

[illegible]

Donations Accepted Edition No. 467 **Thursday, September 1, 2022**

**Submitted by CHP,
Sacramento**

The CHP's Labor Day

CHP |
Over on page 13

**Submitted by the
Coalition to Save
Jackson State Forest**

Michael Hunter, chair of the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians, said he was

Over on page 13

Submitted by WPD

A passing sergeant with the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office arrived at scene with the responding WPD officers and contacted the victim and five witnesses.

Assault

Over on page 13



Above, from left: Guests gather at tables and check out the schedule of events planned for the 2022 Pure Mendocino event. One of the entrees prepared by Olan Cox and crew: Heirloom tomatoes, cucumbers, sweet onions, Kalamata olives, parsley, sweet peppers and feta tossed in a lemon, dill, garlic and olive oil vinaigrette. Dr. Don and Lynda Coursey smile for the camera after making their donation to the Cancer Resource Center of Mendocino County. Below: California State Senator Mike McGuire, Mendocino County Director of Public Health Anne Molgaard, and Dark Horse Vineyard owner and event venue host, Paul Dolan, pose together at Pure Mendocino.



**Photos by
Maureen
Jennison**

Annual event
raises \$162,000 for
county-wide cancer
support center

Maureen Jennison
Graphics & Photographress
maureen@willitsweekly.com

Read the rest of
Fundraiser | *Over on page 15*



At far left: Kate Black listens intently to the testimonial speaker, Cindy Gunderson. At left: Sen. McGuire speaks with Katrina Frey as she pledges her donation to the cancer center. Below, from left: Cancer Resource Center Executive Director Karen Oslund, left, smiles with Diane Clatty, friend and supporter, who attended event with the Solid Waste of Willits group. Friends new and old meet in the appetizers and mingling area before the dinner. Judge Richard Henderson smiles from his table. McGuire gives a passionate speech about donating to the center, especially after two years of not holding the Pure Mendocino event, which is the center's largest fundraiser.



Above: The mingling and appetizer area was filled with guests sampling food and wine before the event, including nibbles from Caring Kitchen, Oco Time, and Kitchen Capers Catering. Below, left: The silent auction area was filled with additional items to encourage donations to the center including art work, wine, trips, spa treatments, and more. Below, right: Paul Dolan, owner of Dark Horse Vineyards where the event was held, poses with California Assemblymember Jim Wood and Melissa Kester.



Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Several council members said they had “unanswered questions” about the ordinance, including questions about whether the city or county would be responsible for enforcing

Over on page 4

**Submitted by CAL FIRE
Sacramento**

After nearly an eight-month pause, work will resume with modifications guiding how these operations continue. A few of these notable modifications include:

Over on page 11

By Sgt. Richard Van Baren, for MCSO

The incident occurred while the residents were away and was discovered when they returned home from their trip.

Cruelty |
Over on page 4

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Thank you, Willits

To the Editor:

This past weekend the Willits High School Classes of 1962 and 1963 held their 60-year reunion. As we would say in "our day," it was a blast! Truly a blast from the past!

We are all approaching age 80, and what fun it was to have a nostalgia-filled weekend in our hometown!

There are people here in town to thank so much for their contributions to our fun! Jill Persico at Loose Caboose, where our adventures began on Friday night! Pete Swanton and Flying Dog Pizza! Willits High School and Michael Colvig, principal, for an informative, pride-filled adventure around the school! Lunch in the Food Service Center, catered by Lisa Kvasnicka of Scoops! Beautiful yellow roses and green-and-gold arrangements by Flowers by Annette! Dessert baked by Kathy Shuster!

"American Graffiti" in our beloved Noyo Theatre! Then over to Scoops for ice cream and a look at beautiful old cars, watched over lovingly by members of the Willits Shifters Car Club! To round out our weekend, the Willits Senior Center served us breakfast!

Willits people, remember to patronize your local businesses! We need them, and they need us! They, along with the high school and the Willits Unified School District, were generous to us beyond measure

Get yourselves down to the Noyo Theatre.... They are showing old, beloved films for the next two months, while there is a lull in new movie releases. We need our theater!

From our hearts, we are so grateful to have grown up in our beloved Willits, California.

Diane and Gary Ford; Chuck Persico; George Dudley; Kathleen Ells Lewis, all of Willits

Cut trees finally cleaned up

To the Editor:

My place was one of the first ones cut up here [Sherwood Road above Brooktrails]. With every hot day, it got dryer. Crews came four more times, cut trees and brush. None ever got hauled – about 20 trees and piles not chipped. Everyone made promises about getting it cleaned up.

It was cut four or five times from early spring to the end of August. These very dry cut-down trees and brush about 40 or 50 feet down the hill below my house.

I'm 92, have cancer, and barely walk – slowly.

By the end of August it got taken care of. I contacted Supervisor John Haschak, he got right on it. Rancho Trees worked three hot days, and got it cleaned up. Thanks to you all.

Margo M. Bailey, Willits

The state of Jackson State Forest

To the Editor:

Under the shifting sands of the Sahara Desert lie the petrified remnants of a forest, part of a vast network of lakes, rivers, marshes, trees, meadows and fertile soil that sustained the Roman Empire for 1,000 years. This history

The Rules: **LETTERS**

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

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

Willits Weekly

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

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3,500 - 4,000 copies printed by Western Web on Thursdays

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repeats across the globe, from the storied Cedars of Lebanon to the growing desert region centered in present-day Arizona and California.

Richard St. Barbe Baker, a champion of reforestation world-wide, noted early last century that a healthy forest could be logged and grow back. A forest may even be destroyed a second time and grow again ... though in a weakened state. By the third removal of trees, the land is on its way to becoming desert.

We are witnessing this tragic history in the 50,000 acre Jackson Demonstration State Forest, where a 500-acre tract harvested in 2018 stands as a stark warning of what the beloved Caspar 500 section will soon look like as CalFire proceeds to harvest and destroy the core strength of the few remaining second-growth redwoods.

Please do not believe CalFire's press release ("CAL FIRE's 'new vision' for Jackson Forest") beginning on page 1 of Willits Weekly of August 25, 2022). A powerful network of foresters, activists, tribal leaders and scientists has been hammering at JDSF for decades to honestly follow their mission statement.

Please stay informed. I know that public awareness is high – most recently I overheard two elderly men asking themselves "Why can't they just stop cutting the trees?" For those of you not yet on board, here are some possible positive actions to take:

1. Log onto the Mendocino Trail Stewards website for easy-to-understand explanations from folks who've been on the ground, in the duff, creating magical trails in JDSF for years.
2. If you can't visit JDSF for yourself, leaf through "This Gem of a Forest," a collection of photos, short essays, and distilled facts on JDSF published by the Trail Stewards. There are copies of "This Gem of a Forest" in every public library in Mendocino County.
3. Visit the website of the Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC - based in Arcata) for updates.
4. Join the Trees Foundation out of Garberville and subscribe to their thrice-yearly magazine covering the dozens of established sustainable forestry projects they support.
5. If you can, visit JDSF to see for yourself what is at stake here. Michael Hunter, chairman of the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians, led walks with hundreds of people in February. I've been taking friends, neighbors and family to JDSF once or twice a month for over a year now.

I'm listed in the phone book and would love to talk more. Hoping to see you in the woods,

Robin Lelel, Willits

A treasure for Brooktrails

To the Editor:

We read the article in Willits Weekly in which there was a mention of the Brooktrails Golf Course and the management of Marcus and Jacqueline Newby. My husband and I wanted to give our support and appreciation of the excellent job they are doing.

We have been coming to the course for about five years. We originally came for the scenery, but Marcus and Jaqueline's hospitality has certainly been a factor in our coming back. I might add that we live 45 minutes south of Ukiah, so convenience is not a factor.

After our first trip to Brooktrails Golf Course, they both made it a priority to know our names, what our favorite drinks and snacks are. They also always have our favorite snacks and drinks on hand, even though we do not spend a lot of money on them. Marcus and Jacqueline have been very friendly to friends and relatives we have brought up with us. They are always warm and welcoming to all of their patrons. Other golfers we have talked to agree with our opinion.

In the article, we read that there was an issue of a capital reserve contribution that the board wants the Newbys to pay. I wonder if the board is aware of all of the improvements and maintenance that Marcus has made to the course. Every time we come up there we see evidence of his hard work.

In spring, summer and fall we see lots of mowing and weed eating. We see the greens being watered and cared for. In the rainy season we see where Marcus is always dealing with soggy greens, adding sand and sod, moving the holes and shafts as necessary. He makes grass plugs which consist of making a hole about ¾ of an inch wide, 2 inches deep, and then seeding it. Then he transplants these plugs, and he does this for months.

Marcus also has moles and ground squirrels to keep at bay. During winter especially, he keeps up with lots of fallen branches and other woodland debris as well as trash left by customers. He does all of this while never being in the way of his golfers (and disc golfers). This is not to mention improvements such as new sand traps which were added and are maintained, replacement felt, repairs done to the bridges, etc.

These are only the things we see, and we are only there for 9 rounds about once a week. There is some new outdoor furniture and a television for golfers to enjoy. Not to mention the new lawn mower mentioned in the article of Willits Weekly. My husband and I feel that because of all of this, the "forgive vote" would be the appropriate vote.

In the article, the writer mentions that the payment was suspended one year due to COVID. I think many of us feel that COVID has made an economic impact for more than one year, and with the current economic climate, things are not going back to how they were anytime soon.

We believe that Marcus and Jacqueline are a treasure for Brooktrails and hope the board does not do anything to drive them away, because we doubt that they could be replaced.

Cris and Pattie Fischer, Brooktrails golfers

Citizens' proposed county water ordinance

To the Editor:

These are excerpts from a proposed draft Mendocino

County ordinance to "Regulate the Sale and Transport of Groundwater from Private Wells." It is a draft ordinance proposed by citizens, not an already existing ordinance.

It was drafted by a group of county citizens, including the signers of this letter, Sherrie Ebyam and Ellen Dreil, and presented to the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors on July 12, 2022. The board accepted the draft and directed that it be reviewed by the county Planning Commission at a public hearing. No date for the public hearing has yet been set.

The citizens who wrote this draft ordinance encourage the public to review it and to share your views with our board of supervisors.

To access the complete ordinance, go to: mendocino.legistar.com then scroll down to Board of Supervisors meeting 7/12/22; click on "Agenda" link; scroll down to agenda item 5d; click on the attachment called: "7-11-22 Revised Draft Water Hauling Ordinance".

This ordinance applies only to persons or entities selling groundwater from private wells and/or transporting water for sale.

The purpose of this ordinance is to: protect the county's groundwater resources; avoid adverse effects to source wells and neighboring well owners; and limit environmental impacts of hauling water from private wells.

SECTION ONE: Definitions

A. Adverse Effect shall mean a measured or calculated drop in the maximum available water column at the source well or at a hydrologically contiguous well of more than 10 percent.

B. County Hydrologist means a person who is hired or retained by the county, with responsibilities as set forth in the provisions of this ordinance.

C. Hydrologic Well Test shall mean a methodology where a well is flowed at a constant rate for an extended period of time while the water level in the well is monitored and recorded at frequent intervals, for the purpose of determining aquifer transmissivity, storage coefficient, well efficiency, and boundary effects.

D. Maximum Monthly Volume is the quantity of water that the seller may produce from the source well in a calendar month. The maximum monthly volume is established by the county hydrologist by determining a production rate that will not result in an adverse impact.

E. Monitoring Well shall mean a well drilled into an aquifer that is hydraulically connected to the source well and used to determine the water level at a specific point within the aquifer.

F. Static Water Level shall mean the distance measured from the top of the casing or other identified reference point, to the water level in the well- (A) after the well has not produced for a period of at least 24 hours, or (B) the water level change is less than 0.2 feet per hour for wells equipped with continuous water level measurement devices.

G. Source Well shall mean the well or wells proposed for use by the water seller.

H. Water Seller shall mean the legal owner(s) of a private well who sells water from the well to another party.

Definitions for the following terms are also included in the full ordinance:

Drawdown, Flow Rate, Radius of Influence, Storage Coefficient, Specific Capacity, Transmissivity, and Well Efficiency.

SECTION TWO: Water Selling Requirements

A. Any person proposing to become a water seller under this ordinance must obtain; a Mendocino County Minor Use Permit, and a Mendocino County Business License, which must be renewed annually.

B. A applicant for a Minor Use Permit and Business License under this ordinance shall submit the following for each proposed source well: a well permit from the Mendocino County Department of Environmental Health; a well completion report from the Mendocino County Department of Environmental Health; average flow rate; hours of operation; total monthly volume; the results of a hydrologic well test on the source well(s) which shall include aquifer transmissivity, storage coefficient, and well efficiency; and the calculated radius of influence.

C. Establish an initial Static Water Level for each source well and require monthly measurement of static water levels throughout the pumping season. The measured static water level may be used by the county hydrologist to determine if an adverse effect has occurred and to reduce pumping rates in response to aquifer depletion to avoid adverse effects. (See complete ordinance for details.)

D. Maximum monthly volume

The water seller shall not exceed the maximum monthly volume in any calendar month. The county hydrologist may revise the maximum monthly volume based on subsequent static water level measurements.

E. Metering

The water seller shall install a volume metering device for the purpose of determining the quantity of water pumped from the well.

F. Reporting

The well operator shall submit a monthly report to the county hydrologist.

G. The water seller shall keep a tracking log that includes the water purchaser, volume purchased, and destination of delivery. The log shall be submitted to the county on a regular schedule.

SECTION THREE: Water Transporting Requirements

A. No person shall transport water to a commercial cannabis operation that does not have a state license or a state provisional license and either a county permit or an application in active review by the county cannabis department.

B. No person shall transport water from a water supplier

Read the rest of **Letters** | Over on page 11



At far left: Claudia Wenning of Quantum Level Health in Willits displays her organic herbal tea.

At left: Ryo brings his fresh sushi rolls and bento boxes to Mariposa Market daily.

At right: Free samples of tasty confections, sushi and fruits are available for all to try.

At right, below: Store Manager Kevin Copperfield talks with employee Mark Adderly near the gift section.

Below, left: Mary Anne Trevey started Mariposa Market 43 years ago.

Below, right: Shakai Products of Santa Rosa offers hair care, facial care, and a CBD line.

Below, right, bottom: Karen Gridley created these colorful potholders.

Photos by Mathew Caine



Organic Origins

Mariposa Market celebrates 43 years in business with a customer appreciation day full of samples, music and deals

Forty-three years ago, a modest little food stand, Mariposa Produce, opened for business on Main Street by owner Mary Anne Trevey. It was small, but they focused on quality, for which they searched throughout the nearby counties, finding fresh,

healthy (not necessarily organic at that time) produce, nuts and grains.

Due to the popular acceptance of their products, the business soon grew to the point where they needed more space and they moved to 600 South Main Street, the current location of George's Geodes and Gems. With the greatly expanded space, they continued to build their popular inventory and customer base. Then, in 2009, Mariposa Market moved to its current location, next door, at 500 South Main Street, in the spacious, inviting location that Willits has come to love.

Now, all their produce is organic and they offer a vast array of dairy, produce, meats, groceries, bulk grains and

pastas, health and beauty products, beer and wine, and gift items, all of the highest quality.

In order to thank the loyal customers of Willits, who have helped to create this mecca of healthy, locally grown foods, Mariposa Market offers a once-a-year anniversary sale and celebration, complete with vendor booths, music, and tasty samples of sushi, desserts, and other delights.

"This is our annual anniversary party," said store manager Kevin Copperfield, "which is part promotion but it's mostly a customer appreciation day. We've got live music. We've got food. We have vendors. We've got raffles. We've got a free spin wheel.

"Our philosophy is bringing good, healthy food to the community," said Copperfield. "Our sign says 'organic and natural' but we try to make it as organic as possible. I

Read the rest of **Anniversary** | Over on page 15



Willits Mini Storage

HELP WANTED

Maintenance Worker Needed for large storage facility.

Sunday thru Wednesday.

•Construction experience a must with general plumbing and electrical knowledge.

•Must be able to lift 50 lbs.

•Reliable, mature and willing to get your hands dirty.

REPLY BY SEPTEMBER 15TH

Please bring your resume in person to:
Willits Mini Storage
261 Franklin Ave. • Willits, CA 95490

or email resume to: willitsministorage@willitsonline.com

CalFresh

Is a food assistance program. You can be on Social Security, have money in the bank, own cars and still receive CalFresh benefits.

Call the Senior Center to schedule an appointment to see if you qualify.

707-459-6826

HARDY SENIOR CENTER

SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1972

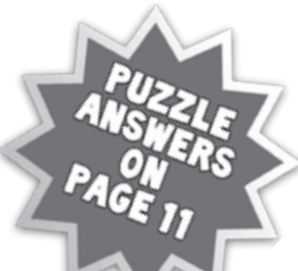
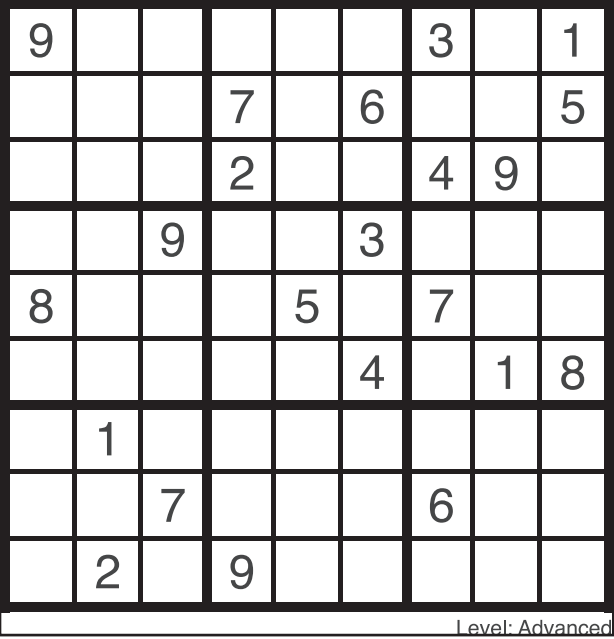
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Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

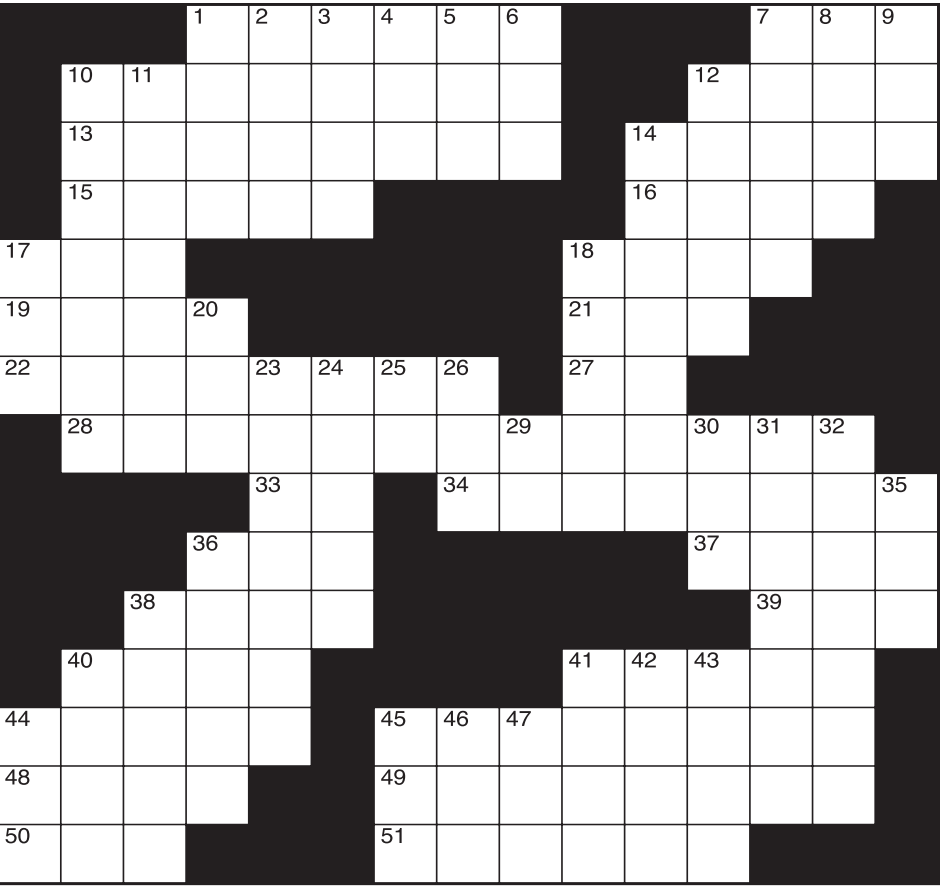
Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword



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!

SUN SAFETY WORD SEARCH



CLUES ACROSS

- Grievous
- Queens ballplayer
- Honorable title
- Created
- Grillmasters do it
- War-time German cargo ship
- Cocoplum
- Hebrew calendar month
- British thermal unit
- Brews
- One of Thor's names
- Decorative scarf
- Clothes
- _: denotes past
- A way to address a lover
- Commercial
- Utters repeatedly (abbr.)
- Google certification (abbr.)
- Taxis
- Belgian village in Antwerp
- Talk excessively
- Broad volcanic crater
- Surgical instrument
- Listens to
- Revelation of a fact
- Paddles
- Heard
- Tooth caregiver
- Metric capacity units

CLUES DOWN

- Protein-rich liquids
- Musician Clapton
- Wine
- When you hope to arrive
- Something one can get stuck in
- Midway between east and southeast
- Mothers
- German river
- Israeli city ___ Aviv
- Discharged
- Areas near the retina
- Greek mythological sorceress
- Very unpleasant smell
- '___ Humbug!'
- White poplar
- Journalist Tarbell
- Teachers
- One older than you
- Long Russian river
- Run batted in
- Beloved Hollywood alien
- Holiday (informal)
- Furniture with open shelves
- Argued
- Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- Cars have them
- Volcanic craters
- Made of fermented honey and water
- Shelter for mammals or birds
- One who utilizes
- Moves swiftly on foot
- Builder's trough
- Architectural wing
- 46, 12
- Pacific Standard Time

The rest of
Tobacco

From page 1

it. The answers were unclear, but in the end City Manager Brian Bender said enforcement would primarily be handled by city staff "and potentially the police department."

Another concern was that council members had heard from educators that the problem in the schools right now was vaping, which this ordinance banning flavored tobacco products does not entirely address, and especially vaping cannabis.

"I spoke to several teachers in the last couple of weeks asking about this issue," said Vice Mayor Greta Kanne, "and one of the things I heard – from all of them – was that the issue they're finding at the high school is that the kids are smoking cannabis in these vape pens, not tobacco. And I'm wondering if we change the tobacco ordinance to ban the flavored tobacco, is that going to diminish access to these devices so that they won't be able to smoke cannabis at school, because that seems to be what I'm hearing is the real problem."

Willits High School Principal Mike Colvig asked if he could answer that question: "I think Greta hit it on the head," he said. "Banning the device is important, and being specific to just tobacco is limiting the scope of what we're tackling on a daily basis. The devices are drug delivery devices, regardless of the drug, so limiting access will help."

"The impact of what they're smoking today," Colvig continued, "is so much more powerful and dangerous, we absolutely need to do something as a community as well as a school system to protect the kids from themselves or from their friends."

"Just yesterday, our second day of school, we already had to confiscate a THC device, the second day of school. And again, it's used in the bathrooms. It's an ongoing issue."

Colvig said he was "in full support of a ban. I'd like to see it not just be limited to tobacco, but if tobacco is on the table today, I'll absolutely take it. If we have to revisit THC, so be it, it's the device itself that's the critical thing."

"I don't know if the ordinance has been written in a way that addresses that," Kanne responded.

Council member Gonzales said he substituted at Baechtel Grove Middle School and the high school, and he had been hearing, too, about vaping – and vaping cannabis – being a big problem in the schools now.

Gonzales also asked city attorney Jim Lance how the state Proposition 31 on the fall ballot might affect any new city ordinance.

Lance explained the Proposition 31 was a challenge to the 2020 SB 793 state law banning flavored tobacco products, and that a "no" vote on Proposition 31 would repeal SB 793, and a "yes" vote would affirm it. Lance also said the proposed local ordinance would have more serious consequences and much steeper fines than SB 793.

There were also questions about what the ordinance actually would ban. This is at least the third time the ordinance has been discussed at the council, and the actual proposed ordinance was not included in the agenda packet for this August 24 meeting.

Council member Madge Strong asked for clarification about whether the city or county would be responsible for enforcement, and also whether the ordinance would ban both the devices and the tobacco products.

The answer seemed to be, as she rephrased it, "so the devices are not being proposed to be outlawed or regulated in this ordinance, it's the tobacco products that go in them that are being regulated."

"Anything we can do to make a bigger dent in the availability of these products that are being marketed to youth is a step

The rest of
Cruelty

From page 1

taken of the incident which was obtained by the deputies.

Upon arrival at the location of the incident, deputies located the three deceased canines. The deceased canines had been shot while inside a kennel in the backyard.

The canines were dragged to other parts of the property in an attempt to hide them. Deputies found evidence that an attempt to clean up the scene had been made by Williams prior to his leaving the residence. The motive for the shooting is unknown.

Due to the video footage evidence that identified Williams as the shooter of the canines, a felony arrest warrant

in the right direction," Strong said "even if it doesn't cover everything we want."

Vice-Mayor Kanne said she had "some concerns about this ordinance," but she thought "we would be negligent to not try something. Even if this isn't the perfect ordinance, I don't think this is something we can kick down the road. It's a serious problem, and it's affecting kids in our community, on our watch. I would support moving this ordinance forward."

Mayor Sabrina Rodriguez commented that when she first heard about the ordinance she was "all on board." She said: "My first thought was I've got kids, I want to protect kids. I thought, well, this has got to be the right thing to do, but then the dilemma I found myself in, is in talking to my constituents, the people who elected me, that more than the majority didn't share my views."

"So that challenged me to try to understand their perspective," she said. "And I think one very valid perspective that they had is that we want to protect children, but this ordinance essentially is taking away adults' rights to choose what they would like to do, and that's really the essence of my difficulty in this, that you want to remove this for everybody, not just for children."

Rodriguez cited sugar, which "we all know is harmful, and it leads to obesity, but we're not removing sugar from every food on the shelf within our community. So we're always having to do this balancing act.... Listening to my constituents I find, when there's a valid point, that we really need to address it. So for that reason, I'm kind of stuck on this issue."

Council member Larry Stranske asked if the City of Willits was the first or last of the four incorporated jurisdictions in the county to hear this proposed ordinance. City Manager Brian Bender answered that "currently, the three other municipalities [Ukiah, Fort Bragg and Point Arena] have basically set this aside. They are waiting to see what happens with statewide action in November, and some further discussions with the coalition [the Mendocino County Tobacco Prevention Coalition]."

"I believe we're the furthest along in this process," Bender continued, "other than the county, who have adopted the ordinance, that's the one we took as a model ... and that was what was presented to the council back in March.... No other municipality in Mendocino County has adopted the ordinance which is being promoted through the actions of the coalition."

As the discussion seemed to indicate a council that would be divided on the proposed ordinance, Councilmember Gonzales said he would be willing to work with another council member and city staff in an ad hoc to try and answer the questions council members had asked.

"I'd hate to have another meeting where we have a lot of testimony," he said, "and then in the end it comes down to maybe a close vote. I'd rather everybody get on the same page, and have all the questions answered."

Vice Mayor Kanne said she'd be willing to sit on such an ad hoc with Council member Gonzales. In response to a question earlier from Gonzales about whether there was anything the City of Willits could do to block sales of these products on Tribal lands, Kanne talked about how the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians had an active anti-tobacco program, was promoting events, and working on a no-smoking policy for recreation areas.

"It seems to me they might be a good partner for city council to work on something that would include our entire Little Lake Valley if your concern is dingling Willits businesses, while the same product might be sold on Tribal property," she said.

There were no objections from council members to the proposal for an ad hoc committee, and Gonzales and Kanne said they would plan to meet within the next 30 days.



Trevor Williams of Willits.

was issued for Williams for the charges of cruelty to animals, committing offenses while out on bail (refer to Sheriff's Office press release 2022-17279 issued on July 28, 2022, published in the August 4 Willits Weekly under the headline: "Deputies arrest armed Willits man after struggle"), and violation of a restraining order.

On August 29, 2022 at 11:20 am, Williams was contacted in the Fort Bragg area and placed under arrest pursuant to the felony arrest warrant.

Williams was booked into the Mendocino County Jail where he was to be held in lieu of \$220,000 bail.



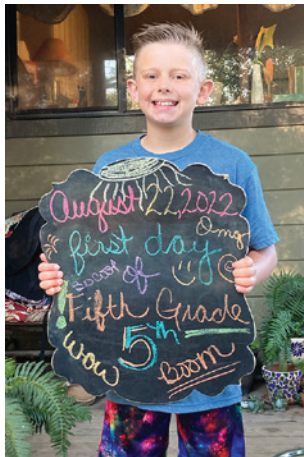
Tinley Logan's first day of fifth grade at Willits Elementary Charter School.



Jamie's picture from his first day of first grade at WECS.



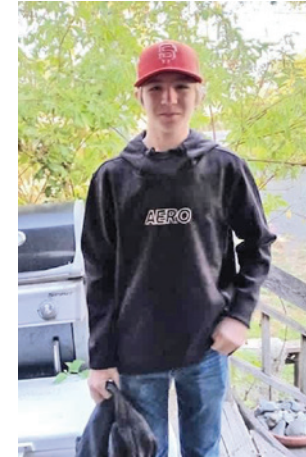
Sienna and Scarlett Berumen on their first day of Kindergarten and 3rd Grade!



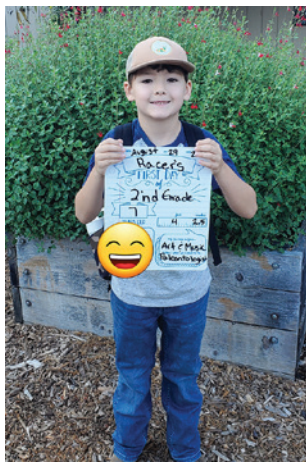
Happy Back to School to Landyn Martin-Lundgren who is going into fifth grade.



Happy back to school to River, going into third grade, and Alaska going into first grade.



Kid's first day of 10th grade!



Racer Vigil, first day of 2nd grade.



Nicole Sylstra and Jade Luna on their first day of high school at WHS.



Shuster girls' Back to School photos.



Kids' first day of 3rd and 5th grades!



Alithia and Christoff Gallups head back to school.



Giavanna Knight-Clima age 5. Kindergarten at WECS. Giavanna we love you endlessly and can't wait to see all the amazing things you will do. We are so proud of you. Love Mom, Dad, and Brother.

Classes
of 1962 & 1963

Reunion party with nostalgic movie, school tour, ice cream and more

The Willits High School Classes of 1962 and 1963 celebrated their 60th reunion in Willits this past weekend.

They toured the school and had a lovely lunch catered by Lisa Kvasnicka from Scoops and recounted many stories and fun times.

Afterwards they were treated to a special showing of "American Graffiti" at the Noyo Theatre. The movie is about the Class of '62 on their last night together in their small central California town, before they all go off to college and on their separate ways.

Funny note: After the show, the

Noyo Theatre manager sweeping up the theater found a hearing aid in the popcorn on the floor. It was reunited with the grateful owner.

Once the movie ended, the reunion group was treated to ice cream at Scoops and enjoyed a lineup of vintage cars in the parking lot, courtesy of the Willits Shifters Club.

The group also enjoyed good times at the Loose Caboose Cafe on Friday night, with pizza from Flying Dog, and a special Sunday breakfast at the Willits Senior Center.

– Submitted by Noyo Theatre

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Tues.-Thurs.:
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All Tickets \$6

BEAST (2022)
(R) 1 hr 33 mins
Fri.: 5:30 & 7:45pm
Sat.-Mon.:
1:00, 3:15, 5:30 & 7:45pm
Tues.-Thurs.:
5:30 & 7:45pm

AMERICAN GRAFFITI (1973)
(PG) 1 hr 53 mins
Fri.: 4:00 & 6:45pm
Sat.-Mon.:
1:15, 4:00 & 6:45pm
Tues.-Thurs.: 4:00 & 6:45pm
All Tickets \$6
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Movie Times for Sept. 2 thru Sept. 8 Masks Optional Tightwad Tuesday Title for Sept. 6 is in RED. All tickets at \$6!

LOST CHARM

Lost ranch charm on a gold chain, on Friday, August 25, in town. Went from Howard Hospital to Senior Thrift Store, to Willits Power, and then to Grocery Outlet.

Ranch brand, sentimental value, anxious to recover!

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Above, from left: The Mountain Quarries #202 at the limestone crushing plant on the Middle Fork of the American River. The little locomotive was used to switch the railcars at the plant. The Mountain Quarries #202 in Stockton in 1948, now owned by the McCormick and Baxter Creosoting Company. Now owned by Erich Thomsen, the Mountain Quarries #202 was enlisted to help dismantle the Key System railroad on the bottom deck of the Bay Bridge. The commuter line operated across the bridge for the last time in April 1958. Below: Mountain Quarries #202 at the Baldo Locomotive Works shop in Willits after restoration is completed by shop foreman Troy James in August, 2022. Photos courtesy of Martin Hansen collection

40th Roots of Motive Power Steam Festival

Roots of Motive Power proudly presents its 40th annual Steam Festival. What started as a small group of volunteers going out into the woods to "rescue" antique logging equipment has turned into a world-class working museum with a 5-acre yard full of antique steam and logging equipment.

For this 40th anniversary Steam Festival, we will be working in conjunction with the Mendocino County Museum's "ImPRESSED: A Celebration of Printmaking" exhibit, and offering steam printing both days in the Rec Grove.

We will also have our annual BBQ and auction in the Recreation Grove Park on Saturday, September 10 at 4 pm. Tickets will be on sale the day of the event: \$20 for adults and \$12 for children. Smoking G's and Big D's BBQ will be cooking tri tip, pulled pork, salads and bread for us. We will also have lamb available too.

The auctions are our main fundraiser for the year, so please come out and support us. Also the debut of a new asset, the Mountain Quarries #202 locomotive, will be featured on our rails this year!

— Roots of Motive Power



Photo by Willie England



Photo courtesy of Chris Baldo collection



Mountain Quarries #202

The saga of a well-travelled steam locomotive

By Chris Baldo, for Roots of Motive Power

Making its debut at the 2022 Roots of Motive Power Festival is the latest addition to the Roots Collection, the Mountain Quarries #202, a 1913 H. K. Porter steam locomotive, built for the Mountain Quarries Company near Auburn, California.

The company operated a limestone mine in El Dorado County, and in 1910 built a 7-mile railroad to connect the crushing facility on the Middle Fork of the American River with the Southern Pacific Railroad at Flint in Placer County. The route required 17 wooden trestles and a beautiful concrete bridge across the American River that still stands, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The line climbed 1,100 feet out of the river canyon at a uniform 3% grade. The Mountain Quarries Company was soon purchased by Pacific Portland Cement Company, with a processing plant at Cement, California (near Fairfield) on the Southern Pacific Railroad. The mine was the largest limestone quarry in Northern California, and was a chief source of limestone for sugar beet processing, steel production, and cement.

The MQ #202 was a diminutive locomotive, weighing in at 30,000 pounds, and was used at the crushing facility on the American River as a switcher or "yard goat." Larger locomotives, all Baldwin Locomotive Works products weighing from 140,000 to 180,000 pounds, pulled the heavy cars of limestone up the grade to Flint. The Mountain Quarries Railroad operated until 1941, although the mine continued to produce limestone that was transported by truck.

The MQ #202 was sold to McCormick and Baxter Creosoting Company in Stockton, where it operated until the late 1940s. Sometime in the early 1950s, it was sold to a 28-year veteran of the Western Pacific Railroad, Erich Thomsen, who had a great love of steam engines. Thomsen is best known for his development of the 15" gauge steam railroad in Tilden Park in Berkeley, the Redwood Valley Railways.

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

At left, top: Erich Thomsen leased the Mountain Quarries #202 to various operators of the Virginia & Truckee Railroad between 1961 and 1980. The line between Virginia City and Carson City would have to be completely rebuilt, but is now a successful tourist railroad.

At left, center, left: Jeff Schwab makes some adjustments to the Mountain Quarries #202, operating at the Silver Bend Railroad in Clarksburg, California. At left, center, right: The Mountain Quarries #202 at the Silver Bend Railroad at Clarksburg, California.

Photos courtesy of Alan Seigwarth collection

Mountain Quarries #202 on display at the Auburn State Recreation Area in 2013.

Photo courtesy of Chris Baldo collection



Above, left: Buffy Wright and Dickey Weinkle enjoy a long conversation. Above, right: The walking moai created many conversations and interactions. At left: Having begun their moai outside Brickhouse Coffee, the group walks down Main Street past Flying Dog Wood Fired Pizza & Vinyl. Below: Several Rotarians, including Buffy Wright, Dickey Weinkle, Anne Alumbaugh, Jenny Senter, Jennifer Sookne and Tamara Alaniz, join Blue Zones organizer Michelle Duarte for a group photo. At bottom: Blue Zones Senior Event and Office Supervisor Michelle Duarte organized the Willits moai walking group.



Photos by Mathew Caine

Walk and Talk

Join the Blue Zones 'moai' group every Friday at 8 am in order to exercise and converse toward a healthier, longer life

"Moai" is a term that roughly means coming together for a common purpose. Last Friday, a moai was begun on the streets of Willits. It was a small group of friends and Rotarians but all are welcome to join this hopefully growing congregation.

Michelle Duarte, senior event and office specialist at the Mendocino Blue Zones Project, suggested in a recent presentation at a weekly Willits Rotary meeting that those who were interested in a morning get-together for the purposes of exercise and comradery meet her at 8 am in front of Brickhouse Coffee.

Eight early riser Rotarians (and two small dogs) eagerly met, received their Blue Zone T-shirts, socialized, and began their short, brisk walk in the cool early morning air. They worked their way south down Main Street in a short loop and to the Flying Dog Wood Fired Pizza & Vinyl parking lot for a quick group photo and some more socializing.

"I like the idea of walking with the Rotary group and promoting the Blue Zones Project," said Tamara Alaniz, Brooktrails general manager. "Willits was chosen by the Blue Zones Project because we already comprise those characteristics of the Blue Zone cities throughout the world. That's why we live here in Willits. That's why I live in town. I can walk everywhere I go."

Jennifer Sookne, Willits Rotarian and candidate for the school board, said: "I have been working on getting healthier. I want to live as long as possible. I still have too many people left I still have to irritate. I've lost 90 pounds over the last several years and I'm continuing on that journey."

Moais are just one of the aspects of the Blue Zones' program of increasing the health and potential longevity of the residents of Mendocino County, an area already

sharing some of the project's precepts due to its clean air and healthy lifestyle.

Several years ago, Dan Buettner completed a study to find certain areas (Blue Zones) where people live longer and healthier in comparison to the rest of the world. His subsequent best-selling book, "Blue Zones," outlined five of these areas: Okinawa, Japan; Sardinia, Italy; Nicoya, Costa Rica; Ikaria, Greece, and Loma Linda here in California.

Buettner found that there were nine commonalities that contributed to health and longevity in these areas, which he dubbed "The Power Nine." He attributed the longer lifespans to the following lifestyle habits: "1. Move naturally: find ways to move more and burn calories without thinking about it. 2. Purpose: wake up with purpose each day (add seven years to your life). 3. Downshift: Reverse disease by finding a stress-relieving strategy. 4. The 80-percent rule: eat mindfully and stop when 80 percent full.

"5. Plant Slant: put more fruits and vegetables on your plate. 6. Friends: share your day with other people. 7. Belong: belong to a spiritual-based or common-purpose community. 8. Right tribe: surround yourself with people who support positive behaviors and you. 9. Loved ones first: Invest time with family to add six years to your life," as outlined on the Blue Zones website: <https://mcb.bluezonesproject.com>.

The Willits moai, which anyone can join by meeting each Friday morning at 8 am, institutes several of the Power Nine principles: friends, exercise, belonging, right tribe, and moving naturally. Jenny Senter, past-president of Willits Rotary, found the experience to be beneficial in several ways.

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



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Roy Rogers & The Delta Rhythm Kings

plus Blue Luke & Friends

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Food & Craft Vendors

Saturday,
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Recreation Grove Park,
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Willits Community and Ukiah Players Theatres Present

Clarence Darrow: A One Man Show

Play by David W. Rintels
Based on Clarence Darrow for the Defense by Irving Stone

Directed by Jim Williams
Starring Timothy Fischer

Willits Community Theatre
Sept. 2-4, 2022

Ukiah Players Theatre
Sept. 8-11, 2022
Gala Night Performance Friday, Sept. 9

"If there's only one man to state the case for freedom, maybe that's all it takes, One."

WILLITS 37 W Van La, Willits Fri - Sat 7:30, Sun 9:00 Buy Tickets Online at www.performingartscenter.org WCT Box Office (707)459-0985	UKIAH 1001 Lew Gap Rd., Ukiah Thurs - Sat 7:00, Sun 9:00 Buy Tickets Online at ukiahplaystheatre.org UPT Box Office (707)469-9996
---	--



Above: Tim Fischer appears as famed criminal defense attorney Clarence Darrow at Willits Community Theatre and the Ukiah Players Theatre.

‘Beast’

The Story: Suspenseful adventure on an African safari gone terrifyingly wrong. Doctor Nate Daniels (Idris Elba) takes his two young daughters, Norah ((Leah Jeffries) and Meredith (lyana Halley) to visit and hang with Martin (Sharlto Copley) an old family friend, who is a game warden in African lion territory. You know something bad is going to happen.

On the second day of their visit, they all take a drive into the bush. First, their Range Rover crashes. Second, Martin gets mauled by a male lion seeking revenge for the slaughter of his pride by ruthless poachers. Courage and perseverance and resourcefulness is all they have to protect themselves. Guns, not so much. It's all quite bloody and tense. Man versus lion. Duel of apex predators.

My Thoughts: It has become fashionable in Hollywood to make young girls the heroes in flicks and make grown older men into brawlers or brutes. “Beast” ignores such woke trendiness. Dad is not superman, but he has courage, intelligence, and medical knowledge. He keeps his head and quite believably manages to bring his daughters to safety.

The daughters are brave in the face of peril, and follow their father's directions, and make useful decisions on their own when required. This is an old-fashioned movie about courage and a wild beast (with fangs, claws, and a motive!) who wants to kill. We've seen this story before. But that doesn't matter. Eat your popcorn and enjoy. The killer lion is truly scary. I really loved it.

Parents: It's rated “R” and is quite bloody. I think it's too bloody and too scary for little children. Really. *Willitsian Daniel Essman prefers his reality attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination.*

Thanks to a generous matching gift from Redwood Credit Union, donors to the Mendocino College Student Emergency Fundraiser campaign can double their donation. With our generous community's help, the foundation hopes to turn \$12,000 into \$24,000 in emergency aid for students in Ukiah, Lakeport, Willits and Fort Bragg.

In a recent survey, three out of five students reported at least one basic needs insecurity such as food or housing.

We know from hearing directly from students that sometimes one relatively small crisis – a broken-down car, an unexpected medical bill, a change in housing circumstances – can derail the best-laid plans. And with the cost of everything going up, students have less wiggle room to address these setbacks, so minor things can become major ones.

Any contribution made to this campaign will be matched dollar for dollar by Redwood Credit Union. Your donation could mean the difference between a student dropping out or continuing on their path toward their certificate or degree. Visit foundation.mendocino.edu/donate and choose Student Emergency Fund. Thank you for your support. Any questions can be directed to Mendocino College Foundation Executive Director Julie McGovern, at 707-468-3164 or jmcgovern@mendocino.edu.

The fall Willits Library Book Sale is back! After a Covid delay of two years the Friends of the Willits Library is delighted to once again host the Fall Book Sale September 16 to 18.

The sale will be held in the Willits Library Conference Room, 390 East Commercial Street. Hours are 10 am to 5 pm on Friday, September 16 and Saturday, September 17.

On Sunday, September 18, books will be on sale at only \$3 a bag from 10 am to 3 pm.

Volunteer cashiers are still needed. If you can help with a 2-hour shift, please sign up at the library.

Friends of the Willits Library is also sponsoring a DVD sale at the Willits Library, starting September 6, during open hours.

Sale will continue until September 30, or until all DVDs are gone.

Free passenger steam train rides with the Bluestone Mining and Smelting Heislser locomotive.

“ImPRESSED: a celebration of printmaking” exhibit showing at the Museum

Steam Roller Printing at the Park Saturday and Sunday!

The Famous BBQ & auction is happening in the Rec Grove on Saturday, September 10, starting around 4pm. Tickets on sale at the event.

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STUDENT EMERGENCY FUNDraiser

To benefit MENDOCINO COLLEGE STUDENTS

DONATE TODAY

foundation.mendocino.edu

Donation match for college Student Emergency Fund

Submitted by Mendocino College Foundation

The Fall 2022 semester is underway at Mendocino College, and students are getting back on track with education and career prep after an unpredictable few years. With inflation making prices for food, gas, books and living expenses higher, we know that some students will be struggling to make ends meet.

The Student Emergency Fund is one way we can help them to worry less and study more. Eligible students are able to receive up to \$500 in a one-time emergency grant to stay on track.

Thanks to a generous matching gift from Redwood Credit Union, donors to the Mendocino College Student Emergency Fundraiser campaign can double their donation. With our generous community's help, the foundation hopes to turn \$12,000 into \$24,000 in emergency aid for students in Ukiah, Lakeport, Willits and Fort Bragg.

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Library Book Sale, September 16-18

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Above: Roy Rogers will be headlining on Saturday. At right, top: Clay Hawkins, who will be playing a solo set at the show, plays his resonator guitar. At right: Blue Luke and Julian Marley jam out in Miami a few years ago.



Little Lake Blues & Brews

Free concert at Rec Grove this Saturday features guitar talents and local vendors

The first Little Lake Blues & Brews concert will be taking place at Recreation Grove Park this Saturday, September 3, from noon to 6 pm, featuring a lineup of world-class music, and around 30 local vendors selling food, drinks and crafts, with a beer and wine garden on site.

There will be an abundance of guitar talent on display Saturday, with slide-guitar virtuoso Roy Rogers and his band The Delta Rhythm Kings headlining the free event, and local favorites Blue Luke & Friends leading things off.

Playing in between Blue Luke and Rogers will be Clay Hawkins, a top-notch blues guitar player and singer-songwriter.

Selling food and drinks at the show will be local businesses Big Earl's BBQ, Northspur Brewing Co., Hare In The Forest Brewing, Zocalo Collective, and Barra and Frey wineries.

Rolling Stone magazine described Roy Rogers as "one of the rare guitar heroes who values feeling over flash," and "an exceptionally articulate slide guitarist, whether he's scorching Robert Johnson's 'Ramblin' Blues' or taking a lovely lyrical journey ... or rocking it out."

In a 2017 interview I had with Rogers, he talked about his love for and approach to music.

"I've never considered myself a straight blues artist, although obviously blues is front and center," said Rogers. "But you've got to mess with it in my book, so, musically speaking, I've played with a lot of cats over the years."

Some of the cats Rogers has played and recorded with include John Lee Hooker, Sammy Hagar, Bonnie Raitt, Steve Miller, Carlos Santana, Linda Ronstadt, Ramblin' Jack Elliot and Doors keyboardist Ray Manzarek.

"It's really about what you put out," said Rogers. "It's not about playing it by somebody's defining terms ... Good music is good music, and just appreciate it for what it is. You can be 20 or you can be 70, it doesn't matter."

Bandleader "Blue Luke" Andrews said that the friends accompanying him for his set Saturday, which is expected to begin around 1 pm, will be Michael Cantwell on keyboards, Jim Dooley on trumpet, Derek Soderquist on bass, and Roni Zadik on drums.

In addition to the combos he has played with like Blue Luke & Friends, Andrews has also recorded and toured extensively with renowned reggae star Julian Marley among others.

Andrews has had an affinity for blues from early on since he began playing guitar at age 12, and the guitar wizard's repertoire embraces many other styles as well now.

He said that the Blue Luke & Friends set Saturday will likely feature a hefty dose of blues given the theme of the event.

"We kind of do a fusion mix of blues, rock, funk and jazz and Latin kind of world-music stuff, but for this one we're going to stick more to the blues kind of rock stuff," said Andrews. "But we're going to throw in some of the other stuff, too."

"We're really looking forward to it," he added. "And the band that I'm playing with, the other guys are just really amazing."

The Little Lake Blues & Brews show is being presented by the Willits Lions Club. Lions Club member Pooba Freeman, one of the main organizers of the event, said that "if it wasn't for the Lions Club, this show would not be happening."

He said that Willits City Planner Dusty Duley has also had a big role in helping put on the show.

"This town needs something ... to bring people here from outside of town," said Pooba. "And a blues show is

something this town can embrace because it's always loved the blues."

He said that many local businesses and others have chipped in as sponsors to help put on the free show, including Ken Fowler Auto, Adventist Health, the Howard Foundation, Willits Power, J.D. Redhouse, Element 7, Leaf Holdings, North Coast Opportunities, Diggers Bar, Willits Redwood, NC Financial and Lance Linfoot.

Pooba said that those who would still like to donate to the event can contact the Willits Lions Club, and they will also be "passing the hat" at the show on Saturday for those who would like to chip in there.

"Whatever money comes over the top as profit will go into the funds that fund things in the town of Willits through the Lions Club," he said.

Pooba will be the MC at the event, and Marcos DeFluri of Ancestor Radio Productions will be handling the sound.

Pooba said he's hopeful that if the show is successful, it can continue as an annual event in future years, and he's been encouraged by what he's seen so far.

"That's where I'm coming from and the only way it's going to work is if everybody jumps in on it," he said. "People get the idea and everybody's behind it."

Willits Lions Club President Skip Lucier said that Pooba has been "instrumental" in organizing the show, and that the club is excited to be helping to provide a new event for the community.

"[Pooba] had this idea, and we listened to it, and we thought, 'Well it'd be something great we could add to things to do in Willits,'" said Lucier. "And it's free, and Roy Rogers ... he's one of the best."

"And we're hopeful that this is successful, and if it turns out well, we hope to do it on a yearly basis," he added. "I think a little more music in Willits is a good thing."

being left, a dog door would be ideal so he could go in and out. He also needs to have another dog in the home with him.

Life on Oliver's terms would be with an adult woman or a couple, he is instantly relaxed with women and can take a bit of time to warm up to some men, but then he'll be your best buddy. A respect for Oliver's comfort zone is required at all times, letting you be a presence in his life, a lap to lay on, a guiding light of encouragement and enrichment, but not an enforcer or ruler. If he wants to join you, he will; if not, let him be. Mostly he will want to be with you! Oliver is playful and affectionate.

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

Sensitive Sissy

Sweet and sensitive Sissy is a big deal around here. All of our volunteers and staff are committed to her success and helping this shy girl come around. Some dogs struggle extra hard in a shelter setting and Sissy is one of them. She was transferred to us from City of Clearlake Animal Association and we have been working hard to make friends. Sissy needs a moment to warm up but she is eager to find her safe place. If you would like to help our little lady find a foster or forever home, then we want to hear from you!

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



Celebrate Labor Day at the Democratic Party Picnic in Ukiah

The Mendocino County Democratic Party and the Inland Mendocino Democratic Club invite the public to attend the annual Labor Day Picnic, "The Work of Our Hands" at Todd Grove Park in Ukiah, Monday, September 5, from 11 am to 3 pm.

Musical entertainment by the Raging Grannies.

Keynote speaker will be Rusty Hicks, chair of the California Democratic Party. Union representatives and U.S. Representative Jared Huffman, California Senator Mike McGuire, and California Assemblyman Jim Wood will also speak.

Food trucks will be parked close by with a variety of offerings. Beverages will be available. No host beer and wine. This is a low-waste event - bring your own cups!

Donations gratefully accepted. For more information about the Inland Mendocino Democratic Club, visit www.inlandmendocindems.org



Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, requires a reservation to view adoptable animals. Call 707-467-6453 to make an appointment to meet Helena or our other canine and feline guests. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendoanimalshelter.com.

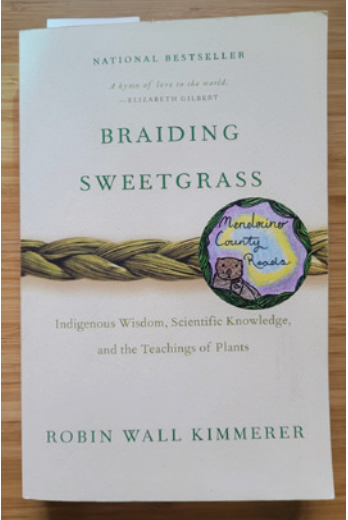
Playful Oliver

Under these bangs are eyes that will light up when Oliver sees you! He will jump for joy, and jump on you a bit. He is very enthusiastic and playful, doing little zoomies and loop-de-loops of joy when you come into his space or return home.

Oliver is special needs in that he does not take well to restraint OR to leash / collar handling, thus we are looking for a country home for him where leashes are not required and he can stay home and run around on his own free will! He'll need to stay inside a home or well-fenced yard when

At right: *Plaintain* is a commonly found plant with medicinal properties. At far right: “*Braiding Sweetgrass*,” the bestselling book that weaves indigenous stories with modern scientific knowledge, was discussed on the plant walk. At right, below: *Buffie Schmidt*, left, points out the iconic redbud tree growing at the Willits Library. Below: This lovely necklace made by Pomo artist *Buffie Schmidt* includes delicately braided bear grass. Further below: *Buffie Schmidt’s* partner John demonstrates the flexibility of green willow once the bark has been removed. At bottom: *Buffie Schmidt* points out wild lettuce to an interested participant.

Photos by Margi Gomez Guhde



‘Nature’s Pharmacy’

Pomo basket-maker Buffie Schmidt discusses the book ‘Braiding Sweetgrass’ and leads native plant identification walk

An expectant crowd met at the Willits Branch of the Mendocino County Library last Saturday morning, buoyed by bright skies and fresh breezes. They gathered for a plant ID walk and talk, presented by basket-maker and traditional dancer Buffie Schmidt, a member of the Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians.

Margi Gomez Guhde
Features Writer
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The plant talk was presented as part of the Mendocino County Reads book talk for “Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants” by botanist Robin Wall Kimmerer.

“Braiding Sweetgrass” presents the belief that in order to survive, humans need to awaken to our reciprocal relationship to Mother Earth. It’s not enough for us to take what we want from the earth, we also need to give back, protecting and caring for the earth as the earth provides for us.

Schmidt’s opening comments mirrored the message of “Braiding Sweetgrass” as she stated, “We have nature’s pharmacy and grocery store at our fingertips. Everything we need is provided for us.”

The walking group began with the small drought-tolerant garden in front of the library itself, which is chock-full of traditional medicines. The first plant that Schmidt pointed out was the iconic redbud tree, used by the Pomo as a basket-weaving pattern. The stripped and dried bark can

be used as a cough suppressant and flu cold remedy, and can also treat stomach issues and even diarrhea.

Schmidt noted also that various mosses grow on the redbud trees and have their own traditional uses, including cradle padding and other sorts of cushioning and absorption needs. Schmidt pointed to many other plants growing in the small patch which provide delicious culinary herbs that are also medicinal.

“Rosemary is widely used in cooking, and can be used to flavor a refreshing water. We don’t have to buy fancy waters and sodas!” Schmidt laughs. “But it can also be used to ward off colds and other lung problems.” Lavender and sage are also commonly used both in foods and for their special aromas.

During the plant walk, Schmidt also talked about how in “Braiding Sweetgrass” Kimmerer weaves the stories that she grew up hearing with the latest scientific knowledge. For instance, in the book she relates a common belief among indigenous communities around the world that trees talk to each other, forming a council that acts on behalf of the larger community.

For centuries, scientific knowledge dictated that trees, unlike animals, lacked the ability to communicate. Recently science has revised this view, concluding that trees

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



At left: Fragrant pennyroyal grows generously in our inland watershed. Above: Buffie Schmidt leads enthusiastic Willits-area residents in a plant ID walk to learn about medicinal plants.

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The rest of **CHP** From page 1

Maximum Enforcement Period begins at 6:01 pm on Friday, September 2, and continues through 11:59 pm on Monday, September 5.

In addition to assisting motorists and looking for traffic violations throughout the holiday weekend, CHP officers will be paying close attention to those who are suspected of driving under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.

The CHP reminds those who travel during Labor Day weekend to buckle up, drive at a safe speed, and never drive impaired.

Forty-three people were killed in vehicle crashes on California roadways during the holiday weekend in 2021. Additionally, CHP officers made 985 DUI arrests and issued more than 6,000 speeding citations throughout the state during last year’s Labor Day weekend.

Avoid being arrested for DUI and becoming a statistic. Designate a driver or use a ride-share service, and always wear your seat belt.

“Alcohol-and drug-impaired driving continues to be a leading cause of traffic fatalities and injuries in California, and the moment an impaired driver gets behind the wheel, they put themselves and every other person on the road in great danger,” said CHP Commissioner Amanda Ray. “The CHP is committed to enforcement and non-enforcement strategies, including education and community engagement, to ensure the highest level of safety for everyone traveling throughout California during the holiday.”

If you see or suspect an impaired driver, call 9-1-1 immediately. Be prepared to provide the dispatcher a description of the vehicle, the license plate number, location, and direction of travel. Your phone call may save someone’s life.

The CHP’s Maximum Enforcement Period coincides with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s ongoing impaired driving national enforcement campaign, “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over,” which continues through September 5.

The rest of **Assault** From page 1

Villegas, 30, of Willits, a relative of the victim and many of the witnesses. The victim and witnesses related that Villegas had been consuming alcohol at a local bar before being kicked out for starting fights.

The victim and witnesses were at the bar at the same time as Villegas, and all parties ended up going to another local bar on Main Street. While at the second bar, Villegas attempted to fight the victim and witnesses in the parking lot.

The victim and witnesses tried to leave on foot to go home, but Villegas pulled up to them in his vehicle, took a baseball bat from the trunk of his car, and assaulted the victim before fleeing the scene.

WPD, knowing Villegas due to past interactions, proceeded to his last listed address. The MCSO sergeant and another WPD unit attempted to locate Villegas at his home, while the victim and witnesses were interviewed on scene. During the interviews, the victims and witnesses pointed out a passing vehicle traveling northbound on south Main Street as the suspect’s vehicle.

WPD and MCSO units ultimately located the vehicle, unoccupied, parked on East Valley Street. Almost immediately, WPD received a call of a suspicious person angrily striking a sign post with a baseball bat in the same general area.

While officers and the MCSO sergeant searched the area for Villegas, they contacted a woman later identified as Mercedes Abel, who was gaining access into Villegas’ vehicle, which was parked on the curb in front of Abel’s residence.

Abel was confrontational and denied any involvement or knowledge of the incident and refused to assist the officers. It was later determined Abel is in a dating relationship with Villegas.

WPD officers continued searching the area for Villegas who was ultimately contacted, and arrested without incident, as he exited Abel’s residence a short time later. Villegas denied any knowledge or connection to any altercation(s).

Villegas also denied knowing Abel before later admitting they were dating and requested WPD officers speak to Abel so she could claim he was not involved in any altercations.

Villegas was arrested and booked into the county jail for violation of 245(a)(1) PC (Assault with a Deadly Weapon). The charges of 31 PC (Aiding and Abetting) and 32 PC (Accessory After the Fact) against Abel were to be forwarded to the Mendocino County District Attorney’s Office for review and filing. The victim was self-transported to the local hospital where he received necessary medical care for serious injuries.

The Willits Police Department would like to thank the Mendocino County Sheriff’s Office, and the community members who provided information, for their assistance in this case.

Senior Center menu for the week

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

Thursday, September 1: Turkey w/ Amish Noodles, Green Salad, Roll

Friday, September 2: Cheeseburger, Mac Salad

Monday, September 5: Center closed for Labor Day

Tuesday, September 6: Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Garlic Bread, Green Salad

Wednesday, September 7: Chili Rellenos Casserole, Rice & Beans

Thursday, September 8: Beef Tips & Noodles, Green Salad, Roll

Friday, September 9: Crispy Chicken Sandwich, Pasta Salad, Pickle

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

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

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

The rest of **Promise** From page 1

“shocked” by the news and raised doubts about the whole effort. “The state did not even bother to notify the tribe beforehand. The state wants to continue logging our Pomo Homeland – the Jackson Demonstration State Forest – while negotiating a co-management agreement with the Coyote Valley Tribe.

“This makes me question the state’s seriousness about co-managing ancestral lands,” Hunter continued. “The state still does not understand that there is a difference between co-management and Tribal consultation. Tribes must not be relegated to an advisory role in managing their ancestral lands. For co-management to succeed, it must be a government-to-government relationship that creates equal decision-making powers.

“I worry that the state does not understand the importance of the words they are using. We must ensure that co-management creates an equal relationship between the state and the tribes with equal decision-making authority,” Chair Hunter said.

CAL FIRE plans to resume logging four controversial timber harvest plans that were halted by protests last year. These THPs were written without community or Tribal involvement and directly threaten large second-growth coastal redwoods and Tribal sacred sites. Instead of listening to the community, CAL FIRE has unilaterally made slight adjustments to the plan and is restarting operations.

“CAL FIRE appears intent on burning bridges,” said Matt Simmons, staff attorney at the Environmental Protection Information Center. “The ‘pause’ in operations made community input and Tribal negotiations possible. Now, any progress or goodwill has been shattered. We call on CAL FIRE not to resume logging until they have a new management plan.”

“Redwood forests have amazing climate mitigation potential, and management needs to maximize that potential,” said Sara Rose, a youth activist with Mendocino County Youth for Climate. “My generation will have to live with what the planet becomes if we don’t save it. We have to face the reality of climate change.”

Resuming operations also calls into question the new “vision” outlined by CAL FIRE released on August 19, which among other things, promised Tribal co-management of the Jackson Demonstration State Forest.



Above: Mendocino County forest activist Naomi Wagner, longtime member of Redwood Nation Earth First!, is arrested on Tuesday at the Coalition to Save Jackson State Forest protest in Sacramento. Below: Forest activists protesting CAL FIRE’s plan to resume logging in Jackson Demonstration State Forest block the door at the California Natural Resources Agency in Sacramento.

Six arrested in JDSF protest in Sacramento

Submitted by Redwood Nation Earth First!

Six elders were arrested Tuesday at the California Natural Resources Agency headquarters in Sacramento after a spirited demonstration with over 50 people by the Coalition to Save Jackson State Forest.

Those arrested were members of Redwood Nation Earth First!, responding to CAL FIRE’s decision to resume logging operations in Jackson Demonstration State Forest.

Protesters demanded that Natural Resources Secretary Wade Crowfoot immediately reinstate the moratorium on all logging activities in JDSF, including road building, in the 48,000 acre publicly owned forest.

Arrestee Anna Marie Stenberg said: “Crowfoot needs to keep his promise. He said logging operations would be paused while he was negotiating with the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians. Why is CAL FIRE ending the pause?”

The six elders chose to block the door to the agency and were charged with

the following misdemeanors: failure to disperse, failure to obey a lawful order, and blocking a public egress.

Larry Aguilera, Naomi Wagner, Tom Shaver, Anna Marie Stenberg, Marggie Chandler, and Polly Girvin were all arrested.

“We are demanding that Secretary Crowfoot reinstate the moratorium on all logging operations including road building and herbicide use in JDSF,” arrestee Naomi Wagner said.

“I went to jail today for my great-grandchildren Daniel, Courtney, Chloe and Cambree,” Polly Girvin said. “They are members of the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians and great-grandchildren of Priscilla Hunter. I want them to remember that their auntie stood up for their future, so they can be out there in the forest gathering basket materials, gathering medicine, and learning about all the plants. I am a role model for Pomo youth, and that is why I took a stand today.”

That CAL FIRE is considering a new vision at all is the direct result of more than two years of tireless advocacy by a broad community that was appalled by the way the state was managing this forest. Until they were stopped by forest defenders, CAL FIRE was authoring timber harvest plans that engaged in climate change denial, logged some of the largest trees in the forest, and damaged Native American sacred sites.

Many of the changes discussed in CAL FIRE’s vision sound good in theory. The Coalition to Save Jackson Forest was initially encouraged that CAL FIRE is discussing co-management and the fact that the forest will no longer be funded entirely by timber sales. However, the announced resumption of logging calls into question whether or not these promises can be successfully implemented and whether co-management would be pursued in good faith.

The Jackson Demonstration State Forest has been operating under the same state law since 1947. This law requires Jackson to produce timber and sees the forest as little more than an economic resource. This law was written at a time when the values of the people of California were completely different than they are today. In 1947, the state did not recognize Tribal sovereignty, was not concerned with biodiversity loss, and did not understand the risks of climate change.

These different values have led to the unacceptable practices that sparked the movement to Save Jackson and are on display in CAL FIRE’s decision to resume logging.

To take one shocking example, since at least 1999, CAL FIRE has known that its road management activities were destroying sacred sites belonging to Northern Pomo and Coast Yuki peoples. CAL FIRE’s own archeological report stated that because of certain activities within the forest including timber harvest, road maintenance, and recreation “the prehistoric archeological record of JDSF is gradually but inexorably being depleted.”

The report specifically called for road maintenance activities to halt in the vicinity of known sacred sites until a road maintenance/archaeological site protection plan could be implemented.

The report also warned that there were likely many additional undiscovered

In timber harvest plans for the Jackson, CAL FIRE has questioned human’s contributions to climate change, writing, “exactly how and to what extent human activity plays a role in global climate change appears to be unknown.”

These are all management objectives California desperately needs demonstrated today, not commercial logging. If CAL FIRE and the Jackson Advisory Group are serious about this new vision, then the Coalition encourages them to support legislation that will change Jackson’s mandate.

In the 21st century, our state forests should no longer be treated as commercial timberlands with a mandate to maximize production of timber. Instead, we should be prioritizing Tribal sovereignty, climate resilience and access to nature.

At right: Liberty and Circi create collages under the supervision of Jazz-minh Moore. Far right: Carmen leads an Afro Samba class in the Great Room.

Below: Jenni Wyatt demonstrates how to use certain paints for the rocks.

At bottom, from left: Tony and Natalia Solinas led capoeira classes along with their 1-year-old, Sequoia. Even adults are fascinated by the collage process. Tony Solinas leads Jazz-minh, Liberty and Circi in some simple capoeira moves.

Photos by Mathew Caine





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‘Express Yourself’

Free rock painting, dancing, martial arts, yoga and collage classes offered at WCA as part of grant program

Thanks to a grant from the Neighborhood Partnership Program, the Willits Center for the Arts was able to offer a fun-filled weekend of creative activities for both kids and adults, dubbed “Express Yourself.”

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
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On the morning of Saturday, August 13 and Sunday, August 14, in the WCA’s classroom, Jazz-minh Moore’s collage class kept the kids (and a few adults) occupied, cutting out images from the myriad of magazines available, while Jenni Wyatt facilitated rock painting for those who would like to bring them home or plant them around town as part of the Willits Rocks movement.

Jayneene (Mama J) Johnson brought her much-appreciated Love Handles (pasties with curried meat or veggie fillings) on Sunday and there was ice cream available on both days as well as an assortment of snacks.

Upstairs, free yoga and dance classes were offered. Yoga Flow was taught by new Willits resident and massage therapist Kelly Foutz on Saturday afternoon, with artist Emmy Good leading the yoga on Sunday.

Read the rest of Express Over on page 15



The rest of Fundraiser From page 1

diagnosed with cancer in the county. “CRC provides cancer support services to about 500 people each year in Mendocino County,” said CRC Executive Director Karen Oslund. “Services include medical appointment preparation, visit accompaniment and recording, transportation coordination, and modest financial help such as gas cards to help with transportation costs to treatment.

“CRC has offices in both Ukiah and Fort Bragg and also maintains in stock a good supply of free wigs, bras, scarves, hats, and surgical garments.”

Providing these services is not only a group effort, but a county tradition, and the some 260 guests attending were more than happy to share their time, stories and wallets for this special event, which raised \$162,000 in donations.

Helping move that total from the beginning goal of \$50,000 all the way to the ending amount was passionate emcee California State Senator Mike McGuire, who whooped and hollered, offering words of encouragement, thanks and appreciation for those who came to the event, and certainly to those who donated. “If you’re not bidding, you’re clapping!” was surely heard all the way back to Ukiah.

“Raising the funds to keep the doors open and the phones staffed at the Cancer Resource Centers of Mendocino County is only possible because generous people support the cause,” Oslund said.

“We want to thank every person who helped put on this event. So many people come out year after year and donate their labor to make the event happen,” she continued. “Due to pandemic limits on gatherings, this was the first Pure Mendocino since 2019, and although everyone was a bit rusty, only small glitches arose, and a good time was had by all.”

A good time was certainly had by all who got to enjoy the meal prepared by Olan and Lia Cox and the Mendocino Woodfired Catering team who made an eight-item meal, plus dessert, with local foods and a skilled hand.

“This year’s dinner menu was vegetarian (only one guest grumbled that he would be leaving the event to go to Burger King – in jest of course),” laughed Oslund.

The first course included a bib lettuce salad with apples, pears, toasted hemp seeds and caramelized leeks topped with a honey, cider and thyme vinaigrette, and sautéed slices of Reza’s bread with a basil pistou and oyster mushroom duxelle dip.

Entrees included a kohlrabi and carrot pickle; an heirloom tomato dish that included cucumbers, sweet onions, kalamata olives, parsley, sweet peppers and feta that was tossed in a lemon and dill and garlic olive oil vinaigrette; ruby beet shallot crisps and red walnuts with aged balsamic; bliss potatoes with green olives simmered in preserved lemon, garlic and paprika; roasted heirloom squash, peppers, carrots and kale with rosemary and Mendocino sea salt; and layered heirloom polenta (ground fresh the previous night by Michael Foley and Sara Grusky of Green Uprising Farm specially for the event) with caramelized onions, roasted oyster mushrooms, and eggplant with fire-roasted tomato sauce, topped with chevre.

Dessert was baklava, layers of phyllo pastry with local honey, cinnamon, walnuts and pistachios served with a honey-cardamom yogurt.

Not to be outshined by the food, bottles of fine wines from around the area were also featured in the appetizer area before the event as well as poured throughout dinner. Wineries featured included: Bonterra Vineyards, Frey Vineyards, Mia Bia Winery, Saracina Vineyards, Handley Cellars, Husch Vineyards, Alta Orsa Winery, Masut Vineyard and Winery, Seebass Family Wines, Golden Vineyards, and Campovida.

“Next year, Pure Mendocino will be moving to Campovida in Hopland, and I am grateful for the many, many years that the Dolan family donated the Dark Horse venue for Pure Mendocino – we are so grateful,” Oslund said. “But everything changes, and Campovida is also a gorgeous setting. Moving the event to another site is an opportunity to recreate and refresh it. The date is August 26, 2023, so mark your calendar!”

For more information on the Cancer Resource Centers and how to get involved, receive services, or donate, contact them at their inland office: 275 West Gobbi Street in Ukiah – 707-467-3828 or their coastal office: 510 Cypress Street Ste B-200 in Fort Bragg – 707-937-3833 or by logging on to www.CRCMendocino.org.

The rest of Express From page 14

Saturday brought Family Capoeira to the Great Room with Tony and Natalia Solinas, as their 1-year-old daughter, Sequoia, pranced on newly discovered leets between the practitioners. Also on Saturday, Noel French taught Jeet Kune Do Concepts. Afro Samba Dance was popular on Sunday with Carmen, and the weekend culminated in Simone and Johnson leading Family African Dance upstairs.

“This is not a fundraiser,” explained Sasha Thomas, WCA gallery manager. “We are very blessed to have a little grant. This event is very unusual for the Willits Center for the Arts. We are able to offer all of these classes and workshops for free for two days. It’s just free and open and no one has to register.

“We give a good number of scholarships for our [usual] classes,” added Thomas. “Every time you see a class advertised here like ceramics or a watercolor workshop with Nancy Collins, we had an original scholarship fund. Every week, the people who take Emmy Good’s yoga class contribute to the scholarship fund.

“When Jazz-minh Moore taught oil painting and figure drawing, in each class there was usually at least one scholarship student,” she said. “Not usually a full scholarship but they are generous. The scholarships usually go to young adults and single moms. That’s who apply for the scholarships.”

For those interested in learning capoeira, a Brazilian dance / martial arts regimen, Tony Solinas will be holding classes Mondays and Wednesdays, 5 to 5:30 pm for kids and 6 to 7 pm for adults. Call 831-332-3684 for information.

There are several classes in art, dance and yoga available at the Willits Center for the Arts, located at 71 East Commercial Street, as well as their selection of gallery offerings which change monthly, and a lecture series. For information, visit www.willitscenterforthearts.org or call 459-1726.

The rest of Zones From page 7

“I do better when I exercise with the community,” said Senter. “I can go out and walk by myself but what fun is that? If I have people waiting on me to go on my walk, I will do it and not find an excuse. It’s a social thing and it’s fun and I don’t even feel like I’ve exercised because it’s so much fun. It’s about movement. Some days I sit at a computer all day and I’m shocked at how little I move. This is perfect. It’s early in the morning. I still have time to do my work.”

“It’s open to the public,” explained moai organizer Duarte, “but with the Rotary Club I took the initiative to start with the club. I’m really excited about it. Other moais have already started. They’re trying to do a round-robin of areas around Ukiah.

“Our main sponsor is Adventist Health,” said Duarte. “Today, we were provided with T-shirts and

pedometers. We want to make the moais fun. We could have prizes. We could encourage people to watch their steps. Someone with the most steps could get a prize. My favorite is the celebration at the end of the moais because you see a bond created through the participation in a shared positive experience.”

There are several aspects of the Blue Zones Project to be explored. One of these is the “Real Age Test,” which helps one to determine their age as a matter of health rather than chronology. This approximately 15-minute test can be found at <https://bzpmendocinocounty.sharecare.com>.

The next walking moai will be Friday, September 2, and will meet in front of Brickhouse Coffee at the corner of Commercial and Main streets. All are welcome, even well-behaved dogs.

The rest of Anniversary From page 3

think all of our produce is organic. Either certified or locals bringing in organic from farms that we’ve visited and know that they are organic.

“We want to bring health to the community,” he continued. “We use as many local vendors as we can. We have honey from Ukiah and Potter Valley. Ryo’s Hatake Farm Kitchen Ghost Restaurant sushi and bento bowls. We have local produce, local flowers. We have local coffees: Thanksgiving from Fort Bragg; Cup a Jill, a Willits blender; Big River from the coast. We have Schat’s bread from Ukiah and Costeaux in Healdsburg, Fort Bragg Bakery.”

Outside the store, several of the vendors set up tables to introduce their products sold in the store to the public. Jesse of Roundman’s Smokehouse in Fort Bragg could be seen cooking pork sage and chicken jalapeño sausages which were cut up for the attendees to sample. He said Roundman’s will cut and dress any meat which customers bring (other than roadkill).

Dale Grable of Nice sells Thai products in his Thai / American market. “We’re a Thai market, not a restaurant, but I do make food,” explained Grable. “I have some samples here, some panang and some massaman curry.

“Mariposa is very picky about what it puts on its shelves,” said Grable. “I provide them the best of what I have. One of those is our food kits which have everything you need to enjoy a curried meal with rice. All you have to do is go out and buy the meat and vegetables. The panang has dried chili, lemongrass, shallots, salt, garlic, galangal, mung bean, shrimp paste, lime peel, coriander seed, cumin, pepper, no MSG, preservatives, or artificial color.”

Local herbalists Claudia Wenning of Quantum Level Health and Wolfgang Ronnefeldt of Mendocino Medicinal shared a table where they offered their balms, salves, teas, and other natural remedies. Both have recently gone international with outlets in Europe.

The rest of Roots From page 6

The MQ #202 was stored for several years in a yard at the east end of the Bay Bridge, linking San Francisco and Oakland. The lower deck of the Bay Bridge was used by the Key System commuter train and truck traffic. Railroad lore has it that the #202 was the only steam locomotive to operate on the Key System tracks on the Bay Bridge before the rail was pulled up. The electric power to the Key System had been turned off, and with the System’s diesel electric out of service, the steam locomotive was used to move cars and equipment.

Thomsen then leased the MQ #202 to a couple of operators on the Virginia & Truckee Railroad at Carson City and Virginia City, Nevada, between 1961 and 1980. The locomotive operated as the Virginia & Truckee Railroad #3 on the newly revived railroad in 1977.

The locomotive was equipped at the factory with steam brakes on the locomotive, with no air brakes for the cars. Pulling passenger cars required the installation of an air brake system for the cars. The V & T installed an air pump in the fireman’s position in the locomotive cab, and the engineer performed the tasks of the fireman from his side of the cab. The air pump was later moved to the front of the locomotive.

The #202 was too small to pull the passenger cars of the V & T’s rapidly expanding tourist railroad, and Thomsen sold the locomotive to Bob Kirtlan in Clarksburg, California on the Sacramento River. Kirtlan operated the Silver Bend Railroad, a small tourist line with a farming theme amid his hundreds of acres of tomatoes, pumpkin patches, Christmas trees, blacksmithing, root beer stands, farming equipment and machinery displays, staged gunfights, etc. Families would stream down to Clarksburg from Sacramento for a healthy and happy time on the railroad.

The Kirtlans had closed the Silver Bend Railroad around 2010. In 2014, Chris Baldo purchased the railroad equipment from Kirtlan, mostly to acquire another locomotive, the Folsom Prison #1, a 1926 0-4-0 Alco, that had been owned by Bert Rudolph of Willits. With the purchase, came the MQ #202, some other locomotives, and rolling stock.

By this time, the MQ #202 had been loaned to the Auburn State Recreation Area, and was on display close to where she first operated on the American River.

The Folsom Prison #1 and the Mountain Quarries #202 were moved to Willits in 2014, but restoration of the #202 would have to wait its turn in Roots of Motive Power’s long list of restoration and maintenance projects. The restoration would take several years, but finally in August 2022, a fire was built in the #202, and she proudly steamed across the yard.

The rest of Pharmacy From page 12

do indeed communicate using pheromones which waft on the breeze, and through mycorrhizal symbiosis, which takes place underground.

Pheromones send signals from tree to tree, acting to warn of insect attacks, and setting up defensive chemistry to ward off the invaders. Mycorrhizae form fungal bridges between trees, allowing them to synchronize fruiting and deliver mineral nutrients.

Little by little our understanding is growing. Kimmerer writes: “Tree conversations are still far above our heads.... Nature weaves a web of reciprocity, giving and taking in order to allow all the trees in the group what they need to thrive.... All flourishing is mutual.”

The walking group continued east past the library, the Mendocino County Museum, and the ball fields, to a scrubby area where native plants sprout up year after year. As the group walked, the air filled with the distinctive minty fragrance of pennyroyal, with its small purple / pink pom-pom flowers. Pennyroyal has long been used topically by the Pomo to alleviate conditions like snake, spider, and bug bites, and pennyroyal tea serves as a natural decongestant.

Schmidt pointed out numerous wild carrot plants, often called Queen Anne’s Lace. Not only is the root edible, with a light carrot flavor and smell, but wild carrots can be used to correct urinary problems, indigestion, and gout.

Plaintain is another common plant often dismissed as a nuisance. The Pomo have long used plaintain for a variety of medicinal purposes, to reduce inflammation and improve digestion, and plaintain poultices are often used to promote wound healing.

Elderberry flowers are preventative for cancer, and the blue elderberries are effective in strengthening the immune system. “They contain a lot of Vitamin C,” related Schmidt. “I take a teaspoon of the syrup every day. Maybe that’s why I am rarely sick!”

Schmidt also pointed out that willow, called “bam xale” in Northern Pomo, is another plant widely used in basket weaving. It possesses notable medicinal properties. Willow tea treats headaches and back pain, and willow bark water is soothing as a soak for sore limbs.

“The best way to grow willow for basket making,” Schmidt explained, “is to cut it completely down at the end of the season. This allows the tree to send up the long, straight branches prized by basket makers.”

The bestselling book “Braiding Sweetgrass” is full of stories of ancient wisdom as well as the latest in botanical science. Schmidt said, “I really relate to the stories and imagery of the author. Pomo traditional beliefs are very similar.”

We are fortunate to have teachers such as Schmidt, passing this wisdom on to future generations, teaching us how we are supported by planet Earth, and how we can nurture our home in return.

To check out a copy of “Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants,” or to learn more about other Mendocino County Reads events, please visit www.mendolibrary.org or contact the Willits Library at 459-5908.

THANK YOU!

To all of the buyers who helped reach
the 2022 Junior Livestock Auction total of

\$1,126,603.00



2022 Grand Champs



Jacob Welter of the Fort Bragg FFA poses with his Grand Champion Market Turkey which was purchased by RESCUE SOLUTIONS, LLC



Noah Penny of the Potter Valley FFA poses with his Grand Champion Hog which was purchased by REDWOOD COAST FUELS



Katie Brown of the Ukiah FFA poses with her Grand Champion Market Steer which was purchased by REDWOOD COAST FUELS



Cassidy Geimer of the Potter Valley 4-H poses with her Grand Champion Rabbit Meat Pen which was purchased by SAVINGS BANK OF MENDOCINO COUNTY



Chase Vagt of the Ukiah Shamrock 4-H poses with his Grand Champion Poultry Meat Pen which was purchased by RESCUE SOLUTIONS



Samantha Arms of the Willits FFA poses with her Grand Champion Market Lamb which was purchased by THURSTON AUTO COROPORATION



Callie Brown of the Willits FFA poses with her Grand Champion Market Goat which was purchased by MENDOCINO ROOFING, INC.

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Additional Thanks

An additional Thank You goes out to the Mendocino County Farm Bureau, Geiger's Long Valley Market and Ukiah Taco Bell for their sponsorship of the buyer's hats and to the Savings Bank of Mendocino County for all of their hard work throughout the event.