

A word cloud celebrating Willits Weekly's 20th anniversary. The words are arranged in a dense, overlapping manner. The largest words are 'Willits', 'newspaper', 'pages', 'information', 'want', 'local', 'interests', 'support', 'good', 'looking', 'need', 'calendar', 'web', 'id', 'paper', 'Mendocino', 'M', 'know', 'see', 'part', 'please', 'free', 'word', 'contributions', 'weekly', 'advantageous', 'list', 'make', 'photos', 'meet', 'ANOTHER', 'remember', 'represent', 'releases', 'quality', 'years', 'today', 'well', 'story', 'public', 'future', 'Columists', 'able', 'small', 'grew', 'man', 'SUPPORT', 'obscure', 'Willits', '2025', 'show', 'also', 'area', 'pay', 'cover', 'share', 'accounting', 'unnecessary', 'join', 'right', 'online', 'events', 'yet', 'contact', 'business', 'contributors', 'share', 'sports', 'write', 'help', 'possible', 'hands', 'activities', 'nothing', 'every', 'bills', 'Recipes', 'veterans', 'integration', 'table', 'group', 'wage', 'high', 'guest', 'want', 'advertisers', 'publication', 'special', 'another', 'something', 'printing', 'color', 'sign'.

Donations Accepted Edition No. 617

**Barbara O'Reardon**  
Reporter  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Read the rest of  
**Brooktrails**  
*Over on Page 11*

Read the rest of  
**Retired**  
*Over on Page 11*



Above, from left: Malakai Schindel played the pan flute for those waiting in the Enchanted Pumpkin Path gathering area. These three actors, Chet Collins, Rio Palley, and Cliff Paulin, told the story of Maui finding new land, and gave out fish hook necklaces. Kids were able to doodle chalk art on the pavement while waiting to attend the event. Below: Moira Jordan, left, and Joey Mayhugh told the story of "Little Star Shines Bright" and gave out star cookies.



Above, from left: The sun, water and the moon played by actors Cheryle Evans, Carolyn Brown, and Nansea Boykin told the story of "The Dance that Made the Stars" and handed out star-adorned bookmarks. Creative costumes were everywhere, including this angler fish which was just reeling in two curious monkeys. The line was long, but moved quickly as the 600 attendees moved through the 3.5 hour event.

Waldorf School of Mendocino County offers magical event with skits, food, costumes and celebration of the stars

**Maureen Jennison**  
Graphics & Photographress  
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offers something else for families looking for a gentler, and more magical, experience at their Calpella school: the Enchanted Pumpkin Path.

Taking place on Halloween night, the Pumpkin Path wanders through the school's grounds, which are

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



Above, left: "Orion and The Rabbit" with actors Estelle Clifton, Marco Donner, and Renata Abbade. Above, right: The shooting star swung out over the audience trailing glistening tails behind in "Falling Star Wishes" with actors Jeffery Harris, Kim Shepard, and Cathy Monroe. Below, left: The final skit included a group song of "This Little Light of Mine." Below, right: The story of Helios was told in "Chariot of the Sun" with actors Stacy Sheldon, Calvin Turnwall, and Linneh Thomson.



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

Read the rest of  
**Prop 50**  
Over on Page 9

**Posted by Ukiah Police  
Department**

November 3 – On October 16, 2025, the Ukiah Police Department was notified by a concerned parent of a Ukiah High School student that a teacher, Matthew P. Lafever, 37, of Hopland, a journalism teacher at Ukiah High School, had made an inappropriate sexual comment towards her daughter. Through the course of the initial investigation into that incident, Ukiah Police Department detectives learned that a different UHS student had information regarding Lafever contacting minors on social media.

UPD detectives conducted an interview with the female high school student, who told the detectives that she had conversed with Lafever on social media, informed him that she was a minor, and Lafever had persisted to make sexually suggestive comments about her and repeatedly asked her to send him inappropriate

Read the rest of  
**Lafever**  
*Over on Page 11*



## Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

**Willits Weekly | November 6, 2025** Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 **Pg. 3**







## SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

**Agape Bible Church**  
290 S. Lenore Ave.  
Willits, CA 95490  
*Where love is first  
and the Bible is central.*  
Sunday Services:  
10:00 a.m. - Worship  
Adult Sunday School 8:30 a.m.  
Info? 707-459-1905  
www.agapebiblechurch.com

**Amazing Grace  
Assembly of God Church**  
803 Coast Street  
P.O. Box 489, Willits  
Worship Service - 5:00 p.m.  
Pastor Kris Strickland  
**EVERYBODY IS WELCOME**

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

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

**Eckankar: The Path  
of Spiritual Freedom**  
•A University for Soul  
•Spiritual Living Courses  
•Spiritual Discussions  
•ECK Light & Sound Services  
More information?  
Call 530-224-8703  
www.eckankar.org

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

**St. Anthony of Padua  
Catholic Church**  
61 W. San Francisco Ave.  
Willits, CA 95490  
*Father Aaron Bandanadam*  
Mass times:  
Wednesday-Friday 9:00 a.m.  
Saturday-5:30 p.m.  
Sunday-9:00 a.m. - English  
10:30 a.m. - Spanish  
Confessions on Saturday  
4:45 - 5:15 p.m.  
Or by appointment at  
707-459-2252  
https://santohnonywillits.org/  
saintanthonywillits@gmail.com  
*We welcome All Walks of Faith*

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

**St. John  
Lutheran Church**  
Sunday Service  
10:00 a.m.  
(707) 459-2988  
24 Mill Creek Drive  
Facebook.com/stjohnswillits  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**

**Willits Seventh-Day  
Adventist Church**  
707-459-5714  
Friendly, open worship  
Saturdays  
Bible Study - 9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service - 10:45 a.m.  
Zoom Transmission Available.  
Wednesday  
Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m.  
399 W. Mendocino Ave.  
**All are welcome!**

**Willits United  
Methodist Church**  
Labyrinth and Peace Garden  
*Where all find comfort  
where place are welcome*  
Pastor Jaime Rogers-Fairchild  
Sunday Worship at 10:30 am  
286 School St. (at Pine)  
707-459-2855  
wumc@outlook.com  
www.willitsumc.org  
Facebook: facebook/willitsumc

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



### Thursday, November 6

**Willits Farmers Market Moves to the Grange:** Thursdays from 3 to 5:30 pm, now at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street for the freshest produce available, local meat, farm fresh eggs, hot and cold food, and tasty treats from local businesses, crafts, live music, Herbal Wellness Wagon, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. The market honors EBT and WIC cards and matches benefits to double your dollars.

**Behind the Scenes Tours at the Museum:** First and Third Thursday of the month from 2 to 3 pm. To reserve your tour call the Mendocino County Museum: 707-234-6365.

**Free Food at Mendo Food Network:** First Thursday of each month (excluding federal holidays) receive free food from 10 to 11:30 at 1250 Blosser Lane, Willits.

**NAMI Townhall Meeting at the Museum:** National Alliance on Mental Illness hosts presentations on the CARE (Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment) Act, designed to help those with mental illness break the cycle of hospitalization, incarceration and homelessness, and identifies local resources to help those in need, on Thursday, November 6 from 11 am to 1:30 pm at the Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street, Willits. Free to attend but please register at Eventbrite.com or email matilda@namica.org.



**WHS Football & Cheer Team  
Dinner at Slam Dunk Pizze:** Help celebrate Willits High School Senior athletes with pizza, music, balloon art, raffles and more on Thursday, November 6 at 7 pm at Slam Dunk Pizze, 1708 South Main Street.

**Tall Guy Short Songs at Inner Earth Tea:** Thursday, November 6 at 8 pm at Inner Earth Tea House. Cost is \$20 and includes unlimited tea. Seating is limited so reserve tickets at lovebombrecords.org.

### Friday, November 7

**S.T.E.M. Activity at the Library:** Experiments and Crafts for kids 9 to 14. This week: Light & Color Science. Friday, November 7 from 3:30 to 5 pm at the Willits Branch Library.

**Food Not Bombs in Rec Grove Park:** Food Not Bombs Willits presents a free meal, zines and supplies every first and third Fridays around 5 pm. Everyone is welcome. Join us at the picnic tables.

**Art Talk 'Immigrants and Art' at WCA:** This month's talk is on Friday, November 7 and is an exploration of how contemporary art engages with the human consequences of refugee experiences and global inequities by Dr. Nilgun Bayraktar, PhD at 6:30 pm at Willits Center for the Arts.

**Skate Night at Harwood Hall:** Roller skate for \$1 from 6 to 8 pm on Friday, November 7 at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville.

**Wolf Tree at Northspur Brewing Co:** Acoustic Americana November 7 from 6 to 8 pm at Northspur Brewing Co., 101 North Main Street.

**Rising Signs Reggae band at Shanachie:** Friday, November 7 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub.

### Saturday, November 8

**Willits Photography Club at WCA:** open to all skill levels and meets Saturday, November 8 from 10 am to noon in the classroom at Willits Center for the Arts. (Enter through back door).



**'Day of the Divine' at WCA:** Celebrating the Feminine with massage, acupuncture Henna Art, Crystal Bowl Sound Healing, botanical beverages and live music. Cost is \$22. Saturday, November 8 from noon to 6 pm at Willits Center for the Arts.

**Pumpkin Succulent Class at Sparetime Garden Center:** Create a succulent arrangement in a pumpkin on Saturday, November 8 at either 1 pm or 2:30 pm. Cost is \$30 - Reserve your spot by signing up and paying in full or at venmo.com/uthegardenerspantry. Sparetime Garden Center, 208 East San Francisco Avenue.

**CAL FIRE Open House:** for high school or college students curious about a career with CAL FIRE. Learn about different career paths and meet with CAL FIRE personnel on Saturday November 8 from 10am to 4pm at the Jesse Pitman Training Center, 17501 N Hwy 101, Willits.

**Dirty Cello at WCT:** A high-energy blend of blues, rock and Americana, Saturday, November 8 at 7 pm at Willits Community Theatre. Tickets \$20 at DirtyCello.com

**Cowtown at Shanachie:** "Ska-Boogie" featuring unusual instrumentation and a cast of puppets! Saturday, November 8 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub.



### Sunday, November 9

**Pancake Breakfast at the Senior Center:** Second Sunday of the month from 8 to 11 am. Menu choices:  
1) All-you-can-eat pancakes with scrambled eggs, sausage or bacon or 2) Biscuits & gravy with scrambled eggs. Includes coffee, orange juice or milk. \$13 adults; \$12 Senior Center members; \$8 children 8 and under and benefits Nutritional, Transportation, and Outreach services for Willits seniors. 1501 Baechtel Creek Road.



**Brunch, Sip and Paint at WCA:** Have champagne brunch and paint watercolors on Sunday, November 9 from 1 to 4 pm. Fee is \$75 and covers materials, brunch and a seasonal alcoholic or nonalcoholic beverage. Willits Center for the Arts.

**Mad Hatter Tea Party at the Grange:** Wear a fun hat to this free event and enjoy winter warming tea blends on Sunday, November 9 from 2 to 4 pm at the Little Lake Grange.

### Tuesday, November 11

**American Legion Breakfast at the Veterans Building:** Tuesday, November 11 from 8 to 11 am, followed by a Flag Raising ceremony at noon in honor of veterans. Breakfast is free to all veterans, military and emergency response personnel and their families, and to students who participate in Scouting America, 4-H and FFA programs. Veterans Memorial Building, 191 North Main Street, Willits.

### Wednesday, November 12

**Learn & Share Family History at the Library:** Learn how to track down your ancestors for your family tree on Wednesday, November 12 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm at the Willits Branch Library.

### Thursday, November 13

**Willits Farmers Market:** Thursdays from 3 to 5:30 pm at the Little Lake Grange, for the freshest produce available, local meat, tasty treats, crafts, and much more. See Nov 6 listing for more details.

**Trivia Night at The Munchery:** Every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 6 pm at The Munchery, 1797 South Main Street, Willits.

### Friday, November 14

**Andrew Victor at Shanachie:** Friday, November 14 from 8 to 10 pm at Shanachie Pub.

**Skate Night at Harwood Hall:** Roller skate for \$1 from 6 to 8 pm on Friday, November 14 at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville.

**S.T.E.M. Activity at the Library:** Experiments and Crafts centered on the nature of light and color for kids 9 to 14. This week: Willits Prism Challenge. Friday, November 14 from 3:30 to 5 pm at the Willits Branch Library.

### Saturday, November 15

**Anniversary Celebration at WCA:** Celebrate 25 years of Art and History with food, drinks and music on Saturday, November 15 from 5 to 8 pm in the Great Room at Willits Center for the Arts.

**Rosewater at Shanachie:** A tribute to the Grateful Dead on Saturday, November 15 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub.

**Call to Artists**  
**38th Annual Willits Holiday Craft Fair**  
December 13th and 14th, 2025  
to be held at the Willits Community Center  
and Willits Center for the Arts.

This is a 2 day show starting Saturday 10am-7pm,  
Sunday 10am-6pm. All interested artists, hand crafters, and  
specialty foods entrepreneurs, who hand-make their own products,  
should request application forms by e-mail to:  
Bonnie Belt at belt.bonnie@gmail.com  
Or visit: https://www.willitscenterforthearts.org  
**Willits Center for the Arts**

**NAMI California**  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
**Mendocino County**  
**Townhall**

Community Assistance and Recovery  
Empowerment Act (CARE ACT)

The CARE Act is a civil court process designed to support  
individuals with schizophrenia or related disorders who are  
caught in cycles of hospitalization, homelessness, and  
incarceration. It offers a comprehensive alternative by  
connecting participants to community-based services, including  
housing and medical care. The program aims to intervene early,  
before individuals are arrested or institutionalized, ensuring  
personalized care in a less restrictive setting.

**Presentations**

- CARE ACT Panel Discussion
- NAMI Mendocino Resources & Information
- County Behavioral Health Services

Free to attend and open to the public!  
Complimentary coffee and pastries.

Register on Eventbrite.com,  
using QR Code or by email:  
matilda@namica.org

Mendocino County  
Museum  
400 E. Commercial St.  
Willits, CA 95490

November 6th  
11 am - 12:30 pm

**KAISER  
PERMANENTE.**

Redwood Valley Grange  
**HARVEST  
DANCE**  
*and Fundraiser*  
**NOV. 15TH 2025**  
**LIVE MUSIC  
by  
FARGO BROTHERS!**  
ADULTS ONLY \* BEER/WINE/  
FREE APPETIZERS \*  
doors open 6PM \*  
Music 7-10pm \* tickets \$20.  
info & tickets (707)972-4221  
8650 East Rd. Redwood  
Valley  
FREE VINEYARDS TESTA WINES  
Cody Max  
Cody Max  
Cody Max

WILLITS CENTER FOR THE  
**ARTS** Presents  
**25th Celebration!**  
**Anniversary**  
Displays of historical  
artifacts from before the  
center was opened to today

**Then** **Now**

November 15 5:30 - 7:30PM  
71 E Commercial St.  
Food, Wine, and Beer  
**Cosmic Family Band**  
Talk with some of the people  
who founded our arts center  
and hear their stories

## 'The Thanksgiving Play' opens at WCT November 21

Save-the-Date for this satirical farce written by Native American playwright Larissa FastHorse and directed by veteran director Mike A'Dair, which tells the story of four well-meaning but utterly clueless white people who attempt to create a politically correct grade school play about the origins of Thanksgiving. Show opens November 21 and will run through December 7 at Willits Community Theatre.

## Mendocino County Homebrew Festival November 15

For brewers and enthusiasts alike, this is an opportunity to share your passion, exchange ideas and savor exceptional brews. Proceeds benefit the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council, which assists county residents to survive and thrive in a wildfire-prone environment. Saturday, November 15 from 3 to 6 pm at the Ukiah Valley Conference Center, 200 School Street, Ukiah. More info and tickets: mendohomebrewfest.com

## Mendocino College Repertory Dance Company presents SHINE November 13 thru 16

'Inside and Out, From Broadway to the Stars' brings to life works by local and national choreographers utilizing techniques of Contemporary, Ballet, African, and Fosse Jazz. Performances are November 13, 14 and 16 at 7:30 pm with a gala on Friday, November 14 at 6:30 pm, and on Sunday, November 17 at 2 pm in Mendocino College's Center for Visual and Performing Arts Theatre 1000 Hensley Creek Road, Ukiah. Tickets are \$15 at the door (cash or check only) or online: artsmendocino.org.

### COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

## 'The Occult'

**The Story:** Metaphysical Good vs Evil horror thriller. DT (Ryan W. Garcia) meets a flirtatious Tarot card savant (Kelly Walker) whose wildly off-the-wall predictions for JT just might be spot-on true. Meanwhile, JT gets entangled with a thuggish gang of Aleister Crowley devotees who have quite unnatural rituals...Very sick, and very very dark...



**Dan Essman**  
Columnist

Fortunately for us Enthralled Film Goers (Spoiler-no spoiler): The Good Guys will Fight Against and Spectacularly Destroy the Evil Doers with non-refundable Tickets to Flaming Hell. Hooray for the Good Guys! I'm still cheering!

**My Thoughts:** This flick and its narrative played out in my chest like I was living it. Visually innovative Writer/ Director Peter Hyoguchi has put together a large cast of charismatic actors to tell his dark, tension-driven drama of occult abominations.

**One definition of the word occult** is: Secret and/or Hidden. Peter Hyoguchi, like a modern day muckraker, describes the horrors he hints at in his movie as Very Real. Though these evil doers are hidden, still they do exist. And sometimes just down the block or even right next door.

'The Occult' movie is truly scary, but it doesn't need "jump scares" because it is about scary things. Won't be available on TV for two years.

**Parents:** Don't even think about bringing your kids. No!  
*Willitsian Daniel Essman prefers his reality attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination.*

**Harrah Senior Center**  
**Monthly Pancake  
Breakfast**  
**Sunday, November 9th, 2025**  
**8:00am - 11:00am**  
**1501 Baechtel Rd. Willits, CA 95490**  
**Breakfast Prices:**  
**Adults- \$13**  
**Sr. Center Members- \$12**  
**Children- \$8**  
Breakfast includes Biscuits and Gravy with side of scrambled eggs OJEGG, OR  
All you can eat pancakes, 12pc sausage OR 12pc bacon, Scrambled eggs, cup of coffee, milk or juice.  
(Extra Sausage, Bacon, Scrambled eggs, milk and juice for additional cost)  
**Stop by and try this month's breakfast special!**  
**Vegetarian Breakfast Casserole**

**CAL FIRE**  
**OPEN HOUSE**  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8th  
10AM TO 4PM  
The Jesse Pitman Training Center  
17501 N Hwy 101, Willits

Are you a high school or college student curious  
about a career with CAL FIRE?

Come explore your future with CAL FIRE at our open house. Discover  
career opportunities, meet our team, and get guidance on starting  
your CAL FIRE journey.

**What to Expect:**

- Meet CAL FIRE team members from a variety of different fields
- Explore CAL FIRE vehicles and gear up close – fire trucks, crew busses, a helicopter, and more
- Learn about exciting career paths - Fire & Emergency Response | Forestry & Resource Management | Administration & Support | Technology & Communications | Public Safety & Education
- Meet with Personnel to learn about CAL FIRE's excellent employee benefits
- Get hands on support setting up your CalCares account

RSVP not required but is appreciated! [fin.bazofire.ca.gov](http://fin.bazofire.ca.gov) or scan here

ROTARY CLUBS OF UKIAH PROUDLY  
PRESENT THE 12TH ANNUAL  
**GUITARS FOR THE TROOPS**  
**2025**  
BENEFITING LOCAL VETERANS  
**Saturday, November 15th**  
Tickets on sale now. Doors Open: 5:30 PM  
Music with Funky Dozen and The HOTS! 7:00 PM  
General Admission Tickets: \$25 (includes 1 drink)  
*Antojitos Mary will be providing food for purchase.*  
**LIVE MUSIC**  
by the Funky Dozen  
and The HOTS!  
**Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center**  
1640 S. State St. Ukiah, CA  
Tickets available at Mendocino Book Company at the door, and from any local Rotary.

**SANTA & GRINCH PHOTOS**  
BY MAUREEN JENNISON!  
**SEE SANTA**  
Sun 11/30:  
12 to 4 pm  
at JD REDHOUSE  
**SEE the GRINCH**  
Sat 11/29:  
10 am to 1 pm  
at TOY DEPOT  
\$5 DONATION PER GROUP - DIGITAL IMAGES ONLY

**MENDOCINO  
COUNTY HOMEBREW  
FESTIVAL**  
**NOVEMBER 15, 2025**  
200 S. SCHOOL ST.  
UKIAH, CA 95502  
707-459-1760  
**Cherry Food Beer**  
SCAN HERE  
UKIAH VALLEY CONFERENCE CENTER  
200 S. SCHOOL ST.  
UKIAH, CA 95502  
VISIT UKIAH  
NEXA Mortgage  
UKIAH BORROW  
Call/Email: "Mendocino Homebrew Festival"  
A BENEFIT FOR THE MENDOCINO FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

**WILLITS  
GEM & MINERAL  
SOCIETY**  
-POTLUCK-  
-SHOW & TELL-  
-CRYSTAL RAFFLE-  
**Willits Grange**  
291 School St.  
**11/17**  
7-8:30pm

**NOYO**  
Theater Willits, CA.  
57 East Commercial Street - Willits  
707-459-6660  
[www.noyotheater.com](http://www.noyotheater.com)  
Mid week promotions: Wednesday -  
Matinee prices to all shows all day.

THEATER 1 DELUXE LUXURY RECLINER, LATER PROJECTION, AGES 14+  
**SPRINGSTEEN:  
DELIVER ME FROM NOWHERE**  
(PG 13) 2hrs  
Fri:  
4:15  
Sat/Sun:  
1:15, 4:15, 7:15  
Wed/Thur:  
4:15, 7:15  
SHOWTIMES: November 7 to November 13

**THE LOST BUS**  
(R) 2hr 9m  
Fri/Sat/Sun:  
6:45  
Wed/Thur:  
6:45  
Closed Monday/Tuesday Thrifty Thursday: \$8.00 tickets. Thrifty Thursday films this week in red.

**GABBY'S DOLLHOUSE:  
THE MOVIE**  
(G) 1hr 38m  
Fri:  
4:00  
Sat/Sun:  
1:30, 4:00  
Wed/Thur:  
4:00

**PREDATOR:  
BADLANDS**  
(PG13) 1hr 46m  
Fri:  
4:30, 7:15  
Sat/Sun:  
1:45, 4:30, 7:15  
Wed/Thur:  
4:30, 7:15

## 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. Toiletries, towels and washcloths provided. Those with disabilities may need to bring a helper. Sack dinners are served from 4:30 to 5:30 by Willits Daily Bread.

**Inland Valley Women's Chorus:**

Every Thursday (except holidays) from 6 to 7:30 pm to sing songs of peace, joy, social justice and healing. No audition or experience required. Carpooling available from Willits. Holy Trinity Church, Mary & Martha Room, 640 South Orchard Avenue, Ukiah. More info: Madge Strong, 707-459-1493.

## Shanachie Pub Ongoing Events

**Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street**

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

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

## Ongoing Events at the Willits Library

**Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: [www.mendolibrary.org](http://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!

**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.





Above: Richard Toutreese ended up as the de facto leader of the procession. At right: Locals, some dressed in their Halloween or New Orleans costume took part in the procession. At far right: The procession of kazoo and percussion instruments began at Northspur Brewery.

### A musical procession from Northspur to the Grange

On a late afternoon in Willits, the day after Halloween, when the spirit of cosplay was winding down, a hearty group of revelers set off from the Northspur Brewery, making musical noise on their kazoo and percussion instruments.

Their goal was to march to the Little Lake Grange where a party was about to happen,

featuring the popular group, Hot Buttered Rum. It was to be a Louisiana-centric event with beads and Cajun food, and music, billed as "a New Orleans-flavored celebration of community." Not waiting for the doors to open, the group began their revelry on the streets of Willits.

— Mathew Caine, Willits Weekly

Above, left: Willits Center for the Arts Studio Manager Sasha Thomas shows her joy at looking forward to the evening. Above, right: The procession to the Grange, to celebrate the Hot Buttered Rum concert.

Photos by Mathew Caine





**FARMERS INSURANCE**



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Agent  
Cantua Insurance Agency  
16 W. Valley St. Willits CA 95490  
786 Redwood Drive  
Garberville, CA 95542  
Tel 707.459.3276  
Tel 707.923.2179  
Fax 707.923.9550  
rcantua@farmersagent.com  
OC67822

### Avenues to Wellness: 'Exploring Green Burials,' November 20

Submitted by ATW

Avenues to Wellness presents: "Exploring Green Burials" by Seth Furguson, funeral director. Thursday, November 20, from 6 to 7 pm, at the Willits Center for the Arts. 71 East Commercial Street. FREE to the public. Wheelchair accessible. Donations appreciated.

What is a "Green Burial," and why do people choose this burial practice? Please join us as we cover a range of earth-friendly options including full body burials, ocean ash scatterings, and various composting options. This discussion will also highlight traditional green burial approaches in our local cemeteries, and legal considerations.

Seth Furguson has been the funeral director at Chapel by the Sea in Fort Bragg for four years, with seven total years in the field. His career started, unexpectedly, when he was hired to do "removals" at a mortuary in Eureka. He is currently studying to be an embalmer and is in a two-year apprenticeship program. He holds a BA in political science from Humboldt State University. Seth is the proud father of two children. He enjoys eating baked goods, coaching the high school tennis team, and watching basketball.

Avenues to Wellness is a program of the Frank R. Howard Foundation. Visit: [avenuestowellness.org](http://avenuestowellness.org) for an online archive of past events. Call: (707) 456-9676 for more information. Email: [spicetti@howardfoundation.org](mailto:spicetti@howardfoundation.org)



Seth Furguson, funeral director at Chapel by the Sea in Fort Bragg, is the speaker at the November 20 Avenues to Wellness speaker event.



**VETERAN'S DAY T-SHIRT GIVEAWAY**

**NOVEMBER 11 FROM 9AM TO 11PM**

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*Serving our Community Since 1948*

[www.willitsrotary.org](http://www.willitsrotary.org)  
[WillitsRotaryClub@gmail.com](mailto:WillitsRotaryClub@gmail.com)



**OBITUARY |**  
**Lee Smith**

Lee Wayne Smith ("Spaceman") passed away on October 15, 2025. He was born on August 5, 1951, in Wichita Falls, Wisconsin. Lee leaves behind his two boys, Joe and Jeff Smith, his two grandsons, Hunter and brother Kevin Smith.

A potluck memorial will be held on November 15 at the Willits Grange, 11 am to 2 pm.



**WILLITS CENTER FOR THE ARTS**  
Presents  
**Art Talks**  
Art and Immigration



This lecture will explore artistic responses to exile, displacement, migration, uprootedness, border zones, crisis, and loss. We will examine these simultaneously hyper-visible and invisible frameworks, as well as the ethical and political questions surrounding artistic engagements with precarity and socio-political inequality.

Presented by: Nilgun Bayraktar, PhD

**Friday, November 7, 6:20 PM.**

71 East Commercial Street, Willits, CA. 95490  
Uptairs in the Great Room  
For more information  
[www.willitscenterforthearts.org](http://www.willitscenterforthearts.org)  
707-459-1726

### Furry Friends Hoping for a Home

#### Quiet Dixie

This sweet herding-type girl has a gentle soul and a shy streak that'll melt your heart. Dixie is still learning that the world is a safe and happy place, and she's looking for a patient home to help her come out of her shell. Around other dogs, she really shines – her tail wags faster, her eyes light up, and you can see her confidence bloom! A doggy friend could be just the thing to help her feel brave and loved.

With a little time, encouragement, and some secure fencing for her safety, Dixie will reward you with loyalty, love, and quiet companionship. She's the kind of girl who may start out timid but ends up being your most devoted friend.

The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, is open to the public from 9:30 am

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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

WW571

**Fictitious Business Name Statement**

2025-F0456

The following person or persons are doing business as Creative Craft Loft, 1490 Baechtel Road, Willits CA 95490.

Registered owner: Yover OK LLC, 1490 Baechtel Road, Willits CA 95490. State of incorporation: California. 33-1343470.

This business is conducted by a limited liability company.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A.

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on 10/27/2025.

/s/ Jeff Yokum, President, Yover OK, LLC

Publication Dates: October 30, November 6, 13, 20, 2025

## LEGAL NOTICES

**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](mailto:willitsweekly@gmail.com)**

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.

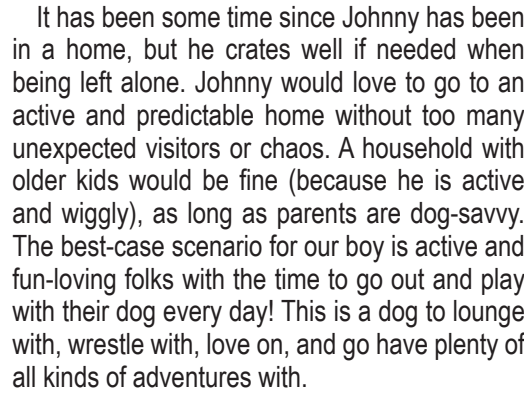
/s/ Carlos Swinney, Managing Member, Kids Corner LLC

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

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.mendocinanimalshelter.com](http://www.mendocinanimalshelter.com). Call 707-463-4427 for more information.

### Friendly Johnny

Johnny is very social, happy, affectionate and a tad goofy. He will greet you with a big smile and with non-stop tail wagging. Such a sweet boy, he loves playing with other medium to large dogs. He's fine around small dogs, and has been fine with cats, but might be a tad too physical for some smaller types. He's athletic and wants to be where the action is; he loves walks and playing with other dogs!



It has been some time since Johnny has been in a home, but he crates well if needed when being left alone. Johnny would love to go to an active and predictable home without too many unexpected visitors or chaos. A household with older kids would be fine (because he is active and wiggly), as long as parents are dog-savvy. The best-case scenario for our boy is active and fun-loving folks with the time to go out and play with their dog every day! This is a dog to lounge with, wrestle with, love on, and go have plenty of all kinds of adventures with.

Johnny's adoption fee is half off (sponsored by a fan!), so his adoption fee is \$200.

To learn more about Johnny, or to 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. Please complete a pet-adoption application before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 459-4900.

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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!

**For Sale**

Propane Fireplaces  
Regency Classic C34-LP10. Almost new! \$750 or Best Offer! 10-foot flue, remote control. For photos and details call 707-385-9333 or write to: GoodStuffGoingFast@yahoo.com

**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

**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: Rachel@mendocinood.org or 707-615-6654

**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/lp>

**For Rent**

Studio, walking distance to Safeway. \$800 a month plus deposit. Utilities included in Rent. Call Laura or leave a message: 459-4062.

**Classified ads are just \$15 for 30 words for two weeks. Email us your ad today to include your ad here next week! Deadline is Monday for Thursday's paper**

**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: kikitattoos.com

The rest of Prop 50 | From page 1

later than 7 days after the election are counted, after they are vetted, so the ballot counting process is still going on statewide.

As the California Secretary of State's office states: "Election results will change throughout the ballot counting canvass period as vote-by-mail ballots, provisional ballots (including conditional voter registration provisional ballots), and other ballots are tallied."

State law requires county elections officials to report final official results to the Secretary of State by December 5, 2025. The Secretary of State has until December 12, 2025, to officially certify the statewide results of the election.

### Mischievous Seth

Seth isn't just any kitten, he's a polydactyl superstar with extra toes and extra personality! With his classic brown tabby stripes and mitten-like paws, he's as unique as he is adorable.

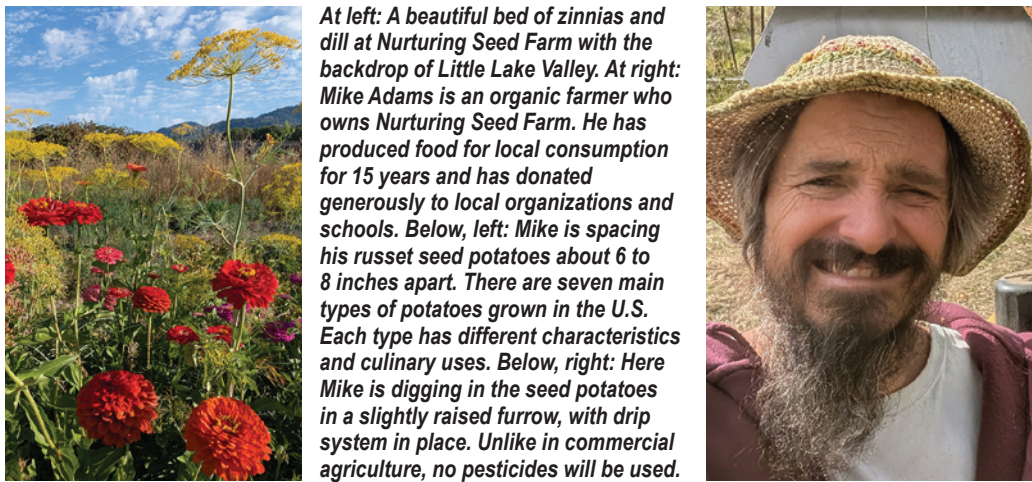
Playful, curious, and full of kitten mischief, Seth is always up for a game, a cuddle, or an adventure around the house. His special toes make him look like he's wearing tiny baseball gloves and he's ready –to catch your heart. Come meet Seth and see just how special a little extra can be!

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.mendocinohumane.org](http://www.mendocinohumane.org), on our Facebook page, and on [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com).

Playful, curious, and full of kitten mischief, Seth is always up for a game, a cuddle, or an adventure around the house. His special toes make him look like he's wearing tiny baseball gloves and he's ready –to catch your heart. Come meet Seth and see just how special a little extra can be!

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At left: A beautiful bed of zinnias and dill at Nurturing Seed Farm with the backdrop of Little Lake Valley. At right: Mike Adams is an organic farmer who owns Nurturing Seed Farm. He has produced food for local consumption for 15 years and has donated generously to local organizations and schools. Below, left: Mike is spacing his russet seed potatoes about 6 to 8 inches apart. There are seven main types of potatoes grown in the U.S. Each type has different characteristics and culinary uses. Below, right: Here Mike is digging in the seed potatoes in a slightly raised furrow, with drip system in place. Unlike in commercial agriculture, no pesticides will be used.



Below, from left: Potatoes being harvested from a bed in Mike's greenhouse, planted early in the season. Potato greens die off with frost. Outside of a greenhouse, they are a seasonal crop in Willits. Potatoes are a staple crop in a large part of the world. Bins of kale and other greens delivered to the back door of the new Food Bank on Railroad Avenue. This beautiful sunflower, a composite flower, attracts both birds and pollinators and is a good source of nutritious seeds.



Photos by Mike Adams

## Farmer Mike Adams grows extra potatoes for Willits Food Bank thanks to a Gleaners grant

By Karen Gridley

When the Grateful Gleaners asked Mike Adams of Nurturing Seed Farm if he would grow more potatoes for Willits Community Services and Food Bank this spring, he immediately responded "Yes!" So the group awarded Mike with a \$1,000 mini-grant, money raised from their spring plant sale. Consequently, he ordered an additional 250 seed potatoes to put in the ground. He was already planting potatoes for local sales, but this grant would be used for the planting and harvesting of potatoes specifically for the Food Bank.

Potatoes are a popular item for people who come to the food bank. Aside from being a nutritious calorie crop, most people know how, and take the time, to cook them. For a farmer, they are both weight-efficient and area-efficient, which means you can grow a lot of potatoes that produce a significant amount of calories in a small area.

In June, Mike planted these extra seed potatoes in slightly raised beds. He says that potatoes are a labor-intensive crop on a small farm when no machinery is being used, so he welcomed the extra money to help cover labor for planting and harvesting the potatoes.

Through his successful farming practices, Mike has already donated 160 pounds of potatoes to the food bank and an additional box to the volunteer group called Food Not Bombs, which offers a free meal in Willits once a month. If all goes as planned, weekly deliveries will continue through November or December.

Debi Menesini and Nils Gustafson, co-managers of the Willits Food Bank, are enthusiastic about the new potatoes Mike brings in. Customers appreciate the freshness and notice the difference.

Wendy Copperfield, executive director of Willits Community Services, is heartened by how the community has stepped up to help the food bank since the announcement of cuts to the Emergency Food Assistance Program which supplies food banks with surplus

commodities from large American agribusiness farms.

According to Copperfield, the potato project at Nurturing Seed Farm is a welcome addition in their struggle to supply food to the many people who cannot afford to put meals on the table for their families.

The mini-grant provided to Mike Adams was raised by the Grateful Gleaners from the sale of plants at the group's popular spring plant sale, a fine example of how cash and resources can circulate locally.

It is interesting to note that historically there is no evidence of a significant commercial potato production in Willits, although potatoes were grown locally for family consumption. Records indicate that Northwestern Lumber Company farmed a 200-acre parcel alongside Highway 101 and Sherwood Road that was planted with potatoes and other vegetables, which were sent to the cookhouse of the sawmill located in Brooktrails. Also apparently, by the mid-20th century, Mendocino County farmers were raising seed potatoes for growers in Bakersfield and other centers of production better suited to large-scale commercial agriculture.

Other groups and individuals who are routinely donating to the food bank will be featured in a future article.

If you are interested in delivering produce to the Willits Food Bank, or are interested in volunteering, you may drop in on Wednesdays and Fridays between 9:30 am and 4:30 pm. You may also call (707) 459-3333 for more information on how to donate or to make arrangements on another day of the week.

Monetary donations can be made on the "Support My Community" button on their website at [www.willitsfoodbank.com](http://www.willitsfoodbank.com) or on the "Donate" button on Willits Community Services and Food Bank's Facebook page, or mailed to 344 Railroad Avenue, Willits, CA 95490.

Nurturing Seed Farm can be contacted at [nurturingseedfarm@gmail.com](mailto:nurturingseedfarm@gmail.com)

## The rest of Brooktrails

From page 1

resident Michelle King stepped to the podium. She said: "My mom walks the parcourse three times per week, and I transport her there and have done so year after year for several years. Have any of you ever been to the parcourse parking lot? It is awful! I drop my mom off at 10 am, and she's able to walk with her friends. I stay in my car, and I'm able to do emails etc., and I watch other people come into the parking lot and "jimmy" around the potholes. I've taken pictures and have gotten several people to sign a petition to register the concern about the condition of the parking lot."

Board Vice-President Rick Williams interrupted King registering his agreement with her statements, and asked for King to hand him the petition so he could also sign it.

King went on to outline some options for temporary repairs for all of the parking lot potholes that could be beneficial during the rainy season. She noted that with all of the recent wonderful work done (by the Willits Area Cyclists volunteer crew) on the trail system connected to the parcourse, that there surely could be some funds allocated to repair the parking lot.

Tyler-O'Shea thanked King for attending the meeting and asked for the photos and the signed petition. King handed them to her.

Linda Hill of Buckeye Circle went to the podium and said she had two things to note. She said: "I am very concerned about the port-a-potty at the golf course that we pay \$700/month for rental. I took my granddaughter in there last week, and I wouldn't take my dog in there! There are no seat covers, no hand sanitizer and you can see urine running down at the front of the toilet. We pay good money for the facility, and it needs to be better than that."

Hill also wanted to also let the board know that the bag of trash that she had noticed before the September 23 board meeting that had been at the water treatment plant on Primrose Drive for several weeks was there until she recently took it upon herself to finally remove it. She said: "The garbage laying around is a reflection on Brooktrails. We need to do better than that."

The last person to step to the podium introduced herself: "I am Buffy Wright Bourassa, and I am a Willits community member. I'm also a proud Willits Rotarian and a tribal member of Sherwood Valley Rancheria. I've also served three terms on the tribal council. I'm really here to listen and learn and find out about how

I can contribute to the community. I have a son and his family who live here in Brooktrails. I also enjoy walking the parcourse. It's a beautiful place, and we have tribal lands up further. We are just trying to find out how we can be good neighbors."

Tyler-O'Shea asked if any directors had any response to the public comments. Williams said: "I'll respond to what Michelle said about the parcourse parking lot. It is a disaster and if we can do anything about its condition and keep up with the repairs, that would be great." Director Mary Ziady said: "I concur. If we could get gravel and get the crew to work for a couple hours filling the holes that would be good."

Director Susan Mahoney requested that the mound of asphalt that's at the parcourse should be covered and protected from the upcoming rains because the asphalt could be used to do repairs in the future.

Alaniz responded to all of the comments stating, "After hearing from the three board members and from the members of the public about this issue, I'm going to take what has been said as direction for me to work on this and find the funding and staff time to see if we can come up with a timely and permanent improvement to the parking lot."

Continuing, she said: "We've had a Parks grant and included in that grant was the resurfacing of the parcourse parking lot. Because of the debacle that's been the parcourse fitness equipment, we've had some issues with getting the grant money and with filing for reimbursement for work that's been done because we're in the middle of the actual physical hardware issue. It's a lot harder for them to consider the reimbursement requests for time and labor. I apologize for not making the parking lot a priority because it was made a priority in the grant. We can still potentially make it a priority, because we are still in that grant window and we can claim for reimbursement and see how it goes."

Finally, Tyler-O'Shea drew attention to the Consent Calendar items: Review and Approval of Accounts Payable Report for Authorization to Issue Checks on or about October 29, 2025 in the amount of \$136,574.01 and the 2025 Quarter 3 Golf Course Green Fees Report. Director Ed Horrick made the motion to approve the Consent Calendar items and Williams seconded it. The board's vote was unanimous for approval.

## The rest of Enchanted

From page 1

nestled into the hillside next to a winery. Each year, the Path keeps the same format of a "variety theatre experience," but it also takes on new scenes, actors, sets, skits, and – a new theme. This year for the Path's 37th annual event, around 600 ticket-holders came to see the "Starry Night" themed event. Each of the eight skits during the event revolved around the theme, and attendees received a special gift at the end of each skit that spoke to the theme of that story.

"Eliza Frey is the creative force behind the production," explained Taj Uvaro, Enrollment & Outreach coordinator for WSMC. "From developing the theme, writing the script, designing costumes and sets, to assembling the cast. Most of the actors are parents or alumni parents, bringing a special sense of connection and joy to the performances. The Path showcases the amazing talent and creativity of the WSMC community of teachers, staff, parents, alumni, alumni parents, grandparents, and friends."

This year's skits included: "Starry Eyed Astronomer" and actor Katrina Frey; "The Dance that Made the Stars" and actors Cheryle Evans, Carolyn Brown, and Nansea Boykin; "Falling Star Wishes" and actors Jeffery Harris, Kim Shepard, and Cathy Monroe; "Little Star Shines Bright" with actors Joey Mayhugh and Moira Jordan; "Maui Finds New Land" with actors Chet Collins, Rio Palley, and Cliff Paulin; "Orion and The Rabbit" with actors Estelle Clifton, Marco Donner, and Renata Abbade; "Chariot of the Sun" with actors Stacy Sheldon, Calvin Turnwall, and Linneh Thomson; and "This Little Light of Mine" with actors Don Willis and Richard "Tootrees" Jeske.

"The Enchanted Pumpkin Path is especially dear to us because it's a time when we welcome the extended community to our campus," continued Uvaro. "We love seeing friends from other schools join in the fun! In addition to the Enchanted Pumpkin Path, we also host a few other public celebrations throughout the year: Michaelmas and May Day, and we invite community members to come experience those as well."

In addition to the main event, attendees enjoyed seeing the creative and elaborate costumes of the other attendees, creating chalk art on the blacktop, listening to music, sitting around the fire, and enjoying bites to eat including piping hot pumpkin soup, hearty chili, popcorn, and refined sugar-free treats lovingly baked by preschool families from The Smokey Cauldron Café, which was led by Jim Stuart and a team of volunteers.

"Live music was provided by Malakai Schindel on hand pipes, pennywhistle, and guitar," said Uvaro. "Malakai's father, Greg Schindel, the original Skunk Train singer, was a beloved part of the Pumpkin Path for decades before his passing two years ago. Having Malakai carry on that musical legacy made this year's event especially meaningful," he said.

"We were also thrilled to have Blue Zones as our event sponsor this year," continued Uvaro. "Waldorf education beautifully supports many of the same principles that Blue Zones celebrates for living long and healthy lives: creative expression, deep and meaningful community relationships, multidisciplinary learning, and active community engagement."

To learn more about the Waldorf School of Mendocino County, visit their website: [www.mendocinowaldorf.org/](http://www.mendocinowaldorf.org/) or call (707) 485-8719.

## The rest of Retired

From page 1

also served as a deputy district attorney early in his career.

Judge Brennan earned a Juris Doctorate degree from University of California, San Diego in 1990.

Judge Brennan is known as even-tempered and mindful of the financial and other social challenges that face many defendants and litigants in the Mendocino community. He has been an advocate for ensuring that court fines and fees are fair and affordable. He has presided over Behavioral Health Court for many years, working closely with defendants with underlying mental health issues that often contribute to their law violations. He is deeply rooted in the Mendocino coastal community.

Reflecting on his time in public service, Judge Brennan said: "I've enjoyed my career and feel very privileged to have worked with so many talented and dedicated people. We have a difficult and stressful job, but it's also interesting and rewarding."

Presiding Judge Keith Faulder acknowledged Judge Brennan's contributions to the public and said: "Judge Brennan's judicial temperament, sense of humor, and ability to preside over any case type will be missed. We all wish him well."



Above: Some of CAL FIRE's new Company Officers being sworn in.

## The rest of Graduates

From page 2

supervisor and tactical leader. Graduates of the rigorous, standardized academy are now prepared to assume a broad range of command and management responsibilities, directing the safe and effective deployment of their crews and equipment during all types of emergencies.

Beyond incident response, this role is crucial during non-emergency periods, as Company Officers lead crew training, manage station readiness, and head essential fire prevention efforts like defensible space inspections and public education, ensuring a continuous, highly trained presence in the communities they serve.

## CHP seizes more than a pound of meth in Covelo

Posted by CHP Garberville Office



California Highway Patrol Officers Heaton and Mann from the Laytonville Resident Post have removed over a pound of methamphetamine from the streets of Covelo.

Their efforts continue to keep our communities safe.

These small white bags of methamphetamine seized by the CHP add up to over 1 pound.

## Ukiah school district's statement on teacher's arrest

Submitted by UUSD

November 3 –Ukiah Unified School District was informed Wednesday that a high school staff member was arrested following allegations of inappropriate electronic communications with a high school student.

When law enforcement first advised the district of the allegations on October 16, 2025, the staff member was immediately placed on administrative leave pending the outcome of an investigation. The employee remains out of the classroom and off campus during this process.

UUSD Superintendent Deb Kubin said: "The safety and well-being of our

students are our highest priorities. We are cooperating fully with law enforcement and conducting our own internal investigation. We will continue to communicate with families as appropriate while respecting the privacy rights of all involved."

All district employees undergo background checks that continuously monitor for new information throughout employment. Staff also complete annual training on maintaining professional boundaries and are mandated reporters of any suspected abuse or misconduct.

School counselors will be available on campus to provide support for any student who wishes to speak with someone or needs assistance processing this information.

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## Annual Bake Sale and Bazaar

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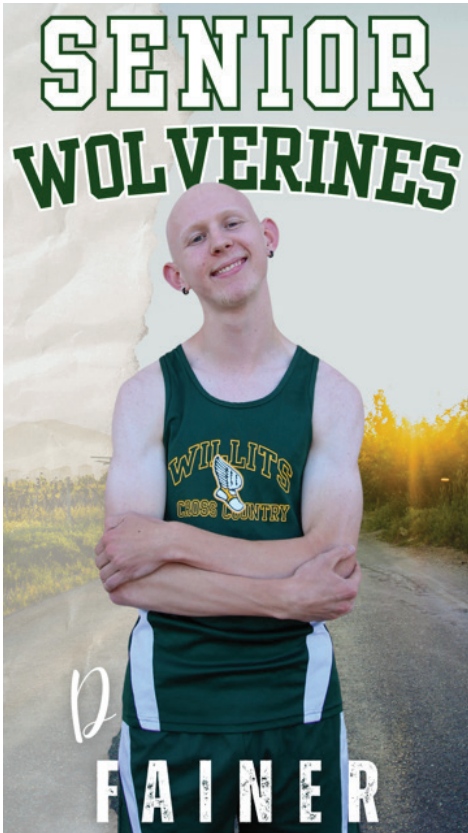
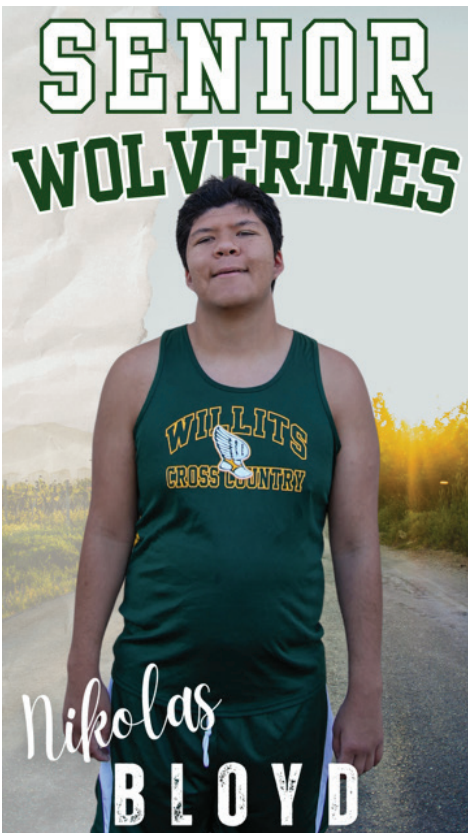
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Contact the HR Dept at [HR@svrcasino.com](mailto:HR@svrcasino.com) or 707-459-7335





COMMUNITY SPORTS NEWS

Cross country wraps up season and says goodbye to senior runners

It was hard to catch up with some of our finest cross country runners to honor them as seniors. But once we did, we had the privilege of learning who they are as athletes, and humans. Willits High School sports programs, coaches and teachers continue to help mold many young men and women through sports, to shape them into even more fabulous young adults as they make their way into real life. Cross country has had a great year, one these talented runners will likely not forget.

Cole Lane plans on going to a JC in Iowa to play on their golf team, and study natural resources. "I've been doing cross country since my sophomore year," said Lane. "I've always enjoyed running, and winning at it. Once I joined cross country, I found out it was something I really did well at. I like the aspect of competing as an individual, and as a team. My coach, Mr. Smith, is great. He makes practice fun, and painful. He is encouraging, and just a fun person to be around."

"Cole is a very talented and competitive runner," said Head Coach Kenny Smith. "This will be his third season in a row being all league, and likely his second season in a row being the league champion. Cole hasn't finished lower than first place in a league race since 2023. It's been fun coaching him and watching him develop into the dominant runner that he is."

D Fainer has promising plans after high school. "Being a part of such a fun and tenacious group of runners has been an unforgettable experience," said Fainer. "I am invigorated by our recent victory in Lakeport, and am grateful for the unending support of my family, friends and coach, who have encouraged me to take part in a marathon in December. I greatly look up to our incredible coach, calculus teacher, and advisor to my architecture club, Mr. Smith, and grateful he persuaded me to join this team. Looking ahead, I will carry what I have learned about determination and camaraderie into my future in activism and social service."

"As a first-year runner, D has had an impressive season," said Smith. "During the first week of the season, his fastest mile was 6:43. Now his mile time is under 5:20, just behind Cole. He is currently ranked fourth in league and will earn all-league status. D is a fun, goofy guy and an encouraging, supportive teammate to the entire group."

Nikolas Bloyd is unsure of his plans after high school as he is still giving it some serious thought. We know he will do great at whatever he sets his mind to.

"I did cross country for two years," said Bloyd. "It kept me in shape, while keeping me from being bored. Cross country was good, and fun. Mr. Smith is a good coach who puts a lot of effort into it. Bonus, he got me a lot of milkshakes!"

"Nikolas is the team celebrity," said Smith. "He's loved by all, has the best one-liners, and is all around a great guy. He works hard, always shows up with a great attitude, and is the type of athlete every coach wants on the team."

Alexandra Ramos plans to attend Mendocino College in the fall after high school, and she is looking to play softball on their team. "This was my first year of cross country, after playing five years of volleyball," said Ramos. "I wanted to

try something new. The number-one reason I joined was because of my teacher and now coach, Mr. Smith. Mr. Smith is one of the best teachers at Willits High School and a great coach. He is encouraging and cares about each and every one of his students, he is one of my biggest role models.

"I was nervous about joining the sport because I wasn't fast but in the end it doesn't matter about your speed," shared Ramos. "My favorite thing about cross country is even though you are on a team, you go at your own pace. Out of all the sports I played, I have never enjoyed being on the team more than this one. There is never a dull moment around the cross country team, and they always cheer me up, even on a bad day. I always come out of practice or a meet laughing. Even though it's my first year of cross country, we definitely had the biggest team out of our competitors and it was a very fun year. I can't wait to see where the boys place in the championships!"

"Alexandra has been a great addition to our team," said Smith. "She works hard and has improved steadily throughout the season. Alexandra is also responsible for the team camaraderie that has developed over the last couple of months. We joke that she is the team mom because she organizes events, makes sure everyone is included, and takes care of the freshmen. She will definitely be missed by the team next year."

WHS cross country senior athletes: your community wishes you the best as you head into your next stage of life. We are all very proud of you, and excited about your future plans. Congratulations on all your success and dedication to your school. You will be missed. Wolverines pride forever.

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