

Thursday, June 24, 2021

Photo
submitted by
Mattie Owen

Mendocino County Department Closures

Submitted by the Mendocino County Executive Office

As of June 15, 2021, the Mendocino County elected officials and department heads are authorized to continue to close their departments to the public, as the most appropriate means of protecting the health of their employees while still providing essential public services. Cal/ OSHA regulates the safety requirements for the Mendocino County workplace and has not lifted the current requirement for masking and social distancing regardless of vaccination status or the state reopening. Further guidance by Cal/ OSHA is anticipated after June 17, 2021.

Below are the office closures as of Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 12 pm:

Agriculture

- Limited public access/by appointment.

Air Quality

- Open for both appointments and walk in with masks and social distancing guidelines are still in effect.

Animal Care Services – Ukiah

- Limited public access/by appointment.
- Limited volunteers allowed at this time.

Animal Care Services – Fort Bragg

- Limited public access/by appointment.
- Limited volunteers allowed at this time.

Assessor/Clerk-Recorder

- Limited public access/by appointment.

Auditor-Controller

- Limited public access/by appointment.

Child Support Services

- Limited public access.

County Counsel

- Closed to public.

Cultural Services Agency

- Library Branches are open 6 hours daily from Tuesday through Saturday:
- The Bookmobile is open according to the COVID schedule with limited capacity while the windows and doors can remain open.
- Curbside pickup at all Library Branches is available upon request for those who don't want to wear masks or enter the library
- Mendocino County Museum - open 10:00 am - 5:00 pm Wed - Fri, and 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm Sat & Sun
- All visitors to the Library Branches, the Bookmobile, and the Museum are required to wear masks and social

distancing is requested.

District Attorney

- Currently open for all services.

Executive Office

- Limited public access/by appointment.

Health & Human Services Agency (HHSA)

- All HHSA reception areas have limited public access/by appointment.

Human Resources

- Limited public access/by appointment.

Retirement Association

- Limited public access/by appointment.

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.

Willits Weekly

Willits Weekly is a locally owned independent newspaper, founded in 2013, covering the greater Willits area.

Volume 9, Number 408
3,500 - 4,000 copies printed by Western Web on Thursdays

P.O. Box 1698 Willits, CA 95490 / 707-459-2633; 707-972-7047
willitsweekly@gmail.com / www.willitsweekly.com

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Maureen (Moore) Jennison, art director and photographer / maureen@willitsweekly.com / 707-972-7047

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What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Small is Beautiful

To the Editor:

The Small is Beautiful Mendocino referendum is now gathering signatures to stop the 10% expansion of cannabis grows . The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors has bungled the cannabis ordinance for five years, but now thinks increasing grow size is a good idea.

The Small is Beautiful Mendocino referendum seeks to strike ONLY the expansion, only 28 words, one line from the ordinance, that is it, until we can vote.

This one topic has united residents, business owners, growers, non-growers, ranchers, old, young – many people who normally do not agree on many things. We should be heard. We should have the opportunity to vote.

Protect our water and rural communities. Sign the Small is Beautiful Mendocino referendum. For more info email observer@pacific.net. Also sends a message to our

county policy makers that we are unhappy with the job they have done.

C. Beaumont, Laytonville

Happy to live here

To the Editor:

As a newly minted Willits community member (I bought a house here a year before the pandemic hit), I am still learning about our many local traditions, but I have to say, I am thrilled with the newest one – decorating the light poles downtown to recognize the hardworking and resilient high school students who persevered through a pandemic to graduate.

Thank you to the Class of 2021 for funding the banners. Thank you to Willits Unified School District for providing the labor to install them. Thank you to the whole community for celebrating our youth. I'm so happy to live here.

Michelle Hutchins, Mendocino County superintendent of schools, Willits

Revised City Pool Schedule

Starting Tuesday, June 22, the Willits swimming pool will be open for Public Swim from 1 to 4 pm, seven days a week.

Pool management would like to thank the Willits community for their understanding while we worked out the new "after COVID" schedule that now allows for open swim.

We know that the last year and a half has not been easy for any of us, especially our little ones, so we hope this will help to get things back to some kind of normalcy for all.

Thank you.

– City of Willits

Editor's Note: See full revised pool schedules on Page 3.

CalFire seeks assistance with annual cone crop survey and cone collection

Sacramento – The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection is seeking assistance from landowners, registered professional foresters, and natural resource professionals with its annual cone crop survey and cone collection efforts, including locating developing cone crops on native California conifers.

These efforts support the CalFire Seed Bank at the L.A. Moran Reforestation Center, whose mission is to maintain an adequate, reliable and continuous supply of high-quality site-adapted seed necessary to protect and enhance the genetic integrity and diversity of California forestlands. Identifying healthy trees for cone collection is an important

first step to harvesting seeds for future reforestation needs.

Information about the 2021 Cone Crop Survey and Cone Collection Survey can be found here: <https://www.fire.ca.gov/media/cgafj541/2021-final-cal-fire-cone-survey-memo-public.pdf>.

RFPs and other interested persons who would like to assist CalFire in this endeavor should complete and return the Cone Crop Survey form by July 31, 2021.

For information about CAL FIRE's L.A. Moran Reforestation Center, visit <https://www.fire.ca.gov/programs/resource-management/resource-protection-improvement/landowner-assistance/reforestation-center/>

Deputy CEO Darcie Antle appointed assistant CEO

Submitted by the Mendocino County Executive Office

Mendocino County Deputy CEO Darcie Antle has been appointed as the assistant chief executive officer effective May 30, 2021.

Antle has served as deputy CEO for Mendocino since 2017. She is also the Mendocino County Disaster Recovery finance director and the COVID-19 vaccine coordinator. Prior to onboarding with the County of Mendocino, Antle served as the regional director of operations for the Northern California Network of Adventist Health and the California Medical Group where she managed the revenue cycle and oversaw strategic operations for physician groups across Mendocino, Lake and Sonoma counties.

In addition to experience, she holds a bachelor's degree in Organizational Behavior from the University of San Francisco and a master of science degree in Health

Care Services from St. Mary's College. Antle has been an instructor for both Mendocino College and the Mendocino County Office of Education. Antle is an active member of the community and has served on numerous boards and commissions, and is a past president of the Rotary Club of South Ukiah.

Regarding her appointment, Antle stated: "I look forward to working more closely with CEO Angelo and the board of supervisors on initiatives and priorities that will move the County of Mendocino into the best position for the future."

"Ms. Antle has built a small finance team inside the CEO's Office that has proven to be nimble and effective," said Mendocino County Board of Supervisors Chair Dan Gjerde. "This promotion is good news for the people of Mendocino County."

"The Executive Office staff and I look forward to Ms. Antle taking on a greater leadership role in Mendocino County," expressed CEO Angelo.

Public Health launches bilingual vaccine campaign

Submitted by Mendocino County Public Health

Mendocino County Public Health is pleased to announce the launch of a COVID-19 vaccine promotion campaign that includes one music video in Spanish and 10 public service announcements in English, Spanish, and multiple other languages.

A joint venture was formed between Mendocino County Public Health and the Mendocino DEI COVID-19 Equity Work Group to reach traditionally underserved communities through elevating the voices of leaders in their community.

The beautiful recreation of the renowned Mexican Ranchera song "Volver Volver," written in 1972 by Fernando Z. Maldonado and made famous by Vicente Fernández in 1978, is sung by local artist Irma López, a

professional entertainer who has performed everywhere from Los Angeles to Reno and beyond.

The lyrics have been changed to implore people to get vaccinated so that we can return to enjoying each other's presence again. The song showcases the beauty of the Mexican culture along with the splendor of Mendocino County.

See the music video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s0D91Y2E-EU&t=3s>

The campaign is presented by the Mendocino DEI COVID-19 Equity Workgroup, produced by members of the community with production support and

Read the rest of Campaign Over on Page 15



Above, from left: A couple of jumpers peer out from the bounce house. Palmer Runberg takes the stage for several hours in the Flying Dog Pizza parking lot. The Flying Dog Pizza parking lot is filled with food, informational vendors, and musical performances. Below: Families board the antique fire truck, ready for a ride around town. At bottom, left: Tatiana Viale, Jonas Luciani, Pamela Thrift and Jorden Merel of Coast Hardware make sure the kiddos have plenty of activities. At bottom, right: The AT&T booth is ably manned by Pressley Tuttle, Lucas Ojeda and Chelsie Torres.

Hometown Celebration

Hundreds attend annual street festival to commence Frontier Days activities and rejoice in their ability to be together again

"This seems bizarrely normal," mused Allison Findley.

With the exception of the few attendees and exhibitors wearing masks, this could have been a Hometown Celebration of any one of the years past. Even in the scorching 90-plus degree heat, hundreds of local residents and many exhibitors came out to once again see smiling faces; interact with other citizens, friends and vendors; and generally enjoy the beloved event, produced for the past several years by the Willits Frontier Days.

Feeling safe, for the first time in over a year, attendees came out into the open air to once again become the community that all have been missing. It was liberating and exhilarating, the ice broken and the pandemic on the run.

Many of the booths were manned by the stalwarts of such events. The American Legion with Adjutant Roger Ham and fellow Legionnaire John Frankum offered a chance to enlist in the organization which provides any veteran an opportunity to find a like-minded group of people with similar experiences and to do altruistic deeds to benefit the community. They also offered a raffle with a chance to win a Radio Flyer wagon filled with beer.

The Willits Police Department offered several pieces of literature on safety procedures. "We're giving away helmets for the youth," explained Officer Bennett. "We have stickers. We have pamphlets for safety, coloring books, and others. Kids can have fun while they're learning. We also have our car over here, ready to go. Kids can sit in it, work the sirens and the lights."

Farther down Main Street, the California CHP invited the kids to obtain helmets, safety arm bands, and literature. The Little Lake Fire Department brought their antique fire engine to provide rides around the festival area with lights flashing and sirens screaming to the delight of the young ones. Volunteer Tim Caldwell drove while Chad Lesher helped the families on and off.

Several service organizations and public entities were in attendance. Librarian Nicole Bird offered a setup of the history of Frontier Days and a chance to win gifts on their prize wheel. "We're advertising our summer reading program, 'Summer in the Courtyard Series,' a collaboration between the museum and the library."

Cynthia Raiser Jeavons wanted to let people know her opinions about taking control of one's own health with literature from her "Health, Freedom, Safety for California" organization. The California Mentor Program, represented by Cathy Lawrence, wanted to let people know about the service which places intellectually and developmentally challenged individuals in homes, for

Read the rest of Hometown Over on Page 8

Willits Swimming Pool Information Summer 2021

REVISED: June 22, 2021 – August 20, 2021

For more information: (707) 459-5778

Schedule

Monday- Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6am–9am Lap Swim	6am–10am Lap Swim	10am–12pm Lap Swim
8am–9:30am Otters Practice	12pm–1pm Aqua Aerobics	12pm–1pm Aqua Aerobics
9am–12:30am Swim Lesson	1pm–4pm Public Swim	1pm–4pm Public Swim
12pm–1pm Aqua Aerobics		
1pm–4pm Public Swim		
4pm–6pm Swim Lesson		
5pm–6pm Aqua Aerobics		
5pm–8pm Otter Practice		

Admission Price

Public Swim	\$5
Lap Swim	\$5
Lap Swim Pass (20 entries)	\$80
Aqua Aerobics	\$7
Senior Discount	\$6
Aqua Aerobics Pass (20 entries)	\$125
Swim Lesson	\$50

Pool Closures:
Sunday & Monday - July 4th & 5th
Sunday, July 27th

Revised 6/22/21

To continue complying with County of Mendocino Health Orders

- Proper sanitation for any shared equipment/spaces
- Require sign-in of all attendees
- Swimmers must bring their own goggles, caps, towel, and sunscreen

Willits Swimming Pool Information Summer 2021

REVISED: June 22, 2021 – August 20, 2021

For more information: (707) 459-5778

Swim Lesson

The fee for each session is \$50.00 and there is a sibling discount of \$5.00 (up to 4 swimmers).

Swim Lesson Sessions - No make-ups & refunds for missed days

The City of Willits offers a variety of American Red Cross swim lessons for individuals of all skill levels. Weekly sessions are **Monday – Thursday**. Registration is required one week prior to the designated session. Openings are available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Session 5	June 28 – July 1	Session 9	July 26 – July 29
Session 6	July 5 – July 8	Session 10	August 2 – August 5
Session 7	July 12 - July 15	Session 11	August 9 – August 12
Session 8	July 19 – July 22		

MORNING LESSON TIMES:

9am – 9:30am	
9:30am – 10am	
10am – 10:30am	
10:30am – 11:00am	
11am–11:30am	
11:30am–12am	
12am –12:30am	

EVENING LESSON

TIMES: 4pm – 4:30pm
4:30pm – 5pm
5pm – 5:30pm
5:30pm - 6pm

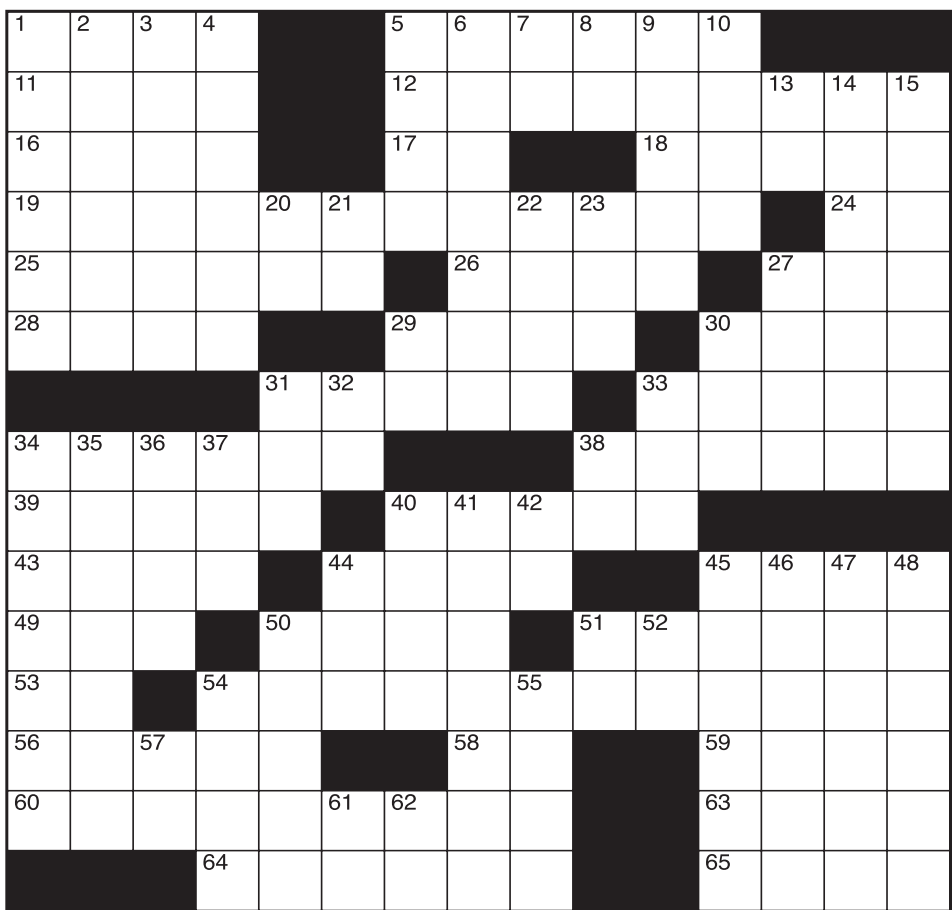
We look forward to see you at the pool this summer!

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

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

D	C	C	J	N	M	G	E	A	I	J	B	D	J	U	N	S	C	V	E
B	B	Q	I	T	E	S	M	S	L	Y	T	O	F	D	E	O	N	S	U
F	L	U	C	S	N	R	F	L	R	U	S	A	W	H	R	P	O	Y	
N	I	B	P	U	S	O	V	E	L	Q	C	N	S	N	J	F	I	T	T
C	P	M	W	D	R	A	T	E	E	L	L	I	A	E	Y	D	I	S	I
W	U	I	B	H	I	E	O	B	F	L	A	M	I	Q	I	I	F	W	
W	P	L	U	N	C	A	T	A	R	A	C	T	S	T	D	V	Q		
A	G	H	N	A	P	G	F	R	O	M	U	H	S	U	O	E	U	Q	
Q	Y	N	B	Q	C	T	L	J	F	O	V	E	A	J	F	W	B	C	
W	N	O	S	B	M	I	P	Q	H	R	M	C	Y	F	B	N	Y	I	
R	S	U	A	J	P	D	R	W	S	Q	I	Y	Q	W	L	B	O	T	
S	E	S	S	A	L	G	E	Y	E	T	T	C	E	R	R	O	C	B	
V	S	R	O	H	R	W	N	M	P	F	I	Y	N	E	A	O	R		
S	L	N	B	R	O	W	R	O	R	L	Q	G	E	S	C	L	E	R	
S	V	H	B	E	G	U	R	H	M	Y	R	L	E	Q	E	W	C	L	
S	V	H	B	E	G	U	R	H	M	Y	R	L	E	Q	E	W	C	L	
Q	R	D	H	G	L	L	M	I	S	S	A	R	A	T	N	H	I	J	
V	I	T	T	R	E	O	U	N	S	I	S	Q	C	L	R	V	U	Y	
D	G	M	P	U	R	C	Q	G	G	J	R	B	J	A	C	I	R	I	
L	T	U	N	S	T	Y	E	O	C	N	T	A	C	T	S	Q	M		

AQUEOUS HUMOR	CORNEA	LASHES	RETINA
BROW	CORRECT DUCT	LENS	SCLERAE
CATARACTS	EYEGGLASSES	LIDS	STYE
CONJUNCTIVA	FOVEA	MACULA	TEARS
CONTACTS	IRIS	NERVE	VISION
		OPTIC	
		PUPIL	VITREOUS



1. College group
5. Small morsels of food
11. Actress Dunham
12. Puts a limit on
16. Used for baking or drying
17. Commercial
18. Zookeeper Bindi
19. Walk in one's sleep
24. The Great Lakes State
25. Winter sport
26. A thin layer on something
27. Peacock network

1. Excessively showy
2. Put an end to
3. Blood disorder
4. Ingredient in wine
5. Shellfish
6. Made smaller
7. We
8. The Treasure State
9. ___ Eklund, actress
10. Male parent
13. One hundredth of a watt (abbr.)
14. Dish of minced meat
15. Smothered laugh
20. Article
21. Atomic #12

95TH ANNUAL
Willits Frontier Days
"THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME"

Rod Cavanaugh

Photos by Maureen Jennison



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95TH ANNUAL Willits Frontier Days

"THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME"

Entry forms and additional information online:
www.WillitsFrontierDays.com

Friday, June 18:

HOMETOWN CELEBRATION:
5 to 9 p.m. | Main Street – Downtown Willits | Free

Saturday, June 19:

SWEETHEART JUDGING:
TBA | Appearance & Poise

Sunday, June 20:

HORSE SHOW:
8 a.m. | Jack Sharp Arena | Free

SWEETHEART JUDGING:
Horsemanship: During Horse Show
Jack Sharp Arena

NATIONAL ANTHEM:
12 p.m. | Rodeo Grounds | Free

Friday, June 25:

CARNIVAL:
Next to Rodeo Grounds

TRUCK PULLS:
6 p.m. | Jack Sharp Arena | \$20/Adults, \$10/Kids (5-12)

STREET DANCE:
with Flat Bustod
Following Truck Pulls | Rodeo Grounds | Free

Saturday, June 26:

SWEETHEART CROWNED:
Rodeo Grounds

Friday, July 2:

JUNIOR RODEO "Under the Lights":
3 p.m. | Jack Sharp Arena | \$15/Adults, Kids free

Saturday, July 3:

LIONS COWBOY BREAKFAST:
7 a.m. - 11 p.m. | Rec Grove Park | \$15/Adults, \$10/Kids (5-12)

CCPRA PROFESSIONAL RODEO:
7 p.m. | Jack Sharp Arena | \$20/Adults, \$10/Kids (5-12)

WESTERN DANCE:
with Chad Bushnell
Following CCPRA Rodeo | Rodeo Grounds | Free

Sunday, July 4:

HORSESHOE CONTEST:
10 a.m. | Rec Grove Park | Free

MAIN STREET PARADE
"There's No Place Like Home":
11 a.m. | Main Street – Downtown Willits | Free

BEEF BARBECUE:
12 p.m. | Rec Grove Park
\$25/Adults, \$15/Kids (5-12)

COUNTRY MUSIC
RODEOLA:
12 p.m. | Rec Grove Park | Free

CCPRA PROFESSIONAL
RODEO:
4 p.m. | Jack Sharp Arena
\$20/Adults, \$10/Kids (5-12)

Thank you to our major sponsors:

June 18 thru July 4, 2021

org/home/showpublisheddocument/4321363757118445720000

Concerns were raised regarding All-Mail-in-Ballots for the November 2020 election. California's Governor's Executive Order N-64-20 mandated AMB, so that all registered voters would receive a mail-in ballot. This order did not limit opportunities for in-person voting.

The Mendocino County Civil Grand Jury investigated the impact of AMB distribution and operations of Mendocino County's Elections Office for the November 2020 election. The GJ further explored the status of Mendocino County's participation in the Voters Choice Act of 2016 and the computer systems installed for the 2020 primary and general elections.

The GJ concluded that the citizens of Mendocino County may continue to rely on the election results reported by the Elections Office of Mendocino County to assure accurate vote tallies. The impact of the California Governor's Executive Order on the workload for the local county Elections Office staff and volunteers was essentially unchanged from prior elections.

Background

Due to the outbreak of COVID-19, California Governor's Executive Order N-64-20 mandated that all registered voters would receive a ballot by mail for the November 3, 2020 General Election. Prior to this executive order, mail-in ballots were only provided to those voters requesting permanent or temporary absentee status. The executive order did not limit in-person voting.

All mail-in-balling opened several questions for Mendocino County citizens:

- Can a voter still vote in person at their assigned precinct?
- Will the mail-in vote be counted?
- Will the completed ballot arrive safely?
- Can the ballot be tracked through its various stages?
- Can voter fraud occur (voting more than once or for others without their consent)?

Methodology

The GJ reviewed documents including:

- Governor's Executive Order N-64-20,
- California Voter's Choice Act of 2016 (SB 450),

- Senate Bill 207 approved by the Governor on February 13, 2020,
- Mendocino County Elections Press Release dated August 28, 2020,
- Mendocino County Polling Locations & Ballot Drop Off Locations,
- Sample Ballot & Voter Information Pamphlet.

The GJ conducted interviews with Mendocino County employees, toured Elections Office equipment storage facilities, and reviewed the verification and tabulation process and workflows within the Elections Office.

Discussion

How accurate is the data source for mailing ballots to voters?

New voter records are added based on updates from the Department of Motor Vehicles (new driver or identity card issuances), or by voter registrations. Address changes are provided from DMV records or voter registration changes reported to the county. Typically, five to 25 voter records are removed weekly based on death certificates filed in Mendocino County. If Health Department reports indicate deaths outside the county, the voter registrations will be removed for decedents' names with matching addresses.

Ballots were printed and mailed to all registered voters by Mendocino County's print vendor. This vendor was first used for the March 2020 Primary Election. Ballots were mailed through the USPS starting October 5, 2020, and ballots should have been received no later than October 15, 2020. The Sample Ballot & Voter Information Pamphlet mailed to all registered voters in the county describes the complete process for requesting replacement ballots, Spanish language ballots, and disabled voter balloting.

Return Service from the USPS is requested for mailings from the Elections Office to registered voters. It is illegal for voter materials to be forwarded to a new address by the USPS. Returned materials indicate that the voter no longer resides at that mailing address, so the Elections Office inactivates that voter from the roll. If the voter chooses to vote

in person, they will receive a provisional ballot which is processed according to standard procedures of the Elections Office.

The county has been proactive in requesting voters to update their signatures if they believe they may have changed from when the voter last registered. This should assure that the Elections Office has the most recent signature on file which are used for comparison to those on the ballot envelope.

Based on the procedures described by the Elections Office, the GJ concluded that the roll of registered voters is maintained accurately.

Voters could track the status of their mail-in ballots using California's BallotTrax system which provides the location via email, text, and voice options. Voters could sign-up at: <http://wheresmyballot.sos.ca.gov/>

How are ballots returned?

Completed ballots could have been returned by depositing in a regular USPS collections box (postage is prepaid), in one of the six county drop-off boxes, or returned to a polling place.

Voters who chose to vote in person at their designated polling place could exercise that right.

To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, the County Clerk publicly encouraged voters to return their completed mail-in ballots by USPS mail or by the county's drop-off boxes whenever possible. Ballots delivered in drop-off boxes were collected daily by two designated individuals sworn to the Constitutional oath required of election officials, such as city clerks and city managers. Ballots were logged and securely transported to the Elections Office on Low Gap Road in Ukiah on a regular basis.

The County Clerk's Office followed recommended health guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19 at polling places.

- Voters and poll workers were required to wear masks while indoors,
- occupancy was limited and controlled,
- social distancing was strictly enforced maintain six-foot distances,
- disinfectants, hand sanitizer, wipes, masks, and single-use pens were made available at all polling locations.

To address concerns of voter intimidation or other suppression of basic voting rights, the Elections Office and Mendocino County Sheriff's Office coordinated their efforts to ensure that all patrol routes had coverage on November 3 with special attention given to routes with polling locations. Although this had been standard practice in past elections, the 2020 effort included town hall announcements and a press release published on Facebook to publicize the allocation of personnel to encourage civic engagement.

How are ballots processed in the Elections Office?

Ballots received by USPS mail and those delivered to drop-off boxes supplied by the county were processed by elections staff of at least two people working together for internal control beginning October 29, 2020 and continuing until all of the ballots were tabulated. Mail-in ballots must have been postmarked no later than November 3 [Election Day] and received at the county Elections Office by midnight on November 20, 2020.

Election-related materials returned by USPS are processed along with all other mail that is addressed to Mendocino County's Administrative Offices at 501 Low Gap Road, Ukiah, CA 95482. The assigned Mail Clerk sorts the mail by the addressed room number and delivers mailed-in ballots to the Elections Office daily. The Mail Clerk(s) are presently not all sworn to the Constitutional oath as elections workers are required to be.

Ballots are processed following established workflows and controls used for prior elections. The process was expected to flow efficiently if the ballot is properly marked and signed per the informative guidelines in the Voter Information Pamphlet and the ballot envelope instruction.

Editor's Note: To read the full GJ election report, with further observations, discussion and recommendations, as well as responses, and other 2020/21 reports when they are released, visit <https://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/grand-jury/2020-2021-reports>



Above: 2019/20 and 2020/21 retirees at Willits Unified School Board's June 16 meeting received plaques from board president Alex Bowllds. From left: John Haschak, Janice Haschak, Bowllds, Suzanne Kidwell, Lenore Hanson, and Robert Parmenter.

School board honors two years of retirees

There have been quite a few retirements over the past two school years at Willits Unified, and not all retirees received their customary public recognition and thanks due to the unconventional, to say the least, nature of the last two school years.

So, at the June 16 meeting of the WUSD board of trustees, acknowledgment and thanks were expressed for all, with some in attendance receiving commemorative plaques from board president Alex Bowllds.

Those retiring in 2019/2020 included Cyndi Zuidema (29 years), John Haschak (30 years), Janice Haschak (22 years), Jackie Cannon (18 years), Robert Parmenter (23 years), Denise Hopie Wise (13 years), Patricia Dalton (23 years), Jill Walton (21 years), Priscilla Dodge (7 years), and Lenore Hanson (31 years).

The 2020/2021 retirees were Laura Sleeper (21 years), Linda Baily (14 years), Laurie Burghardt (5 years), and Suzanne Kidwell (19 years).

that began June 15, when Governor Gavin Newsom lifted most of the COVID-19 related restrictions in the state that had been in place for things like masking, social distancing, and capacity limits.

Now Mendocino County, like the rest of the state, has switched out of the color-coded tiered system for COVID-19 and into the California Department of Public Health guided rules.

Among the rules that remain, as stated at the CDPH website, "People who are not fully vaccinated must still wear masks in all indoor public settings and should wear masks in outdoor crowded settings when that region is experiencing high COVID transmission."

In addition, "everyone, regardless of vaccination status, is still required to wear masks on public transportation (buses, trains, planes, etc.) and some other places (like hospitals and shelters) per [Centers for Disease Control] guidelines."

Also if businesses prefer, they can still choose to require all customers to wear masks.

No special capacity rules remain in California, but there are guidelines for "mega events" – those with 5,000 or more people inside, or 10,000 or more outside.

"Indoor mega event attendees will be required to confirm proof of vaccination or negative COVID-19 status to attend," according to the CDPH. "Outdoor mega event attendees will be strongly encouraged to do so."

At the meeting, Coren talked about the latest updated rules for employers and employees at businesses in the state.

For most businesses, he said: "Outside, no masks are required unless there's an outbreak at a business. Indoors for fully vaccinated [workers], no masks will be required unless there's an outbreak, except in health care facilities, K-12 schools and child care.

"For the unvaccinated, masks are required unless working alone in an office or a vehicle," he continued. "If the employee's vaccine status is not known, they must be considered unvaccinated and all must mask."

He added that "self-attestation" was an acceptable way to verify an employee is vaccinated, and "anyone may wear a mask without fear of reprisal."

Other rules which have been removed include social distance requirements, special disinfection rules, and sharing prohibitions.

Regarding the high rate of new cases, Coren said the county is averaging 5 to 7 new

cannabis cultivation at the 3500 block of Laytonville Dos Rios Road.

"The Code Enforcement investigation confirmed that commercial cannabis cultivation was occurring in non-permitted structures without a county cultivation permit or state cultivation license. The responsible party refused to abate the 450 cannabis plants being cultivated, and Code Enforcement subsequently issued administrative citations with penalties as follows:

1. \$520 per day for non-permitted structures used for commercial cannabis cultivation.
2. \$1,000 per day for violations of the Mendocino County Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance.
3. \$90,000 (450 plants x \$200 per plant) one-time penalty for non-permitted commercial cannabis cultivation.

cases per day per 100,000, compared to 1.8 cases per day per 100,000 in all of California.

He said that the highest rates in the county are "concentrated in Ukiah, Redwood Valley and Willits, where the vaccine uptake is also the lowest."

Currently in the hospitals there is one COVID patient in med surge and two in the intensive care unit, which Coren said "does not threaten the hospital capacities."

There are multiple variants of COVID-19 which have been found in the county, but all have been shown to be "sensitive to the vaccines," according to Coren.

For vaccines, he said the supply is "adequate" in the county, and all those over 12 years old are eligible to receive a vaccine upon request.

"Our clinics have choices of vaccines, and walk-in appointments are welcome," said Coren. "The county is going to be closing the mass vaccine clinic at Carl Purdy Hall [at the Fairgrounds in Ukiah], but we have a regular vaccine planned in the Fine Arts Building every Friday when the testing team is off. Additionally the [vaccine] team has been doing numerous small pop-up clinics as well as vaccinating many people through home visits."

Coren stated that as of June 20, 86,947 doses of vaccine had been administered in the county, 65.9% of those over 12 years old had been at least partially vaccinated, and 56.9% had been fully vaccinated. Those 12 to 17 years of age, who were the last to become eligible, were the least vaccinated at 30.8%.

"We continue to offer vaccines for everyone, but we are clearly in a slower pace," he added, noting that they are continuing efforts to publicize and educate about the importance of vaccination on multiple fronts.

"Unfortunately people want to believe the pandemic has ended, but it's really smoldering now," Dr. Coren said. "We have had bumps in cases from Memorial Day and Father's Day and graduations, and ahead there's July 4th, and of course all of the gatherings and travelings of the summer.... So priority at this time for us is to vaccinate everyone as soon as possible so people can enjoy their summer activities and protect their families."

According to the June 21 dashboard from Mendocino County Public Health, the average daily positive cases in the county was 5.01, the percent of positive tests was 3.8%, and the total number of cases in isolation was 51.

Overall since the pandemic began the total number of cases stands at 4,340, and there have been 50 deaths.

"Code Enforcement intends to take additional action as needed to achieve compliance.

"The Code Enforcement Division receives all cannabis and general code violation complaints in the unincorporated areas of Mendocino County. Complaints can be made in person at our offices [860 North Bush Street, Ukiah, or 120 West Fir Street, Fort Bragg], or by visiting our website at: <https://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/planning-building-services/code-enforcement> to file an online complaint. Cannabis specific complaints can also be filed by calling the Cannabis Complaint Hotline at: 844-421-WEED (9333)."

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WCA showcases ceramic vessels and 'Feathered Feet' by local women artists

Submitted by Willits Center for the Arts

The Willits Center for the Arts presents three artists, Nancy New and Anita Elliott-Wagenet from Willits and Suzi Long from Fort Bragg.

Nancy New tells us, "Pottery has always fascinated me. The process of transforming wet clay into every imaginable shape, subjecting it to extreme heat, and turning it to stone which can withstand the passage of time has been going on for thousands of years. Every piece is brand new, with infinite choices and creative possibilities."

New was inspired to create the feminine shapes for this exhibited body of work, which she titles "Dreaming of the Ladies of Cucuteni," after being captivated by stories of an ancient matriarchal society. "I recently learned of the pottery of the Cucuteni people," explained New, "who lived in the Ukraine and Romania from 5000 BC to about 3800 BC. Archaeologists have studied the abundant remains of their pottery, and describe a peaceful matriarchal society with quite a few large cities." She now pays tribute to those strong women by way of her curvy vessels.

When New is not crafting her own artwork, she teaches pottery classes at WCA to all ages. "I'm so thankful for the studio here at the Willits Center for the Arts, where I can express what I've learned from 50 years of making pots, and share in classes from time to time."

Anita Elliott-Wagenet is originally from Malibu, and is now a longtime resident of Willits. Since her retirement from registered nursing, she can now devote more time for her artistic hobbies, music and pottery.

Elliott-Wagenet's ceramic pieces are often created with an unconventional twist, incorporating sand from her favorite beaches or magical herbs, right into the clay, giving each bowl, dish or cup a certain subtle essence. Along with hand-carved moths, bees or dragonflies encircling bowls, most pieces will have art deco textures and patterns, as well as seascapes, moonscapes, flowers, cats, horses and llamas.

Suzi Long will be presenting "Feathered Feet," a delightful show of watercolors, birds and shoes. Long was born in Santa Cruz and before she called herself "artist," she was a Xerox technician, word processor and editor, and started her 9-to-5 life as an executive secretary after graduating in 1966 from Katharine Gibbs School, New York.

In Honolulu after Xerox, Long studied art at UH, painted signs and murals, and established her mural business Whimsy Walls in 1978. She returned to the San Francisco Bay Area in 1987 and painted hundreds of residential and restaurant murals from Palm Springs to Squaw Valley.

Long is blessed with the gift to share her visions, and when she learned at the age of 50 that her biological grandfather was a decorative painter and muralist, she at last understood her raison d'être.

The show opens Friday, June 25, 6 to 9 pm. The show will be up through July 25.

The WCA gallery is located at 71 East Commercial Street, (next to the Noyo Theatre) and is open Friday through Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm.

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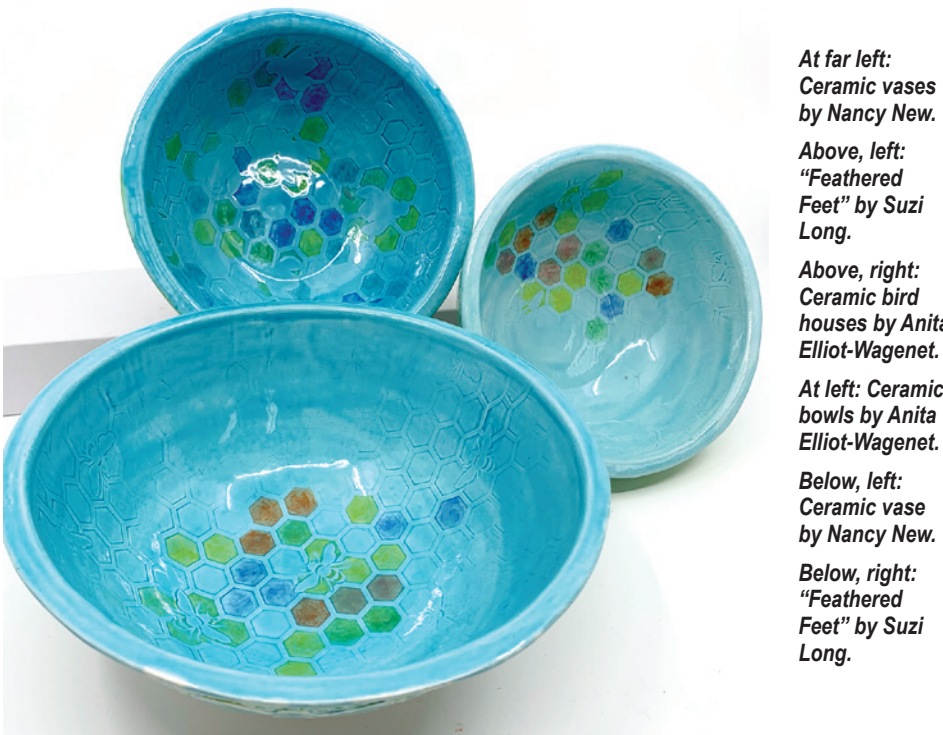
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Roger: 707-456-9858, Bob: 707-372-1907



At left: The sidewalks of downtown Willits almost felt normal with a bustle of people out and about enjoying the Hometown Celebration last Friday. At left, below: Nick Karkar offers gooey cheese samples of Flying Dog Pizza. Below: Connor and Sage Basler stop by J.D. Redhouse for milkshakes during Hometown. Below, right: Shannon Germann of Monkey Wrench Men's and Women's Wear checks the racks.

Photos by Maureen Jennison





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95TH ANNUAL Willits Frontier Days

"THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME"



At left: Sweetheart contestant, Claire Case-Brackett, center, stands with mom Kelley and stepdad Jim at the judging competition.

Below, from far left: As Case-Brackett flies around the arena as she demonstrates her queen run, her hat gets left behind. Case-Brackett talks with the judge during the horsemanship portion of judging. Modeling a Western wear outfit is part of the poise and personality portion. This same dress was worn by her mom, Kelley, when she ran for Sweetheart in 1997.



Photos by Maureen Jennison



The rest of **Hometown** | From Page 3

which the providers would receive a stipend.

The Willits Wild Bunch brought their annual raffle to raise funds for their charitable work, especially the Christmas Toy Run. Their prize this year is a finely hand-crafted knife with a display case and sheath. Bikers Against Child Abuse had a booth to increase awareness of the work that they do in protecting those children who haven't the power to protect themselves.

Willits' hometown radio, KLLG-FM, encouraged people to record call letters "so we can put them on the air at the top of the hour or half hour," explained Earlene Gleisner. They additionally wanted people to know about their upcoming concert and the benefits of becoming an underwriter.

The parking lot next to the Flying Dog Pizza shop was buzzing with vendors, music and food. The Willits Lions Club brought their grilling skills and expertise. "We're earning money to give back to the community. Our motto is 'we serve,'" said Dean Baumann. The Indian fry bread people offered a variety of that tasty treat. Music was provided by local-musician-made-good Palmer Runberg, who took the stage for several hours of down-home country sounds, entertaining the crowd sitting on hay bales and enjoying the open-air concert.

Local familiar vendors Sparetime Supply, Dripworks, and Coast Hardware were giving away toys, promotional items, chances to win even more prizes, and the usual take-home branded swag. "We're here celebrating our hometown," said Sparetime Vice-President Andrew Hosford. "We're here giving out samples and free products and we have a free drawing to just give back to the community. We're giving away Revelry Backpacks, T-shirts, and Yeti arctic coolers.

"We're also giving away vegetable starts, hats, a bunch of product samples, \$5 coupons to spend in the garden center," added Hosford. "We have a rat tic-tac-toe game for the kids to play as well as cornhole."

Coast Hardware brought an inflatable maze and kids playground as well as a prize wheel, a fishing game, and tons of take-home items. Dripworks had a kids basketball game in addition to their swag and literature.

Ashley Rodriguez painted little faces in front of J.D. Redhouse, sharing a space with the Willits Charter School, where administrator Jennifer Lockwood and partner Michel Chenelle served up much-needed and appreciated shaved ice treats to cool the insides of the over-heated attendees in the sweltering heat.

Although the day was one of the hottest of the year so far, no one really seemed to mind. They were enjoying getting to see one another, touching and hugging, engaging in conversations, grabbing up the freebies offered by the vendors and service organizations, taking rides, and eating and drinking. This delve into the world of normality was a welcome respite from the over a year of isolation and hopefully a harbinger of things to come.



Above: Crowds gathered to check out the vendor booths. Below: The drunk goggles are always a challenge, but Kaleb Whitehurst tried his hardest to stay on the line.



Oh So Sweet

Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart contestant competes in two rounds of judging

Two events comprise the judging portion of the Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart contest: poise and personality and horsemanship.

Last week, 2021 contender Claire Case-Brackett completed both, showcasing Western wear, giving a speech and answering questions on Saturday, and riding on horseback and running a queen run on Sunday.

Ticket sales is the third leg of the Sweetheart contest, and Case-Brackett has been selling feverishly since receiving the green light in May.

— Maureen Jennison

Above, far left: Claire Case-Brackett gives her prepared speech with the "There's No Place Like Home" theme. Above, left: A quick spin shows Case-Brackett's dress wonderfully. At left: The judges for the poise and personality contest included Mattie Owen, left, Naomi Bertolino and Bruce Burton.

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Late Start (8/28 – 12/10) On-ground meetings 9:00AM-11:50AM at NCC Room 8020
First day of class is on-ground 8/28

COM 210-0211 – INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION Instructor: Liz Weiss
Late Start (8/28 – 12/10) On-ground meetings 12:30PM-3:20PM at NCC Room 8030
First day of class is on-ground 8/28

Second Alternate Saturday Grouping (9/11, 10/9, 11/6, 12/4)
BIO-202-0206 – HUMAN BIOLOGY
Late Start (8/28 – 12/10) On-ground meetings 9:00AM-11:50AM at NCC Room 8030
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HLH 214-0213 – FOODS AND NUTRITION Instructor: Greg Hicks
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Fridays Only (8/27, 9/10, 9/24, 10/8, 10/22, 11/5, 11/19, 12/3)
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Tickets are purchased per vehicle. One to seven passengers costs \$69, eight to 14 passengers costs \$95. Dinosaur surprise packs with dino-themed gifts can also be purchased for \$30, or \$50 for the "MEGA" pack, these can be added to your online cart at checkout.

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photography by maureen (moore) jennison

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A letter to the class of 2021 – Choose your own path

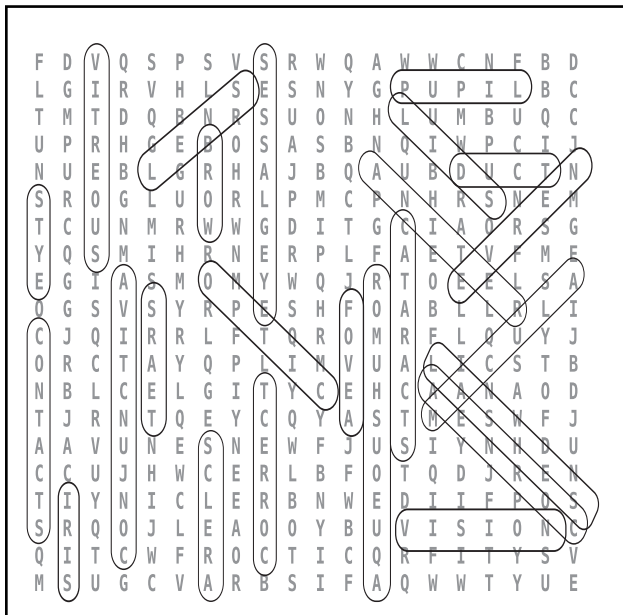
By Michelle Hutchins, Mendocino County superintendent of schools

In America, high school graduation represents one of the few rites of passage into adulthood.

The trappings of graduation – the cap and gown, the playing of "Pomp and Circumstance," the moving of the tassel from right to left – link you to graduates in big cities and small towns from coast to coast. And the school colors of the cap and gown link you to graduates from your school's past and its future. As you strike out into the world, leaving compulsory education behind you, it is important to celebrate and to choose a path of your own.

In recent memory, no class has had a stranger senior year than you. When the pandemic hit in spring of 2020, many thought you'd all be back on campus by fall, then by winter. As the virus rampaged through our nation and our world, you had to adjust to the reality that school would not return to normal. The great thing about your class is that many of you came to grips with this relatively quickly and made the best of it.

If COVID-19 taught us anything, it is that the traditional path is only one of many routes available. As you contemplate your future, I encourage you to remember



LEGALS

WW328
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2021-F0366
The following Limited Liability Company is doing business as Mendo Munitions, MKBX Consulting, 431 Sherry Drive, Ukiah, CA 95482.
Registered owner: The MKBX Group LLC, 431 Sherry Drive, Ukiah, CA 95482.
This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on June 15, 2021.
FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on June 16, 2021.
/s/ Danelle Fierro, Member
Publication dates: June 24, July 1, 8, 15, 2021

LEGALS

WW324
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2021-F0279
The following person is doing business as Hatake Farm Kitchen, 50 South Main Street, Willits, CA 95490.
Registered owner: Ryo Muto, 204 South Hortense Street, Apt. B, Ukiah CA 95482.
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on May 12, 2021.
FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on May 12, 2021.
/s/ Ryo Muto
Publication dates: June 3, 10, 17, 24, 2021

WW327

CITY OF WILLITS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NOTICE TO BIDDERS

PROJECT NO. 2021-02

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Sealed bids for: The work shown on the project plans entitled: **CITY OF WILLITS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT PROJECT PLANS** For: **2021 Dig-Out & Pavement Preservation Project - Project No. 2021-02**

This project includes grinding and replacing 4"- and 6"-deep asphalt dig-out sections and thermoplastic pavement marking restoration

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

The work described in specifications books entitled: CITY OF WILLITS - BID BOOK & TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS CITY OF WILLITS - PROPOSAL PACKET CITY OF WILLITS - AWARD PACKET

For: **2021 Dig-Out & Pavement Preservation Project - Project No. 2021-02**

IN
City of Willits, County of Mendocino, State of California will be received by a designated representative, of the City of Willits, County of Mendocino, State of California, until the hour of 2 p.m., July 15, 2021, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud in the City Council Chambers, of the City of Willits, located at 111 East Commercial Street, Willits, California.

CITY OF WILLITS: s/Cathy Moorhead, Deputy City Manager/ City Clerk
DATED: 06/14/21
Publication Dates: June 17, 24 and July 1, 2021

that. It is easy to get swept up in the expectations of others, to follow a traditional path that seems right mostly because you never really considered any others. Cue the famous poem by Robert Frost, "The Road Not Taken." <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/44272/the-road-not-taken>

When I was a young teacher, I had to choose between teaching art history near my home on the East Coast or teaching ceramics on the other side of the country in Humboldt County, California. Art history comes with a nice, intellectual shine. It is a thinking person's subject, worthy of respect and admiration, I told myself.

Yet my heart yearned to teach ceramics, to get my hands dirty and create. And I was drawn by the faculty in this remote region. These people did not wait for others to enable their dreams, but rather held art shows, competitions, and other fundraisers to construct a state-of-the-art ceramics studio at their high school. These teachers were passionate about innovation and entrepreneurship and art, and they were hellbent on instilling those qualities in their students.

So, I gave up everything that was familiar and moved across the country to be mentored by these teachers. I met my husband there and the rest, as they say, is history. I share this not to bore you to distraction but to illustrate that a little risk can create incredible potential for your future.

As you begin on your post-secondary path, imagine what it would feel like if each experience wasn't judged as a success or failure, but instead as an opportunity to gain knowledge and wisdom, and to move you along on your journey. What if whatever comes your way was meant to be, including not getting what you wanted or expected right away?



CLASSIFIEDS

www.WillitsWeekly.com

Big Sale

Agape Thrift Store Big Sale, July 3, 9 am to 3 pm, 354 North Main St. 30% off total purchase price.

Handyman Wanted

Wanted: Experienced Handyman to do a variety of home repairs. 459-3702.

Computer Help

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

Help Wanted

Looking for in-house masseuse to work out of chiropractor's office. Flexible schedule. Bring resume to 1225 S. Main St. or fax to 707-459-9484.

For Rent

Room for rent. Must have job. No pets, no drugs. \$525/month. 354-0287.

Freezer Empty? We can help!

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

RV/Trailer Space for Rent

Space for RV's and Trailers \$425 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 510-5895. See at <http://www.oakvine.net/tip>

Willits Food Bank Open

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

The Fruit Group

PESTICIDE FREE: Tree Ripe Freestone Peaches & Nectarines, also vine ripe tomatoes, arriving in July & August. Brenda 485-4294 or 459-9335 email thefruitgroup95490@yahoo.com

Fruit Group Coordinators

Willits: Brenda 459-9335
Ukiah, Redwood & Potter Valley: Deanna 391-7736
Lakeport: Linda 279-8840
Laytonville: Heather 984-9430
Fort Bragg: Karen 937-4664
Covelo: Tom 354-0788
Brooktrails: Vicky 354-1453

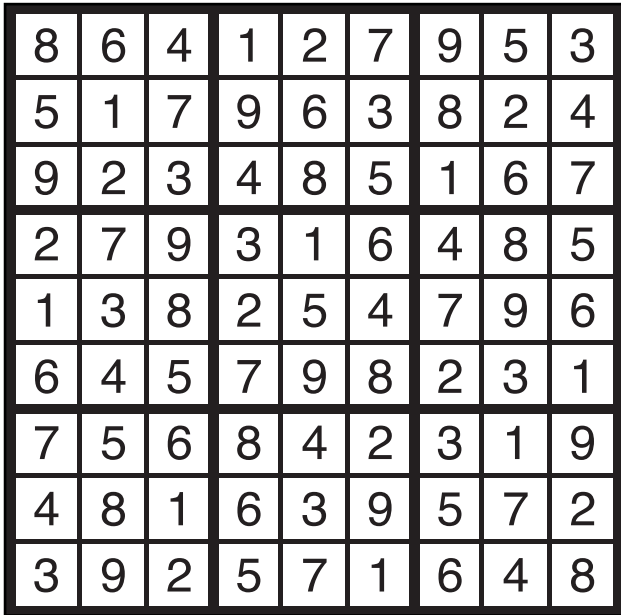
Email us your ad and be included here next week!

Sometimes, when life closes a door, it's because that wasn't your door. Or, maybe it's a test to see how dedicated you are to getting through that door one way or another. Maybe college is for you; maybe it isn't. Maybe career or technical training is a better fit.

Maybe it's the military or working for your family's business or getting a job so you can afford to move out and pay your own way. All of these bring new experiences, which can help you discover what's best for you.

When people ask about your plans for the future, do not feel like you're supposed to know where you'll be in five or 10 years. Truth is, even if you think you know, life's surprises can take you in a whole different direction. Enjoy today. Seek new experiences. Spend time with people you enjoy. Don't worry too much about the future. It will unfold as it is meant to.

Michelle Hutchins is superintendent of schools in Mendocino County.





Spotted Rip

Let us introduce you to our newest spotted member of the crew, Rip. This handsome rebel without a cause arrived recently and is in need of an awesome home. In his foster home he gets to spend his days poolside with the humans – which he has no complaints of. It is reported he is dog

social and even gets along with the goats. Even with all the positives of this fella, he still has his puppy behaviors, but that is totally fine because he is only 7 months old and still learning. Apply to make this handsome boy yours today at www.mendohumanesociety.com.

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



Adorable Orež

Orež is very sweet with both people and other cats. He is a 2-month-old neutered male with medium-length hair.

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


Smiley Savanna

Savanna was nicknamed "Smiley," as when she first came to us she would watch us with interest and a big smile on her face. She came in with a group of seven other Pyrenees from a hoarding situation. Although Savanna seems to be adventurous and inquisitive, she is still unwilling to let people actually pet her and will skip away at the last minute. She needs a foster home with a patient human to gain her trust.



If you would like to help Savanna come out of her shell, visit www.milofoundation.org or the Milo Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions by appointment only due to COVID-19. Please complete a pet-adoption application before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 510-900-2275.

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'The Hitman's Wife's Bodyguard'



Dan Essman
Columnist

The Story: Action comedy with guns and breast jokes. A sequel to "The Hitman's Bodyguard" with our usual Good Guys, brand-new Bad Guys, and beautiful Salma Hayek more or less stealing

the show. Professional bodyguard Michael Bryce (Ryan Reynolds) has had his bodyguard license revoked. He's in therapy, and his therapist tells him to give up his guns and retire to Capri. For some reason, a gang of trigger-happy gunmen are spraying bullets like measles trying to kill Sonia Kincaid (Salma Hayek) who is married to hitman Darius Kincaid (Samuel L. Jackson). Michael Bryce gets caught up in the cross-fire. Also, a wealthy Greek maniac named Aristotle Papadopoulos (Antonio Banderas) wants to completely destroy the European Union's economy ... don't ask.

My Thoughts: This is a movie out of farce-world with United Kingdom stuntmen, Croatian stuntmen, Spanish stuntmen, and maybe some Serbians, too. Special Woke Note: "Stuntmen" are now referred to as "stunt performers." I saw the flick Friday night. It's Saturday morning, and I still have a chuckle in my chest. Dozens upon dozens of bodies. Hooray! Flesh is splattered by automatic weapons' fire. Duck, Salma, duck! Blood splashes on Ryan Reynolds' face. Give him a washcloth for gawd sakes! Automobiles crash and roll and explode. but this isn't morning news mayhem on NPR because we're all rooting for the good guys and all the bad guys who get killed are just too filled with badness for us to do anything but cheer. And anyway, Ryan Reynolds is funny, and Salma Hayek is funny and makes jokes about her boobs, and Samuel L. Jackson works as a hitman anyway and he's snarky funny, too. All in all, death and mayhem, it's funny.

Parents: Too too violent. I know I sound a tad contradictory. But I laugh because I know it's not real. Children don't. We should not expose our wee ones to casual executions.


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

Life Drawing Group


Thursdays
1-4 pm.
\$12.00

Willits Center for the Arts


71 E. Commercial St.
707-459-1726




TO-GO OR DINE-OUTDOOR | 459-5702



WHAT'S SOUNDS GOOD? I KNOW, EL MEX!



166 SOUTH MAIN ST



10AM - 8:30PM
MON - SAT

The rest of Goodbye | From Page 1

a better job offer or to move away from Willits.

"It's truly about just family," he said. "Unfortunately, all my kids have now relocated to Minneapolis, [and] I get to hear on a terribly regular basis ... 'Why are we 30 hours of driving from our family?'"

His motivation to come to Willits, five years ago, was to help where he could do the most good, and he is leaving the district having accomplished a lot of just that.

"I told [current board president] Alex [Bowlds] when I came, that I wanted to come to a district that needed a lot of help," he said. "And you've not let me down."

Measured by the gratitude and admiration expressed by district employees, Westerburg has not let Willits Unified down either.

"Mark's first contact with the district was with [Human Resources director] Laura Sleeper when he submitted his application," former WUSD board member Chris Neary said during one of the school board meetings. "And Laura was so excited that she drove over to my office to show me the application as soon as she received it.

"We could just tell from the application that Mark would be potentially a transformational superintendent for this district, and that's proven to be the case.

"When he came, I told him that the primary thing I would measure his success by was the reestablishment of the community's faith in our school system, which I felt had declined," said Neary.

"I now look at the bond measure having been passed, and that's a sign that the community's faith in our school system was restored," he continued. "I think that he's given us everything we expected and more, and I wish him well."

"I was on the committee that hired Mark," said [retired] teacher John Haschak. "As soon as he got into town, he called and said I want to meet with you.... There were no games being played. It was just talking about what the issues were in the district.

"Throughout the time I was [Willits Teachers Association] president ... it was always kind of 'this is the way it is, and let's talk about it,'" Haschak said. "I really appreciated that it was always straight talk, and that's what's really needed in that kind of situation. So I have a lot of respect for Mark Westerburg."

"I appreciate all you did for the district," he told Westerburg.

Baechtel Grove Vice Principal Mackenzie Erickson also appreciated Westerburg.

"I want to tell you, Mr. Mark Westerburg, how much I appreciate your belief in me as an administrator ... and your support," she said.

"And to your sons [two of whom were Zooming in], I just want to tell you, I really wish I would have written a book with all of your dad's one-liners, because he's hilarious.

WTA President Tessa Ford offered up one of Westerburg's comments that "could be counted on at the end of a conversation: 'Don't worry. No matter how bad it seems, it will probably get worse,' he would say.

"And then you'd laugh," she told him.

"I remember the first time I asked how you were doing ... I was always going to get the answer 'between a solid c minus and a solid b plus,'" she continued. "I do want to thank you ... for what I learned about people."

Jenni Wyatt, accounts payable staff at the district office, offered another perspective.

"Not only does Mark save the children, but he also saves the dogs. He went to the rescue area and asked for the dog that nobody wanted, the one that's been there the longest – and that's the one he took home," she said.

Trustee Jeanne King said she "really appreciated the time to work with [him]. He's been a real mentor to me as far as understanding the school district as a whole and how to be more effective. I'm going to miss Mark."

Bowlds agreed. "Thank you very, very much. I know that I will not be alone in missing you," he told Westerburg.

"It's been a wonderful opportunity to learn with you, Mark, over the last five years," he continued. "Without a doubt, my knowledge with respect to service on the

board has benefitted from my relationship with you.

"We've had some hard conversations and some really good conversations," he continued. "And I'm certainly going to miss both sides of that coin, because obviously we both get an opportunity to learn from those kinds of things.

"Everything's on the table. It's up front ... and kind of in one another's face, and I appreciate that kind of dialog."

Westerburg remembered "seeing [Bowlds] at my interview" and saying at the time that he wasn't "the person to hire if you want to maintain status quo.

"I will run at the problem, not run away from it," he said at the meeting. "And sometimes you have to crack some eggs to make a cake.

"If I make everybody happy, it means I didn't do anything this week," he continued. "It's done in the best interest and priorities for kids, and sometimes adults have to work through some issues.

"And sometimes you have to have a leader that says yes and no, and not everybody agrees," he said. "I'm OK with that.

"The reality is, is that I came here with a very specific mission. Things were not in a good place, [and I was told] to fix this stuff, do what you need to do to get us back where we need to be.

"It's sometimes hard to be the change agent and be the person everybody likes. So I appreciate the compliments," he said.

Bowlds reviewed some of the "stuff" that Westerburg had fixed.

"We had students ... that were faced with minimal opportunities for CTE [Career Technical Education]," said Bowlds. "Mark brought us a trimester system which provides a number of different avenues" to get CTE classes.... This year 79 of our 80 graduates will be graduating with a CTE endorsement."

"You can go to any 400-kid high school around. You probably will not find one that has as much CTE offering as we have," said Westerburg. "We put a lot of stuff back in place in these facilities to make that happen."

Getting the bond passed was another milestone of accomplishment.

"When Mark came to the district, we basically told him that there's no possible way that a bond is ever going to pass again in the near future," said Bowlds.

"He convinced the board to move forward with a bond issue. It failed the first time around, but with perseverance and a lot of dedication to getting it passed, the bond issue passed," he said. "And I firmly believe that without having passed that bond issue, this district would have been in critically dire conditions financially.

"He was also responsible for close to a million dollars in grant funds coming into the district," Bowlds continued.

And "almost all the vehicles in transportation and maintenance [were replaced], and things that are not necessarily considered fleet were added. For instance there's a bucket truck out there.... There's a mini-excavator. Now we don't have to go rent one.

"Adult ed is back in place.... Sanhedrin changed to an [alternative vocational high school] ... several multi-year contracts have been done with WTA and CSEA [California School Employees Association], our base teacher's pay is \$8,000 a year higher ... district finances are in better shape despite some turbulent years up until now ... [and] clearly, Mark has helped lead us through this pandemic....

"This is just a short list. There are many, many other things," said Bowlds. "Many thanks to Mr. Westerburg."

The compliment was returned.

"You've got a great staff of people," said Westerburg. "It's the best district office I've ever worked with. It's a good group of people who care about kids and do the right thing.

"The teachers have made good positive change. CSEA made a ton of change.... You've got a good board ... [with] great goals for next year," he said. "I'm really pleased that the goals are reading and EL [English language development]. And we're talking about a fund balance that's in good shape.

"We're in a good place. Congratulations for working through all that and living with me for five."

The rest of Expansion | From Page 1

consent calendar for a brief discussion.

While the controversial expansion to a maximum of 10% of parcel size for cultivation remains in the language of the ordinance, later in the meeting the board did direct county staff to bring back a draft for a separate ordinance which would implement a "phased in" "2-5-10" acre cap in three-year intervals.

While still a work in progress, as laid out on Tuesday, that ordinance would cap cultivation at 2 acres until 2026 when it could potentially be raised up to 5 acres, and then possibly raised to 10 acres in 2029. Haschak was the only supervisor who opposed this proposal as well.

As described by Board Chair Dan Gjerde, the increases in cap sizes would all require approval by the board following public hearings, and the 10% of parcel size limitation would still apply if it resulted in a smaller maximum size – e.g., a 10 acre parcel would always be restricted to 1 acre of cultivation.

During the discussion prior to the approval of Chapter 22.18, County Counsel Christian Curtis gave some insights into the referendums in the works while responding to questions from Haschak.

The "Save Our Water, Wildlife, and Way of Life" or SOWWWW referendum would repeal the entire Chapter 22.18 ordinance, while the "Small Is Beautiful" group seek to repeal just the expansion to 10% provision.

Curtis said that if both referendums ended up on the ballot, it's likely that if both received over 50% of the vote that whichever had more votes would be the "controlling" referendum.

"The usual rule when there's conflicting initiatives is the initiative that receives the most votes controls," he said. "I think the question that would be presented in that case is essentially whether or not the referendums were in conflict, and whether one that was a partial repeal, deleting only one section, was implicitly in favor of the remainder."

He also said that if both referendums appeared to be making their way to the ballot, he may advise the board to put the county ordinance on the ballot as well.

"If that scenario does arrive, and if that does come to the board," said Curtis, "what I might suggest prior to that going to the voters ... is that if there's any ambiguity in how they would be phrased, potentially the board would have the ability to submit its own ordinance to the voters as part of that, as something that would be hopefully avoiding any confusion, or any lack of clarity."

"That being said, I think we'd have to look at how they were framed, whether they were both valid, and then at the time they're received, what would be the form of them going to the voters. But I believe that there's a way that they can be submitted, that would be clear as to whichever got the most votes would be controlling."

Curtis also said that he was skeptical that the Small Is Beautiful referendum would be legally viable as proposed, due to its narrow scope in only trying to repeal the 10% rule, which is technically just a "footnote" in a larger section of the ordinance.

"I will say there's some ambiguity in the law," he said. "I don't want to say too strongly that a referendum [regarding] just an individual footnote would be invalid, but I think that there's a pretty good chance that it would be too narrow. If we were to be presented with a petition that had the [necessary] number of signatures, I think we'd have to take a look at how it had been drafted and whether or not it was valid."

Haschak asked that a memo Curtis had sent to the board regarding his take on some of the aspects of the referendums be made public, and both the board and Curtis agreed to this.

Many of the usual arguments came into play throughout the cannabis discussions Tuesday, with Haschak and several others pushing for the county to seek ways to fund an environmental impact report to provide countywide data on cumulative impacts such an ordinance could cause prior to implementation.

"People want to know that kind of information, that data, those outcomes," said Haschak. "Will we have enough water? And what will be the impacts of this kind of expansion on the environment, on our communities? ... I think the people of this county deserve to know what the implications are for any kind of increase or expansion. And I think it would go a long ways for people looking at doing a referendum."

Fifth District Supervisor Ted Williams, a staunch supporter of the Chapter 22.18 ordinance, stuck with his belief that such expansion was a necessary progression for the cannabis industry in the county.

"If you look at the trajectory of where it's going, I don't see 1/4 acre being viable

for legal market," he said. "So I would be happy to continue the discussion. I would be happy to do it in public. I think we should bring an economist in to help us steer our cannabis policy.... But I appreciate you for the environmental concern, I think we all share it."

Williams also asked staff to bring back data comparing the use of water by cannabis to other crops in the county to see how much the water concern with the ordinance was merited.

First District Supervisor Glenn McGourty felt that multiple studies of water in the area were necessary, as well as overall improvement to the county's water programs.

"Somehow or other we've got to get a handle on this, because the people of Mendocino County are quite honestly pretty fed up with the situation," he said. "And I think that they're right to be fed up with the kind of horrific situation we find ourselves in, with a permitting program that's been kind of an abysmal failure. I would just tell them don't give up on us though, because I think that we finally have a board and staffing that can make a difference and really make this program work, and we've been missing that."

During public comments for the size cap item, county Planning Commissioner Marie Jones called in to express support for the phased approach, while urging the supervisors to start with a low number. She talked of her experience with the 22.18 ordinance as a commissioner.

"We heard quite a lot of testimony from a lot of people who care deeply about this issue," said Jones. "At the planning commission, the majority of planning commissioners actually wanted just 1 acre. We compromised at 2 acres to get everybody – the entire planning commission, all five members on board. So it would be great if you would take that precedent in mind."

Ron Edwards, owner of CKA Nursery in Willits, spoke out against the notion from Williams that expansion was necessary for cannabis businesses to be successful in the county.

"Some of the strongest voices in this county are coming from the smallest cultivators," he said, mentioning some of the local small farmers. "There are a number of 5,000 or 10,000 square foot cultivators that are making it. Does that mean that they have a better business plan? A better grasp of the situation at hand?... Maybe the sweet spot for cannabis is something small on a family farm.... I think the community has really spoken out on what standards they want to see. They don't want to see this expansion."

"I need to be convinced – the public needs to be convinced – that this is not a bait-and-switch," he said of the temporary cap idea. "You were voting [for] something more than 2 acres, and saying that you're going to come back to that. So, once the ordinance is in place with more than 2 acres, how is that controlled?... If you really mean 2 acres, make it say 2 acres."

Urgency ordinance

At the end of the meeting the supervisors unanimously passed an urgency ordinance which established "water use requirements for discretionary cannabis and other permits during the 2021 drought emergency."

The board declared a drought emergency in the county on April 20, and has set up a drought task force to tackle the issue.

County Counsel Curtis explained at the meeting that part of the intention of the urgency ordinance was so that permit holders in Phase 1 and 2 of the county's cannabis program looking to transfer into the new ordinance framework would "be limited to their existing grow area during the time that the drought emergency remains in effect."

In addition, Curtis stated that the urgency ordinance will "require the planning commission, or whoever it is that is issuing the discretionary permit, to go ahead and review what the impact is going to be on the water during the drought emergency, and authorize them to impose conditions and limitations that might limit any new usage of water until after the drought emergency is over if appropriate."

"This wouldn't be limited to cannabis," he continued, "this would include any of the discretionary permits issued under the county's land use ordinances."

Future water truck ordinance

During one long discussion, the supervisors were all in agreement that more regulations regarding water truck deliveries were needed, such as requiring log books for those hauling water and stiffer penalties for stealing water and other illegal activities.

However it was decided that a separate ordinance would be more appropriate to deal with the water truck issue, so they directed staff to bring a draft back at a future meeting.



Above, from left: Gallery partners Rossi Jensen and Simantha Karp. The gallery opening at 1766 South Main Street is well attended. Miss Rossi greets some of the attendees. Below: Elias Laughton finishes hanging his pour-paint acrylics. At bottom, left: Gary Martin, curator of the Willits Center for the Arts, and Morgan Rex of Art in the Plaza Gallery attend the opening. At bottom, right: The multi-talented musician and singer Hailee Kaio entertains the gallery attendees.



At right: One of Simantha Karp's creations in ink, coffee, wine and turmeric is on display. A plate of caprese skewers are set out for attendees. Rossi Jensen explains her technique. Not all the gallery attendees are human. Photos by Mathew Caine

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Creative Space

Rossi Jensen and Simantha Karp hold opening party at their new art studio in south Willits

Space engenders a multitude of concepts to an artist. Space is the blank canvas on which to create. Negative space is the part of a composition that is purposely left blank or a mostly solid color which sets off the shapes of the main picture. Space can be the area in which an artist does their work, i.e., a studio, gallery, or even outdoors in an open-air setting. The creation of space is one of the forces that drive artists in the formation of their product.

On Tuesday, June 15, Rossi Jensen (Miss Rossi) and her partner in art, Simantha Karp, opened a new and unique art space at 1766 South Main Street in the south end of town. The opening brought in a diverse group of artists, gallery owners, curators, well-wishers, friends, and musicians to enjoy the light, airy creative space as well as the art from both of the partners and other inventive visual creators. Although they share a location, there are actually two separate businesses conjoined by the love of art and the process of invention of media into dynamic and visually pleasing concepts.

Miss Rossi's Creative Art Studio is Jensen's perception of what an art studio should be, a place to create, to learn about the various ways to make art (with an emphasis on approaches which she has developed and is developing), and a place to display the art compositions. Shiny Eyes Soul Creations, LLC is the child of Karp's experiences in the art field and has an emphasis on certain techniques which she is in the process of creating.

"I'm going to be teaching acrylic pour painting, regular acrylic painting, broom making, dream-catcher making," explained Rossi. "We'll be doing a few different styles of pour painting. I'll be not just teaching 'Intro to Pour Painting' but I'll be teaching different styles like the Dutch board and the flip cup. I'll be teaching composition and the use of negative space. We'll be doing two-and-three-part classes so we can do different things with the pours. I'm going to be looking

Read the rest of **Creative** Over on Page 15



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The rest of Horseshow

Leadline classes are for the youngest riders; model horse assesses the conformation and breed correctness of the horse, and showmanship offers riders a chance to showcase their skills with their horse while on foot, and horse in hand.

The "Local 17 and Under" classes are also perpetual trophy classes, and winners received a silver photo frame and their name inscribed onto the large trophies that are displayed at the show.

Trail classes offer riders a chance to test themselves with a variety of obstacles while on horseback, the Hunter Hack class gives riders the challenge to jump their horses over fences, and the horsemanship/pattern classes asked riders to complete a memorized pattern instead of competing by riding along the rail of the arena.

The overall winners, and the second-place winners, in each age group: 12 and Under; 13 to 17; and 18 and over, each received special prizes and top honors.

The day's big winners included: 12 and under: high point: Payton Shull; reserve high point: Madison Lawrence. 13 to 17: high point: Danielle Barry; reserve high point: Samantha Arms. 18 and over: high point: Gracie Silva; reserve high point: Sherry Oncale.

Complete results for the 2021 show are as follows:

Model Horse 3 & Over - R Horse Ranch Perpetual Trophy: first place went to Sherry Oncale with Zippy; second place to Ella Tuttle and Booties; third place to Hailee Fales and Oliver; fourth place to Danielle Barry and Rebel; and fifth place to Aya Williams and Breezes Last Legend.

Leadline Showmanship: first place went to Eva Pinon and Cookie; second place to Charlie Pinon and Rojo; third place to Macy Lawrence and Gideon; and fourth place to Arya Shine Allenbrand and Yaki.

12 and under: English/Western Showmanship: first place went to Madison Lawrence and Gideon; second place to Payton Shull and Ruger; third place to Kaydance Lopez and Neva Red; fourth place to Hailee Fales on Oliver; and fifth place to Ella Tuttle and Booties.

13 to 17: English/Western Showmanship: first place went to Danielle Barry and Rebel; second place went to Paige Whitcomb and Zoe; third place went to Samantha Arms and Smokin Lulu Belle; and fourth place went to Aya Williams on Breezes Last Legend.

18 and Over: English/Western Showmanship: first place went to Gracie Silva and Elan's Lucky Playboy, and second place went to Sherry Oncale on Zippy.

Local 17 & Under: English/Western Perpetual Trophy - Barbara Hamilton: first place went to Paige Whitcomb and Zoe; second place went to Danielle Barry and Rebel; third place went to Samantha Arms on Smokin Lulu Belle; fourth place went to Madison Lawrence on

Gideon; and fifth place went to Ella Tuttle on Booties.

Leadline: English/Western: first place went to Eva Pinon on Cookie; second place went to Caroline Pinon on Ethel; third place went to Dani Owen on Ruger; fourth place went to Macy Lawrence on Gideon; fifth place went to Macy Lawrence on Gideon; sixth place went to Arya Shine Allenbrand on Yaki; seventh place went to Alex Pinon on Rebel; and eighth place went to Charlie Pinon on Rojo.

Open: English Walk/Trot: first place went to Blighe Lamkin on First Class Encounter; second place went to Aya Williams on Breezes Last Legend; and third place went to Paige Whitcomb on Zoe.

12 and Under: English Pleasure: first place went to Kaydance Lopez on Jaguars Domino; second place went to Payton Shull on Ruger; third place went to Blighe Lamkin on First Class Encounter; fourth place went to Madison Lawrence on Gideon; and fifth place went to Emelia Owsiany on Diesel.

13 to 17: English Pleasure: first place went to Danielle Barry on Rebel; second place went to Samantha Arms on Smokin Lulu Belle; and third place went to Samantha Arms on Smokin Lulu Belle; and fourth place went to Paige Whitcomb on Zoe.

18 and Over: English Pleasure: first place went to Gracie Silva on Elan's Lucky Playboy.

12 and under: English Equitation/ Horsemanship Pattern: first place went to Blighe Lamkin on First Class Encounter; second place to Payton Shull on Ruger; third place to Kaydance Lopez on Jaguars Domino; fourth place to Emelia Owsiany on Diesel; and fifth place to Madison Lawrence on Gideon.

13 to 17: English Equitation/ Horsemanship Pattern: first place went to Danielle Barry on Rebel; second place went to Aya Williams on Breezes Last Legend; third place went to Samantha Arms on Smokin Lulu Belle; and fourth place went to Paige Whitcomb on Zoe.

18 and Over: English Equitation/ Horsemanship Pattern: first place went to Gracie Silva on Elan's Lucky Playboy.

Local 17 & Under: English Equitation/Horsemanship Pattern - John Fish Memorial / Hawthorn Farm perpetual trophy: first place went to Danielle Barry on Rebel; second place to Paige Whitcomb on Zoe; third place to Kaydance Lopez on Jaguars Domino; fourth place to Samantha Arms on Smokin Lulu Belle; and fifth place to Madison Lawrence on Gideon.

Open: Hunter Hack: first place went to Danielle Barry on Rebel; second place to Payton Shull on Ruger; third place to Madison Lawrence on Gideon; fourth to Emelia Owsiany on Dancing Madrone; and fifth place to Aya Williams on Breezes Last Legend.

Leadline: Trail: first place went to Caroline Pinon on Cookie; second place to Alex Pinon on Ethel; third

The rest of Campaign

guidance from Fuller Video Productions. The campaign is sponsored by Mendocino County Public Health and supported by Alliance for Rural Community Health and Nuestra Alianza de Willits.

The idea for this campaign arose from members of the Mendocino Diversity Equity Inclusion Taskforce, an independent task force that seeks to stamp out racism in all its forms in our county.

According to the campaign writer, pediatric nurse practitioner Medie Parrott: "These videos provide information about the importance of vaccination, but the larger message is this: solidarity in diversity. The PSAs feature participants that are diverse in multiple ways and include voices that are important but not always heard. They are presented in a positive and empathetic manner, acknowledging the lived experiences of some black, Indigenous and people of color."

The PSAs may be viewed at the "Mendocino DEI Taskforce" channel on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFpykRAAdDeuXy2k0xDe3o>

For more information about COVID-19 vaccines, testing, masking, and gatherings, contact the Mendocino County Public Health COVID-19 Call Center at 707-472-2759 or visit our website at: mendocinocounty.org/community/novel-coronavirus.

Photo by Maureen Jennison

From Page 1

Willits Senior Center Indoor Lunch

The indoor dining room has reopened as of June 15 for fully vaccinated diners, at least two weeks after their final shot, or those with proof of a negative COVID-19 test in the last 72 hours. The official Grand Opening is set for Thursday, July 1. New hours: from 11:45 am to 1 pm, Monday through Friday. Indoor meals still \$5 through June. Please bring vaccination card or proof of a COVID test in the last 72 hours.

Volunteers Wanted

Willits Senior Center is seeking volunteers who are vaccinated to come help serve at the Senior Center lunch. Dining room volunteers are welcome anytime Monday through Friday, 11:30 am to 1 pm. Call Volunteer Coordinator Deb Holcomb at 459-6826 if interested or for more info.

Drive-Thru & Walk-Up Meals

The Willits Senior Center will continue to provide drive-thru and walk-up meals, from 12 to 12:30 pm, outside the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road, even after the dining room reopens. Prices for drive-thru and walk-up to go lunches will remain at \$5 through June, thanks to funding from the Community Foundation and Sparetime Supply (thanks to Mike Griggs, Sr. and Andrew Hosford).

Home Meal Delivery

The Senior Center Meals on Wheels delivered meals are \$5.50 per meal. Call 459-6826 the day before needed to schedule home meal delivery: Monday through Friday. Delivered throughout Willits.

Thursday, June 24: Grilled Chicken, Mashed Potato w/Gravy, Veggie, Roll, Green Salad

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

Monday, July 5: Center Closed

Tuesday, July 6: Shrimp Scampi, Garlic Bread, Green Salad

Wednesday, July 7: Turkey Bacon Ranch Wrap, Mac Salad

Thursday, July 8: Meatball Sub, Cheese Stix, Green Salad

Friday, July 9: Chicken Tacos, Rice, Beans

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

The rest of Creative

into getting into resin art, making geodes."

"Multiple ink, turmeric, coffee and wine classes, which will be going over flowers, critters, eggs and grass, fruit and fish," Karp said about what she calls "snack art."

"Painting with edible pigment. Not everyone can afford to purchase paint," said Karp. "It's kind of neat to be able to just go to the closet and find things to paint with."

She will also be teaching movement sessions. "The initial session," explained Karp, "is going to be relearning the body using ground work and standing, relearning where your muscles are, how your body moves, what you do and don't feel comfortable with. The subsequent classes will be isometrics, relearning how to strengthen the particular parts of your body that you aren't comfortable with. Regenerating your body in a space where everybody wants to do the same thing. We'll have movement sessions like belly dance."

They are considering renting the space out to other creatives who need a place that is convenient, spacious, and has good light and vibes. The partners are open to new ideas and uses for the space to which they have signed a five-year lease.

The opening was well attended with people who came to wish the partners well, to see some new art, to hear the music of Hailee Kaio on guitar, ukulele and mandolin, and to have some tasty bites, as they explored and enjoyed the interactions with Jensen, Karp, and the other artists in attendance.

In addition to the work of Karp and Jensen, Elias Laughton brought his colorful pour-paint compositions which he initially learned at one of Jensen's instructional sessions, and has taken a step beyond the usual.

"This is called a tree-pour-pour," Laughton explained. "Acrylic pouring is really neat because it's a constantly evolving, very diverse, and very inclusive community, unlike some schools of art in the past that were very secretive and exclusive. Pouring is the opposite. It is open-source. Any time anyone finds a new technique, they are willing to share their methods with the rest of the community."

The other artist who was showing was Blake Borges, fairly new on the art scene, but is developing his techniques in sketches, ink, watercolor, and mixed media.

Jensen and Karp are finalizing plans to hold a kids art camp this summer, July 19 to 28, which will be held 10:30 am to 3 pm, Monday through Friday. It is intended for kids ages 7 to 14. The camp will culminate with a gallery showing of the art at an opening on July 30 at 6 pm.

"This is a general art space," said Karp, "and we're looking forward to sharing it with people who are interested in exploring new ideas in art. If I feel competent with a technique, I want to create a session to share it with others. I don't feel I'm teaching. It's more that I'm facilitating their exploration."

To get in touch with the partners about showing in the gallery, utilizing the space, or signing up for the kids art camp: missrossisart@gmail.com, 707-513-5705, or shinyeyesoulcreation@gmail.com, 707-485-4498.

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FRIDAY, JUNE 25TH

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WCT returns to live shows this weekend

Submitted by Willits Community Theatre

"The Viewing Room," a heartwarming family comedy by playwright Mark Smith of Sacramento is as touching as it is whacky. Opening night July 2 is already sold out, so get your tickets soon!

The hilarious two-act play is about a stern and very dead patriarch who comes back to life for a chance to make amends with his family. Directed by Mathew Caine, the show stars Steve Marston, Kelly Kesey, Kathy Vellis, Rod Grainger, Jeff Shipp, Robert Ford, Lisa Wilcox and Aris Vellis.

Performances will be from July 2 through 18.

Tickets are available online at eventbrite or on the theater's website: www.wctperformingartscenter.org.

For all but two shows, patrons will be required to bring their vaccination card and show it at the door. For the Friday, July 9 and Friday, July 16 shows, vaccination certificates will not be required, and instead social distancing will be in place, with a maximum cap of 15 seats for each show.

Above: Actors Kelly Kesey and Steve Marston shine as clairvoyant daughter Deb and her now back-from-the-great-beyond father Chester in "The Viewing Room," directed by Mathew Caine at the Willits Community Theatre.

SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

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Father Aaron Bandanadam
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10:30 a.m. Spanish
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ALL ARE WELCOME

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707-459-5714
Saturdays: Meeting place
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<https://willitsca.adventistchurch.org>
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459-2855
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If you want to be included in this column please call:

April Tweddell
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JURASSIC EMPIRE DRIVE-THRU

REDWOOD EMPIRE FAIRGROUNDS

Announcing Jurassic Empire, the largest, most realistic Dinosaur Drive-Thru Event ever seen in CA! This fun filled family event will be held at the Redwood Empire Fairgrounds. From the comfort and safety of your own car, drive thru this prehistoric journey from the Jurassic all the way through the Ice Age periods and discover the Dinosaurs and Mammals that ruled the earth for more than 150 million years ago! The drive thru exhibit features over 60, moving, breathing, giant life size ultra-realistic dinosaurs in their natural habitat. Keep a close eye out and be extra careful as danger lies ahead as you drive by a massive T-Rex looking for its next meal. This Jurassic Themed Dinosaur event will stimulate your child's imagination for years to come!




JUNE 26 & 27

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