William Online & Print Online & Print EST. 2013 VCE Coversh how are wall week wall where we want and the covers are week wall where we want and the covers are week wall and the covers are week wall and the covers are well as a cover where we want are well as a cover where we will also a cover where we want are well as a cover where we will also a c willitsweekly@gmail.com Thursday, April 6, 2023 Donations Accepted Edition No. 495

BOS 'clarifies' tree rules for pot

grows

Forrest Glyer Reporter willitsweekly@gmail.com

The Mendocino County of Supervisors voted 4 to 1 to approve an amendment last week to provide "clarity" on tree removal regulations for cannabis applicants, which could loosen the restrictions for cultivators and provide more leeway for some currently held up in the application process.

Essentially the new "vegetation modification" guidelines would open up to allow the removal of trees for development of

Read the rest of Rules

Over on Page 13

Panel discusses

cannabis tourism, economy

Forrest Glyer Reporter willitsweekly@gmail.com

During a March 17 forum called "Cannabis and Tourism: Moving the Economy Forward" Mendocino County Museum, guest speakers from various backgrounds generally struck a positive and hopeful tone about the future of cannabis in the county despite the current struggles of the industry.

Among the topics of discussion were efforts to draw visitors to the county for canna-tourism types of activities, the long and fruitful legacy of cannabis

Read the rest of Tourism

Over on Page 6

MCSO seeks Covelo murder suspect

Submitted by Mendocino **County Sheriff's Office**

County Mendocino Sheriff's Office has announced that Lee Anthony Joaquin is currently wanted in connection with the recent homicide of Nicholas Shehli Whipple, 20, of Redwood Valley that occurred in Covelo in the early morning hours of Wednesday, March 29.

Joaquin is an adult male standing 5 feet 5 inches tall and weighing approximately 180 pounds. Joaquin has shoulder-length hair that is sometimes pulled back in a ponytail.

Joaquin is considered armed and dangerous.

Anyone with information

Read the rest of Wanted

Over on Page 15





Show of Support for Schindels

Cancer diagnosis for well-loved Willitsian opens hearts and pocketbooks of community

For the past 40 years, Greg and Donna Schindel and their family have been a part of the Willits community sharing gardening, music, art, and warm-hearted spirits with the town.

Now, they're in need, Recently Grea Schindel, who also goes by the wellknown moniker and persona "Train Singer," singing and entertaining on the Skunk Train, was diagnosed with prostate cancer.

"This diagnosis means he will need to start hormone therapy and radiation treatments to slow the cancer and relieve the bone pain. With only MediCare and no supplemental insurance we have quickly exhausted our savings," explains Donna through their Go Fund Me page. "Donations would help us with medical expenses and with transportation to treatments. We are grateful for any donation. If you are unable to donate, please consider sharing this link: https://gofund.me/ dfa79198.

If you prefer, you may send checks, payable to Greg or Donna Schindel, PO Box 1376, Willits, CA 95490."

At presstime, \$34,000 has been raised.

An event is also planned on Sunday, April 16 to continue raising funds for the Schindels. The event will be held at the Willits Center for the Arts, and coordinators are hoping for donations of items to be auctioned at the event.

Items can be dropped off at Shanachie Pub or Flying Dog Pizza during their business hours: Wednesday through Saturday from 3 to 9 pm by Friday, April 14.



Above: Even with the diagnosis, Greg Schindel, center right, keeps his spirits up with the petanque players, including Tim Gregory, John Wagenet, holding the leash of mascot Barlow the dog, and Tony Orth.

"We are so overwhelmed by the outpouring of support from the community," said the Schindels. "We're speechless, and it's just unexplainable how amazing this community really is."

For more information about the upcoming event, contact Cyndee at 707-972-3736.

- Maureen Jennison

Hoax 'shooter' calls

lock down county high schools

Jennifer Poole Editor & Reporter willitsweekly@gmail.com

Willits High School was locked down on Monday afternoon, April 3, in response to hoax calls claiming an active shooter and multiple injured students - first allegedly at Fort Bragg High School, and later at Ukiah and Willits high schools.

The first call, received at 1:11 pm by Fort Bragg Police Dispatch on a non-

Read the rest of Hoax

Over on Page 15

Brooktrails budget, fire tax meetings set for Saturday

Barbara O'Reardon willitsweekly@gmail.com

All directors were in attendance at the March 28 Brooktrails Township Community Services District board meeting. Board President Rick Williams attended remotely via zoom. Vice-President Tyler-O'Shea conducted the meeting.

Director Ed Horrick noted that he'd attended the recent Recreation-Greenbelt Committee meeting. The committee had a Trail Work Day on Sunday, March 23. The group will meet again on April 27.

Read the rest of Meetings

Over on Page 15

WPD makes animal cruelty, trespass arrests

By Sgt. S. Gray for WPD

On March 30, 2023 at about 8:23 pm, Willits Police Department officers were dispatched to 283 Sherwood Road in Willits for a report of unwanted subjects. The address been previously condemned ("red tagged"), and signs are posted advising "No Trespassing."

Upon their arrival, the WPD officers contacted Jason Gower (31, Willits) and Haley Tyrrell (30, Willits) in a shack at the rear of the main residence after they attempted to barricade themselves inside. Gower immediately became combative and resistive,

Read the rest of Cruelty

Over on Page 13

What do **YOU think?**

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Support for Brooktrails Fire

Department To the Editor:

I am writing to you regarding a proposed Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services Assessment for Brooktrails Township CSD.

The Brooktrails Fire Department has served our community for over 50 years. To continue providing a full-time staff of three firefighters, maintain and replace aging apparatus, and respond to increasing numbers of calls for assistance from the community, we will be asking for additional contributions from the Brooktrails community.

Current contributions from the community are less than \$10 per month per parcel (\$99 per year). The Brooktrails Township Board of Directors will be asking the community to support an approximately \$6 per month increase to provide sustainable revenues for maintaining current staffing levels and preserving the critical equipment and services provided by the Brooktrails Fire Department.

All of the funding from this assessment ballot measure will be kept in Brooktrails and only spent on the Fire Department. We will ask Brooktrails residents to agree to the benefit assessment and contribute a total of \$16 per month per improved parcel for continued service by the Brooktrails Fire Department.

R. Rick Williams, board president, Brooktrails Community Services District

'Feel the Love' for Greg Schindel

Many of us are now aware that Greg Schindel, our Train Singer, needs help with the cost of medical treatment.

I met Greg in the late 1970s at a country party. As I watched him dancing with the children and entertaining the grownups with his charming songs and dynamic guitar playing, I thought "This is an exceptional human being." More than 50 years later, that initial impression has been reinforced many times over.

As a substitute teacher, Greg has been a perennial favorite of students and teachers alike. He has graced many a benefit and concert with his contagious personality and wit. Greg has been the music master at the St. Francis Episcopal Church since it was built, and he faithfully tends the gardens there as well.

And he has done something no other could do: He further elevated our internationally known Skunk Train to greater heights by creating the iconic Train Singer persona, now a registered trademark.

Today Greg and his family need our help. On Sunday, April 16, from 2 to 7 pm, the Willits Center for the Arts presents "Feel the Love," a benefit for Greg Schindel.

There will be entertainment by top musicians and poets, food from Emandal and drink from local providers, a classy silent auction, and a superior live auction.

Please join us with \$10 each to enter and more in your pocket for the special items in the auctions.

If you can't make it that day, you may contribute to the GoFundMe page. Type GoFundMe.com, then search for "Greg Schindel" or "Train Singer."

You can find information on live and silent auction items that you can acquire at the event, how to give your items to the effort, and other show details on Hal Wagenet's

The dynamic coalition of your friends and neighbors is spearheaded by Cyndee Logan. Call her at 707-972-3736 for good answers about all things related to "Feel the Love."

Hal Wagenet, Willits

The Rules: LETTERS

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

Typed letters can be sent to Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490, but email is preferred. Letters and commentaries must be submitted with a name, address and phone number, although only the author's name and city of residence will be published. No letters from an anonymous source will be published, although a request to withhold the writer's name will be considered.



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A PROCLAMATION

OF THE WILLITS CITY COUNCIL

Recognizing National Public Safety Telecommunications Week, April 9-15, 2023

WHEREAS, emergencies can occur at any time that require police, fire or emergency medical services, and, when an emergency occurs the prompt response of Police Officers, Firefighters and Paramedics is critical to the protection of life and preservation of property; and,

WHEREAS, the safety of our Police Officers and Firefighters is dependent upon the quality and accuracy of information obtained from citizens who telephone the Willits Dispatch communications center over 11,000 times for calls for service annually; and

WHEREAS, professional Public Safety Dispatchers are the first and most critical contact our community members have with emergency services and they play a vital role within the Police Department to protect and provide service to our diverse community with professionalism, integrity and respect; and

WHEREAS, our frontline first responder Dispatchers are dedicated, highly trained individuals who perform as a vital link between our Police Officers and community members by monitoring their activities over the radio and telephone, providing responders with key information, ensuring their safety and the public at large; and,

WHEREAS, the Public Safety Dispatchers of the Willits Police Department work in conjunction with field personnel to preserve and uphold the law with compassion and fairness and who have contributed substantially to the apprehension of criminals, and facilitated with suppression of fires and treatment of

WHEREAS, each Dispatcher has exhibited compassion, understanding and professionalism during the performance of their job in the past year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greta Kanne, Mayor of the City of Willits, along with Vice Mayor Gerry Gonzalez, and Council members Madge Strong, Saprina Rodriguez and Larry Stranske, do hereby proclaim the week of April 9th through 15th, 2023, to be National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week in Willits, in honor of the men and women whose diligence and professionalism keep our city. residents and visitors safe.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the CITY OF WILLITS, to be affixed this 22nd Day of March, 2023.

Greta Kanne, Mayor

City Council of the City of Willits

Community **Foundation** grant to fund home hardening inspections

Submitted by Sherwood **Firewise Communities**

Sherwood Firewise Communities of Willits has been awarded a \$7,500 grant by the Community Foundation of Mendocino County, from the 2022 Community Resiliency and Preparedness Fund.

The funds are for a continuation of Sherwood Firewise's successful free home hardening inspections, or Home Hardening Inspection Program 2.0.

The Home Hardening Inspection Program gives residents the opportunity to learn how to make their home safer from fire. This free program for residents provides a non-judgmental assessment of their home; no hard sell is involved.

Residents who benefited from the first Home Hardening Inspection Program found the information received to be invaluable and many made the suggested improvements. so their homes are better prepared in case of a wildfire.

Sherwood Corridor residents can apply for the free program at www.sherwoodfirewise.org.

Sherwood Firewise Communities thanks the Community Foundation of Mendocino County for their continued support.

WCT auditions coming up Submitted by Willits Community Theatre

Auditions for "Hymn to Her," an original play written by Mike A'Dair, will be held Saturday, April 15 at noon, and Wednesday, April 19 at 7 pm at the Willits Community Theatre.

"Hymn to Her" explores the evolution of romantic love in the United States over the past 400 years. It is composed of seven short one-act plays, each set in different decades, and sometimes in different centuries. The play extends in time and place from 1640 in Springfield, Massachusetts to 2017 in Oakland, California.

The call is for four women and four men, ranging in age from 16 to 35. In most of the plays the characters are in their early 20s. There is also a small role available for a woman who is between the ages of 50 and 60.

For this play, WCT has recruited three young directors and one veteran director. The younger directors are Jeff Shipp, who directed a video production of "Heliocentric" in 2021; Garrett Moore, who directed the 2022 reading of "You've Got Hate Mail," and Elk McCarthy, who will be making his directorial debut. These three will be directing two short plays each. The seventh play will be directed by the playwright.

Playwright/producer A'Dair encourages young actors to audition for the play. "Because these plays are shorter, the rehearsal schedule will be lighter, at least in the beginning. This is a good way for younger actors to try out their wings and hone their acting skills without committing to the standard, sometimes grueling, rehearsal schedule," said A'Dair.

People wishing to read the script should email the playwright at michaeladair69@yahoo.com. The Willits Community Theatre Playhouse is located at 37 West Van Lane, just one block west from Smokey's Barbecue. in beautiful downtown Willits.

What now? Current COVID-19 advisory Submitted by Mendocino County Public Health

California and the nation have care resources were threatened. ended many COVID Emergency But COVID rates have fallen into the Orders, and many people and range of a bad year for influenza, for institutions are wondering what which we do not write general orders. to do. Mendocino County has no Nevertheless, no one size fits all and, current COVID orders, and no new for those who are vulnerable, or who orders are planned after receiving live with or care for more vulnerable feedback from clinics, hospitals, people, additional precautions can nursing homes, and the general and should be taken.

Orders were required when the

pandemic was raging and health

So, what are the current Public Health has used the best recommendations to avoid COVID. scientific evidence to preserve the health of our communities.

Read the rest of COVID

Over on page 6

coversharespor SUBSCRIPTION FORM In the mail: 1 year - \$100 Additional donation included \$_ Home delivery: 1 year - \$75 (Home Delivery only available in Willits, Brooktrails & local areas) Make checks payable to Willits Weekly | No invoice sent - please just send in payment | P.O. Box 1698 in Willits, CA 95490 Locally Owned | Independent | Editions Every Thursday | Online & In Print OUESTIONS: 707-459-2633 | 707-972-7047 Web: www.willitsweekly.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/willitsweekly Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com



'Art Under 20'

Talent abounds at Willits Center for the Arts'

April exhibit which showcases the creative works

of local high school students

"I chose the most powerful, well-done pieces profession but I want to keep painting," said

for the show," said Carolyn Bakewell, art Ross. "I also want to keep doing pottery like

instructor at Willits High School. "On a lot of the we're doing in class. I went to the Waldorf

the arts. I did a lot of art work there and it built

up my skills. I still use a lot of what they taught

me. I like all the art forms: oils, pastels, acrylics,

watercolors, pottery, wood craft, printmaking,

Ava Kelly created a painting of a tree. But as

was evident on many of the pieces, the subject

was a metaphor or a spark of a meaningful

time in their lives. This painting was called

"We had an assignment to draw a tree,"

explained Kelly. "I kind of took it abstract and

it reminds me of someone growing up. It's

important to remember your roots as well as

Their art was not just about an object or a

scene, but rather a deeper understanding

that the object represents to them personally

or something social or political that they feel

Haileigh Gregg, WHS senior class president,

wants to be an artist; or rather she wants to

make a living as an artist. That she is already

an artist is evident in the quality of her work.

She enjoys painting suns, moons, and sea

life, when not engaging in assignments for

The three art teachers know how to

AU20 Over on page 15

Students.

teachers and

family came to

see the work

by the "under

At left: Taken

from a lesson on Keith

students had

to come up

current and

powerful for

with something

these paintings.

Harding,

challenge their students with assignments that

both stimulate and intrigue.

Read the rest of

"Personal Growth."

pieces, the message was really clear but they

Indeed, that is what the 24th Annual "Art

Under 20" exhibit at the Willits Center for the

Arts is all about. Inside all humans, especially

the young, there is a propensity for creating

visual representations of either what they see

or what they feel inside, and sharing those

Participants from three institutions: Willits

High School, Willits Charter School, and the

see, whether their intention was to continue in

the art field in some manner or simply to derive

an understanding of the creative process and

All three art teachers, Carolyn Bakewell

(WHS), Caroline Hambright (WCS), and Rossi

Jensen (Potter Valley Schools), encouraged

their students to attend to take their kudos

and explain the processes involved in the

creation of their pieces. The students who did

attend, spoke quite intelligently about how they

created each piece, the assignment that gave

them the parameters within which to work,

and their own personal reasons for selecting

Tiah Ross, a sophomore at WHS, showed

a rather colorful and deftly made painting of

her boyfriend. Juan, who accompanied her to

the event. "I don't know about doing art as a

the techniques that make it possible.

potential for beautiful art in the future."

Mathew Caine

visions with others

various subjects.

hadn't quite finished the

assignment yet. Certain

pieces just pop out at

me. You can see a lot of

Potter Valley Schools offered their work for all to your past selves."





Above, from left: Aliyah Benjamin would like her viewers to "Live Beautifully." Lorean Meza, inspired by "Avatar," created this moment of beautiful fantasy. Audrey Sherf displays a fine understanding of the qualities of glass and reflective items.

At left: Gary Martin, Willits Center for the Arts curator, and Carolyn Bakewell, WHS art instructor, pose for a photo at the "Art Under 20" exhibit.

Below, left: Tiah Ross did this painting of her boyfriend, Juan, who came to enjoy the exhibit. Below, right: Haileigh Gregg, a senior at WHS, wants to make a living as an artist









Above, left: Ava Kelly with her mixed media piece "Peaceful Growth." Above, right: Sophie Anderson's piece "Being Visible" was chosen as the cover art for this year's

At right: This student, Calvin Loupy, had

never engaged in art previously and didn't think he could do something this proficient. Below: The three art teachers whose classes are represented in the show gather for a photo: Caroline Hambright (WCS), Caroline Bakewell (WHS), and Rossi Jenso (Potter Valley).

Photos by Mathew Caine











LITTLE LAKE HEALTH CENTER 45 Hazel St., Willits

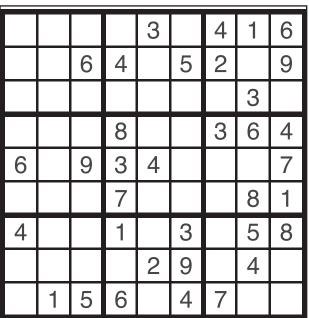
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Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword



SUDOKU

7-day reporting period.

issued a citation.

issued a warning.

issued a citation.

issued a warning.

issued a citation.

of Coast Street.

issued a citation.

issued a warning.

issued a warning.

and South Main Street.

issued a citation.

March 15

(Battery).

Franklin Avenue.

March 13

10:34

and Arrests

9:50 am: Officers conducted a stop in

10:07 am: Officers conducted a stop near

12:07 pm: Officers conducted a stop in

12:24 pm: Officers conducted a stop in

the 1400 block of South Main Street and

12:41 pm: Officers conducted a stop in

1:03 pm: Officers conducted a stop in

Officers

Officers

Street and Coast Street and Rondy Smith of Willits.

7:19 pm: Officer conducted a stop in

7:51 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run

vehicle collision investigation near the

intersection of West Mendocino Avenue

10:06 pm: Officers conducted a stop

near the intersection of South Main Street

10:28 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 700 block of South Main Street and

11:49 am: MORGAN, Renee Elizabeth

(51) of Willits was contacted in the 100

block of Franklin Avenue. She was arrested

pursuant to 240 PC (Assault) and 242 PC

5:12 pm: Officers initiated a burglary

investigation in the 300 block of Franklin

7:20 pm: Officers conducted a stop

10:52 pm: Officers responded to a report

of an unwanted subject in the 300 block of

near the intersection of Coast Street and

Raymond Lane and issued a citation.

and Monica Lane and issued a warning.

the 1200 block of South Main Street and

the 1400 block of South Main Street and

4:39 pm: Officers initiated

a hit-and-run vehicle collision

investigation in the 700 block

pm:

conducted a stop near the

intersection of Holly Street

and Eva Claire Street and

conducted a stop near the

intersection of West Valley

the 1400 block of South Main Street and

the 1400 block of South Main Street and

the intersection of Holly Street and Poplar

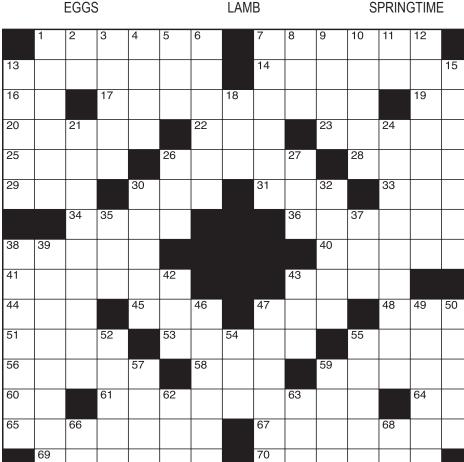
Avenue and issued a warning.

the 1700 block of South Main Street and

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

F J G K Y N K P S G B A S K E T L I L Y E M I T G N I R P S D R O L G E F H I J G D G Y A D T L O H F F I W II D A S W M

	ט ע	3 Y	А	ט	1		U	н			J	W	U	ע	А	3	W	
BASKET						FAITH						LILY						
BONNET						FAMILY						MARSHMALLOW						
CELEBRATION						HIDE						MIRACLE						
CHOCOLATE						HOLIDAY						PASTEL						
CHURCH						HOT CROSS BUNS						RABBIT						
CROSS					JELLY BEANS						REJOICE							
DINNER						JESUS						RESURRECTION						
EGGS						LAMB						SPRINGTIME						
	1	12	3	4	15	5	6		7	7	18	19		10	11	12	-	
		1-	1	1 '	١,	-	1 -	Γ'			1	1			1	1		



CLUES ACROSS

1. Colas 7. Single-celled animals 13. The rear car of a train

14. Endangered 16. It cools your home

17. Helper 19. 'The First State' 20. More aged

22. Partner to cheese 23. Type of wrap 25. From a distance

26. Satisfies 28. 'Dallas Buyers' Club'

actor Jared

29. God of battle (Scandinavian)

30. Cooking utensil 31. Soviet Socialist Republic

33. Able to perform 34. Big man on campus 36. Second epoch of the

Tertiary period 38. Porticos 40. Alban and Peter are two

41. Gets up 43. Humble request for help 44. One-thousandth of an

inch (abbr.) 45. Unhappy 47. Hint or indication 48. A way to plead 51. Digits

70. Inconsistent

1. Calm down

4. Hang glide

6. Mariner

7. Peaks

10. Twofold

11. Atomic #13

15. Indicates

12. Tranquillizing

13. Metric weight unit

CLUES DOWN

2. One quintillion bytes (abbr.)

3. One who pretends

5. Distinctive practice

8. Queens ballplayer

9. Geological times

21. Partly cooked with hot 53. Broadway actress Daisy 24. One who can be 55. Jewish calendar month 56. Author Gore 26. Resembles a bag or

58. Peacock network 59. White poplar 27. Midway between south 60. Promotional material

and southeast 61. A period of calm 30. Sets up for a photo 64. Take too much 32. California white oak 65. Emit energy

35. More (Spanish) 67. Something you can take 37. After B 69. Mended with yarn 38. Decorated tea urn

39. Island 42. Car mechanics group

18. Unwanted rodent

recommended

pouch

43. Wordplay joke 46. Cut a rug 47. Prickly plant

49. Speech in praise of a deceased person 50. European buzzard 52. Influential linguist

54. West African languages 55. Siskel's partner 57. Skinny

59. Oblong pulpit 62. Consumed 63. Small, mischievous sprite 66. Powerful lawyer

68. Indicates position

The officers of the Willits Police March 16

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT

POLICE LOG

March 12 to March 18

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

Department handled 85 incidents in this 12:19 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of Monroe Street. **Summary of Active Investigations**

> 11:36 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping near the intersection of Sanhedrin Circle and East Hill Road and issued a warning.

March 17

4:14 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle near the intersection of School Street and Wood Street

6:27 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued citations.

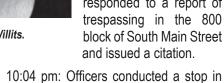
10:40 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1200 block of

11:10 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main

3:32 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

> 4:11 pm: SMITH, Rondy James (26) of Willits was contacted near the intersection of Creekside Drive and Creekside Court. He was arrested on felony charges of false imprisonment and on misdemeanor charges of domestic battery.

8:03 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.



the 800 block of South Main Street and

March 18

issued a citation

2:20 am: SANCHEZ, Chloee Jade Kodinna (21) of Willits was contacted in the 300 block of South Main Street. She was arrested pursuant to 23152 (A) VC (Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol), 23152 (B) VC (Driving with a Blood Alcohol Content of 0.08 Percent or Higher), and 14601.2 VC (Driving while License Suspended for DUI).

1:13 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1600 block of South Main Street and issued a warning

2:58 pm: GOLDSMITH. Michelle Robin (50) of Willits was contacted in the 200 block of East San Francisco Avenue. She was arrested pursuant to 23152 (C) VC (Driving while Addicted to Drugs) and 1203.2 PC (Violation of Probation).

2:58 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 200 block of East San Francisco Avenue and issued a citation.

5:45 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 200 block of Shell Lane.

10:38 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Barbara Lane.

Willits Weekly Online & In Print



Looking for something to celebrate?

Learn more about these, or see a list of other days at https://www.listofnationaldays.com/

April 6: National Caramel Popcorn Day, National Sorry Charlie Day, National Student-Athlete Day, National Tartan Day, National Teflon Day, Army Day, Plan Your Epitaph Day, New Beer's Eve, Tell-A-Lie Day, Ping Pong Day

April 7: National Beer Day, National Coffee Cake Day, National No Housework Day, Walk To Work Day, Beaver Day, World Health Day

April 8: National All Is Ours Day, National Empanada Day, National Zoo Lover's Day,

Buddha's Birthday April 9: National Cherish An Antique Day, National Chinese Almond Cookie

Day, Unicorn Day, National Winston Churchill Day, Pancit Day

April 10: National Cinnamon Crescent Day, National Encourage A Young Writer Day, National Farm Animals Day, Siblings Day, Golfer's Day, International Safety Pin

April 11: National Barbershop Quartet Day, National Cheese Fondue Day, National Eight Track Tape Day, National Pet Day, National Submarine Day, Be Kind To Lawyers Day, World Parkinson's Disease Day, Equal Pay Day

April 12: National Big Wind Day, National Grilled Cheese Sandwich Day, National Day, National Former Prisoner Of War Recognition Day, National Name Yourself Licorice Day, Walk On Your Wild Side Day

Willits Weekly | April 6, 2023

Genial Ash

Ash here just loves attention, and is very curious. She's a young, active girl that likes to explore, but she also loves head scratches and snuggles. This beautiful girl gets along with just about everybody she meets



The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah.

Wil Gonzalez of Willits Flowers will demonstrate

arranging at the April Garden Club meeting.

the art of flower

lunch. Everyone welcome.

101 at Ridgewood Ranch.

requires a reservation to view adoptable animals. Call 707-467-6453 to make an appointment to meet Ash or our other feline and canine quests. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendoanimalshelter.



Tuesday, April 11

The Willits Garden Club's monthly meeting is set for Tuesday, April 11 at 11:30 am at the

Golden Rule Mobile Village Clubhouse (Ridgewood Ranch RV Park). Planned program:

Wil Gonzalez of Willits Flowers will give us a demonstration on flower arranging. Potluck

The Willits Garden Club generally meets on the second Tuesday of each month, from

The club was first organized in 1951. Its mission statement is: To develop and promote

interest in the home garden; to lend efforts towards the beautification of the community;

to assist in projects for conservation of our natural resources; and to cooperate with other

THE BUNNY IS BACK!

PHOTOS WITH THE EASTER BUNNY!

THURSDAY, APRIL 6

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!

agencies in furthering the interests of horticulture and landscape design.

More information at www.willitsgardenclub.org.

11:30 to 2 pm. The Golden Rule Clubhouse is at 10755 Mobile Village way, off Highway

Empathetic German whose owner passed away. Her owner was a good friend to Milo Foundation, so we want to find her a great home, and soon! Gracie is great

nicely on a leash. She is obedient and gets along with other dogs. This smart girl is a fast learner, loves belly rubs and car rides, and is very empathetic – she has potential to be a therapy dog. Gracie needs a home with no cats and a fully contained vard. If you're looking for an all-around terrific companion, look no

Gracie

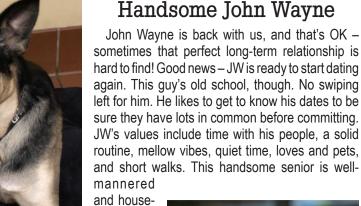
is

- Willits Garden Club

Gracie

wonderful

Gracie or to view other visit adoptable animals, www.milofoundation.org or the Milo Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions by COVID-19. Please complete a pet-adoption application



and short walks. This handsome senior is wellmannered and sleeps in a crate and likes car rides. JW is low energy but enjoys getting out to smell the smells on short walks. JW has been with us for 150 days now! Please help

The Society for Inland

so deserving.

us find John Wayne

a place to enjoy his

golden years! He is

located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. We are open Wednesday through Friday from 1 to 5 pm and Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 3 pm. Closed Mondays and Tuesdays. You may also look at our available dogs and cats on our website: www.mendohumanesociety.com, our Facebook page, and on www.petfinder.com.

appointment only due to Mendocino before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 510-900-2275. **Willits Charter School** Flower arranging demo at garden club A School For The Arts & Sciences

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The snuggly, live bunnies

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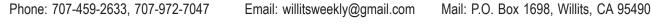
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From page 1

growing in the area, and how to improve the success of more local legal businesses.

The speakers included Jamie Peters-Connolly of Visit Mendocino, activist and educator Jude Thilman who owns Dragonfly Wellness Center and is president of the Mendocino Cannabis Alliance, Willits Center for the Arts Curator Gary Martin, and Jim Roberts who is co-owner and operator of multiple cannabis businesses in the Anderson Valley area, and advises on cannabis issues at the county and state

Annie Waters was host of the discussion. which was tied into the "Counter Culture Museum and Archive" exhibit she and historian Richard Jergensen had running at the museum through March 19, with materials related to the "Back-to-the-Land Movement" and cannabis.

The forum was part of the speaker series called "Cannabis in Mendocino County: Our Story" that Waters and Jergensen had organized to go along with the exhibit.

In her talk, Peters-Connolly said that the Visit Mendocino group has "embraced cannabis tourism just like we would any other industry. It's just like the wine industry, it's just like the beer industry," she said. "It's all part of lodging and it can all work together. And so... we want to normalize cannabis and we think integrating it with other tourism industries is a really good way to do that."

Peters-Connolly is in charge of Partner Relations and Communications for Visit Mendocino County, a project funded by the county with Transient Occupancy Tax money with the goal of increasing tourism and economic activity from visitors coming

She said that when she first became the "point person for the cannabis tourism aspect of Visit Mendocino" a couple of cannabis, I have to say.

"And so my mind has just been so expanded and opened and I am loving everyone that I meet in the cannabis industry here," said Peters-Connolly. "I'm learning a lot and I'm excited about our role in promoting cannabis tourism, and hopefully this will help with the economic development of the county going forward."

Some of the methods used by Visit Mendocino to increase publicity for the county include a website with various links to activities and events, a blog called Mendo Moments, an e-newsletter, hiring a "canna-tourism expert," and "meet & areet" events for those involved in various types of businesses, including cannabis, to connect.

"If we have a cannabis provider retail shop that can work with a lodging property, that's a win-win," she said. "If there's a relationship that can be forged in that manner, we think that's great. And we encourage collaborations like that and always if we can, help create those collaborations."

On the "cannabis" link on the Visit Mendocino website, you can find a list of 10 cannabis businesses in the county, mostly dispensaries, but also services like Emerald Farm Tours, which bring in customers from outside the area to visit cannabis farms and businesses.

Peters-Connolly said that Visit Mendocino is currently in the process of a "rebrand" with its cannabis material, and plan to have more information about craft farmers throughout the county soon on the website in addition to the dispensaries.

"And it's our goal to really have the retail shops that carry a lot of the product that is being grown by our craft farmers," she said.

Peters-Connolly said that Visit Mendocino strives to encourage a healthy approach with cannabis in the county.

"The angle that we want to take with cannabis, too, is really centered on health and wellness and education," she said. "And it's heartening for us to see that that's kind of like the prevalent attitude, too, amongst the farmers and the retailers here in the county. We would not promote overconsumption of cannabis any more than we would do it for the wine industry... That's really important and I think that's one of the things that really sets Mendocino County apart from other counties that have cannabis producers."

Jude Thilman also spoke enthusiastically about the possibilities of cannabis as an "economic driver" in the county, and had numbers to back it up.

"For every dollar spent at a cannabis retail establishment, there's a multiplier effect," she said. "It creates an additional \$2.80 injected into the local economy. So [it's] passive income with almost no local promotion costs... This multiplier effect is wonderful."

Thilman quoted Emerald Farm Tours founder Victor Pinho, who described his

they're shopping, they're here to spend Task Force" which meets monthly. money in the Mecca of weed."

"Typical tourist customers spend \$300 to 400 at a dispensary [which is] three times the average local transaction," said Thilman. "So not only are they eating at our restaurants, and they're buying gasoline at our gas stations, and they're staying at our lodging, but they're supporting the cannabis industry as well.

Thilman also noted a survey that showed "half of all millennials say that access to legal recreational cannabis is important to them when they're choosing a vacation destination," and another which indicated that 62 percent of "cannabis-consuming adults over the age of 21 with an annual household income over \$50.000" are "interested in cannabis-related experiences

Thilman also emphasized the importance of highlighting the "health and wellness" aspects of cannabis.

Dragonfly Wellness Center in Fort Bragg, which Thilman owns, is "both a dispensary and a holistic healing center" as described on the website, and "has a reputation for providing the highest quality of traditional medicine in a context of total health care - linking herbs, nutrition, and a variety of healing treatments and classes."

Thilman said that some of the activities that have been included at the center are acupuncture, Bowen therapy, Shiatsu massage, and Tai Chi.

"When we got together as a group of seven women in 2011," she said, "what we did was instead of having a postage stamp sized pot shop, we wanted to have a wellness center where we have classroom space. Where we could have classes for people to understand and learn about cannabis and how it is not 'alternative' medicine, it's traditional medicine. It's been around for thousands and thousands of years. The alternative in the 20th century. if you don't mind my editorializing, is years back, she "knew really nothing about the pharmaceutical industry. It took over medicine in the 20th century.

"My staff has to learn a lot about the science of cannabis, how it works in the body," she added. "I teach a class called 'Cannabis is Medicine: Changing the Narrative.' And here we're talking about normalizing – everybody's talking about normalizing cannabis, and that's exactly

Thilman talked about the history of cannabis farming in Mendocino County that goes back many decades, which she felt that the community should be proud of.

She said that since there was no big agriculture or other similar activities in the area to severely negatively impact the soil prior to their arrival, the first cannabis farmers found a "virgin, rich black soil" that was very conducive to growing marijuana.

"So when these hippies all migrated here, they had the richest, darkest, loam, amazing soil to produce the finest craft cannabis in the world," she said, "And that's what we are proud of, and that's what we're protecting with our efforts in MCA to get both the county and the state to protect our small farmers, our legacy farmers."

Jim Roberts talked at the forum about the many elements of the cannabis industry and community he's involved in.

Roberts co-owns and operates The Madrones and The Brambles in Philo, a multi-faceted two-property location with a cannabis apothecary shop, lodging, wine tasting, a restaurant, and an event site amidst old-growth redwood forest.

He also co-owns The Bohemian Chemist line of cannabis products sold at The Madrones, and a 5,000-square-foot cannabis farm in the area.

Roberts said that some of the recent activities that have taken place at their event site on The Brambles have been a cannabis farmers market, a cannabisinfused dinner party, and a "Mendocino Craft Farmers Auction" where proceeds went toward mental health efforts in the county.

The second annual Mendocino Craft Farmers Auction is scheduled for July 17 at The Brambles this year, with the money going toward the Cancer Resource Centers of Mendocino and the Mendocino Land Trust. (Tickets and more information about the event can be found on eventbrite.com).

"Last year after COVID we just kind of threw a bunch of things at the wall and said, 'Okay what's going to make the most sense as far as bringing people here and what people want to do," said Roberts. "And the auction was really successful and the farmers market was really well received. The cannabis dinner was well received. And it's to create this whole experience for

Roberts is also a board member of the MCA, works with the West Business Development Center to help small business owners and entrepreneurs, and is one of just 32 members on the California Office of the Small Business Advocate customers by saying, "They're tourists and "Entrepreneurship and Economic Mobility

Roberts said that he is the only one with a background in cannabis in that group, and that they advocate for about 4.2 million small businesses in the state

At the forum, he talked about his hopes for the future of cannabis in Mendocino County despite the massive challenges.

"I think the opportunities are vast and I think our county's the perfect place for this," he said. "I'm glad we don't have a lot of large-scale cannabis grows here in the county right now. I know that some of our leadership was leaning towards Santa Barbara and Salinas [style], and thinking that that's the only thing that's going to be viable. And I really felt that that wasn't who we are, and we have something very pandemic? precious here."

"And do we want to have people just coming in and using the brand just to line free of COVID. These are no longer their pockets?" he asked. "And now, in Salinas almost 85 percent of those largescale companies have collapsed. Thirty percent of the companies throughout California have collapsed."

"I've seen so many farms go away over the last few years with what's happening with the market and also just the regulation, he continued. "I don't want to be the only player. I'm not that type of person and I really think that the interesting story will be to have many of us still surviving. And our kind of format of what we're doing is iust one thing that's possible – there's a lot of different things that are possible from a business standpoint."

Roberts said he was encouraged by a recent decision of the board of supervisors at their March 14 meeting, when they approved asking the state to become more involved with the county cannabis application process to help streamline it.

"And I was at the state capitol on Monday. so there was a senate hearing going on about the regulation and the barriers that cannabis businesses are facing right now," he said. "It's a really tough market. California unfortunately should have rolled this out perfectly. We should be the leader, and it's been a really messy rollout."

"But I do see there's a lot of will from our leaders and from government to try to make a change and to try to fix some of these problems, but they don't get fixed overnight," he added. "And I think that this at least gives us an opportunity, if we can keep as many small farmers here that are part of our community."

Roberts, who has lived in the county for about 30 years, originally ran a design center at the same Philo location, with about 40 designers working at the company, but said that "things kind of fell apart" during the housing crisis, and that he "had to reinvent the property."

So he rented out some space to a couple winemakers as tasting rooms, converted offices into lodging accommodations, and turned the lobby and reception area into a

He said that his mom, who passed away last November at age 91, began growing medical cannabis on the property under Proposition 215 rules, partially to help with her rheumatoid arthritis.

Roberts said he took over the farming operations around when California Proposition 64 passed in 2016 and, like Thilman, he has long been passionate about the health possibilities with cannabis.

"My relationship with cannabis is long," said Roberts. "It's over 40 years. I was in San Francisco during the AIDS crisis, so I remember getting cannabis for folks that were suffering and trying to help stimulate their appetite and help them with their pain."

"When we opened up our apothecary, we had a treatment room that we did there. too," he said later. "So we actually had cannabis massages and body work and facials, we had an esthetician, and I want to bring a practitioner in, too, because I really believe in the medicinal qualities of cannabis. The cannabis that we're growing right now has a lot of rare cannabinoids, and we've been working with scientists and we're kind of chasing that."

Willits Center for the Arts Curator Gary Martin spoke about an upcoming cannabisfocused exhibit opening at the WCA called "High Off the Land," which will be a "traveling exhibit about the effects of the cannabis industry on Mendocino County."

"So with 20 / 20 hindsight on half a century of cannabis cultivation and use, it's time to speak about the different aspects of how it speaks to us all," said Martin. "We asked artists to visually interpret their own experiences with cannabis, how it has affected them or their environment. And we're looking for work in two-dimensional and three-dimensional mediums. We welcome and encourage both positive and negative responses."

Martin said that they had received 40 entries, and "the quality of the work was

The exhibit will open at the WCA on May 6, move to the Art Center Ukiah on June 3,

and then will be at Gualala Arts beginning July 14.

Martin spoke about the reputation of cannabis in Mendocino County, saying that even when he lived "back East" many years ago, "I heard that Mendocino County was the pot capital of the world, and I think we

Other websites with more information on the above businesses and groups include visitmendocino.com, dragonflywellness.org and themadrones.com.

From page 2 COVID

long COVID, and hopefully another

1. Staying current with all vaccines and boosters is the best way to stay required except for a primary series for health care workers. The new boosters are more effective than the old and are recommended for all, especially those who are immune compromised, very young (to 6 months old), older, pregnant, new parents, houseless, in congregate living, and/or have underlying illnesses.

2. Masks are very effective at preventing all respiratory illnesses. Vulnerable people should consider masks always, while others should consider them in indoor public places such as transportation hubs, shelters, and correctional facilities. Individuals should use recommendations based on the CDC Community Level, posted on the county's website [currently "Low" according to the CDC site] to help decide when to mask up.

Health care workers should use CDC transmission levels to help make similar decisions. People who have any symptoms of respiratory illness should mask to protect others, though children under 2 years old and some others are exempt. Those who work should check with their employers for additional CalOSHA requirements at work.

3. Improve hygiene behaviors (handwashing, cleaning surfaces, covering coughs) and increase ventilation to clear

4. Testing is recommended within a day after a close contact with an infected person. If the test is negative, a mask is recommended for 5 days, but no quarantine is needed. Health care workers should test negative on days 1, 3, and 5 – but do not have to lose work

5. A person is infectious if their COVID test is positive and should isolate (from work, school, and gatherings) for 5 days. To get a prescription for PAXLOVID, they could call their provider or Sesamecare at 833-686-5057 to get a free prescription. This treatment shortens the course of the illness and decreases the risks of transmission and Long COVID. If symptoms are resolving and fever is resolved for 24 hours without using fever reducing medication, they may end isolation after day 5 (without a test), but should continue to wear a high quality mask until the 10th day. If they do not test, they may return to work/school after 10 days. If two tests on different days are negative they may return to usual activities after 5 days as above without a mask.

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, April 6: Terivaki Chicken

Friday, April 7: Chile Rellenos Monday, April 10: Fish Tacos, Rice &

Beans Tuesday, April 11: Ground Sirloin Steak, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Veggie, Roll

Wednesday, April 12: Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce, Veggie, Garlic Bread Thursday, April 13: Chicken Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Veggie,

Friday, April 14: Baked Ham, Sweet Potato, Veggie, Roll

Easter Sunday Pancake Breakfast: April pancake breakfast at the Senior Center is set for Easter Sunday. April 9, 8 to 11 am. Menu choices: 1 Pancakes with eggs cooked the way you like them, and choice of sausage or bacon. 2. Biscuits & Gravy with eggs cooked the way you like them. \$8; \$7 Senior Center members; \$6 children under 8. Extra meat sides: 3 slices bacon, \$2; 2 sausage links, \$2. Now serving Peet's Coffee.

To learn more: 459-6826.



Local Libations

Tamar Distillery, producer of Mendocino Spirits, gives a talk and tasting at the Willits Center for the Arts

The sun was setting on an early spring evening as an excited crowd gathered in anticipation for an art talk and spirits tasting from Tamar Distillery. Four large banners printed with designer Jeremy Long's label art graced the Great Room at the Willits Center for the Arts.

Margi Gomez Guhde

Tamar Kaye opened the evening with a gracious

thank you to the audience and to her loyal staff. She expressed her love for Willits and for the Willits Center for the Arts, and gave a little background on the artisan distillery that she and her partner Crispin Cain have created in Mendocino County.

She expressed her delight in presenting Tamar Distillery, Inc.'s products to a curious and receptive group interested in both the arts and artisan spirits. She got the ball rolling with a robust toast of their Mendocino Spirits Straight Bourbon Whiskey, "To art!"

Next, master distiller and president of Tamar Distillery

Crispin Cain took the stage to tell the origin story of Redwood Valley's artisan distillery. Cain has worked in wine and spirits for 30 years, moving to Mendocino County in 1985 to get involved in wine making.

Cain learned the ancient distilling methods that he still uses to create Mendocino Spirits during his lengthy apprenticeship with brandy master Hubert Germain-Robin. He and Kaye started Tamar Distillery, Inc. in 2008.

Cain described the double distillation method, which differentiates their signature spirits, selecting only the heart of the spirit to save for aging, blending and drinking: "Our 1,250-liter alembic still is the same one that was used to make Germain-Robin brandy," he shared. "It came from Cognac, where Hubert grew up. The pot itself is old enough that it had a hole in it, caused by the tax laws of the late 1700s. You paid or they disabled your still! This one sat

Distillerv

At left: Raven image used for Tamar's Barrel Aged Dark Gin. Above, left: Graphic

Tapas del Mundo, created by her partner David Weigt.

designer Jeremy Logan describes the design process for the Art Nouveau images that he

created for the Mendocino Spirits suite. Above, right: Rose Holcomb serves scrumptious

Over on page 15





Willits Elementary Charter School

We are accepting applications for the lottery to join our school in 2023-2024. We will hold the public lottery on Tuesday, May 2. Applications for entering Kindergarten and all grades are available on our website and in the school office. All applications due by Friday, April 28. Questions: 707-459-1400



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Pg. 7





BROOKSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

TK-Kindergarten Registration Now Open To pre-register go to www.willitsunified.com

Para registrar a su estudiante ve a www.willitsunified.com Kindergarten - age 5 by September 1, 2023

Transitional Kindergarten - age 5 between Sept. 2, 2023 and April 2, 2024 Kinder - 5 años antes de Septiembre 1, 2023 Trancision de Kinder - 5 años en medio de Septiembre 2, 2023 a Abril 2, 2024

Once you have completed the online registration, please bring the following documents to Brookside:

- Birth Certificate • Immunization records
- Certificado de nacimiento • Registros de inmunización (vaccunas)
- If you have any questions please call the Brookside office at (707) 459-5385 or visit our Website at www.willitsunified.com/o/brookside
- Si tiene alguna pregunta, llame a la oficina de Brookside al (707) 459-5385 or visite nuestro sitio web www.willitsunified.com/o/brookside

Mendocino, Lake and

Sonoma Counties

Ongoing Events at the Willits Library

(707) 459-7910

Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org

Story Time: Tuesday through Friday each week, 10:30 to 11 am. "Start your morning listening to a story. Join us in the children's area of the library."

Penny University Coffee Klatch: Tuesdays, 11 am to noon. "We will meet in the Willits Library meeting room to discuss various topics while enjoying a cup of joe."

Open Source Design, Artistic Expression, and **Engineering Club:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3 to 4:30 pm. "Open to everyone with an interest in open source and everyone who wants to develop their creative and engineering skills."

LEGO Club: Tuesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 pm. "It is LEGO time at the library. Bring your imagination and start

Writer's Block Group: Wednesdays, from 11 am to noon. "Open to young-adult and adult writers to share their ideas and writings in an environment of supportive and creative suggestions and feedback." Hosted by Librarian Benjamin MacBean. Willits Library meeting room.

Games at the Library: First and third Fridays of the month (and fifth Friday, March 31, this month!), 4 to 5:30 pm. "Calling all board, card and tabletop role-playing game players! All ages and player levels welcome. Bring your own games to add to the fun!"

Spinning & Knitting: Every Saturday at the library from 1 to 4:30 pm. "All skill levels welcome! Spinning circle 1 to 2 pm, Knitting circle 2 to 4:30 pm."

HSIMC Easter Egg Hunt

April 8

The Humane Society of Inland Mendocino County presents an Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, April 8 at the Redwood Valley shelter from noon to 1 pm. "Looking for something fun to do Easter weekend? Join us for our first Easter Egg Hunt here at HSIMC! Bring the whole family, and hunt for some eggs, participate in games, and an Easter Basket Raffle! The egg hunt begins at 12 pm and ends when the eggs are gone. The raffle drawing will happen at 1 pm. Please bring your own baskets for gathering eggs." 9700 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley. Info: (707) 485-0123 or info@hsimc.org or visit mendohumanesociety.com.

Thursday, April 6

Twining Time at Brickhouse:

this month. many new tunes, as well as our usual mixture of songs with two-part

polished vocal harmonies, acoustic guitar, and keyboard." 3 South Main Street, on the corner of Main and Commercial 707-459-1598. Visit https://twiningtime.weebly.

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly Farmers Market at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. The freshest local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Enjoy "Tobin's Tales" story time from 3:30 to 4 pm. Thursday, April 6, 3 to 5:30 pm.

from 5 to 7 pm at J.D. Redhouse

Photos Easter Bunny at J.D. Redhouse: The Easter Bunny himself will be making an appearance at J.D. Redhouse & Company on Thursday, April 6 from 5 to 7 pm with his live furry friends and Mphotographress Photos by Maureen Jennison! No appointments

just drop in and smile for the camera! Digital photos are \$5 per group, and will be available com/easterbunnyphotos. As always the Easter Bunny session is a 50/50 fundraiser for the Soroptimist International of Willits. Will move inside if it's raining. Questions? 707-972-7047 or maureengetsmail@gmail.com

Friday, April 7

Skunk Train Easter Express and Egg Hunt: Join the Skunk Train from Willits for a 2- hour excursion through Tunnel #2, with a fun egg hunt in the redwoods at Crowley, Easter Egg surprises, Easter treat

and pink lemonade, and a visit from the Easter Bunny. Friday, April 7, from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm; Saturday and Sunday Easter excursions already sold out. Tickets are \$64.95. More info, tickets: www. skunktrain.com/easter-express

WHS Baseball: Willits High School varsity baseball team faces Cloverdale at home. WHS, 299 North Main Street. Friday, April 7, varsity game, 4 pm.

WHS Softball: Willits High School softball team faces Cloverdale at home, Friday, April 7 at 4 pm. WHS, 299 North Main Street.

EASTER

SATURDAY, APRIL 8 FROM 10AM - 1 PM

TODD GROVE PARK, UKIAH CA

NEAR THE GAZEBO

CASH OR VENMO

'Meteor Shower' opens at WCT: Comic Steve filler' Grateful Dead classics, deep cuts, and Martin's play on marriage and infidelity, "Meteor Shower," opens at the Willits Community Theatre on Friday, April 7 for a three-week run Wagenet Blu, perform at of saucy madcap fun, with adult themes. "A

unique and astonishing comedy made even more unique by Steve Martin's nonstop wit and word gags." Plays through April 23, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm and Sunday matinees at 2 pm, except no show on April 9, Easter Sunday. Tickets are \$20; available online at: www. wctperformingartscenter.org, or at the door. WCT Playhouse, 37 West Van Lane.

Eric McFadden at Shanachie: virtuoso/songwriter/vocalist Eric McFadden performs with Kate Vargas and Calvin Turnbull! Friday, April 7, at 7 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street

Saturday, April 8

Kids Corner Egg Hunt: Kids Corner hosts an indoor egg hunt, a mixture of eggs with toys and candy, for kids 5 and under on Saturday, April 8, at 10 am at 865 South Main Street. Egg hunt is free; discounted admission, \$5/hour, for

anyone who wants to stay and play after the hunt. Kids Corner is an indoor playground for kids of all ages, with a variety of classes and activities. Info: 707-972-0915

Brooktrails Fire Department Open House: "Join us to see how your local fire department continues to provide emergency first responder services to Brooktrails. We are asking the community for additional contributions to maintain current service levels. Board members, staff and the

Engineer's Study for the Fire and Emergency Assessment District will be there to answer questions and share current issues with the public." Saturday, April 8, 12:30 pm at the Fire Department 24860 Birch Street.

consultant who completed the

Edward Loudermilk Band: Bluegrass Concert benefit for Rotary Club of Willits.

Joining Edgar Loudermilk (upright bass and lead vocals) are musicians Zack Autry (mandolin), Jamey Pittman (lead guitar), and Anthony Howell (banjo). Saturday, April 8 at Bruce's Barn, 350 Sherwood Road. Doors open 6 pm, show at 7 pm. \$25 advance, \$30 at the door.

Light refreshments by Willits Sober Grad. To reserve tickets: 707-489-0155 or 707-841-1315. Visit www. edgarloudermilk.com for info about

'Meteor Shower' at WCT: comic Steve Martin's play on marriage and infidelity, Willits Community Theatre on Saturday, April 8 at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$20; available online at: www.wctperformingartscenter.org, or at the door. WCT Playhouse, 37 West Van Lane.

Easter Services at St. Francis

Episcopal Church

St. Francis in the Redwoods, at the corner of Commercial

and Main streets, invites all to their Easter services: "Everyone

is welcome and the church is completely wheelchair accessible.

We have masks available for those who wish to wear them. The

Sunday service is available on zoom; for instructions call 707-272-

Maundy Thursday, April 6, 5 pm: We remember the last supper

and Jesus's mandate to his disciples to love one another as he

Good Friday, April 7, prayers at noon: The church will be open

The Easter Vigil, April 8, 5 pm: This service is usually held at

midnight, but here in Willits where people often live out of town,

we do it much earlier. It lasts about an hour and a half and includes

kindling new fire and lighting a special candle, several readings,

prayers, and songs, Holy Communion, and the first proclamation

Easter Sunday, 10 am: Our regular service and joyful celebration

of the Resurrection of Jesus, followed by an egg hunt for children

JOHN WICK:

CHAPTER 4

Holy Saturday, April 8, 10 am: a short service of prayers.

for private prayer and meditation until 3 pm.

'Willits is Grateful' at BACE: Pete Sawyer & The Left Hand Monkey Wrench Gang "will be throwing down two fat sets of 'all killer, no

has loved them.

and a potluck lunch.

unexpected jewels!" Featuring Pete Sawyer (Brightshine). Nate LaPointe (Phil Lesh. Cubensis), Anna Elva (Sunshine Becker, Mark Karan), Murph Murphy (Poor Man's Whiskey and Stu Allen), and Scott Guberman (Phil Lesh, The Gilmour Project). Opening act, ShovelMan. Saturday, April 8, doors open 8 pm, BACE, 109 North Main Street. 18+, tickets \$35 in advance,

Cosmic Family Band at Shanachie: "Come out and let your creative juices flow as we embark

journey through the Universe. Sharing songs of Love and and Saturday, April at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street

Sunday, April 9 Happy Easter!

Easter Sunrise Service: Sunday, April 9, at the Rec Grove in Willits. Service begins at 6:30 am with prayer, worship, and a short message of encouragement. A breakfast will be served at Agape Bible Church just down the street at 290 South Lenore Street, after the service.

Senior Center Easter Sunday Pancake Breakfast: Sunday, April 9 from 8 to 11 am. Menu choices: 1. Pancakes with eggs cooked the way you like them, and choice of sausage or bacon. 2. Biscuits & Gravy with eggs cooked the way you like them. Now serving Peet's

Coffee. \$8; \$7 Senior Center members; \$6 children under 8. Extra meat sides: 3 slices bacon, \$2; 2 sausage links, \$2.

Monday, April

Drekka Soundsystem at Shanachie: Two solo experimental music projects, Drekka (Bloomington IN) and

Lightning White Bison (Hillsville, VA) bring an event of long-format, abstract, rhythm-based improvisations, with deep cut dub, discomix and roots tracks from the '70s and '80s. 7 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 Main Street.

Tuesday, April 11

Willits Garden Club: monthly meeting is set for Tuesday, April 11 at 11:30 am at the Golden

Rule Mobile Village Clubhouse (Ridgewood Ranch RV Park, 10755 Mobile Village way, off Highway 101 at Planned program: Wil Gonzalez of Willits Flowers will give a demonstration on flower

arranging. Potluck lunch. Everyone welcome. Info: www.willitsgardenclub.org.

WHS Tennis: Willits High School tennis team vs. Kelseyville at home. WHS, 299 North Main Street. Tuesday, April 11 at 4 pm.

WHS Baseball: Willits What's Happening Around Town High School varsity faces Kelseyville at home. WHS, at home. 299 North Main Street. Tuesday, April 11, JV at 4 pm, varsity game at 5:30

> WHS Softball: Willits High School softball team faces Kelseyville at home, Tuesday, April 11 at 4 pm. WHS, 299 North Main

James Houlahan at Shanachie: Los Angelesbased singer, songwriter and guitarist channels both tradition and poetic innovation, rooted

in dark folk sounds and eclectic Americana. Tuesday, April 11 at 7 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 Main Street.

Thursday, April 13

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly Farmers Market at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. The freshest local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats,

live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Enjoy "Tobin's Tales" story time from 3:30 to 4 pm. Thursday, April 13, 3 to 5:30 pm.

Inland Mendocino Democratic Club: Monthly hybrid in-person / zoom meeting held in Willits this month, Thursday, April 13 at 6:30 pm at the Willits Environmental Center, 650 South Main Street, Featuring a panel on "Our Water: Drought, Flood, What's Next?" with First District Supervisor Glenn McGourty, Sean White from the City of Ukiah, and Adam Gaska, member of the Russian River Control Board. More info: inlandmendodems.org

Winterlark at Shanachie: San Francisco Bay Area singer-songwriters Kristin Olson, uprigh bass, and Sweeney

E. Schragg, guitar, bring "urban folk blends literate lyrics; bossa nova and soul hythms; and the narmonic, melodic, traditions of jazz. Thursday, April 13 at 7 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main

Friday, April 14

WCA Art Talk: This month's Willits Center for the Arts "Art Talk" is set for Friday, April 14 at 6:30 pm, upstairs in the Great Room. Presenter Mary Okin, PhD, is a scholar and educator of American art and culture; her talk will focus on

> California art, and California artist Wayne Thiebaud. WCA, 71 East Commercial Street. Info: 707-459-1726 or www. willitscenterforthearts.org

Saturday, April 15

WCT Auditions: Auditions for an original play written by Mike A'Dair, "Hymn to Her," on Saturday, April 15 at noon, and Wednesday, April 19 at 7 pm, at Willits

Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. Call is for four women and four men, ages 18 to 35, and one woman, 50s, 60s. For scripts email producer at michaeladair69@yahoo.com

WILLITS CENTER FOR THE

Art Talks

Mary Okin Ph.D.

California Art, Wayne Thiebaud

April 14, 2023

Sunday, April 16

'Feel the Love' Benefit for Greg Schindel: Willits Train Singer Greg Schindel, recently diagnosed with cancer, needs some help from the community to handle costs of medical treatment. A Sunday, April 16 "Feel the Love" benefit from 2 to 7 pm at the Willits

Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street, will feature entertainment by top musicians and poets, food from Emandal and drink from local providers, and silent and live auctions. \$10 admission. Donations of auction items can be dropped off at Shanachie Pub or Flying Dog Pizza, Wednesday through Saturday from 3 to 9 pm by Friday, April 14. More info: visit "Hal Wagenet" on Facebook or call Cyndee at 707-

"What's Freedom Got to Do with It?": A One-Woman Show by performance artist Carla Starla at the Grange, part of an every-third-Sunday series. Sunday, April 16, from 5 to 7 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Doors open at 4:20 pm. Comedy: 5 to 5:30 pm; Healing Segment: 5:30 to 5:45 pm; Intermission & Snacks; DJ Set w/Live Vocals: 6:15 to 7 pm. \$10; ages 18+ welcome.

Ongoing Events

Living Jukebox at Brickhouse: Join Richard "Tootreese" Jeske and Don Willis for some songs you might know, from rock to country to R&B. Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 12 to 2 pm at Brickhouse Coffee, corner of Main Street and Commercial.

Brown Bag Lunch Program: Sack lunches served at the City Park (or across the street in case of rain) every Saturday from 1 to 2 pm. Come early to be assured a lunch! Provided by various churches and community

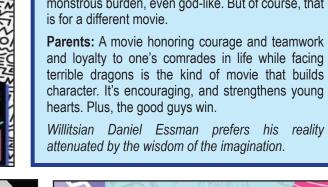
Shuffleboard Sunday at Flying Dog Wood Fired Pizza & Vinyl: "Sign-ups start at 4 pm. Game starts at 4:45 pm. \$5 sign-up fee, teams of two, winner takes the pot! We'll have the games on all day. Beer, wine, pizza, we've got everything you need!" Flying Dog Wood Pizza, 65 South Main Street.

The Redwood Empire Food Bank: Twicemonthly drive-thru food distribution in Willits, second and fourth Thursdays of the month. located in the parking lot of the soccer and baseball fields, 9:30 to 11:30 am. Groceries to go, senior basket (for low-income seniors 60 or older), and diapers.

"Garraoke" at Diggers Bar: Karaoke night the second and fourth Friday of every month, with host and DJ Garrett Moore. "From 8 pm to midnight, then get down until closing!" Diggers Bar, 244 South Main Street.

Willits Boules Club, Tuesdays and Fridays at 1 pm: The outdoor boules course is located across the street from the Willits Skate Park. Info: bbruneau@bbruneau.com.

Free Kids Karate Classes at Body Works Gym: Sheriff's Youth Activities League offers a free karate program for kids at the Willits Body Works Gym, , Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30 pm. Beginner to intermediate group, youth 7 years old and above. There is an annual \$20 SAL insurance/registration fee (waivable). For more info call or text Mike Tobin Sensei at 354-0565. Body Works Gym,1511 South Main Street.







Saturday, April 29, 2023 Mendocino County Fairgrounds 80+ BREWERIES! Carla Starla Presents: A One-Woman Show

71 E. Commercial St. Willits, CA 95490 For more information contact

Friends of the Willits Library's annual Spring Book Sale is coming soon to the Willits Library! The sale will be held in the Willits Library conference room from 10 am to 5 pm on Friday, April 21, Saturday, April 22, and Sunday April 23. On Sunday all books will be only \$3 a bag. Come browse our garden and home project books, as well as children's, fiction, and non-fiction titles, with an abundance of specials. Books are priced at 50 cents to \$1. Volunteer cashiers are still needed. If you can help with a 2-hour shift, please sign up at the library or call Melinda: 707-456-9525.

FOWL Spring Book Sale

April 21-23

Healing Segment + 5:30-5:45 ntermission + Snacks DJ Set w/Live Vocals • 6:15-7:00

Open Mic Night. Every Wednesday. Sign up for the lottery for 20-minute time slots from 3 pm, when the Pub opens, to 7:30 pm. Music starts at 8 pm. "An eclectic array of local musicians and performers from around the world, often turning into an evening full of unexpected surprises. Saturday Scramble: Every 2nd and 4th Saturday

Shanachie Pub

Ongoing Events

Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street

from 3 to 6 pm, hosted by Tyler B. Bring any instrument you can play and sign up to perform a 15-minute set with other local musicians. "Meet new musicians, discover new genres and explore your creativity!"

Tyler Grass & The Sherwood Mountain Boys: Held third and fifth Thursday evening in March at 7 pm. "Come check out some of our favorite locals playing bluegrass & more!"

Bluegrass String Jam: Every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month starting at 3 pm - welcomes all Bluegrass musicians! An official jam for the California Bluegrass Association, "so you never know which members from out of the area may drop in!"

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

'Dungeons & Dragons: **Honor Among Thieves**'

The Story: Sword and sorcery, violent and occasionally comical adventure based on, and honoring, the magical realms of Dungeons &



Dan Essman

Edgin Darvis (Chris Pine, hero-face) is a thief and lute-carrying minstrel. His young wife is murdered. He loves her hopelessly. and then he learns of a

magical artifact that will bring her back to life. Thus, a Quest begins.

He is partnered with the bad ass, fast and furious barbarian warrior Holga

(Michelle Rodriguez), the shapeshifter "owl-bear" Doric (Sophia Lillis, the redhead from "It"), and the ne'er do well sorcerer wannabe/hope-to-be Simon (Justice Smith).

On the way, they must confront the powerfully evil sorceress Sofina (Daisy Head, who has

sad eyes), various dragons, treacherous "friends' with armored minions, and redundant desperate lifeor-death situations truly too numerous to list. (And besides, spoilers are rude.)

My Thoughts: This flick is a raucous good time (two and a quarter hours). It demands the Big Screen in practically the same way popcorn demands butter and salt. Luckily for we Willitsians, the Noyo has one. It's enormous. And it's specially designed by techno-nerds for the image enhancement of digital

No spoilers, but this flick left me with a brain itch. As anyone can understand, the power through magic to resurrect the dead is a moral-emotional quagmire. If, let's say, a man with that power can restore one (just one) person back to Life, whom does he choose to save? And why? And is it actually saving?

And how does that man live with his choice, knowing that there could have been a different man or woman alive whom he didn't save, and whose family is in mourning? Accepting one's own Destiny is hard enough. Creating another person's Destiny is a monstrous burden, even god-like. But of course, that

Parents: A movie honoring courage and teamwork and loyalty to one's comrades in life while facing terrible dragons is the kind of movie that builds character. It's encouraging, and strengthens young hearts. Plus, the good guys win.

attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination.

SUPER MARIO BROS MOVIE



ie Times for April 7 thru April 13

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS: HONOR AMONG THIEVES

(PG13) 2 hrs 14 mins Friday: 4:15 & 7:15pm Sat.-Thurs.: 1:15, 4:15 & 7:15pm



Fri.-Thurs: 4:00 & 7:30pm OVER 21 CLUB -Luxury Recliners

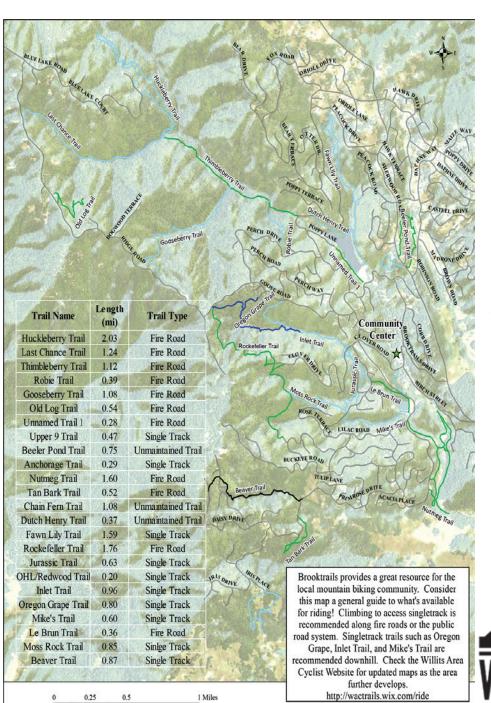
(R) 2 hrs 49 mins

Masks Optiona

Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Willits Weekly | April 6, 2023

Starts Friday, April 14:

Renfield



WAC volunteers 'sign' Brooktrails hiking and biking trails

Submitted by Willits Area Cyclists

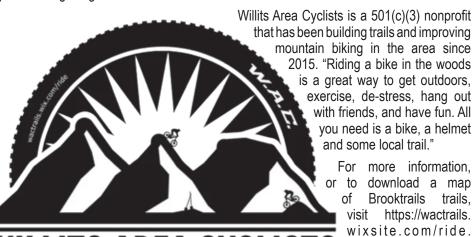
If you have been out on the trails in Brooktrails recently, you may have noticed some new signs popping up. Willits Area Cyclists has been busy signing the trails in the Brooktrails

The majority of the signs have been installed, and hikers and bikers should now be able to find their way around the trail system much easier.

These signs were made possible by a grant from the Community Foundation of Mendocino County through the Fund For Trails and Open Space. The aluminum signs, designed and created by Adam and Ashley Sherf, include information about trail distances, elevation, connecting tails, and a map with a "you are here" location marker for ease of

WAC often receives inquiries about where the trails are located in Brooktrails and how to find them. Many locals have often commented that they were unaware that a trail system existed in the Brooktrails Greenbelt area. Signing the trails has been a multi-year project that began with the installation of the Kiosk at the Par Course.

WAC hopes to make these awesome local trails more accessible and navigable with the addition of these new signs. If you have never been on the trails, or are wanting to find some new routes to explore, now is a great time to get out in the woods, with the added perk of not getting lost.



mountain biking in the area since 2015. "Riding a bike in the woods is a great way to get outdoors, exercise, de-stress, hang out with friends, and have fun. All you need is a bike, a helmet and some local trail.' For more information.

or to download a map Brooktrails trails https://wactrails. wixsite.com/ride. Keep up with WAC Area Cyclists" page on

At left: The sign for the Oregon Grape trail in Brooktrails marks it as an "Intermediate" trail for hikers and mountain bike riders. Below, left: The new signs for the Brooktrails Greenbelt trail system are loaded with information, including "You Are Here" notations and icons noting the difficulty level. This sign for the Thimbleberry Trail is marked as "Easy." Adam Sherf of Willits Area Cyclists installs one of











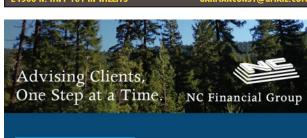


You are invited to our annual Easter Sunrise Service on Sunday, April 9 at the Recreation Grove in Willits. The service begins at 6:30 a.m. with prayer, worship, and a short message of encouragement.

A breakfast will be served at Agape Bible Church just down the street at 290 South Lenore St. after the service. See you there...







Investments Tax Planning Insurance

Real Estate

Retirement

(855) 240-6606 675 S. Main Street Willits, CA 95490

Nicholas Casagrande, EA Chief Executive Officer EA #105394, CA DRE #01854336 CA Insurance Lic. # 0H68496

www.ncfinancialgroup.com

LEGAL NOTICES

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2023-F0101 The following corporation is doing business as Little Lake Auto Parts, 1571 South Mair Street, Willits, CA 95490. Registered owner: Cave

Investments Inc., 1571 South Main Street, Willits, CA 95490 This business is conducted by a corporation The registrant commenced to

transact business under the

fictitious husiness name lister above on October 24, 1985. FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on February 22, 2023 /s/ Ida Catherine Bouthillier

Publication dates: March 16, 23, 30 and April 6, 2023

Fictitious Business

Name Statement 2023-F0154 The following person or persons

are doing business as SoMendo Co Labs and SoMendo Co. Registered owner: Southern Mendocino Company, 10100 Eastside Potter Valley Rd.. Potte Valley, CA 95469. Mailing address: 75 N. State St. #118, Ukiah, CA 95482.

This business is conducted by a The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on January 19, 2018. FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-

Recorder on March 21, 2023

President /s/ Jon Orantes, COO Publication dates: April 6, 13, 20, 27, 2023

WW425

NOTICE OF SALE OF GOODS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed under the California Self-Service Storage Facility Act on said property pursuant to Sections 21700-21716 of the Business & Professions Code, Section 2328 of the UCC,

The undersigned will sell by competitive bidding online at

The following said property stored at Cougars Closet II Mini Storage, 317 Robert Drive, Willits, CA 95490, County of Mendocino, State of California.

boxes (contents unknown), clothes, furniture, tools and up within 72 hours of winning bid by credit/debit or cash. All purchased items sold as-is, where-is and must be removed within 72 hours of sale.

Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.

Brooktrails Fire Department Open House, April 8

your local Brooktrails Fire Department, 24860 Birch Street,

We are asking the community for additional contributions to maintain current service levels. Board members, staff and the consultant who completed the Engineer's Study for the Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services Assessment District will be there to answer questions and

Brooktrails Community Services District

This could be an ad for your business next week!

x 3" tall black-and-white ad space in Willits Weekly!

FOWL Spring Book Sale

Friends of the Willits Library's annual Spring Book Sale is coming soon to the Willits Library! The sale will be held in the Willits Library conference room from 10 am to 5 pm on Friday, April 21, Saturday, April 22, and Sunday April 23.

On Sunday all books will be only \$3 a bag.

Come browse our garden and home project books, as well as children's, fiction, and non-fiction titles, with an abundance of specials. Books are priced CHEAP - 50

Volunteer cashiers are still needed. If you can help with a 2-hour shift, please sign up at the library or call Melinda: 707-456-9525.

- Friends of the Willits Library

Marc Komer Legal Document Assistant

An Affordable Non-Attorney Service

(707) 459-2775

245 South Humboldt St., Suite B, Willits BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

attorney, and can only provide self-help services at your specific direct

\$43,076 - \$52,353 \$54,184 - \$65,873 \$76,419 - \$122,824

TO SATISFY SELF STORAGE FACILITY LIEN

Section 535 of the Penal Code and Provisions of the Civil Code

storageauctions.com starting April 10th @ 9AM and ending

Lorna Allen F-4, F-5 Joshua Bollinger D-35; Jordan Campell B-28; Laura Douglas C-3; Javier Garcia D-34; Elizabeth Hull B-22; Richard Guevara A-13; Marjorie Kelly D-22; Colleen Kenny D-24; Dwayne Murray B-26; Donavan Parrish C-31; Fabian Rodriguez B-32; Christopher Schrabel B-4: William Thomas E-34 Jeff Walker F-1; Sara Warras C-14

The goods are described as miscellaneous household items & miscellaneous articles. Purchases must be paid for and picked

Dated this 30th day of March & 6th Day of April 2023 by Cougars Closet II Mini-Storage, 707-259-0159 Publication Dates: March 30 and April 6, 2023

Join us on Saturday, April 8 at 12:30 pm to see how continues to provide emergency first responder services to

share current issues with the public.

Just \$42

gives you this 3.25" wide

coming soon

Our Foundation Come Thank Him. And Stay Grounded.

(3) Terms ending 6/30/2026

dpedersen@cityofwillits.org

environment for artists young and old.

Church of the Nazarene Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

20690 S. Main St. • Willits, CA (Across from Brown's Corner.) Come As You Are



Mendocino County invites applications for:

Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures \$125,112 - \$152,068

> **Chief Planner** \$95,846 - \$116,500

Community Health Services Specialist II

Corrections Deputy

Deputy District Attorney I/II/III

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

Deputy Public Defender I/II

\$76,419 - \$105,227 **Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II**

\$62,628 - \$87,214 Eligibility Specialist II/III \$47.132 - \$63.232

Juvenile Corrections Officer \$50.710 - \$61.630

Juvenile Corrections Officer -Extra-Help

\$24.38 - \$28.22 hourly Legal Secretary I/II \$38,188 - \$53,851

Licensed Vocational Nurse \$55,515 - \$67,475

Office Services Supervisor \$48,880 - \$59,404 **Public Health Nurse**

\$91,124 - \$110,780 **Public Safety Dispatcher** \$53,102 - \$64,542

> **Registered Nurse** \$78,187 - \$95,014

Screener \$39,748 - \$48,318 **Senior Planner**

\$82,555 - \$100,360

Senior Program Specialist \$61,880 - \$75,233

Senior Public Health Nurse \$100,297 - \$121,908

Senior Substance Abuse Counselor \$58,385 - \$70,990 Staff Assistant II/III

\$38,792 - \$49,524 **Supervising Public Health Nurse**

Supervising Staff Assistant \$42,785 - \$52,020

Tobacco Education & Advocacy Intern (Work Experience Trainee) \$17.77 Hourly

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

www.governmentjobs.com/careers/ mendocinoca EOE





VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

City of Willits RESIDENTS: Do you live within the city

limits and want to share your love of the arts with the

community? Be a volunteer on the newly formed Art in Public Spaces Committee (Three Vacancies). We

are accepting applications now through April 20, 2023,

Join us in promoting Willits as a vibrant and stimulating

For more information or to apply, please visit or call the

God Has Provided

Meets 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM.

City Clerk's office at (707) 459-7113, or email:

RADIATE D A R N E D

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

Pg. 11

Store is hiring a merchandise processor/ stocker/ cashier (35 hours weekly). Richard Baker for more information at 459-6826. Or email resume 3 references

Help Wanted

Wanted and needed: A

handyman experienced

in plumbing, and we

need a brick chimney

taken down. Please call

Help Wanted

Senior Center Thrift

707-459-1043.

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, 2023; TK: age

5 between Sept. 2, 2023

Inscripción

abierta en

Brookside

La inscripción para

TK / Kindergarten de

Brookside Elementary

ya está abierta. Para

registrarse, vaya a

www.willitsunified.com.

5 años antes del 1 de

septiembre de 2023;

TK: 5 años entre el 2 de

septiembre de 2023 y el

Computer Help

Need help with your

Macintosh, Android and

IOS devices. Repairs,

tutoring: \$50/hr. Call

Liam 459-2470 or email

uicearbhaill@gmail.com

'Have You Had

A Spiritual

Experience?'

Join us for a lively

discussion on spiritual

experiences with a starter

topic on Animals Are

Soul, Too. Come share or

iust listen! Willits Library,

390 East Commercial

Street. Saturday, April 8,

10 to 11 am. Questions?

Call April at 707-972-

2475; Sponsored by

Eckankar of Lake 8

Mendocino Counties.

computer?

configuration

2 de abril de 2024.

edad para Kinder:

and April 2, 2024.

Indoor Yard Sale Giant Indoor Sale - Deep Valley Christian School, 8555 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley, (across from the Broiler). Saturday. April

willitsseniorcenter.com

wsidirector@

John Ford Ranch Beef

15 – 8 am to 4 pm.

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

Room for Rent Room for Rent. Must work, have references. No pets. No drugs. \$600 including utilities. Available now. 707-354-

RV/Trailer Space for Rent

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

M L G W P B J D F G C K P F T CHURCH (BASKET)LIL J G K Y N K P S EMI<u>IGNIRPS</u>D G D G (Y A D I L O H) E F J W U D A S W M

S A M A R I T A N D E

Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Willits Weekly | April 6, 2023 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

Sunday: 9am - 5pm





SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

Agape **Bible Church** 290 S. Lenore Ave.

Willits,CA 95490 Where love is first and the Bible is central. Sunday Services: 10:00 a.m. - Worship dult Sunday School 9:00 a Info? 707-459-1905 ww.agapebiblechurch.co

Amazing Grace Assembly of God Church

803 Coast Street P.O. Box 489, Willits 707-303-5456 Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m Pastor Burton Jernigan EVERYBODY IS WELCOME

Church of Christ

Acts 2:37 1095 S. Main St., Willits (next to Super 8) (707) 459-5023 Sunday 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.

Eckankar: The Path of Spiritual Freedom •Sound of Soul events

 Membership Discourses Spiritual Discussions ECK Light & Sound Service More information? Call 530-224-8703 www.eckankar.org

Grace Community Church Celebrating Life In Christ

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

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church

61 W. San Francisco Ave. Willits, CA 95490 Father Aaron Bandanadam Mass times: Confessions by appointment: 459-2252

Sunday Mass inside: 9:00 a.m. English 10:30 a.m. Spanish Saturday Mass: 5:30 p.m Covid guidelines apply. We welcome All Walks of Fait

St. Francis **Episcopal Church** North Main Street, Willits 707-272-0177

Sunday Service - 10 a.m. In-person and on Zoom 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 Bible Study - 9:30 a.m. Worship Service - 10:45 a.m. Zoom Transmission Available Wednesday Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m. 399 W. Mendocino Ave. All are welcome!

Willits United **Methodist Church**

Labyrinth and Peace Garden A place to find comfort where all are welcome Pastor Rosemary Landry Sunday Worship at 10:30 am 286 School St. (at Pine) 707-459-2855 wumc@willitsonline.com www.willitsumc.org Facebook: facebook willits um

this column please call: April Tweddell (707) 972-2475 april@willitsw<u>eekly.con</u>

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

Above, left: Kindergartener Ava Guerrero and second-grader Ivan Tepale Duran are students of the month at Brookside Elementary School. Above, right: First- and second-grade students of the month: Rheagan Oferrall, Ty Beckstead, Lindsey Lucier, Juan Carlos Silva Candejas, Zebediah Hincker-Tye, Macy Lawrence, Cynthia Silva

Brookside Elementary: March students of the month

By Jaclyn Luna, Brookside School

Brookside Elementary School students of the month are chosen for exemplifying the school rules of being safe, responsible, respectful and kind. By grade, March students of the month

Transitional kindergarten: Jaxson Williams and Lorena Sanchez Garcia.

Kindergarten: Ava Guerrero, Aksha Bansal, Zoey Sizemore, Kane Hood and Francisco

First grade: Rheagan Oferrall, Ty Beckstead, Juan Carlos Silva Candejas, Lucille Barden and Cynthia Silva Pulido

March was a busy month at Brookside. Students and staff wrapped up the second trimester and began the third trimester. Leprechauns visited several classrooms on St. Patrick's Day, wreaking havoc and leaving glitter

The Parent Teacher Organization generously hosted a book giveaway where every student got to choose a book to take home and enjoy. Second-grade students took the Ravens Screening, a pathway to the Extended Learning Program. Students in the gifted/talented and

Second grade: Zebediah Hincker-Tye, Tim high-ability program engage in learning with Walker, Ivan Tepale Duran, Macy Lawrence and greater depth, complexity, and rigor through differentiated curriculum and instruction.

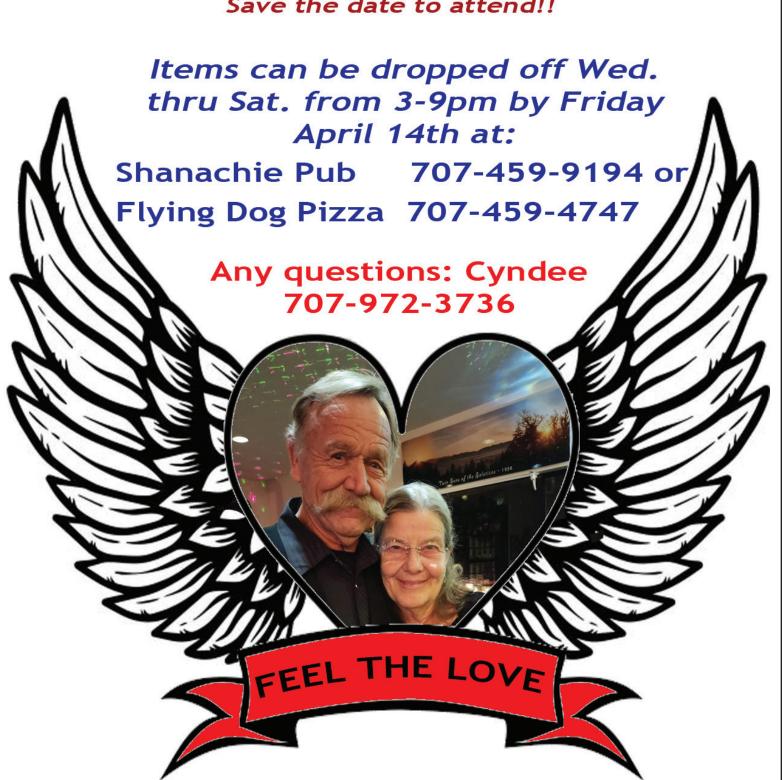
> Brookside staff is proud of students' hard work and especially the students of the month, who consistently are safe, responsible, respectful and kind. Willits Unified School District Superintendent Mark Beebe said: "We are very proud of our WUSD students and staff. Their efforts to learn and educate, challenge themselves, and learn new concepts daily are amazing to witness each day. The Brookside team spotlights our students who have an exceptional month of success. Thank you to all in WUSD for their efforts."



Above, left: Transitional kindergarten and kindergarten students of the month: Lorena, Jaxson Williams, Zoey Sizemore, Francisco Gomez and Aksha Bansal. Above, right: First-grade student of the month from Lisa Mey's class, Lucille Barden.

DONATION ITEMS NEEDED

For SILENT AUCTION at **Trainsinger Fundraiser April 16** Willits Center for the Arts 2 - 7 pm Save the date to attend!!



From page 1 Rules

infrastructure surrounding a cannabis farm, such as roads and water tanks, but retain the restrictions against removing the trees for the planting area.

The amendment will need one final consent calendar vote from the board in an upcoming meeting before going

The county cannabis ordinance, 10A17, and its accompanying mitigated negative declaration, restrict many types of trees from being removed "for the purposes" of developing a cultivation site," including various pines, oaks, redwoods, madrones, firs, cedars, spruces, sequoias, alders and laurels, among others.

These restrictions apply only to cannabis cultivation in the county, and no other types of agriculture or businesses, but they do allow for exceptions if tree removal is needed for safety reasons.

The definition of "development of a [cannabis] cultivation site" was at the center of the debate at the March 28 BOS meeting, and whether it should include development of the surrounding infrastructure and continue to restrict tree removal for that purpose.

The board voted for the most lenient of three options presented to them at a previous meeting by the Mendocino Cannabis Department.

The Willits Environmental Center opposed the change in Byer (39, Willits). definition the board eventually approved, with co-founder Ellen Drell saying at the meeting that it would be in violation of the county's cannabis ordinance without additional environmental review.

WEC and longtime cannabis attorney Hannah Nelson also submitted a joint letter to the board in opposition to the change, and suggested an alternative to get the 30 or so applicants reportedly held up by "veg mod" issues through the permitting process.

Third District Supervisor John Haschak cast the lone dissenting vote against the amendment, which passed 4-1, saying he worried it would lead to a lawsuit, and that there was no data about how many applicants it would actually

Haschak said that he would rather the county's General Government Committee, of which he is a member, work with the WEC, the Mendocino Cannabis Alliance and others to find a different path to get the applicants permitted.

"I just think that if we move forward, we're going to get sued." he said. "I think that if we can deal with these 30, as individual, and really look at them, I think we can come up with reasonable decisions that are acceptable. And if we're saving a sizable amount of money in preventing a lawsuit I think that that's something that we need to look for as we look at the budget.'

The GGC's other member, Second District Supervisor Maureen Mulheren, disagreed with Haschak about taking that approach, saying that "we've been over this conversation many many times," and "in the grand scheme of things we've spent already way too long talking about it."

"Mendocino County has changed since the ordinance was originally created," she said. "My concern is about fire hazard and making sure that people's homes are kept safe, that their families are kept safe, and of course that they're able to maintain their business and their productivity. So I do think that we should go ahead and move forward with this item today.'

County Counsel Christian Curtis did say at the meeting it was a possibility that the county could see legal action against it if it approved the definition to allow for more tree removal, but he also said there could be legal action if they chose the more restrictive definition – or if they did nothing.

He said that litigation could come from "an environmental group saying you're applying the ordinance wrong," or it could come from cannabis applicants due to long delays in processing applications which have lasted years in many

In fact, towards the end of the discussion, Curtis said that one Phase 3 applicant has already sued the county

"In terms of the risk of litigation, candidly this is one of those situations where you have people on both sides of the issue, both of whom may have an incentive to sue," he said. "I don't know that I can promise or guarantee any course of action that would avoid litigation.

"This is one of those scenarios where because of the nature of the ambiguity, there is that possibility of that question getting answered by the court, and I don't see a scenario in which the county isn't a party to that litigation," he added.

Still, Curtis advised that the board provide clarity on the definition.

"Just from sort of a risk management perspective, and from a policy perspective, there are some benefits to whatever the answer is in terms of what you think the correct definition is under this ordinance," he said. "Codifying that and giving people certainty on that going forward rather than having this be an open question and a lawsuit that could pop up five years, 10 years in the future."

About 30 or so applicants have apparently been flagged for possible vegetation modification violations, and it has taken months and even years for some to prove that they are not actually in violation since the trees either fell on their own, were dead or dying, or removed for other allowable

Some, like the MCA and Nelson, have termed this situation "veg mod hell" for applicants

As stated in their letter, the WEC and Nelson both felt that most of the Phase 1 applicants being held up by tree issues could be guided to obtaining their permits by adjustments in the application process.

"[We] are in agreement that the ordinance does not need to be changed to effectuate a path forward for that cohort," their letter read. "We are in agreement that guardrails must be put in place to prevent MCD from obstructing the valid claims of applicants that suspected tree removal was not in violation of the ordinance and that even if it was, in most instances, Phase 1 applicants would be able to satisfy a Compliance Plan that required an evaluation that would, even with the tree removal, determine the impact to the environment ... is less significant, or the impacts will be mitigated within the









Above, from left: Haley Tyrrell of Willits. Jason Gower of Willits. Brooke Lewis of Willits. Tyler Row of Willits.

causing him to be forcibly detained.

Cruelty

Barry Martin (34, Willits) was located inside the shack and ordered out. The shack was secured due to an aggressive dog inside as well as a husky breed dog locked in a kennel.

The WPD officers then cleared the main residence, locating five additional trespassers: Frederick Hyre (62, Willits), Bradley McCartney (67, Willits), Brooke Lewis (42, Willits) Tyler Row (28, Willits), and David

Row is on post release community supervision, a form of parole, with terms to include at least "obey all laws." Row is also the restrained person in a served restraining order with Lewis, the protected party.

Lewis was found to have a local no-cite misdemeanor warrant for her

A WPD officer cleared the shack and found the husky was emaciated and locked in a kennel far too small for its size. The WPD officer also heard the sound of dogs whimpering behind a door that was blocked with carpet

Byer, Hyre, Martin, and McCartney were released on citations for violation

four puppies were covered in their

own feces and urine. The bathroom

was covered in excrement and there

was no water or food available. The

puppies were visibly hungry as they

immediately began to eat trash and

rotten food found strewn about the

Given the living situation and

condition the four puppies and the

husky mix were found in, WPD

officers had probable cause to believe

a serious case of animal abuse was

Mendocino County Animal Control

was called out to assist with collecting

of 602(m) PC - Trespass Without

floor of the shack.

occurring.

the six canines.

Owner's Consent.

Tyrrell, Gower, Lewis and Row were transported and booked into the county jail for the following charges:

Row - a3455 PC [Violation of

The officer had to forcibly open PRCS] 273.6 PC [Violation of a Domestic Violence Restraining the blocked door, at which point he found four small German shepherd-Order], and 602(m) PC [Trespass mix puppies in a small bathroom. All Without Owner's Consent].

Lewis - A no-cite warrant, and 602(m) PC [Trespass Without Owner's Consent]

Gower - 1203.2 PC [Felony Violation of Probation], 182 PC [Felony Conspiracy], 597 PC [Felony Animal Cruelty], 148(a)(1) PC [Resist/ Obstruct Peace Officer], and 602(m) PC [Trespass Without Owner's Consent].

Tyrell – 182 PC [Felony Conspiracy] 597 PC [Felony Animal Cruelty] 148(a)(1) PC [Resist/Obstruct Peace Officer], and 602(m) PC [Trespass Without Owner's Consentl.

The Willits Police Department would like to thank the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office and Mendocino County Animal Control for their assistance.

The decision was made to make the public aware of the conditions from which the animals were rescued, and photos have been posted by WPD. To see the photos, visit the "Willits Police Department" page on Facebook.

time allowed ... to bring it within that threshold."

The letter urged the county to allow applicants to use sworn affidavits as evidence of why the trees were removed to help speed up the process – something that Curtis said the county is currently working on.

Ellen Drell explained at the meeting why the WEC believed the board's change or "clarification" of the cultivation definition would go against the county cannabis ordinance and the mitigated negative declaration – the document which explains measures taken by the county, such as limiting tree removal, to avoid significant impact to the local environment due to the ordinance.

"Developing a cultivation site' is not defined in 10A17, said Drell, "and the [WEC] thinks there's ample evidence in the MND that 'development of a cultivation site' actually meant the inclusion of roads and water infrastructure and other infrastructure developed for the purpose of creating or expanding a cultivation site. And it doesn't make any sense that tree removal for those things would be OK, whereas tree removal for the cultivation site itself would not be OK, when the purpose was to protect forest resources.

"We're looking at possibly the impacts of building a new access road or two, or a parking lot, or an irrigation system, or a pond, [that] could be even greater than the tree removal for the cultivation site itself," she added. "So we can't accept that we just assume that the impacts would be insignificant."

Second District Supervisor Glenn McGourty said with the tree removal prohibition only applying to cannabis cultivation, "it seems like we're creating sort of a double standard here for one industry versus everybody else, and I just think that's a problem.

To that, Drell responded, "I think you're right, there is another standard for cannabis cultivation, and that was evident throughout the development of the cannabis

"And that may change over time," she said, "but it was clear from the planning commission at the time and the board at the time that retaining forest cover was a higher priority than developing new cannabis cultivation areas. So the fairness or the rightness of that may want to be reconsidered, but that was clearly the intent of that tree removal prohibition in the ordinance."

Fifth District Supervisor Ted Williams, as he often has in past meetings, spoke about what he saw as the gloomy prospects of the cannabis industry in the county, saying that any future environmental impacts would likely be minimal from the declining industry, and that the board spends far too much time on the topic.

"We don't have a plan in this county for what that growth looks like when a million people show up [as] climate refugees," he said. "And we're never going to get to it because we're arguing about this weird thing called 'veg mod' ... one or two trees here and there ... I think we're missing the bigger environmental concerns.

"You'd have to be really bad at math and economics to think starting a cannabis farm under our Phase 3 program makes any sense at all," he added. "It's a loser. And it'll become more of a loser in the years to come. So I don't see a huge risk of people going out with chainsaws and trying to develop parcels. They can go to Lake County and buy 80 acres and do an 80 acre cannabis farm rather than 320 quarter acre farms in Mendocino County. There's just no incentive to do business here – and we want to save the forest, maybe that's a good thing."

While more than 800 county cannabis applicants are still vying to get their annual state licenses under Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the county ordinance, CEO Darcie Antle said that, at last count, only six had applied under Phase 3, the last phase to open, which allows non-legacy applicants without prior proof of cultivation in the county to apply.

Despite this low number, Drell still disagreed with Williams' assessment

"I mean Ted I don't know if there are just going to be 10 Phase 3 growers or if there are going to be 300," she said. "We don't know, the market may change. We can have opinions and speculate, but we don't know. And that to me says that this decision-making body is required to look at the possible consequences down the road.

"I think the idea of streamlining the process for the Phase 1 and Phase 2 growers is great," she added. "If the county wants to amend the ordinance in order to change and make very clear the tree removal prohibition or even reconsider that prohibition that's written into the ordinance, that's fine. That's within your purview and the public's purview, but it requires environmental review.

Mendocino Cannabis Alliance sent a memo to the board saying they largely agreed with WEC and attorney Nelson, that "an ordinance change is not necessary to achieve the desired outcomes, and that the critical issues to be addressed are the implementation of how the vegetation modification evidentiary standards and processes will play

MCA added: "However, given that the board felt compelled to adopt language that it thought would clarify the ordinance, we appreciate that the board chose the most reasonable of the definitions presented to it."

Water priorities

Also at the meeting, the board approved a plan from the recently formed "Mendocino County Water Resources Team Technical Advisory Committee" to prioritize community water needs, with five main projects chosen as the top priorities, and an additional five as next in line.

The main goal will be for the water resource team to find state grants to fund the different projects moving forward.

The board essentially stuck with the recommendations from the water team as far as which projects to prioritize, which were chosen following a meeting in February using 10 different criteria to choose from over 40 potential

The criteria included promoting conservation, capacity for drought response, habitat restoration, education and outreach, and long-term investment in water reliability and

The top five projects included two to help the town of Mendocino and the well-known water issues there, and one for Fort Bragg, which has also dealt with water shortages

The top priority project was construction of three 45 acrefoot water reservoirs for the City of Fort Bragg to "provide an additional 44 million gallons of stored water.'

For the town of Mendocino, the projects were a recycled water system upgrade and expansion and modernization of the wastewater treatment plant; and a Smart Water Meter project to replace 500 water meters on private well heads.

The other two in the top five projects were water treatment plant repairs for the Laytonville County Water District, and a "Gualala River Flow Bank Project" to purchase and install a 36,000 gallon tank to conserve and provide drinking vater for residents there.

The county water committee includes consultants from the firm EKI Environment & Water, Inc., five voting members who represent water interests from each of the five county districts, a University of California Cooperative Extension representative, County Department of Transportation Director Howard Dashiell, and Deputy CEO Steve Dunnicliffe.

EKI was hired by the county in December of 2022 for \$223,000 to serve as the "water resource specialist" through December of this year. At the BOS meeting, indications were that the contract

also stipulated that EKI help with at least five water projects, though the board was hopeful they would make progress on more than that with the contract money given.



The Bunny is Back

Easter Bunny is back for photos at J.D. Redhouse on Thursday, April 6

Come see the Easter Bunny and have your photo taken with him and his live, furry friends on Thursday, April 8 from 5 to 7 pm at J.D. Redhouse in Willits. Digital images are \$5 per grouping of people and will be available to download online at https://photographress. zenfolio.com/easterbunnyphotos. There's no appointment necessary, just stop in! As always the Easter Bunny session is a 50/50 fundraiser for the Soroptimist International of Willits. Questions: 707-972-7047 or maureengetsmail@gmail.com.





what is about to unfold, Kathy and Aris Vellis, along with their dinner guests Haley Morse and Jeshua Holt, witness a gamechanging in Steve Martin's comedy 'Meteor Shower.'

shocked at

Comic Steve Martin's play 'Meteor Shower' delivers madcap naughty fun at Willits Community Theatre April 7 through 23

For some saucy madcap fun, comic Steve Martin's play "Meteor Shower" opens at the Willits Community Theatre, April 7 for a three-week run. A play on marriage and infidelity, the production takes a hilarious look at what happens when one couple decides to play dirty with another couple, with an unexpected outcome.

Corky and Norm are committed to being the perfect couple when they decide to host another couple for an evening party. As a lark, Gerald and Laura arrive, intending to wreck Norm and Corky's marriage into a "total collapse."

The prospect is looking bleak for the fans of fidelity and love until a meteor shower hits the party, which upsets the normal flow of time, so that events of the evening are jumbled. The four characters begin to re-experience the party under different configurations of

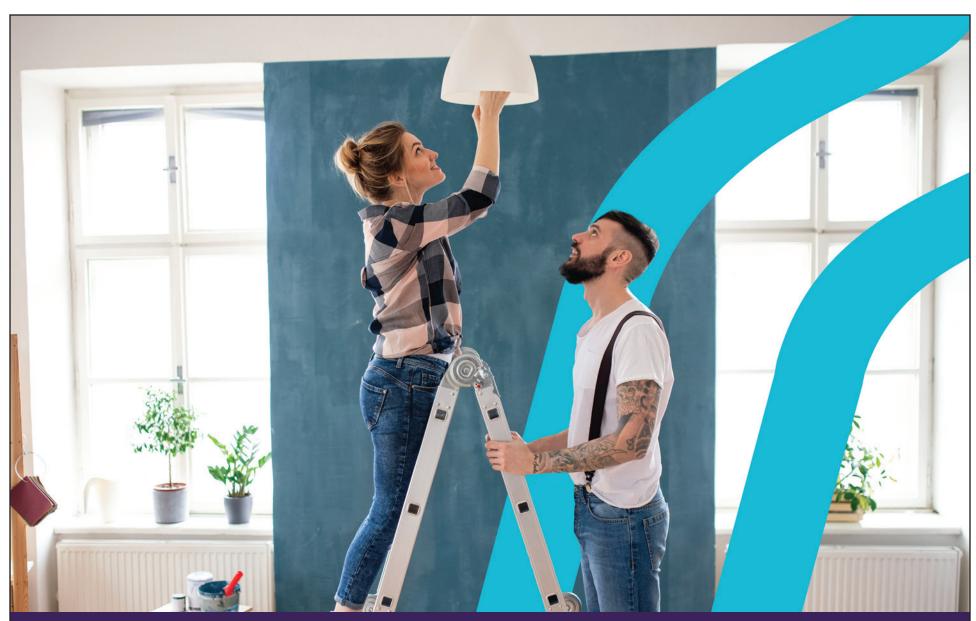
The result is a naughty look at love and marriage, treachery and seduction, as seen through a kaleidoscope of déjà vu encounters – all making for a unique and astonishing comedy made even more unique by Steve Martin's non-stop wit and word gags. The play was a 2017 Broadway hit, with Amy Schumer receiving a Tony Award nomination for her

Director Robert Ford has cast two real-life couples in the roles, with WCT veterans Kathy and Aris Vellis as Corky and Norm, and newcomers Haley Morse and Jeshua Holt

"The play has a narrative arc," Ford says of the central action. "It also has a dramatic element of going back in time repeatedly, and replaying different instances for the

With its short, fast-paced scenes, the play is easily reachable, while also delivering an intriguing undercurrent of psychological meaning. On a simple level, Ford adds, "It is a racy comedy, or naughty might be the more accurate word." The play does contain adult

Shows run April 7 through 23, with performances on Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm and Sunday matinees at 2 pm – with one exception, no show on April 9, Easter Sunday. Tickets are \$20 for all shows and available online at: www.wctperformingartscenter.org,



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"This one by Audrey Holman," said Jensen, a firsttime participant. "It is blackout poetry. You make a poem and then you can black it out or make your own pictures with it. 'To avoid evil, you must decide for yourself and grow,' it says. There were a lot of growth subjects with the blackout poetry."

Art is important to learn at the middle and high school level. Self-expression is needed for a well-rounded human being. The ability to communicate with nonverbal techniques creates a world that is both beautiful and one in which people are accepted for their ideas and views.

"Art is intrinsically rewarding," mused Bakewell. "They look forward to their classes. They come in and they get right to work now in my class. It's like I don't even want to interrupt them with a lesson. In every step of the way, they're using their higher-level thinking

Bakewell, although ostensibly the instructor, learns a lot just by watching the manner in which her students take to their expressive art forms and are able to tell a story through the use of visual media.

Jensen is continuously fascinated by the abilities of her students. "My students are really talented. We had an assignment to do neurographic drawings. We write something we're having an issue or hardship with on the back and then doodle on the front. Wherever there is a hard corner, we round it out so it begins to look like neurons. By doing this and adding color to it, it helps us take control of our issues and our problems."

The "Art Under 20" exhibit can be seen at the Willits Center for the Arts, located at 71 East Commercial Street, through April 30. The gallery is open Friday through Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm.

The rest of From page 7 Distillery

disabled for centuries.

He related that, at one time in the French Cognac region, nearly every farmer kept a still to process the family's small lot. "The big Cognac houses would come each year and buy the best. By selecting from hundreds of different distillations, brandy masters achieved a consistent blend."

Crispin added that the company uses organics whenever possible, emphasizing that they never use GMO ingredients. "We've been able to work with the Mendocino Grain Project for some of our grain, and we also use some local rye to use in our Low Gap

Label designer Long also took the podium, telling the story of his path to Mendocino County, where he now lives with his wife and studio project manager, Aspen. He mastered the art of oil painting, animation and coding earlier in life, and after two decades in the software industry making high-level video games, the couple founded their printing and design studio, the Color Mill in Fort Bragg.

Long's connection to Kaye and Cain has grown one label at a time, beginning with the Captain Fletcher's Private Reserve label, which pays homage to the historical figure, a whale boat captain and ship's carpenter who settled at the mouth of the Navarro River. Other labels followed, many featuring strong women, which Long noted were patterned after the rugged free spirits he has encountered in Mendocino County.

To an audience question, Long answered that, despite the Color Mill's embrace of new technology, he draws every line of each original image himself, in the old-fashioned way. Long's label designs, with their lavish Art Nouveau aesthetic, have made Tamar Distilleries and Mendocino Spirits immediately recognizable.

Long concluded his talk with an offering of freshoff-the-press first-edition prints of his lovingly created label designs. The four archival prints quickly sold as part of the evening's fundraising, which Kaye and Cain offered in full to the Willits Center for the Arts.

The last and arguably best part of the evening ensued, with lines forming around the beautifully laid tasting table, filled with Tamar's specially distilled whiskey, bourbon, gin and rye. Helpers Rye N. Flint and his friend Merkin answered questions about the nose, the palate, and the finish of the spirits, while serving with good humor and panache.

Flint, who started out hand-bottling and labeling for Cain and Kaye in 2013, has a degree in soil science and environmental technology from CalPoly, San Luis Obispo. He is also a mycologist and permaculture teacher, now serving as a distiller and production assistant at Tamar Distillery.

Sounds of laughter and chatter went up a notch as guests tasted their way through the variety of Mendocino Spirits on offer, including Tamar's extraordinary whiskey, rye, bourbon and gin.

David Weigt and Rose Holcomb also donated their culinary talents to the special event, serving up a delectable spread of their Tapas del Mundo, which paired wonderfully with the distillery's "spirited" offerings. Musician Chris Cichacki added his lively piano playing to the evening's mix of tastes, sights and

Tamar's Mendocino Spirits are available for purchase around the county, including at Village Market & Liquor in Willits and Harvest Market in Fort Bragg. Contact them directly at www.MendocinoSpirits.com, or by calling 707-485-2068. To access Color Mill's design and printing services, email them at hello@mycolormill. com, or go to www.mycolormill.com.

as to the whereabouts of Joaquin or any information related to this homicide, are urged to contact the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office Tip-Line by calling 707-234-2100 or the WeTip Anonymous Crime Reporting Hotline by calling 800-782-7463.

On March 30, a forensic autopsy determined that Whipple had a gunshot wound to his torso, and his death is currently being investigated as a homicide.

On March 29, at approximately 4:34 am the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Center received a report of an adult male

in need of emergency

medical assistance on Tabor Lane in Covelo.

Deputies dispatched to the location as it appeared the adult male had sustained some type of injury possibly the result of a physical assault. Personnel from the Round Valley Tribal

Police Department arrived first and began providing CPR as the adult male was absent breathing and a pulse. personnel arrived thereafter and after some time the adult male was declared



Lee Anthony Joaquin is considered

deceased as emergency life-saving efforts were unsuccessful.

Deputies arrived and noticed the adult male had what appeared to be a possible gunshot wound. Sheriff's Office detectives were summoned to the scene and began a death investigation with the assistance of the Mendocino County District Attorney's Office, Mendocino Major Crimes Task Force, and criminalist with the California Department of Justice

Anyone with information that can assist Sheriff's Detectives with this death investigation are urged to contact the Sheriff's Office Tip-Line by calling 707-234-2100 or the WeTip Anonymous Crime Reporting Hotline by calling 800-782-7463.

From page 1 Hoax

emergency line, "stated there was an active shooter situation at the [Fort Bragg] high school with multiple students injured," according to a statement released by Fort Bragg Police Chief Neil Cervenka.

Willits Unified School District reported they were first alerted to the claimed emergency situation in Fort Bragg, and "emergency services were activated and the high school went into lockdown."

After first responders in Fort Bragg "thoroughly searched and cleared" the school, they confirmed there were no injuries to staff

The call was determined to be a "SWAT" call – "a prank call

into the school and or district suggesting that there is an active emergency on campus," the Fort Bragg Police statement said. An all clear-was issued for Fort Bragg and other schools.

"After an all clear roughly 30 minutes later," WUSD reported. "Ukiah and Willits were also called and similar information was conveyed. Emergency services were activated and WHS was searched immediately.

The statement from Fort Bragg Police says the call to the Ukiah Police Department alleging a shooter incident was "from the same caller" who made the original call about Fort Bragg

"This is apparently part of a multi-county series of phone attacks," WUSD stated. "The FBI has issued a countywide advisory warning of this trend. We will take all calls and reports seriously and respond accordingly for the safety of our students, staff and community.

"We will continue to monitor this situation and will update you with any new information," WUSD stated. "Our counselors [were available Tuesday] to address any issues that our students and staff may feel after an incident such as this."

The Fort Bragg Police Department statement said the FBI has been notified and is "collecting any information."

"It is despicable," Fort Bragg Police Chief Cervenka said, that "someone would cause this much emotional trauma in our community. This event disrupted hundreds of lives and tied up emergency resources from the local, county, state and federal

"Despite this being a hoax, I'm very proud of the partnership among so many agencies to ensure the safety of our community,"

Anyone with information on these incidents is encouraged to contact Officer Frank of the Fort Bragg Police Department at 707-961-2800, ext. 139.

Here are more details of the public safety response to the first of these hoax calls, from the Fort Bragg Police Department

"FBPD and an investigator from the Mendocino County District Attorney's Office were on scene very shortly after, immediately running to the building the caller described. Fort Bragg High School had been placed on lockdown, along with several other schools. The initial responding officers reported there was no evidence of a shooting and nothing was heard.

"Law enforcement officers from the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, CHP, State Parks, and Fish & Wildlife arrived and began deploying out in search teams, doing a room-by-room search assisted by school administrators.

"Additional resources of multiple ambulances from Adventist Health, Fort Bragg Fire Department, and Fort Bragg Public Works responded to the scene. Multiple air ambulances had been called and six US Coast Guard rescue helicopters were diverted to Fort Bragg should they be needed.

"The school was thoroughly searched and cleared. There were no injuries to staff or students. After the lockdown was lifted, Fort Bragg High School released the students still on campus after their safety was ensured. Officers are actively investigating this

General Manager Tamara Alaniz announced: "Brooktrails staff was finishing drafting the annual budget in preparation for the Annual Budget Workshop Meeting that is scheduled to take place at the Brooktrails Community Center from 9:30-noon on Saturday, April 8."

From page 1

An Open House on the proposed fire assessments for Brooktrails property owners will follow Saturday afternoon, starting at 12:30 pm.

Alaniz commented on the budget: "We are shooting to maintain or reduce our bottom lines and we are well on the way to doing that. The auditors have begun work on the 2021-2022 audit. "The new finance director Tom Sims is prepared and has been working with the auditors on that.

Alaniz also reported the rain total at the treatment plant is at 61 inches for this rain year (since October), and there's more rain on the way.

The board then voted to unanimously approve the Consent Calendar Accounts Payable in the amount of

Agenda items for discussion and possible action were next: "Discussion of Engineers' Report from SCI Consulting Group on Ballot Measure and Community Investment in the Fire Department" and "Consideration of Resolutions 2023-03 and 2023-04 to adopt Proposition 218 Assessment Ballot Procedures and Initiate Proceedings, Provide Intention to Levy Assessments, Approve the Engineers' Report, Provide Notice of Public Hearing and Mail Assessment Ballots on the Brooktrails Fire Department Fire Protection and Emergency Response Service Assessment District."

The board then focused on discussion of the Engineers' Report from SCI Consulting Group on the Ballot Measure and Community Investment in the Fire

Presently, Brooktrails residents, through their annual property taxes, pay \$99 annually which is less than \$10 per month to support the Brooktrails Fire Department. With this additional assessment request, Brooktrails residents are asked to pay an additional \$5 to \$6, about \$15 to \$16 total per month to support the Fire Department.

It was noted by General Manager Alaniz that the Fire Department has three full-time employees who answer over 500 calls per year covering the 12 square miles of Brooktrails. She also noted that Brooktrails has a population of over 3,700 residents.

"Our fire department has been providing local residents service for over 50 years," Alaniz said. "We have a unique situation here with our forested neighborhoods. We've had all kinds of calls throughout the past year. Those service calls have been for structure fires, vehicle fires, collisions, injuries, emergency medical calls.

"Another big part of our calls are for non-emergency calls," Alaniz said. "We also provide fire prevention, community education and outreach. We work out of one fire station. This board has continued to support apparatus and equipment replacement. The board has provided support for the three person full-time staff.

"The [current] \$99 per parcel is not going to continue to meet the needs of our department," she said. "Owners of undeveloped parcels are not paying the \$99, and we are asking the board to support and move forward to send out the mail ballot to our Brooktrails property owners.

Director Tina Tyler-O'Shea commented: "The current assessment was determined in 2014, and I've lived in my home since 1998. I would have to say that the last five or six years, the fire threat has been more prominent than ever, and this is a time when our fire department needs to be funded.

Director Joanne Cavallari agreed and said: "I don't think anyone in our district wants to see a fire department under-funded. This is critical."

Attending via zoom, to answer questions from the board and residents attending the meeting, were Arcelia Herrera and Susan Barnes with SCI Consulting Group. Herrera has worked closely with Brooktrails staff to put together the data that was necessary to complete the Engineers' Report. She explained that the assessments are determined by the size of the individual parcels and the proximity of the parcel to the

President Rick Williams asked: "When we have the public hearing on this, will staff from SCI be in the position and prepared to answer questions from residents regarding individual parcels, in regard to different assessments for parcels?"

SCI's Barnes noted: "The ballots are out for 45 days before the public hearing happens. Part of the purpose of that time period is to give the public time to get their questions answered. Residents are encouraged to attend the public hearing before they vote. SCI staff will have laptops and will be available to answer any and all questions regarding individual parcels."

Director Cavallari said: "I want to make it clear to the public that there is a difference between the rates and the assessments. The assessments are calculated based on the rates. The rate is not what individual homeowners will pay. Homeowners will pay

The board then voted unanimously to accept the Engineers' Report which was included in Resolution 2023-03.

The Board also voted unanimously to approve Resolution 2023-04

General Manager Alaniz announced that Brooktrails residents are invited to attend an Open House, following the staff budget planning meeting, in the Community Center, this Saturday, April 8, beginning at 12:30 pm to have questions answered prior to receiving their assessment ballots

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SALUTE TO SERVICE

Sherwood Valley Casino is giving back in a big way this month not only a huge campaign targeted to all our community service members. On Mondays Sherwood Valley Casino's Salute to Service for all Veterans, Active Military, First Responders, Fire, Medical, Police, Teachers, Utility workers.

Earn 100 Todays Points to Receive \$25 Free Play and 50% off Creekside Cafe' food special coupon.

Must show participating valid ID.



We Prepared a Special Menu for our Service Members on Mondays in April. Starting April 3rd the Special will be Clam Chowder or Chili Bread Bow; April 10th - Meat Loaf Dinner, followed by Pulled Pork on April 17th and BBQ Ribs and MAC and Cheese on April 24th.

SHOPPING SPREE

And Starting April 1st earn and redeem entries to win a \$500 Dollar Shopping Spree.

Drawings Will Be every Sunday Starting April 9th at 4 PM.

One Lucky winner will win a \$500 dollar Shopping Spree to a local participating Vendor. To see if your favorite hometown stores are on the list you got to come down to Sherwood Valley Casino.

All Players Club Members will receive one free entry.



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Management reserves the right to cancel or modify any promotion at any time without notice. For complete rules and details please visit the Players Club. Gamgling a problem? Call 1-800-GAMBLER.