

Thursday, December 8, 2016

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KZYY

appoints veteran journalist, media entrepreneur as interim manager

Mendocino County Public Broadcasting is pleased to announce the appointment of Jeffrey Parker, a veteran newsman, media pioneer, publisher and social entrepreneur, as interim executive director and general manager of KZYY radio. Parker took up the post on December 1, succeeding Diane Hering.

At its next meeting in early January, the KZYY board plans to vote to make Parker a formal offer of the position of permanent executive director and general manager.

A native of Santa Rosa with lifelong family ties to Mendocino County, Parker served two decades as a news agency reporter in New York, Washington, Beijing, Hong Kong and Taipei before co-founding an independent publishing company and dedicating many years to fostering sustainable, community-focused healthcare services in China and India. Parker resided mainly in China from 1990 until early 2016, when he returned to his roots with a desire to find new channels of service.

"With rich experience as a reporter, editor, newsroom manager, publisher and nonprofit community advocate, Jeffrey brings unique experience to our mission of serving Mendocino County with first-rate news, public affairs, music and community programming," said MCPB board president Meg Courtney. "He's a longtime friend of KZYY, having listened daily in Shanghai via our webstream and Jukebox archive and supporting the station as a sustaining member."

Parker thanked Mendocino County Public Broadcasting for the opportunity to lead KZYY.

"KZYY plays an important role in Mendocino County, keeping listeners informed and entertained, and providing a forum for exchanging ideas about the important issues affecting us all," he said. "It's a privilege to join the team. I look forward to working with staff and the board as we build on the station's successes and discover new ways to serve our community."

Parker majored in geography and Chinese/Asian studies at UC Santa Barbara and journalism at Columbia University, with gap years for intensive immersion in German in Bamberg, (West) Germany, and Chinese in Taipei, Taiwan.

New KZYY director, Jeffrey Parker.



His career falls into three long phases – news reporting, news service innovation and community advocacy – each relevant to community broadcasting.

In 1985, Parker was recruited in New York as a reporter/editor by United Press International, which posted him to its Washington world desk in 1989, and then to Beijing as correspondent in 1990. He joined Reuters news agency in 1992, serving as correspondent in Hong Kong, deputy bureau chief in Beijing, then bureau chief in Taipei, where he also oversaw the Reuters Chinese Language News Service, always upholding the highest standards of journalistic quality and freedom from bias across the Reuters print, broadcast, digital and professional services.

In 2000, Parker shifted into newsroom innovation, writing business plans and launching Reuters local-language web-delivered multimedia news services and on-demand live TV services in China, Japan, Korea, Thailand, Southeast Asia and India/South Asia. These services, employing hundreds of local reporters, editors, photographers and translators, helped transform Reuters from a traditional English-language news-and-pictures wire service into a top international multimedia information provider for the digital age.

In 2002, Parker left Reuters to co-found an independent news company in China, launching what would become the leading professional news magazines for eye doctors in China and in India. In each country, these sister publications overcame prohibitions on foreign-owned news media, and provided doctors with a fresh new path to international learning and professional development.

Parker relocated from Shanghai to Elk, California, earlier this year.

'Twas two Fridays before Christmas

'Twas two Fridays before Christmas, at Ardella's Diner, An event was just starting, no contest anywhere finer.

The walls were hung with festivity and flair, In hopes the whole community soon would be there.

The tables were set, the cookies were spread, The plans of a wonderful party dancing in our heads.

Jennifer in her scarf, and Maureen in her sweater, Couldn't think of a way for the party to be better.

When out on Main Street, there arose such a clatter, We sprang from the booths to see what was the matter.

Away to the entrance we flew like a flash, And gasped as we saw the huge crowd gathering for the bash.

The streetlights shined on the plates, trays and tins Of many cookies and sweets, baked with hope to take the win.

Honor and bragging rights would soon be bestowed, For goodies that made everyone cry their best "Ho! Ho! Ho!"

Businesses, individuals and returning champions short and tall, Set up tables displaying their goodies for the tasting of all.

More rapid than eagles, the tasters they came, And they sampled, and shouted, calling out their favorites by name!

"It's delicious, this fudge!" "Those cookies, oh my!" "The candy, divine! And the caramels, you must try!"

To Ardella's Downtown Diner, the people they ran, "We must taste and cast our votes while yet we still can!"

Tallies were made, and the judges would name The best treats made by those who competed and came.

Their photos in the paper the winners would see, With copies, we hope, of the winning recipes.

After the judging, the party will still go on, With cookie swaps (bring your own) until they're all gone,

Carols sung by Nancy New and Devon Jones, And holiday spirit until everyone goes home.

The party will pay thanks to all who have shown such support, For this crazy and amazing endeavor, WW, for short.

Join Willits Weekly to toast to next year's editions Filled with news and community, innovation and tradition.

From 5 to 7 pm on Friday, December 16 we will be, At Ardella's Diner with T-shirts and back issues to see.

We encourage all to come with this cordial invite, As we say Happy Holidays to all, and to all a great night!

— Maureen Moore

IF YOU'D LIKE TO ENTER THE COOKIE CONTEST:

Event is from 5 to 7 pm at Ardella's Downtown Diner. Enter as a business, or as an individual!

All bakers should be there for setup by 4:30 pm. We are suggesting a quantity of 5 to 6 dozen bite-sized pieces. Does not have to be cookies; sweets of all kinds are accepted.

Official judges' tasting will be done blind at the beginning of the event. Please have three excellent specimens of your entry or entries set aside for delivery to the official judges.

People's votes will be counted at the end of the night. Varieties will be showcased on the booths or bar, or both, depending on number of total entries, so there will be only small areas of display space per entry. Feel free to bring decor if desired. We will provide numbers to go alongside your entries and will have index cards also available to describe your entry, or feel free to create your own signage to place near entries.

Winners will be announced at the end of the night. Any questions, please email maureengetsmail@gmail.com or call 972-7047.

You can also download the baker's entry form online here: www.willitsweekly.com/WW-Cookie-Entry.docx or check out our event page on Facebook.

We hope to see you there!



Holiday Express

Record turnout at Saturday's Roots of Motive Power party

Roots of Motive Power experienced a record-breaking turnout of 936 train riders Saturday for its annual Holiday Express.

Families poured in from all over the tri-county area to participate in an array of fun activities, including pictures and prizes with Santa, the free train rides, and festive refreshments.

The weather cooperated, with clear sunny skies throughout the day.

The Bluestone Mining and Smelting Company's Heisler #1 locomotive never hauled so many people since its restoration as it did all Saturday afternoon, as folks

patiently waited in long lines eager to experience the train ride loop around the Roots property.

Once finished with its work, the engine pulled into the train barn around 5:30 pm to celebrate its 100-year birthday.

A grand, beautiful cake decorated with a picture of the Heisler engine was cut up and enjoyed by participants.

The Emandal Choir serenaded the engine and entertained the crowd with unique renditions of "Freedom Train" and "This Little Light of Mine."

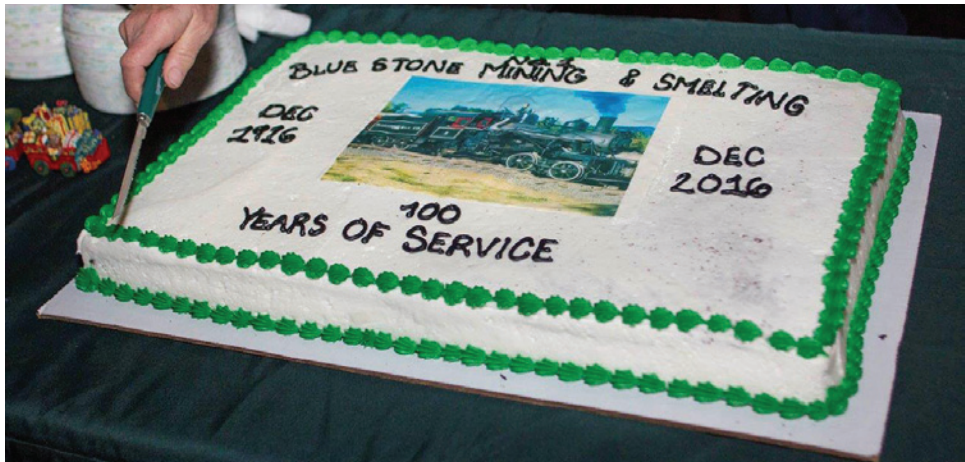
"[100 years] is always a big milestone

Read the rest of **Express** | Over on Page 5



Birthday Cake for the Century Train

Roots of Motive Power's Bluestone Mining and Smelting Heisler #1 locomotive celebrated its 100th birthday with cake and merriment at the Roots Engine House at the Holiday Express event on Saturday.



At top, from left: Jonas and Jedediah Swearingen sit in a railroad speeder inside the Roots Engine House. There were long lines to ride the train all day. Willits High School seniors Nayema, Julia, Nancy and Viviana volunteered at Holiday Express.

Above, left: Santa (played by Tom Girdauskas) waves for the camera with Rikki Mills, at left, and Mira and Sophie Chavez.

Above, right: The Grinch (Ashley Rodriguez of Pretty in Paint) was there, too.



At left, top: Gary, Kaylee and Kali Anderson and Katie West sitting at the back of the passenger car.

At left: Shane Grupp, engineer on the Bluestone Mining and Smelting Heisler #1, with his hand on the Johnson Bar, which operates the valve gear forward and reverse.

At left, below: Conductor Bruce Evans and the lines for the free train rides.

Willits man held in burglary

A 47-year-old Willits man is being held without bail in Mendocino County Jail after being arrested on suspicion of burglarizing a Creekside Cabin residence.

Kevin Dahlund was arrested shortly after 10:30 am on December 1 after the Creekside complex manager reported someone had broken into one of the units in the 29000 block of North Highway 101 sometime the previous evening and taken items from the home, says sheriff's Sgt. Quincy Cromer.

Many of the items had been piled outside the residence and vandalized, Cromer said.

Deputies suspected Dahlund, who was on probation for an unrelated offense, was the culprit, and discovered several of the items taken in the burglary in his possession.

Dahlund was arrested on suspicion of burglary, possession of stolen property, vandalism, petty theft and violating his probation. He was booked into the Mendocino County Jail, where he was to be held on a no-bail status due to violating the terms of his probation.

This report was based on a press release from the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office.



Kevin Dahlund

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Letters & Commentaries: Email letters to willitsweekly@gmail.com. Letters focusing on Willits and 3rd District issues, activities, events and people have priority. Willits Weekly prints letters from residents of Willits and the 3rd District only. To encourage a variety of voices, Willits Weekly limits letter publication from any one writer to once a month.

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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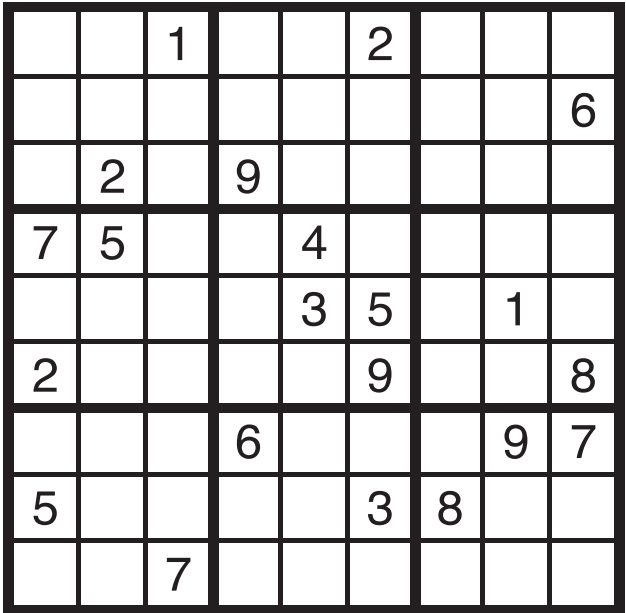
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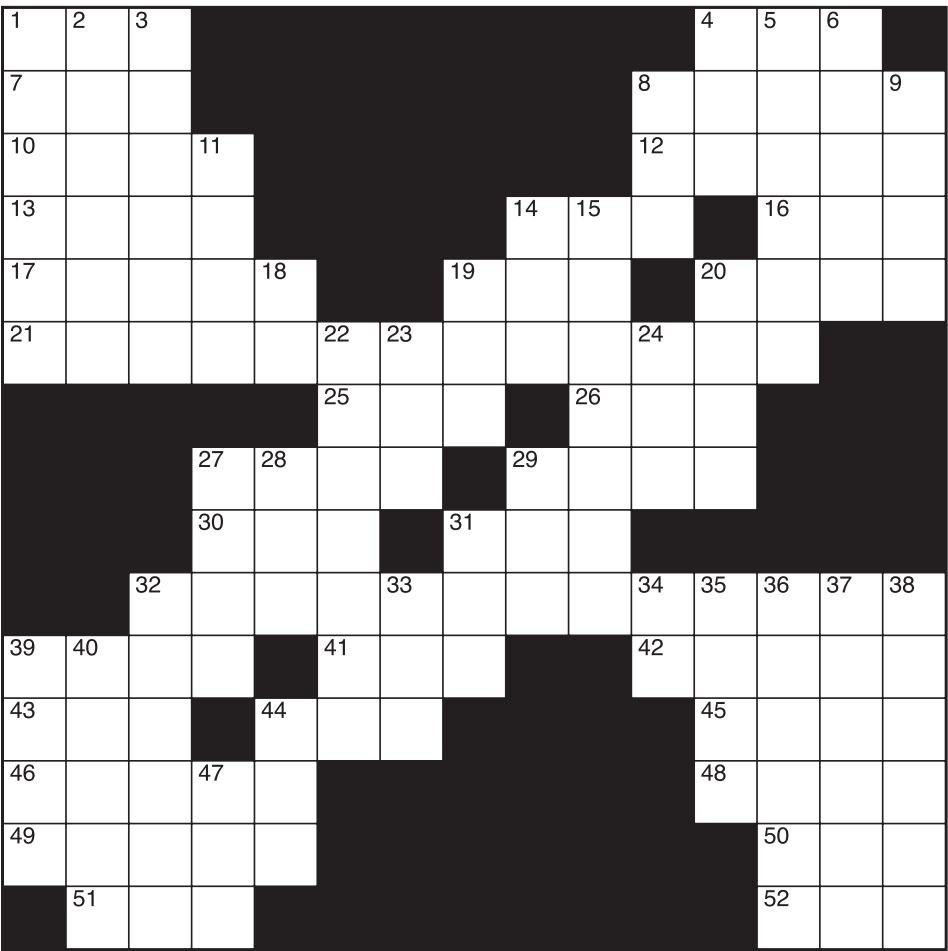
Crossword
Puzzle &
Sudoku



Level: Advanced

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!



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Large primate
- 4. Annualized percentage rate
- 7. Frictional horsepower
- 8. Alternate name
- 10. Incursion
- 12. Metrical feet
- 13. Musician Ingram
- 14. Swiss river
- 16. Text speak for annoying
- 17. Squelch
- 19. Will Ferrell played one
- 20. Close violently
- 21. Arrogant
- 25. Goddess of the dawn
- 26. Today (Spanish)
- 27. Ethiopian town
- 29. Speed
- 30. Kids take it to school
- 31. Bowling ball's adversary
- 32. 1988 NFL MVP
- 39. Volcanic crater
- 41. Curved shape
- 42. Discover by investigation

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Again
- 2. Erectile organs
- 3. Concluding speech
- 4. Pie ___ mode
- 5. With pustules
- 6. Muslim calendar month
- 8. Need it to live
- 9. Thailand
- 11. Container to serve food
- 14. Boxing great
- 15. Woolen blankets
- 18. Expresses surprise
- 19. Emergency medical services
- 20. Inflamed swelling of the eyelid
- 22. Reporter
- 23. Arrived extinct
- 24. Ad ___
- 27. Academic bill of rights
- 28. A pair
- 29. Pumpkin and apple are examples
- 31. China
- 32. Made illegal
- 33. Be mistaken
- 34. Stephen King's 'Pennywise'
- 35. Semite
- 36. Martens with short tails
- 37. Large bodies of water
- 38. Lower in position
- 39. Dough used in Latin American cuisine
- 40. Calculating tools
- 44. Boxers do this
- 47. Macaw

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE WORD SEARCH

Word search grid containing words related to outdoor adventures, such as ADVENTURE, FOREST, ROCKS, BIKING, FRESH AIR, SAILING, BOATS, GARDEN, SCENERY, CAMPSITE, GLIDING, SKATEBOARD, CANOE, HIKING, SNORKELING, CLIMBING, SURF, TRAILS, COASTAL, KAYAK, TRAVEL, DISCOVER, MOUNTAINS, TREK, EXCITEMENT, NATURE, UNDERWATER, EXPLORE, OUTSIDE, VISTA, FISHING, PARK, WILDLIFE, FOREIGN, ROAD TRIP.

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WPD Activity Report
November 26 to December 2
Prepared by WPD Sgt. Jake Donahue

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests
November 26: 2:40 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of Creekside Drive and, as a result, contacted WILLIAMS, William (24) of Willits. Officers determined Williams had been drinking in violation of the terms of his probation and placed him under arrest pursuant to 1203.2(a) PC (Violation of Probation).
November 27: 1:50 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.
November 28: 5:30 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 10 block of Marcela Drive and, as a result, contacted CABEZASLAMERIO, Maria (37) of Willits. Officer determined Cabezaslamerio was unable to provide for her own care due to her level of intoxication and placed her under arrest pursuant to 647(f) PC (Public Intoxication).
December 2: 10 am: FRANKLIN, Loren (50) of Willits was contacted in the 400 block of Della Avenue and issued a citation for an active Mendocino County warrant.

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Above, left: "The Second Shift: 100 Years of Housework in Mendocino County" exhibit at the Mendocino County Museum. Above, right: Benjamin McBean ready to read stories to visiting children who attended the museum's Holiday Wonderland event held on Saturday, December 3 in conjunction with the Roots of Motive Power Holiday Express and tree lighting. Below, left: A vintage kitchen display. Below, right: Alison Glassey, Katherine Houghtby and Ruth Hubbell smile in the hall.



Tree Lighting Ceremony

City of Willits' Christmas tree at Mendocino County Museum gets lit for the season
As Saturday's dusk turned effortlessly into evening, and Venus glinted brightly beneath a scimitar moon through the naked branches of the Rec Grove trees, a large crowd gathered in front of the Mendocino County Museum to witness the 2nd annual Community Tree Lighting ceremony.
With the short and sweet lighting ceremony following on the heels of the neighboring Roots of Motive Power's Holiday Express celebration, many of the Roots participants joined in.
Willits Mayor Bruce Burton called the event to order, as it were, and introduced Alison Glassey, museum director, to begin the ceremony.
"This is the second year that the tree lighting has been part of the redwood grove that was planted here at the (Mendocino County) museum almost 40 years ago," Glassey announced. "This is the first time that it's been on the same day as Holiday Express and the Museum Wonderland. "It's been a big day, and we're so grateful for everyone who has turned out."
The particular redwood, which stands just behind the Vietnam War Memorial, was selected among the grove to represent the city's Christmas tree because, according to Glassey, "it was standing a little bit apart, and it was near the group. It symbolized independence and interdependence all at the same time."
Next, Chris Baldo, president of Roots of Motive Power, gave a short speech about the future of Willits.
"As we hear the hum of the freeway out here, it encourages everyone in town to make some effort to create an attraction in Willits that people might want to visit," Baldo said. "We're pretty certain that we're not going to have a Disneyland here. I think it's going to be the sum of a whole bunch of little things that will bring people to Willits, and I think that Roots will hopefully be part of that."
Burton reminded the crowd to shop locally for the holidays before offering some words of gratitude to City Manager Adrienne Moore.
"I want to toss out a thank you to Adrienne for all that she does for us at the city council and for me as the mayor, and the city in general," said Burton. "She's a great asset to this town."
Burton acknowledged the recent and tragic passing of Lynn Kennelly. "With the loss of Lynn, we have some big shoes to fill downtown."
Burton then led the crowd in singing two verses from "We Wish You a Merry Christmas."
The crowd enthusiastically counted down from 10, and the tree was lit, bursting with white light, to the applause of everyone.



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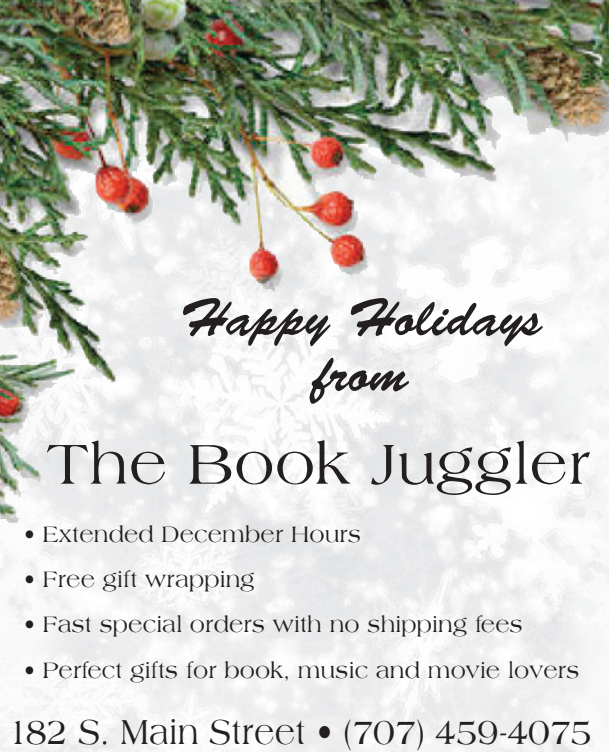

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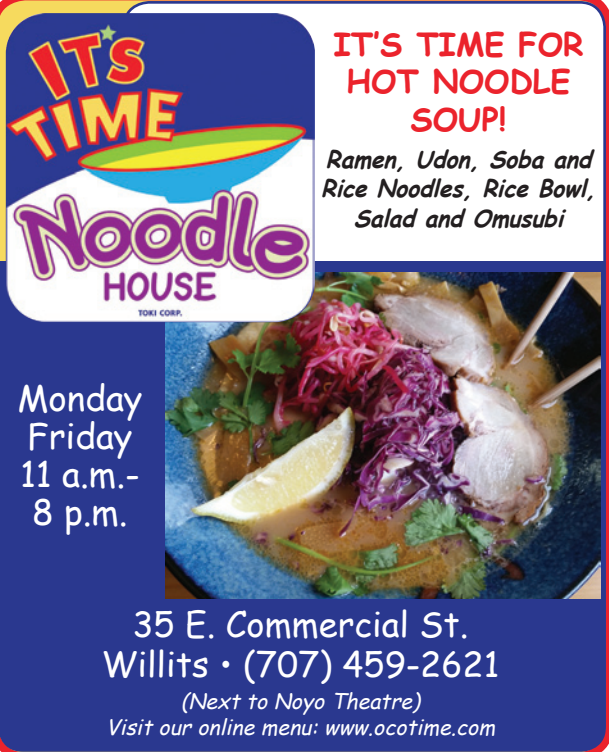

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Rhoda Teplow's necklace made with green porcelain beads she created, and brass beads made in Ghana. Some of Mary Ann Underhill's functional and beautiful hand-tooled leather work. Earrings by Karen Mastrian of Rascal Moon Design are made from items picked up in her travels.

Holiday Craft Fair

Three of many artists offering their work at the WCA and Community Center this weekend

All three of the artists in this article profiling some of the vendors at the Willits Holiday Craft Fair this weekend have returned to early artisan skills after working in other careers.

Willits-based jewelry designer Karen Mastrian, of Rascal Moon Design, has returned to her roots of jewelry design after retiring from 20 years of teaching English literature in public schools.

In the 1970s, she was making jewelry for renowned designer Laurel Burch in Burch's basement workshop on Sacramento Street in San Francisco. Mastrian credits Burch for her knowledge about the design process. For the next decade, Mastrian worked for Burch in Southeast Asia, organizing workshops for artisans whose skills and artisanship would lend themselves to Burch's designs.

After a career as a teacher, she returned to jewelry design, incorporating old silver discs and antique Chinese buttons she had saved from her travels. She enjoyed creating the pieces, and launched herself headlong into the process of designing and crafting jewelry for her own small business.

"For me, the design process has always begun with color," Mastrian said. She finds that her "art is all about what is in front of me, about assembling gemstones and artifacts that I find beautiful into a piece of wearable art. I love the creative process!"

Leathersmith Mary Ann Underhill, owner of Willits-based Underhill's Western Craft, will show a selection of quality custom-made items for work, decoration or play at the crafts fair this year.

Underhill "loves the outdoors," she said, and came from a family of craftspeople, where she learned from an early age "that if you needed something, you just made it!"

In her 20s, her aunt and uncle taught her how to use industrial sewing machines. She toyed with tooling leather a couple of times during those years, but mostly she just liked to design items and make them using the industrial machines.

Years later, she purchased a horse and soon discovered she couldn't find a saddle to fit the horse. To tackle this problem, she decided to go to a saddle-making school to learn to make her own saddle. This ignited a passion which led and led to leave her job of 23 years and start up Underhill's Western Craft.


 Artists Rhoda Teplow, at left, Mary Ann Underhill, center, and Karen Mastrian.


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**Santa Photos at
Mendo
Mill**
 Mendo Mill was able to raise \$240 for the Humane Society of Inland Mendocino County during their Pet Photo fundraiser on Saturday.
 Above, right: Store employees Carolyn Dixon, Tonya Howe and TK Warner hang out with Bryon "Santa Claus" Barrett at Mendo Mill during the Pet Photo fundraiser.
 At right: Ken Smith with daughter Courtney. At far right: Santa and Damen Reed.
 At left, top: Roxie the German shepherd was unsure of Santa Claus, even though he brings cookies! At left: Two little ones enjoyed smiling for a photo on Santa's lap.


 Above: The students and staff of Sherwood School in their new "Kids For Peace" T-shirts.

Thanks from Sherwood School

The students, staff and families of Sherwood School would like to extend a warm "Thank You!" to the businesses and individuals who donated gifts for our 32nd annual Fall Festival, which was a huge success. Our students will enjoy dance classes, art classes, an overnight field trip to Angel Island, and other amazing field trips throughout the school year, thanks to the funds raised.

Every year we are amazed at the generous outpouring of support from our parents and community members. Thanks to Little River Inn for their donation of 18 holes of golf, a cart and a lodging discount; to Brown's Corner for donated gas certificates; and

thanks for their donations to Scoops, McG's Fun Center, Mario's Italian Restaurant, La Siciliana, Mendo Bistro, Skunk Train, Moon Lady, Sparetime Supply, Starz Gym, 1st Nails, Trust Tattoo, Mendo Baby, Tangier, Accent Tattoo, City Nails, Nikos, Tropic Tails, Monkey Wrench, Jax, Liv, Misty Made, Garton Tractor, Econographics Printing, Elevensies, Sweet Things Boutique, Unique Boutique, Dawnna Hetherington, Bear Republic, Parducci, J.D Redhouse, Mariposa, The Book Juggler, Shear Envy, Sarah Bella, and The Education Foundation.

Thanks also to M and M Silkscreening in Coateville, Pennsylvania, for the generous

donation of custom-made T-shirts for our "Kids For Peace" theme, and to our fantastically fabulous hip hop teacher, Ayla Decaire.

We would also like to extend a warm welcome to Willits Unified School District's new Superintendent Mark Westerburg. We are grateful to Mr. Westerburg for believing in our small school. At Sherwood School, we believe wholeheartedly in educating the mind while nurturing the heart. Please, please, please Shop Local!

– sincerely and with much love,
the students, staff and families
of Sherwood School


 Congrats |
 'Wagon of Toys
Winner'
 Young Miss Sophia Poulides, shown here with her father, Alex Poulides, won this fabulous "Wagon of Toys," that was raffled off at the Roots of Motive Power's Holiday Express event on Saturday. Congratulations, Sophia!


 Congrats |
 Expanding the
Family Tree
 Ashley and Lorenzo Rodriguez are proud to announce they are expecting the arrival of their first baby in July of 2017.

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 item to run in Willits Weekly!
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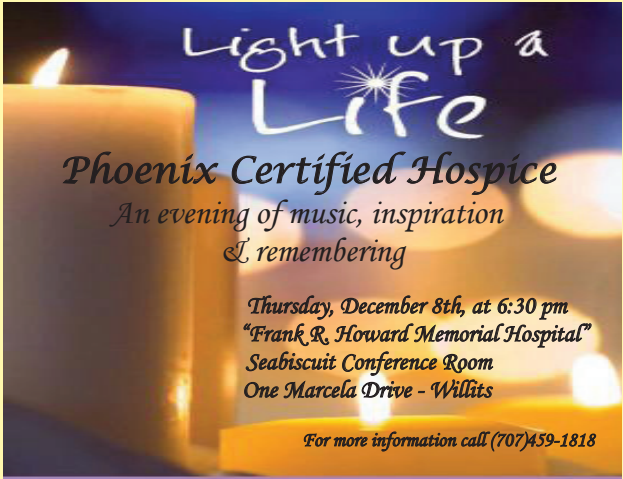
Thursday, December 8

“Light Up a Life”: Phoenix Certified Hospice of Mendocino County holds its 13th annual “Light Up a Life” celebration. “This evening will be filled with inspiration, music and encouragement for all.” Thursday, December 8 at 6:30 pm in the Seabiscuit Conference Room. Howard Hospital, 1 Marcela Drive. See article elsewhere on Calendar page for more details.

Willits High School Booster Club Meeting: The monthly Willits High School Booster Club Meeting is set for 6 pm, Thursday, December 8, at the Willits High School Food Center. Help support athletics and other extracurricular activities at Willits High School.

“A Christmas Carol”: The holiday tale about the greedy, curmudgeonly miser Ebenezer Scrooge, who ends up realizing the worth of his fellow human beings and gaining the true joy of living. Runs through Sunday, December 18. Directed by Dawn Jacobs, with an all-star cast featuring Rod Grainger, Dave Watts, Randa Craighead, Christopher Martin, Mike A'Dair, Sylvia Wartell, Robert Ford, Soren Pinelli, Kathy De Bane, Amarah Potter, and Spencer Copperfield. Plus, at the end of each show, the cast conducts an interactive sing-along with the audience, with Robert Ford and Greg Schindel on guitars, in renditions of old English carols, including among others, “Silent Night,” “Deck the Halls” and “Hark, The Herald Angels Sing.” Thursdays at 7 pm for \$10, Friday and Saturdays at 8 pm for \$15, and some Sunday matinees at 2 pm for \$10. Advance tickets are available in person at Mazahar, 38 South Main Street; online at brownpapertickets.com; or by phone 24/7 at 1-800-838-3006. Tickets will also be available at the door until sold out. The WCT playhouse is located at 37 West Van Lane (behind Shanachie Pub). Tonight’s Thursday, December 8 7 pm show is a fundraiser for the Willits P.E.O. Sisterhood scholarship fund. Tickets are available by calling Vicki Ham, 456-9858 (or at the door if any are still available). PEO is an organization centered on educating women.

“Cabin Pressure”: A Willits Charter School Production at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. “Cabin Pressure” follows the day-to-day working life of MJN Air, and its crew of four: Carolyn Knapp-Shappey, owner and stewardess; Douglas Richardson, an experienced pilot, fired from his



Arthur: Lilah Crane; Herc: Chloe Breen; Second Martin, Zoe Jordan. December 9-11 and 16-17; Fridays and Saturdays 7 pm, Sundays, 2 pm. Tickets, \$10 adult, \$5 student, are available at WCS, 1431 South Main Street, 459-5506.

Hot Winter's Night: Willits High School Performing Arts Department celebrates the season with music, dance, poetry, and a visual arts exhibit. Plus, the WHS Jazz Band and the Concert Band will play. Free sweet treats during intermission. The leadership class is hosting a soup dinner fundraiser from 5 pm to 6 pm in the Wolverine Café, aka “The Food Center.” Thursday, December 8, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, Willits High School. See article elsewhere on Calendar page for more details.

Friday, December 9



upright bass; Emandal Chorale, guest director, Madge Strong; Vern Morninglight, vocals and guitar; Ron O'Brien, classical guitar; Twining Time, John Wagenet & Anita Elliot; and David Patch, guitar and vocals. Raffle with prizes of works from every participant in the fair. The WCA location will have extra special events to entice customers, including a special door-prize raffle and a “Small Works” show opening downstairs with refreshments.

last job for stealing: Captain Martin Crieff, the chief pilot who loves flying planes but isn't very good at it; and Arthur Shappey, Carolyn's overexcited and idiotic son who works as a steward.” Produced by Matt Browning. Directed by Jessica Cronin. Cast: Douglas: Dylan Foley; Martin: Farrow Lockwood; Carolyn: Destiny Anderson;

30th Annual Willits Holiday Craft Fair: Annual holiday arts and crafts fair sponsored by the Willits Center for the Arts, at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street, and also expanded to the upstairs gallery at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Friday, December 9, from noon to 7 pm; Saturday, December 10, from 10 am to 6 pm, and Sunday, December 11 from 10 am to 4 pm. Food from the Willits Charter School kitchen. Live music by Dorian and Dorothea May playing holiday jazz on piano and

Photos with Santa at J.D. Redhouse: from 5 to 7 pm on Friday, December 9. Digital images just \$5 each, 50/50 benefit for Mendocino Care-A-Van. See article elsewhere on Calendar page for more information.

“The Gift of Art: Small Works Show”: The December show at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street, runs December through 24, with an opening reception tonight, Friday, December 9, from 6 to 9 pm. The show features works of art priced to sell for holiday gifts!

Classical guitarist Ron O'Brien: Ron O'Brien, arranger/guitarist, plays solo acoustic guitar – everything from Rock to Rachmaninoff, plus entertaining musical anecdotes. Friday, December 9 from 7 to 9:30 pm at Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South Main Street. \$5 cover. Doors open and soup, pastries, coffees, teas, and other seasonal hot beverages available at 6 pm.

Shanachie Pub: Stone House Band, formerly known as Black Iris Band, is a classic rock and blues cover band featuring veteran players Todd Brayton, lead vocal-drums; John Coughlin, lead guitar-vocals; John Chambers, bass guitar-backing vocals; and Joe Munch from Laytonville. Friday, December 9 at 9 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Saturday, December 10

Brooktrails Christmas Flea Market: The last one of the year. Handmade crafts and unique presents. Food from local vendors. Saturday, December 10, 9 am to 2 pm. Inside the Brooktrails Lodge, 24675 Birch Street. Vendor spaces are limited, but still available. \$30 per spot. For information or to reserve a spot: 707-489-4726.

Warm Clothes Drive: Community Crossroads is collecting coats, hats, sleeping bags, gloves and scarves, and just about anything warm that can be distributed and worn by those in need during the cold seasons. “From local people to local people.” Saturday, December 10 and Sunday, December 11, 10 am to 4 pm in the parking lot of Les Schwab, 1565 South Main Street. Info: Linda at 707-354-0716 or Shannon at 707-489-3044



event “to introduce our neighboring cities to the shopping and dining in Willits.” Meet at 11:30 am on Saturday, December 10, at Main and Commercial Streets, where each guest will receive a packet of instructions, including a list of participating merchants and a “Women in Business” badge. Gather tickets from each merchant you visit – the woman with the most tickets will win a prize – and enjoy discounts at many stores for wearing your badge. Don't forget to check out the holiday window displays, so you can vote for your favorite. After shopping, enjoy lunch at 2 pm at the Mendocino County Museum. 400 East Commercial Street, catered by Elevenzies, and including wine by Barra of Mendocino and chocolate from Starchild Chocolates. Tickets are \$20. Info: 707-888-7834 or 707-391-4299.

Photos with Santa at J.D. Redhouse: from 12:30 to 2:30 pm on Saturday, December 10. Digital images just \$5 each, 50/50 benefit for Willits 4-H. See article elsewhere on Calendar page for more information.

Sit N Sew: Monthly drop-in sewing group meets at the Willits Library. Free to all and open to the public. Bring your sewing machine, tools, and any project you would like to work on. Saturday, December 10, from 1 to 5 pm. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Information: Rachel at 354-0605.

“A Christmas Carol”: 8 pm, see

Willits Holiday Crafts Fair: 10 am to 6 pm today at the Willits Community Center and the Willits Center for the Arts. See Friday, December 9 listing for details.

Sober Grad Candy and Cookie Sale: A homemade candy and cookie sale to benefit Sober Grad's graduation night party for area seniors. Saturday, December 10 at the Willits Holiday Craft Fair at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street, from 10 am to 4 pm. Candy/cookie donations welcome! Please drop off your candy and cookies to Nancy Christiansen at Tangles, 59 School Street, by 5:30 pm on December 9 for the December 10 sale, or bring your candy/cookies directly to the sale before it begins.

Networking & Holiday Shopping Extravaganza: North County Women in Business Network, Ukiah Women in Business Network, and the Coast Women in Business Network, host a joint event “to introduce our neighboring cities to the shopping and dining in Willits.” Meet at 11:30 am on Saturday, December 10, at Main and Commercial Streets, where each guest will receive a packet of instructions, including a list of participating merchants and a “Women in Business” badge. Gather tickets from each merchant you visit – the woman with the most tickets will win a prize – and enjoy discounts at many stores for wearing your badge. Don't forget to check out the holiday window displays, so you can vote for your favorite. After shopping, enjoy lunch at 2 pm at the Mendocino County Museum. 400 East Commercial Street, catered by Elevenzies, and including wine by Barra of Mendocino and chocolate from Starchild Chocolates. Tickets are \$20. Info: 707-888-7834 or 707-391-4299.

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“A Christmas Carol”: 8 pm, see

Friday, December 9 listing for info.

Shanachie Pub: Crosby Tyler, the One-Man Tub-Thumpin' Band: “Blend back porch-bluegrass with Delta blues and add a keen sense of social commentary and wrap it up in a one man band.” Visit www.crosbytyler.com. Saturday, December 10, at 8 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Sunday, December 11

Senior Center Sunday Breakfast: Menu choices: Pancakes with eggs cooked your style, with choice of sausage, ham or bacon, or biscuits & gravy with eggs cooked your style; additional meat sides: \$2 extra. Adults \$7; members \$6; children under 8, \$5. Sunday, December 11, 8 to 11 am, Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-6826.

Warm Clothes Drive: 10 am to 4 pm at Les Schwab. See Saturday, December 10 listing for details.

Willits Holiday Crafts Fair: 10 am to 4 pm today – the final day of the fair – at the Willits Community Center and the Willits Center for the Arts. See Friday, December 9 listing for details.

Photos with Santa at J.D. Redhouse: from 12:30 to 2:30 pm on Sunday, December 11. Digital images just \$5 each, 50/50 benefit for Willits Junior Horsemen. See article elsewhere on Calendar page for more information.

“A Christmas Carol”: 2 pm matinee today; see Friday, December 9 listing for info.

Willits Community Christmas Chorale: The 29th annual Willits Community Christmas Chorale is set for Sunday, December 11 at 6 pm at the LDS Church, 265 Margie Drive. Featuring 14 performances this year, including Emandal Chorale, Ed Rinehart, choirs from St. Francis and St. Anthony's churches in Willits, Chanterelle, and many more. Also, a community sing-a-long during a slight intermission. “And lots of cookies and hot cider will follow the program. Please join us.” Questions? Call Roni McFadden: 391-5461

KYBU Black and White Gala: Round Valley celebrates 5 years of KYBU 96.9 FM community radio with a Black and White Gala, Sunday, December 11, from 6 to 11 pm at the Round Valley Commons. Silent auction. Wine and beer. Photo booth. Free for KYBU members. Dinner for purchase. Live musical showcase of Round Valley local artists. Black & white attire encouraged.



Monday, December 12

Shanachie Pub: Sissy Brown from Oklahoma by way of Kansas City. She started out in classical, but returned to her country music roots. Visit Facebook.com/AintNoSissyBrown. Monday December 12, at 7 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.



Shanachie Pub: Dirk Lancaster, an “unconventional one man band.” Visit www.soundcloud.com/dirk Lancaster. Friday, December 16, 9 pm. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Holiday Lights in Willits: Winter Wonderland: “Come and enjoy a magical holiday light display at the Commonwealth Garden (directly across from the new hospital). Warm up with a cup of cocoa or apple cider as you stroll the

Tuesday, December 13

Tightwad Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre: All 2D movies that are in their second week are \$5 on Tuesdays at the Noyo Theatre for all ages, all showings. This week's Tightwad movies: “Allied,” “The Girl on the Train,” “Moana.” For showtimes: www.noyotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street. 459-6696

Wednesday, December 14

Evening Kirtan: Chant together in simple Sanscrit and in English for better health. Wednesday, December 14 at 6:30 pm at the Inner Resource Institute, 1500 Hearst Road. Program is free, but please register by phone: 367-0076.

Thursday, December 15

Special Preview at the Noyo Theater: “Rogue One-A Star Wars Story,” Thursday December 15, 3D at 7 pm, 2D at 8 pm. Advance tickets on sale.



Shanachie Pub: Dennis Crisp and Friends. “This show will feature many local talented musicians coming together for a night of original, improvised, and rare moments in music.” Thursday December 15, at 8 pm. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194

“Home for the Holidays” Adoption Special: At the Ukiah Animal Shelter on December 15, December 16 and December 17, spayed and neutered cats and kittens can go home with all adoption fees waived. Spayed and neutered dogs also have a reduced adoption fee of \$50, plus a \$25 dog license fee if adopter lives in Mendocino County. Usual adoption requirements will apply. Cat adopters are encouraged to bring a cat carrier. The Ukiah Shelter, 298 Plant Road, Ukiah. Info: 467-6453.

Friday, December 16

Youth Poetry Night: Open mic poetry reading: “Speak Your Mind.” All ages welcome; free admission. Hosted by Tristen

Cockrall. Friday December 16, at 7 pm. Brickhouse Coffee, corner of Main Street and Commercial Street.

Shanachie Pub: Dirk Lancaster, an “unconventional one man band.” Visit www.soundcloud.com/dirk Lancaster. Friday, December 16, 9 pm. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Holiday Lights in Willits: Winter Wonderland: “Come and enjoy a magical holiday light display at the Commonwealth Garden (directly across from the new hospital). Warm up with a cup of cocoa or apple cider as you stroll the

orchard pathways and enjoy festive holiday snacks by Howard Hospital's Roots Restaurant. As you walk through the enchanted winter wonderland, you will encounter light sculptures created by Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital, Howard Foundation, Willits Area Cyclists, Brookside School, Room to Bloom and more! December 16 to 18, 5 to 8 pm. Suggested donations \$5 for adults (“adults free with unwrapped toy for the Willits Kids Christmas Program); kids free. Proceeds benefit Willits Center for the Arts and the Commonwealth Garden. Howard Hospital, 1 Marcela Drive. More info: 459-2777

Home For Holidays Adoption Special: Ukiah Animal Shelter, pets available at greatly reduced fees. See Friday, December 15 listing for more details.

Willits Weekly's Cookie Party: Willits Weekly invites the community to our 4th annual Christmas Cookie Party. Friday, December 16 from 5 to 7 pm at Ardella's Downtown Diner, 77 South Main Street. Cooking tasting & voting. Cookie swap. Live music & merriment. Come celebrate with us! Bakers welcome: You can download the baker's entry form at www.willitsweekly.com/WW-Cookie-Entry.docx or check out our event page on Facebook. See page 2 for more details. Questions? Email maureengetsmail@gmail.com or call 972-7047.

Saturday, December 17

Shanachie Pub: Free Peoples, the duo version: acoustic music, folk, bluegrass and hints of old-timey and American traditionals. Saturday, December 17. 9 pm. No cover. 50 South Main Street, behind Adam's Restaurant. Info: 459-9194.

Home For Holidays Adoption Special: Ukiah Animal Shelter, pets available at greatly reduced fees. See Friday, December 15 listing for more details.

Sunday, December 18

Fire Department Blood Drive: The Little Lake Fire Protection District hosts its annual blood drive, Sunday, December 18 from 12 to 4 pm. The Blood Centers of the Pacific Donor Coach will be parked at the firehouse, 74 East Commercial Street. To schedule a blood donor appointment, visit www.bloodheroes.com. Click “Locate a Blood Drive” and enter sponsor code “Willits.” Appointments advised. Info: 1-888-393-4483.

A Hot Winter's Night

Thursday, December 8, 6:30-8:30 PM
Willits High School
Music Art Poetry Dance Treats

Presented by the WHS Visual & Performing Arts Department
- A Holiday Gift to the Willits Community -
Soup Dinner Fundraiser in the Wolverine Cafe, 500-600

Skunk Train's “Magical Christmas Train”

The Skunk Train's “Magical Christmas Train” leaves the Willits Depot, 299 East Commercial Street, on Saturday, December 10 at 1:30 pm (this run is sold out), with two more runs set for 3:30 and 6 pm. Seats might be available on sold-out trains due to cancellations – or new trains might be added! – but reservations are always recommended! Trains run every day out of Willits from December 11-23. “A 90-minute train ride through a storybook wonderland, cookies, hot chocolate in a souvenir mug, and a personal visit with Santa Claus himself. Come dressed in your Christmas morning pajamas, if you'd like, and join us in carols and reindeer games!” 60-minute train rides out of Fort Bragg available on Saturday, December 9. Call 707-964-6371 for more info or reservations, or visit www.skunktrain.com/christmas.html for info and to buy tickets: \$44 for ages 13 and up; \$34 for ages 2 -12; free for children under 2; \$10 for dogs.

Photos with Santa

December 9 to 11

Photos with Santa at J.D. Redhouse with local “photographress,” Maureen Moore. Three chances to get your photo taken with St. Nick: Friday, December 9 from 5 to 7 pm, Saturday, December 10 from 12:30 to 2:30 pm and Sunday, December 11 from 12:30 to 2:30 pm – just drop in, no appointments! Each day will be a 50/50 fundraiser for a local organization: Friday will benefit the Mendocino County Care-A-Van; Saturday will benefit the Willits 4-H; and Sunday will benefit the Willits Junior Horsemen. Digital images will just be \$5 each and will be available to download from <http://photographress.zenfolio.com/pixwithsanta>. Or simply scan the QR code with your phone to quickly link to the gallery. Info: 972-7047 or 459-1214.



Senior Center Lunch

Week of December 12 through December 16

Monday: Spaghetti/ Meat Sauce
Tuesday: Roast Pork
Wednesday: Tamale Pie Bake
Thursday: Lemon Tilapia
Friday: Baked Chicken

Harrah Senior Center serves lunch five days per week from 11:45 am to 1 pm. 55 and older: \$5.50 per meal; under 55: \$7 per meal. Includes soup, entrée, vegetable, bread, dessert, and drink. 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 459-6826.

SANTA PHOTOS
DIGITAL IMAGES \$5

FRIDAY: 12/9 5 TO 7 PM
SATURDAY: 12/10 12:30 TO 2:30 PM
SUNDAY: 12/11 12:30 TO 2:30 PM

J.D. REDHOUSE & COMPANY
A LOCALLY OWNED MERCANTILE
212 South Main Street Downtown Willits 707-459-1214

“Light Up a Life”

Thursday, December 8

Phoenix Certified Hospice of Mendocino County is holding the 13th annual “Light Up a Life” celebration at Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital on Thursday, December 8th at 6:30 pm at the Seabiscuit Conference Room. This evening will be filled with inspiration, music and encouragement for all.

“Light Up a Life” is a community celebration to honor and remember those we care about and love. Lighting a candle in honor of those we love and may have passed, is a very old tradition that allows us to express what we often cannot communicate with words. The flickering flame of the candle helps to remind us of the souls that have impacted our lives.

“We celebrate a life journey. Each candle tells the story of the light that glows from loving and being loved. For a family in hospice, the journey includes watching someone you love move towards and into their death – with dignity, compassion, and love. We are all changed by these experiences, and we continue to hold their stories in our hearts,”

“Together We Stand”

Thursday, December 22

A Benefit for Standing Rock: Fundraiser to help the protesters in North Dakota. Music by Richard Jeske and Friends, Verne Morninglight, and Chris Chichacki. Poetry will be shared by W.J. Ray, Linda Noel, Dan Roberts, and Mary Norbert Korte. Thursday, December 22 at Brickhouse Coffee. Doors open 6:30 pm. \$10 suggested donation. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. Info: Chris Chichacki, 459-1099.

Add your event to our calendar!
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Together We Stand
A benefit for Standing Rock

Music by Richard Jeske and Friends, Verne Morninglight, Chris Chichacki
Poetry by W.J. Ray, Linda Noel, Dan Roberts, Mary Norbert Korte

Brickhouse Coffee
Dec. 22nd 2016
Doors at 6:30
Suggested Donation of \$10

‘A Hot Winter's Night’

Thursday, December 8

Willits High School's Holiday Gift to our community. Willits High School's 13th annual “A Hot Winter's Night” is happening Thursday, December 8 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm! Everyone's invited to attend this free event! Join our visual and performing artists as we celebrate the season with music, dance, poetry, and a visual arts exhibit. The WHS Jazz Band and the Concert Band will perform, as will other student musicians. Also performing: this year's dancers and poets. Then, “Sing our hearts out” with Mrs. Jennifer Barrett.

The leadership class is hosting a soup dinner fundraiser from 5 pm to 6 pm in the Wolverine Café, aka “The Food Center.” Free sweet treats will be available during intermission. All this festivity will be enhanced by family, friends, and community.

The event is planned and produced by the Willits High School visual and performing artists, under the guidance of Carolyn Bakewell in Visual Arts, Chris Olds in Music, Jill Walton in Poetry, Kelley Case-Brackett in Leadership, and by Jessie Rees in Culinary Craft.

Info: Chris Olds at 459-7700 x 1536 or chrisolts@willitsunified.com or Carolyn Bakewell at 459.7700 x 1533 or carolynbakewell@willitsunified.com.

Willits Weekly's
4th Annual Christmas Party!

Friday, December 16
from 5 to 7 pm
at Ardella's Downtown Diner

Cookie Tasting & Voting
Live Music & Merriment

Come celebrate with us!

Info: 707-459-2633 or 707-972-7047

YOUTH POETRY NIGHT

FRIDAY DECEMBER 16TH
THE BRICKHOUSE
7PM – FREE – ALL AGES
SPEAK YOUR MIND
HOSTED BY TRISTEN COCKRALL

COLUMN | At the Movies

‘Moana’

The Story: On a Polynesian island in a time when myths are still real, there lives Moana, the adorable and impetuous daughter of the island chief (who is emphatically “...not a princess!”). She and the Ocean apparently make friends. Her father has forbidden her to sail beyond the barrier reef that protects the island's lagoon. Moana is frustrated, after all the Ocean is her friend. But when a terrible blight with a supernatural source starts to kill the coconuts and drive away the fish, Moana defies her father and sets out on a voyage to find the demigod Maui who has the power to set things right and save her people.

My Thoughts: This is a Disney animated feature with some fine songs, one of which rhymed “phenomenon” with “going on and on.” Respects for that. And though I cannot absolutely promise, a large plus for the songs, is that few-to-none of them are likely to be as vexing a mind worm as “Let It Go” from “Frozen.” Ultimately, of course, it is your children who will decide that issue. Oh yes, usually I'm not in favor of 3D because it's too dark, but I saw this flick in 3D, and it was quite beautiful. That noted, the 2D version will work just as well, because “Moana” is a well-made, well-paced movie.

Parents: Take the kids. This is a tale about a little girl who minds her father and contributes to her community. And when she is older, and it becomes necessary for her to make an adult decision that requires courage, she risks her life to do what is right. This is a good story.

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

Remembering Lynn Kennelly

A crowd of people gathered outside the Willits Chamber of Commerce office at the Skunk Train Depot Saturday evening for an informal gathering to honor and remember the late Lynn Kennelly, director of the Willits Chamber of Commerce.

Friends, family, colleagues – all had been touched by Kennelly’s remarkable ability to love her neighbors, as expressed eloquently by her pastor, Chuck Williamson of the Willits Bible Church, in remarks he made to close the brief ceremony.

“I had the privilege of knowing Lynn, and I can see this [vigil] is a testimony of her love. Every single person here was loved by Lynn, but when you walked in here [to her office], you became the most important person in her life. The Bible says when you come together, you encourage me – Lynn would’ve wanted to see people here, loving each other.”

The Bible says “love one another,” Williamson said, and Lynn “took that to heart. Every day she loved God, and every day she loved you.... You were all loved. She was an example of how to love people. An example to me, and to all of you.”

As people entered the depot, former Chamber of Commerce president Ron Moorhead passed out small candles with cardboard rings to catch the wax. Right before the ceremony began, Mayor Bruce Burton and others lit their neighbors’ candles, who in turn, lit others.

The invitation to the community from Lisa Epstein,

president of the Willits Chamber of Commerce, had encouraged attendees to wear red scarves – “Lynn’s favorite color was red,” it said – and many wore red scarves in the cold evening. “Her departure leaves an enormous chasm in our community and in all of our hearts,” Epstein wrote. “She was dearly loved and will be deeply missed.”

Epstein started Saturday’s ceremony with a few words about how much she would miss Kennelly, who had been a part of her daily life – and announcing that the Emandal Chorale – “Lynn loved Emandal” – would sing a couple of hymns.

The choir sang “Hallelujah” and then a beautiful Russian hymn, which leader Don Willis said translated into “Many Years.” “May the work she did continue for many years,” Willis said. “May her memory continue for many years.”

A “Celebration of Life” for Lynn Kennelly is set for Saturday, December 17, from 2 to 4 pm, at the Agape Bible Church, 290 South Lenore Avenue. There will be a potluck at the Agape Bible Church Fellowship Hall immediately following.

A memorial fund has been established for the family at Savings Bank of Mendocino County, 145 South Main Street, Willits, under the name of “The Kennelly Family Benefit Fund.” Contributions can be brought to the bank or mailed to Savings Bank, PO Box 98, Willits, CA 95490. Any inquiries may be directed to the chamber board of directors at info@willits.org.



Above: Carrie “Minnie Mouse” Andrade and Cici “Olive Oyl” Winiger of Howard Memorial Hospital check out the Willits Community Kids Christmas Program tree located in the Roots Restaurant at HHM during the hospital’s holiday brunch, where employees dressed up as classic cartoon characters.

Santa’s HQ is open downtown!

The Willits Community Kids Christmas Program is now headquartered at the old Rexall building, 90 South Main Street. Hours of operation will be roughly 12 noon to 6 pm through Friday, December 16. After that the hours will be extended to roughly 9 pm. We will gladly accept folks who wish to volunteer for gift-wrapping duty!

We currently have 350+ children signed up for the program. If you wish to volunteer, please call Kim “Sugar B” Venturi at 707-972-8782 to schedule a time. Talk with your friends, family, co-workers, or club members, and make a group appointment – the more the merrier! Let’s make it a party, and get this great cause moving forward. Thank you in advance!

– Rich Venturi, for the Willits Wild Bunch



December 8

Unique and beautiful gems, crystals, fossils, beads, jewelry and more!

Georges GLODES & GEMS

20% Store Wide Sale

Sale Table - up to 50% Off! • Special Grab Bagal

600 South Main Street, Willits (707) 472-7412

December 9

25% OFF KIDS TOYS & GAMES

J.D. REDHOUSE & COMPANY

A LOCALLY OWNED MERCANTILE

919 South Main Street Downtown Willits 707-459-1914

December 10

35% OFF ALL CLOTHING

J.D. REDHOUSE & COMPANY

A LOCALLY OWNED MERCANTILE

919 South Main Street Downtown Willits 707-459-1914

December 11

OUR HANDMADE FUDGE MAKES THE PERFECT GIFT

J.D. REDHOUSE & COMPANY

A LOCALLY OWNED MERCANTILE

919 South Main Street Downtown Willits 707-459-1914

December 12

GIFT CARDS MAKE GREAT GIFTS

A Gift for You

J.D. REDHOUSE & COMPANY

A LOCALLY OWNED MERCANTILE

919 South Main Street Downtown Willits 707-459-1914

December 13

30% OFF BACKPACKS, PURSES & WALLETS

J.D. REDHOUSE & COMPANY

A LOCALLY OWNED MERCANTILE

919 South Main Street Downtown Willits 707-459-1914

December 14

30% OFF MUGS, APRONS AND PENDLETON GIFTS

J.D. REDHOUSE & COMPANY

A LOCALLY OWNED MERCANTILE

919 South Main Street Downtown Willits 707-459-1914

Willits Weekly's Cookie Party

5 to 7 pm on Friday, December 16

It's time for Willits Weekly's annual Cookie Party! We invite the community to come to Ardella's Downtown Diner on Friday, December 16 from 5 to 7 pm to taste cookies, swap recipes, listen to Christmas carols sung by Nancy New and Devon Jones, and celebrate the holiday with us! IF YOU'D LIKE TO ENTER THE COOKIE CONTEST: Send an email to willitsweekly@gmail.com or call 972-7047. You can also download the baker's entry form here: www.willitsweekly.com/WWV-Cookie-Entry.docx. Enter as a business, or as an individual! We hope to see you there!

Willits Weekly logo

NOYO THEATRE Willits, CA

57 East Commercial Street - Willits 707-459-NOYO (6696) www.noyotheatre.com

Next Week: Star Wars 2D/3D, Sing & Passengers

MOANA (PG) 1 hr 53 mins

Fri: 5:20 & 8:00pm Sat/Sun: 12noon, 2:40, 5:20 & 8:00pm Mon-Wed: 4:20 & 7:00pm Thurs: 4:20pm only

ALLIED (R) 2 hrs 4 mins

Fri: 5:40 & 8:20pm Sat/Sun: 12:20, 3:00, 5:40 & 8:20pm Mon-Thurs: 4:40 & 7:20pm

THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN (R) 1 hr 52 mins

Fri: 6:15 & 8:45pm Sat/Sun: 1:15, 3:45, 6:15 & 8:45pm Mon-Wed: 5:15 & 7:45pm Thurs: 5:15pm only

— SPECIAL PREVIEWS — ROGUE ONE — A STAR WARS STORY (PG13) 2 hrs 13 mins

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OBITUARY |

Alvin Boman

Alvin Eugene Boman of Willits passed away November 29, 2016 at the age of 65. He was born to Roy and Mildred Opal Boman on June 8, 1951 in Sacramento. He married Valerie Gail Russell on January 1, 1977 in Virginia City, Nevada.

Alvin worked in lumber mills in Santa Rosa and Healdsburg until owning his own shop, before retiring to Willits in 2004. He enjoyed playing his guitar alone and with friends, especially his nephew, Ryan.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother-in-law, John Russell, who was also one of his best friends. He is survived by his wife, Valerie; sons: Andrew (Cherokee), Travis, and Zachary; new granddaughter, Amber; sister, Vicki; brother, Jim; and nephew, Tom Boman.

A memorial service will take place at a later date. If you wish, donations in his name to the Willits Food Bank would be appreciated.

Arrangements under the care and direction of Anker-Lucier Mortuary.

DEATH NOTICE

Vicki ‘Smokey’ Wierman

Vicki “Smokey” Wierman of Willits passed away on December 3, 2016 at the age of 64. Services will be announced at a later date.

Arrangements under the care and direction of Anker-Lucier Mortuary.

OBITUARY |

John McAlister

John McAlister died quietly at home in his sleep on November 22, 2016 from complications of Parkinson’s disease. John was born in Westwood, California, on April 11, 1942. His family moved to Anderson, California in 1947, and he graduated from Anderson High School in 1960. He attended Oregon State University from 1960 to 1965, where he studied pharmacy and received his pharmacy license in both Oregon and California.

He met his wife, Alice, in 1963 at Oregon State, and they were married in 1965 in Painte Post, New York. He practiced pharmacy in Redding for two years before serving two years in the Army. John and Alice moved to Santa Rosa, where their sons Kevin and Michael were born.

In 1973 they moved to Willits. John worked at Willits Rexall Pharmacy and later became a partner in the business. He retired in 2000, and he and his wife spent many happy years traveling, working in his woodworking shop, and gardening.

He is survived by his wife, Alice, sons Kevin and Michael, and two brothers, Don and Mark. He was also blessed with two grandsons, Bailey and Jake, three granddaughters, Sierra, Emily and Katie, and one great-grandson, Odin.

John was a well-known and beloved member of the Willits community. A private celebration of his life will be held in the spring.

Arrangements under the care and direction of Anker-Lucier Mortuary.

Furry Friends Hoping for a Home Sweet Arlene

Arlene is a sweet, people-oriented, friendly dog. She is a 2-year-old female Airedale Terrier mix who currently weighs 48 pounds. Arlene was great during her evaluation with Oliver, the shelter’s “tester” dog. She is a very big fan of the couch, and we think she would be a good family dog. Arlene has to live in a chicken-free zone!!!

The Ukiah Animal Shelter is located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, and adoption hours are Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10 am to 4:30 pm and Wednesday from 10 am to 6:30 pm. To view photos and bios of more of the wonderful adoptable animals at the shelter, please check out www.mendoanimalshelter.com. Please join us the 2nd Saturday of every month – this month, December 11 – for our “Empty the Shelter” pack walk and help us get every dog out for some exercise! More info about adoptions: 467-6453.

Photo by Sage Mountainfire



DECEMBER 2016

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THURSDAYS: Men's Night Match Play

FRIDAYS: Get Paid Fridays! \$50 Free Play Drawings 5 - 10 pm

SATURDAYS: Random Hot Seat Drawings \$25 Free Play Drawings 3 - 10 pm

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Above, left: Delicious hors d'oeuvres accompanied discussion about fish, water and land at the Willits Hub Open House Sunday afternoon.

Above, right: Just Enough musicians Clancy Rash, Helen Falandes and Kate Black play a Bob Dylan song.

At left: Talk was lively and varied at the Hub on Sunday.

Joining Forces

Open House with WEC, WELL, SOLIV and EERP at the new Willits Hub

Nearly 50 people with diverse backgrounds and interests gathered, ate and talked with each other at the Open House at the Willits Hub, formerly the Willits Environmental Center, on Sunday afternoon. It was a time to celebrate completing the first steps in creating a “hub” for compatible organizations with similar values under one roof. The celebration was accented with the delightful harmonies of the Just Enough and Chanterelle singing groups.

Ree Slocum
Features Writer
ree@willitsweekly.com

About a year ago the WEC board of directors realized they were having trouble meeting the rent for their building at 630 Main Street. With the theme of “change” in the air, they decided to continue using the spacious, centrally located building and share it with other congruent but not necessarily completely like-minded organizations or individual. Save Our Little Lake Valley, or SOLIV, uses the building for meetings, and the Willits Economical Localization, WELL, group has been occupying the space since September. With all three paying rent, the Hub’s goal is over halfway realized.

The Eel River Recovery Project’s recent interest in establishing an office in Willits with the help of a state grant is another step towards fully reaching the Hub’s expectations of shared office space. WEC Director Ellen Drell and others see the new direction as having the advantage of a “cross fertilization of efforts” in the Willits area.

Representatives from each of the four organizations each gave a short talk on Sunday, emphasizing their interests and goals and encouraging people to become members of their individual organizations. As Drell explained it: “We don’t all do the same thing nor work in the same way. For example the WEC might be considered more of an advocacy group. And WELL focuses on economic development in the area that is environmentally sustainable. And clearly our interests intersect. We can work together in the same space, yet don’t have to agree on all issues.”

If ERRP were to join, they’d bring elements of working for a cleaner Eel River basin, monitoring salmon and steelhead runs and water quality, and a wealth of educational experience and information, clearly intersecting with both groups.

Madge Strong highlighted that WELL is about “localizing our economy so that we are a more self-sustaining community.” Strong explained that Willits is dependent upon outside resources like gasoline, electricity, food and transportation. WELL is working toward growing the local economy, especially in the area of food and conservation measures around water and energy. WELL is also involved in local investments: One being the formation of a local wool mill that will create jobs and opportunities



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for local businesses. According to Strong the idea of local investment “can be done again and again. This recirculates our money.”

Rosamond Crowder from SOLIV explained that the organization is changing its focus from the bypass to a broader view. They’ve been working with the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo. According to Crowder, “The culture that grew out of this land that was sustainable at one time is something to honor and respect and learn more about.” Crowder read from the new mission statement: The organization will “continue bringing diverse people together: educating; taking action; and building coalitions for environmental, economic and social justice in and beyond Little Lake Valley.”

While continuing to work on the lawsuit “Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians and Round Valley Indian Tribes vs. Caltrans” they are also working on sustainable forestry practices with an emphasis on forest diversity and restoration. They’re also monitoring the environmental litigation required as a result of the bypass construction.

Patrick Higgins from EERP, who lives in Humboldt County, began his talk with a call to celebrate that “this valley is chock full with salmon!” He warned there are places on the Eel where the salmon no longer spawn. He suspects that the fish bypass streams that are affected by erosion, fire damage or other factors, and said: “Our challenge going forward is to make the Eel fully functional.”

Early on in the forming of ERRP, Higgins and others concerned with the health of the complex Eel River system came to realize that a lot of the current problems, especially the highly toxic species of algae which kill dogs and could kill a small child, reside with the disharmony of what he calls “the industrial dopers” [large marijuana farms] with the environment.

ERRP’s role in helping restore health to the river is through education. “We don’t care if you’re growing marijuana. Great. But just are you growing it so that it doesn’t deprive your downstream neighbors of water, so that dogs don’t die?”

Higgins went on to explain that the organization has a state grant, and they’re going for a Phase 2: Eel River Citizen Monitoring and Outreach Project. If they are able to have an office at the Hub, they’d be in Willits one day a week to meet with marijuana growers and others to educate and support water-friendly agricultural practices. He emphasized that it’ll take money to do that and is encouraging everyone concerned about the health of the Eel River to become an EERP member

For more information or to make donations call WEC at 459-4110, visit the WELL website at well95490.org, email SOLIV at savellittlelake@gmail.com, or check ERRP online at eelriverrecovery.org.

At left: Pat Higgins, center, from the Eel River Recovery Project talks with people at the Hub celebration.

Below: The sign at the Willits Environmental Center, now the Willits Hub.

Photos by Ree Slocum



National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Members of the American Legion Willits Post 174 and Auxiliary gathered for a flag-raising ceremony on Wednesday, December 7 at Babcock Park to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

As Franklin D. Roosevelt broadcast to the nation, on December 7, 1941, it was “a day that will go down in infamy.”



The rest of
Woodhouse | From Page 1

around the home, resting and reading. He’s trying to read up on what has been going on in the county since he became ill.”

Woodhouse has not attended a board of supervisors’ meeting since August 30.

Since at least mid-September, Supervisor Woodhouse has been in the throes of a mental health crisis. He was detained by law enforcement in three separate 5150 actions, which resulted in three separate hospitalizations. After Woodhouse was arrested by sheriff’s deputies at his Willits home on October 28 on suspicion of misdemeanor domestic battery and resisting arrest, he was hospitalized for close to a month.

Neary said Woodhouse has been taking medicine for the past four weeks. “If you could talk to him today – which you can’t – but if you could, you would find he is the old Tom Woodhouse again,” Neary said. “Basically, it looks like he is going to make a complete recovery.”

But when asked for his prediction about Woodhouse’s political future, Neary could only say it remains to be seen.

According to County CEO Carmel Angelo, her office recently received a note from Woodhouse’s physician, stating that the supervisor is ill and will not be able to perform his duties for the time being. Angelo said the note did not state when Woodhouse would be able to resume those duties.

When pressed by Willits Weekly for more details, Angelo said she could not disclose anything more because of patients’ rights laws, especially the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, or HIPAA.

The rest of
Missing | From Page 1

Facebook post.

The Sheriff’s Office confirms Young “may have been involved in a single-vehicle traffic accident,” adding: “It is unknown if she was injured, but she has not been seen since that time by friends or family.”

The Sheriff’s Office is asking drivers in the north end of Little Lake Valley, from Highway 101 to Reynolds Highway, “to drive slowly and safely as search-and-rescue team members will be on the roadways conducting search activities.”

Anyone with any information that could help locate Young, who is 35 years old, with brown hair and brown eyes and a thin build, is urged to call the Sheriff’s Office dispatch center at 707-463-4086.

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Missing woman Maria Shelley Young.



This report was based on a post on the “Mendocino Sheriff” Facebook page.

The rest of
Council | From Page 1

third place, with 18.35 percent of the vote (749 votes).

Challenger Bill Barksdale, who was in second place after the initial Election Night results, dropped to fourth place in final results – just four votes below Strong – with 18.25 percent of the vote (745 votes).

Mayor Bruce Burton took fifth place, with 16.17 percent of the vote (660 votes).

Turnout was lower in the City of Willits, than in Mendocino County in general, with 1,888 of the total 2,753 City of Willits

The rest of
Results | From Page 1

registered voters, a turnout of 75.8 percent. That turnout, figured as a percentage of registered voters, is in the middle of the pack when compared with voter turnout in recent general presidential elections, during which both major parties were offering a fresh candidate.

In November 2008, when Barack Obama was running against John McCain, 80 percent of registered voters in the county cast their ballots. In November 2000, when Al Gore was running against George W. Bush, 71.1 percent of registered voters voted in this county.

AG loses by 163 votes

Measure AG, the “Revive Mental Health Services” countywide measure by which county residents would have imposed a half-cent sales tax for five years to fund the development of a Mendocino County mental health facility, failed by the narrowest of margins. It needed a “yes” vote of 66.66 percent to gain approval, and received 66.22 percent. Had only 163 of those “no” votes been “yes” votes, it would have passed.

Of the 38,730 ballots that were cast countywide, only 36,532 recorded a “yes” or “no” vote for Measure AG, meaning 2,198 Mendocino County voters did not cast a vote either way for AG.

Looking at detailed election results for Measure AG provided by the registrar of voters, voters in unincorporated areas of the county favored the measure more than voters in the county’s five incorporated cities. Unincorporated area voters supported Measure AG with a 67 percent “yes” vote, while city voters mustered only a 64.23 percent “yes” vote. Some 69.70 percent of Third District voters supported AG. In the City of Willits, 68.18 percent of the voters favored Measure AG.

Measure AH, which contained enacting language for Measure AG, garnered only a 63.95 percent “yes” vote. Despite the failure of the mental health initiative he helped craft, Mendocino County Sheriff Tom Allman told Willits Weekly he intends to keep working on the issue.

“Our mental health crisis is not going

registered voters casting ballots, or 68.58 percent of the electorate. Countywide, 75.8 percent of the voters cast ballots on November 8.

Of those 1,888 ballots cast in the City of Willits, only 410 were cast at the Willits Community Center polling place, while 1,478 were vote by mail ballots, even if many of them were dropped off at the polls on Election Day.

Willits Weekly will have interviews with the three winning city council members in next week’s edition.

away, and neither am I,” Allman said. “I’ve spoken with two supervisors, and we are discussing what we can do in the future.

“In no way do I regret putting this on the ballot this year,” Allman added. “Every day since January 1 – which is when I started talking about this – there have been people in the county with whom I’ve had good, constructive conversations about mental health. And any time people get together to talk about an issue, you get closer to a resolution.”

Heritage Initiative rebuffed

County voters rejected the Mendocino Heritage Initiative, Measure AF, by a wide margin: Only 37.93 percent of county voters voted affirmatively. Measure AF only needed a majority, 50 percent plus one vote, to pass.

City voters were slightly more inclined than county voters to support the measure. AF won a 37.25 percent “yes” vote in unincorporated portions of the county, while winning 39.58 percent of the vote in the cities.

Support for the initiative varied considerably in the county’s four cities. In Point Arena, 64.2 percent of voters favored AF; in Fort Bragg, the “yes” vote was 44.7 percent; in Willits, 40.1 percent; and in Ukiah, only 36.4 percent voted “yes.” In the Third Supervisorial District as a whole, the “yes” vote was 38.96 percent..

Cannabis business tax approved

County voters, however, decisively approved Measure AI, the business tax on medical cannabis crafted and placed on the ballot by the board of supervisors. Measure AI won the support of 63.04 percent of the voters, with only 36.96 percent of voters opposed. The measure needed only a majority to pass.

Measure AJ, the non-binding advisory measure telling county residents how supervisors would likely spend a portion of the money raised by Measure AI, passed with a 68.54 percent “yes” vote.

As with measure AF and AI, AJ needed only a majority to pass.

“Hey, Doc! Is there really a frog in my throat?”

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Christmas crafts

Annual senior center holiday fair
offered handmade gifts for all

Christmas cheer abounded at the Harrah Senior Center's annual Holiday Craft Fair on Saturday. There were presents for all ages on display at the handcrafters' tables – and goodies for dogs and birds, too.

One striking display was a rack of colorful tutus next to longtime crafter Mary Brodien's table. The tutus in gorgeous shades were made with crocheted tops and tulle skirts. "I'm here every year," Brodien said, "but these are a new project. I've sold three tutus, already!"

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Brodien's table was filled with crocheted items, including beautiful old-fashioned potholders, in sets of two – one square and one round. One clever little item for a far-away friend was a "tea bag holder" with this friendly message: "On December 25th, at half past three, Brew yourself a cup of tea. I'll think of you, while you think of me. Sitting beside the Christmas tree."

One of the prettiest display tables belonged to Lynesha Macias, who was decorated herself with an appropriate Christmas sweater. "I'm selling kisses," she laughed, referring to the carefully laid out mistletoe swags, complete with big or small bells. The homegrown mistletoe came "out of the tree on the property," she said. Accompanying the "kisses" were iced Red Velvet Christmas trees and cupcakes, and subtly tie-dyed T-shirts and socks, which Macias created with the help of her cousins.

Another table featured homegrown organic lavender from vendor Mary Frost's daughter's farm in Laytonville – available in many forms, including dried on stalks, by the ounce, in potpourri, in sachets, or in the form of extracts or essential oils. Frost was also selling burlap bags of big pine cones, for craft purposes or decorations.

The Willits P.E.O. organization had two tables with a myriad of gifts, including "Apple Pie Dog Treats Gluten Free," and suet seed cakes "For the Birds." The Brooktrails Women's Club table featured cards with Betty Hansen's

Above, from left: Mary Brodien's Christmas tea bag holders. Lynesha Macias "selling kisses" at her pretty table with mistletoe wags. Mary Frost's cheery table, with dried lavender from her daughter's farm in Laytonville. At right: Linda Hicks holds one of Mary Brodien's cheerful chicken pincushions. Far right: Jody Moore models one of her repurposed aprons made from men's shirts. At right, below: Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls handmade by vendor Teresa Lane.

beautiful painting of a Roots of Motive Power locomotive with a Christmas wreath, and handsome aprons made by Jody Moore out of repurposed men's shirts.

The hand-sewn stuffed dolls at Teresa Lane and Steve Barden's table were made from repurposed material, too, including classic Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls with flaming red locks. Other dolls included a rural couple, with Pops in overalls and Mom in apron, and a lovely big Mama doll in fancy hat and dress with a big baby in her lap.

Christmas elf Gloria Hood featured angels with crocheted robes and wings at her table, as well as crocheted hats, potholders and bags. The “queen” angel (not for sale) adorning the top of the Christmas tree was 15 years old, Hood said. Big beaded pendants caught the eye at Nancy Butler’s table, along with a rack of earrings. Butler also makes what she calls “smoothie jams” in classic flavors like Apple Plum and Quince, and unusual flavors like Watermelon Habanero and Red Onion Jam. “They’re good for marinades, too,” she said. “The darker colors are better for beef, and the lighter ones for chicken or pork.”

In the back corner, Bud Johnson from Laytonville was offering princely gifts: fancy rolling pins and cutting boards made from mixed domestic and exotic woods, including cherry, maple and bubinga wood from Africa. Johnson said the wood was left over from woodworking projects he'd done over the last 40 years. This year, Johnson was also offering elegant wooden Christmas tree ornaments made from the scraps of the woodworking scraps.

Another vendor taking advantage of repurposed and leftover material was Helen Oglesby, who was selling patterned rugs made on a sectional wheel from long twisted scraps of fabric – much of it denim, so many of them were in shades of blue. Oglesby has found a way to make rugs out of the leftover seams from jeans, too, backed by burlap.



At left: Wayne Waters and Tyler Austin attended the crafts fair to help sell candy at the Sober Grad table, but were hoping to win this big raffle basket full of gifts.

*Photos by
Jennifer Poole*



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