A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits Donations Accepted Edition No. 481 Thursday, December 8, 2022

2013 Veek Veres

BOS: budget challenges, cannabis

Forrest Glyer willitsweekly@gmail.com

Budget challenges and struggling cannabis а industry were once again at the forefront some discussions of throughout the day at the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors meeting on Tuesday.

A budget update on fiscal year 2022/23 centered around how to fill a \$6.1 million gap in the budget over the next six months, deficit that's been а exacerbated by a steep decline in county sales tax revenue recently.

According to the county "fiscal team," sales tax for the months of April to June this year "was down by 8.6% countywide," and the "decrease is largely related to the cannabis industry." They also noted that the "impact and loss would have been greater" for sales tax, "but price of fuel is offsetting loss."

This is in stark contrast to the state, which has seen an increase of 10% sales tax in that same timeframe, according to county staff.

Despite that, the county is saying that the "state is conservatively estimating

Read the rest of Supes



e

Above, from left: The Grinch smiles with Amelia and Leo. Santa enjoys holding this babe for their first Christmas. Pearl the dog is happy to tolerate sitting with the Grinch as long as there's no threats of pulling a sleigh. Below: Violet Rose Stauffacher, 19 months, dressed up as the Grinch for Halloween and was so excited to see him in person.









Final election report confirms initial results

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organizati n

vears

Jennifer Poole Editor & Reporter . willitsweekly@gmail.com

Final official Mendocino County results posted December 2 for the November 8, 2022 election confirmed initial results as far as the local winners.

A total of 31,008 of 52,366 registered voters in Mendocino County cast a ballot - or 59.21% of the voters.

Both sales tax measures. Measure O to fund the libraries, and Measure P to fund firefighting and fire prevention, won the majority vote they needed to pass.

Measure 0, the Citizens Library Initiative, won with a 60.82 percent "yes" vote (18,165 voters) to a 39.18% "no" vote (11,703 voters). Measure P, an Essential Services sales tax put on the ballot by the county board of supervisors to help fund firefighting and fire prevention, won by 55.27% "yes" votes (16,468) to 44.73% "no" votes (13,330).

The Willits Unified School District Board of Directors

Read the rest of Results Over on page 11

Over on page 11

3 new storage reservoirs approved

for Fort Bragg Submitted by Mendocino **County Water Agency**

In an effort to create additional water selfsufficiency and prepare for drought, the Fort Bragg City Council unanimously approved a plan on November 28 to purchase a 582-acre parcel of land from Mendocino Coast Recreation and Park District for \$2,420,579, to build three reservoirs.

According to the City Council Agenda Item Summary, the City of Fort Bragg relies on three surface water sources: Waterfall Gulch, Newman Gulch, and the Noyo River. However, by August or September, "the amount of water the city is able to pump from the river is limited, and at high tides the saline content means that the water is not able to be treated by the city's Water Treatment Plant."

Water storage at the Summers Lane Reservoir helps meet the gap, as does the Desalination Plant, but neither provide the kind of long-term water

Read the rest of Water





Annual photo fundraising tradition expands to include the Grinch in addition to Mr. Claus

The first weekend of December became two days of photo-filled madness for local photographer Maureen Jennison who completed two record-breaking shoots at local businesses for the holiday.

Saturday, Santa Claus came to J.D. Redhouse for the 11th year and racked up 524 edited photos and \$1,255 in donations. The following day, the Grinch visited the Imagination Station Toy Depot, resulting in 546 photos and \$910 in donations.

Each event is done as a 50/50 fundraiser for a local group; half of the Santa funds will go to the Soroptimist International of Willits, and half of the Grinch funds will go to the Willits Charter School.

While Santa was here just for the one day, the Grinch will be back for a round two on Sunday, December 11. See the calendar spread for more information.

Above, from left: Ellie. Hazel and Oscar smile with Santa. Oliver managed a quick smile for Santa. Photographer Maureen Jennison sits with Maggie, who would only smile from atop mama's lap.

Below, left: The Saucedo family all gathered for a darling group photo. Below, right: Santa, the Handschug-Perrys and company also made a wonderful, smiling group, with dogs, too!

Willits man, 81, killed in **Hwy 20** crash

Submitted by CHP, Ukiah

On Friday, December 2, at approximately 7:45 pm, in dark, cool and clear conditions, a 2007 Cadillac driven by Kenneth Wickstrom, 81, of Willits, was heading east on Highway 20 about 12.5 miles east of Fort Bragg.

For reasons still under investigation Wickstrom allowed the Cadillac to run off the south road edge down the embankment. The Cadillac overturned and collided with multiple trees. The Cadillac came to rest on its roof, down the steep embankment.

Wickstrom experienced fatal injuries and was pronounced dead on the scene.

During the investigation It was determined the driver appeared to have been unrestrained [by a seat belt] at the time of the collision. Alcohol or drug use does not appear to be a factor in the collision.

Authorities withheld the name of the deceased until the family was notified.

The California Highway Patrol, the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, the Fort Bragg Fire Department, and Adventist Health Coast Ambulance all responded to the scene. This collision remains under investigation by the Ukiah CHP.

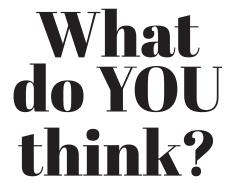


Above: Skylar Luedemann holds her dog Deuce, left, alongside friend Marena Brett-Blunt who holds her extremely tolerant cat, Cheese Stick, and the Grinch. Below, from left: Macy and Madison Lawrence smile with the Grinch. Colter Basler brought along Max the stuffed dog for the perfect photo op. After a Skunk train ride, Grandma and Grandpa took Nora, left, and Kalan, right to see the Grinch.









Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Thanks to the voters

To the Editor:

I would sincerely like to thank the voters of the greater Willits area for their support in my campaign for the school board. The results of this election and the previous election, when I ran in 2018, tells me that the voters have faith in my ability to reflect their values in meeting the needs of the children who attend school in Willits Unified School District.

I am an independent thinker who works hard to see issues from all sides. I owe no allegiance to any political group or activist organization and will continue along this vein as a board member. I am a retired teacher but I am also able to put my parent hat and/or my community member hat on when considering any issue that comes before the school board

I deeply appreciate your support and will continue to be an engaged, informed member of the board. Children are only about 30% of our population but they are 100% of our future.

Jeanne King, Willits

Holidav season

The holiday season is upon us once again.

As we come together and celebrate with our families and friends. let's all do our absolute best to have safe and happy holidays.

Hot summers always seem to bring cold winters, therefore we should be prepared while traveling.

Package theft and mail theft are common during the holiday season.

Please remember to pick up your mail every day and don't leave packages out on your steps or porch.

If you are going to be away from home, please contact the Sheriff's Office and let us know so we can complete extra patrols around your homes.

Let's work hard to be good neighbors and all look out for one another.

As always, thank you for supporting the men and women serving you at the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office.

- Mendocino County Sheriff Matt Kendall

Winter Break

Willits Weekly's final edition of 2022 will be our December 15 edition. We'll take our annual holiday break, then be back with a January 12, 2023 edition.

Library Pop-Up Sale through December 17

The Friends of the Willits Library are offering Pop-Up Book Sale Tables inside the Willits Library through December 17. Come and find some great deals, support your library, and check out all the great things the Willits Branch Library offers!

Library hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10 am to 7 pm. Friday: 10 am to 6 pm: Saturday: 11 am to 5 pm. The Willits Library is located at 390 East Commercial Street.

> Senior Center menu for the week

Willits Senior Center is serving lunch in its indoor dining room, and continues to serve drive-through and walk-up lunches, too. Lunch is available Monday through Friday, except holidays, from 12 to 12:45 pm, inside and outside the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Price is \$7.

Thursday, December 8: Chicken Curry, Rice, Green Salad

Friday, December 9: Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Veggie, Roll

Monday, December 12: Ortega Chicken, Rice Pilaf, Veggie, Roll

Tuesday, December 13: Chili Relleno Casserole, Rice & Beans, Green Salad

Wednesday, December 14: Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Veggie, Roll

Thursday, December 15: Chicken a la King, Green Salad, Roll

Friday, December 16: Ground Beef Tacos, Rice & Beans

Activities: Bingo every Friday night, 5 to 7 pm; Pancake Breakfast on the second Sunday of each month, 9 to 11 am, and exercise class every weekday morning from 9 to 10 am.

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

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

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

KYBU Round Valley **Community Radio** celebrates 11 years KYBU Round Valley Community Radio volunteers powered-up the transmitters and began broadcasting to listeners at 96.9FM in Covelo/Round Valley on December 11, 2011. Now, after 11 years of broadcasting music, talk, news, public affairs and more, KYBU is celebrating with an event at the Round Valley Public Library Commons from 6 to 10 pm on Friday, December 9. It's a Supporter Appreciation Party with beer, wine and soft-drinks for sale, and fun with fellow KYBU supporters. All donations at the door and proceeds from the bar and silent auction will go towards operating expenses for Round Valley's all-volunteer radio station.

CAL FIRE awards grant to Sierra Pacific Industries to grow 25 million seedlings

Submitted by CAL FIRE

Sacramento, December 6 - The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection awarded Sierra Pacific Industries a \$3 million grant to advance production of tree seedlings in California. This grant leverages SPI's investment in the first phase of a more than \$10 million state-of-the-art nursery to be built and operated by SPI in Gazelle, in Siskiyou County. The nursery will specialize in production of native conifer seedlings for forest restoration, research, and conservation projects.

"CAL FIRE is very pleased to be partnering with Sierra Pacific Industries to expand tree nursery production in California, especially now when reforestation is so critical for the future of our conifer forests," said Stewart McMorrow, staff chief of Wildfire Resilience at CAL FIRE. "This nursery will add muchneeded capacity and jobs and will serve to further our combined efforts to restore forest cover on private and public lands. We are thankful that Sierra Pacific Industries can make this a reality."

Wildfires have burned millions of forested acres in California in recent years. Current nursery capacity in the Western U.S is not sufficient to fill the need for seedlings to reforest these damaged landscapes.

More than a third of the forests that have burned recently have seen high-severity fire, which kills at least 75 percent of vegetation, leaving altered landscapes of dead trees behind. Without direct intervention, the most severely burned forests are likely to be replaced by brush.

This funding will enable SPI to start project construction sooner than planned, helping to increase capacity to rapidly respond to reforestation needs and ensuring California-grown seedlings are available for post-fire recovery efforts.

"The demands to revive forestlands in the state far outweigh the supply of materials that our industry is able to currently accommodate," said Jimi Scheid, CAL FIRE Reforestation Services manager. "Being able to amplify these outputs in the form of ready-to-plant, climatically suitable seedlings, will help us mitigate the growing threats to our forests and the benefits they provide.

This new nursery will help address the need for additional seedling production in a short amount of time. Production will ramp up over the first several years with 6 million seedlings projected to be sown in 2024, followed by another 12 million seedlings the following year.

The nursery, expected to be fully operational by 2026, will be capable of producing 25 million seedlings annually. Additionally, it will employ about 10 full-time people and as many as 110 seasonal workers, which is a benefit to the rural community of Gazelle.

"Healthy, growing forests provide clean water and air, important wildlife habitat, recreational opportunities, and jobs for rural economies." said Jessica Hinoiosa. Sierra Pacific Industries Tree Improvement manager. "SPI is making this investment to help meet our state's growing needs for high-quality, native conifer seedlings. We appreciate CAL FIRE's support for this immense endeavor. We look forward partnering with public and private organizations across the state that

the property and resources of California. The men

and women of CAL FIRE are dedicated to the fire

protection and stewardship of over 31 million acres

of California's privately owned wildlands. CAL FIRE's

mission emphasizes the management and protection

of California's natural resources; a goal that is

accomplished through ongoing assessment and study

Sierra Pacific Industries is a third-generation, family-

owned forest products company based in Anderson,

SPI owns and sustainably manages more than 2.4

million acres of timberland in California, Oregon and

Washington and is one of the largest U.S. lumber

manufacturers. The company also produces millwork,

windows, and renewable energy. In California, SPI has

over 3,400 crew members supporting the company's

operations that include 1.9 million acres of timberlands.

10 sawmills, three millwork and remanufacturing

plants, two bark plants, five biomass cogeneration

energy plants, and windows manufacturing plants.

of the state's natural resources.

California





Valley Project

Corps facility in Willits begins to take shape

The California Conservation Corps is on the move, to Willits, with an estimated move-in in the summer of 2024, at 440 East Hill Road, just west of the bypass and across from Adventist Health Howard Memorial Hospital. The 27.7-acre site will accommodate around 100 corps members plus a support staff of leaders, trainers, etc.

"We didn't do a formal groundbreaking per se but we've been working for several months now," stated Dan Millsap, director of capital outlay for the Mathew Caine CCC and overseer of the project. "We've started to put down the eatures Writer building pads and are driving piles for the bridge. The rains kind of nathew@willitsweekly.com shut us down for a bit."

But construction is proceeding during times of compliant weather. A skeleton of the administration building can be seen from East Hill Road, as can the poles upon which sit solar panels to power the cameras by which the remote supervisors can oversee the project.

"We're relocating our Ukiah center and we have staff who already live in Willits, so they're pretty excited about the move," explained Chris Van Horne, public information officer, communications and outreach manager for the CCC.

"The Ukiah location was a former dairy farm." said Van Horne. "and we needed to expand for our operations. When we met with the Mendocino County Office of Education. who is the property owner at the Ukiah site, they were not amenable to selling the property at that point in time so we did a search and found the location in Willits."

According to the California Environmental Quality Act website: "The project consists of a new CCC residential center that includes a total of approximately 64,000 square feet of new building construction. The center

will include 12 buildings consisting Read the rest of

HIPPING DONE HERE!

- THANK YOU-

TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS

FOR THEIR

CONTINUED SUPPORT.

redex.

NEW LOCATION -

280 E. COMMERCIAL ST.

WILLITS

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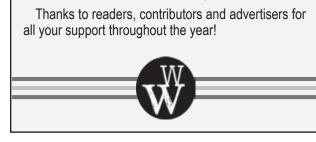
Above, left: Two of the six dorms in this artist rendition. Above, right: Artist rendition of the overall site. At left: The floor of the administration building is covered with water after a rainstorm. Below: The beginnings of the CCC administration building can be seen through the entrance to the 27.7acre site. Further below, left: An initial array of three solar-electric panels are used to power the cameras by which administrators can monitor progress. Further below, right: Dan Millsap, director of capital outlay for the CCC, is tasked with overseeing this and other CCC projects around the state. At bottom: The beginnings of the framework are erected for the multipurpose recreation building.











The Rules: LETTERS

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

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



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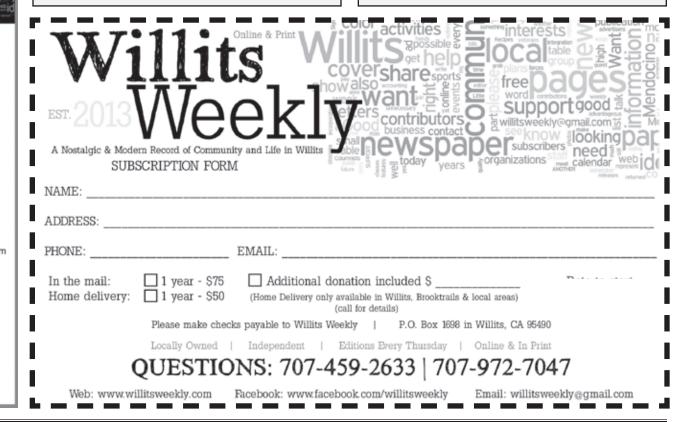
April Tweddell, ad sales / 707- 972-2475 / april@willitsweekly.com

Ad inquiries: call 707-972-7047 or email advertising@willitsweekly.com

Soul Circus will perform live music starting at 7 pm. Soul Circus is a Mendocino County funk band whose members have toured internationally for 40 years. The band features Derek Soderquist on bass, Pat Sisneros on guitar, Roni Zadik on drums, and Robin Kellerstrass on vocals.

No outside drinks, food, or dogs. KYBU will follow all current health orders and recommendations for

Read the rest of Over on page 11 Radio



Willits Weekly | December 8, 2022 **Pg. 2** Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

of an administration building, seven are working to recover and restore California's forests." The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) serves and safeguards the people and protects

Over on page 9 Campus

East Hill Veterinary Clinic

Full

Service

Grooming

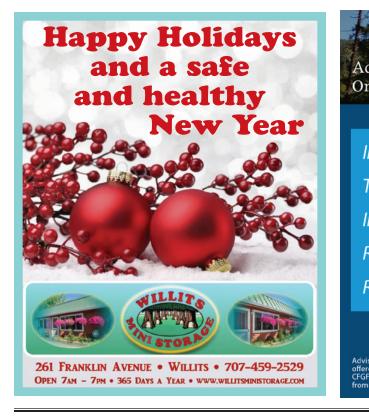
Salon

-Face, feet, fanny trim

Full service grooming

-Bath and Brush







Holiday 20% OFF Sale Thursday 12/8 - Wednesday 12/14

All Books & 2023 Calenders **All Three Sisters** Apothecary Products

amposa Ju Organic & Natural Foo

707-459-9630 MariposaMarket.com Mon-Fri 9-6:30 Sun 9-4

500 South Main Street

Willits, CA 95490

Willits Weekly's **Puzzle Page**

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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D

CAROLS

CELEBRATION

CHRISTIAN

CHRISTMAS

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Pg. 4 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047

CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH

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HOW TO SUDOKU Sudoku puzzles are ormatted as a 9x9 grid, roken down into nine 3x3 oxes. To solve a sudoku, ne numbers 1 through 9 nust fill each row, column nd box. Each number can ppear only once in each ow, column and box. You an figure out the order which the numbers vill appear by using the umeric clues already



rovided in the boxes. The Above: Willits American Legion member John Frankum, U.S. Army veteran, left, raises the flag on nore numbers you name, Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, assisted by fellow Post 174 member Larry Kinsella, U.S. Marine Corps veteran. ne easier it gets to solve

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT **POLICE LOG**

November 21 to November 27

The officers of the Willits Police 7-day reporting period. Avenue.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

November 21

of suspicious activity in the 1400 block of Baechtel Road. Willits was contacted in the 1500 block of South Main Street following a pursuit. He was arrested pursuant to 2800.1 VC (Evading an Officer) and 148 PC (Resisting

November 22

4:26 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South

Main Street and issued a warning. 1:23 pm: RUMBLE, Gavin David (25) of Willits was contacted in the 1000 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of failure to appear.

1:49 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Barbara Lane.

4:04 pm: Officers responded to a report sted subject in the 1500 block ning

Pearl Harbor Remembrance

Dav December 7

Members of the American Legion, Willits Post 174, performed their annual Pearl Harbor Memorial Service and ceremonial raising of the flag at Babcock Park, on December 7.

It has been 81 years since that fateful day in 1941 - let us never forget the unprecedented attack on the United States of America.

– Roger Ham, adjutant, Willits Post 174

Photo by Frank Deuel

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

8:31 am: Officers initiated a theft Department handled **107 incidents** in this investigation in the 300 block of Boscabelle

10:16 am: Officers responded to a report 1:46 pm: DYKES, Mylz Orion (23) of

or Delaying an Officer).

November 24

Main Street.

suspended license.

Railroad Avenue.

12:57 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of East Oak Street and South Main Street.

Bray Road. He was arrested on felony

charges of unlawful possession of tear

gas and violation of probation, and on

misdemeanor charges of driving with a

3:02 pm: Officers responded to a report

6:47 pm: Officers initiated a theft

investigation in the 1700 block of South

of illegal camping in the 800 block of

November 25

2:57 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

3:44 pm: GILLETTE, Maxwell Allen

(46) of Whitehorn was contacted in the

November 26

12:34 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1700 block of South Main Street.



Hard-working Cowboy

Cowboy is a hardcore dude - full of himself, better off leash in the country, or on leash since he is not great with other dogs, is selective and needs space. He is smart, reactive, guick, agile, attentive and affectionate to his humans. He is also very active and bossy, and is not an urban or suburban dog.

He is a working type, with big stamina, big demands, and is ready to go all day!

To learn more about Cowboy or view other adoptable animals, visit www.milofoundation.org or the Milo

Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions by appointment only due to COVID-19. Please complete a pet-adoption application before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 510-900-2275.

Playful Nina

This bundle of love is Nina! Nina has lived with kids and other dogs. She is a real catch, with energy to match! Nina is good on leash and LOVES the water. She enjoys going to our multidog playgroups and going on adventures with our volunteers. Nina would love to scoot right into a forever home with you!

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. We are open Wednesday through Friday from 1 to 5

pm and Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 3 pm. Closed Mondays and Tuesdays.

You may also look at our available dogs and cats on our website: www.mendohumanesociety.com, our Facebook page, and on www.petfinder.com.

Curious Fawn

Fawn and her brother, Topper, came in originally as trapped "feral" cats. They very quickly showed us how sweet and loving they actually are. Fawn is usually the more outgoing of the two, but sometimes she likes to hide behind her brother and let him take the risks. This 7-month-old girl loves pets and always wants to explore whatever room she's in.

BROWNS

R

Family owned since 1983"

The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, requires a reservation to view adoptable animals. Call 707-467-6453 to make an appointment to meet Fawn or our other canine and feline guests. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at

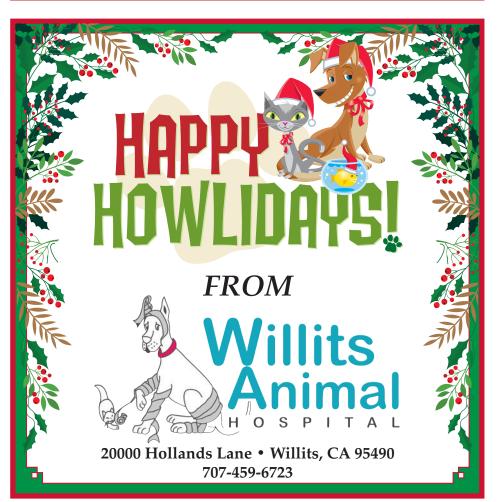






THE GRINCH **IS BACK!** Miss out seeing the Grinch?

No worries! Come see 'em! Sunday, December 11 from 10 am – 2 pm at The Toy Depot!







12:22 pm: HUTCHISON, Michael William (53) of Willits was contacted near the intersection of Center Valley Road and

www.mendoanimalshelter.com.

30								31							of an unwanted subject in the 1500 block		
32										33	34	35	36	37	of South Main Street and issued a warning.		
				38	39	40		41	42						4:34 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main		
															Street.		
				43			44								9:17 pm: Officers initiated a theft		
	45	46	47						+						investigation in the 100 block of Alder		
40					10				50	51	50	50	54		Court.		
48					49				50	51	52	53	54		November 23		
55					56					57	1			58			
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	Vealthy		63. Doctor of Education						genu				Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputies				
	ause to		age	64. Impudence						-	slator (,		were on routine patrol in the 100 block of Kawi Place in Willits.			
	xamine			CT			NT	39.		entrat							
	thnic gi nd Thai	S	CLUES DOWN 1. State attorneys					40		for on			The deputies observed Carlos Ogawa, 35, of Fort Bragg, exit a vehicle with another				
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	rinciple				5. Taste 6. Dried							ession			The deputies contacted Ogawa and		
	ne unive	yiiig		7. Spanish saloon						•	jh mac		n	searched his person, finding no contraband.			
	opular		8. Mother of Perseus					тı.	corn		10 1101		The deputies searched Ogawa's vehicle				
	ntelope	-			48.		edian	Carve	y	and located a checkbook belonging to an							
	38. Peacock network					 Evergreen coniferous trees 						s river		•	adult female, 77, from Ukiah.		
41. Utter repeatedly						omply			Preju				The deputies observed some of the checks appeared to have been altered with Ogawa's name inscribed in the "Pay to"				
43. One from the Golden					12.1	. ,			Actor								
State					14. Hyphen					54.	Resis	stance	fighte	ers	line. The deputies continued their search		
	45. Photographers					19. A way to record					58. Criticize				and located other items they suspected to		
	- 0.1	1				- 1					_						

Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

Main 800 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication) and on misdemeanor charges theft of disorderly conduct (alcohol). Alder 8:41 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1100 block of South Main Street. to a November 27 inolia No incidents to report. Villits *leekly* vo newspapers left our holiday break! be back, don't worry! stolen checkbook in Willits be stolen from other parts of Mendocino 5 pm, puties County. ock of Deputies in the Ukiah area contacted the adult female owner of the checkbook, awa, who confirmed the checks were stolen and other Ogawa had no legal right to possess them. r with The deputies interviewed Ogawa and dy on continued their investigation. As a result of was their investigation, the deputies developed y law probable cause to believe Ogawa was in violation of the following: 470(b) PC (Felony and Forgery), 475(b) PC (Felony Possession band Blank Check), 496(A) PC (Misdemeanor hicle Possession Stolen Property), and 12022.1 to an PC (Felony Commit Offense while on Bond). the Ogawa was arrested on the listed d with charges and booked into the Mendocino ay to" County Jail where he was held in lieu of earch \$25,000.00 bail. ted to

Willits Weekly | December 8, 2022

Willits Weekly | December 8, 2022 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 **Pg.** 5

Thursday, December 8

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly Farmers Market at the Little Lake Grange. The freshest local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Thursday, December 1, 3 to 5:30 pm. Enjoy "Tobin's Tales," story time from the Willits Branch Library and the Farmers Market Association, from 3:30 to 4 pm. Tobin will be offering readings of children's books for the community at large. Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street.

Friday, December 9

Holiday Craft Fair, Willits Community Center: "The 35th annual Holiday Craft Fair, presented by the Willits Center for the Arts, will be held December 9 and 10 at the Willits Community Center. In addition to art and crafts and beautiful holiday gifts by local and visiting artists, the fair features live music, plus food and beverages by the Willits Charter School. Performers at the event will include Clay Hawkins, Mitchell Holman, Jason Greenberg, The Farmers Market Band, an African dance group, the Cosmic Family Band and more." Friday, December 9, noon to 7 pm. Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. Info: willitscenterforthearts.org.

"All is Calm, The Christmas Truce of 1914", Willits Community Theatre, opens December 9: Opening night for the WCT December show, the musical "All Is Calm." It runs two weekends through December 18. "In 1914, World War I soldiers left their trenches on Christmas Eve to meet their enemies and sang together in a famous moment of peace. This musical, directed by Mike A'Dair, with musical director Janice Hawthorn Timm, will warm your heart." Friday, December 9 show is at 7:30 pm. Tickets, \$20. Visit wctperformingartscenter.org. WCT, 37 West Van Lane.

Los Troubadoux at Shanachie Pub: "Los Troubadoux is a group of the world. With accordion

percussion, bass and guitar together it plays origina songs in French, Portuguese, Spanish Italian, Creole and English, in the styles of Samba, Forro Kompa, Carimbo Son-cubano." Friday

December 9, 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street

What's Happening Around Town

Sunday, December 11 Grinch is Back" Photo "The Shoot: "Missed sitting for a photo Maureen "Photographress" by Jennison with the big green guy last Sunday? No worries! The Grinch will be back at the Imagination

Station Educational Toy Depot again this Sunday,

Thursday, December 15

whatever! Please bring cash or check as there are no credit cards accepted Photos available to download here photographress.zenfolio.com pixwithsanta". Imagination Station Educational Toy Depot, 262 East Commercial Street. 33rd Annual Willits Community

Christmas Chorale: At the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Sunday, December 11, 6 pm. 265 Margie Drive.

Truckers Light Parade. The parade starts at "All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914." 5:30 pm, and the route goes from the Evergreen Willits Community Theatre: WCT's December Shopping Center on the south end of town show opens Friday, December 9 and runs north to Commercial Street, then east to the through December 18. Sunday, December Mendocino County Museum. The best viewing 11 show is at 2 pm. Tickets, \$20. Visit will be from the east side of Main Street. Sign wctperformingartscenter.org. WCT, 37 West Van up for the parade by emailing 101trailerandrv@ Lane. gmail.com. Entry \$25 per truck. Saturday,

Tuesday, December 13

Beginning with holiday potluck lunch at 11:30 program at noon, at Golden Rule Mobile Village Clubhouse at Ridgewood Ranch/ RV Park. Speaker will be Ruthanne Volz of the Willits Food Bank, discussing doing good community. the

info at willitgardenclub. org. Happens the second and \$30 at the door. Saturday, Tuesday of each month. December 12, 9 pm. BACE, 109

Zach Iones Ezra Lip Burt Lewis

SUPPORT LOCAL FARMERS

WILLITS WINTER

"Blue Luke Andrews is a prodigy guitarist born and raised in Dos Rios. Imagine a band that takes the soul of the blues, the groove of funk, the grit of rock and roll and the rich Willits High School narmonies of jazz to create exactly what you've Basketball: The always wanted to hear. Blue Luke brings the

Blue Luke & Friends at Shanachie Pub:

boys and girls varsity blues guitar into the modern world in a way that and junior varsity satisfies our ears, eyes, and soul!" Saturday, teams take on Clear December 17, 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Lake at Willits High School. Girls JV at 2:30 pm, boys JV at 4 pm, girls varsity at 5:30 pm, boys varsity at 7 pm. Willits High School, 299 North **Jain Street**

"All is Calm, The Christmas Truce of 1914," Willits Community Theatre: WCT's December show opens Friday, December 9 and runs through December 18. Thursday, December 15 show is at 7:30 pm. Tickets, \$15. Visit wctperformingartscenter.org. WCT, 37 West Van

Friday, December 16

S.R. Laws at Shanachie Pub: "Originally from California, S.R. cut his teeth as a songwriter in Austin, Texas. The fertile landscape of the 'live music capital of the world' and a thriving music scene yielded a bounty of musical and life experiences like no other. Each passing season allows provisions of a burgeoning sound to mingle with wry lyrics, energetic rhythms, and memorable melodies!" Friday, December 16, 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

ILLITS IS GRATEFUL ONKEY]] RENCH

School Street. PEAR TREE CENTER'S

Willits Garden Club monthly meeting: Saturday, December 17

BACE presents "Willits is Grateful": 'Calling all Mendo Dead Heads! We are pleased to announce an evening with Pete Sawyer and the Left Hand Monkey Wrench Gang, which includes some of the Grateful Dead's most talented collaborators ncluding Ezra Lipp (Phil Lesh, ALO), Burt Lewis (Jerry's middle finger, Stu Allen), Zach Jones (Lovin' Dead, Stu Allen), and Scott Guberman (Phil Lesh, the Gilmour Project). For the ppening act we have the talented Kara Cavanaugh." Saturday December 17,

8 pm. Tickets, \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door. Ages 18 and over. BACE, 109 North Main Street.

Main Street. 5 SATURDAY DEC. 17 8PM SHANACHIE PUB Sunday, December 18 **Community Harvest Potluck Dinner and** Music Jam at the Little Lake Grange: "Please bring a dish, share some time, make a friend, and sing a song. All are welcome. Feel free to bring an instrument if you wish to play music. Looking forward to gathering together with community." Sunday, December 18, 4 to 7 pm, dinner at 5 pm. Willits Little Lake Grange, 291

+HOMETOWN

DECEMBER 10+1-4 PM

FREE

CARRIAGE

PRIZES & MORE

BENEFITTING UCCE MENDOCINO COUNTY

RIDES

FOOD

SANTA

PHOTOS

+ HOLIDAYS





Agape

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290 S. Lenore Ave. Willits, CA 95490

Where love is first

and the Bible is central

Sunday Services:

10:00 a.m. - Worship

dult Sunday School 9:00 a.m

Info? 707-459-1905

vww.agapebiblechurch.com

Amazing Grace Assembly of God Church

803 Coast Street

P.O. Box 489, Willits

707-303-5456

Iorning Worship - 10:30 a.m

Pastor Burton Jernigan

EVERYBODY IS WELCOM

The Church of

Jesus Christ of

Latter-day Saints

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Willits, ČA 95490

ALL ARE WELCOME

Sacrament Meeting

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

ckankar: The Path

ECK Light & Sound Services

More information?

Call 530-224-8703

www.eckankar.org

Grace Community

Church

Celebrating Life In Christ

25 Hazel Street, Willits

Modified Worship Service

Other ministries suspended

10 a.m.

for now.

For appointments call:

(707) 459-3106

St. Anthony of Padua

Catholic Church

61 W. San Francisco Ave.

Willits, CA 95490

Father Aaron Bandanadam

Mass times:

Confessions by appointment

459-2252

Sunday Mass inside:

9:00 a.m. English

10:30 a.m. Spanish

Saturday Mass: 5:30 p.m.

Covid guidelines apply.

Ne welcome All Walks of Fait

St. Francis

Episcopal Church

707-272-0177 Sunday Service - 10 a.m. In-person and on Zoom Call for information.

ALL ARE WELCOME

The Rev. Betsy Bruneau

St. John Lutheran Church

Church Service:

Sunday 10:00 to 11:00

(707) 459-2988

24 Mill Creek Drive

ALL ARE WELCOME

Willits Seventh-Day

Adventist Church

707-459-5714

Friendly, open worship

Saturdavs

Bible Study - 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service - 10:45 a.m

oom Transmission Available

Wednesday

Prayer Meeting - 6:00 p.m.

399 W. Mendocino Ave.

All are welcome!

Willits United Methodis

Christ centered progressive church

ALL ARE WELCOME

286 School St. (at Pine)

ev. Rosemary Landry, pasto

Worship Celebration

Sundays - 10:30 a.m.

459-2855

ldren's Sunday School - 10:45 a.m

ebook: www.facebook.con

3)

200 Points = 1 Entry

(R) 1 hr 54 mins

Fri.: 4:45 & 7:15pm

Sat./Sun.:

2:15, 4:45 & 7:15pm

Mon.-Thurs.:

4:45 & 7:15pm

Over 21 Club/

Luxury Recliners

Masks Optional

North Main Street, Willits

of Spiritual Freedor

•Sound of Soul events

• Membership Discourses

Spiritual Discussions

10

"All is Calm, The Christmas Truce of 1914," Willits Community Theatre: WCT's December show is the musical "All Is Calm." It opens Friday, December 9 and runs two weekends through December 18. "In 1914, World War I soldiers left their trenches on Christmas Eve to meet their enemies and sang together in a famous moment of peace." Saturday, December 10 show is at 7:30 pm. Tickets, \$20.

Visit wctperformingartscenter.org. BACE show featuring Morillo, Aethernaut, Kapha and Alyra Everyone welcome, more Rose: "This one is not to miss!" Tickets are \$20 in advance,

Mobile Village Way.



Golden Rule Mobile Village Clubhouse, 10755



quite drunk. Town folk are gazing at the night at his flying sleigh, at his glorious flying

"Violent Night"

The Story: Think "Die Hard" but with Santa Claus,

and no Bruce Willis. Santa (David Harbour) is

having a hard night. It's Christmas Eve, and he's



COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

Dan Essman

Next, he lands at the magnificent mansion of an uber-rich family. They have a little girl who's not spoiled, and who left her homemade cookies for Santa. He likes the cookies, and likes the little girl (who's rated very very good on his "good little girl" list).

But again, unfortunately for our Santa, the uberrich family is being invaded by murderous weaponwielding bad dudes and dudines with homicidal propensities

So naturally (or unnaturally), it falls to Santa to save everybody. Spoiler: many cast nameless members die in a graphic bloodbath, and Santa prevails. And the good little girl gets her Christmas wish.

My Thoughts: In "Violent Night" the love of money does turn out to be the root of many, if not most evil acts. But lying fits in there as well. The good guys win, but there are guite a number of honest and innocent servants of the uber-rich family who get whacked sans mercy, sans regret sans a second thought by pretty much anyone. (Makes me wonder what the screenwriters think of us everyday folk who make up their intended audience.)

Meanwhile the survivors of all the shoot-outs and bloody smack-downs end up with hundreds of millions of dollars. It's no wonder that Santa sometimes gets sleigh-sick.

Parents: This flick is rated R. Don't bring your kids. It's moral sabotage. It's a Christmas Story that would truly be harmful for children to see. Willitsian Daniel Essman prefers his reality attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination.

Eve of World War I, when the Allied and German troops in the trenches in Belgium laid down their arms, and sang themselves across no-man's-land into an unsanctioned truce. The story of the truce is told through the voices of the people who were there Santa's sleigh-sick. and experienced it. The show features 27 songs, He leans out of the including several traditional Christmas carols – all sleigh and pukes!!! sung a cappella. Starring in the production are Eddie Haehl, Bhavvy Ducharme, Andante Joseph Silveira, Jeff Shipp, Eric Ward, Lisa Wilcox, David Strock, Kevin H.C. Moore and Pat Nunes. Friday, Saturday and Sunday, December 9 to 11, and Thursday through Sunday, December 15 to 18. Shows start at 7:30 pm, except for the Sunday shows which start at 2 pm. Tickets are \$20, except

"Garraoke" at Diggers Bar: Karaoke night

with host and DJ Garrett Moore. "From 8 pm to

midnight, then get down until closing!" Friday,

December 9. Diggers Bar, 244 South Main

HRTS

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A

Saturday, December 10

Craft Fair,

Center: The 35th annual

Center for the Arts, will be

neld December 9 and 10

at the Willits Community

December 10, 10 am to

pm. Willits Community

Commercial Street. Info:

villitscenterforthearts.org.

***1st annual Willits

December 10, 5:30 pm.

111

Craft

Community

by the Willits

Saturday

East

Truckers Light Parade on Main Street: The

public is invited to enjoy the 1st annual Willits

WCT, 37 West Van Lane.

North Main Street.

"All is Calm: The Christmas

Willits Community Theatre, December 9-18

by Peter Rothstein is directed by Michael A'Dair,

with musical direction by Janice Hawthorne Timm

and costumes by Kathy Vellis. The play is based on

"The song-centered drama 'All is Calm,' written

Truce of 1914"

Fair,

Street

Holiday

Willits

the second and fourth Friday of every month.

for Thursday, December 15, which is \$15. For tickets and schedule, visit wctperformingartscenter. org. WCT, 37 West Van Lane.

> Willits Senior Center Annual Christmas Store

Through December 10

The Willits Senior Center presents its annual Christmas Store, featuring decorations, toys, clothes, Christmas music and more, including See's Candies in holiday packaging. Store is open through December 10, 9 am to 4 pm. "Willits Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road.

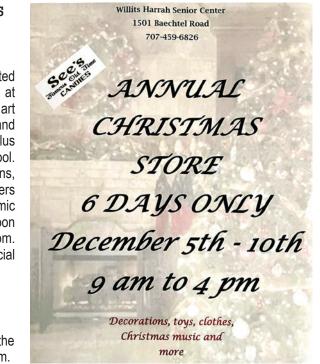
Holiday Craft Fair at the Willits Community Center

Friday and Saturday, December 9 & 10

"The 35th annual Holiday Craft Fair, presented by the Willits Center for the Arts, will be held at the Willits Community Center. In addition to art and crafts and beautiful holiday gifts by local and visiting artists, the fair features live music, plus food and beverages by the Willits Charter School. Performers at the event will include Clay Hawkins, Mitchell Holman, Jason Greenberg, the Farmers Market Band, an African dance group, the Cosmic Family Band and more." Friday, December 9, noon to 7 pm; Saturday, December 10, 10 am to 4 pm. Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. Info: willitscenterforthearts.org.

Candlelight Service at Agape Bible Church The community is invited to attend the Candlelight Service on December 24 at 6:30 pm.







Above: Metal art work by William Cull, San Francisco Bay Area and New Mexico artist from 1967. Cull's designs are inspired by ancient, Eastern, and Western classical religious motifs. Below: Hudson 9 from 12 to 7 pm, and Saturday, December 10, from 10 am to River Inlay's "Orchids" mirror is inlaid with 18 wood 4 pm, at the Willits Community Center. The Willits fair is one of species, plus mother of pearl, turquoise and other stones.



Some of

the hand-

crafted

jewelry Jessie

Sgouros

of Myth

Jewelry Co. will

offer at

the Willits

Craft Fair.



Come by both locales to see the shows and find one-of-a-kind gifts for friends and loved ones. Willits Community Center, 71 East Commercial, and Willits Center for the Arts, 111 East Commercial Street. Willits Center

for the Arts

35th annual Willits Craft Fair

December 9 and 10

The Craft Fair will also feature food provided by

The 35th annual Willits Craft Fair is set for Friday, December

Myth Jewelry Co. Bringing nature's beauty to people at a great price

Hello, my name is Jessie Sgouros of Myth Jewelry Co., and I am going to be a vendor at this year's Willits craft fair, and I would like to share with you some of my work.

A little about myself and my work: I grew up in Willits. I am a student now in Sacramento. I absolutely love to make jewelry for myself and my family members, incorporating gemstones like jaspar, moonstone, turquoise, and obsidian, glass and wooden beads, and other natural materials. I've been doing so for a few years now.





work including soaps, ceramics, jewelry, cutting boards, knives, At top, left: Mariangela Le Thanh-Block will offer block prints and cards at the Willits Craft Fair. At top: A table in Hudson River Inlay's "Butterfly Koi" design with a birdseye maple border, and a myrtlewood interior. Above, The Craft Fair coincides with the current "Small Works" show left: A bead-embroidered Christmas necklace by Juanita Melendez, who in the main gallery of the Willits Center for the Arts, featuring 35 does one-of-a-kind bead necklaces, earrings, and bracelets. Above, right: A selection of block prints and cards by Mariangela Le Thanh-Block. Below: Narayan and Luna of AFISM (ancient future indigenous space movement).



One-of-a-kind hand-crafted garments, prints, coloring books

AFISM

We are Luna and Narayan, a husband-and-wife team; our art/fashion company is AFISM (ancient future indigenous space movement)

We print Narayan's art on high-quality textiles, then Luna designs one-of-a-kind garments

by first dyeing and bleaching the garments, then sewing the fabric into the clothes. Also we sell this unique visionary art as prints,

look

to

the

page

COVID-19

vaccines

are here

children

6 months

and older.

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LITTLE LAKE HEALTH CENTER

for

OBITUARY |

James Lynch

It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden passing of James Thomas Lynch on November 26, 2022 at the age of 82.

James was born November 25, 1940 in Ukiah. California. He

married the love of his life and moved to Willits in 1961

He was the Divisional Area Manager for Louisiana-Pacific in Tacoma, Washington, retiring in 1989 only to find out that retirement didn't suit him and started working for Dutra Trucking and then McFarland Trucking for another 25 years.

James is survived by his wife of 61 years, Deanna Lynch, and his son Thomas Lynch. He was a proud grandfather to Audumn, Falon, Dustin, Dillion, Jessica, Mahaila, and Dallas, along with numerous great-grandchildren and friends.

James was preceded in death by his parents, brothers The rest of and sister, along with his beloved daughter Becky.

Services for James will be held at Eversole Mortuary in Ukiah on Friday, December 9, 2022. Viewing will begin at 9 am, followed by the funeral service at 12:30 pm.

OBITUARY |

Robert Hellums

Robert Ray Hellums, 84, of Redding, was born in Eureka on August 9, 1937, to Chester and Lois Hellums, and passed away on May 2, 2022. He was raised in Willits, California, with his younger brother, William Lee Hellums.

Bob graduated from Willits High School and joined the U.S. Coast Guard at the age of 17. He served for four years and then attended Santa Rosa Junior College, where he met Danelle Dragoo. The couple married September 23, 1960, and lived on campus until Bob's graduation in June of 1962. During their time in Santa Rosa, their daughter, Karin Dianne, was born December 13, 1961

The family moved to Davis, California, where Bob earned his Bachelor of Science degree. During their time in Davis, they welcomed a son, Robert Scott Hellums, on January 30, 1963.

In June of 1964, the family moved to Willits, where Bob began teaching Advanced Biology and Environmental Science at Willits High School. Bob taught in Willits for the next 33 years. During his teaching career, Bob also spent time teaching science and math at Baechtel Grove Middle

LEGAL NOTICES

WW406 **NOTICE TO BIDDERS** Annual Invitation for Inclusion on the 2023 **City of Willits List of Qualified Bidders** NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that:

The City of Willits is soliciting applicants for its 2023 List of Qualified Bidders. Interested parties should complete the City of Willits Informal Bidding Annual Pre-Qualification Application for 2023 and submit to: Brandy Sanderson City of Willits 111 E. Commercial St. Willits, CA 95490 Re: 2023 Qualified Bidders List Bidders are hereby advised that the previous bidders list will be replaced with the new list and no contractors will be

carried over from the previous list. REQUESTS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BY December 30. 2022 Questions concerning this notice should be directed to Brandy Sanderson at bsanderson@cityofwillits.org. The application can also be found on the City's website on the Engineering page; http://www.cityofwillits.org/147/Engineering. CITY OF WILLITS: s/Delores Pedersen, City Clerk DATED: 11/17/22

PUBLICATION DATES:November 23, December 1, 8, 15, 2022

From page 3 Campus

dormitories, an education building, a recreation building, a multi-purpose building with kitchen and dining room, a warehouse with work area, and a hazardous-materials storage room.

"The site will include asphalt paved surfaces for driveways and parking, and concrete paving for service and staging areas and walkways. The project also includes a paved emergency crew and vehicle staging area and solar photovoltaic array."

The solar array will power the facility, resulting in near "zero net energy per the governor's executive order B-18-12 and achieve, at minimum, a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Silver certification," per the California Environmental Quality Act website.

The California Conservation Corps was formed through legislation signed by then-governor Jerry Brown in 1976. Its purpose was to provide education, jobs and training to California youth.

"The CCC mission is to protect and enhance California's natural resources and to develop young adults through hard work and education," explained Millsap. "We're a youth work program to give young adults in California, 18 to 25, military veterans up to 29, stepping stones to meaningful careers, more education.

"They can get scholarships while working with us so they can afford and pursue whatever degrees they may be interested in," said Millsap. "Maybe they don't want to go to college. They can become firefighters with CalFire. This unit partners with the Mendocino unit of CalFire. We'll be operating two fire crews, currently staging out of Ukiah, but they'll be moving up to Willits.

"We do a lot of salmon restoration work in Mendocino County. There are a lot of these natural resource jobs that most people may not know how to get into. We also get some college graduates in who need field experience to get some of the jobs that the California youth are after and



Willits Redwood Little League Sign Up!

Register Early by December 31st \$100 Register Dec 31st to January 31st \$120 Registration closes January 31st, 2023

Find the registration link at Willits Redwood Little League Facebook Page

Questions Email: wrllbaseball1952@gmail.com Phone: 707.841.7651



Coaches and Umpires Needed, please inquire



Invites applications for:

Administrative Analyst I/II Administrative Secretary Air Pollution Control Officer Building Maintenance Mechanic I/II/III



Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Willits Weekly | December 8, 2022 **Pg. 8** Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047

School, and he coached and served as assistant coach for several different sports as well.

Bob retired from teaching in June of 1997, and he and Danelle moved to Redding, California. Over the next 25 years, Bob enjoyed playing trombone in the Shasta College Community Concert Band under the leadership of Shasta Bones with Gary Beull and Bill Moore.

Bob was predeceased by his mother, father and brother. He is survived by his wife, Danelle, daughter Karin, son Scott, son-in-law, Bill Lamb, grandson Greg Lamb, and granddaughter Miranda Hellums.

Services were held at the Northern California Veterans' Cemetery in Igo on May 17,2022. In lieu of flowers, donations were requested for the American Cancer Society, Haven Humane, the Salvation Army, or "a charity of your choice."

Marc Komer Legal Document Assistant An Affordable

Non-Attorney Service (707) 459-2775

245 South Humboldt St., Suite B, Willits **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY** am not an attorney, and can only provide self-help services at your specific direction

the CCC is a great way to do that.

"We work with John Muir Charter School, here in the north part of the state," Millsap continued, "so they can finish and earn their high school diploma. Some are at community college or college or some who have actually finished college. It's a real diverse mix of young adults Larry Grandy. Bob also formed a trombone trio called The from across the state, very representative of the state. Our mission statement is to help these young adults kick their lives off at that young age with success in the future."

In addition, many of the CCC youth can be seen volunteering on projects in and around Willits and have provided valuable assistance to organizations with fundraising events, public gardens, etc.

"We recruit through social media, traditional media, TV ads in some of the larger population centers throughout the state like in Los Angeles and San Diego. Word of mouth has historically worked for us. We've had parents who were in the CCC and now their kids are in the corps. We'll give presentations to just about any group that would care to have us. We do job fairs pretty regularly, community events," said Millsap.

The infusion of 100 new young, hard-working residents in Willits, who already have housing, could provide some sort of an economic boost to the area, as they can leave the campus to partake in services, restaurants and entertainment in the town.

To see the architects' video rendering of the site, visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=24fTnPcVddo. For more information on the CCC, visit https://ccc.ca.gov.

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Willits Weekly | December 8, 2022 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Pg. 9

Corrections Deputy Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer Deputy Director – Public Health Nursing Deputy District Attorney I/II/III Deputy Probation Officer I & II Deputy Public Defender I/II/III/IV Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II Eligibility Specialist I/II/III Juvenile Corrections Officer Juvenile Corrections Officer -Extra-Help **Registered Nurse** Secretary Senior Program Specialist Senior Public Health Nurse Social Worker I/II/III/IV A-D Social Worker Supervisor I/II A-C For a complete list of current job openings and to apply: www.governmentjobs.com/careers/

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







Holiday **Express**

Roots of Motive Power offered free train rides and a warm celebration on a chilly day

The Roots of Motive Power crew offered the Willits community a wonderful way to take the chill off a wintry day on Saturday: A warm holiday gathering and free rides on an antique steam locomotive train, treated visitors to the annual "Holidav Express" event.

As the 1910 Port of Debbie Boone Harry Olympia 2 locomotive chugged around the tracks, debbie@willitsweekly.com delighting passengers of

all ages, the Roots of Motive Power railroad museum was aglow with the joys of the holiday season. The huge rail antiquities provided a vintage backdrop for an old-time holidav celebration.

Tall, lighted trees, a table full of tasty cookies, and hot lunches served up by the Willits Sober Grad group, created a cozy, festive atmosphere. The voices of the Blosser Bears Theater Club added cheer to the scene, as the kids sang songs of the season.

Of course, the big guy in red, Santa Claus, was there - and the main attraction for wide-eyed youngsters with hopeful wish lists. For those who can't wait to see what Santa brings, Roots offered a raffle to win a wagon load of goodies.

These fun festivities were made possible by donations from generous locals, and all the work over the years by Roots of Motive Power volunteers. If you missed it this time, plan to join the celebration next year, for a great way to kick off the holiday season



The rest of From page1 Supes

a budget deficit of \$25 billion" this fiscal year as well - a trend that could ultimately impact how much the county receives in state funding.

The county's \$6.1 million deficit stems largely from a \$3.6 million health plan gap in 2020/21, and another \$685,000 in health plan needs this year.

The budget ad hoc committee put forward a list of suggestions with austerity measures and other strategies for the board to consider aimed at helping the county's budget issues, both in the short term and long term.

These included giving up ownership of the county's six public parks, using up more than half of the \$4.5 million currently in the "retirement contribution designated reserve," and implementing a hiring freeze on "all non-mandated General Fund budget" positions -

"excluding any positions currently in recruitment." The list also suggested possibly eliminating any "surplus vehicles" owned by the county; "consider utilizing telework capabilities to reduce space

needs"; and obligating \$1.25 million from the "Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund" "to fund a portion of one-time needs ... and additional legal fees."

The board eventually voted to ask staff to come back with more information on these and other suggestions as to how much each would cut back the deficit. They plan on revisiting the issue at their meeting next week on December 13.

For the parks, the ad hoc suggested first considering "decommissioning" buildings and services at the Mariposa Park/Perkins River Access in the Ukiah area

Second District Supervisor Maureen Mulheren pushed back on this idea a bit, asking if the county's park system could be improved to better collect on the plan. revenue and attract tourism.

"So it would be a long-term strategy, and it wouldn't be guick money for this year, but we have been talking about creating a membership-style program where you support the parks through paying access fees," she said. "I really think that Mendocino County needs to look at working with the state, creating a parks program much like they have on the coast for the future Great Redwood Trail, including the Russian River access and Lake Mendocino. And potentially having a parks program that's not run through the county, but that captures that three-legged tourism stool that inland Mendocino County

really needs to support our economy.

Supervisor Gjerde made two other suggestions for helping with the deficit that the board seemed open to considerina.

One was to consolidate a Sheriff's Office dispatch center with that of the City of Ukiah – an idea which he said has been supported by successive county sheriffs.

His other suggestion was to offer county employees two different health

plan options, with one being cheaper though providing less coverage – than the current plan. County employees typically pay around 25% of health plan costs, so Gjerde reasoned that some may be open to this idea.

The fiscal team budget report also included a section suggesting ways for the county to streamline its workforce and increase pay for many employees.

The "compaction and alignment" plan they laid out would reduce the number of "wage grades" from 309 to 80, have no wage grade lower than \$17.50 per hour, have 2.5% pay difference between each wage grade, and 10% "between classifications in a series and

reporting relationships." County CEO Darcie Antle said these changes would help the county "hire and retain the best employees," but would increase costs to the county by some ideas on places where it can be about \$4.5 million annually.

Antle was hopeful the plan could be implemented by July, but board Chair Ted Williams seemed skeptical about that, considering the \$6.1 million deficit they were already facing. "That seems unrealistic," he said.

"What am I missing? ... We're negative right now. How do we implement that in July?" "We can work towards it if we can find

the money," responded Antle. "And we can realign the goals and reorganize."

First District Supervisor Glenn McGourty gave some positive feedback

"It's somewhat aspirational." acknowledged McGourty. "I think that I like this because we have a lot of oddities - a kind of broke design of county government here in Mendocino County- and this is one of them. And I think trying to make a leaner structure for our wage grades is very much a positive thing. Whether or not we can pull it off in one season is questionable, but it might be that we phase this in over a little more time. But I think it's a good

doal for us to pursue." While some labor negotiations with county worker unions are still ongoing, earlier at the meeting the board did approve an agreement between five different union groups and the county

Haschak was pushing for a more detailed "policy and procedure" manual to be developed by the MCD staff, and

also for "maximum flexibility" to be used when considering grant applications. When asked, he explained what he meant by that term. "The state has given us guidelines.

and so what I think the intent of the maximum flexibility is to use the state guidelines and not make Mendocino County's more restrictive than that," he

In expressing some of his concerns in moving forward with the Local Jurisdiction Assistance process, Haschak spoke about his experience working in the cannabis ad hoc committee on Cannabis Equity Grants a program that received some heavy

a grand jury report in July. "I think that the board several times said that we needed maximum flexibility in the [Equity Grant] program," he said "and since that wasn't really delineated in the policies and procedures, it just became this whole quagmire and

bureaucratic nightmare. And so what I would like to see in this manual is adoption of a maximum flexibility policy anywhere we can do that. And I think [Mendocino Cannabis Alliance] has allowed that we should be looking at

and making sure that we're doing that property fit the need. from the get go," he said.

"And I also think that the policies and procedures need to be up front." Haschak added. "And so I think that the board needs to have that before we can really proceed with this. I would like to see it come back in the first meeting in January to just make sure that we don't get into the mess we got in with the equity grant.... We want to have everyone understand what the process is, what the procedures are, before we

really launch this program.' The Mendocino Cannabis Alliance sent a memo to the board with their critiques of the grant manual prior to the meeting, and they also brought up experiences with the Cannabis Equity program and its accompanying "LEEP"

grants. "If adopted in its current form, the initial roll-out of the Local Jurisdiction Assistance Grants Program will be a disastrous repeat of the Equity Program, which prompted the grand jury report 'Building the Airplane While It's Flying." the memo stated. "The manual is overly narrow and overlooks a multitude of additional, eligible, compliance-related costs. Similar to the launch of LEEP, if initiated as currently drafted, the LJAGP plane would be attempting to fly without

From page 1 Results

had three seats up for election, and the winners are the same as the top three vote-getters in initial results. Incumbent Jeanne King won with 17.79% of the final vote (1.774 votes); incumbent Paula Nunez won with 15.94% (1.590 votes): and challenger Jennifer Sookne won with 15.84 % of the final vote (1.580 votes).

The rest of

In the Brooktrails board race, with three seats up for election, challenger Joanne Cavallari won with 26.26% of the final vote (622 votes); incumbent Ed Horrick won with 24.57% of the final vote (582 votes); and incumbent Rick Williams won with 23.98% of the final vote (568 votes). Board member Williams won reelection with 4 votes more than incumbent Tonv Orth, who received 23.81% of the vote (564 votes).

Final results for other candidates in the Willits school board race, so far: incumbent Robert Chavez gained 14.38% (1,434 votes); challenger David Lilker criticism from applicants as well as from won 12.21% (1,218 votes); challenger Colby Friend won 9.30% (927 votes); write-in candidate April Lamprich won 7.91% (789 votes); and challenger Jeffery Ritchley gained 6.63% (661 votes).

> To view Mendocino County's election results in full for the November 8 election, visit www. mendocinocounty.org/government/assessor-countyclerk-recorder-elections/current-election-results

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The rest of
                       From page 1
          Water
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security the city needs, so water and city managers have been actively looking for a location for a large water storage project and the Recreation District's

The property consists of 582 acres (six parcels) that are primarily zoned Timber Production / Forest Land and are also home to highly sensitive habitats. This situation required creativity, and the result was an enhancement to both water supply and to rare

In coordination with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the City of Fort Bragg has created a design whereby the 30 acres for water storage will be located with minimal impact to rare plant life, and the remaining 550 acres will be used to develop a Community Forest, including conservation easements. wildlife-friendly protective fencing, restoration in the Mendocino Cypress Woodland, removal of invasive species, installation of boardwalks on existing trails. and an on-site resident/manager to bring full-time oversight to the property.

"Because the project will fill the reservoirs during the winter months, it will reduce impacts to the stream aquatic ecosystem," says John Smith, director of Public Works for Fort Bragg. "For this reason, Fish & Wildlife is excited to work with the city on this project.

In total, the project will provide multiple benefits to the community, including an additional 44,000,000 gallons of water, fire protection through helicopter water access, and watershed and sensitive habitat conservation.

The Mendocino County Water Agency is a special district that encompasses all of Mendocino County and is governed by the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors sitting as the board of directors, and administered by the Mendocino County Executive Office.



"So I'm not super excited about the to give \$3,000 one-time payments to idea of just unloading Perkins River full-time county employees. Part-time Access because it does have some real county employees working 20-47 hours opportunities," she continued. "If the per pay period will get a \$1,500 bonus. City of Ukiah is willing to take it on then The money for those payments I understand that, I would be grateful for is coming out of the \$16.8 million in that. But also we, in my opinion, should federal American Rescue Plan Act not be so shortsighted to just lose these money the county was allotted and opportunities. Especially when larger began receiving last year. conversations about inland tourism opportunities are happening like the New cannabis manual

Great Redwood Trail, like the Russian River confluence, and like what needs lengthy discussion about an item to to happen at Lake Mendocino.' approve a new cannabis grant program

Fourth District Supervisor Dan Gjerde and accompanying manual meant disagreed with this assessment, saying to assist those seeking annual state that there were more important priorities permits than parks for the county to focus on. The Local Jurisdiction Assistance

"I know this is going to sound a little Grants Program is funded by the state, coldhearted, but we have 300 miles and the county was awarded \$17.5 of county paved roads that we know million in January 2022 to help with will never be repaved unless there's those attempting to transition to annual a funding stream that we don't have cannabis licenses. right now," he said. "We have 300 miles that will be paved, 300 miles that won't be paved.... How can we maintain the pretense that we're going to keep

these five or six county parks that are basically neighborhood parks? "I think we need to set a schedule where in the next two to three years, a certain date and point in time, they will County. be offloaded," he continued. "We will put them on the open market if no nonprofit steps forward, if no community services district steps forward.... I think it's not realistic to maintain this in our

portfolio. We've got 65 parcels that the county owns, 65 different properties. We have to have a strategy to unload some of those 65 properties, and those six parks are among the 65 that have to be unloaded."

Haschak dissenting. According to the budget report from the county's fiscal team, a "Parks Needs Assessment" showed that \$7.6 million is currently needed to address "critical and safety needs" at various county parks, though some grant money will likely help with this.

what they felt were allowable uses of the LJAGP grants that should be in the manual, which ranged from permit fees and California Environmental Quality Act studies, to "grant development" and paying of cultivation taxes. However, Mendocino Cannabis

MCA gave eight suggestions for

wings or an engine."

Department Director Kristin Nevedal challenged some of MCA's assertions, saying that the state guidelines for the grant were pretty narrow in scope, and Also at the meeting, there was a that it could only cover costs related to complying with CEQA regulations.

"The grant itself is narrow, and the program manual does reflect that." said Nevedal. "So this is not a business development grant offered by the state – this is a grant to assist provisional license holders in meeting their CEQA requirements so that they can transition into an annual license at

the state level. Many of the items that have been requested by MCA are not According to the manual created by included simply because they were not the Mendocino Cannabis Department part of the grant application the county for the program, "a portion" of the \$17.5 submitted to the state, which does million "was set aside by county staff detail what we had planned to offer in

for the purpose of offering direct grants relationship to direct grants." and fee waivers to qualified provisional Nevedal said she was open license holders located within the

to discussing some of the MCA unincorporated areas of Mendocino recommendations at a future General Government Committee meeting-Third District Supervisor John where cannabis items now go for Haschak pulled the item from the discussion- to see if some may be

Consent Calendar for discussion, with allowable under state rules. concerns about the manual's lack of But she warned that sending the clarity in laying out the application LJAGP manual back to the committee process and other issues. without approval would have likely

The manual was eventually approved delayed the beginning of the application in its original form 4-1 by the board with process by a couple months, pushing it into March.

Mulheren did include in her motion that Since the manual and program were "the Mendocino Cannabis Department approved on Tuesday, Nevedal said staff prepare an application guidance she hopes that they can begin receiving document and release that to the public LJAGP applications in mid-January, and at their next public meeting, and that have "two grant award periods before that also be brought to the [General we get into the middle of summer, so Government Standing Committee] for that the funds may be utilized during more robust discussion. this summer's work season."

Celebrate 11 years of Community Radio! Friday, December 9, 2022, 6pm-10pm Round Valley Library Commons Featuring: Live music from Soul Circus, Silent Auction, Food & Drinks for Sale

The rest of From page 2 Radio

COVID safety. Do not attend the event if you or anyone in your household are experiencing, or have recently experienced, fever, cough, or shortness of breath.

This event is sponsored through generous contributions from Keith's Family Foods, M&M Feed and Supply, and Round Valley Auto Care. Event and silent auction contributors include North Coast Brewing Company, Barra Wine, Vichy Springs Resort, Benbow Inn, Little River Inn, Frey Vineyards and Husch Vineyards.

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