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Donations Accepted Edition No. 658

Thursday, October 1, 2026

Here is the first half of the transcript of the September 20, 2026 Willis Unified School District Board Candidates Forum, including opening statements from all four candidates running for three seats on the board of trustees: Nicole Karkar, Jeanne King, Mason Rescina, and Paula Nunez. This week's transcript also includes the first five sets of questions from the forum moderator and answers from each candidate. We'll print more next week.

I'm **Paula Nunez**, and my opening statement is that I've been in this county for a little over 50 years, and I have worked for Willits Unified for over 40 of them, been in education for 43 of them. I've been on the board now for eight years, and before that I used to go to board meetings

Howard Forest prescribed burn scheduled

Submitted by
CAL FIRE MEU

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Mendocino Unit personnel plan to conduct a prescribed burn of approximately 50 acres at CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit Headquarters, 17501 North Highway 101, Willits. The burn was set to start Tuesday, September 29, 2026, and will continue as conditions warrant until Thursday, October 22, 2026, from approximately 9 am to approximately 4 pm. Smoke will be visible in the area.

The burn will be conducted under very tight restrictions for the personal safety of firefighters and area residents. If there are any indications that the burn cannot be conducted in a safe manner, such as high winds or local fire activity, the burn will be cancelled. CAL FIRE reminds all residents that their safety is of the utmost concern.

This project adds to significant work underway throughout the state and brings California one step closer towards meeting state fuels reduction goals directed by the California Fire Plan and the California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan. To track the progress being made, both in your community and throughout California, visit the CAL FIRE fuels reduction dashboard at <https://www.fire.ca.gov/.../natural.../fuels-reduction>

For information on how to create Defensible Space, as well as tips to prevent wildfires, visit www.ReadyForWildfire.org.



Above, from left: Riata McKemy sells home-grown dahlia-focused bouquets through her business Branded Blooms at Saturday's Mabon Market. Linda Dean, left, had a booth at the Mabon Market that showcased paintings and painted wineglasses, and she stands with Sherry Stamps, Rose Southwick, and Erika Quinliven, right, who also made beautiful wreaths. Nataly Hosford of Whisk & Crumbs offered cookies, brownies, cake pops, and dumpling cake pops. Below: Misty Blough of Misty Made sells hand-poured soy candles and more in flavors like Apple Pie, Pumpkin Souffle, Cashmere Pumpkin, Branded Pear, and more.



**Photos by
Maureen
Jennison**

Second annual fall event held at The Munchery

celebrates autumn's arrival

All the fall feels were in the air for the second annual Mabon Market, held last Saturday at The Munchery.

Maureen Jennison
Graphics & Photographress
willitsweekly@gmail.com

explained market organizer Marissa Greene.

Even with a busy weekend of events elsewhere, the call of selected vendors, a bounce house, and the new fall-themed

Read the rest of **Mabon** | Over on page 11

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



At top, left: Melissa of Two-Stoned Jewelry shows off a bolero available for sale at the Mabon Market. At top, right: Rings in different colors, shapes and sizes made lots of options for shoppers. Above, from left: Clarence and Lisa Rhine show off their carved statues and signs, many featuring cute woodland creatures. Music was performed live by Lindsay Gang & Cedric J. Junior during the market. Mabon Market creator Marissa Greene, left, stands with “my right-hand woman” Ariel Grusky-Foley, who both wear fun quilted witch’s hats for sale at the market. Angela Morninglight and her son Leandro of Morninglight Farms offered adorned pumpkins that showcased fall ambience in all its beauty. Below, from left: Kenneth Lack of Ravenwood Pens offered many colors of handmade pens.



Above, left: Ken Burton of Woodturned707's wood-turned ornaments were available in addition to his wide selection of wooden and resin bowls. Isabella Perez of Lily of the Valley Vintage smiles with some of her jewelry items made for the Mabon Market. At far left: Mary Kelly of Mary's Vintage Van curated an autumnal mix of orange-hued treasures for her booth at the market. Jade Acacia Clark-Wilson offered permanent jewelry at the Two-Stoned Jewelry booth, and smiles with her soldering pen at the event.

Willits Weekly is printing the transcript of the September 20, 2026 Third District Supervisors Candidates Forum, including opening statements from both candidates, Buffy Bourassa and Eric Hart, and the first five sets of questions and answers this week. We'll print more in the October 8 edition.

Co-sponsors of the non-partisan Forum include: Little Lake Grange, League of Women Voters of Mendocino County, Mendocino Women's Political Coalition, and Willits Economic Localization. Forum moderator will be Denise Jessie, librarian Willits Branch Library. You can watch the forum on Willits Community Television's YouTube channel www.youtube.com/@WillitsCommunityTV

Good afternoon. I'm Buffy Bourassa, and Mendocino County is my home. I was raised here. I built my career here and I've raised my family here for more than 12 years. I have served across public health, environmental ...

Read the rest of
Candidates
Over on Page 9

***Submitted by Willits
Rotary Club***

The Rotary Club of Willits will welcome the District 5130 World Polio Torch Relay on October 3, 2026 from 4 to 8 pm at the Harvest Moon Festival in downtown Willits. The local event is part of a district-wide journey from Crescent City to Petaluma October 2 through 24, 2026, supporting Rotary's commitment to eradicating polio worldwide.

Community members are invited to participate in the event by stopping at the Rotary Club booth in the Kids Corner parking lot and signing up to join in a torch walk through the festival. Students from Willits High School and Willits Charter High School involved in Rotary's Interact program are also expected to participate.

"This year's district motto is Building Bridges, Connecting Communities, so having a relay that spans our district is a great way to accomplish that, while also having a good time and furthering one of the great programs of Rotary," said Alexander Rich, president.

Read the rest of
Rotary
Over on Page 9

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Farewell from Scoops

To the Editor:

After 15 wonderful years, we have made the difficult decision to close our Scoops Deli, Ice Cream and Catering location.

First and foremost, we want to thank all of the wonderful customers we have had the privilege of serving over the years. You have supported us, celebrated with us, and become much more than customers – you have become friends and part of our lives.

We also could not have done any of this without the amazing people who worked at Scoops throughout the years. So many young people came through our doors, worked alongside us, and have since gone on to build wonderful careers and lives. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them and feel fortunate to have been a small part of their journey.

We've truly had a great run. From Hot August Nights filled with classic cars and poodle skirts, to Bike Nights with dozens of motorcycles, good friends, and great memories, Scoops has been a place where our community came together. It has been a wonderful privilege to serve the people of this community.

But now, it is time for me to focus on serving my family. With an aging father, young grandchildren, and my retired husband, my priorities have changed. At this point in my life, family needs – and deserves – to come first.

While our physical Scoops location is closing, our catering business will continue. I would still love to help you with your special events, celebrations, and gatherings. We will maintain the Scoops phone number and email indefinitely, so please feel free to reach out to me by email, text message, or simply give me a call.

Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for 15 incredible years. Thank you for your friendship, your support, and the memories we will carry with us forever.

We love you all. With heartfelt gratitude,

Lisa Kvasnicka, Willits

I ask for your vote

To the Editor:

I ask for your vote in the upcoming election for a position on the WUSD school board. I am a 45-year resident of Willits and am a retired educator. I have two grandchildren who attend Willits schools.

I have served two terms on the WUSD school board. Early on in my first term as a school board member, I decided that I didn't just want to be a board member but that I wanted to be an effective board member and to that end I needed to become informed. I have taken multiple courses through the California School Boards Association (CSBA) and the Small School District Association (SSDA). In my goal to be an informed and effective school board trustee, I have earned a Master's in Governance from the California School Boards Association.

In my two terms on the board, I have worked hard to build strong, respectful relationships with the four superintendents I have served alongside, my fellow board members, district staff, parents and community members. I have served two years in succession as board president, elected by a majority of the board.

I am an independent thinker, who will always search for the truth regarding any issue that comes before the board.

The Rules: **LETTERS**

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

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

Willits Weekly

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I owe no allegiance to any activist or political group.

I deeply love children and want the very best for them, as well as those who work with children. Under the current superintendent, Willits Unified is heading in a really good direction. I would like to continue to be part of that. I ask for your vote in this upcoming election.

Jeanne King, Willits

Voting is our superpower!

To the Editor:

To our community: If you've never voted, or now feel like your vote doesn't matter, please reconsider!

A vote in Willits, in Mendocino County, will affect our collective future in many ways. On the most local level, we will be determining who sits on our City Council and who sits as our Supervisor in the Third District. We will also be voting on creating affordable housing and loans to vets; bonds to help middle class Californians buy a new home; and whether you have to use an ID to vote. These propositions may affect you.

But our votes also affect national politics, determining who will represent us in the U.S. House of Representatives. We need the majority in the House for many reasons, but there's at least one that is severely impacting Mendocino County: Curtailing any further cuts to our healthcare and putting a stop to the closure of rural hospitals.

Our votes affect major decisions that show up at the gas pump, with prices up 75% from one year ago. And we don't need Consumer Affairs to tell us that grocery prices are up 5 to 6% or more. The decisions made by those in power shape our lives, our communities, and our future. When we vote for our national leaders who get us into tariff wars and actual wars, our votes shape affordability at home.

October 17 is a day called out to bring attention to "Vote Early." It's planned to be a day of peaceful, non-partisan voter participation and being in community with each other. People will gather in Babcock Park to raise their voices and express their desire to keep elections fair and to encourage our community to vote early so that your electoral wishes are counted. Voting early lets us make our voices heard on our own terms, before Election Day, before the last-minute chaos, and before anyone else can decide for us what happens in our community.

In the meantime, if you would like to learn more about the 14 State Ballot Measures on the November 3rd ballot, there are three opportunities for you to do so. These "Ballot Info Parties" are sponsored by WELL (Willits Economic Localization) and WEC (Willits Environmental Center): on Wednesday, October 7, 5:15 pm in the meeting room of the Willits Public Library (the program is neither sponsored by nor affiliated with the Mendocino County Library), on Sunday, October 11, at 2 pm at the Hub, 630 South Main Street in Willits, and on Monday, October 12, at 5:30 pm, also at the Hub.

Voting is our superpower!

Mary Burns and Kim Bancroft, Willits

No on Prop 44: a dangerous attack on rural healthcare

To the Editor:

I am the Medical Director at Long Valley Health Center in Laytonville, a nonprofit Federally Qualified Health Center that has served North-Central Mendocino County since 1978. Every day I see what it means when patients fall through the cracks – and what becomes possible when they don't. Proposition 44 would make it much harder to catch them.

Let me tell you about one of our patients – I'll call her Renee.

Renee is 36 years old. She has had Type 1 diabetes since she was 3. By the time she came to us, that disease had ravaged her kidneys – she was driving to Ukiah three days a week for dialysis, battling addiction, with no income, no stable housing, and dangerously uncontrolled glucose levels. She was scared, overwhelmed, and feeling almost entirely alone.

Our Enhanced Care Management team surrounded her. Her caseworker read and re-read every eligibility requirement to help navigate her onto the kidney-pancreas transplant list. Another team member helped her enroll in SSI benefits, giving her income for the first time. Our nurses and her provider answered every question about labs, medications, and following steps. They had hard, honest conversations with Renee about sobriety, about vaping, about what was at stake if she couldn't stop. Our whole clinic was all hands on deck.

And Renee showed up too. That is what whole-person

Read the rest of No on 44 Over on page 13

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. To-go lunches are available from 12 to 12:45 pm, in front of the main desk, 1501 Baechtlet Road. Due to increasing food costs, dine-in and to-go meals are now \$9.

October menu not available

Activities: Bingo on Friday nights, 5 to 7 pm. Exercise class weekday mornings from 9 to 10 am.

Pancake Breakfast every second Sunday at the Willits Senior Center, on Sunday, October 11 this month, 8 to 11:30. Menu Choices: All You Can Eat Pancakes or Biscuits & Gravy, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon or Sausage, Coffee, Orange Juice or Milk; Breakfast Special TBD. \$13 adults; \$12 Senior Center members; \$8 children. 1501 Baechtlet Road.

Meals on Wheels: The Senior Center Meals on Wheels program delivers lunch Monday through Friday, excepting holidays. To sign up call Joliana 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.

Auditions for staged reading of Bertolt Brecht play

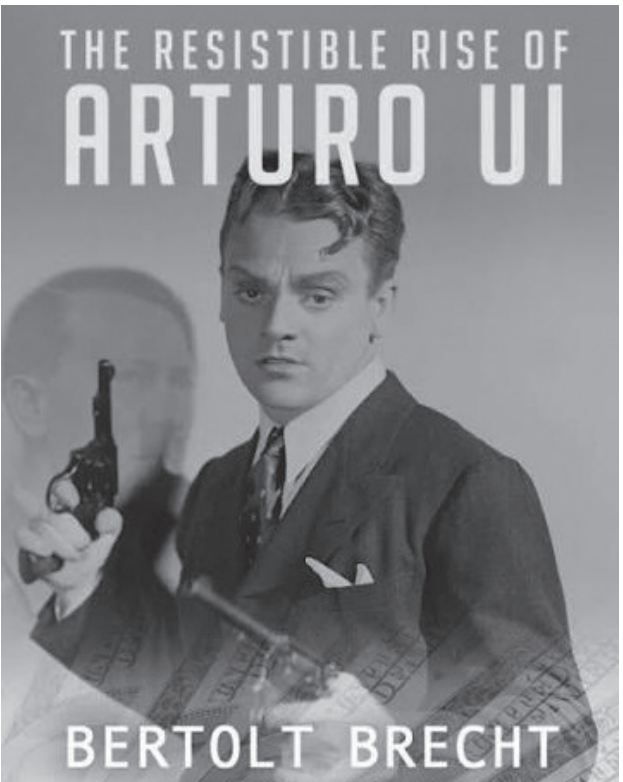
By Steve Hellman, for WCT

Auditions will be held October 10 and 16 in Willits for actors to perform in a staged reading of Bertolt Brecht's satirical gangster play, "The Resistible Rise of Arturo UI." Director Mary Guibert seeks actors aged 18 and up, with no restrictions as to gender.

The 1941 play is about a gangster who seizes control of the vegetable trade in Chicago and Cicero, Illinois, during the Great Depression, with intended parallels to the rise of authoritarianism in pre-World War II Germany.

As to the importance of the play today, Guibert says: "There has always been an ongoing struggle for liberty and democracy in the face of authoritarianism. When everyone is desperate for a job, to pay their rent, or to put food on the table is when authoritarianism can take hold."

The auditions will be held at 234 South Main Street, Suite #4 in Willits on Saturday, October 10 at noon, and Friday, October 16 at 7 pm. Performances of the play will be at Willits Community Theatre on Saturday, November 7 at 7 pm and Sunday, November 8 at 2 pm. For information, contact Mary Guibert at (707) 513-6789.



The Noyo

Skunk Train's new Presidential class railcar out of Willits offers an elegant VIP experience

In a style that is best described as Retro Fifties Deco, soft Fifties colors with precise Art Deco lines, the Skunk Train's new Presidential class railcar redefines the idea of elegance in fine rail travel. Each pair of seats has a small table, on which is served complimentary charcuterie and a choice of several rail-themed cocktails. Last Wednesday, the press, including Willits Weekly, was invited to one of the first trips on The Noyo, and a chance to see the Flynn Creek Circus, which had been in residence at the Crowley stop for September.

"It's called The Noyo, Presidential class," explained Kimberly Preciado, Public Relations manager. "It's brand new. It's 1940s to 1950s inspired. It's fully restored by our Skunk Train team over at the Fort Bragg depot. It's quite different from our other cars. The experience is more elevated. It goes hand-in-hand with our 'Redwood' which is in Fort Bragg, although it is based on another era. It's the first time that we have this sort of service on this side, in Willits. It's a VIP experience. It costs more, but it comes with two cocktails, a charcuterie board, tableside service. It is an elegant way to travel."

Robert Pinoli, president and CEO of the Mendocino Railway, that operates the Skunk Train out of both Willits and Fort Bragg, is obviously proud of being able to offer this new service, along with the new rail bikes, which were added to the Willits station this spring. "I think the Noyo car is fabulous," he said. "I think it's a testament to the vision that we have, one of the many things that we have in store for Willits, not only on the passenger side but on the commercial side too, on the freight side. It's part of the investment that we are committed to making to see the railroad continue to grow and prosper, but also our community to continue to grow and prosper.

"It's a stunning car," Pinoli emphasized. "Tonight you're going to get a sneak peek and a chance to immerse yourself on board. It's beautiful. We put two Presidential class cars into service in the last year. The Redwood, which is based in Fort Bragg, and The Noyo which is here in Willits. The two cars are completely different, different vintages. While The Redwood is reminiscent of what you would expect a presidential class car in the early 1900s to look like, The Noyo is reminiscent of what you would expect a presidential class car to look like from the 1950s. It's really lovely inside. I think the thing that really sets what we do apart from what others may be doing is our attention to detail. If you'll notice the ribbing on the light fixtures.... Then, look up at the speaker covers. We created and cut each of those covers so that the ribbing is parallel.... The lines of the exterior of that car speak to that era and the interior as well. I know that the food and beverages on board will not disappoint."

As The Noyo meandered its way through the hills, valleys, redwoods, and bridges of the route, the passengers relaxed in peaceful elegance, as they were pampered and dutifully attended to by Raeshele Mayfield and Cheryl Barnes who served the charcuterie boards and cocktails and made sure that each of the riders felt special and cared for. As an extra perk, lite bites were provided through The Whistle Stop. At Crowley, the media people were treated to an exciting and humorous performance from the Mendocino County-based Flynn Creek Circus.

As previously stated, a trip on The Noyo Presidential class railcar is going to cost more to ride, however, for those who desire comfort and elegance, and a retro experience, The Noyo is well worth the upgrade to premium. Every aspect of the ride is designed to make guests feel special. For those who are looking for a unique experience, The Noyo, is an excellent choice, a way to create memories – and a possible great date night option.



Above, left: The attendees detrain along with the rest of the regular riders at the Crowley stop. Above, right: Cheryl Barnes takes a cocktail order from one of the participants in the new Presidential class railcar's inaugural journey. At far left: Young Phoenix Hetherington looks forward to seeing the amazing Flynn Creek Circus. At left: Raeshele Mayfield, one of two attendants on the Noyo, is ready to serve the charcuterie plates – one of the regular perks on the car – to the guests. Below, left: The Flynn Creek Circus set up their tent at the Crowley field. Below, right: The riders had a choice of several different cocktails, mocktails, wine, or beer.

Photos by Mathew Caine



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DAVID CRONENBURG

"Everybody's a mad scientist, and life is their lab. We're all trying to experiment to find a way to live, to solve problems, to fend off madness and chaos."

BE THE ANTIDOTE

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

Thursday, October 1

Willits Farmers Market: Join your neighbors at Fall Market outdoors at City Park on Commercial Street, Thursday, October 1, from 3 to 5:30 pm, for the freshest produce available, local meat, farm fresh eggs, hot and cold food from local businesses, along with crafts, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. The market honors EBT and WIC cards and matches benefits to double your dollars. Fall abundance is the theme now at market, set for outdoors through the end of October. Market honors EBT and WIC cards and has extra benefits for qualifying seniors and WIC card holders. And we can help out the cash-strapped with Market Bucks for a swipe of your credit or debit card.. Thank you for shopping local and supporting our local farms and small businesses – we appreciate you!

"Abundance" opens at Ridgewood Ranch: A celebration of the beauty and bounty of Mendocino County, a group art exhibit presented by Ridgewood Ranch and Life Committee. "Abundance" opens Thursday, October 1, with a reception at 6 pm. Curated by Nori Dolan and Marsha Wright. 11800 Orchard Lane, south of Willits. Runs through November 30.

Friday, October 2

Skunk Train Pumpkin Express: starting out of the Willits Depot on Friday, October 2, with 10:30 am and 1:30 pm runs. Make fall memories in Willits this October with a journey to Crowley, where a pumpkin patch awaits. Pick out the perfect pumpkin, enjoy seasonal treats, and soak up the magic of harvest season beneath towering redwoods. Pumpkin Express runs on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays at 10:30 am and 1:30 pm, with a third trip at 4:30 pm on Saturdays. Some dates may be waitlisted already. Local discounts available. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit https://fareharbor.com/embeds/book/skunktrain/items/133579

"Bakersfield Mist" at WCT: Willits Community Theatre presents a dark and meaningful comedy by Stephen Sachs, loosely based on the story of a woman who bought a painting at a thrift store and came to believe it was a Jackson Pollock worth millions of dollars. Directed by Jim Williams, and starring two WCT veterans: Cindi Mohr as the boozy, hard-tongued ex-bartender Maude and Steve Marston as Lionel, the effete and expert art appraiser. Friday, October 2 at 7 pm. 37 West Van Lane. Tickets are \$25 and available at www.wctperformingartscenter.org or at the door. Final weekend: runs Saturday, October 3 at 7 pm, and Sunday, October 4 at 2 pm

Lupine Driver at Shanachie: Willits-based rock band playing original music with styles that span from Sabbath to the Dead and beyond. This new band features Andrew Robertson on vocals & bass, Aaron Luedemann on lead guitar, Julian Griffin on drums, and Mark Hetherington on guitar. Friday, October 2 from 8 to 11 pm, Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

'Everyone Dies: What You Need to Know About End-of-Life Planning,' October 15

Avenues to Wellness speaker series presents "Everyone Dies: What You Need to Know About End-of-Life Planning," a presentation by Maggie Watson, Licensed Fiduciary, on Thursday, October 15, from 6 to 7 pm at Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. FREE to the public. Wheelchair accessible. End-of-life planning is something everyone will face, either for themselves or for someone they love. From the perspective of a professional fiduciary, Maggie Watson will discuss the key issues and legal documents that support effective end-of-life planning. Participants will learn how these documents function when a person becomes incapacitated or passes away. She will also cover what steps can be taken today to make future transitions smoother for family members. Avenues to Wellness is a program of the Frank R. Howard Foundation. They offer a monthly speaker series on the third Thursday of the month. For more information call: 707-456-9676. Email: spicett@howardfoundation.org. Visit: avenuestowellness.org

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Weds/Thur:
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Showtimes: October 2 to October 8

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Weds/Thur:
4:45, 7:30
Closed Monday/Tuesday

VERITY
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Sat/Sun:
1:30, 4:15, 7:00
Weds/Thur:
4:15, 7:00
Thrifty Thursday: \$8.00 tickets. Thrifty Thursday films this week in red.

THE NOYO HORROR PICTURE SHOW
October 17

Saturday, October 3

WHS Senior Class Golf Tournament: Come support the Willits High School Senior Class in their 2nd annual Golf Tournament. Saturday, October 3, at Brooktrails Golf Course. All proceeds fund the Senior Class Trip. Registration starts at 8 am and tee off is at 9 am.

Blessing of the Animals at St. Francis Church: All animals of any species are invited to come for the annual blessing at Saint Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal Church on Saturday, October 3, at 11 am, and will include some prayers and thanksgivings for the animals, a time to remember those who we've lost, and a blessing for each one – and a blessing for the humans present also. We will gather under the arbor in the parking lot just north of the church, at the corner of Commercial and Main streets. All animals must bring a human along and must be on a lead or in a carrier for safety. Children who do not have a live pet at home are invited to bring a favorite stuffed for a blessing. Animals who don't do well with strangers can stay in their cars, and we will come and bless them also. We do this each year at this time in memory of Saint Francis of Assisi, whose feast day is the next day. Francis saw all the animals and all of creation, including all people, as his brothers

and sisters, and joyfully proclaimed God's love for all.

Harvest Moon Celebration downtown: Kick off autumn at the Willits Chamber of Commerce's annual Harvest Moon Celebration in downtown Willits. Join us on Main Street for our FREE, family-friendly event — live music by Soul Circus, games, a pie eating contest with Kemmy's Pies, vendors, and of course the great community of Willits, family, friends, and neighbors ready to have fun, enjoy good eats, and shop local! Saturday, October 3, 4 to 8 pm. Wood Street to Commercial Street, around the bend to Humboldt Street.

'Contemporary Indigenous Art' at WCA: Willits Center for the Arts presents "Contemporary Indigenous Art" for the month of

October, displaying a collection of upscaled contemporary wearable art by Native families and tribal youth from Mendocino and Lake counties. Melody Williams, Monique Sonoque, and Indigenous Community Initiatives will be displayed, with Northern Pomo language, recycled materials, and traditional basket designs incorporated into the pieces. Pomo tribal elder Wanda Quitquit from Robinson Rancheria will also exhibit her unique painted gourds, which include geometric shapes and Pomo basket designs. Opens Saturday, October 3 with a festive gathering with



and second singer for Willits Farmers Market Band, "Bunny" is a prolific songwriter and cover artist, whose live piano and vocal sets span melancholy goth-infused pop, jazz, rhythmic stompers, happy standards, and soul-stirring siren wails. Saturday, October 3, at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Sunday, October 4

Local Food Harvest Celebration at the Grange: Enjoy the Local Food Harvest Celebration, Sunday, October 4 from 1 to 4 pm, at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Fun for everyone, featuring hands-on seed saving demonstrations, Grange Garden tour at 2 pm, acorn processing demos with in-depth talk at 3 pm, cider pressing, pumpkin painting, corn-husk doll making, wool processing demos, updates from Food Security action groups, and informative tables representing local food producers and community organizations. Free admission, but donations welcome. Sponsored by WELL and the Little Lake Grange.



Brewery and Frey Winery. A theatrical history tour, plus live auction. Tickets \$65, available online at https://mendocinocountymuseumfriends.org or email Fotmcm@gmail.com, or buy in person at the Friends of the Museum Gift Shop, 400 East Commercial Street.

"Bakersfield Mist" at WCT: Willits Community Theatre presents the final performance of this dark and meaningful comedy by Stephen Sachs, Sunday, October 4 matinee at 2 pm. 37 West Van Lane. Tickets are \$25 and available at www.wctperformingartscenter.org or at the door. See Friday, October 2 listing for more info.

Wednesday, October 7

Ballot Info Parties: Confused about the 14 state Ballot Measures on the November 3 ballot? Find out who's in favor, who's against, who's funding them. Ask questions, exchange opinions.... All

food and refreshments, from 6 to 8 pm, at WCA, 71 East Commercial Street in downtown Willits. More information online at willitscenterforthearts.org.

"Bakersfield Mist" at WCT: Willits Community Theatre presents a dark and meaningful comedy by Stephen Sachs, Saturday, October 3 at 7 pm. 37 West Van Lane. Tickets are \$25 and available at www.wctperformingartscenter.org or at the door. See Friday, October 2 listing for more info.

Deanne "Bunny" California at Shanachie: Percussionist and cover artist,



viewpoints welcome! Bring your ballot! (Ballots in California are set to go out starting October 5). The first Ballot Info Party is set for Wednesday, October 7, at 5:15 pm at the Willits Library Meeting Room, 390 East Commercial Street. ("This program is neither sponsored by nor affiliated with the Mendocino County Library.") Sponsored by WELL (Willits Economic Localization) and WEC (Willits Environmental Center). The next two Ballot Info Parties are set for Sunday, October 11 at 2 pm, at the Hub, 630 South Main Street, and Monday, October 12 at 5:30 pm, also at the Hub. Most important: Vote on or Before Nov. 3. Mail-in, use drop box at Willits City Hall, or at your polling place Election Day.

Thursday, October 8

Book Club at the Library: Come be a part of a welcoming community centered around the love of reading every 2nd Thursday of the month at 3:30 pm, Thursday, October 8 this month, at the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street. This club welcomes readers 18 and over to discuss notable books. Titles will be chosen during the meetings.

Willits Farmers Market: Join your neighbors at Fall Market outdoors at City Park on Commercial Street, Thursday, October 1, from 3 to 5:30 pm, for the freshest produce available, local meat, farm fresh eggs, hot and cold food from local businesses, along with crafts, live music, the

new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. The market honors EBT and WIC cards and matches benefits to double your dollars. Fall abundance is the theme now at market, set for outdoors through the end of October. Market honors EBT and WIC cards and has extra benefits for qualifying seniors and WIC card holders. And we can help out the cash-strapped with Market Bucks for a swipe of your credit or debit card.. Thank you for shopping local and supporting our local farms and small businesses – we appreciate you!

Friday, October 9

WHS Homecoming Game: Willits High School Wolverines play the 2026 Homecoming football game against the Upper Lake Cougars on Friday, October 9. JV starts at 5 pm; varsity game starts at 7 pm. WHS, 299 North Main Street.

"Mesopotamia" Art Talk at WCA: Willits Center for the Arts presents the next installment of its popular Art Talks lecture series, featuring art historian Gary Martin, M.A., on Friday, October 9, 2026, at 6:30 pm. The evening's presentation will explore the remarkable art, architecture, mythology, and culture of ancient Mesopotamia, the land between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, which gave rise to some of the world's earliest cities, writing systems, monumental architecture, and organized societies. Historian Martin will take the audience on a journey through the civilizations of the Sumerians, Akkadians, Babylonians, and Assyrians, examining the extraordinary works of art they created more than 4,000 years ago. Free and open to the public at WCA, 71 East Commercial Street. The program is designed for



anyone with an interest in art, history, archaeology, and the civilizations that have shaped human culture.

Cosmic Family Band at Shanachie: An original psychedelic family band happy to play music and extend Peace, Love, and Positivity. They invite you to come and let your creative juices flow (dance, art, crafts, circus acts, etc.) as they embark on a musical journey through the Universe. Friday, October 9 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Saturday, October 10

'Behind the Redwood Curtain: Cannabis in California' at the Museum: The new cannabis exhibit "Behind the Redwood Curtain" opens with a reception Thursday, October 10 from 5 to 7 pm at the Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street in Willits. Cannabis has been an integral, yet veiled, part of life in California, with complex stories and histories largely undocumented. In collaboration with the Cannabis Culture Museum, HappyDay Farms, and the greater Mendocino County community, the Mendocino County Museum and Exhibit Envoy have partnered to create a homegrown exhibit to empower audiences to reflect on and learn about the culture of cannabis in California, with a focus on the years between the 1970s to legalization in 2016. Refreshments will be provided by the Friends of the Mendocino County Museum, and don't miss a performance by the Raging Grannies of Mendocino County at 6 pm.

Snag at Shanachie: A versatile guitar, bass, and drums trio delivering a high-energy blend of blues, classic rock, and psychedelic rock with a touch of reggae. With Morten Jensen on guitar & vocals, Jake Sutter on bass, and Ross O'Brien on drums. Saturday, October 10 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

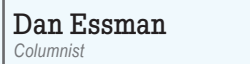
Sunday, October 11

More Ballot Info Parties: Confused about the 14 state Ballot Measures on the November 3 ballot? Find out who's in favor, who's against, who's funding them. Ask questions, exchange opinions.... All viewpoints welcome! Bring your ballot! (Ballots in California are set to go out starting October 5). Sponsored by WELL (Willits Economic Localization) and WEC (Willits Environmental Center). See October 7 listing for library Party info. The next two Ballot Info Parties are set for Sunday, October 11 at 2 pm, at the Hub, 630 South Main Street, and Monday, October 12 at 5:30 pm, also at the Hub. Most important: Vote on or Before Nov. 3. Mail-in, use drop box at Willits City Hall, or at your polling place Election Day.

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

'Heart of the Beast'

The Story: Odin, the charismatic German shepherd co-star of this flick (along with Brad Pitt), is a real good dog. He listens. He's brave (very brave!). He does what he's told to do. Unfairly. Even when he clearly doesn't want to.



Odin and Brad are Special Forces soldiers back from multiple tours of duty in the Middle East. Both dog and man endured violence, explosions, and the death of comrades. Both are suffering from PTSD.

Our two heroes, Dog and Man, have chosen a self-imposed sabbatical far from military conflict, far from violence and their world of endless war. Brad's a bush pilot. They fly off into the wild, far away from people. Their plan is to go camping and hunting and fishing in the stunningly beautiful Alaskan wilderness.

No ruinous spoilers, but: Things are going great, and then they're not. Brad and Odin have to traverse the wilds, the rivers, and the woods, on foot, back to civilization. It's a brave, grueling struggle of Man (and his Dog) against Nature's perils. A great flick!

My Thoughts: The story is simple. The story is respectable. It's a clean dose of reality. The protagonists are courageous and have to depend on themselves. There are no villains; just the circumstance that the natural world doesn't care.

Parents: It's not a movie for children.

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

SNAG!
Saturday, Oct. 10th-8 pm

Shanachie Pub
Craft Brew & Cider House-Willits

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very regularly because I was a teacher and it was important to me to know what my bosses expected. I also am running for school board because I noticed once when I was cleaning up some of my stuff that things I asked for 40 years ago are still things I would ask for and have certainly asked about. And if we haven't made that much progress, then I will just stay here a while longer until I get it. Thank you.

Hello everybody. My name is **Nicole Karkar**. Thank you for coming out here today. I am very excited to be running for school board for my very first time. I believe our education system is the backbone to success in our district and our town. If elected, my goals are to expand our learning opportunities and develop a stronger sense of community pride and also focus on solutions to aid our district. I would like to bring attention to some legislation that will affect our district. Prop 3 extends the taxation of the wealthiest 2% of Californians beyond 2030. I'd just like to bring that to your attention because those funds go directly to our public schools. So, if we were to not approve Prop 3, we would lose around \$3 million for our district. And that's something that we just really can't afford. A quote that's been with me lately is, "Education is the kindling of a flame and not the filling of a vessel," from Socrates. We need our kindling to keep that fire going for our town. I'll keep this short and sweet by saying please vote for Nicole Karkar for school board and also please vote yes on Prop 3. Thank you.

Good afternoon everyone. My name is **Mason Rescina**. I'm a fifth-generation Willits resident, a graduate of Willits High School, and a recent graduate of Mendocino College. During my time in Willits schools as a student, I had the opportunity to serve in several student leadership roles, including student body president of our high school. Education has always been a big part of my family. My grandma, Sharon Nunnenmaker, was a teacher in this school district for 25 years, and my mom, Kari Rescina, has been teaching for now 31 years. Over the last year and a half, I've had the opportunity to start subbing in our district as a special education instructional assistant. I always try to stay involved in the community that has given me so much. I volunteer with the Willits Rotary Club. I'm a board member for Willits Sober Grad, an organization which I care deeply about. This organization gives students a fun night on graduation night which keeps them safe.

These experiences have allowed me to see this community from different perspectives and our schools from different perspectives – as a former student and now as someone working for students and alongside staff. I'm running because I believe that serving on a school board is a serious responsibility. Board members need to ask questions, closely monitor student achievement, understand where taxpayer dollars are going, and listen to the people that they represent. I will be an accessible board member, because the only way that we can address problems in the district is if we hear about them. My priorities are clear: Improving student achievement, maintaining a responsible and sustainable budget, and strengthening communication between the district and our community. I believe that good leadership means listening and asking difficult questions when necessary, as well as working with people even who you may not agree with. At the end of the day, every decision we make should come back to what is best for the students. Thank you.

Hi everyone. Thank you very much for coming this afternoon. My name is **Jeanne King**, and I'm running for reelection for the Willits Unified School District Board of Trustees. I am a kindergarten through master's degree public school student, and I have lived in Willits for 45 years. I worked for over 20 years as a special education teacher. While supporting myself through college, I also worked as a special ed aide in classrooms in the Bay Area for severely handicapped children. My son went through school here. I currently have two grandchildren who attend Willits schools, a grandson who is a senior at Willits High School and a granddaughter who is in the seventh grade at Baechtel Grove. I volunteered in classrooms at Brookside and Blosser for about 11 years, and I also have served for three years as a family representative for the Blosser Lane Elementary Site Council.

I have served two terms as a member of the Willits Unified School District board. I am currently the third person in my family to serve on the board of trustees for Willits Unified. My husband served six years in the 1990s and my son was a student board representative in his senior year. So, I'm the third person in my family to be here. Early on in my first term – I was elected in 2018 – early on in my first year, I decided that I didn't want to be just a

board member. I wanted to be an effective board member. I realized that to be an informed board member, I needed to be an informed board member. To that end, I have taken multiple courses through the California School Boards Association, the Small School District Association, and board trainings offered by the district. In my goal to be an informed and effective board member, I have taken courses in foundations of effective governments, student achievement, education policies, school finance, the Brown Act, human resources, community relations, and board leadership. I have earned a master's degree in government through the California School Board Association. And as far as I know, I'm the only school board member to have ever achieved that.

QUESTION: What do you think is the school district's biggest problem?

Nicole Karkar: I think the school district's biggest problem right now is our financial budget and keeping teachers in our system. I think we're losing more teachers than we're keeping, and that obviously really affects the students' outcomes. We don't have consistent teachers getting paid what they need to get paid or having the support that they need, so that they may provide the best education for our students. The financial issue, I fear that's an issue that's going to go on in every district anywhere, but I think we could use some creative solutions and a new fresh set of eyes to try to solve those issues. Thank you.

Mason Rescina: The biggest issue facing our district is our budget. The state of California mandates that we hold a 3% prudent reserve. Currently, I believe we're at about a 2.45 plus or minus a little bit. If we do not maintain that 3% reserve and if we don't have a plan on how we're going to address that, the state will come in and do a takeover, and no one wants that. So, we have to address that. The budget is a complex thing that consists of \$30 million plus, and I certainly don't know enough about it to talk about it, but I will say that I hear that our PG&E bill is a big issue, and we're paying thousands of dollars a month. I was looking at our numbers, and I believe one month we were paying upwards of \$60,000. So we can take action on small things like making sure that AC and heating systems are turned off at the end of the day when facilities aren't in use, and we can do things like having hallway lights turn off when it's not dark out. Things like that can make a difference – because we need to do everything in our power to prevent a state takeover. Thank you.

Jeanne King: The biggest problem currently facing the Willits Unified School District is our finances. So, four years ago, a board majority voted in favor of a raise for staff that the school district said it could not afford. But of the board majority, which I was not part of, disregarded that advice and voted for a substantial raise. And it took a while for it to have a full impact because of the CO [County Office of Education] monies that were coming into the district, but those CO monies had to be spent by a certain time. When I came onto the board there was a 13% prudent reserve which is what the California School Boards Association recommends, but we are now below 3% which is what the district knew was going to happen with the large raise it gave to staff. So we need to be more prudent how we spend our money.

Paula Nunez: Counter to my colleague types, I don't believe that finances are our worst problem. I believe we have a bigger issue in attracting and retaining qualified teachers. I do believe that it can be done. We would have more stability. The scores etc. would all rise. This year we have a 30% teacher rate that is either not credentialed completely or is using a credential that, you know, really doesn't involve what they are teaching students. For me, that's a big deal. I also disagree slightly with the gloom and doom for our finances. In May, we had a reserve of 4.16. That's supposed to be preparing us for a June closing of the books and paying the bills. Instead, it didn't go that way.

QUESTION: What steps need to be taken to improve communication between school teachers and parents?

Mason Rescina: Well, I think it's also a thing of having administration also communicate with our parents and guardians of students, but our teachers are also a big part of that. So, I think we should be sending out monthly newsletters, maybe weekly newsletters. I've seen that we're more active on Facebook, which I think is really important, because we're in the day and age of social media. So many people use it, so we need to utilize it. I think that communication is important, and I think that's the only way that we can keep our parents informed and keep community members informed with all the awesome stuff that is going on in our school district.

Jeanne King: The school district under the current superintendent, John Baker, he's got everybody rowing in the same direction for the first time since I've been on the board. He's doing a marvelous job of getting school sites, each school site, all rowing in the same direction. He's created a five-year plan, and he has each school site administration developing a five-year plan, and part of the five-year plan is improving communications to parents. I believe every administrator at the district sends out some sort of communication through Parent Square weekly to parents, and the information is improving as far as our communication to the community about events and activities at the school district. Thank you.

Paula Nunez: What I believe about our communication systems that we have used is that they now connect every parent that feels like or guardian that feels a need to be connected. Teachers are available at the schools 30 minutes before the students arrive as a minimum and 30 minutes usually by the end of the day. And so there's plenty of time to contact them and get the information that you need. Every year there are parent teacher conferences. As the students get older, then certainly that drops a bit because they usually talk with the students' families where the student has needs. But it's a good system.

Nicole Karkar: I think the steps that could be taken to improve the communication – they're kind of already on the way, listening to a board meeting a few weeks ago about the teachers' goals, and they all had a goal of increasing the communication to do whatever system that they're using. At the high school it's called Minga, and I know at Baechtel Grove they're starting that as well, and that's a place where they don't have to just communicate bad things that students do but also positive things, and I think the implementation of that will increase our communication between parents and students. I think some parents that want the communication go and receive it. And the parents that don't really engage in that program aren't really on it that much. So it really just depends on the students' parents also whether or not they want to utilize those resources. But I do see that they're available.

QUESTION: What factors do you believe contribute to students leaving the school district for other educational options? And what could the district do to retain more students?

Jeanne King: In Mendocino County, there's a lot of movement between school districts. We get some students from Laytonville. We get a couple of students from Round Valley. Some of the students from Willits go to school in Ukiah. A lot of those student transfers to school in Ukiah are students whose parents work in Ukiah, and the parents want them to go to school where they're working. I think that improving parent relationships is really important. Making parents feel a part of the of the school. Last week I went to the third-grade family on the lawn luncheon at Blosser Lane. Those kinds of events where parents feel that they are part of the school system are really important, and I see an increase in that kind of activity.

Paula Nunez: Well, I think that the biggest thing for retaining students within the district is to give them a good, strong, solid education. And then as they learn what they need to learn, they can continue to educate themselves in areas that offer colleges, four-year universities, etc. And then they come back and give back to the community what they were so fortunate to receive. As far as keeping families and students here, I believe we need housing. I believe we need jobs. And I believe that when kids feel like a part of their class, which is certainly the push going on these last few years, then they're willing to stay. If they have teachers that they've had already, they're even more willing to stay, because it's a connection for them from year to year. And I also believe that when the administration treats them with the dignity and respect that they automatically have coming, so that there is a reason to connect, then they will stay.

Nicole Karkar: I think student retention has to do a lot with the vibe at that school, as cliché as that sounds, but if you want kids to want to go places, it has to be enjoyable. It has to be inclusive, has to be fun. It has to be engaging. I think those are the major things, and that comes with directly with teacher retention. When we have those consistent people in our community that kids can fall back to, day in and day out, and know that they're there, that makes a big difference in how they feel. Going to school was a good place for me to reach out to things that I didn't really have at home or have access to, and I learned a lot about my peers in that way. So to keep kids at school, we'd have to add more engaging programs like I said earlier to expand their learning opportunities to things further than this area and things that are in the big bad world that we can expose them to. Thank

you.

Mason Rescina: There's a number of things that I think we can do to improve our student population and how to retain them. We need to offer more programs, but with that takes more money, which we don't have. So, we need to be applying for every grant that we can get to start these programs up. When I was in middle school, I attended Baechtel Grove, and we were known to lose a lot of kids that year down to Eagle Peak. And I'd say my year we probably lost about a dozen students. So, that's a big problem. And that's about changing the culture of Baechtel Grove, because I know that's a rough place for some students. I had a rough time there. I think many kids have a rough time there. Also, what Paula said, it's about working with the county and the city to have housing that people can afford and good-paying jobs. All these things go hand in hand, and we need to work with the county and the city to accomplish those types of things.

QUESTION: What strategies would you pursue to attract and retain qualified teachers?

Paula Nunez: Well, I believe that in order to find them, you have to go out and look. You can put up all the EDJOIN [Education Job Opportunities Information Network] notices you want to put up, or you can put up any kind of close-to-us education fairs or those work fairs. But I truly believe that what you need to do is go farther out than the county, farther out than Sonoma, farther out than Lake. I know my family came from Fresno initially. And when I started working in Willits, there were four other couples that had come from Fresno as well. It's a distance, you know, but if you compare what Fresno looks like to what Willits looks like, you'll come here and stay. It won't be an issue. The other thing is you need to have attractive salaries. I mean, when the cost of living increase showed up four years ago, it showed up after eight years of no cost of living increases in the district.

Nicole Karkar: I think to keep teachers in our district and to find more teachers that we need to make it a little bit easier for them to enter the credentialing program. I did some research and only 16% of adults in Mendocino County have a bachelor's degree that would make them eligible to get a credential to become a teacher. That's a pretty low number. But I think if we can access those people and try to convince them or make an easier pathway for them to start their credentialing program, we could put better people in better positions in our schools, such as our AG program. It'd be great if we had a lifetime farmer in the AG program. They might not possess the credentials that they need to for that spot, but they might be great for it. So I think right now [we should] access the people in our community that we already have here. We could go looking, but again we have to make those salaries more attractive than the big city, and that's a little bit hard. Thank you.

Mason Rescina: Teacher retention and recruitment is a big problem in our district. And making sure that they have the right credentials. We have a program where if they have a BA then they can be a student teacher, and they have two years to complete their licensing permit. I believe that we should offer incentives when funding permits, because districts like over in Lake County, Kelseyville Unified I believe, they offer a moving bonus and a signing bonus actually. And I hear that they're good at recruiting teachers. Their teachers are also paid better than here. So once again, when funding permits, we need to make sure that our teachers are well-paid, that we're competing with Ukiah Unified and Laytonville Unified and competing with all the other school districts across Mendocino and Lake and surrounding counties.

Jeanne King: I moved here from San Francisco, to take a teaching job. I consider it one of my great blessings in my life to have ended up in Mendocino County. It's a wonderful community in Willits, and I'm very glad to be here. So I think we have things to offer people. I know that the school district has developed a formal relationship with Humboldt State. It's the only school district in the county to have developed this kind of relationship with Humboldt State, which will probably help to feed students who have completed their BAs, and maybe their teaching credentials in Mendocino County down to Willits. And I know that our HR person works evenings, weekends – she works very very hard to bring teachers here.

QUESTION: Teacher salaries and benefits play important role in recruitment and retention. How would you balance competitive compensation with the need to maintain a balanced district budget?

Nicole Karkar: This is a little bit of a tough

LEGAL NOTICES

WW626 Fictitious Business Name Statement 2026-F0319 The following person or persons are doing business as Hydration Dealer, 25595 Poppy Drive, Willits, CA 95490; 704-354-4744. Registered owner: Shalee Hansen, 25595 Poppy Drive, Willits, CA 95490. This business is conducted by an individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on September 3, 2026. FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk Recorder on September 3, 2026. /s/ Shalee Hansen Publication Dates: September 17, 24, October 1, 8, 2026	WW627 Fictitious Business Name Statement 2026-F0313 The following person or persons are doing business as Soul Flowering Holistic, 3001 Blackhawk Drive, Willits, CA 95490; 831-713-3238. Registered owner: Thallia Bird, 3001 Blackhawk Drive, 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 August 25, 2026. /s/ Thallia Bird Publication Dates: September 17, 24, October 1, 8, 2026
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WW615 Fictitious Business Name Statement 2026-F0345 The following person or persons are doing business as Lunas Health, 291 School St., #2, Willits, CA 95490; mailing address: 422 Larkfield Center #492, Santa Rosa CA 95403; 707-370-8774. Registered owner: Peds2Psych NP Nursing Corporation, 422 Larkfield Center #492, Santa Rosa CA 95403. This business is conducted by a corporation. 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 September 23, 2026. /s/ Medie Jesena Parrott, owner Publication Dates: October 1, 8, 15, 22, 2026	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
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Rotary Club of Willits <i>Serving our Community Since 1948</i> www.willitsrotary.org WillitsRotaryClub@gmail.com	<i>People of Action</i>
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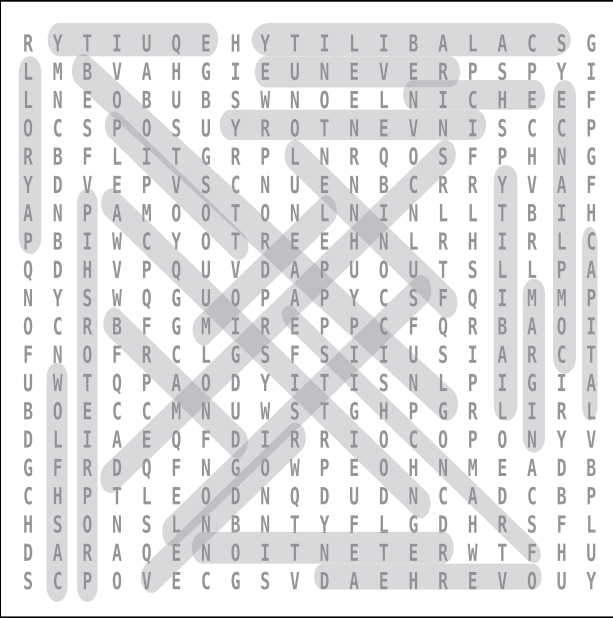
nibbles still gave the four-hour event a bustling group of customers, shoppers and eaters.

"It really was another good turnout, even if it was a little smaller than last year with vendors and foot traffic, but those who came, stayed for a while, so that was great!" said Greene. "Absolutely wonderful vendors and thankful for all. Bounce house was fun, too, and we hope to keep that tradition for next time."

Greene noted that over a dozen vendors came to offer goods including: Whisk & Crumb; Mary's Vintage; Linda Dean; Morninglight Farms; Branded Blooms; Two-Stoned Jewelry; Ute - Paint and Leather; Mulligan Farms; Succulents by Sneed; Misty Made; Woodturned707; Glimmers of Light; Michelle and Capri Beauty; Nature's Story; Art and Photography; Ravenwood Pens; Lily of the Valley Vintage; and Lisa and Clarence Rhine.

Along with the market outside, folks also enjoyed fall bites inside The Munchery restaurant that hosted the Mabon Market. New items gracing the menu included "Crangoblobber" and Pork Belly sliders; a Fall Salad with kale, pears, walnuts, apples, cranberries and cinnamon vinaigrette; Chicken and Dumplings that were served "Dolly Parton Style"; and two dessert options: Apple Pie Nachos with apple pie filling, cinnamon-sugar chips, and Chantilly cream; and a Pumpkin Trifle made of spiced sponge cake which was layered with pumpkin pastry cream and Chantilly cream.

Try the new fall menu out at The Munchery, open for dinner on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 5 pm to 8 pm, and for Sunday Brunch and the Bloody Mary Bar from 9 am to 2 pm. They're located just east of Brown's Corner at 1797 South Main Street in Willits.



LEGAL NOTICES

WW628 NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: GLENN P. PANELLA, AKA GLENN PANELLA, DECEDENT Case No. 26PR00594 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: GLENN P. PANELLA, aka GLENN PANELLA A Petition for Probate has been filed by: Patrick Panella and Danielle Kowalke in the Superior Court of California County of: Mendocino The Petition for Probate requests that: Patrick Panella and Danielle Kowalke be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an Interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: Date: November 13, 2026, Time: 9:00 a.m. Dept: E. Address of Court: 100 No. State Street, Ukiah, CA 95482 If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. <i>A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.</i> Attorney for petitioner: Jennifer M. O'Brien (#278821), Neary and O'Brien, 110 So. Main St., Ste C, Willits CA 95490. Telephone: 707-459-5551 Publication Dates: October 1, 8 and 15, 2026

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an Interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: Date: November 13, 2026, Time: 9:00 a.m. Dept: E. Address of Court: 100 No. State Street, Ukiah, CA 95482

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) **four months** from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) **60 days** from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. **Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.**

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. *A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.*

Attorney for petitioner: Jennifer M. O'Brien (#278821), Neary and O'Brien, 110 So. Main St., Ste C, Willits CA 95490. Telephone: 707-459-5551

Publication Dates: October 1, 8 and 15, 2026



CLASSIFIEDS

Brown Bag Lunch Program Every Saturday at 1 pm sack lunches are served by local churches, community organizations, and families at Bud Snider Park on East Commercial. Come at 1 pm to be assured a lunch!	'How to Recognize Inner Guidance in Your Daily Life' You are invited to an open discussion, "How to Recognize Inner Guidance in Your Daily Life," on Tuesday, October 6, 11 am to 12 pm at the Willits Library, 390 E. Commercial St. Questions? Call Joy (707) 367-3777. Sponsored by Eckankar of CA & NV. This program is neither sponsored by nor affiliated with the Mendocino County Library.
Do you need food? Willits Food Bank, 344 Railroad Avenue, Willits, CA 95490. Open Wednesdays & Fridays, 11 am to 4:30 pm. New Client Choice model where you select your own items. Bring shopping bags, Bring an I.D. Info: (707) 459-3333	Indoor Yard Sale Giant Indoor Yard Sale – Deep Valley Christian School, 8555 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley, (across from the Broiler). Saturday, October 24 from 8 am to 4 pm
For Rent ADU Studio Apt Rental. 1 person, woody, quiet, with private deck. Newly remodeled, all electric. Full kitchen, bathroom/laundry area, smart storage. No pets, please. \$1,200 plus deposit. 707-892-3396	RV/Trailer Space for Rent Space for RVs and Trailers – starts at \$500 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 972-4696. See at http://www.oaknvine.net/tp

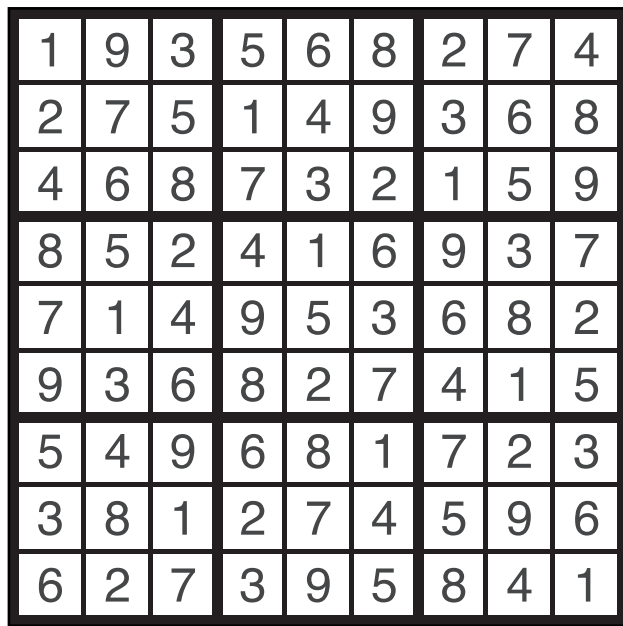
Classified ads are just \$15 for 30 words for two weeks.

Furry Friends Hoping for a Home

Gentle Penelope Meet Penelope, a gentle soul with the sweetest heart, who was found wandering in a rural area with her puppy. This lovely cattle dog mix is 1 year old and about 40 pounds. Penelope could use some help building her confidence, and she's looking for a family that will give her the time and reassurance she needs to feel safe. Once she knows she can trust you, she blossoms into an incredibly affectionate companion who simply wants to be by your side. Whether you're relaxing at home or enjoying a quiet walk together, Penelope is happiest just being close to the people she loves.	
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The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, is open to the public from 9:30 am to 5 pm Tuesday through Friday, and 10 am to 3 pm on Saturdays (closed for lunch each day from 1 to 1:30 pm). Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendoanimalshelter.com. Call 707-463-4427 for more information.

Cute as a Button Cute as a button and he knows it! Button is an adorable 4-month-old puppy with a loving personality; he is already soaking up the cuddles, treats, and adventures there are to have. He is ready to find a kind foster or forever family to call his own! Come meet Button and fall in love! For more info on our adoptable animals, applications to foster or adopt can be found on our website: www.mendohumanesociety.com As well as visit us anytime during open hours! Wednesday and Friday, 1 to 5 pm; and Saturday and Sunday: 11 am to 3 pm. 9700 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley. (707) 485-0123	
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Above: The Willits 4-H Club group photo at the Redwood Empire Fair.

Photo courtesy Willits 4-H

Join Willits 4-H for a year of fun, friends, and learning

Submitted by Willits 4-H

Willits 4-H is currently enrolling new members for the 2026-2027 year and invites local youth and families to become part of its longstanding tradition of hands-on learning, leadership, and community service.

Willits 4-H offers a wide range of local projects, including dogs, sewing, sheep, goats, canning (limited to the first six participants), dairy cattle, beef, poultry, horses and ponies, swine, leadership, and floral arrangement.

Enrollment is open now, and families are encouraged to sign up by October 15 in order to take an animal to the Redwood Empire Fair next August. All other members may enroll by December 31. Visit: <https://ucanr.edu/county/mendocino-county/youth-enrollment> and scroll down for information about how to enroll and pay fees online.

For additional information about Willits 4-H projects or the enrollment process, please contact Willits 4-H directly at: willits4hclub@gmail.com.

SECOND ANNUAL

Rummage SALE

OCTOBER 10
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

WILLITS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
286 SCHOOL STREET, WILLITS, CA

Benefiting
NUESTRA ALIANZA

Drop-off: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
10/11/24
10/12/24
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10/14/24
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10/17/24
10/18/24
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10/31/24

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WILLITS POWER & HARDWARE

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Willits, CA 95490
willitspower@gmail.com

Sales/Parts: 707 459-6420
Service: 707 459-0596
Fax: 707 459-6369

WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS

RANCH RODEO

OCTOBER 10, 2026

★ **STARTS AT 10 AM** ★

\$10.00
FOR ALL DAY ENTRY

COME OUT AND ENJOY SOME NEW THINGS WE'VE ADDED TO THIS YEAR'S EVENT!

STOP BY CHECK OUT THE BOOTH AND STAY FOR A LITTLE BIT OF BUDGET!

WESTERN & VINTAGE VENDORS

VENDOR SPACE STILL AVAILABLE

Contact: Hally
707-272-1088

BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY AND SPEND THE DAY WITH US AT WILLITS FRONTIER DAYS!

COWBOYS ★ COWGIRLS ★ COMMUNITY ★ GOOD TIMES

ESTD. 1993

GARMAN CONSTRUCTION

NO BAD DAYS DIGGING

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24900 N. HWY 101
IN WILLITS

707-459-5859

'Contemporary Indigenous Art' opens October 3 at Willits Art Center

Submitted by WCA

Willits Center for the Arts presents "Contemporary Indigenous Art" for the month of October, displaying a collection of upscaled contemporary wearable art by Native families and tribal youth from Mendocino and Lake counties. Melody Williams, Monique Sonoquie, and Indigenous Community Initiatives will be displayed, with Northern Pomo language, recycled materials, and traditional basket designs incorporated into the pieces. Pomo tribal elder Wanda Quitiquit from Robinson Rancheria will also exhibit her unique painted gourds, which include geometric shapes and Pomo basket designs.

Inspired by culture, family, and tradition, this exhibit also recognizes Indigenous Matriarchs who have preserved Native knowledge, nurtured future generations, and served as leaders within their communities.

"Contemporary Indigenous Art" opens Saturday, October 3 with a festive gathering with food and refreshments, from 6 to 8 pm, at WCA, 71 East Commercial Street in downtown Willits. More info online at willitscenterforthearts.org.

WILLITS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

ART TALKS MESOPOTAMIA

Often called the "Cradle of Civilization," Mesopotamia developed between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers more than 5,000 years ago. Here, the Sumerians, Akkadians, Babylonians, and Assyrians created some of the world's earliest cities, writing systems, monumental architecture, and works of art.

Friday, October 9, 2026 at 6:30

71 E. Commercial St. Willits, 95490
<https://willitscenterforthearts.org/>

Park 42 Cub Scouts
Willits, CA

HALLOWEEN COSTUME DRIVE

Have Halloween costumes your kids have outgrown? We'd love to give them another chance to be worn!

We are collecting new or gently used:

- Costumes
- Capes, wings, hats & accessories
- Trick-or-treat buckets & bags
- Unopened face paint or makeup
- Halloween clothing

Please donate only clean, usable items that are ready for another child to enjoy.

DROP-OFF
Scout Hut at Recreation Grove Park in Willits
Wednesday evenings
5:30 – 6:15 PM

Let's help local kids find something fun to wear this Halloween! ♥

Pack 42 Cub Scouts Halloween Costume Drive

Posted by Willits Pack 42

Do you have Halloween costumes your kids have outgrown? Willits Pack 42 Cub Scouts would love to give them another chance to be worn! We're collecting new or gently used Halloween costumes and accessories to help local kids find something fun to wear this Halloween.

We are accepting: new or gently used costumes; capes, wings, hats, and costume accessories; trick-or-treat buckets and bags; unopened face paint or costume makeup; Halloween clothing.

Please donate only clean, usable items that are ready for another child to enjoy.

Drop off is at the Scout Hut at the Rec Grove in Willits, on Wednesday evenings, 5:30 to 6:15 pm. Can't make it during that time? Send the Willits Pack 42 Cub Scouts Facebook page a message, and we'll see if we can arrange another drop-off time.

Please help us spread the word with other Willits-area families!

WILLITS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

CONTEMPORARY INDIGENOUS ART

Opening Celebration October 3rd 5-8pm
Exhibit October 2nd to October 26th

MATRIARCHS Community Art & Photographs

POMO GOURDS by Wanda Quitiquit

INDIGENOUS FASHION Contemporary Wearable Art

Funded by

71 E Commercial St, Willits, CA, (707) 459-1726

For more information
www.willitscenterforthearts.org

Art Talk: 'Mesopotamia,' October 9 at WCA

Submitted by WCA

The Willits Center for the Arts is pleased to present the next installment of its popular Art Talks lecture series, featuring art historian Gary Martin, M.A., on Friday, October 9, 2026, at 6:30 pm. The evening's presentation will explore the remarkable art, architecture, mythology, and culture of ancient Mesopotamia, one of the earliest centers of civilization.

Mesopotamia, the land between the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, gave rise to some of the world's earliest cities, writing systems, monumental architecture, and organized societies. Gary Martin will take the audience on a journey through the civilizations of the Sumerians, Akkadians, Babylonians, and Assyrians, examining the extraordinary works of art they created more than 4,000 years ago.

The presentation will include images of monumental sculpture, cylinder seals, temples, royal objects, reliefs, and other works that reveal how these ancient peoples understood their gods, rulers, animals, warfare, and the world around them. Among the subjects will be the ziggurats of ancient Mesopotamia, cuneiform writing, the Code of Hammurabi, the Ishtar Gate of Babylon, and the magnificent palace reliefs of the Assyrian kings.

"Mesopotamia is where so much of human history begins," Martin says. "The people of this region created cities, developed writing, built monumental structures, and produced some extraordinary works of art. I want to bring these ancient cultures to life and show audiences how much their achievements continue to influence us today."

The Art Talks series is presented at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street, and is free and open to the public. The program is designed for anyone with an interest in art, history, archaeology, and the civilizations that have shaped human culture.

HARBRAH SENIOR CENTER
SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Meals On Wheels VOLUNTEER

Make a difference—one meal at a time.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED
1st & 3rd THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

MEALS ON WHEELS
HARBRAH SENIOR CENTER

Willits Route
In town
Help local seniors

DRIVERS LICENSE REQUIRED

WILLITS SENIOR CENTER
1501 Baechtel Rd.
Willits, CA 95490

For more information please contact Juliana
(707)-459-6826 Ext. 6

VOLUNTEER. CONNECT. IMPACT LIVES.
Thank you for supporting our local seniors!



Four candidates running for three seats on the Willits Unified School District Board of Trustees: Paula Nunez, Nicole Karkar, Mason Rescina, and Jeanne King.

The rest of Board

question for me to answer since I've never been on the school board before. Just to be honest, I think balancing our teacher salaries and budget is always going to be an issue depending on the cost of living in California as it just keeps creeping up more and more. So, this issue is just going to be exacerbated throughout time, if we don't deal with it. As of right now, all I could tell you is that I will try my best to try to figure that out. But in regards of the budget and things like that, that's just something I'm not totally familiar with. Thank you.

Mason Rescina: Teacher salary is currently about \$57,000 here in Willits. Ukiah Unified pays them about, I think, \$2,500 more a year. In terms of compensation, insurance is astronomical.... Some of the plans go up to \$1,200 a month for insurance, which is insane. I mean, a starting teacher making \$57,000. I talked to some teachers, and they bring home about \$3,000 a month after all their benefits are taken out, including retirement. The retirement program is good. I'll give them that. But we really need to look for alternatives whenever possible for our insurance provider because currently the insurance is just killing our employees and sending them elsewhere.

Jeanne King: Teachers have a chance to move up the pay scale over time here, and by moving up steps and by moving up columns, based on their furthering their education. So there is a chance for teachers to increase their pay. But under our current finances, there is not the money to increase salaries at this time. And sort of the way I look at it is that the teachers got a humongous raise four years ago, and until we get our finances straightened out, we have to do with what we have. If we don't the state will take it us over.

Paula Nunez: Well, there are a number of things involved, according to me and how you balance a budget, and it depends on your priorities. If you make your staff a priority, then it is far easier to budget with your priority list being met first. There is also a way to make cuts that are very, very far from the classroom. And currently if you were to compare Lake County and Mendocino County and go south to Sonoma County and you used a ratio of students to administration, our district office has two more people as far as the percentage would fit than do many other district offices, in particular in Fort Bragg and in particular in Laytonville.

Co-sponsors of the non-partisan Forum include: Little Lake Grange, League of Women Voters of Mendocino County, Mendocino Women's Political Coalition, and Willits Economic Localization. Forum moderator will be Denise Jessie, librarian Willits Branch Library. We'll print more in the October 8 edition. You can watch the forum on Willits Community Television's YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/WillitsCommunityTV

The rest of Dolly

to Flourish & Flow and do an exercise class, Line Dance Fitness. Then I come to The Munchery and do an outdoor line dance." Mulheren has her own studio in Ukiah now, where she does line dance fitness and total body strength training.

"I leaned line dancing when I was a little kid in PE," Mulheren reminisced. "Eddie Ladolla was my PE teacher, and we learned the 'Tush Push' to 'Elvira,' when I was a little kid. Then, I did it off and on when I was in high school, when country was a big deal in the '90s. Then I got certified in Zumba, and I really loved group fitness. I found the country music version of Zumba, called 'Country Fusion.' This is my five-year anniversary of my being a certified instructor. I teach classes at 6 am and at night. I work as a supervisor in the middle of the day."

"I did a whole study about why line dancing is so popular. During COVID everybody was separated so they used TikTok to do dances and connect with each other. Now that we've come out of COVID, people are finding ways to connect again. Line dancing is something you can learn at home and then go out into the clubs where everybody is doing the same steps although you may have learned individually. Here, a lot of younger people learn at home and then go to the bars and participate. One of the reasons I really love line dancing is that you don't have to have a partner. Single people can do it as well as people who have partners who don't dance. It's a fun way for people to get out on the dance floor. Line dancing is having a resurgence."

Mulheren's studio is called Rise and Thrive Line Dance Fitness, Ukiah. www.maureenmulheren.com/. "Find me on Social Media @ Mo4Mendo, Facebook, Instagram and TikTok," invited Mulheren.

See www.maureenmulheren.com/photos for her line dancing schedule. Mulheren has several practices, including Sober Socials, a beverage service that serves mocktails and other non-alcoholic beverages. "It's my 10-year sober. Part of my goal when I'm done being a supervisor, is to do something helpful, maybe addiction counselor, obviously fitness coach."

The final line dance night of the year at The Munchery will be a costumed Halloween-themed evening, on October 30.

The rest of No on 44

care looks like. Not one hero – a whole team refusing to let someone fall.

Proposition 44 would defund exactly that kind of care.

Prop 44 would impose strict new spending requirements on nonprofit community health centers, with penalties for noncompliance. Supporters call it accountability. Independent economists at the Berkeley Research Group found that it would cut \$1.7 billion from community health centers and clinics in its first year alone. Eighty-eight percent of clinics caring for more than 11 million patients are at significant risk of having to cut services or shut down entirely.

This poorly written measure excludes critical services from its spending requirements – making them the first targets for cuts: care coordinators, enrollment navigators, translation services, transportation, telemedicine, quality improvement programs, and the billing and IT staff who keep operations running. At community clinics like ours, none of these are administrative luxuries. They are how we keep Renee – and 3,023 patients like her – connected to care.

For rural communities, community health centers are often the only source of care for hundreds of miles. When clinics cut services or close, patients don't simply find another doctor. They go to emergency rooms – or they go without. That costs everyone more, and it falls hardest on those who can least afford it. Prop 44 would also eliminate funding for hundreds of school-based health clinics statewide, cutting primary care for tens of thousands of California children.

It is also worth knowing why this measure exists at all. According to the California Primary Care Association, Prop 44 is not a good-faith accountability effort – it is a power play by special interests using the ballot initiative process to gain political leverage over community health centers in contract negotiations. Patients are being used as pawns. This is not accountability; this is coercion.

What Prop 44 ignores is that community health centers are already among the most heavily regulated healthcare entities in the state, subject to strict federal and state audits. We are nonprofits by law – our resources go to patient care, not shareholders. A majority of our board of directors must be our own patients.

Opposition to Prop 44 is broad and has nonpartisan support: the California Medical Association, California Academy of Family Physicians, Planned Parenthood, California Teachers Association, California Hospital Association, California Behavioral Health Association, California Black Health Network, and the American College of Emergency

Physicians, among many others. When doctors, nurses, teachers, and patient advocates all agree, it is worth listening.

Renee's story is not unique. It is happening in exam rooms, on phone calls, and in parking lots across Mendocino County right now. Proposition 44 would make stories like hers less likely to have a good ending.

I urge Mendocino County voters to learn more at <https://noprop44.com> and to vote No on Proposition 44. Our neighbors, family, and friends deserve better.

Dr. Jodi Parungao, Long Valley Health Center, Laytonville

A political endorsement

To the Editor:

I am supporting Eric Hart for 3rd District Supervisor in the November election.

Perception is important. You may think Eric presents himself as too low-key and somewhat shy, but each person he engages gets his full attention and an intelligent reply to a question or concern. He has complex thoughts and may take more than a minute to convey them, but don't misinterpret this as not having an answer or for lack of consideration. He could seem a little out of his element in the world of sound-bite politics – he prefers a long and thoughtful conversation – and these traits may not make him a flashy campaigner. But it will make him a fine supervisor.

Eric is a genuine listener and a determined problem-solver. He's not politically ambitious, but a fellow citizen who sincerely wants to apply his considerable talents and experience to helping county government work more openly, smoothly and better. He is already suggesting intriguing, practical and specific suggestions for improving the processes of county government; he believes problems have solutions and his campaign mission is to find a way to YES.

Eric is honest and straightforward. He doesn't pretend to be ignorant of who is making large campaign contributions or whether those contributors have projects or pending business before the county. He doesn't exaggerate his qualifications or past job responsibilities; he stands confidently on his own merits.

My considered opinion is that Eric Hart will be the best candidate and worthy successor to retiring Supervisor John Haschak. Like John, Eric is ethical and committed to transparency. Beginning on Day One, he is prepared to serve our district, working to provide the best solutions and workable outcomes for Mendocino County problems. For the next four years he will prove himself worthy of your confidence ... and your vote.

Helen Simms, 3rd District resident

ONGOING GENERAL

Trivia Night at The Munchery: Every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 6 pm at The Munchery, 1797 South Main Street, Willits.

Trivia Night at Northspur Brewing Co: Put your knowledge to the test on the first and third Wednesday of the month starting at 6:30 pm at Northspur Brewing Co., 101 North Main Street.

Food Not Bombs at Bud Snider Park: Receive a free meal, supplies and zines every first and third Friday of the month at 5 pm, outside at City Park across from City Hall. Everyone is welcome.

Free Meal by Willits Daily Bread: Every week on Monday through Thursday from 4:30 to 5:30 pm at 66 East Commercial Street.

Willits Tennis Club: Meets every Monday and Wednesday from 9 to 11 am at the Willits High School Tennis Courts. All levels welcome. More info: 707 484-3385.

Drop-In Life Drawing Group at WCA: Every Thursday from 1 to 4 pm at Willits Center for the Arts. Cost is based on sliding scale. More info: Margaret 707-459-9251.

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

Willits Indivisible Democracy Vigil: Every Friday from 5 to 6 pm at Babcock Park on South Main Street. More info: "Willits Indivisible" on Facebook.

Pickleball: Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays at 5:30 pm and Saturdays at 9 am at the Willits High School tennis courts. Free to play and all levels welcome.

Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Group: Meets every Monday at 6 pm at the Muse in Willits, 30 East San Francisco Street. More info: 707-354-1866.

Willits Drum Circle: Every second and fourth Friday at 7 pm, at St. Francis of the Redwoods on the corner of Main and Commercial Streets. Info: Bill Bruneau: 459-3390.

Literacy Volunteers of Willits: We teach adults to

read! Free personal tutoring at the library. Call or email to make an appointment: LiteracyWillits@gmail.com or 707-456-7729.

Mobile Showers Available in Willits: Mobile shower is in Willits every Monday and Tuesday from 2 to 4 pm (updated times), behind St. Francis Church at the corner of Main and Commercial Streets. Toiletries, towels and washcloths provided. Those with disabilities may need to bring a helper. Sack dinners are served from 4:30 to 5:30 by Willits Daily Bread.

SHANACHIE PUB
ONGOING EVENTS

Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street

Saturday Sessions at Shanachie: Every 2nd and 4th Saturday from 3 to 6 pm, one of our locals will host an open jam at Shanachie Pub. Bring any instrument and explore your creativity!

Bluegrass String Jam: An official jam for the California Bluegrass Association, every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month starting at 3 pm, with all Bluegrass musicians welcome!

Wednesday Open Mic Night: Every Wednesday–Enter your name in the lottery from 3 to 7 pm to choose your 20-minute time slot, with performances beginning at 7:20.

ONGOING EVENTS
AT THE WILLITS LIBRARY

Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or 459-5908. Open hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10 am to 7 pm; Friday, 10 am to 6 pm; Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm; Closed Sunday and Monday.

LEGO Club: Tuesdays from 4 to 6:30 pm. "Bring your imagination and start building."

Penny University Coffee Klatch: Wednesdays, 2 to 4 pm, in the Willits Library meeting room to discuss various topics while enjoying a "cup of joe."

Tech Help: Saturdays from 11 am to noon, come get computer help and your technical questions answered!

Spinning and Knitting: Saturdays at the library; from 1 to 4:30 pm. All skill levels welcome!

Willits
Harvest Moon
Celebration

Brought to you by: Willits Chamber of Commerce

The Perfect Start to the Fall Season - Harvest Moon Celebration in Downtown Willits!

Kick off Fall Festivities on Main Street in Downtown Willits (between Wood St & E. Commercial St) with a Fun & Free Family Event!

Saturday, October 3, 2026
4:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Main St. in Downtown Willits

- Games
- Live Music by Soul Circus
- Pie Eating Contest - Kemmy's Pies
- Event & Food Vendors & Much More!

VISITWILLITS.COM

**MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS 9 AM TO 3 PM:
OCTOBER 5TH TO NOVEMBER 11TH**

BOOST FOR Troops



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OPERATION TANGO MIKE



Sherwood Valley Casino will be collecting items for Morale Boost to be donated to Operation Tango Mike “packing parties” sending support and care packages to our troops.

Player's Club Card Members will receive free play based on their donated morale booster supplies. Bring in a pack of socks and individually wrapped granola or protien bars to earn \$20 Free Play. Scan Code for more details.



**Open 24/7
Hours a Day**

**SVRCasino.com
707-459-7330**

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