

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Thank you

To the Editor:

I'd like to compliment the window dresser of the WE Flowers of Willits at 242 South Main Street.

At a time when our city is focused on making improvements with beauty and safety, this business makes me smile each month with their artistic and creative front window displays.

Pat Cougar, Willits

Correction for Willits Wellness Center

To the Editor:

In a recent letter to the editor I stated that the county's Behavioral Health and Recovery Service Wellness Center located at 474 East Valley Street and open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 10 am to 2:30 pm was closing at the end of the year.

My statement was based on outdated information.

I've since been corrected by that program's supervisor Rena Ford that they will in fact stay open. They will be moving to another location in Willits at some time in the near future.

For now, though, the Wellness Center is open during those hours at that location, and offers a variety of classes to any interested community member. Community members are welcome to stop by, or you can call Rena Ford at (707) 472-2724 for more information.

My apologies for the error.

Helen Falandes, Willits

Winter Break

Willits Weekly's final edition of 2023 will be our December 14 edition. We'll take our annual holiday break, then be back with a January 11, 2023 edition. Thanks to readers, contributors and advertisers for all your support throughout the year!

Jackson Forest advisory group seeks members

Submitted by CAL FIRE MEU

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Jackson Demonstration State Forest invites public involvement in the management of JDSF through participation on its Jackson Advisory Group. The JAG advises CAL FIRE and the state Board of Forestry and Fire Protection on forest management at JDSF.

CAL FIRE is seeking two JAG applicants to provide expertise in the following forest management categories, one "Small Private Forestland Owner"

Read the rest of **Members** | Over on page 4

The Rules: LETTERS

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

Typed letters can be sent to Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490, but email is preferred. Letters and commentaries must be submitted with a name, address and phone number, although only the author's name and city of residence will be published. No letters from an anonymous source will be published, although a request to withhold the writer's name will be considered.

Willits Weekly

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Cubbison did the right thing, and then...

by Mike Geniella, www.theava.com, December 6, 2023

The irony of it all.

Chamise Cubbison did the responsible thing in February 2020 by seeking a legal opinion from the County's high priced outside attorney about DA Dave Eyster and his disputed spending practices.

Cubbison, then Assistant County Auditor, warned Morin Jacob, managing partner of the San Francisco law firm of Liebert Cassidy Whitmore, that long-standing issues with the DA had become more contentious.

Cubbison specifically cited the DA claims for reimbursement for a Broiler Steak House dinner that he hosted for 42 staff members and 25 guests. He had labeled the post-holiday gathering a "training session" and insisted the Auditor's office use state asset forfeiture funds to cover the \$2,345 cost. Typically, the money seized from criminal-related activities is used for drug and crime prevention programs including law enforcement training.

It was clear in her letter to Jacob that Cubbison was seeking advice on how to deal with a DA who had waged a decade long battle with the Auditor's Office over use of asset forfeiture funds, travel reimbursements, and now a so-called evening training session at a popular local steak house.

Cubbison went so far as to tell Jacob that her office had even suggested language the DA could add to some claims which would expedite processing "but the DA refused to consider those suggestions."

"In nearly all the cases, the response is that the CEO has authorized an exemption, that the DA is an elected constitutional officer, and the Auditor is trying to limit the DA's budgetary authority, or that asset forfeiture funds are non-county monies and not subject to county policy," Cubbison wrote.

Eyster had earlier succeeded in winning a special exemption to spending documentation requirements from former CEO Carmel Angelo in his bid to get around questioning by the Auditor's Office.

Then when former Auditor Lloyd Weer retired, and recommended that Cubbison be named his successor, the DA took the unprecedented step of vehemently opposing her appointment, declaring she was unqualified. He also supported a move by the Board of Supervisors to consolidate two independent County offices lead by elected officials to oversee the county finances: the Auditor/Controller and the Treasurer/Tax Collector. The board's intention is to eventually abolish both offices and create a new Department of Finance more closely aligned with County administrators.

Jacob in her response to Cubbison's request for help provided no clarity.

Jacob opined that the Auditor/Controller does not have "general authority" to require the DA to comply with County policies, but then wrote that the office does have "authority, however, to not reimburse claims and can deny claims for purchase of goods or services that are not in conformity with existing county policies."

Jacob went on: "The District Attorney may use asset forfeiture funds that may fall outside of conformity with county policies but subject to the guidelines outlined by Government Code 11489."

Jacob conceded that the DA may have to obtain travel authorizations but only for those that are not related to a case, and either involve travel outside of California or are over \$1,000.

In short, instead of clarity that Cubbison clearly sought, Jacob had obfuscated the issues between the Auditor's Office and the District Attorney.

Fast forward three years and it is again Jacob who is center stage in the

Read the rest of **Cubbison** | Over on page 4

Study shows ancient redwood buds sprouting after 2020 wildfire

Submitted by Save the Redwoods League

December 1, 2023 – A new study published November 30 in the "Nature Plants" journal has discovered that ancient buds and decades-old carbon reserves drive prolific coast redwood tree regrowth after catastrophic wildfires.

In the multi-year study the research team from Northern Arizona University observed these unique adaptations that helped old-growth redwood trees at Big Basin Redwoods State Park in Santa Cruz recover after the extreme 2020 CZU Lightning Complex Fires.

"Some of the results of this study suggest many of the redwoods at Big Basin were actually well-prepared for this fire event," said Drew Peltier, biologist and assistant professor at University of Nevada, Las Vegas (formerly at NAU). "Coast redwoods are extremely fire adapted and perhaps unusual in that they resprout after disturbances like fire. We were amazed to discover how they actually do that physiologically."

"The CZU Fire consumed all of the leaves on some of the tallest and oldest trees in the world, yet many are recovering," said George Koch, professor of biological sciences at NAU. "Redwoods' scientific name is 'sempervirens,' which means ever-flourishing. It's very satisfying to have learned a bit more about how this remarkable species lives up to its name."

The research team from NAU collected samples of small redwood tree sprouts at Big Basin following the CZU fires. Using a mini carbon dating system, aka MICADAS, at NAU—a first-of-its-kind tool in the United States at an academic institution—the team measured the number of radiocarbon atoms in the samples to determine the age of carbon reserves used to grow new leaves.

They identified that the carbon reserves the trees used to produce the sprouts were more than a half-century old. They also found that many burned old-growth redwood trees resprouted quickly following the fire, and that these sprouts emerged from buds that had been dormant under the trees' bark for centuries. Direct use of old stored carbon has rarely been documented and never before in such large, old trees. Some old-growth trees at Big Basin are more than 1,500 years old.

As part of the research endeavor, the team also installed phenology cameras in the tree canopy to monitor the regrowth

Read the rest of **Redwoods** | Over on page 4



The current state of the sign only includes the middle and bottom portions, which thankfully include most of the pertinent details.

Full 568 sign still on its way

Third District Supervisor John Haschak reached out to a contact at Caltrans to receive an update about the not-quite-complete fix of Willits' exit sign at the south end of the bypass. The December 1 reply from Caltrans is below:

"The upper half of the sign was destroyed in the accident. The lower half appears decent in the photo but it needs replacement. The temporary install was requested to appease the complaint while we wait on replacement panels. When D3 completes the new panels we will install them that same week. Hopefully the new panels are ready for pick up very soon."



At top, from left: Jacki Pealatore of Picaro Gordo sells laser-cut wooden ornaments. Frank and Lindsay Hanson came from Bell Springs to show their candles which are also available at Sparetime Supply. Cristina Vionnet, along with her husband, Alfredo, offers these beautiful handmade cutting boards. Above, from left: Members of the Leggett Valley High School Italian Club sell goods made by students: from left, Layla, River and Helen. Kids have fun overseeing the 4H Sewing Club booth. Jayma Spence, one of the craft fair organizers, manned the See's Candies booth, the only goods not handmade by the participants. At right: Laytonville farmer Mic Rueb talks about his goods with one of the attendees.

Bazaar of Artisans

Shoppers find handmade gifts of all kinds at annual Laytonville Holiday Craft Fair

There was a steadfast rule for all the 45-plus vendors (except one) to follow at the Laytonville Holiday Craft Fair: all the goods sold had to be created by the person or people in the booth.

This meant that everything found at any of the vendor booths was an original hand-crafted piece, made with love.

The offerings ranged from colorful candles to pajamas to herbal remedies to photographs and unique items that would be very difficult to find anywhere else. The one exception to the rule was the See's Candies that were being sold by event organizer Jayma Spence. These popular items were much in demand and as such received an excuse not to comply.

"This is our annual fundraiser for Harwood Memorial Park," explained Spence. "We always sell See's Candy at the holiday bazaar. This year we are inside the Laytonville Tin Gym because we wanted a better facility to be able to fit all of the vendors in one space and not have to play the weather game by being outside."

"We used to do this inside Harwood Hall but we can only put so many vendors in there. We would have the overflow outside, so this way we can contain everybody in one nice, big space. There's plenty of room for people to shop, not all crunched in, not bumping up against each other. We hope it will be a nice fix today."

"This building is called the Tin Gym. This was our gymnasium when I was in high school here. Currently, it is actually used as the middle school gym. The community uses it as well for community sports," explained Spence.

The vendors involved in the bazaar were varied in their products and purposes in participation. Lindsay and Frank Hanson of Bell Springs Candleworks brought a colorful array of candles, which they also show at the gift shop attached to Sparetime Supply in Willits.

The company is a multi-generational creative concern. "I took over the business from my mom and dad in 2015, who have

Read the rest of **Bazaar** | Over on page 9



Above, left: Twelve-year-old Bronch Bowles just started her own cottage business, baking and selling cookies, cakes, muffins, and more. Above, right: Amber Slater of Wild Sparrow Creations shows off her dye-sublimation printed cups and candles. Below, left: Sarah Adams of Everyday Alchemy offers information and herbal products. Below, right: Stephanie and Mike Wheeler of Wheeler Mountain Creations sell baby blankets, Christmas stockings, and other gifts.

Photos by Mathew Caine



Season's GREETINGS

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The rest of **Deceased** | From page 1

assistance of a citizen began a hasty search of the area. Deputies also summoned the assistance of the Mendocino County Search and Rescue Team to respond to assist, due to the risk of the missing person being lost or injured.

During the hasty search of the surrounding area, deputies found the missing person, who was deceased.

The deputies began a death investigation, and no obvious indicators of foul play were discovered. The investigation was subsequently turned over to the MCSO Coroner's Division for further investigations connected to medical records collection and potential autopsy.

The Sheriff's Office would like to thank the Point Arena Fire Department and the citizen who assisted in the immediate search for Michele Paul. The Sheriff's Office would also like to thank the Mendocino County Search and Rescue Team for their willingness to respond to assist in the search prior to Michele Paul being located prior to their arrival.

The rest of **Fees** | From page 1

consider "the status of labor negotiations" when thinking about the need to increase fees.

Fifth District Supervisor Ted Williams questioned the amounts of staff time and other costs included in the reckoning of the directed "full cost recovery" when providing some of the services. "Some of these fees far exceed reasonable costs," he said.

He also suggested the county should instead be eliminating fees, reducing county-level regulation and the time required to provide services.

Board Chair Glenn McGourty said he agreed with Supervisor Williams, who'd cited the need for getting a an expensive permit to replace "one bad outlet," that increasing permit fees can encourage locals to avoid getting permits altogether, citing the cost of installing a water heater. County Council Christian Curtis reminded both supervisors that Mendocino County did not require a permit for minor repairs, and also that some of the services provided or fees charged were state mandates.

Acting Deputy CEO Tim Hallman introduced the proposed Master Fee Schedule changes by saying: "Per board direction, [we the Executive Office Fiscal Team] have gone through and have evaluated those fees for 'full cost recovery.' This ended up being a very significant update, so for the past several months, we've had staff dedicated specifically to ensure we get these fees updated, and the departments have also put in a significant amount of effort in order to update these fees. "It has been a team process," he said, "and I really do appreciate everybody on this list that's made it a little more bearable of a process producing this many key changes."

Before the changes approved Tuesday by the board, staff had estimated the changed fee schedule would mean an estimated \$3.3 million in fee revenue coming into the county, more than half in general fund monies.

Deputy CEO Hallman said the new fees would mean over \$1.3 million in estimated annual revenue increases for Planning and Building, and nearly \$1.5 million in additional revenues for Environmental Health. Environmental Health, Holman said, is currently using realignment monies, which is "not sustainable" he said.

Supervisors also discussed whether or when current county efforts to create efficiencies, among them the Golden Gate Initiative, would be reflected in fee costs. Deputy CEO Hallman confirmed when Haschak asked that any reduction in costs due to greater efficiencies could be brought forward in a twice-yearly fee hearing.

Second District Supervisor Maureen Mulheren thanked Planning and Building for the memo that "updated the board and the public about how you got to the fees that are being raised. It's important that we continue in all of our departments to do time studies and make sure that we're reflecting accurately what the fees that we're charging are based on the work. This board has certainly asked all departments to create efficiencies and improve the ability of our businesses to be able to operate quickly and affordably, and I know that Planning and Building has heard that message and continues to try to increase efficiencies to improve our economic development in the county.

The rest of **Kennels** | From page 1

profit with no government funding, and we need to make smart choices for our shelter to keep our doors open for many years to come!

How you can help? Adopt, foster and volunteer!

HSIMC is offering a "Home for the Holidays" adoption special in December for all altered dogs and cats. Altered dogs: \$50; altered cats: \$25; no adoption fee for senior cats or for barn cats or for +FELV cats.

No appointment needed during open hours: 1 to 5 pm, Wednesday through Friday; and 11 am to 3 pm Saturday and Sunday. 9700 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley; (707) 485-0123; calteam@hsmc.org; dogteam@hsmc.org

View our adoptable dogs and apply to adopt: <https://mendohumanesociety.com/adoptable-dogs>

View our adoptable cats and apply to adopt: <https://mendohumanesociety.com/adoptable-cats>

Sign up to foster and volunteer: <https://mendohumanesociety.com/sign-up-today>

Looking to surrender a pet? Please utilize our free rehoming service and help us help you! Adoptions by guardian: <https://mendohumanesociety.com/adoptions-by-pet-guardian>

Dog surrender request: <https://mendohumanesociety.com/surrender-request-dog>

Check out "Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County" on Facebook to keep up with success stories and needs.

Senior Center menu for the week

Willits Senior Center is serving lunch in its indoor dining room, and continues to serve drive-through and walk-up lunches, too. Lunch is available Monday through Friday, from 12 to 12:45 pm, inside and outside the Senior Center, 1501 Baechteld Road. Lunches are \$8; \$75 for a 10 lunch card for Senior Center members.

Thursday, December 7: French Dip, Loaded Mashed Potatoes

Friday, December 8: Chili Cheeseburger, Chips

Monday, December 11: Chili Mac Corn Bread

Tuesday, December 12: Beef Stroganoff, Veggies, Roll

Wednesday, December 13: Garlic Butter Chicken Pasta, Veggies, Roll

Thursday, December 14: Pulled Pork Sandwich, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw

Friday, December 15: Chicken Breast, Hollandaise Sauce, Veggies, Roll

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

Pancake Breakfast every second Sunday, on December 10 this month, 8 to 11 am. \$10; \$9 center members; \$6 children under 8. Menu choices: 1. Pancakes with eggs cooked the way you like them, and choice of sausage or bacon. 2. Biscuits & gravy with eggs cooked the way you like them. \$10; \$9 Senior Center members; \$6 children under 8. Extra meal sides \$2: 3 slices bacon, 2 sausage links. Breakfast includes Peet's Coffee and orange juice or milk.

Meals on Wheels: The Senior Center Meals on Wheels program delivers lunch Monday through Friday. To sign up call Joliana at 459-6826, who can help fill out the application form. Call 459-6826 the day before needed to schedule home meal delivery. Delivered throughout Willits.

Transportation for seniors: Call 459-5556 to schedule. Pick up and drop off for grocery shopping, banking, doctors' appointments. Senior Center Thrift Shop: 459-2176

The Senior Center is in need of volunteers to help with the many activities here at the center, including volunteer Meals on Wheels drivers. "Volunteers are one-third of our workforce, which allows us to offer many services to our members and community." To learn more about volunteering: 459-6826.

The rest of **Members** | From page 2

and one "Industrial Forestland Owner."

Interested persons should apply by submitting a letter of interest and resume by Friday, January 12, 2024 (dated and/or postmarked). Applications should be sent to: Jackson Demonstration State Forest, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, 802 North Main Street, Fort Bragg, CA 95437; (707) 964-5674; JDSF@fire.ca.gov

Background

JDSF, the largest of 14 Demonstration State Forests in California, is in Mendocino County. The 48,652-acre forest fills a unique niche to advance research, demonstration, and education on sustainable forestry practices to help maintain California's leading role as an innovator in solutions to difficult resource management challenges.

The Jackson Advisory Group provides advice to CAL FIRE and the Forestry Board on management of the forest. It also is intended that interactions among the advisory group, the department, the board, and the public will help to ensure transparency and create trust regarding JDSF management.

The Jackson Advisory Group will meet up to six times in 2024 on dates yet to be determined. Meetings are generally from 9 am to 4 pm either in the Fort Bragg area or on the forest. Additional preparation time between meetings will typically be necessary. There is no compensation for service on the Advisory Group.

The Jackson Advisory Group members represent a range of local, regional, and state interests and areas of technical expertise such as forestry research, forest conservation, ecology, environmental education, environmental protection, fisheries, forest management, physical sciences, recreation, timber operations, and wildlife. Members are to represent the public. Meetings of the advisory group are public and subject to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act.

New appointees will serve a term of three years. Interviews for these two positions will be conducted in late January. The director's appointees are subject to the approval of the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection.

General Information regarding JDSF can be found on our website here:

<https://www.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/natural-resource-management/demonstration-state-forests/jackson-demonstration-state-forest>

Warm Coat Drive

December 13

Hosted by Community Crossroads and ABC Day Program. Wednesday, December 13 from 10 am to 2 pm, at the Les Schwab parking lot, 1565 South Main Street. Celebrate the Season of Giving! We will be collecting coats, hats, scarves, and gloves, to be distributed and worn by those in need during the cold season. Donations can also be dropped off at 286 School Street, Monday through Friday – please call Shannon at 707-480-3044 for times.

The rest of **Redwoods** | From page 2

over time. That ongoing monitoring is part of the PhenoCam Network, which tracks vegetation growth and phenology in ecosystems around the world.

Visit www.savetheredwoods.org/wp-content/uploads/May-2021-Big-Basin-Canopy-post-fire.png and www.savetheredwoods.org/wp-content/uploads/Nov-2023-Big-Basin-Canopy.png to see contrasting photos of the same area from May 2021 before the fire and from November 2023.

"These images show, in a visually compelling and accessible manner, just how catastrophic the devastation from the CZU fires was. At the same time, they document the absolutely incredible resprouting that has occurred in a remarkably short period of time," said Andrew Richardson, regents' professor of ecosystem science at NAU. "This is in part thanks to the unusual anatomy of redwoods and their investment in large carbon reserves."

"This fascinating research reveals how coast redwoods have been able to adapt and survive for millennia by drawing on carbon they've stored for decades to give them new life," said Joanna Nelson, PhD, director of science and conservation planning for Save the Redwoods League, which funded the research.

"These discoveries underscore why we have to protect the last remaining old-growth redwood trees, use best forest management practices and continue to restore younger second-growth forests – so they'll have the capacity for resilience to future wildfires and other effects of climate change."

Coast redwood forests are fire adapted and have been thriving, fire-resilient ecosystems for millions of years, but the CZU fires burned at an intensity not documented in most coast redwood groves for at least a century.

While redwoods demonstrated a remarkable ability to recover post-fire, other common tree species of the coast redwood forest, including Douglas fir, do not have the same capacity for regrowth and experienced nearly 100% mortality.

The CZU fires spanned more than 135 square miles in the Santa Cruz Mountains of Northern California, an area nearly three times the size of San Francisco. Notably, over 97% of Big Basin Redwoods State Park burned, including old-growth redwood forest.

Many trees' crowns, some more than 295 feet tall, lost all their canopy leaves. Sadly, many plants and animals perished, and the extreme fire behavior not only affected Big Basin, but also nearby parks and the surrounding communities.

Save the Redwoods League, California State Parks and a broad coalition of partners are working to study and restore the forest to increase its capacity for carbon capture, bring back forest biodiversity, and build climate resilience back into this landscape through a coordinated, science-based approach.

One of the nation's longest-running conservation organizations, Save the Redwoods League has been protecting and restoring redwood forests since 1918. The League has connected generations of visitors with the beauty and serenity of the redwood forests. Our 400,000 supporters have enabled the League to protect more than 220,000 acres of irreplaceable forests in 66 state, national, and local parks and reserves. For information, please visit www.SaveTheRedwoods.org.

The rest of **Cubbison** | From page 2

determination whether the Board of Supervisors could immediately suspend the embattled Auditor without pay before she has even been arraigned and a plea entered to the felony criminal charge Eyster filed against her in mid-October.

Jacob said yes, she could be immediately suspended, and then belatedly offered Cubbison an opportunity to appear before the board two weeks after the fact.

Cubbison attorney Chris Andrian ripped the board, and Jacob, for denying his client due process. He warned civil litigation challenging the board's action was likely.

There are no surprises here.

Board members, the CEO's office, and the DA were all aware of the questions Cubbison as Assistant Auditor, and others before her, had raised about questionable spending practices and reimbursement requests from the District Attorney's Office since Eyster took over in January 2011.

Yet Cubbison is the elected official who ended up with a serious criminal charge filed against her, and who got sandbagged without a hearing, or the opportunity to publicly defend herself at the time the Board acted without notice.

Her reputation is in tatters after 16 years of County service. Cubbison was recruited from the County Transportation Department to work in the Auditor's Office because of her hard work and expertise.

Cubbison for her part set aside her differences three years ago with the District Attorney and sought legal advice in a bid to clear the air. He chose to wage a vendetta and solicited the county's CEO and Board members to assist.

Cubbison should be praised not condemned for showing responsibility to County taxpayers as a veteran employee and elected official.

Yes, maybe Cubbison is stubborn, difficult, and not easy to work with, according to members of the County's entrenched bureaucracy.

So what? She is, after all, an auditor.

DA Eyster likes to defend his sometimes bully boy behavior by declaring the public wants a "tough prosecutor."

Perhaps the blowback from the Cubbison case suggests the public favors an equally tough, no-nonsense Auditor too.



Holiday Express

Families enjoy train rides and visiting with Santa at annual Roots of Motive Power event

The doors to the engine house were wide open last Saturday for the Roots of Motive Power Holiday Express, a free community celebration. To the delight of children, parents, and everyone who loves trains, Santa arrived with ringing bells, a nostalgic train whistle, and a blast of white steam, carrying toys and treats on the Mountain Quarry engine, while the Port of Olympia engine gave rides around the Roots tracks with thrills for young and old.

The Roots engine house, a unique barn-like building, was alive with holiday joy and squeals of laughter from happy children. They were delighted to experience the beautifully restored "G" scale model trains circling a lifelike diorama. Visitors were able to check out the relics housed in the engine house as well, including the four-person hand cars, an original flagman shed, and a ticketing booth.

The engine house was festively decorated with a giant, lavishly lit Christmas tree in a sparkling train theme. Santa and his elves were there for the kids to meet and all enjoyed seasonal snacks like hot chocolate, homemade cookies, and cider

According to Roots librarian Bear Kamoroff, the impressively big wooden engine house was built 20 years ago, in 2003. "We held the first Holiday Express back then, and have put on the event every year since," he explained.

Known officially as the Railroad History Project Exhibition and Learning Center, the engine house adjoins the Mendocino County Museum, providing collaborative access to school groups and other visitors.

The warmth and whoosh of the steam and the call of the train whistle

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

CC RIDER

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At top, from left: A dad and his youngsters exit the passenger car after a magical train adventure on the Roots Holiday Express. A beaming Santa Claus and a happy Willits family enjoy the Roots-style holiday cheer. A lifelike figure of a resting engineer is one of many details making the large "G" gauge train model diorama a fascinating attraction.

Above, from left: Santa arrives at the engine house with a clanging bell, an old-timey train whistle, and a big cloud of steam, delighting excited onlookers. The engineer of locomotive No. 2, otherwise known as the Port of Olympia, cheerfully carries passengers throughout the day at a rainy but festive Holiday Express celebration. This type of historic hand cart, enjoyed by a happy mom and kids, was originally used by railroad workers dispatched to help repair trains and tracks miles away from the depot.

At left: This historic flagman shed was brought to Roots from it's original location at the Commercial Street depot.

Photos by Margi Gomez Guhde

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30% OFF

<p style="margin: 0; font-size: small;">Wednesday 12/13</p> <p style="margin: 0;">30% OFF</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Flashlights Lighters Knives</p>	<p style="margin: 0; font-size: small;">Thursday 12/14</p> <p style="margin: 0;">30% OFF</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Purses Wallets Bags Coolers</p>	<p style="margin: 0; font-size: small;">Friday 12/15</p> <p style="margin: 0;">30% OFF</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Brumate & Stanley</p>
<p style="margin: 0; font-size: small;">Saturday 12/16</p> <p style="margin: 0;">30% OFF</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Pendleton Towels Blankets</p>	<p style="margin: 0; font-size: small;">Sunday 12/17</p> <p style="margin: 0;">30% OFF</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Toys Games Puzzles</p>	<p style="margin: 0; font-size: small;">Monday 12/18</p> <p style="margin: 0;">30% OFF</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Cuisinart & Lodge Cookwear</p>

Limits & exclusions may apply

Official Calendar Sponsor

HEART OF THE REDWOODS

Willits

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Est. 1926

MAKING WILLITS A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE, WORK, AND PLAY

Serving the community since 1926

<https://willits.org/>

299 East Commercial Street
Willits, California 95490

Please feel free to visit our office for brochures, maps and additional information about the area

(707) 459-7910

Shanachie Pub Ongoing Events
Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street

Saturday Scramble: Every 2nd and 4th Saturday from 3 to 6 pm, hosted by Tyler B. Bring any instrument you can play and sign up to perform a 15-minute set with other local musicians. *Meet new musicians, discover new genres and explore your creativity!

Bluegrass String Jam: Every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month starting at 3 pm - welcomes all Bluegrass musicians! An official jam for the California Bluegrass Association, "so you never know which members from out of the area may drop in!"

Ongoing Events at the Willits Library
Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org

Willits Library closing at 2 pm November 22 and closed November 23 and 24 for Thanksgiving.

Story Time: Tuesday through Friday each week, 10:30 to 11 am. "Start your morning listening to a story. Join us in the children's area of the library."

Penny University Coffee Klatch: Tuesdays, 11 am to noon. "We will meet in the Willits Library meeting room to discuss various topics while enjoying a cup of joe."

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

Willits Walk and Talk: Join the Willits Branch Library staff for a 20- to 30-minute walk around the neighborhood. Come enjoy a little bit of exercise as well as some pleasant conversation. All ages are welcome. Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 am; meet at the front entrance to the library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or call the Willits Branch Library at 707-459-5908.

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 and player levels welcome. Bring your own games to add to the fun!"

Tech Help: Every first and third Saturday from 11 am to 12 pm: Is your computer on the fritz? Want to install a new app? Bring your tech questions and get help from the library's tech savvy volunteer

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."

NOYO THEATRE Willits, CA

57 East Commercial Street - Willits
707-459-6660
www.noyotheatre.com

Starts Friday Dec. 15: WISH & WONKA

THE HUNGER GAMES: The Ballad of Songbirds & Snakes

(PG) 13 2 hrs 37 mins
Fri.-Thurs.: 3:45 & 7:15pm

Movie Times for Dec. 8 thru Dec. 14

TROLLS BAND TOGETHER

(PG) 1 hr 32 mins
Fri.-Thurs.: 3:30, 5:45 & 8:00pm

Masks Optional

NAPOLEON

(R) 2 hrs 37 mins
Fri.-Thurs.: 4:00 & 7:30pm
*No Tuesday 7:30pm show.

OVER 21 CLUB - Luxury Recliners

Tightwad Tuesday Titles for Dec. 12 are in RED. All tickets at just \$6!

Thursday, December 7

Remembering Pearl Harbor Flag Raising:
The American Legion, Willits Post 174, will have a flag raising on Thursday, December 7, at 8 am at Babcock Park, on South Main Street, in remembrance of lives lost during the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly farmers market is now indoors for the winter season at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Thursdays, from 3 to 5:30 pm. Local fall produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Tobin's Tales, story time at the farmers market, from 3:30 to 4 pm, with Library Assistant Tobin reading selected juvenile picture books. All are welcome.

Open House for new Willits Map: The Willits Chamber of Commerce Willits Signage Committee presents a new draft map of Willits "that has been created to encourage exploration and use of our community assets." Drafts of the map design continue to be on display at designated locations throughout Willits for your feedback. The final announced open house is Thursday, December 7 at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street, from 10 am to 4 pm.

Michael Trew at Shanachie: A special solo appearance by this Pacific Northwest singer / songwriter at Shanachie Pub, with songs from his album, "Waiting in the Wings," new material, and a few dusty gems. Vocals/ Piano/ Guitar/ Flute/ Looping. Thursday, December 7 at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street, 7 pm.

Friday, December 8

Holiday Crafts Fair: 36th annual community crafts fair, Friday, December 8 from 3 to 5 pm; Saturday, December 9 from 10 am to 6 pm, and Sunday, December 10, from 10 am to 4 pm. Two locations: Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street, and the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. Live music, booths hosted by artists and crafters, food and beverages. Info: willitscenterforthearts.org.

"Small Works" at WCA: this diverse collection of handmade small works crafted for the holidays by 40 different artists runs through December 24 at the Art Center, 71 East Commercial Street. Gallery hours are Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 5 pm. "Meet the Artists" during open hours on Friday, December 8 through Sunday, December 10. More info: visit www.willitscenterforthearts.org or call 459-1726.

Soul Circus at WCT: Get ready to groove to the mesmerizing tunes of Soul Circus, the legendary funk band from Mendocino County! Friday, December 8 at 7:30 pm at the Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane. "With over 40 years of spreading their silky rhythmic melodies across the West Coast and beyond, they're coming to set our stage on fire!" Tickets available online: <https://www.wctperformingartscenter.org/buy-tickets-online>

Norman & The Boyz at Shanachie: Norman & The Boyz is a talent laden R&B ensemble that has been delighting audiences for many years. Norman Boyden (Bassist, Songwriter) formerly with The Project 4 Band and the Kast N Krew Blues Band brings his 50 plus years of music experience to the stage. Anthony Conlon (Keyboard, Trombone, Vocalist) is the heartbeat of the group. Friday, December 8 at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. 8 pm.

Photos with The Grinch

December 9
The Grinch is back at Imagination Station's newly expanded Toy Depot for one day only this year, and Maureen Jennison will be taking photos for the community on Saturday, December 9 from 10 am to 5 pm. As always, digital images are just a \$5 donation per group of people and the events are a 50/50 fundraiser for the Willits Charter School. Well-behaved pets are also welcome! No appointments, just come by 262 East Commercial Street in downtown Willits. More info: 707-972-7047

What's Happening Around Town

Saturday, December 9

Photos with The Grinch: The Grinch is back at Imagination Station's newly expanded Toy Depot for one day only this year, and Maureen Jennison will be taking photos for the community on Saturday, December 9 from 10 am to 5 pm. As always, digital images are just a \$5 donation per group of people and the events are a 50/50 fundraiser for the Willits Charter School. Well-behaved pets are also welcome! No appointments, just come by 262 East Commercial Street in downtown Willits. More info: 707-972-7047

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Willits Photography Club: meets every second Saturday at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street, December 9 at 10 am. "Invites beginners and experienced photographers to join us for friendship, inspiration and fun."

Winter Crafts at the Library: Let's create together - join us at the Willits Branch Library each Saturday through December 23, 11 am to noon, for an easy winter craft the whole family can enjoy. Supplies will be provided. Saturday, December 9: Wooden Cut-out Gnomes; December 16: Candle Votives; and December 23: Snow Globes. 390 East Commercial Street.

Mendo Crafts Holiday Market: monthly market of local arts and crafts vendors is set for Saturday, December 9 from 11 am to 5 pm. Imagination Station parking lot, 11 North Marin Street, by the park.

Sit-N-Sew: Second Saturdays at the Willits Library, December 9 this month, from 1 to 5 pm. Drop in - bring your sewing project and have fun. 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or 459-5908.

2nd Annual Willits Truckers Light Parade: This year's Willits Truckers Light Parade is set for Saturday, December 9. Start time is 6 pm. Parade Route: Willits Evergreen Shopping Center to the Willits City Park. "Light Up the Park" Tree Lighting and festivities after! To sign up, email: 101TRAILERANDRV@gmail.com or call 101 Trailer at 707-459-2423.

Celebrate 12 years of KYBU Radio: live music with the Funkateers, silent auction, food & drinks for sale. Saturday, December 9 from 6 to 10 pm, at the Round Valley Library Commons. Everyone is welcome. Help support your community radio.

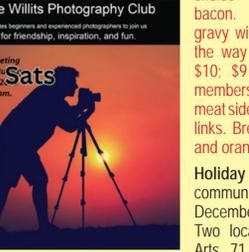
1st annual Light Up the Park: The City of Willits and the Willits Future Farmers of America invite you to this 1st annual Holiday Celebration and Tree Lighting event at Willits City Park, Saturday, December 9 at 7 pm.

Dancer Pearl Marill at WCT: performs "Confessions of a 40-year-old Hula Hooper," at the Willits Community Theatre on Saturday, December 9 at 7:30 pm and Sunday, December 10 at 2 pm. Marill humorously describes her comedic hula hooper show as a "dance comedy sponsored by fruit gummies ...



Grinch Photos: Photos with The Grinch: The Grinch is back at Imagination Station's newly expanded Toy Depot for one day only this year, and Maureen Jennison will be taking photos for the community on Saturday, December 9 from 10 am to 5 pm. As always, digital images are just a \$5 donation per group of people and the events are a 50/50 fundraiser for the Willits Charter School. Well-behaved pets are also welcome! No appointments, just come by 262 East Commercial Street in downtown Willits. More info: 707-972-7047

Blue Luke at Shanachie: "Blue Luke" Andrews is a prodigy guitarist, born and raised in Dos Rios, Mendocino County: "Imagine a band that takes the soul of the blues, the groove of the funk, the grit of rock & roll and the rich harmonies of jazz to create exactly what you've always wanted to hear." Saturday, December 9 at 8 pm, Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.



2nd Sats: Next Meeting at 10 am.

34th Annual Willits Community Christmas Choral: Sunday, December 10, at 6 pm, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 265 Margie Drive. "Come for the music, stay for the cookies after."

Dancer Pearl Marill at WCT: performs "Confessions of a 40-year-old Hula Hooper," at the Willits Community Theatre on Saturday, December 9 at 7:30 pm and Sunday, December 10 at 2 pm. \$10. See December 9 listing for more details.

Wednesday, December 13
Join Us for a Coat Drive: Hosted by Community Crossroads and ABC Day Program. Wednesday, December 13 from 10 am to 2 pm, at the Les Schwab parking lot, 1565 South Main Street. Celebrate the Season of Giving! We will be collecting coats, hats, scarves, and gloves, to be distributed and worn by those in need during the cold season. Donations can also be dropped off at 286 School Street, Monday through Friday - please call Shannon T 707-480-3044 for times.

Living Jukebox at Brickhouse: Live at Brickhouse Coffee, Wednesday, December 13, from 12 to 2 pm. With Richard "Tootrees" Jeske, Don Willis, and Deanne California are the Living Jukebox. From R&B, country, folk, and rock and roll, they have it covered! 3 South Main Street.

with furry things to buy for people you love, pre-gaming encouraged ... and bring dollar bills." Tickets are \$20 and available at the WCT website: www.wctperformingartscenter.org and at the door.

Blue Luke at Shanachie: "Blue Luke" Andrews is a prodigy guitarist, born and raised in Dos Rios, Mendocino County: "Imagine a band that takes the soul of the blues, the groove of the funk, the grit of rock & roll and the rich harmonies of jazz to create exactly what you've always wanted to hear." Saturday, December 9 at 8 pm, Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Sunday, December 10

Senior Center Pancake Breakfast: Every second Sunday, 8 to 11 am: December pancake breakfast is set for Sunday, December 10 at the Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Menu choices: 1. Pancakes with eggs cooked the way you like them, and choice of sausage or bacon. 2. Biscuits & gravy with eggs cooked the way you like them. \$10: \$9 Senior Center members; \$6 children under 8. Extra meat sides \$2: 3 slices bacon, 2 sausage links. Breakfast includes Peet's Coffee and orange juice or milk.

Holiday Crafts Fair: 36th annual community crafts fair: Today, Sunday, December 10, from 10 am to 4 pm. Two locations: Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street, and the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. Live music, booths hosted by artists and crafters, food and beverages. Raffle will be drawn at 2 pm on Sunday. Info: willitscenterforthearts.org.

2MuchFun at Szechuan: Musical duo Paul Haley and Dave Pierce returns to rock the hits of the '60s and '70s at Szechuan Asian Restaurant, 47 East Mendocino Avenue. Saturday, December 16, from 6 to 8 pm.

An Evening with Spencer Brewer and Friends at WCA: Willits Center for the Arts presents an intimate Evening Concert with Spencer Brewer and Friends, a fundraiser for your art center. Featuring Mendocino Piano Quartet, Ben Reub, Dr. Wenbo Yin, and composer / pianist Spencer Brewer. This Saturday, December 16 event kicks off a new concert series coming to the WCA Great Room with their new baby grand piano. 7 pm at the Art Center, 71 East Commercial Street. Tickets are \$20: purchase in advance at www.willitscenterforthearts.org.

Jon Gonzales at Shanachie: Ukulele-strumming artist from the Bay Area, "Jon Gonzales weaves ukulele folk-hooks with lyrical psychedelic satire and paradoxical, universal subjects in his songs." Saturday, December 16 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.



Ukiah on Ice
December 2 - January 14
Alex Thomas Plaza

Regular Hours
MTWTF 4 pm - 7 pm
Wednesday 3 pm - 7 pm
Saturday 12 pm - 7 pm
Sunday 12 pm - 5 pm

Winter Break & Special Holiday Hours
December 22, January 7 12 pm - 7 pm
Christmas Eve 12 pm - 7 pm
Christmas Day 12 pm - 4 pm
New Year's Eve 12 pm - 7 pm
New Year's Day 12 pm - 4 pm

\$12 includes entry & skate rental

For more information, call (707) 463-6231
visit www.cityofukiah.com/ukiahonice

'Haunted and Mysterious Forests,' at the Library: The Willits Branch Library for "Haunted and Mysterious Forests," an evening of eerie tales of the most haunted forests of North America, Europe, and Asia, on Wednesday, December 13, from 5:30 to 6:45 pm. Part of the monthly "Paranormal and Beyond" series, which takes place on the second Wednesday of the month in the Willits Branch Library community room, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or call the Willits Branch Library at 707-459-5908.

Thursday, December 14

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly farmers market is now indoors for the winter season at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Thursdays, from 3 to 5:30 pm. Local fall produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Tobin's Tales, story time at the farmers market, from 3:30 to 4 pm, with Library Assistant Tobin reading selected juvenile picture books. All are welcome.

WHS Hot Winter's Night: Come enjoy an evening of Music, Dance, Poetry and Art by Willits youth. Thursday, December 14 at 7 pm at Willits High School, 299 North Main Street. Special guests include the Baechtel Grove Middle School Band. WHS Leadership class will serve a delicious soup fundraising dinner in the Wolverine Cafe from 5:30 to 6:30 pm before the show. Plus silent auction and goodies to eat.

Friday, December 15

Sequoia Rose Band at Shanachie: Award-winning alt country multi-instrumentalist and vocalist residing in Humboldt County leads a band with hard-driving bluegrass tunes, psychedelic jam band instrumental breaks, and innovative original country songwriting. Friday, December 15 at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street, 8 pm.

Saturday, December 16

Winter Crafts at the Library: Let's create together - join us at the Willits Branch Library each Saturday through December 23, 11 am to noon, for an easy winter craft the whole family can enjoy. Supplies will be provided. December 16: Candle Votives; and December 23: Snow Globes. 390 East Commercial Street.

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Sunday, December 17

'The Aramaic Lord's Prayer': Experience the deeper meaning of Jesus' prayer in the cosmological language he spoke in and conveyed through body-prayer. Sunday, December 17, from 11 am to 1 pm, at The Muse, 30 East San Francisco Avenue.

'Let It Glow' Holiday Lighting Competition, December 9 deadline to enter

City of Willits and Brooktrails residents are invited to enter the holiday light competition, December 11 through 22. To enter, email your address to willitsholidaylights@gmail.com by 6 pm on December 9. Judging will take place December 23; winner will be announced December 24. Volunteers needed for decorating. Donations of unused decorations will be accepted to help houses that have no decorations. Any questions or interest in volunteering, contact Jordan Potter or Jennifer Drew at willitsholidaylights@gmail.com

CITY OF WILLITS & BROOKTRAILS RESIDENTS

HOLIDAY LIGHTING COMPETITION

LET IT GLOW!
DECEMBER 11-22, 2023
JUDGING WILL HAPPEN 12/23
WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED 12/24

FOR ELIGIBLE HOUSES OR BUSINESS: VISIT willitsholidaylights.com TO REGISTER AND ACCEPT TO PARTICIPATE. HOUSES THAT HAVE NO DECORATIONS OR DECORATIONS THAT ARE NOT ACCEPTED TO PARTICIPATE WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO WIN. ANY QUESTIONS OR INTEREST IN VOLUNTEERING PLEASE CONTACT JORDAN POTTER OR JENNIFER DREW AT willitsholidaylights@gmail.com

WINNER WILL RECEIVE THE HOLIDAY LIGHTS FOR THE NEXT YEAR. SEE LISTING FOR MORE DETAILS.

FOWL Holiday Season Pop-Up Book Sale

Friends of the Willits Library presents a Holiday Season Pop-Up Book Sale, December 5 to 20, at the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Children's books, holiday books, fiction, and more. Hard Back Books, \$1; Soft Cover Books: 50 cents; Children's Books, 50 cents; Special Oversized Books: \$3.

Ongoing Events

Willits Tennis Club: Meets Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 to 11 am at the Willits High School courts. New members welcome. Free. Show up or call 707-484-3385.

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

Willits Drum Circle: Every second and fourth Fridays at 7 pm. At St. Francis of the Redwoods Episcopal Church, Main and Commercial 7pm. Info: Bill Bruneau: 459-3390.

Brown Bag Lunch Program: Sack lunches served at the City Park (or across the street in case of rain) every Saturday from 1 to 2 pm. Come early to be assured a lunch! Provided by various churches and community organizations.

Shuffleboard Sunday at Flying Dog Wood Fired Pizza & Vinyl: "Sign-ups start at 4 pm. Games start at 4:45 pm. \$5 sign-up fee, teams of two, winner takes the pot! We'll have the games on all day. Beer, wine, pizza, we've got everything you need!" Flying Dog Wood Pizza, 65 South Main Street.

The Redwood Empire Food Bank: Twice-monthly drive-thru food distribution in Willits, second and fourth Thursdays of the month, located in the parking lot of the soccer and baseball fields, 9:30 to 11 am. Groceries to go, senior basket (for low-income seniors 60 or older), and diapers.

"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!" Diggers Bar, 244 South Main Street.

Willits Boules Club, Tuesdays and Fridays at 3 pm: The outdoor boules course is located across the street from the Willits Skate Park. Info: .

Free Kids Karate Classes at Body Works Gym: Sheriff's Youth Activities League offers a free karate program for kids at the Willits Body Works Gym, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30 pm, for new students ages 7 and above. Use the back doors to enter. Special small child (Lil Dragons) classes only on Thursdays at 6 pm, ages 3 to 6. There is an annual \$20 S&L insurance/registration fee (waivable). For more info call or text Sensei Mike Tobin at 707-354-0565. Program is continuous year-round. Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street.

SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

Agape Bible Church
290 S. Lenore Ave.
Willits, CA 95490
Where love is first and the Bible is central.
Sunday Services:
10:00 a.m. - Worship
Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Info? 707-459-1905
www.agapebilechurch.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
• Sound of Soul events
• Membership Discourses
• Spiritual Discussions
• ECK Light & Sound Services
More information?
Call 530-224-8703
www.eckankar.org

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

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
61 W. San Francisco Ave.
Willits, CA 95490
Father Aaron Bandanadann
Mass times:
Wednesday-Friday 9:00 a.m.
Saturday 5:30 pm.
Sunday 9:00 a.m. - English
10:30 a.m. - Spanish
Confessions on Saturday
4:45 - 5:15 pm.
Or by appointment at
707-459-2252
saintanthonywillits.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
Church Service:
Sunday 10:00 to 11:00
(707) 459-2988
24 Mill Creek Drive
ALL ARE WELCOME

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

Willits United Methodist Church
Labyrinth and Peace Garden
A place to find comfort where all are welcome
Pastor Rosemary Landry
Sunday Worship at 10:30 am
286 School St. (at Pine)
707-459-2855
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



At far left: There are many choices of materials for the craft project. At left: These colorful beads are just one of the elements to be used in creating the craft project.



At left: Eva and Alexander Pinon are ready to begin their scavenger hunt for the elves. At left, below: The Pinon family works together at the craft table to create some attractive hangings. Above: Colleen Sichley tries on the project that she and her grandson constructed. Below: Eva Pinon inspects the craft project she is working on.



Photos by Mathew Caine

Above: Ronin Tipp and his grandma, Colleen Sichley, receive instructions and hints from Librarian Denise Jessie. At left: Eva Pinon peruses the book aisles to see if she can find more elves.

Winter Crafts

Library offers series of Saturday crafting activities for kids to make festive decorations or gifts

The Willits Branch Library began a fun series of activities for kids on Saturday. In the first "Winter Crafts at the Library" session, attendees participated in creating acorn garlands by stringing beads, acorns, and other natural materials to create a necklace or Christmas tree decoration.

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
willitsweekly@gmail.com

The kids and their families seemed to enjoy making the crafts that they could take home and utilize however they desired. It was a fun, middle-of-the-day, 11 am to noon activity that yielded some nice results.

The craft series will take place each Saturday until December 23. Next week, December 9, the project will be to paint wooden cut-out gnomes to hang on one's tree. December 16 will feature making decorative votive candles, and December 23 will be snow globes out of clear plastic plates and Styrofoam.

Although Willits Weekly came to explore the start of the "Winter Crafts at the Library" series, it became apparent in speaking with Denise Jessie, who is now officially the branch librarian, that the library has a plethora of other fun activities occurring regularly or coming soon.

"The other thing we have going on in December is a scavenger hunt of little bitty elves," explained Jessie. "They're hidden all over the library. You get a sheet with pictures of all the elves at the front desk, and you mark off which ones you find."

"They all look different. I'll give you a hint. If you look on the top of my door, you might see one. There are actually 18 of them hidden in the library. If you find them all, you get a candy cane and a bookmark. If you just try, you also get a candy cane and a bookmark. They are all hidden in plain sight, but out of the reach of little hands."

The library has recently

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



Above: Visitors check out the table of books for sale that was set up for the holidays by the Friends of the Willits Library. Below: Ronin Tipp and his grandma, Colleen Sichley, inspect their progress. At bottom: Willits Branch Librarian Denise Jessie helps up the gnomes that are to be the craft project for December 9.

The rest of **Library** From page 8

been putting on talks from paranormal investigators. "We have one more paranormal [talk] this year [December 13 at 5:30 to 6:45 pm] and it's going to be a talk about haunted forests all over the world.

"The paranormal investigators come in and talk about fun things to discuss. They've come in and spoken about UFOs, the Bermuda Triangle, Bigfoot, the Loch Ness Monster. The haunted forests go along with our forest theme. Our winter decorations are 'Gnome Forest.'

"Our crafts are based on the theme," explained Jessie, "utilizing materials we can find in the woods. We're trying to have a holiday theme without highlighting one religion over any other."

Other happenings at the library include regular "Sit-N-Sew" sessions each second Saturday of the month, and story time, Tuesday through Friday each week, 10:30 to 11 am, which also is offered to the young ones at the Farmers Market on Thursdays at the Grange.

Additionally, the Penny University

Coffee Klatch meets on Tuesdays, 11 am to noon; the Lego Club on Thursdays, 5:30 to 6:30 pm; Tech Help for computers the first and third Saturdays, 11 am to noon; and many other community activities.

In addition to the fun activities offered, the library also provides access to computers, printers and WiFi. E-books, movies, and audio recordings are available as well, but nothing beats sitting in a room full of books, reading in a quiet environment.

The Friends of the Willits Library (FOWL) has set up a pop-up sale for the season. According to member Olga O'Neill, there is a ton of kids stuff and holiday books for sale on a table immediately seen as one enters the library.

The Willits library, located at 390 East Commercial Street, is open Tuesday through Thursday, 10 am to 7 pm; Friday, 10 am to 6 pm; Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm. Visit www.mendolibrary.org/visit/willits or their Facebook page or call 459-5908 for further information.



At top, left: Lindsay Hanson, of Bell Springs Candleworks, takes time to try on a magical knit hat. Roland Spence, one of the craft fair organizers, brought along his dog, Chiquita. Above: Ronnie Spence entertains the attendees with his one-man Bluetooth band.

The rest of **Bazaar** From page 3

been doing the business since 1992. My grandma started the business in the 70s," said Lindsay Hanson.

Alfredo and Cristina Vionnet were showing some very attractive and well-made laminated cutting boards. Jacki Pealatore of Picaro Gordo, who is often seen at events in Willits with her intricately cut wooden ornaments, was there. "All the kids in Willits know me because I was a math and science teacher at Baechtel Grove," said Pealatore.

The Leggett Valley High School Italian Club was there, trying to raise funds for their proposed trip to Italy. "All of the beading and the crochet is student-made and then one of our students' mothers has a business that provided the bath salts and sugar scrub," explained River.

"We need to raise about \$4,000 to \$5,000 per student for the trip. We're still trying to decide which parts of Italy we would like to see. We might want to go to multiple places. The big ones are Milan and Rome. We were also thinking about Sicily because our teacher's family lives in Sicily, so they could show us around," said River.

The local 4H Sewing Club was in attendance. "All of the kids have made a variety of items to sell, from potholders to Christmas stockings to little zip pouches, hair ties, and backpacks," said Hannah Gunn.

"We've also made a bunch of wreaths," said Gunn. "We're raising money for our group so we can purchase more material for the kids to use. We have candles made by the Long Valley 4H Beef Group and they're tallow candles, so they are made from beef tallow and essential oils. They rendered the tallow and created the candles."

Some colorful batik wall hangings were available from Sheila Duffy who partners in a space with photographer Dorothy Asbury. Marbry Sipila of Bergin-Sipila Vineyards brought a variety of Laytonville wines.

Amber Slater of Wild Sparrow Creations uses a dye-sublimation technique to apply patterns and photos to coffee cups and candles. Lena Lewis lives in Sacramento but has family in the area. She creates willow baskets from materials that she harvests in Montana. Bronach Bowles, a Willits 12-year-old, is a new business owner, just having received her license to run a cottage industry, selling cakes, muffins, and other baked goods.

Sarah Adams of Everyday Alchemy was there to offer her knowledge and natural remedies. She is planning some clinics in which people can bring their herbal questions and concerns to be answered.

"Our next clinic dates will be in December. We're going to be at the Willits Farmers Market, sharing space with Nuestra Alianza. When people come to see us, they can come for an educational talk. They can do a 15-minute chat about health and herbal medicine. We also offer a more private half-hour consultation," explained Adams.

An often-seen member of the Willits Farmers Market, Mic Rueb, brought his Mulligan Gardens herbs, mushrooms, and seasoning salts to the event.

Although too numerous to mention each vendor, suffice it to say, there was a great variety of goods to be perused and sellers to speak with. All in all, a fun place to be and to purchase gifts for the holidays.

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Above, from left: Donald Glenn dominates his Hoopa opponent. Sophomore wrestler Jacob Livingston prepares for the finals match. Asher Vinson relentlessly takes control of a wrestler from Oregon. At left: Emilia Owsiany beams with the hand raise after pinning her Arcata opponent.

Photos by Ava Dockins-Kline

Willits Wolverines clash at Crescent City tournament

By Sheri Dockins, for Willits Weekly

The Willits Wolverines have launched into Wrestling Season 2023-24 with a rousing packed schedule of tournaments and duals.

A small group of boys made the mission to Lower Lake for the CMC Novice Tournament on Friday, December 1. Traveling to Del Norte High School for the annual "Battle of the Border" the Saturday after, were freshmen Vada Morgan, Kendra Moltern, Stormie Nowlin, Bella Glenn, and Brian Bowles; sophomores Liz Meyer, Emelia Owsiany, Donald Glenn, Asher Vinson, Jacob Livingston, and Rickey Ramirez; juniors Lucy Vargas, Makiah Carter, and Ely Bowles; and seniors Christian Ramirez, Joey Smith, and Josh Duran.

All were ready for combat when their feet hit the mats rolled between the two packed gyms. As many as 16 schools travel to Crescent City for the occasion.

There was an atmosphere of blood, sweat, and tears as each wrestler participated in several ground-breaking matches throughout the day. They all displayed tremendous determination with technique, some beginning and advanced. They fought hard with intensity, their coaches teammates, and Willits family supporting them the entire way.

Four Wolverines caught the eye of the spectators. Liz Meyer, Emelia Owsiany, Ely Bowles, and Jacob Livingston had the crowd elated with excitement as they turned up the heat against their opponents in their placement and rivalry matches.

Liz Meyer received an award for outstanding wrestler. This is the

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



At left: Rickey Ramirez tenaciously comes out on top to pin his Oregon opponent.

Below: Liz Meyer intensely prepares to battle a Del Norte wrestler.



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At far left: Patient Roots volunteers assist happy passengers. At center and left: All manner of whimsical train-themed ornaments cover the giant lighted tree at the Roots Holiday Express event.

Below, from left: A view of the large "G" gauge train model diorama, showing the fascinating details, including the "resting engineer." A fire box glows in the warm cab of a steam locomotive after a full day of holiday rides. The lovingly restored and maintained model train set in the Roots Engine House has been a big Holiday Express attraction for many years.

Photos by Margi Gomez Guhde



The rest of Roots From page 5

evoked the history of days gone by as excited passengers learned what an old-time steam trip was like for early California travelers. Kamoroff said that the Roots Mountain Quarry locomotive that Santa rode in on, and the Port of Olympia locomotive that pulled passengers over the rails at the Holiday Express, were both built in the early 1900s.

"These trains were used primarily for mining and early logging," Kamoroff explained. "They are not very fast, but they are strong."

Roots Board Vice President Alexis England was one of many of Santa's elves who made this year's Holiday Express happen, running the raffle table and much more. England has been a Roots member for six years and said she feels that the Roots of Motive Power is fulfilling its mission by handing down the knowledge and history of early mechanization in our area with events like the Holiday Express.

"I love watching the kids get so excited to ride the train and see Santa!" England exclaimed.

England made a point to thank all the volunteers that have made this event a success year after year, adding, "Thank you also to Coast Hardware, J.D. Redhouse, and Imagination Station for donating for our 'Wagon Raffle,' and to everyone who baked cookies for the treat table."

Roots of Motive Power, located on East Commercial Street in Willits, is an all-volunteer working museum, founded in 1982 to preserve and restore an array of steam and diesel-powered equipment that was used in early California. It originated as a group of friends who shared a love of local history and antique machinery.

Now a 501(C)(3) charitable organization, Roots members and volunteers focus on acquisition, restoration and maintenance of steam-powered trains and other antique machinery. Roots workers use a unique collection of period tools, and a fully functional blacksmith shop to build needed parts, keeping the 100+ year old engines and other machines operating.

The Roots Holiday Express is an annual labor of love and a big Christmas gift to the Willits community. Despite the rain and fog at this year's event, the colorful and cozy engine house felt like home for the many Willits friends and neighbors who shared its holiday cheer, bringing a unique slice of Willits history to life at this special time of the year.

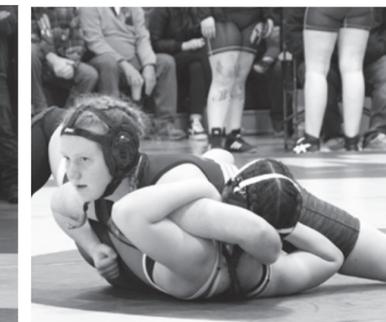
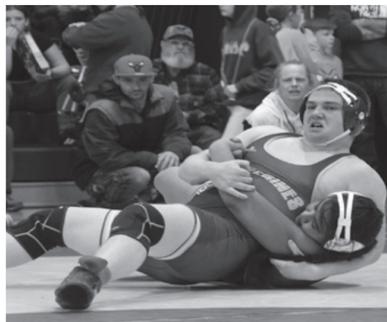
Roots presents the Holiday Express, along with other educational and community events, and maintains a research library housing a collection of historical and technical books and publications accessible to the public by appointment.

Check out more information about membership, classes, and volunteer opportunities at <https://rootsofmotivepower.com>. You can also contact Roots of Motive Power by mail at P.O. Box 1540, Willits, by email at rootsinwillits@gmail.com, or on their lively Facebook page.

And be sure to check out the Roots Holiday Express again next year! You'll be glad you did.



Above, left: Makiah Carter places Arcata opponent in cradle to pin. Above, right: Lucy Vargas on back of a wrestler from Grants Pass, controlling wrists to take her down. Below, left: Junior wrestler Ely Bowles goes for the pin with head and arm on his Del Norte opponent. Below, right: Stormie Nowlin takes down a Hoopa wrestler with an aggressive start to the match.



Call for submissions from ukiaHaiku Festival

Submitted by ukiaHaiku Festival

After a three-year hiatus, the 22nd annual ukiaHaiku Festival will once again include an open competition. For decades, poets of all ages, from Mendocino County and around the world have enjoyed submitting their haiku to the festival competition. The competition returns this year with categories in English and Spanish youth and adult, and also for the prestigious Jane Reichhold International Prize.

Submissions are being accepted online now at ukiahaiku.org and through February 8, 2024. The festival, which is free and open to the public, will be held on Sunday, April 28, 2024, from 2 to 4 pm, at a location to be announced.

Haiku is a traditional Japanese poetic form that has gained enormous popularity worldwide thanks to its brevity and accessibility. Despite its apparent simplicity, haiku can capture subtle and profound aspects of nature, mood, and existence itself. The traditional haiku is a three-line poem which contains an allusion to a season. One of the most famous haiku was written by Basho in the 17th century (this translation by the late Mendocino County haiku scholar Jane Reichhold):

old pond
a frog jumps into
the sound of water

The competition's regional categories are open to residents of Mendocino, Humboldt, Lake, and Sonoma counties in Northern California. The Jane Reichhold International Prize is open to anyone worldwide.

Winners of the competition will be invited to read their haiku at the festival, which will also include special guests and a musical performance. A publication of the winning haiku will also be available.

In recognition that the Pomo people are the original inhabitants of Mendocino County and that the name "Ukiah" itself is from a Pomo language, this year for the first time, we are making an open call to our Pomo neighbors to share haiku that are in Pomo languages or express a Pomo perspective.

For more information about how to write a haiku and what our judges are looking for in a haiku, please see our resources link found at the bottom of our homepage: ukiahaiku.org.

Cozy Scavenger Hunt and DIY Holiday Cards at the Mendocino County Museum

All ages are invited to participate in a cozy scavenger hunt during regular hours December 6 to December 23 at the Mendocino County Museum.

Visitors are also invited to create holiday cards at our festive correspondence station, to play with typewriters and kitchen gadgets, and to make a recipe booklet featuring recipes from our collection.

The Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street, is open Wednesday through Friday from 10 am to 5 pm, and Saturday and Sunday from 12 to 4 pm. \$7 adults, \$2 children 6 to 17, free children 5 and under.

For more info visit www.mendocinocounty.org/museum or contact the Mendocino County Museum at museum@mendocinocounty.gov or 707-234-6365.

The rest of Wrestling From page 10

second year in a row the Lady Wolverines have placed in the top three as a team. Rickey Ramirez and Asher Vinson were one match away from medaling on Friday.

Well-deserved acknowledgments to Josh Duran, Asher Vinson, and Freshman Brian Bowles for wrestling back-to-back at the tournaments, Friday and Saturday.

"Our wrestlers wrestled well this weekend," said WHS Coach Brian Bowles. "Every match showed improvement. They wrestled with heart, and tenacity. Every girl on the team placed top four to solidify a third-place finish as a team."

CMC Novice Tournament individual medals
138 Brian Bowles, 4th place; 175 Asher Vinson, 2nd place; and 190 Josh Duran, 2nd place

Battle of the Border individual medals

Team girls
110 Veda Morgan, 4th place; 115 Lucy Vargas, 3rd place; 125 Makiah Carter, 1st place; 130 Stormie Nowlin, 3rd place; 130 Kendra Moltern, 3rd place; 135 Liz Meyer, 1st place; 140 Emelia Owsiany, 2nd place; and 235 Bella Glenn, 4th place

Team boys
126 Jacob Livingston, 2nd place; 190 Donald Glenn, 3rd place; and 215 Ely Bowles, 4th place

At right: Shiloh Risch, Maycee DeFranco, and Emma DeFranco smile in front of their booth featuring jewelry and scrapbooking items. Charlyn McNeil shows off her crochet work. Eva Semisch's Sicilian wedding cookies – a 100-year-old recipe!

Below, left: Cameron Lindsey stands at his booth offering apple pie filling and applesauce. Below, right: Crafty items are displayed like candies on festive trays.

At bottom, left: Handmade soaps in a variety of colors and scents were available for \$8 each, or three for \$20. At bottom, right: Angella Ostrowski sits at her booth filled with fancy trinket boxes.

Photos by Jenelle Conley and Kristina Wear



Below, from left: Charlyn McNeil talks with a potential customer at her booth, filled with crocheted items. Bryan Christensen brought succulent arrangements to the event, some planted in the hollow centers of bamboo. Karen and Mark Sweeney sit with the hand-sewn and quilted bags they brought to the craft fair.



Calvary's Christmas Fair

Annual holiday event by the Calvary Chapel offers crafts and merriment to congregation and community

Submitted by Jenelle Conley for the Calvary Chapel

We are so excited to bring back our annual Christmas Craft Fair at Calvary Chapel Willits. There are so many talented individuals in our congregation! It's fun as an attendee of Calvary Chapel Willits to see other fellow creative people, and also to share those talents with our community.

This year was a great variety of booths. We had handmade jewelry, ceramics, crochet work, baked goods, soaps ... even unexpected items such as apple pie filling and adorable hair clips and succulent plant arrangements. There's nothing quite like a local handmade gift!

Another purpose of this event is to show the community our church in a friendly, not-intimidating setting. Everyone who attended received an invitation back to church to learn about the real reason for this celebratory season!

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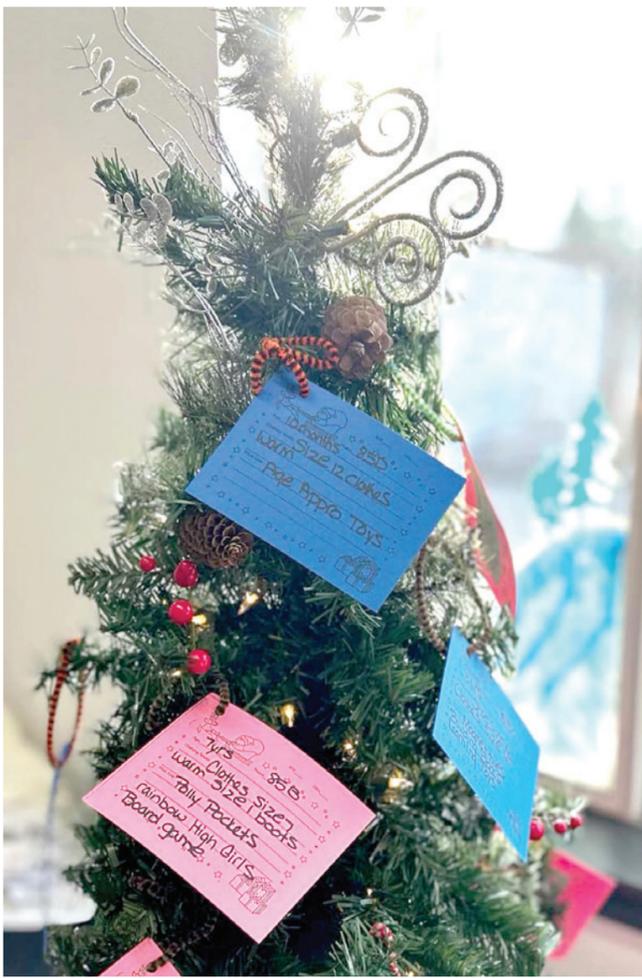
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Above and below: The Willits Frontier Days Juniors including Hadley Vogel in pink and Macy Harbour, in the black sweatshirt, and Danielle Barry in gray, are hard at work completing the work on a stocking for each child in the Christmas program. The junior group fundraises for these stockings independently of the rest of the program, and enjoys making sure each child receives necessities like toothbrushes and toothpaste, and fun things like puzzles, games and books in each custom stocking.



Tags on Trees

Willits Rotary Christmas Program in full swing for holiday season

While some are already complete, there are still many unfulfilled tags, still hanging on trees around town which feature the wants and needs of 233 kids in the community.

Marcy Barry and the troupe of elves handling the logistics and boots-on-the-ground effort to make the program fly again this year, encourage everyone who plans to purchase for the program to do so before December 15 so things can be sorted, wrapped and picked up in time.

Trees are located at J.D. Redhouse, Coast Hardware, and Les Schwab, which also serve as drop-off centers, and trees can also be found at Sparetime Supply, 101 Trailer and RV Supply, and Adventist Health Howard Memorial Hospital.

All efforts to put on the program each year are 100 percent volunteer, and are funded by the contributions of the community. For more info: Marcy: 707-272-5395 or Hailey: 707-272-1088.

- Maureen Jennison



At left, from top: A tag tree sits at Sparetime Supply with tags for the Willits Rotary Christmas Program. Yatzil Patino adds additional tags at the J.D. Redhouse tree. The Willits Wild Bunch helps fill the Christmas program shelves every year with their Toy Run event. Above: Ashtan Bloomquist holds two tags, a pink for a girl, and a blue for a boy.

Photos by Maureen Jennison, Marcy Barry and courtesy Sparetime Supply



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Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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

Level: Beginner



HOW TO SUDOKU

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

CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH

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

BELLS	DASHER	NORTH POLE	SNOWMAN
BLITZEN	DONNER	PEACE	STAR
CANDY CANE	ELVES	PRANCER	STOCKING
CAROLS	FROSTY	PRESENT	SUGARPLUMS
CHIMNEY	GIFTS	REINDEER	TREE
CHRISTMAS	GINGERBREAD	RUDOLPH	VIXEN
COMET	HOLIDAY	SACK	WORKSHOP
CUPID	HOLLY	SANTA	WRAPPING
DANCER	NOEL	SLED	WREATH

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
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56				57		58				59				
60			61		62				63				64	
65		66							67				68	
									69					70

CLUES ACROSS

- Spiritual leaders
- Salt
- Fortified wine
- Edible mollusk
- It begins with them
- A way to compare
- Government lawyer
- Back parts
- 8th month (abbr.)
- Very willing
- __ ex machina
- Satisfies
- Quebec river
- A doctrine
- Popular pickup truck
- Decagram
- Naturally occurring solid material
- Company officer
- Villains
- Cricket frogs
- German founder of psychology
- Endured
- A female domestic
- A 'place' to avoid
- Cigarette (slang)
- Canadian politician Josephine
- French ballet/acting dynasty

- Employee stock ownership plan
- Belonging to the bottom
- Sound
- Yankees' slugger Judge
- Dickens character
- More wise
- Flash memory card
- Exposing human vice or folly to ridicule
- Atomic #79
- Longtime Braves pitcher Julio
- Humor
- Shawl
- Preliminary assessment of patients

- eschatology
- Showing since conviction
- Not safe
- The number above the line in a fraction
- Yard invader
- Pouch
- Swedish krona
- Start anew
- While white or yellow flower
- Fourteen
- Graphical user interface
- Up-to-date on the news
- Campaigns
- Touch softly
- 'Boardwalk Empire' actress Gretchen
- Violent seizure of property
- One who supports the Pope
- Anxiety
- Body fluid
- Phony person
- Title of respect
- Chilean city
- City in central Japan
- Silk garment
- Draw from
- Automobile
- Man
- Legal bigwig (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

- Animal disease
- Commercial
- Craft supply
- Storage units
- Investment vehicle
- Colorado Heisman winner
- In a way, sank
- Post-birth brain damage (abbr.)
- Lay about
- Intestinal
- The opposite of yes
- Caused to be loved
- Messianic in Islamic

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT

POLICE LOG

November 6 to November 12

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 59 incidents in this 7-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

November 6

8:36 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1400 block of Baechtel Road.

11:02 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 400 block of Mill Street.

November 7

12:15 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

6:32 pm: CASTAGNOLA, Carly Suzanne (46) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of North Main Street. She was arrested pursuant to 23152 VC (Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol) and on misdemeanor charges of driving without a license, possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and resisting an officer.

November 8

8:12 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

8:33 am: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and Franklin Avenue and issued a warning.

8:40 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of West Highway 20 and issued a warning.

9:04 am: DEATON, Michael Duane (40) of Willits was contacted in the 700 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on felony charges of possession of a controlled substance for sale and on misdemeanor charges of violation of probation.

11:42 am: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of East Commercial Street and South Main Street and issued a warning.

12:25 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 1300 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

7:10 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

11:31 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of School Street and issued a warning.

November 9

2:38 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 300 block of McKinley Street.

11:17 am: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Poplar Avenue and Hazel Street and issued a citation.

11:44 am: Officers conducted a stop in

the 300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

11:51 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of East Valley Street and issued a warning.

2:30 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of West Highway 20 and issued a warning.

2:41 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of West Highway 20 and issued a citation.

8:19 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the 200 block of Alice Drive.

November 10

7:06 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 700 block of Central Street and issued a warning.

9:09 am: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and Alder Lane and issued a warning.

11:40 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 900 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

12:35 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

12:54 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

1:15 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of North Main Street and issued a warning.

10:19 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Holly Street.

November 11

12:27 pm: GOODWIN, Skyler Ian (31) of Willits was contacted near the intersection of Railroad Avenue and Barbara Lane following a disturbance. He was arrested pursuant to 273.5 PC (Domestic Corporal Injury), 422 PC (Criminal Threats), and 1203.2 PC (Violation of Probation).

2:41 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Baechtel Road.

4:45 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of Baechtel Road and issued a

warning.

5:01 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 600 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

10:11 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Holly Street.

11:18 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

November 12

5:19 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 300 block of South Lenore Avenue.



Skyler Goodwin of Willits.



Michael Deaton of Willits.

WHS Visual & Performing Arts Department
Proudly Presents
Hot Winter's Night

Thursday, December 14, 7:00-8:00 PM
Art Music Poetry Dance
Leadership Soup fundraising dinner will be served in the Wolverine Cafe 5:30-6:30

Hot Winter's Night at Willits High School, December 14

Hot Winter's Night is set to blast off on Thursday, December 14 at Willits High School. Come enjoy an evening of Music, Dance, Poetry and ART! The show starts at 7 pm.

Special guests include the Baechtel Grove Middle School Band. Come celebrate the creativity and talent of our Willits youth. You will surely have a wonderful time.

The WHS Leadership class will be serving a delicious soup fundraising dinner in the Wolverine Cafe from 5:30 to 6:30 pm before the show.

There will be a silent auction and goodies to eat. We hope to see your beautiful smiling faces at WHS.

- Carolyn Bakewell, WHS Visual & Performing Arts

WHS Visual & Performing Arts Department
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Thursday, December 14, 7:00-8:00 PM
Art Music Poetry Dance
Leadership Soup fundraising dinner will be served in the Wolverine Cafe 5:30-6:30



Above, left: Payton Slotte as the Sugar Plum Fairy in Mendocino Ballet's "The Nutcracker." Above, right: Larsen Schon Brunner as the Nutcracker Doll, with Reagan Frost as Clara.



Mendocino Ballet's magical holiday tradition

'The Nutcracker'

Submitted by Mendocino Ballet

As the holiday season approaches, Mendocino Ballet is thrilled to announce their enchanting production of "The Nutcracker," a beloved family tradition that promises to captivate audiences with its magical charm. "The Nutcracker" is set to play December 8-10 at the Mendocino College Center Theater in Ukiah.

The production unfolds in the joyous Christmas celebration at the Stahlbaum family home, where life-size dolls come to life, engaging guests in a mesmerizing spectacle. The first act features a thrilling battle scene, pitting mice, bats, a spider, and toy soldiers against each other. The transformation of a Nutcracker Doll into a handsome prince is among the many delightful surprises.

Under the artistic direction of Trudy McCreanor, Mendocino Ballet brings "The Nutcracker" to life with stunning sets, vibrant costumes, and dynamic choreography. Collaborating choreographers Esther Hansen, Morgan Cummings, and Allison Reedy contribute to the visual and kinetic splendor of this fanciful ballet.

Reagan Frost takes on the role of Clara, guided through the magical realms by Larsen Schon Brunner as the Nutcracker/Prince. The mysterious Drosselmeyer, Clara's eccentric Godfather, is portrayed by David Post, while Marlie Montano adds mischievous charm as Fritz, Clara's brother.

The production features a Snow Waltz, elegantly led by

Morgan Cummings as the Snow Queen, transporting Clara and the Nutcracker Prince into the enchanting Land of Sweets. Payton Slotte embodies the magical Sugar Plum Fairy, presiding over the Land of Sweets.

The performance showcases the talents of Mendocino Ballet Company dancers, joined by over 50 local children and adult performers from Ukiah, Willits, and surrounding communities.

"The Nutcracker" is set to play Friday, December 8, at 7 pm, Saturday, December 9, at 2 and 7 pm, and Sunday, December 10 at 2 pm, at the Mendocino College Center Theatre, 1000 Hensley Creek Road in Ukiah.

Tickets: Adults: \$25; Children/Students under 18: \$15. Tickets available at Mendocino Book Company and Mendocino Ballet in Ukiah, Mazahar/Willits Enchanted Toy Shoppe in Willits, and online at www.mendocinoballet.org. Tickets will be \$5 extra at the door.

Mendocino Ballet, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, invites audiences of all ages to experience the magic of "The Nutcracker." For more information, contact the office at 463-2290 or email office@mendocinoballet.org.

Mendocino Ballet is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the art of dance in the community. With a mission to inspire and educate through dance, the organization brings together talented performers from various age groups, creating memorable and magical productions for the enjoyment of all

GET READY SENIORS!

It's almost time for your formal senior portrait!

Schools will have order forms soon!

Willits Charter School
January 17, 2024

Willits High & Sanhedrin High
January 18 & 19, 2024

with photography by maureen jennison
www.mphotographress.com | 707-972-7047

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www.ncfinancialgroup.com

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786 Redwood Drive
Garberville, CA 95542
Tel 707.459.3276
Tel 707.923.2179
Fax 707.923.9550
rcantua@farmersagent.com
067822

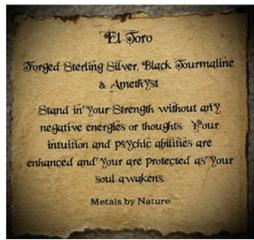


METALS BY NATURE

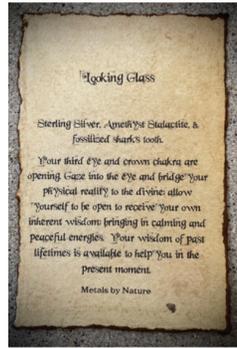
I am Carrie Fox, the artist behind Metals by Nature, based in Willits. I love finding magic in metals and fully believe in the mystical aspects of life and nature. I research every stone and symbol, to put meaning behind most of my pieces.

The intention I set before working on or creating anything is this: All of the jewelry and pieces I create are intuitive, personal, beautifully different, meaningful, and invoke powers and energies from nature, the universe and spirit.

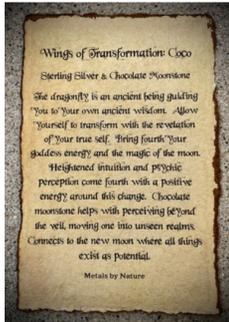
These pieces create energy movement and magic directly connecting to the owner.



Below: This El Toro piece - "Stand in Your Strength" - is made of forged sterling silver, black tourmaline and amethyst.



At left, above: "Wings of Transformation: Coco" is made from sterling silver and chocolate moonstone. Above: "Looking Glass," this piece of jewelry by Metals by Nature, is created from sterling silver, amethyst stalactite, and fossilized shark's tooth.



MARIPOSA TIE DYE

Mariposa Tie Dye of Willits offers hand-dyed items that are wearable, useable, and visual art for the whole family. Fabric dyer Kathryn Green, who'll be at the Mariposa Tie Dye booth at the crafts fair, gets her inspiration from nature where colors abound.

At right: One of Mariposa Tie Dye's small tapestries, sized 22 inches x 20 inches



Some photos Mermaizing Scents sent to promote their Crafts Fair booth, including some seasonal designs.



MERMAIZING SCENTS

My name is Charissa Franklin, and I own Mermaizing Scents located in Laytonville. I make "hemplified" cold processed soap and body products. I love making soap and using my creativity to design them!



MISTYMADE SOY CANDLES

MistyMade pure soy candles are each hand-poured with love! They are made using clean scents infused with essential oils and are free from phthalates and carcinogens. Hope to see you at the 36th annual Holiday Crafts Fair - come find your favorite scent out of our clean-burning soy candles! Happy holidays to all.

MistyMade soy candles will include seasonal holiday designs.



PALEOTECHNICS

Tamara Wilder of Paleotechnics, "ancient arts & technologies," will be offering a variety of handmade crafts, and craft kits, related to Paleotechnics as well as books on similar subjects.

Offerings at the Holiday Craft Sale will include elderberry wood vials, madrone berry garlands and necklaces, net-making kits, acorn and nut necklaces, friction fire-making kits, necklace-making kits, and much more! To learn more, visit: www.paleotechnics.com

At left, from top: Handmade craft items by Paleotechnics.



These Paleotechnics vials are made with elderberry wood. Paleotechnics makes madrone berry garlands and necklaces. Above, right: Assorted books, craft kits, and adornments will be available at the Paleotechnics booth at the Holiday Crafts Fair.



GLASS ORIGINALS

Brenda White will sell her "Glass Originals" stained glass pieces at the Holiday Crafts Fair.



BAREFOOT FOREST HOMESTEAD

Hi, my name is Kelly and I'm passionate about plant medicines. After spending much of my life with debilitating health issues, turning to plant medicines restored my health, and since then I've been able to support many others in their own healing journeys.

The majority of the medicinal plants used in my products are grown on my homestead using permaculture methods and a deep connection with the plants.

I offer tinctures and elixirs, salves and bath soaks, as well as feather earrings and clips made from the feathers of my chickens and guinea fowl.

My website is barefootforesthomestead.com.



At top: Some of the feathered earrings offered by Barefoot Forest Homestead. Above: Artist Kelly wears some of the feathered jewelry she creates. At left: This immune support and healing elixir is made from sustainably harvested usnea, a lichen commonly found on trees, which is called "the lungs of the forest."



Above, left: Artist Kelly wears a pair of her feathered earrings. Above, right: Barefoot Forest Homestead Repair and Relief Salve.



'ANNA OF THE MEADOW'

Anna Lee is a multidisciplinary artist working currently to convey the realms of birth, death and every stage of life in between.

As her business "Anna of the Meadow," she will be selling Archival prints of original artwork at the Holiday Crafts Fair.

Her mission is to share her visions in order to support a worldwide collective shift in how we view these beginnings and endings of life. Her hope is to support a collective shift towards more of a reverent relationship with both of these portals. She works to share her paintings in order to support her communities in healing and beauty.

Artist Anna Lee will offer Archival prints of her original artworks "Anna of the Meadows" at left, above, and "Mother of Us All," at left, below, at the Crafts Fair. Below: Anna at work.



WOODHOUSE BUILT

Stop by and check out our handmade wood items and artwork at the Woodhouse Built booth upstairs in the art center. All wood material used in our work is sustainably harvested, locally salvaged from old fences/ barns/ structures, or windfall from our property.

You can visit our online shop at www.etsy.com/shop/WoodhouseBuilt.

Wholesale inquiries, commissions, and collabs, please email us at woodhousebuilt@gmail.com.

- Holli & Noel Woodhouse

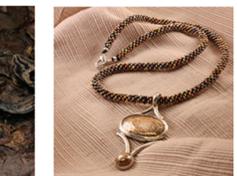


Some of the items crafted by Woodhouse Built, Sustainable Handmade Wood Items & Artwork.



ODIN'S ORGANICS

Odin's Organics of Willits will offer their locally made dog treats at the Holiday Crafts Fair. Christmas special this year will include hand-sewn doggie Christmas scarves. Thank you to Saidie Mae, at right, for modeling. Visit www.odinsorganics.com to learn more.



POONKINNEY FORGE



ARTISAN MADE JEWELRY



POONKINNEY-FORGE.COM

WILLITS CENTER FOR THE ARTS Presents

The 36th Annual Holiday Crafts Fair!

Live Music, Booths hosted by artists and crafters, Food and Beverages. Raffle will be drawn at 2pm Sun. Dec. 10th

DECEMBER
FRI. 8th 3pm - 6pm
SAT. 9th 10am - 6pm
SUN. 10th 10am - 4pm

Willits Center for the Arts
 71 E Commercial St.
 &
 Willits Community Center
 111 E. Commercial St.

For more information: willitscenterforthearts.org

WCA Holiday Craft Fair

Local artists offer their handcrafted wares, December 8 to 10

The Willits Center for the Arts Holiday Craft Fair 2024, December 8, 9, and 10, will be the 36th annual Willits fair. The annual holiday fair is one of the few Fine Art and Craft shows in inland Mendocino County, with over 35 fine artists and artisans offering unique gifts and work including soaps, ceramics, jewelry, cutting boards, clothing, knives, herbal gifts, and more. The fair provides free live entertainment throughout, and food available for purchase from the Willits Charter School. Admission is free.

JOIN US FOR A

COAT DRIVE

HOSTED BY: COMMUNITY CROSSROADS & ABC DAY PROGRAM

CELEBRATE THE SEASON OF GIVING!

We will be collecting: coats, hats, scarves, and gloves to be distributed and worn by those in need during the cold season.

LES SCHWAB PARKING LOT
 1565 S MAIN ST

12/13/2023
 10 AM - 2 PM

If you are unable to make it on the 13th, any donations of love and warmth can be dropped off at 286 School St. Mon-Fri. Please Call Shannon at 707-489-3044 for times.

public health MENDOCINO COUNTY

Mendocino County residents may qualify for a free car seat for children ages 0-12.

CALL HEALTHY FAMILIES FOR AN APPOINTMENT (707) 472-2600 EXT. 1 OR (707) 472-2607

FREE CAR SEAT

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2023
 11:00 AM TO 1:30 PM

public health MENDOCINO COUNTY

Nutcracker Tea

Sunday, December 3rd
 Mendocino Ballet

Tickets for this popular event are now on sale at Mendocino Ballet and at the Mendocino Book Company in Ukiah. Get your tickets now!

Enjoy delicious teas, sandwiches, and treats, along with a dance performance by Mendocino Ballet Dancers, photo opportunities with Nutcracker Characters, a Holiday Boutique and Raffle.

Adults \$15.00 Children \$10.00 (12 & under)

2:00-4:00 pm

205 South State Street Ukiah, CA * (707)463-2290 * office@mendocinoballet.org
 Mendocino Ballet is a non-profit organization dedicated to Excellence in the Dance Arts.

2ND ANNUAL

WILLITS TRUCKERS LIGHT PARADE

DECEMBER 9TH START TIME 6:00 PM

PARADE ROUTE:
 WILLITS EVERGREEN SHOPPING CENTER TO THE WILLITS CITY PARK.

TREE LIGHTING AND FESTIVIES AFTER!

TO SIGN UP EMAIL 101TRAILERANDRV@GMAIL
 OR CALL 101 TRAILER AND RV SUPPLY 707-459-2423



Train Trip

Get to see Mr. Skunk's Giant Christmas Tree on festive Skunk Train ride

There's still time to get tickets for the Skunk Train's Christmas Tree Train running now through December 31.

Climb aboard a newly imagined Christmas experience out of Willits and visit the World's Largest Living Christmas Tree! You'll enjoy seasonal treats and decor on a wonderful journey through the redwoods to Mr. Skunk's Giant Christmas Tree, a decorated redwood along the line, which also serves as the workshop for Santa Mr. Skunk.

Make merry with fun holiday music, activities, and Christmas magic – and leave with treasured mementos and memories for years to come.

Make your holiday season truly special with this unique Christmas experience in the redwoods!

– Submitted by the Skunk Train



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

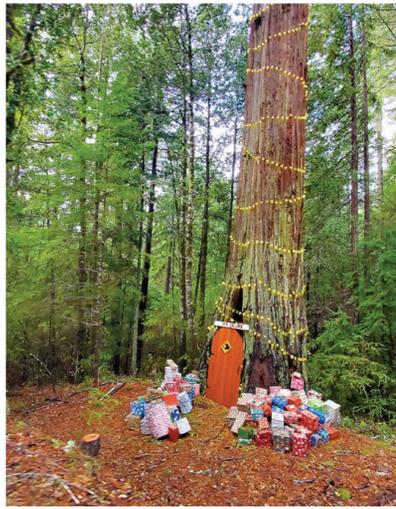


166 SOUTH MAIN ST
10AM - 8:30PM
MON - SAT
Restaurant El Mexicano



City of Willits Employment Opportunity: City Planner

Annual salary is \$71,329.23 - \$86,701.06 DOQ/DOE
Application Deadline: Friday, December 15, 2023, by 4:00 P.M.
For a full job description and application instructions contact: Human Resources at (707) 459-7176 or email kstevenson@cityofwillits.org
Go to our website: <https://cityofwillits.org/219/Employment-Opportunities>



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707-459-5859
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Septic & Water Systems - Site Development
Roads - Water, Soil & Rock Delivery
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LEGAL NOTICES

CITY OF WILLITS SERVICES AND FACILITIES DEPARTMENT
NOTICE TO BIDDERS
Annual Invitation for Inclusion on the 2024 City of Willits List of Qualified Bidders
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that:
The City of Willits is soliciting applicants for its 2024 List of Qualified Bidders. Interested parties should complete the City of Willits Informal Bidding Annual Pre-Qualification Application for 2024 and submit to Brandy Sanderson at: bsanderson@cityofwillits.org or Brandy Sanderson, City of Willits, 111 E. Commercial St., Willits, CA 95490
Re: 2024 Qualified Bidders List
Bidders are hereby advised that the previous bidders list will be replaced with the new list and no contractors will be carried over from the previous list.
REQUESTS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY December 29, 2023
Questions concerning this notice should be directed to Brandy Sanderson at bsanderson@cityofwillits.org.
The application can also be found on the City's website on the Engineering page: <http://www.cityofwillits.org/147/Engineering>.
CITY OF WILLITS: s/Delores Pedersen, City Clerk
DATED: 11/30/23
Publication Dates: November 30, December 7 & 14, 2023

WW461
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2023-F0451
The following corporation is doing business as EuRoad Travel Guides, 1816 Buckeye Road, Willits, CA 95490. Mailing address: P.O. Box 2127, Willits CA 95490. Registered owner: Digital Aeon Inc., P.O. Box 651, Nyack, NY 10960. This business is conducted by a corporation. 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 September 25, 2023. /s/ Victoria Lief Bertotti
Publication dates: November 16, 22, 30, December 7, 2023

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

Mendocino County invites applications for:

Cook
\$47,403 - \$57,595
Corrections Deputy
\$54,184 - \$65,873
Deputy Probation Officer I/II
\$51,937 - \$69,617
Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II
\$62,628 - \$87,214
Deputy Sheriff-Coroner in Training
\$23.48 - \$28.54 Hourly
Juvenile Corrections Officer - Extra-Help
\$24.38 - \$29.63 Hourly
For a complete list of current job openings and to apply: www.mendocinocounty.gov/jobs
EOE

Marc Komer
Legal Document Assistant
An Affordable Non-Attorney Service
(707) 459-2775
245 South Humboldt St., Suite B, Willits
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
I am not an attorney, and can only provide self-help services at your specific direction.

CLASSIFIEDS

30 words for \$15 for 2 weeks

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 uicarbhall@gmail.com

Indoor Yard Sale
Giant Indoor Yard Sale – Deep Valley Christian School, 8555 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley, (across from the Broler), Saturday, December 9 – 8 am to 4 pm

John Ford Ranch Beef
John Ford Ranch still has the 50 lb. Rancher's Choice Box for \$390.00 and the 25 lb. Hamburger Box for \$170.00. Please contact Debbie Arfelian @ 459-5049 (Prices change effective 6/25/23)

Firewood for Sale
Firewood and Douglas fir poles for sale. FIR \$300/cord, OAK \$400/cord, KINDLING \$15/box (14x20). Delivery \$45 near Willits, \$75 near Ukiah. POLES: Please call for price. Call Fred (707) 456-0270. (707) 354-2244

For Rent
2 Bedroom, 2 Bath. Brand New. Only 3 apartments left. Close to town and Howard Hospital. Well-appointed kitchens with granite counters and large pantry. Spacious bathrooms. Laminate floors throughout and window coverings. 1200 sq. ft. Air conditioned. \$1800.00/mo. More information call 707-489-1080.

Office for rent
Comfortable furnished office space for rent in downtown Willits for psychotherapy and body work. Available three days a week M-W. Includes all utilities and massage table. Contact Ruth at 707-972-2163

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.oakvine.net/tp>

Willits Food Bank Open
Willits Community Services & Food Bank continues to distribute food, to hungry families and individuals in the Willits area, with an increase in numbers served. Donations can be mailed or dropped off at the front office at 229 East San Francisco Avenue, Willits CA 95490 – knock or leave in the locked mailbox in front. Food distribution is available at the back door on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 4:30 pm. Info: 459-3333.

WW466
Brooktrails Township Community Services District
is seeking qualified design-build firms, or qualified and relevant persons, firms, partnerships, or professional organizations capable of providing comprehensive energy, gas, & water infrastructure improvements. The Request for Proposals for the Brooktrails Infrastructure Renewal and Resiliency Program is available by email from tamara@btcsd.org or on the District website at www.btcsd.org
Any firm selected based on this RFP process must be capable of development, implementation, and monitoring a comprehensive infrastructure renewal and resiliency program. Upon award, the selected provider will assess energy, gas and water infrastructure District-wide. Prior to entering into a contractual agreement for project implementation, an agreed upon scope of work and funding plan will require separate Board approval. The firm will also prepare revenue/expense budgets for recommended projects and meet, as needed, with District staff and other consultants, neighborhood organizations, and Board members.
ALL RESPONSES ARE DUE BY 3:00 P.M. ON JANUARY 12, 2024. Oral, telegraphic, facsimile, and/or telephone submissions will not be accepted. Submittals received after this date and time will not be accepted.
Publication Date: December 7, 2023

Furry Friends Hoping for a Home



Muffin

Sweet Muffin

We had a great time hanging with Muffin during her evaluation. This very beautiful dog is playful and friendly with everyone she meets. Muffin is an easy walker, and has some training, as she knows "sit" and "shake." Muffin is very mellow

indoors, and we believe she is housetrained. Muffin will make a great addition to any family!

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 our feline and canine guests. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendocinocounty.org/animalshelter.

Curious Koda

Koda is an amazing, handsome boy. He is very curious and so smart. Koda will listen and really try to make his person happy by trying to learn commands quickly. He loves to go on walks and

hikes. He is a happy boy and would love a forever family to share his time with. Please set up an appointment to meet Koda.

To learn more about Koda or to view other adoptable animals, visit www.milofoundation.org or the Milo Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions by appointment only. Please complete a pet-adoption application before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 707-459-4900.

Wiggly Sokka

Sokka here LOVES people! You can bet he'll greet you with a smile and butt wiggles... and even be happier as he gets as many scratches and scratches as he can!

"Sokka has been the best houseguest!" reported his foster family. "He is getting along well with both of our dogs. Sokka is housebroken, crate-trained, knows basic commands, and has a great personality. He's such a good boy in so many ways. Zero accidents in the house, and absolutely no destructive behavior (chewing, etc.). Enjoys playing with other dogs. No reaction to a cat sitting still. He's amazing



Sokka

with small kids too."

Come on down to meet Sokka yourself! Help this guy find his forever family!

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

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

THE WILLITS WILD BUNCH

WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND SAY THANK YOU TO THE MANY LOCAL BUSINESSES, ORGANIZATIONS AND FOLKS THAT SUPPORTED THIS YEAR'S WILLITS TOY RUN:

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Little Lake FD	Brooktrails FD	Willits Frontier Days	The Barry Family
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Taqueria Bravo	Adri Salon	Kelly's Diner	Healing Central
Loose Caboose	Testa Vineyards	Myers Pharmacy	Cat's Meow
Brickhouse Coffee	Mazahar	101 Drive In	Coast Hardware
April May's Coffee	The Stylist	Mendocino Bounty	Slam Dunk Pizza
McCarty's Bar	Willits Flower	Left Coast Seafood	Willits Flower
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Vic's Place	Mendo Mill	Gunnink's Harley-Davidson	Jody Fales
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Fish Out of Water	D&R Ranch	Monkey Wrench	1st Nails
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707 Apparel	Rotary of Willits	Harbour Redwood	

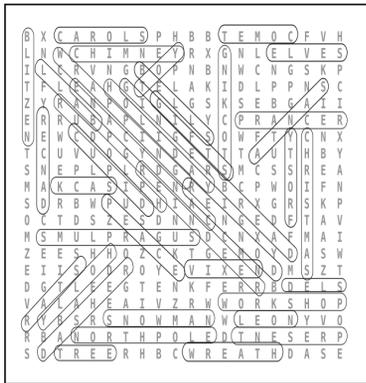


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WILLITS CENTER FOR THE ARTS
Small Works Show
Handmade gifts by 40 artists.
Open Dec. 2 Through Dec. 23
71 E. Commercial St
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4	5	9	8	1	3	6	2	7
3	8	2	7	9	6	1	4	5

Willits Weekly
Online & In Print

R	A	B	B	I	S	A	L	I	N	E			
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**'Meet the Artists'
at WCA's Small Works
this weekend**

Submitted by WCA

The Willits Center for the Arts, located in the rural community of Willits in Northern California, is set to showcase "Small Works," a diverse collection of handmade small works crafted for the holidays by 40 different artists. This members exhibition of art suitable for gifts not only highlights the local artistic talent, but also provides a platform for the appreciation of intricate and skillfully crafted pieces.

The inclusion of handmade small works in the exhibition suggests an emphasis on the artistry and craftsmanship involved in creating these pieces. This approach not only allows for a more intimate viewing experience, but also underscores the significance of the artist's dedication to their craft. The diversity of artists contributing to the exhibition further enriches the showcase, offering a range of perspectives, styles, and techniques for patrons to explore.

Such initiatives by cultural institutions like the Willits Center for the Arts play a vital role in fostering community engagement with the arts. By featuring local artists and their handmade creations, the exhibition contributes to the cultural vibrancy of the region, encouraging dialogue and appreciation for artistic expression within the community.

Additionally, the showcasing of small works may provide an accessible entry point for both seasoned art enthusiasts and those less familiar with the art world. The smaller scale of the pieces allows for a more approachable and immersive experience, inviting viewers to closely examine the intricate details and nuances of each creation.

In conclusion, the upcoming exhibition at the Willits Center for the Arts promises to be a noteworthy event, celebrating the talent of 40 different artists and providing the community with an opportunity to engage with and appreciate the beauty of handmade small works.

"Small Works" show December 2, and runs through December 24 at the Art Center, 71 East Commercial Street. Gallery hours are Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 5 pm. "Meet the Artists" during open hours on Friday, December 8 through Sunday, December 10. More info: visit www.willitscenterforthearts.org or call 459-1726.



Photos by Mathew Caine



Above: The Soto family poses for a photo in the kitchen portion of the shop: from left, Pedro, Llerania, Daisy and Noe.

Delicios Sweet

New storefront offers hand-rolled ice cream, snow cones, and other tasty treats

Willits has a new sweet shop, Delicios Sweet, at 39A South Main Street. At the grand opening the shop was filled with people patiently waiting in line to try the free hand-rolled ice cream and other Latino treats like the tostilocos, a dish with pork rinds, mango, cucumber, peanuts, and other savory ingredients.

The Soto family, mother Llerania, son Pedro (12 years old), and daughter Daisy (11), worked the counter and the crowd. Dad, Noe, showed up later to help out. Precocious Daisy seemed to be in charge as she greeted friends, old and new, took orders, and generally handled the front.

The shop, open seven days a week, 7 am to 8 pm, offers many treats not normally found in sweet shops, like the aforementioned tostilocos and hand-rolled ice cream. Bolis is ice cream in a bag that can be squeezed out to eat. There are also smoothies, popsicles, banana splits, snow cones, crepes, fruit cocktail, juices, and strawberries.



At left, from top: The menu contains delicious choices which may be familiar to Hispanic customers. Tostilocos are a mix of pork rinds, cucumber, mango, jicama, and other delicious ingredients. Yesenia is about to enjoy her generous portion of hand-rolled ice cream. Pedro, Daisy and Llerania Soto fascinate kids who have never seen rolled ice cream. Above: A cup of hand-rolled ice cream is topped with a liberal dollop of whipped cream. At right: Llerania Soto prepares the treat.



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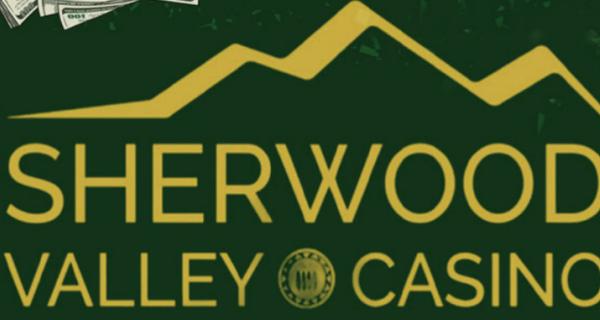
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