#### **CAL FIRE** lifts county burn ban

Posted by CAL FIRE MEU

Mendocino County - The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Mendocino Unit is lifting the suspension of residential outdoor burn permits. This suspension was lifted on Monday, October 13, 2025, at 8 am.

CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit Chief Brandon Gunn is formally cancelling the burn permit suspension and advises that those possessing current and agriculture and residential burn permits can now resume burning on permissible burn days. Agriculture burns must be inspected by CAL FIRE prior to burning until the end of the peak fire season. Inspections may be required for burns other than agriculture burns.

Burn Permits available online from CAL FIRE at https://burnpermit. fire.ca.gov.

IMPORTANT: CALFIRE Burn Permits are only for residents who live in the State Responsibility Area (SRA) or where CAL FIRE has jurisdictional authority. It is the responsibility of the landowner to check with local fire agencies to determine any additional permits that might be required and if there are

Read the rest of Lifted

Over on Page 11

#### Former Covelo fire chief reported killed in vehicle vs. pedestrian crash

Jennifer Poole Editor & Reporter willitsweekly@gmail.com

The Mendocino County Sheriff's Office and the California Highway Patrol, (Laytonville Garberville Resident Post), both sent press releases on Monday announcing a vehicle vs. pedestrian crash on Sunday, October 12, resulting in the death of the male pedestrian.

Although the agencies did not release the pedestrian's Monday, on pending notification of next of kin, multiple outlets, including local agencies and residents on Facebook, have reported and confirmed that the pedestrian was Bill Baker, former longtime Covelo fire chief.

"Bill Baker dedicated his life to service," the Covelo American Legion Post 759 posted Tuesday. "As a brave fire chief, firefighter, member of Martin Haydon Post 759 American Legion for over 20 consecutive years and proud Vietnam veteran, he stood on the front lines, at home and

Read the rest of

Crash Over on Page 11









Above, from left: Inspirational messages and images were painted onto rocks to support those going through cancer. Cancer Resource Centers' Executive Director Anya Jindrich stands with CRC Bilingual Patient Navigator Mauricio Alvarez, both of whom spoke at the Cancer Awareness event. Adventist Health Ukiah Valley's Marketing and Communications Manager Cici Winiger addressed the crowd and introduced speakers. Delicious treats and beautiful flowers helped set the pink-theme for the event. Below: Infusion nurse Jeanna Cerino writes a name on a ribbon and adds it to the others named in memory or inspiration, on the Breast Cancer Tribute Wall.



#### Below, from left: Gals pose together at the photo booth wearing all the pink-themed fun, including, from left: Adrianna, Ria, Amy Warmerdam,

Amy Warmerdam and Shirley Oliver share a smile in the courtyard before the event

and Isabel.

Sandy Smith and Leigh Austin fill goody bags at the swag table. Attendees smile together for a quick group photo.

The oncology team poses together for a photo in the photo booth.

> Photos by Maureen Jennison

# October Awareness

#### It's breast cancer awareness month. time to book that mammogram!

We've talked a lot about breast cancer lately here on the pages of Willits Weekly (I know, I know), but October is another great excuse to bring it to the forefront of everyone's mind as, yes, mammograms and early detection can save lives. October is breast cancer awareness month, which makes it the perfect time to stop procrastinating, pick up the phone and get scheduled to be screened - and screening mammograms do NOT need a doctor's referral beforehand - patients can just call direct themselves, and be scheduled.

Adventist Heath's Ukiah Valley campus held an event last week to bring awareness, to share stories, resources and support to those facing cancer and those recovering, and in memory of those who have passed. The event included a moving testimony from featured speaker Shirley Oliver; information from oncologist Dr. Hengbing Wang; mental health information from Behavioral Health Program Manager Mimi Ellis; screening

and support information from Director of Diagnostic Imaging Honalee Newman and Breast Health Navigator Kira Parisi; information on the Cancer Resource Centers from Anya Jindrich and Mauricio Alvarez, and AHUV's Marketing and Communications Manager Cici Winiger decorated, organized and emceed the event.

All three local campuses; Adventist Health Howard Memorial, Adventist Health Ukiah Valley, and Adventist Health Mendocino Coast can help book and schedule patients to be seen for a mammogram and can help answer any questions one may have. Reach Howard Hospital, located at 1 Marcela Drive in Willits at (707) 459-6801; reach Ukiah Valley, located at 275 Hospital Drive, Ukiah at (707) 462-3111; and reach Mendocino Coast, located at 700 River Drive, Fort Bragg at (707) 961-1234. More info: www.adventisthealth. org/services/cancer-oncology/breast-care/

- Maureen Jennison















At far left: Testimonial Speaker Shirley Oliver listens to oncologist Dr. Hengbing Wang as he speaks to the gathered crowd. At left: AH

attendees included Holly Sears, Sara Patten, and Amanda Watkins.

### WCC approves zoning changes

for future expansion of Sanhedrin log deck

**Tennifer Poole** Editor & Reporter willitsweekly@gmail.com

City Willits Council 3 to members voted to approve zoning amendments Willits General Plan requested by Sanhedrin Timber Company, LLC. Councilmember Gerry Gonzalez was absent, and Councilmember Bruce Burton recused himself from the vote, as his Willits Redwood Co. does business with Sanhedrin.

Sanhedrin Timber

Read the rest of Zoning

Over on Page 11 Incarcerated

### firefighters to see 'historic' pay increase in laws Newsom signed

By Cayla Mihalovich, **CalMatters** 

This story was originally published by CalMatters. Sign up for their newsletters https://calmatters.org/ subscribe-to-calmatters/

October 14 - Hundreds of California's incarcerated firefighters will see an increase in pay, a new death benefit, and a faster path to expungement of their criminal records under

Read the rest of Increase

WUSD superintendent reports some

Over on Page 11

admin changes Submitted by WUSD Superintendent John A. Baker

In our ongoing effort to strengthen our schools and cultivate a positive, expertdriven culture, the Willits Unified School District has made an organizational change that will benefit our students, staff, and community. These changes are grounded in our shared commitment to building schools that are collaborative, well-led, and focused on student success.

I am pleased to announce that Shane Topolinski, an experienced and dedicated school leader, will serve as the Principal of Baechtel Grove Middle School. Topolinski brings years of

Read the rest of WUSD

Over on Page 11

# What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

#### Response to 'Call to elders' letter To the Editor:

In the Willits Weekly dated October 9, a letter from Karen Gridley of Willits titled "Call to Elders" asked, "Do you want to continue to live in a democracy or forfeit your constitutional rights?" As an elder at 83, I know the United States is not a Democracy but a Republic.

According to Benjamin Franklin: "Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for lunch. Liberty is a well-armed lamb contesting the vote." In a Democracy the majority rules. In a Republic the individual is protected from the majority.

Bob Wilkinson, Willits

#### A must-see documentary

To the Editor:

"The Road Between Us. The Ultimate Rescue" is an excellent, well-done documentary about the attack on Israel on October 7, 2023

It is a Canadian film that focuses on the day itself with real people, with a real story, in the real world.

This movie focuses on a young family in the kibbutz, and the parents coming to rescue them. The parents, Nome Tebon, a retired general, with the support of his wife, rescue some people from the festival and save some wounded soldiers on the way to the kibbutz.

"The Road Between Us" is insightful. It has some reenactments, heartfelt interviews, and actual footage of the event, tastefully done.

This documentary is about a fight for family to save the lives of the ones you love most.

A must-see for high school students and parents alike.

Now playing at the Noyo, with two remaining shows on Thursday, October 16, at 4:30 and 7:15 pm.

Check out the trailer for "The Road Between Us" at www. youtube.com/watch?v=lcAf07EN-bQ

G. Moore, Willits

#### Thank you

To the Editor:

The Friends of the Mendocino County Museum wants to give a big thank you to the wonderful supportive community of Mendocino County for all they did to help make our first big fundraiser, "Uncorked and Uncharted," such a fantastic

On the beautiful Sunday afternoon of October 5, a soldout crowd of 100 community members gathered in the Carriage House of the Ridgewood Ranch for an incredible three hours of delicious food, entertainment, and lively auction with auctioneer Tom Allman. The generosity of the attendees far surpassed our expectations. These funds will allow us to provide significant support to the Mendocino County Museum during the coming year.

We would like to thank the numerous generous sponsors, Holly Madrigal, our theatrical reading actors Kathy Vellis, Aris Vellis, and Kevin Moore, Billy Hetherington, those who donated special auction items, and an army of fantastic volunteers. The level of support for our Museum that exists in the Mendocino County community is truly astonishing! My most heartfelt thanks to you all,

> Brent Walker, chairman, Friends of the Mendocino County Museum

#### The Rules: LETTERS

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

Letters and commentaries must be submitted with a name, address and phone number, although only the author's name and city of residence will be published. Deadline is end of day Monday for each Thursday edition. No letters from an anonymous source will be published, although a request to withhold the writer's name will be



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April Tweddell, ad sales / 707- 972-2475 / willitsweekly@gmail.com Ad inquiries: call 707-972-7047 or email willitsweekly@gmail.com Little Lake Valley, well below the prediction of 0.5" to 1.0" for the period. **WW RAIN BOX** 

Little Lake Valley rainfall totals (inches)													
	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	weekly	since				
location	Oct 06	Oct 07	Oct 08	Oct 09	Oct 10	Oct 11	Oct 12	total	01Oct25				
lorthbrook Way	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.01	0.00	0.24	0.64				
rooktrails Dr @ Sherwood Rd	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.17	0.70				
′alley Rd	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.01	0.00	0.12	0.39				
anyon Rd	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.01	0.00	0.09	0.36				
ine Mountain	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.01	0.00	0.16	0.42				
outh Main @ East Oak	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.16	0.56				
average	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.01	0.00	0.16	0.51				

Not much rainfall last week, with just a splash on Friday. Weekly totals for October 6 to 12 averaged 0.16" across the

data compiled from weatherunderground (https://www.wunderground.com)

#### Senior Center menu for the week

Willits Senior Center is serving lunch in its indoor dining room, Monday through Friday, from 11:45 am to 1 pm. Drive-through lunches are available from 12 to 12:45 pm, outside the Senior Center, 1501

Thursday, October 16: Ground Beef Stroganoff, Veggies, Roll

Friday, October 17: Chicken Alfredo, Garlic Bread, Veggies

Monday, October 20: Pot Roast, Mashed Potatoes, Roll

Tuesday, October 21: Turkey Deli Sub Sandwich, Chips, Pickle

Wednesday, October 22: Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Green Salad

Thursday, October 23: BBQ Chicken, Baked Beans, Corn Bread, Veggies

Friday, October 24: Ground Sirloin, Mashed Potatoes, Veggies, Roll

Activities: Bingo on Friday nights, 5 to 7 pm. Exercise class every weekday morning from 9 to 10 am.

Meals on Wheels: The Senior Center Meals on Wheels program delivers lunch Monday through Friday. To sign up call Joliana 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.

### FOWL Fall Book Sale, October 16 to 18

Submitted by FOWL

Friends of the Willits Library announce their Fall Book Sale is coming to the Willits Library! The sale will be held in the Willits Library conference room October 16 to 19. The sale begins Thursday, October 16 from 5 to 7 pm and is for FOWL members only. If you are not currently a FOWL member, take this opportunity to join!

Open to the general public are sale days Friday and Saturday, October 17 and 18 from 10 am to 5 pm. On Sunday, October 19, from 10 am to 3 pm, all books will be only \$3 a bag! So be sure to come early for a good selection.

Come browse our garden and home project books, as well as children's, fiction and non-fiction titles. We have an abundance of Specials this time, so early Christmas shopping opportunities abound. Books are CHEAP- 50 cents to \$1.

As always, volunteer cashiers are needed. If you can help with a 2-hour shift, please sign up at the library, 390 East Commercial

#### 'A river reborn' – One year after Klamath River dam removal

This October marks the first anniversary since the removal of the four lower Klamath dams, and scientists, advocates and Tribes are celebrating dramatic ecological improvements for the Klamath River. Ongoing scientific monitoring, which started years prior to dam removal, has enabled the documentation of significant advances in water quality, water temperatures, and the rapid return of native salmon populations to previously

"The Klamath is showing us the way. The speed and scale of the river's recovery has exceeded our expectations and even the most optimistic scientific modeling, proving that when the barriers fall, nature has an incredible power to heal itself," said Barry McCovey Jr., Director of the Yurok Tribal Fisheries

week as the project's completion in early October 2024. While scientists were actively monitoring fish movements and spawning activity in the weeks and months following the restoration of natural flows to the river, it took several months of analysis to finalize specific data related to fish activity above the former dam sites.

upriver of the former Iron Gate dam site (the lowermost dam in the system) last fall to access habitat previously blocked by the dams. This number comes from a combination of monitoring techniques, including the use of SONAR, spawner surveys, and redd counts. This year the monitoring continues, and salmon have made it over the Link River Dam into Upper Klamath Lake.

"This is one of the most collaborative and comprehensive restoration studies ever undertaken with agencies, Tribes, and NGOs all coming together to monitor the recovery of the Klamath River salmon post-dam removal," said Damon Goodman, Shasta-Klamath Director for California Trout. "What we witnessed was extraordinary - the river came back to life almost instantly, and fish returned in greater numbers than anyone imagined.

Perhaps the most immediate and vital sign of the river's healing is the dramatic improvement in water temperature—a crucial factor for the Klamath's ecosystem. The dams and their reservoirs created artificially warm water temperatures in late summer and fall, when fish were returning to the system to spawn, and excessively cold water in the spring, when juvenile salmon out-migrate to the ocean. Ongoing monitoring of water temperatures both pre- and post-dam removal shows that temperatures have returned to a more natural regime that provides improved conditions for salmon during adult spawning migration and juvenile outmigration.

thriving future for both fish and people.

dissolved oxygen levels have all dramatically improved," said Toz Soto, Senior Policy and Research Advisor for the Karuk Tribe's Department of Natural Resources. "The process of removing the dams created temporary water quality impacts as sediments impounded by the dams were mobilized through the system. When we look back at the data over the last year, we see that those short-term impacts were worth it, and the immediate improvements to the system are clearly documented in the data collected by the Karuk Tribe and others."

The first year of a dam-free Klamath River demonstrates a

To read the full post, with more information about the Klamath River Salmon Monitoring Program and photos, visit https:// caltrout.org/news/1-year-anniversary-klamath-dams

- Tim Hanna, Willits Rain Box

Posted by CalTrout

News of fish passing the former dam sites came the same

We now know that more than 7,700 Chinook salmon swam

Hand-in-hand with this temperature recovery is a demonstrated monumental improvement in water quality, especially the precipitous decline of harmful algal blooms (HABs) and their associated microcystin toxins. Data collected by the Karuk Tribe since 2006 shows a powerful recovery: while 58% of samples below the former dam once exceeded public health limits, post-dam removal, 100% of water samples have tested within safe limits for people and wildlife. This combination of cooler, cleaner water is creating a resilient,

"Since the dams were removed, temperature, algae, and

powerful trajectory towards salmon recovery and an ecosystem with significantly improved health with significant cultural and community benefits for Tribes and others in the region.

## coversharespor SUBSCRIPTION FORM NAME: ADDRESS: ☐ 1 year - \$100 ☐ Additional donation included \$ Home delivery: 1 year - \$75 (Home Delivery only available in Willits, Brooktrails & local areas) Make checks payable to Willits Weekly | No invoice sent - please just send in payment | P.O. Box 1698 in Willits, CA 95490 Locally Owned | Independent | Editions Every Thursday | Online & In Print OUESTIONS: 707-459-2633 | 707-972-7047 Web: www.willitsweekly.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/willitsweekly Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com









From far left: Amongst the J.D. Redhouse multitude of sale items is a vast section of pet toys. An eclectic grouping of raffle prizes to be awarded are on display at the anniversary sale. For the kids, and young at heart, colorful suckers beckon to be bought and consumed slowly. J.D. Redhouse sells only quality clothing, hats and footwear



# Mercantile Mainstay

J.D. Redhouse celebrates 18-year anniversary with sale items and shelter pet adoption event

With so many businesses in Willits not being hardware stores that are offering farming things, able to sustain themselves over the years, through closures and the bypass siphoning got rid of some of the farm and feed stuff. We much of the traffic away, J.D. Redhouse is still standing strong, an

Mathew Caine homage to owners who

observe the trends and needs of the community and manage to stay a step ahead. The eclectic 2007." nature of the store is another possible reason for its success. J.D. Redhouse is not just one type of store. It caters to people who work the

soil, ranchers and farmers, people with pets, and people who just want a pleasant place to meet for a sandwich, some tea or coffee, or Last Saturday, the shop held a special celebration of 18 years in business with a storewide sale. Most items were marked down 20 percent, with some items marked down even more. There was also a raffle with some interesting and valuable items. Out in the front

of the store, on a thankfully pleasant day, the

Mendo Shelter Pets Rescue brought information

and some incredibly cute puppies to lure the

children into adopting them. Jacob Whitehurst, one of the owners, was on hand to help organize and keep watch over the sale. He started out as a warehouse manager when J.D. Redhouse first opened in 2007. "Then slowly, I took on a little bit more responsibility in different roles as the years went by," Whitehurst

"This has been J.D. Redhouse since 2007. We opened up in 2007 as a feed and farm store, said Whitehurst. "What you see now as clothing and footwear over here, was long-handled tools and grain and big bags of dog food, a lot more farm-style stuff. But the needs of the community have changed over the years. There are less people doing agriculture and more businesses in town that are offering things like that -

FARMERS

so we have evolved a lot over the years. We still have a lot of that stuff in the back, in our warehouse, but expanded on our clothing and footwear, expanded a little bit on our gifts and home goods. The pet department has been the one thing that has been pretty consistent since

Of course, J.D. Redhouse still caters to ranch and farm needs with hay and other feeds available at the drive-through area in the back

J.D. Redhouse is currently owned by Whitehurst and his partner, Ashtan Bloomquist, and by Darlene Bixler, who started the store. "Darlene has been an owner since the beginning. Ashtan and I started taking over ownership about five years ago," said Whitehurst.

When asked about the range of prices of the merchandise, some on the higher end, Whitehurst explained: "We try to offer top quality goods. Some of them are on the higher end in terms of price point but I look at it like, if you invest a little bit more money into something, usually it's going to last you longer. We've curated our brands over the years to offer some more affordable goods and some more premium goods that you may have to pay a little bit more for, but it should last you longer, five years instead of five months." The cost is relative to

Prior to 2007, the building was known as the Willits Country Mall, with several local businesses in residence. The site was originally built as a mercantile store in 1865, when the town was known as Willitsville. In 1921, the Irvine and Muir Lumber Company built a new mercantile store on the site. It later became a

Read the rest of Redhouse

Over on page 9



sians in the drivethrough hay area show a bit of the history of the J.D. Redhouse building. Above, right: J.D. Redhouse has thousands of quality goods to sell at every At left: The expert

sandwich and drink

crew in the Sweet Shop await customers At left, below: Diego Nunes helps a customer with their

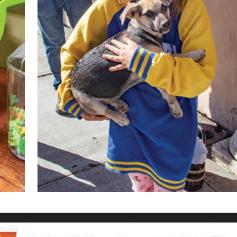
purchase of hay in back of the store. Below, left: Those who wish to help support the Balthrop family through their tough times, can purchase a

basket of goodies Below, right: Madelaine Sicard found a puppy she wants to take home as a bestie.

raffle ticket to win this













# HELP WANTED



Randall Cantua, LUTCF

16 W. Valley St. Willits CA 95490

Cantua Insurance Agency

786 Redwood Drive

Tel 707.459.3276

Tel 707.923.2179

Fax 707.923.9550

rcantua@farmersagent.com

Garberville, CA 95542

Sherwood Valley Casino is seeking a strategic and detail-oriented Chief Financial Officer (CFO) to lead our financial operations and safeguard the integrity of our assets. This executive role is responsible for driving financial performance, maintaining robust internal controls, and ensuring full compliance with regulatory standards. The CFO will play a key role in shaping the financial future of the casino while upholding transparency, accountability, and operational excellence.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER (CFO)

Benefits, Salary: \$98K - \$110K

#### **GENERAL MANAGER (GM)** Benefits, Salary: \$95K-\$115K

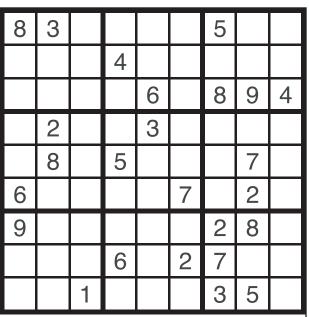
Sherwood Valley Casino is seeking a skilled and driven General Manager to lead our gaming operations with excellence and integrity. This role is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the casino's daily activities, supervising gaming operations, and providing regular updates on business performance.

Contact the HR Dept at HR@svrcasino.com or 707-459-7335



# Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword



## **WELLNESS WORD SEARCH**

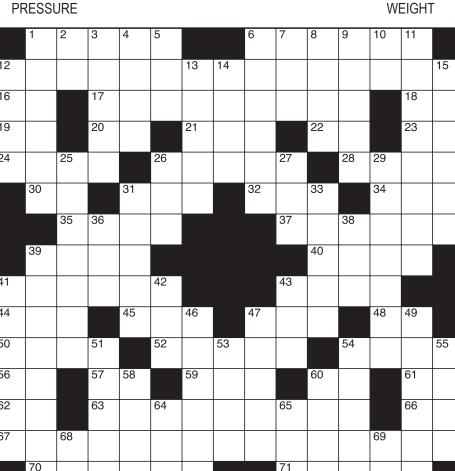


**ADMIT ADVICE APPOINTMENT ASSISTANT** BLOOD

**CHOLESTEROL DIAGNOSE** DIET DOCTOR **EXAMINATION** 

**HEALTH HEARTBEAT** HOSPITAL **ILLNESS LABORATORY** 

**MAINTENANCE** MONITOR **PHYSICAL PRESCRIPTION PROACTIVE** WEIGHT



#### **CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Martial arts in China 6. The butt of jokes
- 12. Nevertheless 16. Sportscaster Michaels
- 17. A firm believer 18. Atomic #18
- 19. One's bestie
- 20. Of I
- 21. Hamburger accessory 22. Thus
- 23. Partner to Pa 24. Scottish tax
- 26. Cuts away
- 28. Require
- 30. Government lawyer
- 31. Own (Scottish) 32. Body cavity
- 34. Brew 35. Young woman (French)
- 37. Platforms 39. Pair of points in
- mathematics 40. Attack suddenly
- 41. Aviators
- 43. Make perfect
- 45. Neither

50. Singer Redding

- 44. Yearly tonnage (abbr.) 47. The center of a city 48. Sacrifice hit in baseball

- 52. Dragged forcibly 54. Puncture with a knife
- 56. Belonging to me 57. Expresses surprise
- 27. Doleful 59. Haul 29. Most cushy 60. The Golden State 31. Moon crater
- 61. Biblical Sumerian city 62. Integrated circuit
- 63. Opposed to certain principles
- 66. Sodium 67. Qualities 70. Walk
- 71. It awaits us all **CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Ate quickly 2. Peyton Manning's alma mater

4. Run away from

5. Utah resident

6. Natural objects

7. Children's game

8. Obligation to prove

for performances

13. Russell \_\_\_, author

14. Speak indistinctly

10. Soldier

11. Decorated

12. Catches

9. Ancient Greek building

- 46. Flightless bird 47. One who cuts wood Moves through water
  - or stone 49. Buttock and thigh together

15. Students get them

25. Japanese warrior

33. Small evergreen

Arabian tree

38. 007's creator

panels

41. Type of bomb

36. Something fugitives are

39. Paintings on hinged

42. Japanese classical

43. U.S. gov't department

26. Dessert

- 51. A way to gather 53. Body part 54. Argentinian city
- 55. Undergarments 58. Jai \_\_\_, sport 60. Container for shipping 64. Type of screen
- 65. Get free of 68. Indicates position 69. Business department

## WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT **POLICE LOG**

September 29 to October 5

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police and issued a warning. Department reported 79 incidents in this 7-day period.

#### **Summary of Active Investigations** and Arrests

HOW TO

SUDOKU

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

Sudoku puzzles are

- 7:49 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 200 block of Shell
- 10:33 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 500 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.
- 4:43 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued
- 5:21 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing near the intersection of Tuttle Lane and Madden Lane

#### September 30

- 8:11 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Franklin Avenue and Blosser Lane.
- 3:06 pm: BECK, Annelise Katrina (29) of Willits was contacted in the 300 block of East Commercial Street. She was arrested on felony charges of resisting an officer and on misdemeanor charges of providing false identification to an officer, violation of probation, and failure to appear.
- 4:18 pm: LOWERY, Jeffrey Eward (54) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of Marcela Drive. He was arrested on felony charges of resisting an officer and on misdemeanor charges of driving under the influence of alcohol.

9:07 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of East Commercial Street and issued a citation.

9:41 pm: AMRULL, Ileana Amelia (47) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. She was arrested on misdemeanor charges of being under the influence of a controlled substance.

#### October 1

- 6:22 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.
- 7:57 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1500 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.
- 8:09 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1400 block of South Main Street and issued
- 11:45 pm: Officers conducted a stop in investigation in the 300 block of South Main the 300 block of East Commercial Street Street.

#### Controlled burn set for northwest of Laytonville this week

#### Submitted by Eel River Recovery Project

October 13 - Eel River Recovery Project, in collaboration with Torchbearr, a nonprofit that promotes prescribed burning, and other partner groups, has planned a burn in the Ten Mile Creek drainage northwest of Laytonville this week, pending favorable conditions.

This controlled burn is part of a larger project that will treat as much as 881 acres of native grassland and forest understory fuels as part of a multi-year, watershedwide forest health initiative. ERRP seeks to strategically thin forest and follow up with prescribed fire treatments, creating needed shaded fuel breaks and promoting tree biodiversity.

This project will help reintroduce fire on land near Highway 101 5 miles north of downtown Laytonville, making the ground safer and more resilient in the face of oncoming wildfires and other ecological threats including invasive plant and pest infestation, loss of habitat for wildlife, and unhealthy forest composition after decades of intensive logging

Members of the public can expect intermittent, shortduration smoke from these burns which can impact air quality or impair visibility for drivers on local roads. Burn practitioners applying fire will do everything they can to minimize smoke impacts to local communities, in keeping with their smoke management plans and permit requirements.

Per burn plan documents and permit requirements, all burns will be staffed with trained, professional personnel and fire engines assigned for contingency purposes, local agencies and authorities will be notified of burning, and all burning will proceed only if and when a test burn is declared successful by an on-site burn boss with approval from the resident landowner.

Funding for this project is provided by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Forest Health Program as part of the California Climate Investments Program. The mission of the Eel River Recovery Project is: To empower communities to collaborate in monitoring the

formulate and implement a restoration strategy.

11:57 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

#### October 2

- 12:04 am: DELBELLO, Jonathon Andrew (34) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of failure to appear.
- 7:57 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued
- 2:00 pm: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 200 block of North Main Street and issued a citation.
- 11:03 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and East San Francisco Avenue and issued a warning.

#### October 3

- 10:06 am: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.
- 4:03 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the South Willits Bypass and issued a
- 5:14 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and Alameda Avenue and issued a warning.
- 5:18 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 500 block of South Main Street and issued
- 6:05 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 400 block of South Main Street and issued

#### October 4

No incidents to report

12:57 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 300 block of Creekside Drive

2:31 am: BEACH Jr., Robert Randall (52) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of School Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of driving under the influence of drugs, possession of a controlled substance, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

11:40 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 200 block of South Main

2:35 pm: Officers initiated a burglary

#### SAL selfdefense classes: ages 3 and up at **Body Works**

#### Posted by Michael Tobin, Sensei (Instructor).

- Willits Area SAL-MOSKA - "Free Okinawan Karate and Kenpo Self Defense Classes," on Thursday evenings at the Willits Body Works Gym & Martial Arts Center in association with the Mendocino County Sheriff's Youth Activities League (SAL/PAL). Three training times listed below.
- 1. Little Dragons Small Child "PreSkillz" Karate Class, 6 pm to 6:30 pm, ages 3, 4, 5, 6 (7) year-olds.
- 2. Beginner/intermediate Class, 7/8 years and above, 6:35 pm to 7:50 pm.
- 3. Intermediate/Advanced Class, all ages, 8 pm to 9 pm, and/or by Sensei recommendation.

"Classes are free to the public." There is a \$20 Annual Insurance/Registration Fee (Yearly) for this SAL Program - which can be waived in the best interest of the student.

We teach Matsubayashi Shorin Ryu Karate, Kenpo Youth/Adult Self Defense, Bully and Abduction Awareness/Defense and Small Child PreSkillz. If you need more info. call (707) ecological conditions of the Eel River; to share information about the health of the watershed and to work together to 354-0565. Certifications available on request.

# **Colorful Fun**

Students, families and teachers spray each other with colorful dust, creating a memorable event that raises funds for field trips and classroom materials

above Mathew Caine School football

battle raged on below. The kids, their parents and friends threw caution to the wind while they flung rainbowhued dust at each other.

The annual insanity known as the Color-A-Thon, or Color Run, occurred last Sunday, administered loosely by the parent teacher organizations of Blosser Lane, Baechtel Grove, and Brookside schools, so as to allow for the maximum fun possible. The event is a franchised bit of hilarity from School-A-Thon (https://schoolathon. org/), which provides the color packs and other materials, and aids to promoting the fundraiser. Prior to the day of the run, students solicit donations, which go toward certain activities and materials the schools would not have otherwise.

"We have been doing the Color Run for five years," explained Jenny Nelson, Brookside PTO president and teacher. "Brookside started it originally. We began to include Blosser Lane. Baechtel Grove will do it with us sometimes. It's a great community event because it's not only the students. It's also people from the community that come and participate and just have a colorful time. It's a great way to support our local schools because it generates money that goes to the schools for extra things like materials, assemblies, and field trips that the schools might not have the funds for."

As the kids ran around the track, teachers pelted them with tons of color at various stations around the route. The kids and their families spent up to a couple of hours chasing each other about the field, donning their colorful tutus or headdresses. and generally trying to dust each other in a breeze that often resulted in the dust going back into their own faces and clothing.

April Lamprich, a Willits School Board member and mother of five. expressed her joy at the event: "The kids try and get me every time. They love being able to throw stuff and not get in trouble for it. After doing this

SINCE 199

A colorful cloud of corn starch dust on the way home. The kids have to change outside before they go in the house. The first year. I was getting the color out of my carpet for a year because I didn't know any better. I kept finding the color in the cracks of the seats. Now I have a blanket that goes over the seat, so it's all contained. I can take it out and put it right in the washer."

"The kids look forward to this every vear. They love it."

The PTOs raise money through the event with the funds that come from the people who sponsor each child and sales of colorful Color Run branded apparel, extra color dust, and snacks. The kids who obtain sponsors receive extra color packets, T-shirts, bottles, scarves, headdresses, and more depending on the amount they were able to procure, all of which go into the general funds of the schools in order to pay for field trips and school materials

"The more money they raise, the more prizes they get, more color packs," explained Nelson. "When they come and they get their prizes, it's already pre-packaged with their names. They just have to check in with us, give us their name, and they get their package with prizes and color packs. The color packs are \$3 or two for \$5. We have merchandise. A lot of the stuff that they get, we also have to buy. It all goes back to the

By the end of the run, the field was inundated with brilliant color which Monday's rain would probably wash away, leaving only scant traces of the hilarity and fun that occurred the previous day, when about 100 kids and their families had an experience they would not soon forget, probably with bits of color to be found for several days on clothing and behind

"This is a great way to have fun." said Nelson. "You get out here. There's food. We have teachers out here. I'm a teacher. We have a couple other teachers. The teachers get to throw the color during the run. We have a board member here who loves to help. It's a great way to get the community involved. It's a real for four years, we've learned to bring colorful time, with music, good food. sheets to put over the seat of the car It's a great use of our school."







At top, left: The crew of teachers gets ready to hand out the color packets and other prizes the kids have won: Monique Spivey, Jenny Nelson, Devon Jones and Jessica Hagan. At top, right: These four friends have a fun and

Above: At the appropriate time during Katy Perry's song "Firework," the Color Run begins. Below, from left: This young girl has a fun time spreading around the bright colors. Time to reload – the colors did not last long during the time before the run. This young color warrior is prepared for the coming melee.

At bottom, left: The runners take their marks - they're ready to be pelted with color by their teachers. At bottom right: His friend is helping him to a pre-run color bath.

Photos by Mathew Caine















(707) 485-5966

f @ @ColdCreekCompost

# 0





SATURDAY, OCT. 18

Willits Indivisible is working together to reunify

our country as WE THE PEOPLE. Join us to

support our Constitution and strengthen

our democracy.

**NO KINGS MARCH:** 

Saturday October 18, 10am-12pm

We will meet at Babcock Park and march down

Main Street, peacefully and joyfully, to City Park.

A core principle behind all No Kings and

Willits Indivisible events is a commitment to

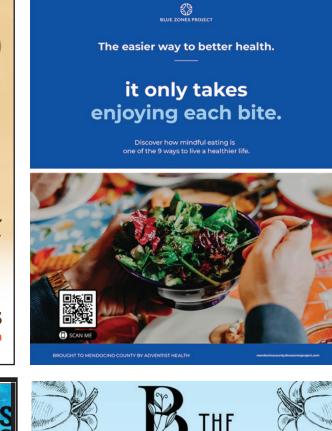
nonviolent action. We expect all participants to

seek to de-escalate any potential confrontation

with those who disagree with our values and

to act lawfully at these events. Weapons of any

ind, including those legally permitted, should no be brought to events.





#### 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 dult Sunday School 8:30 a.m Info? 707-459-1905 www.agapebiblechurch.com

#### **Amazing Grace** Assembly of God Church

803 Coast Street P.O. Box 489, Willits Worship Service - 5:00 p.m Pastor Kris Strickland EVERYBODY IS WELCOME

#### Church

of Christ What must we do to be saved Acts 2:37 1095 S. Main St., Willits (next to Super 8) (707) 459-5023 Sunday Bible Study-10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship-11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Service-6-7:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study-

### 7-8:00 p.m. The Church of Jesus Christ of

Latter-day Saints 265 Margie Drive Willits, ČA 95490 ALL ARE WELCOME Sacrament Meeting Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

#### Eckankar: The Patl of Spiritual Freedo • A University for Soul

•Spiritual Living Courses 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 Worship Service 10 a.m. 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: Wednesday-Friday 9:00 a.m. Saturday-5:30 p.m. Sunday-9:00 a.m. - English 10:30 a.m. - Spanish Confessions on Saturday 4:45 - 5:15 p.m. Or by appointmet at 707-459-2252 https://stanthonywillits.org/

#### St. Francis **Episcopal Church** North Main Street, Willits

saintanthonywillits@gmail.com

We welcome All Walks of Faith

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** Sunday Service

10:00 a.m. (707) 459-2988 24 Mill Creek Drive acebook.com/stjohnswillits 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 - 7:00 p.m. 399 W. Mendocino Ave. All are welcome!

#### **Willits United Methodist Church**

Labyrinth and Peace Garden A place to find comfort where all are welcome Pastor Jaime Rogers-Fairchild Sunday Worship at 10:30 am 286 School St. (at Pine) 707-459-2855 wumc@outlook.com

www.willitsumc.org Facebook: facebook willits umo

If you want to be included in this column please call: **April Tweddell** (707) 972-2475 april@willitsweekly.com



#### Thursday, October 16

Willits Farmers Market: Thursdays from 3 to 5:30 pm at City Park with vendors along State Street for the freshest produce available, local meat, farm fresh eggs, hot and cold food from local businesses, along with crafts, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. The market honors EBT and WIC cards and matches benefits to double your dollars.

F.O.W.L. Book Sale at the Library: Books for \$1 to \$3 and children's books starting at 25 cents! Thursday, October 16 from 5 to 7 pm is open only to Friends of the Willits Library members, so join at the sale, which continues October 17 and 18 from 10 am to 5 pm and on Sunday, October 19 from 10 am to 3 pm when you can fill a bag for \$3.

JOIN US FOR A LAKEMENDOCINO SISTERHOOD

Fall Fellowhip

ABIDING IN

AUDACIOUS LOVE

**CA Express Services** 

Visit CA Express Services in WILLITS

st - \$100

2nd-\$50

Ages 1-15 years-old

Must be in costume to qualify (Winners will be posted by CA Express Services on Face

Fall Sisterhood Event at **Amazing Grace Assembly:** 'Abide in Audacious Love' at this women's gathering featuring lunch, prizes, a Dooney & Bourke bag raffle and more for a donation of \$5, Thursday, October 16 at 11:30 am at the Amazing Grace Assembly, 803 Coast

**Creative Writers Workshop** 

Noyo

**Nightmares** 

Horror Film

Festival,

October 17

thru 31

Halloween the Noyo

Theater will show cult

and classic horror

'The Lost Boys

'Bride of Frankenstein'

(1938), 'Killer Knowns

from Outer Space',

'The Exorcist', 'The

Occult', 'Poltergeist',

'The Re-Animator' and

'The Toxic Avenger'

(2025), or binge

watch all of them on

Showcase Weekend,

October 24, 25 and

26. On October 24

meet Paul Haley,

'Chubby' from Killer

Klowns, enjoy Q & A

with Peter Hyoguchi,

director of 'The Occult'

on October 25 and

on Halloween there

will be a special

screening of 'Wrecker'

followed by a Q & A

with director Brian

Brooks. More info and

specific showtimes:

noyotheater.com.

until

including

Nightly

favorites

at the Library: Share your fictional works in a supportive environment, receive feedback and discuss publishing. This free event is open to ages 13 and up. Paper and pencils provided and Chromebooks available for check-out with valid library card. Thursday, October 16, from 4:30 to 6 pm.

Meet the Brooktrails Fire Chief: Meet Fire Chief Jeff Donaldson, enjoy free pizza, a Q & A discussion and an overview of the Sherwood Firewise Planned Activities for 2026 on Thursday, October 16 beginning at 5:30 pm at the Brooktrails Community Center, 24850 Birch

Avenues to Wellness presentation October at WCA: Melinda Clarke, LMFT, presents: 'Taking Care of Ourselves and Others with Civility and Compassion." Free to the public, though donations appreciated. Thursday, October 16 from 6 to 7 pm at Willits Center for the Arts.

Friday, October 17 F.O.W.L. Book Sale at the Library: Friday, October 17 from 10 am to 5 pm at the Willits

Library. See Oct 16 listing for

'Spooktacular' S.T.E.M. Science at the Library: Open to kids aged 9 to 14, Friday, October 17 from 3:30 to 5 pm at the Willits Branch Library This week's project: Bubbling

**Book Lovers Discussion** Group at the Library: Come talk about books, authors, and

genres at this monthly discussion group on Friday, October 17 from noon to 1 pm at the Willits Branch

FRIDAY'S IN OCTOBER

/24: Pumpkin Powers

Ages: 9 - 14 years old

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

each Friday in

Food Not Bombs in Rec Grove Park: Food Not Bombs Willits presents a free meal, zines and Free to attend, donations accepted

supplies every first and third Fridays around 5 pm. Everyone is welcome. Join us at the picnic

Line Dancing & DJ Juice at The Munchery: A country night with line dancing lessons beginning at 7:30 pm on Friday, October 17 at The Munchery 1797 South Main Street, Willits. \$5 cover

Singer-Songwriter Night at Shanachie: Featuring Luna Worldcast and Hunter Cory at 8 pm and Warren Pash and Ezra Meredith at 10 pm, Friday, October 17 at Shanachie Pub.

#### Saturday, October 18

F.O.W.L. Book Sale at the Library: Saturday. October 18 from 10 am to 5 pm at the Willits Branch Library. See Oct 16 listing for

No Kings II March at Babcock Park: As part of this nationwide peaceful demonstration, we will meet on Saturday, October 18 at 10 am at Babcock Park and march to Bud Snider Park. Shuttles will be available for those KINGS

who don't wish to walk. Four Shillings Short Concert at Round Valley Library: A free familyfriendly event, 'Around the World in 30 Instruments' is a blend of music, culture and storytelling. Saturday, October 18 from 2 to 3 pm at the Round Valley Library, 23925 Howard Street, Covelo. The Cult of Ours at Shanachie:

#### Shanachie Pub, Willits. Sunday, October 19

F.O.W.L. Book Sale at the Library: Sunday, October 19 from 10 am to 3 pm, fill a bag for \$3 at the Willits Branch Library. See Oct 16 listing for more info.

Saturday, October 18 at 8 pm at

Stone Stories at WCT: Theatrical readings that will explore the lives and legacies of those interred in the Little Lake and Laytonville cemeteries, October 19 from 2 to 3:30 pm at the Willits Community Theatre.

> Mendocino Group Sierra Club Quarterly Meeting: All welcome to an in-person meeting on Sunday, October 19 from noon to 2:30 pm at the Willits Environmental Center, 630 South Main Street. More info: Robin Leler 707-459-0155.

#### Monday, October 20 Gem and Mineral Society

Monthly Meeting: Featuring a special presentation on fluorescent minerals from around the world. The correct date for this meeting is Monday, October 20 from 7 to 3:30 pm at the Little Lake Grange

November 1st, Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, Willits

#### Wednesday, October 22

Willits Stamp Club at the Library: Bring your collection and enjoy time perusing stamps. All are welcome. Refreshments served. October 22 from 5 to 6:30 pm at the Willits Branch Library. Info: talsofam@pacific.net.

> History Makers Family Programs at the Museum: Make Fall crafts every Wednesday in October from 2 to 4:30 pm. This week: Night

#### Thursday, October 23

Willits Farmers Market: Join your neighbors on Thursdays from 3 to 5:30 pm at City Park, for the freshest produce available, local meat, tasty treats, crafts, the new edition of the Willits Weekly and much more. See Oct 16 listing for more details.

Trivia Night at The Munchery: 'Spooky' Trivia on Thursday, October 23 at 6 pm at The Munchery, 1797 South Main Street, Willits.

#### Friday, October 24

'Spooktacular' S.T.E.M. Science at the Library: Open to kids aged 9 to 14, this week's project is Pumpkin Powers! Friday, October 24 from 3:30 to 5 pm at the Willits Library.

Haunted House at Willits Charter School: This fundraising event with the theme 'Alice in Horrorland' is \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids and \$15 for families and will be held Friday, October 24 and Saturday, October 25 from 7 to 9 pm at the Willits Charter School.

Costume Party Skate Night at Harwood Hall: Dress up and roller skate for only \$1 from 6 to 8 pm on Friday, October 24. Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, Lavtonville,

Frankie & the Lost Souls at Shanachie: Friday, October 24 at 8 pm at Shanachie

#### Saturday, October 25

Harvest Festival at Ridgewood Ranch: Featuring a Pumpkin Patch, Corn Maze, Hay Rides, Local Artists, Farmers Market and a farm-to-table gourmet lunch on Saturday, October 25 from 11 am to 4 pm, rain or shine at Ridgewood Ranch. Cost is \$5 and costumes are

#### Halloween at The Munchery: Family-friendly including a costume contest and Open Mic starting at 6 pm on Saturday, October 25 at the Munchery, 1797 South Main Street.

House Haunted at Willits Charter School: Saturday, October 25 from 7 to 9 pm. See Oct 24 listing for more info.

Luke Blue Shanachie: Saturday, October 25 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub.

#### Sunday, October 26

Grange Pancake Breakfast: All you can eat "scratch" pancakes (sourdough, wholegrain, Hank's famous buttermilk, or gluten-free) plus organic, local farm-fresh scrambled eggs, Beeler's Quality bacon, real butter, juice and

organic coffee or tea for only \$12! (\$11 for Seniors \$5 for kids under 10). Extra sides organic fruit Amish organic maple syrup fresh fruit syrup or bacon for a small additional fee. October 26 from 8 to 11 am, Little Lake Grange. Death Cafe at

Inner Earth Tea: A safe space to discuss death and Sunday,

October 26 from 1 to 3 pm at Inner Earth Tea House, 40 East San Francisco Avenue

Song Circle at Inner Earth Tea: Bring your songs to share and sing together on Sunday, October 26 from 4 to 6 pm. Donation-based, all skill levels welcome. Inner Earth Tea House.



#### COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

## 'Tron Ares'

The Story: Science fiction, high action (but no blood), with music score by Nine Inch Nails band leader Trent Reznor, occasional comedic nostalgia for "TRON" and the '80s and Depeche Mode-the then new-wave rock

Dude, no make that Duuude!!! This flick's a Visual Explosion from frame one. Kind and good computer game designer and mastercoder Eve Kim (Greta Lee) is looking for the "permanence code" which is a program that will take any person, place, or thing created in the Digital Realm and make it

real-and-solid in The Real World! OMG!!! Obviously, anyone who possesses the "permanence code" will, more or less, Rule The

Dan Essman

And that is reason enough for the ruthless smirking power-hungry

corporate evil guy Julian Dillinger (Evan Peters) to hunt down poor decent Eve, and then do bad things to her. GACK!!! That's pretty much the story, not counting the curious existence of Ares the digital super soldier (entirely too-handsome, even-with-a-beard Jared Leto). The rest is flashy graphics and mayhem.

My Thoughts: I very much liked the movie for its imagery. Special shout out to beautiful Gillian "X-Files" Anderson who plays evil Dillinger's Mama, and tries to warn him about the dangers of being evil. Let her spot-on warnings be a moral

message to us all not to be power-hungry SOBs. Especially film

reviewers. Parents: "Digital

realm? Permanence Code?" This flick is much too confusing and abstract for children.

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

#### **Hot Buttered Rum** ART CALL to MEMBERS

@THE WILLITS GRANGE

WILLITS

**GEM & MINERAL** 

SOCIETY

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

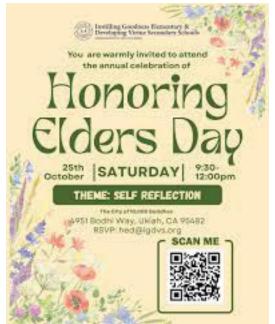
FLUORESCENT MINERALS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

OCTOBER 20TH

7-830PM

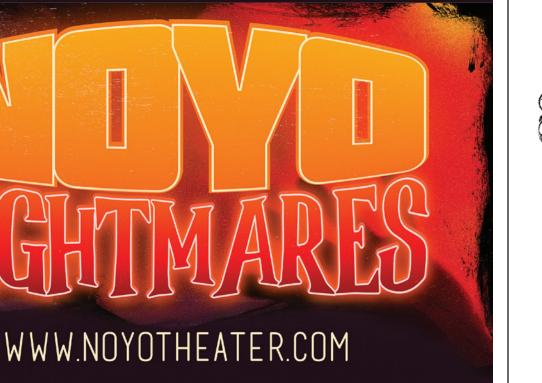
Time to prepare for the Small Works Show! Willits Center for the Arts is looking for member















### AT RIDGEWOOD RANCH PUMPKIN PATCH - CORN MAZE - APPLE PICKING CIDER PRESSING - HAY RIDES - LOCAL ARTISTS FARMERS MARKET-FARM-TO-TABLE GUNCH

## Enchanted Pumpkin Path at Waldorf School, October 31

Save-The-Date for this refined sugar-free, and scare-free Halloween adventure suitable for all ages! Pick a time slot from 4:15 to 7:45 to enjoy whimsical performances along the path and receive a small gift after each skit, then gather at the Smokey Cauldron Café for seasonal treats and nourishing food. Tickets are \$10 (babies in arms are free). For tickets, or if you need special assistance to attend this event, contact us at office@mendocinowaldorf.org. Friday, October 31, rain or shine at the Waldorf School, 6280 Third Street, Calpella.

#### Announcing Willits Community Theatre's 2026 Season

plays, Five unforgettable stories for Willits Community Theatre's 49th year! "The Importance of Being Earnest" (Feb 20 -Mar 8 Written by Oscar Wilde Directed by Maria Monti Oscar Wilde's sharpest wit collides with Victorian manners in this timeless comedy of mistaken identity and outrageous honesty.

Willits Weekly | October 16, 2025



2026 Season

"Four Dogs and a Bone" (May 1 - May 17) Written by John Patrick Shanley | Directed by Mathew Caine John Patrick Shanley's biting Hollywood satire pulls back the curtain on ambition, manipulation, and the scrappy fight to be heard. "Louisa @ Fruitlands" (World Premiere: July 10 - July 26) Written by Daniel Rover Singer | Directed by Eric Ward Daniel Rover Singer's new play explores the wild youth of Louisa May Alcott in an experimental commune - a vibrant story brought to life on our stage for the first time ever. "Bakersfield Mist" (Sept 18 - Oct 4) Written by Stephen Sachs | Directed by Jim Williams A one-room, high-stakes clash over art and authenticity – Stephen Sachs' funny and fierce play about what makes something real. "All Is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914" (Dec 4 - Dec 20) Musical by Peter Rothstein | Directed by Jeff Shipp, Musical Direction by Janice Hawthorne Timm A moving a cappella musical about the World War I soldiers who laid down their arms and found peace - and humanity through song. Join us for a year of storytelling, laughter, and inspiration. Tickets and info: www.wctperformingartscenter.org

### **TOWN-WIDE** ONGOING EVENTS

Willits Tennis Club: Meets every Monday and Wednesday from 9 to 11 am at the Willits High School Tennis Courts. All levels welcome. More info: 707 484-3385.

Drop-In Life Drawing Group at 1493. WCA: Every Thursday from 1 to 4 pm at Willits Center for the Arts. Cost is based on sliding scale. More info: Margaret 707-459-9251.

Brown Bag Lunch Program: Saturdays at 1 pm. sack lunches are served by local churches, community organizations, and families at Bud Snider City Park on East Commercial. Come at 1 pm to be assured a lunch!

Willits Indivisible Democracy Vigil: Every Friday from 5 to 6 pm at Babcock Park on South Main Street. More info: "Willits Indivisible" on Facebook.

**Lunch to Live Music at Brickhouse** Coffee: every Wednesday from noon to 2 pm featuring various artists. Corner of Main and Commercial Streets, Willits.

Pickleball: Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays at 5 pm and Saturdays at 9 am at the Willits High School tennis courts. Free to play and all levels welcome.

**Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Group:** Meets every Monday at 6 pm at the Muse in Willits, 30 East San Francisco Street. More info: 707-354-1866.

Willits Drum Circle: Every second and fourth Friday at 7 pm, at St. Francis of the Redwoods on the corner of Main and Commercial Streets. Info: Bill Bruneau: 459-3390.

teach adults to read! Free personal tutoring at the library. Call or email to make an

Literacy Volunteers of Willits: We

**appointment:** LiteracyWillits@gmail. com or 707-456-7729.

Mobile Showers Available Willits: Mobile shower is in Willits every Monday and Tuesday from 2:30 to 4:30 pm, behind St. Francis Church at the corner of Main and Commercial Streets. Toiletries, towels and washcloths provided. Those with disabilities may need to bring a helper. 5:30 by Willits Daily Bread.

Inland Valley Women's Chorus: Every Thursday (except holidays) from 6 to 7:30 pm to sing songs of peace, joy, social justice and healing. No audition or experience required Carpooling available from Willits. Holy Trinity Church, Mary & Martha Room 640 South Orchard Avenue, Ukiah More info: Madge Strong, 707-459-

#### Shanachie Pub **Ongoing Events** Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main

Saturday Sessions at Shanachie: Every 2nd and 4th Saturday from 3 to 6 pm, Tommy G will host an open jam at Shanachie Pub. Bring any instrument and explore your creativity!"

Bluegrass String Jam: An official jam for the California Bluegrass Association, every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month starting at 3 pm. with all Bluegrass musicians welcome! Wednesday Open Mic Night: Every Wednesday- Enter your name in the lottery from 3 to 7 pm to choose your 20-minute time slot, with performances beginning at 7:20.

### **Ongoing Events** at the Willits Library

Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www. mendolibrary.org or 459-5908. Open hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10 am to 7 pm; Friday, 10 am to 6 pm; Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm; Closed Sunday and Monday.

Penny University Coffee Klatch: Wednesdays, 11 am to 1 pm, in the Willits Library meeting room to discuss various topics while enjoying a "cup of

**LEGO Club:** Tuesdays from 4 to 6:30 pm. "Bring your imagination and start

Tech Help: Saturdays from 11 am to noon, come get computer help and your technical questions answered! Spinning and Knitting: Saturdays at the library; from 1 to 4:30 pm. All skill levels welcome! Spinning, 1 to 2 pm; Knitting, 2 to 4:30 pm.

Story and Playtime: Fridays from 11 am to noon, bring the kids for a story Sack dinners are served from 4:30 to followed by play time in the Children's

Willits Weekly | October 16, 2025 **Pg. 6** Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

### **Monique Smith**

We have lost a precious heart and soul; rest in the arms of the Lord, Monique, born January 17, 1969.

Monique Patricia Smith of Willits has been called home by our Lord, on Monday, October 6, 2025.

Monique is survived by her daughter Tiana Patricia Catlin and her husband, James Catlin of Canoga Park, CA; mother Valerie Jean Gregerson of San Diego, CA; her aunt Donelle Marie Rice of Canoga Park; sister Jamie Benaroch and her husband, David Benaroch of Dallas, TX; niece Daniela Benaroch of Dallas TX; cousins John R.

Diggles II, CSM, and his wife, Jenny Diggles, CPT, US Army; Camille Diana Reynolds of Conroe, TX; Jennifer Reese of The Woodlands, TX; and many other cousins and friends.

She is predeceased by her husband, Stuart Smith, and her father Ronald Gregerson, as well as her aunt Cheri

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project at www. woundedwarriorproject.org

Monique's Celebration of Life will be announced at a



William Edward "Bill" Tarver of Willits was born to Clarence and Ellie Tarver on April 1, 1952 in Fort Bragg. After the death of his father in 1961, his family moved to Petaluma. He graduated from Petaluma High School and joined the Navy in 1971.

Bill served aboard the USS Cayuga in the Gulf of Tonkin during the Vietnam war. He attended SRJC and Sac State where he obtained a BA in journalism. In 1981 he re-enlisted in the Navy as an (IS) Intelligence Specialist. He provided intel to the 6th Fleet during the Libvan crisis and to the 7th Fleet during Desert Shield/ Desert Storm. Bill also served aboard the

USS Constellation, USS Ranger, and the USS Carl Vinson, He retired from the Navy

He was a member of the Mendocino County Grand Jury and VFW Post 1900 Ukiah. He went on many road trips to stadiums across America. Bill loved dogs, the Navy, sports and America. He was a patriot.

Bill enjoyed local pancake breakfasts with his good friend Paul. He left behind local brothers Richard and Clarence Jr., sister Ginger, and siblings in other states, also many

Bill had excellent caregivers through Senior Helpers, a program of the Veterans Administration, when he became ill. Bill passed away from complications of Parkinson's Disease and a heart condition on August 22, 2025.

His funeral will be at Rose Memorial Park in Fort Bragg, on October 24, 2025 at noon. He was loved and will be missed by family and friends,



#### A TASTE OF ITALY Hosted by St. Anthony's Ladies Guild

Saturday, October 25, 2025 Cocktails at 6:00 p.m. • Dinner at 7:00 p.m.

St. Anthony's Parish Hall 61 W San Francisco Ave., Willits

Tickets: \$35 per person Pre-sale tickets only — available at

Loose Caboose and Flowers by Annette (No tickets sold at the door) Deadline to purchase: Wednesday, October 22, 2025

Authentic Italian dinner prepared by Chef Jill Persico Guild President & Chef/Owner of Local Loose Caboose

Silent Auction • To-Go Option Available



**DIANE SIBILLE: 707-694-3966** 



# We're here to help

Sonoma Clean Power is your local electricity provider, proudly serving Sonoma and Mendocino counties with clean, renewable energy. Call or visit our Customer Center for help understanding your electricity choices, making sense of your bill, and finding the latest offers and rebates. Bilingual associates available.

## Ways to reach us

In person: 741 Fourth Street, Santa Rosa

By phone: 1 (855) 202-2139 Online: SCP-GetHelp.org



## LEGAL NOTICES LEGAL NOTICES

**Fictitious Business** 

2025-F0419

The following person or persons are doing business as Wags Dog B&B, 1680 Ten Mile Creek Road, Laytonville, CA 95454. Mailing address: 44911 Hwy 101, PMB 157, Lavtonville CA 95454 Registered owner: Taylor

Joyce Wagner, 1680 Ten Mile Creek Road, Laytonville CA

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 9/25/2025.

Recorder on 9/29/2025. /s/ Taylor Wagner Publication Dates: October **Fictitious Business** Name Statement

The following person or persons are doing business as Willits Kids Corner, 90 South Main Street, Willits CA 95490. Mailing address: 16300 Bluejay Lane, Willits

CA 95490; 707-459-6329.

Registered owner: Kids Corner LLC, 16300 Bluejay Lane, Willits CA 95490. State of incorporation This business is conducted

by a limited liability company

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on 10/9/2025. /s/ Carlos Swinney, Managing Member, Kids

**Fictitious Business** Name Statement

> The following person or persons are doing business as Beautifying Mendocino, 5365 N. State St, Ukiah CA

Consuelo Ponce Ribotta. 5365 N. State St. Ukiah CA This business is conducted

Registered owner: Maria

by an individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on 10/8/2025. FBN statement filed with the

Redhouse

JCPenney and then the Willits Country Mall, until 2007 when Bixler purchased it for its current usage.

Willits Weekly

can run legal

notices including

fictitious

business name

statements.

foreclosure

notices, storage

unit auctions,

and more.

Contact us for

more information

at willitsweekly@

gmail.com

From page 3

Outside, in front of the store, Alana Hastings, co-founder of the Mendo Shelter Pets Rescue, disseminated information and had some very lovely dogs for adoption or fostering. Her organization does not shelter the animals, but rather aids in food and veterinary bills for those who qualify. They sometimes help to raise money for specific animals through GoFundMe campaigns or other means. To learn more about the organization, visit www.mendoshelterpets.org/.

Whitehurst wishes to thank the people of Willits for their support over the last 18 years. "It's surely been a rollercoaster ride," he said. "The economy has been a little tricky, ever since the bypass and all of the other things that have changed our economy. That's why we've evolved a lot, to try to adapt to what our community wants and needs. Just a big thank you to all the people who have supported us over the years."

J.D. Redhouse, located at 212 South Main Street, is open

#### Loyal Crunchy

He needs experienced dog adopters only who can work with him on his training. He needs training to work through his fear issues. He needs to be in a home that does not have children. He is making progress with reactions to cats, mailmen, and large dogs. But he does not do well in large groups of people and he has some mild separation anxiety. Since arriving to the Milo Foundation Sanctuary, he has come to enjoy lots of socializing with other dogs. He is sweet with the staff as he gets more and more comfortable

animals, visit www.milofoundation.org or the Milo Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions by appointment only. Please complete a petadoption application before requesting an appointment.

Happy Gabby

reach the Milo

BFF material! She is a bright and loving pup who's ready to charm her way into your life.

### 6 8 9 3 6 9 8 5 8 9 6

## CLASSIFIEDS

Bud

organizations.

families at

Snider Park on East

Commercial. . Come at

1 pm to be assured a

food?

Open Wednesdays &

Fridays, 11 am to 4:30

pm. New Client Choice

model where you select

your own items. Bring

shopping bags, Bring

an I.D. Info: (707) 459-

For Rent

CA 95490.

Brown Bag For Sale Lunch Program Firewood, Fir. 1/2 cord Every Saturday at delivered \$150.00. Call 707-354-4394. 1 pm sack lunches are served by local churches, community

Free Food for All Pop-Up

Mendocino Food Network presents food pop-ups with free food for all on first Thursdays of the month; 10 to

- Deep Valley Christian Redwood Valley (across

for Rent

Rent: 2 bed bath TH with remodeled, \$1500 -Dep. Commercial Units Available Starting at \$1100 + Dep. Lincoln Realty 707-459-4599.

For Rent Spacious 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath. Close to town and Howard Hospital. Newer well-appointed kitchens. Laminate floors throughout and window coverings. \$1800.00/mo. 707-489-

1080.

Space for RV's and

Trailers – starts at \$500 www.oaknvine.net/tp

Tattoo Shop

Willits! Downtown Clean, cute, and private shop with 10 years experience. Love to tattoo botanicals, cute critters, and sceneries! Appointments bookings: kikibtattoos.

She's lived with other dogs and cats, proving that she can make friends. Smart as can be, Gabby is a guick learner who loves showing off her skills, especially if treats are involved! With her sweet personality and eager-to-please attitude, this girl is a total package, cuddles, brains, and tail wags included!

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. Feel free to visit us, no appointments needed! We are open Wednesday through Friday, 1 to 5 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 11 am to 3 pm; closed Monday and Tuesday. Check out all of our available dogs and cats on our website: www. mendohumanesociety.com, on our Facebook page, and on www.petfinder.com.

#### Mama Merlynn

Meet Merlynn! This petite, 1-year-old white and gray tabby

the hard work raising her kittens, and now it's her turn to shine. Merlynn a gentle, affectionate girl adores attention and

and even softer personality, she's the kind of cat who will steal your heart without even trying.

Now that her little ones are grown, Merlynn is ready to trade "mom duties" for cozy laps, sunny windowsills, and a family who will cherish her as much as she'll cherish them. Could she be the sweet companion you've been looking

The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, is open to the public from 9:30 am to 5 pm Tuesday through Friday, and 10 am to 3 pm on Saturdays (closed for lunch each day from 1 to 1:30 pm). Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendoanimalshelter.com. Call 707-463-4427 for

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Willits Weekly | October 16, 2025

Name Statement

This business is conducted by an individual

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-

9, 16, 23, 30, 2025

Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on 10/8/2025. /s/ Maria Ponce Publication Dates: October Publication Dates: October 16, 23, 30, November 6, 2025 16, 23, 30, November 6, 2025

Rotary Serving our Community Since 1948 www.willitsrotary.org WillitsRotaryClub@gmail.com

#### WW569

#### CITY OF WILLITS SUMMARY OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE ORDINANCE NO. 2025-05

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on October 9th, 2025, at a regular noticed meeting, the Willits City Council adopted Ordinance No. 2025-05, revising sections of City's airport ordinance within Chapter 2.40 of the Willits Municipal Code Chapter as directed by the Federal Aviation Administration.

The revisions effectively codify and define the allowable use of the Airport for aeronautical activities and make trespassing on the property or misuse of the runway an offense punishable by law. The Director of the FAA ordered the revisions to fall in alignment with similar existing language cited from the Mendocino County Municipal Code, Section 8.64 - AIRPORT RULES AND REGULATIONS, Ordinance No. 3347 (D) Use of Roads and Walks, and Section 8.64.080 -Penalty. The fine for infraction as a misdemeanor was updated to the current standards of the amount not to exceed one thousand dollars, or by imprisonment not to exceed six months, or by both such fine and

A certified copy of the full text of Ordinance No. 2025-05 is posted and may be read at the City Clerk's

The forgoing Ordinance was adopted at a regular meeting, held on the 8th day of October, 2025 by the following vote:

> AYES: Alaniz, Allman, Burton, and Stranske.

NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Gonzalez.

This summary of the adopted Ordinance is published pursuant to California Government Code Section

/s/ Delores Pedersen, City Clerk Publication Date: October 16, 2025

Locally raised in Willits

organically fed and **EASTSIDE RANCH** 

Beef, Pork and Lamb Personal and Commercial orders

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Contact Melissa at

(707) 513-5705 | eastsideranchwillits@gmail.com

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weekdays, 9 am to 6 pm; and weekends, 10 am to 5 pm. For more info, call 459-1214, or visit https://jdredhouse.

# Crunchy

gentleman and sweetheart of a dog. He knows lots of tricks, "heels" on walks, and loves to cuddle. Crunchy likes practicing his tricks, and enjoys long walks to the park. He has a heart of gold, is

generally very well behaved, and is so lovable! Crunchy just had a full checkup and was found to be in excellent health He is house-trained as well.

To learn more about Crunchy, or to view other adoptable

Foundation at 459-4900. Gabby has

11:30 am. 1250 Blosser Lane, Willits. Info: Rachelle@mendofood.

**Indoor Yard Sale** Giant Indoor Yard Sale School, 8555 Uva Drive, from the Broiler). Saturday, October 25, 8 am to 4 pm.

**RV/Trailer Space** 

per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 972-4696. See at http://

Shop

Above: The cross country ladies prepare for their meet. At right: Quarterback Corev Rockey receives the snap to make a play. Below, left: D Fainer makes his way to the end of the cross country meet. Below, right: Rickey Ramirez runs in the American flag at the





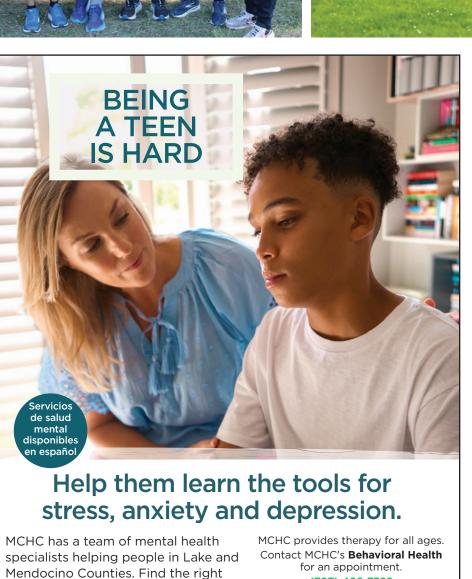




Above, left: The ladies golf team poses for a photo: from left, Vada Morgan, Brodey Lamprich, Sofia Vaccaro, Gracie Crook and Susana Navarro. Above, right: Isaac Silva sneaks around the Clearlake cardinals and runs the ball in for a Wolverines touchdown. Below, left: Cross country runners gather for a photo: from left, Darli Suarez, Timothy Southwick, Nick Cramer, Brian Bowles and Jobe Thomson. Below, right:Ricky Britton runs through Clearlake defenders to bring the ball in for a Wolverines touchdown.







#### Wolverines girls golf team beats Lower Lake, cross country finishes second at NCL 1 League, JV and varsity football take multiple wins

COMMUNITY SPORTS ROUNDUP

Ladies golf wins its first competition away from home

The Willits High School Girls Golf Team secured a victory over Lower Lake High School at the beautiful Buckingham

Golf Course in Kelseyville. This was the first time the ladies competed away from their home course in Brooktrails. There were some challenges adjusting to the longer holes, but the Wolverines persevered to finish on top.

"Our team was led by standout golfer Sofia Vacarro, who turned out the team's best score," said Head Coach Juliana Aguilar. "Other key players contributing to the win were Vada Morgan, Brodey Lamprich, Susana Navarro and Gracie Crook. I'm incredibly proud of these young women and all they've accomplished in our very first season. They've laid the foundation for something special. I look forward to what the future holds for the WHS Girls Golf program."

#### **Cross country finishes strong** with standout runners

The boys and girls Willits Cross Country Teams competed against the full NCL 1 League on October 8 at the stunning Par Course nestled in the hills of Brooktrails. This was a perfect day for running, and the boys team made great strides, finishing second out of eight schools, behind Fort Bragg. Unfortunately the girls had an incomplete team and did not receive a score. But this will not put out their fire for developing this sport and future competitions.

Senior standout Cole Lane finished first out of 46 runners, continuing his undefeated streak of the 2025 season. His time of 16:23 tied for 14th place on the WHS all-time list for the Brooktrails Par Course which dates back over 35 years. Freshman Cassius Lane, Cole's brother, ran a time of 19:32 and narrowly missed a spot on the WHS all time freshman list.

Junior Darli Suarez and senior D Fainer each had their best race of the season, finishing eighth and ninth respectively. This was the first time either runner had cracked the top 10 in a league race. Sophomore Frida Friend had a great performance and finished eighth out of 23 runners, with a time of 25:56, her first time finishing the top 10.

"I was very happy with the outcome of the race," said Head Coach Kenny Smith. "The team is training hard and getting faster each week. The varsity boys are on Fort Bragg's heels and still on the hunt for a league title.

Even though the girls weren't able to compete as a team, I was impressed by their times. Every one of them is new to cross country and they are quickly developing into good runners."

#### Willits football in it for the wins

Wolverines Football won the last time they faced off with Lower Lake. and things went their way for both JV and varsity this time, too. JV had their most outstanding victory of the season against the Trojans, despite a setback of injuries, with a dominating score of

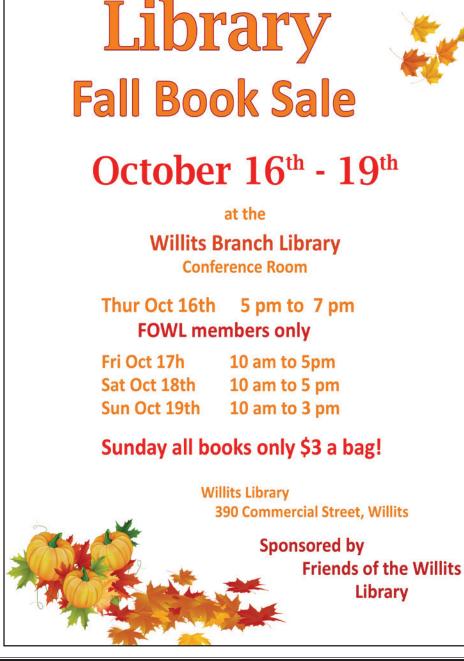
"We came into the Lower Lake game pretty beat up, and had some starters on the sideline with injuries," said Head Coach Reece Christiansen. "We had to call on some players to step up and play some positions they weren't used to playing. It was a very physical game and we suffered even more injuries. At halftime, we called on our players to come together and play with heart and finish strong. They responded better than we could have hoped and put together an amazing second-half, bringing home a win. We were very proud of all of them, their toughness, and readiness to fill whatever spots

Varsity took the dub in a riveting head-to-head game against the Trojans. The Wolverines came back after their halftime prayer and pep talk with the coaches full of fire and ready to take the lead. A big part of the win was from the chemistry between QB Corey Rockey and Ryan Carter, and Ricky Britton with some stellar passes and touchdowns. Strong tackles and runs by Donald Glenn, Porter Garman and Rickey Ramirez.

Wolverines varsity swept Clearlake this last Friday on our home turf for homecoming with a resounding 36-7 victory! This makes two wins in a row for varsity. While the Cardinals running game was the biggest threat, the Wolverines stayed in control. The win came in part to a big defensive effort.

They were not letting the Cardinals go far, and were chasing their QB down thoroughly. Defensive standouts were Zane Marshall, Donald Glenn, Pancrazio Bertolino, Grady Cooley and Kolt Davis. On offense, Rockey threw blazes and was not let down with passes caught by Carter, Britton and Ramirez, as well as great runs and touchdowns by Garman and Isaac

Congratulations to your success and wins in your games and tournaments WHS Wolverines! Your community continues to admire you for all of your hard work, while displaying athleticism and maintaining good grades. We are so proud of you. Let's GO Wolverines!



experience as a successful principal and a strong reputation for building inclusive, highfunctioning school cultures. His leadership style emphasizes collaboration, instructional excellence, and consistent support for both teachers and students. Under his direction, we are confident that Baechtel Grove will continue to grow as a place where students are supported, staff are valued, and the community is engaged.

We are deeply grateful to Lorenzo Sandoval for his leadership as Interim Principal over the past five weeks. During that time. Sandoval provided stability and dedication to the Baechtel community. ensuring the school remained focused on learning and student wellbeing. As he continues his journey as Vice Principal at Baechtel Grove Middle School, Lorenzo Sandoval will work closely with Principal Topolinski to strengthen academic programs, improve student support systems, and foster positive school climate initiatives that align with the district's vision.

The rest of From page 1

Company had requested approval of a General Plan Amendment and Zone Change for two parcels totaling approximately 19.05 acres at 23701 North Highway 101, the old Quail Meadows Campground property.

The purpose of the proposed c is to facilitate the future expansion of the existing Sanhedrin Timber log yard operations, currently located on an adjacent parcel.

Lastweek's approved requestamended the General Plan designation from Commercial General to Industrial General: rezoned the same lands from Community Commercial and Heavy Commercial to Heavy Industrial; and established an approximately 2.2-acre frontage parcel along North Main Street for commercial uses through an administrative boundary line adjustment (BLA not before council for approval at this hearing).

Community Development Director Dusty Duley made a presentation on the proposed zoning changes, including on the "pretty hefty" agenda packet accompanying the item, most of which was the environmental review document required by the California Environmental Quality Act, that was prepared by LACO Associates.

Key issues with a future log deck expansion outlined in the staff report include:

- Fire Protection and Safety Fire risk from log storage requires robust suppression. The applicant proposes on-site ponds, hydrants, and a Bark Management Plan coordinated with Little Lake Fire District.
- Water Supply The log yard would operate primarily on independent wells and recirculating ponds, preserving the City's limited municipal water capacity.
- · Biological Resources Wetlands, riparian habitat, and sensitive species are present; mitigation requires surveys, buffers, and agency permitting.

 Noise - Potential impacts on Willits High School and nearby residences. Mitigation requires limited construction hours, mufflers, and future noise assessments for industrial

During his presentation, Duley mentioned several previous projects for the property the city had worked on with several different applicants - none of which ended up being

The rest of

From page 1 Lifted

any additional burning restrictions for their

You must have possession of a signed permit while you are conducting a burn. If you lose your permit or it expires, you will need to obtain another permit before you start burning

Safe residential pile burning of forest residue by landowners is a crucial tool in reducing fire hazards. State, Federal, and Local land management and fire agencies will also be utilizing this same window of opportunity to conduct prescribed burns aimed at improving forest health and resiliency on private and public lands.

Before you burn, call Mendocino County Air Management District at (707) 463-4391 to confirm that you have all the required burn permits and to ensure it is a permissive burn day. Burning can only be done on permissive burn days and is prohibited on

For additional information on how to create Defensible Space, on how you and your family can prepare for wildfires, as well as tips to prevent wildfires, visit https:// ReadyForWildfire.org

Editor's Note: Last year, CAL FIRE lifted the burn ban on November 1, 2024.

The rest of Increase

Additionally, Kenneth Mansfield will now

serve as the Principal of Willits High School.

Marshall has been an integral part of the

Willits High community and is recognized

for his strong leadership, student-centered

decision-making, and commitment to

maintaining high standards of excellence.

His steady guidance has helped strengthen

instructional practices, promote school pride,

and create an environment where students

are challenged and supported to reach their

full potential. Kenneth Marshall's continued

leadership at the high school will further our

efforts to provide a high-quality educational

experience that prepares all students for

The Willits school district is thrilled about

these positive transitions as we continue

to build great schools for our students.

teachers, and the entire Willits community

I am confident that this team of strong

compassionate, and experienced leaders

developed - including the construction of

several apartment buildings and a 45 block

Mayor Tom Allman noted a number of

letters of support for the project, citing local

and regional benefits, including from Tony

Whipple, natural resources manager of the

Round Valley Indian Tribe; Mike Anderson

and Miles Anderson from Anderson Valley

Logging; Jesse Weater, natural resources

manager for the Redwood Empire Sawmill

in Cloverdale; Tony Sorace, a local land

broker, John Bennett, manager of Gualala

Redwood Timber; Nancy Kaufman of Padula

Lumber Incorporated; and Todd McMahon,

vice president of North Coast Resource

There were no letters of opposition, though

there were two letters from an address near

the project that said they weren't in favor or

opposed, but said they didn't get notified

in timely fashion, with one suggesting the

project itself should be looked at more

Ellen Drell of the Willits Environmental

Center spoke in favor of extending discussion

and examination of this project. "I also was

taken by surprise by this project," she said.

"I spent a certain amount of time studying

the Willits General Plan amendment update

that took place. I think it was just a year

ago. And I don't recall any discussion about

rezoning this property and creating a major

heavy industrial site at that ... squeezed

between the Little Lake wetlands and the

high school....Obviously a lot of people from

outside of Willits have known about this

project for a long time, and it's very upsetting

for those of us who live in Willits and care

about housing and commercial property and

industrial property and residential property

and protecting wetlands and ecosystems

and trees to find out about it only weeks

Mayor Allman said, "So, to the public,

we've approved the re-zoning. This does not

mean that the log deck has been approved

vet. There's still lots of steps. I would

encourage interested parties to please

make sure they read the agendas that come

out, they attend city council meetings, and

voice your opinions to city council people.

That's what democracy is all about."

before" the meeting.

Management – to name many of them.

subdivision

will help us reach new heights together.

college, career, and life success.

laws Gov. Gavin Newsom signed on

Gov. Gavin Newsom signed a set of bills meant to recognize incarcerated firefighters, including a historic measure to raise their pay to meet the federal minimum wage during active fires.

The wage increase, funded through the state budget, follows years of advocacy to improve pay and working conditions for incarcerated labor. That effort took on a new urgency after hundreds of incarcerated firefighters were deployed to battle deadly wildfires that hit Los Angeles

State lawmakers this year introduced a seven-bill "Firefighting to Freedom" package to protect incarcerated firefighters and support job opportunities upon their reentry. Five of those bills were signed into law Monday, marking the most comprehensive changes to incarcerated firefighting in the state's history.

Incarcerated firefighters previously earned between \$5.80 and \$10.24 per day, according to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. During active emergencies, CAL FIRE pays them an additional \$1 per hour. Now, they will earn \$7.25 per hour when they're on a fire.

Assemblymember Isaac Bryan, Democrat from Culver City who authored the bill, said Californians should feel proud about the sense of moral clarity that crossed party lines.

"This is a historic and momentous day," said Bryan. "The governor signing the bill is an incredibly powerful reminder that all labor is dignified and anybody who is willing to put their lives on the line deserves our gratitude."

Bryan initially set out to raise wages for incarcerated firefighters to \$19 per hour, but settled on the federal minimum wage after budget negotiations. The bill was opposed by the California State Sheriffs' Association over concerns of its potential fiscal impact on counties, which administer iails and could also face pressure to increase pay for incarcerated labor.

It received bipartisan support from nearly two dozen lawmakers.

"A number of years ago, when I worked for CAL FIRE, you have never seen men work harder than with these crews," said Assemblymember Heath Flora at a legislative hearing in September. Flora is a Republican from Ripon who co-authored the bill. "There is not a system – there is not a program – better than the fire camps with CAL FIRE and the state of California."

Bryan introduced the bill after voters last year rejected a ballot measure that would have ended forced labor in prisons and jails. It would have amended the state's constitution to repeal language that allows involuntary servitude as a form of criminal punishment, making work assignments

California's incarcerated firefighters have long provided critical support to state, local and federal government agencies in responding to various emergencies, including wildfires and floods. They're voluntary assignments.

Over 1,800 incarcerated firefighters live year-round in minimum-security conservation camps, also known as "fire the world's fifth-largest economy.

camps," located across 25 counties in California, according to the corrections department. Those numbers have dwindled in recent years due to a declining prison population

Two of the proposals did not pass including one that would have required CAL FIRE to create more opportunities for incarcerated firefighters to secure firefighting jobs upon their release. The proposal. Assembly Bil 1380, did not reach Newsom.

That was disappointing to Royal Ramey, a formerly incarcerated firefighter who co-founded the nonprofit organization Forestry and Fire Recruitment Program which sponsored the measure. But he said the other five bills signed by Newsom are "huge progress."

"For me, transitioning from fire camp into a career was one of the hardest challenges of my life, and I know too many people who never got that chance," said Ramey. "With these laws, we can change that story."

The package of bills Newsom signed

- Assembly Bill 247: Requires incarcerated firefighters be paid \$7.25 per hour while actively fighting a fire.
- · Assembly Bill 799: Requires the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation pay a death benefit of \$50,000 for the death of an incarcerated firefighter.
- Assembly Bill 812: Requires the corrections department to create regulations around referring incarcerated firefighters for resentencing.
- Assembly Bill 952: Requires the corrections department to establish and expand the Youth Offender Program Camp Pilot Program as a permanent
- Senate Bill 245: Streamlines and expedites the expungement process for formerly incarcerated firefighters.

"It's incredibly heartening to see that the Legislature has taken the issue of protecting incarcerated firefighters seriously," said Taina Angeli Vargas, executive director of the nonprofit organization Initiate Justice Action, which co-sponsored most of the bills. "It's about time that the state of California began to treat them with more respect and dignity."

Assemblymember Sade Elhawary, a Democrat from Los Angeles who authored the law to establish and expand the youth pilot program, said it's an opportunity for the 13 other states that have incarcerated firefighters to "follow in the footsteps of

"I hope this is the beginning of what will be a national movement to elevate the rights and opportunities for incarcerated firefighters," she said. "All of these folks deserve more love and support."

Cayla Mihalovich is a California Local News fellow. CalMatters is a nonpartisan and nonprofit news organization bringing Californians stories that probe, explain and explore solutions to quality of life issues while holding our leaders accountable. We are the only journalism outlet dedicated to covering America's biggest state, 39 million Californians and

From page 1 Crash

abroad, driven by a deep commitment to help and protect others. His courage, compassion, and unwavering sense of duty touched countless lives. Bill didn't just serve; he inspired people. His legacy will live on in the hearts of all those he helped, those he loved, and the community he made safer and stronger. We will be honoring his life by bringing our flags to half mast today."

The CHP press release reported: "A witness account placed the pedestrian within the traffic lanes of SR-162. The pedestrian was reportedly in the southbound lane when a 2019 Toyota 4Runner, driven by Sandra Yocselin Acosta Deloera (20-year-old resident of Covelo), struck the pedestrian, and for reasons still under investigation, failed to stop at the crash scene."

The CHP PR continued: "At approximately 2148 hours, the Humboldt Communications Center was contacted by a family member of Acosta Deloera to report the crash. CHP units, assisted by the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, responded to the driver's residence where Acosta Deloera was interviewed and the involved vehicle was located.

According to the synopsis of the incident provided in the MCSO County Sheriff's Office deputies overheard radio transmissions of a traffic incident involving a vehicle and pedestrian near the intersection of Highway 162 and Fairbanks Road in Covelo.

"Deputies were in the area and arrived at the scene within minutes. When deputies arrived, they found members of the Covelo Volunteer Fire Department performing emergency lifesaving efforts including CPR on an elderly male. At 8:26 pm, medical personnel pronounced the male deceased, at which time the deputies initiated Mendocino County Sheriff's Office Coroner's

"A post-mortem examination will be conducted in the coming week to determine the official cause and manner of death. Preliminary findings during the coroner's investigation were the male decedent succumbed to injuries after being struck by a

"The traffic incident related to this investigation is being handled by the California Highway Patrol. Additional information, to include the decedent's identity, will be released when possible and pursuant to Sheriff's Office protocols.

Anyone with information related to this coroner's investigation is requested to contact the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office Communication Center at 707-463-4086 (option 1). This crash press release: "On October 12, 2025 at about 8 pm, Mendocino is under active investigation by the California Highway Patrol - Garberville Area. If any member of the public has pertinent information regarding the crash, please contact the CHP Garberville Office at 707-932-6100

Have something to say? Residents of Willits, Brooktrails, Laytonville and Covelo are welcome to send in a letter to the editor about local issues. Please email us: willitsweekly@gmail.com REMEMBER: Deadline is end of day Monday for each week's Thursday edition.

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Above: The winning Ranch Rodeo team, Two Tall & One Round, including from left: Blair Beeson, Dan Moore and Kevin Gregorio, hold their buckles. The day started early with pancakes on the grill and a lovely sunrise. Lisa Arkelian won the Breakaway event and holds her buckle and check. At right: Kyle Starkey tied for first place in the Bronc Riding event and holds his buckle and check. Below, from left: Cowboys and cowgirls work in the arena to complete classes in groups of three. Buck Whitley tries his hand in the bronc riding, and barrels out of the chute. Jimmy Hoaglin won the Bull Riding event and holds his check and buckle. Not pictured: The GRIT and GRACE team who won the women's division and included members Lisa Arkelian, Ashley Persico and Nicol Kunka.

## **Ranch** Rodeo

**Annual Willits** Frontier Days event showcases to crowd a slightly different set of cowboy skills, combined with barbecue cookoff

It was a day of fun for the cowboys, cowgirls, chefs and spectators during the annual Mary Burgess Memorial Willits Frontier Days Ranch Rodeo, held at the grounds last Saturday. While similar in ways to the regular rodeos held there, the Ranch Rodeo asks competitors to do some different tasks, and also, to work in teams of three,

This year, 13 self-named teams competed including: Two Tall & One Round; Flying BR; GRIT and GRACE; S-B Livestock; JF's A Team; J2 Livestock; Straight Off the Rez; 2 Whites and a Rez Kid; M Lazy A Ranch; Tia's Pink Pony Club; Dusty Diamonds; The 3 Amigos; and Shining Little R. The teams competed in each of the four events: Calf Branding, Ranch Doctoring, Team Sorting, and Trailer Loading. Each event gets scored - highest total score at the end of the rodeo wins. First place went to Two Tall & One Round; second place to Flying BR; and third place tied between GRIT and GRACE and S-B Livestock.

Some individual events were also held, and winners included: Breakaway: Lisa Arkelian; Ranch Bronc: Justin Brady and Kyle Starkey tied; and Bull Riding: Jimmy Hoaglen. Another special team event, Open Branding, was won by Team RKB.

There was also a barbecue cookoff with People's and Judges' Choice awards given out. Winners included: Brooktrails Fire Department for Judges' Choice Ribs; Spanky's BBQ for Judges' Choice Beans; and Little Like Fire Department Burnt Endz for Judges' Choice Bread, Brooktrails Fire Department also took People's Choice Ribs, and Saucy Little Porkers "smoked" the rest of the People's Choice awards, taking home the win for Beans, Bread, and Best Decorated Table.

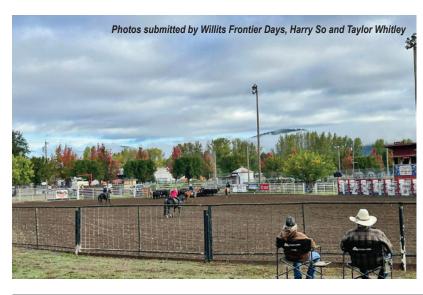
"Thank you so much to everyone who came and participated," said Willits Frontier Days Vice President Marcy Barry. "We all had a great time!"

- Maureen Jennison











Adventist Health Howard Memorial has earned **FIVE STARS** for quality healthcare from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.





At Adventist Health Howard Memorial, quality healthcare and patient safety are our top priorities. We are proud to receive the highest rating possible from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and be among an elite group of only 14% of hospitals nationwide with five stars. CMS assigns star ratings based on a hospital's performance in safety, patient experience and outcomes.

For communities across Northern California in some of our most rural areas, we offer excellent primary and specialty care in our Redwood Medical Clinic and 24-hour emergency care at our state-of-the-art hospital in Willits. So wherever you live in Northern California, there's an expert team ready to serve you and your family with compassionate, personalized and award-winning care.

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