

Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

Online & Print



It's Real Estate Section Thursday!

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits
 Donations Accepted Edition No. 549 **Thursday, May 9, 2024**

Sherwood Firewise celebrates 6 years

Mathew Caine
 Features Writer
 willitsweekly@gmail.com

"This is our sixth year as a Firewise USA Community," said longtime Sherwood Firewise volunteer organizer Keith Rutledge, addressing the attendees and panel at the annual meeting. "We've managed to bring in millions of dollars into the community over the past six years, doing a tremendous amount of vegetation management.

"Today, we want to concentrate on the county wildfire protection plan that gets updated every once in a while," Rutledge said. The plan was last updated in 2015 and, Rutledge said, "There have been many changes that need to be incorporated into the new plan

"We've done some evacuation planning with some drills. We've got the emergency access routes that have been opened up and maintained.

"Today, we have Supervisor John Haschak, Chief Jon Noyer from Brooktrails Fire, Scott Cratty with the Mendocino Fire Safe Council, Chad Smith with CAL FIRE, and Jeff Adair with the county

Read more of **Firewise**
 Over on Page 5

Fire Safe Council announces 17 micro-grants

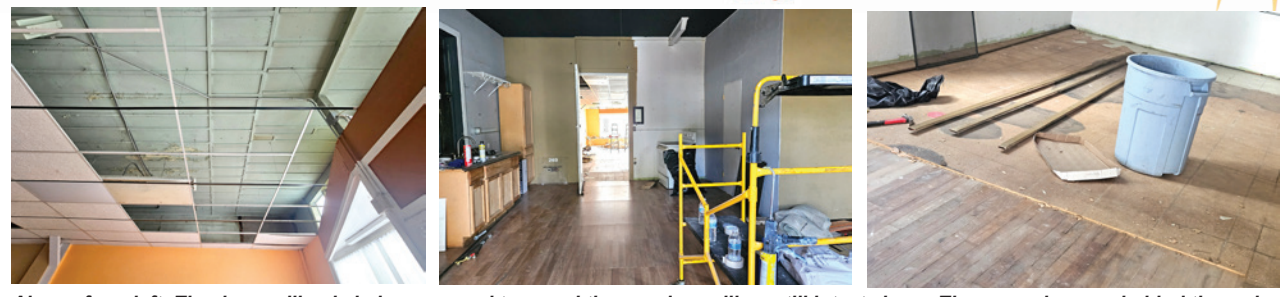
Submitted by Mendocino County Firesafe Council

The Mendocino County Fire Safe Council announced the recipients of this year's Micro-Grant program awards on May 1. Seventeen deserving local fire departments and affiliated neighborhood fire safe councils have been selected to spearhead vital fire-safety projects in their respective communities.

Local organizing and action are cornerstones of identifying and mitigating hazards that threaten our neighborhoods. Micro-grant funding gives communities momentum for pivotal projects, transforming apprehension into preparedness and action. Recognizing this significance, the PG&E Corporation Foundation has generously contributed \$50,000 funding, nearly doubling the resources available for the Fire Safe Council's 2024 grants.

Ranging from \$4,500 to \$10,000, these Micro-Grants will make a tangible impact throughout the county. This year, a total of \$130,622 (significantly more than last year, thanks to PG&E's continued

Read more of **Micro-grants**
 Over on Page 2



Above, from left: The drop ceiling is being removed to reveal the wooden ceiling, still intact above. The second space, behind the main 2000-square-foot floor space, offers an additional 500 square feet of opportunity. The top two layers of flooring are being removed to reveal the wooden flooring underneath. Below: Husband-and-wife remodel team Larry Guenther and Ashley Hill smile in their historic building which is currently undergoing renovation and will soon be ready for a new life.



Photos by Maureen Jennison

Council allocates \$1.17 million in American Rescue funds

Jennifer Poole
 Editor & Reporter
 willitsweekly@gmail.com

At their April 24 meeting, the Willits City Council approved a fine-tuned list of projects and organizations to benefit from the \$1,169,792 of federal American Rescue Plan funds the City of Willits has received.

On the list was \$25,000 each for three Willits community service groups: Willits Harrah Senior Center, Willits Community Services, and Our Daily Bread.

In discussing the agenda item, City Manager Brian Bender emphasized that "the city was in the driver's seat" as far as juggling project funding around if needed. The resolution that councilmembers approved included a "Whereas" stating: "the City Council is aware that they have the ability to amend the project list due to changes in needs and circumstances."

The city has a two-year timeline to spend these funds, and via this item, has authorized the city manager to oversee the

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

A new life

Renovation of one of downtown's historic buildings underway by enthusiastic new owners

"We're pretty optimistic," Larry Guenther said, looking around at the half-removed drop ceiling, the painters walking in and out, and his wife, Ashley Hill, who nodded along with a laugh and a shrug. "This is a great old building, it has good redwood bones, and we're excited to bring it back to life and make it available for new use in the community."

Guenther and Hill took ownership of 263 South Main Street, the Odd Fellows building, in September of 2023, and have spent the last several months cleaning up, assessing needs, prioritizing tasks, and planning out the project.

"The building certainly needed some TLC, but the structure is solid," said Guenther. "We were amazed that there wasn't any massive rot, or water damage. It certainly needed some windows repaired and replaced, and a lot of clean-up. We're trying to bring things back closer to how it was originally – like removing the drop ceiling, uncovering the hardwood floors, bringing back period-appropriate lighting and fixtures, that sort of thing. Getting new paint on, and fast, was at the top of our to-do list."

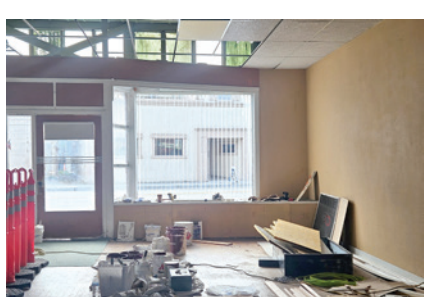
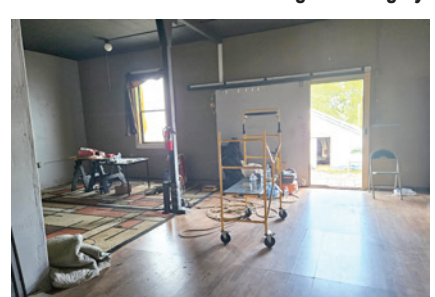
Many residents noticed the plywood coming down from the windows,

Maureen Jennison
 Graphics & Photographress
 willitsweekly@gmail.com

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



At top: Old labels and nails hang on the old rafters, perhaps as part of a display or sale in the building's previous life. Above: Owner Larry Guenther works on the building's heating system.



Above, from left: The back space features a large door that opens to a possible loading dock. Owner Ashley Hill works at removing nails from the old flooring to uncover the wood beneath. The front picture windows let in wonderful natural light to the main floor space. Below: A new coat of paint and uncovering and replacing broken windows gave an immediate facelift to the building.

State issues draft EIR for county commercial cannabis

Jennifer Poole
 Editor & Reporter
 willitsweekly@gmail.com

The California Department of Cannabis Control announced Friday that the "Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Licensing of Commercial Cannabis Cultivation in Mendocino County" is now available for review. The public is invited to comment on this document for a 45-day period that started May 3 and extends to Monday, June 17, at 5 pm.

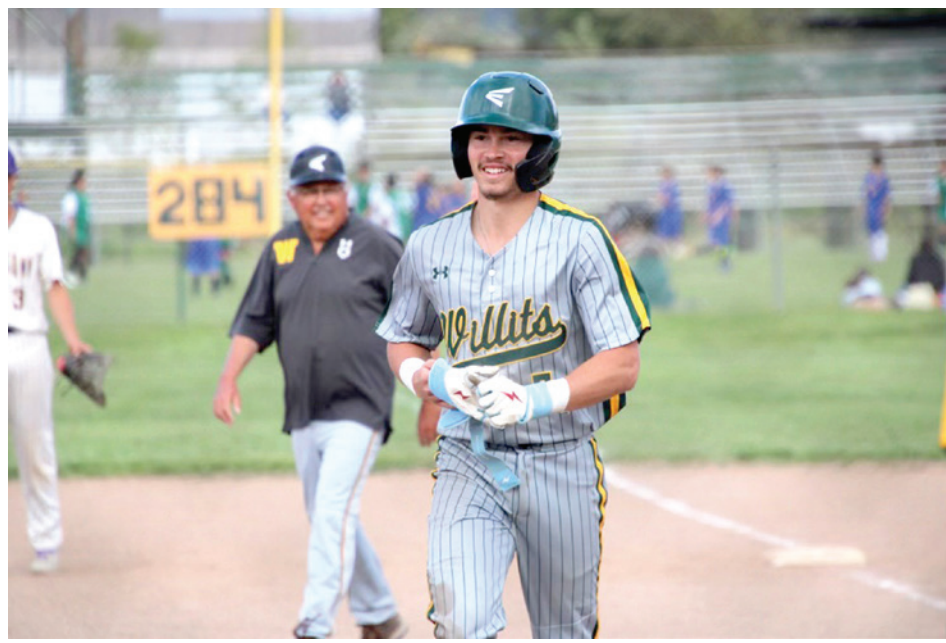
The DEIR, the 647-page main document, and attachments, may be reviewed online under "View the Documentation" at <https://cannabis.ca.gov/2023/07/mendocino-county-environmental-impact-report>

Printed copies are available to review at Mendocino County's Cannabis Department Counter, 860 North Bush Street in Ukiah.

The DCC will hold a virtual public meeting to receive comments on the DEIR on Tuesday, June 4, from 10 am to 12 pm. Information about how to participate in the WebX online meeting or telephone conferencing

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





COMMUNITY SPORTS NEWS

A bittersweet farewell to our softball and baseball seniors

Friends, families and teammates gathered with posters, pictures, flowers and love to honor our seniors as they played their last games ever at Willits High School.

Our varsity baseball senior players this year were Kooper Dockins, Logan Sanderson, Jake Grooms and Gunner Globe. Our varsity softball senior players this year were Elena Arkelian, Kaylee Campbell and Mariah Rodriguez.

Lady Wolverines have led a season these senior girls will not forget. Their last home game did not disappoint with an 11-1 win against Potter Valley. Then, they traveled to Calistoga to take on the Wildcats with another win, leaving them on a straight three-game victory-roll, taking them to the playoffs! Congratulations ladies!

"This year we have three seniors on the varsity softball team," said Coach Ray Britton. "All three seniors are great girls to have on the team. They are all very talented athletes and great students in the classroom."

"Elena Arkelian has played all four years on varsity," said Britton. "She is the captain and one of the leaders this year. She is very strong at third base and a great hitter."

"Kaylee Campbell joined the team in her junior year and has been an asset to the team," Britton continued. "She plays really well in the outfield and is strong at the bat. Mariah Rodriguez has played three years of varsity softball," shared Britton. "She has come a long way from her first year. She is a good outfielder and seems to find her way into base often."

The Wolverines Baseball team came out hot on the offense for their last home game. They strung together four runs in the first inning, but defensive errors put them in the hole.

The boys did display talent this year individually and as a whole. While they may not have grazed the path of luck to a winning streak, they had fun playing their hearts out. These moments are always opportunities to learn and grow in life. The lessons they take and the memories they share will last for a lifetime.

Read the rest of **Sports** Over on page 9

At top, left: Kooper Dockins smiles while coming off the field. At top, right: Gunner Globe prepares for the pitch and is ready to swing. At left, top left: Elena Arkelian gets ready to scoop up a ground ball. At left, top right: Mariah Rodriguez happily walks to her position in outfield. At left: Logan Sanderson prepares for the pitch from Jakob Kirby. Below: Jake Grooms swings for a base hit. At right: Kaylee Campbell prepares for the hit in left field.

Photos by Ava Dockins

707-459-9116
277 N. Lenore Ave. WILLITS, CA
24-HOUR RADIO DISPATCHED TOWING



Is a food assistance program. You can be on Social Security, have money in the bank, own cars and still receive CalFresh benefits. Call the Senior Center to schedule an appointment to see if you qualify. 707-459-6826

Employment Opportunity: Sr. Planner

Annual Salary 78,821.18 - \$95,807.50 DOQ/DOE
Minimum Qualifications:
Bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year college or university in urban or regional planning, or a related field.
Four years of progressively responsible related experience in city, county, or regional planning with a concentration in current planning and/or long-range planning.
•Must possess and maintain a valid California Class C Driver License and satisfactory driving record. Out of state valid motor vehicle operator's license will be accepted during the application process.
Desirable Experience/Education Special Requirements:
Experience using GIS software to create reports and maps.
Some private sector experience will be considered a plus.
American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) certification desired.
Application Deadline: Friday May 10, 2024, by 4:00 P.M.
Contact Karen Stevenson at (707) 459-7176 or email kstevenson@cityofwillits.org

Employment Opportunity: City Planner

Annual Salary \$71,329.23 - \$86,701.86
Minimum Qualifications:
Bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year college or university in urban or regional planning, or a related field.
Two years of progressively responsible related experience in city, county or regional planning.
•Must possess and maintain a valid California Class C Driver License and satisfactory driving record. Out of state valid motor vehicle operator's license will be accepted during the application process.
•One (1) additional year of qualifying experience may be substituted for the required academic major.
Desirable Experience/Education Special Requirements:
Experience using GIS software to create reports and maps.
Application Deadline: Friday May 10, 2024, by 4:00 P.M.
Contact Karen Stevenson at (707) 459-7176 or email kstevenson@cityofwillits.org

LEGAL NOTICES

WW486
SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)
(CASE NUMBER: (Numero del Caso): 24CV00401)
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): RONNIE PUTNAM, a single man, FIDELITY NATIONAL TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY, a Florida Corporation, all persons unknown, claiming any legal or equitable right, title, estate or lien, or interest in the property described in the complaint adverse to the title of the Plaintiff, or any cloud upon the Plaintiff's title thereto; DOES 1-150, inclusive.
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): TIMOTHY T. McISAAC and PIARIVA McISSAC, as Trustees of the McIaac Revocable Trust dated July 29, 2015.
NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.
You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.
There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Website (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.
NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.
iAVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 dias, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su version. Lea la informacion a continuacion. Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO despues de que le entreguen esta citacion y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefonica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en forma legal correcta si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas informacion en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exencion de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia.
Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remision a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniendose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperacion de \$10,000 o mas de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesion de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda deshechar el caso.
The Real Property which is subject to this action is described as being: that certain real property situated in the State of California, County of Mendocino, more particularly described as the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 4, Township 22 North, Range 10 West, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian, also administratively described as Mendocino County Assessor's Parcel Number 034-050-05.
The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y direccion de la corte es): SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF MENDOCINO, 100 North State Street, Ukiah, CA 95482
The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la direccion y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado es): CHRISTOPHER J. NEARY 110 South Main Street, Suite C Willits, CA 95490 (707) 459-5551 Date: (Fecha) April 3, 2024 s/Kim Turner/Deputy (Adjunto) Publication Dates: May 9, 16, 23, 30, 2024

LEGAL NOTICES

WW483
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2024-F0196
The following person or persons are doing business as Danny Mihelic Construction Services, 260 Margie Drive, Willits, CA 95490.
Registered owner: Summit Signal, Inc., 260 Margie Drive, Willits, CA 95490.
This business is conducted by a corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on January 2, 2024.
FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on April 8, 2024.
/s/ Danny Mihelic, Vice President, Summit Signal, Inc.
Publication dates: April 18, 25 and May 2, 9, 2024.

WW485
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2024-F0223
The following person or persons are doing business as Scoops, 110 North Main Street, Willits CA 95490.
Mailing address: 575 Redwood Avenue, Willits CA 95490.
Registered owner: Lisa Kvasnicka, 575 Redwood Avenue, Willits CA 95490.
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A.
FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on April 24, 2024.
/s/ Lisa A. Kvasnicka
Publication dates: May 2, 9, 16, 23, 2024.

WW484
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2024-F0192
The following person or persons are doing business as It's A Shore Thing!, 262 North Main Street, Fort Bragg CA 95437.
Registered owner: Kevin M. Silva, 43193 Caspar Little Lake Road, Mendocino CA 95460.
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on April 4, 2024.
FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on April 4, 2024.
/s/ Kevin M. Silva,
Publication dates: May 2, 9, 16, 23, 2024

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

CLASSIFIEDS

30 words for \$15 for 2 weeks

Indoor Yard Sale
Giant Indoor Yard Sale - Deep Valley Christian School, 8555 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley, (a personable art-lover/gallery host to work weekends to engage visitors and organize volunteer schedules. Please respond with resume to manager@willitscenterofhearts.org.

John Ford Ranch Beef
John Ford Ranch still has the 50 lb. Rancher's Choice Box for \$390.00 and the 25 lb. Hamburger Box for \$170.00. Please contact Debbie Arkelian @ 459-5049. (Prices change effective 6/25/23)

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/tp

Seeking House to Rent
We're an older, professional couple, long-term tenants, seeking a house to rent. Immediate occupancy. For references & info sheet, email: kauaimike@live.com or call: 510-395-2667.

Willits Food Bank at new location
Willits Community Services & Food Bank continues to distribute food, pantry staples, hygienic products, and more, to hungry families and individuals in the Willits area, at their new location at 344 Railroad Avenue. Food distribution is available on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 4:30 pm. Info: 459-3333.



The rest of **Sports** From page 8

Coach Tim King had great things to say about the seniors: "Kooper Dockins was the captain of this team. He showed strong leadership, talent, strong work ethic, and maturity beyond his years. Always striving for perfection, he took every opportunity to put in extra work whenever he could. He was a mentor to younger or less-experienced players. He was always the voice of positivity in the dugout and on the field. It was a privilege to have him on the team."

"Logan Sanderson was a strong contributor to the team," said King. "He served us well catching behind the plate. He kept a good vibe in the dugout and was generous in sharing his knowledge with the other players. He was an asset to our team."

"Gunner Globe loves to play first base," explained King. "But, he stepped up and played outfield most of the season because that was an area of weakness and that is where we needed him. He did so without complaint and gave us a strong outfield play. He has a great attitude and was a pleasure to be around."

"Jake Grooms played many positions wherever we needed him," King continued. "Second base and pitcher are his favorite positions, but he also spent time at third and in the outfield, depending on where we needed him. It really helped us to have a utility guy who could contribute all over the field. He also came up with some key hits on offense. He also kept a great attitude and was a pleasure to be around."

"Robert Husarek, Steven Husarek, and Joey Smith came out for their senior year after not playing since Little League," King said. "High school baseball is a huge learning curve when you haven't played for so long. Unfortunately, they didn't finish the season. But, I was impressed that they showed up and worked hard every day while they were with us. I saw great improvement throughout the season."

Win or lose, our community is very proud of all of our talented young athletes. We wish you nothing but the best in all your future endeavors and can't wait to see what you all accomplish in life.

We are very proud of you and all of your hard work! Be proud of yourselves as you step out into the great unknown and pave your way courageously into your own! Hold onto your memories and never forget Wolverine pride lives on forever!

Marc Komer
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I am not an attorney, and can only provide self-help services at your specific direction.

Willits Weekly Online & In Print

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EARS SATELLITE
DRAWS TAW SEEDS
PSEUDONYM SNAP
SEREROAF SMA
EPTABARRAS
DACES POKEBERRY
DOONPATES ARIL
ALAE BLUR ULNAE
SILD SISP SALS

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Willits Post Office to participate in Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive

Saturday, May 11

Posted by U.S. Post Office

Each year, letter carriers across the country head out on their routes on the second Saturday in May to collect donations of non-perishable food items to benefit local food pantries. Since launching in 1993, the National Association of Letter Carriers' annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive has grown into the nation's largest one-day food drive, helping to fill the shelves of food banks in cities and towns throughout the United States.

The need is great, but you can help. We invite you to join letter carriers and our partner organizations in the fight to end hunger in our communities by participating in the annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive.

Simply leave your donation of non-perishable food in a bag near your mailbox on the second Saturday in May, May 11 this year, and your letter carrier will do the rest.

If you have an office box, or would like to bring your donation to the post office directly, stop by 315 South Main Street or call 707-459-5255 for more information.



Above and top: City letter carriers Matthew Jennison, left, Victoria VanBezooyen and Rebecca Laurent, right, smile on the loading dock with packages and cans to remind the community about the upcoming food drive on Saturday.

NC Financial Group
675 S Main Street, Willits, CA 95490
www.ncfinancialgroup.com

(855) 240-6606
(415) 480-3669

Nicholas Casagrande, EA
CED & Financial Advisor
nicholas.casagrande@ceterafirm.com

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The Best of Lake and Mendocino presented by Bicoastal 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 advisor 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.

Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive
May 11th
Leave a sturdy bag of non-perishable food in your mailbox, and your letter carrier will take care of the rest!

Happy Mother's Day!

Submissions received for our community collage to celebrate the moms in our lives



Ailia Hayes with my mom Falon Lynch. I love you mom!!

Happy Mother's Day to our best friend.

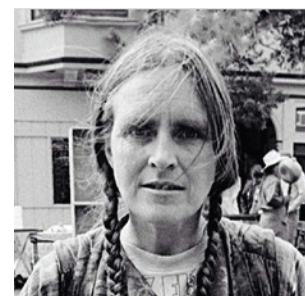
Happy memories with much love!



Happy Mother's Day, Grandma Berniece.



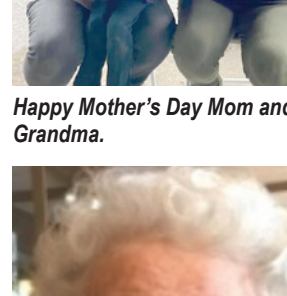
My favorite biker babe, mom. Lynda and Heather Walker after a ride to Weatherport Nursery in Laytonville.



Mom, I miss you so much! Forever in my heart, love JB Elizabeth Calico Vandermeil.



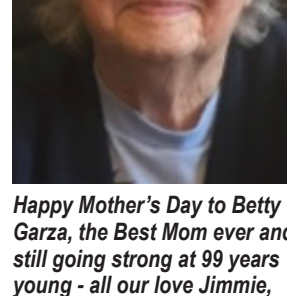
Happy Mother's Day Mom and Grandma.



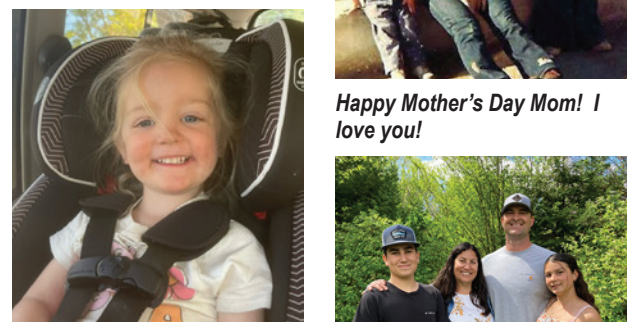
Happy Mother's Day to Betty Garza, the Best Mom ever and still going strong at 99 years young - all our love Jimmie, Jerri and Terri.



My beautiful mom and sister Irma Ford and Veronica Leon. I love y'all xoxoxo.



Happy Mother's Day Mom! I love you!



Happy Mother's Day from Maggs and papa.



In Memory of a Loving Wife, Mother and a Faithful Christian. We all miss you LINDA. Bob Sr., Bob Jr. Wendy, Dena, Kaitlyn, Jackson, Ethan and Alex ...

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24900 N. HWY 101 IN WILLITS
GARMANCONST@GMAIL.COM



Mary Lynn Poole, Jennifer Poole, and Wonderful the boxer on a Mother's Day too many years ago to mention.

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. Lunches are \$8; \$75 for a 10 lunch card for Senior Center members.

Thursday, May 9: Turkey Club Sandwich, Pickle, Chips
Friday, May 10: Country Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy
Monday, May 13: Fish Tacos, Rice & Beans
Tuesday, May 14: Meatball Sub, Green Salad
Wednesday, May 15: Pork Chop, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Veggies, Roll
Thursday, May 16: Chicken Bacon Ranch Wraps, Pea Pasta Salad
Friday, May 17: Thai Chili Chicken Stir-Fry Chow Mein

Activities: Bingo every Friday night, 5 to 7 pm. Exercise class every weekday morning from 9 to 10 am.

Pancake Breakfast: every second Sunday, Mother's Day Breakfast on May 12 this month, with a free mimosa for moms 21+ over, 8 to 11 am. \$10; \$9 center members; \$8 children. Breakfast includes Biscuits and Gravy with side of eggs ONLY, or all you can eat pancakes, 2 pieces sausage or bacon, 2 eggs, coffee, milk or juice.

Meals on Wheels: The Senior Center Meals on Wheels program delivers lunch Monday through Friday. To sign up call Juliana 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.

The rest of Renovation | From page 1

but when the painters arrived, cones and ladders on the sidewalk, it was evident something was underway. The main body of the building was painted with the golden "California Chamois" and the dark red trim with "Oxford Brick" - two colors the pair felt were historically appropriate to the building.

The building was most recently the home to a T-shirt shop, and also spent life as a Sears store in the past. Most notably, the upstairs portion of the building was the official lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and their female-counterpart group the Rebekahs, earning the building the "Odd Fellows building" as a quick moniker.

Guenther and Hill look to give new business owners a chance to move into the prime downtown location; the bottom floor hosts a main room approximately 2,000 square feet, and a second smaller downstairs space that's about 500 square feet. Both could be rented together, or separately, and there's also a few small rooms to the south of the main space which could possibly be available for offices and the like.

For now, upstairs (which is still filled with all sorts of historical and official IOOF regalia, and quite a bit of general flotsam and jetsam) will remain a distinct "phase two" after the pair completes the downstairs project first.

Larry Guenther, who works with Building Maintenance for Yolo County, also holds a contractor's license and is happy to be hands-on with the repairs. Ashley Hill, who works at a diagnostic lab at UC Davis, is "happy to get away from the desk" while this project is underway. The pair are commuting back and forth from their home in Davis to work on the project, and subbing out work to local businesses to help get the jobs accomplished.

"We would like to give a shout out to some local businesses we've used - it does indeed take a village to do this kind of project," said Guenther. "We set up an account at Savings Bank of Mendocino

The rest of Firewise | From page 5

Mexican food from the tent kitchen set up by Atanasio Ramirez of Taqueria Ramirez, after which the forums were to begin. The first forum consisted of the aforementioned members of the various agencies with which Sherwood Firewise Communities coordinates their efforts. Also on the forum was Third District Supervisor John Haschak, who, in addition to facilitating the forum, reported on the county's efforts to create a "benefit zone" for the residents of Brooktrails. This benefit zone requires a vote of the residents in order to tax themselves an annual (nominal) rate in order to fund the maintenance of the access routes.

One big fire-prevention issue in Brooktrails are the many lots with absentee owners. Many are in arrears in their taxes, some may not be aware that they own the lots - many cannot be contacted. The county is working on plans to identify these property owners, and if that proves impossible, to find some way to enter and do fire suppression on those properties.

The second forum or roundtable discussion featured the local Firewise and Fire Safe councils. It was designed to promote a dialogue between the councils and the various agencies that are involved in fire safety, suppression and planning. "The more we hear what each other has to say," Rutledge said, the better all the state and county agencies and the various Firewise Communities can work together in sync in order to create a more fire-resistant community.

The rest of Rescue | From page 1

implementation of the selected projects and provide quarterly updates to the council.

The resolution also stated: "The City Council selected the allocations to reinvest in the organization and the community by enhancing public facilities, parks, civic groups, and communications."

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 was passed by U.S. Congress and signed into law by President Biden in March 2021. The plan included \$360 billion in direct funding to states, counties and cities across the country to offset economic losses and increased expenses resulting from the COVID 19 pandemic

At the top of the Willits ARPA allocation list is \$275,000 for Land Use Plan Implementation (to go to Community Development) and \$275,000 for Rec Grove Facility Improvements (to go to Services & Facilities).

Also on the list is \$125,000 for an urban forestry ordinance (for Community Development) and \$100,000 budgeted for an urban forester (allocated between Community Development and Services & Facilities).

A lighting installation at the parking lot at School and Wood streets is listed at \$102,000 (Services & Facilities).

Renovations to the Willits Community Center, including flooring, lighting, storage space, and texture/paint backwall, are listed at \$50,000 (Services & Facilities).

Also on the list (allocated to Services & Facilities) are the following items: \$30,000 for Highway 20 Park Gateway Sign; \$15,000 for Carnegie Library Building Condition Assessment; \$15,000 for Council Chambers: Repair front wall; \$15,000 for Seasonal Decorations; \$15,000 for Willits Lions Club: Scout Hut renovations; \$10,000 for City Hall Interior: Upgrade wiring and lighting; and \$6,000 for Wi-Fi Installation at city parks.

City Administration was allocated \$12,000 for two years of Project Management Assistance. Also, \$10,000 was allocated as a placeholder for the city's part of possible energy audits of all City of Willits buildings, which a PG&E program may cover.

Last on the list was \$39,792 in contingency funding.

The ARPA funding resolution also describes items that were pared from the list as per the council's direction at their April 10 meeting: "(1) Reduce the allocations for implementing land use plan recommendations and for Rec Grove improvements to fit within the budget; (2) Eliminate a contribution to Economic Development & Finance Corporation; and (3) Remove the West Van Lane Pedestrian Improvements and seek alternative funding opportunities for the project."

Department of Cannabis Control
CALIFORNIA

The rest of Cannabis | From page 1

will be posted on the cannabis.ca.gov website or contact Charisse Diaz at Charisse.Diaz@cannabis.ca.gov or (916) 465-9025.

Public comments on the DEIR may be emailed by June 4 to publiccomment@cannabis.ca.gov or sent by postal service or hand delivery to: Department of Cannabis Control c/o Angela McIntire-Abbott, 2920 Kilgore Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670.

The "Proposed Objectives" of the DEIR, according to the document, are to:

- Implement the California Department of Cannabis Control's cultivation licensure program in Mendocino County, in an effort to minimize the public health and safety risks associated with unlicensed commercial cannabis activity, while promoting a robust and economically viable legal cannabis industry in the county;
- Effectively transition qualified existing provisional cannabis cultivation licenses to annual licenses through a streamlined cannabis licensing process to ensure that such provisional cannabis cultivation license holders complete the annual licensure process by the statutory timeframes identified in Business and Professions Code, section 26050.2;
- Provide a mechanism for future cannabis cultivation license applicants to obtain annual licenses through a streamlined cannabis licensing process;
- Ensure that cannabis cultivation by licensees is conducted in accordance with applicable state and local laws related to land conversion, air quality, electricity usage, water usage, water quality, biological resources, agricultural discharges, and similar matters;
- Protect natural and build resources in Mendocino County; and
- Minimize potential adverse effects of cannabis cultivation activities on the environment.

The state Department of Cannabis Control is the lead agency in the preparation and review of the DEIR for the Licensing of Commercial Cannabis Cultivation in Mendocino County.

The DEIR will apply to unincorporated areas of the Mendocino County outside of the coastal zone, not to cultivation inside incorporated cities (including Willits). The DEIR will apply to commercial cannabis cultivation conducted under the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act in Mendocino County.

As of April 2023, the DEIR reports, there are 623 commercial cannabis cultivation sites, 23 of which have associated cannabis distribution transport-only operations, within the unincorporated areas of Mendocino County that hold provisional state cannabis cultivation licenses and distribution transport-only licenses. These provisionally licensed operations may therefore operate under the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act, on a conditional basis, for a limited period.

According to the document, "DCC is considering whether to transition some or all of these provisional licenses to annual licenses (i.e., whether to issue annual licenses to some or all of these provisional licensees). DCC may also consider other annual licensing actions (e.g., the issuance of new, additional annual cultivation licenses) for future commercial cannabis cultivation within the unincorporated areas of Mendocino County."

The DEIR, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, has evaluated the environmental impacts of these proposed license actions in the areas of Aesthetics, Agriculture and Forestry Resources, Air Quality, Archaeological, Historical, and Tribal Cultural Resources, Biological Resources, Energy, Geology, Soils, and Mineral Resources, Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Change, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use and Planning, Noise and Vibration, Public Services and Recreation, Transportation, Utilities and Service Systems, Wildfire, Cumulative Impacts, and Other CEQA-Required Analysis.

Significant impacts are identified in the following areas: odors, historic resources, biological resources, greenhouse gas emissions, construction vibration, wildfire, and cumulative effects.

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Above: At the end of the presentation, all the parents and children form a huge circle of almost 200 people for some inspirational words prior to the picnic and games. Below, left: The little ones love to strew the flowers all over the field. Below, right: The upper classes bow after finishing their ballroom dance that they have been working on all term. At bottom, from left: Seven violins accompany the dancers. The maypole is the center of attention around which many of the classes dance. The kids, all in white and festooned with garlands, delight the mass of parents who came to watch and picnic.



May Day Festival

Students at Waldorf School of Mendocino celebrate spring with flower garlands and maypole dances



On a beautiful, clear Friday afternoon, close to 200 parents, teachers and students gathered at the Waldorf School campus to celebrate spring.

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
willitsweekly@gmail.com

It was their annual May Day Festival in which everyone was decked out in their finest white clothes in order to honor the season of new growth. Everyone was invited to create their own flowery garlands which offered a splash of color to the white outfits gleaming in the sun.

Once the garlands had been made and distributed, the attendees found a spot on the field, laid down their blankets, set up chairs, or just stood and watched as the

children took to the grass to enthrall the parents with their well-rehearsed dance routines and flower-strewing activities. The dances ranged from traditional stick and sword (not sharp) folk steps to a formal tuxedoed ballroom dance. A group of teachers gathered on the field to sing "Wild Mountain Thyme" to honor a friend who had passed, in a joyous tribute.

The coup de grâce of the presentation was the traditional maypole dance, performed by willing, and not-so-willing, parents who had been gleaned out of the audience to try their hand at the weaving of ribbons, with a polite nod each time they passed another participant. By the end of the dance, the maypole was festooned with

colorful wrapped banners and the parents gratefully retired to their seats or blankets.

After the performances were over, all of the parents, teachers and students formed a huge circle, held hands, and shared a moment of peaceful reflection and inspiration. The remainder of the day was spent in picnics and lawn games, including an egg toss.

The Waldorf School's Spring Soiree is coming up this Friday, May 10, from 4 to 7 pm. This fundraising event will be held at the school, located at 6280 3rd Street, Calpella. It promises to be an evening filled with joy, connection, and giving back. The band Mama Grows Funk will be performing,

there will be delicious hors d'oeuvres, and a raffle drawing and silent auction. Tickets are \$25 and are available for purchase online at www.mendocinowaldorf.org or by phone at 707-485-8719.

The Waldorf School in Calpella has been in existence since 1972, providing quality private instruction in an idyllic setting. "The Waldorf School of Mendocino County was founded with one purpose – to build a space for all students to grow, learn and create with each passing day. Through Waldorf education, a unique teaching approach, and a truly passionate faculty, we help students develop academically and personally to their full potential," per their website, www.mendocinowaldorf.org.



Ruth McLarty, MD
General Surgery
AdventistHealth.org/RMcLarty



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If you're looking for a partner for your complex healthcare needs, look to Ruth McLarty, MD and Cristina V. Cueto, MD, our new general surgeon team.

You were made for more. More knowledge. More compassion. More expertise. That is why we're proud to introduce two new general surgeons and welcome them to our team.

Dr. McLarty, PhD, is a skilled, board-certified general surgeon, caring for ages 2 and older with such common conditions as cholecystitis, diverticulitis, bowel obstructions and hernias. Dr. McLarty also specializes in colorectal surgery.

Dr. Cueto, is a skilled, board-certified general surgeon, and speaks both English and Spanish to best care for patients ages 18 and older. Some common conditions she treats are biliary disease, hernias, benign and malignant diseases of the colon and small bowel, soft tissue conditions and diseases of the breast.

Together, this experienced general surgeon team is available and ready to serve our community.

