

Willits Weekly

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A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits
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Thursday, October 6, 2022

Brooktrails board elections Q&As

The Brooktrails Township Community Services District has four candidates for three seats on the board of directors.

Incumbents Ed Horrick, Tony Orth and Rick Williams, and challenger Joanne Cavallari are the Brooktrails candidates in the November 8, 2022 election. The three winners will all have four-year terms starting January 2023.

Willits Weekly asked the four candidates to reply to four questions, and here are their responses.

Read the rest of **Brooktrails**
Over on page 6

New CA law means 6-year terms for sheriffs, DAs

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Gov. Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill 759 last week, which moves the election dates for county sheriffs and district attorneys in California to presidential election years, extending current officials' terms by two years.

This means Mendocino County District Attorney David Eyster and Mendocino County Sheriff Matt Kendall, both just elected to a four-year term in June 2022, won't face another election until the June primary election in 2028.

DA Eyster won reelection in June this year without a challenger, and Sheriff Kendall, who was appointed as sheriff at the end of

Read the rest of **Limits**
Over on page 11

Willits man arrested after standoff

By Sgt. J. Wells, for MCSO

On Friday, September 23, at 10:30 pm, Mendocino County Sheriff's Office Dispatch received a call from the 1400 block of Hullet Place in Willits. An adult female stating her husband, Lewis Albert Perl, 40, of Willits, had choked her and was threatening her with a machete. Shortly thereafter the phone line disconnected.

Sheriff's Office deputies began responding, and dispatch was able to re-contact the adult female, and the dispatcher learned Perl was chasing her with the machete and a sledge hammer. It was later learned that Perl had reportedly smashed a computer with the sledge hammer inside the residence.

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



Above, from left: Underclassmen pairs for Homecoming Prince and Princess were decided earlier in the week and include, from left: Freshmen Cecily Potter and Jayden Schlogal; Sophomores Dacian O'Malley and Jade Arbayo; and Juniors Kooper Dockins and Charley Lamprich. Below: Willits High School's senior Homecoming King and Queen nominees, including, from left: Aily Chavez, Damian Lopez, Emily Maxwell, Daniel LaCount, Marisol Martinez, and Sahil Mohen, will be crowned on Wednesday night at the night rally, and then will be on parade during the halftime show of the varsity football game Friday, October 7.



Photos by Maureen Jennison

Happy Homecoming

Willits High School celebrates annual festivities with football, floats and more

It's been a festive "Jukebox Jams Homecoming" week for the students of Willits High School, with spirit days, a night rally, and float building all leading up to Friday night's big football game and Saturday's big dance, held from 9:30 to 11:30 pm at the school's gymnasium.

Willits will face off against the Kelseyville Knights with junior varsity playing at 5:30 and varsity at 7:30 pm. The court – and Grand Marshal Tom Summers and Athlete's Choice winner Jim Schroeder – will make a lap around the track, waving to the crowd during halftime of the varsity game. The game is free for all to attend, and food, drink and spirit gear will be available to purchase.

The nominees have already been named for the Homecoming Court, with underclassmen winners announced earlier this week, but the six seniors up for the main title of King and Queen have to wait till their crowning Wednesday at the rally to know who will win the title and receive their crown.

The class floats will also be on display, and float winners announced at the game; the freshman float theme, and Monday's dress-up day was Ragga; the sophomore float theme and Tuesday's dress-up day was Disco; the junior float theme and Wednesday's dress-up day was Country; the senior float theme and Thursday's dress-up day was Rock and Friday, and the theme for the game, will be the traditional "Green and Gold."

– Maureen Jennison



Junior Prince Kooper Dockins



Sophomore Prince Dacian O'Malley



Freshman Prince Jayden Schlogal



Junior Princess Charley Lamprich



Sophomore Princess Jade Arbayo



Freshman Princess Cecily Potter



Senior King Nominee Damian Lopez



Senior Queen Nominee Aily Chavez



Senior King Nominee Daniel LaCount



Senior Queen Nominee Emily Maxwell



Senior King Nominee Sahil Mohen



Senior Queen Nominee Marisol Martinez

School board elections Q&As

The Willits Unified School District Board of Trustees has eight candidates, including one write-in candidate, for three seats on the board in the November 8, 2022 election.

Incumbents Robert Chavez, Jeanne King, and Paula Nunez are running for an additional term, challengers Colby Friend, David Lilker, Jeff Ritchley, and Jennifer Sookne, and write-in candidate April Lamprich are also candidates. The three winners will all have four-year terms starting January 2023.

Willits Weekly asked the eight candidates to reply to five questions, and here are the responses we received.

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

Brooktrails board updated on water, capital improvements

Barbara O'Reardon
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

All Brooktrails Township board members were present for the Tuesday, September 27 meeting. Director Tony Orth and Township Counsel Chris Neary attended remotely via Zoom.

Director Tina Tyler-O'Shea announced that on October 9 there will be a public information event, the North County Kickoff of the Blue Zones Initiative Project at Willits Recreation Grove from 1 to 4 pm. Dan

Read the rest of **Updates**
Over on page 6

Suspect arrested in murder of Laytonville 18-year-old

By Lt. Andrew Porter, for MCSO

A 20-year-old Ukiah man was arrested on charges of murder after the remains of a missing 18-year-old Laytonville man were found in a shallow grave in Potter Valley

On Thursday, September 29, Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputies assigned to the North Sector were dispatched to contact a resident of Laytonville regarding a missing person's report.

The reporting person reported Aaron Joseph Vossler, 18, from Laytonville, had been traveling with a friend

Read the rest of **Murder**
Over on page 6

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Sherwood Road speed limit

To the Editor:

We recently read the article in Willits Weekly regarding the Brooktrails board of directors' concerns about Sherwood Road speed limits.

As long-term residents of Brooktrails (1972-2004) and now living at 2nd Gate Road (2004-present) with property along the Sherwood Road corridor, we understand the serious traffic problems from the currently too-high speed limits.

Raising the speed limit along Sherwood Road years ago was a terrible mistake and has made driving to town and back home a terrifying, potentially deadly experience for everyone on the road.

Many times, high speed is responsible for accidents along Sherwood Road, and often these crashes involve power poles. The corridor is connected by power lines, which results in accidents close to town knocking out power to the same 870 homes repeatedly, including our home, eight miles from town.

We support the board's efforts to discuss this matter with our county Department of Transportation as a starting point, and hope this will lead to traffic control measures and reduction of the speed limit back to 35 mph on Sherwood Road.

We feel installation of stop signs at heavily traveled intersections, from Main Street downtown along Sherwood Road through Brooktrails, would help. These are the intersections on Sherwood Road where we would like to see three- or four-way stop signs installed:

- Birch Street - Birch Terrace junction
- Brooktrails Drive (main entrance)
- Lupine Drive (near Sherwood Market and Karkar's)
- Daphne Drive
- Poppy Drive

In addition, beyond Brooktrails, stop signs should be installed at 1st Gate, 2nd Gate and 3rd Gate Roads. This section of Sherwood Road is equally dangerous due to speeding drivers. There are motorcycles racing even after dark, drivers in pick-up trucks speeding to and from town, and occasionally logging trucks, empty and loaded, traveling too fast for safety.

Sherwood Road has become a dangerous road where many drive in excess of 55 mph. It is not a freeway, and our neighborhoods deserve safer traffic conditions. We all have children and pets and live here for the beauty, peace and quiet. But without appropriate speed limits and traffic controls, we have none of these.

Joy Calonico and Burt Buchmann, Willits

Why get another booster?

To the Editor:

Why would I get another COVID booster just when things are near normal again?

The Centers for Disease Control has now recommended the new bivalent COVID booster for all adults older than 17.

This is a new booster that is a combination of the old booster and a new component designed to combat the Omicron variant including the current strains BA-1.4 and BA-1.5. So it will provide new protection against the current mutations that allow the virus to

get around our protection from earlier infections and earlier vaccinations and their booster.

On top of that the protection against this virus from previous vaccination and infection wanes rather quickly after about four months, thus explaining how many of you have had a second infection or even three.

Even though most infections now are milder, those that are currently boosted still have about one-10th the chance of death or severe disease as the unvaccinated.

I would expect that the CDC will end up recommending an annual booster based on the predominant variants worldwide, just as it does with the annual flu vaccine. The booster is timed well for the coming winter season when we expect an upsurge of COVID to happen. This new improved and updated booster would be, in effect, our first annual booster.

In our clinic we are still seeing frequent infections that are generally not severe but can be very unpleasant for a week or more. There is increasing evidence that the vaccines also protect against the likelihood of Long Covid which can leave lingering effects on your body or mind in the way of brain fog for weeks to months.

And that's just reasons for yourself – you also want to protect your family and loved ones and friends and, well, everyone.

John Glyer MD, Willits

Thank you

To the Editor:

Thank you Mattie Owen, Taylor, and all who give us the opportunity to exercise at the Willits City Pool.

We are very fortunate to have this facility which addresses the needs of many in our community: The Willits Otter Swim Team, Willits High School PE classes, children learning to swim, a place in the summer months for children and adult recreation and, personally, an excellent means of exercise for senior citizens.

Water therapy addresses lowering blood pressure, maintaining a healthy weight, rehabilitation after orthopedic surgery, builds muscle, stamina and flexibility. It can be a relief from chronic pain. It is a beautiful way to exercise without injuring our bodies.

Hopefully, after the cover is installed, year-round use of the pool could be possible.

Again, we who use the pool, thank you for this necessary and vital asset in our community.

Lena and John Hofmaister, Willits

Stay on your side of the road

To the Editor:

In reading the article about the September Brooktrails Township Board meeting, I found it interesting that, prompted by a recent vehicle wreck, that the board voiced their collective concern regarding the posted speed limit on Sherwood. Although the posted maximum for most of Sherwood Road is set at 45 MPH I have on two occasions been passed between Birch and the light at Main Street.

However, a much greater danger are those idiot drivers that can't remain or see no reason to stay on their side of the road! Even at 25 MPH a head-on collision can result in life-threatening injuries. Millions of dollars are spent on striping the county's roadways to assist those aforementioned idiots to stay on their side of the road.

When was the last time you traveled up or down Sherwood Road, or any of the other roads in Brooktrails for that matter, that one of those idiots wasn't on your side of the road? Unfortunately, there are many drivers who drive far beyond their abilities....

How many wrecks have there been at the "1, 2 Tree"? Slow down and stay on your own side of the road, that's to the right of the yellow line!

Frank Sanderson, Brooktrails

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, October 6: Spinach Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Green Salad

Friday, October 7: Chicken Noodle Casserole, Roll

Monday, October 10: Battered Alaska Pollack w/Lemon Dill Sauce, Rice, Veggie, Roll

Tuesday, October 11: Beef Stroganoff, Green Salad, Roll

Wednesday, October 12: Chicken Burrito, wet w/Green Sauce

Thursday, October 13: Sweet & Sour Chicken Lo Mein, Green Salad

Friday, October 14: Western Bacon Cheeseburger, Fries

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 Importance of Home Hardening and Defensible Space'

Submitted by Pine Mountain Firewise

You are invited to a presentation and discussion on "The Importance of Home Hardening and Defensible Space," Thursday, October 20 from 6:30 to 6:30 pm at the Willits Senior Center.

Presenter is Yana Valachovic, a researcher, scientist, and national expert on home hardening, wildfire preparation, and defensible space. She has worked at UC Cooperative Extension since 2000 and is a California registered professional forester and forest scientist. She is a leader in developing and delivering local and state strategies to improve wildfire resilience.

- Learn how home construction and design can make your home more resilient to wildfire.
- Discover the science of how wildfires threaten your home.
- Learn how simple, inexpensive changes can make all the difference in the survivability of your home.
- See examples from fires throughout California and Colorado.

Whether you are a homeowner, a renter, or a contractor, making smart choices when it comes to materials and design is a proven way to help buildings withstand wildfires.

Sponsored by Mendocino County Fire Safe Council and Pine Mountain Firewise.

Governor signs bills to expand the legal cannabis market, address impacts from past prohibition

Submitted by the Office of Governor Gavin Newsom

Governor Gavin Newsom announced September 19 that he has signed several measures to strengthen California's cannabis laws, expand the legal cannabis market, and redress the harms of cannabis prohibition.

Though the state has made significant progress since the legalization of cannabis, local opposition, rigid bureaucracy, and federal prohibition continue to pose challenges to the industry and consumers. Newsom is calling on legislators and other policymakers to redouble efforts to address and eliminate these barriers.

"For too many Californians, the promise of cannabis legalization remains out of reach," said Governor Newsom. "These measures build on the important strides our state has made toward this goal, but much work remains to build an equitable, safe and sustainable legal cannabis industry.

"I look forward," he continued, "to partnering with the legislature and policymakers to fully realize cannabis legalization in communities across California."

The governor signed SB 1326 by Senator Anna Caballero (D-Merced), which creates a process for California to enter into agreements with other states to allow cannabis

Read the rest of Cannabis Over on page 11



Above, left: Tyler Balthrop, of Funkacillin, lays down some tasty riffs. Above, right: Malakai and Greg Schindel entertain the attendees between the two bands. Below: Wendy DeWitt entertains the attendees with her high-octane funk. At right: Kirk Harwood (drummer), Wendy DeWitt (keyboards, vocals), Pierre Archain (guitar) make up the Wendy DeWitt Trio.



Birthday Bash

KLLG-LP, Willits' hometown radio station, celebrates anniversary with party at Little Lake Grange

One thing that would have made the anniversary KLLG-LP FM party at the Little Lake Grange even better would have been the presence of three of the founders of the station who were sadly absent.

The celebration and fundraiser, joyful in its amiable conglomeration of friends, old and new, its music, upbeat and danceable, and its food and drink, was dedicated to these three individuals who were so instrumental in the conception, building and branding of the station.

Lanny Cotler, Les Tarr, and the recently passed Mike Burgess were all there in spirit and in love. Cotler was one of the original conceptualizers of creating a local radio station that would serve the Little Lake Valley and close surrounding areas in order to have access to information in case of disaster, a concept that was proven during the fires in 2017.

Tarr was an internationally syndicated programmer whose music was much appreciated, as were his DJ duties at several local events. Burgess, engineer extraordinaire, was instrumental in the day-to-day operation of the station and in his ability to troubleshoot problems in the equipment.

"It's been a tradition for KLLG to throw a birthday party," explained Jeff Shipp, program manager at the station. "It's one of our main ways of fundraising. The station is six years old now. We haven't been able to have the party because of the pandemic, so it's very exciting to get people back out.

"The party is getting backing," said Shipp, "from the Community Foundation of Mendocino County. They gave us a grant to be able to produce the fundraiser. More than anything, people are excited right now to just be together and get out. It's going to just be a great community event."

Thanks to the support of the Community Foundation, most of the money raised through ticket sales, raffles, silent auction, drink sales, and donations, will go the operation of KLLG and will eat into its approximately \$5,000 yearly budget.

In addition to the celebration, the event was an opportunity to spread the word that the station needs programmers and volunteers to continue its entertainment and information services. Programmers are those people who create radio shows and speak on the air. Engineers can assist the programmers in the use and maintenance of



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.

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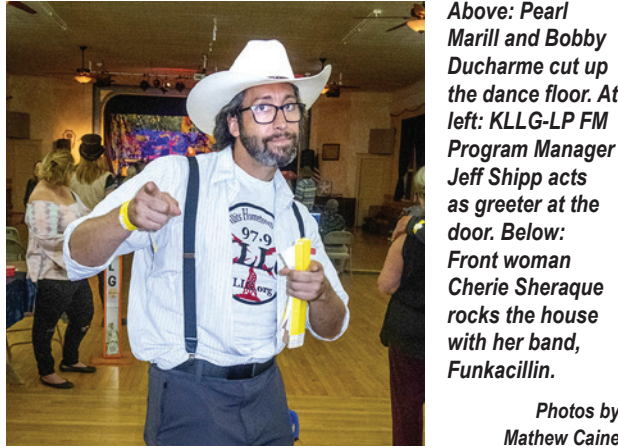
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Above: Pearl Marill and Bobby Ducharme cut up the dance floor. At left: KLLG-LP FM Program Manager Jeff Shipp acts as greeter at the door. Below: Front woman Cherie Sheraque rocks the house with her band, Funkacillin.

Photos by Mathew Caine



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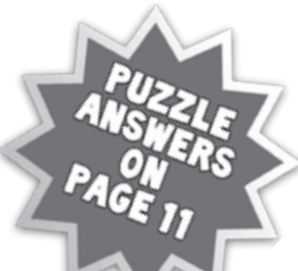
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Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

				5	3			6
3	6		2	1	9	7		
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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!

SAFE BACKPACK WORD SEARCH																											
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BACKPACK	FULL	SHOULDERS
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CANVAS	HEAVY	SUPPLIES
CARRY	LOAD	TABLET
CENTERED	LOCKER	VACATION
CLASSROOM	PROPERLY	WEIGHT
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67					68					69				

CLUES ACROSS

- Bay Area humorist
- Hurt
- Icelandic poems
- A taro corm
- Metaphorical use of a word
- It fears the hammer
- Excessively quaint (British)
- Laid-back California county
- Cook in a microwave oven
- Not late
- Go from one place to another
- Peoples living in the Congo
- Popular pasta
- Available engine power (abbr.)
- Popular musician Charles
- Angry
- Spelling is one type
- One who makes a living
- Indicates location
- Imperial Chinese dynasty
- Small water buffaloes
- Hungarian city
- Fabric
- Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- Precursor to the EU
- Philly footballers
- Female sibling

- When Harry Met Sally' actress
- Magnetic tape of high quality
- Insecticide
- Apparatus to record and transmit
- Some is considered 'dog'
- Israeli city ___ Aviv
- Fencing sword
- Ottoman military title
- Terminated
- Wise people
- Cold wind
- Popular type of shoe
- Administrative district
- A way to reveal
- Cooked meat cut into small pieces
- Actress Zellweger
- Romanian city

CLUES DOWN

- Small town in Portugal
- Site of famed Ethiopian battle
- German river
- Christmas carols
- Cash machine
- Rough and uneven
- Rumanian round dance
- Widespread occurrence of disease
- A place to relax
- Feeling of listlessness
- Coat or smear a substance

- Wild mango
- Brews
- Belgian city
- Confined condition (abbr.)
- Swiss river
- Small amount
- Part of buildings
- Vietnamese capital
- Sailboats
- Shelter
- Terminated
- Discharge
- Snag
- Partner to cheese
- A container for coffee
- Spend time dully
- Satisfies
- Snakelike fish
- Consume
- Type of student
- Erase
- Instruct
- Girl's given name
- Jewish spiritual leader
- 'To ___ his own'
- North-central Indian city
- Greek alphabet characters
- Weapon
- Amounts of time
- American Nobel physicist vital to MRIs
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Witness

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE LOG

September 18 to October 1

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled **162 incidents** in this 14-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

September 18
No incidents to report.

September 19
7:24 pm: DANFORTH Jr., Fred Eugene (59) was contacted in the 300 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 23152 VC (Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol) and on misdemeanor charges of second offense within 10 years with prior convictions.

September 20
11:00 am: VERDUZCO, Norma Mata (36) of Ukiah was contacted in the 1700 block of South Main Street. She was arrested pursuant to 245 (A) (4) PC (Assault by Means Likely to Produce Great Bodily Injury).

September 21
10:03 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of North Main Street.

11:50 am: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

September 22
1:11 am: MARCHANT, Solange (35) of Willits was contacted in the 1200 block of South Main Street. She was arrested on misdemeanor charges of driving under the influence of alcohol, driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.08 percent or higher, driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.15 percent or higher, and second offense within 10 years with prior convictions.

2:00 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

5:46 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 800 block of South Main Street.

9:23 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 800 block of South Main Street.

2:42 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of South Main Street.

4:06 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block of Highway 20.

11:32 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the 300 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning.

September 23
10:55 am: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

4:12 pm: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 100 block of Bittenbender Lane.

6:21 pm: BAZE, Teresa Diane (56) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of Bittenbender Lane following a disturbance. She was arrested on felony charges of assault with a deadly weapon other than a firearm.

7:29 pm: Officers responded to a

The rest of
Standoff From page 1

While responding deputies were advised the adult female had been able to escape from the location and Perll had gone back into the residence.

Sheriff's Dispatch advised Perll had a felony warrant for his arrest from Santa Clara County and a misdemeanor warrant for his arrest from Santa Cruz. Perll was also on formal probation in another county.

Upon contact with the adult female, deputies noticed injuries consistent with being choked and assaulted. Deputies learned both parties had been drinking alcoholic beverages at another location, and when they got home Perll got angry. Perll began to strangle the adult female, while telling her he was not going to let go until she stopped breathing. The adult female fought back and was able to call 9-1-1.

When deputies attempted to contact Perll, he attempted to flee out a side window of his residence, but quickly went back inside. Perll advised he had fortified

disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

10:09 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

September 24
6:56 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 800 block of South Main Street.

8:57 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 100 block of Baechtel Road.

9:16 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance near the intersection of Muir Lane and West Mendocino Avenue.

9:20 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of East Valley Street.

10:57 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Barbara Lane and issued a warning.

11:12 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of Boscabelle Avenue.

September 25
8:53 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of West San Francisco Avenue.

September 26
No incidents to report.

September 27
8:28 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

9:27 pm: PELLEGRINE, James Scott (51) of Ukiah was contacted in the 1500 block of South Main Street following a disturbance. He was arrested on felony charges of failure to appear, and on misdemeanor charges of disturbing the peace, obstructing a student or teacher, violation of probation, and failure to appear.

September 28
12:14 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 700 block of South Main Street.

12:45 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

7:30 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Blosser Lane and Franklin Avenue.

September 29
No incidents to report.

September 30
1:40 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Madden Lane.

8:19 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 300 block of East Commercial Street.

11:52 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1000 block of Magnolia Avenue.

October 1
7:36 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

7:58 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of South Main Street.

9:35 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of Brookside Drive.

Deputies requested Sheriff's Office crisis negotiators to respond to the location. Perll was agitated, intoxicated, and at one point grabbed a pellet gun and began to raise it towards the deputies.

At approximately 1:40 am, crisis negotiators were able to get Perll to open the front door and walk outside, where he peacefully surrendered. Perll was taken into custody without incident on charges of: 273.5 PC (Domestic Violence Battery); 245(A)(1) PC (Assault with Deadly Weapon other than a Firearm); 422(A) PC (Criminal Threats); and the out of county arrest warrants.

Perll was booked into the Mendocino County Jail where he was to be held on a no-bail status due to the Santa Clara County arrest warrant. The local charges were to have a \$30,000 bail and the Santa Cruz warrant was a \$500 bail.

OBITUARY |

Donna Stropes

Donna Jean Stropes was born in Norwalk, Ohio, on June 6, 1945, to Arlene and Karl Schauss. During high school, Donna became interested in painting from her maternal grandmother. Donna described her grandmother in this video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jsz1wtOc0A. Donna was also a majorette in high school.



Donna later moved to Chicago to study at the Art Institute. Chicago is also where she met her first husband, Harry "Butch" Friedman. Daughter Amy was born in San Francisco. Butch and Donna parted in the early 1970s. Donna then studied at the San Francisco Art Academy. In the mid-1970s, she moved to Mill Valley, where she met current husband, Larry Stropes. She and Larry married in 1995, moving to Willits in 2001.

Donna's work was featured in many galleries and Juried Invitational Shows, including the Northwest Exhibition in Portland, Sausalito Art Festival, and the Napa Valley Museum, where she was the Featured Artist.

In one of her proudest moments, Donna was invited to California Watercolor Association's National Exhibition at the Presidio of San Francisco. The Association chose one of her watercolors for emails, printed brochures, and printed posters announcing the event. The painting featured in those materials ("Spring Rain") was one of the top 2 People's Choices.

Over the years, Donna won many awards (including two Best of Shows) and was featured in several art publications.

In Willits, Donna organized Silent Auctions for Haehl Creek Trail, Rotary, Willits Educational Foundation, and the new Little Lake Firehouse. All paintings in the Howard Hospital Restaurant and Emergency Room Lobby are Donna's.

Donna passed away on September 28, 2022. With her were daughter Amy and friend Voris Brumfield. Husband Larry arrived only two minutes later. Donna's father Karl, her mother Arlene, and brother Tim preceded her in death. She is survived by daughter Amy Friedman, husband, Larry Stropes, and brother David Schauss.

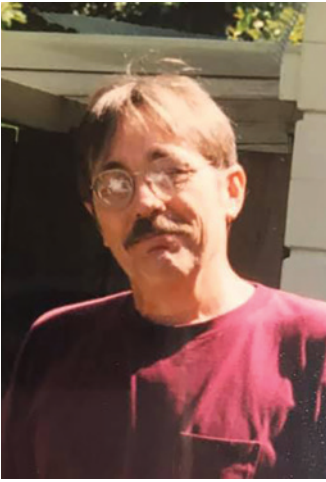
Donna's family will host a Celebration of her Life, October 16 at 2:30 pm, at Willits Methodist Church, 286 School Street. Friends are invited. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made online in the name of Donna Stropes to Willits Center for the Arts: www.willitscenterforthearts.org

OBITUARY |

Samuel Layne

Samuel E. Layne passed away on May 26, 2022, at his home in Willits, California. He leaves behind his wife, Judi Butow-Layne, and son Jimmy Layne. He also leaves behind his nieces Sadie (Layne) Burns of Colorado and Hannah Layne of Portugal; cousins Carolyn (Gene) Kidd and Pat (Scott) Kestner of Oregon; Jeannie Clark and Sheryl Parker of Ukiah; Mike Emig (Susan) of North Carolina; and dear friends Mike and Dawn Sentten of Ukiah; and good friend and walking buddy Kris Anderson of Willits.

Sam was born in Willits on November, 12,



vinyl record collection, and old stuff.

For those of you who feel Sam's loss, put on some good blues (perhaps the Ford Brothers), and find comfort. You are loved and missed, Sam Layne.

There will be a celebration of life to remember Sam on October 15, 2022 at Recreation Grove Park in Willits from 2 to 4 pm.

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Septic & Water Systems - Site Development
Roads - Water, Soil & Rock Delivery
24900 N. HWY 101 IN WILLITS
GARMANCONST@GMAIL.COM

SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

Agape Bible Church
290 S. Lenore Ave.
Willits, CA 95490
Where love is first and the Bible is central.
Sunday Services
10:00 a.m. - Worship
Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Info? 707-459-1905
www.agapebiblechurch.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

St. John Lutheran Church
Church Service:
Sunday 10:00 to 11:00
(707) 459-2988
24 Mill Creek Drive
ALL ARE WELCOME

Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church
707-459-5714
Friendly, open worship
Saturdays
Bible Study - 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service - 10:45 a.m.
Zoom Transmission Available.
Wednesday
Prayer Meeting - 6:00 p.m.
399 W. Mendocino Ave.
All are welcome!

Willits United Methodist
A Christ centered, progressive church
ALL ARE WELCOME
286 School St. (at Pine)
Rev. Rosemary Landry, pastor
Worship Celebration
Sundays - 10:30 a.m.
Children's Sunday School - 10:45 a.m.
459-2855
Facebook: www.facebook.com
If you want to be included in this column please call:
April Tweddell
(707) 972-2475
april@willitsweekly.com

Why are you running for reelection or election to the Brooktrails Township board?

Joanne Cavallari: I am running against the three incumbents because I believe that Brooktrails voters deserve a choice. I also feel that change is good. New people can bring new ideas, new ways to look at issues, and new solutions to problems.

Ed Horrick: This is my way of service to the community.

Tony Orth: I began my service as a Brooktrails Township director in 1984. With one four-year break, that's 34 years of involvement in our local community working with so many others that have also served here. I will try one more time to relaunch a second access connection to the US Hwy 101 interchange with bicycle and pedestrian features from Sherwood Road. I have worked since moving here in 1980 to build an effective fire department and manage our public lands with careful programs to enjoy our greenbelts while reducing fire hazards, this work must continue.

Rick Williams: When I originally ran for the board, it was because I felt that there were many improvements that needed to be made in the finances and infrastructure of the district. Since then, the spillway on Lake Emily has been raised, other infrastructure improvements have been made, a tax increase for the fire department was passed, I helped settle the lawsuit with Willits, and a new critical water tank 3 was just installed. We have hired two new general managers, the finances of the district are much more transparent, and the district is more financially secure.

What experience, skills and strengths do you / would you bring to the board?

Ed Horrick: I am a Marine Corps veteran who attained a BS degree in accounting on the GI Bill. Previous employers included Little Lake Industries and Harwood Products before I retired from the Mendocino County Assessor's Office. This financial and management background makes me uniquely qualified to serve on the board.

Tony Orth: My experience comes from 40 years working on community issues. I represent the Brooktrails Township board on the Mendocino Fire District Association and serve on its steering committee working with the board of supervisors and the Mendocino Fire Chiefs to address funding shortfalls countywide. I represent all 52 local special districts since 1994 on the Mendocino County Local Agency Formation Commission, currently as the chairperson. This local commission has membership from the county's BOS, city councils and special districts. My working decades with other elected representatives is my greatest strength I offer to Brooktrails residents.

Rick Williams: I have served on the board long enough to have some institutional knowledge of the board's work and the history and the needs of the district. I have served on other boards of directors and worked with other organizations' chief administrators successfully. I think I am



Ed Horrick



Joanne Cavallari



Rick Williams



Tony Orth

good at helping the Brooktrails board get as much of the facts as possible for decisions, and to function in ways that create a harmonious board that has worked well with the three general managers during my tenure, and the board has had little acrimony and disharmony.

Joanne Cavallari: I hold associates degrees in Financial Accounting and Business Management from Mendocino College. I have worked for several local government agencies, including nine years with Brooktrails Township as administrative and finance assistant, five years as finance director/ city treasurer for the City of Willits, and four years as finance manager for the City of Cloverdale.

My background in government finance gives me an understanding of the issues faced by small local agencies, including aging infrastructure and equipment, the demands placed on water and sewer systems, the need for safe parks and recreation facilities, and the challenge of limited funding sources.

What issues do you think are key issues for the Brooktrails Township board to be addressing at this time?

Tony Orth: We must continue support to our fire department, working to maintain its service levels while providing mutual aid to Little Lake Fire and our 19 other Mendocino County fire service providers. Moving forward with water and sewer system infrastructure upgrades. Working with the many providers of a decent quality of life, at the golf course, fire prevention, community garden, and the greenbelt trail working groups. Operations funded to maintain our aging systems with the equipment needed and workforce able to live in our community during their decades of service. These are local issues we can continue to address.

Rick Williams: Our district needs to do all it can to keep the Brooktrails community safe, to complete the installation of the new clarifier at the water plant, to pursue a program of coping with aging infrastructure, to replace another important water tank, to keep the finances of the district healthy while at the same time working to keep the service fees as affordable as possible, and to make the district and the board's work transparent for everyone who lives and works here.

Joanne Cavallari: Wildfire: The Brooktrails Fire Department and CalFire have been very effective in their efforts to abate hazards, but there is still a lot of work to do. The board should continue its support of Sherwood Firewise Communities and the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council. Fiscal health: This can be achieved through

periodic review of financial reports by the board and careful management of resources to ensure that expenditures do not exceed available revenues. Distressed properties and illegal dumping: Increased response from the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, community cleanup days, and Adopt a Road programs should be encouraged and supported by the board.

Ed Horrick: Key issues for the Brooktrails Township board are:

- Wildfire danger
- Both potable and recycled water
- Second Access Road
- Improvements in Recreational facilities

What else you would like the community to know about you with respect to being a Brooktrails board member?

Rick Williams: We moved here because of the forested mountain environment and its peace and quiet. I want to do everything I can to keep it that. I first learned of the area as a member of the Girl Scouts Board of Directors back when Willits/Brooktrails were part of the Santa Rosa region. I served on that board for six years in the 1980s-1990s. I am an attorney; I am a member of the Willits Rotary Club (immediate past president), and I have worked to make this area a better place for everyone to live.

Joanne Cavallari: Brooktrails is a unique and beautiful place. I have been a resident here for over 33 years. My husband and I raised our family here. My daughters and my grandchildren currently live in Brooktrails. I believe my skills would be an asset to the district and I look forward to serving on the Brooktrails Township Board of Directors.

Ed Horrick: Good relationships go a long way. I support that Brooktrails Township continues to be a good neighbor with other agencies, including the City of Willits, local fire departments, CAL FIRE, law enforcement, and county government.

Tony Orth: As owner-builders my wife, Janet, and I built our passive solar home in 1980 near the airport. I retired from installing satellite TV/internet systems in 2010, and have since added active solar with power backup batteries to our home. I started to re-side my home with fireproof siding and class A (2 hour rated fire-resistant) decking taking the next decade to achieve 95% of our goal to be fully fire-hardened in our upgrades. We drive an EV Chevy Bolt and a Tacoma pickup. Our daughter went to our local schools and married her high school sweetheart. We love Mendocino County.



Kritter Karnival

Humane Society of Inland Mendocino County raises money for dogs and cats with games, music, food and auction

"I can say this because they're not here, but the smartest of my three dogs came from here," mused ex-Mendocino sheriff Tom Allman as he emceed the Kritter Karnival at the Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County in Redwood Valley.

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
mathew@willitsweekly.com

The second annual Kritter Karnival, held last Sunday at the facility on Uva Drive, brought out dozens of volunteers and many kids and families, to play games, greet the dogs and cats in residence, get up close and personal with livestock brought by the co-sponsoring Redwood Valley Shamrock 4H, and listen to some music.

The facility, open Wednesday through Friday, 1 to 5 pm, Saturday and Sunday, 11 am to 3 pm, is open to the public during those hours for viewing, fostering and adoption of the dogs and cats. They currently have 279 animals in their care that are looking for permanent homes, so

Read the rest of
Kritter
Over on page 15



Above: This young player demonstrates the overhead technique of tossing a corn hole bag. At right: This 4H member brought her yearling milk goats to show.



Above, from left: Many items, donated by local merchants, are available at the silent auction tent at the Kritter Karnival. The Redwood Valley Calpella Fire Department is on hand to answer questions and pass out literature. Several attendees take time to visit the cat house. Below, left: Elizabeth Bohanan and Wynona Idica sign up prospective volunteers. Below, right: Petunia the pot belly pig has found a friend at the Kritter Karnival.



At left: Two dogs available at the facility wait to be adopted. Below, left: Local band Red Bud entertains the crowd with their eclectic blend of music. Below, right: Volunteer Machiko Shimada tries out the Leap Frog game.

Photos by
Mathew Caine



Buettner, a National Geographic Fellow and multiple New York Times bestselling author, is the founder of the Blue Zones Initiative, and he will be in attendance that afternoon.

Brooktrails General Manager Tamara Alaniz updated the board on several items of interest. She stated: "Our water supply is good. The late rains have kept the water quality good and the water temperature is nice and cool. We do continue to monitor over-usage accounts and will continue that through November. There have been two over usage penalty fees applied to accounts so far this year.

"The second thing," Alaniz continued, "is the Primrose Lift Station. We have been waiting on the panels, and I received notification regarding the pump today that the shipping date is scheduled for October 19. We are getting geared up to receive that pump station and get it plumbed in and the electrical completed, and then it will be complete and we'll start the work of abandoning the old pump station across the street.

"The second item related to capital improvements that I want to update you on is the Clarifier 2," she said. "We did receive delivery of the clarifier on Friday, September 23, and we have our finalized engineered concrete plans completed. We have a contractor who is going to do the concrete pad for us and lay the footings for the installation of the second clarifier, and we have a crane that we will be able to work with for the final assembly of the clarifier. So, it's in our possession, and we are moving forward."

Moving on to a couple of things in the fire department, Alaniz reported: "We've been working with SCI, the engineering firm, to complete a study for our fire revenue assessment. The engineered study and outreach materials are underway. We've been meeting with the consultant and working things like messaging and timing and things of that nature. So, it's looking like we will be starting with early public outreach before the end of this year.

"The other fire-related item that I want to update you on is our squad vehicle that's on

order. Brooktrails Fire Chief Jon Noyer has consulted with the squad vehicle builder, and we are glad to report that we will be getting the off-road capability that we need in the vehicle.

A final update from the general manager was on the county's public hearing regarding the closure of the Dogwoods dump site in Brooktrails. "That public hearing is scheduled for October 18," she said, "and if it is approved there will be an 18-month closure that will have to be reassessed after that 18 months. It won't be permanent, but it will get the ball rolling for how it will be in the future."

Third District Supervisor John Haschak stepped to the podium and said: "I really appreciate how all of the departments, the California Highway Patrol, the Sheriff's Office and Fire Chief Noyer, and the Department of Transportation collaborated and cooperated regarding the Dogwoods closure. So, we will see what happens at the public hearing on October 18, as close to 9 am as we can get. It's a good move. "Also, the board of supervisors is supporting Measure P which is to fund the fire departments and also county-wide fire prevention efforts. Fighting fires and also trying to stop fires from happening is what that money will be directed toward."

On October 9, as Director Tina Tyler-O'Shea pointed out, "we have the Blue Zones Initiative event, and we also have an opening at the county Museum that afternoon, starting at 1 pm, which will highlight our Hispanic heritage of Mendocino County with a presentation by Nuestra Alianza of Willits.

And, Tyler-O'Shea continued, "also that same afternoon, October 9, at 2 pm, there is going to be a Candidates Forum at the Grange. There will be discussion of Measure O [the library tax measure] and Measure P at the forum. So, there's a lot going on that day."

There was one item on the Consent Calendar, the final September 27, 2022 Accounts Payable in the amount of \$33,668.80, and the board voted unanimously to approve the payments.

known only by a nickname. The pair left Laytonville on Monday, September 26, in a black Toyota Prius, and they were supposed to be traveling to a known address in the City of Ukiah.

Vossler did not return home, and the reporting person contacted his friends in an attempt to locate him.

The reporting person learned from one of Vossler's friends that he never arrived at the reported destination in Ukiah, and Vossler had not made any recent social media posts which was unusual.

A missing person's report was taken at that time with the deputies conducting follow-up investigation in an attempt to locate Vossler. Deputies started to hear rumors that Vossler had possibly been the victim of foul play, however they had a difficult time substantiating any of the information.

Sheriff's Office detectives began to assist the patrol deputies throughout the weekend, and on Monday, October 3, they were able to contact someone who possibly had seen Vossler just prior to his disappearance.

This person was identified as Christopher Franklin Hill, 20, from Ukiah, and he was contacted at a family member's residence in the 8200 block of East Side Road in Potter Valley.

While at the location, Sheriff's Office detectives along with a patrol sergeant interviewed Hill, and they were able to observe evidence of a possible violent crime in and about

Hill's vehicle. A search warrant was obtained for the residence and Hill's vehicle.

During the search warrant service on October 3, human remains were located in a shallow grave on the property.

Hill was subsequently booked into the Mendocino County Jail on the charge of 187(a) PC Murder as a result. No mug shot is currently posted on the Mendocino County Jail Booking Log.

The scene was maintained by Sheriff's Office personnel throughout the night until the morning of October 4.

Crime scene specialists from the California Department of Justice assisted the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, Mendocino County Major Crimes Task Force, and investigators from the Mendocino County District Attorney's Office in processing the crime scene, which included exhuming the human remains from the grave.

Once exhumed, the remains were identified as being Vossler.

This investigation is ongoing, and any persons who may have information about this incident are encouraged to contact the Mendocino County Sheriff's Investigative Services Unit by calling the Sheriff's Office Tip Line at 707-234-2100 or the WeTip anonymous crime reporting hotline at 1-800-782-7463.



Willits Weekly

Thursday, October 6

Adventist Health Howard Memorial Hospital Career Fair: "A career fair to help the organization fill many clinical and non-clinical positions available currently, held from 11:30 am to 5 pm. Positions available include nurses, patient access representatives, medical assistants, housekeepers, customer care associates, and technicians, among many others." For more information on job opportunities, please contact Jolee White (707-963-6588, whitej@ah.org) or visit www.adventisthealth.org/careers. At Adventist Health Howard Memorial Hospital, 1 Marcela Drive. Thursday, October 6, 11:30 am to 5 pm.

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly Farmers Market at the old Rexall parking lot, downtown. The freshest local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Thursday, October 6 from 3 to 5:30 pm. 90 South Main Street. Story time from the Willits Branch Library from 3:30 to 4 pm.

Shanachie Pub: The Zach Bellas: Zach Bellas is a national touring three-piece rock band based in Baltimore, Maryland, and named after its frontman – American musician, producer, and founder of the independent recording label SMB Records. Visit zachbellasmusic.com. Thursday, October 6, 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 B South Main Street.



Friday, October 7

Kyle Madrigal "Soul Lifting Original Music" at Brickhouse Coffee: Amazingly gifted local musician Kyle Madrigal plays every Friday from 11 am to 3 pm. Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South Main Street.

First Friday at the Grace Hudson Museum: Pomo Artist Kathleen Smith Pop-up Exhibition: "Spend part of your Ukiah First Friday Art Walk at the museum and meet Pomo artist Kathleen Smith as we open a pop-up exhibition of her artwork from 5 to 8 pm. The Pomo Weavers Society will also be on hand. Plus, you can try your hand at making dolls from tule, a reed that grows in our Wild Gardens. This is all part of the Museum's current exhibit, 'Gathering Time: Pomo Art During the Pandemic,' which features the artwork of 15 different contemporary Pomo artists." The Grace Hudson Museum is at 431 Main Street in Ukiah. For

more information visit www.gracehudsonmuseum.org or call 707-467-2836.

WHS Homecoming Game: Willits High School

Football plays against Kelseyville for the 2022 Homecoming Game Friday, October 7, at Maize Field, 299 North Main Street. JV plays at 5:30 pm, and Varsity at 7:30 pm. The Homecoming Parade, including WHS Class Floats, is featured during half-time of the Varsity game.

"Keely & Du" opens at Willits Community Theatre: "Keely and Du", a powerful drama about abortion from acclaimed playwright Jane Martin, opens at the Willits Community Theatre on Friday, October 7. This timely play, directed by Mathew Caine, centers on a young woman, Keely, who is abducted from an abortion clinic by a radical religious group, then incarcerated and handcuffed to a bed in an effort to force her to carry her pregnancy to term. Starring in the production are Elizabeth Dellett as Keely and Cindi Mohr as Du, along with Jeff Shipp, Joshua Stenberg, Kyle Brandon, and Amythyst Romero." The play runs October 7 through 23, with shows Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 pm and Sunday matinees at 2 pm. Tickets are \$15 for Thursday and Sunday, \$20 for Friday and Saturday. Tickets available at the door or online at www.wcperformingartscenter.org.

Shanachie Pub: Mandolin Manny & Friends: "A modern take on the bluegrass band. Mandolin Manny & Friends' sound is steeped in tradition while pushing the boundaries of the string band format and dipping into the many influences from their eclectic collective of musicians." Visit www.mandolinmanny.com. Saturday, October 7 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 B South Main Street.

Saturday, October 8

The Willits Photography Club Monthly Meeting at the Willits Center for the Arts: "The Willits Photography Club will be celebrating our 21st anniversary next year, and you are invited to join us at 10 am on October 8. The WPC meets monthly on the second Saturday at the Willits Center for the Arts, next door to the Noyo Theatre. We will meet in the 'Great Room' upstairs where social distancing will be easily implemented. Please join us and find out how we elevate the art of photography in our community. Come to the back of the art center and the door will be open upstairs. Join us for monthly shows, critiques, sharing of ideas, and friendship." Saturday, October 8, 10 am. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street.

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DEPARTING FROM WILLITS
FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS,
SUNDAYS, WEDNESDAYS
IN OCTOBER

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Ongoing Events

'Bonnie Belt, 40 Years of Art' and 'Laura Diamondstone, Paintings and Upcycled Work': A retrospective of Bonnie Belt's ceramic work from the past 40 years and paintings by Laura Diamondstone. Exhibits run through October 30. Sponsored by the Sherwood Band of Pomo Indians. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street.

Free Home Hardening Inspections Still Available: To apply contact info@sherwoodfirewise.org

The Redwood Empire Food Bank: Twice-monthly food distribution in Willits, now located in the parking lot of the soccer and baseball fields. Groceries To Go, Senior Basket (for low income seniors 60 or older), and Diapers, all distributed the second and fourth Thursdays of the month, from 9:30 to 11:30 am.

The Willits Photography Club invites you to join us for Friendship, inspiration, and sharing. Beginners to professionals are welcome.

We meet at 10 am, the second Saturday of each month at
The Willits Center for the Arts
71 E. Commercial St. Willits, CA 95490
(Come to the back door.)

Next Meeting is Saturday, October 8, 2022
Following meetings, November 12, December 10.

WILLITS CENTER FOR THE ARTS Presents

Arthur Zárate Ph.D. and
All About Islam

Dr. Zárate will discuss popular misconceptions about Islam and the Islamic World

Friday, October 14th 2022
8:30 pm

Arthur Zárate is an Assistant Professor of Global Humanities at San Jose State University. He is an expert on Islam. He has lived and traveled extensively throughout the Middle East and speaks Arabic.

Willits Center for the Arts
71 E. Commercial Street
Willits, CA 95490
www.willitscenterforthearts.org
707-259-1726

NOYO THEATRE Willits, CA

57 East Commercial Street - Willits
707-459-NOYO (6696)
www.noyotheatre.com

NEXT WEEK:
HALLOWEEN ENDS

LYLE, LYLE, CROCODILE

(PG)
1 hr 46 mins
Fri.: 4:30 & 7:00pm
Sat./Sun.: 2:00, 4:30 & 7:00pm
Mon.-Thurs.: 4:30 & 7:00pm

Movie Times for October 7 thru October 13

AMSTERDAM

(R) 2 hrs 14 mins
Fri.: 4:45 & 7:45pm
Sat./Sun.: 1:45, 4:45 & 7:45pm
Mon.-Wed.: 4:45 & 7:45pm
Mon.-Thurs.: 4:45 & 7:45pm

BLAZING SADDLES (1974)

(R) 1 hr 33 mins
Fri.: 5:00pm
Sat./Sun.: 2:30 & 5:00 pm
Mon.-Wed.: 5:00pm
Over 21 Club/ Luxury Recliners
All Tickets \$6

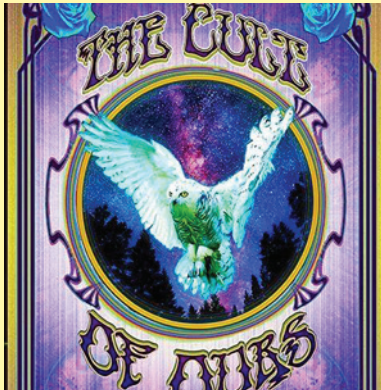
THE BIG LEBOWSKI (1998)

(R) 1 hr 58 mins
Fri.-Thurs.: 7:30pm
Over 21 Club/ Luxury Recliners
All Tickets \$6

Masks Optional

THAT'S RIGHT! IT'S BACK!
What's Happening Around Town

Shanachie Pub: The Cult of Ours: "The Cult of Ours brings a tribal groove jam vibe through a mix of skillful electric improvisation and the blending of energies between the audience and the band. The result is an ecstatic celebration of the boogie. The Cult of Ours is: Jessie 'Thundermuffin' Bessoni on drums, 'Mr. Magical' Kyle Madrigal on guitars, pipes and electronica, Tom 'T-Bone' Jones on bass." Saturday, October 8, 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.



Friday, October 14

"All About Islam" lecture at WCA: "Willits Center for the Arts presents Arthur Zárate PhD, presenting 'All About Islam', Friday, October 14 at 6:30 pm. Arthur Zárate, an assistant professor of

Global Humanities at San Jose State University, is an expert on Islam who has lived and traveled extensively throughout the Middle East and speaks Arabic. He will discuss popular misconceptions about Islam and the Islamic World." Friday, October 14, 6:30 pm. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street.

Sunday, October 9

"Keely & Du" at Willits Community Theatre: A powerful drama about abortion from acclaimed playwright Jane Martin plays at Willits Community Theatre. Sunday showing is at 2 pm. See October 7 listing for more details. Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane.

Tuesday, October 11

Willits Garden Club Monthly Meeting: 11:30 am, at the Golden Rule Mobile Village. Potluck lunch, garden-related speakers and programs. "Mission Statement: To develop and promote interest in the home garden; to lend efforts towards the beautification of the community; to assist in projects for conservation of our natural resources; and to cooperate with other agencies in furthering the interests of horticulture and landscape design." More info at www.willitsgardenclub.org. October 11, and the second Tuesday of each month, 11:30 am. Golden Rule Mobile Village, 16100 North Highway 101.

Wednesday, October 12

Shanachie Pub: Open Mic Night. Every Wednesday. Sign up for the lottery for 20 minute time slots from 3 pm, when the Pub opens, to 7:30 pm. Music starts at 8 pm. "An eclectic array of local musicians and performers from around the world, often turning into an evening full of unexpected surprises." Wednesday, October 12, 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

Thursday, October 13

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly Farmers Market at the old Rexall parking lot, downtown Thursday, October 13 from 3 to 5:30 pm. 90 South Main Street. See Thursday, October 6 listing for more details.

'Exploramos Juntos: Nuestra Alianza'

Sunday, October 9, Mendocino County Museum

Come join us for the opening celebration of our new exhibit, "Exploramos Juntos: Nuestra Alianza," with free admission, plus samples of traditional appetizers and drinks provided by Nuestra Alianza and the Friends of the Mendocino County Museum. Traditional children's dances will be performed by participants from the Plan Vacacional summer program at 2 pm. October 9, noon to 3 pm. Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street, Willits.

Se invita cordialmente al Museo del Condado de Mendocino el Domingo 9 de Octubre de 12 a 3 pm para celebrar la apertura de nuestra nueva exhibición: Descubramos juntos Nuestra Alianza. Para este evento especial el museo va ofrecer admisión gratis, y los invitados podrán saborear antojitos tradicionales y bebidas proporcionadas por Nuestra Alianza y los amigos del Museo del Condado de Mendocino. Bailes tradicionales que serán presentados por participantes del programa Plan Vacacional a las 2 pm."

Skunk Train Pumpkin Express

Willits Depot in October

"This autumn, take a trip into the heart of the redwoods to our magical pumpkin patch wonderland. You'll enjoy seasonal treats on board the train, and when you arrive you'll have the opportunity to walk the pumpkin patch, explore the nearby redwoods, take photos, and choose your very own pumpkin to bring back on the train with you." Pumpkin Express trains run Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays at 10:30 am, and Saturdays at 10:30 am and 1:30 pm, through October, with a couple added trips including a 10:30 am train on Halloween Day, October 31. Tickets are \$59.95 per seat, \$94.95 for VIP tickets (includes advanced boarding, priority concessions, and a commemorative gift), and \$10.95 for dog tickets. For tickets and more info visit skunktrain.com/pumpkin-express. Willits Skunk Train Depot, 299 East Commercial Street.

Ukiah Branch Library 50th Anniversary Celebration

Wednesday, October 19

The Ukiah Branch of the Mendocino County Library will celebrate 50 years of providing public library services at 105 North Main Street in Ukiah.

Staff invites everyone to revisit the '70s with us and get retro by dressing up in a costume of the era. All are welcome to drop in to make a shrinky-dink craft, listen to live music by Steve Hahm, view a special slideshow from the library's archives, pick-up a complimentary goodie bag, and enjoy a slice of cake. Sponsored by the Mendocino County Library and the Friends of the Ukiah Valley Library. More info: www.mendolibrary.org or contact the Ukiah Branch Library at 707-463-4490.

Call for vendors for Fall Arts & Crafts Bazaar in Laytonville

Save the Date: The 3rd Annual Outdoor Fall Arts & Crafts Bazaar in Laytonville is set for for either Sunday, November 13 or – if it rains – Sunday, November 20 from 10 am to 4 pm on the Harwood Park ballfield in Laytonville: "If you are a local artist who would like to participate, please call Healthy Start at 707-984-8089 to obtain a vendor application, open Monday-Wednesday 9 am to 5 pm. If it rains on both weekends, the event will unfortunately be cancelled.

'Gathering Time' Exhibit

Grace Hudson Museum, Ukiah

This groundbreaking show features the artwork of 15 different contemporary Pomo artists, representing 10 Pomo tribal groups that span Mendocino, Lake, and Sonoma counties. The Grace Hudson Museum, 431 South Main Street, Ukiah. Info: 707-467-2836 or visit www.gracehudsonmuseum.org.

CULINARY ARTS
AT MENDOCINO COLLEGE NORTH COUNTY CENTER

Food and Wine Pairing

CAM 71 Section 0179 Oct. 7 - Dec. 9

CAM 71-0179 is a Late Start class that meets Fridays from 10/7 to 12/9, plus one Saturday, 12/3 from 8am to 5pm.

Instructor - Taylor Pederson - 707-459-6224
mailto:tpederson@nccenter@mendocino.edu

This course will cover the role of food and wine pairing in the contemporary foodservice operation

FLEA MARKET

Redwood Valley Grange
8650 East Rd, Redwood Valley

**CRAFTS, VINTAGE
HOMEMADE, ETC.**

BRING ALL THAT GOOD OLD STUFF
COLLECTING DUST
AND GET SOME CASH.

October 8 Saturday 10 - 3

Tell a friend!
Snack bar Puzzle Exchange

reserve now
table provided
indoor and outdoor

\$25 in advance to sell
\$35 at the gate
\$5.00/member discount

A Freezone at Sycamore Valley State
info: (707) 621-3152 tqobw@yahoo.com (707) 467-9343

50 YEARS OF

UKIAH BRANCH LIBRARY

Live Music by Steve Hahm! Cake!

**CELEBRATE WITH US
ON OCT. 19TH 2-6 PM**

Slideshow from the Archives, Shrinky Dink crafts & More!
Costumes encouraged

MENDOCINO COUNTY Library

'Keely & Du'

Opens October 7, Willits Community Theatre

"Keely & Du," a dramatic and timely play by Jane Martin, opens on October 7 and runs Thursdays (\$15), Fridays and Saturdays (\$20) at 7:30 pm, and Sundays at 2 pm (\$15), through October 23. Directed by Mathew Caine, it tells the story of Keely, a young woman who is abducted by a radical group from an abortion clinic with the aim to incarcerate her until she can no longer have an abortion, and who develops a friendship with one of the group. The play creates a platform for discussion and thought. There will be a panel forum following each Sunday matinee. Tickets available at www.wcperformingartscenter.org/ and at the door. Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane.

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

Classic Film Series: 'The Big Lebowski'

The Story: Coen Brothers comedy with a great cast. Lebowski aka the Dude (Jeff Bridges) spends his days drinking White Russians (vodka, Kahlúa, and cream) and hanging out at the bowling alley with Walter (John Goodman), a Vietnam vet with anger issues, and Donny (Steve Buscemi) who always seems just a little bit out of it.



Dan Essman
Columnist

Ironically, the Dude has the same name as a different Lebowski, an uptight millionaire whose trophy

wife, Bunny (Tara Reid), owes big money to bookies. So, angry bookies come to the Dude's apartment by mistake to collect. Also the millionaire's sister Maude (Julianne Moore), a conceptual artist/feminist-theorist, wants to get pregnant. Many intrigues and disasters ensue. But the Dude abides.

My Thoughts: I love this movie. Unfortunately, explanations as to why this is a great movie always fail. Just accept that it is a cult film with a rabid and joyful cult following. The actors do their jobs to perfection. And after my fifth viewing, I am convinced that "The Big Lebowski" is the greatest comedy in American cinema. It is genuinely cathartic, not unlike a great tragedy.

For me, and I'm not kidding, this flick is mentally cleansing. It erases my anxious inner ghosts and inner guilts and the occasional dispiriting cobweb. Truthfully, "The Big Lebowski" resets my psyche and leaves me feeling chill, feeling pretty darn fine. Because: "The Dude abides...."

Parents: It's rated "R" for smoking weed and drinking White Russians and sexual innuendo and brief nudity. It's not really for kids. On the other hand, for all your dudes and dudeens, explaining the movie's tropes would certainly be educational.

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

Redwood Valley Grange Flea Market

Saturday October 8

"Crafts, vintage, homemade, etc. Bring all that good old stuff collecting dust and get some cash. Snack bar, puzzle exchange. Reserve now, table provided indoor and outdoor. 10 am to 3 pm. \$25 in advance to sell, \$35 at the gate." Info: 707-621-3152, 707-467-9343, or tqobw@yahoo.com. Redwood Valley Grange, 8650 East Road, Redwood Valley.

ADD YOUR LOCAL EVENT to the calendar! Email info and a poster to willitsweekly@gmail.com

Harvest Moon Celebration

Saturday, October 22, Downtown

Presented by the Willits Chamber of Commerce and local merchants. "Kick off fall and celebrate a tradition that highlights the importance of shopping local. Featuring food, family fun, music, arts, sales and shopping." Sponsors include NC Financial Group, Adventist Health, Metal FX, Moon Lady & Moon Man, Maverick Boutique. October 22, 2 to 7 pm, downtown Willits.

the Willits Center for the Arts presents

the Haunted Ballroom

A Halloween Masquerade Gala

Join us for a spooktacular evening of fun!

Saturday October 29th. 7-11 Pm

Live music featuring Funkacillin
Catered by Adam Celaya, the Def Chef
Costume Parade with \$250 grand prize

Tickets and information at:
willitscenterforthearts.org

Sponsored by:
The Willits Chamber of Commerce
Brown's Corner
Northspur Brewing Co.
Barra of Mendocino Organic Wines



Above, from left: The regular taco is topped with all the trimmings. Tasha Nickita Jarshaw, Caitlyn Warner, Kaya Meshekey (Jarshaw's daughter), and Rochelle Luedemann make up some of the crew. Owner Jarshaw prepares her sign which will be placed on Main Street. The BLT taco has bacon, lettuce and tomato. Caitlyn Warner puts the finishing touches on a BLT taco.

At left: Turtle Island Tacos can usually be found in front of Willits Furniture on Fridays from 11 am to 6 pm. At left, below, far left: The fry bread cooks in the deep fryer until golden brown. At left, below, right: Tasha Nickita Jarshaw holds a cup of her sweet and sour lemonade, made with pickles and pickle juice. At left, far bottom: Strawberries and whipped cream are piled atop the fry bread for a sweet treat.

Fry Bread Fridays

Sweet and savory fry bread cooked to golden-brown perfection by Turtle Island Tacos

With a sign on her trailer declaring, "Only Cowards Cook on Low Heat," Tasha Nickita Jarshaw has been frying bread since she was old enough to be trusted. "I've been making these tacos for three years professionally, but I've been frying bread since I was 12," said Jarshaw about her Indian tacos, which she sells under the name Turtle Island Tacos.

"I learned from my grandma. It was a hot summer day and there was a big barbecue gathering. They figured out that I was OK to put the bread in the oil and flip them. So then, everybody left me in the kitchen. It was a hot day. They said, 'oh, she's got it.'"

On most Fridays, Turtle Island Tacos can be found in front of Willits Furniture, parked there with their newly converted trailer, containing all the appliances and ingredients required to make a variety of sweet and savory fry bread tacos. Jarshaw can often be seen at the back of the trailer, forming the dough into two sizes of disks and placing them into the hot oil, tending them until they achieve the perfect golden brown.

The round breads come out concave, which facilitates the addition of various toppings, usually John Ford beef, beans, lettuce, tomato, onions, olives, jalapeños, and sour cream, a complete meal to satisfy even the heartiest of appetites. There is also a bacon, lettuce and tomato option.

The name Turtle Island Tacos comes from "the North American continent and Central America, referred to as Turtle Island because the land mass looks like a turtle, if you look at it from space,"

Read the rest of Tacos Over on page 15

Election forum for school board, ballot measures

Submitted by WELL

An election forum for the November 8, 2022 election has been scheduled for Sunday, October 9, from 2 to 5 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, in Willits.

The program will start at 2 pm with presentations and Q&A on Mendocino County's Measure O, the proposed Library ¼ cent sales tax, and Measure P, the proposed Fire Prevention & Fighting ¼ cent sales tax.

From 3 to 5 pm, there'll be a forum, including Q&A, for candidates for Willits Unified School District Board of Trustees – there are eight candidates running for three seats on the WUSD board.

The candidates for school board appearing on the ballot are (in alphabetical order): Robert Chavez (incumbent); Colby Friend; Jeanne King (incumbent); David Liker; Paula Nunez (incumbent); Jeffrey Ritchley; and Jennifer Sookne; plus an authorized write-in candidate, April Lamprich.

There will also be tables in the back for information from any other candidates or measures on the November ballot.

Sponsors of the forum are: Little Lake Grange; WELL (Willits Economic Localization); League of Women Voters of Mendocino; and Mendocino Women's Political Coalition.

Willits Library to offer writer's block group

The Willits Branch Library is excited to host its first creative writing group, "The Writer's Block: A Support Group for the Frustrated Writer."

Whether you are a beginning writer or one who is suffering from a massive case of writer's block, this group will be just what you need to take the first step toward writing your story. Coordinated and hosted by Librarian Benjamin MacBean, this group will meet each Wednesday, starting October 19, from 5 to 6:30 pm.

This group is open to both young adult and adult writers, to share their ideas and writings in an environment of supportive and creative suggestions and feedback.

The meeting will be held in the Willits Branch Library meeting room. For more information, please visit www.mendolib.org or contact the Willits Branch Library at 707-459-5908.

The rest of Limits From page 1

2019, after Sheriff Tom Allman retired, won in June without any opposition on the ballot. There was a write-in candidate for sheriff in June, Trent James, who won 14.48% of the vote, with Kendall receiving 85.52%.

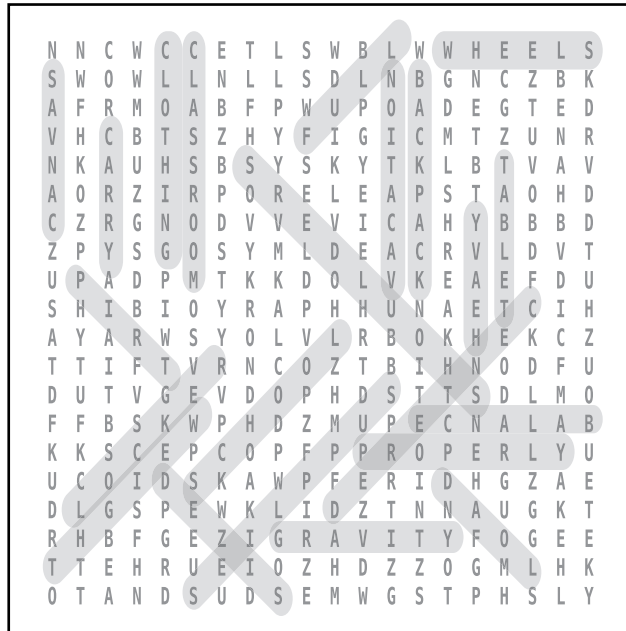
The author of AB 759, Assemblymember Kevin McCarty, who represents the 7th Assembly District in the Sacramento area, said: "These are critical countywide elected officials that deal with important life and death matters. Sheriffs are responsible for operating jails, and DAs for prosecuting criminal violations. These positions should be voted on during elections where there is high turnout – like the presidential election."

AB 759 also authorizes county boards of supervisors "to adopt an ordinance to also hold the election for other county officers with the presidential primary."



God Has Provided Our Foundation
Come Thank Him.
And Stay Grounded.
Church of the Nazarene
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
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The rest of Cannabis From page 2

transactions with entities outside California.

SB 1186 by Senator Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco) preempts local bans on medicinal cannabis delivery, expanding patients' access to legal, regulated cannabis products.

Newsom also signed two bills to further unwind California's failed history of cannabis prohibition. AB 1706 by Assemblymember Mia Bonta (D-Oakland) ensures that Californians with old cannabis-related convictions will finally have those convictions sealed.

And AB 2188 by Assemblymember Bill Quirk (D-Hayward) protects Californians from employment discrimination based on their use of cannabis off-the-clock and away from the workplace.

These bills build on the administration's efforts to strengthen California's cannabis legalization framework. As part of this year's state budget, the governor signed legislation to provide tax relief to consumers and the cannabis industry; support equity businesses; strengthen enforcement tools against illegal cannabis operators; bolster worker protections; expand access to legal retail; and protect youth, environmental and public safety programs funded by cannabis tax revenue.

To expedite policy reforms that prioritize and protect California consumers' health and safety, the governor has directed the California Department of Public Health to convene subject matter experts to survey current scientific research and policy mechanisms to address the growing emergence of high-potency cannabis and hemp products.

Newsom has also directed the Department of Cannabis Control to further the scientific understanding of potency and its related health impacts by prioritizing the funding of research related to cannabis potency through its existing public university grants.

A full list of cannabis-related bills signed by the governor can be found below:

- AB 1706 by Assemblymember Mia Bonta (D-Oakland) – Cannabis crimes: resentencing.
 - AB 1646 by Assemblymember Phillip Chen (R-Yorba Linda) – Cannabis packaging: beverages.
 - AB 1885 by Assemblymember Ash Kalra (D-San Jose) – Cannabis and cannabis products: animals: veterinary medicine.
 - AB 1894 by Assemblymember Luz Rivas (D-Arleta) – Integrated cannabis vaporizer: packaging, labeling, advertisement and marketing.
 - AB 2210 by Assemblymember Bill Quirk (D-Hayward) – Cannabis: state temporary event licenses: venues licensed by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control: unsold inventory.
 - AB 2188 by Assemblymember Bill Quirk (D-Hayward) – Discrimination in employment: use of cannabis.
 - AB 2568 by Assemblymember Ken Cooley (D-Rancho Cordova) – Cannabis: insurance providers.
 - AB 2925 by Assemblymember Jim Cooper (D-Elk Grove) – California Cannabis Tax Fund: spending reports.
 - SB 1186 by Senator Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco) – Medicinal Cannabis Patients' Right of Access Act.
 - SB 1326 by Senator Anna Caballero (D-Merced) – Cannabis: interstate agreements.
- For the text of the bills, visit: <https://leginfo.ca.gov>.

The rest of Limits From page 1

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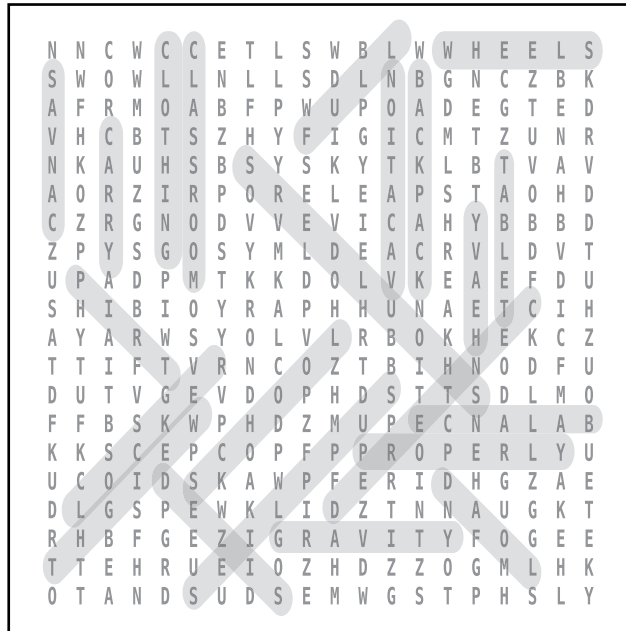
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CLASSIFIEDS

Attention
Anyone with generator, small engine or misc. equipment located at "Alternative Power Solutions" in the care of Derek Stamps – please contact Tanya at 707-272-8668 to claim your property. Proof of ownership required. All remaining items will be disposed of by October 22, 2022.

For Rent
130 sq ft office space with shared waiting room, a/c, off street parking, utilities included \$200/month. 707-354-2473

Indoor Yard Sale 10/15
Giant Indoor Yard Sale – Deep Valley Christian School, 8555 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley, (across from the Broiler). **Saturday, October 15** from 8 am to 4 pm.

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

Firewood for Sale
1 true cord of 16 inch firewood, fir starting at \$250, and up. Plus delivery. Call Dave at 707-459-2868.

For (Almost) Free
Willits Weekly runs our classified ads for just \$10 for 30 words for two weeks - in print and online, too! Add yours by emailing willitsweekly@gmail.com

The Chamber needs YOU!
Willits Chamber of Commerce is looking for volunteers to help answer phones, meet and greet the public, help with fundraising and mixers and much more! Interested in getting involved? We need enthusiastic, energetic and excited people to help with all the Chamber needs. Paid, part-time position also available for the right fit. For info: please email 8atscoops@gmail.com (preferred) or call 707-272-2396. See at <http://www.oakvine.net/lp>

Room for Rent
Master bedroom and bath, private entrance, no shared spaces, refrigerator, no range; includes utilities. You need to have a job. 1 person only. In town. \$700. 805-259-9155

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

Laytonville Unified School District

Bruce Peters, Superintendent | P.O. Box 868 | Laytonville, CA 95454
(707) 984-6414 (707) 984-8223 fax

HELP WANTED

- **Bus Driver:** Hours may vary. Salary Range: \$17.07-\$22.52/hr. Application Deadline: Open Until Filled.
- **Cook:** 6 hours per day (8:30am – 2:30pm), 5 days per week, Monday - Friday. 10 months/year. Salary Range: \$15.61 - \$17.07/hr. Application Deadline: Open Until Filled.
- **After School Program Paraeducator:** 2:30 PM – 5:30 PM 5 days per week, Monday - Friday. Salary Range: \$16.57-\$19.72. Application Deadline: Open Until Filled.
- **High School Basketball Coach:** Application Deadline: October 21, 2022
 - o High School Varsity Boys: \$1800 Stipend
 - o High School Junior Varsity Boys: \$1400 Stipend
 - o High School Varsity Girls: \$1800 Stipend
 - o High School Junior Varsity Girls: \$1400 Stipend
- **Middle School Basketball Coach:** Application Deadline: October 21, 2022
 - o Middle School Girls Basketball Coach: \$1400 Stipend
 - o Middle School Boys Basketball Coach: \$1400 Stipend
- **CLASSIFIED SUBSTITUTES IN ALL POSITIONS**
- **CERTIFICATED SUBSTITUTES**

For additional information and application please contact
Breonna Bookout at (707) 984-6414; Laytonville Unified School District, PO Box 868, Laytonville, CA 95454.
An Equal Opportunity Employer



LIVE LONGER BETTER

BLUE ZONES PROJECT MENDOCINO NORTH COUNTY KICK OFF EVENT

Join us as we continue our Blue Zones Project Kick Off celebration with our North County communities to help inspire a healthy lifestyle!

Bring your family, invite your neighbors, engage with our special guest speakers, taste Blue Zones Project inspired bites from local restaurants, enjoy fun family-friendly activities and chances to win giveaways!





SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

1PM – 4PM

Recreation Grove Park
South Lenore Ave.
Willits, CA



Scan code with your phone camera to learn more about this event or go:
mec.bluezonesproject.com/community-kickoff

IT'S TIME TO CONNECT AND CELEBRATE!

We'll share more about how to sign up for free, upcoming events in the community and how our local Blue Zones Project is helping Mendocino County residents live longer, better!

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT FOR ALL!

POWERED BY  **Adventist Health**



Adventist hosts October 6 career fair for Howard Memorial

Adventist Health Howard Memorial will be hosting a career fair on Thursday, October 6 to help the organization fill many clinical and non-clinical positions available currently.

The career fair will be held on October 6 from 11:30 am to 5 pm at Adventist Health Howard Memorial hospital, located at 1 Marcela Drive in Willits.

Positions available include nurses, patient access representatives, medical assistants, housekeepers, customer care associates, and technicians, among many others.

Adventist Health offers competitive

wages, exceptional benefits and a connection to purpose.

As the organization continues to build careers around inspiring patients in their health, wholeness and hope, these career fairs are hoped to connect community members with a career path in health care, close to home.

Career fair attendees are asked to wear face masks and maintain social distancing.

For more information on job opportunities, please contact Jolee White at 707-963-6588 or whitej@ah.org or visit www.adventisthealth.org/careers.



Above, from left: An attentive dog is blessed by Reverend Betsy Bruneau. Attendees sit with their pets under the arbor at Saint Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church. A happy dog receives a blessing with a bonus belly rub. Below, left: Yeshua brings his Narragansett turkey named Turk. Below, right: Reverend Betsy Bruneau tenderly blesses a small dog.



Precious Pets

Four-legged and winged creatures receive blessings in celebration of the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi

It was a beautiful day, on Saturday, October 1, to gather for the Blessing of the Animals. The annual event was held at Saint Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church, at the corner of Commercial and Main streets.

Debbie Boone Harry
Features Writer
debbie@willitsweekly.com

A wonderful menagerie of pets and their owners assembled for the outdoor service, under the arbor, while the musical stylings of Greg Schindel created a cheerful atmosphere.

Once all had arrived, Reverend Betsy Bruneau began blessing the animals, tenderly touching each one. There were many dogs of all kinds and at least one cat. But the most unique animal was a Narragansett turkey, belonging to a young lad named Yeshua.

The casual, friendly service ended with blessings upon all attendees.

It was a brief, but delightful ceremony, celebrating the human-animal bond, in memory of Saint Francis of Assisi, the beloved saint of animals and the environment.



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Mendocino, Lake and Sonoma Counties

Willits kick-off for Blue Zones Project set for October 8 at Rec Grove

Submitted by Blue Zones Project Mendocino County

Blue Zones Project Mendocino County is thrilled to invite everyone to celebrate its launch in the North County communities with a free, family-friendly Community Kickoff experience on Sunday, October 9. The event will take place from 1 to 4 pm at the Recreation Grove Park in Willits.

"We are excited to bring vendors from the northern parts of our county to launch our Blue Zones Project Mendocino North County Kickoff. We invite everyone in Mendocino County to come to our kickoff and celebrate with us," says Michelle Duarte, senior event and office specialist, for Blue Zones Project Mendocino County.

Based on principles discovered during an ongoing 20-year longevity study developed by Dan Buettner, National Geographic fellow and New York Times best-selling author of "The Blue Zones" and "The Blue Zones Solution," Blue Zones Project is designed to make healthy choices easier through permanent and semi-permanent changes to a community's built environment, public policies, and social networks.

The free Community Kickoff celebration event will explore core themes inspired by the original Blue Zones Power 9 principles that help people live longer, healthier lives: Connect, Eat Wisely, Move Naturally and Right Outlook.

Attendees will have the opportunity to experience the Blue Zones Smoothie Bike, Capoeira Demo by the Mendocino County Youth Project, Skate Demo by the Round Valley Skate

Park Project, and Cornhole Tournament hosted by Sparetime Supply.

There will be interactive stations hosted by partner organizations and businesses including Adventist Health, CA Mentor Network, Dahvi's Kitchen, Public Health Community Wellness Program, WIC, Thrive Yoga, Willits Youth Soccer, and Northern Cali Women's Soccer Association. More vendors to come!

Special guest speakers will share the story of the original Blue Zones longevity hotspots, and the habits and longevity secrets discovered to help everyone live longer, better. Throughout the day, guests will also receive fun giveaways and a chance to win gift cards from local retailers.

All Blue Zones Project community events are free for participants. To learn more and register for the Kickoff events visit mec.bluezonesproject.com/community-kickoff.

Blue Zones Project is brought to Mendocino County through an innovative sponsorship with Adventist Health and Blue Zones, LLC. Adventist Health is a faith-based, nonprofit integrated health system serving more than 80 communities on the West Coast and Hawaii, as well as others across the U.S. through its Blue Zones organization, a pioneer in taking a systemic and environmental approach to improving the health of entire cities and communities. Through this work and other initiatives, Adventist Health is leading a 21st century well-being transformation movement.



The rest of

School

From page 1

Why are you running for reelection or election to the Willits school board?

Robert Chavez: I am seeking to be reelected to the Willits Unified school board to support the children and families of Willits. I have been an educator for over 30 years and though currently retired, I continue to substitute for administrators in the Mendocino County and Lake County area. For the last five years, I have also coached the Willits Otters Swim Team, building a full-year program from a spring-summer program. I am also honored to serve as an usher at our local Calvary Chapel Church.

Colby Friend: I'm running for school board because I want to be able to make policy to ensure the children have everything they need for a productive positive education. I was not happy with the way the children and the teachers were treated through the pandemic. I felt the education suffered, nutrition suffered, health suffered. The pandemic rules were oppressive and not conducive to learning. I will protect the kids from more of that. The teachers also need to be treated fairly. It is wrong that Ukiah teachers, only 20 minutes south, receive a substantially higher salary.

Jeanne King: I am running for re-election to the school board for the same reason I ran in 2018. I care deeply about kids. I want the children enrolled in Willits Unified School District to receive a stellar education that will prepare them to be successful in life and to be fully engaged citizens. Caring so much about kids, I also care about the staff at WUSD along with the families that entrust their children to the district.

David Lilker: I think public service is an essential part of living in a healthy community. I have been a teacher in the WUSD from 2003 until this year, when I retired. I have literally decades of experience in public education, and becoming a member of the Willits school board would enable me to use that experience and also give back to our community.

Paula Nunez: I'm running for Willits school board again because I feel there are some things I started in 2018 that aren't finished yet, and I'd like to see them through to the end.

I also feel that some things will just take another board member or two, that think similarly to me, so that there won't be so many 4-1 or 3-2 votes. In a democracy, change can only occur when there is a majority vote.

Jeff Ritchley: As a servant leader and an agent of educational change, I want to give back to the Willits Unified School District. From 2013-2021 I was a school administrator in Willits Unified School District serving in multiple capacities, and that experience was life-changing. While working in WUSD, I always made it my mission to put students first. I have a first-hand perspective that would allow me to continue to make an impact on student achievement and growth as a board member.

Jennifer Sookne: As a member of the Willits and the LGBTQ2+ communities, and as a parent and a grandparent, I want to see that all children get the opportunity for the best education regardless of race, culture, religion, politics, economic standing, and abilities, in as safe environment as possible.

What work, civic, life, family, and/or volunteer experience – and what skills and strengths – do you / would you bring to the board?

Colby Friend: I am a homeowner in Willits, an attorney, a farmer, a business owner, and father of five children, two who have already graduated from Willits schools with honors in 2016. Three are in Willits schools currently. I helped start the community garden, I coach three sports a year, I'm on the board of the baseball league, I act in the Willits Community Theatre. I volunteer for Sober Grad. To say I am vested in this community is an understatement. I believe in Willits, I believe in our youth, and I want the best education opportunities possible. I have terrific ideas, energy to make them happen, and determination not to fail.

Jeanne King: I am a retired Special Education teacher with extensive work with children. Intent on being an effective, informed board member, during the past four years I have taken the following courses from the California School Board Association: (1) Institute for New



Candidates include, above, from left:

Colby Friend, David Lilker, Jeanne King, Jeff Ritchley, Jennifer Sookne, Paula Nunez and Robert Chavez.

Board Members, (2) The Brown Act, (3) Foundations in Effective Governance, (4) Policy and Judicial Review/ Student Learning & Achievement, (5) School Finance, (6) Human Resources/ Collective Bargaining, (7) Community Relations and Advocacy. For the last five courses with the California School Board Association, I was awarded a Masters in Governance. I am an independent thinker who gathers information on any issue from multiple sources.

David Lilker: As I mentioned earlier, I have taught in Willits for nearly 20 years. Over that time, I worked in regular education, special education, and in the alternative program at Sanhedrin. Also, I have helped to raise two stepchildren, both of whom graduated from Willits High School. As far as my relevant skills and strengths go, my ability to work cooperatively is a useful skill that I possess. It helps that I've known every current member of the school board for years.

Paula Nunez: I've spent 40 of my 45 years in education, in Willits. I've been a member of a few boards, executive councils, professional groups, and political advocacies – most of them as a volunteer. (It has been my way of giving back to the community in which I live.) I am married, with a large extended family, have raised our girls here, and I believe that among my useful experiences and skills are my understandings and involvements with four of the more dominant cultures within Mendocino County – particularly within Willits. I'm also fluently bilingual – Spanish/ English – and thoroughly enjoy knowing as much as I can about everything I'm exposed to.

Jeff Ritchley: I have been an educator for 22 years in Minnesota and in California. I have been a school administrator since 2008. I accepted an appointment from Governor Gavin Newsom and the U.S. government to serve as a Selective Service board member for our district for the next 20 years. Lastly, I am a voting member serving on the Mendocino County Youth Project Joint Powers Board. As for strengths, I am currently an active superintendent in Mendocino County.

Jennifer Sookne: I taught school for two years in Kern County. I was a Child Protective Services social worker with a bilingual caseload (Spanish and English), both in Kern County and in Mendocino County for a total of 28 years. I have my master's degree in Cultural Anthropology/ Ethnomusicology. I was on the board of Marriage Equality USA and the Mendocino Pride Alliance. I volunteer at Howard Hospital. I am a member of Willits Rotary. I am a mother and a grandmother, and my family lives in Mendocino County.

Robert Chavez: I have worked as an administrator at the elementary, middle school, and high school level. I have also worked as a district office administrator for several years. The experience that I have garnered over my 30 years in education is valuable in helping me make sound educational decisions for our children. My experience also allows me to understand the dynamics of the educational systems at all levels. I also have two children in our school district, and this gives me a look into a student inside perspective of our schools and my perspective as a parent.

How long have you lived in the school district, and what, if any, school activities have you been involved with?

Jeanne King: I have lived in the school district for 38 years. I taught Special Education at Willits Unified for over 20 years. I have been a regular volunteer in classrooms for the past eight years, helping teachers and students wherever I was needed. I have diligently served as a school board member for the past four years. For many years I was a member of the Rotary Club which put me in regular service to the students of the school district.

David Lilker: I've lived here since 2005. For a couple of years I commuted from Potter Valley, where I taught previously. Like most teachers, I've done plenty of things in addition to working in my classroom. I've chaperoned dances, been part of the WASC process, been part of Special Education committees, held positions in the Willits Teachers Association, etc.

Paula Nunez: We moved up to Willits in 1978, and I continued my career with WUSD. I was involved in the county's beginning of the Special Education



programs with Dr. Kirkpatrick and Michael Crowley; then became employed by Willits Unified to teach first- through third grade – often in English only or English and Spanish. In 1984, I helped bring Migrant Education and their summer programs into the district, and became the administrator, teacher, and everything else required to run a mini school of over 100 students.

Jeff Ritchley: I have been a resident of Willits for nine years, and I was an administrator in WUSD for eight of those years, which gives me a unique perspective to bring to the WUSD Board of Trustees.

Jennifer Sookne: I have lived in the school district for 23 years. Working with Child Protective Services, there were times that I had to interview children in the schools. We moved to Ukiah when my son was in junior high so my involvement was limited and was in Ukiah. Recently I began speaking with parents with children in the schools in Willits and am finding out what they like, and what concerns they have. I have also been speaking with teachers, as well as becoming familiar with the WUSD demographics.

Robert Chavez: Through my coaching the Otters Swim Team and my involvement in the local church, I have had the opportunity to extend my understanding of the needs of our community and to develop lifelong relationships. I have also been involved multiple Willits Unified School District activities from senior interviews to academic decathlon, and even coaching the high school swim team.

Colby Friend: I've lived in Willits for 16 years, 13 years full-time. I have three children in the schools currently and two who graduated in 2016. I see the kids' experience every day. I live it. I've volunteered in the classrooms, I've chaperoned field trips, I was on the team that petitioned for the elementary charter, and I've taught at the high school charter. I've umpired several different high school sports all through Mendocino County.

What issues do you think are key issues for the Willits Unified School District to be addressing at this time?

David Lilker: Recruitment and retention of classified and certificated positions is important. So is addressing the "learning loss" that resulted from COVID. I think remote learning was the right decision, and most of the teachers I know did an exemplary job, but there's definitely been regression in some academic skills as well as in some of behaviors needed for students to succeed in the classroom. Also, I think it is important that we support the faculty and the new administrator at BGMS. Positive changes there will lead to positive changes at WHS as well.

Paula Nunez: My major concerns are in personnel, morale, and finances. Three years ago we also had some curriculum issues, but those are already on a better path. My concerns with personnel and morale have to do with attracting and keeping qualified, credentialed teachers so that our children can have the very best education possible. As for the district's financial status, I'm opposed to a 17% reserve instead of the state's requirement of 3%, or even 6% for a cushion. It's a difference of about \$4,000,000 that I believe should be spent on our students and employees, not sitting in a bank so that bond interest is 4% instead of 6% – a difference of about two dollars per taxed resident.

Jeff Ritchley: If I serve on the board of trustees the following areas would interest me the most while serving: Improving student test scores, mental health services, educational systems, conservative fiscal management, and supporting the Willits superintendent as he improves Willits Unified School District.

Jennifer Sookne: The key issues that I see are teacher retention and salaries, and safety in the schools in our current climate. I would like to see music and the arts brought back, as these help with brain development. According to the Public School Review, our district is in the bottom 50% within the State of California.

Robert Chavez: There are many challenges a school district faces in staffing, budget, and practices. Although, through my 4.5 years as a school board member and my years of educational experience in multiple school districts, I believe that the one ongoing issue our community faces is providing more opportunities for our

children. Due to our small district size, it is more difficult to offer a number of activities that may be found at a larger school district. We have and must continue to provide more educational and extracurricular activities for our children, giving our children choices in vocation and in life experiences.

Colby Friend: Important issues: Protecting the school personnel and students from being bullied by potential pandemic-related mandates. Making teacher salary competitive to attract and keep good teachers. More nutritional food provided. More emphasis on language, art, music, sports. Lockers for BGMS students who have to lug all of their books, coats, hats, sports equipment from class to class. Access to more resources and tech training.

Jeanne King: The three main issues I see facing the school district at this time are:

(1) Offering fair wages to staff and filling the vacant staff positions; (2) Raising the test scores of our students, closing the learning gap caused by the pandemic, and educating our students to become fully informed members of a civil society; (3) Maintaining the district's fiscal well-being.

What else would you like the community to know about you with respect to being a school board member?

Paula Nunez: I believe I have a lot of knowledge and experience about how an educational institution can be managed. My past and present prove that. I firmly believe in celebrating diversity, not trying to ignore it. I will continue to do what's best for meeting the educational needs of children, over the needs of "others," of being as available as possible to the community, and always remember that actions speak much louder than words. I will appreciate your vote for me by November 8, and thank you.

Jeff Ritchley: You may note that I have not put out any campaign signs; I am not going to visually pollute our neighborhoods by having you continuously look at my name and try to brainwash you into voting for me. If I win, it will be because of my extensive experience, and I will use that experience to directly support the superintendent and the Willits Unified School District.

Jennifer Sookne: I also had the opportunity to run a Migrant Head Start in Robstown, Texas, and we migrated with the migrants during the picking season to Ohio. I also was a teaching assistant with English as a Second Language at the Bakersfield Adult School.

Robert Chavez: I come to this election with no other agenda other than what is best for children. Throughout my educational career when coming to a hard decision, I always brought clarity to the situation by asking what is best for children. The group and I immediately recognized the best decisions are the decisions that side with the children. If you are seeking a candidate that places children first, elect Robert Chavez for Willits Unified School Board Trustee.

Colby Friend: A vote for me is a vote for sensible school policy. I have three children in the schools, so I want what's best for these schools. Nobody could want it more. I see the kids' experiences. I know what's going on and what is missing. If I thought it was being handled, I wouldn't run for school board. It could be much better. I have to make sure the school is the best it can be.

Jeanne King: I have skin in the game. I have two grandchildren who attend Willits Unified. My son attended schools in Willits and is a Willits High graduate. My family has been very dedicated to service to the school district, with my husband, my son (as the student rep), and myself all having served on the school board at one time. I work hard to see issues through the eyes of the school district stakeholders. When I vote I don't just see issues as a retired teacher, but also as a parent and a community member.

David Lilker: Overall, I think the district is moving in the right direction. Financially, we are in better shape than we've been in years. We are also fortunate to have lots of dedicated, experienced faculty members. I would like to be on the school board to continue the progress we've been making, and to help in those areas where improvement is needed.



Above, left: Willits Center for the Arts' Sofia Aloui helps some kids with ceramic activities at the Arts Party.

Photo by Margi Gomez Guhde

Above, right: A young girl enjoys the Hula-Hoops that are available to twirl. At right: Rio Palley presides over his coffee-cart emporium at the Willits Arts Party. Below: Friends make art together at the Willits Arts Party.

Photos by Mathew Caine



Above: Salvador Andrade displays his paintings at the Willits Arts Party. Below, left: Carmen Day, who teaches Afro-Samba dance in Willits, performs with her troupe of dancers. Below, right: Wanda Quitiqui promotes a public art project in her Lake County community.

Photo by Margi Gomez Guhde



Together for Art

Creativity takes many forms at inaugural Willits Arts Party on Saturday

It was a perfect early morning under the oaks at Recreation Grove, with the first fall leaves floating like confetti on the breeze. Light fog gave way to bright sun, as artists of all stripes began putting up pop-up tents, pulling their colorful wares out onto folding tables, and exchanging greetings to friends and neighbors.

Margi Gomez Guhde

Features: Willits
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Michael Ducharme and Margi Gomez Guhde, two friends with a broad background in the arts, had the urge to produce a new event to lift spirits and bring together the many artists and friends who had survived the trauma that the COVID-19 years brought to our community.

Ducharme's skills as a theater director and longtime arts administrator as general manager of the Berkeley Repertory Theatre and executive director for the Ukiah Playhouse, along with his experience at a number of well-known East Coast arts organizations, were invaluable to the Arts Party planning process.

"After two years of shutdowns and mask mandates," said Ducharme, "we began a series of conversations about how and when the local arts community might emerge from the cloud of the pandemic. We settled on the idea of launching a day-long event to celebrate both performing and visual arts in early October. As we consulted with a number of community members, the project took on a life of its own."

The indefatigable Jeff Shipp was onboard with Ducharme and Gomez Guhde from the outset, performing an amazing variety of tasks throughout the process, with services ranging from creating social media posts to checking in vendors on the big day.

Eventually the seminal group realized that their concept would be more powerful if the key arts organizations in Willits became involved. They approached the Willits Center for the Arts and the Willits Community Theatre, finding allies in both organizations.

With that crucial community support, the organizers were able to secure a small but much-needed grant from the Community Foundation of Mendocino County, which provided critical assistance to a range of Mendocino County non-profits throughout the pandemic emergency.

Another of the early supporters of the Willits Arts Party, who actually coined the name of the event, was Willits dancer and clothing designer Pearl Marill. Marill got the Arts Party started with a loyal crew of Hula-Hoopers, who traveled to Willits from Santa Rosa, where she currently resides. Something about the whirling hoops, free to use for a fascinated all-ages cohort, made magic throughout the special day.

From stunningly beautiful fabric creations to literary offerings, vendor artwork spanned an amazing array of visual arts. A wide range of metal arts, ceramics, and of course painting in all media was on display, from talented artists too many to name.

A young software engineer even created and demonstrated a virtual-reality computer game, to the delight of many. Local art-centered shop owners like Morgan Rex, multi-talented artist and

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

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The rest of **Kritter**

From page 7

many that they have had to temporarily cease intake on any more.

So far this year, they have taken in 985 animals and have adopted out 806, finding them families, taking care of them medically, and arranging for spaying and neutering.

In the last few years, the number of strays and unwanted animals has risen due to several factors.

"There are so many animals here now because there is a shift in the rescue community and a shift, generally speaking, with veterinary care," explained Jenny Hanzlik, director of the Humane Society of Inland Mendocino County. "There are so many animals coming into the world. We don't have enough resources to keep up with that increase. We're expecting to see that continue over the next 10 years.

"Without more veterinarians entering the workforce, they will also continue to be overwhelmed, which backs up efforts to spay and neuter. When there are not available, affordable spay-and-neuter services for low-income families, we tend to see a lot more unwanted litters. We don't spay and neuter here but we work with East Hill Veterinary in Willits. The whole staff up there is lovely, including Dr. Chana Eisenstein."

The HSI-MC does its best to make a comfortable and enriched life for those animals that come into its care, with volunteers walking and playing with and teaching them daily. But more volunteers are always needed.

"You can volunteer with dogs or with cats, or you can help out with the facilities," volunteer Manina Harris said. "We always have laundry and other things to do. If you're partial to dogs, you can come down here and get our dogs out for walking, for training, for playgroups, enrichment, nose work (scent work). It's very good for their brains and makes them happy."

"All of those things comprise enrichment for the dogs," said Harris. "We train you on how to do these things. What you learn, you can take home and use with your own dogs. You can work with the cats. You can go in and cat cuddle, play with the cats, give them some socialization. We don't want the animals to simply be warehoused here. We want their lives, while they're here, to be enriched, which makes them more attractive to people and more adoptable."

The Kritter Carnival was a delight and was educational and entertaining for the kids and their parents. Red Bud, a local band played music while the attendees played games of chance and skill, winning prizes for participation as well as accuracy. There was no shortage of food and drink to keep people at the site, and for those interested in adoption or fostering, volunteers were ready to assist them.

Gina Weaver, of the Ukiah Shamrock 4H club, organized the event for the facility. "This is the first one that I've organized as a community leader for Ukiah Shamrock 4H club. We collaborated this year with all of Mendocino County's 4H clubs. We invited Redwood Valley, Potter Valley, Covelo, Long Valley, and any others who wanted to participate.

"We asked," said Weaver, "that they bring any animals that they're currently showing at the fairs and we brought our own animals. What we're trying to do is to encourage our community to know more about the animals and how to handle and properly take care of them. What we have here today are rabbits, guinea pigs, ducks, pigs, goats, sheep, and possibly a mini horse. We have kids here that are anywhere from the age of five up to 17."

"When we do adoptions, we require that the animals be spayed and neutered," said Hanzlik, "Adoptions cost \$195 for an adult dog and \$225 for a puppy. That includes their vaccines and treatments up to the time of adoption, and any other medical care they may need, and spay and neutering and microchips. Cats get the same service for \$100.

"We have so many animals that are available for adoption," Hanzlik said. "If you're thinking about adoption, please come down and see who we have on site and our volunteer opportunities. We would love to see our community continue to participate in the work that we do here."

For information about adoption or volunteering, visit <https://mendohumanesociety.com>, call 707-485-0123, or email info@hsimc.org. The Humane Society of Inland Mendocino County is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley and is open Wednesday through Friday, 1 to 5 pm, Saturday and Sunday, 11 am to 3 pm.



At top, left: These two felines welcome a young visitor in the cat house at the Kritter Karnival. At top, right: No one loses at the game table; these gifts are for anyone who participates. Below, left: There are plenty of activities to occupy the young attendees. Below, right: The Redwood Valley Calpella Fire Department's antique engine is on display.



The rest of **Tacos** | From page 10

Jarshaw explained. "It's a Native term that we use to describe the Americas." She wanted the business to reflect her respect for the entire Native American nation, not just the local tribes.

Although fry bread tacos, also known as Indian tacos, are a staple of many Native Americans today, they are a tradition only created out of necessity. When the tribes were relocated from their ancestral lands to unfamiliar reservations, their means of farming and self-sufficiency were curtailed and many were forced to subsist off of commodities provided by the United States government.

One of the foods they created, using these commodities of flour and other staples, was fry bread, a deep-fried bread, the recipes for which have become secret and handed down through the generations. These breads mimicked the traditional "bannock, made of ground bread root, acorn, bean, or corn flour mixed with water and fried in animal fat or cooked on hot, flat stones," according to food writer and folklorist Lucy Long.

Jarshaw, who is Alaskan Tlingit from the Eklutna tribe, is continually experimenting with creative options to keep offering fresh ideas and tastes.

"My recipe for the dough is a secret," explained Jarshaw. "We have a black bean vegetarian option. So far, we have two desserts, the chocolate strawberry with whipped cream and a chocolate peanut butter banana, called 'The Elvis.' They are done on mini fry breads. We have a new fall dessert coming soon. We're trying to



At left: Tasha Nickita Jarshaw, right, works at her cooking station as Caitlyn Warner prepares the extras. Below, left: Tasha Nickita Jarshaw, the owner of Turtle Island Tacos, talks with her friend and employee, Caitlyn Warner, at the back of the food truck. Below: Tasha Nickita Jarshaw makes fry bread with her secret dough recipe.

Photos by Mathew Caine



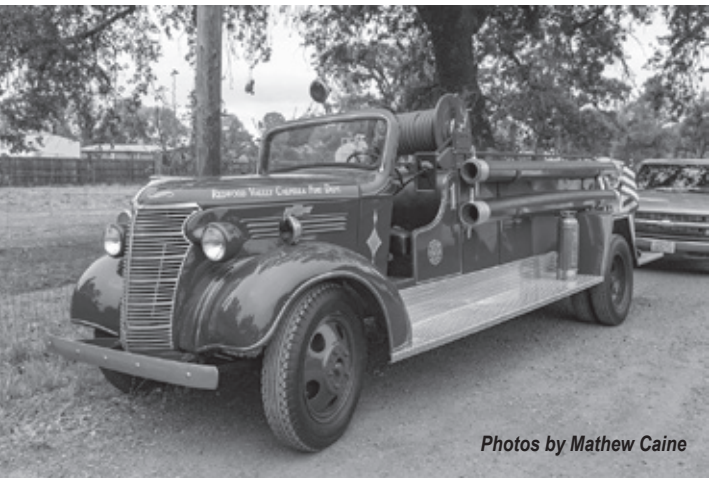
The rest of **Arts** | From page 14

proprietor of Art on the Plaza, and Debbie Bowles, owner of the famed Fat Quail Quilt Shop in Laytonville, also presented their art and expertise.

"Kudos to the Willits Art Party!" said Laura Corben enthusiastically, a former art teacher and prolific watercolorist living in Brooktrails, who was one of many diverse vendors spending the festive day in Recreation Grove. "It brought our community together with music, art, food and fun. Kids with Hula Hoops, and the combination of music, dance, and visual arts drew in artists and art-lovers from Willits and the surrounding communities. We all worked together to make a good thing happen!"

Community outreach was also in force at the Arts Party, with Public Health's Community Wellness project offering free liquid refreshment at their "Hydration Station." Tabling from the Tribal Youth Program of the Sherwood Valley Tribe, and a booth devoted to a new public art sculpture that will reflect indigenous history in the Lake County region were also present.

Free art demonstrations took place all day, blessed by sunshine and a steady cooling breeze. The Willits Center for the Arts provided volunteers and multiple demos for the public, with face painting, ceramic projects, and even a public life-drawing opportunity. Jazz-minh Moore set up a community collage experience, and local painter Salvador Andrade presented a live painting project that wowed the crowd.



Photos by Mathew Caine

decide between pumpkin spice and apple pie, both on fry bread."

To go along with the fry bread tacos, Jarshaw has come up with an extremely unique refreshment. It is a pickle lemonade, a taste she picked up on the Pickle Lovers Facebook page. Several brave customers tried this blending of sweet and tart tastes, and most were pleasantly surprised. They expressed that it was refreshing and satisfying and they were able to snack on the pickle bits after.

Turtle Island Taco customers keep coming back, looking forward to their availability on Fridays. "I come here as often as I can. They're usually here on a Friday and they're delicious," declared Lisa May, who drove down just for the tacos. Another customer yelled, "Hey Tasha, good job!" as they stopped in to try the pickle lemonade.

In addition to their semi-permanent Friday fixture at Willits Furniture, the Turtle Island Taco trailer can be seen at various events, including the upcoming Ukiah Pumpkin Fest, October 14 to 16 in downtown Ukiah.

This is a family business, with Jarshaw and her three daughters, and some of their friends, working the meals. Jarshaw hopes to, eventually, obtain a second trailer which her daughters can take over and continue the business.

Visit their Facebook or Instagram page for more information and to keep up with special events. Call 707-354-1955 or email turtleislandtacos@gmail.com to book the taco trailer for an event.



Children made good use of sidewalk chalk and free bubbles, and delicious lunch offerings and coffee were on hand thanks to Taqueria Ramirez and Smokin G's & Big D's BBQ. Rio Palley set up his coffee truck with an entire living room, complete with comfy chairs and houseplants. Attendance was small but enthusiastic at first, then growing steadily throughout the day.

With help from indispensable stage manager and all-around problem solver Bob Brumback, and energetic audio engineer Garrett Moore, a variety of performers gave freely of their art, including train singer Greg Schindel, Afro-Samba teacher and dancer Carmen Day, and iconic performer Devi Genuone. Beloved Willits band Funkacillin finished out the afternoon, with lots of dancing and swirling of Hula-Hoops by beginners and masters alike.

"It was a long day for the crew," Ducharme recounted, "but amazingly, with the help of our volunteers and collaborators, there were no complaints or major stressors. We gratefully received a number of good suggestions, which we will consider for our next event.

"Everyone did their part," Ducharme added, "and even the traffic and the trash stayed well under control. It just shows what you can do when a community rises to a special occasion!"

'Keely & Du,' a powerful drama about abortion, opens at Willits Community Theatre October 7

By Steve Hellman, for WCT

"Keely and Du," a drama about abortion from acclaimed playwright Jane Martin, will open for a three-week run at the Willits Community Theatre on Friday, October 7. This timely play, directed by Mathew Caine, centers on a young woman, Keely, who is abducted from an abortion clinic by a radical religious group, then incarcerated and handcuffed to a bed in an effort to force her to carry her pregnancy to term.

In the course of a balanced drama, Keely must find a way to retain her right to self-determination against impossible odds, while her captors try indoctrinating her into accepting their mindset. During her ordeal, she finds her way into a surprising friendship and understanding with her keeper, Du, a devout woman with an empathetic heart.

The play was a finalist for the 1994 Pulitzer Prize. Director Caine says he was drawn to the power and complexity of the situations and dialogue in the play, while it also presents an even-handed discourse on the subject of terminating a pregnancy.

Caine says the play poses the dilemma: "Which is the more moral position, preserving and nurturing the 'life' of a potential child or allowing a woman to make her own choices about her body and her autonomy?" He assures that the audience is left free to make their own decision.

On a basic level, the play demonstrates how two people, even though diametrically opposed in their concept of life and morality and religion, find a way to listen to each other and form a friendship based on their mutual humanity.

Starring in the production are Elizabeth Dellett as Keely and Cindi Mohr as Du. Also appearing are Jeff Shipp, Joshua Sternberg, Kyle Brandon and Amythyst Romero. The play runs October 7 through 23, with shows Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 pm, and Sunday matinees at 2 pm. Tickets are \$15 for Thursday and Sunday, \$20 for Friday and Saturday. Tickets are available at the door or online at: www.wctperformingartscenter.org.

"Keely and Du" contains adult language and themes, and is not recommended for children under the age of 14. While vaccinations against COVID and the wearing of facial coverings are recommended at the theatre, they are not required.

Below: An unexpected connection emerges between radical anti-abortion activist Cindi Mohr, left, and her pregnant captive, Elizabeth Dellett, in the drama "Keely & Du" playing at Willits Community Theatre October 7 through 23.



Enthusiastic Figaro

Figaro is a big puppy, athletic and bouncy, eager and boundless or boundary-less. At the moment, he is having a blast with a gang of girlfriend dog pals. This boy is sweet as can be, but needs training and some control over his enthusiasm. Figaro is great with girl dogs and good with most males as long as they are fixed and not in his face.

Friendly, eager, happy and ready for the rest of his life, Figaro will be a great addition for a family with older kids that enjoy adventures with their dog.

To learn more about Figaro 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.

Furry Friends Hoping for a Home



Adventurous Nina

This bundle of love is Nina! Nina has lived with kids and other dogs. She is a real catch, with energy to match! This young girl (just under 2 years old) is good on leash and LOVES the water. She enjoys our multi-dog playgroups and adventures with our volunteers. Nina would love to scoot right into a forever home with 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.



Congenial Cora

Cora is a sweet gal who just loves pets. This 2-year-old cat loves to play with toys and is very active. She loves attention and wants to be as close to you as possible. She would likely do well in a home with other cats.

The Mendocino County 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 Cora or our other canine and feline guests. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendoanimalshelter.com.





MONSTER MONEY MONDAYS

OCT 3, 10, 17, 24

HOT SEATS 12 – 3PM & 7 – 10PM

Earn 100 same-day points to qualify. 4 winners each hour get **\$50 Free Play plus 10 bonus entries** for Grand Prizes Oct 31.

LAST CHANCE FOR BONUS ENTRIES • Mon Oct 31 • 7 – 9PM

3 winners each hour get **\$25 Free Play plus 10 bonus entries**.

MONSTER MONEY GRAND PRIZES OCT 31 AFTER 11PM

1ST \$2,000 CASH • 2ND \$1,000 CASH
3RD \$500 FREE PLAY • 4TH & 5TH \$100 FREE PLAY

For complete rules and details please visit the Players Club



FRIGHT NIGHT FRIDAYS

Earn tickets starting at 6pm for Live Raffle Drawings. **Win \$250 Cash** at 8, 9 & 10pm. **\$350 Cash** at 11pm.

For complete rules and details please visit the Players Club




Happy Haunting

HOT SEATS

SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS

11am – 1pm	6 winners of \$50 Cash
7 – 10pm	8 winners of \$100 Cash

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