

Willits Weekly

EST. 2013



Online & Print
A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits
Donations Accepted Edition No. 413
Thursday, July 29, 2021

Health officials urge masking to combat COVID rise

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Mendocino County Public Health Officer Dr. Andy Coren issued a "strong recommendation" on Friday evening, July 23 for everyone – including vaccinated residents – "to wear a mask indoors and outdoors in a crowd with unvaccinated people."

"I am very concerned about the increase in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations in our

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

Grand Jury: 'Meeting Mendocino County's Needs for Housing'

Submitted by Kathy Wylie, secretary, 2020-21 Mendocino County Grand Jury

The Mendocino County Grand Jury released a report on July 16 on housing needs, titled: "Meeting Mendocino County's Needs for Housing Requires Coordination and Planning."

"Due to the critical lack of affordable and available housing," the Summary portion of the report reads, "the Grand Jury began investigating what was currently being done to improve the availability of housing in Mendocino County. Planning and Building Services functions are currently limited to permitting the development

Read the rest of **Housing**
Over on Page 13

Felony domestic violence arrest in Laytonville

By Sgt. J. Wells, for MCSO

On July 19 at about 10:17 pm, Mendocino County Sheriff's Office Dispatch received a call of a domestic violence incident which had occurred in the 900 block of Woodman Creek Road in Laytonville.

While responding, Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputies were advised an adult male had used a firearm during the incident, but an adult female had been able to flee the location. Deputies subsequently learned the following in summary

Read the rest of **Arrest**
Over on Page 13



Above: One of our favorite tomatoes to grow at #TheLandsofMorrison is the Indigo tomato from Elizabeth Blecha at Plant Friends Nursery. They start out white and purple, above, left, before turning red on the bottom and almost black on top, above, center. They're a heftier cherry tomato, about the size of a quarter, and are delicious. Lemon cucumbers, above, right, get fat and start to yellow under the umbrella of vine and leaves. Below: This ambitious goldenrod zucchini suffered from some blossom end rot earlier this month, but seems to be recovering with gusto (and a glug of CalMag), shooting out many bright yellow mini-squash from its central stalk.

– Maureen Jennison



Gardens Get Growing

Photos by Maureen Jennison



Above, from left: In contrast to regularly shaped zucchini, this 8-ball variety grows in a round ball, almost to the size of a grapefruit, and is PERFECT for making rounds to grill or patty-sized fried zucchini. Strawberries are starting to get red, while more blossoms continue to form on this little plant. Tomato blossoms, however, are more plentiful and will hopefully soon turn into big, fat, juicy, sliceable and eatable heirloom tomatoes. Below: This Costata Romanesco Italian zucchini flower will turn into the gray/green colored veggie which features ribs that run along the length of the zucchini, creating almost a starburst shape when cut crosswise. At bottom: The "Large Barred Boar" tomato plant promises "4-inch-big, meaty fruits 8 to 12 ounces in size" and the tag doesn't lie. The ready-to-pick red one, left, is the second to come off the plant and hopefully will be just as delicious as the first. The still-green ones still on the vine, right, will also hopefully soon fulfill their destinies to probably become a part of a Caprese salad alongside mozzarella and basil.



One cannabis referendum submits signatures

Forrest Glycer
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

With the July 22 deadline now passed, it appears that only one of the two referendums challenging the county's recently passed "Chapter 22.18 Commercial Cannabis Activity Land Use Development Ordinance" will be moving forward.

The People's Referendum, which seeks to overturn the entire ordinance, reported that they exceeded their needed signatures, while Small Is Beautiful Mendocino, who were attempting to only repeal the provision allowing cultivation expansion to 10% of parcel size, reported that they did not meet the requirement.

According to their press release, "The People's Referendum to Save Our Water, Wildlife and Way of Life," gathered about twice the number of signatures they needed thanks to the help of more than 115 volunteers. In that release, TPR said they needed to collect 3,397 signatures – equivalent to 10% of Mendocino County voters in the last gubernatorial election – and ended up collecting 6,600 signatures.

"It is a very gratifying
Read the rest of **Signatures**
Over on Page 13

County seeks applicants for redistricting commission

Submitted by Mendocino County Executive Office

On July 19, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors voted to create a five member community-based advisory redistricting commission (ARC). In addition to facilitating and seeking public input from the residents of Mendocino County, the ARC will advise and assist the board of supervisors with redrawing the supervisorial district boundaries.

The board of supervisors invites applications from residents of Mendocino County who are interested in serving on the five-member ARC and are willing to commit to attending several public workshops and board of supervisors meetings beginning in mid-August through mid-December, 2021.

Every 10 years, local governments use new official census data to redraw their district lines to reflect how local populations have changed. The county is informed that final census data will not be received until approximately September 24, 2021, with the State of California

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

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Open letter on shipping water

To the Editor:

An open letter to the Willits City Council, city manager and the public:

I'm very concerned about the proposal of shipping 1 million-plus gallons of water to the City of Fort Bragg on a weekly basis. It was not that many years ago that the City of Willits water supply was only weeks away from going virtually dry.

I've been concerned as well by repeated messages, apparently put out by the city, that "we have plenty of water." The wiser message, in my opinion, is that citizens should be conserving water, since we don't know when it will rain.

We're in a serious drought. If we have a reserve when the rains come, that's great, but if we have late and low rainfall again, as has been the case, we will need our water for the citizens of Willits.

Fort Bragg has not always been wise in its conservation of water in the past. I'm not opposed to helping when we can, but I am opposed to emptying our precious water supply. The coastal population is growing fairly rapidly. They must limit their growth to their available resources. The City of Willits must conserve regarding this vital issue.

Example: When wildfire threatens our city, CalFire will likely be dipping water from our reservoir. This could lower our water reserves substantially.

I was present when the water wells in the valley were being discussed, and they were specifically installed to provide water to our city in the event of emergency, not to create the false impression that water is extremely abundant. It's not.

Please proceed on the water issue with caution. Conservation is the best way to proceed in my opinion. With respect,

Bill Barksdale, Willits

Thank you

To the Editor:

We just completed a surprisingly successful run at the Willits Community Theatre. The play, "The Viewing Room" by Mark Smith, was supposed to be an interim production, designed to just get our heads and talents back into performing as the restrictions, imposed on us by COVID-19 had shut down the theater for over a year, with the exception of some radio plays and videotaped productions.

Prior to the beginning of rehearsals, most of the restrictions were lifted, and we forged ahead to make "The Viewing Room," a comedy about redemption, humanity and family, a fully staged production.

The people of Willits and surrounding areas were ready to return to live theater, and through the efforts of a brilliant, intelligent and creative cast, an artistic and experienced set and lighting designer, an amazingly competent set painter, and others, we were able to offer an extremely professional, funny, and heartwarming

experience that did not disappoint. A rewarding experience was had by both the performers and the audience.

I would like to thank the WCT and the Artistic Direction Committee for having the faith and trust to allow me to steward the production as director (my first main-stage production in this capacity in Willits). This was one of the most fulfilling and fun experiences I have been a part of in my over 60 years of involvement in live theater. Every rehearsal and every performance was enjoyable, mainly due to the professionalism and sense of purpose of the cast who brought their own creativity every day and created characters that were rich, relatable and nuanced. Egos were left outside the door, and we worked every day towards a common goal of creating a production that we could all be proud of. The cast both listened to the director and offered their own touches and suggestions as to how to bring the material to life. So a big kudos to Steve Marston, Jeff Shipp, Kathy and Aris Velis, Kelly Kesey, Rod Grainger, Lisa Wilcox, and Robert Ford.

Kevin Moore, with his vast experience in the theater arts, provided the set, the lighting, and the sound, and put up with my changes. Young, first-time tech operator, Miranda Swearingin, did an excellent job on lighting and sound. Gretchen Moore, as usual, provided class-A set painting. Production Manager Mike A'Dair gave us invaluable assistance in the things that no one sees but makes the play run smoothly.

Publicist Steve Hellman kept us in the public eye, and cast member/web guru pushed the production on social media. And last, but certainly not least, Stage Manager Cindi Mohr, with her experience and take-no-prisoners attitude, kept the production running smoothly as well as providing valuable assistance in rehearsals, helping with lines and stepping in when actors could not be at our run-throughs.

The next production is "Oz!" by the talented and hard-working kids of Willits, directed by Tim Fischer. It runs from July 30 to August 8. Tickets: wctperformingartscenter.org.

Yes, there is live theater in Willits, and it is more than just community theater. It is a place to see hardworking, dedicated and professional-quality work. Willits should be proud of its theater and would do well to support its efforts.

Mathew Caine, director,
"The Viewing Room"

Thank you to CalFire

To the Editor:

The Brooktrails Township Community Services District would like to say a big thank you to Unit Chief George Gonzales and all of the CalFire staff who are taking significant additional financial allocations from the state and putting them to good use.

The remarkable expansion of CalFire resources to effectively manage their responsibilities is a breath of fresh air to all of our residents, businesses, and the districts who have struggled with managing impacts that affect our quality of life in and from state responsibility areas – SRAs.

Defensible space and building best inspections, fuels abatement best management practices, augmented resource dispatching, and control of forest management needs like tree removal and mitigation are areas where CalFire is the appropriate and primary statutory authority. The massive increase in state funding emphasizes the importance of CalFire's mission in the SRA outlying every community in Mendocino County.

Tamara Alaniz, general manager, Brooktrails Township

TPR turns in 6,600 signatures for cannabis ordinance repeal

Submitted by The People's Referendum

In spite of a scorching heat wave and interference by paid harassers, more than 115 volunteers for The People's Referendum to Save Our Water, Wildlife, and Way of Life – TPR – collected 6,600 signatures from Mendocino County citizens over a 28-day period ending on Tuesday, July 20.

"It is a very gratifying response!" said Kate Marianchild, TPR's outreach coordinator, on Tuesday afternoon, "And what a relief! Yesterday we gathered in petitions from all over the county and counted them. Today we placed them safely in the hands of Katrina Bartolomie, Mendocino County's trusted clerk-recorder."

If the TPR petitioners collected sufficient valid signatures, as they believe they did, Mendocino County's supervisors will have two choices: repeal the cannabis expansion ordinance adopted by them on June 22, or put it to a vote of the people. The expansion ordinance (Commercial Cannabis Activity Land Use Development Ordinance, Chapter 22.18 of the Mendocino County Code) was scheduled to go into effect on July 23, but is now on hold while the elections office staff validates the signatures.

For the referendum to qualify for the ballot, 3,397 valid signatures (10% of Mendocino County voters in the last gubernatorial election) had to be collected within 30 days of the June 22 adoption of the ordinance. Now that the signatures have been turned in, Bartolomie's office has 30 business days, until September 1, to validate the signatures. "This adds greatly to our work load," Bartolomie said while doing a rough count of the signatures on Tuesday, "but we're all incredibly excited. This is democracy in action!"

The petitioners stood in front of stores and post offices, knocked on doors in neighborhoods, and showed up at community events to gather signatures. "It was pretty easy," reflected 89-year-old Paul Poulos, recently retired director of the Mendocino County Historical Society. Poulos collected most of his 89 signatures by going door-to-door in his neighborhood. "People are extremely concerned about cannabis expansion in the face of the water shortage, which appears to be the new normal. Over and over again I heard, 'What are they thinking? And where's the water?'"

"I'm participating in this referendum. Read the rest of Referendum. Over on Page 4

'Small Is Beautiful' cannabis referendum letter to volunteers

By Jim Shields, co-chair, SIBM Coalition

I thought the best way to bring you up-to-date on the status of the two referendums seeking an election to overturn, in part or in whole, the so-called Phase 3 cannabis ordinance approved last month by the board of supervisors, would be to share with you this email chronology.

Hi friends and referendum volunteers,

Late this afternoon (July 22), after I spoke with Katrina Bartolomie, Mendocino County Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder, Registrar of Voters, I sent her this email confirming our discussion:

Hi Katrina,

This is to confirm our conversation earlier today where I informed you the proponents of the "10% Expansion Rule" Referendum, aka "Small Is Beautiful Mendocino" Referendum, will not be submitting our petitions to the Elections Office because we did not meet the minimum signature threshold.

I want to thank you and Skylar for your assistance during this process, it's truly appreciated. Sincerely, Jim Shields

Even though we didn't qualify to file our referendum petitions so an election could be held on the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors' inexplicable and ill-advised decision to expand cannabis cultivation that only further exacerbates the depletion of water resources during a drought, we nevertheless were a driving force in a process that may result in a vastly scaled-back expansion of part of the ordinance, the phased approach which starts with 2 acres or 10%, whichever is less.

By participating in a process that gives people a say in the laws and policies that affect our community and county, we have taken the steps to ensure everyone's voice can be heard. That is a success.

Volunteering in politics isn't about the time you put in and give up for a cause, it's about commitment, hard work, heart, and seeing it through to the finish – win or lose. What makes your time important is that you're giving of yourself to a cause to make things better or solve problems for other people who may feel overwhelmed and defeated because elected officials are ignoring and not listening to them.

By your example of exercising your rights to challenge bad decisions made by politicians, you are showing people that by standing together, united in a cause, there's real opportunity to correct wrongs, and that in itself is a victory.

I thank each and every one of you who worked — yes it was damn hard work — with us collecting signatures for our petitions. I really had fun doing this whole process with you. I really enjoyed the time together we all spent on this special cause. It's something I'll never, ever, forget.

And remember it's not over yet.

Once things get settled down a bit, we'll get together and talk about what we should do if the other referendum makes the ballot.

We'll probably have so much fun talking about that, we'll realize there's no such thing as having too much fun so let's do it again!

Thanks for everything.



Above: Mikey Moreno and Pub Manager Ambria Zenitar offer samples of Flying Dog Wood Fired Pizza to lucky patrons. At right, above: Kyle Madrigal of Ketracell at the sound check Saturday afternoon prior to the evening performance. At right: Shanachie Pub enjoys an international reputation and clientele. At right, below: Some of the customers found it difficult to keep their seats during Ketracell's set. At right, bottom: Shanachie Pub is a place for friends to meet and to meet new friends.



Songs and Storytelling

Shanachie Pub offers live music again after more than a year

After 14 months it's back.

The Shanachie Pub has been a popular Willits institution since its opening on April 15, 2000, but it almost was to be known by a different name. Shanachie in Irish means "storyteller," a vision of owner, Pete Swanton, and his intention of the Pub to be a place where people could gather, make music, and tell stories.

Originally, Shanachie was a word for teacher. "When the English had their thumb over the Irish centuries ago," related Swanton. "The shanachie was actually a teacher in households. Somebody would say 'here come the English,' and they would put away the books and the pencils and paper, and then they would innocently tell stories. When the English would leave, they would break out the educational material again. They would teach the people their language, their lore, and their history. Over time, the shanachie became a storyteller."

The other name that was considered for the venture was the Alley Cat, named after the stray cat, Crook, who adopted the Pub and situated himself at the bar for many years. Even though Crook has been gone for several years, he still remains a mascot and a symbol of the venerable institution. Swanton believes to this day that either name would have been appropriate.

The Shanachie Pub is known for its warm, inviting atmosphere, and its vast selection of beers, ales, kombucha, and ciders. There are over 20 libations on tap plus a choice of wines. Although the bar does not serve food, Swanton allows people to bring in their own "finger foods" to enjoy with their beers.

"We don't serve food here, but people can bring in finger food ... as long as you don't have a knife and a fork," it's considered finger food. Of course, pizza from across the street at the Flying Dog Wood-Fired Pizza, another of Swanton's ventures, is acceptable. There are free samples available for those who are in attendance at the right times.

"What's really unique is that it's become really international," Swanton said proudly. "That's why we painted all the flags on the wall of the entrance. It's amazing. You can come in here and hear languages from all over the world. I've had people tell me that they've heard about this place

Read the rest of Shanachie. Over on Page 6



Above: Ketracell puts down some stream-of-consciousness sounds.

At left: The Pub boasts a large and eclectic selection of beer, ale, kombucha, and ciders.

Photos by Mathew Caine

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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



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

Volume 9, Number 413
3,500 - 4,000 copies printed by Western Web on Thursdays
P.O. Box 1698 Willits, CA 95490 / 707-459-2633 / 707-972-7047
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PANCAKE BREAKFAST
Sunday, August 8th
8 to 11 am
Adults - \$8
Children under 8 - \$6
Senior Center Members - \$7

Menu Choices

- Pancakes with eggs cooked the way you like them. (Choice of Sausage or Bacon.)
- Biscuits & Gravy with eggs cooked the way you like them.
- Meat Sides:
3 slices Bacon - \$2.00 • 3 Sausage links - \$2.00

Please note:
Everyone must be able to show proof of being fully vaccinated to enter the senior center, and we need vaccinated volunteers to assist with the labor.

Willits Senior Center
1501 Baechtel Road • 707-459-6826

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

166 SOUTH MAIN ST
Restaurant El Mexicano
10AM - 8:30PM
MON - SAT

Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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



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!

VEGGIE GARDEN WORD SEARCH

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

ACIDIC	BIENNIAL	FURROW	PEAT
AERATION	BLOSSOM	HARDY	PREDATOR
AIR	COMPOST	HARVEST	ROOTS
ALKALINE	CONSERVE	HERBS	ROT
AMENDMENT	CONTAINER	INSECTS	SANDY
ANNUAL	DROUGHT	MANURE	SOIL
BACTERIA	EDGING	MATURITY	SPACING
BEDS	FERTILIZER	MULCH	TOP DRESS
BENEFICIAL	FLOWERS	NETTING	WATERING

1	2	3				4	5	6	7
8			9						10
11									12
13				14					15
16									17
18					19	20			
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					34				35
					36				37
					38				39
					40				41
					42				43

CLUES ACROSS

- Female deer
- Unfashionable people
- Entranceway
- Courteous
- Level
- Deli meat
- Details
- Stole
- A genus of bee
- Expressed as digits
- Your child's daughter
- ___ and flow
- Small amount
- Revolutions per minute
- Criticize
- Snake-like fish
- Cooling mechanism
- Inquiry
- Engage in political activity

CLUES DOWN

- Adventurous
- Deliverer of speeches
- Skin condition
- Widened
- James Cameron film
- The 3rd letter of the Hebrew alphabet
- Moved along a surface
- Pharmacological agent
- Charity

CLUES ACROSS

- The lowest adult male singing voice
- Endings
- Iris
- The highest parts
- Kimono sashes
- Bewilders
- Mentally healthy
- Used to traverse snow
- Inflamed
- Seeing someone famous
- Not happy
- Farm animal
- Give a nickname to
- Uses up
- Type of missile (abbr.)
- Criticizes
- Midwife
- Entwined
- Supervises interstate commerce
- A way to convert
- Female sibling
- TV network
- Tropical Asian plant
- Line on a map
- Denotes songbirds
- Made publicly known
- He devised mud cleats for football
- Trends

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE LOG

July 19 to July 25

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled **187 incidents** in this seven-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

July 19

7:51 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 800 block of Railroad Avenue.
1:23 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Alder Court.
2:03 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

3:51 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 700 block of South Main Street.

5:22 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

6:10 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 300 block of Railroad Avenue.

6:27 pm: ROWE, Tyler Gregory (27) of Willits was contacted in the 300 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on felony charges of violation of probation.

July 20

2:44 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of South Main Street.

3:06 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 1700 block of Elm Lane.

10:47 am: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of Hillside Drive.

1:32 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism near the intersection of Mill Street and Harms Lane.

9:23 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 200 block of South Main Street.

9:58 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of Pearl Street.

July 21

6:24 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 1100 block of Locust Street and issued a warning.

10:58 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

11:12 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation near the intersection of Hazel Street and Poplar Avenue.

6:43 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 200 block of Bittenbender Lane.

The rest of **Referendum** From Page 2

because it's the only way to make sure a countywide environmental impact report is done," explained Cathy Monroe, well-loved community activist who struggled to break away from her grandmotherly duties to collect her 45 signatures. "You can't do an EIR on an ordinance after it has been adopted - only before. And the supes made sure an EIR didn't happen. So we have to shut this expansion ordinance down and stick with our existing ordinance, 10A.17. It needs some amendments, such as phasing out water trucking, but I like it because it doesn't allow an increase in grow size without a countywide EIR. I also like that it doesn't allow new permits in our beautiful and biologically precious rangelands."

Estelle Clifton, botanist and registered professional forester, collected many of her 213 signatures in front of Redwood Valley

July 22
3:43 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Redwood Avenue and North Street.

8:58 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 300 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

July 23

1:27 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of East Hill Road and Haehl Creek Drive.

5:38 pm: FRANKLIN, Joe Ivie (37) of Los Banos was contacted in the 1700 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of sexual assault.

8:23 pm: TORRES, Christina (33) of Hopland was contacted in the 1000 block of South Main Street. She was arrested pursuant to 11550 H&S (Under the influence of a Controlled Substance) and on misdemeanor charges of violation of probation.

8:53 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 200 block of East Commercial Street.

July 24

4:32 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

6:46 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

7:24 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 200 block of East Valley Street.

8:00 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 200 block of East Commercial Street.

9:03 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

10:07 pm: TAPIA, Joe Adam (42) of Napa was contacted in the 1400 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on felony charges of elder abuse and criminal threats.

July 25

2:43 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 300 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

10:34 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 600 block of Hawthorn Lane and issued a warning.

3:32 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

5:10 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

Market. "The community's overwhelming message to the county is, 'Protect our environment, our water, our safety, and the beauty of our neighborhoods and landscapes.'"

"The public has spoken clearly through this petitioning process," said Elen Dreil, a TPR steering committee member. "We are hopeful that the board of supervisors will take this public outpouring to heart and rescind the ordinance, enforce the existing laws, and conduct an EIR before opening the county to more cannabis expansion. That's what the people want."

- Submitted by the Steering Committee of The People's Referendum to Save Our Water, Wildlife, and Way of Life: Elen Dreil, Sherrie Ebyam, Kate Marianchild, Sheila Jenkins, Dennis Slota, Steve Scalmanini, and Ron Stark.

Let's Celebrate...
Peggy is turning 80!
Sunday, August 8th
at Recreation Grove Park
4:00 p.m.
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by call or text
to Kim at
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Women, Infants and Children program signs up new families at Willits Farmers Market

"I am here handing out WIC Farmers Market checks," explained Maria Ruiz of Mendocino County's Women, Infants and Children program. "Each check is worth \$7. There are four checks, so each gets \$28. They are only for the purchase of fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, and cut edible herbs. If they use them all today, I have some WIC bags."

Ruiz and associates will be at the Willits Farmers Market (and markets around the county) for the next few weeks to assist qualified recipients to sign up for the program and to issue the WIC checks.

"WIC is a nutritional program for women, infants, and children under 5," Ruiz continued. "It's a supplemental program, so they get a certain amount of food per

month. We like to see pregnant women at the beginning of the pregnancy so they can get WIC throughout the pregnancy. Besides the food, they get information about nutrition and breast feeding. We have a peer counselor. We have a breastfeeding hotline. We also have pumps we can loan."

For those who cannot get to the Farmers Market, 3 to 6 pm every Thursday at the old Rexall parking lot in Willits, Mendocino County WIC can be contacted at: 707-472-2743 for information and appointments. National WIC contacts include: Automated Tel: 1-888-942-9675, In-Person Tel: 1-800-852-5770, or email: WIC@cdph.ca.gov

Above, left: Maria Ruiz of the county's Women, Infants and Children Program is signing families up for the supplemental food program at the Willits Farmers Market, and giving out \$28 to WIC recipients to spend on veggies, fruits and herbs. Above right: Tomatoes and other veggies (below left) can be purchased with WIC funds. Below, right: Maria Ruiz of the county's Women, Infants and Children Program shows the free shopping bag available to WIC recipients.



'Tunes & Tastes'

Outdoor concert in Dos Rios features Holly Near, SonoMusette, and a vegan menu

Submitted by Dance Mission Theater

Known widely throughout Northern California, San Francisco's Dance Brigade and its Dance Mission Theater is back to present its annual summer programming in rural Dos Rios, California. This year's performance, Saturday, July 30, features an intimate outdoor concert with music by folk singer Holly Near and Parisian band SonoMusette.

In addition to the music, vegan chef Phillip Gelb has created a joyous menu of cutting-



Folk singer Holly Near is an insightful storyteller through her music, rooted in contemporary activism.

Photo by Irene Young

Read the rest of **Concert** Over on Page 6

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Located in Willits since 1976 METALfx is one of the area's largest privately owned employers. METALfx manufactures piece part to turnkey assemblies for leading OEMs across the world. We have many career opportunities with excellent benefits for motivated individuals who enjoy hands-on work and strive to be the best.

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in coffee shops in London and Chile. They bring their culture, their music, their language.

"I think it's a treasure," Swanton continued. "I've made so many new friends over the years. So many friendships have happened here as a result of the Pub. Marriages have happened as a result of the Pub – probably a few divorces. Business deals. Why go on the golf course to make a business deal when you can come to Shanachie Pub? 'Where friends gather.' It's our motto on the sign in front."

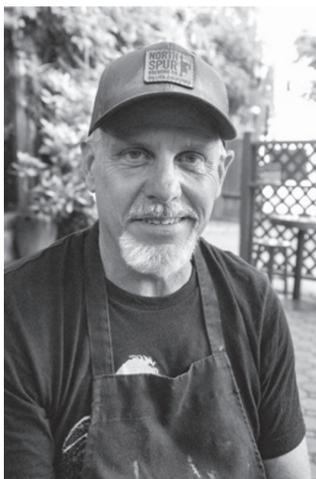
Shanachie Pub is also known for its eclectic presentation of music. Various musicians from around the world find their way to the small stage, bringing their special and unique blends of sounds, indigenous to their countries of origin. This world music concept is ever-present, especially on Wednesday nights when the bar hosts the Open Mic evening, when anyone can play anything to the delight of the accepting and encouraging crowd.

The performances begin at 8 pm, but musicians need to make sure to get their names into the time-slot lottery by 7:30 when the names are drawn and times assigned. On other nights, one can hear the bass stylings of Mitchel Holman, or the electric guitar sounds of Blue Luke, or the jazz guitar stylings of Aaron Ford, and many others.

"Pete is great to work for," mused Pub Manager Ambria Zenitar. "His quality of character is really what bleeds through this place, and it inspires me to give back to my community as much as he does, the space that he holds to do that. Shanachie's creates a safe space for people to let loose, have a couple beers and relax, leave their day at the door, be present and have connection with their community and the people. There's a wholesomeness and a caring connectiveness that exists within this bar that you can't find at other bars. I think that's what sets us apart."

"There's also the space that he holds for the arts," Zenitar continued. "There's always so many multi-media versions of art coming through, whether it be music or painting or the murals or the performance art. There's so much opportunity for someone to come and share their story or express themselves in a way that is seen and heard and appreciated. I think that's really special."

"It's been a hell of an amazing ride here, and great fun," says Swanton. "As long as it's still fun, I'm in. It's still my baby. It's everything I could have dreamed of and more. I never thought it would have turned out the way it has, the comradery and the fun times, the music and the laughter, and the great people that come in here, the conversations that we have."



Above: People come to Shanachie Pub to dance, have some beer, and to meet old and new friends.

At left, below: A familiar sight on Main Street in Willits, the alley entrance to the Shanachie Pub.

At left, below: A familiar sight on Main Street in Willits, the alley entrance to the Shanachie Pub.

At right: Bartender-in-training, Kati O'Rear, loves meeting new customers from all over the world.

Below: Mikey Moreno enjoys the interaction with the vast variety of customers.



Photos by Mathew Caine



SonoMusette performs mid-20th century Parisian classics, featuring singer Mimi Pirard.

edge small plates, for a perfect pairing with the music, that uses tons of ingredients that are locally sourced! The event starts at 5 pm. Advance tickets are required and are available at DanceMissionTheater.org or at 415-826-4441. The price of the ticket (\$65) includes both the concert and the fixed-menu meal with a drink. The location is on the Dos Rios Road, in Dos Rios (between the towns of Covelo and Laytonville – exact address provided once ticket is purchased).

COVID-19 precautions: We are not yet out of the pandemic. Because of this, the event is limited to 50 guests, so be sure to purchase tickets in advance. The food and music will be outside, and masks must be worn over the nose and mouth at all times except for when you are seated at the table.

Featuring Parisian singer Mimi Pirard, SonoMusette authentically recreates the moody and evocative sound of the Paris music scene of the mid-20th century. SonoMusette's renditions of these timeless French classics provide a freshness and excitement that is contemporary, yet faithful, to the spirit and tradition of the original artists. This music has retained its power to charm, and SonoMusette taps that nostalgia with artistry in both vocals and instrumentation. Inspired by the great performers of the era, such as Edith Piaf, Jacques Brel, Charles Trenet, and Django Reinhardt, along with contemporary musicians such as Zaz and Patrick Bruel, SonoMusette brings French chanson to the "moderne" era and transports listeners.

Born in Ukiah, Holly Near has been singing for a more equitable world for well over 50 creative years. She is an insightful storyteller through her music, committed to keeping the work rooted in contemporary activism. Respected around the world for her music and activism, Holly has released more than 31 albums. Holly's joy and passion continue to inspire people to join in her celebration of the human spirit. Equally compelling at her shows and through recordings, Holly's music fully engages listeners in the world around them – speaking to anyone who believes in peace, justice and feminism; a wonderful spectrum of humanity. Often cited as one of the founders of the Women's Music movement, Holly not only led the way for outspoken women in the music world, but also worked for peace and multicultural consciousness. Throughout her long career Holly has worked with a wide array of musicians including Pete Seeger, Ronnie Gilbert, Arlo Guthrie, Mercedes Sosa, Bernice Johnson Reason, Bonnie Raitt, Jackson Browne, Joan Baez, Phil Ochs, Harry Belafonte, and many others.

Philip Gelb is a vegan chef with his own catering business, Sound and Savor (formerly In the Mood for Food). Gelb frequently hosts cooking classes and dinner/concerts with world-renowned musicians. He is about to release his second cookbook, "Vegan Underground," and is known for his pairing of music and munchies. One of his guests described the experience as follows:

"Far from the revered fine dining palaces of San Francisco, where hype and hyperbole are the most popular items on offer, an ordinary studio in the heart of Oakland plays host to a distinctly different, refreshingly sincere, and entirely immersive eating experience.... Born from the recklessly creative mind of chef Philip Gelb, this musician with a passion for cooking set up shop in pursuit of unifying these two pursuits. Each dinner comes not only with a carefully crafted menu of edible delights, but a unique musical performance selected to complement the meal, satiating the voracious audiophile as well."



Photo by Shannon Furr



Garden of Eatin'

Community garden at Harrah Senior Center provides produce for seniors and joy to the gardeners

The rich and lushly verdant soil inside the Harrah Senior Center's vast Garden of Eatin' is tended by a small handful of gardeners. That care ends up producing an impressive collection of vegetables and fruits, some to feed the gardeners and a large portion going to the Harrah Senior Center's kitchen.

Shannon Furr is the day-to-day manager of the garden and is responsible for most of what's been planted and cared for. She spends about three hours daily doing everything needed to keep all the plants and other gardeners happy.

Furr explained that the Garden of Eatin' is part of North Coast Opportunities' Gardens Project – a growing network of community gardens throughout Lake and Mendocino counties. Lucy Bartholomew (formerly Kramer) is the coordinator for the Gardens Project and supports the individual gardens by fundraising, developing infrastructure, procuring seeds and plants, and much more.

This spring Bartholomew secured funding and built four raised beds at the Garden of Eatin' with help from AmeriCorps and other volunteers, with Furr and other community gardeners.

Willits Weekly took a tour of garden with Furr, who's established, planted and tended most of the soil and plants. "I've created two permanent rows for artochokes," Furr said. "There are leeks and sunflowers, climbing cucumbers, watermelon and lots of squash."

Six kinds of tomatoes. A permanent row for strawberries - I'm using the red plastic like they do at the hospital garden. I learn a lot from them and they donated 90 percent of the seedlings this year."

She continued walking through the garden pointing out pumpkins, eggplants, zinnias and more, including fruit from grapevines, plums, and apples from the trees.

"Richard Jeske, he's an arborist. He trimmed the grapes twice and trimmed the fruit trees twice at two different times of the year. They were trimmed properly, fed and got more water. They've never looked so good." Furr explained as she showed the ripening table grapes along the fence.

People from the community can rent 50-foot rows or raised beds to grow their own vegetables and fruits. When this reporter visited the garden, Furr and Tom Hatcher, new to Willits, were working together on Furr's raised bed. Margo Singleton, a Willits High teacher, was also working on her own raised bed and joined them to secure a hog fence trellis.

In one of his five rows and planter boxes, Hatcher is growing: wheat; he's gotten 100 pounds of potatoes so far; and has 45 tomato plants, peppers, onions, and beans. He explained that the wheat is an experiment – "and I think it's working."

"I'm a survivalist, and I think it's really going to get rough. We may need to feed ourselves. Hope for the best and prepare for the worst," Hatcher philosophized about

Above, left: This panorama shows some of the expanse of the Harrah Senior Center's Garden of Eatin'. Above, right: On the left, Tom Hatcher helps Margo Singleton in her newly planted raised bed, while Shannon Furr, almost hidden among the lush vines, trellises her watermelon plants on the hog fence hoops. Below: Tom Hatcher, left, Margo Singleton, Shannon Furr and Beverly Galten, right, pose in the Garden of Eatin' at the Harrah Senior Center. Each of these gardeners rents space and works in the garden.



Below, from left: Hamming it up a bit, Tom Hatcher smells the delicious Thai sweet basil he planted. In the foreground, teacher and gardener Margo Singleton moves watermelon vines so Tom Hatcher and Shannon Furr can secure the hog fence trellis in place. Tom Hatcher shows one of the wheat heads growing in his 50-foot garden bed. You get about 30 wheat berries from one head," he explained. He protects his crop from birds with small square fencing.



Photos by Ree Slocum

Read the rest of **Garden** | Over on Page 15

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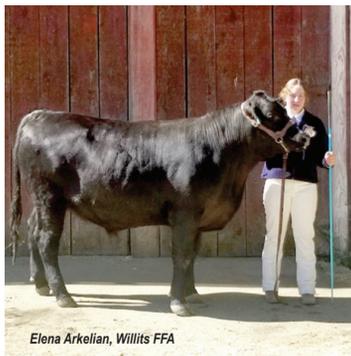
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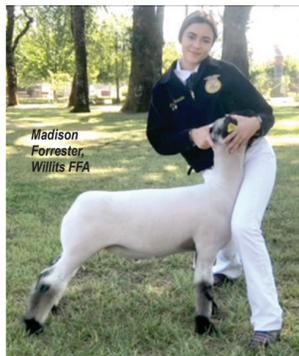
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Brian Gould, DO
Sports Medicine

Yoshihiro Katsura, MD
Spine Specialist



Elena Arkelian, Willits FFA



Madison Forrester, Willits FFA



Dayana Estrada, Willits FFA



Samantha Arms, Willits FFA



Mariah Ochoa, Willits FFA



Claire Case Brackett, Willits FFA



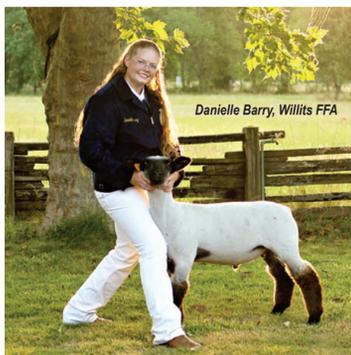
Kaleb Whitehurst, Willits 4-H



Walker Klee, Willits FFA

Hi, my name is **Walker Klee**. I'm a member of the Willits FFA. This is my third year taking a steer. My hobbies are riding bulls and fishing. My steer's name is Cinch, and I bought him from a local rancher in Covelo. I have enjoyed my time with him. I can guarantee you he's going to produce some good quality meat.

Hi, my name is **Danielle Barry**. For the 2020-2021 Redwood Empire Fair, I will be taking a market lamb. My lamb's name is Big Mo. He was born out of one of the ewes I have raised and shown at the Redwood Empire Fair in previous years. I am excited to show one of my own that was born and raised at my barn. Besides my market lamb, I have my registered breeding Suffolk sheep that sadly will not be shown at this year's Redwood Empire Fair. I am looking forward to showing my breeding stock at the Mendocino County Fair and Apple show this year.



Danielle Barry, Willits FFA

Hello, my name is **John Michael Kale**, and I am a senior this year at Willits High School. My favorite classes in school are Welding and Spanish. Some of my activities after school are the Cross Country Team, Swim Team and Leadership. My wether's name is Boris; he was born and raised in Willits and has a lot of attitude! Thank you for your participation in the fair and have a great day!

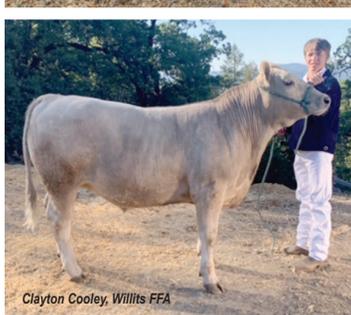
Hello, my name is **Logan Sanderson**. I'm 15 and going to be a sophomore this year at Willits High School. I'm a member of Willits FFA. My hobbies include baseball, fishing, riding dirt bikes and hanging out with my friends and family. This is my third year raising a hog. My hog is a cross, and I bought him from Jane Zeni in Yorkville. His name is Dozer, and he has been a lot of fun to raise and work with. Definitely going to miss this fella, but I know whoever buys him will be happy with the quality meat.



John Michael Kale, Willits FFA

Hi, my name is **Dayana Estrada**. I am 15 years old. I am going to be a sophomore this upcoming school year at the Willits High School. Some of my hobbies include reading, writing, and going on walks. I have been raising and selling goats for 4-H for five years; this year, however, is my first year in FFA. I am raising a market goat for fair. His name is Chase - he loves attention and going on walks. I am looking forward to this year's Redwood Empire Fair.

My name is **Madison Forrester**, I am 19 years old and a sophomore at Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio. I have been showing with Willits 4-H and FFA for the past 11 years, this will be my sixth and final year showing for Willits FFA. Over the last 11 years I have spent learning and growing in these amazing organizations, I will always remember that it is individuals like you who create this growth and support for each and every one of the exhibitors at the Redwood Empire Fair.



Clayton Cooley, Willits FFA

This year I will be taking my 127 pound Hampshire cross market lamb named Ollie. We go on daily walks and have had to work pretty consistently on showmanship due to him being fairly wild since I bought him. Over the years I have raised goats, sheep and cattle, both breeding and market, although showing cattle has always been my passion. Going out of state for college made raising a steer for my last year very difficult; growing up my sister always showed market lambs, so it is bittersweet to end with a lamb in the way this journey started.



Wyatt Klee, Willits 4-H

Hello, my name is **Catie Spackman**, I am 15 years old, and I will be a sophomore this fall at Willits High School. This will be my seventh year taking a market goat to the Redwood Empire Fair, albeit virtually. My goat's name is Noodles, and I promise he will be just as tasty. Noodles is a Libra, loves long walks at dusk, recycling his food into his mouth for later, and he proudly identifies with the other species, mainly the dogs, in our yard. This will be my second year as a Willits FFA member, first year as a chapter officer, and I am excited to be getting back to some level of normal again. Please join me and my Mendocino County 4H, FFA and Independent exhibitor friends for this year's Redwood Empire Fair virtual Junior Livestock Auction. Sales open on August 6 at 3 pm and close at 6 pm August 7.



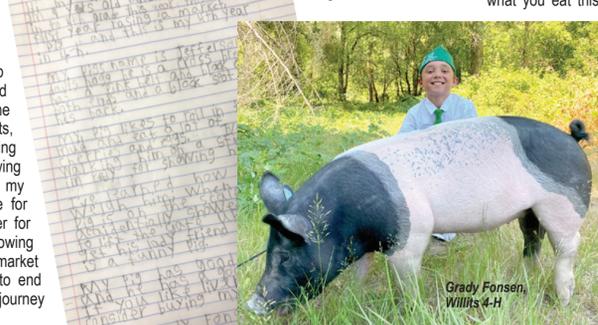
Callie Brown, Willits FFA

Hello, my name is **Elena Arkelian**. I am 15 years old and going into my sophomore year at Willits High School. I am a member of the Willits FFA chapter. This year I am taking my Angus steer to the fair. It is my first year showing a steer and participating in FFA. I was in 4-H for seven years and showed sheep. I enjoyed my time with my steer, and I am looking forward to taking him to this year's Redwood Empire Fair. Come join us at this year's Redwood Empire Virtual Livestock Junior Auction on August 6-7.

Hi, my name is **Jace Kroh**. I'm 17 and just graduated from Willits High School. Now that I'm graduated, I plan on going to Butte College to obtain my Associate of Science in Fire Science and then completing the fire academy along with getting my EMT and paramedic certificates. During my senior year at Willits High School, I was the Willits FFA chapter reporter. In my other years of high school, I played baseball and football and did FFA all four years. My hobbies include camping and fishing with my family and helping out at Little Lake Fire Department. This is my third year raising a market swine. My pig is a Yorkshire that I bought from Jesse in Redwood Valley. His name is Mr. P. He has been quite the pig to raise, but he has been a fun pig for my last year.

Hi, my name is **Callie Brown**, and this is my market steer Bandit. We are a part of the Willits FFA chapter, and Bandit is my fifth and final market steer. This fall I am headed to college in Klamath Falls to attend Oregon Tech. While this year has been full of unknowns, I still have had an amazing time raising Bandit. Bandit is a black cross and is currently weighing 1,400 pounds. Bandit has an amazing personality and is such a funny character! While I am sad that this is my last year, I am so thankful for all of the memories raising and selling animals at the Redwood Empire Fair has made. I would like to send a huge thank you to all of the past and present supporters of our auction, and I hope that everyone is excited to come and support the kids again this year. Please come and join us this year at our virtual Redwood Empire Auction and support all of the hardworking kids this year.

Hello, my name is **Gunner Globe**. I am 15 years old and belong to Willits High School FFA, where I will be an upcoming sophomore. This is my first year with FFA and my first pig. I have very much enjoyed being a part of the FFA program and am looking forward to continuing to grow and learn from



Grady Fonsen, Willits 4-H

REDWOOD EMPIRE FAIR JUNIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTION

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August 6-7th, 2021

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Junior Livestock Auction

Redwood Empire Fair to hold online livestock auction again this year for local youth exhibitors

The Redwood Empire Fair will take place online, starting at 3 pm on August 6 and ending at 6 pm on August 7.

AUCTION INFO:

<https://redwood.fairwire.com/>

Auction opens Friday, August 6 at 3 pm

Auction closes Saturday, August 7 in a racehorse finish ending at 7 pm

Supporters will have the opportunity to "add-on" extra money to an exhibitor's sale price again this year. Add-ons will be allowed until Sunday, August 8 at 5 pm.

Interested bidders can pre-register to bid by logging on to the Redwood Empire Fair's 2021 Virtual Auction site here: <https://redwood.fairwire.com/>

Questions and more info: 462-3884.

The Junior Livestock Auction will take

place as a modified version again this year, with an online auction for local youth exhibitors to showcase their animals. Local Future Farmers of America and 4-H members will have a chance to show their market projects to be graded by the judges over two days - August 4 and 5 - during closed-to-the-public shows at the fairgrounds.

it. I have been working throughout the summer, learning a trade and how to install flooring, and am very grateful for the opportunity and skillset I am learning that I will carry through my life. I am also very involved in sports and play year-round. I love football, baseball and wrestling. I am an avid hunter and fisherman - I live for time outdoors! I like to hunt deer, turkey, pigs and game birds. I am always willing to catch anything that is biting in the water, too, either saltwater or fresh. I believe in hunting and fishing and providing for your family by bringing food to the table. I have hopes and aspirations to become a Fish and Game warden after I graduate high school and college. Taking care of animals and preserving animal rights, as well as hunting and gun rights is very important to me.

My pig is named Hambo (because Rambo is awesome and so is my pig). He is a York cross. He was bought from a breeder in Santa Rosa named Jube. Hambo was born in February and will weigh over 250 pounds at time of auction. He enjoys our walks and time together, and gets very excited when I come to feed him and visit with him. He cracks me up when he leans in and rolls over for his belly rubs - he is always making us laugh. I am very blessed to have had such a great experience this year and to have him for my first pig. He has set a very high bar for next year. He will be greatly missed, but boy are his hams and chops looking good!! If you are what you eat this pig will not disappoint, he has

been very well fed with the best! Hambo and many other prized animals are just a click away this year for the live online auction at the Redwood Empire Fair!

Hello, my name is **Clayton Cooley**, and I am entering my freshman year at Willits High School. I have shown pigs in previous years, but this is my first year showing a steer. My steer's name is Ronald from Gudel Cattle. I chose him from my aunt and uncle's cattle herd. I have learned a lot about how to finish a steer and produce a quality product. Besides working with my steer, I also enjoy rodeo, basketball and football. Thank you for your time and support of the Redwood Empire Fair.

Hi, my name is **Zentrey Henson**, and I am a member of the Willits FFA. This is my third year taking a market hog to the REF fair. My pig's name is Ruby, and she loves to sit and eat. I am going to be a senior at Willits High School this year, and I enjoy playing football, basketball and baseball. I am also currently a regional officer for the North Coast Region Officer Team.

Thank you for taking a look at us and Ruby, and I hope you enjoy the auction this year

Hello, my name is **Mariah Ochoa**, I'm 15 years old, and this fall I will be a junior at Willits High School. I am so excited to be able to show my market goat this year, since I sadly couldn't participate last year due to COVID-19. This is my 10th year taking a goat to the Redwood Empire Fair. My goat this year is named Brownie. He is a very active goat, and he has a mind of his own. He loves to have fun in the field with his friends and plays all day. You know Brownie had a good day when I walked him and he just lays down out of nowhere, but it's been fun regardless. Please join me and Mendocino County FFA, 4-H, and Independent exhibitors for this year's virtual Junior Livestock Auction.

Hello, my name is **Collin Spackman-Rowles**, and this is my fourth year in Willits FFA. I started in Long Valley 4H when I was 5, raising and showing my Holland lop bunny. When I was 9, I was finally able to raise and show a market animal, and chose to raise hogs. I have been involved in the 4H/FFA for 13 years, and this is my final year. I graduated Willits High School this year and am planning on

attending Mendocino College to play baseball; after my two years, I will be heading to Oroville to attend lineman school.

This year I have a gilt named Barry, and she is a Spot. Over the years I have learned what it takes to raise a nice market hog, and I am very pleased with mine this year. COVID has been a challenge with FFA and school, but I have overcome so much and am happy to be able to take my market hog to the fair this year.

I would like to invite you to bid on my market hog at this year's Redwood Empire online auction. The online auction will start on Friday, August 6 at 3 pm and will close on Saturday, August 7 at 6 pm. Thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Hi, my name is **Samantha Arms**, and I am a member of the Willits FFA Chapter. This is my ninth year raising a market lamb for the Redwood Empire Fair. My lamb is a Hampshire cross named Milo. In addition to my market lamb project, I also have my own sheep breeding project and enjoy riding horses. I graduated from Willits High School and will be attending Feather River College in the fall. Aside from staying busy with my animals I have also had a fulltime job this summer working at 101 Trailer and RV. Thank you for your support.

Hello, my name is **Claire Case Brackett**. I am 17 years old and graduated from Willits High School this year as valedictorian. This fall I will attend the University of Arizona to study Agricultural Business and Economics, as well as compete on the college rodeo team. My career goal is to manage an agricultural event center and host events like rodeos and large stock shows. This summer, I spent my time running for the 2021 Willits Frontier Days Sweetheart. I was a part of Willits FFA for four years, where I was able to participate all the way to the national level and hold various positions like chapter president and regional VP.

For my final year raising animals through the FFA, I raised a steer named Phoenix Rising. Phoenix is a shorthorn that I purchased in September of 2020 and raised with daily duties of walking, grooming and feeding. With the money I have earned from past years, I was able to purchase my first car, and I saved the rest for my college expenses. I am certainly proud to be from the Mendocino County community, and I would like to thank you all for your support.

Hi, my name is **Kaleb Whitehurst**, and this is my fifth year in the Willits 4-H Swine Group. This fall I will be starting my freshman year at Willits High School. Since April, I have spent many hours raising my two registered Durocs. This year has taught me both the importance of time management, as well as a better understanding of swine nutrition. At the time of the auction, I am anticipating my market hog to cross the scale at roughly 250 pounds.

If you'd like to bid in this year's online auction, you can register here: <https://redwood.fairwire.com/>. The sale opens on August 6 at 3 pm and will close at 6 pm on August 7. Thank you for your time and continued support!

My name is **Wyatt Klee**. I'm in the Willits 4-H Club. I'm turning 13 on August 8. This is my fourth year taking a pig. My pig is a purebred Berkshire. I bought her from a local breeder in Ukiah. She loves rolling in the mud. My other hobbies include dirt bike riding, hunting and fishing. I hope you'll be the lucky one to enjoy my pig.

Hi my name is **Grady Fonsen**. I am 9 years old, and I will be going to the fourth grade this year. This is my first year raising a market pig, and this is my fourth year in 4-H. My pig's name is Jefferson Davis Hogg. He is a cross breed and has a pink belt; he's black on both ends, with a black spot on his back. My pig likes to roll in the mud and eats a lot of cherries and eggs. I've been walking him on a stick, so I'm ready for showing him.

I've learned how to weigh him; when the other pig is on the scale I accidentally showed him how to lift the gate up to get his lady friend out. He is a funny pig. My pig has good meat, and he has a good liver. If you like liver, please consider buying my pig.

Thanks to Carrie Oliver for compiling photos and bios of some of the north-county exhibitors for this year's fair.



Logan Sanderson, Willits FFA



Collin Spackman-Rowles, Willits FFA



Catie Spackman, Willits FFA



Jace Kroh, Willits FFA



Gunner Globe, Willits FFA



Zentrey Henson, Willits FFA

Below: Juice girl Joselyn Svenson enjoys her early morning job. At right: Rick and Lynn Williams are ready to enjoy their pancakes, eggs, bacon, and fruit cups. Veteran kitchen volunteer, Mike Burgess, masks up in the well-equipped Grange kitchen. Volunteer Darlene Bixler works on preparing the eggs for scrambling.



Back on the griddle again

Little Lake Grange resumes its fourth Sunday of the month community pancake breakfasts

Another Willits institution has made its return. The Little Lake Grange Pancake Breakfast, an event at which the people of Willits can gather with friends, eat a hearty, healthy, and tasty breakfast, and see faces that have been hidden for the last 16 months, started up on July 25, to the delight of the locals.

Occurring every fourth Sunday of the month from 8 to 11 a.m., at the Grange Hall at 291 School Street, this breakfast has been a staple of Willits gatherings for years, raising funds for the Grange and other endeavors around town.

“The money gets distributed to all kinds of community entities,” explained Annie Waters, who along with her significant other, Richard Jergenson, have the longest tenure with the project. “We gave money to the Food Bank and to the Little Lake Fire station. We’ve plowed some of the profits back into the kitchen to purchase new and better equipment.”

By the end of the morning, approximately 120 people had been served, plus the 20 or so volunteers who make the event possible. “It takes 20 people volunteering to do this breakfast,” continued Waters. “It’s about 70 hours of labor. The reason we can serve it at such a low price is that it is all volunteer.”

There’s a lot of jobs in the dining room, serving juice and coffee, plus cashier, and taking and serving orders. There’s busing and resetting tables. “It requires a lot of people in here, at least nine,” Waters said. “We have clean hand and dirty hand jobs. We try to keep those separate. Busing is a dirty hand job. Anybody touching food or serving needs to have their hands immaculate. Cashier is a dirty hand job.”

Amazingly, with so many people in the kitchen at one time, there are very few accidents or people bumping into one another. The crew has been serving up breakfast for several years, and each job has a specialist.

Although the price of the breakfasts may be going up by a dollar soon, due to the rising price of bacon, the costs have been rather low: \$8 for three pancakes, two rashers of bacon, eggs any style after 9:30 a.m. (scrambled eggs available before then), orange juice, and endless coffee. An extra \$2 will purchase a fresh fruit cup, and real maple syrup from an Amish farm in Michigan is an extra \$1.

Most of the ingredients for the morning meal are locally sourced and organic. The bacon comes from Beeler’s via Mariposa Market. The eggs are from Clover Farms, and the grains are locally grown.

“We have three kinds of pancakes,” explained Waters. “We have sourdough. We have old-fashioned buttermilk pancakes, a 100-year-old recipe with beer. We will also be offering a gluten-free option. It’s actually very good. I’ve tried it. It’s not like cardboard with syrup.

“People like to come here because it’s a super community event,” mused Waters. “You get to sit around with people you haven’t seen in a while. You drink coffee together and talk about whatever comes to your mind. People spend quite a bit of time sitting around with each other.”

“I’m really excited about having the Grange breakfast again,” said Willits Mayor Madge Strong. “It’s been such a long time. I loved them. I like the gluten-free pancakes even though I don’t need to have the gluten-free for health purposes. It’s kind of a symbol of Willits returning to normalcy. It’s a Willits institution.”

Da Grand Pooba, a volunteer for several years as well as a customer, missed the togetherness: “I love this breakfast. It gets the community together. It gets all the families together. It’s sort of the patchwork quilt to our community.”

Speaking of patchwork quilts, the Helping Hands Committee of the Little Lake Grange was displaying a beautiful quilt which they are raffling off to raise money for



At right, from top: Several volunteers work diligently in the kitchen, managing to create the breakfasts without running into each other. Ellie Bruce shows the quilt that was raffled off to benefit the Helping Hands Fund of the Grange. The Grange breakfast is a welcome and filling meal.

Roots of Motive Power

39th Annual Steam Festival

September 11th & 12th

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Free Events during both days include demonstrations of antique equipment including:

- Bucyrus-Erie 50B Steam Shovel
- Caterpillar Tractors
- Steam Donkeys
- Hit and Miss engines
- Mack AB and Mack AC trucks
- Kelley Springfield Road Roller
- Sea Biscuit Diamond T-truck
- Double header locomotives (Bluestone Mining #1 and Port of Olympia #2)
- And lots more!

Passenger steam train rides both Saturday and Sunday.

Our famous BBQ is back in the Recreation Grove Park Saturday, Sept. 11th. Tickets on sale soon.

Sunday we will have steam printing in the park

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for more details or at www.rootsofmotivepower.com

Read the rest of **Pancakes** Over on Page 11

SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

Agape Bible Church
290 S. Lenore Ave.
Willits, CA 95490
Where love is first and the Bible is central.
Sunday Services:
10:00 a.m. - Worship
Awards: Tuesday, 6:15 p.m.
Info? 707-459-1905
www.agapebiblechurch.com

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

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
265 Margie Drive
Willits, CA 95490
ALL ARE WELCOME
Sacrament Meeting
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Eckankar: The Path of Spiritual Freedom
•Sound of Soul events
•Membership Discourses
•Spiritual Discussions
•ECK Light & Sound Services
More information?
Call 530-224-8703
www.eckankar.org

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

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
61 W. San Francisco Ave.
Willits, CA 95490
Father Aaron Bandanadam
Mass times:
Confessions by appointment:
459-2252
Sunday Mass inside:
9:00 a.m. English
10:30 a.m. Spanish
Saturday Mass: 5:30 p.m.
Covid guidelines apply.
We welcome All Walks of Faith

St. Francis Episcopal Church
1 North Main Street, Willits
707-272-0177
Sunday Service - 10 a.m.
In-person and on Zoom
Call for information.
ALL ARE WELCOME
The Rev. Betsy Brunen

St. John Lutheran Church
Karl Bliese, Pastor
Church Service:
Sunday 10:00 to 11:00
Bible Study / Sunday School
following the service.
(707) 459-2988
24 Mill Creek Drive
ALL ARE WELCOME

Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church
707-459-5714
Saturdays: Meeting place at church located at 399 W. Mendocino Avenue
Bible Study - 9:45 a.m.
Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.
<https://willitsca.adventistchurch.org>
All are welcome!

Willits United Methodist
A Christ centered, progressive church
ALL ARE WELCOME
286 School St. (at Pine)
Rev. Rosemary Landry, pastor
Worship Celebration
Sundays - 10:30 a.m.
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
April Tweddell
(707) 972-2475
aprill@willitsweekly.com

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

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LEGAL NOTICES

WW331
NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: AGNES HENZC, Decedent
CASE NUMBER 21PR00126
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of AGNES HENZC.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by: Steve F. Hencz, Jr. in the Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino.
The Petition for Probate requests that Steve F. Hencz, Jr. be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
The petition requests the decedent’s will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:
Date: August 13, 2021 Time: 9:00 a.m. Dept.: E, of the Mendocino County Superior Court, located at 100 No. State Street, Ukiah, California 95482.
If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for petitioner: Jennifer M. O'Brien, Neary and O'Brien, 110 S. Main St., Ste. C, Willits, CA 95490, Telephone: 707-459-5551
Publication Dates: 07/29, 08/5, 08/12/2021

LEGAL NOTICES

WW329
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2021-F0367
The following Limited Liability Company is doing business as Hot Yoga Willits, Thrive, 1126 S. Main St., Suite B & C, Willits, CA 95490.
Registered owner: SMAJ LLC, 150 E. Mendocino Ave., 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 June 11, 2021.
FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on June 16, 2021.
/s/ Shawna Jeavons, owner
Publication dates: July 15, 22 and 29, August 5, 2021

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

WW330
NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JOSEPH HAROLD HILL
CASE NO. 21PR00125
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate or both of JOSEPH HAROLD HILL.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by Taylor William Drew in the Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino.
The Petition for Probate requests that Taylor William Drew be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:
Date: August 13, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept.: E of the Mendocino County Superior Court, located at 100 No. State Street, Ukiah, California 95482.
If you object to granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner: Jennifer M. O'Brien, NEARY and O'BRIEN, 110 S Main St., Ste. C, Willits, CA 95490, Telephone: (707) 459-5551.
Publication Dates: 07/29, 08/5, 08/12/2021

The rest of Pancakes From Page 10

their fund to help out Grangers and other Granges.
“We raise money to help some of our Grangers, other granges that may be having difficulty from fires and floods,” said Grange member Earlene Gleisner. “We also help our own Grangers who might have needs for a prescription or a wall heater or some other thing that they might need. We’ve been selling tickets for a year. We’re going to draw the ticket today.” Gleisner said the Grange will continue raffling off items as a fundraiser.
In order to mitigate the risk from COVID, the tables are more spaced out and only eight chairs are available at each table. Additionally, the room is very well-ventilated with fans pushing air in and pulling it out to increase circulation.
The Little Lake Grange is always looking for volunteers to assist with the breakfast, mostly for work on the floor, serving, busing, etc. It is a lot of fun, meeting everyone, getting to help, and volunteers get eat all the pancakes they can, and usually many more to take home at the end of the morning from the excess batter. If interested in learning more about volunteering, contact the Grange office: 459-9716.

Join us for celebrations. Join us for casual fine dining.

— Dinner Service —
Thursday, Friday and Saturday: 5 to 8:30 pm
Coipinio this Friday!
Serving Beer and Wine alongside steak, seafood and daily specials.

— Sunday Brunch —
10 am to 2 pm
Serving Mimosas and Bloody Marys alongside brunch favorites and weekly specials.

— Live Music —
Richard Tooteese Jeske (acoustic guitar) is playing this Thursday night.

707-841-3058
1726 S. Main St. • Suite H
Willits

Current Job Openings:

- Account Specialist II
- Chief Planner – Fort Bragg
- Corrections Deputy
- Communications Technician
- Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II
- Eligibility Specialist II
- Human Resources Manager
- Mental Health Clinician I/II
- Senior Program Manager
- Senior Program Manager - Nursing
- Staff Services Administrator
- Surveyor I

For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:
www.mendocinocounty.org/government/human-resources
EOE

CLASSIFIEDS

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

Firewood for Sale
1 true cord of 16" and dry firewood, \$200 and up. Will deliver. Call 459-2868.

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

Online Auction
Online Auction unit 715 N 10x20 unit. Contents Vehicle, Household furniture and items, clothing, and variety of personal items. Winning bid announced Aug. 25 2021. Unit to be completely empty by Aug. 31 2021. Storage holders name Justin Harrison. Property owner Jennifer Zito. Send bids to: Storageenmark@yahoo.com High bid will be sent to all bidders every other day.

The Fruit Group PESTICIDE FREE:
Neckarines Yellow & White 24lbs \$33, Roma & Regular Tomatoes 30lbs \$34, Purple Pluots 26lbs \$34. Arriving July 15th and 29th. Brenda 485-4294 or email thefruitgroup95490@yahoo.com

Room For Rent
Room for rent. Must have job. No pets, no drugs. \$525/month. 459-0547.

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

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

Help Wanted
Surveillance Observer, Security Officer, Cook/Cashier, Slot Technician, Housekeeping. Full-time, various shifts, weekends, Salary: DOE, with benefits, gaming experience preferred, but not necessary. Applications can be found at www.svrscasino.com, Sherwood Valley Casino Admin. Office or e-mail HR at kuttile@svrscasino.com.

LOOKING FOR SKILLED CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

Pay based on skill level, full time, work all over the county and sometimes beyond, fast-growing company with a great team and expanding benefits.
For more info, please call Big Fish Construction at 707-354-1252.
CA Lic. #865246



Dan Essman
Columnist

'Snake Eyes'

The Story: Origin saga of the ninjashi superhero Snake Eyes, a buddy-to-be of Hasbro Corporation's brave and true tough guy G.I. Joe. Young Snake Eyes (Henry Golding) saw his father assassinated, and grew up swearing vengeance. He entangles himself with yakuza and then with ninjas, and then with a murderous (but kinda sexy) agent of C.O.B.R.A. (I don't know what that stands for). Loyalties become complicated. Also, a secret super weapon is involved. And many snakes.

My Thoughts: Unique among action heroes, Snake Eyes changes sides a couple of times. Also unique among action movies, it requires the audience to pay attention. Also, I do not know what the acronym C.O.B.R.A. stands for. I am quite sure (93-94 percent) that it does not stand for 1985's Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act. (Now that would have been truly unique.) Maybe it isn't even an acronym?! There's lotsa killing. There's not much blood. Don't think John Wick. There are samurai-style sword fights throughout. Special kudos to Henry Golding; despite his modest Cary Grant smile, he can play a tough guy with snarling panache. Snake Eyes is the Lead, but is he a Hero? That's a problem.

Parents: Zero sex, zero swearing. It's an action toy movie. But "Snake Eyes" will confuse little children. It mucks up heroes and villains. Movies teach Virtue. Our children should always be able to know with total certainty who the good guys are, because the good guys model courage joined with decency. That's my rule for storytelling. That's the hero's journey. Ages 11 and up.

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



Counter-clockwise from top right: The young artists at the 2021 Kid's Art Camp display their watercolors of Monet's bridge done with oil pastels. Color reflections shine from this giant bubble made by Laurel outside the Willits Center for the Arts. One of the projects at Art Camp were these leaf printed tea towels. Brodey made this "Dancing Tissue" tissue paper collage for her portfolio. 2021 Art Camp teachers, from left, founder Ann Maglante, Nancy Davenport, and Aidyn McFadden.

Art Camp

Young artists spend a week creating projects and having fun at the WCA

Submitted by Kid's Art Camp

Last week, July 12-19, 29 young artists gathered for the Sixth Annual Kid's Art Camp held upstairs at the Willits Center for the Arts. The ages ranged from 5 ½ to 12, and we created together all week.

The fun art projects included ceramic pinch pots, a tissue paper collage on their portfolios, a collage tree painting, fabric printing, magnet art, and a 3-D cardboard jellyfish with multicolor tentacles. A watercolor of Claude Monet's famous Bridge at Giverny and a cut paper collage inspired by Henri Matisse completed the week.

Each day started with silly songs and fun movement, and giant bubbles outside were a favorite.

"I had two wonderful teachers working with me, my best friend from college, Nancy Davenport, and my former art student, Aidyn McFadden," said Art Camp founder Ann Maglante. "Aidyn was a joy to work with because of her positive attitude and all her experience assisting her mom at 'Room to Bloom.'"

"I hope that many of the skills the students learned they can continue to practice this summer. Thank you to the Willits Center for the Arts for their generous scholarship program. I look forward to next year," Maglante said.

Playful Splish

Splish is a very playful kitten. He's a domestic short hair cat, buff orange, neutered, and he's about 3 months old. He loves to play with toys and his siblings. He is friendly with people and gets along well with other cats.



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

Humane Society has many kittens

White kitty, grey kitty, orange kitty... more kitties!? There are just sooo many kitties here! Many of our kittens are ready to go to a new home but very soon, but have no adopters lined up yet. Every kitten that gets adopted opens a spot for a new kitten to be rescued, and we get calls for help every single day!

All of our kittens that are adopted are spayed or neutered, vaccinated and microchipped. These sweet kittens got lucky when they came to our shelter and are waiting to hit the jackpot and find loving forever homes! To apply for a cat or kitten today please go to mendocinohumane.org then email catteam@hsmc.org or call 707-485-0123



Public health officer advises on mask use, vaccination

Mendocino Public Health Officer Andy Coren, MD, released a "strong recommendation" to the Mendocino County public on Friday evening, July 23 that "everyone in our community who is not exempt" wear a mask indoors and outside in a crowd with unvaccinated people."

Below is the full letter from Dr. Coren.

Hello Mendocino County,

I am making this strong recommendation to you as your Public Health Officer and as a family doctor. I am very concerned about the increase in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations in our county. In the past month we have seen the average new COVID cases triple from 3.7 to 11 per day and the number of people hospitalized has almost tripled from 5 to 14 – numbers we have not seen since the terrible surge last winter.

The Delta variant, which is now in our county, is twice as contagious, spreading to more people faster than we've seen before. It mostly targets the unvaccinated people but even vaccinated people who are immune-compromised (advanced age, some illnesses or medications) are at risk. COVID-19 is targeting younger adults, and it is now the 10th leading cause of death in children.

Therefore, I am strongly recommending that everyone in our community (who is not exempt) wear a mask indoors and outside in a crowd with unvaccinated people. Masks are proven to slow transmission to friends, family, and the community. Masks should be 2-3 layers of cloth and should fit tightly over the nose and under the chin for optimal protection of those around you. People who need more protection should consider a more effective N95 type mask.

The rest of Signatures [From Page 1

response!" said Kate Marianchild, TPR's outreach coordinator. "And what a relief! Yesterday we gathered in petitions from all over the county and counted them. Today we placed them safely in the hands of Katrina Bartolomie, Mendocino County's trusted clerk-recorder."

However, the Small Is Beautiful Mendocino referendum group was not able to gather the necessary number of signatures, according to emails they made public on their Facebook page and then through press outlets.

While the county office is still going through the process of validating the signatures for TPR, what this means is that in all likelihood county voters will be deciding whether to keep Chapter 22.18 or reject it entirely.

The county supervisors will have the option of willingly repealing the ordinance on their own, but this may be unlikely given the strong support for the ordinance shown by all of the supervisors except for Third District Supervisor John Haschak who has continually voted against it.

If not repealed by the supervisors, the matter will go to the voters either in November or in a special election at a later date.

According to the press release from TPR, Chapter 22.18 "was scheduled to go into effect on July 23, but is now on hold while the elections office staff validates the signatures."

Among the challenges for gathering signatures TPR spoke of in their press release was "a scorching heat wave" their petitioners had to deal with and "interference by paid harassers."

There have been reports of tense interactions at some of the petition gathering sites recently. At a recent board of supervisors meeting, Willits cannabis business owner Ron Edwards spoke during public comments and described some of what he's seen that's been disturbing to him.

"I have never seen the discourse in the county as high as it is," said Edwards. "To have people calling the police on each other and screaming matches.... We could have left [the 10% rule] out and, in my opinion, it would have avoided a lot of what we've got going on right now."

Small Is Beautiful organizer Jim Shields said previously in an email that "if either or both [referendums] make the ballot, there's going to be a ton of money, both in-county and outside-county spent here," noting that the steering committee of one anti-referendum group, Citizens for Sustainable Agriculture, consisted of several large local cannabis company representatives.

TPR steering committee member Ellen Drell did express some hope in the press release that the board of supervisors would have a change of heart given what has been expressed by citizens of the county.

"The public has spoken clearly through this petitioning process," said Drell. "We are hopeful that the board of supervisors will take this public outpouring to heart and rescind the ordinance, enforce the existing laws, and conduct an environmental impact report before opening the county to more cannabis expansion. That's what the people want."

As for the Small Is Beautiful group, organizer Shields said in an email sent out to volunteers that he feels their cause has been heard and had an effect on the county supervisors, who are now considering enacting an additional ordinance scaling back cannabis expansion and the maximum cultivation size allowed.

"Even though we didn't qualify to file our referendum petitions so an election could be held on the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors' inexplicable and ill-advised decision to expand cannabis cultivation that only further exacerbates the depletion of water resources during a drought," Shields said, "we nevertheless were a driving force in a process that may result in a vastly scaled back expansion part of the ordinance- the phased approach which starts with 2 acres or 10%, whichever is less. By participating in a process that gives people a say in the laws and policies that affect our community and county, we have taken the steps to ensure everyone's voice can be heard. That is a success."

Masks will help control this pandemic. But vaccines can help get us back to normal. So GET VACCINATED NOW. Vaccines are extremely effective. Unvaccinated people get COVID 8 times more than vaccinated. And those who are vaccinated who get COVID have milder disease, rarely need the hospital, and almost never die. Immunity obtained from the vaccine is greater and more reliable than getting COVID. The science behind the vaccines has been around for over 20 years and has been used successfully for influenza, rabies, Ebola and others.

Vaccines are safe. There is no evidence that they change our DNA, tag or "chip" us or interfere with fertility. In fact, infants and nursing babies whose mothers have been vaccinated get immune globulins that may protect them. American Academy of Family Practice, American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine, and the CDC all recommend vaccinating pregnant and nursing women. "Long COVID" has already proven to be much worse than any long-term side effects of the vaccine.

Bottom line: the risk of getting COVID is much greater than the vaccine.

Finally, if you get sick with even mild symptoms, STAY HOME and GET TESTED, even if you are vaccinated, so we can stop further transmission.

None of us want to get sick, get others sick, or go back to "lock-down mode" again. Our community successfully fought this pandemic last year by working together. If we follow these common sense, scientifically proven recommendations we can get control of this surge sooner and get back to normal again.

The rest of Housing [From Page 1

of housing and ensuring that projects meet regulatory standards. PBS is not active in seeking modifications to state standards to meet the local housing needs and have experienced difficulty completing permit applications in a timely manner. All PBS functions are passive without specific direction from the board of supervisors.

"The Mendocino County Community Development Commission and Rural Community Housing Development Corporation have been primary sources of developing new housing to address local needs. Of the cities, Ukiah has developed a creative way to adapt to the demand for new housing developments through a trust fund, supported by leasing city-owned property for market-rate construction.

"It appears that the county will not meet the state-assigned number of new units without local action to remove obstructions to development, increase agency collaboration, and find funds to develop new infrastructure. The GJ believes that PBS should be directed to increase its capacity to serve these functions."

Findings

F1. The areas around cities have the best developed sewer and water systems for new housing in Mendocino County. Rural areas of the County do not have adequate public infrastructure and amenities to meet California Department of Housing and Community Development projections.

F2. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, PBS has developed more efficient digital options for routine matters which has created a more streamlined process to free PBS to pursue new opportunities for solving departmental issues and verifying state regulations and statistics.

F3. The Mendocino Council of Governments is designated by the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development to coordinate the housing need allocation process for Mendocino County. By default, this has become the regional planning agency.

F4. Lack of housing forces the price of existing housing to be unaffordable for working families, as well as preventing new potential employees to choose to work in Mendocino County.

F5. The median income of county residents and the higher cost of goods and services does not keep pace with the cost of new single-family homes, which discourages contractors from building here when they can profit from building in other areas.

F6. The current shortage of affordable housing will continue without Mendocino County hiring qualified housing and community development planners. Such assets would assist in locating funding sources for infrastructure improvements, attracting appropriate developers, and informing the BOS what effect proposed regulations may have on the development of new housing.

F7. There is no formal or consistent communication between PBS and its counterparts in the cities of Fort Bragg, Point Arena, Ukiah and Willits, which is indicative of the lack of planning on a regional basis in this county.

F8. The prohibitive cost of new construction and limited income of most area residents makes new market-rate projects risky for builders.

F9. The activation of a Mendocino County Building Trust Fund (in-lieu fund) would give Mendocino County leverage in encouraging proactive development to meet the county's needs for infrastructure and housing projects.

F10. Federal and state funding is targeted to urban areas and the BOS does not direct PBS to actively seek mitigations on these restrictions to acquire funding for housing projects when state and federal funds become available.

F11. As a result of restrictions on the use of local budget monies, Mendocino County's Native American tribes may only be invited to the table when discretionary funds for housing are available through federal sources.

The recommendations and the entire Housing report are posted to the Grand Jury's website, and can be read at: www.mendocinocounty.org/home/showpublisheddocument/44459/637622856639330000

Links to all 2020/21 Grand Jury reports can be found at: www.mendocinocounty.org/government/grand-jury/2020-2021-reports

Willits Senior Center Indoor Lunch

Willits Senior Center's dining room is open for fully vaccinated diners, at least two weeks after their final shot, or those with proof of a negative COVID-19 test in the last 72 hours. New hours: from 11:45 am to 1 pm, Monday through Friday. Indoor meals still \$5 through July. Please bring vaccination card or proof of a COVID test in the last 72 hours.

Volunteers Wanted

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

Drive-Thru & Walk-Up Meals

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

Home Meal Delivery

The Senior Center Meals on Wheels delivered

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

The rest of Arrest [From Page 1

during their investigation.

The adult male, Casey Riggs, 32, of Laytonville and the adult female, 27, of Willits have two children in common from a prior dating relationship.

On July 19, after all of them having dinner together in Ukiah, an argument began over child custody. Riggs took the children and went to his residence located in Laytonville.

The adult female followed and as she pulled in the driveway, Riggs came over to her car and began kicking the driver's door numerous times which caused visible damage.

The adult female exited the car, and the pair continued to verbally argue in the driveway.

Riggs reportedly pushed the adult female against the car and hit her in the face several times. Riggs then put his right hand on the adult female's neck and began strangling her but finally released his grip.

The adult female was going to leave, but Riggs demanded she stay and she complied based upon fear. The pair continued to argue when Riggs reportedly grabbed the adult female by the hair, pulled her through the house into the backyard. Riggs then took her cellular phone, and threw it off into the distance. The adult female was able to get away from Riggs and tried to find her phone.

Thereafter, Riggs obtained a rifle from inside the house and pointed the rifle in her direction before shooting it twice. Riggs stepped closer to the adult female and brandished a .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol.

Riggs pointed the pistol towards the adult female's head and discharged it over her shoulder. Riggs made threatening statements and the adult female was able to get to her car to leave the area.

Riggs grabbed a rock and tried to break the windows of the car prior to jumping on the hood of the vehicle as she tried to leave. Riggs fell off the hood, and the adult female was able to leave the area.

While investigating the incident, deputies noticed Riggs driving up and down the highway looking for the adult female. Riggs was contacted in downtown Laytonville and taken into custody without incident.

Deputies then responded to Riggs' residence to conduct a welfare check and located the children in a safe condition.

Deputies noticed three firearms in plain view along with ammunition. The first gun was a loaded SKS type rifle just inside the front door. The next was a loaded pump action rifle outside by the back door. The third was a loaded .45 caliber semi-automatic handgun in an open drawer in the bedroom where one of the children was sleeping. Deputies further noticed a large variety of ammunition in the residence.

Deputies learned Riggs was prohibited from possessing firearms or ammunition due to an active restraining order. A records check also confirmed two of the firearms were reported stolen previously.

Riggs was booked into the Mendocino County Jail on multiple charges including felony charges of assault with a firearm, threat to commit crime resulting in death or great bodily injury, and domestic battery. The booking log says Riggs is being held in lieu of \$175,000 bail.

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Mon.-Thurs.: 4:30 & 7:30pm

SNAKE EYES
(A G.I. Joe Origin Story)
(PG13) 2 hrs 1 min.
Fri.: 5:00 & 7:45pm
Sat/Sun.: 2:15, 5:00 & 7:45pm
Mon.-Thurs.: 5:00 & 7:45pm

THE GREEN KNIGHT
(R) 2 hrs 9 mins
Fri.: 5:15 & 8:00pm
Sat/Sun.: 2:30, 5:15 & 8:00pm
Mon.-Thurs.: 5:15 & 8:00pm

Movie Times for July 30 thru August 5 NOW OPEN 7 DAYS PER WEEK + WEEKEND MATINEES!! Private Screenings Available. Call Lois @ 707-354-3295 to schedule.

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The More Life Art Walk
WILLITS
July 31st 6pm-10pm
Leopold Collective 109 North Main St.
Re-Evolution 15 W. Mendocino (next to the Moon Lady)
Art in the Plaza 99 S. Main St. (Behind Café 77)
Willits Center for the Arts 71 E. Commercial St. (Next to the Noyo Theater)
Rossi's Creative Art and Shiny Eyes Soul Creations 1766 S. Main St. (The West side of Main St. at the other end of town)
Brickhouse Coffee 3 S. Main and E. Commercial (SE corner of Main and E. Commercial)

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Anne Magratten & Danza Davis
July 31 - August 29, 2021
Opening Reception Saturday, July 31st, 6-9pm

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"Where the Champs Elysées meets the 101."
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The rest of Garden
From Page 7

his investment in the garden beds. "And it's so much fun!" he joyfully added.

Singleton's story about joining the garden is different. "It was providential," said the English teacher. She met and talked with Furr in a store when Furr was purchasing diatomaceous earth for the Harrah garden. After talking with Furr, she thought: "What a wonderful idea to grow vegetables for these seniors." Furr also told her there was a box open if she was interested. "And I thought, 'Oh, my gosh! I used to be in the soil all the time. So, there it is. It happened so fast, and I feel like I've been here the whole time. I love it!'" Singleton also said that working in the garden is healing and a way for her to deal with stress.

It seems that few people take advantage of gardening at the Harrah Senior Center's garden, so Furr has taken the rest of the garden on as her personal project. The nurse and caregiver said, "I do this garden out of love for the seniors." She noticed the elderly like tomatoes, cucumbers and squash: "So I plant more of them," she said.

Adults of all ages and abilities can visit, rent a 50-foot row or raised bed or volunteer in the Garden of Eatin'. It's wheelchair accessible with raised beds, container plants, and raised containers for herbs and other plants.

There are many ways to support and be involved with the senior center's larger Willits community. Enjoying yourself in the garden with others or enjoying the fruits of their labors at the Senior Center Dining Hall are ways to get involved.

For questions and information about the Garden of Eatin' at the Harrah Senior Center, contact Shannon Furr at 707-321-8760.

The rest of Commission
From Page 1

needing an additional month to adjust the data for all jurisdictions to account for incarcerated persons by the county of their last known home address.

In spite of these unusual delays in final census data, Elections Code still requires that the boundaries of the supervisorial districts shall be adopted by the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors no later than December 15, 2021.

In adopting updated supervisorial districts, the ARC and board must comply with many requirements. In summary, districts must have substantially equal populations per district and must comply with the federal Voting Rights Act. Newly revised state law criteria requires the following in order of priority:

1. Geographically contiguous districts (i.e., the county may not draw two districts that only join at a single point).
2. Geographic integrity of local neighborhoods or communities shall be respected in a manner that minimizes its division (i.e., a population that shares common social or economic interests that should be included within a single district for purposes of its effective and fair representation).
3. Geographic integrity of a city or town shall be respected in a manner that minimizes its division.
4. Easily identifiable boundaries that follow natural or artificial barriers (rivers, streets, highways, rail lines, etc.), and streets.
5. Lines shall be drawn to encourage geographic compactness (i.e., not bypassing one group of people to reach another group of people).

Application process
All appointees to the ARC must be residents of Mendocino County and may not be an elected official, family member of an elected official, or paid campaign staff of an elected official. Interested applicants are invited to apply online at www.mendocinocounty.org/redistricting or request a hard copy of the "Appointment of Interest Application" by contacting 707-463-4441. **Applications are due no later than August 6, 2021. Applications can be submitted by emailing redistricting@mendocinocounty.org or by U.S. mail to: Mendocino County Executive Office, 501 Low Gap Rd., Rm. 1010, Ukiah, CA 95482**

The board of supervisors will make appointments on or after August 17, 2021.

NOTE: Please be aware that all information provided in the Appointment of Interest Application is subject to public disclosure.

To sign up to receive redistricting information via email, please go to: <https://www.mendocinocounty.org/community/enotification>

The rest of Masking
From Page 1

county," Dr. Coren explains in his statement. "In the past month we have seen the average new COVID cases triple from 3.7 to 11 per day and the number of people hospitalized has almost tripled from 5 to 14 - numbers we have not seen since the terrible surge last winter."

On Tuesday, July 27, the federal Centers for Disease Control also issued new guidance: "To maximize protection from the Delta variant and prevent possibly spreading it to others, wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area of substantial or high transmission."

Mendocino County has been - to use the old state terminology - back in the purple or "widespread" COVID tier, defined as a daily case rate of 7 cases per 100,000 or more, since case data that was released on July 19.

The federal map of transmission rates shows Mendocino County as "substantial," as is Sonoma County, with Lake, Humboldt, and Trinity counties considered "high."

The daily case rate in the most recent Mendocino County update, July 27, shows a case rate of 14.05 per 100,000 cases.

California Department of Public Health stated Tuesday in response to emails from the state press asking about the new CDC guidance: "We are doing a full review of the updated recommendations released by the CDC today and will evaluate existing guidance to determine the best path forward to protect Californians from the spread of COVID-19 and the highly contagious Delta variant."

New data posted by Mendocino County Public Health this week continues to show a rising number of COVID cases. Monday's data update (covering new cases on Friday and over the weekend) reported 45 new cases, with a case rate of 10.34.

Tuesday's update reported 18 new cases, and a daily case rate of 14.05, with 6 Mendocino County residents hospitalized and 4 more residents in intensive care units, and 140 currently in isolation.

Of those 140 residents in isolation, 98 are in the Ukiah area, 29 in the North County area (Willits, etc.), 7 are in the North Coast area (Fort Bragg, etc.), 5 are in the South Coast area (Mendocino, etc.), and 1 is in the South County area (Boonville, etc.)

The number of deaths attributed to COVID-19 in Mendocino County remains at 50, with no new deaths reported since June 4.

The Delta variant, considered twice as contagious, Dr. Coren wrote in his statement, is considered responsible for the new surge locally, and elsewhere.

The first "sequenced" data showing the Delta variant in a Mendocino County COVID case was found April 20. A total of five cases have been officially identified as caused by the Delta variant in Mendocino County.

But Mendocino County is "in the dark," said Deputy Public Health Officer Dr. Noemi Doohan at Friday's COVID press conference, as far as "exactly how many Delta virus cases there are in this county." With no Public Health lab in Mendocino County, and a backlog at state testing facilities, few local COVID samples have been sequenced - which analysis is what is needed to identify which variant has infected any one person.

"What we're seeing now is certainly due to the

Delta variant," Dr. Doohan said. "By the behavior we're seeing, because we're tracking our data so closely, we're convinced the Delta variant is absolutely present in our community."

"State numbers show that 83 percent of the analyzed samples from California in July have been Delta variant," Doohan said, "and we're going to assume that 83 percent of our cases in Mendocino County are the Delta variant."

Dr. Doohan also said data they're seeing from the state is showing that the incubation time for the Delta variant is shorter, too: "from the time you are infected to the time you become ill is looking like it might be two days. The COVID virus that we're used to from all these months and months, it was more like the incubation period was 5 to 7 days."

In his slide presentation at the Friday press conference, Public Health's Department Operations Center Manager Kirk Ford offered some details on Mendocino County residents who got "post-vaccination infections" - those who got symptomatic COVID after being fully or partially vaccinated.

As of Friday, Public Health was reporting there have been a total of 98 post-vaccination infections in Mendocino County, 55 residents who were fully vaccinated before getting diagnosed with COVID-19, and 43 residents who were partially vaccinated (i.e., who got only one of the two shots required for the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines).

One slide had post-vaccination infection rates shown by the vaccine administered: 0.070 percent for Moderna, 0.316% for J&J, and 0.146% for Pfizer. "You'll notice those numbers are very, very small," Ford said, "because that's what we're seeing here in Mendocino County," Ford said. Nationally and in larger areas, he said, they were seeing post-vaccination infection rates of closer to 5 or 10 percent, "but we haven't even reached a half-percent here in Mendocino County," he said.

Despite the existence of these post-vaccination infections, in his Friday statement, Dr. Coren wrote: "Vaccines are extremely effective. Unvaccinated people get COVID eight times more than vaccinated. And those who are vaccinated who get COVID have milder disease, rarely need the hospital, and almost never die."

In addition to pharmacies and medical clinics that offer the vaccine around the county, Public Health is offering vaccination clinics every Friday at the Ukiah Fairgrounds, Fine Arts Building, 1066 North State Street. All vaccine types are available from 9 am to 1 pm and 2 to 5 pm every Friday. Vaccines are free, and available by walking in - no advance registration is needed.

For more information about vaccination clinics in Mendocino County, visit <https://www.mendocinocounty.org/community/novel-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccinations/vaccination-clinics>

Willits Weekly
We're online and in print

ONE LESS SPARK ONE LESS wildfire
Safe Towing
Dragging chains will throw sparks. Never substitute parts when towing. Only use appropriate safety pins & hitch ball.
Nothing Dragging
Make sure your vehicle is properly maintained, with nothing dragging on the ground.
Be Wheel Safe
Check tire pressure. Driving on an exposed wheel rim throws sparks.
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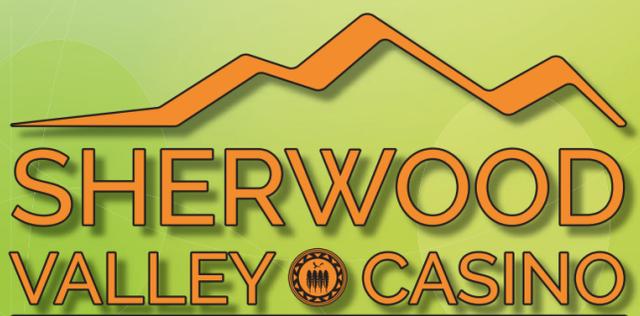
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