

Willits Weekly

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Online & Print

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits
Donations Accepted Edition No. 482 **Thursday, December 15, 2022**



County cannabis office has moved to Willits

Forrest Glyer
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

The main office of the Mendocino County Cannabis Department officially moved from Ukiah to Willits last month, and Director Kristin Nevedal is hopeful that the move to a location with a larger space to allow for increased staffing will help to more quickly and efficiently process permits and grants for applicants.

The new space for
Read the rest of **County**
Over on page 13

2021 Crop Report doesn't include cannabis value

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

In a memo accompanying the presentation of the 2021 Crop Report to the county board of supervisors on Tuesday, the Mendocino County Department of Agriculture explained why the 2021 report did not include an estimated value for cannabis.

The 2020 Crop Report was presented to the board in March this year, and was issued with a separate memorandum on cannabis, that estimated a gross "combined production value" of \$131,426,125

Read the rest of **Value**
Over on page 6



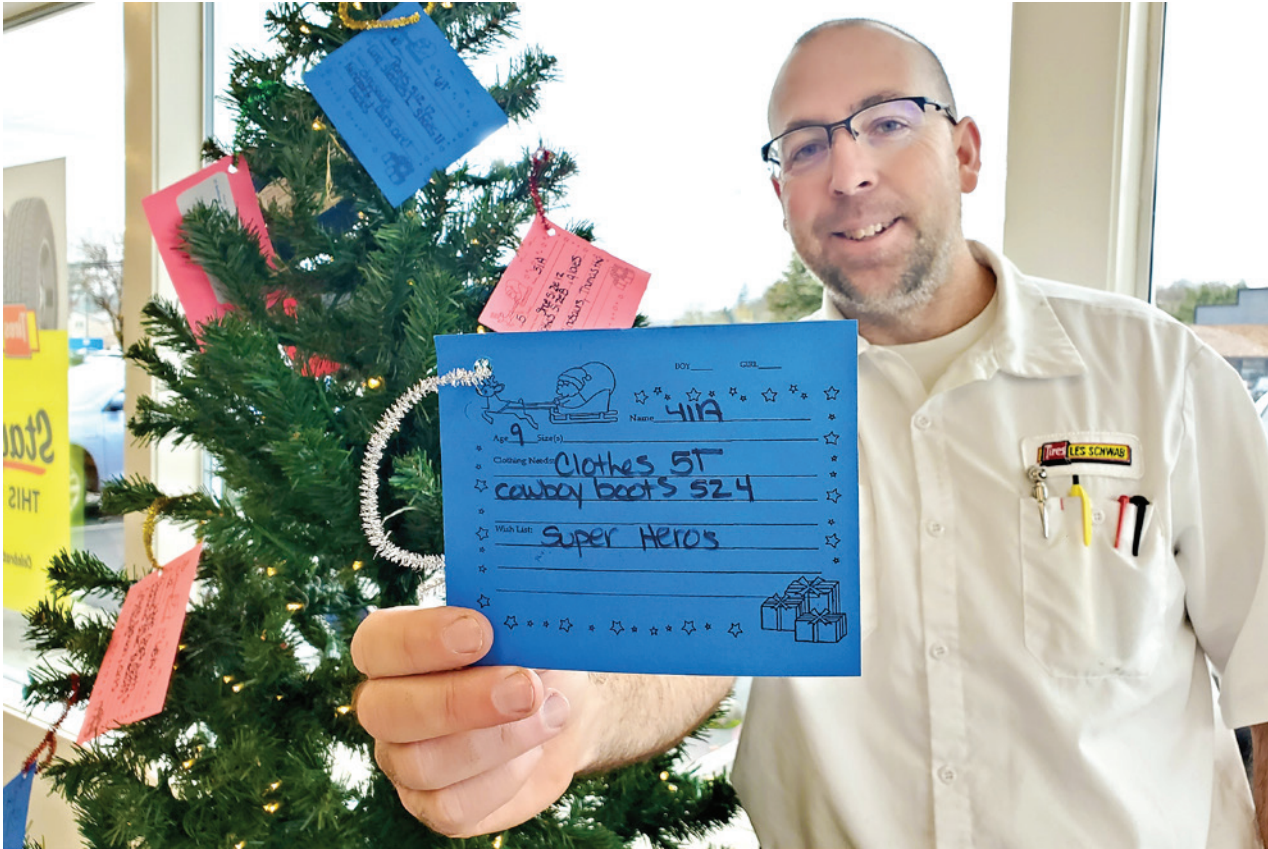
Winter Break

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.

Thanks to readers, contributors and advertisers for all your support throughout the year!



Above, from left: A drop box sits near a festive Christmas tree at Coast Hardware. This tag on the tree at Howard Memorial Hospital requests a bike with training wheels for its recipient. The tree at J.D. Redhouse is full of tags for boys and girls. Below: Les Schwab's store manager Paul Harris holds a tag from the store's tree asking for super hero gifts and 5T clothes for its recipient.



Christmas for the kids

Willits Christmas Program needs help fulfilling the requests for gifts to give this holiday season

It's down to the final days for helping the Willits Christmas Program volunteers fulfill the wishes of kids in need this holiday season, as the elves will be heading off to shop for any still-unclaimed tags this weekend.

Tags are still hanging on trees at Coast Hardware, Howard Hospital, J.D. Redhouse, Les Schwab and Sparetime Supply – where there are also drop off boxes, too, as well as at the Savings Bank of Mendocino County's Willits branch.

"I'm excited to be participating this year with the program," said Paul Harris, new store manager for Willits Les Schwab. "I've participated in other holiday programs while working with Les Schwab in other cities, and was thrilled to see this program already going strong in the Willits community."

The Willits Frontier Days Juniors have already supplied stuffed stockings for each of the 220 kids on the program's referral list this year, as an addition to the tag's gift requests.

The Juniors raise money and gather gifts throughout the year to be able to fill the stockings, with over \$2,500 spent on the goodies this year.

As the tags have been filled, the elves have been wrapping and having families come pick up the gifts from their workshop, allowing families to have the presents ready to be under the tree Christmas morning just like Santa intended.

– Maureen Jennison



Photos by Maureen Jennison, Cici Winiger, Marcy Barry, Brandi Enge and Ashtan Bloomquist

Above, left: The tree at Howard Memorial Hospital is decorated with tags and ornaments galore. Above, right: Paul Harris of Les Schwab Tire Center holds some of the piles of gifts brought in to the drop box at the store. Below, left: General Manager Scott Enge stands with the mini tree at Sparetime Supply. Below, right: Kaleb Whitehurst and Xander Jennison smile near the J.D. Redhouse tree.



County workers agree on contracts

Forrest Glyer
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

After many months of negotiations, on Tuesday the county board of supervisors unanimously approved agreements with the Service Employees International Union Local 1021 and the Mendocino County Management Association to give county workers a 2% cost of living adjustment increase in 2023, an increase in the minimum wage, and some other boosts in benefits and job perks.

The SEIU Local 1021 union memorandum of understanding contract goes through June of 2023, and the Management Association contract will go through September 2023.

Representatives for both groups thanked the board and the county for approving the increases in pay, but both also indicated that they would like to renegotiate for a higher increase and other changes once the agreements run out.

The negotiations between the union and the county have been tense at times, with union representatives and county

Read the rest of **Contracts**
Over on page 6

Total ag value down 10% in 2021

By Aaron Hult, assistant agricultural commissioner

The 2021 Crop Report reports that total gross agricultural value for all commodities produced in Mendocino County in 2021 was \$200,556,316, which represents a 10% decrease compared to the 2020 value of \$222,875,410.

Wine grapes were back on top as the leading commodity, with a value of \$84,484,842, a decrease of 28.2%. Fruits and nuts combined totaled \$96,478,985, an increase of 3.9%.

Agricultural production, excluding timber, totaled \$133,427,635. Timber was the second leading commodity, with a gross "at mill" value of \$67,128,681, a 28.5% decrease over the previous year's total of \$93,855,560. Mendocino County ranked 7th in the state in timber volumes and produced roughly 4.8% of the state's total timber harvest in 2021.

The COVID pandemic still had lingering effects on the economy in general,

Read the rest of **Crops**
Over on page 6

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Logging Camp One in JDSF

To the Editor,

Camp One in Jackson State Forest is being logged. Many trees are still standing, and your action may help save them.

Many of us local folks on the coast and inland camp along this stretch of the Noyo River and have done so for many years. If you love to camp there to enjoy the fishing and swimming under fine redwood trees, then you better contact the Jackson Demonstration State Forest and Cal Fire office at 707-964-5674.

This area is part of the Redtail Timber Harvest Plan. The road into Camp One is already closed. You may wish to contact Governor Newsom and Wade Crowfoot, the California Secretary of Natural Resources. While you're at it, tell them to consult with the local tribes before they fall one more tree.

Marc Komer, Willits

Thank you

To the Editor

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our amazing community. Even during these trying times many local businesses and community members have continued to support the children in our community.

The following businesses have donated to Baechtel Grove Middle School, making it possible to hold engaging giveaways and build strong relationships between staff and students here on our campus.

Thank you to Loose Caboose Cafe, Serenity Salon, Monkey Wrench Men and Women's Wear, Willits Power, Busters Burgers, Subway, Coast Hardware, J.D. Redhouse, George's Geodes, and the Noyo Theatre. Your generosity is much appreciated.

As we continue to support one another we continue to succeed.

Christina Lawrence, librarian, BGMS

THIRD DISTRICT SUPERVISOR'S REPORT December 2022 update

By Supervisor John Haschak

The last Board of Supervisors meeting of 2022 was on Tuesday, so I thought that this would be a good time to look back at what has transpired over the year and then look forward to the New Year.

In March, CEO Carmel Angelo retired and Darcie Antle took over as Interim CEO in June. The board made some changes to the role of the board as far as overseeing department heads. Antle was named CEO later in June.

The board approved the Strategic Plan. This will provide a roadmap for the next five years. Of course, the budget will determine what routes are taken on that journey. This past year has been difficult in regards to the budget. The board needs budget numbers, and the books for '21-'22 have yet to be closed.

My goal is that we can figure out the way to get the numbers we need and create a more efficient, effective fiscal department. On the bright side, the county has settled negotiations with most of the bargaining units.

The county received over \$22 million in PG&E settlement money. Though much of the money was given to Redwood Valley and Potter Valley for their losses, the county has spent a lot of money on countywide emergency facilities and IT infrastructure, emergency medical services, and prevention and recovery. The Third District has received additional funding for fire districts, UTV side-by-side rescue vehicles, an ambulance, and fire training facilities.

Measure B funds were used to open the Crisis Residential Treatment Center in May. Since its opening, 42 clients have been served. The Behavioral Health Regional Training Center is up and running. The Dual Response Mobile Crisis program is responding to 911 calls that have a behavioral health component. In collaboration with law enforcement, mental health specialists responded to 258 clients.

Design work on the psychiatric hospital facility has begun. It will be located at 131 Whitmore Lane in Ukiah. It will take a couple of years to build and get it operational. Other programs of community education, awareness, and stigma reduction are ongoing. Suicide and substance abuse prevention events are happening throughout the county.

Creation of the water agency has taken a lot of time. Water and drought will continue to be critical issues in the county. I want a water agency that builds capacity for solving our water problems internally rather than hiring "expert" consultants from the outside.

I sponsored a water extraction and hauling ordinance which was moved forward by the board to County Counsel and the Planning Commission. It has been with County Counsel and should go before the Planning Commission in February.

Finally, the people of Mendocino County approved both Measures O (Libraries) and P (Fire protection and prevention) to better fund these needed community services. The library in Laytonville should open in early 2023.

Please reach out to me at haschakj@mendocinocounty.org or 707-972-4214.

Best wishes to you and yours during these holidays and the New Year.

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 15: Chicken a la King, Green Salad, Roll

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

Monday, December 19: Biscuits & Country Gravy, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs

Tuesday, December 20: Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Green Salad, Garlic Bread

Wednesday, December 21: Beef Enchiladas, Rice & Beans

Thursday, December 22: Stuffed Cabbage Casserole, Green Salad

Friday, December 23: Center Closed, Merry Christmas!

Monday, December 26: Baked Ham, Sweet Potato, Veggie, Roll

Tuesday, December 27: Western Bacon Burger, Baked Beans, Green Salad

Wednesday, December 28: Fish Tacos, Rice & Beans

Thursday, December 29: Pepperoni, Olive Stromboli, Green Salad

Friday, December 30: Turkey Dinner, Stuffing, Cranberry, Veggie, Roll

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.



Above, from left: Doug Voiz is a "visionary realist artist" from Nice in Lake County. Luna Zaka, Narayan Luna, and Lenee Laurin join together in Cicadian Rhythms Collective. Stan Salah displays his beautiful wood inlays from the Hudson River Valley of New York. At left: Twenty-eight vendors fill the Willits Community Center during the Holiday Craft Fair on December 9 and 10. Below: Ella Richie of Covelo sells her macramé in a booth shared with local Kelly Viss.

Photos by Mathew Caine



Holiday Craft Fair

Willits Community Center and Willits Center for the Arts host vendors selling a wide variety of creative handmade gifts

"Christmas is coming" is a phrase that strikes fear in the minds of many family members who have put off shopping until the last minute, when they think about fighting the crowds at the shops or ordering online in enough time to receive, wrap and deliver gifts.

Almost every year for the last many, the Holiday Craft Fair has provided a solution to Christmas angst with a gathering of mostly local vendors who proffer their goods, artwork, crafts and foods to the public. This year, shoppers braved the rainy day to come out, shop, and have amiable conversations with the vendors, who are always willing to educate as to their methods and materials.

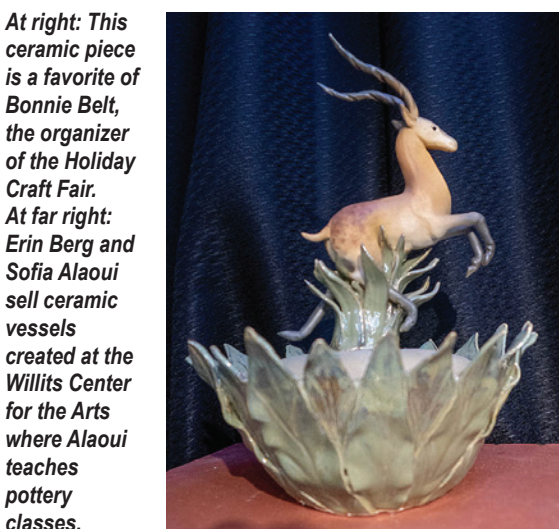
This year, on December 9 and 10, the Craft Fair was back at two locations, as it was in the pre-COVID world. Most of the 28 vendors were situated in the huge Quonset

hut of the Willits Community Center, with the remaining 10 vendors upstairs in the Great Room of the Willits Center for the Arts. The public was also invited to peruse the Small Works Show in the two downstairs galleries of the WCA.

In addition to artists vending their crafts, there was a steady stream of entertainers at both locations to enhance the Christmas mood. Twining Time's John Wagenet and Anita Blu began the rotation in the Community Center, with their folksy, mellow renditions of standards.

In the Great Room, children and adults were invited to unleash their creativity, under the watchful eye of Symba Nuruddin, in the making of Christmas cards, utilizing a plethora of materials, including musical scores and gold leaf.

Read the rest of Crafts | Over on page 15





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Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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CLUES ACROSS

- Take weapons away from
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Most ancient Hindu scriptures
- Actress Lathan
- Baseball's knockout king
- British codebreaker Turing
- One who lives by disreputable dealings
- Tropical American plant
- Opposite of right
- Importance
- Monetary units
- Lawmen
- Cool!
- Affirmative answer
- Thrust horse power (abbr.)
- Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
- Muslim nobleman
- About aviation
- Scientific instrument
- Protests strongly
- Not polished
- Grab
- Alias
- Large wrestler
- Relative quantities
- One who is big and awkward

- Sunscreen rating
- Atomic #90
- Mock
- Whales
- Peoples
- A state of being unclothed
- Ottoman military commanders
- Gatherer of fallen leaves
- Norse personification of old age
- Muslim mystic
- German river
- Measuring instrument
- Have witnessed
- Disallow
- Proverb

CLUES DOWN

- Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
- The back side of the neck
- A type of imine
- Black bird
- Partner to 'Pa'
- Puts together in time
- Lucid
- Transmits genetic information from DNA to the cytoplasm
- Demonstrates the truth of
- Ancient Greek City

HOW TO SUDOKU

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

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE LOG

November 28 to December 4

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled **65 incidents** in this 7-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

November 28

9:38 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of Mill Creek Drive.

10:51 pm: AMADOR, Agustin Luna (57) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on felony charges of possession of ammunition by a prohibited person.

November 29

1:20 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 200 block of South Main Street.

November 30

11:14 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1200 block of South Main Street.

4:26 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 300 block of Creekside Drive.

4:53 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

December 1

No incidents to report.

December 2

8:11 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism near the intersection of Creekside Drive and South Lenore Avenue.

11:16 am: Officer responded to a report of vandalism in the 300 block of Creekside Drive.

1:56 pm: PATEREAU, Matthew Len (38) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of North Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 23152 VC (Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol) and on misdemeanor charges of driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.08 percent or higher.

December 3

5:57 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

December 4

12:56 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of East Oak Street.

7:15 pm: Officers initiated a theft of suspicious activity in the 1000 block of South Main Street.

Suspect in Boonville armed robbery arrested in NY

By Captain Gregory L. Van Patten for MCSO

Editor's note: In a December 13 update to a press release about an armed robbery in Boonville, the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office reported that a suspect they'd identified in that robbery, Matias Tomas Vietto, 22, of Philo, had been arrested by the New York Police Department. Vietto was arrested while attempting to travel to Argentina, and is being held pending extradition back to Mendocino County. Here is the original press release and the detailed update from MCSO:

On December 9, 2022 at 2:40 pm, Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputies were dispatched to a reported armed robbery at the Mi Esperanza Market located at 14289 Highway 128 in Boonville.

It was reported a person, possibly an adult male, had entered the business with a handgun and committed an armed robbery of a large amount of money, estimated to be \$20,000, before leaving the business on foot.

Personnel from the California Highway Patrol and California State Parks arrived approximately 13-minutes after the call had been dispatched to the deputies. They began a canvas of the immediate area for the suspect, which ended unsuccessfully.

Deputies, along with Sheriff's Office detectives, arrived and began investigations into the circumstances of the armed robbery.

Investigators learned the suspect had entered the business at approximately 2:35 pm fully clothed to include a facial covering while an adult female, 50, of Boonville, was working alone inside the business.

The suspect was openly holding a handgun downwards near their waistline.

MCSO, Search & Rescue tackles snow on Sanhedrin

Posted by Mendocino Sheriff

On December 13, the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office and Mendocino County Search & Rescue team aided the Mendocino County Information Services Department.

It was imperative that county Information Services workers reach the Sanhedrin Mountain communication repeater site (Potter Valley) to perform emergency maintenance due to a large snowstorm.

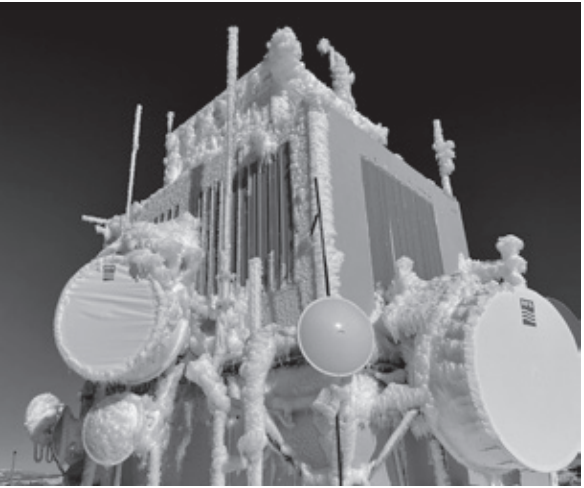
The repeater is utilized by first responders (law, fire and medical) for radio communications associated with the daily public safety services they provide.

The Sheriff's Office Sno-Cat and Search & Rescue tracked UTV were used to provide transportation through approximately 14 miles of heavy snow as standard modes of transportation (by foot or 4x4 vehicle) were not possible.

With use of the equipment and personnel from the Sheriff's Office, Search & Rescue Team, and Information Services, the emergency maintenance was completed, and no communication abilities were lost.

It was a great team effort in the interest of public safety!

Editor's Note: See a clip of the MCSO Sno-Cat on its journey here: www.facebook.com/MendocinoSheriff/videos/1468644293539214/



Photos by Mathew Caine



Above, from left: Debi McCarthy, aside from her gnome houses, has soft, furry little gifts. The New Agrarian Collective brings fresh greens, root vegetables, and Romanesco broccoli. Sienna Reno imports and sells Colombian beaded arts.

At left: With the Farmers Market being indoors, there is now a more intimate, compact space in which to shop.

At right: Reza Ghannadan of Reza's Breadery, brought three varieties of bread and two focaccias

Below, left: Charissa Franklin of Mermazing Scents makes some lightly scented and "naked" soaps that make perfect gifts for the holidays. Below, right: Katrina Weaver offers some of her handmade Appalachian baskets.

At bottom: Mic Rueb of Mulligan Gardens in Laytonville has a variety of mushrooms, seasoning gift sets, and herbs.



Winter Shopping

Willits Farmers Market now indoors at Little Lake Grange with many holiday gifts available

Michael Foley, manager of the Willits Farmers Market, has become known, by some, as the "Tetris Master," for his ability to find and assign spaces for the myriad of food and craft vendors at the now-indoor Little Lake Grange version of the market.

Mathew Caine

Features Writer

mathew@willitsweekly.com

It was no easy task, as the number of vendors had increased due to the Christmas gifting season. There were many crafters and gift vendors occupying space and providing the public with opportunities to find locally made choices to give to friends and family members.

"We're going to be here [at the grange] through December 22, each Thursday from 3 to 5:30 pm," said Foley, owner of Green Uprising Farm. "We'll be back after the holidays on January 5. Depending on the weather, we might move back outside in March. Last year we were forced to move outside in March due to asbestos abatement at the grange."

"We have a lot of craft vendors today," Foley said. "They're coming out for the Christmas season. A few hang on after the holidays. We still have some greens at the Green Uprising Farm and the New Agrarian Collective."

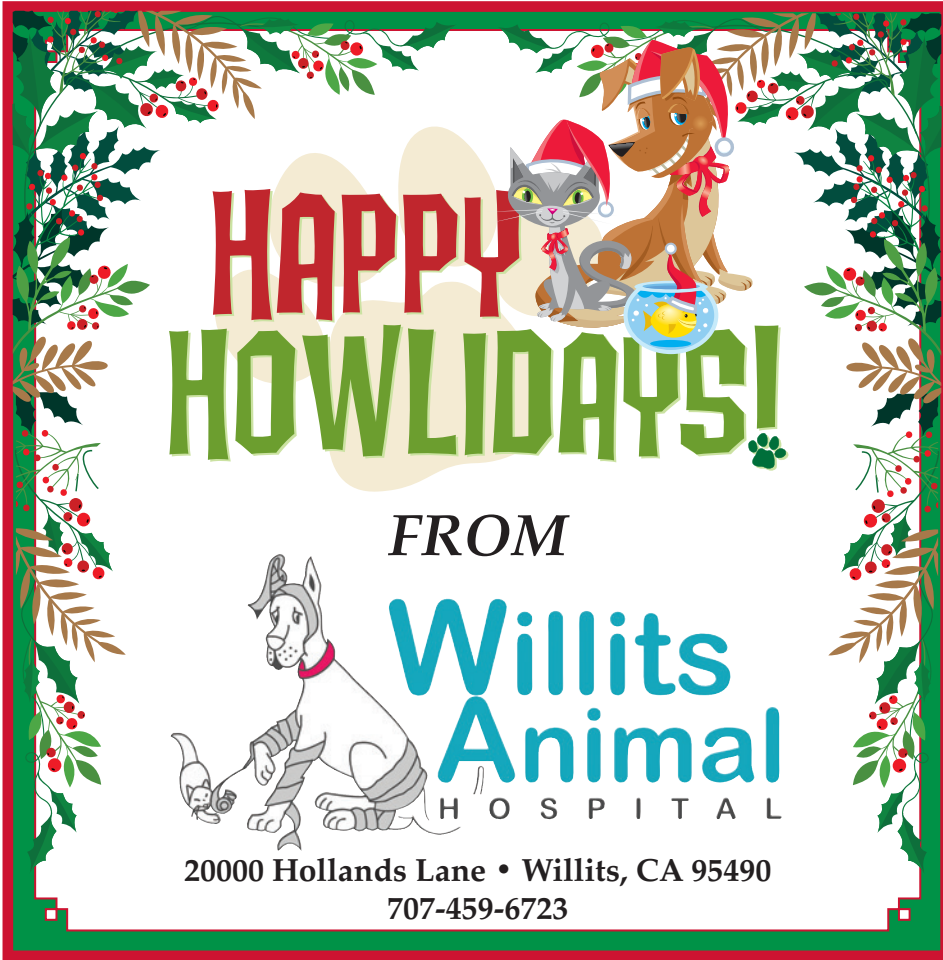
The Farmers Market makes it easy and affordable to shop with its use of wooden coins provided by the market in adherence to the Electronic Benefits Transfer program, also known as food stamps, and Market Match.

"People get the EBT instead of a physical food stamp," explained Foley. "They get a card, like a credit card. That's how their benefits are transferred to whomever they shop with. Not every

Read the rest of

Shopping

Over on page 15



workers regularly attending board meetings in recent months to talk about the need for increased pay given the high rate of inflation and the understaffed departments. Many feel they have been overworked, and that the difficulty in filling vacancies is largely due to the low pay of the positions.

In addition, union members and others have repeatedly expressed skepticism about the county's claim that they can't afford significant pay raises.

The union and county employees had been pushing for a 5% cost of living increase in their negotiations, but SEIU 1021 Field Representative Patrick Hickey said that over 90% of the union members voted to approve the offer from the county with the 2% increase.

County Deputy CEO Cherie Johnson talked about some of the details in the memorandum of understanding between the two parties.

"Yes we have reached an agreement with SEIU Local 1021," she said. "The MOU includes a 2% cost of living increase effective 1/1/2023, increase in bilingual premium, an increase in safety and shoe reimbursement, increase of minimum wage to no less than \$17.42 an hour, increase in salaries for employment in training worker and supervisor due to compaction, increase to revenue produced in classifications in the assessor's office, and no health plan premium increase for employees through June 30, 2023."

Hickey said that he and the union "appreciate the county's recent movement to help us reach an agreement for a one-year contract", but hoped that they would increase their efforts to find ways to give workers pay raises in the near future.

"We're viewing this as a one-year pause," said Hickey. "It's become evident that there's a lot of work to be done for the county and the board to get a clear handle on its finances and its budgeting process. We appreciate the steps that the county has proposed to support county staff, but I think we can all agree that it doesn't come close to covering the economic burden that employees face in the current high inflationary environment.

"We ask that this coming year the board put county employees front and center as it puts together its next budget," he continued. "Let's staff up so we can pursue all of the revenue-generating ideas that have been discussed. We want to work with the county and be able to share what a wonderful place the county is to work. We will make more progress if we pull together in the same direction.

"This obviously includes fair compensation," he added, "but there is also work to be done to make the county a supportive and enjoyable place to work. We look forward to working with you over the coming year to identify ways to make this a reality."

Board Chair Ted Williams seemed to agree that the county needed to get more clarity on its budget, and to find a way to increase pay to attract and retain workers.

"I want to express my appreciation for all those who were at the negotiations table," he said. "I don't want to go through another negotiation without the financial reporting being cleaned up. And so it's great that we have a pause, but I think it's also imperative that we support CEO [Darcie] Antle and staff in cleaning up the financial mess so that we have an easier time.

"The COLA's not nearly enough for our employees, and yet it's also going to be very difficult to afford," he added. "It's not a path forward, we've got to make some serious changes so that we can do better."

Second District Supervisor Maureen Mulheren said that she visited the county's Social Services Department recently, and was surprised by the high morale she saw from the workers there – especially compared to what she had been hearing at the board meetings.

"I was very unexpectedly surprised to hear how enjoyable they find working at the department," she said, "how many of them have been there for a very long time, how they are given leadership opportunities, the supportive team environment that they have, and just the general longevity. To hear people speak at the podium over the last six months, that was not the message that I received. But in actually speaking to the employees, I guess maybe more on their turf, they did share with me that they encourage friends or family to apply.

"It sounds like the department is doing incredible work trying to get people through the application process so they make it more streamlined for them," she added. "So I do hope that as we move forward we really are able to work collaboratively with SEIU 1021.

"So I am glad to move this forward at this point, and do hope to continue to work on our wages for county employees," she continued, "but I also really want to work collaboratively with the board members from the union and the members of the union so that we can support our existing county employees and encourage more employees to come. And I think a lot of that really really needs to come from the messaging from the union members."

County Social Services Director Bekkie Emery also expressed appreciation to the board for the salary increases, including some "pay differential" clauses specifically aimed at social services positions – essentially additional pay increases for certain work situations.

"I wanted to thank the board," said Emery. "I know that this has been a long discussion and working through the processes of recognizing the staff, and in that you have approved a differential for our social workers and social worker assistants in family and children's services. The work that they're doing is extremely complex and difficult, and it calls for extremely long hours.

"They have high caseloads, and we have experienced significant turnover as CEO Antle expressed earlier in her report," she added. "We are working on very creative ways to help fill many of our vacancies in family and children's services and this differential will certainly support that effort. And I thank you for your support of our staff in that division."

The Mendocino County Management Association also received a 2% COLA pay increase, no health plan premium increase through June of 2023, "an increase of 40 hours in flexible time off which is sunseting at the term of the contract," and "an increase in longevity" pay as part of their agreement.

Mendocino County Management Association Chair Jena Conner thanked the board for their "willingness to negotiate and have some give and take with our bargaining group to reach a mutually agreeable one year contract."

"We also wish to thank SEIU for their efforts to benefit the full workforce," added Conner. "We look forward to continuing to work with you next year, as our bargaining unit will be going into negotiations for another contract."

Public Health recommends self-attestation form

Submitted by Mendocino County Public Health

December 12 – Mendocino County Public Health is advising local schools and employers to allow people to return to work or school with a signed self-attestation form, rather than requiring a note from a doctor or health clinic when recovering from flu, COVID, or other viral illness.

This is due to a lack of provider availability to accept appointments for the sole purpose of providing return to work/school notes.

"Most people will recover in their own home from flu or COVID without a problem," Mendocino County Health Officer Dr. Andy Coren stated. "Based on my experiences as a family doctor for the last 40 years, I am recommending that schools and workplaces accept a self-attestation form when people are ready to return to work or school."

The rest of Crops From page 1

and especially on agriculture sectors. Labor and supply chain shortages were some of the biggest obstacles to overcome. Even with these hurdles, and slightly lower tonnage prices, production tons were up for both apples and pears, increasing in value by 8.4% and 14.5% respectively.

Cattle production was relatively unchanged in both the number of head and in price per unit, even as uncertainly grows with the ongoing drought and sharp increases in feed and fuel costs. Numbers were slightly up, but the overall population stayed relatively the same as projections about the availability of future forage remain uncertain. Production values were calculated to be \$17,498,400 in 2021, a 1.4% increase over the previous year.

Milk production values were not available due to the state switching over to a new Federal Marketing system. Historical values for milk production are usually between \$3 and \$4 million.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the many producers and agencies that furnish the necessary information that makes this report possible. I would also like to thank the University of California Cooperative Extension and all the members of my staff, including Juliana Parlet for her hard work, valuable input, and assistance in producing this report.

Editor's note: Those wishing to read the full 2021 Crop Report can go to the BOS agenda page <https://mendocino.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>, find the December 13 meeting, open the "Meeting Details" document, scroll down to the "Acceptance of the 2021 Mendocino County Crop Report" item, and click the link.

The rest of Manage From page 2

- Stay home at least 24 hours after there is no longer a fever or signs of a fever (without the use of fever-reducing medicine).

Know when and where to seek care

Most of the time, RSV, the flu and COVID-19 will be treatable at home, but it's important to seek medical attention in certain situations.

Pediatrician/Urgent Care: Seek care from your doctor or an urgent care clinic in these situations:

- Your child is having trouble sleeping, is unusually fussy and

The Self-Attestation form has a checklist that goes over important symptoms to monitor, and when it is appropriate to return to work or school. When monitoring symptoms, it is important to look out for the danger signs and go to the ER immediately if you see or feel: shortness of breath, dehydration (from vomiting/diarrhea) or ANY change of mental status.

Visit www.mendocinocounty.org/home/showdocument?id=54861 to find the form.

From Public Health's previously released press release, here's information about deciding when to go to the ER vs. treating at home:

At-home treatment: Treat mild cases of flu, cold, or COVID at home with plenty of fluids and supportive medications like cough medicine, Tylenol, Advil, etc. Use

local "Test to Treat" clinics, or telehealth services that prescribe the flu and COVID treatments.

Go to the Emergency Room: Go immediately if you see or feel danger signs: shortness of breath, dehydration (from vomiting/diarrhea) or ANY change of mental status.

Treatments are also available to reduce the severity of COVID or flu and make a home recovery more likely. They are available at local pharmacies, through your health provider, or at Test-to-Treat sites in the county. For more information, please see our Treatments webpage, www.mendocinocounty.org/residents/health/covid-19/medical-information-treatment.

You can also contact the Call Center at 707-472-2759 with any questions/

The rest of Value From page 1

from cultivating legal cannabis in Mendocino County in 2020. This "gross" production value didn't include "capital expenditures, labor, profits, fees, taxes, [or] other overhead costs."

But for the 2021 Crop Report, the Ag Department has declined to present an estimate, because there are too many assumptions and unknowns, and too little data, even in the legal cannabis business.

"The Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures has spent considerable time exploring ways to present the value of cannabis production for the county," the December 1, 2022 memo began. "In this effort we sent out crop report surveys, examined minimum tax as received by the county for permitted entities, and we worked collaboratively with the Mendocino Cannabis Department to understand how we might extrapolate a production value based on estimated yields based on permitted square footage for the different cultivation types.

"While we did prepare and distribute surveys to cultivators and nursery operators, participation in these surveys was extremely low (only 2 of over 1,300 surveys were returned). Compounding this dilemma is the fact that we as a county do not have access to the state's Track and Trace data, which would allow us access to manifests indicating transfers of flower, trim, and nursery plants between licensees. This data is not available through public records act requests."

After reporting more details about the difficulties the department encountered, the memo stated: "Due to the error inherent in this methodology and the lack of certainty, as well as the lack of participation in surveys, we do not feel at this time that presenting an estimated value of production is appropriate to include in the County's Agricultural Crop Report, for which other crop production values are known and more accurately reported."

The 2020 cannabis addendum from the Ag Department charted out estimated average prices of the 2020 permitted cannabis crop: \$1,500 per pound for indoor flower (4,360 pounds of it, for a total value of \$6,540,000); \$950 per pound for outdoor/mixed light flower (111,165 pounds of it, for a total value of \$105,606,750); and \$800 per pound for smalls (indoor) (1,453 pounds of it, for a total value of \$1,162,400).

Moving forward, the December 1, 2022 memo states "it will be imperative that we devise a method for collecting and presenting cannabis production values.... If the county ultimately endeavors to holistically embrace cannabis as a viable industry in the county's economy, then we must work towards accurately reporting its economic contributions to the county. This goes beyond Crop Report production values, but we feel that this recommendation will provide a foundation on which to build."

The Ag Department suggested the supervisors consider requiring "all permitted cultivators, processors, and nursery operators to provide Track and Trace data to the county Cannabis Department or Agriculture Department for the purposes of more accurately reporting cannabis production value in the county's crop report."

the home treatments above are not helping.

- Your child is tugging at their ears, or you see ear drainage.

- Your child has a fever that lasts more than three days.

- For a person of any age: Symptoms do not improve after seven days.

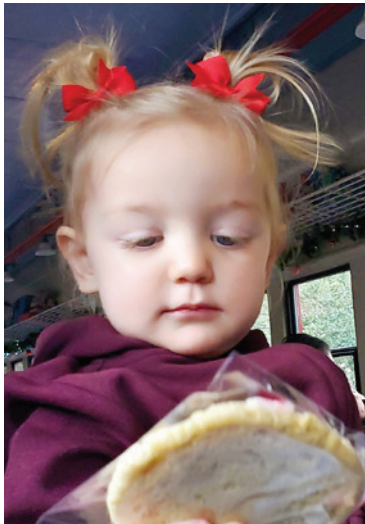
Emergency Room: Visit the ER when these symptoms are present:

- Your child has fast breathing, flaring nostrils, grunting or wheezing while breathing, belly breathing, pauses in breathing.

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.

Thanks to readers, contributors and advertisers for all your support throughout the year!



Above, from left: Maggie Jennison contemplates how fast she can eat the entire cookie handed out on the Skunk Train. The inside of the Christmas Train is decorated with packages and garland. An elf mixes up a large pot of hot chocolate, handed out before the ride. Tickets for the train are a cute keepsake of the ride. Below, left: Passing over Main Street on the Skunk Train provides a great view of the Willits Arch and a chance for waving at waiting cars. Below, right: Gracie Jennison smiles out the window of the open rail car as the Skunk Train chugs along the track.



Photos by Maureen Jennison



Choo Choo Christmas

The Skunk Train's Christmas Train offers a fun ride through the redwoods, festive songs, and sweet treats for attendees

Even if you've previously ridden the Skunk Train, in the recent past, or a long time ago, during the holiday is a great time to get back aboard and enjoy all the festiveness of the Christmas Train.

Tickets, and the current ride schedule through December 31, are available online and there's even a local rider's discount rate, too.

Included in the ticket price is a seat on the Skunk Train, cookies, hot chocolate,

a ride through the redwoods and a tunnel, live singing, and even a chance to smile with Santa Mr. Skunk.

The train also makes a stop by Santa Mr. Skunk's tree – a giant decorated redwood standing 220 feet tall – that's decorated from roots to tip with festive lights.

Log onto www.SkunkTrain.com for tickets and more information.

– Maureen Jennison



At left, from top: The train was filled with riders last weekend. Mr. Skunk's Magical Christmas Tree is decorated to the top of its 220 feet. Gracie Jennison mildly reluctantly poses with Mr. Skunk in the special rail car after her sister had a photo-less meltdown on the floor just before.

At right, top: Train Singer Greg Schindel. At right: Everyone loves a lean-out-of-the-rail-car photo. Far right: The engine moves from the front to the back of the train for the ride home.



Sherwood Support

Students offer thanks for help with fundraiser

Sherwood School's students, staff, parents and FOSSI would like to give a big shout out thanking the local businesses who donated to our annual Fall Festival raffle and event. They really helped in keeping the annual event going. The Fall Festival is the largest fundraiser of the year. The money raised goes towards enriching Sherwood School's student's education and experience.

– Submitted by Anna Rene Holleman, for FOSSI

At right: Sherwood students gather together to smile for photos thanking the fundraiser sponsors.



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Holiday ordering available!
Call ahead or just follow your nose inside our restaurant at 42 South Main Street in downtown Willits.

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707.459.5193

JOHN FORD RANCH
RANCH RAISED NATURAL BEEF

No Hormones, Pastured in Willits, California

Thursday, December 15

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 15, 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.

"All is Calm, The Christmas Truce of 1914," Willits Community Theatre: This is the last weekend for this WCT December show, the musical "All is Calm", running 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." Thursday, December 15 show is at 7:30 pm. Tickets, \$15. Visit wctperformingartscenter.org. WCT, 37 West Van Lane.

Friday, December 16

"All is Calm, The Christmas Truce of 1914," Willits Community Theatre: "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 16 show is at 7:30 pm. Tickets, \$20. Visit wctperformingartscenter.org. WCT, 37 West Van Lane.

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.

New Years Eve BINGO

Harrah Senior Center
Time: 5:30 –9:00
Date: December 31, 2022
Door Opens at 5:00 pm
Start Time: 6:00 pm
\$30.00 Dollars Buy-In
(Includes Meal and 1 Pack)
Additional Bingo Packs \$10 each
or 2 for \$15
Guarantee \$100.00 BLACK OUT

501 Baechtel Road Willits, Ca 95490 707-459-6827

The Blosser Bears Theatre Club Presents

THE REINDEER REBELLION

Winter Variety Show

Directed by Robert Ford
Musical Direction by TinaMarie Spagnolo Silveira

Teacher Advisor: Mrs. Tessa Ford
Assistant Directors: Aria Eva Silveira & Natasha Steele
Stage Manager: Allegra Rose Silveira
Student Assistant to Mr. Ford: Anders Hinton
Student Assistant to Mrs. Silveira: Bronah Bellow
Special Guest Assistant: Adagia "Gigi" Jordan Silveira

Technical Production by
The Opposum Collective & Hillside Music Studio
Reindeer Rap stick bears dropped by Jurek Ford

December 15, 2022 at 6pm

Blosser Elementary School Auditorium
Mrs. Nancy Runberg, Principal
1257 Blosser Lane, Willits, CA

What's Happening Around Town

Saturday, December 17

"All is Calm, The Christmas Truce of 1914," Willits Community Theatre: "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." Saturday, December 17 show is at 7:30 pm. Tickets, \$20. Visit wctperformingartscenter.org. WCT, 37 West Van Lane.

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 including 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 Grateful Dead).

Gilmour Project. For the opening act we have the talented Kara Cavanaugh." Saturday December 17, 8 pm. Tickets, \$35 in advance available at eventbrite.com, \$40 at the door. Ages 18 and over. BACE, 109 North Main Street.

Blue Luke & Friends at Shanachie Pub: "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 harmonies of jazz to create exactly what you've always wanted to hear. Blue Luke brings the blues guitar into the modern world in a way that satisfies our ears, eyes, and soul!" Saturday, December 17, 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

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 School Street.

"All is Calm, The Christmas Truce of 1914," Willits Community Theatre: The final show of the WCT December musical "All Is Calm".

Skunk Train Christmas Tree Train

Willits Depot
"Climb aboard a newly imagined Christmas experience out of Willits! You'll enjoy reindeer games, Christmas carols, seasonal treats and decor on a wonderful journey through the redwoods to Mr. Skunk's Giant Christmas Tree, a decorated redwood along the line, which also serves as the workshop for Santa Mr. Skunk. Back at the Willits Depot, you can climb aboard one of the historic 'Skunk' motorcars to meet Santa Mr. Skunk in person, and take a photograph. Make your holiday season truly special with this unique Christmas experience in the redwoods!" Multiple trains run out of Willits on weekends through December 18, and then daily for the rest of the month, except for Christmas and Christmas Eve. Tickets are \$59.95, and \$94.95 for VIP. Visit www.skunktrain.com/magical-christmas-train for schedule and tickets. Willits Skunk Train Depot, 299 East Commercial Street.

Willits Center for the Arts Kids Afterschool Mixed Media Weekly Workshop

"Weekly Mixed Media Workshop for kids. Afterschool at the WCA. 8 weeks, \$225, starts January 10, Tuesdays, 4:30 to 5:30 pm. Introduction to watercolors, pastels, and color pencil techniques. Create beautiful and fun paintings, learn new art skills, and take home a complete project after each class. Children 6-16 years old." WCA.

"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." Sunday, December 18 show is at 2 pm. Tickets, \$20. Visit wctperformingartscenter.org. WCT, 37 West Van Lane.

Tuesday, December 20,

Community Solstice Sing for Peace, 5 pm by Zoom: "Joyful singing! Hosted by Inland Valley Women's Chorus with guest leaders including Marianne Barlow, Diana Strong, Don Willis & Betsy Wise. Join us in singing old and new songs of the season and songs of peace, hope, and light. People of all ages, voices, and traditions are invited to sing along. This is our 24th annual free community Solstice event – the third one by Zoom." The Zoom link is tinyurl.com/Solstice-Sing-12-20-22. For more information, contact Midge Strong, mstrong@willitsonline.com or (707) 459-1493. Tuesday, December 20, 5pm.

Wednesday, December 21

Winter Solstice Spiral Dance: Benefit for the Little Lake Grange. "Celebrating the return of light. Our midwinter's tale: The Rebirth of the Sun by Starhawk. Drums, songs, stories, candles, spiral dance! Suggested donation of \$5-10, children free." Wednesday, December 21, 6:30 pm. Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street.

Community Harvest Potluck & Jam

Willits Grange
291 School St

Sunday, December 18
4-7pm Dinner @ 5

All Welcome!!
Bring a Dish If you Wish, Share some Time, Make a Friend, Sing a Song.

Donations accepted for the Grange

'Hot Winter's Night,' Willits High School, December 15

Willits High School's Visual and Performing Arts Department is proud to present "Hot Winter's Night" on Thursday, December 15 in the Allen Garcia Auditorium at 7 pm. Come enjoy an evening of music, art, drama, dance and poetry.

The Leadership class is hosting a delicious Soup Dinner in the Wolverine Cafe the same evening from 5 to 6 pm. Soup, salad, bread and a drink – all for \$10. We hope you can join us!

Weekly Events at the Willits Library
Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or 459-5908.

All the branch libraries in Mendocino County close for the holiday on Friday, December 23 at 2 pm, and reopen on Wednesday, January 4, 2023.

Writer's Block Group: The Willits Library's first creative writing group,

Wednesdays, from 5 to 6:30 pm. For beginning writers or those suffering from writer's block. "Open to young-adult and adult writers to share their ideas and writings in an environment of supportive and creative suggestions and feedback." Coordinated and hosted by Librarian Benjamin MacBean. Willits Library meeting room.

Spinning & Knitting: Every Saturday at the library from 1 to 4:30 pm. "All skill levels welcome! Spinning circle 1 to 2 pm, Knitting circle 2 to 4:30 pm."

Open Source Design, Artistic Expression, and Engineering Club: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3 to 4:30 pm. "Open to everyone with an interest in open source and everyone who wants to develop their creative and engineering skills."

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

Games at the Library: First and third Fridays of the month, 4 to 5:30 pm. "Calling all board, card and tabletop role-playing game players! All ages and player levels welcome. Bring your own games to add to the fun!"

Mendocino County Museum "History Makers: Correspondence": The final day for the December "History Makers" series, 1 to 3 pm. December's History Makers will explore the tradition of letter writing. Staff will read stories and share letters and postcards from the museum's collection followed by a take-and-make greeting card activity. Participants are also invited to use our old-fashioned typewriter or try their hand at using a quill and ink." Visit www.mendocinocounty.org/museum. Wednesday, December 21, 1 to 3 pm. Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street.

Thursday, December 22

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly Farmers Market at the Little Lake Grange – the last market of the year. 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 15, 3 to 5:30 pm, at the Grange, 291 School Street. Farmers Market will take a break December 29, then be back at the Grange on January 5.

"Go Tell It on the Mountain" at the Willits Community Theater: "Go Tell It on the Mountain is a winter-theme holiday variety show featuring performances by Willits children and youth, and will play at WCT on December 22 and December 23 at 7 pm. Highlights include choir, solo and ensemble performances by performers aged 5 to 25, along with sketches, readings of winter stories, and dance. Participating in the show are The Blosser Bears Theatre Club and Holiday Choir, and WCT Theatre Youth. The show is directed by TinaMarie Silveira and produced by Robert Ford." Thursday, December 22, 7 pm. WCT, 37 West Van Lane in Willits.

Helene Eve at Shanachie Pub: "Singer/Songwriter/Guitarist Helene Eve plays eclectic styles of music on vocals and guitar. Bluesy, jazzy, funky, contemporary pop, country, folk and many originals, a variety of styles all in one night. Helene used to have a band called Eve and the Mystics, and also previously played rhythm guitar and vocals in a band called the Scorchers. Working solo, she plays an interesting variety of music in many moods." Thursday, December 22, 7 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

Shanachie Pub New Year's Eve Party with the Stevie Cornell Trio

"Bring in the New Year with Stevie Cornell and his band. Stevie is a singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist whose roots go back to the vibrant East Bay punk scene of the 1970s and a band called the Young Adults. His eclectic approach to music is a result of the many twists and turns his musical journey has taken. But through it all he's stayed true to the idea that you can say it all in a tight three minute song." Visit steviecornell.com/home. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

Shanachie Pub Ongoing Events
Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street

Open Mic Night: Every Wednesday. Sign up for the lottery for 20-minute time slots from 3 pm, when the Pub opens, to 7:30 pm. Music starts at 8 pm. "An eclectic array of local musicians and performers from around the world, often turning into an evening full of unexpected surprises."

Saturday Scramble: Every 2nd and 4th Saturday from 3 to 6 pm, Tyler B hosts a Saturday Scramble. You're invited to bring any instrument you can play and sign up for a 'band' to perform a 15-minute set with other local musicians. Meet new musicians, discover new genres and explore your creativity!"

Tyler Grass & The Sherwood Mountain Boys! "Come check out this new event every first and third Thursday evening of the month at 7 pm, with some of our favorite locals playing bluegrass & more! The next show will be Thursday, December 15, 7 pm.

Friday, December 23

"Go Tell It on the Mountain" at the Willits Community Theater: "This holiday season WCT will present Go Tell It On The Mountain, a winter themed, holiday variety show, featuring children and youth from the community." See Thursday listing for more details. Friday, December 23, 7 pm. WCT, 37 West Van Lane in Willits.



Forrest & Friends at Shanachie Pub: A "night before Christmas Eve" holiday celebration, with Forrest Glyer and fellow schindigger Malakai Schindel, two of the founding members of the popular band Schindig. These two will be joined by several local musicians for this monthly event with an emphasis on the Singer-Songwriter style, but open to all forms of musical expression. Friday, December 23, 8 pm.

Saturday, December 24

Happy Night Before Christmas to you all!

Sunday, December 25
Merry Christmas!



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

GET READY

Willits High, Sanhedrin High & Willits Charter
Senior formal photos
January 18, 19 & 20, 2023

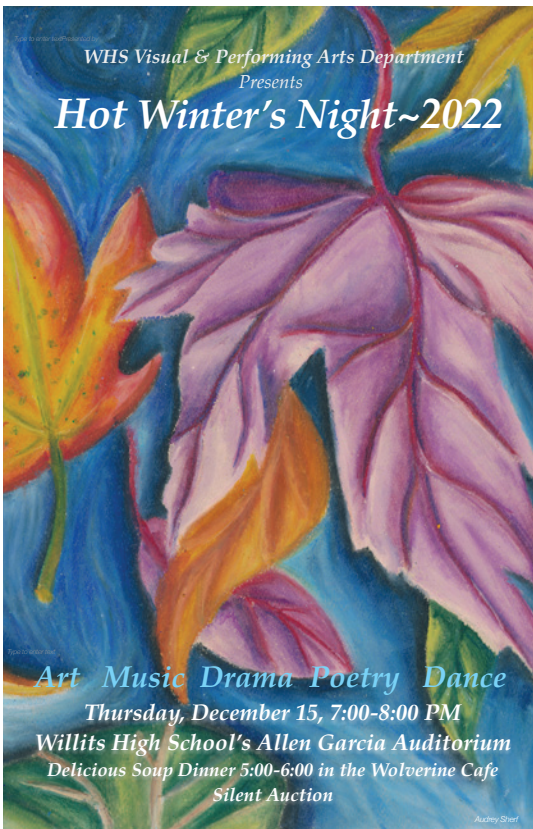
with photography by
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NOYO THEATRE Willits, CA

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

Starts Friday, Dec. 23: BABYLON

Movie Times for December 16 thru December 22



New Year's Eve Bingo at Harrah Senior Center
Come celebrate the New Year with a Bingo Bash at the Willits Senior Center. Doors open at 5 pm, game starts at 6 pm. \$30 buy-in, includes meal and 1 pack; additional bingo packs \$10 each or 2 for \$15. Willits Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. 707-459-6827.

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

'The Banshees of Inisherin'

The Story: Very Irish comedy/drama written and directed by Martin McDonagh. It's morning on the island of Inisherin in 1923. Pádraic (Colin Farrell) shares a cottage with his highly literate sister Siobahn (Kerry Condon). He has a wee donkey that follows him around like a dog.

Pádraic heads to the house of his lifelong best buddy Colm (Brendan Gleeson). Every day at about the same time the two of them go to the pub. It's like a ritual. Heck, it is a ritual. Everyone on the island knows these two, and knows they are best buddies.

But this morning, for reasons unspoken and unknown, Colm says to Pádraic: "Don't talk to me. We ain't friends anymore." Colm is stubborn and tight-lipped, and Pádraic is heartbroken. And so, this story of a broken friendship begins with a mystery. The whys and wherefores are subtle, but they gradually become clear. Even profound.

My Thoughts: I loved this movie, and wish you all would go see it on the big screen. Then we could talk about it without spoilers. This flick is worth discussing. It's a story of human motivations. Of life and death, love and loss and loneliness. And of bitterness.

It's also really and truly funny. I won't be doing any spoiling beyond telling you all that the Irish landscape is spectacularly beautiful. Also, the acting, both comedic and dramatic, is going to win prizes.

Parents: Flick is rated R, and it really is a movie for adults

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

The Willits Center for the Arts presents the "Members Small Works Show"

"The WCA presents works by 30 artists, members of the Art Center, who are displaying paintings, sculpture, fabric arts, handmade ornaments, and more. Come by the art center to see the show and find one-of-a-kind holiday gifts for friends and loved ones." Regular hours for the show are Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays at the WCA from 11 am to 5 pm. Info: willitscenterforthearts.org. or 459-1726. WCA, 71 East Commercial Street.

'Go Tell It on the Mountain' at the Willits Community Theater

Thursday and Friday, December 22 and 23
"This holiday season WCT will present 'Go Tell It on the Mountain,' a winter themed, holiday variety show, featuring children and youth from the community, directed by TinaMarie Silveira, and produced by Robert Ford. 'Go Tell It on the Mountain' will feature choral, solo, and small ensemble performances, winter stories, and dance. Performers include Natasha Steel, Jennifer Steel, Desa Holt, Dee Ora Fredricey, Miles Mattson, James Mattson, Bronach Bowles, Adagia Jordan Silveira, Alithia Gallups, Scarlet Berumen, Sienna Berumen, Ella Fitzpatrick, Andante Joseph Silveira, Rory Silveira, Oz Montelongo Medina, and the Blosser Bears Theatre Club. Admission is by donation and people can reserve their seats on www.wctperformingartscenter.org. WCT, 37 West Van Lane in Willits.

'Ukiah On Ice'
Open daily through January 15 at the Alex Thomas Plaza

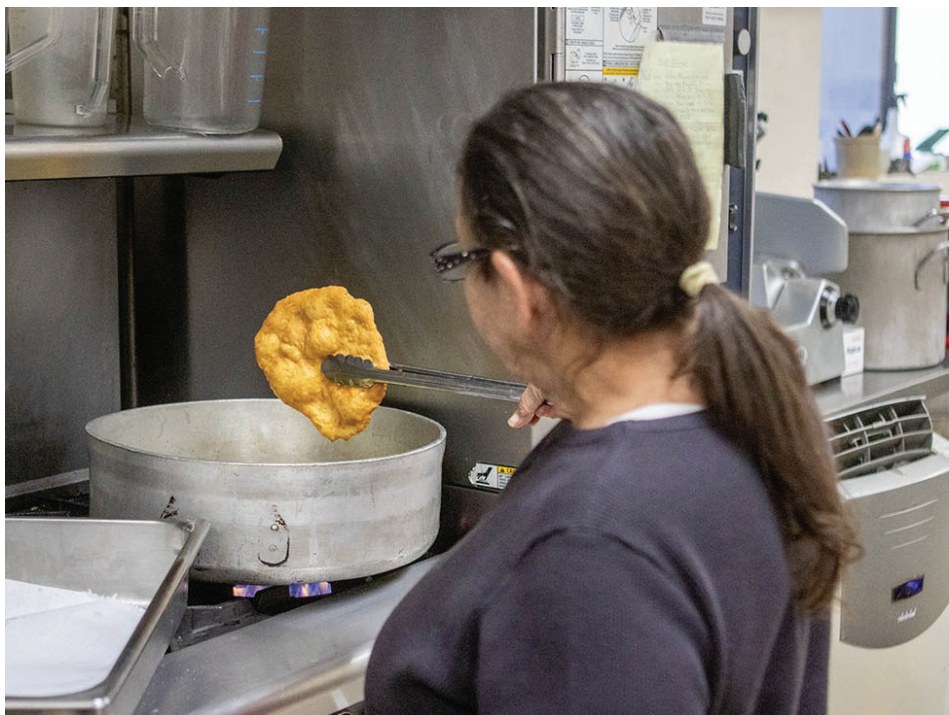
"'Ukiah on Ice,' the area's seasonal outdoor ice-skating rink, will be open daily through Sunday, January 15. The cost is just \$10 per skater and there will be a full concession stand open. Contact the City of Ukiah at 707-463-6231 for more info, to book a private party, or inquire about other special events. Alex Thomas Plaza, 310 South State Street, Ukiah. For additional information, including operating times and prices, please see cityofukiah.com/ukiahonice/.



Photo courtesy of Black Oak Ranch



Above, left: In times past, the cook house was used to bake Christmas cookies for many local businesses. Above, right: A delicious fry bread taco is piled with beans, ground beef, cheese, sour cream, and other assorted toppings. At right: A sign in front of the Senior Center helps to direct people to the door where they can order and receive their fry bread tacos. Below: Tree pulls the first attempt at fry bread, although this one shows that the oil was a bit too hot. At right, bottom left: Fry bread aficionado Laura Corben looks forward to consuming her taco. At right, bottom right: Missy forms the fry bread prior to placing it in the oil.



The fry bread taco crew smiles for the camera: Irie, Missy, Tree, Cindy and Ramon, back.

Hog Farm Cookhouse

Fry bread tacos sold to raise money to rebuild kitchen at Laytonville's Black Oak Ranch

The Black Oak Ranch is home to fiercely independent, artistic and personable remnants of the back-to-the-landers who immigrated to Mendocino County in the 1970s. In this enclave, founded by Woodstock luminary Wavy Gravy, life is what they make it, slow and communal, a place of festivals, gatherings, children's camps, and symposiums.

Until this year, Black Oak Ranch, a few miles north of Laytonville, was host to the three-day Kate Wolf Festival, where some of the most recognizable names in folk and local bands would play in the well-attended venue.

Camp Winnarainbow, in the summer, gives kids a creative experience in a circus setting. The ranch is a rental facility with two main venue areas, which is utilized by an eclectic group of organizations.

It is a colorful place with colorful residents and colorful names. "Wavy loves making names for things," said Laura Corben. "The person that greets you at the camp was called 'Mat Welcome,' who went by different stage names like 'Al Dente.' There's a giant fork that says 'fork in the road.'"

When the venues are not being rented, the ranch is still occupied by about 15 full-timers, who gather for communal meals at what used to be the cookhouse, the oldest building at the complex, where

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



Photos by Mathew Caine



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2022 Holiday Trolley



NOVEMBER 25TH-DECEMBER 24TH

THURSDAY & FRIDAY
Beginning at 3 pm and running every hour until 5 pm

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
Beginning at 12 pm and running every hour until 6 pm

Lunch break 3-4 pm
Saturday and Sunday
December 3rd the Holiday Trolley will run limited service 12 pm to 2:45 pm. It will be participating in the Parade of Lights

TROLLEY ROUTE

El Azteca Restaurant

Friedman's Home Improvement

Alex Thomas Plaza

Savings Bank

Hole in the Wall

Slam Dunk Pizza

Pear Tree Shopping Center

Alex Thomas Plaza

El Azteca Restaurant

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Smooching Gemma

Who's that beautiful girl you ask? Let us introduce you! This eye catcher is sweet Gemma. Gemma is just under a year and looking for her forever family. She wants nothing more than to please her people and smother them with kisses. Gemma spent some time in a foster family who worked with her on her manners, potty training, and crate training. Don't miss your chance to meet her!

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.

Cuddly Pumpkin

Pumpkin came to us on the skinnier side, so he is lapping up all the food we have to offer in order to get him back to a healthier weight. This beautiful 4-year-old boy just loves to be close to you, whether it is sitting on your lap, getting head scratches, or being held, this guy likes it all.

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 Pumpkin or our other canine and feline guests. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendoanimalshelter.com.

Cheerful Dr. Bailey

The doctor is in! Dr. Bailey, that is! This fun and friendly 2-year-old loves people and wants to please. He's good on leash. He pulls a bit, but that's something you can work on together. He loves fetch, is food-motivated, and even knows some commands. He gets along very well with other dogs. Dr. Bailey would be

Read the rest of **Cookhouse** From page 10

meals are prepared, and neighbors talk.

"About three weeks ago, our main kitchen house burned down," said Cindy Petti, a longtime resident and de facto director. "We don't know how it happened. We think it was bad wiring. The inspectors have come. The insurance people have come. They couldn't really determine the cause, but they think maybe it was bad wiring or a mouse got into the wiring.

"It just happened in the middle of the night," Petti said. "One of our partners was up inside in the middle of the night. The dog just started barking and barking and jumping on his owner to wake him up. He got up and saw that the cookhouse was on fire." The residents managed to limit the fire, mostly to the building itself, but the damage was done.

Knowing that the insurance will probably not cover the entire replacement cost of the building, several residents and friends have set up a GoFundMe account and are raising funds in various means.

One of these fundraisers took place on Saturday, December 3, when the Willits Harrah Senior Center generously opened their kitchen so that the participants could create and sell fry bread tacos, a traditional native meal, consisting of a deep-fried bread, usually with a mixture of beans, lettuce, beef (or other meat), onions, etc. filling the small crevices formed during the process.

This was mostly a drive-up event, where people could come to the kitchen door and order the tacos with whatever

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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

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best-suited in a home with older kids, only due to his size and wagging tail that could hurt a small child.

Dr. Bailey is a jolly, jovial fellow, fairly Lab-like in size and temperament, and easy going like an American Staffordshire terrier. Huggable and a lot of fun!

To learn more about Dr. Bailey 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.

Furry Friends Hoping for a Home

fillings they chose, or just the tasty bread by itself.

"The cookhouse that burned down is used for a lot of entertaining," Petti continued. "At Thanksgiving, we can have 70 to 100 people there. It's not that big but people come, and we eat outside.

"Over the years, many, many people have been able to come and share in the property," said Petti. "It's really a great pleasure to have this large property that we can share with everybody." Additionally, the cookhouse was utilized to bake Christmas cookies which were shared with many local businesses.

The cookhouse, affectionately known as the "White House," was "the central kitchen / dining room for the entire Black Oak Ranch community and friends," per the venue's website. "It was where we held all family dinners, holidays and meetings for the last 37 years! The White House was the hearth and heart of the Hog Farm and central to the way of life we have diligently worked to sustain. There was always room for one more at the White House dinner table, and we aim to make it that way again. We are planning to rebuild this community asset."

For more information or to contribute to the GoFundMe account for the rebuilding of the White House, visit www.blackoakranch.com. Checks can be made out to: Black Oak Ranch LLC and mailed to: Black Oak Ranch, PO Box 5035, Berkeley, CA 94705. The denizens of the Black Oak Ranch ask that people only contribute if they are in a position to be generous.

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John Ford Ranch Beef
John Ford Ranch still has the 50 lb. Rancher's Choice Box for \$325.00 and the 25 lb. Hamburger Box for \$150.00. Please contact Debbie Arkelian @ 459-5049.

For Sale
Commercial refrigerator Atosa Model MBF8005, Temp.33-45 F, Energy Star. Good condition \$800. Commercial oven Bakers Pride Cyclone series propane Energy Star. Excellent condition \$1000. 459-2152

RV/Trailer Space for Rent
Space for RV's and Trailers \$425 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 972-4696. See at <http://www.oakvine.net/p>

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: wrlbaseball1952@gmail.com
Phone: 707.841.7651



Coaches and Umpires Needed, please inquire



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Juvenile Corrections Officer
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Program Administrator
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Willits Weekly | December 15, 2022 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Pg. 11



At left: The City of Willits decorates Main Street with festive wreaths made of lights. Below: The Mendocino County Museum presents a lovely show of lights this holiday season. At right: A graceful reindeer pulls a gift-filled sleigh.



Above, left: A jolly Santa sits high up on a Willits neighborhood roof. Above, right: An angel with a trumpet oversees a Willits neighborhood. Below, left: Reindeer pause to enjoy a holiday night in Willits.



Above: Polar Bear enjoys the elf teeter-totter in a light-festooned eastside yard. Below, left: Snoopy and Charlie Brown celebrate their humble tree. Below, right: Three green-lit trees help decorate the Chamber of Commerce for the holiday season.

Photos by Margi Gomez Guhde

Hometown holiday lights celebrate the season

As in many places, Willits celebrates the Christmas season and the coming of longer days with festive holiday decorations, especially with the twinkling lights that can turn a cold winter's night into a creative and magical holiday experience.

Businesses and families all over town have created and shared unique displays, turning a labor of love for their community into an inspiring gift for neighbors and passersby, and bringing a bright and beautiful Christmas present for all of us.

Margi Gomez Guhde
Features Writer
margie@willitsweekly.com

The rest of Shopping

From page 5

farmer / vendor can have a machine to read the cards, so we have the market manager with a machine where they can swipe their card and we give them their EBT benefits in one-dollar round chips. They can only be used for food.

"Then, there is something called Market Match," he said, "which is a different program, partly funded by the federal government and partly funded by our own Good Farm Fund and is only good for fruits and vegetables. It matches the EBT dollars up to \$30, so someone could come in here with only their EBT card and get \$60 worth of food. It's good for the market, being about a fourth of our sales."

In addition, Foley now has a credit card reader for those who don't have cash with them. They are given a voucher to be used at any of the vendors.

Many of the favorite vendors are back. Michelle Costa, with her Mendo Ferments,

consisting of sauerkraut, kimchee, ginger-turmeric power shots, fermented hot sauce, kombucha, jeon, and all things fermented which are good for the digestion as well as the palate.

Felix offered his variety of mild to sizzling hot salsas. Mediterranean Delights had Middle Eastern and Turkish sweets, including the popular baklava. Mic Rueb, of Mulligan Gardens in Laytonville, had his brother Ben's mushrooms and gift sets of home-grown herbs and seasonings. Denise Bartolomei had various balsamic reductions, oil, and olives to sell.

Reza Ghannadan of the extremely popular Reza's Breadery brought three types of boules: Seedalicious (with poppy, sesame, sunflower, pumpkin, and fennel seeds), Blueberry Lemon Zest, and Khorasan (an ancient 9,000-year-old grain). In addition, he brought tomato-garlic-rosemary and gorgonzola caramelized-onion focaccias. Ghannadan is taking orders for his Christmas stollen at rezasbreadery@gmail.com.



Above: Joshua and Dorothee Schaefer stand next to the KMUD booth, where they did a remote broadcast. At right: Anita Blu and John Wagenet of Twining Time perform at the Holiday Craft Fair.

Photos by Mathew Caine

The rest of Crafts

From page 3

The Willits Charter School students offered an array of homemade eats in the Community Center with a menu that included, in addition to the hefty selection of baked goods and sweets, quiche, lasagna, salad, chicken and white bean chili, beef chili, soup, meatloaf, veggie sandwiches, and a variety of drinks.

Most of the vendors have been seen in the past years with some new additions to the slate. Doug Volz, a longtime Willits resident who recently moved to Nice, returned with a selection of visionary arts.

"I'm a visionary realist oil painter," explained Volz. "Some visionary arts have an almost cartoon-like way to express the vision that they see, especially in a meditative state. I see the painting finished. Other people, when doing art sometimes, build it up as they're going along. My whole orientation is to try and make the painting look as much like the vision I received."

Lenee Lauren of Cicadian Rhythms, shared a booth with her friends, Luna Zaka and Narayan Luna, artists who create fabric designs and coloring books. "These days, I call myself a 'Woman of the Woods,' living solo on 80 acres, off the grid in the hills of Mendocino County with my amazing dog, Amadou, and sassy cat, Violet (I left out 'my' intentionally, 'cause does anyone ever really own a cat?!). Cicadas represent a lot of things, but their rhythms in nature are unique. And I resonate with that in a multitude of ways," said Lauren.

Wolfgang Ronnefeldt was back with his partner, Karen Gridley. His Mendocino Medicinals, healing salves and tinctures, are gaining an international following over the internet. Gridley, known for her colorful pot holders and bags, is considering discontinuing the bags, which made them sell even faster.

Stacie Dunlap of Dream Hippie Creations offered handmade bath products, candles and jewelry, which she was known for selling at the Willits Farmers Market, along with her selection of plant starts, which will again be available in the spring.

Gregg Lindsley, once again, brought his Earth and Fire Pottery, which included sauerkraut and kimchee crocks. Anne Vander Horck brought her handmade dolls and other traditional craft yarn specialties. Donna d'Terra was showing her handcrafted paper, with poetry and embedded objects.

Upstairs in the Great Room, Rachel Britten hosted a booth for Ridgewood Ranch, sharing Ruthie King's soft, luscious sheep pelts and Britten's gift boxes of grains and recipes from her Mendocino Grain Project.

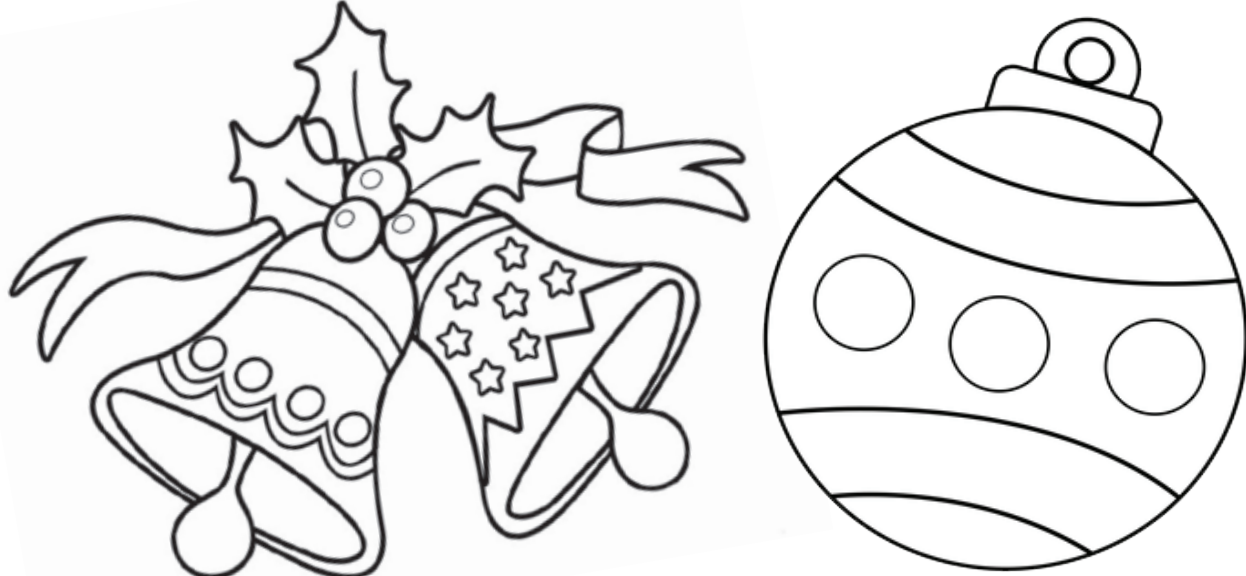
Gloria Simmons' crocheted cat condos were a big hit, selling rapidly. Kelly Viss and Ella Richie shared a table with macramé, feather art, and other unique objects. Michelle, an inhabitant of Redwood Valley, made little Rock Buddies.

Also, in the Great Room, KMUD, the radio station from Garberville, was doing a remote broadcast with Dorothee and Joshua "Wolfmandu" Schaefer, and Dr. Cindiana Jones.

As in past years, there was a raffle consisting of donated items from all of the vendors.

"Well, we did it again this year," Bonnie Belt, the organizer of the fair, said. "We have more booths than we had last year. We have 28 booths in the Community Center, and upstairs in the Willits Center for the Arts we have another 10. We have a wonderful selection of work this year."

"Last year, we only had 20 booths," Belt explained, "because we spread them out further for social distancing. We've been having a great turnout so far. We have a couple of new artists here and a full show. I'm optimistic that the rain is going to bring people here because they'll want to be out of the wet."



Holiday coloring fun





At left: Loading the first lion onto the trailer. Below: Preparing the flatbed trailer to load the second lion. Further below: The Garman truck and flatbed trailer transporting the lions to storage at the new Adventist Howard Memorial campus. At bottom, left: Steadying the second lion as it's raised onto the flatbed trailer. At bottom, right: One of the two Howard Hospital lions that graced the entrance of the old Howard Hospital, built in 1928.



Moving the Lions

Howard Foundation thanks Garman Construction for relocating historic sculptures from the old hospital

The Frank R. Howard Foundation would like to express our sincere thanks to Heath and Buddy Garman for donating their time and equipment to move our beloved lions from the old hospital to storage until we have another building on the hospital campus where we can place them.

They took such care to remove them and relocate them to the hospital campus, without any damage at all. We sincerely appreciate the time and effort they so generously donated to the project.

– submitted by the Frank R. Howard Foundation



STORIES IN HONOR OF
THE OLD FRANK R. HOWARD
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Spotlight on Cynthia Trexel, senior technician, Health Information Management

Submitted by Shelby White, Adventist Health Howard Memorial

As we honor and thank our team and community for the astounding love for our Howard Memorial Hospital – and honor the previous building we hold close to our hearts – we revel in the stories of our team who show us time and time again what it means to be a part of the Howard family.

When Cynthia Trexel's sister, Jan Bryant, tragically died in a car accident during her tenure on August 16, 1985, the hospital was there with open arms and a lot of support. "In lieu of flowers we asked for donations to help finish the hospital chapel in the old building, which was under construction at the time. The hospital was VERY supportive," Cynthia said.

Then a few years later, Cynthia began working for our team. "In 1988, July 8 to be exact, I joined the HMH team. I was looking for a new job and my mom encouraged me to apply. I remembered how much my sister loved her work, and I wanted to be a part of that fulfillment."



Cynthia Trexel

Cynthia began on July 8 as an ER registration clerk and now works in Health Information Management, where we store and protect patient health information and records.

The pride we feel from our community is the same we have in our community at Howard. "Since I was a small girl, I have always felt how lucky Willits is to have Howard Memorial hospital. I am very passionate about our hospital, and I remember when Adventist Health came to join us also. Both the Willits community and Mendocino County are lucky to have this great facility," Cynthia said.

When we asked Cynthia what she loved most about her work she said: "I love working at Howard. The people, the employees and the patients alike. I could not imagine working anywhere else."

We're so thankful and proud to have members on our team like Cynthia who have been with us for over 34 years, helping our community and working and for our tremendous staff. Thank you, Cynthia for your time with us both at our previous building and our new one, as you continue to honor our mission of living God's love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope to our incredible Willits community.

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OPPORTUNITIES

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Learn more:
AdventistHealthMendocino.org/HealthcareCareers



Joy and Unity

Willits Community Christmas Chorale performances at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints bring people together to celebrate with Christmas spirit

For 33 years, the Willits Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has provided a joyful community gathering of song, prayer, fellowship, cookies and cider to all people of the area, without heed to religion or ideology.

The celebration, the Willits Community Christmas Chorale, has become a staple of the season, bringing people of all persuasions to their church at the south end of town, to engage in song and the ability to see friends who might have been without human interaction leading up to the holidays.

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
mathew@willitsweekly.com

“Tonight is the 33rd annual Willits Community Christmas Chorale,” Dale Abono, an elder ambassador of the church, explained on Sunday. “We’ve missed the last two years due to COVID. We’re excited to be back. We feel like we’re building from scratch again after the hiatus. We’re excited to be starting again and looking forward to a great little chorale tonight.

“We have some great groups tonight,” said Abono. “We have the Chinese Orchestra Developing Virtue Secondary School. We have several private church-based choirs performing tonight as well as some family groups. We have a local doctor, Sam Martisius, and his family are performing tonight with family and friends.

“We have different churches, a different mix. We will be doing sing-alongs. There will be an intermediate congregational singing a few songs together. We have 10 groups total tonight. And we have refreshments afterwards.”

Abono explained what he considers the importance of Christmas gatherings: “I think the value is the opportunity to come together as a community and enjoy fellowship with one another and to enjoy friendship and, hopefully, a good Christmas spirit and develop a culture of community and love here in Willits.

“I hope the spirit of Christmas continues after the holidays,” he continued. “Christmas spirit is really year-round. For me, it’s a love of the savior in Jesus Christ and that is not restricted to just Christmas. But it is a special time of year when we celebrate his birth together and enjoy each other’s company and even each other’s beliefs.

“This was started 35 years ago by a man named Bishop Caldwell. He worked hard to put this together and we want to carry on with the spirit. It’s not restricted to just our faith or even a faith in Jesus Christ. We have the Chinese Orchestra with their very different religion and that’s OK, too,” concluded Abono.

The evening began with the Chinese Orchestra of the Developing Virtue Secondary School playing a distinctly Chinese version (utilizing a variety of Eastern instruments) of a Kazakh folk song and the “Grassland Serenade” at the rear of the room.

The opening prayer was offered by Pastor Rosemary Landry of the Willits United Methodist Church: “Let us pray. God, we ask for your blessing as we gather together in community tonight. Bless those who are sharing their talents with us. May this time of music, voice, instrument bring joy and comfort to all who are here.”

An amazing operatic duo of songs was performed by Carole Hester, “The Birthday of a King” and “Some Children See Him.” Her near-perfect tones filled the huge room as the audience listened in appreciation of her talent.

Read the rest of
Chorale Over on page B6



Above, left: Pat Yoxall takes a few minutes to look over her music for the Uketones performance. Above, right: A family enjoys the music at the Community Christmas Chorale. Below: The Willits Ward Choir fills the huge room with a trio of Christmas songs. At bottom, left: The new bishop of the Willits ward, Jonathan Padilla, offers a few words of thanks and good wishes for the coming year. At bottom, right: The Martisius Family and Friends sing some familiar Christmas tunes.



At left: Members of the Chinese Orchestra of the Developing Virtue Secondary School entertain the audience with their reimagining of some of the classics.

Photos by
Mathew Caine

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CHRISTMAS

& HAPPY NEW YEAR

HEART OF THE REDWOODS

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SPRING 2023 COURSES

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| AGR 62 - #0062 | Mushroom Identification - Sat. 9:00–12:10 pm (Late Start: 1/21 – 5/6) |
| ASL 200 - #0223 | Sign Language: Level 1 - Mon. 5:30–8:40 pm |
| ART 522 - #0522 | Watercolors for Older Adults - Mon/Wed. 2:00–4:55 pm |
| CDV 100 - #0105 | Principles in Preschool - Fri. 9:00–11:50 am |
| CDV 100 - #0111 | Principles in Preschool (Spanish) - Tue. 6:00–8:50 pm |
| COM 203 - #0213 | Intro to Public Speaking - Sat. 12:30–3:20 pm (Late Start: 1/28 – 5/13) |
| CAM 70C - #0071 | Vegetarian Cuisine: Winter/Spring - Mon. 9:30–12:00 pm (Late Start: 1/17 – 3/10) 8 Week Course |
| CAM 70D - #0073 | Vegetarian Cuisine: Spring/Summer - Mon. 9:30–11:20 am (Late Start: 3/13 – 5/19) 8 Week Course |
| CAM 71 - #0179 | Food and Wine Pairing - Mon. 5:30–7:35 pm |
| ENG 200 - #0264 | College Composition - Wed. 9:00–11:50 am |
| ENG 205 - #0250 | Critical Thinking - Tue. 9:00–11:50 am |
| ENG 210 - #1001 | Creative Writing - Fri. 10:00–12:55 pm |
| ENG 212 - #1002 | Intermediate: Creative Writing - Fri. 10:00–12:55 pm |
| ENG 503 - #0504 | Writing for Older Adults - Fri. 10:00–12:55 pm |
| ESL 501 - #0521 | ESL: Lab - Tue/Thu. 10:00–12:50 pm (4-Week course: 1/03 - 1/26) |
| ESL 507 - #0057 | ESL: Beginning - Mon/Wed. 10:00–12:45 pm (Late Start: 1/30 – 5/17) |
| FSC 70B - #0079 | Company Officer 2B - Saturday/Sunday, 8:00–4:20 pm (Late Start: 3/4 – 3/11) |
| HLH 213 - #0123 | Lifeguard Training - Wed. 5:30–8:50 pm & Sat. 8:30–4:50 pm (Late Start: 3/1 – 5/17) |
| HST 208 - #0298 | Women in American History - Sat. 12:30–3:20 pm (Late Start: 1/28 – 5/13) |
| HUS 154 - #0155 | Interviewing/Counseling - Thu. 5:30–8:20 pm |
| MTH 178 - #4558 | Applied Math - Mon/Wed. 5:30–7:20 pm |
| MTH 200 - #0202 | Precalculus Mathematics - Fri. 5:30–7:20 pm |
| MTH 220 - #0222 | Statistics - Fri. 5:30–8:20 pm (Late Start: 1/27 – 5/19) |
| MUS 230A/B/C/D | Beginning/Intermediate Voice/Singers' Repertoire I/II - Tue. 2:30–4:20 pm |
| MUS 530 - #0530 | Singing for Older Adults - Tue. 2:30–4:20 pm |
| MUS 281 - #0084 | Concert Choir I - Tue. 5:00–7:50 pm (Late Start: 1/24 – 5/19) |
| MUS 580 - #0085 | Chorale for Older Adults - Tue. 5:00–7:50 pm (Late Start: 1/24 – 5/19) |
| PSY 216 - #0216 | Social Psychology - Sat. 9:00–11:50 am (Late Start: 1/28 – 5/13) |
| THE 262 - #0288 | Dance for Musical Theatre (Tap Dance) - Sat. 10:00–1:10 pm |
| THE 268 - #0289 | Dance Rehearsal (Tap Dance) - Sat. 10:00–1:10 pm |



Spring 2023 Registration Dates

Online schedule is now available:

www.mendocino.edu/schedule

Registration is **NOW OPEN!** Want to register for classes?
Need to apply? Need to meet with a counselor?

Contact us today!

Mendocino College North County Center

Spring 2023 Hours

Monday-Thursday: 8:30am-6:00pm

Friday: 8:30am-2:00pm

372 E Commercial St, Willits CA 95490 707.459.6224

nccenter@mendocino.edu



Mendocino College classes start January 17

Posted by Mendocino College

Spring semester 2023 classes at Mendocino College start on January 17, 2023.

The college's North County Center in Willits, the local link to the California Community College System, offers a small but healthy selection of community college classes, programs and services to the rural communities of inland Mendocino County.

You can see all the classes available at the Willits center in Spring 2023 by searching the online database at <https://service.mendocino.edu/Student/Courses/Search>

Just a few of the classes available at the North County Center starting in January include: AGR-62 Mushroom Identification; ART-522 Watercolors for Older Adults; ASL-200 Sign Language: Level I; CAM-70C Vegetarian Cuisine; COM-203 Intro to Public Speaking; HLH-213 Lifeguard Training; ENG-200 College Composition; and HST-208 Women in American History

To learn more, including about how to apply, visit the college's North County Center page at www.mendocino.edu/north-county-center. Or call or visit the Willits Center in person: 707-459-6224; 372 East Commercial Street. The college's friendly counselors can help you through the application process.

From the North County Center's central location in beautiful downtown Willits, faculty and staff serve the communities of Willits, Laytonville, Round Valley and Anderson Valley – and North County residents who live in more isolated areas. Like other educators, we at the North County Center believe that higher education at our community college can open many new doors and provide a basis for students to realize their dreams.

NEW EVENING COURSE! DAM-110: DIGITAL IMAGE MANIPULATION WITH PHOTOSHOP



January 18 thru May 18
Monday & Wednesday
6pm - 8:25pm
Mendocino College
Coast Campus

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Expert (ACE) in Photoshop and
Lecturer Emeritus at CSU Sacramento.**

mendocino.edu/admissions



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Spring 2023 Courses

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| ADJ 200 - #0092 | Intro. Admin of Justice - Fri. 5:30 – 8:20 pm *RVC |
| CDV 109 - #0109 | Child Health, Nutrition - Mon. 5:30 – 8:40 pm *RVHS |
| ENG 200 - #0295 | College Composition - Wed. 1:35 – 4:25 pm RVHS |
| ESL 7A - #0107 | ESL: Beginning A - Mon/Wed. 4:00 – 6:45 pm RVC |
| ESL 7B - #0108 | ESL: Beginning B - Mon/Wed. 4:00 – 6:45 pm RVC |
| ESL 507 - #0507 | ESL: Beginning - Mon/Wed. 4:00 – 6:45 pm RVC |
| MUS 209 - #0029 | History of Rock & Jazz - Mon/Tue/Thu. 2:45 – 3:35 pm RVHS |
| POL 200 - #0239 | American Government - Wed. 2:35 – 5:25 pm RVHS |

* RVC - Round Valley Classroom 76300 Grange Rd., Covelo

* RVHS - Round Valley High School 76270 High School St., Covelo

Spring 2023 Outreach/Registration Dates

January 5th - 10:00–3:00 pm – Outreach Day

January 10th - 10:00–3:00 pm – Registration/Counseling Available

Covelo Education Site - Open Hours

Mondays 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Mendocino College North County Center

Spring 2023 Hours

Monday-Thursday: 8:30am-6:00pm

Friday: 8:30am-2:00pm

372 E Commercial St, Willits CA 95490 707.459.6224 nccenter@mendocino.edu



Spring 2023 Registration is NOW OPEN!

Online schedule is now available:

www.mendocino.edu/schedule

Want to register for classes? Need to apply? Need to meet
with a counselor? **Contact us today!**



SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

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*Where love is first
and the Bible is central.*
Sunday Services:
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Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Info? 707-459-1905
www.agapebiblechurch.com

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707-303-5456
Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.
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www.eckankar.org

Grace Community Church

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

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church

61 W. San Francisco Ave.
Willits, CA 95490
Father Aaron 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.
We welcome All Walks of Faith

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St. John Lutheran Church

Church Service:
Sunday 10:00 to 11:00
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Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church

707-459-5714
Friendly, open worship
Saturdays
Bible Study - 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service - 10:45 a.m.
Zoom Transmission Available.
Wednesday
Prayer Meeting - 6:00 p.m.
399 W. Mendocino Ave.
All are welcome!

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A Christ centered, progressive church
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286 School St. (at Pine)
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459-2855
Facebook: www.facebook.com

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



Dear Santa

Send your letters to Santa Claus through the Willits Post Office

There's still time to get your letter to Santa sent to the North Pole in time for the quickly approaching holiday.

Kids of all ages are encouraged to clip out the below Letter to Santa – or make your own! – and mail it at the Willits branch of the United States Post Office.

Willits' Postmaster Scott Butler reminds all senders to please be sure to include the sender's return address on the letter or envelope so that Santa – or his helper elves! – can make sure to be able to reply.

There's even an official Santa Claus mailbox in the office's main lobby; it's been there for about 10 years and post office clerk Damariss Baca decorated the mailbox this year with festive lights, ribbons and greenery.

Make sure to address the envelope to Santa Claus at the North Pole – and include your return address! These special Santa letters do need a stamp if they go out for general pick up in home mailboxes, but do not need a stamp if brought into the office and dropped in Santa's official mailbox.

The Willits Post Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5 pm and is located at 315 South Main Street.

– Maureen Jennison



USPS Clerk
Damariss Baca
stands with the
Santa mailbox she
decorated for the
Willits office.
Photo by Scott Butler

Dear Santa,

My name is _____

I am _____ years old.

This year I have been:

☐

Nice

☐

Naughty

Some nice things I have done this year:

My Christmas Picture
For You!

For Christmas this year, I would like:

P.S. I'll leave out cookies and milk!

Merry Christmas!

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Photos by Maureen Jennison

At top, from left: Danette Rego stands by the festive Christmas tree. Amy Buckingham, Dr. William Bowen, and Howard Memorial Administrator Linda Givens smile together. Claudia Wissler, Cici Winiger and Jackie Beck went all in with the ugly sweater theme. Dr. Jennifer Zerne holds a plate of breakfast while wearing Santa bolingers on her headband. Above: The Roots kitchen crew, who helped make numerous cinnamon rolls for the event, smiles with a tray of the desserts including, from left: Kristin Meyers Gilmore, Mark Maples, behind, Glenda Theeringer, Yola Meza, Maria Meza, and Darren Alfaro. Below, from left: Arcelia Duran and Katie Hageman show their breakfasts, to go. Juanita Alvarez stands with Shelby White and shows her pizza voucher – each attendee received a voucher. Analissa Nunez holds a cup of hot cocoa.

Happy Holidays at Adventist Health

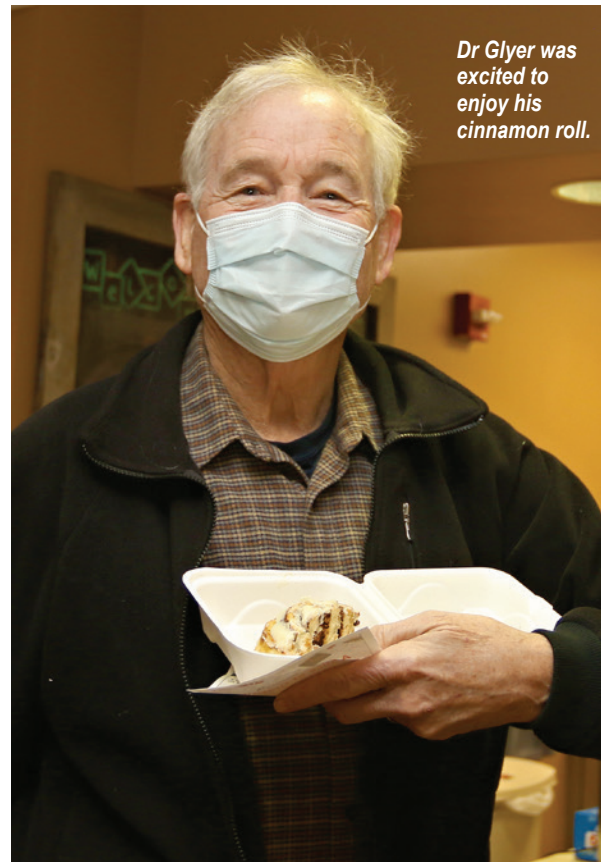
Howard Memorial celebrates the season with holiday party for staff and crew

Adventist Health Howard Memorial hosted a holiday brunch last week where many wonderful team members came out, dressed in their ugly sweater best, to enjoy a meal with the entire team from Howard Memorial hospital and the Redwood Medical Clinic.

They had over 150 of their team members across every department attend to enjoy pancakes, potatoes, quiche, biscuits and gravy, cinnamon rolls and so much more.

It was an amazingly festive morning with an abundance of holiday spirit as they enjoyed spending time with everyone during the holiday season.

– Submitted by Shelby White for HMH



Dr. Glyer was excited to enjoy his cinnamon roll.



‘Go Tell It on the Mountain’

A winter-themed Holiday Variety Show at WCT performed by Willits children and youth

By Steve Hellman, for WCT

“Go Tell It on the Mountain,” a winter-theme holiday variety show featuring performances by Willits children and youth, will play at Willits Community Theatre on Thursday, December 22 and Friday December 23, at 7 pm.

Highlights include choir, solo and ensemble performances by performers aged 5 to 25, along with sketches and readings of winter stories. Participating in the show are the Blosser Bears Theatre Club and Holiday Choir, and WCT Theatre Youth.

Director TinaMarie Spagnolo Silveira says she's thrilled to revive the hit show produced in 2020 in an online version. This live version is more impressive than ever, she says, while her daughter Aria Eva Silveira serves as the assistant director. Teaching young performers ways of the theater begins with imposing a level of professionalism, says TinaMarie, while also allowing them still to be kids. She adds, “Watching them go from their beginning effort to shining on stage is what makes my heart sing.”

Show songs include familiar standards like “Let It Snow,” “It’s Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas” in the Perry Como version, songs from Disney’s films “Frozen II” and “Zootopia,” including “Try Everything,” and “Once Upon A December” from the film “Anastasia,” along with “The 12 Days of Christmas” and the African-American spiritual theme song “Go Tell It on the Mountain.”

Cast members are: Scarlett Berumen, Sienna Berumen, Bronach Bowles, Dee Ora Fredricey, Alithia Gallups, Desha Louise Holt, Miles Mattson, James Mattson, Adagia “Gigi” Jordan Silveira, Allegra “Rory” Rose Silveira, Andante Joseph “AJ” Silveira, Aria Eva Silveira, and Jennifer Steele.

Admission is free, with donations accepted. Seating is limited and can be reserved online at: www.wctperformingartscenter.org, or with early arrival at the playhouse, 37 Van Lane, before the shows.



Could he BE any more wonderful?!

Happy 40-somethingth birthday today to Matthew Jennison!

The lobster to my lobster, the driver to my passenger and my peanut to my butter. Ppppppp peanut, peanut, peanut! Thank you for being an amazing husband and father, and my best friend!

– Maureen Jennison



Remember, Willits Weekly will be on winter break until January 12, 2023! See you then!

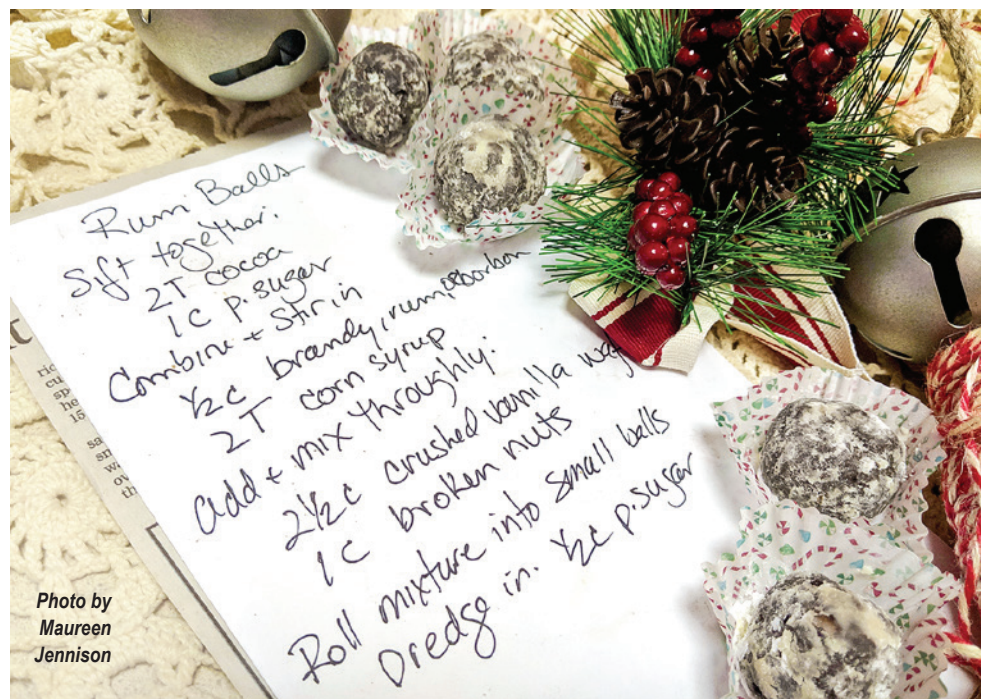


Photo by Maureen Jennison

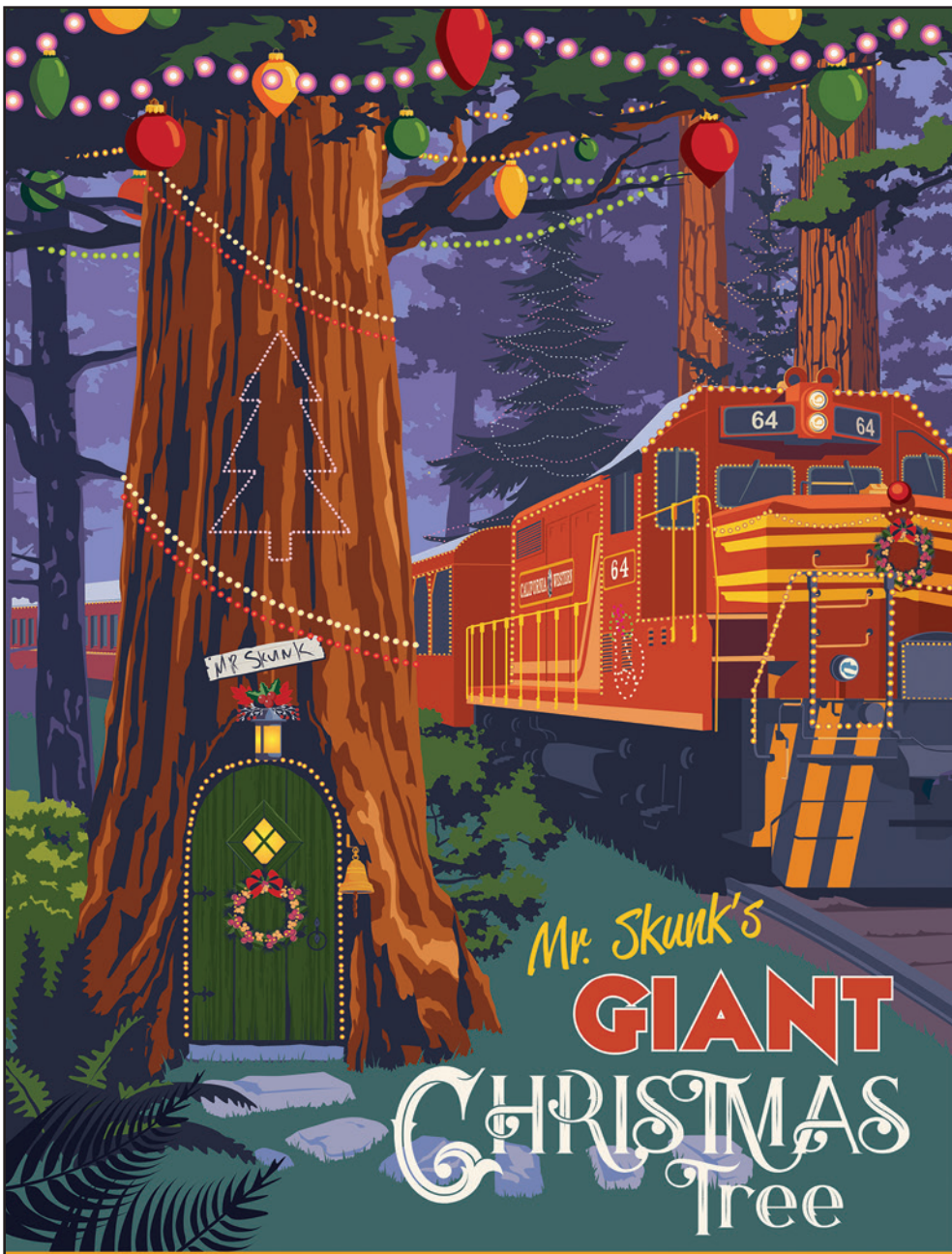


This reporter's reason for the season

RUM BALLS

If you only make one treat this holiday season, let it be this no-bake rum ball recipe. Make a few days ahead of time and let them sit for even better results.

– Maureen Jennison



DEPARTING WILLITS ONLY
For the Whole Family
NOV. 26-DEC. 31

Trains leave from downtown Willits located just off Highway 101.

Tickets regularly \$59.95
Local's price \$47

Locals price for residents of Mendocino, Lake, and Humboldt Counties
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(Online reservations are full price)

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| 15 20% PLUSHIES | 16 15% ART SUPPLIES | 17 25% RAIN GEAR | 18 20% STEM KITS | 19 20% SCOOTERS |
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| Monday 12/19 G-Shock Watches Sunglasses Jewelry | Tuesday 12/20 Jewelry Candles Ornaments |
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The Uketones, a local foursome, sang "Mele Kalikimaka," "Winter Wonderland," and "Christmas Bells." Then, it was time for the Martisius Family and Friends, accompanied by exuberant toddlers who kept running around the stage and trying to join in as the group of youngsters sang "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer," "Joy to the World," and "Angels We Have Heard on High," to the delight of the attendees.

The Chinese Orchestra played again, this time at the front of the room, with renditions of "Jingle Bells," "We Wish You a Merry Christmas," and "Hark the Herald Angels Sing." When they finished, the attendees were invited to join in with four carols, led by Michelle Snider.

The Trillium Trio, Madge Strong, Mary Buckley and Lisa Bregger, sang a couple of songs in sweet harmonies. Twining Time's John Wagenet and Anita Blu, along with Kate Black, put a folksy spin on some traditional

and modern Christmas songs. The Willits Ward Choir, of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, sang three carols, and the show closed with pianist Frankie "Frankie J" Jones doing renditions of "Go Tell It on the Mountain" and "What Child is This?" As an extra treat, Jones sang "Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire."

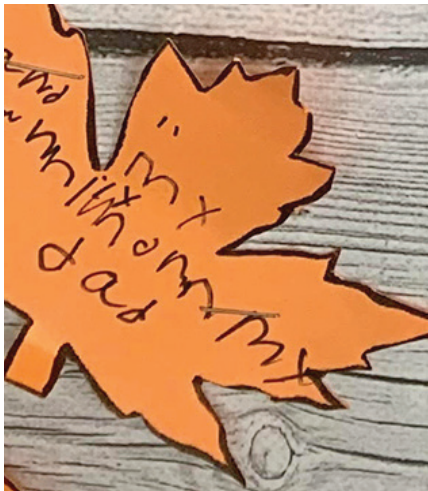
The new young bishop, Jonathan Padilla, thanked everyone for coming and offered a few thoughts about the season and its significance to him. Church President Fred Branson gave the closing prayer, after which he invited everyone to partake in the well-stocked cookie smorgasbord in the back room.

Although not as well-attended as in past years (COVID and flu being a factor), the Christmas Chorale provided, once again, an event to celebrate the spirit of the season and the ability to gather in joy and unity.

At left: Church elders are moved to sing along to classic carols.

Below: The Uketones were the first act to perform after the operatic songs of Carole Hestor.

Photos by Mathew Caine



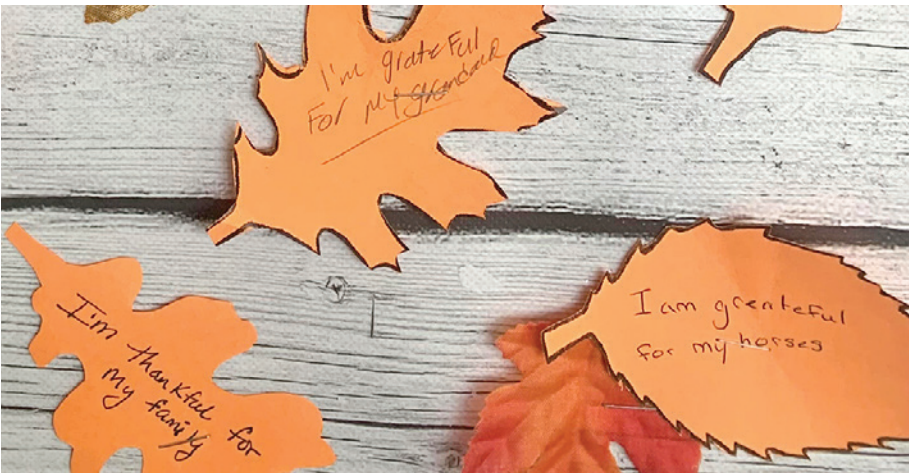
At top: Baechtel Grove Middle School's "Grateful Tree" – each leaf expressing something a student is grateful for. Above and below: Close-ups of some of the leaves on BGMS's "Grateful Tree."

Baechtel Grove Middle School's 'Grateful Tree'

Here at Baechtel Grove Middle School we have been counting down to Winter Break with a fun 12-day countdown. During the month of November students added a leaf to the "Grateful Tree" (pictured), expressing something they were thankful for. The amount of leaves grew quickly in the Library.

We have been giving some amazing gifts thanks to our wonderful community donations! The drawing began December 1 and will end December 16.

– Submitted by Christina Lawrence, librarian, BGMS



Powering Your Wish List

Brighten your holiday with your public power provider. Take the first step at PoweringEverydayMoments.org.



WHS Wrestlers Boys and girls teams both look good at start of season

Submitted by Willits Wrestling

The Willits High School wrestling season is off to a strong start with three tournaments to date. The wrestling team is led by a very experienced coaching staff including Brian Bowles, Will Dunaway, Dana Karkar, and Quintin Bowlds.

The most recent tournament, the McKinleyville Invitational on December 10, had several strong showings by veteran wrestlers – and one new wrestler in his first respective tournament.

Corey Rocky a freshman standout has been beating good seniors early on. His only losses have been to ranked opponents. Corey placed 4th at McKinleyville.

Jayden Finley had a great first tournament with several good matches. Jayden is a returning sophomore with a chance to be league champion. Jayden placed 4th at McKinleyville

Tyler Dalton is a returning senior. Tyler wrestled in his first tournament of the year and had a good showing. Tyler has a chance to place at North Coast sections this year. Tyler placed 4th at McKinleyville.

Jacob Livingston is a first-year freshman with tons of talent who is getting better each week and has the ability to be league champion. Jacob took 4th place at McKinleyville.

Eli Bowles is a returning sophomore and is focused on improving every day. Eli has a chance to be league champion and go deep into second day at North Coast sections. Eli took 4th place at McKinleyville.

Donald Glenn is a freshman who has been wrestling with Corey Rocky for several years, along with other freshmen in the program from Willits Grappling Pack. Donald placed 3rd at McKinleyville.

Eli Smith is a returning senior. Eli shows leadership

and good attitude each day in the room. Eli is looking to capture a league championship this year and make noise at sections. Eli took 1st place at McKinleyville.

Gunner Globe is a returning junior who has high hopes of winning league. Gunner was sick and missed the last tournament.

Deon Smith is a returning wrestler who missed last weekend due to illness. Deon is a league champion contender in a very tough weight class.

Jared Dunham is a first-year senior with tons of natural ability. Jared missed last weekend due to illness.

Asher Vinson is a first-year wrestler who battled it out in McKinleyville. Asher had a great showing and will improve, with his work ethic.

Xavier de la Fuentes is a returning junior. Xavier had a strong performance at McKinleyville. Xavier also has an excellent work ethic and attitude.

Girls at San Leandro

The Willits girls wrestling team had a great showing at the Roger Briones Invitational wrestling tournament in San Leandro on December 10. Many tough matches were won and lost by close points. The girls that battled it out were Ava Dockins-Kline, Makiah Carter, Elizabeth Meyer, Abby Rayburn, Nevaeh Jones, Lucy Vargas, Emilia Velasquez, and Jacqueline Mercado.

MaryAnn Bertolino took 3rd place in a tough weight class. MaryAnn defeated several ranked wrestlers from North Coast sections. MaryAnn has the capabilities to drive down Buck Owens Boulevard and wrestle in the girls state meet this year in Bakersfield.

Above, from left: Donald Glenn, left, wins his match at McKinleyville on December 10.

Willits wrestler Cory Rocky attempts a stack at the McKinleyville tournament.

Referee gives Willits wrestler MaryAnn Bertolino, right, victory in her match at the San Leandro tournament.

Below: WHS wrestler Eli Smith poses with his 1st place medal from the McKinleyville Invitational.



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Hot Winter's Night~2022

Art Music Drama Poetry Dance
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Willits High School's Allen Garcia Auditorium
Delicious Soup Dinner 5:00-6:00 in the Wolverine Cafe
Silent Auction



'Hot Winter's Night'

Willits High School's Visual and Performing Arts Department is proud to present "Hot Winter's Night" 2022. The event will take place on Thursday, December 15 in the Allen Garcia Auditorium at 7 pm. Come enjoy an evening of music, art, drama, dance and poetry.

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