

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Write in campaign

To the Editor:

After much consideration, I intend to file as a "write-in candidate" for the upcoming Willits City Council election. After the county declared my application void over a disputed technicality. I've received an outpouring of support asking that I consider running as write-in on the November ballot.

Inspiring a large number of constituents to write my name rather than check a box is harder than one thinks. But like all things I tackle in life, I'll simply do my best! During the past eight years on the Willits City Council, I have stayed true to my moral compass and worked hard for city residents, and often beyond our city limits. I've advocated for our community at the state, county, and local level. I have made myself visible, present, and transparent.

Leadership is hard despite what some may think. It requires self-sacrifice of personal time and desires. It requires constant self-reflection, research, and an ability to multitask. Despite being referred to as "a busy person," I have never wavered in my ability to find time to serve my community.

I currently serve as mayor for the City of Willits, chairwoman for Mendocino Transit Authority, president for Willits Youth Soccer, and president of Foster Youth Outfitters. I serve on many community committees locally and outside our city as an advocate for seniors, families, and children. These include transportation, bond oversight boards, budget committees, district and county education oversight and planning committees, and healthcare.

I stretch every minute of every hour of each day to give to my community as a youth coach and mentor. I take the time to attend many non-profit events and contribute to their causes. I do these things because I genuinely love my community.

There are times when I cannot please everyone. There are times you may disagree with a decision I've made. But I promise each decision was made through research, logic, community preservation, and care for those living here.

I have the deepest respect for my fellow council members during times of disagreement and debate. It is critical that we each bring a different perspective to the table. I appreciate it when the community talks to me and tells me why they feel a certain way. It is meaningful and gives me an opportunity to consider perspectives I may be unaware of.

Leadership is not about knowing everything. It's about looking for answers, listening, and sharing. I hope that over these past eight years you have seen my dedication to the Willits community and will consider taking the time to write in my name.

Saprina Rodriguez, Willits

Thank you

To the Editor:

The Willits Branch Library is deeply grateful for the community's incredible generosity in donating school supplies for the school supply give away that happened August 17 at the Library. We are so grateful for all the community members that dropped off school supplies for the children. Your support has made a significant difference, and we wanted to take a moment to express our heartfelt thanks.

A special thank you goes out to the Rotary Club, Stamp

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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

Willits Weekly

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Club, and FOWL for their enthusiastic contributions. Your commitment to helping our community is truly inspiring.

The joy on the children's faces as they chose their own supplies was priceless, and the positive feedback from parents has been overwhelmingly appreciative. Thanks to your donations, over 60 children were able to start their school year with the tools they needed, making a real impact on their educational journey.

Your kindness and support are deeply appreciated, and we are proud to be part of such a caring community. Thank you for helping to make this school supply giveaway a success.

Denise Jessie, librarian, Willits Branch Library

Farmers Market and City Park

To the Editor:

An open letter to Willits City Council, city staff and the public regarding the planned pavilion in City Park:

A number of citizens approached me at Farmers Market this past week wanting to know my views, as Willits Farmers Market manager, on the proposed pavilion in the park. Here is my best answer.

First, a pavilion as summer home for Farmers Market was my idea. I approached City Planning Director Dusty Duley two years ago, just as he was writing the grant the city eventually won. I wouldn't mind a pavilion at, say, the corner of Main and West Commercial, but lots of people have told me over the years that they would like to see the market back in City Park, and that is where the city is able to do something about it.

Key considerations are shade and parking. Vendors need shade both for themselves and their products. Produce vendors are particularly vulnerable since produce wilts in the hot sun. Our canopies help a lot, but the sun is never directly overhead and in the course of an afternoon creeps under those canopies.

The best-placed vendors are those with their backs to the southwest; the worst-placed face the southwest. So extra shade is always welcome. It's welcome for customers too. And everyone wants to get off the asphalt, which radiates heat in the sun. A pavilion would help on both counts.

Parking has always been an issue at the park. When Farmers Market was on State Street, neighbors complained regularly about customers blocking their driveways while they shopped and visited at market. The current plan calls for reserving the park side of State Street for vendors. But parking has already contracted due to the new fire station, and this plan would just exacerbate the scarce parking situation.

Vendors can park and unload, as we do now, but some of our produce vendors in particular have a lot to haul from their vehicles to their booths. We would prefer that at least some vendors be able to pull up to their market space and park, preferably off the street, and that all vendors be able to unload as close to the space as possible, leaving parking on the street for customers.

If customers are expected to park across the street, as city staff now imagines, then there should be a four-way stop at one of the crosswalks.

Will the pavilion accommodate Farmers Market? Just barely. At 80 x 40 it could shelter 16 vendors, about as many as we currently have, not counting community organizations. But we are growing, and the number ebbs and flows. I would want assurance that we could spill over into the park if need be.

The alternative to a pavilion is to simply welcome Farmers Market back to the park. When the city cut down the trees nine years ago, we were told we couldn't come back because of a fear that setting up booths on the extravagant swath of wood chips surrounding the new trees would damage their roots. Something evidently damaged them, because the trees are stunted and will never be shade trees (the first three years are crucial).

The city will have to start over one of these days and could very well take out the stunted trees now and allow us back at the old spot. The big issue will be shade, and produce vendors, if we set up street-side as in the past, will be particularly disadvantaged. Widening the sidewalk to accommodate canopies would be a big help and a lot cheaper than the pavilion. Parking, of course, would also be an issue.

My other, personal concern is design. I like the cantilevered look of the proposed pavilion roof. But, as for the rest, we are long past the time when we should be building in concrete

College bound? See your counselor!

Submitted by Bob Colvig, Ed.D.

Back to school! It's August 2024 and time for college-bound seniors to start their college applications. Students can begin the University California application and the common application (for many private and out-of-state universities) as early as August 1. The early August application start date can be helpful for some seniors, but I recommend a later start and a relaxed approach.

Start by scheduling a meeting with your high school counselor first. Most of the application deadlines this year are November 30. The entire college application process takes time and thoughtful reflection by parents and students. Communication with your high school counselor is essential. Seeking a high school counselor's advice and help will reduce the stress and enable all to enjoy the process.

There are different terms used in the college application world, and the language can be confusing. Terms like CSU, UC, A-G, AP, will have crept into our senior's vocabulary by early fall. SAT and ACT test scores may be discussed - they are currently required by some universities while optional at others. This may lead to more new terms that can be a challenge for both parents and students.

Students will be discussing essays, personal insight questions, GPAs, the FAFSA, CAL GRANTS, UC APPLY, CAL STATE APPLY, the COMMON APP, and needing an FSA ID. It's important for both parents and students to take an active role to learn what these terms mean, and keep track of the various steps in the application process.

When we want help, a common answer we might hear is: "It's on the web." Just because it is on a website does not necessarily mean we understand it, or how to use it, or its importance. That is when we turn to our high school counselors for help with the college application process. From the development of college lists, to completing letters of recommendation, listening, and guidance, our high school counselors will help our seniors submit their college applications.

My advice for seniors and parents of college-bound seniors is to plan early - make an appointment with your high school counselor as early in the school year as possible. To all educators, thank you in advance for all of your hard work.

Bob Colvig, Ed.D., is a former high school counselor, teacher, and coach. He has also worked for the University of California, Berkeley, in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. He currently provides assistance to students and families through college application workshops.

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, August 29: Stuffed Bell Peppers, Rice, Roll
Friday, August 30: Turkey Stuffing, Gravy, Cranberry, Veggies, Roll

September menu not yet available; Center closed Monday, September 2 for Labor Day

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

Pancake Breakfast: Every second Sunday, September 8 next month.

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.



Above, from left: Two of the Laytonville Rodeo Association organizers of the Taste of Laytonville, Meadow Shere and Abbe Arkellan, pose for a photo. A young girl shows off her entrance hand stamp while she waits for the rain to cease. Eric Vogt and Dylan Eichler prepare the grill for barbecued oysters. Laytonville resident and variety performer Kimber Holmes enjoys a trio of sliders from Smokey's BBQ of Willits. Below: Scott Forbes and his band entertain the crowd after the cornhole tournament. Further below: Bela Arkellan sings the national anthem as her mother, Abbe, looks on. At bottom: The winning team of the cornhole tournament, The Cusp, participates in the Calcutta auction.



Above: With four games going on at a time, the cornhole tournament is fast and furious. Below, left: Crispin Cain and Tamar Kaye of Mendocino Distillery pour tastings of their whiskey, rye, and a special fresh-out-of-the-cask bourbon. Below, right: Oysters on the half shell are a big hit.



Taste of Summer

Laytonville celebrates 150th anniversary with tasting event and cornhole tournament

Nobody told the rain that the Laytonville Rodeo Association was holding its Taste of Summer event last Saturday, August 24. Prior to the gates opening, the rain came pouring down, creating puddles for the kids to play in on the rodeo grounds and generally making a mess of the area.

Luckily, most of the food and drink to be tasted was well covered in the faux Western city vendor spaces, and fortunately, the rain was kind enough to stop before the bulk of the attendees arrived, giving the crew a chance to dry the concrete area in front of the stage, so that the cornhole tournament could proceed.

The organizers need not have worried, as an hour later the grounds were filled with people who wanted to celebrate Laytonville's 150th anniversary, taste oysters (barbecued on the half shell or shooters with vodka and quail eggs), enjoy some sliders and beans from Smokey's BBQ of Willits, eat some of the myriad sweet desserts, sip some McNab wine or Northspur Brewing Co. beer, enjoy tastes of the Mendocino Spirits whiskey, rye and bourbon, and listen to local music.

"This is a fundraiser for the rodeo," explained organizer Abbe Arkellan (aunt of this year's Frontier Days Sweetheart, Elena Arkellan). "We're trying to fill the void left by the loss of the Crawfish Boil. We hope this is the kickoff for something bigger happening at the rodeo next year. If the cornhole tournament goes well, we'll be adding this every year. Those who pay to be in the cornhole tournament get free entry to the event."

The cornhole tournament had some extremely adept players, forming 14 teams in a double-elimination tournament, where the losers went into a separate bracket and got to vie for a chance to get back into the

tournament if they did well. Each team paid \$20 to enter the tournament. The teams had such colorful names as OutKasts, Constars, Sacrilege, Whiskey Delta, The Cusp, Blaze, The Corny Cowboys, The Mighty Ducks, TBA, Wet Bags, The Hoiland Boys, The Cornholers, and E & A.

When the tournament was down to four teams, Arkellan called for a Calcutta auction, meaning each team would be auctioned off to the highest bidder. If the team won the tournament, the winning bidder of that team would be awarded 25 percent of all the bids. The team would get 25 percent as well, and the Rodeo Association would benefit to 50 percent. The Calcutta bidding was hot and heavy with the top team going for \$170. The other teams brought in bids of \$105, \$70, and \$55. In the end, the tournament was won by The Cusp.

To open the festivities, Arkellan's young daughter, Bela, sang the national anthem. Although she forgot some of the words, which upset her, she was buoyed by the crowd who sang along with her. She soldiered through and was able to finish to appreciative applause.

Crispin Cain and Tamar Kaye brought their Low Gap Whiskey and Mendocino Spirits Captain Fletcher Rye. As a special treat for the attendees, Cain made available his new (not yet distributed) 8-year-old Cask Strength Bourbon.

"Something I cooked up in 2016. I think it's 118 proof," said Cain. He mentioned that when he first came to Mendocino County in 1985, cornhole was still known as bean-bag toss.

Cain had some stories of old Laytonville, including an incident, in 1937, where his grandparents, from Tacoma, were stuck in Laytonville after an accident where a logging truck smashed their brand-



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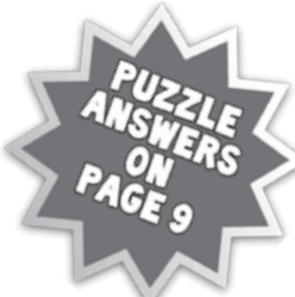
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Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword



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!

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

Level: Intermediate

FUEL WORD SEARCH

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

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ALTERNATIVES	ELECTRICITY	HEAT	RESOURCES
APPLIANCE	ENERGY	HYDRO	SCARCE
BUDGET	ENVIRONMENT	MANUAL	SOLAR
BURN	FIRE	MINING	SUPPLEMENTAL
COAL	FOSSIL	NATURAL GAS	THERMOSTAT
COMFORT	FUEL	OIL	UTILITY
CONSERVATION	GASOLINE	PELLETS	WARMTH
COOLING	GENERATION	POLLUTION	WIND
DRILLING	GREEN	POWER	WOOD

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CLUES ACROSS

- Adequate yearly progress (abbr.)
- Silicon Valley's specialty
- Gather a harvest
- Famed mathematician
- No (slang)
- Students use one
- Type of molecule
- Play make-believe
- Large barrel-like containers
- Touching
- Treats allergies
- Calendar month
- Single
- Cease to live
- Geological time
- Focus
- Discomfort
- A citizen of Iran

CLUES DOWN

- Used in treating bruises
- One who cultivates a small estate
- One who supports the Pope
- Annuity
- Geological period
- Grab onto tightly
- Kept
- Chinese city
- The most direct route
- Type of tooth
- ___ kosh, near Lake Winnebago
- Popular veggie
- Supervises interstate commerce
- Foolish behaviors
- Witness
- Gives
- Expression of creative skill
- A way to prop up
- Midway between northeast and east
- Winter melon
- Supernatural power
- Target
- Threes
- A type of poetic verse
- They make some people cry
- kindest
- Forman and
- The most direct route
- A way to liquefy

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE LOG

August 19 to August 25

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled **48 incidents** in this 7-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

August 19

8:39 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

August 20

7:20 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of North Main Street.

August 21

12:12 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Barbara Lane.

7:41 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

8:18 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1200 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

8:57 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 300 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

August 22

12:15 am: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 1500 block of Baechtel Road and issued a citation.

4:08 pm: CLAUSEN, James Loren (54) of Ukiah was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street following a report of an unwanted subject. He was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication) and on misdemeanor charges of petty theft with priors and disorderly conduct (alcohol).

4:43 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

August 23

11:45 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 100 block of East

The rest of **Drive** | From page 1

groceries and other needed supplies. After Mendocino County ordered Creekside Cabins to close in January 2023, due to public health reasons, United Disaster Relief also helped residents find other resources to help find new places to live.

The volunteer-run disaster resource center has announced a \$100,000 Match Campaign to help with renovation, moving, and other costs for the new building, which runs until the end of December. Donations in person, online, through grants, or at fundraisers will go directly towards this effort. As of August 28, UDRNC has raised \$36,346 of its \$100,000 goal. You can track the fundraiser's progress here: <https://givebutter.com/R7HKbR>

There are also plans for an Open House in late September or early October. "Tickets will be just \$20 – a great chance to see our new location and its potential."

Some details posted by United Disaster Relief about the new location at Babcock Lane:

Office Space: We will have 2,000 square feet of office space, with plans to convert part of the 11,000 square foot warehouse.

Warehouse: The warehouse will be transformed to include more office and client service areas, requiring insulation, HVAC, and electrical upgrades.

ADA Improvements: We're making essential ADA upgrades to bathrooms and parking.

Loading Docks: Two loading docks are

Commercial Street.

1:27 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

2:37 pm: JOHNSON, Michael Joseph (63) of Willits was contacted in the 1500 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 240 PC (Assault), 242 PC (Battery), and on misdemeanor charges of battery with serious bodily injury.

3:00 pm: SCHNABEL, Christopher Farrell (39) of Willits was contacted in the 1500 block of South Main Street following a report of an unwanted subject. He was arrested on felony charges of bringing a controlled substance into a prison or jail, and on misdemeanor charges of burglary, possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and failure to appear.

7:44 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1500 block of Baechtel Road.

August 24

No incidents to report.

August 25

7:41 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation near the intersection of East Hill Road and Sanhedrin Circle.

2:56 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of Alder Court.

6:41 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Holly Street and Poplar Avenue.

7:01 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Baechtel Road.

7:12 pm: VERDUZCO, Norma Mata (38) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of Railroad Avenue. She was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) (Public Intoxication) and on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (under the influence of drugs), resisting an officer, and violation of probation.

ready for incoming supplies.

Community Collaboration: We'll offer space to disaster relief partners and assist our nonprofit partners.

Secured Perimeter: Our location is safely enclosed by a secured fence.

Disaster Response: Our 2-acre paved area is ideal for serving as a Local Assistance Center during disasters, hosting fundraisers, training sessions, and community meetings.

"To fully utilize our new space," UDRNC posted, "we need to hire professionals for the necessary modifications. Check out this video for a sneak peek of our new location and the upcoming improvements we'll be making. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E5TYc4ePXtg&t=32s>

"We're also seeking community help with renovations – flooring, painting, cleaning, moving, and more. Do you have expertise in this area or would like to volunteer? Check out <https://udmc.org/volunteer>

"Thank you for helping us achieve this dream! We'll remain at 1240 Airport Park Boulevard in Ukiah until November 30. Please continue to visit us there for donations and services until we announce our move. Together, let's keep building a resilient community."

For more information, visit <https://udmc.org> or contact UDRNC at UnitedDisasterRelief@gmail.com or 707-489-3970.

Blues & Brews at the Rec Grove August 31

Submitted by Da Grand Pooba

Cosmic Pickle Productions and the Willits Lions Club present the third annual Little Lake Blues and Brews festival is coming up on Saturday, August 31. Now what could be better than hanging out in our beautiful Rec Grove Park on a beautiful day with amazing music and a frothy brew?

Add your friends and community, some great food, and music by Roy Rogers and the Delta Rhythm Kings, the Sean Lehe Trio, and Cynthia Lewis-Deerman and the Brothers and Sisters of the Light Gospel Blues Ensemble, and you know you're gonna have a real good time. Plus the concert is FREE.

So, make your plans to come on down to the Willits Recreation Grove Park on August 31 over this Labor Day weekend, from 11:30 am to 6 pm. Bring your chairs, bring your family, bring your dancing shoes, and let's have some fun.



Above: Real estate agent and city council candidate Tom Allman looks over some of the possible photos that may be used in the book. At right: Photos and logos will be turned into coloring book pages as per the sample on the right. Below: Third District Supervisor John Haschak puts in his vote for which Greg Schindel photo he would like to see on the cover of the coloring book.



Familiar Images

Rotary Club plans to make a coloring book with notable sights and people of Willits and is looking for advertisers

Recent past president of the Willits Rotary Club Cathie Gernhardt had an idea of how to raise funds for all of the altruistic and beneficial activities which the club engages in each year. She wants to create a coloring book exemplifying all things that are emblematic of Willits and the Little Lake Valley. The subjects would be such icons as the Skunk Train, Roots of Motive Power, and the Willits arch. Iconic people like Edie Ceccarelli, or the recently departed Train Singer Greg Schindel would be included.

In order to accomplish this, Gernhardt, also known as Printss Cathie for her involvement in the printing industry, called for photographers, both professional and amateur to submit their photos of recognizable sights and people of the area. After culling the photos, she will turn them into line art through a Corel program, onto

Read the rest of **Coloring** | Over on page 9

SEPTEMBER 7 & 8, 2024
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ROOTS OF MOTIVE POWER
WILLITS CALIF.

STEAM FESTIVAL
42ND ANNUAL

420 E. Commercial, Willits CA

Free passenger steam train rides
with the Bluestone Mining & Smelting Heisler locomotive from 10 am to 4 pm both days.

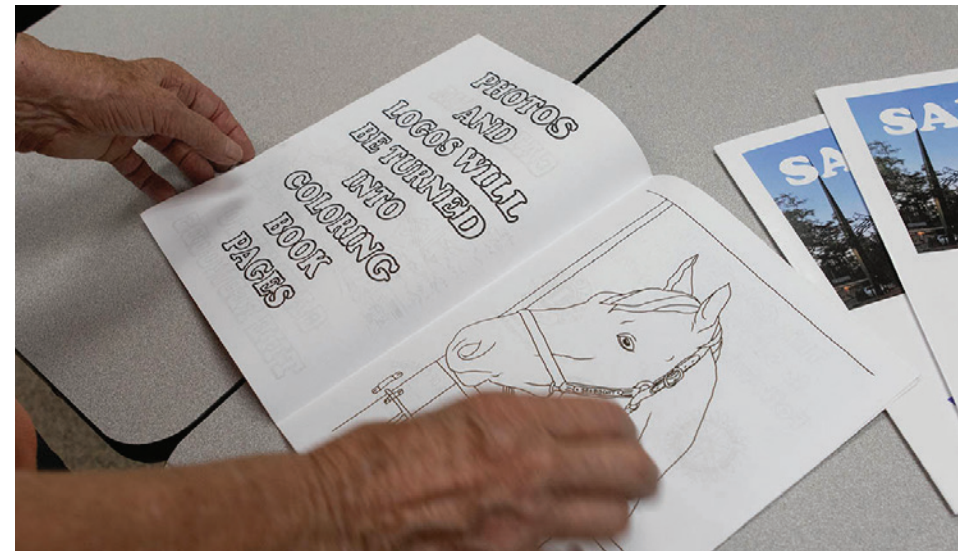
Come see our antique equipment in action:

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- Kelley Springfield Road Roller
- Seabiscuit Diamond T-truck
- Mountain Quarries 202 1913 H. K. Porter Co. 15 ton steam locomotive 0-4-0-T
- 1952 Allis-Chalmers HD-20 tractor

The Famous BBQ & auction
is happening in the Rec Grove on Saturday, September 7, starting around 4 pm. Tickets on sale at the event.

3rd annual Printmaking exhibit "IMPRESSED" at the Museum next door to festival!

Steam Roller Printing at the Park
11 am to 3 pm - Saturday and Sunday!
See Rik Olson on Saturday!



Above, left: An example of how the cover of the coloring book might be laid out. Above, right: Attendees try to decide which Greg Schindel photo to vote for to be on the cover. Below, left: Cathie Gernhardt came up with the idea for the coloring book and has begun to choose photos and the layout of the book. Below, right: Cindy Savage of Willits Daily Bread came to support her sister, Cathie Gernhardt, in her coloring book project.



Photos by Mathew Caine

Playful Kai

Kai is a 3-year-old, 46-pound cattle-dog mix who is a happy and enthusiastic girl. She is friendly and loving, great with other dogs, and loves to shower her people with love.



Kai is very bright and responds well to training, but will need additional leash training. She is eager to please and attentive off leash. Sometimes she gets carried away by her enthusiasm and she'll jump up for a hug. A firm "OFF" is enough and she'll stop.

Kai is a physical gal and loves her playtime with other active, playful dogs and is submissive in play. With her humans she's all about kisses, snuggles and pets. This girl loves life and we'd love to have you meet her.

To learn more about Kai, 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.

Lovely Marlene

Marlene is ready to go home with you. And she won't let you walk by without demanding that you hang out with her. Marlene wants nothing more than your attention (and food) because she is just that sweet. Don't mind her yelling and grumpy face, she is actually one of the nicest cats you can meet.

(Don't forget to give her butt scratches, those are her favorite!)

The best part is that Marlene's adoption fee has been generously sponsored by Amy Mickelson.



sure enjoys his walkies!

Along with being well behaved indoors, Perkins likes to surround himself with toys, sitting amongst them, happy as can be! Perkins tested positive for heartworm, and we have begun his treatment, which means limited exercise for several weeks.

The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, is open to the public from noon to 5 pm Tuesday through Friday and 10 am to 3 pm (closed for lunch from 1 to 1:30 pm) on Saturdays. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendocinoshelter.com. Call 707-467-6453 for more information.

The Humane Society for Inland

Thursday, August 29

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly farmers market is outdoors for the season, Thursday, August 29, at the old Rexall parking lot downtown, 90 South Main Street, 3 to 5:30 pm. Local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. "Storytime at the Farmers Market," from 3:30 to 4 pm, with Library Assistant Tobin Steiskal reading selected juvenile picture books. All are welcome.

Thursday Evenings at the Museum: Mendocino County Museum in Willits revisits permanent gallery exhibits, with new content shared by museum docents and a corresponding art activity on Thursday evenings, from 6 to 8 pm. In August, the exhibit is "ImPRESSED: Turning the Page," the 3rd annual printmaking exhibit at the Museum. The Thursday, August 29 activity is "Found Object Printing." 400 East Commercial Street. Program attendance is included with regular Museum admission. Info: www.mendocinocounty.gov/museum, museum@mendocinocounty.gov or 707-234-6365.

Friday, August 30

Book Lovers Discussion Group at the Library: This group meets monthly to discuss books, authors and genres, Friday, August 30, 12 to 1 pm. Come talk about why you love books! All adults welcome. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolib.org or 459-5908.

WHS Football: Willits High Football plays home games against Weed High on Friday, August 30. JV at 5 pm; varsity at 7 pm. 299 North Main Street.

'Steel Magnolias' opens at WCT: The beloved beauty shop comedy-drama 'Steel Magnolias' opens Friday, August 30 at Willits Community Theatre. Co-directed by Kelly Kesey and Lisa Wilcox, the Robert Harling classic features the intimate and remarkable experiences of six women in their loving and devoted friendships while they gather together at the local beauty shop. They come to Truvy's for her true wit and uplifting spirit, and for the way she can turn a sad moment into laughter. 'Steel Magnolias' runs August 30 through September 15, with performances on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 pm and Sunday matinees at 2 pm. Tickets are \$20 and available online at: www.wctperformingartscenter.org, or at the door.

Los Guys at Shanachie Pub: Ukiah trio Los Guys, formerly "Those Guys," came together on the eve of 2020, trading an itinerant and aimless jam for something resembling sculpted songs in the course of their socially distanced sessions." Friday, August 30 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50B Main Street.



Saturday, August 31

Paws and Tales at the Library: Animal-themed story time with special guest, Casey the therapy dog. Saturday, August 31, 11 to 11:30 am. All ages welcome. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolib.org or 707-459-5908.

What's Happening Around Town

Little Lake Blues & Brews at the Rec Grove: The Willits Lions Club and Cosmic Pickle Productions bring you the 3rd annual Blues and Brews concert, free at the Rec Grove in Willits on Saturday, August 31 from 11 am to 6:30 pm. Come early for the opening act: Cynthia Dearman & Brothers and Sisters in the Light Gospel Blues Ensemble. Next to take the stage, the Sean G. Lehe Trio. Headlining the show is the great Roy Rogers & the Delta Rhythm Kings. Plus a beer and wine garden, food, and craft vendors. Open to all ages.

Claws for a Cause at Ridgewood Ranch: Willits Rotary Club hosts the annual Claws for a Cause event, Saturday, August 31, 5:30 pm, at Howard House, Ridgewood Ranch, south of Willits. A benefit for the Seabiscuit Therapeutic Riding Center. Dinner features Maine lobster and prime rib, live & silent auctions, beer & wine, and live music by The Back Porch Trio. Tickets are \$100 for dinner and a drink ticket, and can be purchased at Willits and Ukiah senior centers, or online at www.seabiscuitridingcenter.org/events-1/ claws-for-a-cause-1, or by calling 707-391-3873 or 707-272-1918.

Meet the Artists Reception at WCA: the September show at the Willits Center for the Arts features the works of two distinguished local artists, Eric Wilder, a member of the Kasha Band of Pomo Indians, and Buffie Campbell Schmidt, a descendant of the Sherwood, Noyo, and Yokayo bands of Pomo Indians. Meet the Artists Reception is 6 to 8 pm on Saturday, August 31. "This event is a celebration of the cultural heritage of the Pomo people and an invitation to the community to immerse themselves in the stories and traditions that have shaped the region." Galleries open Friday through Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm, at 71 East Commercial Street, and admission is free.

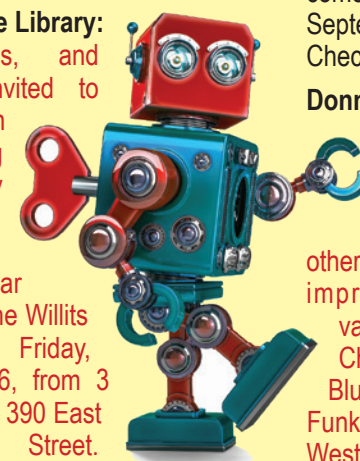
'Steel Magnolias' at WCT: The beloved beauty shop comedy-drama 'Steel Magnolias' continues Saturday, August 31 at 7:30 pm at Willits Community Theatre. Check Friday, August 30 listing for more details.

Richie Blue Band at Shanachie Pub: "Back to rev up your weekend with Twangin' Rockabilly, Cool Ass Surf, Rockin' Classic '60s, '70s Rock & Roll, and Boogie Blues. With Richie Blue, Doc Morse, and Frank Boen. Saturday, August 31 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50B Main Street.

for more details.

Friday, September 6

Build-A-Robot at the Library: Children, teens, and families are invited to this hands-on robot-building activity featuring D I Y Balance Car Robots at the Willits Library, Friday, September 6, from 3 to 4:30 pm at 390 East Commercial Street.



"An exciting learning experience that covers basic principles of circuits, electricity, mechanics, and engineering." Each participant will have the opportunity to assemble their own robot using a simple wooden and electric motor kit, perfect for beginners. Recommended for children ages 8+, adult supervision required for children under 12. Registration is required: To sign up, please contact the Willits Branch Library at 707-459-5908.

The Aeolian Trio at the Art Center: Japan-based California jazz group Aeolian Trio takes the stage in the Great Room at the Willits Center for the Arts on Friday, September 6, from 7 to 9 pm. Featuring Shakuachi master Bruce Huebner, Tokyo guitarist Koufuu Suwa, and New York percussionist Todd Isler, reuniting ancient traditions and bringing them into the 21st century with jazz and world fusion sounds. Both alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages with be served. Tickets are \$20 in advance online at www.willitscenterforthearts.org, and \$25 at the door on the day of the event. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Info: email manager@willitscenterforthearts.org or call 707-459-1726.

'Steel Magnolias' at WCT: The beloved beauty shop comedy-drama 'Steel Magnolias' continues Friday, September 6 at 7:30 pm at Willits Community Theatre. Check Friday, August 30 listing for more details.

Eric McFadden and Friends at Shanachie: Eric McFadden, guitar virtuoso/songwriter/vocalist, with Steven Bates, vocalist, guitar player, and songwriter, and singer Gwyneth Moreland perform Friday, September 6 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50B Main Street.



Saturday, September 7

Makers & Bakers Fundraiser at Methodist Church: Willits United Methodist Church hosts a Makers & Bakers Fundraiser at on Saturday, September 7, from 9 am to 1 pm. "We are having a fundraiser to raise money for the installation of air conditioning for our church. We will be selling crafted items as well as baked goods, and we will also have a table for gently used items." More info: 707-549-2855.

Willits Youth Soccer Fall Opening Day: Willits Youth Soccer kicks off the soccer season for Fall League on Saturday, September 7, at 9 am at the main field on East Commercial Street. 15 teams will be kicking off the soccer season for Fall 2024. Info https://www.willitsyouthsoccer.net/ or willitsyouthsoccer@gmail.com

'Steel Magnolias' at WCT: The beloved beauty shop comedy-drama 'Steel Magnolias' continues Saturday, September 7 at 7:30 pm at Willits Community Theatre. Check Friday, August 30 listing for more details.

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. Saturday, September 7 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.



Sunday, September 8

'Steel Magnolias' at WCT: The beloved beauty shop comedy-drama 'Steel Magnolias' continues Sunday, September 8 with at 2 pm (part of WCT Gala, see next listing) and 7 pm at Willits Community Theatre. Check Friday, August 30 listing for more details.

Hearts For the Arts Gala at WCT: Annual dinner party, theater show, concert, and silent auction to benefit the Willits Community Theatre is set for Sunday, September 8, including a matinee showing of "Steel Magnolias," followed by an outdoor BBQ tri-tip and vegetarian options dinner and dessert, and live entertainment by the Sharon Garner Trio to be held at a private creekside residence in Willits. The \$125 ticket for the fundraiser also includes complimentary Bonterra wine and NorthSpur Brewery beer. Tickets are available by phoning or texting Amyhyst Romero at 734-255-6173.

Youth Rhythm & Flow, starts September 10

Jaylene "Mama Jay" Johnson presents a 10-week session of "Intro to Rhythm & Flow" for youth ages 8 to 14, at the Willits Center for the Arts, Tuesdays from September 10 to November 12. Session is \$120 (30% discount for additional siblings). Drop In Classes: \$15. "Intro to Rhythm & Flow" focuses on finding the beat, playful cardio, flexibility, balance, strength, and mobility training. Also, is your child interested in performing? Performance Prep 14 week session, "Focused on choreography with intention to perform," is offered September 12 to December 19, Thursdays 4 to 5:30 pm for ages 8-14. Session is \$170. Registration for both sessions \$250. Performance opportunities at Harvest Moon Celebration, Halloween at the Art Center, and Christmas Faire. To register, phone or text 707-513-3051, or email msjmjx3@gmail.com

Local Pomo artists featured at Art Center in September

The Willits Center for the Arts is proud to present an extraordinary exhibition featuring the works of two distinguished local artists, Eric Wilder and Buffie Campbell Schmidt. The exhibition opens on Saturday, August 31, with a Meet the Artists reception from 6 to 8 pm, and runs through September 22. This unique event offers an opportunity to explore the rich cultural heritage and artistic expressions of the Mendocino County region.

Buffie Campbell Schmidt brings to the exhibition her deep-rooted connection to the Pomo heritage. A descendant of the Sherwood, Noyo, and Yokayo bands, Buffie's art is a profound reflection of her cultural lineage. "I am from Sherwood, Noyo, and Yokayo Rancheria," Buffie explains. "My father, Thomas Campbell Sr., is from Sherwood Valley and Noyo reservation, and my mother, Christine Hamilton, is from Yokayo Rancheria. I am also from Yokayo. I was first taught how to weave a cradle basket by my mom at the age of 13. I did not come back to weaving until I was 39 years old."

In addition to her work as a weaver, Buffie is also a Pomo dancer, regalia maker, wild food and medicine practitioner, and Northern Pomo Language teacher. Her contributions to the exhibition will include intricate basketry and cultural artifacts that embody the wisdom and traditions of her ancestors.

Eric Wilder, another esteemed artist and member of the Kasha Band of Pomo Indians, will showcase his contemporary works that draw from the natural beauty and cultural history of Northern California. Wilder's artistic style is known for its vibrant colors and dynamic compositions, which capture the spirit of the landscape and the stories that it holds. His works often reflect a deep connection to the land and a commitment to preserving the cultural narratives of the Indigenous communities.

The opening reception on August 31 will feature a special opportunity to meet the artists and engage with their works. This event is more than just an exhibition; it is a celebration of the cultural heritage of the Pomo people and an invitation to the community to immerse themselves in the stories and traditions that have shaped the region.

The Willits Center for the Arts invites everyone to experience this extraordinary exhibition and to participate in the ongoing cultural dialogue that these artists inspire. The exhibition will be open to the public during the WCA's regular hours, at 71 East Commercial Street, and admission is free.

SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

Agape Bible Church
290 S. Lenore Ave.
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Where love is first and the Bible is central.
Sunday Services:
10:00 a.m. - Worship
Adult Sunday School 9:00 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-6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study-7:00 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.

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Modified Worship Service 10 a.m.
Other ministries suspended for now.
For appointments call:
(707) 459-3106

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
61 W. San Francisco Ave.
Willits, CA 95490
Father Aaron Bannandann
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://stanthonywillits.org/
sainthanthonwillits@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 Bruncau

St. John Lutheran Church
Church Service:
Sunday 10:00 to 11:00
(707) 459-2988
24 Mill Creek Drive
ALL ARE WELCOME

Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church
707-459-5714
Friendly, open worship 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.
286 School St. (at Pine)
707-459-2855
wumc@outlook.com
www.willitsumc.org
Facebook: facebook/willits umc

Willits United Methodist Church
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Pastor Jaime Rogers-Fairchild
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707-459-2855
wumc@outlook.com
www.willitsumc.org
Facebook: facebook/willits umc
If you want to be included in this column please call:
April Tweddell
(707) 972-2475
april@willitsweekly.com

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

'It Ends with Us'

The Story: The essence of this movie: Men are werewolves, and women are moonlight. And speaking of moonlight, Blake Lively plays Lily Bloom. Her innate character in this romantic drama is to cuddle and grow pretty flowers. Her ambition is to have a flower shop that is quirky and shabby chic, beautiful and feminine, a safe place.

Quite by chance, she meets Ryle Kincaid, a passionate neurosurgeon. From the very beginning, Lily witnesses his explosive and aggrieved acting out, which is behavior that is so like her dead father, sudden and violent. But he's so very charming. Later in a brief spat, he (maybe accidentally!?) hits her in the face. And then he's sorry, and he pleads to Lily quite truthfully that he loves and adores her, and she forgives him.

And we in the audience all shout to ourselves, "Oh no, girl, don't go back to him! He's not lying, but he'll just do it again whenever he feels slighted, which is kind of random because that's who he is. A Mister Self-Righteous Time Bomb!"

My Thoughts: Let me start with a caveat: I am biased. Lead actress Blake Lively is gorgeous, and not just to me. Clearly, spousal abuse and domestic violence is a social problem about which she cares deeply. I liked the movie. I enjoyed the twee flower shop. I was truly amused by some of the costumes. Lively herself both produced this flick and played lead. I'm fairly sure she was pregnant when the movie was being made.

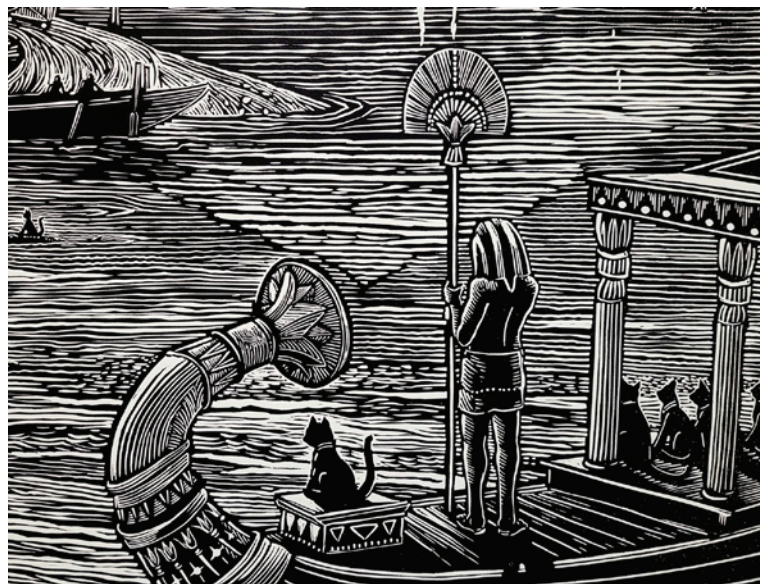
Despite its subject matter, this is a pretty movie about lost love, and the failure of love. "It Ends with Us" is quite romantic, and also quite sad.

Parents: Not for children. It's about domestic violence. *Willitsian Daniel Essman prefers his reality attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination.*

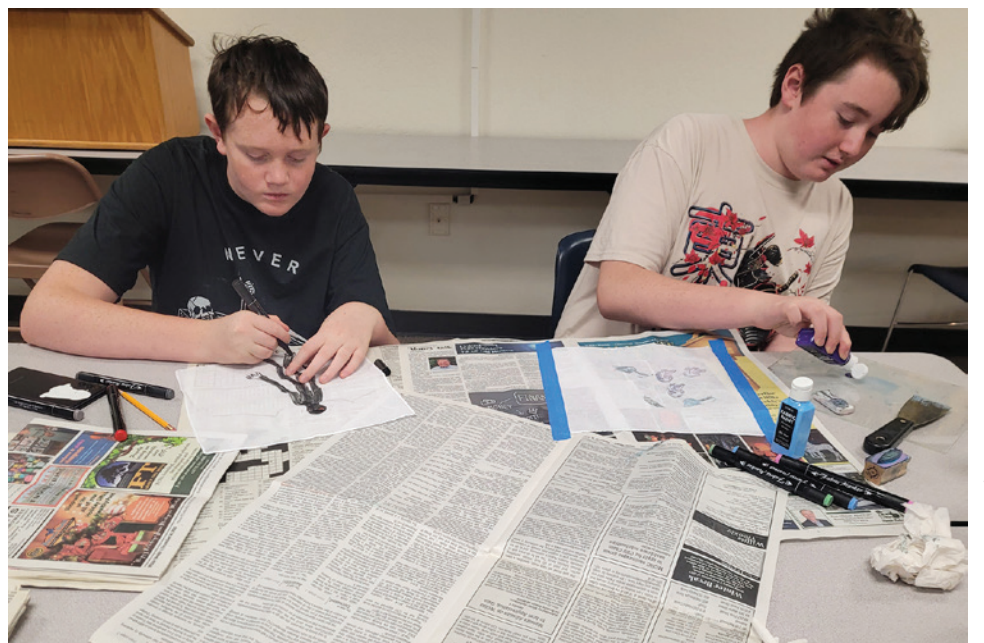


Dan Essman
Columnist





At far left: Detail from the "Stone by Stone" print by Sonoma artist Rik Olson. At left: Visitors to the Mendocino County Museum enjoy the unique prints on exhibit.
Below, from left: Supervisor John Hashack, left, and other art appreciators at the opening of "ImPRESSED: Turning the Page."
"Scout" by Art Explorers artist Frank Curan.
Museum Administrator Karen Mattson leads one of the printmaking classes.
Photos by Margi Gomez Guhde



Above: Creative printmakers at work at one of the Museum's current series of printmaking classes.

At right: "Star Gazer" linocut print by artist Asuka Ohsawa.

Below, from left: Cynotypes, printed with light, are created as backgrounds for stamping and other printing techniques. The "ImPRESSED: Turning the Page" exhibit will be up at the Mendocino County Museum in Willits until October 18. Museum class attendees Linda, left, and Suzanne use cynotype and stamping techniques on fabric.



‘ImPRESSED: Turning the Page’

3rd annual printmaking exhibit is open at the Mendocino County Museum in Willits

The Mendocino County Museum opened the 3rd annual ImPRESSED printmaking exhibit, "Turning the Page," exhibit this month, commemorating three years of collaboration with the Roots of Motive Power and the San Francisco Center for the Book. The 2024 "ImPRESSED" exhibit features a variety of large prints by a select group of professional Bay Area artists, whose impressive carved linoleum blocks were printed by the Roots 7-ton Buffalo Springfield steamroller.

Margi Gomez Guhde
Features Writer
willitsweekly@gmail.com

In addition, ImPRESSED once again features Lino block prints created by members of Art Explorers, an over-2-year nonprofit art program in Fort Bragg for people with developmental disabilities.

Artists from Art Explorers present their own unique perspectives. Featured artist Frank Van Curan channels his passion for animals into his artwork, which includes portraits of animals from the Humane Society as well as horses and other rodeo animals. His techniques include the multi-colored reduction linocut prints presented at the Museum exhibit.

"Art Explorers bring a diverse body of work to the exhibit," says Museum Administrator Karen Mattson. "They generously share their linoleum blocks to pair with their final work, which is a very effective way to explain the process of printmaking to new visitors, and helps to convey the complex task of designing and carving a block."

"We are also excited to partner with the San Francisco Center for the Book in San Francisco, which has loaned us prints created by Bay Area artists and printed by the Roots of Motive Power," Mattson says. "These large and beautiful prints showcase a vast variety of techniques and inspirations that these professional artists draw upon to create their pieces. And our classes leading up to the Roots event provide a great opportunity to meet people, learn a new craft, and work collaboratively with others."

An homage to ancient Egypt, "Stone by Stone" is a linoleum block print by Sonoma County artist Rik Olson, whose detailed work reflects local influences as well as his world travels. He has printed many of his impressive works with the Buffalo Springfield steamroller, and Museum staff are hoping that he will be on hand at this year's Roots Steam Festival, set for the weekend of September 7 and 8.



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KARA@GARMANCONSTRUCTION.COM

LEGAL NOTICES

WW506
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2024-F0391
The following person or persons are doing business as Beyond Standard Services, 95 South Main Street, Willits CA 95490; 707-354-1603.
Registered owner: HellaGood Opportunities LLC, 95 South Main Street, 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 N/A.
FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on August 14, 2024.
/s/ Erin Rehder, CEO
Publication dates: August 22, 29, September 5, 12 2024

WW505
Fictitious Business Name Statement
2024-F0383
The following person or persons are doing business as Proto Pipe, 273 Franklin Avenue, Willits CA 95490; 707-841-3104.
Registered owner: Proto Pipe LLC, 273 Franklin Avenue, 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 April 1, 1977.
FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on August 9, 2024.
/s/ Phillip E. Jergenson
Publication dates: August 15, 22, 29, September 5, 2024

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The rest of **Smoke** | From page 1

20-acres of grass," explained the CAL FIRE press release sent to media last Friday. "This training burn allows firefighters the opportunity to utilize various tactics and tools used in wildfire suppression operations. Burning began on Friday around 8 am, and concluded at around 3 pm."

The "CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit" page on Facebook posted a video of CAL FIRE MEU personnel working hard on the training burn at Howard Forest headquarters. "Engine companies, hand crews, Helitac, and dozers all participated in the 20 acre burn," the post reported. "This is a good training where we can practice techniques and tools that can be used on other fires."

This project adds to significant work underway throughout the state and brings California one step closer towards meeting state fuels reduction goals directed by California's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan <https://wildfiretaskforce.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/california-wildfireandforestresilienceactionplan.pdf>

To track the progress being made, both in our community and throughout California, visit the CAL FIRE fuels reduction dashboard at www.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/natural-resource-management/fuels-reduction.

Fuels reduction burns are conducted under strictly controlled weather and fuel conditions.

For more information about how you and your family can prepare for wildfire visit www.ReadyForWildfire.org.

The rest of **Summer** | From page 3

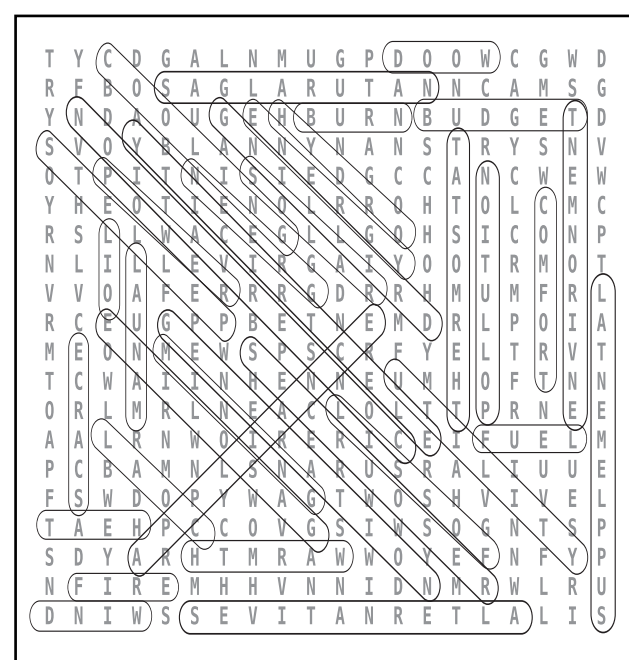
new Oldsmobile. They were put up at the Laytonville Inn by Bud Harwood while awaiting a new car so they could continue to watch the opening of the Golden Gate Bridge (they never made it). Years later, Cain mentioned the incident to Harwood, who remembered it fondly.

People enjoyed the array of desserts which included Strawberry Pound Cake, Chocolate Cherry Bomb Cake, Strawberry Cheesecake Bites, Blueberry Cobbler, and Lemon Cupcakes from the Lioness Club of Laytonville.

If the crowd and their reactions were any indication, this event should go on into the future and complement the Laytonville Rodeo which has been around since 1975 and has been a great community event.

It has the distinction of being "the only rodeo left that has a full bar. We do whiskey, vodka, mixed drinks, margaritas, etc. We use Camacho Livestock. They're out of Red Bluff. They have a big following for their rodeo circuit, so their junior rodeo attracts a lot of people from the valley. The rodeo happens on the second weekend of June," said Arkelian.

Visit www.facebook.com/RodeoLaytonville/ for more info.



Mendocino County invites applications for: Assessment Information Supervisor
\$55,993 - \$68,057
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\$79,476 - \$96,595
Deputy Probation Officer I & II
\$55,577 - \$74,505
Deputy Sheriff-Coroner
\$84,323 - \$102,460
Deputy Sheriff-Coroner in Training
\$25.33 - \$30.78 Hourly
Juvenile Corrections Officer
\$55,348 - \$67,267
Library Technician - Fort Bragg
\$18.07 - \$21.98 Hourly
Social Worker Assistant I/II
\$41,974 - \$56,139

For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:
www.mendocinocounty.gov/jobs
EOE

The rest of **ImPRESSED** | From page 8

"Fog City," another of the 3 foot by 3 foot prints featured in the Museum's exhibit, was created by Ryan Vincente in 2015. Vincente recounts walking city streets, taking in architectural details, and considering the history that they reflect. "The buildings an signify an entire movement, an era, or a renaissance," he writes. "My goal is to produce a body of work that allows me to say where I have been but also takes viewers to a place of their own."

"Star Gazer" is another of the 3 foot by 3 foot linocuts included in the exhibit. Born in Los Angeles, raised in Japan, and educated in California and Boston, artist Asuka Ohsawa's strong sense of black and white contrast and whimsy shines through in "Star Gazer," as well as her multicultural background and influences.

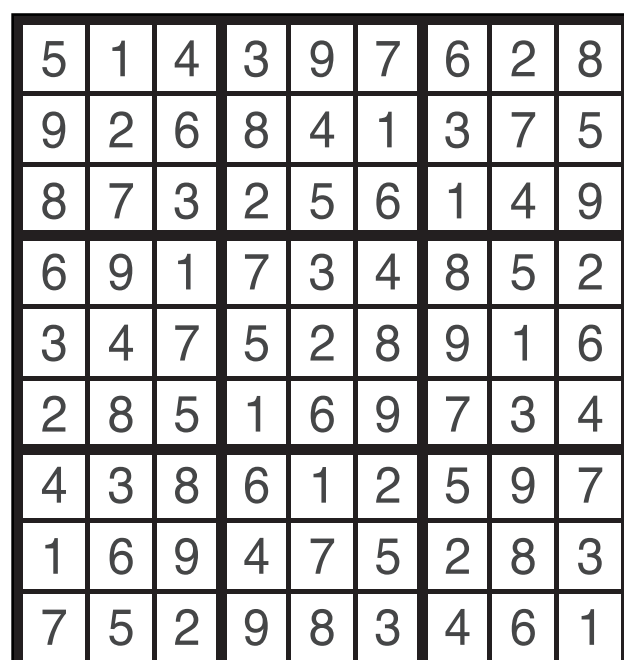
Another northern California printmaker, Richard Wagoner, is showing his impressive print, "Tower of Jewels." This lovingly carved and printed work pays homage to the Panama Pacific International Exposition, which celebrated its Centennial in 2015.

As part of the "ImPRESSED: Turning the Page" exhibit, the Mendocino County Museum is presenting a number of printmaking classes to the Willits community, which will continue through September. This Thursday, August 29, from 6 to 8 pm, the Museum invites local adults and teens to carve linoleum blocks in preparation for printing at the Roots Festival.

The Museum will continue its focus on printmaking during the month of September with Wednesday afternoon printmaking sessions beginning at 4:30 pm. On September 4 there will be a "Printmaking with Light" class. "Air Clay Impressions" will happen on September 11. "DIY Rubber Stamps" will be taught on September 18, and "Book Press Printing" will be presented on September 25. Program attendance is free with the cost of admission, and anyone with a Mendocino County Library Card is admitted for free on Wednesdays.

Museum Coordinator Mattson is proud of the past three years of the "ImPRESSED" exhibits, noting that each year has brought fresh collaborations with new community partners. Mattson says the Museum will also offer some new printing activities at the Roots of Motive Power Festival this year in addition to the linocut printing using the steam roller.

"We'll be printing on a bookplate press at the event, doing some smaller-scale stamp making and printing, and we'll be offering a toy truck wheel printing station." The Museum's street printmaking collaboration with the Roots of Motive Power is set to take place once again on September 7 and 8 at Recreation Grove between 11 am and 3 pm. The "ImPRESSED: Turning the Page" exhibit will remain up in the Long Gallery at the Museum until October 18.



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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)

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How can we keep our hearts open when life seems so hard? Join us to discuss how to make the best of our precious time here on earth. Saturday, September 7th, 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the Willits Library. Sponsored by Eckankar in California.

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Classifieds are \$15 for 30 words for two weeks

Email us: willitsweekly@gmail.com

The rest of **Coloring** | From page 5

to be able to do 30 pages if we get enough good photos and advertisers. We're going to have a free section for community organizations.

"We want to bring pieces of Willits to the coloring book. It will be distributed to all the kindergarten classes and all the schools, dentist offices, the museum, the library, anywhere there are kids. The parents will look through the book as well and see what's in the coloring book."

Gernhardt is just getting started on the project but has amassed some pretty recognizable images of the area already, several from photographers of Willits Weekly. She additionally has several photos of Greg Schindel, which she wants to include in the book, with one image chosen to honor the Willits beloved personality by placing it on the cover. The Schindel cover is to be chosen by a vote of interested persons.

On Friday night, Gernhardt invited people to a get-together at the conference room of the Mendocino County Museum. Those who attended, including several Rotarians, were treated to tasty desserts and could purchase from a selection of cordial liquors, served by Rick Williams, in a variety of delicate glasses.

On one of the walls were hung a group of prospective photographic images, which exemplified the type of photos which Gernhardt is endeavoring to amass and covert to line art for the book. On another wall, several shots of Greg Schindel were hung, with cups down below each photo in which attendees could place a ticket in order to vote for their favorite.

As the afternoon progressed, the gathering turned into a discussion of the most effective methods to get the word out to prospective contributors and advertisers, how to lay out the book, and where to distribute the final product. Gernhardt expects to be able to complete the project sometime around the end of the year.

"What we're trying to do here is put together a coloring book of Willits, all things Willits with pictures that people submitted," said Gernhardt as she presented her ideas to the attendees. "We might still look for some more pictures and postpone this a little bit. We would like to drum up some more interest because I think it's a special thing to do for our town. The more people we get on board, the better it will be. It's like Laurie B's rocks she did for all the businesses. This is going to be for all the businesses and the whole community."

Anyone who wishes to contribute, to advertise, or has inquiries, can contact either the Willits Rotary Club at: WillitsRotaryClub@gmail.com, or Gernhardt at: 707-535-9500, PrintssCathie@gmail.com.





Aeolian Trio plays WCA Great Room, September 6

Submitted by WCA

The Japan-based Californian jazz group Aeolian Trio takes the stage in the Great Room at the Willits Center for the Arts on September 6. Shakuhachi master Bruce Huebner and Tokyo guitarist Koufuu Suwa join New York percussionist Todd Isler to form the Aeolian Trio, reuniting ancient traditions and bringing them into the 21st century.

Aera, one of Japan's leading news and culture magazines, wrote of founder Bruce Huebner, "Huebner keeps that simple, nostalgic sound we Japanese associate with shakuhachi, yet blends beautifully with the rhythm and harmony of jazz." Experience the jazz and world fusion sounds of the Aeolian Trio at the Willits Center for the Arts on Friday September 6, from 7 to 9 pm. Both alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages will be served.

Tickets are \$20 in advance online at www.willitscenterforthearts.org, and \$25 at the door on the day of the event. Doors open at 6:30 pm. More info: manager@willitscenterforthearts.org or 707-459-1726.



Above: Tokyo guitarist Koufuu Suwa. At left: The Japan-based Californian jazz group Aeolian Trio. From left: New York percussionist Todd Isler, Tokyo guitarist Koufuu Suwa, and Shakuhachi master Bruce Huebner.



'Steel Magnolias' opens at WCT on August 30

By Steve Hellman for WCT

The beloved beauty shop comedy-drama "Steel Magnolias" opens Friday, August 30 at Willits Community Theatre. Co-directed by Kelly Kesey and Lisa Wilcox, the Robert Harling classic features the intimate and remarkable experiences of six women in their loving and devoted friendships together.

Starring in the show are longtime WCT favorite Kathy Vellis as the mother M'Lynn and 17-year-old Maggie Ramey in her debut at WCT as the daughter Shelby. Cindi Mohr appears in the role of Ouiser, and WCT veteran Virginia Hanley as Clairee. Danielle Martin who recently starred in "The Rocky Horror Show" appears as Annelle. WCT veteran Gretchen Anderson powerfully carries the central role of shop owner Truvy.

Central to the drama is Shelby's unexpected pregnancy and her struggle with complications from diabetes, says co-director Lisa Wilcox. One of her favorite lines is Shelby proclaiming her commitment to her pregnancy—"no matter the risks: 'I would rather have 30 minutes of wonderful than a lifetime of nothing special.'" The outcome of Shelby's choice does become tragic. Wilcox says of growing up with the play and its famous film version, "My mom and I have seen the movie 100 times and we still cry every time."

Co-director Kelly Kesey says the central draw for her is Truvy's character. "She's this strong, independent rock for the other women. They come to Truvy's shop for her true wit and uplifting spirit, for the way she can turn a sad moment into laughter." Kesey adds that Gretchen Anderson as

Truvy gives the movie version played by Dolly Parton a run for her money.

The show is equally for men and women, says Kesey, especially men who come with their wives or girlfriends, hoping they might work off a couple items from their

"honey-do list." Kesey suggests that viewing laughter as medicine is the key to the play. "It's ultimately about how we can heal trauma in our lives, by stepping back from the pain and having moments of comic relief, moments to breathe and remember that life is a blend of the terribly sad and extremely joyful, and together — we can endure anything."

The play's especially memorable moments are perhaps best summed up by Truvy's line: "Laughter through tears is my favorite emotion."

"Steel Magnolias" runs August 30 through September 15, with performances on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 pm and Sunday matinees at 2 pm. There is no show Saturday, September 14. The final two shows are Sunday, September 15 at 2 pm and 7 pm. Tickets for all regular shows are \$20, and available online at www.wctperformingartscenter.org or at the door.

The Sunday, September 8 matinee is reserved for people attending WCT's annual Hearts For The Arts Benefit Gala. Tickets for the benefit are \$125 and include a post-show dinner, with live music and silent auction; benefit tickets are available by calling Amythyst Romero at 734-255-6173.



At top: A group shot of the cast of "Steel Magnolias," including, from left: Cindi Mohr, Virginia Hanley, Kathy Vellis, Maggie Ramey, Danielle Martin, and Gretchen Anderson.

Above, from left: Virginia Hanley as Clairee. Maggie Ramey as daughter Shelby. Kathy Vellis as mother M'Lynn. Below, from left: Gretchen Anderson as parlor owner Truvy, Cindi Mohr as Ouiser. Danielle Martin as Annelle.



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The rest of Senior | From page 1

Meals on Wheels can deliver to keep our most vulnerable seniors healthy.

For nearly 40 years, Meals on Wheels has touched the lives of Willits seniors, providing them with the nutrition they need and human contact they desire. But the benefits of this care and compassion go far beyond, driving notable improvements in their health.

Staff and volunteers form a network and are the "eyes and ears" in the homes of our most at risk seniors. They observe firsthand any changes in MOW clients' physical or mental conditions.

A report from the National Academies of Sciences points out nearly one-fourth of adults aged 65 and older are considered to be socially isolated. Older adults are at increased risk for loneliness and social isolation because they are more likely to face factors such as living alone, the loss of family or friends, chronic illness, and hearing loss.

Although it's hard to measure social isolation and loneliness precisely, there is strong evidence that many adults aged 50 and older are socially isolated or lonely in ways that put their health at risk. Recent studies found that:

- Social isolation significantly increased a person's risk of premature death from all causes, a risk that may rival those of smoking, obesity, and physical inactivity
- Social isolation was associated with about a 50% increased risk of dementia
- Poor social relationships (characterized by social isolation or loneliness) was associated with a 29% increased risk of heart disease and a 32% increased risk of stroke
- Loneliness was associated with higher rates of depression, anxiety, and suicide.
- Loneliness among heart failure patients was associated with a nearly 4 times increased risk of death, 68%

The rest of Facility | From page 1

sales tax with the goal of creating revenue to build facilities and support mental health service programs. After five years the tax was reduced to 0.125 cents and continues to support Mendocino County's Department of Behavioral Health.

Former Mendocino County Sheriff Tom Allman, who is running for Willits City Council in the November election, was a critical figure in the proposal and passing of Measure B. "It was clear to me that mental health was certainly at least 10 percent of the sheriff's responsibility, sometimes more," said Allman, reflecting on his time in law enforcement. "At nighttime and on the weekends, I felt as if I was a backup mental health director."

Mendocino County did, at one point in time, have a county-run psychiatric health facility, or PHF (pronounced "puff") that treated the severely mentally ill, though it closed in 2000. Since then, there's been a significant gap where emergency psychiatric services should be.

Measure B, since passing, has helped create new programs to help fill some of this gap. During the groundbreaking ceremony, Mendocino County CEO Darcie Antle spoke of the "great work that the Measure B initiative started." That great work, Antle said, "has given us a [Behavioral Health] Regional Training Center in Redwood Valley, the Crisis Residential Treatment Center [in Ukiah], this facility that will open in October [of 2025] and is also assisting with the behavioral health wing over at our jail."

Additionally, according to the county's website, which hosts updates to Measure B-funded programs, the county's Mobile Crisis Response Team has "three full-time staff responding seven days a week."

While these current programs are significant step for our collective headspace here in Mendo, all who spoke at the ceremony agreed that more emergency psychiatric stabilization care is needed. "Like in so many other [counties], the demand for psychiatric services has outpaced the resources available," said Second District Supervisor Maureen Mulheren. "This facility will be a beacon of hope for those in search of services close to home."

During his speech, former Sheriff Allman reiterated that, "law enforcement does not want to house mentally ill people in

increased risk of hospitalization, and 57% increased risk of emergency department visits

While Meals on Wheels feeds both the body and soul, it also creates a profound effect on lowering healthcare costs. One in four of today's seniors lives alone, increasing their chances of high blood pressure, diabetes, and heart disease. Meals on Wheels can be a valuable asset for healthcare providers and insurers by helping to avoid unnecessary hospitalizations, reducing hospital readmissions and post-discharge needs through daily nutrition, socialization and safety checks, and allows seniors to remain in their homes living independent lives. In fact, 81% of the people we serve say Meals on Wheels improves their health.

MOW program benefits recap:

- Home Delivered meals to vulnerable seniors
- Social interaction for isolated seniors
- Volunteer driver are, "eyes and ears" and identify risks before they become problems, problems before they become health issues; solve health issues before they become catastrophic and costly.

How can you support this essential program? Buy Raffle Tickets! 45 AWESOME raffle prizes (valued at over \$5,000) have been donated by local businesses to help us raise funds for the new MOW truck. Raffle prizes are on display in the lobby of the senior center, 1501 Baechtel Road, and are available for purchase at the front desk of the senior center, Monday through Friday, 10 am to 4 pm.

You can view a complete list of raffle prizes on our website at www.willitscenter.com. To make a donation, click on this link www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=4AW5YRDREVT2Q

You can also mail a check (please note on your check MOW truck) to: Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road, Willits CA 95490

The rest of Letters | From page 2

and steel. Concrete is a significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions, and both concrete and steel require enormous amounts of heat and therefore energy to produce.

Like the French in preparing for the summer Olympics, the City of Willits should be focusing on less destructive design principles. In fact, we should be striving to use local materials and local talent as much as possible. A hundred years ago, a structure like the proposed pavilion would have been timber-framed. We are lucky to have skilled builders in our area who have revived this old craft. Pole-Craft Solutions even uses timber culled from forests in thinning for fire safety in the design of new buildings.

We don't need a concrete platform for Farmers Market or birthday parties (apparently the most frequent other use to which a pavilion would be put). There are any number of permeable patio paving options, many of them locally sourced, that would do. And the main area that might suffer if left in grass would be the 20 foot walkway between Farmers Market booths. That could be surfaced with an attractive and durable crushed stone from local sources, leaving a lot more grass for the park.

Finally, as for the placement of a pavilion in the park, I have no particular preference, but I respect some neighbors' concerns about the present proposed location.

Michael Foley, market manager, Willits

Food Bank August fundraising update

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Willits Community Services Corp & Food Bank, we want to thank all our donors. Thank you all so much! We have reached just over the halfway point of our Summer Fund Drive by raising \$52,825.

We want to thank Laura I Wagner, Bobby & Della Bennett POA Christina Riviera, Dean & Geraldine Durbin, Kathi & Larry Shipley, Beth Rosen, Jesse Cougar, Rosalie Anchordoguy, Ron C Sheets, Waters Construction, Jane's & Barbara Snyder, Brickhouse Coffee, William Barksdale & John J Dowling, Jan Stephens, Martin Smith, Theodore & Carolyn Wilcox, Linda MacDonald & Robert Comings, Henry W Rued, DDS, Allegra Steele, Helen Falandes, Bruce Haanstra & Carole Aleshire, Michael A Rice, J.L. Armstrong, Kim White, Robert & Sheri Cronin, Betty & Neil Banham, Carolyn Ponikvar, Jeanene Abbott, Gayle & William Bradley, Thomas Demarchi, Karen Gridley & Wolfgang Ronnefeldt, Tracy & WC Beards, Maude Honemann & Bruce Jackson, Peggy Randrup, Mary Ziady & Richard Christopher, Karen & Gordon Oslund, Carolyn & Gene Stewart, St. Francis in the

Redwoods, James & Jeanne King, Glen Kaihara, Rosamond Crowder, Margie Handley, Monty & Kayo Levenson, Lynne & Keith Matheny, Keith & Jane Rongey, Katharine Rohrs, Amy Elliot, Alex & Barbara Carlon, Richard Jeske, M. Hawkins, Willits Mini Storage, Martha Ann Seifert, B&P Yoxall, David & Laura Smith, Ronda Landes, Peter & Laura Koch, Sheryl Smith, Gary & Diana Mann, Robin Goldner & Marc Komer, Allen & Marna Garcia, Carolyn Smith, LMFT, Caicos Investments, Inc, Linda & David Beebe, Keith & Linda Baker, Kacy Knudsen, Daniel & Barbara Elsberty, Bethellen Levitan, Elizabeth Hart, Peter Dal Poggetto Trust, Tom & Susan Walz, John Jeavons, J. Francis Schatz, Jean Morawski, E.A. Padula Lumber Company, Inc, Debbie McCubbin, Nika Patterson & Christopher Brown, and Willits United Methodist Church.

Thank you all so much for your donations. Your generosity and kindness has allowed us to keep our doors open. In the beginning of 2024 we were serving approximately 220 households a week. In the past two months, we have been serving a record number averaging 360 households a week, and this number has continued to climb. Your contributions make such a difference in the lives of all those we serve. We still need to raise \$47,175 for our summer drive.

We desperately need the community's help in being able to continue providing our services. A donation of any amount helps so much, and we thank you for any help you can lend to our fundraiser as it greatly impacts our neighbors.

In our last letter to the editor we spelled Wes Wake's name incorrectly and want to thank Wes and his crew for all the work they did to help us move to our new location and his wonderful generosity in waiving his bill. His service has greatly impacted our work, and we want to thank him for all he has done. Please remember Wes Wake for your refrigeration needs. Thank you Wes Wake!

We want to thank the City of Willits for their generosity and grant money. This has helped buy the necessary time to be able to write grants and fundraise. We thank the mayor, vice mayor, city manager, council members, and city staff for their generosity and care. Words can not begin to express our thankfulness.

We want to thank the Lakeport, Willits, Ukiah, Fort Bragg, Clearlake, and Cloverdale Relief Society Organization of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and Falling Prices of Lakeport for helping us to be able to provide book bags and school supplies to children in need. So far we have been able to provide over 70 bookbags and school supplies to children in our neighborhoods. We are still collecting additional supplies for other children and appreciate the efforts of so many to be able to help with this special project.

Thank you to Redwood Empire Food Bank for their generosity in adding to us their refrigeration grant providing a brand-new double-door freezer and refrigerator. This has allowed us to be able to store additional food and was greatly needed. We would also like to thank the Community Foundation of Mendocino County for their Save the Day grant which will allow us to purchase a mop sink, utility sink, refrigerator door, and supplies that are needed for our health inspection requirements. We so appreciate their generosity and support.

Thank you all for your support, generosity, and love you have showered on the food bank as it means so much to the staff, volunteers, board of directors and myself to be able to continue providing food and services to our communities. We appreciate each and every one of you very much.

Kim Tippit, executive director, Willits Community Services

City Park

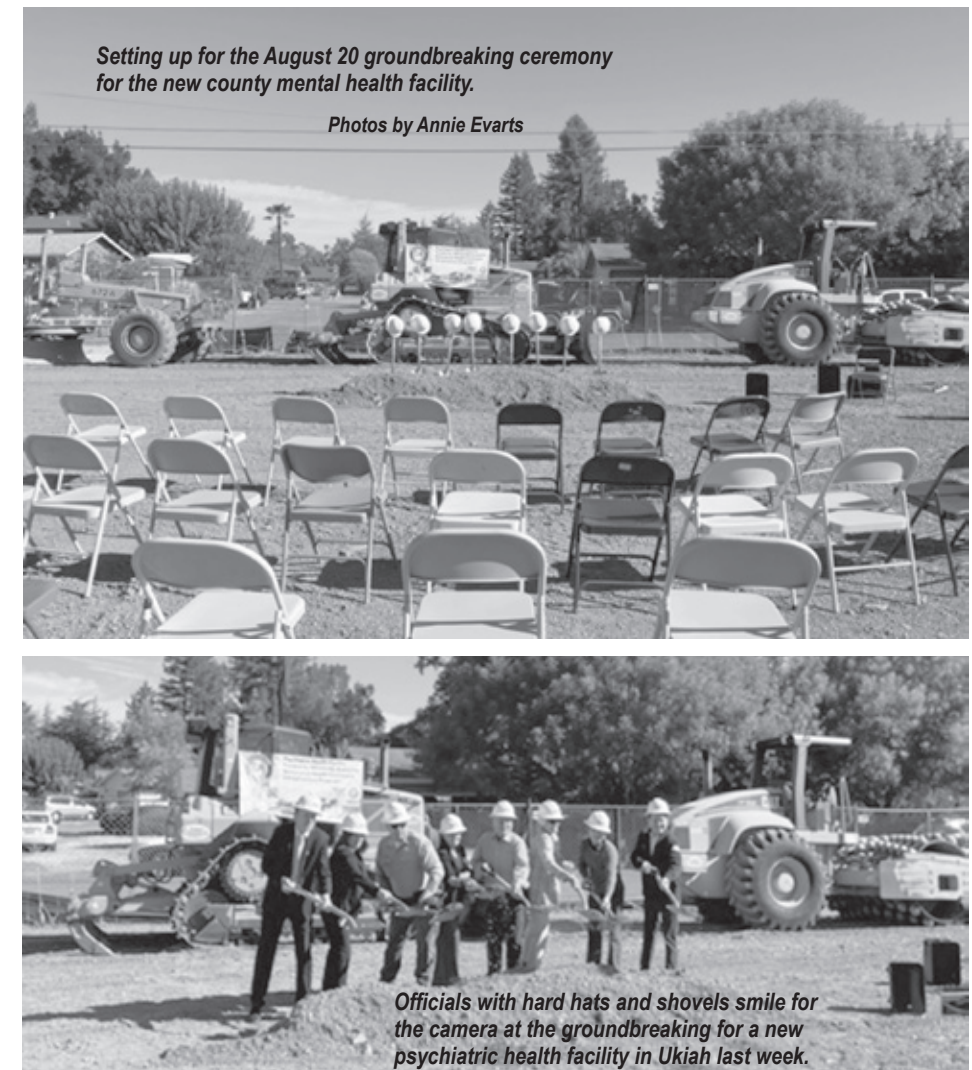
To the Editor:

I am not a resident of the city of Willits, but Willits is my town for the last 45 years. Our kids all graduated from Willits High School. My husband and I retired from good jobs in Willits. We drive down Commercial Street when we come to town to shop, do banking, and go to church, etc.

My husband and I were wondering why the city would like to "remodel" beautiful Bud Snider Park when right across the street is a fenced eyesore that could use a facelift. Plenty of parking is available and enough room for a 40 foot by 80 foot structure.

Also it is a bit disappointing the whole community is not invited to participate in this plan. Please don't be too hasty in the final decision. Keep the public informed about future open meetings and discussions.

Gail Warner, Willits



Setting up for the August 20 groundbreaking ceremony for the new county mental health facility.

Photos by Annie Everts

Officials with hard hats and shovels smile for the camera at the groundbreaking for a new psychiatric health facility in Ukiah last week.



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