

# Willits Weekly

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits  
Donations Accepted Edition No. 475

Thursday, October 27, 2022

Willits Weekly newspaper  
local pages  
support good information  
Mendocino  
willitsweekly@gmail.com  
subscribers  
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web  
id

## Willits weather and rain

Jennifer Poole  
Editor & Reporter  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

The National Weather Service Eureka website is now reporting information for Willits taken from a weather station on the Mendocino College North County Center campus on East Commercial Street.

For a while, when users searched the site for "Willits, CA," although the forecasts were for the Willits area, the "current conditions" like hourly temperatures and rain information were being reported from the "Soda Creek" weather station 20 miles east of Willits, and at a higher elevation.

You can find the Willits station, aka the EW4027 station, by visiting <https://forecast.weather.gov> then entering "Willits, CA" in the search box.

After opening that Willits page, which shows current conditions, any weather alerts, and the forecast, if you hit the "3 day history" link on the right, you'll see a page reporting hourly temperatures, hourly precipitation, and more. The graph at the top can be selected to show all kinds of interesting weather data, including wind speeds and gusts.

Below the graph, there's a link to the "Current water year total" – the weather year starts on October 1.

Even though it hasn't really rained in Willits in October (yet), the NWS Willits weather station has recorded .26 inches of

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

## Brooktrails man arrested for failure to register

Sgt. James L. Wells,  
for MCSO

On October 13, 2022, a Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputy became aware Donald Ralph Wiltse, Jr., 35, of Willits was possibly in violation of 290.011 PC (failing to register as a sex offender).

The deputy conducted an investigation and found Wiltse last registered in 2021 with an address in Santa Clara County, California. The deputy learned Wiltse had been living in Willits and had failed to register his new address as required by law.

On October 14, 2022, at 7:20 am, MCSO deputies went to a location on the 27000 block of Hawk Drive in Willits [Brooktrails] where they contacted and arrested Wiltse for failing to register as a sex offender in Mendocino County.

Wiltse was booked into the Mendocino County Jail where he was to be held in lieu of \$15,000 bail.



Above, from left: Pre-oven to post-oven, Snickerdoodles are a quick and tasty cookie to make. The cookie ingredients are simple: flour, sugar, eggs, baking soda, cream of tartar, salt, margarine and shortening. Willits' Annabell Gunderson (1920-2007) was famous for her Snickerdoodles recipe which is engraved on the back of her tombstone in the Willits Cemetery. Below: The telltale signs of a proper Snickerdoodle: craggy breaks, crusty cinnamon-and-sugar tops, and soft interior.



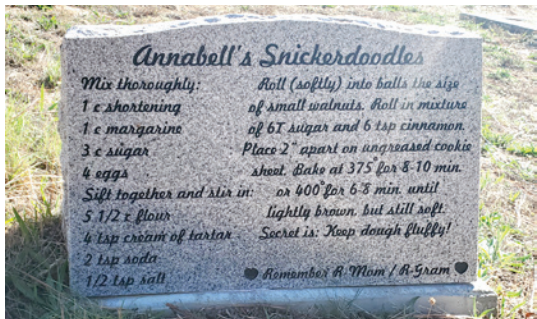
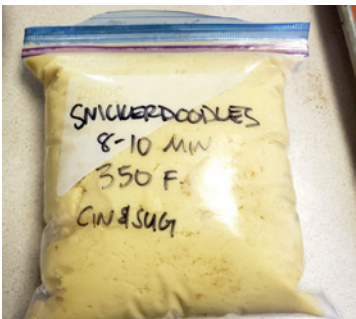
## Dessert from the Departed

### Snickerdoodle cookie recipe engraved on headstone of Willits' Annabell Gunderson

Maureen Jennison  
Graphics & Photographress  
maureen@willitsweekly.com

What would be a better way to celebrate Halloween than baking a batch of spooky Snickerdoodles with a recipe right off of an actual real gravestone? Annabell Gunderson would surely approve.

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



Above, from left: The rest of the dough went into the freezer for a quick fix at a later date. The western side of Annabelle's headstone shows the recipe. Rolling the balls in the cinnamon and sugar creates the crust. Below, from left: Make sure to mix the cinnamon and sugar well. Adding eggs one at a time helps them incorporate well. Despite being raised in a butter-only household, this recipe called for margarine and shortening, and I obliged, following Annabell's recommendations.



Eric Hart and Alexis Halleck installed the spiderweb out in front of the Willits Center for the Arts on East Commercial Street.

Photo by Maureen Jennison

## Halloween weekend at the Art Center

Submitted by WCA

The Willits Center for the Arts is holding what it plans to be the first of many Halloween Galas this weekend. Decorating the building, WCA board member Eric Hart is pulling out all the stops. A Halloween fanatic, he has transformed the building into a spooktacular fantasy.

Read the rest of **WCA**  
Over on page 9

## Supes discuss trash dumping in Brooktrails

Forrest Glyer  
Reporter  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Last week the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved closing the roads leading to the Dogwood cul de sacs in Brooktrails "to prevent serious and continual illegal dumping" of trash in the area.

Dogwood Terrace and Dogwood Lane, which are connected to Ridge Road in Brooktrails, are now closed for at least the next 18 months in what the supervisors called a "temporary solution" to the trash dumping problem, which they acknowledged is pervasive in many other areas throughout the county as well.

On October 28, a few days after the BOS meeting, Willits City Councilmember Greta Kanne, along with several volunteers and Supervisors John Haschak and Maureen Mulheren, helped lead an effort to clean up much of the trash still left at the Dogwood cul de sacs (see page 5 for more details on this).

Kanne posted on her Facebook page on October 28 about the latest cleanup effort that day.

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

## COVID update from Public Health

Jennifer Poole  
Editor & Reporter  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

"We've had a good month," said Mendocino County Public Health Officer Andy Coren, during his October press conference last Friday. Dr. Coren addressed COVID, monkeypox, and the annual flu, among other health issues.

In Mendocino County, as of October 21, there have been 7 confirmed cases of monkeypox. In the United States, there have been 25,600 cases and 2 deaths. In California, numbers are declining, and there have been no deaths. Monkey pox is predominately seen in Los Angeles, San Diego and San Francisco.

As far as the annual flu, Dr. Coren said, after a late peak in spring this year, there have been no new flu cases yet this fall in "congregate living facilities" like acute care general hospitals, long-term care facilities, or skilled nursing facilities.

"We're advising

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











Thursday, October 27

**Willits Farmers Market:** Last outdoor market of 2022, at the old Rexall parking lot, downtown, Thursdays from 3 to 5:30 pm. Fresh, local produce, local meat, farm-fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Market will move indoors to the Little Lake Grange in November. "Tobin's Tales" story time from the Willits Branch Library from 3:30 to 4 pm.

**Sherwood Firearm Communities Quarterly Meeting on Zoom:** Thursday, October 27 at 6 pm. Third District Supervisor John Haschak will give updates on emergency access routes, Willits Creek Cal Fire vegetation work in progress, Ridge Road private section owner access, new online database, and SFC Mapping project. Also updates will be given on fuel reduction projects, grants, SafetyNet registration, and home hardening. Join online Zoom meeting at [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85625036304?orjoinbyphoneat\(669\)900-6833](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85625036304?orjoinbyphoneat(669)900-6833). Meeting ID: 856 2503 6304. Password: 918795. Thursday, October 27, 6 pm.

**"The Rocky Horror Picture Show":** presented by Now and Then Film Series at the Little Lake Grange. "Celebrate 25 years of midnight-movie madness with us! The Rocky Horror Picture Show" is an 'exotic nightmare beyond any measure.' Relive Richard O'Brien's sinfully twisted salute to horror, sci-fi, B- movies and rock music, starring Tim Curry in his classic gender-bending performance, Barry Bostwick, and Susan Sarandon." Your donation of \$10 will be used to support the Little Lake Grange. Serving organic popcorn with real, organic butter. \$10 donation asked. Thursday, October 27 at 7 pm. Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street.

Friday, October 28

**"High School Monster Dance":** Dancing for teens in the Haunted Ballroom at the Willits Center for the Arts, Friday, October 28, from 7 to 10 pm. Music by DJ Cali. Costume contest with \$100 first prize. \$10 at the door. WCA, 71 East Commercial Street.

**Willits High School Football vs. Clearlake:** It's the last home game of the year for the Willits Wolverine football teams, and they take on Clearlake. The Willits Varsity team is 6-2 overall this year, and they'll face a Clearlake team who are currently undefeated at 8-0 overall. The JV game starts at 5:30 pm and Varsity at 7:30 pm. Friday, October 28 at Willits High School, 299 North Main Street.

**Halloween Party at Digger's:** "Costume contest, prizes, DJ and karaoke. Come join us!" Hundreds of dollars' worth of prizes in products and gift certificates from local businesses. With DJ and host Garrett Moore. Friday, October 28, 8 pm to closing. Digger's Bar, 244 South Main Street.

Saturday, October 29

**"Graveyard Bash":** at the Willits Library. "There will be games, activities, a book patch, photo opportunities, prizes, candy, and special prizes for kids who come in costume. This event is open to all ages but is best suited for families with children. The staff will be dressed in their spookiest attire. Weather permitting, the event will be hosted in the parking lot next to the building. The area will be blocked to ensure safety from vehicles, and parking will be available in front of and behind the library." Saturday, October 29 from 2:30 to 4 pm. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street.

**Willits Art Walk:** The final art-walk event for 2022! "Our downtown is brimming with talented artists and creative activity. Plan to spend the evening exploring art, history, music, and dance." Many local venues are involved, showing art exhibits and displays, and providing food and drinks. These include Art on the Plaza (99 S Main St), Willits Center for the Arts (71 E Commercial St), Re-Evolution (15 W Mendocino Ave), Shanachie Pub (50B S Main St), Scoops (110 N Main St), BACE (101 N Main St), Kemmy's Pies (299 E Commercial St), and the city library and museum." Saturday, October 29, 5 to 8 pm. Visit [www.willitscenterofthearts.org](http://www.willitscenterofthearts.org) for more info.

**"Trunk or Treat on Margie Drive":** Come get your Halloween goodies at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Saturday, October 29, from 5 to 6:30 pm, 265 Margie Drive.

**Zombie Party at Digger's:** "Take your Halloween costume from the costume party the night before and turn it into a Zombie. Delicious cocktails and a DJ playing your favorite tunes. Come join us!" With DJ and



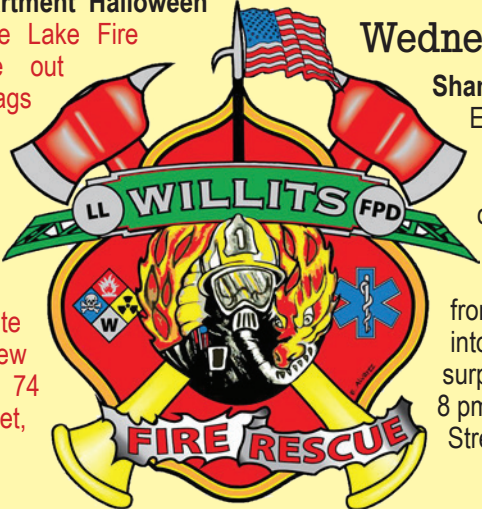
**"Steampunk'n: A Costume Bash at BACE":** Music by Beat Kitty, AV8TRIX, RAEYA and Aethernaut. "Steampunk costume contest! All in costume entered in mystery goody box raffle." Tickets \$18 pre-show, \$25 at the door. Saturday, October 29, starts at 9 pm. BACE, 109 North Main Street.

Sunday, October 30

**Willits Center for the Arts Kids and Families Halloween Costume Party:** "Games! Treats! Prizes!" Visit [www.willitscenterforthearts.org](http://www.willitscenterforthearts.org) for more details. Sunday, October 30, 2 to 4 pm. WCA, 71 East Commercial Street.

Monday, October 31

**Little Lake Fire Department Halloween Drive Thru:** The Little Lake Fire Department will give out Halloween goodie bags at the Baechtel Substation, 1575 Baechtel Road. Starting around 5 pm, on Monday, October 31, until the goodies are gone. To donate candy, drop at the new firehouse, Station 54, 74 East Commercial Street, during business hours.



host Garrett Moore. October 29, 8 pm to closing. Digger's Bar, 244 South Main Street.

**Haunted Ballroom Halloween Masquerade Gala with Funkacillin:** "Join us for a spooktacular evening of fun at the Willits Center for the Arts, at our Haunted Ballroom Halloween fundraiser gala! Live music featuring Funkacillin plus DJs. Light dinner and beverages included, catered by Adam Celaya, the Def Chef. Costume Parade with \$250 grand prize! All to benefit the WCA. Tickets are \$50, available at [willitscenterofthearts.org](http://willitscenterofthearts.org). Saturday, October 29, from 7 to 11 pm. WCA, 71 East Commercial Street.

**Shanachie Pub Halloween Party with Moon Rabbit:** "Moon Rabbit is a rock band composed of five accomplished musicians who deliver a unique and modern sound: Guitar and vocals from Pilar Duran, Sean Van Buskirk, Aaron Ford, along with Rob Marcello on bass, and Tim Cuny on drums. Wear your craziest getup, and hop on down to Shanachie Pub!" Saturday, October 29 at 9 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

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

**Coast Hardware presents "Main Street Trunk or Treat":** Starting at 5:30 pm in the Napa Auto Parking lot. With participating businesses Napa Auto Parts, Les Schwab, Perfect Union, Fish Out of Water, O'Reilly Auto Parts, and Willits Power Equipment. Monday, October 31, 5:30 pm. Napa Auto, 1571 Main Street.

**Brooktrails Fire Trunk or Treat:** "The Brooktrails Firefighters Association will be hosting a trunk or treat event in our parking lot on Monday, October 31 starting at 6pm! We are accepting candy donations at our fire station Monday to Friday 8 am to 5 pm between now and the 31st." October 31, 6 pm. Brooktrails Fire Station, 24860 Birch Street.

**Agape Bible Church Harvest Party for Kids:** "Games, candy, hot dogs, nachos, popcorn, drinks, prizes." Monday, October 31, from 5:30 to 8 pm. Agape Bible Church, 290 South Lenore Avenue.



Tuesday, November 1

**"Penny University Coffee Klatch" at the Willits Library:** "Coffee houses in the 17th century in university towns became a place for academics to gather and discuss important topics. As time went on, non-academics started coming to the coffee house, and by purchasing a penny cup of coffee, they could get a university education. Thus, 'Penny University' became the pseudonym of the coffee houses. Using this idea for inspiration, we will be introducing a new program to our community- 'Penny University'! Starting in November, this program will be held each Tuesday at 11 am in the meeting room at the Willits Branch Library. The aim of this program is to get community members together to discuss matters of interest - and enjoy a cup o' joe." Tuesday, November 1, 11 am to noon. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street.

Wednesday, November 2

**Shanachie Pub: Open Mic Night.** Every Wednesday. Sign up for the lottery for 20 minute time slots from 3 pm, when the Pub opens, to 7:30 pm. Music starts at 8 pm. "An eclectic array of local musicians and performers from around the world, often turning into an evening full of unexpected surprises." Wednesday, November 2, 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

Thursday, November 3

**Twining Time at Brickhouse Coffee:** with Anita Blu and John Wagenet the first Thursday of every month. "Polished two part vocal harmonies, acoustic guitar and keyboard. Side effects to a 'Twining Time' concert may include: euphoria, sudden urge to harmonize, uncontrollable bursting into song, and facial soreness due to prolonged smiling. It's a scientific fact that music soothes the soul, and puts a spring in your step." Thursday, November 3, 11:30 am to 2 pm. Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South Main Street. Visit [www.reverbnation.com/johnwagenet](http://www.reverbnation.com/johnwagenet).

**Willits Farmers Market:** Thursdays from 3 to 5:30 pm, now at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, for the winter. Fresh, local produce, local meat, farm-fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

Sunday, November 6

**Ceramic Holiday Gifts Class:** A six week Sunday course at the Willits Center for the Arts beginning November 6. Make ceramic holiday gifts for loved ones with Sofia Alaoui. Course fee of \$325, register online at [www.willitscenterforthearts.org](http://www.willitscenterforthearts.org). November 6, 13, 20, 27, December 4 and 11.

WILLITS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

make ceramic holiday gifts for loved ones with Sofia Alaoui

Sundays

Nov 6th, 13th, 30th, 27th, Dec 4th and 11th

11am-4pm

Course fee \$325

Register online at <https://www.willitscenterforthearts.org/>

\*Kids need to be able to work independently or have a parent assist them

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

'Ticket to Paradise'

**The Story:** Romantic comedy on the white sandy beaches of Bali. David (George Clooney) and Georgia (Julia Roberts) are the pathetic remnants of a failed marriage. It seems their young and very real love had fallen victim to personal ambition. Now all they have in common are a deep mutual irritation, and moderately nasty wisecracks.



Dan Essman Columnist

Actually, they do have a much-beloved daughter Lily (Kaitlyn Dever), just graduated college

with a law degree and attractive job offers. She's on vacation in Bali and falls in love with a genteel and quite good-looking Balinese seaweed farmer (Maxime Bouttier). They are the same age and intend to marry.

David and Georgia fly to Bali with the goal of preventing what they see as a repetition of their own failed relationship. Slapstick humor, silliness, and morally dubious high jinks follow. Spoiler: Laughs happen, everything works out for everyone, true love triumphs.

**My Thoughts:** Bali is pretty. Julia is pretty. Kaitlyn is pretty. Maxime is pretty. George is handsome and can deliver witty rejoinders. I'm sure they all had a darn fine time making the movie. As for me, I enjoyed the flick through a process of willing suspension of disbelief; also because I love my own wife and I am quite sentimental and susceptible to love stories with happy endings. I figure "Ticket to Paradise" is kind of a heart massage.

**Parents:** This rom-com will be showing in the Over 21 Club Theatre with the fancy classy impossibly comfortable chairs. Alcohol is served - no children allowed. The kiddies wouldn't like this flick anyway.

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



Ongoing Events

**"2nd Cup of Coffee Parenting Support Group":** "Free. How to understand your child's behavior. How to listen and talk to your child. Join us for coffee! Have fun! Talk to other parents/guardians. Add to your parenting toolbox. Open to all WUSD parents & guardians." Wednesdays in person through November 16 at the Willits District Office from 9 to 10 am, 1277 Blosser Lane. Thursdays on Zoom through November 17 from 6 to 7 pm. More info or to sign up: [jackieherz@willitsunified.com](mailto:jackieherz@willitsunified.com) or 707-518-0055.

**Moving Meditation Sunday Mornings:** Actually & Taiji by Deviyana Livneh at the Willits Center for the Arts. "A practice designed to release tension, improve posture, recharge energy." \$15 per class. For info call 310-990-8747, or email [deviyanilivneh@gmail.com](mailto:deviyanilivneh@gmail.com)

**Willits Garden Club:** Meets second Tuesdays of each month, 11:30 am at the Golden Rule Mobile Village Clubhouse (Ridgewood Ranch RV Park). Garden-related speakers and programs. Potluck lunch. Everyone welcome. More information at [www.willitsgardenclub.org](http://www.willitsgardenclub.org).

**"Bonnie Belt, 40 Years of Art" and "Laura Diamondstone, Paintings and Upcycled Work":** This is the last weekend (through October 30) for this retrospective of Bonnie Belt's ceramic work from the past 40 years and paintings by Laura Diamondstone. Sponsored by the Sherwood Band of Pomo Indians. Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. **The Redwood Empire Food Bank:** Twice-monthly food distribution in Willits, now located in the parking lot of the soccer and baseball fields. Groceries to go, senior basket (for low income seniors 60 or older), and diapers, all distributed the second and fourth Thursdays of the month, from 9:30 to 11:30 am.

**"Garraoke" at Diggers Bar:** Karaoke night the second and fourth Friday of every month, with host and DJ Garrett Moore. "From 8 pm to midnight, then get down until closing!" This Friday, October 28 is a karaoke Halloween costume contest party. Diggers Bar, 244 South Main Street.

**Weekly Events at the Willits Library**  
**Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street.**  
**[Info:www.mendolibrary.org](http://Info:www.mendolibrary.org)**  
**or 707-459-5908.**

**Writer's Block Group:** The Willits Library's first creative writing group, Wednesdays, from 5 to 6:30 pm. For beginning writers or those suffering from writer's block. "This group will be just what you need to take the first step toward writing your story. Open to young adult and adult writers to share their ideas and writings in an environment of supportive and creative suggestions and feedback." Coordinated and hosted by Librarian Benjamin MacBean. Willits Library meeting room, 390 East Commercial Street.

**Spinning & Knitting:** Every Saturday at the library from 1 to 4:30 pm. "All skill levels welcome! Spinning circle 1 to 2 pm, Knitting circle 2 to 4:30 pm."

**Open Source Design, Artistic Expression, and Engineering Club:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3 to 4:30 pm. "Open to everyone with an interest in open source and everyone who wants to develop their creative and engineering skills."

**LEGO Club:** Wednesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 pm. "It is LEGO time at the library. Bring your imagination and start building."

**Games at the Library:** First and third Fridays of the month, 4 to 5:30 pm. "Calling all board, card, and tabletop role-playing game players! All ages & player levels welcome. Bring your own games to add to the fun!"

More Halloween Happenings

**Skeletons for St. Jude:** The Skeleton House at East Valley Road and Penn Street in Willits is decorated for Halloween again this year, and also again raising funds for St. Jude's Children's Hospital. Stop by to see the display and scan the QR code on the banner to donate.

**Haunted House in the Redwoods:** Every Friday and Saturday in October, 7 to 10 pm. \$10 for admittance, \$5 for park guests. Mendocino Redwoods RV Resort, 1600 Highway 20.

**Dancehall-O-Ween 5:** "Guerrilla Takeover is back at McCarty's Bar and ready to throw an epic Halloween Party! Featuring DJ Guidance, Guerrilla Takeover and live performances by MC Radioactive. Join us for great music, cocktails and a Halloween costume contest. \$100 Prize for Best Costume! \$10 Cover Charge." Friday, October 28, 9 pm. McCarty's Bar, 6951 East Road, Redwood Valley.

**Halloween Boogie at the Mateel:** "KMUD Radio and Mateel Community Center present a time-honored tradition and benefit, the 'Halloween Boogie', an all ages costume party and contest with prizes. Saturday, October 29, doors open at 7 pm. Southern California surf rock / reggae band Perro Bravo and punk / ska / reggae band Hijnx from Santa Cruz will perform. Full bar, and dinner available. \$20 in advance, at [halloweenboogie22.eventbrite.com](http://halloweenboogie22.eventbrite.com) or at the door. Mateel Community Center, 59 Rusk Lane, Redway.

**Redwood Valley Grange Trunk or Treat:** Come in costume to collect candy from decorated vehicles. Bring your carved pumpkin for entry in the jack-o'-lantern contest. Free entry. To enter your decorated vehicle, contact Jini at 707-972-1414. Sunday, October 30, 5 to 8 pm. Redwood Valley Grange #382, 8650 East Road, Redwood Valley.

**The Waldorf School "Enchanted Pumpkin Path":** "The Waldorf School of Mendocino County, Calpella, is hosting the 'Enchanted Pumpkin Path' on October 31 at its Calpella campus. A magical 'alternative to Trick-or-Treating' for younger children and their families. The event's main feature is the Enchanted Path, which consists of eight skits with treats, based on animal fables. The Train Singer will be singing to you along the line to keep you entertained. The Smoky Cauldron Café will have light snacks and beverages for sale." Tickets \$8, babes in arms are free. Available at [www.mendocinowaldorf.org/events](http://www.mendocinowaldorf.org/events) or in the school office. October 31, 4:30 to 8:30 pm. Waldorf School, 6280 Third Street, Calpella.

Skunk Train Pumpkin Express, Willits Depot

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

KIDS AFTERSCHOOL MIXED MEDIA WEEKLY WORKSHOP

REGISTER ONLINE <https://www.willitscenterforthearts.org/>

8 WEEKS \$225

TUESDAYS 3-4 PM STARTS OCT 11

Weekly Mixed Media Workshop for kids: Afterschool at the WCA! Introduction to watercolors, pastels, and color pencil techniques. Create beautiful and fun paintings, learn new art skills, and take home a complete project after each class. children 6-16years old.

NOYO THEATRE Willits, CA

57 East Commercial Street - Willits 707-459-NOYO (6696) [www.noyotheatre.com](http://www.noyotheatre.com)

Movie Times for October 28 thru November 3

Masks Optional

Halloween Party at Digger's. Friday October 28th 8 pm to closing. 21+ ID Required. Costume contest/Prizes/DJ/ Karaoke. Come join us! 🎃🍷 244 S Main st Willits

Trunk or Treat Saturday October 29th 5:00 pm - 6:30pm

265 Margie Drive in Willits at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

All ghosts and goblins welcome!

BLACK ADAM (PG13) 2 hrs 5 mins

Fri.: 5:00 & 8:00pm

Sat/Sun.: 2:00, 5:00 & 8:00pm

Mon.-Thurs.: 5:00 & 8:00pm

HALLOWEEN ENDS (R) 1 hr 51 mins

Fri.: 9:00pm only

Sat./Sun.: 3:15, 5:45 & 8:15pm

Mon.-Thurs.: 5:45 & 8:15pm

Ticket to Paradise (PG13) 1 hr 44 mins

Fri.: 5:15 & 7:45pm

Sat/Sun.: 2:45, 5:15 & 7:45pm

Mon.-Thurs.: 5:15 & 7:45pm

Over 21 Club/ Luxury Recliners

Movie Times for October 28 thru November 3

Masks Optional

Tightwad Tuesday Title for Nov 1 is in RED. All tickets at \$6!

George's Geodes & Gems

4th Annual All Ages Coloring Contest

To enter, pick up a coloring page from George's Geodes, 600 South Main Street, then drop off one entry per person, during our business hours (Monday through Saturday, noon to 6 pm) to receive a special drop-off gift. Deadline is October 31 at 6 pm. Ten winners will be selected and announced November 5. "We would like to encourage free artistic reign, but to also please be mindful of content as they will be hung in the front window for display." George's Geodes and Gems, 600 South Main Street.

George's Geodes & Gems 4th Annual All Ages Coloring Contest

How to Enter:

-Pick up a coloring page from our store location at 600 S. Main Street in Willits.

-Drop off your coloring page submission (one per person) to our store location, during our business hours (Mon-Sat/ 12pm-6pm), to receive a special 'drop off gift'!

DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 31st @ 6PM

10 Winners will be selected and announced November 5th

We would like to encourage free artistic reign, but to also please be mindful of content as they will be hung in the front window for display.

KID'S AND FAMILIES! HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY at the Willits Center for the Arts! SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30TH 2-4PM

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS: [WWW.WILLITSCENTERFORTHEARTS.ORG](http://WWW.WILLITSCENTERFORTHEARTS.ORG)

GAMES TRICKS! PRIZES

The Willits Center for the Arts presents the Halloween Happening A 3 Day Celebration of Creativity! High School Monster Dance Friday, October 28th, 7-10pm The Haunted Ballroom Masquerade Gala Saturday, October 29th, 7-11pm Kids and Families Costume Party Sunday, October 30th, 2-4pm

Tickets and information at [willitscenterforthearts.org](http://willitscenterforthearts.org)

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

TICKET TO PARADISE



SENIOR PHOTOS ... for our seniors!

Senior Portraits for our Seniors

Adults and seniors in community welcome to book studio session at Senior Center for updated portrait

TESTIMONIAL: WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU HAD YOUR PORTRAIT TAKEN? Maybe it's time for an update. Vicki and I thought I would post to show how the picture taken for a couple of years. Since our children do not have recent portraits of us, we thought that with the holiday season quickly approaching, one would be the time to have them done professionally. What a bonus to be added to our Christmas gifts. Besides, our grandchildren need to remember us for how we look to them today versus from ten years ago. Just a word noted, but we wanted to be proactive by having a recent photograph. That would be used when it's time to post an obituary. Most of us wish to be remembered "younger" and we are very grateful. Photos make great gifts to family, a nice addition to your living room wall, are great to have on file for future use, and can be a fun, glamorous and special moment that you will be happy to have captured for now and for generations to come. -Rogee & Vicki Ham

Saturday, November 12, 2022 from 10 am - 2 pm

APPOINTMENTS OPEN TO ALL ADULTS AND SENIORS! Order forms are available at the Senior Center now! 1501 Baechtel Road, Willits

Questions? 707-972-7047 To schedule: 707-459-6826

with photographer Maureen Jenkinson





Above, left: A top-hat spook with a houseful of ghosts guards this Willits home. Above, right: Trick-or-treaters will have to brave these "Ghostbusters" characters to get their candy on Halloween. Below: The dearly departed rest not-so-peacefully in a graveyard.

Photos by Debbie Boone Harry



Debbie Boone Harry  
Features Writer  
debbie@willitsweekly.com

There have been sightings of another towering skeleton in Willits (in addition to Lil 206 at the Skeleton House). This bony giant looms large over a cadre of scary friends on East Hill Road. The Halloween holiday is creeping up on our town, with devilish delights that bring out the kid in all of us.

It's a time of spooky silliness, playing dress-up, and indulging in treats.

Reflecting the colors of the changing seasons, pumpkins line walkways and stairs, some with jack-o'-lantern smiles. A huge, puffy pumpkin grins at drivers coming into town. Surprise graveyards have sprung up in neighborhoods, with silly tombstone names and enormous sentries watching over.

The sudden outbreak of spiders the size of footstools and wispy spooks "flying" under trees might prompt calls to the "Ghostbusters." And, there have been rumors that "Michael Myers," from the "Halloween" horror movies, has been roaming our streets. But it's all part of the frightful fun.

For those feeling in the spirit and who want to get in the act, there is a Halloween Costume Sale, now through Sunday, October 30, at 135 South Humboldt Street. They have a 25-year collection of quality costumes to make your holiday a scream.

While out haunting the town, keep your eyes open for mini-monsters. The local rock painters have been busy in their "laboratories," and their creations are escaping and hiding around town.

Have fun trick or treating, and be safe out there with the creepy crawlers!

Below, left: Cute creepies say, "Boo!" from this Willits front yard. Below, right: A giant, spooky guardian of the graves beckons those who dare to pass by the "Hell House."



## PROTECT YOUR CHILD FROM A WINTER COVID SURGE

Appointments on November 5

# FREE PFIZER UPDATED BIVALENT COVID BOOSTERS

Age 5 to 11 and Age 12 to 18 Boosters

## CALL 707-459-6861

FOR APPOINTMENT ON 11/5/2022

AT BAECHTEL CREEK CLINIC: 1245 S. MAIN STREET, WILLITS

## LEGAL NOTICES

WW403

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Willits City Council, at its regular meeting on November 9, 2022, at 6:30 p.m., will conduct a public hearing on the following matter at the time listed or as soon thereafter as the item may be heard:

PROJECT: Proposed adoption of the Willits Urban Forestry Management Plan (UFMP). The UFMP provides a framework for the City's urban forest, identifies key management issues, outlines goals, objectives, and actions and proposes priorities for implementation. The UFMP can be found on the City website at <http://www.cityofwillits.org/277/Urban-Forest>

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: Adoption of the UFMP is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3).

MEETING LOCATION: Council Chambers at City Hall; located at 111 East Commercial Street, Willits, Ca 95490.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE: Prior to the meeting, electronic copies of the staff report and agenda will be available on the City's website at <http://ca-willits.civicplus.com/AgendaCenter/CityCouncil-1>.

•Written public comments regarding the proposed project may be submitted by email to Dusty Duley, [dduley@cityofwillits.org](mailto:dduley@cityofwillits.org) or the City Clerk's office, 111 East Commercial Street, Willits, California, 95490, no later than 5:30 p.m., on Tuesday, November 8, 2022. All public comments received will be provided to the Council and uploaded to the City's website in advance of the meeting.

•Oral comments may be presented to the Willits City Council during the public hearing. If you challenge the project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Willits Community Development Department or the Willits City Council at, or prior to, the public hearing. All persons are invited to appear and present testimony in this matter.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the public meeting, please contact the City Clerk at (707) 459-4601. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will assist staff in assuring that reasonable accommodations are made to provide accessibility to the meeting.

s/ Delores Pedersen  
City Clerk for the City of Willits

Publication Date: October 27, 2022

## LEGAL NOTICES

WW402

### AMENDED SUMMONS

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: JETT JENNINGS, also known as LAURENCE J. JENNINGS; DOES 1-50, inclusive, Case Number: HG21100522

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: CHERIE Y. SONG, THE BAYSIDE COURT OWNERS ASSOCIATION, a California corporation.

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site ([www.lawhelpcalifornia.org](http://www.lawhelpcalifornia.org)), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center ([www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp)), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: the court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

The name and address of the court is: Alameda County Superior Court, 24405 Amador Street, Hayward, CA 94544  
The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: Christopher J. Neary, 110 S. Main St., Ste. C, Willits, C 95490, Telephone: (707) 459-5551

The real property subject to the complaint to quiet title is located at 2858 Filbert Street, Oakland, California 94608 and commonly referred to as Unit B, and also commonly referred to as Alameda County Assessor's Parcel No. 005-0453-065, formerly Assessor's Parcel No. 005-0453-065-2 and more particularly described in that certain Grant Deed dated on or about May 13, 2020 and recorded in the Official Records of Alameda County on or about February 23, 2021 as Instrument No. 2021075559.

Publication Dates: October 27, November 3, 10, 17, 2022

The rest of  
WCA From page 1

Hal Wagenet will transform the room with lighting and sound, creating a magical mood. Over 80 hours of volunteer time have been spent decorating the building in the past two weeks. Volunteers have been very generous with their time.

Decorations were donated by Keena and Emmy Good. Board member Hart also donated his massive collection of Halloween decorations to the project.

WCA board member Eric Ward is the coordinator of the Halloween weekend of creativity, putting it all together for this fundraiser for the art center. Ward has coordinated events for such organizations as the Smithsonian Museum, Adobe, Amazon, Apple, IBM, and other major corporations. He tells us that this event is the most fun of any project he has worked on.

The first prize for costumes at Friday evening's teen Monster Dance is \$100; the first prize at Saturday's Gala for the best costume is \$250 worth of gas from Brown's Corner; and the children's costume party on Sunday will have toys for prizes.

A silent auction with 30 items from local merchants is set to bid on at Saturday night's Gala, which also features food by Adam Celaya of Def Chef Catering. Two bands, Funkacillin and the Clay Hawkins Trio, will be playing music for dancing and listening.

The teen dance on Friday is \$10 at the door, and the children's party is free. Tickets for the Gala are \$50 each. To purchase a ticket for the Gala on Saturday night go to [www.willitscenterforthearts.org/events-and-classes](http://www.willitscenterforthearts.org/events-and-classes)

The event is being sponsored by Willits Chamber of Commerce, Brown's Corner, North Spur Brewing Company, and Barra Wines of Mendocino.

The Willits Center for the Arts is located at 71 East Commercial Street (next to the Noyo Theatre).



## Willits Weekly



### Invites applications for:

Auditor/Appraiser  
Chief Planner  
Deputy District Attorney I/II/III  
Deputy Probation Officer I/II  
Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II  
Environmental Health Specialist I/II  
Juvenile Corrections Officer  
Juvenile Corrections Officer – Extra-Help  
Mental Health  
Rehabilitation Specialist  
Planning Technician I/II  
Public Health Nurse  
Public Safety Dispatcher  
Registered Nurse  
Senior Auditor/Appraiser  
Senior Program Manager–Family & Children's Services  
Senior Public Health Nurse  
Senior Substance Abuse Counselor  
Social Worker Assistant I/II  
Social Worker I/II/III/IV A-D  
Social Worker Supervisor I/II A-C  
Staff Assistant II  
Staff Services Administrator  
Vocational Assistant

For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:  
[www.governmentjobs.com/careers/mendocinoca](http://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/mendocinoca)  
EOE

## CLASSIFIEDS

### Antique Baby Pram For Sale

Genuine Silver Cross Balmoral vintage baby stroller/carriage/pram for sale in Willits. Antique, but functional condition, huge, fabulous and perfect for living your British nanny dreams. \$450/obo 707-972-7047.

### For Rent

2 Bdrm. 1 Bath Apt., in a quiet complex, close to shopping, newly redecorated. Washer & Dryer on site. \$1,100 per month & security deposit. Armo 707-459-9601.

### Help Wanted

Baechtel Creek Medical Clinic is hiring. Looking for a Phlebotomist to draw blood to send out and to run CLIA waived tests. Please pick up an application or drop off a resume at 1245 S. Main Street, Willits.

### John Ford Ranch Beef

John Ford Ranch still has the 50 lb. Rancher's Choice Box for \$325.00 and the 25 lb. Hamburger Box for \$150.00. Please contact Debbie Arkelian @ 459-5049.

### The Chamber needs YOU!

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

### RV/Trailer Space for Rent

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

### Computer Help

Need help with your computer? PC, Macintosh, Android and IOS devices. Repairs, configuration, and tutoring: \$50/hr. Call Liam 459-2470 or email [uicearbhall@gmail.com](mailto:uicearbhall@gmail.com)

### Yard Sale

Saturday 10/29/22 and Sunday 10/30/22 at 555 Mill Street in Willits, from 9 am to 2 pm. Items include new and used men's and women's clothes and accessories, sports and household items, some furniture.

### Firewood for Sale

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

### For Lease

Small office or salon space for lease. 75 South Main Street in Willits, near City Parking lot and/or street parking. For appointment and more information, call Virginia at: 707-459-2927.

### You Noticed

That's the great thing about classifieds: People look through them just to look through them and it makes it a perfect place to place an ad! Extra bonus – they're super cheap! \$10 for 30 words for two weeks!

Classified ads are \$10 for 30 words for 2 weeks!

California Mentor is seeking caring individuals to open their heart & home to adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

We offer 24 hour support, training & a competitive stipend approx. \$1,550-\$5,000 /month.

To learn more contact Cathy at (707) 324-9099. [Cathy.lawrence@sevitahhealth.com](mailto:Cathy.lawrence@sevitahhealth.com)  
We serve Lake & Mendocino Counties.

### Marc Komer

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Is a food assistance program. You can be on Social Security, have money in the bank, own cars and still receive CalFresh benefits. Call the Senior Center to schedule an appointment to see if you qualify. 707-459-6826

TO-GO OR DINE-OUTDOOR | 459-5702

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

166 SOUTH MAIN ST

10AM - 8:30PM MON - SAT



# Willits Weekly's Holiday Season Mix & Match

**Run dates:**  
**November 10, 17 & 23 (Wednesday)**  
**December 1, 8 & 15**

## Mix & Match!

Pick a size or mix and match sizes for all five dates.  
All full color ads!

**Get your  
Holiday ads  
included in  
Willits Weekly for  
one great bundled  
rate!**

3.25" wide x 2" tall.....	\$30
3.25" wide x 4" tall.....	\$50
5" wide x 5" tall.....	\$100
5" wide x 8" tall.....	\$175
5" wide x 10.5" tall.....	\$225
10" wide x 10.5" tall.....	\$475

**Ad size commitment deadline:**  
**November 8, 2022**

**Contact us  
to get included!**  
**Maureen Jennison**  
Advertising Representative  
maureen@willitsweekly.com  
(707)  
972-7047

# Kenny's Barber Shop

## FOR SALE

- Business and equipment.
- Month to month rent, available immediately.

**1569 South Main Street  
Willits**

Turn key operation.  
Hang up your clippers and open the doors.

- 3 chairs
- TV
- fridge
- 6 waiting chairs
- 3 sinks

**\$10,000 or best offer - all included**

**Call Don Keith**  
**949-677-5334**

# 54TH ANNIVERSARY SALEBRATION!

**Right Next to Safeway**

## Willits Furniture Center

**Celebrating 54 years  
serving Mendocino County  
and the surrounding areas!**

**Offering up to 50% off  
almost everything in the  
store!**

**Save BIG on everything  
from sofas and recliners to  
beds, mattresses and decor!**

**Offering free delivery!  
and 0% financing O.A.C.**

**We are inviting our valued  
customers to come help us  
SALEBRATE our 54th  
anniversary at Willits  
Furniture Center.  
Hurry in RIGHT NOW  
for some of the best deals of  
the year!**

**Help keep your shops local,  
buy local!**

\*Fuel surcharge may apply to remote locations

**775 Central St.  
Willits, CA 95490**  
**Tel (707) 459-4224**  
**Fax (707) 459-2608**  
willitsfurniture@willitsonline.com  
www.willitsfurniture.com  
**Next to Safeway**  
**Price ~ Quality ~ Service**

## The rest of Dogwood From page 5

explained Mulheren. "The Recycle Board is a [Joint Powers Authority] of the three cities and the county. Pre-COVID they would have been the ones who are cleaning up something like this, but because of challenges we've had with staffing and the executive director, there's really no capacity for them to get out here and clean it up.

"Tuesday, the board voted to close the road. The Department of Transportation is under the board. The road will be closed to, hopefully, prevent any more illegal dumping. My concern was to get as much out as possible before the rain comes."

Why do people dump their trash and equipment instead of bringing it to the Willits Solid Waste Transfer Station?

"This kind of dumping is an interesting problem that happens all over the county," Mulheren continued. "We're working on a voucher program for low-income people that need help paying for the transfer-station fees or possibly needing help to pay for a monthly service collection at their home.

"We're trying to figure out the root cause," she said, "and how we can help some people that possibly can't afford it. But I think, at the end of the day, that some people just don't put the same care and concern into our environment that others do and this seems like an easy location to dump their trash."

Zac, who brought a large trailer, shared: "This used to be my old stomping grounds here. We used to ride dirt bikes up here and have a good time. It never looked like this. I think it's all over the state. We have more people here now with a different attitude towards nature than we used to have. They don't see the nature and the beauty. They just see it as some place they can dump their refuse.

"I didn't want to help out until they said they were going to put [barriers] up," said Zac. "They're going to block off the road. That's why I'm up here helping out because it's not going to be needed every week anymore. They're actually doing something to help the problem. I just hope it works.

"Nobody uses this road, a cul-de-sac, for anything other than dumping," Zac continued. "There are no houses on either of the Dogwoods. If they do dump their trash, it will be right over the [barriers] and everyone will be able to see it and it will get cleaned up quicker, hopefully. This is horrible, what it's gotten to. There's a lot of toxic stuff out here."

Thankfully, it will now be harder to hide the dumped refuse. The Mendocino Department of Transportation, as of Monday, has closed off the two roads with rather large boulders and stones.

"Please don't dump your trash on the side of the road," urged Mulheren. "There are options available if you need help. They can contact me at my Facebook page (www.facebook.com/mo4mendo) or social services to see if they can receive some help in paying for the transfer station."

## The rest of Harvest From page 3

Hatake Farm Kitchen Ghost Restaurant had a sushi bento box and deep-fried tempura. Even on a cold day, Laura Rowland's Ice Box gelato was a welcome sweet treat to top off any of the other meals. Cocina Picante, Felix and Yiping's newest venture, had chicken tacos and horchata. Jaynene Johnson with Zocalo Collective created her special Soul Bowls with choices of protein, grains and sauces for attendees to mix and match to their personal tastes.

West Mendocino Avenue was closed down for the collection of crafts vendors that lined the road. Sarah Peterson brought her selection of Pampered Chef ware. Amber Slater offered dye-sublimation-printed mugs, including one that stated "I run on coffee and sarcasm."

Cierra of CC's Soaps and More had a selection of aromatic soaps. Lisa Block, the Mendo Merchant, had a potpourri of different and varied items, some of which were handcrafted, including her Cotton Candy Cakes. Bummies (clothing to go over babies' bums) were brought by Lyndsay Rogers. High Five, a three-musician group played standards and mellow music to be heard at both locations. Kelly Foutz gave chair massages in the gallery at Re-Evolution.

The children had a section mostly all to themselves, in the parking lot next to Buster's. There were games, a bounce house with a basketball hoop, and a myriad of other games and things to play with.

The Humane Society of Inland Mendocino County was there with a sweet puppy temporarily named Capri Sun to let people know that their facility was overflowing with animals waiting for a good home.

Sober Grad offered chances to win a raffle for their annual gift basket with five Disneyland tickets, two pounds of fresh-roasted coffee, a voucher for gravel from Northern Aggregates, a hat, socks, coffee mugs and much more. The winner will be chosen on November 16. In addition, they will have a new fundraiser this year, a video-game tournament featuring Maria Kart 8, sponsored by Next Level Gaming Lounge of Ukiah. It will take place November 13, 11 am to 7 pm.

George's Geodes and Gems had coloring pages for their all-ages coloring contest which ends on Halloween. All contestants receive a free gift bag.

The city parking lot next to Flying Dog Pizza had a dynamic silks exhibition with jam-band Cult of Ours accompanying the aerodynamic displays of agility and fearlessness. Along Main Street, several tables were set up to acquaint attendees with businesses and other concerns. Willits' own low-power radio station, KLLG-LP FM was there to let people know of their needed volunteer positions.

The Willits Center for the Arts was touting their upcoming November 29 Halloween gala: "Willits has never seen anything like what we're doing at the arts center. We're going to have two bands. Adam Celaya is doing the catering. There's a \$250 grand prize of gasoline from Brown's Corner for the costume contest," said curator Gary Martin.

Fortino, of the soon-to-be-renamed Café 77 (Kelly's Diner), offered tastes of two kinds of soup. He explained that he would be offering dinner after November 1.

The event seemed to be an overwhelming success at getting families out of their houses and onto the downtown streets to meet, greet, and just have fun with their friends, fellow residents, and the local merchants. It was vibrant and pleasant, an excellent way for people to reacquaint themselves with all things Willits.

## The rest of Trash From page 1

"My heart is full," she said. "The Dogwood cul de sacs are clean, and the county will close them to through traffic next week. So grateful to everyone who showed up this morning – all the trailers and pickups! – and to Tara Moratti for renting us an excavator. Just amazing. So restorative to be able to see the woods again and not the litter and debris."

At the October 18 BOS meeting, Supervisor Haschak, who sponsored the item, talked about how the idea to close off the Dogwood roads came to be.

"This issue came to light when there was a community group that wanted to clean up an area on Dogwood Terrace," he said, "and there was illegal dumping going on for an extended period of time. And so in conversation with Brooktrails Community Services District and many other people – the Department of Transportation and [Director] Howard Dashiell – it turned out that we could clean up this site, but the feeling was it would go on again and again," he said.

"We did get support from the Brooktrails Fire Department, the California Highway Patrol, the [Mendocino County] Sheriff's Office, and they all seemed to think that closing it off would not be detrimental in any way to the flow of traffic," Haschak added. "It would cut down on illegal dumping and other illegal activities that are going on in these cul de sacs."

During her public comments at the meeting, Kanne talked about the cleanup efforts in recent months and her support for closing down the roads.

"These cul de sacs are right in between the trailheads for Gooseberry Trail and Last Chance Trail which are beautiful trails that are regularly used by community members," she said. "And actually one of the Willits residents who hikes up there is the one who brought it to my attention.

"We've been working for months to try and get the garbage cleaned up, as the property owner stated," she added. "It's all over the road, it's down the sides of the hill. And through pretty tremendous community effort we've made a big dent in the cleanup.

"We've removed almost 6,000 pounds last month alone, and Jerry Ward at Solid Waste of Willits has been gracious enough to wave the fees for us for the dumping."

Fourth District Supervisor Dan Gjerde asked Kanne if they knew who was responsible for the illegal dumping, but Kanne responded that they didn't have any firm evidence on that.

"I know that Brooktrails Township has identified some people based on mail and have approached folks," she said. "No one has taken responsibility. A couple of people said that they had actually paid a handyman or someone they knew to make a dump run. Apparently the items never made it to the dump, instead they ended up on Dogwood Terrace.

"It's hard to say, but there is no path at this moment to find a culprit," added Kanne. "It's definitely multiple people though. Mostly what's up there is construction debris, broken household items, mattresses, and bags and bags of household garbage."

The discussion also delved into some possible strategies to prevent illegal dumping of trash in the county in general.

Supervisor Mulheren said that while there is some "bulky item" and hazardous material pickup available to residents in the county, especially around the Ukiah area, she hoped those kinds of services would expand.

She also talked about a recent program launched by the county to help cover some dump costs for volunteers helping to clean.

"Just so the community knows, we did launch a pilot program with Mendo Recycle last year that covers the transfer station fees for illegal dump cleanups that are done by volunteers," she said. "And it's a very simple process where you keep your receipts and get reimbursed if you are doing a volunteer cleanup. So we are trying to come up with some solutions."

Haschak talked about some of the reasons he saw as to why so much garbage was being illegally dumped.

"When we charge a lot for dumping, then some people will seek alternative means and dump it on the side of the road," he said. "And we saw that with Covelo when the state came in and did the free dump days, then they had six days where they had people were lined up for hours on end to dump stuff from their home sites. And from creek beds too, people were bringing it in. And it just showed that people want to clean up their properties, their houses, where they live, and sometimes the money is an issue."

"The other [reason] is the Mendocino Solid Waste Management Authority or Mendo Recycle," he continued. "And we've had some issues with the performance of Mendo

Recycle lately, and when they cancel all the 'Hazmobile' visits to everywhere outside of Ukiah.... How do we really fix a problem like that, because I hear it from people in Willits – 'Why isn't the Hazmobile here?' If we don't provide that service, then people are going to seek alternative means to deal with those issues."

Fourth District Supervisor Dan Gjerde laid out a recent history of MSWMA and Mendo Recycle, and the lack of leadership there which has contributed to some of the problems.

"So Mendo Recycle, formally known as Mendocino Solid Waste Management Authority, is a joint powers authority with the county and three of the cities- Fort Bragg, Willits and Ukiah," said Gjerde.

"And for most of its life it really thrived under the leadership of Mike Sweeney who was really passionate about the services of MSWMA and probably donated a substantial amount of his own time to the job beyond the regular 40-hour week. And after he left and retired ... they were cycling through several general managers in a short amount of time."

Gjerde said that eventually this lack of a consistent general manager – the position is unfilled now – had some bad repercussions.

"We were losing grants that were routine grants from the state that subsidizes these cleanup efforts such as Hazmobile, and services were being cancelled pretty routinely – like the Fort Bragg Hazmobile would get cancelled because staffing was short," he said.

"Someone would be on vacation, and then at the last minute someone else declared sick, and they couldn't operate it. And then COVID hit, and there was an acceleration of people cleaning out their garages and cleaning out their houses and delivering things to the Hazmobile. And at the same time MSWMA was losing staff and sort of deficit spending."

Gjerde said the county is now getting close to signing a contract with C&S Waste Solutions out of Ukiah, and hopes that will stabilize the trash situation.

"We're waiting for the Ukiah City attorney to finalize changes to bring to the board," he said. "And as soon as we can sign a contract, I'm hoping we'll get C&S on board fairly quickly to restart these services throughout the county. Because if we can stabilize the Hazmobile services and the other core services of MSWMA, we actually have this moment in time where we have the Clean California program from the state of California where we could actually see significant improvement in the cleanup of these sites around the county.... I think it's worth understanding what our options are to stop the illegal dumping or at least the vast majority of it."

Mendocino County Sheriff Matt Kendall said due to their small staff and other issues in the county, there's not much time for them to try and prevent illegal trash dumping.

"The fact is we aren't having enough success catching people dumping these things in these out-of-the-way areas," he said. "And the issue is how do we get out there? When we've got two deputies who are patrolling basically about 40% of the county in the north, two deputies patrolling roughly 30 to 35% on the coast, two deputies patrolling over here. We aren't having much success in catching these guys dumping it in the middle of the night."

Sheriff Kendall said that setting up cameras to survey areas for illegal dumping could be a tactic moving forward, and that a "high impact drug trafficking grant" could possibly help pay for some of that camera equipment.

"The grant that we get will help us with getting some of these things, but mostly that is used for drug trafficking," he said. "So we can look at it, we can try to put some things up. It's going to take some personnel to be able to deal with it, though."

Board Chair Ted Williams said that he thought the county needed to consider a new approach to handling the trash situation, such as having "universal trash" where no one is charged for any disposal.

"I think we've gone about trash all wrong," he said. "The cost is so high, we've created an incentive for people to claim they're hauling other people's trash and then back it down a dirt road.

"In a county that's 3,878 square miles, we're not going to be able to get enough cameras to surveil and catch the people who are dumping," he added. "So I fully support this item ... but I think Supervisor Mulheren is right – we're not getting a handle on this problem. And even if we catch a few people and make an example, it won't put a dent in the overall problem that we spend more effort, more dollars on abatement than having universal trash."

## The rest of COVID From page 1

everybody to vaccinate for the flu who's over 6 months of age, and they can do that at the same time as they get their COVID shots."

Dr. Coren again recommended the bivalent COVID booster, "proven to be the most effective and safe," for pretty much everybody, "especially with the added protection against the new BA5 variants.

"As of October 20, statewide," Coren said, "we're continuing to see a decline in COVID cases and, for the most part, hospitalizations. The test positivity is down to 4 to 5 percent. Testing is still at a low level – however this [decline] is confirmed by the wastewater studies in California."

In Mendocino County, he said, COVID "cases and hospitalizations and test positivity have also fallen. The COVID cases are now in the range of 4 to 5 per 100,000 per day, which is comparable to the lowest rates we saw last spring and also in the spring of 2021."

Transmission rates and community levels of COVID are "now low" in Mendocino County, and there were 2 patients hospitalized in the county on Friday. "The deaths have increased slowly in California, in certain areas recently," he said, "but they've generally been stable in Mendocino County," with deaths attributed to COVID still at 136.

Dr. Coren also had news about wastewater testing: "In Northern California we only have wastewater surveillance going on at one site in Humboldt County and at two sites in Lake County, but Ukiah will soon be added too."

He talked about new technology being used more often in wastewater surveillance around the state. It's being used for COVID now, "but will come on line for respiratory viruses, mpox and other viruses, probably soon."

Coren said he expected the lower levels of COVID cases in Mendocino County to continue for the next few weeks, "but there are challenges and the possibility of a surge from the new BA5 variants," including BQ1 and BQ1.1.

Coren cited what he called the current "exponential growth" of cases and hospitalizations in Europe and Australia. "In the USA with the lower vaccine uptake and the appearance of these two new variants, the forecast is for a possible rise in mid-November," he said.

Dr. Coren noted "the greatest burden" from COVID "is still highest among Native Americans and the Hispanic communities, due to social factors, poverty, insufficient housing, and access to health care."

As of Friday, there was one "very small" COVID outbreak in the county. "We also had one small school outbreak, which ended last week," Coren said.

As far as vaccines, "Mendocino County stats show still only 68% are fully vaccinated, and 58% are boosted, which is on a par with the state. But in the age group of 5 to 11 years old, only 26% of our children have been vaccinated, and that compares poorly to the CA rate of 40%."

Coren said appointments for the booster shot were available at most pharmacies in the county, as well as from medical providers, and from clinics. Visit <https://myturn.ca.gov/> to make an appointment, or call the Mendocino Call Center at 707-472-2759.

"We've missed two years of holidays and parties due to COVID," he said. "Now we have great new tools that we didn't have last year, to keep us strong this holiday season, so let's take advantage of that, and enjoy our family and friends. Get boosted, or vaccinated if you're not vaccinated – especially don't wait to get the new bivalent vaccines."

## The rest of Weather From page 1

rain for the current weather year already, thanks to multiple occurrences of .01 and .02 inches of precipitation recorded overnight earlier in the month.

As we go to press Wednesday evening, the EW4027 station is showing a freeze warning from 1 am to 10 am Thursday morning, with patchy frost predicted overnight Thursday and Friday morning. The forecast shows a 20 percent chance of showers Saturday night, and a slight chance of rain Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

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Intelligent Kobe Allen

Kobe Allen has some reservations at first but will warm up and begin showing his playful side in no time! The young guy (just under 3 years old) is hoping to find a home with cattle-dog experience or some previous dog training.

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

Baby Riki

Riki, at only 3 months old, is quite shy and reserved, and can be a bit hissy with new people until he becomes comfortable. Coming in as a stray with his two sisters, Riki is getting used to life in the shelter slowly but surely.

The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, requires a reservation to view adoptable animals. Call 707-467-6453 to make an appointment to meet Riki or our other canine and feline guests. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at [www.mendoanimalshelter.com](http://www.mendoanimalshelter.com).

Spunky Butters

Butters! This sweet fella is ready to run like the wind and get all sorts of attention in his new home. He is full of life, energy and love! This 8-month-old Jack Russell mix is on a mission to find someone who is ready to take on the commitment of raising a spunky pup! He loves kids, playing with his toys, and receiving lots of pets. If you're looking for a fun, outgoing, loving, hyper little pal who makes you get out of the house for an adventure, Butters is your perfect match!

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

HSIMC is having a special adoption event now through Sunday, October 30. Adoption fees for both cats and dogs 6 months of age and older will be reduced to only \$50; seniors 7 years and up and feral cats are free.

Also, don't forget about our Trunk or Treat event this weekend. Don't miss this chance to support your local humane society.

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