#### Woodhouse on road to recovery,

attorney says

Mike A'Dair Reporter mike@willitsweekly.com

Third District Supervisor Tom Woodhouse is on the road to recovery, according to Willits attorney Christopher Neary.

Woodhouse was released November 30 from a Sacramento-area psychiatric hospital and, Neary says, has been "laying low and staying close to his family" since then. Neary noted that Woodhouse has been his prescribed taking medication, which has made a profound difference in his mental state.

"I'm shocked that medication can do that to somebody," Neary said. "He looks well. He's hanging

### Read the rest of Woodhouse

Over on Page 15

# Final county election results in

Mike A'Dair
Reporter
mike@willitsweekly.com

Final countywide election results from the November 8 election are in. Mendocino County's two mental health facilities initiatives – measures AG and AH –have both been narrowly defeated.

Measure AF, the Heritage Initiative, was crushed; while Measure AI, the county's cannabis business tax, and Measure AJ, its accompanying advisory measure, gained easy victories with 13 to 18 percentage points more "yes" votes than were needed for passage.

The vote count was high. Some 38,730 ballots were cast, out of 51,035

Read the rest of Results

Over on Page 15

## Search begins for missing Willits woman

Mendocino County Sheriff's Office will mount a search-and-rescue operation Thursday morning, December 8, to find a missing 35-year-old Willits woman.

Maria Shelley Young, also known as Shelley Falkenberg, was last seen in the late hours of Saturday evening at mile post marker 50 of Highway 101, the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office reports in a Facebook post.

"Acar of her make, model, year, and color was found crashed and abandoned on a rural stretch of Reynolds Highway," Young's friend Laurel Gregory noted in a

Read the rest of Missing

Over on Page 15







Above, from left: Shauna Martin and family "hunted" at Nelson's Tree Farm. Nicole Basler shows her permit and map for "hunting" in the national forest. Lisa Davis and her father, "TaTa," at Scoops Frozen Yogurt & Deli Christmas tree "forest."



Above: Alaska, Izzy, River and Shawna have fun in the "forest" at Sparetime Supply. At left, below: Camdyn Ward gleefully tries his toy chainsaw on a small tree in Covelo. At left, bottom: Connor Basler was bundled up in his tree-hunting gear for his family's trek to the snow.

## The Christmas Tree Hunt

At the store or in the forest, family fun for all

Whether your Christmas tree comes from the forest, or the store, picking out just the right evergreen to grace the home hearth can be fun for the whole family.

Retail shoppers can pick up trees locally from Sparetime Supply: 459-6791, or Scoops Frozen Yogurt and Deli: 272-9646.

Those seeking a little more adventure can purchase a permit from the U.S. Forest Service to cut own their own tree in the

Mendocino National Forest east of Covelo. Permits, \$10 each, are limited to one per household and allow trees to be cut and removed through December 24, 2016.

Permits and maps are available from M&M Feed and Supply and Keith's Family Foods in Covelo.

For more information: Covelo Ranger Station: 707-983-6118.

– Maureen Moore



Below: Sparetime employees Chris Sironi and Ryan Hosford, left, use a drill to make holes in tree trunks to ready them for the stands. Brandon Slater gives his approval to the tree. Right: Justin Quinliven and his dad Steve, bag a big one during a recent tree hunt in Covelo. At bottom: The sun peeks through the snow-laden trees in Covelo.



At right: "Yokum's 46th Annual

Christmas Tree Hunt!" on

Sunday, December 4, in the

Mendocino National Forest

Sledding fun in the snow.

Submitted photos by

and Alison Hughes.

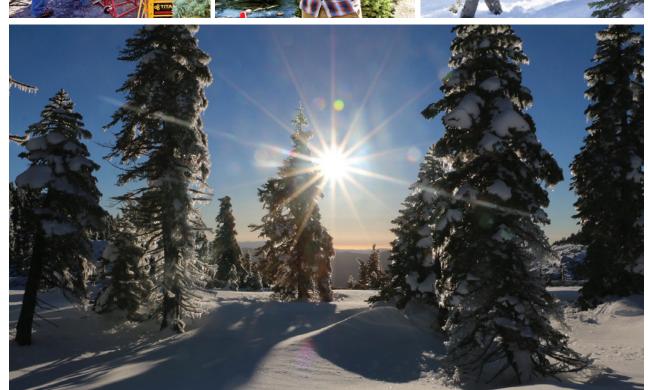
Shauna Martin, Erika Rowland,

Nicole Basler, Tam Adams

above Covelo. Below:







# City Council: Gonzalez, Rodriguez and Strong

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
jennifer@willitsweekly.com

Final Mendocino County election results were released last Thursday, December 1, showing that current Willits Police Chief Gerry Gonzalez, challenger Saprina Rodriguez and incumbent Madge Strong have won the three seats up for election on the Willits City Council.

Gonzalez, who remained in first place in final results, with 27.41 percent of the vote (1,119 votes), is retiring as chief of the Willits Police Department. His last day is Friday, December 9.

Rodriguez came in second, with 18.99 percent (775 votes). Strong took

Read the rest of Council
Over on Page 15

# Major city design plans approved

Damian Sebouhian Reporter damian@willitsweekly.com

Final drafts for two major city design plans won unanimous approval during a special meeting of the Willits City Council. The full Willits Streets & Alleys Connectivity Study and the Main Street Corridor Enhancement Plan have been months in the making.

Developed by city staff in conjunction with hired engineering consulting firms, the plans showcase what many at Tuesday's meeting called a beautiful, pedestrian- and tourist-friendly downtown Willits.

While City Planner Dusty Duley told council members the studies represent separate projects, "both

Read the rest of Main Street

Over on Page 13

#### City to file liens against East Valley pot properties

Damian Sebouhian
Reporter
damian@willitsweekly.com

The city will file liens against three adjacent properties in the 400 block of East Valley Street, to recover the cost of marijuana eradication conducted by city staff in late August, the Willits City Council decided during a special Tuesday night meeting. The vote was 4-0; Councilwoman Madge Strong was absent.

City Code Enforcement Officer John Sherman said all three properties are owned by Brian Shuster.

It cost the city almost

Read the rest of Liens

Over on Page 13

## KZYX

#### 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 KZYX radio. Parker took up the post on December 1, succeeding Diane Hering.

At its next meeting in early January, the KZYX 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 KZYX, 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

"KZYX 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 in China and in India. In each country, these sister 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. this year.

from the home, says sheriff's Sgt. Quincy Cromer.



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 webdelivered 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-andpictures wire service into a top international multimedia ormation 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 publications overcame prohibitions on foreign-owned news media, and provided doctors with a fresh new path to

88.1 - 90.7 - 91.5

Willits man held in burglary

A 47-year-old Willits man is being held without bail in Mendocino County Jail after

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

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

Deputies suspected Dahlund, who was on probation for an unrelated offense, was

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

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

the culprit, and discovered several of the items taken in the burglary in his possession.

being arrested on suspicion of burglarizing a Creekside Cabin residence.

Parker relocated from Shanghai to Elk, California, earlier

international learning and professional development.

#### '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. n 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,

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

"We must taste and cast our votes

while yet we still can!"

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

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

create your own signage to place near entries.

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!



#### The Rules: LETTERS

his probation.

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

Willits Weekly is a locally owned independent newspaper, founded in 2013, covering the greater Willits area.

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## **Holiday Express**

Record turnout at Saturday's Roots of Motive Power party

Roots of Motive Power experienced a patiently waited in long lines eager to record-breaking turnout of 936 train riders experience the train ride loop around the

annual Holiday Damian Sebouhian

Express. damian@willitsweekly.com 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

Saturday for its Roots property. Once finished with its work, the engine

> celebrate its 100-year birthday. A grand, beautiful cake decorated with a picture of the Heisler engine was cut up and

pulled into the train barn around 5:30 pm to

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 Over on Page 5 Express



## **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.







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 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



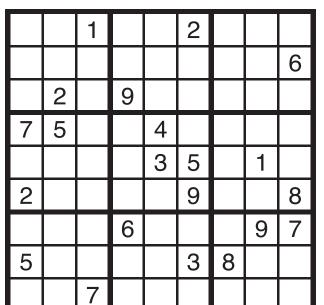
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## Crossword Puzzle 8 Sudoku



**FOREST** 

**FRESH AIR** 

**GARDEN** 

**GLIDING** 

HIKING

**HORSEBACK** 

KAYAK

**MOUNTAINS** 

NATURE

OUTSIDE

PARK

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#### 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 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 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

43. Up in the air (abbr.) 44. A son who shares his dad's name

45. Assist in wrongdoing 46. Actress Lathan 48. Nonsense (slang)

49. Sharp and forthright 50. Midway between northeast and east 51. NAACP cofounder

52. Soviet Socialist Republic

CLUES DOWN

1. Again 2. Erectile organs 3. Concluding speech 4. Pie mode

5. With pustules 6. Muslim calendar

8. Need it to live 9. Thailand 11. Container to serve

food Boxing great 15. Woolen blankets

The officers of the Willits

Police Department handled

18. Expresses surprise 19. Emergency medical services

20. Inflamed swelling of the eyelid 22. Reporter

23. Arrived extinct 24. Ad \_\_ 27. Academic bill of

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

12:05 pm- Officers initiated a theft

# Activity

**Ready for HELP!** 354-9911 December 2 Now accepting MediCal Partnership

# WPD

**SAILING** 

**SCENERY** 

SKATEBOARD

**SNORKELING** 

**SURF** 

**TRAILS** 

**TRAVEL** 

**TREK** 

**UNDERWATER** 

VISTA

WILDLIFE

November 26 to

#### **147** incidents in this seven-day reporting period. **Summary of Active Investi-**Report

Prepared by WPD Sgt. Jake Donahue

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

November 26

#### November 27

1:50 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

(Violation of Probation).

#### November 28

5:30 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 10 block of Marcela Drive and, as a result, 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).

#### November 29

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.

investigation in the 200 block of South Main

#### November 30

1:40 pm: Officers initiated a mental health detention in the 100 block of Holly

#### **December 1**

10:25 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of East San Francisco Avenue.

1:30 pm: Officers initiated an assault investigation in the 300 block of East Commercial Street.

> 9:30 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 10 block of Nancy Lane, where they contacted

Buck (29) of Willits. Officers determined Silva was unable to provide for his own care due to his level of intoxication and placed him under arrest pursuant to 647(f) PC (Public Intoxication).

#### December 2

6:50 pm: Officers responded to a hit and run collision in the 100 block of North Main

Editor's Note: Willits Weekly would like to thank Willits Police Department Sgt. Jake Donahue for providing these activity reports, and we wish him well in his new job!

#### Find a Willits Weekly at:

101 Drive-In, Scoops, J.D. Redhouse, Willits Post Office, Village Market, Ardella's Downtown Diner, Buttercups Children's Boutique, Willits City Hall, Willits Library, Mariposa Market, the old Country Skillet, Old Mission Pizza, Gribaldo's Cafe, Brewed Awakening, and Ace Copy and Shipping. Newest boxes at Mendo Mill, the senior center and Grocery Outlet in Willits, Geiger's in Laytonville, and the Bottle Shop Deli at the county building in Ukiah





## Holiday **Wonderland &** Vintage Kitchens

on display at Mendocino County Museum

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.



Museum to witness

the 2nd annual

Community Tree



## **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

Damian Sebouhian Mendocino County damian@willitsweekly.com

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

The particular redwood, which stands just behind the Vietnam War Memorial, was

selected among the grove 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.'

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

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 vou 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

> 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.

Schlichting and others will be restoring the car to one of its

former lives as a dual-purpose hauler of both luggage and mail "We're going to have a hook on the outside, so that as the train goes by, we're going to have a mailbag, and we're going to snap it [onto the hook]," Schlichting explained. "We might do that as an example of what

Express

for anybody, or any machine these days," said Chris Baldo,

Roots president and owner of the Heisler engine. "So, we're

happy to be the custodian of that

"There's a lot of people here this year," said Roots volunteer

Dawnette Donohue came up

"The kids love it," said

Peter Schlichting, a long-time

Roots volunteer, took tickets

caboose for the train ride, and

explained how he looks forward

to the next big project: restoring

a fire-damaged 110-year-old

Mindy Graux. "We put on this

for now

trains at Roots.

From Page 3

much mail was moved by the Roots of Motive Power offers steam engineering and operating safety classes for

happened in rural communities.

Most people don't know how

For more information about becoming a member or how to volunteer, go to http:// rootsofmotivepower.com/ membership.

members only.

THE WILLITS CENTER FOR THE ARTS & THE FRANK R. HOWARD FOUNDATION INVITE YOU TO THE FIRST ANNUAL

# Holiday Lights A WINTER WONDERLAND

Come and enjoy a magical holiday light display at the Commonwealth Garden. Warm up with a cup of hot cocoa or apple cider as you stroll the orchard pathways and enjoy festive holiday snacks provided 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, Frank R. Howard Foundation, Willits Furniture, Brookside School, Willits Area Cyclists, Room to Bloom & more.

> DECEMBER 16-18 5:00 TO 8:00 P.M. COMMONWEALTH GARDEN

(90 Haehl Creek Drive, directly across from the new hospital, before you get to the Haehl Creek subdivision.) Parking available at the hospital parking lot. For more information please call (707) 459-2777.

SUGGESTED DONATION: ADULTS \$5\* | KIDS (12 & UNDER) FREE (\*OR FREE WITH AN UNWRAPPED TOY FOR THE WILLITS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM)

Proceeds will benefit the Willits Center for the Arts and the Commonwealth Garden

Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital **—**Adventist Health

Frank R. Howard Foundation

Pg.4 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Willits Weekly | December 8, 2016

NM

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·Portraits ·Puzzles Individually handcrafted in wood by Jacki Pealatere

picarogordo.com 707)354-1870 picarogordo13@gmail.con Villits, California







#### **BONNIE BELT** Clay Artist

2291 Buckeye Drive Willits, CA 95490

707-459-4792

belt.bonnie@gmail.com www.BonnieBelt.com





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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

## 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

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.

**Tenny Senter** 

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

"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

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 & White Bean Chili and, of course an array of delicious Underhill's Western Craft.

Underhill particularly enjoys designing items for "cowboy action shooting," because they have to be period authentic have returned to early artisan skills after working in other from the 1800s. Learning new techniques and designs is exciting to her, and she is continually upgrading her skills by going to classes. "It is hard to describe how good I feel," she said, "when people come to me with an idea, and I bring their idea to life.

> Town of Mendocino artist Rhoda Teplow will showcase her unique jewelry at the Holiday Craft Fair. Her designs incorporate her own handmade porcelain beads, brass beads from the Ashanti tribe, recycled glass beads from the Krobo tribe in Ghana, and beads she has collected from around the world during her travels. She is now proud to be using hand-carved jade from the middle fork of the Eel River in Mendocino County.

> Her knowledge of African trade beads and her craft developed while doing a stint in the Peace Corps in Togo, West Africa. Her first necklace design incorporated amazing glass millefiori beads from the island of Murano in the Venetian Lagoon of Italy.

> After returning to California, Teplow spent her career teaching at the Summerhill School in Caspar and later at the Coastal Adult School for the Fort Bragg Unified School

Working part-time at Anansi Village in the Fort Bragg reacquainted her with her love of African beads, and she returned to designing jewelry, which has been displayed in various galleries around the county. In 2013, she traveled to Japan where she lent 16 pieces of her jewelry to two museums in the cities of Miasa and Omachi.

The Willits Center for the Arts 2016 Holiday Craft Fair runs Friday, December 9, from 12 to 7 pm; Saturday, December 10, from 10 am to 6 pm; and Sunday, December 11, from 10 am to 4 pm. Vendors will be displaying at the Willits Community Center and at the Willits Center for the Arts, this year. The "Kids Craft Fair" will be Saturday only from 10 am to 2 pm. Be sure to purchase raffle tickets for wonderful items donated by the artists! Raffle proceeds go toward the Willits Center for the Arts.

Come hungry, because you can eat wonderful food at the fair, while supporting enrichment programs at Willits Charter School. Just a few of the tempting items on the menu are Chopped Chicken BBQ Sandwich, Italian Sausage Lasagna, with salad, Slow-Cooked Turkey









COME SHOP WITH US AT 500 S. MAIN STREET

**STORE HOURS** 



Willits Weekly | December 8, 2016



Mendo Mill was able to aise \$240 for the Humane 🎒 Society of Inland Mendocino County during their Pet Photo fundraiser on Saturdav

Above, right: Store employees Carolyn Dixon, Tonya Howe and TK Warner hang out with Bryon "Santa Claus" Barrett at Mendo Mill during the Pet

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.



#### '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!



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 donation of custom-made T-shirts for our "Kids Siciliana, Mendo Bistro, Skunk Train, Moon fabulous hip hop teacher, Ayla Decaire. 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

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

Fun Center, Mario's Italian Restaurant, La For Peace" theme, and to our fantastically Congrats |

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 baby in July of 2017. while nurturing the heart. Please, please, please Shop Local!

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

#### Expanding the Family Tree

Ashley and Lorenzo Rodriguez are proud to announce they are expecting the arrival of their first

Send us your Congrats item to run in Willits Weekly! Email a photo and caption to willitsweekly@gmail.com

# HURRY



We're giving away two ATV's and CASH on December 31st!!!!

Sales Tax and Registration will be the responsibility of the winner





100 Kawi Place, Willits 707-459-7330 www.svrcasino.com

**MOTOSPORTS** 

Management reserves all rights to cancel or alter any promotion with little or no notice.

Thursday, December 8
"Light Up a Life": Phoenix Certified Hospice of Mendocino County holds its 13th annual "Light Up a Life" colebration "This evening will be filled.

What I for colebration "This evening will be filled." Up a Life" celebration. "This evening will be filled

An evening of music, inspiration

rememberina

THE ORIGINAL 30TH ANNUAL

WILLITS HOLIDAY

**CRAFT FAIR** 

FINE ARTS & CRAFTS

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

WILLITS COMMUNITY CENTER

KID'S CRAFTS FAIR SATURDAY ONLY, 10AM-2PM

ooth upstairs at the Willts Center I LIVE MUSIC FRL, SAT, & SUN.

Thursday, December 8th, at 6:30 pm

Seabiscuit Conference Room

One Marcela Drive - Willits

"Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital"

For more information call (707)459-1818

WCS, 1431 South Main Street, 459-5506.

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

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.

ive music by Dorian and

Dorothea May playing

holiday jazz on piano and

on Calendar page for more details.

with inspiration, music 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 Fridays and Saturdays 7 pm, Sundays, 2 pm. 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 Friday. December 9 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 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

"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 show opening downstairs with refreshments.

Light up a Captain Martin Crieff, the chief pilot who loves flying planes but isn't very good at it; Phoenix Certified Hospice

and Arthur Shappey, Carolyn's overexcited and idiotic son who works as a steward." Produced by Matt Directed Browning.

by Jessica Cronin. Cast: Douglas: Dylan Foley: Martin: Farrow Lockwood; Carolyn: Destiny Anderson; Arthur: Lilah Crane; Herc: Chloe Breen; Second

O'Brien: Ron O'Brien, arranger/ guitarist, plays solo acoustic guitar – everything from Rock to Martin, Zoe Jordan. December 9-11 and 16-17; Rachmaninoff, plus entertaining musical anecdotes. Friday, Tickets, \$10 adult, \$5 student, are available at December 9 from 7 to 9:30 pm at Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South Main Hot Winter's Night: Willits High School Performing Street. \$5 cover. Doors open and Arts Department celebrates the season with music, soup, pastries, coffees, teas, and dance, poetry, and a visual arts exhibit. Plus, other seasonal hot beverages the WHS Jazz Band and the Concert Band will 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 vocaldrums; 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

> \$5 each, 50/50 benefit for Mendocino Care-A-Van.

"The Gift of Art: Small Works Show": The

December show at the Willits Center for the Arts,

1 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

Classical guitarist Ron

to sell for holiday gifts!

Saturday, December 10

Restaurant, Info: 459-9194.

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-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 O local people." Saturday, O the cold seasons. 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

Senior

Center

Lunch

Friday: Baked Chicken

Senior

vegetable.

Photos with Santa at J.D. Redhouse: from 5 to Willits Holiday Crafts Fair: 10 am to 6 pm today 7 pm on Friday, December 9. Digital images just at the Willits Community Center and the Willits Center for the Arts. See Friday, December 9 listing See article elsewhere on Calendar page for more 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 eniov 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-

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.

7834 or 707-391-4299.

Sit N Sew: Monthly dropin 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

For a small donation, an ornament will be

placed on a beautiful tree to honor a loved

one who is no longer with us or to recognize

a dear friend, family member, dedicated

caregiver, doctor, pet, or to celebrate a birth

or anniversary. Whatever the reason ... this

event is a cherished way to pay tribute to

those who have brightened your world. The

names of those being honored will be read at

the ceremony. All funds raised will go directly

toward providing quality end-of-life hospice

care for members of our communities.

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

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. 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.novotheatre.com. 57 East Commercial Street.

#### Wednesday, December 14

Monday, December 12

started out in classical,

but returned to her country

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 Novo Theater: "Roque 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

Black

White

Gala

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-

> '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 Info: 1-888-393-4483.

Cockrall. Friday December 16, at 7 pm. Brickhouse Coffee, corner of Main Street and Commercial Shanachie Pub: Sissy Brown from Oklahoma by Street.

Shanachie Pub: Dirk Lancaster, an "unconventional one man band." Visit www.soundcloud.com/ dirklancaster. 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-

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

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

## A Hot Winter's Night



Thursday, December 8, 6:30-8:30 PM Willits High School Presented by the WHS Visual & Performing Arts Departme.

- A Holiday Gift to the Willits Community

#### 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

## **Photos with** Santa

upright bass; Emandal Chorale, quest director,

Madge Strong; Vern Morninglight, vocals and guitar;

Ron O'Brien, classical guitar; Twining Time, John

Wagenet & Anita Elliot; and David Partch, 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"

December 9 to 11

Week of December 12 Photos with Santa at J.D. Redhouse with local "photographress," Maureen Moore. Three through December 16 chances to get your photo taken with St. Nick; Monday: Spaghetti/ 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 five days per week from County Care-A-Van; Saturday will be benefit the 11:45 am to 1 pm. 55 Willits 4-H; and Sunday will benefit the Willits and older: \$5.50 per Junior Horsemen. Digital images will just be meal; under 55: \$7 per \$5 each and will be available to download from meal. Includes soup, http://photographress.zenfolio.com/pixwithsanta. entrée, Or simply scan the QR code with your phone to bread, dessert, and quickly link to the gallery. Info: 972-7047 or 459- drink. 1501 Baechtel

#### Meat Sauce Tuesday: Roast Pork Wednesday: Tamale Pie Bake Thursday: Lemon

Center serves lunch Road. Info: 459-6826.

Tilapia -

SANTAS

**DIGITAL IMAGES \$5** 

**FRIDAY: 12/9** 

**5 TO 7 PM** 

SATURDAY: 12/10

12:30 TO 2:30 PM

**12:30 TO 2:30 PM** 

**SUNDAY: 12/11** 

Harrah

## "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 Cichacki. 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 Cichacki, 459-1099.

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

## "Light Up a Life" Phoenix Certified Hospice of Mendocino says Hospice Volunteer Coordinator Tammy

County is holding the 13th annual "Light Up a Long. 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.

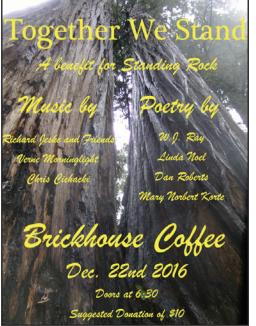
"Light Up a Life" is a community celebration to honor and remember those we care about and love. Lighting a candle in honor of those we love and may have passed, is a very old tradition that allows us to express what we often cannot communicate with words. The flickering flame of the candle helps to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

The 'Light Up a Life' tree will be on display at the event, then at the Adventist Health Home Care & Phoenix Hospice lobby throughout the holiday season, symbolizing the life, hope and dreams of our loved ones. If you would like more information on this event

> Phoenix Hospice at 459-1818. - submitted by Phoenix Hospice

or have guestions about hospice, you can call



### '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

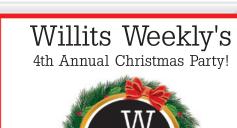
pm! Everyone's invited to attend this free event! Join our visual and performing artists as we celebrate the season with music, dance, poetry, and a visual arts exhibit. The WHS Jazz Band and the Concert Band will perform, as will other student musicians.

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.

or chrisolds@willitsunified.com or Carolyn Bakewell at 459.7700 x 1533 or carolynbakewell@willitsunified.com.

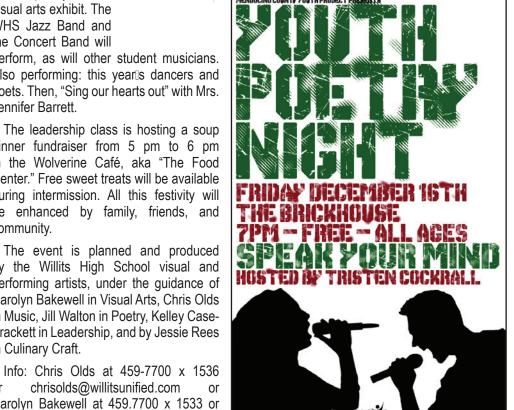


Friday, December 16 from 5 to 7 pm

at Ardella's Downtown Diner **Cookie Tasting & Voting** Live Music & Merriment

Come celebrate with us!

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



COLUMN | At the Movies

**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

Daniel Essman

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

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, 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

version will work just as well, because "Moana" is a

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.

wisdom of the imagination. Senior Center Lunch.

Pg. 8 **Phone:** 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047

under 2; \$10 for dogs.

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212 South Main Street Downtown Willits 707-459-1214

Willits Weekly | December 8, 2016

a separation to

Willits Weekly's Cookie Party: Willits Weekly

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

'Moana'

is emphatically "...not a princess!"). She and the

3D, and it was quite beautiful. That noted, the 2D well-made, well-paced movie. Parents: Take the kids. This is a tale about a little

Willitsian Daniel Essman prefers his reality attenuated by the

## Remembering Lynn Kennelly

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

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

**Jennifer Poole** here Ito her Editor & Reporter jennifer@willitsweekly.com 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

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,

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A crowd of people gathered outside the Willits Chamber 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



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 HMH 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



Next Week: Star Wars 2D/3D,

Sing & Passengers

### **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,

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

Willits Weekly | December 8, 2016

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

**MOANA** 

(PG) 1 hr 53 mins

**Fri:** 5:20 & 8:00pm

Sat/Sun:

& 8:00pm

Mon-Wed:

Thurs:

4:20pm only

Movie Times for 12/9 thru 12/15

oon, 2:40, 5:20

### John McAlister

**ALLIED** 

(R) 2 hrs 4 mins

5:40 & 8:20pm

**Sat/Sun:** 12:20, 3:00, 5:40

& 8:20pm Mon-Thurs:

4:40 & 7:20pm

ALLIED

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 Rosa,

Lucier Mortuary

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.

Willits community. A private celebration of his life will be held in the spring. Arrangements under the care and direction of Anker-

John was a well-known and beloved member of the

AT THE NOYO BOX OFFICE 5:15pm only This Week's Tightwad Tuesday Titles are in RED - All tickets: \$5 Furry Friends Hoping for a Home

THE GIRL ON

THE TRAIN

(R) 1 hr 52 mins

6:15 & 8:45pm

**Sat/Sun:** 1:15, 3:45, 6:15

& 8:45pm

**Mon-Wed:** 5:15 & 7:45pm

Thurs:

- SPECIAL PREVIEWS -

Thursday, Dec. 15

3D @ 7:00pm

2D @ 8:00pm

ADVANCED TICKETS

ROGUE ONE —

A STAR WARS STORY



**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







You can also download the baker's entry form here:

business, or as an individual! We hope to see you there!

www.willitsweekly.com/WW-Cookie-Entry.docx. Enter as a







Above, left: Willits 4-H members pose with Karen Scott at Howard Memorial Hospital, where they delivered a festive wreath. Above, center: 4-H, Boy Scouts and community members help with the 2015 Wreaths Across America ceremony. Servicemen, Boy Scouts and 4-H members who participated in the Willits ceremony were: Dan Pinon for the U.S. Marine Corps and Cody Pederson of Boy Scout Troop 212; Ryan McCarney from the U.S. Navy and Tristan Wartell from Troop 42; Roger Wear from the U.S. Army and Nicholas Hebel from Troop 212; Ken Roberts from the U.S. Coast Guard and Oren Silverstein from Troop 212; Barney St. Martin from the U.S. Merchant Marines and Zach Dellett from Troop 212; Matt Dearing from the U.S. Army and Kodan Fryman from Willits 4-H. Above, right: Willits 4-H members



Above: Participants at Willits Power's second annual wreath-making class including, back row, from left: Mary Fonsen, Misty Gonzales, Kylie Reed and Heather Haglund. Middle row, from left: Carrie Gonzales, Carrie Oliver, Kara Garman, Jessica Ingram, Lisa Reed, Jennifer Maples, Michelle Baker, Lori Ford, Fran Drew and Megan Atkison. Front row, from left: Santa, Kayden, Jenn Drew and Diana DiLello.

Submitted photos from Heidi Ahders, Willits Power and the Willits 4-H.



At left: Willits 4-H members pose with a wreath trimmed Below, left: A wreath is placed onto a grave at the 2015 Wreaths Across America event. Below, right: Willits 4-H members deliver to Northbrook, top, and to the Willits Senior Center, below

## Wreaths **Around Willits**

Wreaths are everywhere around Willits for the season. with a class being offered at Willits Power, a community service project by the Willits 4-H, and local participation in the Wreaths Across America commemoration

This was the second annual wreath-making class for Willits Power, and attendees all created fragrant and festive wreaths from greenery and accessories at the local business last

The Willits 4-H chapter led by Melissa Aquilar decided to make Christmas wreaths to give to Howard Hospital, Harrah Senior Center and the Northbrook Healthcare Center, as a crafts and community service project. "We made peacockthemed Christmas wreaths," Aguilar said. "We divided our group into three teams. Each team was challenged with a different color, all peacock-themed. We have peacocks on our farm, so we were able to use our farm feathers. The wreaths were made with love and care by each member. The kids did such an amazing job presenting the wreaths!" Club members include Teen Leader Stephany Brundage, Junior Leader Grace Aguilar, Junior Leader Aurora-Belle David, and members Ava Mucke, Lisa and Elena Arkelian, Brady Griggs

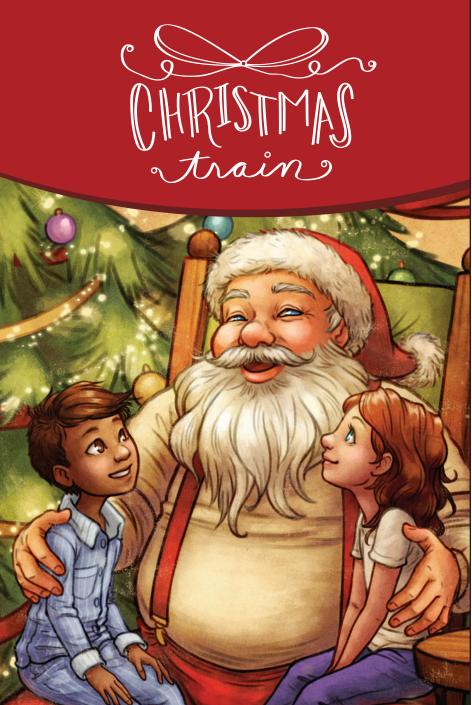
Willits 4-H members will also participate in Wreaths Across America for the second year, helping honor fallen military with a graveside wreath. This year's event will be on Friday, December 17 at 9 am at the Willits Cemetery on Highway 20. To donate to this Willits "Wreaths Across America" effort, visit https://wreaths.fastport.com/donateLocation. html?page=41833&relate=15557.

Maureen Moore







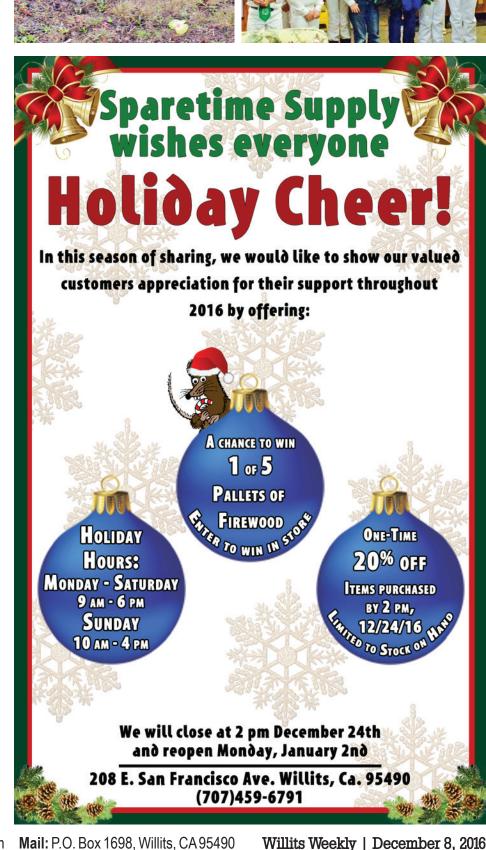


## Be Part of the Magic!

Every child gets a special visit from Santa on this ride through a storybook about the giving spirit, friendship, and tradition.



Rides Dec 3 through Dec 23 SkunkTrain.com 707.964.6371



#### From Page 1 Liens

\$8,100 in legal fees, police services, and public works services to eradicate the nearly 200 marijuana plants growing outdoors on the properties, Sherman said in a report to the council.

The council also approved authorizing City Attorney Jim Lance to seek approval in superior court to place liens on the properties to collect \$51,000 in accrued administration fines imposed against Shuster.

The plants were eradicated as a last resort, Sherman said, after he received "a citizen complaint regarding the outdoor cultivation of marijuana" on the East Valley Street properties on July 15 this year, and followed standard protocols regulating abatement of a public nuisance. Outdoor cultivation within city limits is prohibited under current city codes.

"Pursuant to this complaint, I observed what turned out to be 25 to 50 marijuana plants growing in the side and rear yards of each of the subject properties," Sherman reported.

Sherman said he knew the owner of the properties due to "two previous code enforcement actions for similar violations on the same properties within the previous year."

At that time, from September through November of 2015, Sherman had been seeking abatement from Shuster, with fines of \$100 per day per property accruing against the property owner.

By the time Sherman decided to acquire a warrant to seize the plants, they had already been harvested.

On July 18 of this year, Sherman issued a "notice of nuisance" to Shuster yet again, as well as to "unnamed tenants of each of the three properties" and directed Shuster "to abate the nuisance within three days or be subject to an administrative fine of \$500 on each property that would accrue daily until the nuisance was abated."

Sherman told the council he decided to seek the maximum fine for this particular nuisance "to get their attention. I felt strongly if I approached it hard, I had to take my first swing and make it my best swing - the biggest I could."

Despite facing a hefty penalty, Shuster and the tenants failed to eradicate the nuisance, resulting in the eventual \$51,000 fine accruement.

After obtaining three inspection/abatement warrants from the Mendocino County Superior Court, Sherman said he "called the property owner on the phone and informed him of the warrants and that the warrants would be served."

When Sherman visited the properties on August 22, he was refused entrance by one of the tenants. Sherman noted the three properties shared the same gated driveway, which was usually chained and locked.

Sherman returned later in the morning with two police officers to serve the warrant, "but the gate was locked."

Sherman attempted to serve the warrant a second time and was again refused entrance.

On August 24, Sherman said: "I obtained an amended inspection/abatement warrant for the three subject properties. The amended warrants acknowledged that reasonable attempts to serve the warrant had been unsuccessful, and authorized the use of force if necessary to enter the property.

That same day Sherman arrived at the property "accompanied by three WPD officers ... and four City of Willits public works employees to perform the abatement."

Sherman found the properties "completely abandoned. There was nobody there, nobody living in the houses, no furniture, nothing." There were, however, more than 200 marijuana plants "between the three properties."

"I feel pretty good about this," Sherman said of the circumstances surrounding the eradication. "I think it had a tremendous effect. After this eradication came out in the newspapers, I didn't have any resistance on marijuana cultivation enforcement for the rest of the season.

"It was the first time I ever tried being as extreme as our codes would allow me to be, and I think it actually worked," he said. "The message got through. The threat of the fines didn't have the desired effects, but overall – with the eradication – it had a great effect in that the whole rest of the season was pretty much a cakewalk for me."

Councilman Ron Orenstein questioned whether pursuing a lien on the properties was appropriate, given the overall success of Sherman's eradication enterprise.

"The mere eradication of the plants had a powerful effect on everybody, pretty much," Orenstein said. "For me, it's more about creating the atmosphere - that we don't want this behavior – as opposed to getting as much money as we can from people. I'm not as motivated to go after this \$51,000 if the action [Sherman] took did the job."

While Sherman believes the way the enforcement was handled at the East Valley Street properties caused a ripple effect of cooperation from other potential violators, he noted: "I've also experienced the attitude out there that says 'the city council simply won't authorize you to lien my property for these fines, so I'm not going to pay any attention to them."

Both Councilwoman Holly Madrigal and Mayor Bruce Burton supported pursing authorization for liens against the

Lance noted that while the city council had the power to authorize Sherman to file liens to collect the \$8,100 in code enforcement costs, "we can't create any action to create a lien on the [\$51,000] fines. [The council] can confirm the amount of the costs, directing John Sherman to lien the property for the costs, and you can direct me to file an appropriate application to the superior court to get a judgement for the fines."

"I think it's extremely important that we determine whether we do or don't have this right," Burton said. "Maybe down the road, if it turns out that we fail, and we can't figure out how to remedy it, then we tweak our ordinance to be more effective as a tool to address [how to collect fines]."

Councilman Larry Stranske moved to approve the "resolution to authorize code enforcement officer to lien all three properties and to withdraw remaining liens when the debt is collected." The council concurred.

### The rest of Main Street From Page 1

teams have been working concurrently with each other," he said. "The projects will not conflict with each other and, instead, they will be cohesive."

The Main Street Corridor Plan, conducted using grants awarded by Caltrans last year, addresses the entirety of Main Street within the city limits from Brown's Corner to just past Willits High School.

The plan call for enhancing Main Street for bicycle and pedestrian access and safety, while creating traffic calming measures such as bulb-outs, lighted and elevated crosswalks at certain sections, and continuous buffered bicycle lanes on both sides of Main Street.

Other major changes include a roundabout gateway at the Brown's Corner intersection and gateway features at the Highway 20 intersection, as well as changes to the intersections at West Valley Street and Commercial Street.

To accommodate parking and bicycle lanes, the center turn lane will be removed from Main Street, from Valley Street to Commercial Street.

The city council had previously approved the final draft for the section of Main Street north of the Highway 20 intersection, and Duley's report said city staff have submitted that draft "to Caltrans for inclusion in their Main Street Relinquishment project designs.'

The purpose of Tuesday's meeting was to win approval for the entire approximately three-mile stretch of Main Street within city limits.

The city remains in negotiations with Caltrans regarding the amount of construction to be performed during the relinguishment stage to match the plans, and what will be left for the city to finish

The Streets & Alleys Connectivity Study focuses on downtown Willits, the boundaries of which are identified as State Street to the north; School Street to the west; California Street to the south; and the Northwestern Pacific Railroad tracks to the east.

Unlike with the Main Street project, there are yet no funds to implement the Streets & Alleys designs.

"We certainly don't have plans to complete the improvements that are identified, but hopefully by having an approved project, that puts us in a good position to receive grant funds in the future," the report says.

Featured characteristics of the Streets & Alleys design include changing Wood Street to a one-way, eastbound street; changing Mendocino Avenue to a one-way, westbound street; enhancing the Main Street crosswalk between East and West Van Lane, effectively removing the Main Street entrance to the city parking lot; creating an entrance-only access to the city parking lot at Schmidbauer Lane (between Noyo Theatre and It's Time); and repaving all the alleys – including the areas around the city parking lot and the Willits Community Theatre - to create a connected, pedestrian-friendly community plaza.

As a result of feedback from members of the public and city councilmembers, an alternative design was added that retains the Main Street entrance to the city parking lot, with a change in parking striping from parallel to diagonal.

"If the council was wanting to support the Van Lane crosswalk, but didn't want to lose the access into the public parking lot onto Main Street, this becomes a feasible idea, Duley said of the alternative plan.

Former Willits City Planner Allan Falleri reminded those in attendance that approval of the plans doesn't mean they can't be changed once funds for construction are acquired. Nevertheless, he voiced his approval for what has thus far been proposed.

"These are good concepts," said Falleri. "The bypass is open, and the traffic has already backed off. We need to do some things to make people want to stay here, feel safe here, and to start businesses here. This is a good step in

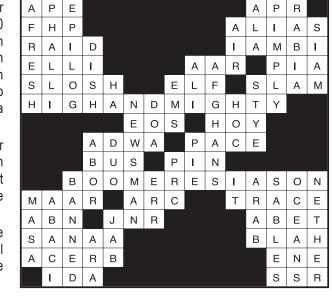
Pete Swanton, owner of Main Street Music and Video. argued in favor of the removal of the Main Street entrance to the city parking lot.

"I don't think it's much to ask for drivers to go around half a block and half a block, especially with the iconic letter 'P' in the blue-and-white sign," Swanton said. "The crosswalk in the middle [connecting East and West Van lanes] continues the whole theme of pedestrian access."

Swanton said since the bypass has opened: "Traffic has sped up. A raised crosswalk and bulb-outs would help slow

Councilmember Orenstein motioned to approve the final draft; Larry Stranske seconded; and the council voted 4-0 to approve, with Councilwoman Madge Strong absent.

Both final drafts can be found in their entirety at: http:// thecityofwillits.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/12-06-16-Agenda-Council-Special-Mtg-Packet.pdf



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> Santa Photos in Meet Santa Claus at

Mendo Mill in Willits on December Saturday. 3 from 11 am to 2 pm. The following weekend, December 9, 10 and 11, Santa will be at J.D. Redhouse. Stop by from 5 to 7 pm on Friday, December 9 and from 12:30 to 2:30 on both Saturday and Sunday, December 10 and 11.

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WW's Cookie Party! It's almost time Willits Weekly's fourth annual Cookie Party and festivities. The party will be held at Ardella's Downtown Diner on Friday, December

16 from 5 to 7 pm.

Send us your ad to be included in our

Classifieds

section!

(EXPLORE) DHH(HORSEBACK

6	7	1	4	5	2	9	8	3
9	8	5	3	1	7	2	4	6
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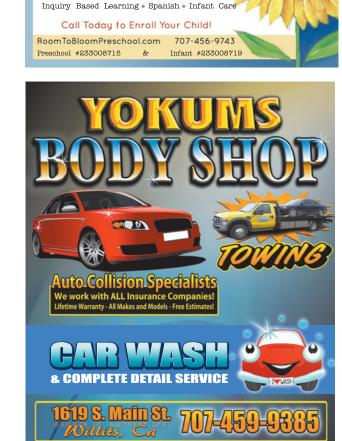
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**Delicious hors** d'oeuvres accompanied discussion about fish, water and land at the Willits Hub Open House Sunday

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

# **Joining Forces**

Open House with WEC. WELL. SOLLY and EERP at the new Willits Hub

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

is over halfway realized.

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 SOLLV, uses the building for meetings, and the Willits Economical LocaLization, WELL, group has been occupying the space

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

since September. With all three paying rent, the Hub's goal

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

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







Nicholas Casagrande, EA (415) 480-3669 (415) 480-3668 (415) 717-0822 nicholas@ncfinancialgroup.com fnicholas.casagrande@ceterafs.com

22 Battery Street, Suite 401, San Francisco, California 94111 5643 Paradise Drive, Suite 4, Corte Madera, California 94925 660 So. Main Street, Suite D. Willits, California 95490

Nearly 50 people with diverse backgrounds and interests for local businesses. According to Strong the idea of local investment "can be done again and again. This recirculates

> Rosamond Crowder from SOLLV 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

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 SOLLV at savelittlelake@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

Photos by Ree Slocum



Willits Weekly | December 8, 2016

#### 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





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

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-andrescue 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.

During a December 2 hearing last week, Mendocino County Superior Court Judge Richard Henderson extended that temporary conservatorship until the first

At a November 18 court hearing,

Woodhouse was placed under the

temporary conservatorship of his wife,

week in January, when a court hearing on the supervisor's status is planned. However, at last week's hearing, Henderson also revoked the ability of Carlyn Woodhouse to resign the office of county supervisor on behalf of her husband, which had been granted at the original November

Henderson told Willits attorney Jennifer O'Brien, who was representing Carlyn Woodhouse on December 2, that he wanted any move by Carlyn Woodhouse to resign the position of Third District county supervisor on behalf of her husband Mendocino County Superior Court judge.

The judge also ordered financial information contained in the court files on Tom Woodhouse and his family be classified as confidential.

Henderson scheduled Woodhouse's next conservatorship hearing for either January 5 or 6, 2017.

Exactly which judge will hear the case remains unknown. Henderson is retiring at the end of the year, and Judge Jeanine Nadel has already recused herself from hearing the case. Henderson said it would be up to Presiding Judge John Behnke to determine who will adjudicate the case

Missing woman Maria Shelley Young.



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

Council | From Page 1

18.25 percent of the vote (745 votes).

16.17 percent of the vote (660 votes).

Turnout was lower in the City of Willits,

third place, with 18.35 percent of the vote registered voters casting ballots, or 68.58 percent of the electorate. Countywide, (749 votes). 75.8 percent of the voters cast ballots on Challenger Bill Barksdale, who was in November 8

second place after the initial Election Night Of those 1,888 ballots cast in the City results, dropped to fourth place in final of Willits, only 410 were cast at the Willits results – just four votes below Strong – with Community Center polling place, while 1,478 were vote by mail ballots, even if Mayor Bruce Burton took fifth place, with many of them were dropped off at the polls on Election Day.

Willits Weekly will have interviews with than in Mendocino County in general, the three winning city council members in with 1,888 of the total 2,753 City of Willits next week's edition.

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 vote, to pass. 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

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 to be heard in court and approved by a Tom Allman told Willits Weekly he intends to keep working on the issue.

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

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

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 Al 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 "Our mental health crisis is not going only a majority to pass.



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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!"

Jennifer Poole

Editor & Reporter

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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 swags. 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



