county. This year fuel prices may be double, and we may be looking at more wells going dry. We're another year into a drought and we haven't had a lot of rain, and it's looking pretty bad. I think what you're proposing may fix some illicit cannabis nuisance problems in Covelo, but may punish Comptche in effect."

Haschak said he also had doubts that requiring use permits for all water extraction was the way to go.

"I don't think that we need to go to a major use permit for some of this water extraction," he said. "And maybe that's how we need to really look at what the possibilities are. Not going to a major use permit but making sure that the water that people are extracting and selling for commercial purposes is sustainable for the community."

Hearing consensus from the board, Haschak and McGourty agreed to move forward with more public meetings on the issue with local stakeholders including water haulers.

In her voicemail, the WEC's Drell advised that before the board took any actions they were considering, they should first invite "interested citizens to be at the table as part of a working group to incorporate our ideas, experience and research into any draft ordinance or code update language that addresses the issues around water hauling and the interconnected concerns around selling of water from private wells."

"I'm part of a group of six to eight people from Willits, Covelo and Redwood Valley that have been meeting for about a month to create draft language for such an ordinance," she continued. "We feel we're close to having a credible, practical and enforceable draft ordinance that will substantially eliminate the worst impacts of unregulated water hauling, and begin to get a handle on protecting the county's groundwater basins that presently have nothing in place to prevent overdraft and

potential impact on neighboring wells.

"We are prepared now," Drell said, "and are asking to sit down with staff and the water extraction ad hoc to present our draft proposal and to continue to work with staff so that the process can go forward with full consideration of citizen concerns."

Ukiah crisis facility contract OKd

Also at the March 15 meeting, the supervisors narrowly approved a contract for Redwood Community Services to operate the recently completed crisis residential treatment mental health facility on Orchard Avenue in Ukiah.

The contract, which will be funded largely by the Measure B sales tax measure, is for two years and just over \$1.8 million. It was approved with a 3-2 vote after being pulled from the consent calendar for discussion.

Supervisors Haschak and McGourty both dissented due to concerns about ongoing financing for the facility, as well as access for those without MediCal to get treatment there.

"I just have some real concern about having adequate funding for things like maintenance because this is going to be used 24/7, and I want our facilities to be top notch," said McGourty. "Especially for those that are receiving the public and where we have people staying. I'm concerned that there's no maintenance budget, and as we're later going to talk about in parks, the lack of maintenance in Mendocino County is extraordinary."

"The other thing that I'm very concerned about too, as we start going into things that are funded by Measure B," he continued, "I want to be sure that our facilities are available to everybody, not just those on MediCal. There should be a way for private insurance to be able to access our facilities. We're now going to have two facilities that will be receiving mostly MediCal patients."

County Behavioral Health Director Jenine Miller responded that the county can't force private insurance companies to cover mental health services offered by the county, but they could potentially set aside some Measure B funding for those whose insurance won't cover the services.

The rest of **Hoax** | From Page 1

administration discovered the juvenile did post a photo of himself with a gun taken while doing target practice with his family. But it was "friends of the juvenile [who] edited the picture to add a comment indicating violence at the school."

Aldridge commented that the photo was "intended to stay among a closed group of friends, but was posted to a social-media platform instead."

Willits Weekly ran a press release in last week's March 17 edition from the Willits Police Department about the Tuesday, March 15 arrest of the juvenile. We also ran a letter to families from the superintendent of Willits Unified School District in regards to the arrest.

This week, we're running the follow-up press release on the incident from WPD and a March 18 update from the superintendent.

Update from WPD

Submitted on March 18 by Willits Police Department:

"On the evening of March 15, 2022, Willits Police Department officers were alerted by a concerned citizen of threats made towards Willits High School. During the course of the investigation, further evidence was located that supported the ability of the threats to be carried out. The juvenile was ultimately arrested and booked into the Mendocino County Juvenile Hall for violation of 422 PC (Criminal Threats).

"Based on all the facts that officers had at the time, there was a need to act and address any possible threat that existed. The completed case was submitted to the Probation Department and ultimately to the District Attorney's Office for filing consideration.

"The DA's Office has informed us they do not feel they have enough evidence to proceed with a filing. It should be noted, that not going forward with a filing does not invalidate the probable cause to arrest that existed in this case.

"The WPD is committed to the safety of all in and around Willits, and will continue to make public safety its top priority."

Update from WUSD

Posted on March 18 by WUSD Superintendent Joe Aldridge:

"I wanted to share an update regarding the alleged threat we notified you of earlier this week. We have worked with parents, involved parties, and the Willits Police Department to fully investigate the alleged threat. The facts that we can share in the situation are below.

- A juvenile was out with his family participating in target practice. The juvenile sent a picture to friends on social media.

- Friends of the juvenile edited the picture to add a comment indicating violence at the school.

- This picture was intended to stay among a closed group of friends, but was posted to a social-media platform instead.

- A citizen noticed this on social media and reported it to the Willits Police Department.

- WPD contacted the school principal and contacted the juvenile in the picture and their family.

- WPD made an arrest connected to this alleged threat.

- WUSD administration investigated the incident. During the investigation, the above stated information was discovered.

"At this point, it is evident that our campuses were not under any direct threat of violence on March 15. However, the district and WPD acted appropriately based on the information we had available at the time.

"I would ask that we all use this incident as an opportunity to engage with the youth in our community about the very real consequences of the misuse of social media. Please have a conversation with your student(s) about the appropriate use of technology and social-media platforms. We will also reinforce this lesson on our campuses.

"I appreciate your support as we move forward from this incident. The safety of our students is our number-one priority in Willits Unified. Feel free to reach out to me or the site administrator if you have any questions or concerns."

# MTA debuts two zero-emission electric buses to serve Willits

Submitted by Mendocino Transit Authority

Mendocino Transit Authority began its transition this week to electricity-powered public bus service in Mendocino County with two electric buses serving the Willits community.

The two 18-passenger “cutaway” buses provide local service on an hourly circuit called Route 1 that connects downtown Willits with local shopping and medical centers, the Harrah Senior Center, Adventist Health Howard Memorial Hospital and Sherwood Rancheria. The buses begin service at 7:12 am and finish at 5:18 pm, then charge overnight at new stations installed at the Willits bus yard.

“To say the least, we’re excited,” said MTA Executive Director Jacob King. “Together, those two electric buses travel 127 miles each weekday through the heart of Willits with zero tailpipe emissions.”

The two Willits buses are the first of six all-electric buses that MTA will bring to Mendocino County’s public transit service in Willits, Fort Bragg and Ukiah over the next several years. By this time next year, King expects there will be three more electric buses, all slated for Route 5

service on Fort Bragg’s city-circuit route. In 2024, an all-electric coach bus will service Ukiah, and MTA is applying for funding to buy more.

The other environmental benefit is that “electric buses are quiet as a butterfly,” said King. “The only thing you may hear is the crunching of gravel under the tires. We expect it will be a pleasant and healthy experience for our passengers.”

The approximately \$562,000 cost of the two electric buses primarily was covered by a portion of the \$423 million Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust for California, established to offset excess pollution caused by VW’s illegal emissions testing defeat devices on diesel vehicles before they were discovered in 2014. The state of California chipped in the remainder of the cost. Funding is already secured for the additional four new electric buses coming to Mendocino County.

When it was established in 1976, MTA’s mission statement included a move toward carbon-neutral public transportation. It tried propane-powered buses in the past in an effort to reduce emissions and then embraced solar power and electric buses.

King credited Bob Butler, MTA’s director of maintenance, for the smooth transition. “Bob is absolutely instrumental in our electric bus program,” he said. “We’ve been planning and transitioning to renewable energy and clean electric buses for more than 10 years, starting with our solar electric generation system at Ukiah headquarters and now bus-charging stations at our bus yards, so we are ready.”

As with all new MTA buses, Butler was at the factory watching closely as the new electric buses were built, and his maintenance staff installed the electric bus-charging stations. Drivers are trained extensively on the new buses.

King said he’s continuing MTA’s legacy focus upon clean public transit and noted there’s more support from policymakers all the way up the local, state and federal government ladder.

“The funds are there for this transition,” he said.

Mendocino Transit Authority provides safe, courteous, reliable, affordable, and carbon-neutral public transportation throughout Mendocino County. Visit [www.mendocinotransit.org](http://www.mendocinotransit.org) for routes, schedules and fare information.



Mark Williams is driving one of MTA's first electric buses. At right: Dual chargers fill the battery tank of MTA electric buses overnight.



The rest of **Dinner** *From Page 7*

“We’re going to do four scholarships for the graduating seniors at Willits High School of \$1,000 each,” he explained. “We looked at how we did it in the past, giving money out to the valedictorians and salutatorians. We want to help those young people, but we decided we also wanted to recognize some people who might take a different path, a vocational path.

“One of the things I did when I was an electrical-contractor trainer,” said Lucier,

“was go around and pitch the idea to kids that they’re not all going to go to college so they need to be thinking about other career paths. So, we decided to do a vocational scholarship this year and do it in the memory of Wayne Bashore because he was a general contractor and did a lot of things for the community. In fact, we’re giving the donation to the Cancer Resource Center tonight in Wayne’s name.

“In addition to the vocational scholarship,” he added, “we’re also going to do one in art. We’re not going to be selective as to what kind of art. We always used to see a good

number of students who were interested in art. One of our members, Diana Hinkle, was an artist who passed away, so we’re giving out the art scholarship in her name. The recipient should be planning to follow a career in art.”

Preference is given to prospective recipients who might follow a career path in the community.

In addition to scholarships, the Willits Lions Club is involved in many other altruistic and enjoyable activities. Their liquor license and portable grill equipment enables them to create food and drinks wherever they are

needed to augment gatherings of all kinds. Any money they receive goes into their scholarship funds and other worthy causes. The Scout Hut, in Recreation Grove Park, which the club renovated and shares with the local scout troop, is available for events and has a capacity of around 80 attendees with a full commercial kitchen.

As with many local organizations, the Willits Lions Club is always looking for new members to share in their fun, food, and charitable efforts. If interested, email [willitslions@gmail.com](mailto:willitslions@gmail.com), call 459-3575, or find them on Facebook.



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