

Willits Weekly

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Online & Print
A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits
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Thursday, July 7, 2022

Covelo grass fire 100% contained

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
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CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit made quick work of a vegetation fire on the northeast side of Covelo Tuesday evening – the 20-acre Nome Fire was 100 percent contained as of Wednesday morning.

“Crews worked throughout the night, and will remain at scene today to patrol and mop up,” said CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit’s Wednesday morning report.

The fire started around 5:15 pm near the intersection of Highway 162 and Short Creek Road, and moved quickly up the hill. As of the 7:30 pm Tuesday report from CAL FIRE, the 20 acre fire was 20 percent contained.

“Fire resources are at scene actively battling this fire,” CAL FIRE reported Tuesday evening. “Forward progress has been slowed. The steep terrain and difficult access remain challenging. Resources will remain at scene throughout the night.”

One structure was reported threatened Tuesday evening, but in the end, no structures were damaged.

Read the rest of **Fire**
Over on page 4

Howard Memorial ranked ‘most socially responsible’ hospital in the U.S.

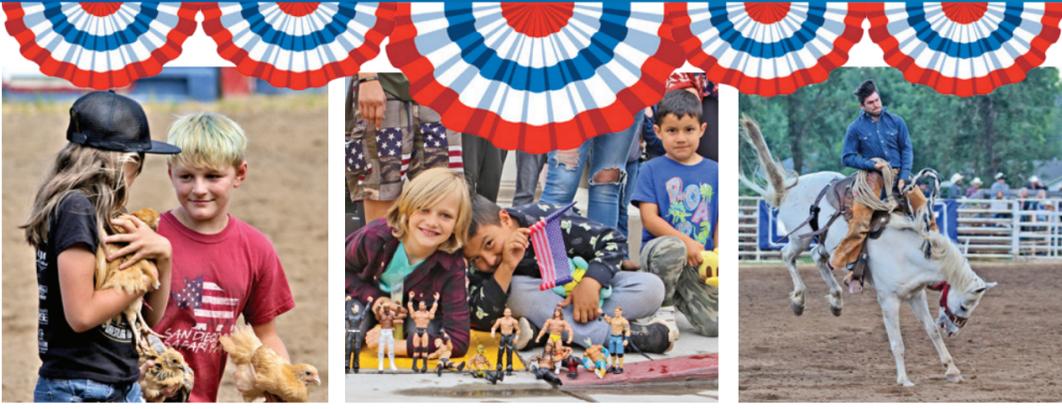
Submitted by Adventist Health - Mendocino County

July 6, 2022 – Adventist Health Howard Memorial is honored to be ranked No. 1 on the Lown Institute’s list of the country’s most socially responsible hospitals. The ranking is based on evidence-based assessments of health equity, value, and outcomes for which Adventist Health Howard Memorial earned straight “A” grades.

A national nonpartisan healthcare think tank, Lown analyzed nearly 3,600 hospitals in the nation, and only 66 (less than 2 percent) ranked among the most socially responsible, meaning they earned an “A” rating in at least three of the measurement categories.

AHMH rose to the top for its best in the nation efforts on more than 50 metrics, including racial inclusivity of patients, employee pay equity, and avoidance of unnecessary and potentially harmful procedures, among others.

Read the rest of **Hospital**
Over on page 15



City council approves 2-year budget

Jennifer Poole
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The Willits City Council approved a two-year balanced budget at their June 27 meeting, for Fiscal Years 2022-2024. The General Fund budget for FY 2022/23 is just over \$6.8 million, and for FY 2023/24 is just over \$7 million – both years with matching revenue projections.

A two-year budget is something new for the City of Willits.

“It used to be we budgeted one year at a time,” said City of Willits Mayor Saprina Rodriguez. By using the biennial budget model, “forecasting out two or three years, we have a very good plan or vision of where the city is headed, over a three-year period of time,” she said. “I think it’s a much better practice, from the private sector.”

“The General Fund budget inclusive of revenues, expenditures, and transfers is balanced...” wrote City of Willits Finance Director Manuel J. Orozco. “The balanced budget is a result of budget discipline and strong fiscal practices as requested by the Council.”

Read the rest of **Budget**
Over on page 15



Photos by Maureen and Matthew Jennison

Rained on our Rodeo ... and literally, a little on our parade, too, but no one seemed to mind

What’s a community got to do to get back to a regular Willits Frontier Days and Fourth of July celebration? Whether it’s necessary changes from COVID or umbrellas and tents from climate change, celebrating the July festivities in this town has been a bit of an unexpected game for the last couple of years, but thankfully, the celebratory spirit runs deep, and Willits came out to enjoy the party, regardless of this year’s rain!

Read about all of the final events of Willits Frontier Days throughout the pages of this week’s edition, and see these and many more photos online at <https://photographpress.zenfolio.com/willitsfrontierdays>

Sweetheart Dinner: Page 3 | Main Street Parade: Page 5
Beef Barbecue: Page 6 | Junior Rodeo: Page 7
CCPRA Rodeos: Pages 8 - 9

At top, from left: Two lucky kids scooped up three chickens between them at the Junior Rodeo’s Mystery Scramble. These kids had an audience of action figures join them to watch the parade. A cowboy tries his best to stay atop his bucking bronc in the CCPRA rodeo. Above: The cowgirl practically levitates above her horse as she gives a big kick out of the box to hopefully catch up to the calf in the breakaway event.

Below, from left: Kam Maize LaLaguna, Sweetheart in 1970, smiles with WFD President Fred Barry. The Willits Wild Bunch is always a parade staple with members riding their motorcycles down Main Street. This cowboy’s bucking bronc heads back toward the bucking chutes, making a show around the arena.



Brooktrails board talks road work, disc golf

Barbara O’Reardon
Reporter
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It promised to be a fairly uneventful agenda as the Brooktrails Community Township Board met on Tuesday, June 28. President Rick Williams began by asking if any directors had any special reports or if any public hearings were scheduled, and there being none prepared, only Director Tony Orth said: “The board of supervisors is moving forward on placing the sales tax on the November ballot that will be dedicated for fire-district support and fire prevention.”

Director Ralph Santos expressed thanks to the county and district supervisor for making a great improvement in paving the corner of Sherwood Road and Daphne Way.

General Manager Tamara Alaniz reported: “You may have noticed the lakes are still full and with the late rains, Brooktrails’ water-supply reliability this year is good. Our workers

Read the rest of **Brooktrails**
Over on page 13



Photos by Maureen Jennison

Wonderful Wet Weather

Willits receives two-day sprinkle over July 4 and 5

Apples, above left, and morning glories, above right, and grape leaves, below center, were dotted with drops of rain on the morning of Monday, July 5. The view at the rodeo grounds for the 4th of July rodeo included wiping rain off of glass and umbrellas in the stands!



Senior Center menu for the week

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

Thursday, July 7: Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Garlic Bread, Green Salad

Friday, July 8: Italian Sub, Vinaigrette Slaw, Chips

Monday, July 11: Crispy Chicken Sandwich, Mac Salad, Pickle

Tuesday, July 12: Tamale Pie, Beans, Green Salad

Wednesday, July 13: Chicken a la King, Noodles, Veggie, Roll

Thursday, July 14: Chicken Fajitas, Rice, Beans, Green Salad

Friday, July 15: Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Veggie, Roll

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

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

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

PG&E urges locals to sign up for discount programs

Submitted by Pacific Gas and Electric

Thousands of income-eligible customers in the North Coast could save 18% on their monthly electric bill by enrolling in Pacific Gas and Electric Company's Family Electric Rate Assistance Program.

The FERA program gives discounts on electricity bills to income-qualified households of three or more individuals, but thousands of eligible customers have not yet signed up for the program, and are missing out on significant savings.

PG&E estimates a total of 3,199 households in Lake, Mendocino and Humboldt counties could save on their monthly bills by enrolling in FERA.

"PG&E continues to partner with agencies in our hometowns to reach eligible customers, as the FERA program remains underutilized. We hope the remaining eligible customers will learn more about the program and apply today," said Aaron August PG&E vice president of Business Development & Customer Engagement.

Less than 25% of eligible PG&E households are currently enrolled in the program in Northern and Central California, with an estimated 174,219 eligible and only 39,907 enrolled.

Some may overlook FERA thinking it only applies to families, or that income qualifications are the same as a similar monthly energy discount program, California Alternative Rates for Energy Program, or CARE.

In fact, any income-qualified household that does not qualify for CARE may be eligible for FERA as it has higher income guidelines.

Customers who apply for CARE and don't qualify are automatically evaluated for FERA. Customers cannot be enrolled in both programs. CARE offers a higher monthly discount of 20 percent or more on both gas and electricity.

FERA applications can be found online or visit a local community agency located throughout PG&E's service area to pick up a paper application. Applying can be easy and only takes about five minutes. Eligible customers begin receiving the FERA program discount in their next billing cycle once their application is approved.

Customers who meet income requirements for FERA and CARE may also qualify for the Energy Savings Assistance

Read the rest of PG&E Over on page 4

Redwood Empire Fair entry deadline July 15

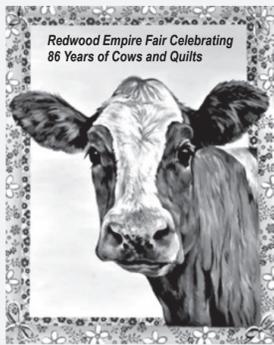
Have you dreamed of winning a blue ribbon at your local fair? Are you crafty, have a green thumb, or bake like Betty Crocker? Want to earn some cash for your talents?

Now is your chance to compete in the 2022 Redwood Empire Fair! Classes are offered for ALL ages in quilting, floriculture, painting, baked goods, woodworking, and many other hobbies.

Participation is easy! To learn how to become a fair exhibitor, go to <https://redwood.fairwire.com/> and follow the simple step-by-step instructions.

Your online entry registration must be submitted by Friday, July 15, by 5 pm.

To learn more about the Redwood Empire Fair, set for August 4-7 at the Ukiah Fairgrounds, visit www.redwoodempirefair.com



Adventist Health offers free sports physicals in Willits July 10

Submitted by Adventist Health

Adventist Health will be hosting free sports physicals and a Back-to-School Fair for school-age children in Willits on Sunday, July 10, from 9 am to 1 pm, at the Redwood Medical Clinic across from Adventist Health Howard Memorial hospital, at 3 Marcela Drive.

While sports physicals meet all the requirements for participation in sports, they are not intended to replace annual, comprehensive physical exams. Annual exams are recommended for all children to ensure overall health.

Parental consent will be needed for youth athletes to receive a physical, and forms will be available at the event. School supplies and backpacks will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

"As a father of two, I know the cost of preparing for back to school can add up. We want to make sure we're doing what we can to help our parents, and help children be ready to learn and have a great school year," said Judson Howe, president for Adventist Health in Mendocino County.

"We are committed to caring for our community beyond the four walls of our facilities, and our team has been offering this much-needed service for many years. Childhood obesity is also a significant challenge in Mendocino County, and we want to be part of the solution," Howe said. "We certainly don't want the cost of a sports physical to be a barrier to anyone who desires an active lifestyle by playing sports."



Above: Willits Frontier Days' 2022 Heritage Award winner, Margie Handley Hawthorne, smiles with WFD President Fred Barry as she receives a silver bracelet at the Sweetheart Dinner. At right: Past Sweethearts gather together including, back row, from left: Claire Case, Hailey Riley, Lijia Lamkin, Riata King, Olivia Grupp, Tina Shull, Amanda Hiatt, Ashtan Bloomquist, Kinzie Barlow, holding daughter Hadley, and Courtney Figg-Hoblyn, holding daughter Lily Duncan. Front row, from left: Jaden Doak, Tracey Ford Moody, Kam Maize LaLaguna, Liz Day, Kathy Persico and Nicol Persico Kunka. Below: 2022 winner Danielle Barry, left, smiles with 2021 winner Claire Case.



Below: Event sponsors, friends, family and past Sweethearts gathered to hear Danielle Barry give her speech at the awards dinner. At bottom: A family gathers including, from left: Phil Shuster, Blighe Lamkin, Hayden Lamkin, Lijia Lamkin, Kathy Shuster and Patty Wilson.



So 'Barry' Sweet

Danielle Barry receives 2022 Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart title at annual awards dinner

It was smiles and thank yous from Danielle Barry when she was crowned the new Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart at the annual dinner last Friday night.

Barry was the sole contestant this year, but did have to undergo the same tasks and tests that past Sweethearts have had to complete. Along with giving a speech, modeling, answering interview questions, and demonstrating her horsemanship on and off horseback, Barry also had the main task of preselling tickets to the year's events.

This year, Barry was able to sell \$52,791 in tickets and earned her place on the Sweetheart roster. Barry also received silver spurs, a silver tiara, silver belt buckle, leather sash and a beautiful saddle. She also gets to wear the perpetual red-white-and-blue leather chaps, signed and handed down from Sweetheart to Sweetheart.

Barry enjoyed riding in the parade and in the grand entries of the 2022 rodeos in her new role and looks forward to attending Feather River College in the fall.

— Maureen Jennison



At left: The 2022 Sweetheart received many beautiful things to commemorate this year's achievement including a leather sash and silver tiara, buckle, pin and spurs.

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Thank you

To the Editor:

I would like to commend the efforts of our local Boy Scout Troop during Willits Frontier Days. During the Lions Club barbeque I watched the Scouts working ceaselessly all day. They continually kept all of the garbage cans emptied.

I so appreciate their efforts in putting the flags out for all of the holidays. It makes our town so festive. Scouting is such a wholesome endeavor for young boys and girls. They learn important life skills and altruistic behaviors.

I would encourage parents to consider scouting for their young boys and girls. Our Willits Lions Club is proud to share the newly renovated Scout Hut with them.

Barbara Holmes, for Willits Lions Club

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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



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Mendocino County
Community Organizing
for
Mendo Abortion Access Collective & Movie Night
(Indoors) We're showing Ask for Jane, a true story about the Jane Collective, a Chicago clandestine abortion service pre-Roe 1968-1973 then...
Join our outdoor meeting for newcomers to organize support for those who don't want to be pregnant. We're forming a collective for abortion advocacy, & doula project, that can serve folks locally & afar. Volunteers, & community funding, will be essential for building this local network of support.
Friday July 22nd 6pm - 9ish
At Ridgewood Ranch Community Center
16200 US-101, Willits, CA 95490
Donations Welcome

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Above: The 2022 Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart Danielle Barry poses with parents, Marcy and Fred, and the saddle sponsored by her aunt, Tracy Evans, who was unable to attend the event, but surprised Barry with the beautiful saddle. Below: Nicole Kunka, left, smiles with Chuck Persico, Brian Kunka and Cody Kinsman, right in front of Cowboy Willy.



SUMMER SUNDAY COOKOUTS
SUNDAYS JULY 17, 24, 31
6PM - 10PM
Redeem 150 same-day points to get an entry to win the Weber Traveler 1 Burner Liquid Propane Portable Grill at 9pm. One winner each Sunday. Plus Hot Seats for Cash and Free Play from 6 - 10pm.

FRIDAY NIGHT FUN 7 - 10PM
Earn entries starting at 5pm
2 hourly winners choose
\$150 FREE PLAY OR \$100 CASH

STASH OR CASH

GRILLIN' & CHILLIN'
SAT JULY 9 • 10AM - 10PM
Get 1 entry for every 150 same-day points to win the Traeger Pro Series 34 Pellet Grill. Plus Free Play Hot Seats.

SHERWOOD VALLEY CASINO
WWW.SVRCASINO.COM

For complete rules and details please visit the Players Club. Gambling a problem? Call 1-800-GAMBLER.

Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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



HOW TO SUDOKU

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

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10				
11					12					13	14	15		
16					17			18						
19				20	21			22	23			24		
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39						40	41	42						
43					44						45	46	47	48
49				50						51	52			
53				54						55				
56		57				58					59			
60					61	62					63			
					64						65			

OUTDOOR FEAST WORD SEARCH

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

BACKYARD	FESTIVE	SEAR
BARBECUE	FLIP	SMOKER
BASTE	GRATE	SPATULA
BURGERS	GRILL	STEAK
CHARCOAL	HEAT	TEMPERATURE
CHICKEN	OUTDOORS	TONGS
DIRECT	PROPANE	VEGETABLES
ENTERTAIN	SEAFOOD	WOOD

CLUES ACROSS

1. Ancient Greek sophist
5. Genus of insects
11. Culinary herb
12. Neutralizing antibody
16. Plan
17. Pa's partner
18. A city in S Louisiana
19. TNT sportscaster
24. Atomic #25 (abbr.)
25. Well-known bug
26. Body parts
27. Monetary unit of Albania
28. Kids' play things
29. Coastal city in Malaysia
30. Famed French physician
31. Flourishing
33. Excessively overweight
34. Pampered
38. Emerged
39. Order of tailless amphibians
40. Indian term of respect
43. Shift sails (Brit.)
44. Beloved Mexican dish
45. Scottish tax
49. Health insurance
50. Monetary unit of Samoa
51. Move about

53. Execute or perform
54. Taste property
56. Unit of dry measure
58. Blood group
59. Something you can up
60. In great need
63. Breezes through
64. Spoke
65. Become acquainted with

CLUES DOWN

1. A particular part
2. Spanish neighborhood
3. Business
4. Reddish browns
5. Extinct Hawaiian bird
6. Disney town
7. Part of the Bible (abbr.)
8. Atomic #22 (abbr.)
9. The distinctive spirit of a people or an era
10. In a moment
13. Monetary unit of Vietnam
14. Submerge in a liquid
15. Yellowish cotton cloth
20. _ _ _ denotes past
21. Hoopster Morant
22. Not
23. Indian title of respect
27. Horsley and Marvin are two
29. One thousandth of a liter (abbr.)
30. Hoover's organization
31. Round globular seed
32. University official
33. Spherical body
34. Iraq's capital
35. To any further extent
36. Swollen lymph node
37. Anger
38. Technological marvel
40. Peruvian district
41. Salt of acetic acid
42. What Santa says
44. Israeli city _ _ _ Aviv
45. Late Heisman winner
46. Reveal the presence of
47. Long upholstered seat
48. Most wily
50. Sword
51. Respiratory disease
52. The Ocean State
54. Fleshy watery fruit
55. Lying down
57. Superheavy metal
61. The ancient Egyptian sun god
62. Indicates position



Main Street Parade

Willits comes out to Main Street to celebrate the Fourth of July with floats, classic cars, horses and more

The sidewalks were filled with excited community members who came to watch the 96th annual Willits Frontier Days parade on Monday, July 4.

While most of the wet weather waited for the afternoon and evening, people came prepared with umbrellas and pop-up tents just in case.

As usual, the parade was filled with floats and trucks from local businesses; decorated riders and horses; antique and classic cars; motorcycles and more.

The parade was judged and awards were announced as the entries drove by the announcer's stand in front of Flying Dog Pizza and Vinyl.

—Maureen Jennison

Results are as follows:

Floats:

Best Mechanical/Imagination: first place went to the Willits Community Theater and second place to the Willits Otters.

Read the rest of **Parade** Over on page 8



Above, from far left: 2021 Sweetheart Clare Case waves to the crowd at the Main Street parade. This antique car (top) looked right at home in the downtown stretch of Willits. The patriotic float of the Willits Otters (bottom) was perfect to celebrate the Fourth of July. Gabby Terrell, and her son Garren, wave from the Family Tree truck window. Chuck Persico (top, left) rides with the Persico family color guard. Brooktrails Fire Chief Jon Noyer (top, right) waves from the truck. Parade chair Mattie Pinon Owen (bottom) walks with her family and young equestrians in the parade. Below: Four buckaroos including Easton, Jordan and Everly Grider and Kylie Yokum ride along Main Street on the Yokum's Body Shop float.



Below, far right, from top: The Willits Horsemen match in white shirts and red ties. Arya Sizemore sang the national anthem during the parade and July 4 rodeo. (Jon Jessup sang for the July 3 rodeo.) Charlene Bredder from Willits Elementary Charter School smiles and waves at a passerby as their float passes in front of Mazahar.

Below, left: Jace Kroh and family ride in the ambulance in the parade. Below, right: City of Willits City Clerk Delores Pedersen (in window) and Council Member Gerry Gonzalez (in back) smile for the camera.



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The rest of **Fire** From page 1

As per that 7:30 pm Tuesday report, 122 personnel had been working the fire, with 10 engines, three water tenders, one helicopter, three hand crews, and two dozers.

The cause of the Nome Fire is still under investigation.

Cooperating agencies on the Nome Fire included Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, U.S. Forest Service, Covelo Fire Department, Brooktrails Fire Department, and Laytonville Fire Department.

To see pictures of the Nome Fire, including aerial shots, visit CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit on Facebook or Twitter.

The rest of **PG&E** From page 2

Program offering free energy-saving improvements to maximize energy efficiency in the home. With recent changes to the federal income guidelines, even more customers are eligible.

Every year, the California Public Utilities Commission adjusts the maximum qualifying income levels for FERA to reflect changes in the federal poverty guidelines. FERA is funded through a rate surcharge paid for by all utility customers.

To learn more or to apply online, visit www.pge.com/en_US/residential/save-energy-money/help-paying-your-bill/longer-term-assistance/care/care.page

For more financial assistance program support visit pge.com/billhelp.

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE LOG

June 26 to July 2

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 78 incidents in this 7 day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

June 26

6:44 pm: LYNCH, Kevin Michael (49) of Rohnert Park was contacted near the intersection of South Main Street and Holly Street. He was arrested pursuant to 23152 (B) VC (Driving with a Blood Alcohol Content of 0.08 Percent or Higher), 273A (A) PC (Felony Child Abuse), 23578 VC (Enhanced DUI Penalty), and felony charges of driving under the influence of alcohol causing bodily injury.

10:09 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Wood Street and issued a citation.

June 27

3:18 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 600 block of Talmage Road in Ukiah.

3:57 am: LOWE, Stephen Jefferson (60) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of Wood Street following a disturbance. He was arrested pursuant to 647(F) PC (Public Intoxication) and on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol).

9:49 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance near the intersection of Pine Street and School Street.

June 28

12:11 pm: DODD Jr., James Monroe (29) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of Holly Street. He was arrested pursuant to 1203.2 PC (Violation of Probation) and on misdemeanor charges of resisting an officer.

9:14 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of East Mendocino Avenue.

June 29

12:48 am: Officer responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 800 block of South Main Street.

8:20 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

3:50 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

10:35 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of Margie Drive.

June 30

3:23 am: WEAVER Jr., Asahel Harold (54) of Willits

on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance, being under the influence of a controlled substance, driving without a license, and driving while license is suspended or revoked.

5:59 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of East San Francisco Avenue.

July 1

7:10 am: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

7:36 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of Highway 20 and issued a warning.

10:44 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

11:28 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Tuttle Lane and Madden Lane.

8:19 pm: SIMPSON, Gerald Crandall (52) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on felony charges of violation of parole and on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance.

July 2

2:26 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of Alice Drive and issued a warning.

2:35 am: MUNOZ, Luis Gonzalez (33) of Ukiah was contacted near the intersection of Crest Drive and Sherwood Hill Drive. He was arrested pursuant to 23152 (A) VC (Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol).

8:50 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of Margie Drive.

2:33 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Williams Street.

3:57 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of South Main Street.

10:11 pm: GOODWIN, Skyler Ian (30) of Willits was contacted in the 1500 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 245 (A) (4) PC (Assault by Means Likely to Produce Great Bodily Injury), 273.5 PC (Domestic Corporal Injury), and 422 PC (Criminal Threats).

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At far left: Willits Frontier Days Vice President Marcy Barry smiles from the barbecue line. At right: Richard Baker, executive director of the Willits Senior Center and Willits Rotary Club member, hands out rolls to hungry eaters.

Below, left: The line to get tickets and fill plates at the barbecue was long, but joyful.

Below: Kinzie Barlow smiles after receiving a scoop of salad from Rotarian Jenny Senter. At bottom: Geiger's Market is the barbecue event sponsor.



Beef Barbecue

Hundreds gather on the lawn at the Rec Grove park for annual post-parade feast

The pop-up tents usually erected for shade in the Rec Grove park were providing a different service this year during the annual beef barbecue – cover from the mist and rain that came through, on and off, on Sunday, July 4. But that didn't deter people from coming down to enjoy lunch after the Main Street parade.

The fare was the dependably traditional fare, however, with barbecued beef, savory beans, crunchy salad and soft rolls. A cookie was available to finish off the meal with a sweet treat.

Patrons enjoyed lounging on the grass, listening to the musical performances of the Country Music Rodeola, and getting their fill before heading next door to the final CCPRA rodeo event at the Rodeo Grounds.

– Maureen Jennison



Below, from left: Harry So, left, and Roy Branson, right, slice up hunks of beef brought over from the meat crew. Russ Rountree moves the meat roasts from the barbecue to the cutting table, and poses for a photo mid-move. Extra roasts were sold after the line faded for \$50 each for those lucky enough to grab one before they were gone.

Photos by Maureen Jennison

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Above from left: Riders race down the arena to the waiting tied goat in the goat tying event. They jump off their horses and grab the goat and tie three legs for time to stop. Some younger riders were able to be led down the arena to get a ribbon off of a goat's tail. Time stopped for the younger riders when they ran over and handed the judge the ribbon.



Above, left: Ella Randrup-Swinney, left, smiles with friends Alayna and Isiah Folsom, who all caught chickens in the Mystery Scramble. Two cowboys in the team roping event hope to make a clean of a heels catch as they did with their head catch. Below: Horse and recently dismounted rider run towards the tied goat.

Junior Rodeo

Young cowboys and cowgirls compete in traditional – and just-for-fun – rodeo events at Junior Rodeo

Before they can ride in the big rodeo events, younger cowboys and cowgirls start out riding at junior rodeos, learning the ropes, pun intended, of the game.

Many of the events are the same, like barrel racing, bull riding, and team roping, but some are modified for the younger kids like goat tying, pole bending, and steer riding. Other fun events include riding sheep in mutton busting and chasing chickens in the Mystery Scramble.

The riders with the highest cumulative scores in their events receive the big awards at the end of the night. For 2022, those included: Young Gun Girl: Willow Peregrina; Young Gun Boy: Clay Stokes; Junior Girl: Emerald Mueller; Junior Boy: Kanton Wagner; and Senior Boy/Saddle Winner: Jace Kelley and Senior Girl/Saddle Winner: Bethany Grieve.

– Maureen Jennison



At left: 2022 Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart Danielle Barry poses with winners from the Willits Frontier Days Junior Rodeo including, from top: Young Gun Girl: Willow Peregrina; Young Gun Boy: Clay Stokes; Junior Girl: Emerald Mueller; Junior Boy: Kanton Wagner; and Senior Boy/Saddle Winner: Jace Kelley and Senior Girl/Saddle Winner: Bethany Grieve.

Photos and results provided by Junior Rodeo Chair Riata King

At right: This little guy was pretty pleased to catch one of the chickens in the Mystery Scramble.

Once three legs are tied, the cowgirl tosses her hands into the air to let the judge know to stop the clock in the goat tying event.

Two riders are needed for the team roping event: One to rope the head and one to rope the heels of the running steer.

Photos by Maureen Jennison



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Best Patriotic: first place went to Sparetime Garden Center; second place went to the Cooley Family; and third place to Family Tree.

Best Theme Base Float: first place went to the Pinon Family; second place went to MetalFX & Ojeda; and third place went to Coast Hardware.

Automobiles:
 1960 - 1970 original: first place went to Christopher Orr.
 1960 - 1970 modified: first place went to Steven Quinliven.

1950 - 1959 original: first place went to Yokums; second place went to Stu's Legacy; and third place went to Dewey C Lucas.

Group of cars: first place went to the Shifters Car Club.

Group of motorcycles: first place went to the Willits Wild Bunch.

Horse/Animal Pony:
Mounted color guard Fancy dress, junior, male/female: first place went to the Willits Horsemen's Association.

Working western, male/female: first place went to Taylyn Freudenburg.

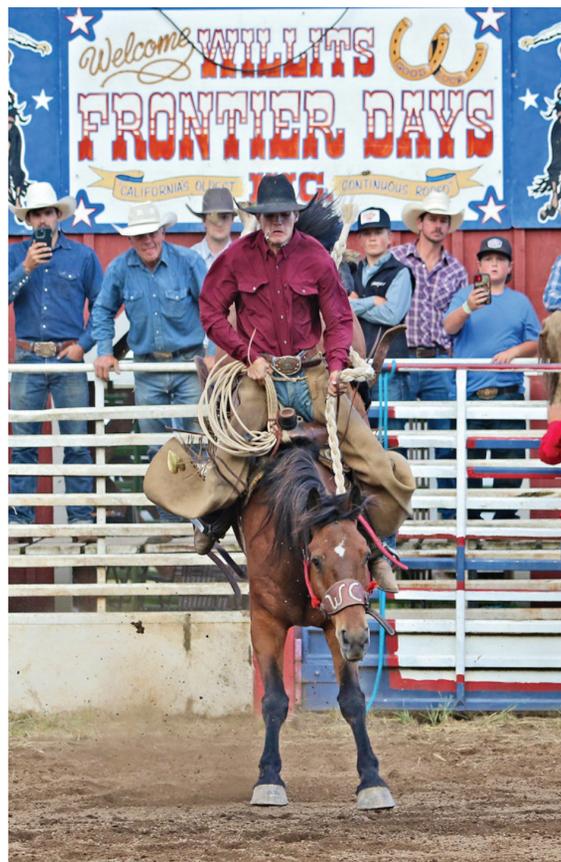
Fancy dressed, male/female: first place went to Lily Glass.

Future horsemen: first place went to Daniela Owen.

Matched pair, horse/rider: first place went to Travis Air Force.

Future horsemen: first place went to Eva Pinon.

Thank you to Parade Chair Mattie Pinon Owen for providing results.



CCPRA Rodeo

Cowboys and cowgirls compete for All Around titles at Willits Frontier Days July 3 and 4 rodeos

Two days of professional cowboys and cowgirls doing their thing gave the local community an eye-opening look into the sport of rodeo. The California Cowboys Professional Rodeo Association has events throughout the state during the year, and Willits is lucky to get to host the main event on the main days at the Jack Sharp Arena.

Cowboys and cowgirls compete in several events, and can win buckles, money and more for their efforts.

This year, the Event Buckle Winners (the high money winners who competed both days) included:

Tie Down: Cowboy ropes calf, dismounts horse, ties calf on ground, calf stays tied, time stops: Wyatt Smith of Colfax

Breakaway: Cowgirl ropes calf, tension of running calf detaches rope from saddle, stopping time: Chanel Holland of Cottonwood.

Steer Wrestling: Cowboy slides off of running horse onto running steer. Cowboy must flip steer so that all four feet face same direction and calf is on its side for time to stop: Colton Santos of Waterford.

Team Roping: One contestant ropes the horns or neck on a running steer, their partner then ropes the hind legs of the same steer, time stops when they face each other with steer pulled tight between. Header: Casey Minton of Whittier Springs. Heeler: Trent Jones of Friant.

Barrel Racing: Cowgirl runs cloverleaf pattern of three barrels with two left turns and one right, or the reverse. Fastest time wins: Cathey Callerga of Lower Lake.

Bareback Riding: Cowboy tries to hang onto a bucking bronc with only his hand in a handle attached to the horse's back for 8 seconds. Free hand cannot touch the horse. Score is based half on horse's bucking, half on rider's skill at staying on: Dustin Wertz of Glencoe.

Bull Riding: Cowboy tries to hang onto a bucking bull with his hand secured into a rosined rope threaded around the bull's girth. Cowboy tries to stay on for 8 seconds, free hand cannot touch the bull, and the score is determined half by animal, half by rider: Kyle Eaton of Chico.

Ranch Broncs: Cowboys are allowed to ride in an actual saddle instead of the standard bronc riding saddle. They are also permitted to use two hands: John Davis of Clovis.

Thank you to Jodie of the CCPRA for providing the results.

- Maureen Jennison



Above, from left: A steer wrestler slides off his horse and onto the running steer in the Steer Wrestling event. The Cooley family was named Grand Marshal this year at Willits Frontier Days.

At left: This cowboy's horse came barreling out of the chute during the July 3 rodeo.

Below, left: This cowboy caught his calf in the tie-down roping, but that's just step one! Below, right: Willits Frontier Days 2022 Sweetheart Danielle Barry carried the American flag during the national anthem and grand entry at the July 3 rodeo. At bottom, right: One of the arena men watches, waiting to step in and help if needed.

Photos by Maureen and Matthew Jennison

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Above, left, top: This bronc gave his cowboy a ride. Above, left: Stopping her horse quickly allows the rope to break free the fastest in the breakaway roping event, stopping the clock. Above: The Ranch Bronc Riding class has slightly different rules than traditional bronc riding - they use a more traditional saddle and can also hold on with two hands.

Below, left: Willits Frontier Days' Heritage Award winner Margie Handley Hawthorne was driven by her grandson Wyatt LaRue in the parade and grand entries of the CCPRA rodeos. Below, right: Horses were let out into the arena to honor Lanae Lamkin, a former Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart and mother of three, who passed away this last year.



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Above: Buffie Schmidt's Pomo regalia features a top knot of black and white duck feathers, with beads and abalone, and elderberry seeds, as well as necklaces made of dentalium on orange and black beads with matching earrings. Above, right: Monique Sol Sonogio addresses attendees at an artists' talk at the WCA July opening. Below: Buffie Schmidt poses in her Northern Pomo language classroom at Ukiah High School.



Pomo Art

Native artists Buffie Schmidt and Monique Sol Sonogio display traditional woven baskets and jewelry at WCA

By Margi Gomez Guhde

There was a time when Northern California habitats teemed with life beyond imagining. After Europeans began their western push, the world changed forever for the Pomo people. Widespread pandemics, the Gold Rush, and the eventual logging boom brought chaos and disaster to the indigenous villages of the Pomo. They became refugees in their own land, eventually driven to inland reservations, with disregard for their tribal identities or place of birth.

The story of the Pomo who survived those harrowing times is one of struggle and determination. Those who were able passed their languages and art forms down to the next generation, and the next. Buffie Schmidt is such a survivor.

Her parents were both indigenous people who, along with their extended family and friends, were Schmidt's first teachers in the many arts that she pursued throughout her life. Born in Ukiah, Schmidt and her family moved around during her childhood, living on both the Noyo and Sherwood reservations at various times.

Schmidt's paternal grandmother taught her her first words in the Northern Pomo language of her ancestors, a language she now teaches at Ukiah High School.

Schmidt is an enrolled member of the Sherwood tribe and currently serves in a leadership role as the vice-chair

of the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians.

"I moved to Sherwood to get to know more of my people and to learn how to help where I can," she explained.

Schmidt has been a self-employed artist for most of her life, selling her cradle baskets and bead work at Native events in Lake, Mendocino, and Sonoma counties, and teaching classes and workshops around Northern California while raising her own children.

Much of Schmidt's beautiful basketry and beading utilizes traditional techniques passed down from her mother. She uses the traditional concept of "twining" in her basketry, which generally refers to wrapping two pieces of material around a single piece of the same or a different material. She gathers her own basket-making materials, working with the seasons to harvest, treat and cure the willow and other plants needed for the work. Viewing indigenous art through the perspective of ecology and the environment is a critical part of her art.

"It's important to me to use the traditional words for the plants and techniques that we use," Schmidt explained. "Even the soap-plant glue that I use to attach the feathers to the dancers' skirts is handmade and plant-based."

Read the rest of Pomo | Over on page 13

At right: Buffie Schmidt holds her willow-seaweed gathering basket.

At far right: Monique Sol Sonogio poses with her kelp baskets at Willits Center for the Arts.

Below: This choker is made with red bone pipes, antiqued bone pipe, pine nuts, and an abalone button with deer-hide ties.

Photos by Margi Gomez Guhde



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LEGAL NOTICES

WW388
Fictitious Business Name Statement
 2022-F0316
 The following LLC is doing business as Shamrock Artisan Goat Cheese, 24225 Reynolds Highway, Willits CA 95490.
 Registered owner: Summer Breeze Ranch, LLC, 24225 Reynolds Highway, Willits CA 95490.
 This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on n/a.
 FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on June 15, 2022.
 /s/ Ana Cox, manager
 Publication dates: June 23, 30, July 7, 14, 2022

Willits Weekly can run your legal notices including fictitious business name statements, foreclosure notices, storage unit auctions, and more. Contact us for more information at willitsweekly@gmail.com

WW390
NOTICE INVITING BIDS
 1. Notice is hereby given that the Governing Board of the Willits Unified School District ("District"), of the County of Mendocino, State of California, will receive sealed bids for the BLOSSER LANE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FIRE ALARM REPLACEMENT ("Project") upto, but not later than, 2 pm, on July 28, 2022 and will thereafter publicly open and read aloud the bids. All bids shall be received at the Willits Unified School District Office, 1277 Blosser Lane, Willits, CA 95490.
 2. Each bid shall be completed on the Bid Proposal Form included in the Contract Documents, and must conform and be fully responsive to this invitation, the plans and specifications and all other Contract Documents. Copies of the Contract Documents are available for examination at the office of the Architect, Alameda Architecture, 555 S. Main Street, Suite 2, Sebastopol CA, County of Sonoma, California, and may be obtained by licensed contractors upon payment of a nonrefundable deposit of one hundred and seventyfive(\$175) per set.
 3. Each bid shall be accompanied by cash, a cashier's or certified check, or a bidder's bond executed by a surety licensed to do business in the State of California as a surety, made payable to the District, in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the maximum amount of the bid. The check or bid bond shall be given as a guarantee that the bidder to whom the contract is awarded will execute the Contract Documents and will provide the required payment and performance bonds and insurance certificates within ten (10) days after the notification of the award of the contract.
 4. The successful bidder shall comply with the provisions of the Labor Code pertaining to payment of the generally prevailing rate of wages and apprenticeships of other training programs. The Department of Industrial Relations has made available the general prevailing rate of per diem wages in the locality in which the work is to be performed for each craft, classification or type of worker needed to execute the contract, including employer payments for health and welfare, pension, vacation, apprenticeship and similar purposes. Copies of these prevailing rates are available to any interested party upon request and are online at <http://www.dir.ca.gov/DLSR>. The Contractor and all Subcontractors shall pay not less than the specified rates to all workers employed by them in the execution of the Contract. It is the Contractor's responsibility to determine any rate change.
 5. The schedule of per diem wages is based upon a working day of eight hours. The rate for holiday and overtime work shall be at least time and one half.
 6. The substitution of appropriate securities in lieu of retention amounts from progress payments in accordance with Public Contract Code §22300 is permitted.
 7. Pursuant to Public Contract Code §4104, each bid shall include the name and location of the place of business of each subcontractor who shall perform work or service or fabricate or install work for the contractor in excess of one-half of one percent (1/2 of 1%) of the bid price. The bid shall describe the type of work to be performed by each listed subcontractor.
 8. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days after the date set for the opening of bids except as provided by Public Contract Code §55100 et seq. The District reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities or irregularities in the bidding.
 9. Minority, women, and disabled veteran contractors are encouraged to submit bids. This bid is / is not X subject to Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise requirements.
 10. The project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the California Department of Industrial Relations. In accordance with SB 854, all bidders, contractors and subcontractors working at the site shall be duly registered with the Department of Industrial Relations at time of bid opening and at all relevant times. Proof of registration shall be provided as to all such contractors prior to the commencement of any work.
 11. Each bidder shall possess at the time the bid is awarded the following classification(s) of California State Contractor's license: B - General Contractor or C-10 - Electrical.
 12. NOT USED
 13. Bidders' Conference. Prospective bidders are invited and strongly encouraged to attend bidders' conference that will be held at Blosser Lane Elementary School, 1275 Blosser Lane Willits, CA on July 14, 2022 at 11 a.m. for the purpose of acquainting all prospective bidders with the Contract Documents and the Project site. Following the bidders' conference a tour will be held. Bidders must examine and judge for themselves the location, surroundings, physical condition and nature of any work to be done. Submission of a bid shall be construed as conclusive evidence that the bidder has made such an examination.
 WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
 By: Terry McEntee
 DATED: June 28, 2022
 Publication Dates: June 30, July 7, 2022

WW389
CITY OF WILLITS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NOTICE TO BIDDERS
 PROJECT NO. 2022-03

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: **Groundwater Resiliency Improvement Project, Phase I - Project No. 2022-03** This project includes the following work: For the purposes of upgrading an existing raw water transmission line, the project includes the installation of 3,600 feet of 10-inch DR-11 HDPE pipe using directional drilling and not open trenching; abandonment of the existing 6" raw water line in place; the installation of a new 8-inch gate valve; connecting the new 10-inch HDPE to existing 8-inch C-900 PVC pipe at the new gate valve at the south end of the project; connecting the new 10-inch HDPE to an existing 6-inch gate valve at the Elias Replacement Well at the north end of the project; stormwater pollution prevention measures; and the abandonment of the existing 6-inch SCH40 raw water line in place. The directional drilling methodology and mitigation measures identified in the plans and associated environmental documents are designed to reduce impacts to sensitive species of plants and animals in the project area.
 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: **Groundwater Resiliency Improvement Project, Phase I - Project No. 2022-03** 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 10 a.m., July 28th, 2022, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud in the City Council Chambers, of the City of Willits, located at 111 East Commercial Street, Willits, California.** Bid forms for this work are included in a separate book entitled: **Proposal Packet For:** City of Willits Public Works Department **Groundwater Resiliency Improvement Project, Phase I - Project No. 2022-03** Example award forms for this work are included in a separate book entitled: **Example Award Packet For:** City of Willits Public Works Department **Groundwater Resiliency Improvement Project, Phase I - Project No. 2022-03** **THE ENGINEER'S ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE COSTS IS: \$ 482,000.00** **Key Dates:** • Pre-bid Meeting: July 18, 2022, 2:00 p.m. (meet at Public Works Yard) • Final Questions from Bidders: July 20, 2022 • Final Addendum Issued: July 25, 2022 • Bid Opening: July 28, 2022, 10 a.m. • Project Start Date: August 30, 2022 • Project length: 45 calendar days

Interested bidders should contact the following in order to obtain electronic copies of plans and other bid documents: Brandy Sanderson Public Works Administrative Assistant bsanderson@cityofwillits.org (707) 459-7143 Plans will be distributed electronically free of charge. Hard copies of plans, specifications, and other bid documents are available by request for a non-refundable fee of \$40.00. Requests for hard copies should also be directed to Brandy Sanderson. Plans and specifications are also available for review at the following Builders Exchange offices: **Construction Bidboard (Ebidboard)** 11622 El Camino Real, #100 San Diego, CA 92130 Phone: 800-479-5314 Email: support@ebidboard.com Website: www.ebidboard.com **Dodge Data & Analytics** 830 Third Avenue, 6th Floor New York, NY 10022 Phone: 877-784-9556 Email: support@construction.com Website: www.construction.com **Humboldt Builders Exchange** 1213 5th Street Eureka, CA 95501 (707) 442-3708 Website: www.humbx.com **North Coast Builders Exchange** 1030 Apollo Way Santa Rosa, CA 95407 707-542-9502 707-542-2027 Website: www.ncbeonline.com CITY OF WILLITS: s/Delores Pedersen, City Clerk DATED: 06/30/22 Publication Dates: June 30, July 7, 2022

WW390
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

1. Notice is hereby given that the Governing Board of the Willits Unified School District ("District"), of the County of Mendocino, State of California, will receive sealed bids for the BLOSSER LANE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FIRE ALARM REPLACEMENT ("Project") upto, but not later than, 2 pm, on July 28, 2022 and will thereafter publicly open and read aloud the bids. All bids shall be received at the Willits Unified School District Office, 1277 Blosser Lane, Willits, CA 95490.
 2. Each bid shall be completed on the Bid Proposal Form included in the Contract Documents, and must conform and be fully responsive to this invitation, the plans and specifications and all other Contract Documents. Copies of the Contract Documents are available for examination at the office of the Architect, Alameda Architecture, 555 S. Main Street, Suite 2, Sebastopol CA, County of Sonoma, California, and may be obtained by licensed contractors upon payment of a nonrefundable deposit of one hundred and seventyfive(\$175) per set.
 3. Each bid shall be accompanied by cash, a cashier's or certified check, or a bidder's bond executed by a surety licensed to do business in the State of California as a surety, made payable to the District, in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the maximum amount of the bid. The check or bid bond shall be given as a guarantee that the bidder to whom the contract is awarded will execute the Contract Documents and will provide the required payment and performance bonds and insurance certificates within ten (10) days after the notification of the award of the contract.
 4. The successful bidder shall comply with the provisions of the Labor Code pertaining to payment of the generally prevailing rate of wages and apprenticeships of other training programs. The Department of Industrial Relations has made available the general prevailing rate of per diem wages in the locality in which the work is to be performed for each craft, classification or type of worker needed to execute the contract, including employer payments for health and welfare, pension, vacation, apprenticeship and similar purposes. Copies of these prevailing rates are available to any interested party upon request and are online at <http://www.dir.ca.gov/DLSR>. The Contractor and all Subcontractors shall pay not less than the specified rates to all workers employed by them in the execution of the Contract. It is the Contractor's responsibility to determine any rate change.
 5. The schedule of per diem wages is based upon a working day of eight hours. The rate for holiday and overtime work shall be at least time and one half.
 6. The substitution of appropriate securities in lieu of retention amounts from progress payments in accordance with Public Contract Code §22300 is permitted.
 7. Pursuant to Public Contract Code §4104, each bid shall include the name and location of the place of business of each subcontractor who shall perform work or service or fabricate or install work for the contractor in excess of one-half of one percent (1/2 of 1%) of the bid price. The bid shall describe the type of work to be performed by each listed subcontractor.
 8. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days after the date set for the opening of bids except as provided by Public Contract Code §55100 et seq. The District reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities or irregularities in the bidding.
 9. Minority, women, and disabled veteran contractors are encouraged to submit bids. This bid is / is not X subject to Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise requirements.
 10. The project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the California Department of Industrial Relations. In accordance with SB 854, all bidders, contractors and subcontractors working at the site shall be duly registered with the Department of Industrial Relations at time of bid opening and at all relevant times. Proof of registration shall be provided as to all such contractors prior to the commencement of any work.
 11. Each bidder shall possess at the time the bid is awarded the following classification(s) of California State Contractor's license: B - General Contractor or C-10 - Electrical.
 12. NOT USED
 13. Bidders' Conference. Prospective bidders are invited and strongly encouraged to attend bidders' conference that will be held at Blosser Lane Elementary School, 1275 Blosser Lane Willits, CA on July 14, 2022 at 11 a.m. for the purpose of acquainting all prospective bidders with the Contract Documents and the Project site. Following the bidders' conference a tour will be held. Bidders must examine and judge for themselves the location, surroundings, physical condition and nature of any work to be done. Submission of a bid shall be construed as conclusive evidence that the bidder has made such an examination.
 WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
 By: Terry McEntee
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 Wednesday, July 20, 6 to 7 pm at Willits Center for the Arts, 71 E. Commercial Street. Welcome to the worlds of HU (pronounced "hue"), an ancient, universal name for God. This sacred word can spiritually uplift people of any religion, culture, or walk of life. It is freely given - a gift beyond measure. Love is love. And you are that. HU is the Sound of Soul. Information? Call April 707-972-2475 or visit www.TheSoundofSoul.org

John Ford Ranch Beef
 John Ford Ranch still has the 50 lb. Rancher's Choice Box for \$325.00 and the 25 lb. Hamburger Box for \$150.00. Please contact Debbie Arkelian at 459-5049.

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

The Fruit Group
 PESTICIDE FREE: Freestone Peaches & Nectarines Yellow & White 24lbs \$33; Roma Tomatoes, 30lbs \$35; Regular Tomatoes 30lbs \$34; and Pluots 26lbs \$34. Call Cressie at 707-459-2713.

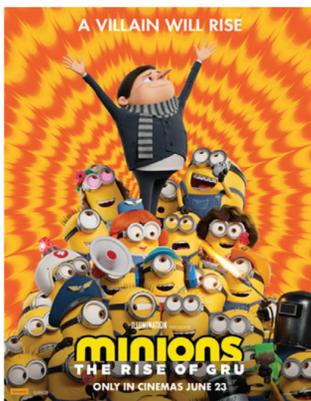
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- Deputy County Counsel II/III/IV
- Deputy Director of Transportation - Administration and Business Services
- Deputy District Attorney I/II/III
- Deputy Probation Officer I/II
- Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II
- Equipment Superintendent
- Juvenile Corrections Officer - Extra-Help
- Public Health Nurse
- Registered Nurse
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COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

‘Minions: The Rise of Gru’



Dan Essman
Columnist

The Story: Animated super-villain origin story. I am assuming that we all know who the Minions are, and we all know who Gru is.

In this flick, we meet Gru as a little boy. He looks pretty much the way he looks as a grown-up. He's in elementary school. His teacher asks him what he wants to be when he grows up. His response, more or less: "I want to be the most despicable villain in the world."

Because he's still a little boy (with an unruly herd of Minions living in his cellar), Gru wants to join a notorious bad-guy gang in San Francisco. His application for gang membership does not go well. Manic chases of a dare-devil kind follow. Houses are demolished, there are car wrecks of course. Then real dragons with magical powers show up on Chinese New Year. A trio of Minions learn kung fu. One Minion is turned into a chicken.

What is this movie about? It felt like an explosion in a confetti factory; there isn't one, but that's the general feeling. It's chaotic colorful mayhem on the big screen. Gru triumphs, more or less. Kids will love it.

My Thoughts: I love Minions in the same way I love Stan Laurel, Buster Keaton, the Three Stooges, Bugs Bunny, and/or Elmer Fudd. They're all great guys. They all mean well (maybe not Bugs), but stuff just happens. So maybe there's a disaster in Minion land. And maybe they even caused it, but not on purpose. Then they prevail. And I leave the movie house feeling better about Life.

Parents: The kids love Minions. And really, Minions act just like kids. I would guess: 4-year-olds. Note: one of the "bad guys" dies, but then we find out he's only faking it. He's the Old Guy (voiced by Alan Arkin), and as a grandfather myself, I took it personally. But don't worry, I'm OK.

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



At top, left: Painted rocks can be found hidden throughout Willits. At top, right: A boldly painted bin lives up City Park. Above: A redwood forest stroll graces a Main Street trash bin. Below, left: A juicy watermelon hydrant can be found on South Main Street. Below, right: A sweet dog hydrant greets shoppers at the Willits Farmers Market. At bottom, left: New, bold graphics are painted on the wall of El Chicano Restaurant. At bottom, right: A classic mural honors Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera.



Street Art

Local artists have made Willits their canvas, painting on just about anything

By Debbie Boone Harry

It's summertime and Willits is a Mecca for art adventurers. Aside from the Summer Art Walks, our town offers surprise "art shows" in unexpected places. Ordinary objects, like fire hydrants, K-rails, and trash bins, have been transformed into works of art.

Local artists have adopted fire hydrants around town, as part of the "Paint the Town" program. Their original creations adorn city streets and neighborhoods.

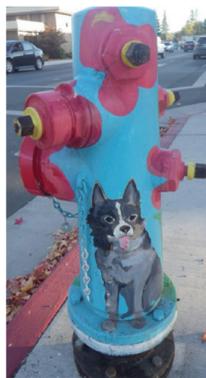
Anyone can adopt a fire hydrant or trash bin and create a masterpiece. Willits Economic Localization (WELL) will provide paint and supplies. Contact Lisa Montez for more info: 707-972-6792, lisalynnm@gmail.com.

While Summer Art Walk trekking, venturing down side streets and alleys, one can discover vintage murals in hidden nooks and bold graphics bringing a blank wall to life in a youthful style.

For art lovers that enjoy a fun treasure hunt, a Facebook group called, "Willits Rocks," brings the joy of an Easter egg hunt to the local art scene. Small stones are painted with designs and messages then discretely placed in public places, to delight a lucky finder.

Some keep their art rocks and a few businesses, like Northspur Brewery, have small, in-house collections. Some like to re-hide their rock finds to keep the treasure hunt going. It's also fun to let the Willits Rocks group know when you find or re-hide a painted rock. The Willits Center for the Arts hosted a "Paint a Rock" event during the most recent Summer Art Walk.

This summer, treat yourself to an adventure and discover how Willits artists have turned the whole town into an art gallery.



The rest of Pomo | From page 10

Most of Schmidt's work at the Willits Center for the Arts is her own, but there are a few pieces that she inherited or acquired as part of her personal collection. The work is not for sale. However, a substantial showing of her stunning jewelry, which employs bead work, bone, leather, and other natural materials, is for purchase in the WCA gift shop area.

Monique Sol Sonoqie is another Willits-area Native artist whose work can be seen at the WCA gallery this month. Born in Southern California, Sonoqie has roots in the Tongva, Chumash, Apache, Yaqui, and Zapotec tribes, as well as some Irish legacy. Sonoqie identifies as a basket weaver, filmmaker, and youth advocate and educator, and she incorporates many aspects of her rich heritage into her life and work.

Although she teaches many classes and workshops, Sonoqie also identifies as a student.

"Even when I teach, I am always learning. I constantly learn patience and acceptance working with our youth. I've learned to give them guidance, but not to dictate to them," she explained.

Sonoqie also emphasizes the importance of gratitude and of sharing, both in art and in life. "I wouldn't be where I am if my elders and those around me had not shared their skills and knowledge with me. Now it's up to me to share what I have learned."

Sonoqie and the nonprofit organization that she started, the Indigenous Youth Foundation / Indigenous Community Initiatives, provides cultural presentations, art and basket-weaving classes, and sacred site-preservation trainings to indigenous communities. Through her nonprofit, she has

sponsored Native family health events, organized murals in schools, produced cultural videos, and hosted traditional healers from a wide range of backgrounds.

Some of the work shown in the WCA exhibit derives from her foundation's Youth Art and Poetry Project, in collaboration with Sherwood Valley Tribal Youth Diversion Program, and is funded by a grant from the Native Cultures Fund. This student work uses recycled materials to create collage and other mixed media.

Sonoqie recently taught herself to weave the beautiful kelp-seaweed baskets that feature prominently in this month's WCA exhibit. Most recently she has been stepping beyond the traditional boundaries of what has been considered Native art, using traditional techniques using recycled materials such as discarded electronic cables, irrigation tubing, extension cords, and other found objects.

She calls this work pre-colonial post-industrial sculpture, explaining: "I believe in the four R's: reject, reduce, recycle, and reuse. Because the stresses of modern life create environmental degradation and habitat loss, we no longer have the same access to traditional materials that our ancestors had. Rather than let things be discarded, I use them! And I teach my students to do the same."

The fascinating art of Schmidt and Sonoqie must be seen to be appreciated. Fortunately we now have this opportunity at the Willits Center for the Arts. Expand your horizons and your sense of place by visiting this exceptional exhibit in downtown Willits, which runs through the month of July.

The WCA gallery, located at 71 East Commercial Street, is open Friday through Sunday 11 am to 5 pm.



The ninth hole in Brooktrails will be filled with vendors, auctions, and live music on July 30 for the inaugural Rotary Festival in the Redwoods.

Photo by Mathew Caine

Fun in the Shade

Willits Rotary Club to host Festival in the Redwoods at Brooktrails Golf Course on July 30

The Willits Rotary Club invites all to attend a choice of two events at the Brooktrails Golf Course on July 30: a golf tournament and the Festival in the Redwoods. All funds will benefit several Rotary Club projects, including the annual scholarship program and the Harrah Senior Center.

Beginning at 9 am, the golf tournament will tee off, with an 8:30 am check in. The tournament will be a "Four Person Scramble" format, with a \$50 individual or \$200 team entry fee. Those interested in participating in the tournament should contact Jeff Yokum at 707-391-8066. Entry fee includes food / drink tickets to the festival.

The Festival in the Redwoods, situated on the ninth fairway of the golf course, takes place from 11 am to 4 pm, and includes local beer, wine, and gourmet-bites food tasting; a silent auction from 11 am to 3 pm; a live auction from 3 to 4 pm, with some amazing items; a raffle; door prizes; and live music. The admission price of \$25 includes a commemorative glass and two food / drink tickets. For questions, call either Ann Alumbaugh at 459-1440, or Jenny Renner at 707-888-7834. For questions on becoming a sponsor, contact Richard Baker at 707-354-0614.

"It looks like it's going to be a hot summer," said Tamara Alaniz, Brooktrails city manager, "and if you're looking for something to do in the summer, this is that thing. It's going to be in the shade in Brooktrails, in the redwoods. It's going to be a wonderful, cool day up on the golf course."

"This festival and tournament was conceived by a wonderful Rotarian, John Cross, who recently passed before he could see it come to fruition," explained Alaniz. "In late 2018 / early 2019, he had come to talk to me. He had been working with some people in the club to try to put this event together. COVID happened and we weren't able to do it until now. As we've been planning this festival since the beginning of this year, in March or so, we lost John. We want to acknowledge to the nth degree that this is John's brainchild. We're hoping to successfully pull off the inaugural festival."

The rest of Brooktrails | From page 1

have been out fixing quite a few water leaks.

"And, as Director Santos talked about the road work," continued Alaniz, "this summer the county has quite a bit of road work to be done in Brooktrails. Heavily traveled roads such as Poppy and Goose are going to be worked on. Our staff has been working to prepare for the road work to be done. We are also anticipating the arrival of the pump-station building on July 11, and around July 20 the pump will be delivered, and in between those two dates electrical work will be completed.

Alaniz also shared: "We had our first UTV [the new utility trail vehicle] rescue. A fisherman had a health issue out on Lake Emily, and the UTV was deployed, and they were able to get there in a flash, and all went very well in the rescue effort."

Then, Brooktrails resident Joseph Haggerty went to the podium and said: "My name is Joseph, and I'm a member of the Brooktrails Golf Course and I've been working with the golf course for the last four or five years to help improve it.

"As of now, Brooktrails Disc Golf Course is rated No. 6 in the state of California and is currently rated No. 181 in the United States according to 'Disc Golf Scene,' the go-to website for disc golfers and tournament directors around the U.S."

Santos asked, "How many disc golf courses are there in California?"

Haggerty responded, "There are thousands."

Director Tyler O'Shea said, "There are five in Ukiah alone."

"Disc golf has really experienced an explosion," Haggerty went on to explain, "and taken off during the past few years, and because of COVID it has really grown, because it's an individual sport that encourages people to be outside and there is no sharing of equipment. Participants can be safe in light of COVID."

"In working on the course," continued Haggerty, "I am devoted to constantly trying to improve it and make it better. When I look at the reviews and comments from the public regarding how we can improve the course, the main feedback is tee signs."

"So I'm coming to the board," said Haggerty, "to ask if there would be any willingness to support funding to design, build and implement tee signs for the 18 holes at the golf course. This would help first-time disc golfers to get better direction and navigate the course more efficiently."



Brooktrails Fire Chief Jon Noyer, right, was delighted to get a donation check for \$4,860 from local disc golf advocate Joseph Haggerty, left, at the June 28 Brooktrails board meeting. The funds were raised at an April disc golf event at the Brooktrails Golf Course.

"To have the signs," Haggerty added, "would help direct them in a good way and would give the course a better, more-professional appeal, and we'd have a chance to make our course No. 1 or a top-three course in California. Highland Springs in Lake County has recently improved their course with brand-new tee signs, and the cost was around \$2,400."

"It looks like we will have a good golf-course discussion agenda for our next meeting," Director Orth said.

"There's one other thing I wanted to share," Haggerty said. "The Basket Beaters, the disc golf club that I'm associated with, hosts the Norcal Winner Charity Series, a series of 13 tournaments around Mendocino, Lake and Humboldt counties where we raise money for local nonprofits and things we want to support in the community. This year, in April, we hosted a [Charity Series] event in Brooktrails, and we were able to raise \$4,860 for the Brooktrails Fire Department, and I wanted to present that to Fire Chief Noyer at this time."

A delighted Chief Jon Noyer stepped up and said, "This is outstanding and greatly appreciated!"

Alaniz came forward and snapped a picture of the moment, and all those in attendance responded with enthusiastic applause.

Finally, at the close of the meeting, the board voted to unanimously approve the Accounts Payable in the amount of \$147,729.01.

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CITY OF WILLITS MUNICIPAL ELECTION
Your guide to running for City Council

ELECTION DATE:
The City of Willits will conduct a Municipal Election on Tuesday, November 8, 2022.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE 2022 ELECTION:

- Two (2) City Council Members.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE:

- U.S. Citizen.
- 18 years of age or older.
- Registered voter living in the City of Willits, within city limits.

The following information is intended to assist residents who may be interested in running for Willits City Council.

CANDIDATE FILING PERIOD

The filing period begins on July 18 and ends on August 12. If an incumbent does not file by August 12, the filing period will be extended to August 17 at 5:00pm, for candidates other than the incumbents. Official Nomination Papers and Campaign Filing information, will be available by appointment only with the City Clerk beginning July 18, 2022.

To schedule your appointment, please call the City Clerk at (707) 459-7111 or email cpedersen@cityofwillits.org.

STEP 1: Contact the City Clerk for an appointment July 18 through August 12, 2022.

STEP 2: Complete nomination papers and collect signatures, at least 20 but not more than 30, from Citizens living within City Limits.

STEP 3: File nomination papers with the City Clerk, deadline August 12 (or extended to August 17).

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MINIONS: THE RISE OF GRU

(PG) 1 hr 27 mins
Fri.-Thurs:
1:15, 3:20, 5:25 & 7:30pm

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1:00, 4:20 & 7:45pm

OBITUARY |

Arlane Adamson

Arlane Latham Adamson died May 22. She was born October 29, 1939 to Juanita Guidinger Latham and Arthur Latham, sister of Aretta Latham Greer (married to Larry Greer). She was preceded in death by her husband, Roger Dale Adamson, who died in 2014 and one grandchild.

She is survived by her three daughters, Shawn Aretta Ducommun of Salem, Oregon, Pandora Lee Adamson-Denny (married to Allen Denny) of Willits, and Cindy Lou St. Pierre (married to Philip Claude St. Pierre) of Willits; 14 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren, plus any spouses out there. We have included all the stepchildren in these counts because our mother always believed that family is family, even if not by blood.

Arlane was born in Boise, Idaho but moved to Salt Lake City, Utah where she graduated from high school and met Roger. They married at 18 and were together for 56 years before his passing.

Very early on, they moved to the Bay Area and were in different places there for 43 years, with Roger working for IBM exclusively and Arlane working mostly in the insurance industry. They both retired and were able to move to Willits 26 years ago. They never regretted it for one minute.

Arlane worked at the Willits Library for many years. She also joined a few charitable organizations, including the Elks Lodge, Friends of the Willits Library, Meals on Wheels, Brooktrails Women's Club, and PEO. The PEO, Philanthropic Education Organization, is an international organization dedicated to educating women around the world and also locally here in Willits. This was definitely her favorite.

A memorial has been set for Saturday, July 9 from 12 to 3 pm at the Brooktrails Community Center, 24850 Birch Street, Willits. We would like to make this a potluck, so if you have a favorite dish, please bring it.

Also, wear your bright summer clothes, please. In lieu of flowers, a donation can be made out to PEO, Chapter XO and brought in. Just your presence would make us all happy too.



The rest of **Budget** | From page 1

Rodriguez noted the FY 22-24 budget was approved "with an understanding that when our audited actuals come in, that the board may amend the budget, should we see anything in the audited actuals that pops out at us as a reason to be concerned."

The audited actuals, a comparison per department of what was actually spent vs. what was budgeted, were expected to come in from the outside consultant within a week or two at the time the budget was passed.

"We had to make a decision whether to move forward with the budget," Mayor Rodriguez said, noting that the Willits City Council hadn't always passed a budget by the June 30 deadline, and that passing the city budget on time was one of the goals the council had set in May 2021.

In addition to public meetings on June 13 and June 27, the budget was hashed out at the ad hoc committee level, with Rodriguez and Council member Greta Kanne, and Rodriguez said, General Manager Brian Bender and Finance Director Orozco sat down with individual councilmembers to answer budget questions.

Mayor Rodriguez expressed her gratitude for the work done by Finance Director Orozco, who came on board with the City of Willits at the start of 2022. "We hadn't had a finance director for some time," she said. "I'm very grateful for the talent he brings to the City of Willits, he's very detail-oriented and has a really good vision sense when it comes to budgeting."

In a memo to the city council about the proposed two-year budget, City Manager Bender said that by working with a two-year budget, "the focus of delivering a budget is relieved every other year, and efforts can be made to provide more reflection on how funding is in alignment of the City's Adopted 2021 Goals to promote economic health by balancing revenues and expenditures to solve systemic problems."

The entire final budget can be downloaded as part of the Willits City Council agenda packet here: <https://cityofwillits.org/Agenda-Center/ViewFile/Agenda/06272022-202>

The largest slice of the General Fund budget goes to the Willits Police Department at a total of \$2,750,518 for FY 2022/23. That includes \$405,820 for Police Administration, \$768,852 for Dispatch, \$1,368,864 for Field Operations, \$92,829 for the State COPS Program; \$106,573 for School Resource Officer, and \$7,580 for Emergency Services.

Mayor Rodriguez noted the council had added a School Resource Officer position for Baechtel Grove Middle School.

City of Willits Administration has \$1,322,055 allotted for FY 2022/23, with Community Development budgeted for \$1,049,330, including a new code enforcement officer. "Right now," Rodriguez noted, "if you want to get a permit or need code enforcement, Davey Bowles has been doing both jobs. It was never intended for one person to do it all. With the Measure K funding we've been able to improve city services."

Measure K is the ¾ cent sales tax measure passed by city voters in November 2020, which took effect in January 2021 and will remain in place for 10 years. According to Bender's June 27 memo, revenues from the Measure K sales tax have been "steadily increasing after implementation, and the projection is for an increase by 20 percent over Fiscal Year 21/22, or \$1.5 million.

"The budget assumes that total taxes will increase by a total of 5.4 percent or \$0.3 million," Bender continues, "with Measure K funding offset by an expected decrease of our cannabis tax of 37.5 percent, or (\$0.2 million)."

Other pieces of the FY 22/23 General Fund budget include \$159,000 for Information Technology; \$169,607 for Swimming Pool Operations, \$169,607 for Public Works, and \$209,842 for Parks Maintenance.

The FY 22/23 budget also ups city contributions to local community service agencies, proposing to give \$10,000 each to Willits Senior Center, the County Library, the County Museum, Willits Community Services, and Our Daily Bread, and \$5,000 each in FY 23/24.

The rest of **Hospital** | From page 1

"While we do this work because of our community and for our community, it's an honor to be recognized as the most socially responsible hospital in the nation," says Judson Howe, president for Adventist Health North Coast Network.

"In many of our hospitals, including Howard, we are our community's safety net. We know our community depends on us, and we take that responsibility to heart. Our facility was built almost 100 years ago, because our community recognized the need for a hospital. That deep connection to our community is something special and something that we value tremendously," Howe said.

"That's why we are always working hard to improve on these metrics and always finding ways to care for our community, beyond the four walls of our hospital to become long-term health partners for the communities we serve."

The Lown Institute Hospitals Index for Social Responsibility was launched in 2020 to provide benchmarks for hospitals to measure how well they serve their patients and communities.

"Many of the top-level metrics used to assess social responsibility – equity, outcomes and value – are the things we focus on every day,"

says Howe. "This recognition truly captures who we are and the work we do for our community. It's all about neighbors helping neighbors, so we're thrilled to be recognized for our efforts to provide responsible, quality care locally."

AHMH tops the prestigious list which includes bigger hospitals in the nation, including Boston Medical Center, Duke Regional Hospital, Denver Health Medical Center, and Banner-University Medical Center South, among others. AHMH was only one of three hospitals in California that made the Top 20 list.

"Citizens put their lives and billions of tax dollars in the hands of America's hospitals," said Vikas Saini, MD, president of the Lown Institute. "We believe communities should have high expectations and the most socially responsible institutions should be lifted up as models for the system."

The full list of hospitals recognized for social responsibility can be accessed through the Lown Institute at <https://lownhospitalsindex.org/rankings/>.

The public is invited to a Community Event to celebrate this prestigious honor on Monday, July 11 at 3:30 pm in front of the hospital on 1 Marcela Drive.



Poets Theresa Whitehill, left, and Georgina Maria Guardado.

Starlight Lounge hosts two Poets Laureate at July 9 reading at WCT Playhouse

Two poets laureate, Theresa Whitehill and Georgina Maria Guardado, will be reading their poetry at the Willits Community Theatre on Saturday July 9, at 7 pm.

Theresa Whitehill served as Poet Laureate for the City of Ukiah from 2009 through 2011 and has been involved her entire career in the production of poetry readings and literary events. She works as a letterpress printer and broadside artist. She is currently working with Felicia Rice of Moving Parts Press on "Heavy Lifting," a collaborative artist's book with publication scheduled for December 2022.

Georgina Marie Guardado is the Poet Laureate of Lake County for 2020-2024, a Poets Laureate Fellow with the Academy of American Poets, and the Literacy Program Coordinator for the Lake County Library. She is the Literary Coordinator for the Lake County Arts Council, Poet in Residence for The Bloom, and serves on the Board of Directors for the Mendocino Coast Writers' Conference.

An open reading will follow the two featured readers. Entry is by donation, although no one will be turned away for lack of funds. The Willits Community Theatre recommends, but does not require, that audience members be vaccinated and wear facial coverings during the poetry reading. For more information, contact: Mike ADair at 707-200-2462.

Episcopal Summer Camp July 22-27 in Redwood Valley

Help your children, aged 9 to 15, avoid the mid-summer doldrums; send them to Camp Living Waters, an Episcopal summer camp set for July 22 to 27 at Cookson Ranch in Redwood Valley. This year's theme is "Space Camp: To Godwin and Beyond!"

Camp Living Waters is a week-long Episcopal summer camp. It is a non-profit camp based at St. Alban's parish in Arcata and draws its staff members from the faith communities of the North Coast who lead, supervise and encourage campers and counselors.

The camp's week is based around a daily schedule including crafts, outdoor activities, swimming, Bible discussion, worship, and nightly campfire, with additional special activities throughout the week such as stargazing and archery. Campers aged 9 to 15 make new friendships and explore their faith and ask questions; counselors get to do that and learn leadership skills in a supportive atmosphere. The week is spent living and building a Christian community based on the values of love, service and fun.

Andrew Curtis, who has attended Camp Living Waters for six years, described it as follows, "Two words: God's love. This is the entire purpose of the camp. We find it in a multitude of ways: the cool waters of the creek, the fun activities, the delicious food, the support of the staff and counselors. This is the one time in the summer that I look forward to most."

Tuition for the camp is \$175 and includes five nights lodging, meals and activities. For information or to register for the camp go to www.camplivingwatershumboldt.org or call St. Alban's Episcopal Church at 707-822-4102. Contact St. Alban's if you are interested in a campership.

WCA to hold fundraiser Yart Sale July 15-17

Submitted by Willits Center for the Arts
Willits Center for the Arts will hold a fundraiser Yart Sale on Friday, July 15 and Saturday, July 16 from 10 am to 5 pm, and on Sunday, July 17 from 11 am to 2 pm.

Half yard sale and half art supplies – sales of everything art-related, including a huge selection of art and craft supplies and art work at incredibly low prices. Great for home, crafting and school.

The Yart Sale will be on the back patio behind the Art Center, and artwork will be on sale upstairs in the Great Room.

We are also asking for donations of used and unused artist studio items for this fundraiser, which benefits the WCA. Donations can be left at the WCA during gallery hours through July 14.

The WCA is located at 71 East Commercial Street. Gallery hours are, 11 am until 5 pm, Fridays through Sundays.

OBITUARY |

Wanda Munson



Wanda June (Casebier) Munson of Willits entered into eternal rest June 26, 2022, four days after her 83rd birthday. She was born in the coal town of Paradise, Kentucky on June 22, 1939, to Thomas Everly and Ada Lee Casebier.

In 1947 Wanda ("Junie") moved to Willits along with her four siblings and her parents, Tom and Ada Casebier. She graduated from Willits High School in 1958. While in high school she worked as an usherette at the Noyo Theatre. She raised her children in Willits and worked at Mendo Mill over the years.

Wanda is survived by her children Robert Munson, Jr. of Willits, Paula Munson of Las Vegas, and Cory Munson, MSgt, USAF Retired and his wife, Jackie, of Warner Robbins, Georgia. She is also survived by grandchildren, Abigale, Phoebe and Cory of Warner Robbins, Georgia; her brother Thomas Casebier, SCPO, USN Reserve Retired and wife, Rita, of Oak Harbor, Washington; and her sister Brenda Smith and husband, Mike, of Citrus Heights, California, as well as nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her parents, her husband, Robert "Bob" Munson, and her sisters, Geneva "Deba" Haselswerdt and Paula Lee Casebier.

Funeral services will be held at 11 am, Tuesday, July 12 at Grace Community Church, 25 Hazel Street in Willits, Rev. Mike Smith, Maj, USMC Retired officiating. Reception to follow.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that any monetary contributions be made in Wanda's name to the American Cancer Society, www.cancer.org or Tunnel to Towers Foundation, www.t2t.org

For further information contact Robert Munson, Jr. at 707-459-2440.

'Aligning the Heart, Health and Hands' workshop series

Submitted by Abuela Gardens

Abuela Gardens, a non-profit, regenerative living education center, and remembrance homestead, Abuela Gardens, in Willits, is hosting a series of workshops this summer and fall, "Aligning the Heart, Health, and Hands."

Abuela Gardens is a Mendocino County treasure for permaculture, natural building, forest stewardship, and fire tending.

Abuela Gardens' mission is actively doing and educating about watershed regeneration through forest fire prevention, natural building, and closed loop systems. The Abuela Gardens team is dedicated to helping the growth and healing of all beings through a continued dialogue with nature, water, fire, food, and medicine.

The workshop series, "Aligning the Heart, Health and Hands," consists of five workshops: Rocket Stoves and Natural Building (July 9 to 13), Everyday Herbalism (August 8 to 21), a Permaculture Design Course (August 28 to September 10), Earthen Plasters and Floors (September 12 to 16), and Ceremonial Arts and Stories of the Diné (September 23 and 24).

The courses are led by teachers with decades of experience. Michael G. Smith, Penny Livingston, Blair Phillips and Sasha Rabin have been leaders in the natural building and permaculture movement with creation of and involvement in projects such as the Natural Building Colloquium, Regenerative Design Institute, Common Vision, and Quail Springs.

The courses include three organic vegetarian meals per day, and forest camping.

For more information, questions, and local deals, visit www.abuelagardens.com or email info@abuelagardens.com

Green Uprising Farm & Garden Tour July 16

Please join us at Green Uprising Farm in Willits for a Farm & Garden Tour on Saturday, July 16, from 10 am to 2 pm. This tour will take you through the many facets of our family farm, including the vegetable gardens, the medicinal herb garden, the goat herd, high-caloric storage crops (dry corn, beans, squashes), and fruit trees, berries, and grapes.

The entire tour will be steeped in firsthand experiences, funny stories of successes and failures, perspectives gained from water shortages, well-drilling failures, deepening respect for perennials and drought-tolerant varieties, goat escapades, food preservation

adventures, and our growing enthusiasm for low-tech creek restoration endeavors.

As we tour each garden we will be harvesting the bounty (herbs for a big pot of tea, greens for salad and pesto, fruits and culinary herbs to infuse our goat cheese and kefir), and during the final hour we will feast on all of these mid-summer offerings while enjoying each other's company.

Space may be limited so call or text 707 216-5549 for reservations. Sponsored by the Elderbroads – weaving and mending community

– Green Uprising Farm

At right: The staff rejoices in being able to open the store after months of processes.

At far right: Element 7 has a casual and knowledgeable feel.

Photos by Mathew Caine



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

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
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 Father Aaron Bandanadam
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 459-2252
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St. Francis Episcopal Church
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 Rev. Rosemary Landry, pastor
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 Children's Sunday School - 10:45 a.m.
 459-2855
 Facebook: www.facebook.com

If you want to be included in this column please call:
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 april@willitsweekly.com



The brand-new Willits dispensary, Element 7, does not have stacks of shelves overflowing with endless varieties of cannabis products. They are instead, a fastidious selection of top-quality “flowers, pre-rolls, blunts, edibles, oils, topicals and tinctures,” according to Josh Black, head of operations of this expanding set of stores.

Upon entering the facility, it seems more like an exclusive boutique, with a limited selection of “curated” goods.

“Curated means that we work really closely with the thousands of brands across the state and we don’t carry one of everything,” said Black. “We carry a very limited selection of products but they’re the products we either feel are better for you, best in their category, differentiated and innovative, or a standard product that is a great quality. Your average dispensary probably has anywhere from 700 to 1,000 products. We carry about 350.”

The walls of the modest store are decorated with what seems like a forest floor, with varying lengths of grasses, photos of Bob Marley (who supposedly played at Brown’s Corner years ago), and sayings espousing the philosophy of the company in green neon.

But why the name Element 7? According to Black, the seventh element is nitrogen, which is a naturally occurring substance that is beneficial to green, growing things. Element 7 is all about the natural world and fitting into and assisting the local growers and local culture.

“We make sure we have a really nice selection of legacy or craft brands that may not be as big as those guys but just have a wonderful type of product, companies like Sticky Fields, Turk Mansion up in Humboldt, Moon Maid Farms,” Black explained.

“We work with a lot of those smaller companies to make sure that they have an avenue to distribute their products south of Mendocino. Most of the regions where we source products from or sell them, whether that’s up in Humboldt or in Mendocino or on the coast near San Luis Obispo, tend to be industry associations that represent the interests of the local community. We try and work with them as closely as possible. They need distribution and marketing, which we are happy to give them some help on.”

In addition to the local brands, they carry such well-known companies as STIIIZY, Jeeter, and West Coast Cure.

The two-day grand opening of Element 7 at Brown’s Corner was complete with games meant to honor the Frontier Days celebrations in Willits. Activities, such as calf roping, mechanical bull riding (which most of the hip, young staff tried out), chip-shot golf, and others, lightened the

mood and brought smiles to the attendees. The Turtle Island Taco trailer and Smokin G’s and Big D’s Barbecue truck provided yummy treats on successive days.

Inside, Element 7 was offering great special deals: a free bong with \$50 in purchases and a voucher for one of the food trucks with \$75 in goods. There were additional savings to be had as well.

A new restaurant / bar was in construction next door. It will serve basic American food and will be called, appropriately enough, “The Munchery.”

The store is dedicated to making sure all the t’s are crossed and the i’s dotted in terms of regulations and helping the suppliers do the same.

“We have a three-step verification process,” according to Andrew Yates, the store manager. “You show ID at the door, then at the reception desk, and at the point of sale. We’re making very sure you’re 21 before we sell you any marijuana. It’s all about compliance. You have to do it by the book so you don’t have to worry about getting people in trouble down the road.”

“We try to bring the lore of cannabis to life in the stores through events,” explained Black. “We get growers down into the stores to sit with consumers, talk with them, and showcase their product.

“We’ve also done some fun stuff from a media perspective,” continued Black. “We’re sending film crews out to Southern Humboldt and we’re filming small farms, interviewing legacy farmers, and helping to bring those products to market.

“One of the cool things we did about 18 months ago,” Black said, “we partnered up with a Humboldt brand to launch a product called Road Trip, where we’re taking 10 pounds from three different legacy farms and we’re packaging it up into a product called Road Trip which will be sold exclusively in our stores in California. Being authentic and real and telling stories is something customers want in every category and every brand that they associate with.”

On Saturday, the second day of the grand opening, Yates and two of his staff cut the green ribbon, officially opening the store, with the words: “We just want to thank the city of Willits for allowing us to come in. We’ve been working on it for a couple years now. The last couple months have been hard, putting the finishing touches on it and trying to get it open. I want to look forward to the future with the community of Willits. I look forward to Element 7 being able to serve the community.”

Element 7 is open seven days a week, 10 am to 8 pm. For more information, visit their Facebook page or <https://links.e7ca.com/?loc=willits> or call 575-915-4683.

Element 7

New dispensary located at Brown’s Corner takes the guesswork out of buying cannabis products with their curated, mostly local brands

Mathew Caine
 Features Writer
 mathew@willitsweekly.com



At left, above: Marketing Manager Cydney Celestine stands under one of the signs depicting the company ethos. At left: Lucas Iverson tries his hand at riding the mechanical bull. Above, top: One of the clerks gets ready to wrap up the complimentary bong which came with a \$50 purchase. Above: Top brands are always in stock at the Element 7 store. At right, above: Manager Andrew Yates tries his hand at calf roping during the festivities. At right: Element 7 has a curated selection of fine cannabis products.



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