Public turns out for March school board meeting

Addison Alvarado Reporter willitsweekly@gmail.com

On the evening of March 13. the Willits Unified School Board held its monthly meeting, which involved significant public discussion. The meeting began with a ceremonial flag salute and a reading of the school board's governance norms. Superintendent Mark Beebe remarked on the difficult times in public education, stating, "This is a very difficult week in public education, a difficult month actually; it always has been, always will be."

The meeting opened sweetly, with eight Willits High School students honored as student of the month. Willits High School Principal Shane Topolinski shared that he had the "pleasure of honoring some fantastic students." Frida Friend and Raymond Campbell, both ninth-graders; Timothy Southwick and Abigail Sherf, 10th-graders; Salisa Leon and Cole Lane, 11th-graders; and finally, seniors Rylee Doyle and Ely Bowles were honored.

Read the rest of Schools

Over on Page 11

County vehicles burglarized at Ukiah animal shelter

By Sgt. Aaron Clark, for MCSO

On March 16, 2025, at approximately deputies from the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to 298 Plant Road in Ukiah Mendocino County Animal Care Services to investigate a reported burglary to several countyowned vehicles.

Deputies responded and determined several vehicles were damaged burglary during committed during the early morning hours, and several items were stolen from the vehicles.

During the investigation, MCSO deputies positively identified a vehicle involved in the burglaries. Deputies advised surrounding agencies of the suspect vehicle and a request to notify the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office if the vehicle and occupant(s) were located.

On March 17, 2025, officers with the Ukiah Police Department

Read the rest of Burglarized

Over on Page 11





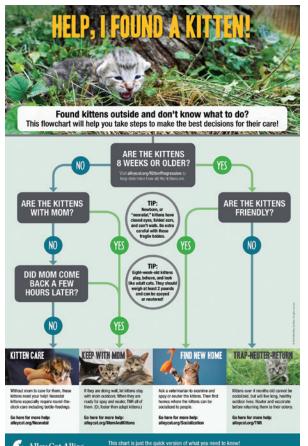


Above: These abandoned day-or-two-old kittens, including two boys and two girls, were found by the Commonwealth Garden Saturday and were safely transported to the Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County. There, they were fed by syringe and evaluated by Suzanne, the Animal Care supervisor above, right, and placed into foster care with experienced bottle-feeding community members within two hours. The team is hopeful for their health and growth and hope to have good updates to share soon. This reporter would like to suggest the following names once they're ready to adopt: Tom, Zuke, Spring and Sprout - due to their garden beginning.



Kitten Season Arrives

Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County finds fosters for abandoned Willits kittens; has felines of all ages at the shelter now who are ready for adoption into new loving homes



Spring is in the air – and so are kittens! The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County is gearing up to help handle the influx of felines in the coming months. However, the shelter is already at capacity for animals with 72 cats and 66 dogs

Maureen Jennison Graphics & Photographress willitsweekly@gmail.com

in care as of Saturday afternoon. The ability of the shelter to take on more animals relies heavily on the community of foster, adoption and

support families to help share the responsibility of caring for these animals.

Two of just those foster families helped out big time over the weekend when four neonatal kittens (those under 4 weeks old) were found cold, hungry, and in need of help at the Commonwealth Garden.

"Thankfully, we were able to get the kittens, which were only maybe a day or two old, down to the shelter, evaluated by our Animal Care Supervisor Suzanne Coffman, and fed with a syringe to help give them much-needed nutrition," said Jenny Hanzlik, HSIMC shelter director. "We got them in an incubator to stay warm as they were pretty cold. They still had their umbilical cords attached so they were still just brand-new."

The four kittens were split into two groups of two and placed within two hours with experienced bottle-feeding caregivers, as bottle raising can be a lot of work, even for just one kitten.

> Read the rest of **HSIMC**

Over on page 9

Special Feline Friends Spotlight from the Humane Society staff



Meet Emmy, a 3-year-old female currently available for adoption. She is good with living indoors and outdoors, likes to play, loves catnip and treats, and has lived with dogs.

"Emmy likes to be where you are and have a home to herself with no other cats. She does very well with dogs, however. She has LOTS of energy and would enjoy a home where she can go in and out as she pleases, and would control too!"



Meet Bagheera, a 3-year-old male currently available for adoption. He requires an indoor-only lifestyle, a special diet, and he's lived with cats. His adoption fee is fully sponsored!

"Bagheera (nicknamed 'Baggie') follow you around, but would prefer to is the most special of cats. He has big honking thumbs and a winning personality. He is all about the easy things in life and enjoys being pampered. This dude would love and grumpy face, she is actually one nothing more than a quiet home to probably provide you with free rodent spend his days with his favorite people and bird watching in his spare time."



Meet Marlene, a 9-year-old female currently available for adoption. She requires living indoors only, has been a long-term resident of the shelter, loves catnip and treats, and has lived with dogs and other cats, too.

"Marlene wants nothing more than to come home with you, get your attention (and food) because she is just that sweet. Don't mind her yelling of the nicest cats you can meet. (Don't forget to give her butt scratches, those are her favorite!)"

Council discusses new vendor ordinance

B.B. Kamoroff willitsweekly@gmail.com

A proposal for a new Willits mobile and sidewalk vending ordinance, a challenging project that has been in the planning stage for months, came back for discussion at the March 12 city council meeting. After a long and complex hearing, it appears that creating a new ordinance is still going to be challenging.

current ordinance, part of it dating back nearly 100 years (1929!) restricts "peddlers" from operating on Main Street or Commercial Street or any side street within one block of these streets. The ordinance also restricts how often vendors can set up over the course of a year. The problem, according to city attorney Jim Lance, is that the ordinance is "out of compliance" with state

There are actually two different state laws, one for mobile vendors (vehicles and trailers) and another for sidewalk vendors, and the two laws are very different. For sidewalk vendors, the state prohibits cities from regulating these vendors

Read the rest of Vendor

Over on Page 11

Supervisors to meet in Willits **April 8**

Jennifer Poole Editor & Reporter willitsweekly@gmail.com

The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors is going "on the road" for their Tuesday, April 8 regular meeting, which will take place at the county Museum on East Commercial Street in Willits.

The meeting starts at am in the museum's Wonacott Room, as per BOS Chair and Third District Supervisor John Haschak.

The agenda for this meeting is not out yet, but it's an opportunity for Willits area residents to make their voices heard in person to the county board about local issues - even just in a public comment.

Supervisor Haschak reports there will be a presentation by Museum Administrator Karen Mattson about the Mendocino County Museum; a budget workshop "so if people have ideas on county services they can speak up"; and possibly, he said, "the cannabis density/ cultivation square footage limit issue" will be back in front of the board on April 8.

Read the rest of BOS

Over on Page 4

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

The Cubbison Affair

To the Editor:

What has become known as the "Cubbison Affair" is not only another blow to the already sullied reputation of Mendocino County, it is an indictment of the corrupt administration of District Attorney David Eyster.

Before the Cubbison Affair, Eyster had already developed a reputation of being a bully. A few years ago when I was on jury duty, I witnessed this for myself when Eyster, acting as the lead prosecutor in a criminal case, browbeat a prospective juror over his honest answers to the questions asked of him. Mind you, this was not a hostile witness, but a prospective juror doing his duty as an American citizen.

Eyster's transparent attempt to bully the county's auditor-controller, Chamise Cubbison, into resigning her position because she had the audacity to question the DA's spending of public funds on lavish parties for his

staff, is an unmitigated abuse of power. When Cubbison refused to resign upon Eyster's threat of a bogus criminal indictment, Eyster then wasted likely over \$100,000 of taxpayer money pursuing the indictment that was just recently laughed out of court by District Court Judge Ann Moorman. As an elected official, Eyster cannot be fired, the only remedy for the residents of Mendocino County is a recall election. Throw the bum out!

The Mendocino County Board of Superiors is not without fault in the Cubbison Affair, as they put her on administrative leave without pay, without even giving her an opportunity to respond to Eyster's charges. This is a gross deprivation of due process by the county's top officials for which the county is now being sued by Cubbison and which will likely cost the county additional tens of thousands of dollars in damages. The level of incompetence of Mendocino County's governing board

Jon Spitz, Laytonville

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

Senior Center menu for the week

Willits Senior Center is serving lunch in its indoor dining room, Monday through Friday, from 11:45 am to 1 pm. Drivethrough lunches are available from 12 to 12:45 pm, outside the Senior Center, 1501

Thursday. March 27: Lasagna w/Meat Sauce. Garlic Bread Friday, March 28: Turkey, Stuffing, Gravy, Cranberry,

Monday, March 31: Pork Burrito Wet w/Green Sauce

Tuesday, April 1: Open Faced Turkey Sandwich, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Veggies, Roll

Wednesday, April 2: Southern Fried Catfish, Rice Pilaf.

Thursday, April 3: Chicken Salad Sandwich, Mac Salad,

Friday, April 4: Fish Tacos, Rice and Beans

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

Meals on Wheels: The Senior Center Meals on Wheels program delivers lunch Monday through Friday. To sign up call Joliana at 459-6826, who can help fill out the application form. Call 459-6826 the day before needed to schedule home meal delivery. Delivered throughout Willits.

Transportation for seniors: Call 459-5556 to schedule. Pick up and drop off for grocery shopping, banking, doctors' appointments. Senior Center Thrift Shop: 459-2176

The Senior Center is in need of volunteers to help with the many activities here at the center, including volunteer Meals on Wheels drivers. "Volunteers are one-third of our workforce. which allows us to offer many services to our members and community." To learn more about volunteering: 459-6826.

offer 3.000 free trees

PG&E. Arbor Day Foundation to

and Electric Company is providing 3,000 free trees to eligible customers across its service area in Northern and Central California as part of its effort to keep communities safe by planting the right tree in the right place. The initiative, funded through PG&E's Energy-Savings Trees program, started March 12.

"Planting trees in our communities offers many longterm benefits, including cleaner air and a reduced carbonfootprint. Our partnership with Arbor Day Foundation is a great opportunity for eligible customers in the North Coast to sign up for a free California tree to plant where they live or work. We encourage customers to participate - and to keep their community safe by planting their tree in the right place," said Dave Canny, vice president for PG&E's North Coast Region.

PG&E is partnering with Arbor Day Foundation to identify distribution locations for California trees and provide safety tips on the best places to (NYSE:PCG), is a combined plant them. Eligible customers natural gas and electric tree at www.arborday.org/pge million people across 70,000 by inserting their address. square miles in Northern and customer's address six weeks information, visit pge.com and after the order date. Each pge.com/news

Santa Rosa - Pacific Gas household can reserve up to one tree from the following options while supplies last:

- Japanese Red Maple
- Redbud Flowering Dogwood
- Kousa Dogwood
- Japanese Snowbell
- Tuliptree

Any tree or plant that poses a risk to our equipment must be removed for safety. Planting trees a safe distance away from PG&E equipment can help lower the risk of removal.

www.pge.com/en/ outages-and-safety/safety/ yard-safety.html for PG&E's "Right Tree, Right Place" resources which provide guidelines on tree planting to ensure a safe distance from overhead or underground electric or gas lines.

For more information from the Arbor Day Foundation, visit www.arborday.org/trees

Pacific Gas and Electric a subsidiary PG&E Corporation can sign up and reserve a utility serving more than 16 Trees will be delivered to the Central California. For more

PG&E to offer \$43 million for 'community microgrids'

Submitted by PG&E

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) this week announced its intent to award up to \$43 million in Microgrid Incentive Program) grant funding for the development of nine new community-driven microgrids throughout its Northern and Central California service area. PG&E today also announced the opening of the application window for the second wave of MIP grant funding beginning April 3.

To apply for the second application window, interested parties must submit MIP project ideas to PG&E by May 30, 2025, through an email to communitymicrogrids@pge.com.

The Microgrid Incentive Program funds the development of community microgrids to support disadvantaged communities most vulnerable to outages.

A microgrid consists of a group of interconnected customers and distributed energy resource(s) that can disconnect from and reconnect to the grid to stay energized during an outage.

Community microgrids are typically designed to serve a variety of vulnerable customers and key community resources such as hospitals, police and fire stations, schools, water treatment and telecommunications facilities, gas stations, markets, and residences, among others.

"The North Coast is home to several ground-breaking microgrids that benefit customers in the region, including the Redwood Coast Airport and Blue Lake Rancheria microgrids in Humboldt County," said Dave Canny, vice president for PG&E's North Coast Region. "These microgrids have now been active for several years providing resilience and low-carbon energy to some of our most vulnerable communities. PG&E was an early collaborator on these microgrids, and we're proud to continue supporting the expansion of community microgrids to additional North Coast communities through this significant award."

PG&E received approximately 50 inquiries from tribal governments, local governments, and community-based organizations since launching its MIP in late 2023.

Of these, 22 project inquiries advanced through initial program screening requirements and technical consultations with PG&E to submit applications. Each of those 22 projects received an application development grant of \$25,000 to offset community investments in developing successful project

PG&E subsequently selected nine projects following a rigorous evaluation and scoring process. PG&E's project scoring framework evaluated customer and community attributes, resilience benefits, and environmental benefits along with the requested incentive amounts to determine the projects with the highest benefit-to-cost ratio.

The microgrids selected in the first wave of MIP Read the rest of funding are located throughout PG&E's North

Microgrids

Over on page 11

The Rules: LETTERS

Letters & Commentaries: Email letters to willitsweekly@gmail.com. Willits Weekly prints letters and commentaries about Willits and Third District issues, activities, events, and people. We print letters to the editor from residents of Willits and the Third District only. To encourage a variety of voices, Willits Weekly limits letter publication from any one writer to once every four weeks.

Letters and commentaries must be submitted with a name, address and phone number, although only the author's name and city of residence will be published. Deadline is end of day Monday for each Thursday edition. No letters from an anonymous source will be published, although a request to withhold the writer's name will be



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Ad inquiries: call 707-972-7047 or email willitsweekly@gmail.com

Little Lake Valley rainfall totals (inches) rainfall since Mar 17 Mar 23 location Mar 18 Mar 19 Mar 20 Mar 21 Mar 22 total 01Oct24 Northbrook Way 0.91 0.01 0.56 0.01 0.06 0.07 74.63 ooktrails Dr @ Sherwood Rd 0.86 0.00 0.00 0.01 Canyon Rd 0.01 0.02 0.02 South Main @ East Oak 0.00 0.55 0.00 0.03 0.43 0.00 0.03 0.03 59.93 0.76 0.00

California Nevada River Forecast Center

Mar 24 Mar 26 Mar 27 Mar 28 Mar 29 Mar 25 0.00 0.1 - 0.25 0.5 - 1.0 0.1 - 0.25 0.1 - 0.25 0.00

Rain

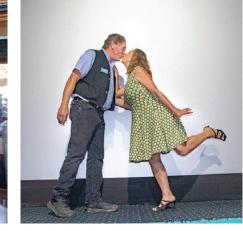
https://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/precipForecast.php?cwa=EKA&imgNum=1&mobile=0

data compiled from weatherunderground (https://www.wunderground.com)

Thanks to Tim Hanna for his Rain Box covering Monday, March 17 through Sunday, March 23. His commentary on the weather week: "After two moderate rain-producing systems came through early in the week, things dried out, but not up. Weak systems produced very light precipitation on Friday and Saturday, bringing the weekly total to just above what had been predicted. After starting this week with warm, sunny days, expect things to cool down and light rainfall to return by mid-week."

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Mathew

Comedy Night Comedians keep the audience in stitches at sold-out Noyo Theatre live show

films. "The easiest answer for sure is the

competition from cable." mused Devine.

"Unfortunately, I think it's bigger than that.

People have really become accustomed to

their worlds, and going to movies requires

sharing space with other people. There's

since COVID. It's hard for us to even want

to engage in that type of public square

"It's so comfortable at home, exactly the

way we like our environment. There are

a hundred reasons for not wanting to get

engaged with the community in that way.

"I get it," said Devine, "but this is the

optimism that kind of gets me up every

day. This experience [movies] survived

for a hundred years. During the Great

Recession, it seemed like nobody was

going to want to spend money, buy tickets,

and go to the movies. The invention of

television could have been the end of

going to the movies. If that didn't do it, the

invention of VHS, where you could watch a

movie whenever you want to. Now there's

"But somehow the experience of going

to the movies transcends just watching the

material. Even if you don't walk out of the

theater and talk with someone about the

film, it still feels like you shared something.

That shared experience starts with cinema

With that in mind, Devine has been

inventive with the use of the theater

spaces, bringing in a recent documentary

series, "Little Lake Valley Wild Horizons,"

for a month of stimulating and informative

topical films, all of which have brought

in varying audiences, depending on the

subject matter. Most of the films, like

"Sally!," "Baduwa't," and "Porcelain War,"

are pointed and poignant, and are worthy

Look forward to more comedy shows,

documentaries, bands, and other non-

traditional movie theater entertainment as

Devine attempts to find a formula which

will bring the crowds back to this historic

theater, which will be celebrating its 80th

birthday on May 4, which is also Devine's

birthday. From the original showing of "The

Dark Command" in 1945, to the latest

studio releases, the Noyo Theatre has

been a stalwart of the community, a deco

building which has stood the test of time,

providing Willits with quality entertainment

The Noyo Theatre, located at 57 East

Commercial Street, can be reached at

459-6660. Show times can be found at

www.noyotheater.com. Check out their

Facebook page, "Noyo Theatre" to keep

of hours of discussion.

streaming.

People want to curate their world exactly.

The laughs came often and joyously to in movie-going crowds for most of the the 200-plus crowd at the Noyo Theatre last Friday night. The show, produced by Total Bern Productions in conjunction with the theater, featured four comedians, some from the Los Angeles circuit, professionals who knew how to connect with the people of Willits, even those like Cody Smit who lambasted everything Willits for its small-

The show, rated 18 and older for several raunchy, but hilarious, references to sex and body functions,

Mathew Caine seemed to resonate with the audience. willitsweekly@gmail.com versions of the North Coast Comedy shows

were a stunning success, so much so that Willits can look forward to more in the First on stage was Jon Lehre, the host

of the show, who performs all over the North Bay Area. Lehre set the mood for the other three acts to come with his musings on marriage and the fact that no one was drinking in the audience, "This is the way God intended comedy," he said, "with Red Vines and popcorn.' Next up was redhead Addison Krider

from Los Angeles. Her cute looks belied her raunchy R-rated humor. "I live in fiery, I mean sunny, Los Angeles," she exclaimed, prior to diving into tales of her dating life, substance use, and other subjects not mentioned in polite company.

Cody Smit railed about having nothing to do in Willits, other than look at the brand-new firehouse. His jokes tended to hilariously self-effacing humor and his "ginger" appearance.

The headliner, Raul Trujillo, has been seen on "The Late Show" with Stephen Colbert, as well as many venues in Los Angeles and has been noted to be one of the 10 comedians to watch out for by Variety Magazine. His jokes were related from a Hispanic perspective, which were appreciated by many in the audience.

The show was the final of a series of three North Coast Comedy nights. However, new owners Jim Devine and his wife. Michelle Hutchins, have several plans to bring in more innovative entertainment to the venue.

"It was super fun to see 200 people in here," said Devine. "It's rare, but it's three comedy shows that have done that well since I've been here. There have been a couple of movies that have brought in crowds: 'Deadpool & Wolverine' (I hate that it speaks so precisely to our American culture right now), it really packed them in for days. 'Moana 2' did well. It was kind of unexpected and we couldn't keep candy in the house.'

However, it has been difficult to bring abreast of live shows and more.

We want to hear from you! Join a community workshop to share your experience with housing and transportation in Willits:

through the years.

5:30-7:30pm LOCATION: LOCATION: Willits City Hall 111 E Commercial St RSVP to receive a Zoom link: Food will be provided! All ages are welcome

Monday, March 31st

Haehl Creek Village is bringing more affordable housing to Willits (located at 275 Margie Drive). We want your feedback on what public transit, bicycle, and pedestrian impro

/irtual Meeting

12:00-1:00pm

Wednesday, April 2nd

Virtual Zoom Meeting



Please email question

or accommodations to: ematsumoto@rchdc.or

HOSTED BY:

At top, from left: Jim Devine offers concessions and goodies to munch while watching the films. Jim Devine and Michelle Hutchins enjoy a tender moment in front of the screen in the big theater. Headliner Saul Trujillo keeps the crowd in stitches during more than a little bit of germ consciousness his extended set of selfeffacing and topical humor. Above, from left: Addison

Krider, from Los Angeles, tells jokes about the fires in Los Angeles, her appearance, and other subjects. Cody Smit jokes about Willits, his wife, and other subjects that keep the crowd laughing. Trujillo treats the audience to a long set of jokes and ethnocentric

Jon Lehre, and comedian Addison Krider greet the crowd after the show.



Headliner Saul Trujillo, host



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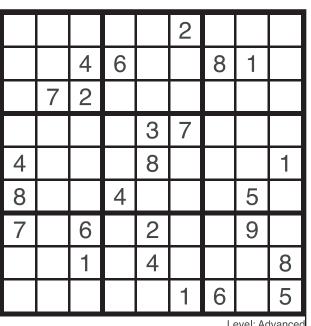
FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

NEW HOURS 8 am - 6 pm

9 am - 5 pm

Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword



AILUROPHOBIA

CALICO

CAT

CATNIP

CLOWDER

DEWCLAW

CLUES ACROSS

10. Corpuscle count

11. Supervised release

15. __ Sagan, astronomer

from prison

India

4. Pashto

(abbr.)

12. Greeting

14. Type of drug

16. Every year

18. Nasal cavities

22. Nova ___, province

23. In an inactive way

24. Cream-colored root

26. Nervous system

27. Guitarist Clapton

Baby Jesus

31. Play a role

34. Not fresh

37. Negatives

39. Wild goat

41. Makes up

28. Three came to see

30. Lebowski's nickname

36. Where golfers begin

40. Releasing hormone

disease

1. State in southwestern

DIGITIGRADE

DOMESTIC

FELINE

FERAL

HAIRBALL

JOWLS

42. Fastens

48. Exists in large

numbers

51. A phase of the

heartbeat

or chieftain

55. Commercial

56. Azure

52. Northern Ireland

53. An independent ruler

54. Pacific sea bream

58. Doctor of Education

60. Car mechanics group

59. Protected oneself

against loss

CLUES DOWN

1. Pastes for filling

crevices

2. Acquire

3. Heralds

4. News group

5. Exact copies

7. Noted 20th C.

performer Lena

9. Midway between

6. Particles

8. Tempted

Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047

50. A connecting word

KITTEN

KNEAD

MEOW

NEUTER

PAPILLAE

PURR

58

60

north and east

13. South American

hummingbird

19. Walk with confidence

20. Omit when speaking

25. A bakery specializing

in French pastry

31. Ethnic group of Nigeria

32. Longtime NY Times

43. Popular drink: Pina _

44. Potential benefits

45. A place you can

get stuck in

47. Chalcedony

49. Rover

56. Digraph

46. Ancient Greek City

57. Investment vehicle

Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com

29. Talk incessantly

film critic

35. Makes a trade

41. Not moving

33. Beginners

38. Sleep

21. Imperial Chinese

currency

plate

17. Neither

12. Slotted, hinged metal

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 intersection of South Main Street and California Street and issued a citation.

7-day period.

March 17

March 18 7:33 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued

Summary of Active Investigations

and Arrests

9:02 am: Officers initiated a burglary

investigation in the 1600 block of South

7:30 pm: Officers conducted a stop near

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT

POLICE LOG

March 17 to March 23

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

Department reported **60 incidents** in this South Main Street and issued a warning.

The officers of the Willits Police of illegal camping in the 1400 block of

South Main Street.

March 21

March 22

March 23

Alder Court.

issued a warning.

10:58 pm: Officers conducted a stop

near the intersection of Walnut Street and

4:17 pm: Officers conducted a stop near

the intersection of South Main Street and

4:25 pm: Officers responded to a report

of illegal camping in the 23000 block of

North Highway 101 and issued a warning.

7:17 pm: Officers responded to a report

1:44 am: Officers responded to a

7:41 am: Officers initiated a hit-and-run

vehicle collision investigation near the

intersection of Baechtel Road and East Hill

1:54 pm: ORNBAUN, Sherri Lou (70) of

Willits was contacted in the 100 block of

Alder Court. She was arrested on felony

charges of resisting or threatening an

officer and on misdemeanor charges of

2:10 pm: Officers responded to a report

5:16 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the

6:25 pm: Officers responded to a report

9:57 pm: Officers conducted a stop in

10:08 pm: KUBAS, Michael Dennis (45)

of Willits was contacted in the 1700 block

of South Main Street. He was arrested on

felony charges of domestic battery and on

misdemeanor charges of being under the

influence of a controlled substance.

the 1200 block of South Main Street and

of suspicious activity in the 100 block of

800 block of South Main Street and issued

of suspicious activity in the 1400 block of

battery with serious bodily injury.

disturbance in the 200 block of Margie

of vandalism in the 300 block of Redwood

Avenue and issued a warning.

Baechtel Road and issued a warning.

9:45 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 24000 block of Sherwood Road and issued 10:01 pm: Officers conducted a stop in

the 100 block of South Main Street and

March 19

issued a warning.

6:26 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of McKinley Street and West Valley Street and issued a warning.

6:32 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of West Commercial Street and issued a warning.

SPAY

STRAY

STROPPING

TABBY

TONGUE

WHISKER

12:14 am: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Alder Lane and Alder Court and issued a warning.

12:19 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 1400 block of Main Street and issued

12:30 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 1200 block of Blosser Lane and issued

2:03 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 400 block of East Commercial Street.

4:27 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 1200 block of South Main Street.

7:14 pm: Officers responded to a report

The rest of BOS

From page 1

Full BOS agendas are posted the Corporation are hosting a community Thursday before the Tuesday meetings at workshop on housing and transportation

Third District Town Halls

Supervisor Haschak has also scheduled a couple of Third District Supervisor Town Halls in April. In Willits, the town hall is set for Monday, April 14, from 3 to 4:30 pm at the Willits Fire Station 54 Training Room, 74 East Commercial Street.

In Laytonville, Haschak's town hall is set for Tuesday, April 15 from 6 to 7:30 pm at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue.

Housing and Transportation workshop

The City of Willits and Housing and the Rural Communities Housing Development

https://mendocino.legistar.com/Calendar. in Willits on Monday, March 31 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at Willits City Hall, 111 East Commercial Street "We want to hear from you! Haehl Creek

Village is bringing more affordable housing to Willits (located at 275 Margie Drive), We want your feedback on what public transit, bicycle, and pedestrian improvements to bring to the area. Join us to learn more about Haehl Creek Village and share your

Food will be provided; all ages are welcome.

A virtual meeting on the same topics is set for Wednesday, April 2 from 12 to 1 pm. RSVP to receive a Zoom link: https://bit.ly/

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs'

The Story: This is the photo-realistic remake of the most famous fairy tale in movie history. Princess Snow White (Rachel Zegler) is kind



SNOWWHITE.

Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

and cheerful and beautiful. Also, she is sad because her mother has died, and her kind father the King has disappeared, and her Evil Stepmother (Gal Gadot) the Queen rules the Kingdom.

Dan Essman

In addition, this most-famous-of-Evil Stepmothers talks to a Magic Mirror which tells her how she is the most beautiful woman in the world. But when Snow White grows up, the Magic Mirror claims that Snow White is "prettier." And maybe that's true. Though certainly Snow

White is way nicer ... and kinder. My Thoughts: I loved the movie. It had adorable animals all of whom crowded around Snow White and made much of her, including the histrionically chirping little

birds. The flick reincarnated the most famous poison apple in fairy tales. Also, I'm pleased to report the Seven Dwarfs sang "Heigh Ho" and "Whistle While We Work." As I write this review, the tune of "Heigh Ho" is in fact playing in my head. And that feels good. And that sums up my whole feeling about the flick: a remake worth remaking!

> Parents: Sure, bring the children. Even if you're a stepmother. Especially if you are a stepmother, because it's time we all unite and bust the Evil Stepmother paradigm!

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

> > Willits Weekly | March 27, 2025

Thursday, March 27

Cannabis Sector Meeting in Willits: The Mendocino Cannabis Department, on behalf of the County of Mendocino Economic Development Division, hosts a Cannabis Sector Meeting . Thursday, March 27 from 10 am to 12:30 pm at Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. "This meeting is meant to foster a focused discussion on identifying current and future opportunities, challenges, and priorities for the cannabis sector in Mendocino County. The goal is to create collaboration and actionable projects that will support the economic sustainability of

the cannabis industry within the county." 'A Bit and a Bite' at the Museum:

Friends of Mendocino County Museum present Author and local Historian Katy Tahja, who will share her experience researching and writing books about local history." Join us for light refreshments, history conversation, learn about volunteer opportunities

Thursday, March 27 at 12:30 pm. 400 East Commercial Street. More info: at www.mendocinocounty.gov/ museum, museum@mendocinocounty gov or 707-234-6365

MENDOCINO Museum

Willits Farmers Market: Join vour neighbors every Thursday from 3-5:30 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 391 School Street, for the freshest local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, hot dinner, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Every first Thursday of the month: April 3 this month, Meet the Library at the Farmers Market, 3 to 4:30 pm, with library card sign ups; information about library services and events and an activity for the kids to enjoy.

Friday, March 28

BGMS Spaghetti Dinner & Movie: Baechtel Grove PTO hosts, Friday, March 28, with Spaghetti, Salad, Bread dinner at 3:30 pm, and Movie at 7 pm. Tickets \$20 each or Family of 4 for \$60. Showing "Despicable Me 4." Event at BGMS cafeteria. For tickets, call 559-994-

Tyler Grass & The Madmen at Shanachie: This group of locals will be playing jam rock, and features Tyler Grass, Gustavo Athayde, Joe Madden and SeanDrum. Come on out and get down!. Friday, March 28 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Saturday, March 29

Celebrating Women in the Community: a special Women's History Month event at the Willits Library, Saturday, March 29, 2 to 4 pm. "We've invited successful entrepreneur women who make a meaning and move forward. difference in our town to celebrate and share their success stories." Willits Thursday, April 3 Library, 390 East Commercial Street.

Bunco Night for WECS: Come play an easy and fun dice game to raise funds for Willits Elementary Charter School on

Skunk Train Easter Express

Easter trains run from April 11 to April 20 out of the Willits Depot. "Step onto our vintage train for a 2-hour journey through Tunnel #2, taking in the blooming beauty of

spring as you travel deep into the heart of the redwoods." With the Easter Bunny, festive cookies, pink lemonade, and an egg hunt at the Crowley stop, with the Golden Egg earning a year's worth of train rides. To book your Easter Express tickets, , visit www. skunktrain.com/easter-express/

Saturday, March 29. Doors open 4:30, play starts 5 pm. Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street Prizes, food, drinks. \$20 to enter

Cosmic Family Band at Shanachie: The Cosmic Family Band is a local Mendocino County jam band sharing original music that is a reflection of being a part of this amazing community. "We're the Cosmic Family Band and so are you." Saturday, March 29 at 7 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Sunday, March 30

A-Bit-and-A-Bite

Spring L.O.V.E. Fest Vegan Potluck: Hosted by Laytonville's Organic Vegan Experience, Sunday, March 30 from 4

> to 6 pm. dining starts at 4:20 pm. at the Long Valley Garden Club, 475 Harwood Road, Laytonville. "Please bring a dish to share that contains no meat, dairy, eggs, gelatin, bone broth or honey, and label if containing gluten, nuts or

Tuesday, April 1 Raise Your Spiritual IQ: "An

Edge for Health: Every thought, word, or deed either purifies or pollutes the body." All are welcome to join the discussion sponsored by Eckankar, or just listen. Tuesday, April 1 from 2:30 to 3:30 pm at the Willits Library, 390 E. Commercial St. Questions? 707-367-

Wednesday. April 2

Twining Time at Brickhouse: John Anita Wagenet Blu perform on 2 at Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South

from 12 to 2 pm. Folk/Country/Mountain Americana Roots plus new and old favorites as well as original music, with 2 part polished vocal harmonies, acoustic guitar and keyboard. https://twiningtime.

to Wellness offers Grief Support Group, beginning Wednesday, 2, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm for eight consecutive weeks. Please call Suzanne to register: 707-456-

ATW Grief Support

Group: Avenues

9676. Space is limited. This facilitated eight-week group provides an opportunity to learn the symptoms of grief, as well as to recognize the individual nature of its expression and duration. With a fuller understanding of the grief process and effective ways to cope, we can find

Saturday, March 29t

Willits Farmers Market: Join your neighbors every Thursday 3-5:30 pm at the

Last weekend

for Library's

downtown

Storywalk

Proudly sponsoring the calendar section

www.visitwillits.com 299 East Commercial Street | Willits, CA | 707.459.7910 Lake Grange.

391 School Street, for the freshest local produce. local meat, farm fresh

eggs, hot dinner, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

Friday, April 4

Art Under 20 at WCA: presents the annual Art Under 20 exhibit, with an opening reception for the artists Friday, April 4 from 3 to 7 pm. This

year's show is dedicated to Kathleen Kirkpatrick, WHS Emerita. Artists from Willits High School, Willits Charter School and Potter Valley High School will show their works including drawings, paintings, mixed media artworks, woodworking and metal. Also, alumni

> artists: Velvet Bandit, Danza Davis, Issac Frankel, Maya Joy Griffin, Diza Hope, Crystal Kamoroff, Anne McGratten, Ellie Miller, Holly Madrigal, Malakai Shindel, Martin Wattenburger, Meghan White and Noel Woodhouse. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Exhibit runs through April 27. Gallery Hours: Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays

Donnie & Friends at Shanachie: featuring local harmonica (aka Mississippi Saxophone) player Donnie, joined by local friends and fellow musicians, possibly including Gary Bouley, Jeff Martin, Rasta Sean and Tom G. among others, playing an improvisational variety of Chicago style Blues, Rock, Funk, Latin & West African music. Friday, April 4 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

from 11 am to 5 pm.

Saturday, April 5

Photos with the Easter Bunny and his Live, Furry Friends: Come on down on Saturday, April 5 from 12 to 4 pm to J.D. Redhouse in Willits and have your photo taken with the Easter Bunny, and snuggle with his live, furry friends, too! Digital images are available for \$5 each and will be available to download from the online site: https://photographress. zenfolio.com/easterbunnyphotos. There's no appointments, just stop by and get in line! More info: 707-972-7047 or email maureengetsmail@gmail.com



present a benefit dance on Saturday, April 5 from 6 to 10:30 pm, featuring DJs Big Jim Snidow (KLLG Roots Hour) and Larry Hacken from KZYX (Heavyweight Sound) spinning tunes to keep you moving. Jamaican food, wine, beer, and rum punch are on the menu. All ages welcome. Little Lake Grange, 391 School Street. Silent

DVDs, Flags, Books, Ethiopian medals

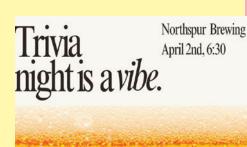
Laytonville Spring Fling: Laytonville Long

Valley Lioness Club presents the 3rd annual Spring Fling, featuring live epic blues from Blue Luke and Indiana Slim Blues Band. Saturday, April 5 at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville. A benefit for Laytonville High School students. \$20 adults; \$10 kids:

doors open 7 pm; show starts at 8 pm. Cajun Dinner with Gumbo or Shrimp Etoufee by Sno 'Nuff and Dylan & Amanda Eichler, \$15 extra. Frey Wines, Silent auction, Wildfire Dancers, Tarot by Tara Bluecloud. available at Weathertop

Hilary and Christiane Shanachie: Sonoma County based multi-instrumental performance duo have

a wide range of material that is folk-based Country and Blues with unique vocals and harmony, and supported by an array of instruments: harmonica, ukulele, dobro, mandolin, and banjo. Saturday, April 5 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 Main Street



Y'art Sale **Donations Needed**

The WCA Y'art Sale is coming! Please consider donating your gently used art supplies to this fun event, to be held this year on May Discover the joy of reading 24 and 25. You can drop off your while getting a dose of donations at Willits Center for the exercise with the Willits Library's downtown Storywalk! Arts during our open hours, Fridays, Stroll through the heart of the city as you enjoy the delightful Saturdays. and Sundays between tale of "Mateo and his Red Cat," showcased in the windows 11am to 5pm. If you need help of local businesses. The walk begins at 2 South Main transporting your donations please Street. and continues south down Main Street. in Willits. send an email to margi@mcn.org. The Storywalk will continue through the month of March. Grab your family and friends for a fun-filled adventure that Be a part of your Art Center and this community-centered fundraiser!





Taqueria Bravo Flying Dog Pizza Cat's Meow Moon Lady, Moon Man Buttercup **Monkey Wrench** Noyo Theater The Book Juggler Toy Depot



MENDOCINO Library

Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490





brings stories to life Click the link for a Storywalk map:



Sober Grad Tri-Tip Dinner, April 11 Submitted by Willits Sober Grad

Please support Sober Grad's biggest fundraiser: It's time for the BEST tri-tip dinner of the year!! Sober Grad Tri-Tip Dinner pickup is set for Friday, April 11, from 4 to 6 pm, at the Willits High School Ag Farm (behind the high school, 299 North Main Street).

Dinner – a complete meal for 4 – includes Marinated & Grilled Tri Tip, Baked Potatoes, Green Salad, Dinner Rolls, Cookies, and a Beautiful Rose donated by Flowers by Annette.

Tickets are \$65 for the dinner for 4, and are pre-sale only. Tickets are available at 101 Trailer & RV Supply and Monkey Wrench Men & Womens Wear. You can also get your ticket by calling Karen Thiel, WHS, 707-459-7700. ext. 1504 or Carrie Lambert. Willits Sober Grad. 707-671-6173.

Willits Sober Grad is a profit organization that works each year from PRE-SALE ONLY \$65 TICKET September through June to raise funds which are used to put on a safe, sober party for the graduating Seniors of the Willits Community Schools on Graduation Night. These schools include: Willits Charter School, Willits High School, Sanhedrin High School, LaVida Charter School. Since its inception in 1986, no High School Senior has died on Graduation Night.

Congrats | River is 11

It's hard to think of words that rhyme with eleven, Except for 'seven', or angel in 'heaven'. With a panda, a platypus, and a nice kangaroo, River just turned ELEVEN woohoo!! Happy Birthday River!

Love, Mom, Dad, Alaska and the pets



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Willits, California 95490

Art Under 20

as part of her senior project. Below, from left: WHS Senior Alison Southard carries a bag WHS students and alumni full of trash. Southard picked up miscellaneous show their work in April items at Brooktrails intersections and along at the Art Center streets as part of her

WILLITS SOBER GRAD

Tri-Tip Dinner

Willits Community Schools of Graduation Night. These schools include: Willits Chart School, Willits High School Sanhedrin High School, LaVi Charter School. Since it's inception in 1986, no High School Senior has died on

At right: WHS Senior

Alison Southard shows

off a truckbed stuffed

high with garbage she

WHS senior project.

Southard cleans up

unsightly plastic trash.

cleaned up in Brooktrails

FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH

4-6 PM, WHS AG FARM

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT

101 TRAILER & RV

MONKEY WRENCH

Complete meal for 4!

Marinated & Grilled Tri-Tip, Bake

Cookies, and a Beautiful Rose

The Willits High School Art Department is proud to present the 26th annual Art Under Twenty Student and Alumni art exhibition at the Willits Center for Art under 20

Please join us for the opening reception Friday, April 4, from 3 to 7 pm.

We plan to welcome the following artists who have agreed to show their work. Velvet Bandit; Danza Davis; Issac Frankel; Alyssa Fraser; Maya Joy Griffin; Diza Hope; Crystal Kamoroff (tentative); Ann McGratten; Ellie Miller; Holly Madrigal; Malakai Shindel; Martin Wattenburger; Meghan White.

The show will be dedicated to the magnificent Kathleen Kirkpatrick, WHS Emerita. We thought it would be lovely to honor Kathleen who has recently passed by inviting her former students to show their work. Kathleen was a remarkable force of nature who passionately taught visual arts at WHS for 25 years!

She started the Art Under Twenty exhibit in 2000. She searched for a place where her students could show their work, but nothing was quite right until the Willits Center for the Arts opened and

true, and now we're about to celebrate our 26th year. The opening reception is set for Friday, April 4, from 3 to 7 pm. You will have a chance to meet the artists, see their work, and have refreshments. For any questions, please

serendipitously AU20 was born. Kathleen's dream came





WHS senior cleans up in Brooktrails for her senior project

"A huge shout out to Willits High School Senior Alison who chose trash pick-up in Brooktrails for community service hours as part of her Senior Project. She definitely made a difference in our community," read one recent post about Alison Southard's senior project on the Brooktrails Community page on Facebook.

"The lot on Daphne that was Mr. Bear's white plastic bag dump looks amazing," the poster reported. "Plus on Sherwood across the street from Birch. She picked up car fender and trash; looks so much better! Thank you Alison!'

Alison recently spent over seven hours picking up trash in Brooktrails intersections and side streets, as part of her community service hours for her senior project. "She worked relentlessly with focus and determination," reported one admirer, "picking up auto parts, diapers and many difficult items - no matter how cold, wet or windy the



Below, from left: General Manager Franklin Rockwell of Slam Dunk Pizza in Willits accepts the third-place award for Slam Dunk's Roasted Tomato Basil Soup. Representing Mariposa Market, Joelle McDougall accepts two awards from Willits Daily Bread's Cynthia Savage, one award for Best Soup - a Beef Tomato and Ginger Curry made by Mariposa's Gigi Jergenson. Mariposa also won the award for Best Decorated Table. Chef Adam Celaya accepts a second-place award for his Clam Chowder from Willits Daily Bread's



Sip Some Soup 2025 winners

Submitted by Willits Daily Bread

Ladies, Take Charge

Join us for PAP-A-PALOOZA

at Care For Her, Hillside, and protect yourself against

Early detection can save lives — don't wait! Take advantage of these

NEXT EVENT DATE: Saturday, April 12th. We will have the Saturday

cervical cancer with a Pap test!

special events and make your health a priority.

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clinic the second Saturday of each month for PAPs.

Call now to schedule your appointment and protect

yourself today. Together, we can fight cervical cancer!

of Your Health!

Willits Daily Bread's Cynthia Savage sent the 2025 winners of Sip Some Soup fundraising and fun-raising – event. "It was a huge success," Savage said. "Everyone had a great time, and we made over \$5,000."

Mariposa Market won first place for their Beef Roasted Tomato Basil Soup.

Tomato and Ginger Curry made by the market's Gigi Jergenson. Mariposa also won the award for "Best Decorated Table."

Second place went to Chef Adam Celaya for his tasty Clam Chowder.

Slam Dunk Pizza won third place for their

Sip Some Soup 2025 "was a huge success," Savage added, "because of all the people in the community that showed up to support our mission to feed and shelter the people in need in our community."

Savage also noted the bread from Emandal which "was so delicious," and added that Reza's Bread sold out. "The desserts from Slam Dunk Pizza and the Community Foundation of Mendocino County were a hit," Savage said.







Above, from left: Sunflowers start well in early spring. I have had good luck starting them in between kale plants. The kale sheltered the seedlings from wind, and then the sunflowers sheltered the kale from summer sun later on. Don't forget to plant a few at a time, about 2 weeks apart, so you have flowers all summer. If you have carrots left in your garden beds, be sure to pull them now, while they are at their sweetest from the cold weather. Once they bolt, they will be woody. If the gophers have left you any, eat them now. Orach is an unusual vegetable that can be harvested like spinach all summer. The glowing colors and slightly salty flavor add interest to salads. Photo by Karen Morton. Below, from left: Mustards come in various shapes and colors, and are well-adapted to cold spring soils. You can spread compost on the ground, seed mustard into it, and harvest the entire bed in a little over a month. The leaves freeze or dry easily and produce a lot of food. Calendula seeds need to sprout in cold soil, so the month of April is the perfect time to plant them. They are edible, medicinal, and a favorite of bees. Peas are among the first things to plant. Their ancestors grew on beaches, so give them a light soil that's easy on their roots. A dusting of wood ashes or ime and some compost gives them a good start.







COLUMN | Garden Tip of the Month

March: Watching, waiting, and dancing with the seasons

warm days, it's easy to feel rushed about planting the garden. Don't. Our local oak trees leaf out when the soil temperature is perfect for planting lettuce, peas, carrots, etc. They aren't fooled

Jamie Chevalier by warm air temperatures, by day length, or by the calendar. Be like them and wait for the

soil to drain and warm.

Late May is the optimum time to transplant frostsensitive crops like tomatoes and peppers in Willits. So you still have time to start seedlings indoors, to make and spread compost, and to make plans. And there is also time before you plant your beds anew, to get more meals from what's already there.

Walking around and looking carefully at my beds today, I ended up with a number of unexpected harvests. Not only have kale and collards overwintered as expected, but I found cilantro, borage, arugula, chard, green onions, leaf celery, mustard greens, sorrel, tatsoi, turnip greens, mint, parsley, chives, chicory, winter pea shoots, and succulent flower stalks of several different brassicas. Not to mention overlooked beets and carrots from last year. Or the perennial herbs like sage, thyme, rosemary. Or the wild greens - there's enough miner's lettuce to make salads for dozens of people.

This is the time of year when perennial vegetables really shine. Because they already have a mature root system. perennials can send up sprouts bigger and faster than little seedlings can. Asparagus and rhubarb are classic spring perennials, but there are many more.

At Quail Seeds we've sought them out, and have almost 40 edible perennials ranging from staple crops like green onions, chard, and arugula to herby accent leaves like burnet and lovage. My newest discovery is Stridolo, an Italian green that is wonderful in omelets, risotto, soup, or stir-fry. It has a flavor like a cross between green peas and endive, and its waxy blue-green leaves stand up to rain and wind without getting tattered, gritty, or slug-eaten. The Stridolo I planted last summer has already put out 4 inches of new growth this spring, enough for several meals.

Usually, I would suggest doing soil preparation, but this vear, you need to use caution before you dig in, or walk on, garden soil. It's been a wet spring, and digging in wet soil

Now that we're past the equinox and have had a few can ruin your soil structure for years. Don't dig until your soil can pass this test: Make a ball of soil in your hand, then nudge it with a finger. If it's too gooey to crumble, it's too gooey to dig. It's too gooey to walk on as well - you don't want to squeeze out air that plant roots need.

Once your soil passes the crumble test, try pushing a piece of rebar into your garden bed. If rebar can't go down at least 6 to 8 inches, the soil's too hard for plant roots to grow freely. You should loosen the soil with a broadfork or garden fork (not a rototiller, which will loosen it temporarily only to make it more compacted once it settles). Adding compost is the best way to keep the soil aerated, fertilize your crops, and hold on to summer water – all at the same time.

If air temperatures are pretty warm and your soil is still too wet to plant, try these shortcuts to get some early harvests before your main crops: Spread compost, or a mixture of compost and used potting mix, on a garden bed and sow or transplant into that. The drier, fluffier compost or potting mix will let in more warm air, and be easier on plant roots. This works well for lettuce, Asian greens, mustard, spinach, peas, and other fast-growing spring crops.

Or you can plant into tubs filled with a light (but fertile) potting mix. I find that peas, lettuce, chard, and spinach do particularly well planted in tubs, and are easier to harvest and wash than those growing in the spring mud. Tomato cages make great supports for mid-size peas like Cascadia

And along with those earliest plantings of salads and veg, don't forget that pest-eating insects are arriving now. Make them welcome by planting flowers like alyssum and cornflower, by letting mustards, arugula, kale, and other crops bolt and flower, and by leaving small flowering weeds in some parts of your garden.

Bittercress, chickweed, miner's lettuce, veronica and henbit are all in bloom right now. The nectar from their tiny flowers gives gnat-like predatory wasps the fuel they need to hunt for aphids and caterpillars. Even a very small garden is a very wide and intricate world. A good gardener watches, waits, and dances with its rhythm.

Jamie Chevalier of Quail Seeds lives and gardens near Willits. Visit www.quailseeds.com for over 400 varieties of seed adapted to the Northern California climate, as well as extensive how-to information.









Above, from left: Stridolo is a little-known Italian green that is right at home in my Willits garden. This photo was taken March 20, and shows new growth perfect for harvest. Rucola, or perennial arugula, is another Italian vegetable that is tasty, perennial, and grows well in our climate. Blood Sorrel is a

at Sherwood School!

Looking for a unique, high-quality education in a supportive, family-like environment? Sherwood School is a small, rural, free public school that is part of the Willits Unified School District, located just 10 miles up Sherwood Road. Morning and afternoon bus service from town is available.

create a warm and engaging learning community. At learning, art, music, science, and exciting field trips.

Join our vibrant school family — where children are happy to learn and thrive!

contact Sherwood School at (707)984-6769 or visit our website at: https://www.willitsunified.com/o/sherwood

decorative and easy perennial with a lemony flavor that thrives with minimal care. It's perfect choice for containers, or for an ornamental edible planting in the front yard. This is Sugar Magnolia, a purple-podded sugar snap pea bred by Alan Kapular in Oregon. It is a sweet way to "eat the rainbow."

Frank Martin

Frank Martin, also known as Frank's Scrap and Frank's Firewood. passed away in the comfort of his home in Willits, California. He was born in Oroville, California on

March 8, 1952. Frank was a Native

American of the Maidu and ConCow descent.

He was a proud member of the Operating Engineers Local #3, where he ran heavy equipment for Siris and Argonaut Construction, and had 52 years experience under his belt.

Frank enjoyed cutting firewood, recycling scrap metal, rock fishing at the ocean, he was a NASCAR fan, a Dodge man, he enjoyed his garden, and had a happy finger for the casinos, Lol! He loved his Westerns, and John Wayne was his hero.

Frank touched a lot of peoples' lives and will be missed dearly and always loved. Awe Ho. There will be a dinner (or "shin-dig," as Frank called it) at



SPIRITUAL

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 dult Sunday School 8:30 a.m Info? 707-459-1905 www.agapebiblechurch.com

Amazing Grace Assembly of God Churcl

803 Coast Street P.O. Box 489, Willits Worship Service - 5:00 p.m Pastor Kris Strickland EVERYBODY IS WELCOME

Church of Christ

What must we do to be saved Acts 2:37 1095 S. Main St., Willits (next to Super 8) (707) 459-5023 unday Bible Study-10:00 a.m Sunday Worship-11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Service-6-7:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study-

7-8:00 p.m.

The Church of **Jesus Christ of** Latter-day Saints

265 Margie Drive Willits, ČA 95490 ALL ARE WELCOME Sacrament Meeting Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

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Grace Community Church

Celebrating Life In Christ 25 Hazel Street, Willits **Worship Service** 10 a.m. For appointments call: (707) 459-3106

st. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church

61 W. San Francisco Ave. Willits, CA 95490 Father Aaron Bandanadam Mass times: Wednesday-Friday 9:00 a.m. Saturday-5:30 p.m. Sunday-9:00 a.m. - English 10:30 a.m. - Spanish Confessions on Saturday

4:45 - 5:15 p.m. Or by appointmet at 707-459-2252 nttps://stanthonywillits.org

ntanthonywillits@gmail.com We welcome All Walks of Faith St. Francis

Episcopal Church l 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 Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m. 399 W. Mendocino Ave.

All are welcome!

Willits United Methodist Church Labyrinth and Peace Garder

A place to find comfort where all are welcome astor Jaime Rogers-Fairchil Sunday Worship at 10:30 am 286 School St. (at Pine) 707-459-2855 wumc@outlook.com www.willitsumc.org

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

acebook: facebook willits um

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Bereavement Support Group

This facilitated 8-week group provides an opportunity to learn the symptoms of grief, as well as to recognize the individual nature of its expression and duration. With a fuller understanding of the grief process and effective ways to cope, we can find meaning and move forward.

Beginning Wednesday, April 2 Time: 5:30-7:30pm To register call: Suzanne Picetti-Johnson (707) 456-9676



Susana Wilson and Suzanne Picetti-Johnson Group Facilitators

TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT, CALL:

(707) 468-1010

1-855-FOR-MCHC • mchcinc.org

Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047



Above: After 8:30 am, the Little Lake Grange dining room fills up quickly with diners and people wanting to socialize with friends. At right. Young Jocelyn Svendsen fills the orange juice glasses. At far right: The Little Lake Grange on School Street hosts monthly pancake breakfasts. Below: Two eggs, three pancakes, and two slices of bacon make up the hearty breakfast. At bottom, left: Richard Jergenson tests the griddle heat and the batter prior to beginning to cook the pancakes for the crowd. At bottom, right: The Grange Roof Fund is off to a slow start with \$6,600 of the needed \$400,000 raised to replace the aging roof with metal.







Randall Cantua, LUTCF

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Cantua Insurance Agency

786 Redwood Drive

Tel 707.459.3276

Tel 707.923.2179

Fax 707.923.9550

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rcantua@farmersagent.com

Garberville, CA 95542



At left: Michealle Havenhill and Mark P. Henrique are new customers to the Little Lake Grange pancake breakfasts. Above: There are several choices for the breakfast crowd, type of pancake, maple or regular syrup, fruit

JOIN US FOR LUNCH

10 Wood Street / Willits, CA

MONDAY - SATURDAY

11AM - 4PM

(707)459-1434

SCAN FOR FULL MENU

Pancakes with Friends

Little Lake Grange serves as a social hub and a place to eat a hearty breakfast on the fourth Sunday of each month

Grange has provided a monthly pancake breakfast for the people of Willits. It's not just a place to eat. The meal enables a place for the diners to get together, schmooze, or just see familiar faces. It is more of an event than just a meal.

Mathew Caine litsweekly@gmail.com

The workday begins very early in the morning, 5

am, for the 8 am public opening, with the grill and batter preparation, cracking eggs, bacon frying, and the setting up of the tables. Up to 30 volunteers work diligently to create a pleasant and jovial atmosphere in which old friends and new can enjoy a meal together.

"Today is our monthly pancake breakfast," explained Annie Waters, who along with Da Grand Pooba, acts as a host at the event. "It is the fourth Sunday of every month. January through October. We need a break between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

"We have it in this beautiful room," said Waters, motioning to the gathering hall. "I think it's been going on for maybe 40 years. We love coming here. There are up to 30 people volunteering, three to seven hours each. That's a lot of man / woman hours. It's all grange members, with a few community people. For the last couple years, we're feeding between 140 and 200 people

"We're open for breakfast from 8 to 11 am," said Waters. "When I started the breakfast here in 2011, we had the old kitchen, unlike this up-to-code commercial kitchen. But it was very functional for breakfast. We had two griddles and a huge stove, everything we needed to get food out here. We've really upgraded a lot. There's a steam table in the kitchen now that keeps things warm. That keeps us moving at a regular pace through the breakfast."

The food quality has improved over the years. "We use the best quality coffee we can get, Thanksgiving Coffee from Fort Bragg," continued Waters. "We have the best ingredients we can get. We used to have Amish maple syrup from Michigan, but we still have real maple syrup as an option. We have a fruit cup that people can order.

"There are three kinds of pancakes. There is a 100-year-old buttermilk recipe, which was all we had when I started here. I brought in sourdough. wanted to bring it up to speed of the modern eating habits. Then, we added

"The eggs are all scrambled now," explained Waters. "We made that decision once we got up to the 200 breakfasts mark. It was delaying the speed of service a lot to have a choice Facebook page "Little Lake Grange."

For about 40 years, the Little Lake of egg styles. We have really highquality bacon from Mariposa, local farmer eggs. All of our dairy is from Clover Dairy, organic half and half. We used to have powdered creamer and margarine. We offer real butter now. Everything has been upgraded to good quality food."

> Richard "RJ" Jergenson is the master of the pancakes, having learned the fine art from the originators of the breakfast. Jergenson has a "secret" ingredient which makes his buttermilk batter better - a couple of bottles of Scrimshaw beer, but you didn't hear it

> "We'll go through typically about 600 to 650 pancakes," said Jergenson. "Gluten-free, sourdough, and buttermilk. They are all organic ingredients. The eggs come from a farm out in the valley. We're very proud of that.

> "I inherited the 100-year-old recipe from the man who trained me how to run this workstation. Hank Strock. According to Hank, this recipe was from the Edith Page family. She was very instrumental in the founding of this grange. Edith was the president here for many, many years. She passed the recipe to Hank. Hank passed the recipe

> Robert Smith and his mom, Elisha, run the intake table, making sure that everyone knows what is available. "\$12 regular, \$11 for senior, \$5 for children; \$2 for extra bacon, \$1 for an extra egg, \$1 for maple syrup, \$1 for fruit syrup, \$2 for the fruit cup," Smith explained. " take the order up here in the front and then a server will take the rest of their order when they get to a table

> "They take one of these flowers and put it in the vase on the table, so the server knows to get the rest of the order," said Smith. "Normally, people get three pancakes on their plate but they can have as many as they want. It's unlimited. They get the equivalent of two eggs scrambled. Two slices of bacon. The seniors get one less egg and one less bacon," explained Smith

The money received from the monthly breakfast goes to various causes, including the aging and somewhat leaky Little Lake Grange roof, which will take approximately \$400,000 to replace. Leftover food is available for organizations that can use it or distribute it to the needy. Waters encourages Willits Daily Bread or other groups to come to the grange directly after the end of the breakfast, 11 am, to pick up any remaining foods.

The Little Lake Grange, located at 291 School Street, can be reached at 459-9716. For more info, visit their

800 Hwy. 20

Lic# 1041980

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Sun.: 6:30



Matinee prices to all shows all day.

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Fri.: 4:15 & 6:45 Sat.-Sun: 1:45, 4:15 & 6:45 4:15 & 6:45 Movie Times for March 28 thru April 3

GIANTS RISIN

1 hr 20 min Fri.: 4:30 & 7:15 Sat.: 2:15, 4:30 & 7:15 Sun.: 2:15 & 4:30

2 hr 11 min. Wed.-Thurs. 3:45 & 6:30

UNFORGIVEN

1 hr 50 mins Fri.: 4:30 & 7:00 4:30 & 7:00 Wed.-Thurs: 4:30 & 7:00 Theater 1 Deluxe - Luxury Recliners,

Thrifty Thursday: \$8.00 tickets. Thrifty Thursday films this week in red.

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Administrative Services Manager II \$96,803 - \$117,665

Air Pollution Control Officer \$115,731 - \$140,691

Animal Control Assistant \$37,544 - \$41,392

> **Auditor/Appraiser** \$68.515 - \$83,283 **Corrections Deputy**

County Health Officer \$185,224 - \$225,139

\$58,136 - \$70,678

Deputy Probation Officer I & II \$55,577 - \$74,505 **Deputy Public**

> **Guardian/Administrator** \$67,766 - \$82,388 **Deputy Sheriff-Coroner**

\$84,323 - \$102,460 Legal Secretary I/II

\$37,648 - \$55,744 Planner II

\$77,584 - \$94,307 **Public Health Nurse** \$92,040 - \$111,883

Registered Nurse \$78,977 - \$95,971 Screener

\$41,142 - \$50,024 **Senior Environmental Health Specialist** \$67,641 - \$82,222

Senior Program Manager \$96,595 - \$117,416

Senior Public Health Nurse \$101,296 - \$123,136

Sheriff's Evidence Unit Supervisor \$59,779 - \$72,675

For a complete list of current openings and to apply: www.mendocinocounty.gov/jobs EOE

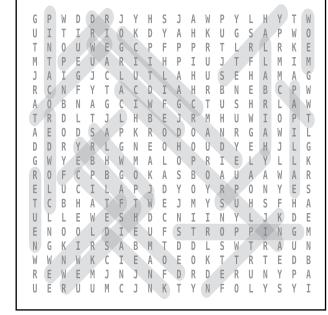


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LEGAL NOTICES

2025-F0058

Fictitious Business

The following person or persons are doing business as The Cheesecakery, 21451 Poplar Avenue, Willits CA 95490: 408-469-7481

Registered owners: Angela and Nicholas Gessner, 21451 Poplar Avenue, Willits CA

This business is conducted by a married couple The registrants commenced to

fictitious business name listed above on 1/31/2025. FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on January 31, 2025. /s/ Angela Gessner, owner Publication Dates: March 13,

transact business under the

20, 27, April 3, 2025 27, April 3, 10, 2025

WW530

PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner CAROL DENISE ALESHIRE has filed Case Number 25CV01855 with the Mendocino County Superior Court as a Petition for a Decree Changing Name from CAROL DENISE ALESHIRE to CAROLE

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before the court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of

Any person(s) objecting to the petition for name change must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection(s) at least two court days before the matter is

To object to the petition by remote appearance, go to the court's website at www.mendocino.courts.ca.gov in

Date of hearing: May 2, 2025, Time: 9:30 a.m., in Dept. E. The address of the court is 100 N. State St., Ukiah, CA

the petition without a hearing Publication Dates: March 27, April 3, 10, 17, 2025

From page 1

"We are very hopeful for these two boys and two girls to make it into adulthood," said Hanzlik. "They did miss out on the colostrum's potential being able to nurse from mom, but they looked good, and we're hopeful they'll be OK. We want to really express our appreciation to those who stepped up and supported caring for these kittens. We wouldn't have been able to take them in without these

This raises the great debate, however: How do you know if kittens are indeed abandoned, or are in need of help? The best opportunity is to keep the kittens with their mom, but if they are not OK, then it is appropriate to take

"Lots of kittens get catnapped each spring," explained

Hanzlik. "We want to encourage they can, and really assess before becoming involved. Are the kittens crying? Do they look cold? Are their bellies big and full? Do they look like they're being cared for?

"It can be a really scary and emotionally-charged situation when you come across group of babies," she said, "but it's good to give them a chance to stay with mom if they're able and she's there. If they look like they're in distress, however, cold, crying, not moving, then please, seek help. Call us and we can help walk you through what to do.

If you want to help lighten the shelter load, and adopt a cat or kitten (or dogs, too!) of all ages, there's many furry friends hoping to come home with

love to meet you," said Hanzlik. "We'll also be having a number of kittens to come into shelter soon, too - kitten season is here! You can always check out adoptable animals on our website, or come down to the center during

8 6 9 8 6 9 3 6 5 3 8 4 3 9 2 8 6 5 6 4 5 3 2 6 9 2 5 3 9 4 8 9

CLASSIFIEDS

Brookside Registration Open

Brookside Elementary

TK / Kindergarten

registration is now

open. To register go to

www.willitsunified.com.

Kindergarten: age 5 by

Sept.1, 2025; TK: age 4

Inscripción

abierta en

Brookside

TK / Kindergarten de

Brookside Elementary

ya está abierta. Para

registrarse, vaya a www.

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freezer. \$50. Call: 707-

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Thursday, 12 to 1 pm

at 300 Cahto Drive.

In Covelo, every 2nd

Thursday, from 12 to 1

pm, at 76300 Grange

org; 707-615-6654.

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951-9268

Mendocino

Food Bank,

willitsunified.com.

Willits

inscripción para

by Sept. 1, 2025.

Available Free water, compost. cents a square foot, per year. At Willits Community Garden. Call Mike A'Dair 456-4395.

Garden Space

Indoor Yard Sale Giant Indoor Yard Sale - Deep Valley Christian School, 8555 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley, (across from the Broiler). Saturday, April 5 from 8 am to 4 pm

John Ford Ranch Beef

John Ford Ranch still has the 50 lb. Rancher's Choice Box for \$390.00 and the 25 lb. Hamburger Box for \$170.00. Please contact Debbie Arkelian @ 459-5049.

> Raise Your Spiritual IQ

An Edge for Health: Every thought, word, or deed either purifies or pollutes the body. All are welcome to join the discussion or just listen. Tuesday, April 1st, from 2:30 to 3:30 at the Willits Library. 390 E. Commercial Street Questions? Call 707-367-3777. Sponsored by ECKANKAR in California

Room For Rent Room for 1 person for rent. Must work and have references. No pets. No drugs. In town. \$650 / month. Info: 354-

Street. In Leggett: Every first Tuesday from 12 to 1 pm at 65100 Drive RV/Trailer Space Thru Tree Road. Info for Rent Rachelle@mendofood. Space for RV's and

Trailers – starts at \$500 per month, includes Ads here are \$15 water & garbage. Close for 30 words to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 972for 2 weeks! 4696. See at http://www. Email us your ad oaknvine.net/tp

open hours to meet the animals."

HUMANE SOCIETY

INVITES YOU TO JOIN US

"A NIGHT IN VENICE"

GALA EVENT

SAVE THE DATE!

SATURDAY MAY 3, 2025

5:00PM-10:00PM

GATHER EVENTS

4800 BURKE HILL RD

If you're interested in helping HSIMC, but aren't interested or able to do adoptions, donating monetarily is always appreciated. The group also has links to their Amazon and Chewy.com wish lists on their website where

people can drop-ship wanted items right to the center.

"We alllllllways need wet kitten food, too," said Hanzlik. "We can never have enough of that!"

The community is also welcome to attend HSIMC events. including their upcoming volunteer orientation on Sunday, March 30 at 11 am where interested persons can just drop in and learn about helping at the center. May 3 is the annual Spring Gala Fundraiser at Gather Events in Ukiah, which is the center's largest fundraiser with tickets available on their website now.

More events and donation and adoption information is

available on their website: https:// mendohumanesociety.com/ They're open Wednesday through Friday from 1 to 5 pm and from 11 am to 3 pm on Saturday and Sunday. They're located at 9700 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley, just at the bottom of the Ridgewood Grade, and can be reached by calling 707-485-0123 or emailing info@hsimc.org.

"One final 'thank you' for our community who is there for us, and helping us do this life-savin work," said Hanzlik. "It's so important!"



Fictitious Business 2025-F0109

The following person or persons are doing business as Sequoia Farm, 36000 Covelo Road, Willits CA 95490; 951-805-9007

Registered owner: Annette Pastrana (Amy), 315 South Main Street, / P.O. Box 1715. Willits CA 95490.

This business is conducted by an individual. The registrants commenced to transact business under the

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on March 3, 2025. /s/ Annette Pastrana Publication Dates: March 20

fictitious business name listed

above on 2/18/2023.

scheduled to be heard, and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted.

advance of the hearing.

If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant

The rest of

foster caregivers stepping up.

people to give the situation a FOR INLAND MENDOCINO COUNTY moment, monitor for a few hours if

"We have a lot of wonderful cats at HSIMC that would

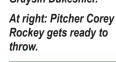
Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490





At ton: The WHS swim team smiles for the camera: from left, Khatia Eaton-Geiger, Leah Blakey, Evie Kale, Krystina Ojeda, Kate Winter, Estrella Mendoza, Olivia McCartney and Madison Winter

Above: The WHS golf team at their first tournament of the season: from left, top row. Cole Lane. Nikolai Ritchley, Ezra De La Fuente, Torin Fraser. Brody Bowen; bottom row, Zahyr Lopez, Makiah Carter, Nora Martin, Richy Ferry and Graysin Dukeshier.





Ava Holmen, Lisa Arkelian, and Head Coach Ray Britton. gathers for a photo after their season opener win: from left, top row, Sophia Miya, Tavlor Valente. Brodey Lamprich, and Isabella row, Abigail



Photos By Ava Dockins-Kline

swinging with a dominating win for their first game of the season against Victory Christian Academy The players got a chance to shine, showcasing their abilities for the rest of the season. On the roster this season are senior Landon Honeycutt; juniors Corey Rockey, Jayden Schlegel, Kaiden Oliver, Rickey Ramirez, Ryan Carter and Brayden

Despite the cold, wind and rain, Willits

Wolverines spring sports have commenced.

These players are more than ready to trade

in their galoshes and head into sunnier

skies in the next couple of weeks with

and softball all have a fantastic group

of coaches and young athletes on their

teams. They are approaching this season

with a steady amount of enthusiasm and

excitement. All spring sports schedules

for WHS can be found on "The Wolverines

Den" on Facebook. See you all there! Let's

The Dave Kline Field is in beautiful

shape this season as a true testament to

the dedicated maintenance crew at WHS.

The stands have been full of Wolverines

We have a brand new set of coaches

ready to take on the team. Shawn DeFranco

and Matt Schlegel are alumni, and good

players who both have had the honor of

playing for Coach Kline during successful

The Wolverines baseball team came out

fans, and the team looks ready to go!

Sheri Dockins

Varsity baseball

many sporting events

Tennis, swimming.

golf, track, baseball,

on the calendar.

Norbury; sophomores Jakoby Kirby, Kai Schwebs and Ivan Estrada; freshmen Grady Cooley, Jordan Shull, Darrell Simmons and Fisher Kuhn. "Let's go! It's been a long time coming and I am finally here," said Head Coach Shawn DeFranco. "I am excited to join the Willits Wolverines as the varsity baseball head coach for the 2025 season. It is a

coaches – some new, some returning. "We have an amazing group of boys on this squad," said DeFranco. "Leading the way is one senior, six juniors, three sophomores, and three freshmen who have all stepped up for us and the team in

privilege to work with such a great group of

"I am thrilled to be a part of WHS and the baseball program. I was fortunate to play for Coach Kline over 20 years ago, and now I am coaching on the field dedicated to him. The team and I are looking forward to seeing the continued support from the

the spring sports season with determination JV softball

COMMUNITY SPORTS NEWS

Talented players and coaches at WHS begin

JV softball has started out their season with some noticeable heat with multiple victories against Healdsburg, Cloverdale and Clearlake. They are looking alive on the ball field and ready to take the lead! On the roster this year are sophomores Brodey Lamprich, Vada Morgan, Tessa Simpson, Izzy Sims, Megan Perkins. Isabella Whitehurst, Sophia Miya and Ariana Vasquez; and freshman Ember

Coach and players are all eager to have some fun and develop new skills!

"2025 spring sports are underway, and our JV Wolverines softball team is off to a great start with a win in the season opener against Healdsburg," said Head Coach

"Half of the players are returning from last year, and we have five new players on the roster for this season. They are all learning a ton, improving skills, and developing solid team chemistry

"Willits High has the only JV team in our league," explained Sherf, "but we have a full season of non-league games scheduled. We have plans to have some fun and win some ball games!"

Varsity softball

The Lady Wolverines softball team has entered their new season with a fierce determination to improve and continue the momentum of solidarity as a team. With some talented players and a pitcher that turns up the intensity for the game, these players and coaches should be in for a

They had their first exhilarating victory of the season against Ferndale 12-9! On the roster this year are seniors Mia Chavez, Ava Dockins-Kline and Jocelyn Galvan; juniors Lisa Arkelian, Ava Holmen, Alexandra Ramos, Addie Jones, Gloria Gutierrez and Emily Garness; sophomores Chloe Wright and Abigail Sherf.

"Never let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game," said Head Coach Ray Britton. "With that being said, I am excited to get the 2025 softball season rolling. The team finished out strong last season, finishing second in league. We have the majority of players returning, only

Wolverines Golf

Wolverines Golf started out swinging in the right direction this season, leaving the CMC Golf Tournament as champions. They competed against Clearlake, Fort Bragg, Mendocino, Lower Lake, Point Arena and Upper Lake at the beautiful Brooktrails Golf

Over on page 11





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Willits community at our upcoming home Course here in Willits. games. You don't want to miss out! Go Read the rest of Wolverines!" concluded DeFranco. Sports Residential & Commercial Serving areas of Mendocino, Lake and **Sonoma Counties** Above: The WHS tennis team poses for a photo: from left, top row, Coach Kristi, Emelia Owsiany, Frida Friend, Amsatou Ndoye, Yamile Viera, Sophia Vaccaro, Jazmarie Henson, Jacquelyn Viera, Alieah Barragan, Mason Valente, Ana Gomez, Karina Velazo, Lissbeth Hernandez and Daylin Richarson; bottom row, Jayden Finley and Salisa Leon. PHOTOS WITH THE EASTER BUNNY! SATURDAY, APRIL 5 from 12 to 4 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

From page 10 The mighty Wolverine golfers led the way with 298 points. Fort Bragg was second with 334, Clearlake was third with 348, fourth place with food trucks. went to Mendocino, scoring 420. and Upper Lake finished fifth with

Players leading individually were junior Cole Lane with 66, senior Zahvr Lopez with 72, sophomore Brody Bowen with 85, and sophomore Richy Ferri with 86.

In a shotgun-style tournament each school keeps the top four scores. Also on the roster are seniors Makiah Carter. Torin Fraser and Nora Martin; junior Ezra De La Fuente; sophomores Nikolai Ritchley and Graysin Dukeshier. Amazing work! Congratulations Wolverines!

"We are excited with the golf team this year, having won the North Coast Sections pendant, looking forward to backing that up and winning again. We're 3-0 right now," said Head Coach Jeff Yokum.

"We did receive a nice donation from Rotary International Willits for \$1,000 to purchase some training equipment. We have just received a swing plane trainer. Cole Lane is leading the division as the individual player and Zahyr Lopez is right behind him."

Wolverines Tennis

This year's tennis team is off to an amazing start with a much bigger roster of tenacious and talented players! Leading the way are four seniors, Jayden Finley, Alexandra Suarez, Mason Valente and Jacqueline Vieyra; six juniors, Emelia Velasquez-Owsiany, Ana Gomez, Jazmarie Henson, Lissbeth Hernandez, Salisa Leon and Karina Velazco; four sophomores, Alieah Barragan, Amsatou Ndoye, Daylin Richarson and Sofia Vacarro; two freshman, Frida Friend and Yamile Vieyra.

"Tennis is off to a great start this year! We have a big team with a lot of heart!" said Head Coach Kristi Keller. "We have traveled to Middletown, Fort Bragg, Kelseyville and Anderson Valley so far this season. In our match against Fort Bragg, our two doubles teams Jagueline Vieyra and Alexandra Suarez won 2 to 1. Frida Friend and Lissbeth Hernandez won 2 to 0. In Anderson Valley our doubles team and Sofia Vacarro won 2 to 0. We look forward to a great season. win or lose! We are having fun!"

Wolverines Track

The Wolverines Track team is anticipating their first meet at home next week. They are a small, but very dynamic group of talented athletes this year, with a lot of determination to reach goals.

"The Willits track team is off and running," said Coach Matt Moratti. "With only a handful of athletes, and despite the weather, our team has been preparing for our first league meet on April 2 in Cloverdale.

"The team comprises two freshman, Cruz Oltjenbruns and Emmett Viellux, both sprinters; two juniors, Daulten Amburgery and Nikolas Bloyd, both throwers. Nikolas runs the unified 100-meter

"Our sole senior, Leo Moratti, has competed in two pre-season meets, both at Santa Rosa High School. Leo has been accepted and has a visit planned to sign a letter of intent to run track at Cal Poly at Humboldt. Leo holds the school record at the long jump," Moratti said.

Wolverines Swimming The Willits Wolverines Swimming

team is feeling ecstatic as they dive into the season with a dynamic group of athletes! They competed in Fort Bragg last week, stealing the victory against both competitors: Willits-63. Fort Bragg-57 Willits-83, Mendocino-16. "We may be small, but we are

mighty!" said Head Coach Mattie Piñon. "The Willits High swim team had a late start to our season, but we started strong with three wins already! I'm looking forward to a great season with all my

for economic reasons, such as to protect local businesses from outside competition. For mobile vendors, however, cities can enact restrictions designed to help local businesses, particularly restaurants that have to compete

California law gives cities the right to "establish specific distance requirements [for mobile vendors] to maintain a minimum distance from brick-and-mortar businesses selling similar goods or services to prevent unfair competition." This law applies to all types of businesses, although food businesses are likely to be the most affected.

Willits Community Development Director Dusty Duley told the council: "Many other iurisdictions have been successful establishing buffers from brick-and-mortar business. They've established areas and streets in cities where they don't allow for mobile vending, limiting the number of mobile

The city can also place restrictions on both mobile and sidewalk vendors where issues of "health, safety and welfare" are a factor, a term that can encompass a lot of local restrictions. Issues could include traffic flow. parking, public access, congestion, sanitation, trash, signage, noise (including generators and sound systems), operating hours - and just about anything else that involves "health, safety and welfare" – can be written into a new ordinance that, according to Lance, "can accomplish the same thing" as some of the old ordinance restrictions that are no longer permitted by the state

Mobile vendors and sidewalk vendors will still be required to get permits and business licenses and comply with the same regulations and zoning laws required of local businesses. Vendors, both mobile and sidewalk, can be restricted from operating during special events such as Frontier Days and also during farmers market days, only allowing vendors who are affiliated with the events or the farmers market.

Council member Bruce Burton suggested proportionately charging somebody who is going to come in and do a competitive enterprise without the competitive costs, that you would charge them accordingly."

Speaking in favor of food trucks, Ed Beals, a professional cook and chef at Howard Hospital, gave his prospective: "Food trucks are one of the most accessible and budgetfriendly avenues to starting and maintaining a food business, a good way for chefs and entrepreneurs to prove themselves."

Beals added: "Food trucks will be healthier and better for the economy than some other fast food corporations that are also allowed to set up in town. I would like to see more local food business going to local entrepreneurs, and food trucks are a good avenue for money to stay in this community."

Still, local business owners are troubled by unfair advantages that mobile businesses have over local businesses. Tony Madrigal, owner of El Mexicano restaurant on Main Street, pointed out that as a restaurant: "We have a lot of fixed expenses. We have to meet ADA [Americans With Disabilities Act]. We provide restrooms and a place for people to sit and eat. There are a lot of buildings in town where you have to have parking. So now you're going to have a mobile vendor set up, where's their parking? I think we need to have a level playing field.

Jill Persico, owner of Loose Caboose restaurant on Wood Street, agreed with Madrigal and added: "We've been here 36 years, we've paid taxes to the city for 36 years, we've served the community. We employ all local residents, they eat here, shop here. I just want to continue with my support, my love for my community. We just want a level playing field, so we share responsibilities of what a business has to shoulder."

Curious Rocky Looking for a

new playmate? Look no further than Rocky! This young, energetic pup is looking

for a forever home where he can get all the love and attention he deserves. Rocky loves people and is full of energy and affection. He is an intelligent, curious pup who loves to play, run around, and explore. He's always up for an adventure, whether it's chasing after a ball or finding the best spot in the park to roll around in the grass. Though he loves playtime, Rocky is also mellow indoors, and seems to like the company of other dogs Rocky is a friendly, outgoing pup who would be a great addition to any home. If you're interested in

meeting Rocky, come on down to the shelter today!

The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, is open to the public from 9:30 am to 5 pm Tuesday through Friday, and 10

Principal Topolinski praised their academic, athletic, and personal achievements, and congratulations were extended to them by their families and the school board.

Burglarized

located the vehicle at the 900

block of South State Street in

Ukiah. Ukiah Police officers

notified MCSO deputies, who

UPD officers advised that the

driver and subject in control of

the vehicle was a male subject

identified as Warren Beck, 39.

of Ukiah. Officers located a

dangerous weapon concealed

on Beck's person during their

MCSO deputies arrived and

conducted their investigation

as it pertained to the burglaries.

They located and identified

several items stolen from

the vehicles belonging to

Mendocino County Animal Care

Services. The investigation and

evidence collected established

probable cause to arrest Beck

for 666.1(a)(1) PC [Felony Thef

with Two Prior Convictions].

459 PC [Felony Burglary]

and 594(b)(1) PC [Felony

Beck was subsequently

booked into the Mendocino

County Jail where he was to be

Editor's Note: According to the

Sheriff's Office booking log, as

Willits Weekly went to press

Wednesday afternoon, Beck

Microgrids

Bay and North Coast region

and comprise four projects

in Humboldt County, three

projects in Lake County, and

two projects in Marin County

Four of the nine projects will

serve tribal communities

The wave one awardees will

receive between approximately

\$1.6 million each, based on

requested incentive amounts

and following the results of

PG&E's project application

Generation resource types for

selected MIP projects include a

variety of clean energy solutions

such as solar, battery energy

storage, pumped hydroelectric

storage, small hydroelectric

Customers and communities

interested in learning more or

applying for grants through the

second wave of PG&E MIP

grant funding should visit www.

Online &

In Print

WILLITS

WEEKLY

and biomass.

pge.com/mip.

From page 2

was still being held

held in lieu of \$17,500 bail

Vandalism].

responded to the location

Following celebrating these excelling WHS students, Colby Friend addressed the board with parental concerns about the district's coach hiring practices, clarifying: "We are not targeting any coach or any program. We're not calling anybody out. We're just asking for a policy, and I think when you hear our policy, you'll find it's really a common-sense policy we're asking for." Concerned parents are asking the board to develop a set of qualifications for candidates, for the district to post coach vacancies on the school website so all interested applicants can apply in advance and, when a position becomes vacant, to choose the best applicant without preference to WUSD employee (excluding qualified teachers), and evaluation and accountability at the end of every season deciding to rehire or release a coach from their role based on their performance.

Friend also debunked the misconceptions surrounding this policy to the audience, addressing the board and saying: "We hope that you guys would consider changing this policy that's really made up by the Willits district. It's not necessary, and it's not found any place in law or contract."

Multiple other parents chimed in to express concerns, and Diana Hernandez, the Baechtel Grove Middle School PTO president, spoke out. She told the board, "The talk in my house is that maybe Willits isn't the spot, and that

However, she is not the only parent to consider removing their child from the district, and parents have already transferred their children to different districts in neighboring areas. Board President Jeanne King cycled back during her comments, explaining her family's experience of leaving WUSD for sports. She explained that her grandson had gone to play in Ukiah for their baseball program. Still, ultimately, "he lasted two months because being a small fish in a big pond did not work out as well as being a big fish in

Parents say they're requesting a different hiring practice for coaches to give their children the best opportunities possible. They acknowledge that winning isn't everything and want to see their children improve athletically, not just win championships, as Willits is being relegated to lower

As the fourth parent speaks on this issue, it gets heated. Frustee Paula Nunez wraps up the informational session by expressing appreciation for the public interest in the subject

After the break, opening comments facilitated lots of discussion about this past week in education, "Pink Slip Week," where teachers and staff receive a pink slip if they are non-elect for the next school year or if there's a reduction in force. Willits Teachers Association President Brian Bowles addressed how counselors at the school sites have been reduced; these are counselors that assist with behavioral issues, support teachers, provide solo, group, and familial counseling for those in need, and more.

Losing these positions will significantly affect these sites and children in classes, he said. Bowles has consistently advocated for more help in this area throughout the school year, and now, the board is taking away all help available due to budgeting issues.

Bowles closed his statement with: "As WTA president I am invested in this group of people. I've been invested in this district," expressing his care for the youth. He feels, this is an injustice to our students and future students, and I really hope the board listens."

In addition to Bowles, there were 10 different speakers during public comment expressing the need for these counseling positions and the adverse effects that would follow if the district did remove these positions, even if it was not their primary concern.

The teachers and public of Willits are asking the board to be creative and proactive in keeping these crucial counseling positions that these students need. Trustee Jennifer Sooke touched on budget, state funding, and immigration, in advocating for the needs of WUSD students.

The board meeting ended shortly after a lengthy advocation for student and teacher needs, pushing multiple items on the consent agenda to April's meeting, where the coach hiring practices will return to the board, and the staff is hopeful for a reinstating of behavioral counselors.

The April meeting of the WUSD school board is set for Thursday, April 10, starting at 5 pm at the Willits City Council chambers at City Hall, 111 East Commercial Street.

am to 3 pm on Saturdays (closed for lunch each day from 1 to 1:30 pm). Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendoanimalshelter.com. Call 707-463-4427 for more information.

Clever Henry

Henry is an active, athletic, and playful pup who loves outdoor adventures like hiking and fetch, but also enjoys cozy cuddle time on the couch. Eager to please and food motivated, Henry is quick to learn and thrives on affection. Whether it's jumping for joy, giving kisses, or leaning in for more attention, this cats and is a fun-loving charmer. dog is guaranteed to bring a smile to your face!

Great with other dogs and friendly with families with kids 10+, Henry is the perfect companion for anyone looking for a fun, loving,

and energetic addition to their home. He will need training to help refine his manners, but with his eagerness to please, he's sure to catch on quickly. If you're ready for a silly, affectionate dog who

shower you with love, Henry is waiting for you!

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

Playful Pistachio

This young boy (6 months old) is ready to go home with you. He gets along with other



is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. Feel free to visit us, no appointments needed! We are open Wednesday through Friday, 1 to 5 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 11 am to 3 pm; closed Monday and Tuesday. Check out all of our

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available dogs and cats on our website: www. mendohumanesociety.com, on our Facebook will keep you on your toes and page, and on www.petfinder.com.

Covelo Road conflagration

Little Lake Fire leads response to Sunday fire north of Willits

On Sunday March 16, firefighters from Little Lake Fire Protection District and other local fire agencies responded to a residential structure fire on the 42400 block of Covelo Road, aka Highway 162, CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit reported on Facebook this week.

This address is north of Willits and about 7 miles

Jennifer Poole Editor & Reporter willitsweekly@amail.com east out Highway 162, but still part of the Willits area fire district. CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit, Ridgewood Ranch Fire,

and Brooktrails Fire responded to assist the Little Lake Fire District.

Mendocino Action News on Facebook, which covers emergency scanner chatter in real time, posted that the fire was reported at 7:46 pm, and the reporting party said the structure was a cabin on fire, with all occupants out of the building.

"Powerlines involved" was then reported by Mendocino Action News from the scanner at 8:05 pm, with PG&E set to arrive on scene at 8:46 or so.

According to the post by CAL FIRE MEU, crews worked swiftly to contain and extinguish the fire. Resources on scene included: Chief 5400; CAL FIRE Battalion Chief 1117; Engine 5480, 5482, 5485; CAL FIRE Engine 1154; and Water Tender 5290.

The cause of the fire is under investigation.

"We appreciate the dedication of our firefighters," posted CAL FIRE MEU, "and remind everyone to practice fire safety in their homes."

Little Lake Fire's Michelle Schnitzius reminded everybody of the sheer size of the "Willits" fire district, in a comment on the Facebook post. "Little Lake Fire Department covers approximately 300 square miles for district boundaries, making it one of the largest districts by square mile," Schnitzius wrote.

"Highway 162 /Covelo Road is part of that. We often mutual aid with Covelo Fire when needed for the

remainder (past our district on Highway 162 /Covelo Road), especially vehicles over the embankments. As we are one of the departments with over-thee m b a n k m e n t equipment training, we are often called to assist even if not in our district.

"We also have one of the few swift water teams, therefore, we also respond out of our district to help with water rescues. have mutual aid when needed from CalFire and surrounding departments, which is one of the great things about our community. We all help each other."





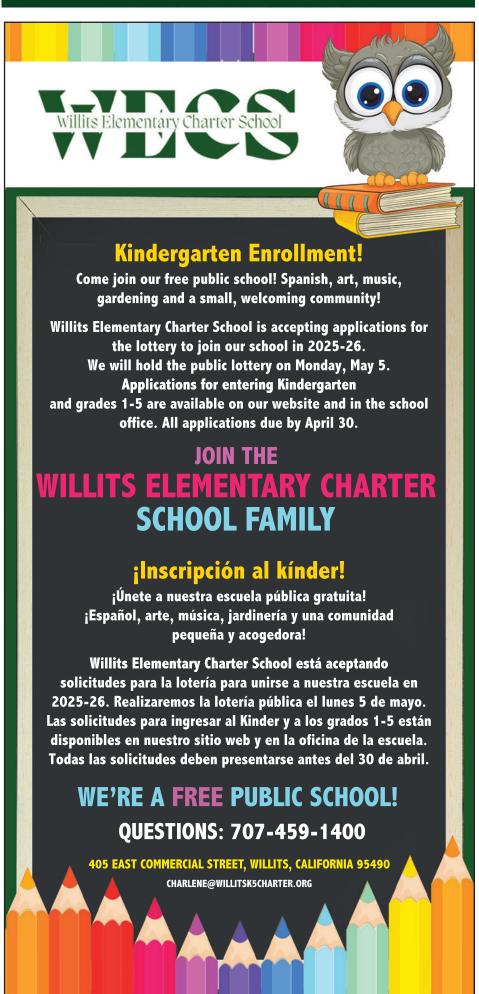
Above: Willits firefighters use hoses on the cabin fire. At left: A Willits firefighter uses a hose to douse the smoldering ground. Below: A cabin on Covel Road was destroyed by fire on Sunday evening. At bottom: CAL FIRE Engine 1154 at Sunday's cabin fire on Covelo Road.

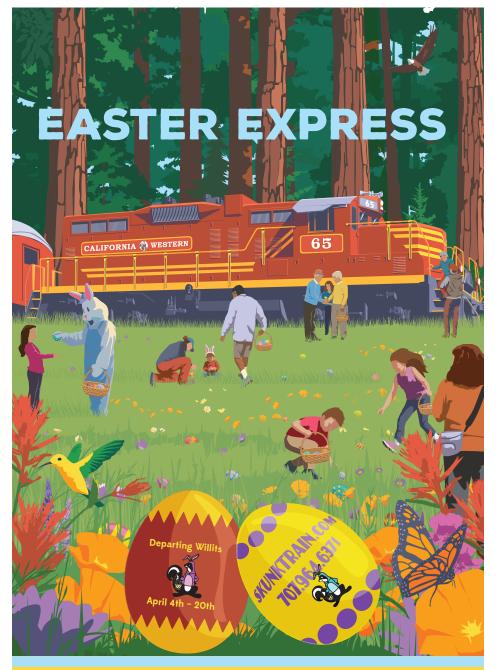
Photos courtesy of CAL FIRE MEU











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