

Donations Accepted Edition No. 615 **Thursday, October 23, 2025**

Photo by
Maureen
Jennison

A circular white sticker with a blue border is pinned to a green leaf. The sticker features a stylized American flag with red and white stripes and a blue field with white stars. Below the flag, the words "I VOTED" are printed in blue, bold, sans-serif capital letters. The background is a soft-focus collage of autumn leaves in various colors like yellow, orange, and red.

Mail your ballot now for the November 4, 2025 election. “That’s the main thing,” Willits Postmaster Scott Butler said, to ensure your ballot arrives on time. Don’t forget to sign the envelope as directed! Ballots that are postmarked by Election Day are valid even if they arrive late – but Willits mail goes to Petaluma to be processed these days, so if you’re mailing your ballot on Election Day, bring your ballot to the postal counter and have a clerk postmark it. You can track your ballot by visiting WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov



Photo courtesy of Lyly Herman

Above: Members of Senior Homecoming Court smile together including, from left: Homecoming Queen Lyly Herman, Adrian Lopez, Jazmarie Henson, Donald Glenn, and Kayla Bolton. Not pictured: Homecoming King Marco Nieto. At left: Homecoming Queen Lyly Herman and King Marco Nieto ride in the parade during the Friday, October 10 football game.

– *Maureen Jennison*



Above: Junior Prince Cooper Armstrong. Not pictured: Junior Princess Malayna Lavendusky. Below, left: Freshman Princess Presley Tuttle and Prince Mason Crossley. Below, right: Sophomore Prince Abey Mann and Sophomore Princess Bella Bickford.



What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Willits Senior Center milestone reached – more work to be done

To the Editor:

Finally, after fundraising for multiple years and thanks to the financial support of a caring and generous community and a few very large donations from donors who wish to remain anonymous, the Willits Senior Center recently purchased and accepted delivery of our new Meals on Wheels truck.

A knock on the door, a lifeline delivered

In our community, a simple knock on the door delivers far more than a meal. For many of our aging and homebound neighbors, that knock is a daily lifeline – a moment of human connection that breaks the silence and loneliness of an isolated life. This is the heart of our local Meals on Wheels program.

For decades, we have been a safety net for seniors who want to age with dignity in their own homes. The nutritious meals we deliver are essential, but the friendly face of a volunteer provides an equally important service: a wellness check and a daily dose of compassion. Yet the need in our community is growing, and we need your help to ensure no one is left behind.

The critical need for funding our Nutritional Programs: Meals on Wheels and Congregate Dining

Our senior center provides more than just an affordable meal. Congregate Dining offers a vital lifeline by combating social isolation, and for some seniors it is the only nutritious meal they receive in a day. Congregate Dining promotes socialization and helps seniors stay connected to their communities, which is crucial for preventing loneliness and depression.

The crisis of senior hunger and isolation

The numbers tell a difficult story. Many seniors in our community face daily struggles with food insecurity and isolation, which can lead to serious health issues. The health cost of isolation: Malnutrition and social isolation are linked to higher rates of hospitalization and poor mental and physical health.

How your support delivers hope

Your donation has a tangible and immediate impact. It's an investment that keeps our elderly neighbors healthy, safe, and connected to the community they helped build. A donation of \$60 can provide a week's worth of meals for a vulnerable senior, offering both nourishment and peace

of mind. Every contribution helps save lives by funding the daily wellness checks that can spot a problem before it becomes a crisis.

Meals on Wheels is a proven, evidence-based solution that is cost-effective and improves health outcomes. By helping our seniors stay independent, your generosity reduces healthcare costs and prevents more expensive institutional care.

More than just a meal

Our volunteers often say they get as much as they give. The connections they forge with seniors create a ripple effect, strengthening the fabric of our entire community. When you support our program, you are not just funding a meal – you are building relationships, delivering comfort, and showing someone that they are not forgotten.

Your action matters

Last year the deficit for our Nutritional Programs was large: Meals on Wheels Program -\$54,219.27, Congregate Dining -\$30,208.65. We rely on the generosity of local donors to fill the funding gap left by government programs and skyrocketing food costs. Please consider making a donation today to help us buy food for these essential programs and aid us in continuing this vital work. Your gift will ensure no senior in our community goes without a meal or a caring visit. To donate, please visit our website www.willitsseiniocenter.com or send a check to Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtcl Road.

Thank you for supporting our efforts to end food insecurity in our community. Together, we can make sure every senior feels nourished, safe, and connected.

Richard Baker, director,
Willits Senior Center

Support Prop. 50

To the Editor:

A handful of multi-billionaires have bankrolled opposition to Prop. 50, with scary and inaccurate claims. I hope our local and statewide voters are not going to fall for that.

The reason for Prop. 50 – the Election Rigging Response Act – is simple: Trump is trying to load Congress in his favor by unprecedented gerrymandering in Texas and some other states. California, in a democratic process in a fair election, is trying to level the playing field.

If Prop. 50 passes, we can work and hope for a Congress that will hold the President accountable, protect the Constitution, and prevent further attempts to rig and suppress the votes.

Prop. 50 is a temporary measure to counteract unprecedented election-rigging in other states.

It is up to us, California voters, to decide. Be sure to submit your ballots ASAP.

Madge Strong, Willits

Adventist Health Howard Memorial welcomes Hendrik Tan, podiatrist, to Redwood Medical Clinic

Submitted by AHHM

October 20 – Adventist Health Howard Memorial is proud to welcome Hendrik Tan, DPM, to the Redwood Medical Clinic team. Dr. Tan is a board-qualified podiatrist specializing in reconstructive rearfoot and ankle surgery through the American Board of Foot and Ankle Surgery.



Dr. Hendrik Tan, podiatrist, provides both surgical and non-surgical solutions to help relieve pain, restore function, and empower patients to regain mobility and independence.

Fellowship-trained, Dr. Tan provides both surgical and non-surgical solutions to help relieve pain, restore function, and empower patients to regain mobility and independence. His areas of expertise include the treatment of bunions and hammertoes, arthritis, lower extremity wounds, foot and ankle fractures, limb deformities, ankle joint replacements, and flat foot reconstruction.

Dr. Tan pursued a career in podiatry out of a fascination with the complexity of the human body and a passion for improving the quality of life for his patients. Throughout his training, he has earned multiple honors, awards for excellence, and certifications in specialized procedures.

Patients interested in scheduling an appointment can contact Redwood Medical Clinic at 707-459-6115. Please see your primary care provider for a referral to Dr. Tan.

To learn more about Dr. Tan, see his provider profile at AdventistHealth.org/Htan

Adventist Health is a faith-based, nonprofit, integrated health system serving more than 100 communities on the West Coast and Hawaii with over 440 sites of care, including 27 acute care facilities.

Founded on Adventist heritage and values, Adventist Health provides care in hospitals, clinics, home care, and hospice agencies in both rural and urban communities. Our compassionate and talented team of more than 38,000 includes employees, physicians, medical staff, and volunteers driven in pursuit of one mission: living God's love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope. We are committed to staying true to our heritage by providing patient-centered, quality care. Together, we are transforming the healthcare experience with an innovative and whole-person focus on physical, mental, spiritual, and social healing to support community well-being.

It's rutting season: Watch for deer on roadways

Posted by Redwood Valley-Calpella Fire Department Volunteers

Rutting season is upon us! The fall mating season for deer is mid to late October until December.

Rutting season leads to an increase in traffic collisions involving wildlife. Many of these collisions happen at dawn and dusk, when deer are most active.

- Drive with caution, especially at dawn and dusk
- Use your high beams when appropriate
- Scan the side of the road for eyes
- Watch for deer crossing signs
- If you encounter a deer in your lane, apply your brakes evenly and avoid swerving

NWS forecast sites to be updated during federal shutdown

National Weather Service forecast office websites across the country, including Eureka www.weather.gov/eka, San Francisco www.weather.gov/mtr and Sacramento www.weather.gov/sto in Northern California, have posted this notice on their forecast sites:

The U.S. government is closed. However, because the information this website provides is necessary to protect life and property, this site will be updated and maintained during the federal government shutdown. To learn more, visit commerce.gov/news/blog.

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 considered.

Willits Weekly

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Above, from left: The marchers brought homemade signs expressing their sentiments regarding the administration. "I am a Groucho Marxist," Brian's humorous sign attested. Symbolic frogs were often encountered during the march and the subsequent party at City Park. This participant brought a Trump effigy to show her disdain for the administration policies. Michelle Delean Fordyce brought her megaphone to lead the chants.

At left: The procession, led by Native Americans, works its way down Main Street.

At right: What would Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg do?

Below, left: The Farmers Market Band sang for a crowd of approximately 800 in City Park. Below, right: Sharon Paltin, Family Practice MD of Laytonville, came dressed as Emily Brontë.

Photos by Mathew Caine

No Kings

Marchers gather in Willits Saturday for second big pro-Constitution rally

There is nothing more American than exercising one's First Amendment right "of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances." On Saturday, October 18, 7 million concerned citizens of the United States joined their voices together in 2,600 separate municipalities, speaking as one, to address their fear at the perceived erosion of their Constitutional rights, the loss of the democratic process, and the fading concept of the three co-equal branches of government.

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
willitsweekly@gmail.com

In Willits, 850 people marched from Babcock Park to City Park, organized by Willits Indivisible, whose mandate was to effect an orderly, non-violent demonstration of the will of the people and to bring to light their observations at the way the current administration and those supporting it were breaking down the basic precepts of America's 250-year experiment in orderly and effective government for all of its people.

"This is happening across the whole country," said Melinda Clarke. "Things have gotten worse, more restrictive, and more controlling. We need to keep redoubling our efforts. Last June, people couldn't hear what I was saying which were some very important things about non-violence. This time there are about 20 people making sure that things go smoothly. It's much more organized."

Willits Indivisible did organize more precisely this time. There were "Peacekeepers" who were there to make sure everyone was orderly and safe. Shuttle cars picked up those who couldn't make the entire nearly 1 mile trek down Main Street. Megaphones aided in the people being able to hear what the organizers were saying to the crowd.

Michelle Delean Fordyce came down from the Laytonville area to lead the group in various chants. "There ain't no kings in the USA. They're not God, no matter what they say. You break your word. You steal and lie, but you can't break us, no matter how hard you try," was heard in the park prior to the walk. "Ain't no power like the power of the people cause the power of the people don't stop," was one of the walking chants, and "What do we want? Democracy. When do we want it? Now," continued the theme in City Park.

Homemade placards and artsy and fanciful costumes continued the themes of the Portland, Oregon

Read the rest of
Protest

Over on page 9



Above: Donna Schindel brought a sign expressing her positive message. Below, from left: Over 800 citizens from Willits and beyond participated in the march from Babcock Park to City Park. Lady Liberty's sign reads (in English): "Children of immigrants. Do not be afraid." Angela Lau carried on the frog theme as the participants met at City Park.

THE ANTIDOTE

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YOUR PASSIONS
YOUR IDEAS

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T and T TOWING

707-459-9116

277 N. Lenore Ave. WILLITS, CA

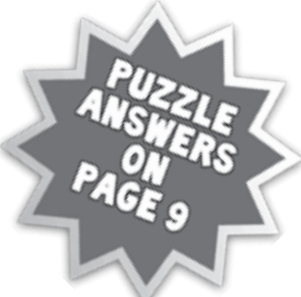
24-HOUR RADIO DISPATCHED TOWING

Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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

Level: Intermediate



HOW TO
SUDOKU

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

FALL DAYS WORD SEARCH

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

ACORN	CINNAMON	GOURD	MAPLE
APPLE	CORNUCOPIA	HARVEST	PUMPKIN
AUTUMN	CRISP	HAYRIDE	SCARECROW
BONFIRE	FALL	HEARTH	SPICE
CIDER	FOLIAGE	LEAVES	SWEATER
			THANKSGIVING

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13		14			15			
16				17		18			19			
20					21				22			
				23		24			25			
26	27	28	29					30				
31						32						
33								34	35	36	37	38
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			44	45				46				
			47					48				
49					50			51	52	53	54	55
56					57			58				
59					60			61				
62					63			64				

CLUES ACROSS

- Remark
- Upper body part
- Expression of dismissiveness
- Alternate name
- Popular beverage
- Swiss river
- Step-shaped recess
- Rocker Stewart
- Bright shade of color
- Popular 'street'
- Wrath
- Heat units
- Nocturnal omnivorous mammals
- Fall back into
- Remove from the record
- Sound a splash made
- Popular Dodge pickup model
- Jamaican river
- Notable event in Texas history
- Cool!
- Subset of Judaism
- Newly entered cadet
- Duct in urinary system

- Exterminator
- Snatch quickly
- Have already done
- Less healthy
- Therefore
- What couples say on the altar
- Mysteriously
- Look angry or sullen
- Bird's beak
- Taco ingredient
- Square measures
- Google certification (abbr.)
- Singer Hansard

CLUES DOWN

- Pubs
- Wings
- Popular BBQ dish
- Small sponge cake
- Open-roofed entrance halls
- Organize anew
- Type of wine
- Forums
- North Atlantic islands (alt. sp.)
- Pond dwellers

- Large integers
- Signaled
- Brief
- Type of student
- Tibetan monasteries
- Revolutions per minute
- NY Giants great Manning
- Local area network
- Residue from burning
- Illuminated
- Vasopressin
- Notable space station
- Wood sorrel
- Adhering to laws
- Chose
- Hovel
- Stood up
- European city
- Works ceaselessly
- Mistake
- Sun-dried brick
- Sicilian city
- A steep rugged rock or cliff
- Murder
- Other
- 'Deadpool' actor Reynolds

Willits Police Department Achievements and
Activities Report, September 2025

Below is the written Monthly Achievements and Activities Report for September 2025 from the Willits Police Department, submitted to Willits City Council for their October 22 agenda packet. WCC also received monthly reports from "Airport," "Community Development," "Finance," "Services & Facilities," and "Utilities" departments for the October 22 meeting. To read any of the reports in the agenda packet, visit <https://cityofwillits.org/AgendaCenter> and click on the link to the October 22 meeting.

Comparing statistics from September 2024 to September 2025:

• 911 Calls Received

2024: 45

2025: 48

• Calls for Service

2024: 491

2025: 527

• Cases

2024: 47

2025: 59

• Arrests:

2024: 33

2025: 36

• Citations:

2024: 15

2025: 16

Traffic Stops

2024: 46

2025: 62

Project updates

- As staffing allows - continued traffic safety education and enforcement, emphasizing school zones, pedestrians, speeding, and passing to the right violations.

- Continued deployment of the speed awareness radar trailer.
- Providing extra patrols in city parks as time allows.

Staffing items

- Police Officer Donovan Shively successfully completed the Field Training Program.

- One Police Officer Recruit continues to attend the Santa Rosa Junior College Basic Police Academy. If successful, he is scheduled to graduate in early December.

- One lateral Police Officer has begun the background process.

- The Department continues to focus on ongoing recruitment efforts to fill vacancies for Police Officers, Dispatchers, and Community Service Officers.

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

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

Monday, October 27: Spinach Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Green Salad

Tuesday, October 28: Ortega Chicken, Rice Pilaf, Veggies, Roll

Wednesday, October 29: Chili Colorado, Rice, Beans

Thursday, October 30: "Halloweenies" (Hot Dog), Chili, Chips

Friday, October 31: Turkey w/Stuffing, Gravy, Cranberry, 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.

United Disaster Relief Fall Fundraiser
underway

Posted by UDRNC

United Disaster Relief of Northern California is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization at 650 Babcock Lane in Ukiah that assists people impacted by wildfires or other disasters, since 2017.

Our Annual Fall Match Fundraiser is here! Every dollar donated – up to \$50,000 — will be matched to help complete the exterior of our new storeroom, allowing survivors to shop for essentials. Your support today goes twice as far toward rebuilding lives.

"They saved our lives. We had come to them with nothing after losing our home. They helped us find resources and meet others that had gone through what we had – Dorothy, fire survivor

Every dollar brings us closer to completing the storeroom — a space designed to restore comfort, confidence, and hope. The great news is that our amazing volunteers and sponsors are ready to lend their skills to help complete this stage and keep costs low. If we meet our fundraising goal our aim is to finish construction by our Spring Luncheon, where we'll proudly showcase the new storeroom to all our supporters!

Learn more by visiting <https://udrnc.org/> or "United Disaster Relief of Northern California" on Facebook. Email Office@UDRNC.org or call 707-489-3970 to schedule a tour of our new facility.

Kid's Crossword Puzzle

1					2			3
4						5		
						6		
7								

ACROSS

- Least perceptible
- Notion
- Metal container
- Seasoned and tasty

DOWN

- Relatives
- Brewed drink
- Gratified
- Structure that closes an entrance

Answers:

Across: 1. Faintest 2. Tea 3. Thankful 4. Idea 5. Can 7. Savory Door



From far left: Headwaters Grazing sheep at Ridgewood Ranch. Golden Rule Gardens pumpkin harvest outside the dining hall. Fall produce from Black Dog Farm. Natural dye from indigo grown at Black Dog Farm.

Below: Katherine Flink and Sara Carillo, farmers with Black Dog Farm and the School of Adaptive Agriculture, harvest quinoa and miniature pumpkins.

At bottom: Kitchen volunteers at the Ridgewood Ranch dining hall.

Photos courtesy Ridgewood Ranch

Fun for the family at Ridgewood Ranch's
Harvest Festival this Saturday

By Emily Ward, for Ridgewood Ranch

Bring the whole family and enjoy some wholesome harvest fun at beautiful, historic Ridgewood Ranch – this Saturday, October 25 from 11 am to 4 pm.

The Ranch will celebrate this year's fruitful harvest with our friends and neighbors, and show gratitude for the local, sustainable food programs based out of Ridgewood Ranch: Golden Rule Gardens, the School of Adaptive Agriculture, Headwaters Grazing, and the Mendocino Grain Project.

Enjoy the best local food straight from the source, with a farm to table lunch available for sale for \$20 from Black Dog Farm & Catering, with the ticket sales benefitting the School of Adaptive Agriculture and Ridgewood Ranch's nonprofit food programs. Lunch will be available from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm. Lunch will include seasonal ingredients from the gardens, plus pastured, grass-fed meats from the ranch, with omnivore and vegan options both available, with plenty of gluten-free options. The festival will also include a farmers market, freshly pressed apple cider, scratch-made fresh donuts from the Mendocino Grain Project, Golden Rule Gardens homegrown popcorn, and more!

Family-friendly activities will include a pumpkin

patch, corn maze, apple picking, cider pressing, hay rides, and sheep to pet and feed. Costumes are encouraged! The community is also invited to come create with talented artists who are part of the School of Adaptive Agriculture's Artist in Residency Program, featuring live block printing with local artist Wilder Herbertson and natural dyeing with Nikki Livingston-Tsukamoto.

Also featured at the Festival: the Just Soup Project, a new initiative for indigenous food sovereignty. Just Soup is working to produce nutritious freeze-dried soup mixes for local indigenous communities, in partnership with the School of Adaptive Agriculture, Ridgewood Ranch, Women with Bows, and North Coast Opportunities. The harvest festival will include a session on the schedule to help with cleaning and processing produce for this project for people interested in supporting the effort.

In the event of rain: if it's sprinkling, bring an umbrella – we will still be outside! If it's pouring, the Festival will relocate to the Ridgewood Ranch Dining Hall, which will be warm, dry, and festive. Located at 1 Seabiscuit Drive, off the 101 between Willits and Ukiah – follow the pumpkins to the Festival location.



OBITUARY |

Mary Gibbs
Delaney

In Remembrance of Mary Gibbs Delaney, October 14, 1947 to October 7, 2025. Mary was born in Palo Alto, CA to her parents Owen S. Gibbs and Frances J. Gibbs.

She grew up in Ladera, CA, near Palo Alto. Graduated from Woodside High School, went to Pitzer College in Claremont, CA earning a bachelor's degree. In 1987, she earned a MSW degree from Sacramento State University and

opened a private counseling practice in Willits and Ukiah.

Mary lived in Colorado in early 1970, joined an Outward Bound Master Class in outdoor education with teens. Moved to Vermont in the '70s with her partner, Jerry Traum. They moved to California and lived in Willits where their son, Michael Traum, was born. They later parted ways, Jerry always co-parenting.

Mary and Seth Delaney met at the Red Circle Truck Store in Covelo. It was a decade before they were married in 1988; they lived in Ukiah, split up in late 1990. She moved to Willits, continued her practice, and retired on May 15, 2024.

In 1988 Mary helped form the WWW, Wild Willits Women, a backpacking group. A dear friend wrote, "Being out in the mountains, in nature, along mountain streams, amidst wildflowers, under the stars, swimming in snow melt lakes, hanging over edges of mountain tops, these were Mary's sweet spots."

Mary was passionate about singing, was a tenor with Emandal and Masterworks Chorales and other groups.

She moved to Holy Spirit Care Home in Ukiah in September 2024.

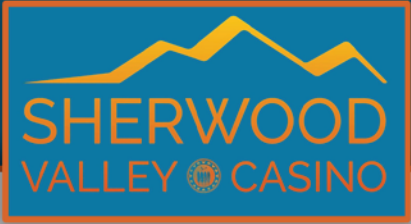
Mary passed on to another adventure, comfortably and peacefully at Holy Spirit.

A good friend in her Women's Group wrote: "She passed in the early morning hours at the very peak of the Supermoon in her birth month. Good timing, Mary."

Mary was the mother of Michael Traum (deceased) and Allan Katz, Dallas Texas. Is survived by her brothers James Gibbs, Evanston, IL, and David Gibbs, Cedar Park, TX, sister Carol Tenter, Bolinas, CA, son Allan Katz, Dallas, TX, Jerry Traum, Red Bluff, CA, and former husband, Seth Delaney, CalVet Home, Yountville, CA, as well as dear friends and former clients.

No memorials planned.

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CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER (CFO)

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

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.

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.

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Wednesday Bible Study-7-8:00 p.m.

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61 W. San Francisco Ave.
Willits, CA 95490
Father Aaron Bandanadam
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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.
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286 School St. (at Pine)
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www.willitsumc.org
Facebook: facebook/willitsumc

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



Thursday, October 23

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.

Bit and a Bite at the Museum: Enjoy light refreshments and learn about the advancements and innovations that improved daily life in Mendocino County on Thursday, October 23 at 12:30 pm at the Mendocino County Museum.

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, Laytonville.

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

Lion's Club Halloween Haunt in Laytonville: Fun for all ages Friday, October 24, Saturday, October 25 and Friday October 31 from 7 to 10 pm. Cost is \$5 with all proceeds to benefit scholarships for local students. Lions Club, 44920 Willis Avenue, Laytonville.

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 for \$20 on Saturday, October 25 from 11 am to 4 pm, rain or shine at Ridgewood Ranch, 11800 Orchard Lane. Entry cost is \$5 and costumes are encouraged!

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

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

Lions Club Halloween Haunt in Laytonville: Saturday, October 25 at 7 pm at the Lions Club in Laytonville. More info see October 24 listing.

Blue Luke at 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 of 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.



Sunday History & Waffle Club at the Museum: Closing reception for 'Impressed' Art exhibit. Enjoy some waffles, view the exhibit, make your own mini block print, and help us decide next year's Waffle Club events on Sunday, October 26 from 2 to 3 pm at the Mendocino County Museum.

Death Cafe at Inner Earth Tea: A safe space to discuss death and dying, Sunday, October 26 from 1 to 3 pm at Inner Earth Tea House, 40 East San Francisco Avenue. Donation-based.

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.

Tuesday, October 28

Paint Night at Slam Dunk Pizza: A seasoned artist will help you create a 'Spellbound Pumpkin' masterpiece at this event for all ages and experience levels. Cost is \$40 and includes supplies. Tuesday, October 28 from 6 to 8 pm at Slam Dunk Pizza, 1708 South Main Street, Willits. Tickets and more info: creativeartsukiah.com.

Wednesday, October 29

History Makers Family Programs at the Museum: Make Reflective Treat Bags on Wednesday, October 29 from 2 to 4:30 pm. Free admission on Wednesdays with a valid Mendo County library card.

Willits Area Cyclists Trick or Trail in the Woods: Receive candy while you explore the new 3/4 mile beginner's trail loop. Park at Rose Ada Lake on Primrose Drive in Brooktrails and wear hiking shoes! Wednesday, October 29 from 4 to 6 pm.

Thursday, October 30

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 23 listing for more details.

Friday, October 31

Halloween Drop-In Celebration at the Library: Stop by between 10 am and 5:30 pm for games, coloring activities, and treat bags for children in costume at the Willits Branch Library.

Enchanted Pumpkin Path at Waldorf School: A refined sugar-free, and scare-free Halloween adventure for all ages with performances along the path. For tickets and to choose a time slot or if you need special assistance to attend: office@mendocinowaldorf.org. Friday, October 31, rain or shine at the Waldorf School, 6280 Third Street, Calpella.

Haunted Firehouse: Little Lake Firefighters Association hosts the Haunted Firehouse, with more new exciting attractions and decorations this year, on Friday, October 31, at Willits Fire Station 54, 74 East Commercial Street. Members of Brooktrails Fire and CAL FIRE will also be participating. Donations of candy or fruit snacks still needed: Drop off at the firehouse across from the movie theater.

Ghoulish Drinks: Willits United Methodist Church is providing Ghoulish Drinks for all trick-or-treaters Friday, October 31 at 5:30 pm in front of the church, 286 School Street, weather permitting. Otherwise it will be inside the front doors. Hot chocolate, hot apple juice, coffee, and water.

Lions Club Halloween Haunt in Laytonville: Friday, October 31 at 7 pm at the Lions Club in Laytonville. More info see October 24 listing.



Halloween Arcade Bash at Common Collectibles: An event for all ages including a costume contest, loads of candy, Trick-or-Trade Pokemon packs, and all-you-can-play games for \$13. Friday, October 31 from 5 to 10 pm at Common Collectibles and Gaming Lounge, 393 South Main Street, Willits.

Dezi 5 and The Stephen Bates Band at Shanachie: Friday, October 31 starting at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub.

Saturday, November 1

Willits Photography Club Exhibit opens at Willits Center for the Arts: Local photographers who have contributed to the cultural landscape of Willits present their work beginning Saturday, November 1 and continuing through November 23 at Willits Center for the Arts.

Haunted House at Willits Charter School: Friday, November 1 and Saturday, November 2 from 7 to 9 pm. Admission is \$5 with all proceeds supporting student activities. Willits Charter School, 1431 South Main Street.

Adaptive Agriculture Fundraiser at the Grange: New Orleans-inspired celebration featuring music by Hot Buttered Rum with Indiana Slim & the Kingsnakes, food, cocktails and a silent auction. At 5:30 pm a brass band will march from Northspur Brewing to Shanachie Pub and on to the Little Lake Grange where doors open at 6 pm on Saturday, November 1. Tickets \$35 at the door or \$30 purchased in advance at JD Redhouse, Flying Dog Pizza or online at eventbrite.com.

Hillshaker at Shanachie: Friday, November 1 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub.



Magic Market in downtown Fort Bragg October 25

Wand-making, face painting, photo booths, live music, crafts, local vendors and kids and pets costume parades. Meet at City Hall steps at 1:30 pm for a costume contest with prizes awarded for age categories, and participate in a Bigfoot-themed scavenger hunt starting at Art Explorers at 333 North Franklin Street. Saturday, October 25 from 11 am to 4 pm on Laurel and Franklin Streets in downtown Fort Bragg.

'Day of the Divine-Celebrating the Feminine' November 8 at WCA

Presented by Tommy G and sponsored by W.E.L.L. and featuring botanical beverages, massage, acupuncture with Shen Den Wellness, Henna Art, Crystal Bowl Sound Healing, and live music from The Real Sarahs, Senefoli with DJ Cano, Alyra Rose, Summer Rose, Luna Zaka and McRaine Song. Cost is \$22. Saturday, November 8 from noon to 6 pm at Willits Center for the Arts.



Fall Fun Fair October 28 in Redwood Valley

For kids of all ages with face painting, carnival games, a cupcake walk, hayrides, crafts, a maze, bounce house, food and lots of candy for costumed kids to collect. (No scary costumes please!) Cost is \$5 per child. Tuesday, October 28 from 5:30 to 8 pm at Redwood Valley Community Church, 951 E. School Way, Redwood Valley.

Dirty Cello at WCT November 8

A high-energy and fun blend of blues, rock and Americana, the band is known for running into the crowd and prompting classic sing-alongs. Band leader and cellist Rebecca Roudman is a member of classical orchestras but with the Dirty Cello band she uses her classical training to push the cello to its limits. Saturday, November 8 at 7 pm at Willits Community Theatre. Tickets \$20 at DirtyCello.com



COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

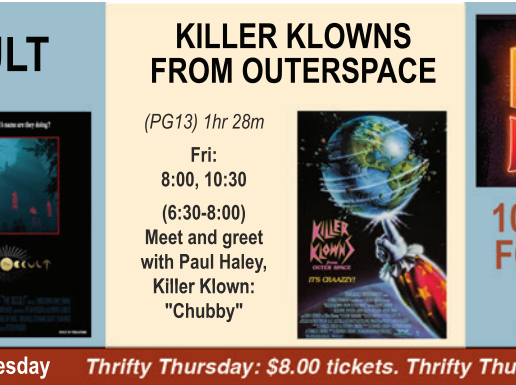
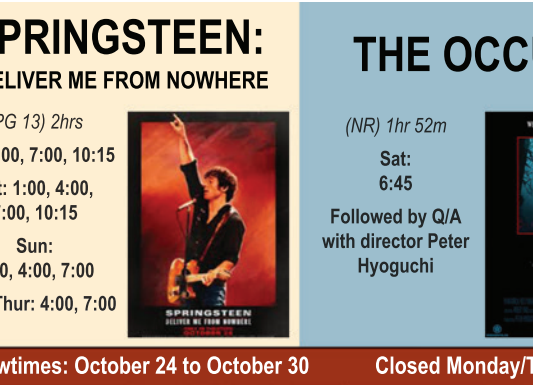
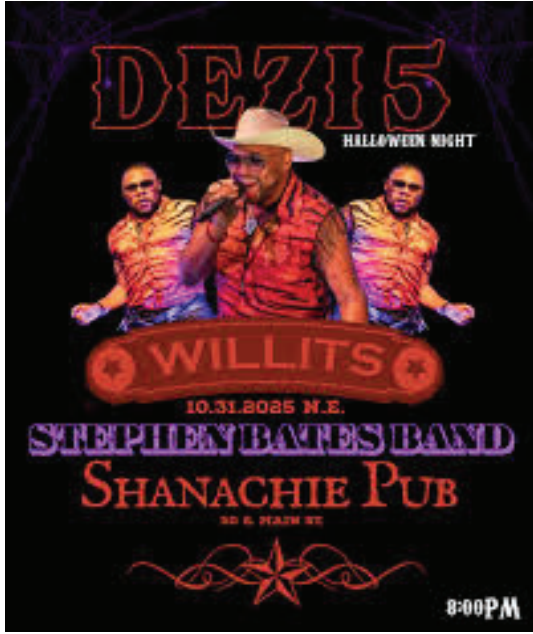
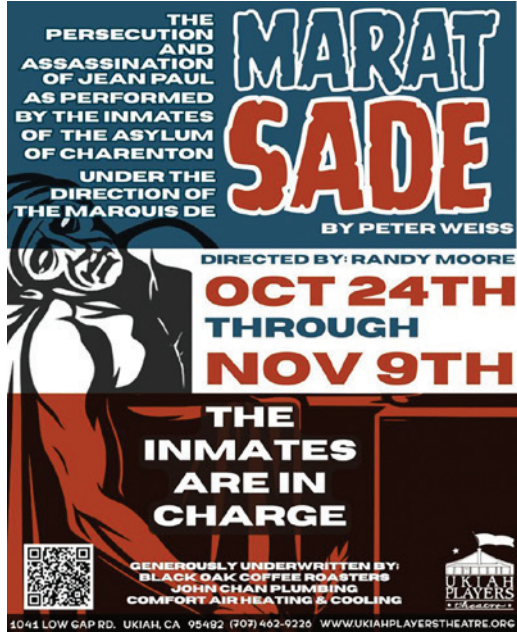
'The Sinners'

The Story: Time: 1934. Place: Juke joint in rural Mississippi. Genre: big budget horror flick heavily scented with lotsa music and the Delta Blues and lotsa mostly-Black folks and the sickly, blood-thirsty, two-legged almost human creatures who make the nighttime such a terrible time to be wandering alone. Twin hustlers Smoke and Stack (Michael B. Jordan in a dual role) buy an abandoned sawmill to convert into a juke joint (honky tonk), and recruit young Sammie Moore (Miles Caton) an innocent preacher's son who's a singer and guitar virtuoso with the necessary "raise the dead" blues chops to rock the house.

Smoke's and Stack's everyone's invited juke joint grand opening features beer-drinkin', and boozin' and dancin' and sexin' and some racial mixin' (pretty Hailee Steinfeld). Everything's great but then, wouldn't you know it, there are these creepy vampires, and they show up, and they are a problem.

My Thoughts: This flick asks, then answers the question: What's worse, disgusting racism or blood-drinking vampires? If you want to know how Ryan Coogler the director/producer/filmmaker answers, go see the flick. "Sinners" is bloody, gross, scary, and for me, finally, kinda fun. It's a 1930s period piece with great clothes, cars, and darn fine music. No one will be bored!

Parents: Too violent and too sexed-up for children. Rated R.
Willitsian Daniel Essman prefers his reality attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination.



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 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.

Literacy Volunteers of Willits: We teach adults to read! Free personal tutoring at the library.

Call or email to make an appointment: LiteracyWillits@gmail.com or 707-456-7729.

Mobile Showers Available in 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.

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 followed by play time in the Children's Area.

Shanachie Pub Ongoing Events

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!

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 joe."

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

Tech Help: Saturdays from 11 am to noon, come get computer help and your technical questions answered!



COMMUNITY SPORTS NEWS

Volleyball seniors say goodbye, varsity football has riveting game against Kelseyville

Senior night sendoff for volleyball

The Wolverines varsity volleyball team squared up in the Steve Short Gymnasium for an intense game against Roseland Prep. It was also a very special night to celebrate their seniors. The gym was decorated in green and gold spirit, with the banners of each senior hung accordingly. Families and community fans filled the stands in support of the coaches and players. While the Wolverines came up a bit short for the victory, they won the hearts in the room with a very touching farewell that brought many bittersweet tears.

“Our seniors this year have been the anchors of our team,” said Head Coach Jon Jessup. “Our setters, Cecily Potter and Jazmarie Henson, have been terrific captains; they’re great examples of competitive, tenacious athletes. Along with our setters, Gloria Gutierrez, our libero, and Jaden, our defensive specialist, were relentless and fearless in their pursuit of the ball. Gloria shined brightly as our libero. Her commitment to perfecting her skill level with poise under pressure helped make it possible to run our defense.

“I can’t imagine this year without these four seniors and

their beautiful examples of perseverance and determination for WHS Volleyball,” Jessup said. “Evie, Dannyka, and Cecily have been our team’s strengths in blocks and skills. Blocking and spiking have been their forte and our team’s specialty this year. These three seniors were always willing to provide a ‘block party’ and barrage of aggressive hits and serves for our opponents. It has been a privilege and blessing to coach these dynamic senior players. We couldn’t be more proud of them! They will be deeply missed by the volleyball program, teammates and coaches.”

WHS is releasing six of their finest athletes and adults next year. They will all carry fond memories of this sport and are working toward future goals. Talking to and getting to know these girls was really a pleasure.

After graduation, Jayden Sossaman plans to go to college to study criminal justice and keep pushing herself to achieve her goals, just like she’s learned to do on the court.

“As a senior wearing number 23 on the Willits High School volleyball team, this season has meant so much to me,” said Sossaman. “I’ve been playing volleyball since sixth grade and it’s amazing to look back and see how far I’ve come. I’ve grown so much as both a player and a

person, thanks to my amazing teammates, coaches and parents, who have supported me every step of the way. We built such a strong bond, and I’m so proud of everything that we have accomplished together.”

Dannyka Smith plans on going to Mendocino College to continue in the medical pathway and take culinary classes. “I’ve had the honor of being varsity for three years. I have learned a lot from Jon and Elsa and am forever grateful.”

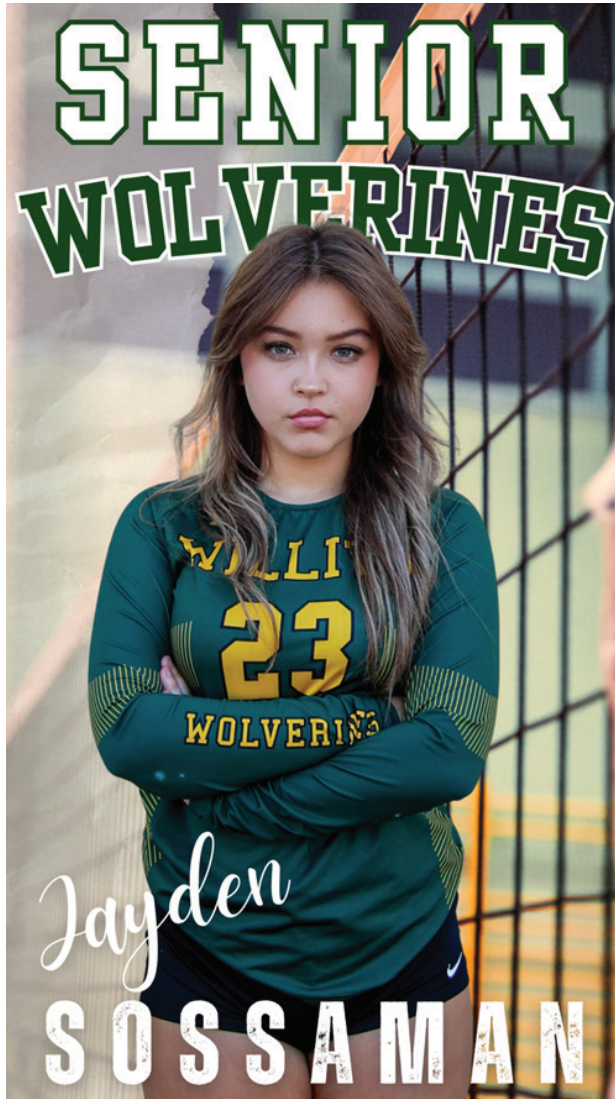
Gloria Gutierrez plans to attend either San Diego State University or join the Navy. She wants to go into the medical field to study to become an oncology nurse.

“I’ve played volleyball since sixth grade and it’s been one of my favorite sports,” said Gutierrez. “I feel most confident on the court, knowing the thrill the game gives me. Something I can’t live without.”

Evie Kale plans to go to college for a biology and science degree, and perhaps science education.

“Being on the Willits High School volleyball team wasn’t just an extracurricular activity, it was a defining

Read the rest of Sports | Over on page 9



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The rest of Protest | From page 3

demonstrators, who danced and posed in front of the National Guard in their blow-up frog costumes. It was obvious that the frog was becoming a symbol of the resistance movement. There were a few T-Rex costumes, which echoed the sentiment of “no kings,” and there was one giant yellow banana, as well as other whimsical creatures, adding to the overall non-violent aspect of the demonstration. In City Park, Nuestra Alianza served tamales while the Farmers Market Band played songs of political bent.

Victoria Bertotti expressed her concerns: “I am for unity. I want the country unified in such a way where we can get rid of him. We gotta get rid of Trump in any way possible. Or dilute his power so that he becomes ineffective. Everything he’s doing is destructive and selfish. It makes me ill to see him on TV. I put the mute on. And how much money he’s made out of being president is obscene. I was thinking about the Emoluments Clause. There’s no enforcement. I just hope there’s another effort to impeach him. Maybe these Republicans might get a spine, just enough. I don’t expect all of them to.”

Kim Bancroft, one of the Willits Indivisible organizers, expressed the opinions of the marchers: “It’s great to be here on this wonderful day of resistance and protest. For me, the main issue is the outrage I feel every day when I open the news and I read about the next three, four, or five attacks on our Constitutional rights, that the Trump administration is perpetuating, the latest being that he is calling today ‘a day of people who hate America and hate democracy.’ They perpetually lie. Everything they say is a lie, but it reflects back on them. They don’t want democracy.

“Read Project 2025, which I’m beginning to do. I see that it’s all about dismantling the administrative state, taking money away from social services, from research institutions, special education for kids. All of these ways that they’re trying to stop what they see as over-regulation but which actually people benefit from in many, many small ways. Our food bank, our schools, our rural health clinics. With all of those attacks, today is one more day. We’re out here every Friday, from 5 to 6 pm. We hear people honking, waving, giving two-finger victory signs because they don’t want what’s going on. We are here protecting our Constitutional rights with love for each other, for our country. That’s what I’m doing here.”

Many of the older attendees recalled the late ‘60s and early ‘70s, when many of the younger people then marched against the Vietnam war. “I think some of us look back historically to the Vietnam war. It was pretty obvious how wrong the government’s choice was to go to war then, because we could see body bags nightly on the news. Everybody knew somebody who had lost a family member. Here, [the costs are] less obvious to people, and this makes it obvious,” said Bancroft.

It was an extremely peaceful and joyous day, a day of positivity, fellowship, and community, as the people demonstrated their passionate feelings about the way that the country is being run. Most of the feedback from the passing cars was with the marchers. Small demonstrations beget larger movements and sometimes grow into change.

The rest of Sports | From page 8

experience that shaped my high school years,” said Kale. “My time on the team was a mix of highs and lows, with exhilarating victories, team bonding moments, and lots of personal growth. Of course, there were also challenges: tough practices, stressful games, and the occasional setback. But through being on the varsity volleyball team for the past few years, I learned resilience, teamwork, and the importance of perseverance.

“These lessons weren’t just applicable on the court, they’ve equipped me with skills that I’ll carry with me through life,” said Kale. “While being on the court doesn’t have a lot to do with taking measurements, or doing calculations, the mental tribulations of being on the team taught me preservation and to work through my problems. What made my experience being on the varsity volleyball team truly special was the fun I had along the way. I created lasting memories with my teammates, who became like a second family. I love the family that I’ve created through this team, and I couldn’t thank my coaches Jon and Elsa enough for preparing me for the real world, and showing me unconditional and forgiving love throughout my time on the team. I am so excited to see what I accomplish next in life, and I am so excited to see where my younger teammates take the varsity volleyball team in the future!”

Captain Cecily Potter plans to continue in college to become a radiologist. “Over the years of playing volleyball, I have enjoyed playing with all of these girls. We have grown together and I have had so much fun!”

Jazmarie Henson plans on attending college to study business and real estate. She also hopes to continue playing sports – whether it’s basketball, softball or

H	D	F	S	C	I	O	W	F	L	E	A	V	E	S	H	V	B	N	K
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LEGAL NOTICES

WW567

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2025-F0434

The following person or persons are doing business as Beautifying Mendocino, 5365 N. State St, Ukiah CA 95482.

Registered owner: Maria Consuelo Ponce Ribotta, 5365 N. State St, Ukiah CA 95482.

This business is conducted 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 Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on 10/8/2025.

/s/ Maria Ponce

Publication Dates: October 16, 23, 30, November 6, 2025

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

LEGAL NOTICES

WW570

BROOKTRAILS TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Directors of Brooktrails Township Community Services District will conduct Public Hearings on revisions to the C&S/ Redwood Waste Solutions (franchisee) rates for garbage collection and curbside recycling in Brooktrails effective January 1, 2026.

The public hearing will be held in person and remotely (hybrid meeting) at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 9, 2025. Information on remote access to the meeting will be provided on the meeting agenda at its publishing. At or prior to this time, any interested person, including all customers of the franchisee in Brooktrails Township Community Services District, may appear personally or submit a written presentation on any matter relating to the proposed revisions.

The General Manager will calculate a budget for Fiscal Year 2026-27 based on an increase of 1.27% to the solid waste rates beginning January 1, 2026. The proposed increase is necessary and justified by the franchisee based on the cost of providing services, meeting the requirements of recycling and organic waste disposal regulations, and for paying fuel costs.

A copy of proposed rates is available for review during normal business hours at the Township Office, 24860 Birch Street, Willits, California or by request from btcsd@btcsd.org.

Publication Date: October 23, 2025

volleyball. “To my local friends, peers and family, I want to say that I’ve had an amazing time and made countless memories and stories to share,” said Henson. “The experiences I’ve had are truly special. I’ve loved growing with my teammates and pushing ourselves to get to where we are today. Being on this team has really changed the way I think about what it takes to be an athlete and how I approach changes in everyday life.”

Varsity football beats Kelseyville in exciting game

WHS varsity football took the win in a nail-biter game against the Knights at Kelseyville High School for Friday Night Lights. This was definitely the most riveting game of the season thus far. The game was head to head the entire time. Quarterback Corey Rockey was in sync with his throws to Ryan Carter and Ricky Britton, while Isaac Silva and Rickey Ramirez pulled no stops on short-yard catches, with great runs. The offensive line was happy to have Jayden Schlegel back. Schlegel, Adrian Lopez, Donald Glenn, Zane Marshall and Thomas Rano were solid. PZ Bertolino turned up the heat on defense with an interception, a forced fumble, and recovery.

In the end, Willits came out on top, with a final score of 42-28. This makes the Wolverines record 4 to 1. They face off with the Cloverdale Eagles this Friday at home. Congratulations boys! Another amazing season of tearing it up out there!

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CLASSIFIEDS

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

Do you need food?
Willits Food Bank, 344 Railroad Avenue, Willits, CA 95490. 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) 459-3333

For Rent
For Rent: 2 bed 1.5 bath TH with fenced yard, newly remodeled, \$1500 + Dep. Commercial Units Available Starting at \$1100 + Dep. Lincoln Realty 707-459-4599.

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For Sale
Firewood, Fir, 1/2 cord delivered \$150.00. Call 707-354-4394.

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 11:30 am. 1250 Blosser Lane, Willits. Info: Rachelle@mendofood.org or 707-615-6654

Indoor Yard Sale
Giant Indoor Yard Sale – Deep Valley Christian School, 8555 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley (across from the Broiler). **Saturday, October 25, 8 am to 4 pm.**

‘Raise Your Spiritual IQ! Discover the Source of All Truth’
Learn to go inside yourself, because this is the source of all truth. Join a spiritual discussion or just listen, with how to have a richer, happier, more fulfilling spiritual life. Willits Library, 390 E. Commercial St., Tuesday, November 4, 11 am to noon. FREE books and refreshments. Questions? Call Joy (707) 367-3777. Sponsored by Eckankar in California & Nevada. This program is neither sponsored by nor affiliated with the Mendocino County Library.

RV/Trailer Space for Rent
Space for RV’s and Trailers – starts at \$500 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 972-4696. See at http://www.oaknvine.net/tp

Tattoo Shop
Tattoo Shop in Downtown Willits! Clean, cute, and private shop with 10 years experience. Love to tattoo botanicals, cute critters, and sceneries! Appointments and bookings: kikiblattoos.com

Classified ads are just \$15 for 30 words for two weeks. Email us your ad today to be included!

LEGAL NOTICES

WW563

Fictitious Business Name Statement

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, PM57, Laytonville, CA 95454.

Registered owner: Taylor Joyce Wagner, 1680 Ten Mile Creek Road, Laytonville CA 95454.

This business is conducted by an individual.

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

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on 9/29/2025.

/s/ Taylor Wagner

Publication Dates: October 9, 16, 23, 30, 2025

WW568

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2025-F0436

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.

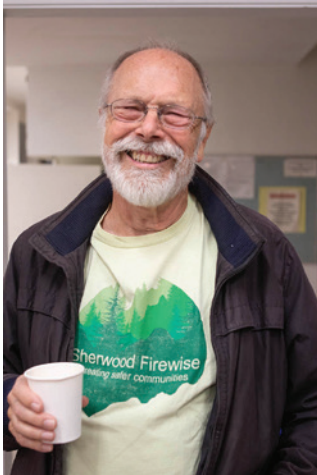
Registered owner: Kids Corner LLC, 16300 Bluejay Lane, Willits CA 95490. State of incorporation: California.

This business is conducted by a limited liability company. FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on 10/9/2025.

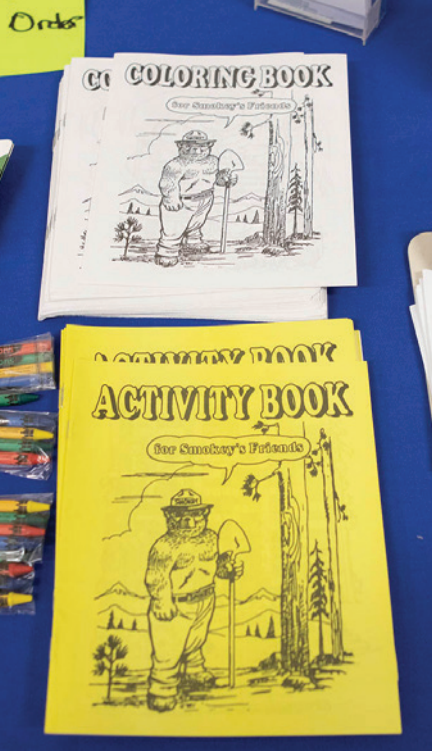
/s/ Carlos Swinney, Managing Member, Kids Corner LLC

Publication Dates: October 16, 23, 30, November 6, 2025

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7	1	6	8	2	4	9	5	3



At far left: Keith Rutledge speaks at length about Sherwood Firewise Communities' plans for the future. At left: Sherwood Firewise Communities member Brian Ferri-Taylor has been with the organization from the beginning. Below, left: Coloring books are available to help teach kids about wildfires. Below, right: Neighborhood coordinator Kim Bancroft signs people in to the meeting.



At right: Firewise volunteer Tracey Douglas speaks about the website that she maintains. Below: Brooktrails Vice-President Rick Williams poses a question for Jeff Donaldson. At bottom: Brooktrails Fire Chief Jeff Donaldson, who attended the recent Sherwood Firewise meeting





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Furry Friends Hoping for a Home

Pono the Genius

Pono is an amazing dog! He is sweet and cuddly, smart, and learns quickly. He wants to be a good dog and responds very well to verbal cues. Just a short "no" and he stops his behavior and looks at you, he is treat motivated. He is energetic, but mellow inside the house.

He is house-trained, walks nicely on a leash and off-leash, can "sit," "lie down," wait for his meal, and comes when called. He can be left alone in his crate for three to four hours max. He loves car rides and is always so happy to jump in and go for hikes. On walks, he sticks with you and doesn't show prey drive.

Pono is dog-friendly and loves to play with other dogs when in an outdoor neutral zone. When outside (even in the yard) he is friendly to people, but inside the house he is very protective. Dog-savvy people will know how to guide him to be a better host. He showed tendency to guard his food with other dogs, feeding separately is best. He CANNOT live with any small animals or other dogs inside a home.

Pono is a very energetic, athletic and playful dog who loves to chase a ball! The ideal household would be with active, dog-focused adults who have large-dog experience. He is affectionate, with a lot of love to give. Pono is kid-friendly out and about but cannot be a family dog with kids in the home, due to his over protective tendencies.

To learn more about Pono, or to view other adoptable animals, visit www.milofoundation.org or the Milo Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions by appointment only. Please complete a pet-adoption application before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 459-4900.

Sweet Socks

ADOPTION FEE IS FULLY SPONSORED by Evonne and Kiki!

This little pitty potato is amazing! Socks loves everyone she meets, she thinks toys are the best invention ever, and we hear she loves playing with other dogs, too. Socks is ready for an adoption or foster home and we hope you will come and meet her soon.



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.mendocinohumanesociety.com, on our Facebook page, and on www.petfinder.com.

Sassy Tiger Lily

Tiger Lily is a beautiful brown tabby kitten with bright eyes full of wonder and just the right dash of sass. A little independent by nature, she enjoys her solo adventures around the house, exploring every nook and cranny like the curious kitty she is. But don't be fooled, when the toys come out, Lily's playful side shines! Feather wands, jingly balls, and crinkly tunnels are her jam, and she's always up for a good game (on her terms, of course). Tiger Lily is the perfect companion for someone who appreciates a kitten with a mind of her own, but who's always nearby, keeping an eye on the fun, and occasionally pouncing right into it. Come meet Tiger Lily and see if this little explorer is the missing piece of your home!

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 more information.



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Agent
Cantua Insurance Agency
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786 Redwood Drive
Garberville, CA 95542
Tel 707 459-3276
Tel 707 923 2179
Fax 707 923 9550
rcantua@farmersagent.com
0C67822



The rest of Fencing | From page 1

Deer are already using the undercrossing which serves as an encouraging indication that such interventions can effectively facilitate animal mobility while ensuring driver safety.

"Caltrans has implemented deer undercrossings with wildlife fencing and escape ramps across the state, achieving notable success in providing deer with safe passage while reducing wildlife collisions," said Caltrans Environmental Scientist Sarah-Jane Gerstman.

The project is expected to be completed in April 2026.

To see all the accompanying photos, visit "Caltrans District 1" on Facebook and look for the October 21 post.



Caltrans' \$8.8 million project along 2 miles of Highway 101 south of Willits is designed to guide wildlife toward the existing undercrossing at the South Willits Overhead Bridge, top right. Above left: The project also includes drainage improvements. Below: The 8-foot fencing has escape ramps for wildlife if they get trapped inside the fencing.



The rest of Benefits | From page 1

can continue to use their existing benefits as usual – no action is required at this time. Mendocino County Department of Social Services will continue to process applications, redeterminations, periodic reports, and reported household changes during this time.

At this time, CalWORKs benefits for November 2025 are not impacted.

If you are in need of immediate food assistance, you can visit <https://mendocinococ.org/community-resources> to find your local food bank (scroll to the bottom of page). For more information about CalFresh benefits, FAQs, and the potential impacts of the federal government shutdown, please visit the California Department of Social Services website at www.cdss.ca.gov

You can check your current CalFresh balance through the EBT Edge app or by calling the number listed on the back of your EBT card.

For more information, please contact Mendocino County Department of Social Services at www.mendocinocounty.gov/departments/social-services/employment-family-assistance-services or call (707) 463-7700 in Ukiah and (707) 962-1000 in Fort Bragg.

The rest of Firewise | From page 10

trees are being limbed up 10 feet. That's money coming into the community and providing local jobs. The CCC is enthused about using their skills to practice here in Brooktrails, clearing brush and limbing trees, using their saws and McLeods [hoe on one side and a rake on the reverse]."

Tracey Douglas, who has been administering the Firewise website, www.sherwoodfirewise.org, spoke as well. She stated that she will be taking a year in France and is looking for someone to take over the maintenance of the site. Another volunteer, Terry Phenicie, told of a contribution from the Basket Beaters, who held a disc golf tournament to pay for address signs for veterans, which would aid the department in identifying addresses during the smoke of a fire. Ferri-Taylor spoke about the Firewise SafetyNet which is set up to inform residents of any hazardous conditions in the area.

Chief Donaldson was next up, after being introduced by Rutledge, who mentioned Donaldson's tenure with the Little Lake Fire Department and his community service as a coach of youth sports.

"It's an honor and privilege to serve this community," said Donaldson. "I'm blessed to be part of it. I'm passionate about what we are doing and I'm passionate about the group I'm working with. This is going to be a wonderful experience for me and hopefully everybody in the community. Without the people who support me and the team I work with, my efforts would be in vain. Our goals as a fire service

is to keep everything small, keep the fires small, keep the incidents small. If we can do that, we can survive this together. Without that effort and coming on quick, hitting it hard, and getting it ugly-early. I stole that from Jeff Smith [past Little Lake Fire Chief].

"As for the priorities of the fire department, it's the same throughout all fire departments and districts, life safety first," Donaldson said. "Our life, your life, people's lives. Property preservation comes second. And then, environmental protection. It's been like that for 100 years. We will risk a lot to save a lot, but we won't risk anything to save nothing. If your house is on fire and there's nobody in there, we'll do what we can to preserve your property, but we're not going to risk our lives to do it. If we can go in safely and knock it down, we'll do that."

Donaldson spoke about home hardening, creating fire-safe space around one's residence, and the general safety efforts of both the department and Sherwood Firewise.

Rutledge closed the meeting with notes on what Sherwood Firewise Communities would like to accomplish in the future, including creating more access routes, road clearing, more chopper days, vacant lot abatement (clearing lots that are unoccupied), and the creation of a volunteer cadre of neighborhood captains who would organize their neighbors and make sure everyone is in compliance and look after those who are in need of help.

The rest of District | From page 1

Superintendent Baker and the board also expressed appreciation to the administrative staff for taking on this assignment.

All the school reports are included in the agenda packet for the October 9 meeting, item 7A, posted at www.willitsunified.com/page/school-board-resources

The student board representative echoed the steadiness represented in Willits High School's report. The high school also recently held its Homecoming celebrations this month, while fundraising for its sports teams. She also highlighted the efforts WHS is making to support seniors during their college application process. Speaking from experience, after utilizing this resource, it is "much appreciated."

Board Trustee Jennifer Sookne also talked about the high school, as she has been volunteering with the music club, saying: "I got to tell you, they play guitar, they sing, they play other instruments. It's loud ... every time I walk in, I get the giggles," sharing her excitement to be a participant.

Board President Jeanne King congratulated Trustee April Lamprich on being named the Grand Marshal for Willits High School's Homecoming. "April is a very deserving member of this community," King said, "and she does a lot on behalf of the youth in our community."

King also extended her sympathies to the staff at Blosser Lane for their sudden loss of a coworker, saying her thoughts are with the staff during this difficult time. Closing off board comment, King reflected on multiple trainings and seminars she has participated in, stating, "I feel strongly that to be an effective board member, you need to be an informed board member."

She reminded herself of her responsibilities as a trustee: policy making, physical oversight, community representation, hiring and evaluating the superintendent, not managing the superintendent, and lastly, hiring the district's independent legal representation.

The California School Employee Association communications officer also reflected on the loss at Blosser Lane, the sudden passing of Monique Smith. Smith dedicated over 20 years of service to WUSD students. "She was kind, gentle, and a truly special person who always brought joy, compassion, and patience to her work every day ... and CSEA would like to extend our sincere condolences to her daughter and all those who love and care for her."

The CSEA representative then brought ongoing classified staffing challenges to the board, including shortages of both custodial staff and special education professional substitutes. CSEA's communication officer extended gratitude to the current staff for stepping up to cover vacancies and ensuring that the students and campuses of WUSD are

The rest of Brooktrails | From page 1

Finally, she said, "There is a Golf Course Committee meeting on Thursday, October 23 at 3:30 pm."

Next up was the Public Comments portion of the meeting, and Brooktrails resident Charline Levine went to the podium to address the board. She was very concerned about the numerous car accidents that have occurred in Brooktrails recently that have been caused by speeding drivers. She warned the board about the potential for fatalities if speeding drivers continue to go unchecked. She strongly suggested that signs be placed where there are pedestrians, especially children at play or handicapped residents as well as owners walking their dogs.

The board discussed the signage, and it was agreed that residents are perfectly within their rights to erect signs to alert drivers of the need to proceed cautiously where children or dog walkers or handicapped individuals are.

Third District Supervisor John Haschak then stepped to the podium and said: "I've received some communications about dogs running and roaming in Brooktrails. We have contacted Animal Care, and they are going to be out here, daily, patrolling the area. If they see a dog that is loose, they are going to impound it. If a dog is not on a leash accompanied by the owner, the owner will first receive a warning that will be followed by a ticket if the dog continues to be unleashed. We are glad to know that Animal Care will be present and servicing the area."

Haschak added: "Regarding the Sherwood Corridor Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, we got that grant application in on the September 15 deadline, and it was for \$9.5 million dollars. It is to do two things: One is to establish strategic buffer zones around critical infrastructure in Brooktrails such as water towers and fire department and also key emergency evacuation routes. We had to scale back from the original FEMA grant, so we are working with about a third of the money and are focusing on the most critical issues that we could deal with."

He continued, saying, "We are also working

supported. In some good news, the CSEA rep shared that the vacant bus driver position has been filled, and their training and certification process is underway.

Willits Teachers Association President Brian Bowles then stood before the board to bring their attention to important matters. He stated: "Our teachers are not asking for perfection. We know this work is complex. We know leadership is difficult, but what we are asking, what we are challenging this board and administration to do, is to lead by example, to model the same values we ask our staff and to do so with honesty, humility, and courage."

Bowles asked the board to seek out truths and dig deeper into the narratives that divide them. He also stated: "So tonight, I extend an open hand, an invitation to partnership. Let's rebuild trust, not through words alone, but through behavior that earns it.... Let's lead by example. Let's search out the truth. Let's do the hard, honest work of leading with heart."

Bowles said he had visited multiple school sites and gained valuable insights into their operations. Bowles encouraged the board to seek out conversations and visits to the school sites, so that they can gain a clear understanding of the inner workings of Willits Unified School District.

Sharing a new perspective, Superintendent Baker noted that sports are in motion at WUSD, and he was pleased to see the community come together. Baker highlighted students in sports and students in a college-level class at WHS, where students interviewed him to write an essay. He witnessed their critical thinking and passion, and said he looks forward to watching students succeed.

Baker is also working to combat dropping attendance rates at WUSD, "to work on the attendance with our students and to catch them early on and address it early on," he said.

During the Public Comment period, one individual spoke up anonymously. They touched upon the students' math abilities, which is a big concern for the district. They stated: "I am concerned as I have been for the last 20-some-odd years that the kids are not coming to high school with enough foundation to allow us to do our job." The individual is advocating for the district to take measures at a younger level so that students are being set up for success broadly and not performing at lower levels.

To bring the meeting to a close, the board hosted a public hearing on the sufficiency of textbooks, which was approved unanimously. The trustees and superintendent also covered the consent agenda, with two motions being opposed and not approved. In closing, Superintendent Baker stated: "To close the message here, I would say that at the heart of everything we do, let's remember that we're here educating our students.... They're our future... Thank you."

on the Meadowlark Lane-Firco Road that comes out at the airport, and we're hoping to have a group comprised of participants from CAL FIRE, the county, Brooktrails and the City of Willits looking at and talking about the problem and figuring out what the options are."

And, he said, "Lastly, the second access route work is continuing with the design phase. It's certainly not as fast as we'd like, but it will be ongoing."

Finally, the focus was on the Brooktrails Consent Calendar, and Director Ed Horrick made a motion which was seconded by Rick Williams to approve the Retroactive Review and Approval of the Accounts Payable Report from September 23, 2025 in the amount of \$51,347.56, as well as the Review and Approval of the Accounts Payable Report for Authorization to issue checks on October 15, 2025 in the amount of \$259,977.03. Also included in the motion was to grant approval of the fiscal Year 2025-26 Financial Report dated September 20, 2025. The board voted unanimously to approve all items included in the motion.



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