

Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

Online & Print



A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

Donations Accepted Edition No. 634

Thursday, April 16, 2026

'From Food Security to Food Sovereignty'

By Claudia Wenning, for the Grange

On April 11, 2026, the third Food Security Town Hall Meeting took place in the Great Hall of the Little Lake Grange in Willits. 40 attendees gathered for this pivotal event to focus on fostering local sovereignty and expanding food security in the region. This meeting, the third of its kind, aimed not only to discuss key topics but also to set clear goals and initiate actionable steps for sustainable change.

The meetings have been organized by Annie Waters, Claudia Wenning, and Mike Adams. Little Lake Grange is the sponsor and opened the Great Hall for these community-focused events.

The two-hour session, "From Food Security to Food Sovereignty," began with Brian Weller presenting a Mind Map on local food security. This visual representation highlighted six key areas that intersect with the central theme of food security, illustrating how they connect and support one another.

Read the rest of **Food**
Over on Page 9

3rd District Supervisor Forum at the Grange on Sunday

A Candidates Forum for the Third District supervisor election is set for this Sunday, April 19, from 4 to 6 pm, at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street in Willits.

With John Haschak not running for reelection, four candidates are vying for the open seat to become the Third District representative to the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors. The primary election is on Tuesday, June 2, 2026. If one candidate gets more than 50% of votes cast, he/she will be elected; if not, the top two vote-getters will face a runoff in the general election on November 3, 2026. The Third District encompasses Covelo, Laytonville, Willits, and surrounding areas.

The four candidates are: Buffy Wright Bourassa, Russell Green, Eric Hart, and Clay Romero. All four plan to attend the forum, where they will present their platforms and answer prepared questions and questions from the audience. All candidates

Read the rest of **Forum**
Over on Page 11



Above, from left: Community members of all ages were welcome to come and meet Adventist Health Ukiah Valley's new Da Vinci robot during an event on April 7. Even the cupcakes got in the spirit with little robot decorations. Attendees were able to try out the robot with a hands-on tour and see how incredible the technology is, hands on. Below: An official ribbon cutting took place during last week's event with the help of Operations Executive for Adventist Health Ukiah Valley Jeff Mock, holding the ribbon at left, and Adventist Health's President of Adventist Health North Coast Network Parker Pridgen, holding the ribbon at right, and surgeons Dr. Daniel Ojala, left, and Dr. Joanne Leibe, right, holding the scissors.



Meet-The-Robot

Adventist Health Ukiah Valley holds event to show community new Da Vinci 5 Robotic Surgical System now available in county

Submitted by Cici Winiger, for Adventist Health Ukiah Valley

The future of surgery is HERE -- right here in Mendocino County! This week, we celebrated as a community as we unveiled our new Da Vinci 5 Robotic surgical system, the most advanced platform for minimally invasive surgery. This is an important milestone not just for our hospital but also for our community. This is the first and only Da Vinci 5 Robot in the county and one of a few in the region, a true achievement for our rural community.

April 7's Meet-The-Robot event was filled with lots of celebration, gratitude and pride for what this means for our patients and those we serve. This next-generation technology allows our highly trained surgeons to perform complex procedures with exceptional precision and smaller incisions which means less pain, lower risks of complications and faster recovery times for you!

This investment in our community is part of our efforts to ensure that our friends and neighbors have access to high-quality, cutting-edge care close to home.

Our surgeons, Dr. Joanne Leibe and Dr. Daniel Ojala are now performing surgeries using this state of the art technology.

"As a rural surgeon, bringing the DaVinci Surgical System to Ukiah is a major step forward for our community," said Dr. Daniel Ojala. "It allows us to deliver the same advanced, minimally invasive care found in larger urban centers - right here at home - so patients can recover faster and stay close to their support systems. This is about elevating the level of care we provide without asking our patients to leave the community they trust."

To learn more or to make an appointment, visit adventisthealth.org/mendorobotics

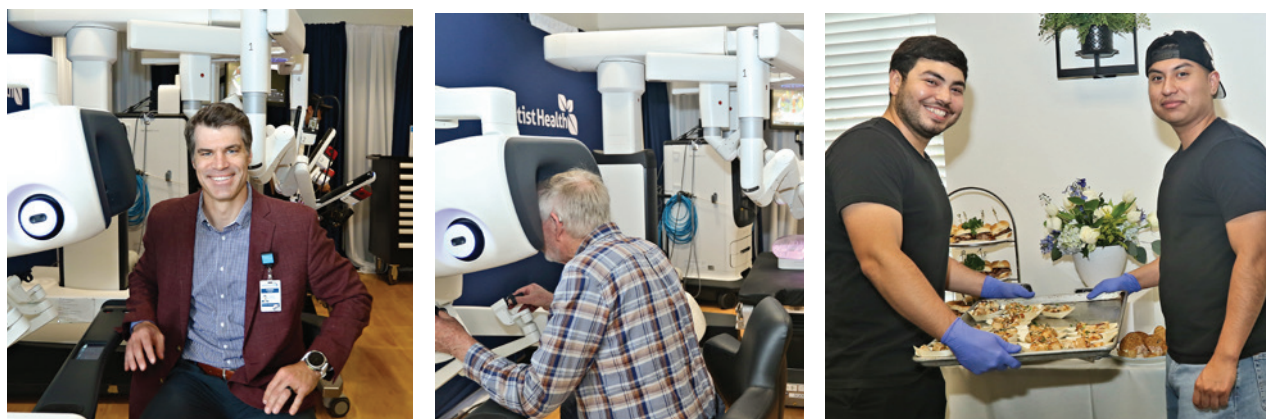
Below, from left: Parker Pridgen, President of Adventist Health North Coast Network smiles after trying his hand at operating the new Da Vinci 5 Robotic surgical system.

Trying out the new machine, and seeing how it works, was an exciting part of the meet-the-robot event.

Food for the event was catered by Rolling Temptation.

At bottom: Dr. Joanne Leibe and Dr. Daniel Ojala, center, smile with some members of their surgical teams.

Photos by Maureen Jennison



Council hears outlines of First Friday, Car Show summer events

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

City Planner Connor Stack updated the Willits City Council on plans for the Willits Chamber of Commerce's First Fridays concert series this summer. "These are a series of city-approved events May 1, June 5, August 7, and September 4, taking place from 6 to 9 pm on those dates," Stack said.

Read the rest of **Summer**
Over on Page 9

Journalist LaFever charged with 'knowingly annoying and or molesting a minor'

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Mendocino County Superior Court documents show a misdemeanor criminal complaint was filed April 7 against former local journalist Matt LaFever by the Mendocino County District Attorney's Office.

Matthew Palmer LaFever, former publisher of the MendoFever news website, former North Coast contributing editor for

Read the rest of **LaFever**
Over on Page 9

Howard Memorial invites community to Volunteer Open House

By Cici Winiger, for Adventist Health

There's no better gift than the gift of time. That's why Adventist Health Howard Memorial is looking to recruit more individuals looking to give back to the community. The hospital is hosting a Volunteer Open House on Thursday, April 23, from 1 to 3 pm, at Roots Restaurant, located in the hospital at 1 Marcela Drive in Willits, to allow those interested in learning more about sharing their time and skills as volunteers.

Held just in time for Volunteer Appreciation

Read the rest of **Volunteer**
Over on Page 9

Covelo Public Cemetery District thanks Community Foundation, Family Tree

Submitted by Covelo Public Cemetery District Board of Trustees

The Covelo Public Cemetery District would like to extend its sincere gratitude to the Community Foundation of Mendocino County and Family Tree Service for their support in completing important hazard tree abatement work at Valley View Cemetery in Round Valley.

Through the Community Foundation's Community Enrichment Grant Program, the District received funding that allowed it to address hazardous trees that had been damaged by storms and drought conditions. The project focused on trimming dead wood, removing hanging limbs, and addressing damaged trees to improve public safety and reduce fire risk within the cemetery.

Family Tree Service played a key role in the project, providing skilled tree service crews to complete the work. In addition to the contracted services, the company generously donated additional time, labor, and equipment to help address the highest-priority hazards and maximize the impact of the grant funding. Representatives from Family Tree Service have also continued to support the cemetery by volunteering their expertise during follow-up community work days.

The Covelo Public Cemetery District operates with a small annual budget and relies heavily on grants, partnerships, and volunteer support to maintain the cemetery. The District is deeply grateful to the Community Foundation of Mendocino County for investing in the safety and preservation of this important community resource and to Family Tree Service for their generosity and strong ties to the Round Valley community.

Celebrate Dispatcher Appreciation Week

Posted by Willits Police Department

This week is Dispatcher Appreciation Week, April 12 to 18, 2026.

Dispatchers answer emergency and non-emergency lines while gathering important information from the caller while simultaneously entering that information into the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system and broadcasting relevant information to responding units over the radio. All of this is completed while remaining calm and getting accurate information during sometimes uncertain emergencies.

At Willits Police Department, dispatchers are also responsible for a numerous other tasks such as sending reports and legal documents to the court or other agencies, receiving public requests at the front counter, and other administrative tasks. Needless to say, our dispatchers are excellent multi-taskers!

Please join us in celebrating not only our dispatchers, but dispatchers everywhere, as the unsung heroes in public safety for their vital role in serving the City of Willits and beyond. Thank you!

Senior Center menu for the week

Willits Senior Center is serving lunch in its indoor dining room, Monday through Friday, from 11:45 am to 1 pm. Drive-through lunches are available from 12 to 12:45 pm, outside the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road.

Thursday, April 16: Corned Beef Hash

Friday, April 17: Baked Chicken w/ Sides

Monday, April 20: Meat Loaf w/Sides

Tuesday, April 21: Chicken Bacon Ranch Wrap

Wednesday, April 22: Lemon Pepper & Garlic Pasta w/Chicken

Thursday, April 23: Ground Beef Tacos

Friday, April 24: Turkey, Stuffing, Gravy, Veggies & Roll

County releases Draft Hazard Mitigation Plan for public review and comment

Submitted by Mendocino County Executive Office

The County of Mendocino is inviting residents, businesses, and community stakeholders to review and provide feedback on the draft Mendocino County Hazard Mitigation Plan, a comprehensive strategy designed to reduce the risks and impacts of natural disasters across the county.

The Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies vulnerabilities to hazards such as wildfires, floods, drought, earthquakes, tsunamis, and severe weather events, and outlines actions to enhance community resilience, protect lives and property, and reduce long-term recovery costs.

This plan covers the entire county, including the unincorporated communities of Fort Bragg, Point Arena, Ukiah, and Willits. It also includes some special districts, including the Covelo Fire Protection District, the Mendocino County Office of Education, the Noyo Harbor District, and the Redwood Coast Fire Protection District.

The public review period will be open April 6 to April 20, 2026.

The survey to collect responses, which includes links to the updated mitigation plan, can be accessed at the following website: <https://bit.ly/MendoHMP-PublicComment>

About the Hazard Mitigation Plan: The Hazard Mitigation Plan is updated periodically in accordance with federal requirements under the Federal Emergency Management Agency. An approved plan allows the county and participating jurisdictions to remain eligible for certain types of federal disaster assistance and mitigation funding. The plan represents a collaborative effort involving county departments, local agencies, tribal partners, and community stakeholders.

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Endorsements for June 2 primary from Mendocino County Democratic Party

Submitted by Mendocino County Democratic Party

The Mendocino Democratic Party on April 7, 2026 endorsed three candidates for county-level offices: Eric Hart for Supervisorial District 3, Ted Williams for Supervisorial District 5, and Nicole Glentzer for county Superintendent of Schools.

These are in addition to previously endorsed candidates at the federal and state level: Mike McGuire for Congressional District 1, Jared Huffman for Congressional District 2, Damon Connolly for State Senator District 2, and Chris Rogers for Assembly District 2.

We believe these candidates will serve the people of Mendocino County, representing our Democratic ideals of promoting a vigorous, fair economy, a clean and safe environment, fair representation and equality for all of our inhabitants, and celebrating our rich and diverse cultural heritage.

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From far left: Ava is ready to emit her personal glow under the black lights. Marian Lohne, who now lives in Paradise, came to attend the Glow Pilates class and gets her glow on. It's difficult to be serious when a week-old baby goat wants some cuddles. Below, left: It is an enjoyable and active evening at the Glow Pilates class at Flourish & Flow. Photo by Sarah Miles. Below, right: The Glow Pilates at Flourish & Flow is fun, beautiful and energetic. Photo by Sarah Miles. Further below: The young goats find many new friends prior to the beginning of the Goat Yoga session. At bottom, left: Amy Bozzo and Jaime Callar are dressed for the Glow Pilates class. At bottom, right: Erin Corley has owned Flourish & Flow for the past 2.5 years and also teaches some of the classes.



Entertaining Exercise

Flourish & Flow Mendo hosts black light Glow Pilates and Goat Yoga

Flourish & Flow Mendo has again proven that physical exercise can be fun. Smiles were guaranteed at a couple of recent special sessions last Friday and Sunday, with Glow Pilates and Goat Yoga. Owner Erin Corley and her adept crew of instructors have put together a series of programs designed to enhance the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of anyone who participates in their exercise regimes. The location, in the Evergreen Village shopping center, is well equipped with anything that is needed to facilitate yoga, Pilates, Zumba, Flex Fit, tabata, capoeira, and several other physical disciplines.

“The Mendo glow is the workout glow, the feeling that you get after a class, the endorphins that are running through your body,” explained Corley. “Also just being around community, that joyful feeling. Good positive energy and we do glow classes under the black light. That’s what we’re doing tonight. We have a DJ, DJ Juice, that’s going to be playing our music.”

It did seem as though this was a gathering of friends coming together for the purpose of exercise and fun. Several of the participants came ready with DayGlo clothing to be stimulated by the black light. Others spent time prior to the session painting their faces and other body parts with neon colors or adding cloth bands of color.

The actual class was dark, mysterious, and infused with a blue glow, with glowing bodies working out to the instructions from Corley and Sarah Miles, to the music of DJ Juice, who brought his digital music spinning gear and cranked up the energy.

Several of the regular instructors attended. Amy Bozzo teaches Flex Fit, which incorporates dance cardio and aerobic movement, as well as Zumba. Anne Hammond, a retired elementary school teacher, runs a very popular Zumba Gold class. Christina Tipp teaches a strength sculpting class and Buti Movement, which is yoga mixed with cardio. Miles’ classes take place very early in the morning, several at 5:30 am, with high-intensity interval training. She also has a Sunday yoga class. All classes and instructors can be found at: www.flourishandflowmendo.com and on the “Flourish and Flow Mendo” Facebook page.

On Sunday, yoga became an event, incorporating some very young and terminally cute goats (in diapers to avoid accidents) among the people on the mats. The goats, all with names from Monty Python films like Shrubbery, Ni, and other characters. The baby goats, from Kelly Viss’ Barefoot Forest Homestead, cavorted, pranced, nuzzled up to the participants, got cuddled, and generally created joy among those practicing yoga. Some of the goats even butted their reflections in the floor-to-ceiling mirrors. The session was followed by a half-hour of tea, photos, and light snacks.

On April 24, Flourish & Flow will offer a class in line dancing, taught by Mendocino County Second District Supervisor Maureen “Mo” Mulheren. Flourish & Flow offers a large variety of exercise and wellness activities. There is something for all skill levels and needs in a convivial setting, taught by knowledgeable, friendly, and caring instructors.



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location	Mon Apr 06	Tue Apr 07	Wed Apr 08	Thur Apr 09	Fri Apr 10	Sat Apr 11	Sun Apr 12	weekly total	rainfall since 01Oct25
Northbrook Way	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.11	1.15	1.69	1.22	4.17	52.59
Brooktrails Dr @ Sherwood Rd	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	1.16	1.45	1.10	3.81	53.66
Valley Rd	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.74	1.25	1.13	3.15	37.89
Canyon Rd	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.76	1.18	1.09	3.17	41.81
Pine Mountain	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.73	1.20	0.97	2.96	47.54
South Main @ East Oak	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.13	1.09	1.68	1.18	4.08	52.04
average	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.94	1.41	1.12	3.56	47.59

data compiled from weatherunderground (<https://www.wunderground.com>)

The Rules: LETTERS

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

Letters and commentaries must be submitted with a name, address and phone number, although only the author's name and city of residence will be published. Deadline is end of day Monday for each Thursday edition. No letters from an anonymous source will be published, although a request to withhold the writer's name will be considered.

Willits Rain Box

This week brought much-needed rain to the Little Lake Valley. The system that came through starting on Thursday, April 9, resulted in an average four-day accumulation of 3.56", nearly three times the prediction made early in the week.

The highest 24-hour rainfall occurred on Saturday, when an average of 1.41" of rain fell. Total rainfall since October 1, 2025 has now reached a respectable 47.59", but still several inches short of the +60" tallied at the end of the last two Apriels.

Falling temperatures accompanied the storm, producing several feet of snowfall in the Sierra, and even a dusting on Sanhedrin.

- Tim Hanna, Willits Rain Box



Willits Weekly

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Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

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Filed for by Russell Green for Supervisor 2026, PFFPC 01/14/25/263

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Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword



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

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!

MEN'S HEALTH WORD SEARCH

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

- ALCOHOL ANDROPAUSE ANTIGEN BALDNESS CARDIOVASCULAR CHOLESTEROL DIABETES HEALTH
- HYPERTENSION INFERTILITY LIBIDO MENTAL HEALTH MUSCLE OBESITY PHYSICAL PROSTATE
- SCREENING SLEEP APNEA SMOKING TESTICULAR CANCER TESTOSTERONE WORKOUT

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20				21	22			23				
			24	25				26				
27	28	29	30				31		32	33	34	
35			36				37		38			
39				40					41			
42				43					44			
45				46					47			48
			49	50					51			
52	53	54		55					56	57	58	59
60				61					62			
64				65					66			
67				68					69			

- ### CLUES ACROSS
- Greek goddess of marriage
 - Tropical American blue jay-like bird
 - Abba __, Israeli politician
 - Dark olive black
 - Light, crinkled fabric
 - Notre Dame has a golden one
 - Leaked blood
 - Confronted
 - Negligible amount
 - Facilitated
 - Hill or rocky peak
 - Minneapolis suburb
 - Songs to one's beloved
 - Brake horsepower
 - Angry
 - Children's game
 - Spelling is a type of one
 - Obtained in return for labor
 - Indicates center
 - Chinese dynasty
 - Old World buffaloes
 - Slang for time off
 - Fabric
 - Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
 - Defunct regional economic organization
 - Philly footballers
 - Female sibling
 - Peter Griffin's daughter
- ### CLUES DOWN
- Greek cupbearer of the Gods
 - Ancient Syrian city
 - Small Eurasian deer (pl.)
 - Range of mountains
 - One thousand cubic feet (abbr.)
 - Spoke
 - City in Georgia
 - Theatrical
 - CNN's founder
 - Icelandic poems
 - Bjorn __, tennis player
 - Boxfin genus
 - One point north of northeast
- ### CLUES ACROSS
- Digital audiotope
 - Insecticide
 - Scientific instrument
 - Pages may be dog-__
 - Israeli city __ Aviv
 - Type of sword
 - Middle Eastern military title
 - Wise individuals
 - French Polynesian island Bora __
 - Popular shoe type
 - One of 50
 - Divulge a secret
 - Dish of cooked meat mixed with potatoes
 - Actress Zellweger
 - Romanian city
- ### CLUES DOWN
- Political divisions in ancient Greece
 - Electroencephalograph
 - Cool!
 - Male parent
 - Where some gymnasts work
 - Capital of Vietnam
 - Sailboats
 - Shelter (Scottish)
 - Completed
 - Discharge
 - Arrest
 - Partner to cheese
 - Coffee receptacle
 - Stagnate
 - Satisfies
 - Snakelike fish
 - Consume food
 - Type of school
 - Erase
 - Inform
 - Girl's given name
 - Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
 - Every one of two or more things
 - Northern India city
 - Seventeenth stars in a constellation
 - Weapon
 - Amounts of time
 - Isidor __, American Nobel physicist
 - Soviet Socialist Republic
 - Witness

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE LOG

April 6 to April 12

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department reported 75 incidents in this 7-day period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

April 6

7:46 am: CHARLES, Duncan Lloyd (28) of Ukiah was contacted in the 200 block of Holly Street. He was arrested on felony charges of domestic corporal injury and child cruelty, and on misdemeanor charges of trespassing.

8:05 am: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 300 block of North Main Street.

8:56 pm: MILLER, Charles Deveer (52) of Willits was contacted in the 2500 block of Goose Road following a disturbance. He was arrested on felony charges of domestic corporal injury.

April 7

2:36 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of South Street and Central Street.

1:25 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of North Main Street and issued a warning.

1:31 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Central Street and Barbara Lane and issued a warning.

1:33 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Alder Court.

2:17 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Franklin Avenue and South Main Street and issued a warning.

3:13 pm: WILLIAMS, Chaz Jordan (24) of Ukiah was contacted in the 100 block of West Valley Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol).

5:40 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 400 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning.

10:54 pm: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 100 block of Holly Street.

April 8

9:09 am: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Locust Street and Holly Street and issued a citation.

10:16 am: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Central Street and Monroe Street and issued a warning.

4:53 pm: Officer conducted a stop in the 1100 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

Covelo man held on no bail status for parole violation

By Sgt. J. Woida for MCSO

On April 10, 2026 at approximately 12:24 am, a Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputy was working uniformed patrol in the 23000 block of Hopper Lane in Covelo, when a vehicle was observed with multiple Vehicle Code violations, including an inoperable taillight and expired registration.

The Sheriff's Office deputy initiated a traffic-enforcement stop and identified the driver and only occupant as Brock Rogers, 44-year-old male from Covelo. A records check revealed Rogers was on active Parole through the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for 245(a)(1) PC - Assault with a Deadly Weapon.

Pursuant to his parole terms, a search of Rogers' person and vehicle were conducted. During the search, the MCSO deputy located alcoholic beverage bottle caps on Rogers' person and an open alcoholic beverage container inside the vehicle, both in violation of his parole conditions.

A CDCR parole agent was contacted and authorized a parole hold pursuant to 3056 PC. Rogers was subsequently arrested for violating the terms of his parole and booked into the Mendocino County Jail, where he is being held on a no bail status.

5:03 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1200 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

10:11 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 300 block of Robert Drive and issued a warning.

April 9

7:13 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 1500 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

10:02 am: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and Baechtel Road and issued a citation.

11:13 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 1300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

12:11 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

April 10

11:37 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1600 block of Baechtel Road.

5:38 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of West Van Lane.

11:28 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Wood Street and School Street.

April 11

9:42 am: Officer responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Wood Street and School Street.

April 12

5:09 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

5:25 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

5:36 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 400 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning.

5:45 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of East Commercial Street and North Marin Street and issued a warning.

6:25 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of North Main Street and East Commercial Street and issued a warning.

9:09 pm: COATNEY, Laselle Yvonne (46) of Willits was contacted in the 1700 block of Elm Lane. She was arrested on felony charges of domestic battery and wilful cruelty to a child.

Oklahoma man suffers fatal fall off Fort Bragg cliff

Sgt. Juntz for MCSO

On April 11, 2026 at approximately 8:30 am, Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputies were dispatched to reports of a body being located at the bottom of a cliff near the 31000 block of Bay View Avenue in Fort Bragg.

MCSO deputies were assisted by Fort Bragg Fire Department personnel to recover the remains of an adult male from the rocks near the waterline at the bottom of a steep cliff. The decedent was recovered from approximately 70 feet down a cliff along the Pacific Ocean and had injuries consistent with a significant fall.

The coroner's investigation has not revealed any suspicious circumstances at the scene, and criminal conduct is not suspected at this stage of the investigation. The decedent's vehicle was located near the cliff and was secured as coroner's property.

The decedent was identified as a 37-year-old male from Yukon, Oklahoma, but the decedent's name is being withheld pending the identification and notification of the legal next-of-kin. The official cause and manner of death will be determined after an autopsy is performed.

This coroner's case is still actively being investigated. Anyone with information related to this incident is requested to contact the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office at 707-463-4086 (option 1). Information can also be provided anonymously by calling the non-emergency tip-line at 707-234-2100.

New Office

Brooktrails Township employees show off their new digs to community at open house

"This is the first time I've seen this office," said Tina Tyler-O'Shea, president of the Brooktrails Board of Directors. "I was saving my viewing of the office for this special occasion and I'm so glad that I did. It's beautiful. I can't wait to check it all out. It's much airier than the old office, more open. I love all the windows."

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Tyler-O'Shea's sentiment seemed to be the general consensus among the attendees at the grand unveiling of the new office space for the Brooktrails administration. Last Saturday, after a finance meeting, several board members (past and present), fire department volunteers and staff, administrative employees, and Brooktrails Township General Manager Tamara Alaniz were treated to a viewing of the new offices, in the space previously occupied by the Brooktrails subdivision real estate office.

The dark, cramped, uneven-floored previous office location, which is being taken over by the utility crews, was not as conducive to showcasing all that the forested and beautiful Brooktrails area has to offer. The new space is bright, with large windows overlooking the golf course and the fire department. It feels as though it is easier to breathe, it has a well-equipped kitchen, a conference room, and an office for Alaniz in which she doesn't have to walk uphill in order to access the copy machine.

Food was in ample supply for the attendees to feast on. Chicken salad, croissants, broccoli salad, kale white bean soup, fruit, cheese and crackers, and an amazing assortment of chocolate ganache truffles, crafted by Administrative Assistant Elise LaFortune, added an inviting repast.

Brooktrails has a history, going back many years to when it was occupied solely by the tribes, through the logging era, the steam era, and the recent reinvention as a green space development. The history of the area is the central theme of the building, with the spacious lobby hosting several relics (many from the Mendocino County Museum) and photos of the pioneers, the logging, and railroad, including a large glass display in the center of the room.

One of the more popular exhibits among the attendees was a huge three-dimensional topographical map with all of the plots that were available for purchase when the original development was opened. In the past, each of the plots had a light that would glow when it became occupied.

Tom Simms, the deputy finance officer, was responsible for creating many of the picture frames. "Those are all 100-year-old logs. We also did the frames around Tamara's window and the conference room. Both of those are framed out with recovered pieces of an old trestle off of the California Western Skunk line," explained Simms.

"We're here in our new offices, 489 Birch Street," said Alaniz. "We're excited to be here for our open house today, from 11 am to 1 pm. We advertised it in the Willits Weekly so that we could get more turnout and the place is packed. There are some families here. There are some folks who were at our budget meeting today, some people from the public. I see some people from the community, so I'm really glad."

"We made the first offer to buy this building in 2022," Alaniz explained. "There was a lot of back and forth. We negotiated the price down. The market changed, we changed, and then the owners of this building changed, and over time, we were able to get a really good deal. We waited for years. We went into no debt. We bought this building without debt. We slowly rehabilitated it without additional debt and paid as we went along."

The newly refurbished building is a fitting and functional addition to the work that the staff and board of the Brooktrails community have been doing to create a community that is both beautiful and efficient.



Above, left: Several old photos and artifacts from the Mendocino County Museum are arranged in this centrally located display case. Above, right: The new, well-lit and airy office building opening is well-attended.



At left: Susan Mahoney, Rick Williams, Crystal Bowles and Adam Sherf look at the central display from the Mendocino County Museum. At left, below: Current and past Brooktrails board members attend the opening: VP Rick Williams, President Tina Tyler-O'Shea, Mary Ziady, Susan Mahoney, Tony Orth, and City Manager Tamara Alaniz.



Below, left: The new Brooktrails office, across from the golf course, is ready for occupancy. Below, right: Arrowheads from the Mendocino County Museum are displayed near the fireplace.

At bottom, left: Elise LaFortune, an administrative assistant, loves working in the refurbished, airy location. At bottom, right: Brooktrails Board President Tina Tyler-O'Shea views the new office building for the first time.

Photos by Mathew Caine



Fundraiser for Nuestra Alianza de Willits

Friendship of Flavor

April 18th, 2026 | 4:00-7:00 PM
 Willits United Methodist Church
 286 School St., Willits, CA 95490

Join us for an evening of Mexican food, music, and other activities (Photo booth, raffle, auction, & vendor tables)
 \$5 to \$25/person Donation

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12TH Month FREE!
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Willits Kids Corner WILLITS KIDS CORNER GRAND OPENING!

SATURDAY, APRIL 25 | 1-4 PM
 90 S. MAIN STREET, WILLITS

- Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- Music by DJ Jake Bernie
- Family Circus Entertainment
- Bounce House
- Tours & Free Play
- Raffle • Giveaways • Cakewalk
- Food Trucks, Local Vendors & Free Ice Cream

Bring the whole family for an afternoon of fun!

SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

Agape Bible Church
290 S. Lenore Ave.
Willits, CA 95490
Where love is first and the Bible is central.
Sunday Services:
10:00 a.m. - Worship
Adult Sunday School 8:30 a.m.
Info? 707-459-1905
www.agapebiblechurch.com

Amazing Grace Assembly of God Church
803 Coast Street
P.O. Box 489, Willits
Worship Service - 5:00 p.m.
Pastor Kris Strickland
EVERYBODY IS WELCOME

Church of Christ
"What must we do to be saved?"
Acts 2:37
1095 S. Main St., Willits
(next to Super 8)
(707) 459-5023
Sunday Bible Study-10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship-11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service-6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study-7:30 p.m.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
265 Margie Drive
Willits, CA 95490
ALL ARE WELCOME
Sacrament Meeting
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Eckankar: The Path of Spiritual Freedom
• A University for Soul
• Spiritual Living Courses
• Spiritual Discussions
• ECK Light & Sound Services
More information?
Call 530-224-8703
www.eckankar.org

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

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
61 W. San Francisco Ave.
Willits, CA 95490
Father Aaron Bandannadam
Mass times:
Wednesday-Friday 9:00 a.m.
Saturday-5:30 p.m.
Sunday-9:00 a.m. - English
10:30 a.m. - Spanish
Confessions on Saturday
4:45 - 5:15 p.m.
Or by appointment at
707-459-2252
https://santhonywillits.org/
santhonywillits@gmail.com
We welcome All Walks of Faith

St. Francis Episcopal Church
1 North Main Street, Willits
707-272-0177
Sunday Service - 10 a.m.
In-person and on Zoom
Call for information.
ALL ARE WELCOME
The Rev. Betsy Bruneau

St. John Lutheran Church
Sunday Service
10:00 a.m.
(707) 459-2988
24 Mill Creek Drive
Facebook.com/stjohnswillits
ALL ARE WELCOME

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

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Labyrinth and Peace Garden
A place to find comfort
where all are welcome
Pastor Jaime Rogers-Fairchild
Sunday Worship at 10:30 am
286 School St. (at Pine)
707-459-2855
wumc@outlook.com
www.willitsumc.org
Facebook: facebook/willitsumc

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



Thursday, April 16

Talk with Your Supervisor at Brickhouse Coffee: This month's Town Hall with Supervisor John Haschak is set for Thursday, April 16 from 10 to 11 am at Brickhouse Coffee, 3 Main Street.

Bit & A Bite at the Museum: Join the Friends of the Mendocino County Museum for light refreshments, history, and conversation. Willits Life-long Laytonville resident Eloise Musgrave shares memories as a wife and mother in the days of the logging industry. Thursday, April 16 at 12:30 pm. 400 East Commercial Street. Also learn about volunteer opportunities.

Willits Farmers Market: Join your neighbors at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, for two more weeks of indoor farmers market. Thursday, April 16 and 23, from 3 to 5:30 pm, for the freshest produce available, local meat, farm fresh eggs, hot and cold food from local businesses, along with crafts, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. The market honors EBT and WIC cards and matches benefits to double your dollars.

Friday, April 17

Michelle Lambert at WCT: Homegrown Cali Roots singer/songwriter Michelle Lambert returns to Mendocino County for a one-time-only show highlighting her unique pop, hip-hop, reggae and indie sounds at the Willits Community Theatre on Friday, April 17 at 7:30 pm. Born in Covelo and raised in the Bay Area, Lambert started out her career on violin at age 2, went on to graduate from the Berklee College of Music, and then hone her performing skills at club gigs in Nashville, before going on to perform widely across the United States and abroad. Tickets are \$25 and available online at: www.wctperformingartscenter.org, or at the door until sold out. Early tickets are encouraged.



Malcolm Flint Duo at the Pub: Ryan Light (Uilleann Pipes) and Malcolm Flint (Guitar) play high-energy, driving dance music that is grounded in reverence for the tradition of the sound of the pipes and the rhythm of the guitar. Friday, April 17 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Saturday, April 18

Mike McGuire Town Hall at the Noyo Theater: Meet Mike McGuire, candidate for the new 1st Congressional District that includes Willits. Saturday, April 18, at the Noyo Theater, 57 East Commercial Street, starting with coffee and baked goods at 9:30 am; town hall gathering starts at 10 am. More info at https://www.voltemikemcguire.com/.

Thrift Store Clothing Extravaganza at the Senior Center: Come by on Saturday, April 18 from 11 am to 3 pm. All clothing items: \$1 each. Bring your own bags! 1501 Baechtel Road.

Friendship & Flavor at the Methodist Church: Nuestra Alianza of Willits presents this event, Saturday April 18 from 4 to 7 pm at the Willits United Methodist Church, 286 School Street.

"Join us for an evening of Mexican food, music, and other activities (photo booth, raffle, auction, and vendor tables)." \$5 to \$25 donation per person.

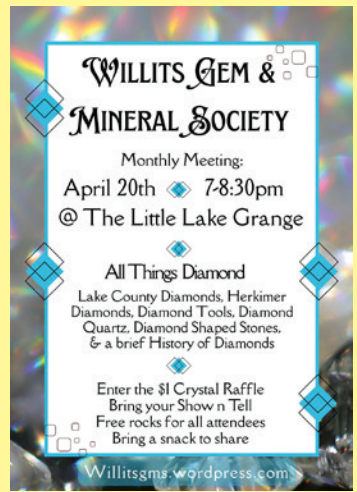
1990s Adult Prom: Willits Women in Business are hosting an Adult Prom at the Willits Community Center, Saturday, April 18 from 7 to 11 pm. Back to the '90s! Nostalgia, dancing, drinks, and fun. 18+ years are welcome! \$39 tickets - purchase online or in-person at Willits Power, Monkey Wrench or Humm MedSpa. A portion of proceeds will fund a scholarship for a local high school senior. More info: https://willitswomeninbusiness.com/

Adam Gabriel at the Pub: Adam Gabriel is a Georgia-born, Southern Oregon-based singer-songwriter who plays "a rich blend of Southern blues, folk, soul, and rock rooted in red clay and real stories." Saturday, April 18 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Sunday, April 19

Candidates Forum for 3rd District Supervisor: Sunday, April 19 from 4 to 6 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Four candidates, Buffey Wright Bourassa, Russell Green, Eric Hart, and Clay Romero, plan to attend the forum, to present their platforms and answer prepared questions and questions from the audience. Streamed live at the Mendocino Women's Political Coalition Facebook page or watch video on Willits Community Services YouTube page.

Monday, April 20
Willits Gem & Mineral Society at the Grange: The monthly meeting of the Willits Gem & Mineral Society is "All Things Diamond": Lake County Diamonds, Herkimer Diamonds, Diamond Tools, Diamond Quartz, Diamond Shaped Stones, and a brief History of Diamonds. Monday, April 20, 7 to 8:30 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Enter the \$1 Crystal Raffle. Bring your Show 'n Tell. Free raffle for all attendees. Bring a snack to share.



Tuesday, April 21

Soup and Salad Fundraiser at the Grange: Come by the Little Lake Grange on Tuesday, April 21 between 5:30 and 7:30 pm for a Soup and Salad fundraiser organized by the Willits Elementary Charter School 5th grade class. Tickets are \$10 at the door, and proceeds will benefit the Willits Winter Warmth Shelter. More info: (707) 459-1400

Thursday, April 23

Willits Farmers Market: Join your neighbors at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, for one last week of indoor farmers market, Thursday, April 23, from 3 to 5:30 pm, for the freshest produce available, local meat, farm fresh eggs, hot and cold food from local businesses, along with crafts, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. The market honors EBT and WIC cards and matches benefits to double your dollars.

Friday, April 24

Donnie & Friends at Shanachie: featuring local harmonica (aka "Mississippi saxophone") player Donnie, joined by friends and fellow musicians possibly including Gary Bouley, Jeff Martin, Rasta Sean and Tom G. among others, playing an improvisational variety of Chicago style Blues, Rock, Funk, Latin, and West African music. Friday, April 24 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Saturday, April 25

Flora Together Festival at Ridgewood Ranch: The thrills of ranch life take center stage as Headwaters Grazing's Flora Together Festival returns to the historic Ridgewood Ranch on Saturday, April 25 for a 10 am to 3 pm celebration of sheep, farming, and agrarian culture. Sheep shearing all day, with hands-on wool skirting; Ranch-to-table lunch;

Sheep dog demonstrations; Fiber arts demonstrations and activities; and much more. All are welcome. Admission: \$5 entry (kids free), \$20 lunch (\$10 kids lunch). Discount if purchased in advance. For tickets: www.headwatersgrazing.com/flocktogether0

"Kitchen Witchery" at the Grange: First in the "Herbs Excel at Keeping You Well" Grange Garden Class series, Saturday, April 25 from 10 am to 12 pm. Grant funding means these classes are free. Taught by Annie Waters, the class covers some of the many easy and tasty ways you can add culinary herbs into your daily life for continual wellness and disease prevention. "We will ID and harvest these herbs in the Grange Garden and make a pesto green sauce. The class will cover tea blends for thriving in summer heat. You will also learn how to make a DIY cleaning solution from rosemary." Info: Annie at anniebewaters@gmail.com

Little League Poker Tournament at Sparetime Distribution: Willits Redwood Little League holds a benefit Poker Tournament. Saturday, April 25 at Sparetime Distribution, 300 East Commercial Street. Poker starts at 5 pm. Registration starts at 4 pm. New Player lesson at 4:30 pm. \$100 poker buy-in includes tri-tip dinner with all the fixings, plus 1 drink ticket. No host beer and wine bar.

Rising Signs at the Pub: A Reggae band born of local area musicians who have been rocking the Northern California sector with originals, classic Reggae hits, and timeless covers in one configuration or another for several decades. Saturday, April 25 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.



Sunday, April 26

Grange Pancake Breakfast: Join us at the Grange for a wonderful collection of comfort foods - all you can eat of our "scratch" pancakes (sourdough, wholegrain, Hank's famous buttermilk, or gluten-free) plus organic, local farm-fresh scrambled eggs, Beeler's Quality bacon, real butter, juice and organic coffee or tea for only \$13! (\$11 for Senior plate, \$5 for kids under 10). Extra sides of organic fruit, Amish organic maple syrup, fresh fruit syrup or bacon for a small additional fee. Every fourth Sunday, Sunday, April 26 this month, from 8 to 11 am at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Punch cards are available for purchase: \$100 buys 10 months of breakfasts, a savings of \$30 a year.

THIRD DISTRICT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CANDIDATES FORUM
MAKE AN INFORMED CHOICE - KNOW YOUR CANDIDATES!
Buffey Wright Bourassa * Russell Green * Eric Hart * Clay Romero
SUNDAY, APRIL 19TH
4PM - 6PM
LITTLE LAKE GRANGE, WILLITS
Candidates will present their platforms and answer prepared and audience questions.
Forum will be broadcasted online at the Facebook page for Mendocino Women's Political Coalition (MWPC)
Ballots will be mailed to voters May 4th
Last day to register to vote - May 18th
ELECTION DAY IS JUNE 2ND
VOTE
Mendocino County's District 3: Corbett, Laytonville & Willits
Forum sponsored by League of Women Voters of Mendocino County (LWV) with the support of Mendocino Women's Political Coalition (MWPC), Willits Branch of LWV, Willits Community Center (WCC), Willits Women's Center (WWC), Willits United Methodist Church (UMC), and Willits Catholic Church.

PIZZA FUNDRAISER
Willits Charter
Willits Charter School Student Leadership will receive 8%-15% of total sales on 4/22. The more you spend the more we receive. Take your family out on 4/22.
11AM-9PM WEDNESDAY APRIL 22ND
WILLITS SLAM DUNK 1708 S MAIN ST. WILLITS

Spring High Tea
May 9, 2026 - 1-3pm
Methodist Church
286 School St., Willits
Limited Seating
Get tickets early.
"A fun time to dress up and wear a hat!"
Tickets: \$25/person
For information or ticket purchase, contact Jennie 707/972-5237
Fundraiser and silent auction held by Willits P.E.O. Chapter XO for women's scholarships

Willits Daily Bread Serving
Hot Dish or Soup with a bagged Sandwich & Snacks
Monday - Thursday 4:30 - 5:30
Pet food available most days
66 East Commercial Street
Across from Noyo Theater

WILLITS REDWOOD LITTLE LEAGUE POKER TOURNAMENT
SATURDAY, APRIL 25TH
New Player Lesson 4:30
Includes tri-tip dinner with all the fixings plus 1 drink ticket.
300 East Commercial St, Willits
Sponsored by Sparetime SUPPLY
NO HOST BEER & WINE BAR

Art Under 20
WILLITS CENTER FOR THE ARTS 2026
Willits High School * Willits Charter School * Potter Valley High School
OPENING RECEPTION: FRIDAY, MAY 1, 5:30-8:30
EXHIBIT RUNS THROUGH MAY 31
HOURS: FRIDAY-SUNDAY, 10AM-5PM
www.willitscenterforthearts.org

Art Under 20 at WCA, May 1

The annual Art Under 20 show of emerging artists at the Willits Center for the Arts is created and hung by the students themselves under the direction of Willits High art teacher Carolyn Bakewell. Opening celebration is set for after school on Friday, May 1 from 3 to 7 pm, and the public is welcome. The exhibit will be on display until Sunday, May 31 during normal gallery hours, Fridays through Sundays from 11 am until 5 pm.

First Fridays Summer Concert Series, May 1

Get ready to rock the block as Gas Money kicks off the First Friday Summer Series of free outdoor concerts, on Commercial Street between Humboldt and Main. Willits Chamber of Commerce presents: "Let's start the summer right - shop local, listen loud, and help Willits thrive!" Friday, May 1 from 6 to 9 pm. Food and event vendors.

Pete Sawyer & the Left Hand Monkey Wrench Gang, May 1

Doors open at 7 pm at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street; show at 7:30 pm. Pete and the Gang offer a high-energy "all killer, no filler" Grateful Dead experience every time they take the stage. Grab your friends, show up, and be part of the fun! Tickets available at Flying Dog Pizza or the Grange Office. \$35/ \$30 in advance.

Friendship & Flavor
April 18th, 2026 | 4:00-7:00 PM
Willits United Methodist Church
286 School St., Willits, CA 95490
Join us for an evening of Mexican food, music, and other activities (Photo booth, raffle, auction, & vendor tables)
\$5 to \$25/person Donation

THRIFT STORE CLOTHING EXTRAVAGANZA AT THE SENIOR CENTER
COME BY ON SATURDAY, APRIL 18 11 AM - 3 PM
(BYOB) BRING YOUR OWN BAGS!
ALL CLOTHING ITEMS: \$1 EACH
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57 East Commercial Street - Willits
707-459-6660
www.noyotheater.com
Mid week promotions: Wednesday - Matinee prices to all shows all day.

MARIO BROS GALAXY MOVIE
(PG) 1H 38min
Fri: 5:00, 7:15
Sat/Sun: 2:15, 5:00, 7:15
Wed/Thurs: 4:30, 7:15
Showtimes: April 17 to April 23

PROJECT HAIL MARY
ALL ADMISSIONS \$8
(PG) 1H 36min
Fri: 3:15, 6:30
Sat/Sun: 3:15, 6:30
Wed/Thurs: 3:15, 6:30

FIGHT CLUB (4K REMASTER)
(R) 2H 19min
Wed/Thurs: 3:30, 6:45
Nirvana the band the show the movie
(R) 1H 40 min
Fri/Sat/Sun: 5:15

EPIC, ELVIS PRESLEY IN CONCERT
(PG) 13 | 1H 37 min
Fri: 7:30
Sat/Sun: 3:00, 7:30
THEATER'S DELUXE LUXURY RECLINERS, LASER PROJECTION

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—Prince
Be The Antidote - Willits
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KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT IS OPEN!
NEW Half or Full Day Options
(707) 459-1400
WECS IS A K-5 SCHOOL WITH A FOCUS ON ACADEMICS, ART, MUSIC, SPANISH, AND COMMUNITY
Healthy Free Lunch Garden Area Large Yard

Free Afterschool Care
Hands on Learning
Art
Perfect Imperfect Art

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES 'Epic: Elvis Presley in Concert'



What this movie is about: This entertaining flick is "found footage" of Elvis Presley's rehearsals and performances at the International Hotel in Las Vegas. According to the Internet, in 1970, Elvis Presley had 636 consecutive sold-out shows. That's an incredible number, but of course as we all know, Elvis is the King of Rock-and-Roll.

What I learned by watching this flick: Elvis Presley's famous charismatic gyrations were his own spontaneous physical expressions of how he felt as he sang. They were not the result of pre-planned clever/sexy choreography. As Elvis says in the movie, they were just His Truth. During his rehearsals, his troupe of musicians and back-up singers quite obviously all liked being with him and his show. Though he was already the established "King of Rock-and-Roll," Presley still worked his butt off for his shows. It was clear, he loved and respected his fans.

Elvis Presley was a great American artist. A legend. And he was a great representative of our country around the world. Watching Elvis work is entertainment squared. I loved the movie. It's clean and it's truthful.

Parents: Not for little children. Teens and up.

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

Upcoming Spring Events

Soccer Sports Photos at Willits Charter School
 Formal Senior Photos at Potter Valley High School
 Swim Sports Photos at Willits Charter School
 Cap & Gown Grad Portraits at Mendocino College
 Spring Bunny Photos at River Oak Charter
 From Photos at Willits High School

Sites have forms and info!

pho•tog•ra•phress

photography by maureen (maore) jennison

Questions: Call: 707-972-7047 or Email: maureengetsmail@gmail.com

We are celebrating Earth Day!

April 22, 2026 11am - 3pm

Mariposa Market
Organic & Natural Foods

Sales all day Samples Raffles

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Sherwood School is a small, rural, tuition-free public school in the Willits Unified School District, just 10 miles up Sherwood Road. We offer a nurturing environment with strong student connections. Our curriculum is STEAM focused, integrating science, technology, engineering, arts, and math into hands-on, engaging learning experiences.

Outdoor education, field trips, free bus service, and free meals.

Come see why our students love to learn and grow.

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Ad Paid for by Elect Buffy Bourassa for District 3 Supervisor 2026
FPCC 1488011

Loki the Buddy

Loki is a happy boy, playing with friends, running about, and giving hugs. He does better being outdoors in a fenced space. He likes most dogs after an introduction and chooses his playmates, typically other males it seems (that can be situational). He and an old male Aussie and a young Great Pyrenees have a love triangle, wrestling and chasing each other. They are super cute and silly. He has a strong bond to his buddies, both two-legged and four!

Loki takes his time to warm up to some, and is particular about handling and restraint, not taking it well from people he doesn't know.

Loki has a healthy sense of adventure. A country life is definitely in order for him! He can be affectionate and gives great hugs. Loki has had physical and other forms of trauma in his life. Loki came to us with a badly broken tail / spinal injury. He's healed and is a happy guy given his own freedom of movement. He deserves a chance.

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

Root-bound Ivy

Ivy is a shy, gentle girl who is looking for a calm place to decompress – whether that's a foster home or a forever home. She came to us from Lake County Animal Control and would do best in a quieter environment

The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, is open to the public from 9:30 am to 5 pm Tuesday through Friday, and 10 am to 3 pm on Saturdays (closed for lunch each day from 1 to 1:30 pm). Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendoanimalshelter.com. Call 707-463-4427 for more information.

Striking Sunny

Sunny is a sweet and friendly 4-year-old cat who loves people and gentle affection. Found as an outdoor stray, she's ready to leave that life behind and settle into a loving home. Sunny has beautiful markings and unique features that make her truly one of a kind.

She would do best as the only cat in the home, where she can soak up all the attention and form a close bond with her humans. If you're looking for a loving, people-oriented companion, Sunny may be your perfect match.

The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, is open to the public from 9:30 am to 5 pm Tuesday through Friday, and 10 am to 3 pm on Saturdays (closed for lunch each day from 1 to 1:30 pm). Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendoanimalshelter.com. Call 707-463-4427 for more information.

BROOKSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

TK-Kindergarten Registration Now Open

To pre-register go to www.willitsunified.com
 Para registrar a su estudiante ve a www.willitsunified.com

Kindergarten - age 5 by September 1, 2026
 Transitional Kindergarten - age 4 by September 1, 2026
 Kinder - 5 años antes de Septiembre 1, 2026
 Transición de Kinder - 4 años de Septiembre 1, 2026

TK/Kinder Round-Up April 15, 2026 from 8-3 pm @ Brookside
 Reunión de TK/Kinder el 15 de abril de 2026 de 8 a 3 p. m. @ Brookside

Please bring the following documents to Brookside on April 15th:
 Por favor traiga los siguientes documentos a Brookside el 15 de abril:

- Birth Certificate/ Certificado de nacimiento
- Immunization Record/ Registro de vacunación
- Your child for a brief informal assessment/ Su hijo para una breve evaluación informal

If you questions please call the Brookside office at (707) 459-5385 or visit our website at www.willitsunified.com/brookside

Si tiene alguna pregunta, llame a la oficina de Brookside al (707) 459-5385 or visit nuestro sitio web www.willitsunified.com/brookside

Your mental health matters.

Servicios de salud mental disponibles en español

INSURED OR UNINSURED, WE HAVE OPTIONS.

You have a lot to manage. You don't have to be alone with stress, anxiety or depression.

Working with a mental health professional can improve many areas of your life.

MCHC has professionals who can help. Get help today.

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The rest of LaFever

From page 1

SFGate.com, and former journalism teacher at Ukiah High School, was charged with a violation of Penal Code 647.6(A)(1): "Annoy/Molest a child under 18 years of age." LaFever was arrested on those charges on November 3, 2025 by the Ukiah Police Department.

Court records show an arraignment was scheduled for April 9, under Superior Court Judge Charlotte Scott, Courtroom H, but records had not yet been updated by presstime. The Mendocino Voice website has reported: "LaFever did not enter a plea at his arraignment Thursday but is scheduled to appear in court again on April 27."

In their November 3 press release on the arrest, the UPD described the investigation: "On October 16, 2025, the Ukiah Police Department was notified by a concerned parent of a Ukiah High School student that a teacher, Matthew P. LaFever, 37, of Hopland, a journalism teacher at Ukiah High School, had made an inappropriate sexual comment towards her daughter. Through the course of the initial investigation into that incident, Ukiah Police Department detectives learned that a different UHS student had information regarding LaFever contacting minors on social media.

UPD detectives conducted an interview with the female high school student, who told the detectives that she had conversed with LaFever on social media, informed him that she was a minor, and LaFever had persisted to make sexually suggestive comments about her and repeatedly asked her to send him inappropriate photographs." According to the press release, "LaFever also sent the minor scantily clad and inappropriate photographs of himself."

The UPD press release also reported: "Through the course of their investigation the detectives also located additional evidence that LaFever was reaching out to numerous minors throughout Sonoma and Mendocino counties, however those victims have not been identified at this time due to the anonymity of social media."

The rest of Summer

From page 1

"During these events, East Commercial Street between Maine and Humboldt Street will be temporarily closed to allow space for vendors, live music, and community activities," he said. "Additional event space will include the adjacent alley and parking lot, which are visible from Main Street, creating an expanded area for the public to enjoy."

All detour signs will be removed by 9:30 pm each evening to ensure emergency access, temporary no parking zones will be established along the main route. The primary detour route will be similar to the one used during the Chamber's annual Car & Motorcycle Show, with traffic redirected onto State Street around Bud Snyder Park to bypass the closure at Main and East Commercial Street.

City Councilmember Larry Stranske asked who was responsible for security, setting up the restrooms, and taking the trash out. "All of the responsibilities for maintenance of an event are responsibilities of the event coordinator," Stack answered. "So that would be the chamber in this case.... So, the chamber will take care of everything, like they have with all their other events."

Mayor Tom Allman asked: "So, Connor, in order to have an entertainment zone for these First Friday events, an organization other than the city would have to actually go through the permit process to say, 'We'd like an entertainment zone.'"

"Currently," Stack replied, "this First Friday event doesn't have to do with the entertainment zone.... Next week there's some discussion about it, and I believe that the resolution and the rules set for it could possibly come up at a future council meeting."

"So it's just the east side of the highway," Allman asked. "Yes, it's just that that very small portion of East Commercial Street and that parking lot," Stack answered.

The City Council also passed a resolution via Consent Calendar approving the Willits Chamber of Commerce's use of public roads for their annual Car & Motorcycle Show, which will close down city streets for the event on Sunday, May 24, 2026, from 8 am to 5 pm at North Marin and East Commercial Street west on East Commercial Street to Main Street.

The closure will also extend from the intersection of Commercial Street and Main Street south to the intersection of Main Street and North Marin. The road closure will end at the crossroads between Main Street and East Valley Street. They plan to have all detour signage removed and put away by 5 pm.

In addition to the main route, additional no parking zones will be added by the Willits Chamber of Commerce to make sure that emergency access is easily available on South Humboldt Street. There also is a route being kept open on East Van Lane off Madden to allow continual access to the Willits Police Department during the event. The main addition this year beyond the previous Car Show in 2025 is the extension of the event from Wood Street to East Valley Street.



The rest of Food

Above: Happy participants at the third Food Security Town Hall meeting, April 11 at the Little Lake Grange. Photo by W. Graeber

Following the presentation, participants split into six subgroups for an hour-long discussion to refine goals and outline action steps.

After the hour, each group presented their process and topics of conversation, as well as how to move forward constructively and sustainably to enhance food sovereignty. Below are the summaries, outlined agendas, and contact information for these six action groups.

Action Group Summaries:

A. Digital Media - Food Processing and Storage
 Goal: Establish a network to connect food providers and consumers, and streamline management.
 Action Steps: Develop an app to link stakeholders, create both a virtual and physical food hub, and compile a list of local infrastructure for long-term emergency food storage.
 Contact: Laura Toomey Rowland, ljtrowland@gmail.com

B. Community and Backyard Gardens
 Goal: Increase access to fresh, local food by connecting gleaners, backyard gardeners, small farms, orchards, and community gardens. Foster local food production through education and fundraising.
 Action Steps: Revitalize Grateful Gleaners, support community gardens, build sustainable food-growing villages, promote backyard gardening, and

advocate for "food, not laws." Offer free classes.
 Contact: Ryan de la Porte, ryan.farporte@gmail.com

C. Farm-to-School Grants
 Goal: Identify funding opportunities, learn from successful grantees, and create a farm-to-school incubator.
 Action Steps: CDFA to share grant opportunities with schools and connect grant writers with potential grantees. Learn from Humboldt County Food Council, explore additional grants, and educate farmers and cottage producers about selling to and growing for schools.
 Contact: Wally Graeber, wagraeber@gmail.com

D. Nutrition and Medicinals
 Goal: Promote healthy eating and the use of medicinal herbs.
 Action Steps: Offer classes on food prep, herb harvesting, and processing. Provide educational films via Willits TV, collaborate with schools, and host canning/storage workshops. Educate on growing food and herbs and soil conditions, also in partnership with Zoe's Garden. The Grange Garden Project offers garden tours and classes throughout the year.
 Contact: Diane Smalley, dancemolloy@mcn.org

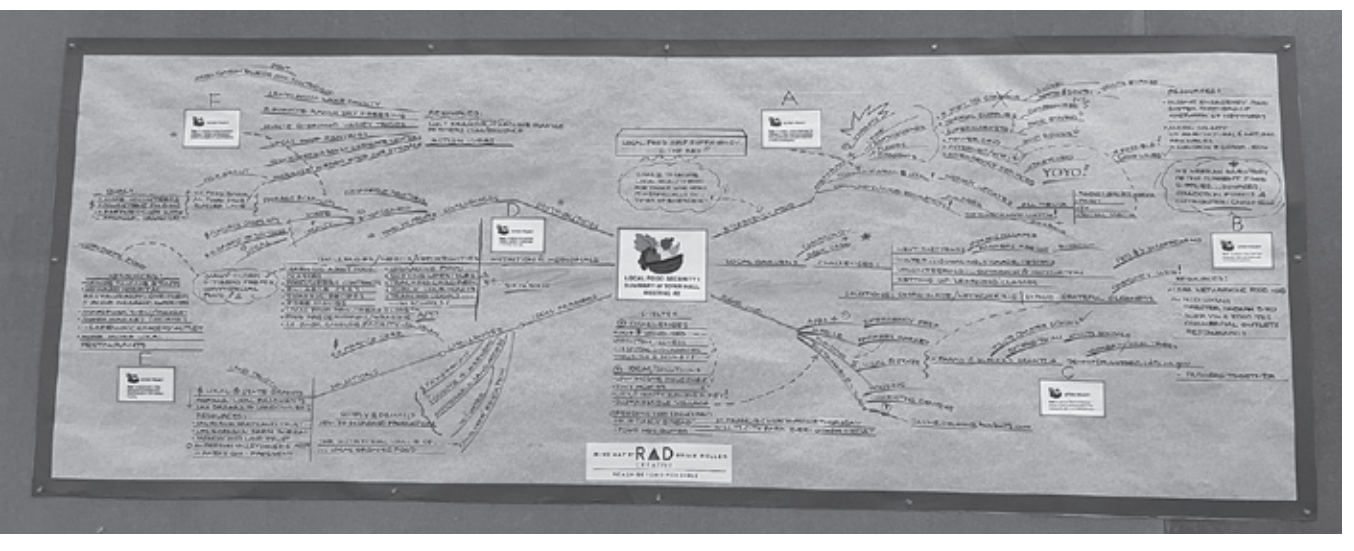
E. State Land Easement Grants
 Goal: Provide resources and answers regarding land use, access, labor, and housing needs.

Action Steps: Contact Anderson Land Trust and Anderson Housing Association to learn from their models and apply relevant insights locally.
 Contact: Buffey W. Bourassa, buffeywright@gmail.com

F. Collection, Storage, and Distribution Systems
 Goal: Strengthen local networks for collection, storage, and distribution, and engage youth in these efforts.
 Action Steps: Collaborate to research all aspects of collection, storage, and distribution. Meet twice a month via Zoom and in person at KLLG, on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 4 pm. Find distribution hubs and storage spaces, and advertise these resources.
 Contact: Jini Reynolds, gingerereynolds@gmail.com



Above: One of the six groups reports back to the general Food Security Town Hall group. Below: Brian Weller's visual representation, a Mind Map, on key areas of local food security.



The rest of Volunteer

Month, the open house will feature many of the current volunteers who will share their experiences and the vital support they provide for the hospital's programs and departments.

Volunteers at the hospital serve in multiple capacities throughout the hospital supporting our staff and creating a more healing environment, shares Patient Experience Manager Becky Hope. "We are fortunate to have a thriving and fun group of volunteers here at Adventist Health Howard Memorial. Our roles are vast and touch every part of the care journey, from front desk greeters to playing music in the lobby or even in patient rooms," Hope explains.

In addition to traditional volunteer roles, the hospital volunteer program also includes pet therapy. Each week, Chipper brightens the day of care givers and patients alike. Chipper provides a sense of love and joy that only a fluffy lovable dog can bring. Between his soft furry coat and his multitude of




Below: Adventist Health Howard Memorial volunteers, who serve in multiple capacities throughout the hospital. Photo by Maureen Jennison

Meet MIKE McGUIRE!

Candidate for the NEW 1st Congressional District

TOWN HALL

SAT, APR. 18
Coffee and baked goods at 9:30 a.m.
Town Hall gathering starts at 10 a.m.
NOYO THEATER, WILLITS



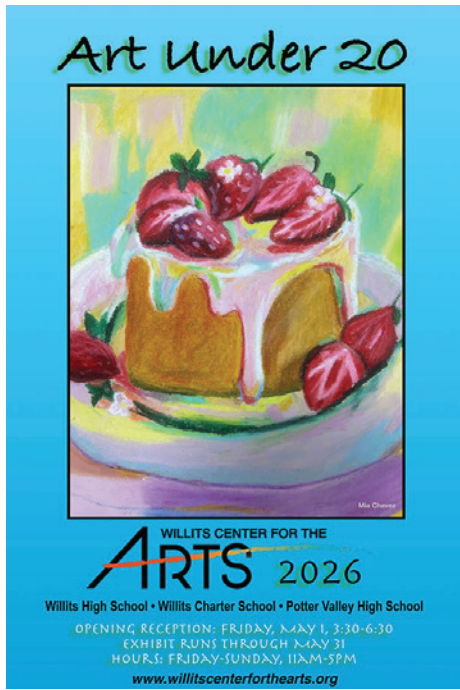
Mike will work to:

- RAISE the minimum wage
- ESTABLISH Medicare for All
- PROTECT rural hospitals
- LOWER the cost of living
- REIN IN the Executive Branch and ICE

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- ♦ fair elections
- ♦ financial assistance programs
- ♦ environmental protections
- ♦ civil liberties and more.

Paid for by Mendocino County Democratic Party
FEC# C00404145 FPPC # 82268 P.O. Box 28, Ukiah, CA 95482



'Art Under 20' student show opens May 1 at Willits Center for the Arts

May 2026 brings another amazing show of emerging artists to the Willits Center for the Arts galleries. The annual 'Art Under 20' student exhibit, created and hung by the students themselves under the direction of Willits High art teacher Carolyn Bakewell, is part of a long tradition of support for young artists at WCA. Student artists are from Willits High School, Willits Charter School, and Potter Valley High School.

An opening celebration for the show will be held after school on Friday, May 1 from 3 to 7 pm, at WCA, 71 East Commercial Street, and the public is welcome. The exhibit will be on display until Sunday, May 31 during normal gallery hours, Fridays through Sundays from 11 am until 5 pm.

Above, left: Willits High School's Arabella Mondo with her 'Starfish,' part of this year's "Art Under 20" show. Above, right: The Art Under 20 2026 poster, featuring artwork by WHS student Mia Chavez. Below: Willits students Bayleigh Maugh, left, and Stella Arkelian with weavings they're making in art class on hand looms.



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Rewards provided in the form of electronic gift cards for every qualifying order placed within the offer dates. Restrictions may apply. For official rules, visit milgard.com/tax-promo. Must register by August 3rd, 2026.

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Buy V400 Tuscany® Series, V300 Trinsic™ Series, or V250 Style Line® Series windows and/or patio doors from April 13 to June 8, 2026.
- Register for the promotion by August 3rd, 2026**
• Visit milgard.com/promo-registration
• Use promo code SPRING2026
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- Receive your gift card**
You will receive your electronic gift card approximately 12 weeks after taking delivery of your product.

NOTE: Your electronic gift card will be sent to the email address used during registration.

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Willits, CA 95490
(707) 459-6163
Mon.-Fri.: 8 am-5 pm

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Herbs excel at keeping us well

The term "Herbal Medicine" connotes the idea of taking herbs for a particular illness or imbalance, and indeed, medicinal herbs have a history of several thousand years of helping people in this way.

The Spring and Summer seasons are excellent times to remind ourselves of the many ways herbs can also help us be well, and herbs excel at this. Many of these herbs fall into the categories called tonics, adaptogens and nutritives. Taken daily, over weeks or months, they can improve our overall health.

There are many ways to fold these tasty, health-affirming herbs into our daily food and drink: condiments, infusions (tea), soup stock, honey, vinegar, oxydels, pestos, etc.

A series of Herb classes, "Herbs Excel at Keeping Us Well," will be offered at the Little Lake Grange, Room 4, in Willits, with each class taught by a different Herbalist.

Here is information on each class, including contact information:

April 25, "Kitchen Witchery: Parsley, Sage, Rosemary and Thyme," taught by Annie Waters

"Our favorite condiments are also traditional remedies for wellness and happiness. We will ID and harvest these herbs in the Grange Garden and make a pesto green sauce. The class will cover tea blends for thriving in Summer heat. You will also learn how to make a DIY cleaning solution from Rosemary."

Contact Annie at anniebeewaters@gmail.com

May 23, "We Are What We Eat: Let Food Be Thy Medicine," taught by Claudia Wenning

"Learn how to 'forage' your own pantry to identify the benefits of herbs, spices and whole foods, and how accessible ingredients can be used to support digestion, blood sugar balance, immune resistance, and sustained energy. The class will also cover safe and responsible wild foraging, -how to recognize, harvest and use select plants with confidence."

Contact Claudia at Claudia@claudiawenning.com

June 13, "Everyday Herbs: Using Herbs Daily in Our Food and Drink to Maintain Vital Health," taught by Donna d'Terra

"Instructions for making, and taste testing delicious herbal honeys, sprinkles, soup stocks, syrups, salad dressing, oxydels, vinegars, etc., using herbs that tone and nourish our bodies."

Contact Donna at DonnaDTerra@gmail.com

July 18, "Healthy Summer Herbs," with Leslie King

"Learn about your local summertime herbal allies."

Contact Leslie at trancdancr@aol.com

Grant allows free classes
Class fees: Due to a generous grant, the class are all FREE.

Each of these four class is 10 am to 12 pm and will include a guided tour of the Grange Garden. Herb plant starts may be for sale.

Class sizes are limited, so contact each teacher to sign up for their class.

Come join us to learn how to use herbs that excel in keeping us well!

Donna d'Terra is an herbalist and herbal educator in Willits.

Willits Weekly can run legal notices including fictitious business name statements, foreclosure notices, storage unit auctions, and more. Contact us for more information at willitsweekly@gmail.com

WW602
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2026-F0121
The following person or persons are doing business as Moon Lady, 100 S. Main St., Willits, CA 95490; 707-272-2772. Mailing address: 1571 S. Main St., Willits CA 95490.
Registered owner: Three Girls LLC, 1571 S. Main St., Willits CA 95490; state of incorporation: California.
This business is conducted by a limited liability company.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 18, 2026.
FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk Recorder on March 19, 2026.
/s/ Hannah K. Bouthillier, Managing Officer
Publication Dates: April 2, 9, 16, 23, 2026

LEGAL NOTICES

WW603
CITY OF WILLITS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Willits City Council, at its regular meeting on **April 22, 2026**, at 6:30 p.m., will conduct a public hearing to consider the following matter at the time listed or as soon thereafter as the item may be heard:

PROJECT: Right-Of-Way Abandonment #RA 23-01
APPLICANT: William Harris

REQUEST: Applicant is requesting that the City of Willits vacate an undeveloped alley approximately 14 feet wide and 650 feet long, oriented east-west. The alley was originally established as part of the Oak Park Addition subdivision in 1902. The request also includes conveyance of the vacated right-of-way to the adjoining property owners to the centerline. This matter is before the City Council for formal approval consistent with Public Streets, Highways, and Service Easements Vacation Law (California Streets and Highways Code §§8300-8363).

LOCATION: Alley is located between residential homes fronting West Oak Street and State Highway 20 including the following described Assessor's Parcel Numbers (APNs): 006-131-01, -02, -03, -09, -10, -11, -15, -16, -17, -18, -19, -20, -23, -24, -25, -26, -27, -33, -34, -39, and -40 and 006-181-10 and -11.

A map of the proposed alley vacation is available at City Hall, located at 111 East Commercial Street, Willits, CA 95490.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: Categorically Exempt from CEQA, pursuant to Section 15305 (Class 5 - Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations) of the CEQA Guidelines.

MEETING LOCATION: Council Chambers at City Hall; located at 111 East Commercial Street, Willits, CA 95490.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE: Prior to the meeting, electronic copies of the staff report and agenda will be available on the City's website at <http://ca-willits.civicplus.com/AgendaCenter/City-Council-1>.

- Written public comments regarding the proposed project may be submitted by email to Dusty Duley at dduley@cityofwillits.org, or the City Clerk's office, 111 East Commercial Street, Willits, California, 95490, no later than 5:30 p.m., on Tuesday, April 21st, 2026. All public comments received will be provided to the Council in advance of the meeting.

- Oral comments may be presented to the Willits City Council during the public hearing. If you challenge the project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Willits Community Development Department or the Willits City Council, at or prior to, the public hearing. All persons are invited to appear and present testimony in this matter.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the public meeting, please contact the City Clerk at (707) 459-4601. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will assist staff in assuring that reasonable accommodations are made to provide accessibility to the meeting.

/s/ Delores Pedersen. City Clerk
Publication Dates: April 9, 16 2026

Rotary Club of Willits

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WillitsRotaryClub@gmail.com

CLASSIFIEDS

Brown Bag Lunch Program
Every Saturday at 1 pm sack lunches are served by local churches, community organizations, and families at Bud Snider Park on East Commercial. Come at 1 pm to be assured a lunch!

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Do you need food?
Willits Food Bank, 344 Railroad Avenue, Willits, CA 95490. Open Wednesdays & Fridays, 11 am to 4:30 pm. New Client Choice model where you select your own items. Bring shopping bags. Bring an ID. Info: (707) 459-3333

Homemade Alterations by Teresa
Alterations & seamstress work available locally. Reasonable prices and prompt service. Contact: (707) 472-8787.

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Clean & Quiet, Upstairs Studio apt, close to downtown, W/D facility on hand, \$800.00 per month & Sec. deposit. Call Armo 707-354-0048.

RV/Trailer Space for Rent
Space for RV's and Trailers - starts at \$500 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 972-4696. See at <http://www.oakvine.net/p>

The rest of Forum

will have equal time to present and answer questions. The forum will also be live-streamed at the Mendocino Women's Political Coalition Facebook page, and posted later on the Willits Community Television YouTube site.

The forum is being co-sponsored by several county-wide and local Willits groups: League of Women Voters of Mendocino County, Little Lake Grange, Mendocino Women's Political Coalition, Willits Economic Localization, Willits Environmental Center, and Willits Indivisible.

MENDOCINO WOMEN'S POLITICAL COALITION
CANDIDATES FORUMS
COUNTY SUPERVISOR, District 3
Sunday, April 19, 4-6 pm
Willits Little Lake Grange
District 3 Supervisorial Candidates:
Buffey Wright Bourassa
Russell Green
Eric Hart
Clay Romero

COUNTY SUPERVISOR, District 3
Saturday, May 2, 3-5 pm
Covelo Library Commons
(Thanks to MAM Feed and Western Aes)
District 3 Supervisorial Candidates:
Buffey Wright Bourassa
Russell Green
Eric Hart
Clay Romero

COUNTY SUPERVISOR, District 5
Tuesday, May 5, 6-8 pm
Ukiah Civic Center
District 5 Supervisorial Candidates:
Kevin Evans
Todd Lyle
Ted Williams
AND SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE, ROOM 3
Judge candidates:
Patrick Pekin
Colby Friend

WILLITS ROTARY CLUB

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NC Financial Group awarded Gold in categories Accounting Firm 2025, 2026, Financial Advisor (2024, 2025, 2026), and Tax Prep (2025, 2026). The Best of Lake and Mendocino presented by Coastal Media is a vote-based contest for individuals and businesses that serve Lake County, CA, and Mendocino County, CA. Nominations are provided by the community and after the nomination period is completed, the names of nominated businesses in each of the categories are finalized and make up the official Best of Lake and Mendocino voting ballot. The audience can then vote on one choice in each category. Voters are allowed to nominate without limits and once the voting period has begun, one vote per category per 24-hour period is allowed. Listing in this publication and/or award is not a guarantee of future investment success. This recognition should not be construed as an endorsement of the adviser by any client. No compensation was provided directly or indirectly by the recipient for participation or in connection with obtaining or using the third-party rating or award.

EA #102394 | CA DRE #01854336 | CA Insurance Lic. # 0968496

OBITUARY |

Jim Padula

James Edward Padula, 74, passed away peacefully at his home in Willits on April 3, 2026, after a battle with cancer.

Jim was born in Santa Rosa on March 28, 1952, to parents Elmer and Lorainne Padula. He graduated from Willits High School in 1970 and went on to attend Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, before transferring to the University of California, Davis, where he graduated in 1975 with a degree in physics.

After completing his education, Jim returned to Willits and joined his father at Padula Lumber Company. Together, they expanded the family business by developing a retail lumber and building supply store. With an early interest in renewable energy, Jim founded Solar Electric Specialties (SES) in 1980. SES designed and installed remote power systems for residential and commercial clients and grew into one of the largest photovoltaic distributors in the country. Jim continued his entrepreneurial work and, in 2003, started Instawave Networks, helping to bring internet access to rural communities.

From a young age, Jim had a natural curiosity about how things worked. He enjoyed building rockets and radios and was always exploring new ideas. His interest in science and technology stayed with him throughout his life. He also enjoyed traveling, with Hawaii being one of his favorite places to visit.

Jim was a thoughtful and generous person who cared deeply about his family and friends. He will be remembered for his intelligence and loyalty and will be deeply missed.

Jim is survived by his sister, Nancy (Warren) Coffman; his nephews Justin (Krystle) Coffman, Kevin Coffman and Logan (Shannon) Nuberg; and his niece Allyson Coffman. Jim was preceded in death by his parents and his brothers, Larry and Rich Padula.

A memorial will be held on May 2 at 1 pm at Brooktrails Lodge in Willits.



OBITUARY |

Lori Harris

Lori "Lora Lee" Harris, age 95, passed away peacefully on April 6, 2026, surrounded by the love of her family. She was born Lora Lee Faulk on April 20, 1930, in San Bernardino, California, to Bert and Loretta Faulk.



In 1959, Lori made her home in Willits, California, where she built a life rooted in family, community, and quiet devotion to those she loved. She married Donald C. Harris in 1949, and together they shared a lifetime of love, partnership, and cherished memories.

Lori dedicated 25 years as a teacher's aide with the Willits Unified School District, where her patience, gentle humor, and genuine kindness touched the lives of countless children. She had a special way of making others feel seen, cared for, and valued.

She also carried a deep love for travel and adventure, especially in her younger years. She visited Mexico often and journeyed to Guatemala and Sweden, where she connected with her heritage and met relatives. Her Swedish roots were a source of great pride and joy throughout her life.

Lori was preceded in death by many dear friends and loved ones, including her parents, Bert and Loretta Faulk; her brothers, Bill and Bud Faulk; her husband, Donald C. Harris; her daughter, Debi Anderson; her son-in-law James Anderson; and her grandson, Eric Dockins. We find comfort in imagining the beautiful reunion as she was welcomed into their arms.

She is lovingly survived by her four children: Judi (Dave) Kline, Don (Linda) Harris, Janie (Carl) Newby, and Steve (Sherry) Harris, as well as numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren who will carry forward her love and legacy.

A celebration of Lori's life will be held at a later date, where family and friends will gather to honor and remember her.

Lori will be remembered for her deep love of family, her quiet strength and grace, her unwavering positivity, and her warm, wonderful sense of humor. Her presence brought comfort and joy to so many, and she will be deeply missed and forever held in our hearts.

OBITUARY |

Frankie Yadon

Frankie Lee Yadon was born in Willits, California to William Yadon and Shirley Yadon on September 9, 1959, and passed on March 10, 2026, in Lake City, Florida. Frankie was preceded in death by his father Bill Yadon, his mother Shirley Yadon, and his brother Brian Yadon.

He is survived by his brother Ricky Yadon, and sister Teresa Brown; his sister-in-law Deena Yadon, and brother-in-law Brian Brown. Frankie is also survived by nephews Tylor Yadon, Geoff Belford, Jose Paz, Andres Paz; his nieces Nicole Belford, Emilee Yadon, Emily Paz, and Mahalia Brown; great-nephews Brantly and Cooper Belford, Grayson Yadon, and Cain Paz; and great-nieces Addison Yadon and Josie Paz, along with multiple uncles, aunts, cousins, and friends.

We are celebrating Frankie, graveside, on April 19, 2026, at 1 pm at the Little Lake Cemetery, 875 East Hill Road, in Willits.

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