

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Sober Grad set for June 11

To the Editor:

Hello, Willits! Willits Sober Grad checking in. We want to update the Willits community about our plans this year for our Sober Grad Party. Last year it was a virtual party to abide by the restraints of COVID-19.

This year things are looking up, and we have been approved by the Mendocino County Health Department for a limited outdoor party. This party will be held on Friday, June 11 at the Willits High School Ag Farm. It will begin at 9 pm and conclude at 1 am. All graduates from Willits High School, Sanhedrin High School, and Willits Charter School are invited. Masks will be required for all participants. Temperatures will be taken, and a form will need to be completed. Grads will need to be checked in by 10 pm.

The Class of 2021 have chosen a very apt theme for this year: "A Year Like No Other!" Decorations include a carnival theme including a midway (in place of our casino) where graduates will play midway games and can cash their winnings in for prizes.

There is also once again a ton of "swag" for graduates to win! There are General Prizes with a value of \$50 where every grad who attends wins one! There are also Higher Value Prizes, Mega Prizes, Cash Prizes, Volunteer Prizes, and two (2) Grand Prizes of \$1,000 each! And if graduates stay the night, they will get a check for \$50; that check will be \$70 if they have helped throughout the year. Grads must be present to win any of these great gifts!

So, grads, go to <https://forms.gle/sHPncSFSJU3THU6M9> and sign up!

Now to put on an in-person party we need lots of volunteers to help decorate, to set up, to chaperone the night of, and to clean up the next morning! To help with set-up and decorating please join us at the Ag Farm at the following times:

- Thursday, June 10, starting at 8 am and continuing throughout the day.
- Friday, June 11, starting at 8 am and continuing throughout the day.

To chaperone at the party on Friday, June 11, please check in at 8:30 pm at the Ag Farm to find out where you can help. Park in the school parking

lots, walk across the bridge south of the buildings, and you are there!

To clean up on Saturday, please show up at the Ag Farm at 9 am. Clean-up will continue until completed, at least two or three hours! Come when you can!

If you can join us, it would be helpful to contact us at WillitsSoberGrad@gmail.com or call Davina Sentak at 707-841-7549 and let us know how you can help.

Even though we have purchased gifts for the grads to win from monies earned at our fundraisers, it is not too late to donate to the party and to the grads! Checks may be sent to P.O. Box 2277, Willits, CA 95490. If you have an item to donate, contact Davina at 707-841-7549.

If you have any questions please contact us through one of the above methods. Once again, thank you for all your support throughout the 2020-2021 school year and throughout the last 35 years! You are the best!

Joyce Waters,
friend of Willits Sober Grad

WCT auditions April 6

To the Editor:

The Willits Community Theatre will be holding auditions for a romantic comedy called "Breaking Legs" on Wednesday, April 6 at 7 pm and again on Saturday, April 9 at noon.

The call is for five men, 40 to 65 years old, and one woman, 25 to 40 years old. Both the woman and four of the five men ought to be able to talk with a New York / Italian / Mafia-type accent. All actors who are cast will need to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

The play will rehearse in July and will open in early August. It will be directed by Rod Grainger, who is currently playing the lead role in "Deathtrap." For questions about the play or about the auditions please email the director at granger.rodney@gmail.com; for a digital copy of the script please email the producer at michaeladair69@yahoo.com

The WCT playhouse is located at 37 West Van Lane, in the cultural center of town, just a block south of Pizza to Go and a block west of Mazahar.

While you're at it, check out "Deathtrap" which plays March 25 thru April 10.

Mike A'Dair, Willits

National Doctors' Day

Our heartfelt gratitude for our physicians and providers during National Doctors' Day

Did you know that since 1933, Doctors' Day has been celebrated nationwide on March 30 in an observance aimed at showing appreciation for physicians who help care for our communities daily? This year, recognizing physicians and their dedication to our patients has never been more important.

Delivering medical care during a global pandemic has required teamwork at the highest level, and doctors have been fundamental to this effort. Before the pandemic, we knew how vital our physicians were in keeping our community thriving, but the pandemic has highlighted even more just how much we value their care and expertise.

The COVID-19 pandemic has called upon the expertise and skills of our local physicians and many more in the larger medical community who have worked to detect, treat, cure, and administer vaccines against this highly infectious disease.

In the early days of the pandemic, when the rest of the world stayed home to protect our friends and neighbors, our community of physicians bravely answered the call to serve, putting not only their lives at risk but also those of their loved ones.

As we celebrate Doctors' Day on March 30, I invite you to join our Adventist Health team in recognizing the heroic work of all physicians and providers in Mendocino County. While the pandemic disrupted routines, the need for care

continued. Their expertise and dedication have helped us adapt our practices and save lives while continuing to provide routine care during such a challenging time in healthcare.

Their knowledge and skills helped the more than 49,000 patient visits to our Emergency Rooms and more than 10,000 surgeries performed last year. While we cared for COVID-19 positive patients, routine care also continued. Babies were born, medical emergencies were treated, life-saving tests were done, and a myriad of other medical concerns were addressed, all while keeping our community safe.

Many providers adapted to new practices, using virtual visits to ease access. The over 170,000 patients who came to our clinics were seen in a safe environment to get care for chronic conditions and routine check-ups. Our team has never been more grateful for their support in serving our friends and neighbors in Mendocino County and beyond.

Please take a moment to reflect on the past two years and the important role physicians and providers have played in educating and caring for our communities, and join me in sharing our appreciation for their continued dedication.

We are hopeful that brighter days are ahead, and we are grateful and honored to work alongside our outstanding group of physicians and providers in Mendocino County. Thank you physician or provider on National Doctors' Day.

— Judson Howe, president,
Adventist Health Mendocino County

Senior Center menu for the week

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

Thursday, March 31: French Dip, Potato Wedges, Green Salad
Friday, April 1: Turkey Tetrastini, Veggie, Garlic Bread
Monday, April 4: Bratwurst, Sauerkraut, Pickle, Chips
Tuesday, April 5: White Chicken Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Green Salad

Wednesday, April 6: Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Veggie, Roll
Thursday, April 7: BBQ Chicken, Beans, Veggie, Cornbread, Green Salad
Friday, April 8: Beef Stir Fry

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

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

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

Vendor applications open for Summer Arts Fair

Submitted by the
Mateel Community Center

The Mateel Community Center, a non-profit organization, is proud to announce the 45th Summer Arts & Music Festival set for Saturday, June 18 and Sunday, June 19, 2022. The festival has a new home for June 2022, seven miles south of the Benbow location along a lovely stretch of the south fork of the Eel River, located to the east of Highway 101 in Cooks Valley, known as County Line Ranch.

We appreciate all interested Summer Arts & Music Festival vendors. Please visit the Summer Arts 2022 vendor opportunities page at <http://mateel.org/vendors/> to complete your online-only vendor application, select Summer Arts 2022 in the pull-down menu to access the information. Applications due by April 22.

We are excited to present the 45th Summer Arts & Music Festival at County Line Ranch June 18-19, 2022. Be part of our celebration by becoming a sponsor: Contact Tanya Malley for booth, banner and supporter packages at sponsors@mateel.org

Willits Kids Club

Summer Camp Open Enrollment

Posted by Willits Kids Club

Willits Kids Club has announced open enrollment for its Summer Camp for kids going into kindergarten through fifth grade. Come to the Kids Club anytime between 4 and 6 pm, April 18 through April 22, to pick up applications and meet with staff.

Three sessions for this age group are available. Camp 1 is set for June 20 to July 1; Camp 2 is set for July 5 to July 15; and Camp 3 is set for July 18 to July 29. Hours: Monday through Friday, 7:30 am to 5 pm (no camp on the 4th of July).

The cost is \$160 for each two-week session, with a non-refundable \$50 deposit due at enrollment to hold your spot, and the balance due by June 1. Limited reduced fee scholarships available for those in need.

Read the test of
Enrollment Over on Page 11

Public Health confirms first Omicron case in county

Submitted by Mendocino County Public Health

March 25 – Mendocino County Public Health has confirmed a positive case of the Omicron Subvariant BA.2 in the county.

The original Omicron Variant is still the most common form of COVID-19 in California, but cases of a sub-variant, BA.2, have been increasing across the state since January 2022. The Centers for Disease Control announced Tuesday that "the highly contagious Omicron

The county has just been notified of the first local case of this variant dated to early March.

This variant can re-infect those who've had Omicron, and some people who have been vaccinated. In California and other places with high vaccination rates, BA.2 does not seem to be driving increases in rates of cases, hospitalizations, or deaths.

This variant does have the potential to cause severe disease for the vulnerable and unvaccinated individuals, while those who have been vaccinated and boosted are still very well protected against severe disease from BA.2.

So now is a good opportunity for everyone to review the latest guidance around reducing COVID risk:

- Masks are strongly recommended in public indoor settings.
- Get vaccinated and get boosted. It is the best protection against severe COVID.
- Stay home from work and school when sick, get tested early.
- Increase outdoor activities and ventilation indoors.

Public Health will continue to analyze test results and monitor the number of BA.2 cases carefully. While we remain optimistic due to decreasing case and hospitalization rates in Mendocino, we are concerned that another variant could set us back to surge levels in the future.

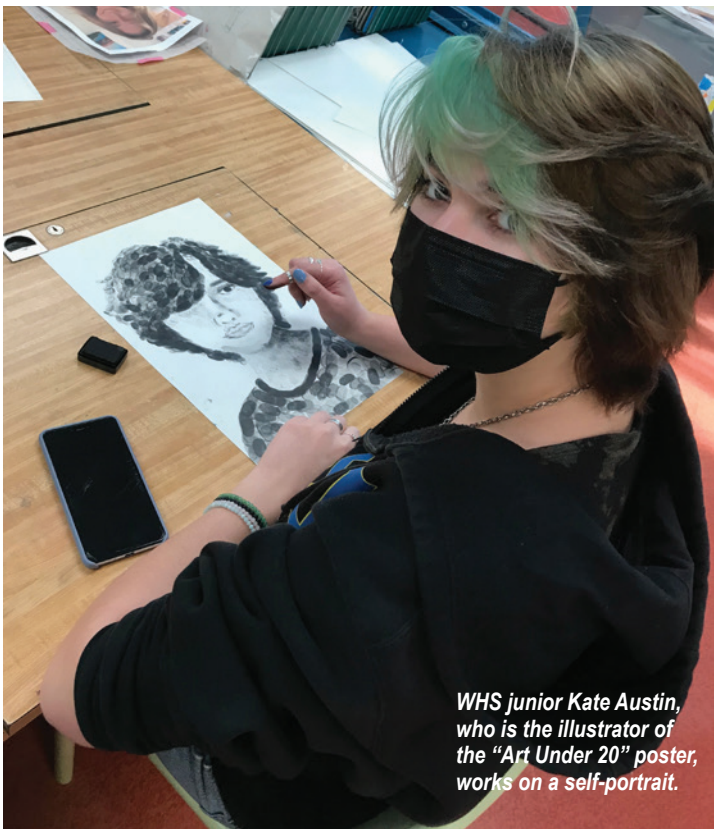
Free vaccines and booster shots continue to be available at primary care providers, pharmacies, and at the county's fixed and pop-up clinics. In Willits, the Mendocino County Public Health office at 474 East Valley Street offers vaccinations on Mondays from 1 to 4:15 pm, and on Wednesdays from 12:30 to 4:15 pm. Walk-ups are welcome, or sign up at Myturn.com. All vaccines are available, including boosters. Rapid tests are also available. Info: <https://www.mendocinocounty.org/covid19>

Art Under 20



2022

Willits High School • Willits Charter • La Vida • Laytonville High School
April 1-24
Hours: Friday-Sunday, 11am-5pm
Opening Reception for the Artists: April 1st, 3:00-6:00 PM
71 E. Commercial St. Willits, CA 95490
www.willitscenterforthearts.org



WHS junior Kate Austin, who is the illustrator of the "Art Under 20" poster, works on a self-portrait.

Willits Center for the Arts to display works from local high school students in 'Art Under 20' exhibit

Submitted by the Willits Center for the Arts

The tradition lives on! The 23rd annual "Art Under 20" show is set to open at the Willits Center for the Arts on April 1, 2022. The visual artists from Willits High School, La Vida and Willits Charter School are pleased to invite the community to see their show. There will be a small reception for the artists from 3:30 to 6:30 pm at the gallery.

A few years ago, at the 20th anniversary "Art Under 20" exhibit, a visitor wrote: "Beautiful and artistic! These high school artists are not only talented ... they're creative, imaginative, innovative and great!"

"I am proud of my WHS artists," said Carolyn Bakewell, WHS art teacher and curator of the annual exhibit. "They are truly an inspiration and so much fun to be with. Every day's a great day in the studio."

Some artists have shown their work in "Art Under 20" before but for many, it will be their gallery debut and something to celebrate. Being in the show is a great accomplishment that should be added to their resume and included on college and scholarship applications.

Read the rest of
AU20 Over on Page 9



In Celebration and Anticipation of Easter
Willits Ward
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
is hosting an Open house
April 9, 2022 @ 11am-3pm

Come meet the
Primary Relief Society
Aaronic Priesthood Young Women
Elders Quorum Sunday School
We will be available to answer questions
also
Community Resources that are available:
Just Serve and Family History
Come join us at
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Free BBQ lunch available
wwuslds@yahoo.com

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Bloom
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Selection
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Sunday 9 am - 5 pm



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

Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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



HOW TO
SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13						14				15			
16					17					18			
19				20					21				
			22					23				24	
25	26	27		28				29			30		
31			32		33		34					35	
36				37		38			39				40
	41				42			43		44			
		45					46		47		48		
49	50		51				52			53			
54		55				56				57	58	59	
60					61					62			
63					64				65				

CLUES ACROSS

1. Hillsides
6. A way to ingest
9. Large number
13. Southeastern Minnesota city
14. Cronies
15. Having sufficient skill, knowledge
16. Supplements with difficulty
17. Former VP nominee Palin
18. Cambodian monetary unit
19. Where coaches work
21. Secret political clique
22. A type of lute
23. Tan
24. Empire State
25. Where golfers begin
28. For each
29. Muslim inhabitants of the Philippines
31. Bird genus
33. Popular Dave Matthews Band song
36. Domesticates
38. 'Boardwalk Empire' actress Gretchen
39. Asian antelope
41. One who takes apart
44. Kin
45. Dresses
46. Says something about

you (abbr.)

48. Doctor of Education
49. One quintillion bytes (abbr.)
51. Overcharge
52. Sailboats
54. Indian musical patterns
56. Predisposition to a condition
60. Share a common boundary with
61. Wide
62. Skin disease
63. Monetary unit of Samoa
64. Source of the Blue Nile
65. Instrument
66. Red deer
67. Unidentified flying object
68. Bar or preclude

CLUES DOWN

1. Flying insects
2. Strong alcoholic spirit
3. Old
4. Moves in slowly
5. Symbol for tin
6. Having certain appendages
7. Expression of sorrow or pity
8. Type of hormone (abbr.)
9. One with an unjustified mistrust
10. Hebrew calendar month



Above, left: Jared Schwebbs has a satisfied smile as he realizes there's vetch, a cover crop known to sequester nutrients, growing in this raised bed. Above, right: On the south side of Pat Collins' home is the garden plot she's donating for use by Schwebbs' project. Below, left: Lisa Montez and Jared Schwebbs pause for a photo near a strip of land at the Little Lake Grange that's being considered for Schwebb's Garden Revival project. Below, right: The fertile strip of fenced-in land on the south side of the Grange has been used as a garden before.

Photos by Ree Slocum



Garden Revival

Jared Schwebbs works to put unused private garden plots back to work for the community

Jared Schwebbs is a massage therapist who has relocated to Willits from Southern California. He and his wife were drawn here to help parent his children from a former marriage and help relieve some of the mother's stress. "It's tough being a mom and it's got to be good that you have someone you can trust with your kids. I see my son already improving," he said.

In this past year he found his passion. He'd been researching different possibilities for working on something he could be passionate about around Willits. He came upon the Master Gardener's class at Mendocino College and NCO's Gardens Project where they create community gardens. He was inspired by both programs and realized that revitalizing existing gardens in Willits is the place he wanted to put a lot of energy.

"I want to do something wonderful," Schwebbs said, "and inspire my kids and show them there's some cool stuff to be done out there. If you stick to your guns, you can do something really cool. That's my drive."

The culmination of ideas came together for him when he saw a post on Instagram by someone he admires in Pennsylvania. "Why not use the infrastructure that already exists? These people want to make their gardens flourish again. So why not give them a hand and we can all eat?" he thought.

"I spread my ideas of what I want and things have been connecting. It's been really cool! I want to keep that ball rolling and see what kind of momentum we can get. I'd like to see the community unite and pool our resources to do something of interest."

Starting this project, he's already had the opportunity to work with longtime gardener Ron Woolsey in his Phoenix Garden. Woolsey has the experience of a master gardener and has studied with a variety of them. Schwebbs sees

Woolsey as "My maestro teaching me."

Woolsey said of Schwebbs: "Jared has a love for learning and is willing to take direction and suggestions. It's refreshing to see someone who's enthusiastic and working hard to make his dream a reality that will better our community." He added, "We're going to have to pass off our knowledge to younger people. It's about paying it forward."

Woolsey's getting back in shape after a few years' health hiatus. "[Schwebbs] has done the heavy labor. He got out there and broke up the soil and pulled the weeds. He used the broad fork to break the soil 18 inches down. Now I can start planting. I'm getting excited to provide food for the food bank again." He's also sharing the garden with Schwebbs who will be planting food for his family, others, and the food bank.

Willits Weekly also visited with Schwebbs and master gardener Pat Collins. She donated her raised garden bed to Schwebbs' project. When we visited, he worked with her to determine what she'd like to see in the plot. "I'd love to have the crook-necked squash planted here. It's my favorite!" she enthused.

Before Collins had the raised bed situated, she watched how the sunshine and shade moved around where she's living so she could maximize her plants' preferences – shade / partial shade / full sun. "What I've always grown here are tomatoes, squash, cucumbers, radishes, and salad kinds of stuff. I always put the cukes down at that end because there's more shade and they don't like the morning sun."

Longtime gardener and community garden advocate

Read the rest of
Garden
Over on Page 10

Willits Elementary Charter School
Kindergarten spots open!
Willits Elementary Charter School is accepting applications for the lottery to join our school in 2022-2023. We will hold the public lottery on Tuesday, May 3. Applications are available on our website and in the school office.
All applications due by Friday, April 29.
Questions: 707-459-1400

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HARRAH SENIOR CENTER
SERVING THE COMMUNITY

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE LOG

March 20 March 26

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled **141 incidents** in this 7 day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

March 20

No incidents to report

March 21

6:34 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

8:48 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 500 block of West Mendocino Avenue.

March 22

1:07 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of North Main Street.

March 23

10:25 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 200 block of East Commercial Street.

11:29 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

2:50 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

8:12 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 400 block of McKinley Street.

March 24

1:04 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Hazel Street.

6:10 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

March 25

8:04 am: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 300 block of North Main Street.

4:59 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

8:38 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

9:51 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

March 26

1:40 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

12:06 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1200 block of Locust Street.

2:40 pm: AYERS, Kyl Matthew (20) of Willits was contacted in the 200 block of School Street following a report of trespassing. He was arrested pursuant to 273.6 PC (Violation of a Protective Order) and on misdemeanor charges of petty theft with priors.

7:37 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 300 block of East Commercial Street.

11:13 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

Time to Get Ready for Wildfire

Mendocino County Fire Safe Council offers online fire safety tips

Submitted by the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council

Spring is upon us, and so is wildfire season. Drought conditions and hot weather will make this an especially dangerous year, and the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council wants you to be prepared!

MCFSC's new "Preparing for Wildfire" web page can help by providing six important steps for preparing yourself, your family, your home, and even your neighborhood for wildfire – plus a link to a fire-readiness quiz where you could win prizes to help you be even better prepared. The following steps are explained in more detail, with helpful links and videos, on the Preparing for Wildfire page at <https://firesafemendocino.org/preparing-for-wildfire/>

You will rest easier once you have taken the following steps to protect your life and home. Even the smallest of these steps could make a life-saving difference:

1) Sign up for emergency alerts. Mendocino County uses multiple systems to help with emergency communications. Make sure you are signed up for each of them, and that your information is up-to-date. You should also bookmark <https://mendoready.org/> to follow events in real time and learn your own evacuation zone.

2) Make an emergency plan for your family – including pets and livestock – so you are ready to evacuate if needed.

Key elements of a family plan include: having alternate escape routes, and practicing them if they're not familiar; identifying safe havens, out-of-area meet-up locations, and designated out-of-area contacts; creating go-kits and listing top-priority items and actions you should take; and knowing how to get your house ready for evacuation by, for example, moving flammable items away from doors and windows, turning off the gas, and leaving doors closed but not locked.

3) Make your home easy to reach and defend. During a wildfire, will you be able to evacuate safely? Can a fire engine reach your home with safe access and room for responders to park, turn around, and work? They may not be able to help you otherwise. Follow the link to MCFSC's Wildfire Risk Assessment, found in Step 3 on the "Preparing for Fire" page, so that you can identify

and address your own risks.

One easy, important improvement is a reflective address sign that's visible to responders in dark or smoky conditions. You can order an address sign on the MCFSC website.

4) Continually improve your home-hardening. Defensible space and home-hardening are the twin keys to making your home more likely to survive a wildfire. Home-hardening can keep flying embers from igniting your home – wind-borne embers can travel up to a mile in gusty winds, and are the leading cause of home ignition in wildfires.

The MCFSC has created an entire series of short, prioritized home-hardening videos (with longer versions available) at <https://firesafemendocino.org/homehardening/>.

5) Continually maintain and improve your defensible space. When firefighters are forced to choose which houses to protect, they will most likely pick the ones that already have the best chance of surviving. You can make your home one of those!

Creating defensible space means reducing and thinning vegetation, and removing flammable items, so that an approaching fire runs out of fuel before it reaches you. More information and an illustration of the three defensible space zones are waiting for you on MCFSC's new page.

6. Help your community plan and prepare. Once your own home and family are prepared, it is also smart to connect with your neighbors. In many situations, you are only as safe as your neighbors, and one of the worst threats to your home could be a vulnerable property nearby.

Neighborhood fire safe councils help you and your neighbors be prepared, improving everyone's chances of a better wildfire outcome. MCFSC's map, reached by a link in Step 6 on the "Preparing for Fire" page, tells you whether you already have a local neighborhood fire safe council in your area.

Lucky #7. Bonus Item: Know how to NOT start fires. Did you know that the vast majority of wildland fires are caused by humans? Carelessness with cars, lawnmowers, power tools, burn piles, campfires, smoking, and

Read the rest of
Tips
Over on Page 11

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At top, from left: A wrestler is close to "exposing" his opponent's back to the mat. Boden, of the Grapplin Pack, did not lose his teeth in competition. The determination on the face of this young wrestler shows her competitive spirit. This Healdsburg wrestler takes his opponent to the mat. Wayne Shull is one of the Willits Grapplin Pack organizers and the producer of the tournament.

Above: These two opponents are trying to find an opening to begin the match. At right: This young lad from Arcata won his bout and was awarded with a trophy. Below: At this level of competition, the kids will stop and listen to their coaches.

Photos by Mathew Caine

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USA Wrestling Tournament

WHS hosts over 200 Northern California competitors of all ages and has an epic win

The world of competitive wrestling is complex, nuanced, exciting and entertaining, as evidenced by the recent USA-sanctioned tournament at the Willits High School gymnasium last Saturday. Over 200 competitors, from kindergarten up through adults, gathered from all over Northern California to test their prowess and gain trophies and points for their teams.

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
mathew@willitsweekly.com

Included were the hosts, the Willits Grapplin Pack, and clubs from as far away as Petaluma, Healdsburg, Santa Rosa, East Bay, Sacramento, and Humboldt County, amongst other locations. At the end of the day's competition, Willits had emerged triumphant, garnering 128 points compared to 55 points earned by the next team down, Arcata.

The organizer of the tournament, one of the founders of the Willits Grapplin Pack, and ex-Willits High School wrestling coach, Wayne Shull loves to teach the kids the fine points of the sport. "Wrestling teaches self-discipline, how to not give up, how to overcome adversity, hard work pays off, how to challenge themselves," said Shull. "It teaches them that if they don't succeed at something the first time, they need to keep at it and get better. It teaches them to build on their weaknesses to become successful. It teaches them how to work with others. It teaches them to be on time. Put in the work and reap the rewards. No excuses and take responsibility for their own actions and preparation."

The few minutes that the athletes face each other on the mats, attempting to get their opponents to the ground and pin their shoulders, is intense, requiring skill and stamina, and an inherent knowledge of physics and human anatomy. However, despite the intensity of the competition, wrestling helps to build lifelong friendships.

"There's a comradery to wrestling," Shull continued. "When you face someone on the mat, you're giving everything you have for six minutes or less, depending on what level you're wrestling in. When you walk off that mat, the competition is over

and the friendships I've seen these kids make with kids from other clubs in other towns is awesome. They can make friends with kids all over the state with their shared experience. There's a mutual respect through combat."

The scoring in competitive wrestling can be extremely complex, depending on the style of wrestling being employed. Sometimes, more than one style is used in the same tournament. The two major styles at non-Olympic competitions are free style and folk style, which are very similar. Although the scoring can be quite different and free style creates a scenario that is faster and more intense. In both styles, the object is to control the opponent, get them off their feet, and ultimately pin them to the mat.

The differences lie in the scoring, basically. "Folk style is a style that the schools use," Shull explained. "There's a different scoring system for each style, folk and free. Once they're out of high school, the style that most use is the free style, although that style is incorporated into a lot of the youth programs, now. Free style is used in the Olympics. Free style is a lot quicker, faster paced than folk style. There are holds that are illegal in folk that are legal in free, like holds around the body and slams.

"The scoring is different as well," said Shull. "In folk style, holding someone with their back exposed to the mat, you have to hold them there for a certain amount of time to get points. If you hold them there for two seconds, you get two points. If you hold them there for five seconds, you get three points. It's called 'near fall.' In free style, if you expose a kid's back to the mat, even for one second or less, once you expose the back to the mat, you get two points. It's called 'exposure.'"

Luckily, the referees have been involved in wrestling for many

years and are trained to see all the nuances of the competition. Some of the referees, the ones who work for the USA Association (the Olympics group), oversee the rest of the crew and often officiate themselves in the USA tournaments.

"As complex as the scoring is, the referees are highly trained," said Shull. "This weekend we're going to have a couple officials who are very top tier who officiate at the state level. They won't be able to cover all the mats, so what they are going to do is act as 'head officials,' who will oversee all the other referees who are experienced at wrestling."

RESULTS:

Willits Grapplin Pack – 128
Inst. of Combat / Arcata – 55
Cloverdale – 40
Petaluma – 38
Kelseyville – 30
Healdsburg – 26
Ukiah – 25
Ferndale – 20
CORE – 19
Silverbacks – 17
Fortuna – 12
Klamath – 9
Eureka – 6
Ninjas – 6
Rancho Cotati – 6
Windsor – 3
Middletown – 1

There are several governing bodies involved in the sport as well as several associations. Willits is in the Coastal Mountain Association which is basically all the clubs from Santa Rosa to Willits. Tournaments, as the one in Willits, can involve several associations.

Shull established the Willits Grapplin Pack "to give younger kids, under sixth grade, a chance to wrestle the right way. When we started, we had 11 kids and before COVID hit we had 108 kids signed up. Right now, we still have about 40 kids who are participating all the time."

"Our last tournament, a couple of weeks ago, was the Bob Colvig invitational," explained Shull. "That was not a USA tournament. It was a Sheriff's Activity League tournament. It was a tribute to Bob Colvig who was the Willits High School wrestling

coach who I wrestled for. I have five brothers who wrestled for Bob Colvig. He was a pillar, the foundation of the WHS-wrestling legacy. He was nominated by Sports Illustrated as one of the High School Coaches of the Year. The impact that he had on the community as a whole was immeasurable. I hope to accomplish at least an eighth of what he's done."

Furry Friends Hoping for a Home

Lively Sandwich

Sandwich is a very energetic boy looking for a home with fun, love, and tons of stimulation! He is a big boy who thinks he is a small breed, and will need reminders to calm down his strengths. He is a pretty big goofball at the end of the day and loves to be around humans. Sandwich is 1 year old and weighs 61 pounds.

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



Brawny Arnold

Look at this big-headed doggie perfection! Arnold is a beefy dream-boat waiting in kennel number 12. He stays busy pumping iron, chugging protein shakes, and is hoping to adopt a human of his very own! Arnold was transferred to us after being picked up as a stray by Clearlake Animal Control. Here on site Arnold's been working out, keeping track of his gains, and is determined to help his body catch up to that gigantic head. Arnold used to be very underweight but has gained 7 pounds since his arrival and is a real-life champion! The biggest win for Arnold would be finding a forever home.



The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. Currently we are open by appointment only Wednesday through Friday, and open to the public Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 3 pm,

no appointment needed on the weekends! You may also look at our available dogs and cats on our website: www.mendocinohumanesociety.com, our Facebook page, and on www.petfinder.com.

Laid-back Cleopatra

Cleopatra is a mellow and slightly reserved 1-year-old cat. She takes some time getting to know you, but she is worth the wait.

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



CAN YOU LEND A HAND?

HEART OF THE REDWOODS
Willits
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Est. 1926

The Willits Chamber of Commerce
is looking for volunteers to help with day-to-day and special projects
Any time you can give helps us support our community!

Interested? info@willits.org or call 459-7910

WAGS
APRIL 23
12 PM - 3 PM

AND
BARRA OF MENDOCINO

WINES
DOGS FOR ADOPTION
FOOD TRUCK
PRIZES
WINE TASTING

KID FRIENDLY EVENT

The CHOSEN at the **NOYO Theater**

Tuesday, April 5, 6-8PM
Tuesday, April 12, 6-8PM

FREE SHOWING!

Come see the first ever multi-season show about the life of Jesus. Created outside of the Hollywood system, *The Chosen* allows us to see Jesus thru the eyes of those who knew Him. A non-denominational, non-church backed production completely paid for by donations. Over a million views on Facebook alone!

Refreshments next door in the Center for the Arts after the showing, plus receive a **FREE** copy of the most requested book on the life of Jesus from the Library of Congress (while supplies last).
No admission fee! Limited seating. See more of The Chosen on Facebook.

Taxes* | Investments | Insurance
Real Estate* | Payroll & Bookkeeping*

Nicholas Casagrande, EA
855.240.6606
675 S Main St, Willits, CA 95490
105 W Clay St, Ukiah, CA 95482
nicholas@ncfinancialgroup.com
nicholas.casagrande@ceteraifs.com**

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Above, left: The plume of smoke from the fire, taken from Sherwood Road just up from town. Above, right: Damage at the Oak Glenn Apartments after the March 24 fire.

The rest of Fire From Page 1

Fire, Ridgewood Ranch Fire, and CAL FIRE.

Crews stopped the fire spread at 10:30 am, and kept working to completely extinguish the fire.

"Upon arrival crews found fire coming from a lower apartment window and extending to the upper-story apartment," the press release reported. "Flames were showing below the stairwell with one occupant stuck on the balcony. The occupant was removed from the balcony by one firefighter and one unnamed resident. The occupant received a minor burn to one finger on her left hand, but denied the need for medical attention."

One of the residents, from the unit where the fire started, "presented with minor to moderate burns to his face and hands," Chief Carter reported. "He stated he was cooking when his pan caught fire. He tried to extinguish with a blanket, but the fire spread quickly, and he evacuated the apartment." This resident also denied medical attention.



Above: Little Lake firefighters Manuel Orozco and Samantha Sundvold, giving oxygen, attend to Kitty Cami, who was OK after spending the weekend at East Hill Veterinary Clinic.

Above, right: Damage at the Oak Glenn Apartments after the March 24 fire.

Photos by Mathew Caine

The rest of Rollover From Page 1

white edge line and traveled off the road. The semi-truck collided with an ascending dirt- and grass-covered embankment and then a storm drain.

The semi-truck then entered back onto US-101 where the tractor and trailers overturned onto their right side. The semi-truck began sliding on its right side in a northwesterly direction, until the cab of the Peterbilt collided with a tree along the west shoulder of US-101.

The semi-truck came to a stop, blocking both lanes of US-101, facing in a westerly direction. Driver Patmore did not sustain any injuries.

As a result of the crash, two 55-gallon drums of sodium hydroxide ruptured within the rear trailer and approximately 2 to 3 gallons spilled onto the roadway.

Due to the large quantity of hazardous commodities within the second trailer, the unknown extent of the spill, and the semi-truck blocking both lanes, US-101 was shut down.

US-101 remained closed for approximately 14 hours between Cummings Road and Woodruff Road in order to clean up the hazardous material and recover the overturned tractor and trailers.

This crash remains under investigation by the California Highway Patrol.

CAL FIRE, Caltrans, Laytonville Fire, Ukiah Valley Fire, and Mendocino County Environmental Health responded and assisted at the scene.



Above, right: Damage at the Oak Glenn Apartments after the March 24 fire.

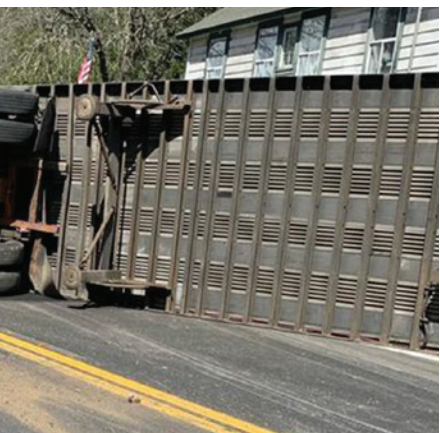
The rest of Fire From Page 1

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Above: Two trailers on their right sides after the rollover incident on Highway 101.

Below: Although the semi-truck was hauling more than 20,000 pounds of hazardous materials, only 2 or 3 gallons spilled onto the road.



Photos courtesy Caltrans

WW3782

CITY OF WILLITS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NOTICE TO BIDDERS PROJECT NO. 2022-02

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Sealed bids for:

The work shown on the project plans entitled:

**CITY OF WILLITS
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
PROJECT PLANS**

For:

**Blosser Lane Rehabilitation Project, Phase I -
Project No. 2022-02**

This project includes the following work on Blosser Lane, between the city limits to the south and the railroad tracks to the north: removal of existing AC sidewalk and concrete curb and gutter; construction of approximately 5,000 SF of new concrete sidewalk, including bulb-outs, corner ramps, and driveways; construction of approximately 1,500 LF of new curb and gutter; construction of a new concrete center median and bulb-outs for traffic calming; construction of approximately 1,900 SF of new stamped, colored concrete; installation of new signage; installation of two new storm drain inlets and construction of approximately 80 LF of new storm drain pipe; installation of three new water services; relocation of one existing sewer lateral and clean-out; construction of approximately 500 LF of new PVC irrigation line; planting of 12 new street trees with deep root watering devices for each; removal of approximately 43,000 SF of existing roadway at a depth of 17" and replacement with new subgrade fabric, base, and AC; and new paint and thermoplastic traffic markings.

IN

City of Willits, County of Mendocino, State of California &

The work described in specifications books entitled:

CITY OF WILLITS - BID BOOK & TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS
CITY OF WILLITS - PROPOSAL PACKET
CITY OF WILLITS - AWARD PACKET

For:

**Blosser Lane Rehabilitation Project, Phase I -
Project No. 2022-02**

IN

City of Willits, County of Mendocino, State of California will be received by a designated representative, of the City of Willits, County of Mendocino, State of California, until the hour of 2 p.m., April 27th, 2022, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud in the City Council Chambers, of the City of Willits, located at 111 East Commercial Street, Willits, California.

Bid forms for this work are included in a separate book entitled:

Proposal Packet For:
City of Willits
Public Works Department
Blosser Lane Rehabilitation Project, Phase I - Project No. 2022-02

Example award forms for this work are included in a separate book entitled:

Example Award Packet For:
City of Willits
Public Works Department
Blosser Lane Rehabilitation Project, Phase I - Project No. 2022-02

THE ENGINEER'S ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE COSTS IS: \$944,492.00

Key Dates:

- Pre-bid Meeting: April 14, 2022, 9:00 a.m. (on site)
- Final Questions from Bidders: April 19, 2022
- Final Addendum Issued: April 21, 2022
- Bid Opening: April 27, 2022, 2 p.m.
- Project Start Date: May 31, 2022
- Project length: 45 calendar days

Interested bidders should contact the following in order to obtain electronic copies of plans and other bid documents:

Brandy Sanderson
Public Works Administrative Assistant
bsanderson@cityofwillits.org
(707) 459-7143

Plans will be distributed electronically free of charge.

Hard copies of plans, specifications, and other bid documents are available by request for a non-refundable fee of \$40.00. Requests for hard copies should also be directed to Brandy Sanderson.

Plans and specifications are also available for review at the following Builders Exchange offices:

Construction Bidboard (Ebidboard)
11622 El Camino Real, #100
San Diego, CA 92130
Phone: 800-479-5314
Email: support@ebidboard.com
Website: www.ebidboard.com

Dodge Data & Analytics
830 Third Avenue, 6th Floor
New York, NY 10022
Phone: 877-784-9556
Email: support@construction.com
Website: www.construction.com

Humboldt Builders Exchange
1213 5th Street
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 442-3708
Website: www.humbx.com

North Coast Builders Exchange
1030 Apollo Way
Santa Rosa, CA 95407
707-542-9502
707-542-2027
Website: www.ncbeonline.com

CITY OF WILLITS: s/Cathy Moorhead, Deputy City Manager/
City Clerk
DATED: 03/30/22

Publication Dates: March 31, April 7, 2022



Current Job Openings:

Account Specialist Supervisor
Air Quality Management
District Administrative Coordinator
Business Systems Analyst

Chief Planner
Chief Planner – Cannabis Program

Communication Technician
Corrections Deputy

Department Analyst I/II
Deputy County Counsel II/III/IV

Deputy District Attorney I/II/III
Deputy Probation Officer I/II

Deputy Public Defender I/II/III/IV
Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II

Eligibility Specialist II
Environmental Health Technician

Human Resources Director
Juvenile Corrections Officer –

Extra-Help
Legal Assistant

Legal Secretary II
Nutritionist- Extra-Help

Program Specialist I
Public Health Nurse

Registered Nurse
Senior Business Systems Analyst

Senior Planner – Cannabis Program
Senior Program Manager –

Family Children's Services
Senior Program Manager – Nursing

Senior Public Health Nurse
Sheriff's Technology Specialist

Supervising Public Health Nurse

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

www.governmentjobs.com/careers/mendocinoca
EOE

WW381

NOTICE OF SALE OF GOODS TO SATISFY SELF STORAGE FACILITY LIEN

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

The undersigned will sell at public sale by competitive bidding on the 8th day of April, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. on the premises where said property has been stored and which are located at GLENMARK NORTH 395 North Main Street, Willits, CA 95490, County of Mendocino, State of California the following:

Dawn Bruton	419
Vicki Chambers	427
Dan Hendleman	416
Dan Hendleman	612
Mark Narvaez	717
Krista Switzer	314
310	

The goods are described as: Furniture, sporting goods, tools, household items, misc toys

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

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

Publication Dates: March 27, April 7, 2022

Tom Wake Plumbing

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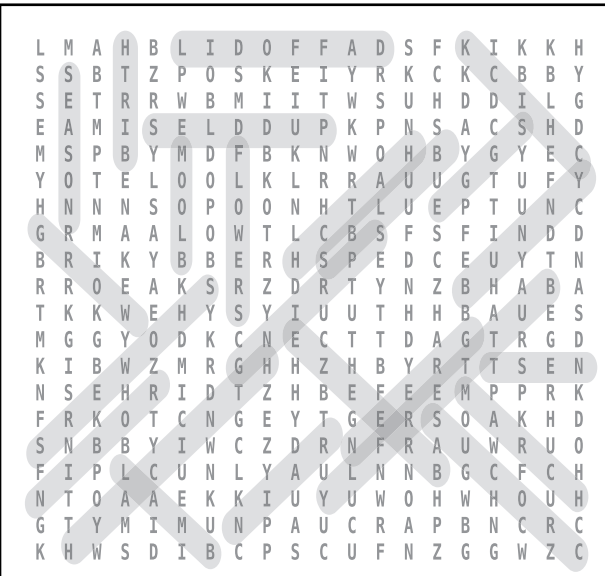
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LEGAL NOTICES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Case No. 22PR00028

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

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

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

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

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:
Date: April 7, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. in Dept. TM of the Mendocino County Superior Court, located at 700 S Franklin St #144, Fort Bragg, CA 95437.

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

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

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

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

Publication Dates: March 17, 24 and 31, 2022

Marc Komer

Legal Document Assistant

An Affordable Non-Attorney Service

(707) 459-2775

245 South Humboldt St., Suite B, Willits

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

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



CLASSIFIEDS

Computer Help

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

For Rent

Small one bedroom cottage for rent – nice neighborhood west of Main St., 4 min. walk to downtown, separate entrance and fenced yard, off street parking. Water, electric, included. You pay propane. One year lease \$850 mo. / \$850 dep. Available April 1. 707-456-9185

Help Wanted

Medical Scribe Needed. Full-time, onsite in Willits, self-motivated, organized, and professional medical scribe with experience in orthopedics, Spanish speaking. Willing to train. Please send resume/questions to Daisy at MaesTopNotchNotes@gmail.com.

Help Wanted

Thrift Store Merchandise Processor/Stocker. \$15.00 Hour Full Time (40 hours weekly). Send resume, including 3 references to wsidirector@willitscenterforthearts.org or pick up application at the Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Rd. or call Richard Baker at 459-6826 for more information. Must be able to lift furniture and have valid CA driver's license.

Freezer Empty? We can help!

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

RV/Trailer Space for Rent

Space for RV's and Trailers \$425 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 972-4696. See at <http://www.oakrivne.net/tip>

Willits Food Bank Open

Willits Community Services & Food Bank continues to distribute food, following COVID-19 safety provisions, to hungry families and individuals in the Willits area, with an increase in numbers served. Donations can be mailed or dropped off at the front office at 229 East San Francisco Avenue, Willits CA 95490 – knock or leave in the locked mailbox in front. Food distribution is available at the back door on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 4:30 pm. Info: 459-3333.

Help Wanted

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

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

Classified ads are just \$10 for 30 words for 2 weeks! Deadline is every Monday!

The rest of AU20 From Page 3

According to the Kennedy Center for the Arts:

- Taking art classes helps teens enjoy and stay in school. Students can take the skills learned from their arts experiences, such as discipline, patience, and problem-solving and apply them throughout their lives.

- Taking classes in the arts helps teens graduate on time. For example, a recent report from the Center for Arts Education found that New York City high schools with the most access to and support for arts education have the city's highest graduation rates.

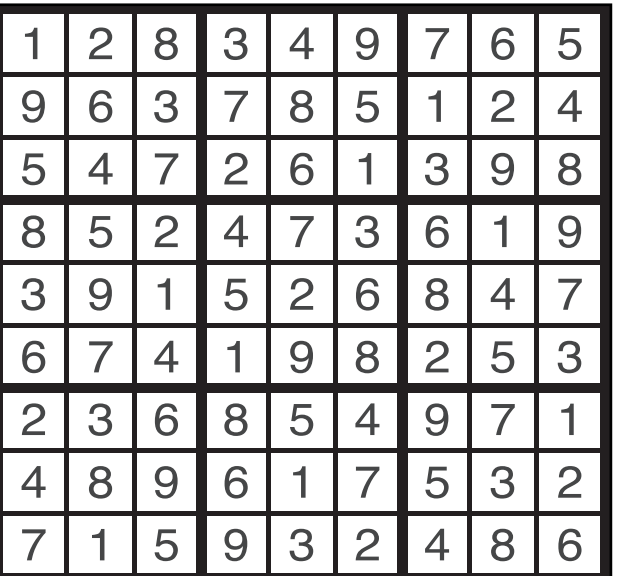
- Arts education can be a gateway to the future. Arts-related businesses provide jobs in creative fields ranging from advertising and video-game design to fashion and theater management. The creative sector needs more than just artists, too – it needs accountants, marketers, computer technicians, lawyers, and many others.

- The arts can help in applying to college. The College Board has found that students who take classes in the arts for four years in high school scored substantially higher on the SATs than students with six months or less training in the arts.

The show opens virtually very soon and can be viewed on the Willits Center for the Arts website at www.willitscenterforthearts.org.

The Willits Center for the Arts gallery is open Friday through Sunday 11 am to 5 pm.

Please contact Carolyn Bakewell with questions: CarolynBakewell@willitsunified.com.



Annie Waters is another mentor of Schwabs'. She helped him break down his Garden Revival project into manageable pieces.

Schwabs has several garden plots already donated to the project from people in the Willits community. He sees himself as the one who oversees the projects, who works on some, while recruiting volunteers. He has plots offered and needs help from others to get involved in projects that will feed themselves, the garden owner, and beyond.

He mentioned other hosts and what they have. One person has 10 fruit trees and wants help trimming, harvesting and donating the leftover fruit. Another one has double-dug garden beds and wants assistance having her well primed. The former garden at Little Lake Grange has a long side yard that will probably be plumbed for water this year. Wildflowers and some herbs are growing there. It's lush with southern exposure and some shade. Granger Lisa Montez said about the Grange's garden plot, "I get really thrown off by the drought right now."

Schwabs, who likes working with people, replied, "We'll have to be water-wise. Some people are blessed with wells. Some aren't. That's where the beauty of phase two [where the gardens bring in money for garden needs] could come in. [For example] if we're able to generate some income from CSAs, then we can assist people with their water bills and that might open up more lots or plots that produce food."

"My goal is to inspire my kids. If they see me do it, I hope it plants a seed in their minds that tells them they can do whatever they want because it's possible. At least try. Put effort towards it so you can find out."

He leaves us with these inspirational words, "This is a chance to earn what I like to call 'heart money' by giving the greatest sacrifice, a little bit of your time."

To contact Jared Schwabs, email him at jaredschwabs@gmail.com.

The Story: Adventure, romance, slapstick buddy-comedy with a hidden treasure. Abigail Fairfax (Daniel Radcliffe) is the treacherous ruthless bad guy with a gender-peculiar name, and an unrelenting lust for a legendary jeweled crown. Loretta Sage (Sandra Bullock) is the shut-in author of paperback novels, which feature sweaty bodice-ripping and cliff hanger thrills in exotic places.

model on Loretta's trashy, but popular novels. Abigail is convinced that Loretta has some unsuspected skills that will help him find the lost jeweled crown. Much action follows. Motorcycle chases. Shootings. Leeches. Discovering true love. That kind of action. Brad Pitt is involved, too.

My Thoughts: When we call a movie "a Hollywood movie," this is what we mean. It's mostly pleasant and predictable with well-known movie stars. It's an amusing distraction from the COVID horror show and the Ukraine horror show, and the apparently seditious behavior of our politicians, not to mention the prices at the pump. It's an escape from reality, and I apologize for even mentioning reality in my review. So, take a deep breath and relax. There are no messages in this flick. There is absolutely nothing in "The Lost City" to think about when it's over.

Parents: (Spoilers!) This movie should have been kid-friendly. But it's not. It was made for teens and grown-ups. There is adult-ish humor. Channing Tatum gets naked. His nudity is played for laughs. Sandra Bullock speaks quite amusingly about his penis. Fine. OK. What really bothered me as a parent? One of the attractive main characters gets shot in the head. And graphic splatter follows. Heroes should not be killed. Not in kid-friendly movies.

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

'Train for Ukraine' event hosted by Mendocino's Skunk Train on April 2

Submitted by the Skunk Train

The Skunk Train is running two trains to support the Ukrainian cause. All of the proceeds from these trips will go to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Trains will depart from both Willits and Fort Bragg and treats will be available to purchase. Riders will each receive a special bag of assorted Roshen Ukrainian candy, and there will be specialty alcoholic Ukrainian beverages for the adults. At the respective turnaround spots, riders will have a chance to disembark for 30 minutes and relax or enjoy a variety of games.

The benefit train rides are scheduled for Saturday, April 2. The Willits train departs at 4:30 pm (2-hour trip) and the Fort Bragg train departs at 4 pm (1.5-hour trip). Guests should arrive at least 30 minutes prior to departure as the train leaves promptly.

Tickets are \$75 for adults; \$30 for children (ages 2 to 12); and \$10 for children under the age of 2. They can be purchased at www.skunktrain.com/train-for-ukraine.

The Willits Depot is located at 299 East Commercial Street and the Fort Bragg Depot is located at 100 West Laurel Street.

Linda Sue Gravlee Wiley, 77, passed away peacefully at home on December 2, 2021 surrounded by her loved ones after a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Linda was born on April 17, 1944 in Willits.

Linda went on to study social work at college in Ukiah. Here, she earned her AA in social work.

After graduation, Linda helped found the Project Sanctuary House for Battered Women in Ukiah. This is where Linda first discovered her passion for helping others. After spending many years with the Project Sanctuary, Linda went on to continue her career as a social worker working from Ukiah to Fort Bragg.

After retiring Linda spent her time volunteering at the Willits Senior Center where she met many wonderful friends. She also enjoyed spending time with her only daughter Danette, and she was very involved and active in the lives of her four grandchildren.

She had a heart of gold and a smile that could light up the room. Everyone in town knew who she was, whether it be from social work, volunteering, or even her other jobs such as her business Sparkle Plenty housecleaning and private in-home care for the elderly.

Linda greeted everyone with a warm hug and always made everyone feel loved and special.

Linda is predeceased by her parents Frank Gravlee and Veda Gallagher; siblings, Billy Gravlee, Evon Gravlee, and Patsy Herring; her two sons Leroy Wiley, Jr. and James Fitch. She is survived by her only daughter Danette Fitch of Ukiah; her brother

James Gravlee of Ukiah; four grandchildren: Chelsie, Andrew, Fred, and Ashley; and two great-grandchildren: Darlene and Aria.



Linda was a wonderful mother, sister, daughter, aunt, grandma, great-grandma, friend, and confidante. She touched the lives of so many people.

The family of Linda Sue Gravlee Wiley would like to request all of Linda's loved ones to please join them in celebrating her life on Saturday, April 16, 2022 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm at the Willits Community Center, 11 Commercial Street, Willits. Coffee and light desserts will be served.

May her smile and heart never be forgotten.



sidewalks, trees, and a redesigned kid-friendly roadway with median strips and traffic calming bulb-outs.

Not included in the project is a bike lane, much to the disappointment of our local bicycle brigades. This is not an oversight, but a carefully weighed decision based on the fact that there are no contiguous bicycle-lane connections to the rest of Willits. With Highway 20 just north of the project and busy narrow streets south of the project, the city felt that a bike lane is not a good idea, citing safety concerns. "We don't want to encourage kids to ride their bikes," explained Jeremy Ronco of the Willits Engineering Department.

Part of the Blosser Lane project will be significant changes to parking and student drop-off and pick-up in front of the school, a concern of council member Greta Kanne. While the city and the school district like the project, Kanne wants to be sure parents are not caught by surprise when school reopens in the fall. She recommended a summer-long publicity barrage so everyone will be on the same page – or at least the same parking spaces – come the first day of the new school year.

More virtual council meetings (oh joy). COVID is still very much with us and though new cases are down, caution is the eldest child of wisdom. So the city council cautiously decided to continue to have their meetings online for at least another month.

City Manager Brian Bender cautioned the city council that should they return to in-person meetings, the council cannot require the public to wear masks or socially distance themselves. Alas, the miserable "can-you-hear-me?" broken discussions will slog on. *Will Caller 2 please mute your microphone.*

The mid-year budget update from Finance Director Manuel Orozco had no surprises, but did finally disclose what the new assistant city manager position will cost the city: an additional \$115,000 a year in salary and benefits. Orozco's report was quick to point out that "all ongoing

appropriations are covered with existing increases in ongoing tax revenues."

A British historian by the name of C. Northcote Parkinson wrote a book in 1957 that is still a best seller 65 years later, "Parkinson's Law," a theory about income and expenses that says basically, the more we get, the more we spend. Most people would argue that it's no theory.

New Fire Chief Bill Carter introduced himself to the council. A 35-year resident of Willits and long-time owner of Commercial Tire and Auto (Auto Mart Repair), Carter has been a Willits firefighter for 14 years.

Carter told the council that there are 35 men and women in the fire department, all but three of them volunteers, and all of them fully trained for any and all emergencies. "We are an all-risk department responding to fires, both structural and wildland, traffic collisions, medical emergencies, swift water rescue, hazmat situations, search and rescue."

The new firehouse is fully operational, but still has another month and a half of adjustments and kinks to work out. The firehouse has live-in sleeping quarters for firefighters, invaluable during emergencies like the Redwood Valley fire in 2017 that was threatening Willits and had firefighters at the station 24 hours a day, but also in anticipation of the possibility that Willits could, in the future, become a full-time paid department. The fire department now gets over 800 calls a year, and every response is unavoidably delayed until firefighters can stop whatever they're doing, drive to the firehouse, and head out.

"These men and women train and respond on their own time, no compensation," added Carter. "Unfortunately, times are getting harder. Everybody has to work so hard just to make a living. Hopefully in the future we can man those sleeping quarters with overnight paid personnel who can respond on a moment's notice." With a full-time paid fire department, the chief said: "The moment a call comes in, they can respond. That would be a valuable service to the community, and especially for people in need. That's something we're really, really striving for in the near future."

needed to conduct the burn safely, while minimizing the chance for fire escape. Permits are valid for the calendar year in which they are issued and must be reissued annually on or after January 1 of each year.

• Mendocino County Air Management District: <http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/aqmd/burning-information.html>

Burn permits can be obtained at the CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit Howard Forest Headquarters in Willits, from 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday, or at your local CAL FIRE station. Not all CAL FIRE stations are staffed seven days a week; please call before traveling to your nearest station to assure staff will be available to assist you.

Important: CAL FIRE burn permits are only for residents who live in the state responsibility area, generally "lands exclusive of cities and federal lands," or where CAL FIRE has

jurisdictional authority. It is the responsibility of the landowner to check with local agencies to determine any additional permits that might be required and if there are any additional burning restrictions for their area.

You must have possession of a signed permit while you are conducting a burn. If you lose your permit or it expires you will need to obtain another permit before you start burning.

Before you burn, call Mendocino County Air Quality Management District at 707-463-4391 to confirm that you have all the required burn permits and to ensure it is a permissive burn day. Burning can only be done on permissive burn days and is prohibited on non-burn days. The Air Quality Management District also posts burn day status information online at: <http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/aqmd/burning-information.html>

CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit reminds everyone that it is their individual responsibility to use fire safely and to prevent fires. Anyone with questions is urged to contact the Mendocino CAL FIRE Howard Forest Headquarters at 459-7414, or their nearest CAL FIRE station.

fireworks is the most common cause of some of our biggest wildfires. Just say no to careless fire risk! See the video on MCFSC's ""Preparing for Wildfire" page for more tips.

The Mendocino County Fire Safe Council is also offering a short quiz contest about wildfire safety. All of the answers can be found on the MCFSC website (some even in this article). All successfully answered quizzes will be placed in a drawing for wonderful prizes including a professional home risk assessment, gift certificates, or a full go-bag stocked for up to four people.

The quiz can be found at <https://firesafemendocino.org/preparing-for-wildfire/>

Prizes will be awarded after MCFSC's Homebrew Festival and Wildfire Safety Expo – another fun opportunity to learn all about getting yourself and your family ready for wildfire season – at the Anderson Valley Brewing Company in Boonville, 3 to 6 pm on Saturday, May 21. Find out more about that event at <https://www.mendohomebrewfest.com/>.

If you do not have internet access, or for more information, you may call the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council at 707-462-3662, or email admin@firesafemendocino.org

What's included in the Summer Camp program: Breakfast, snack (you provide lunch), fun, friends, adventure and creative activities. Fields trips and swimming are in the planning stage, with details to follow.

Willits Kids Club's goal is that every child who enrolls between April 18 and 22 will be able to participate in at least one two-week camp. We will try and accommodate all children in as many camps as possible. Space is limited.

Info for sixth-grade through eighth-grade enrollment coming later. To learn more about Willits Kids Club, visit www.willitskidsclub.org or follow their page on Facebook.

The deadline for placing a measure on the

Smith, 34, of Willits, and the passenger was an adult female.

The deputy learned the subjects did not live at the address they pulled into and did not know the residents. The deputy conducted a records check on both subjects and found Smith was on probation with terms to obey all laws and submit to search.

A search of the vehicle was conducted. In a plastic container, with magnets attached to it, was suspected controlled substance, a digital scale, packaging material and other drug paraphernalia.

There was more drug paraphernalia located in the center console. Due to the evidence and the deputy's training and experience, the controlled substance appeared to be possessed for sale.

Smith was arrested for possession of a controlled substance for sale (11378 HS: possession of methamphetamine for sale), construction of a false compartment (11366.8(B) HS), and violation of probation (1203.2 PC).

Smith was booked into the Mendocino County Jail where he was to be held in lieu of \$25,000 bail.



Liam Smith of Willits.

"Generally considering the Brooktrails community's support for suppression and structure protection," the staff report for the item read, "coupled with fire hardening and vegetation management needs for battling a year-round fire season, a ballot measure is recommended," that would increase the parcel tax on occupied properties from \$99 per year to \$150."

According to the staff report: "One-time PG&E settlement funds have been instrumental in keeping the fire department in the black for two years. Looking forward to the next two fiscal years, revenue projections cannot include PG&E settlement funds."

Also, the board of supervisors may not continue distributing discretionary Proposition 172 funding to county fire districts. Another issue is that although the fire department budget included transient occupancy tax or "bed tax" funds from the county, they haven't received any money from the county yet this year, due to issues with the county's new software system.

Brooktrails General Manager Tamara Alaniz said, "We need to start the discussion about making the necessary steps now," to assure the fire department is properly funded in the future.

The Brooktrails Fire Department is funded through multiple sources, but the primary revenue for the department is derived from a property tax assessment. Before 2004, the property assessment was \$25/parcel. In 2004, the assessment was increased to \$45 for improved and \$25 for unimproved properties. After an unsuccessful attempt to raise the assessment, a June 2014 election raised the amount to \$99 for improved and unimproved properties.

The staff report said that voter approval of a fire tax increase from \$99 to \$150 on occupied properties would support a fire department budget of operations, maintenance and staffing for a minimum of seven years at current projections. Occupied property owners would annually pay \$51 more on their property tax, and vacant property owners would not pay more.

The deadline for placing a measure on the

November 2022 ballot is in June, making it difficult to complete the process in time this year. "Therefore, if board direction is to move forward, the district would more likely be looking at a 2023 ballot measure."

Help with water bills

General Manager Alaniz touted the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program, set to launch in May in California. LIHWAP is a one-time application process wherein customers who need assistance in paying their water bill can apply. "There is approximately \$360 million available to assist customers," Alaniz said. "If customers apply the program will send the check directly to the district on behalf of the customer."

To learn more or to sign up for a notification when the program starts, visit www.csd.ca.gov/waterbill.

Illegal dumping

Alaniz then addressed the issue of illegal dumping. "The Department of Transportation at the county has said that they can develop a process to close off streets with no homes that are getting illegally dumped after the dumping is cleaned up," she reported. "Of course, that's a process. We have to go through the Solid Waste Authority, which is who we direct our customers to refer their complaints and Code Enforcement if there are code violations."

"There are going to be steps taken to, hopefully, mitigate some of the really bad dump sites. There has been significant dumping on uninhabited streets or cul de sacs for quite some time. Alaniz stated. "I just want to say for the public record that this board decries illegal dumping. Our staff receives so much grief from people who feel grief over illegal dumping and littering. We cannot, by law, spend water, wastewater or fire money on illegal dumping. But, what we can do is turn to the resources that we do have, and we can, hopefully, get the ball rolling in these [problem] areas to perform clean up."

Supervisor Haschak commented, regarding illegal dumping, "I was in contact with Trent Taylor with Code Enforcement

and told him that we were looking for more support from the county in dealing with the dumping issue." The board thanked him for his input.

Public comment

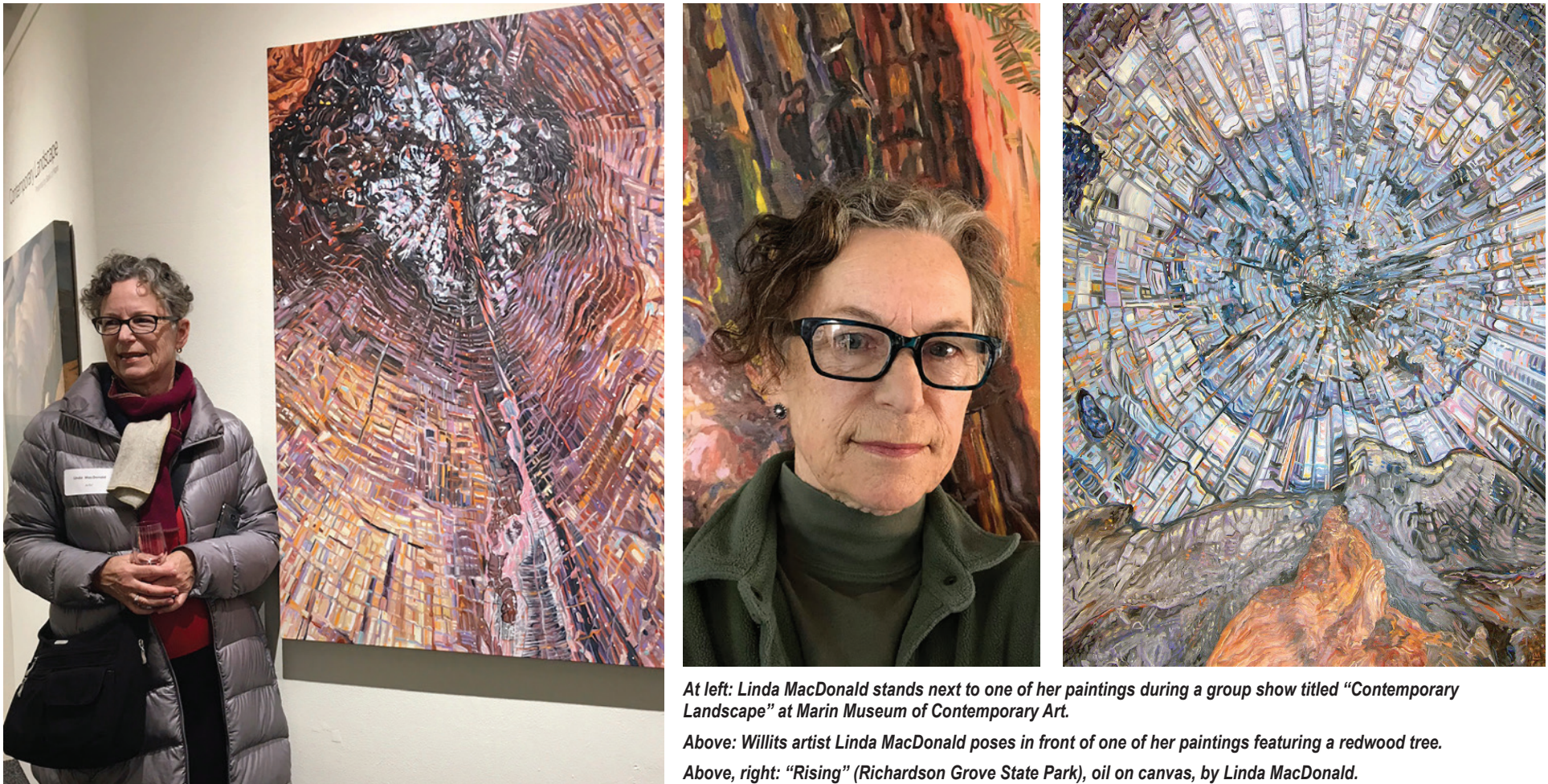
Brooktrails resident Roger Patereau appeared before the board to discuss a very high water usage bill, for 85,000 gallons of water, that he had received for the month of December. Director Tony Orth said, "Mr. Patereau is looking for an appeal regarding this bill." Board President Rick Williams said that the item will be agendaized for the April 12 board meeting.

Brooktrails resident Frank Sanderson came before the board and asked that they consider assessing a \$15 per year fee for unimproved lots to join in the process to pay for the emergency access road. Director Orth responded: "These types of assessments are property-related and the benefit to each property, improved and unimproved, is determined by an engineering study. And, an example is because this is to maintain the road structure for emergency equipment to come into Brooktrails while we go out on Sherwood Road, those people who own unimproved lots who are already paying an assessment for the abatement program that makes their lots as fire-safe as our fire department can get it – are already paying \$99 per year, so when an engineer looks at this, it is a \$0 benefit change. So, generally, with property votes you don't want to charge for something that someone doesn't receive a benefit for."

Request to increase garbage rates

Due to impacts from rapidly rising diesel costs, Solid Wastes of Willits has asked for a mid-year rate increase of 1.98%. The proposed increase, typically, for those customers with weekly pickup would be \$0.76 per month or \$9.12 annually. The recommended action is to direct staff to schedule a public hearing for June 14, 2022 to consider a resolution to adopt increased solid waste rates.

The Accounts Payable in the amount of \$121,447.51 was approved by the full board.



At left: Linda MacDonald stands next to one of her paintings during a group show titled “Contemporary Landscape” at Marin Museum of Contemporary Art.
Above: Willits artist Linda MacDonald poses in front of one of her paintings featuring a redwood tree.
Above, right: “Rising” (Richardson Grove State Park), oil on canvas, by Linda MacDonald.

Willits artist Linda MacDonald featured at Ukiah’s Corner Gallery in April

By Laura Fogg, for the Corner Gallery

Renowned Willits artist Linda MacDonald will grace the front windows of the Corner Gallery in Ukiah with “a little bit of everything” as she laughingly puts it, for the month of April. Originally known for her pioneering work in the field of art-quilting, Linda eventually found that “storytelling was harder to do in quilts,” so she has completely switched her medium to watercolor and oil painting. Her show, titled “Trees and Tall Tales,” will feature everything to do with the Redwood Empire, humorous and serious, large and small, in drawings and paintings in watercolor and oil. Most of the work will never have been seen in Ukiah.

MacDonald provided an artist statement which says it best:

“Northern California is filled with natural beauty but fraught with extremes: high mountains to low valleys; raging wild rivers to controlled aqueducts moving the water south; tall redwoods to pygmy forests, and on and on. We are in a period of climate change with global warming, summer fires, and drought being the norm. My artwork is a reflection of the events that occur around me, that I hear about and see. I like to create narratives about these events that will entertain viewers and draw them within. In

particular I have focused on two topics: the coast redwood trees and logging.

“Logging is of special interest because that was the main economic force in the northwest for the past century,” MacDonald’s artist statement continues. “It is now in decline because most of the trees have been cut: the virgin redwoods and fir, then the second growth, and then the third. Rural economies have to adapt and create new income sources. Old logging sites are still alive in aging tourist attractions and in our imaginations. I like to use those images and the old west lore to put together a visual story that is somewhat fantasy and reality mixed, but promotes the continuance of the stories.

“Humor is a part of my image delivery,” she says. “I want to have some fun while I draw and paint and create drama. The oddities of California’s architecture, and its flora and fauna are to be admired. I think of Watts Towers, the banana slug, and Pacific giant salamander as great examples of unique California icons. Also, the use of humor allows us to view the not so pleasant aspects of California life in a way that is approachable without being offensive. News medias deliver the daily negative onslaught of reality. I want to put forth the issues without sending the audience away. Humor can add levity to the social issues we deal with day to day.


“How to portray the magnificence of the giant redwoods?,” she asks. “I paint the interiors of them, Coast and Sequoia: their shapes, negative and positive, their colors, and their incredible beauty. The history of their aging is there in the wood – it is marred, burned and charred, graffiti-laden, smooth, textured or curly. Logging was a large economic force in California and still is. Within the old redwoods not cut, there are visual graphics to be read of climate change and human intervention. The trees show the changes created by human-produced climate and population forces and are the symbols of longevity, resilience within strife, and nature in all its glory. I photograph, sketch and record the interiors of these trees and then, back in the studio, I print images of them as source material for my watercolors and large oils. Hopefully, my artworks will create dialogue and inquiry as to where these trees are located and what their status is. I want to spark interest in visiting them, acknowledge their value and help in preserving them.”

The First Friday opening of this show will be on Friday, April 1 from 5 to 8 pm at the Corner Gallery, 201 South State Street in Ukiah. Live music will be provided by Chris Gibson. Guests are asked to please wear masks for the safety of all, given the continuing threat of COVID exposure in indoor settings.

ADVENTIST HEALTH CELEBRATES OUR
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National
Doctors’ Day

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022

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