

# Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

Online & Print



A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

Donations Accepted Edition No. 571

Thursday, October 10, 2024

## WAC's stolen truck found; fundraiser October 12

By Ashley Sherf, for WAC

The Willits Area Cyclists equipment trailer was stolen the night of September 15. All of the group's trail tools were inside, along with other bike maintenance equipment. The trailer was parked near Lake Ada Rose, in Brooktrails, at the site of the new beginner trail system that WAC is currently building. The trailer was secured, but all of the locks were cut.

This theft was an enormous hit to this small all-volunteer organization. A report was made to the CHP, and information about the stolen trailer and items was shared across social media. WAC members watched surveillance footage from local stores

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

## Shamrock Ranch burn set to start Thursday

Posted by CAL FIRE MEU

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Mendocino Unit plans to conduct a vegetation management prescribed burn on the Shamrock Ranch, starting Thursday, October 10. The burn was originally scheduled to start Wednesday, but due to weather conditions, CAL Fire postponed the start until Thursday.

This prescribed burn will treat approximately 2,000 acres of grasslands, chaparral, and understory vegetation within oak woodlands and mixed conifer habitats, creating a mosaic of variously burned vegetation and islands of unburned habitat.

The Shamrock Ranch is in the northern portion of Mendocino County, east of Highway 101, south of the town of Laytonville. Burning will continue for approximately three days, as favorable conditions allow for safe and effective operations

This project burn will be conducted under strictly controlled weather and fuel conditions. Smoke and aircraft may be visible in the area.

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 if your community and throughout California, visit the CAL FIRE fuels reduction dashboard at <https://www.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/what-we-do/natural-resource-management/fuels-reduction>.



Above, left: One of the handcrafted sandwiches available at Loose Caboose Cafe is on its way to a customer. Above, right: The restaurant's Facebook page posted this graphic Monday announcing the new payment method. Below: Loose Caboose servers Alex Martinson, left, Stephanie Willcutt, and Marri Krch, right, smile with restaurant owner Jill Persico, center, who holds the new Square card reader which allows customers to now pay with a card at the eatery.



Photos by Maureen Jennison

## Cards at the Caboose

Willits' staple lunch spot now offers pay-by-card as an option for sandwiches, soup, salads, drinks, and more

Non-cash-carrying and non-check-writing citizens of, and visitors to, Willits, listen up: The Loose Caboose is now accepting card payments at their Wood Street restaurant.

While an ATM has stood near the register for those not prepared for a non-card payment previously, the addition of the Square reader and acceptance of digital payments will make it even easier to decide to pop in and order that Extreme Veggie, no onions, no mustard, add a side of spicy Ranch, indeed.

"Well, my daughter Aimee moved home, and now we're doing card payments!" laughed Jill Persico, owner of Loose Caboose Cafe.

Aimee Dawson has also helped move the restaurant forward with an additional online presence, too, creating a custom website: <https://loosecaboosecafe.com/> with the

complete menu available to view online, with easy click-to-call button for calling in an order, and hours, location and social media information, too.

Not sure how to celebrate with your first card purchase? This well-seasoned Willitsian can happily recommend the aforementioned Extreme Veggie (no onions, no mustard, add side of spicy ranch); the RXR Cheese Pizza (add artichoke hearts or olives or both); or the Spicy Vegetarian Skunk Train Chili (no green onions, add one warm garlic bread stick with a hot dirty chai latte (winter) or Shirley Temple (summer) to drink. Enjoy!

Editor's note: Also try the Lemon Freeze they've been having this summer, so delicious!

– Maureen Jennison



Above: Jill Persico gets ready to deliver a sandwich to a hungry customer at the Loose Caboose Cafe. Below, left: Dine inside, or dine outside on the relaxing patio. Below, right: Paying for your favorite meal is even easier with the new Square reader.



## City takes a step towards revised sidewalk ordinance

By B.B. Kamoroff

There are 25 miles of sidewalks in Willits, and all of them will soon be subject to a newly revised sidewalk ordinance that the City of Willits is preparing, an ordinance that will have a financial and liability impact on property owners in the city.

The sidewalks in Willits are on city property and are owned by the city. But California law states that property owners, not the city, are responsible for repairs to city sidewalks abutting their property. And if someone is injured on the sidewalk, the owner of the adjoining property (or the owner's insurance company) is liable, not the city. The law is the same for home owners and owners of commercial real estate.

This has been a state law for many years, but recent court cases have held cities liable for sidewalk injuries because the cities had not made property owners aware of the sidewalk law, had not enforced the law, or even notified property owners that their sidewalks needed repair.

The City of Willits, intent on limiting its liability,

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

## County mailed ballots to all voters Monday

Submitted by the Election / County Clerk's Office

Mail ballots (aka vote by mail or absentee ballots) were mailed to all active registered voters in Mendocino County on Monday, October 7, 2024.

Ballots are also available in the County Clerk's Office for the Presidential General Election, to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, according to Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder Katrina Bartolomie.

The County Clerk's Office is located in Room 1020 of the County Administration Building located at 501 Low Gap Road, in Ukiah. The U.S. Post Office's normal delivery is five to seven days. If you have not received your ballot within 10 days from the date of mailing, October 7, please call our office at (707) 234-6819 for a replacement ballot. If you have moved since the last election, please re-register at <https://registertovote.ca.gov/>.

Sample Ballots (local voter information booklets)

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



# What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

## April Lamprich for school board.

To the Editor:

I hope those who live within the Willits Unified School District boundaries will join me in voting for April Lamprich for school board.

The current configuration of the school board badly needs parent representation. April has five children that have or are currently attending Willits schools. April and her husband also attended Willits schools.

April has a deep commitment to the well-being of youth in our community as exemplified by her serving as the current president of Sober Grad. April has my vote. I hope you give April your vote too.

Jeanne King, Willits

## Rats are a problem

To the Editor:

Recently I lifted the hood on my car in order to use cables to start a car with a dead battery. My car is always in my garage in the downtown Willits area. I rarely drive, so a tank of gas is good for 2 plus months. It has been a year since I looked under the hood.

Sunday, after a short drive to Brooktrails, there was a strange odor from my engine. I opened the hood and there was paper and plastic in several locations. I immediately knew rats were making a home there, as I have had a rat problem for many years. Using a water trap in my garage I have caught a few. A water trap is a 5 gallon bucket filled a third with water and peanut butter spread around inside. I anchor a ramp to the bucket.

Several neighbors have also mentioned a rat problem. I mentioned the problem to one of the candidates running for a City Council seat about a month ago. I was told that I was the third person that day to mention a rat problem in Willits.

There is the fire danger as well as other problems such as no brakes if a line is chewed. From now on I will make regular checks under the hood and recommend others do the same. If anyone has some helpful suggestions there are several of us that would appreciate your input.

We don't have the kind of rats invading San Francisco but we should keep in mind that we need some action to slow/reduce our current situation.

"San Francisco is being invaded by 'wildly destructive' 20 pound rodents that reproduce at a 'prolific rate'" - Article headline for October 5, 2024 at the Gateway Pundit. Called "nutria," these rodents have bright orange teeth and about 1,000 have colonized in San Francisco.

Bob Wilkinson, Willits

## WCT auditions for 'Believe!' - a Christmas play

Submitted by Willits Community Theatre

The Willits Community Theatre will hold auditions for "Believe!" - a Christmas play for children and adults written by Faye Couch Reeves. Auditions will be held at the WCT playhouse at 37 West Van Lane in Willits on Saturday, October 12, at noon; on Friday, October 18 at 5 pm; and on Saturday, October 19 at 10 am.

Roles are available for 5 men and 7 women, 30 years old and up, for 2 teenage boys and 10 teenage girls, and for 5 boys and 5 girls between the ages of 5 and 12.

"Believe!" tells the story of Alex Norton, a teenage boy who is disgusted at the commercialization of Christmas. As the play unfolds, various things happen to Alex, which persuade him that Christmas means more than just getting presents.

"Believe!" will be directed by Robert Ford, a skilled director who has worked with children and adults. Ford directed "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" in 2018 and co-directed the kids' musical "Annie Jr." in 2022.

Performances of "Believe!" will be on the second and third weekends in December, opening on Friday, December 13 and closing on Sunday, December 22.

For more information, contact Robert Ford at: enjremodeling77@yahoo.com. For a script contact the producer, Mike ADair at: michaeladair69@yahoo.com.



Above: Owner Alex Garcia drives the train around the property. At right, top: Local food vendors offer many tasty options. At right: Owners Darian Gavazza and Alex Garcia take a moment from helping their customers to pose in front of one of the many photo backdrops at J&J Pumpkins. At far right: Photo opportunities abound at J&J Pumpkins.

Photos by Mathew Caine

# Autumn Fun

## Local pumpkin patch is back, offering hours of entertainment with bounce houses, a corn maze, petting zoo, treats, and games

A family could spend all day at J&J Pumpkins and never run out of fun activities to engage in and things to see, eat and enjoy. This is the second year that Alex Garcia's family and friends have created this playground of natural and organic pastimes to delight all ages, especially the kiddos who love to get lost in the one-acre corn maze, jump into the giant sandbox of washed corn kernels, and ride on the tiny train that circles the 10-acre fantasy land. There are also places to eat a lunch or a snack. For those who like animals, there is a petting zoo to get up close and personal with the animals.

Garcia and his wife, Darian Gavazza, along with their two daughters, Jaelynn and Jayci, enjoy watching the families explore the world which they, along with several generous volunteers have created for the season. The pumpkin patch will be open until October 27, Friday through Sunday, 10 am to 7 pm, and they are located at 19606 Walker Road, just south of Willits, but before the southern bypass on ramp.

The family hopes to be able to continue this event every year. "It went really well last year," said Garcia. "We had a great turnout. We had a lot of the community help us out and we had a great year. We're excited for this year and for years to come. Approximately 6,000 people came through here last year."

In order to keep down the costs of producing the pumpkin patch each year, Garcia grows most of his own corn and pumpkins. "We planted approximately 12,000 seeds for pumpkins this year and 120,000 corn seeds all by hand," he said. "Our 7-year-old, Jaelynn, helps. Our other daughter is named Jayci and she is 11. We named the pumpkin patch after them, J&J."

In addition to the corn maze, the pumpkin patch, and the food vendors, there are games and a myriad of places to photograph families. Of course, there is a place to play cornhole.

"We're not doing a tournament but we do have the cornhole boards," added Garcia. "We have the giant Jenga, a giant tic-tac-toe, a pumpkin ring-toss. We have a tire wall and a corn pit for the kids to play in. Kids enjoy playing here to the max. They don't ever want to leave. Sometimes they cry when they have to leave."

When they're not running the pumpkin patch, the couple leads a fairly regular life. Garcia works for a local utility company and Gavazza has been accepted into the nursing program at Mendocino College. Garcia's father, Luis, is one of the many volunteers who help out at J&J. He drives the tractor hayride and his wife, Tamara, also helps out. In addition to the family, several high schoolers have been hired to run the admissions pavilion. Garcia likes to keep his commerce local to support Willits businesses.

"The fact that we have a pumpkin patch here gives us the opportunity to not only give kids and families a fun, safe environment, but it also gives us the opportunity to spend money in our local community. We buy all our fuel for our equipment from Brown's Corner, our building materials from local hardware stores, rock from our local quarry, our animal feed from our local feed store. We rent our equipment locally. We give jobs to high schoolers. It basically gives us the opportunity to give back to our community by spending money locally," said Garcia.

The family has had a lot of help in creating their world. "Chris and April from NorCrawl are part of the community members who helped us and brought their monster truck bounce house for kids to play on," said Gavazza. "The other two bounce houses we get from Willits Power. They've been really helpful since opening the pumpkin patch. Eastside Ranch donated all the Pumpkins" *Read the rest of* **Over on page 9**



At top: Multiple bounce houses keep the kiddos entertained for hours. Above, from left: Martin finds a pumpkin just right for his size and isn't intimidated by the scarecrow. This little girl plays with the pumpkin ring toss. The best way out of the giant truck bounce house is down the slide. At left: Two-year-old Ryan Ramirez is not afraid to steer the tractor, especially since it doesn't move.

## Senior Center menu for the week

Willits Senior Center is serving lunch in its indoor dining room, Monday through Friday, from 11:45 am to 1 pm. Drive-through lunches are available from 12 to 12:45 pm, outside the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Lunches are \$8; \$75 for a 10 lunch card for Senior Center members.

**Thursday, October 10:** Italian Sub Sandwich, Pickle, Chips

**Friday, October 11:** Pork Tacos, Rice & Beans

**Monday, October 14:** Ham & Scalloped Potatoes, Veggies, Roll

**Tuesday, October 15:** Meat Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Green Salad

**Wednesday, October 16:** Carnitas Tamale Pie, Rice, Beans

**Thursday, October 17:** Chef Salad, Garlic Bread

**Friday, October 18:** Shrimp Tacos, Rice & Beans

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

**Pancake Breakfast:** Every second Sunday, on October 13 this month, 8 to 11 am. Menu choices are: 1. All-you-can-eat pancakes with 2 eggs, choice of sausage or bacon, and cup of coffee, milk or juice, or 2. Biscuits & gravy with side of eggs only. \$12; \$11 Senior Center members; \$8 children under 8. Extra sausage, bacon, eggs and juice for additional cost.

**Meals on Wheels:** The Senior Center Meals on Wheels program delivers lunch Monday through Friday. To sign up call Juliana at 459-6826, who can help fill out the application form. Call 459-6826 the day before needed to schedule home meal delivery. Delivered throughout Willits.

**Transportation for seniors:** Call 459-5556 to schedule. Pick up and drop off for grocery shopping, banking, doctors' appointments. Senior Center Thrift Shop: 459-2176

The Senior Center is in need of volunteers to help with the many activities here at the center, including volunteer Meals on Wheels drivers. "Volunteers are one-third of our workforce, which allows us to offer many services to our members and community." To learn more about volunteering: 459-6826.

**REMEMBER: Deadline is end of day Monday for each week's Thursday edition. This includes submissions, editorial content, and ads, too! Email is best: willitsweekly@gmail.com**

## FOWL Fall Book Sale, October 17-20

Submitted by FOWL

Friends of the Willits Library announce their Fall Book Sale is coming soon to the Willits Library! The sale will be held in the Willits Library conference room, 390 East Commercial Street, from October 17 to October 20. The sale begins Thursday, October 17, from 5 to 7 pm and is for FOWL members only. If you are not currently a FOWL member, take this opportunity to join!

Open to the general public are sale days Friday and Saturday, October 18 and 19 from 10 am to 5 pm. On Sunday, October 20, from 10 am to 3 pm, all books will be only \$3 a bag! So be sure to come early for a good selection.

Come browse our garden and home project books, as well as children's, fiction and non-fiction titles. We have an abundance of Specials this time, so early Christmas shopping opportunities abound. Books are CHEAP - 50 cents to \$1.

As always, volunteer cashiers are needed. If you can help with a 2-hour shift, please sign up at the library.

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In the mail:  1 year - \$100  Additional donation included \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
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The Rules: **LETTERS**

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

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

## Willits Weekly

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

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RE-ELECT Tuesday, Nov. 5

Dianne McNeal

WUSD School Board

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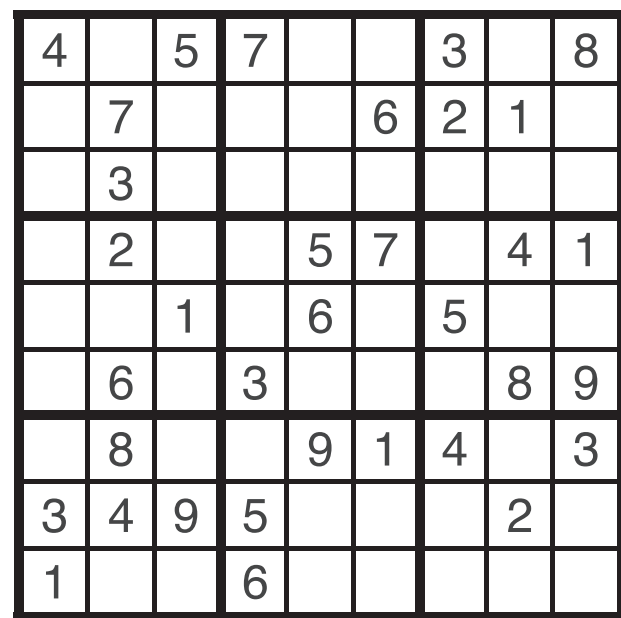
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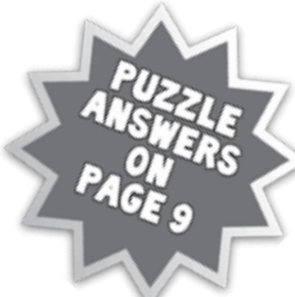


# Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword



Level: Beginner



## HOW TO SUDOKU

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

# WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE LOG

September 30 to October 6

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled **67 incidents** in this 7-day reporting period.

### Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

#### September 30

10:55 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Sherwood Road and North Main Street.

#### October 1

7:31 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

#### October 2

3:17 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

11:28 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

11:50 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of Holly Street and issued a warning.

12:19 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Hazel Street and Poplar Avenue and issued a warning.

3:49 pm: VERDUZCO, Norma Mata (38) of Willits was contacted in the 1700 block of South Main Street. She was arrested on felony charges of domestic corporal injury and resisting an officer and on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol) and violation of a court order (domestic violence).

6:43 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance near the intersection of Central Street and Barbara Lane and issued a warning.

#### October 3

10:14 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 700 block of South Main Street.

10:50 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

11:08 am: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Street and Central Street and issued a warning.

1:34 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 24000 block of North Main Street and issued a warning.

1:46 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning.

2:15 pm: CALES, Tyler Greyson (27) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of Railroad Avenue. He was arrested on felony charges of violation of parole.

5:13 pm: MASCHERINI, Heather Michelle (42) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of South Street. She was arrested on misdemeanor charges of failure to appear.

11:27 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 1100 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

#### October 4

9:17 am: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of East San Francisco

Avenue and South Main Street and issued a warning.

10:49 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Magnolia Avenue.

3:45 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Coast Street and West San Francisco Avenue and issued a warning.

3:51 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 300 block of Creekside Drive and issued a warning.

3:58 pm: ROMERO, Alfredo Garibay (36) of Hopland was contacted near the intersection of East Oak Street and Central Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of domestic battery, vandalism (less than \$400), driving with a license suspended for DUI, and violation of probation.

5:42 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation in the 600 block of Hawthorn Lane.

6:01 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1400 block of Baechtel Road.

6:04 pm: HENDRY, Callum Christian (33) of Ukiah was contacted in the 200 block of East San Francisco Avenue. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of being under the influence of a controlled substance, possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of fireworks without a permit.

7:08 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

#### October 5

3:04 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1100 block of South Main Street.

7:26 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of Creekside Drive.

10:48 am: PHILLIPS III, Rickey Wayne (32) of Willits was contacted near the intersection of Holly Street and Locust Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of failure to appear.

12:16 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of Creekside Drive.

12:48 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 400 block of South Main Street.

4:18 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 800 block of South Main Street.

7:43 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance near the intersection of East Hill Road and Haehl Creek Drive.

9:16 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

#### October 6

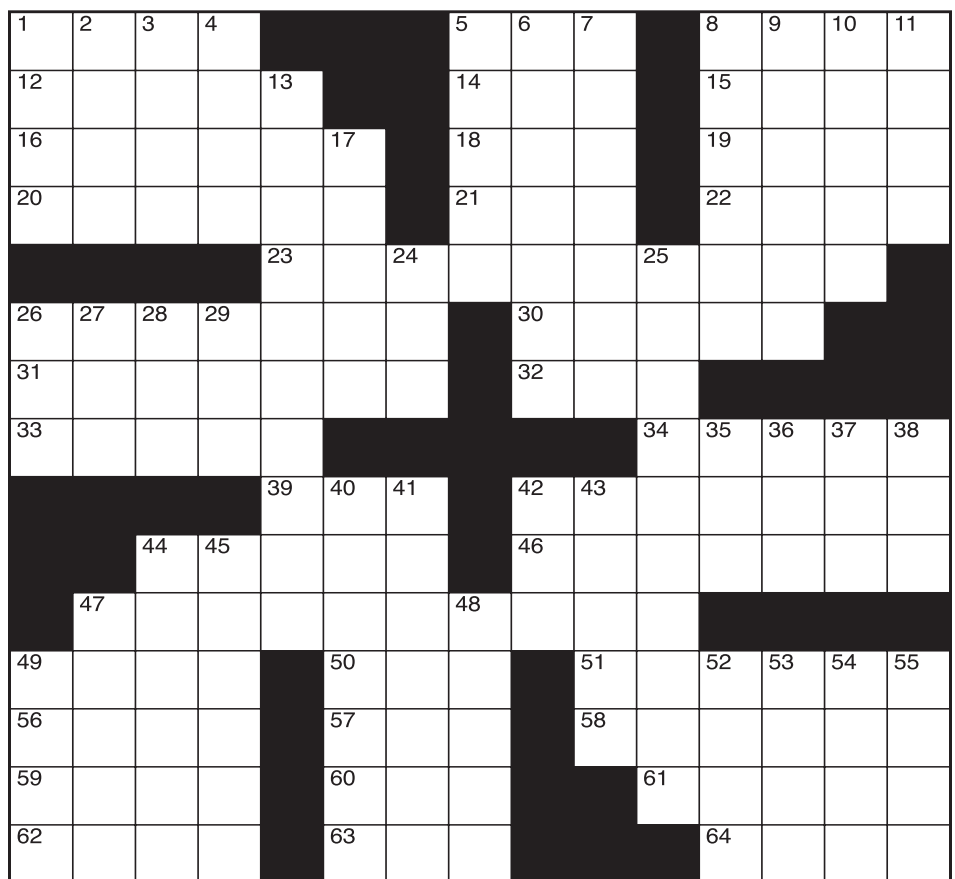
1:23 am: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

5:38 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of East Van Lane and South Main Street and issued a citation.

## HELPING HAND WORD SEARCH

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

- |            |              |           |
|------------|--------------|-----------|
| ASSISTANCE | EMERGENCY    | RELIEF    |
| BLOOD      | FIRE         | SAFETY    |
| COMPASSION | FIRST AID    | SHORTAGE  |
| CPR        | HEALTH       | TRAINING  |
| CRISIS     | HUMANITARIAN | URGENT    |
| CRITICAL   | LOST         | VICTIM    |
| DISASTER   | MISSION      | VOLUNTEER |
| DONATION   | READINESS    |           |



### CLUES ACROSS

- Unsheared sheep
- Rock TV channel
- Streetcar
- Concerning
- Exclamation
- Greek goddess of youth
- Popular type of device
- Alcoholic beverage
- Ancient Olympic Site
- Sharpshoots
- Tyrion Lannister was characterized as one
- Pointed ends of pens
- Measuring instruments
- Midsection body part
- Made a mistake
- Adjusted
- 'Partridge' actress Susan
- Yell
- Civil rights city in Alabama
- Young boy
- Type of sea bass
- To call (archaic)
- Unfortunate
- Separate oneself from others

### CLUES DOWN

- Works of body art
- Israeli politician Abba
- Renowned desert
- Eat greedily
- She didn't make it through the Fr. Revolution
- Beat
- Bloodsucker
- From a place already noted
- Counted on
- Alberta Assn. of Baccalaureate World Schools
- Something one can make
- One who abstains
- Wild ox
- Type of student
- Bacterial infection of the skin
- Expresses surprise
- What engaged couples ultimately say
- Crony
- Where one begins (abbr.)
- Architectural designation
- 'Matt Houston' actor Horsley
- More (Spanish)
- Autonomic nervous system
- Indigenous peoples
- Deflections
- Circulating life force
- Executes with a rope
- Natives of an island nation
- Girls
- Logician and philosopher
- Nocturnal hoofed animal
- Relaxing spaces
- From a distance
- Form of Persian language
- Amounts of time
- Mathematical designation

## Reckless burning arrest in Ukiah

By Sgt. Miguel Vazquez for MCSO

On October 5, 2024 at approximately 7:53 pm, deputies from the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to investigate a fire and a disturbance in the area of Ackerman Creek, 2100 block of North State Street in Ukiah.

Neighbors in the area called 9-1-1 and stated they could see a fire and a subject next to the fire. A deputy with Mendocino County Sheriff's Office and an arson investigator with Ukiah Valley Fire Authority arrived and contacted Brett Adame, 33, of Ukiah, who was standing near the fire.

The Sheriff's Office deputy and the arson investigator with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority conducted an investigation into the cause and origin of the fire. At the conclusion of the investigation, it was determined a campfire had been lit which ultimately escaped containment and caused forest land to burn.

It was also determined there was nothing located at the scene that could be used to assist with extinguishing the fire. The fire was ultimately extinguished by personnel with the Ukiah Valley Fire Authority.

Adame was subsequently placed under arrest for 452(c) PC [Felony Reckless Burning] and booked into the Mendocino County Jail.

Editor's Note: As of presstime Wednesday, the Mendocino County Jail booking log reports Adame still held in custody, on \$30,000 bail.

## Have something to say?

Residents of Willits, Brooktrails, Laytonville and Covelo are welcome to send in a letter to the editor. Please email us: willitsweekly@gmail.com

REMEMBER: Deadline is end of day Monday for each week's Thursday edition.



From far left: Some of the early SOS Choir members begin learning new songs. Elizabeth Raybets of the Raging Grannies came up from Ukiah to sing. Valarie McCourtney and Jennifer Sookne enjoy harmonizing under the redwoods in City Park. Below, left: The SOS Choir forms a circle in order to better see one another while singing.



# SOS Choir

Inclusive group of music-lovers gathers monthly to sing throughout town, promoting fellowship and joy

"We sing on whatever street corner we feel like is the one," explained Valarie McCourtney. "We start here [under the three redwoods in City Park]. We teach here. We learn what the songs are. We invite everybody in the community to join us. Sometimes we get passersby who want to know what we're doing, and we say: 'Come on over. We'll sing!' It's really about inclusion as a way of building communities. It's also about helping everyone to feel successful in their singing. It's something we can all do."

Mathew Caine  
Features Writer  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

The SOS Choir, which stands for "singing on street corners" meets on the third Wednesday of every month at 5 pm. "It's the brainchild of Theresa Juelch and Prana who decided we needed more singing in our community, and just free, accessible, spontaneous singing," said McCourtney.

"We meet and bring songs and the lyrics, and we teach the songs. Everybody can learn the melody and we do the song works. We put it all together and we're doing these amazing harmonies that just pop up. It's like a pop-up singing event," McCourtney said.

About 15 people showed up this Wednesday. The three giant redwood trees at Bud Snider City Park provided a powerful and natural backdrop as the singers came, one-by-one, and began to pick up the song sheets and learn new songs under the tutelage of Juelch and Prana, whose voices boomed out uninhibitedly as they led the others in hymns, rounds, anthems, and other genres.

Once they felt they were in sync, they began to walk down Commercial Street, in the direction of Main Street, stopping at the doors to the Willits Center for the Arts, to honor their friend, Tiffany Tucker, who was to be holding a talk at that venue. Afterward, they wandered farther down the street to delight passersby on various street corners. Sometimes, people would hear the joyful sounds and join in, lending their voices to the celebratory music.

Prana, a creative fixture, being an actress, singer, hula hooper, and more, provided an air of excitement and energy to the group, as she took the lead on many of the songs.

"Around COVID times, the Emandal Choir stopped gathering," Prana said. "And then it just felt like there was a need for more brightness in the world. It felt like a good way for people to come together was for people to be singing together. It's always a good way for people to come together. Anyone can come and sing on the street. It was honestly a way to have fun. That was my thought behind it."

"One of the main ideas is to have simple enough songs that anyone can join at any point in time," explained Prana. "Any random person walking down the street could pick up the song sheet and join in and just realize how good it feels to exercise their voice in that way. There's something about harmonizing with people, or even just singing the same notes as someone, even if you're not trying to make intentional harmonies. If you get on the same level as everyone else who is singing with you."

"I'm guessing that we're going to get more people today," said McCourtney. "We try really hard to put the word out."

Read the rest of Choir | Over on page 9

# Library Fall Book Sale

October 17<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>

at the  
**Willits Branch Library  
Conference Room**

**Thur Oct 17th 5 pm to 7 pm  
FOWL members only**

**Fri Oct 18th 10 am to 5pm  
Sat Oct 19th 10 am to 5 pm  
Sun Oct 20th 10 am to 3 pm**

**Sunday all books only \$3 a bag!**

Willits Library  
390 Commercial Street, Willits

Sponsored by  
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1265 Airport Park Blvd, Ukiah, CA 95482



Thursday, October 10

**Willits Farmers Market:** The weekly farmers market is outdoors through October, Thursday, October 10, at the old Rexall parking lot downtown, 90 South Main Street, 3 to 5:30 pm. Local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats and drinks, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

Friday, October 11

**North County Friends of Mendocino College Chamber Mixer:** Support access to education in Northern Mendocino County. Willits Chamber of Commerce and the North County Friends of Mendocino College host a fundraising event, Friday, October 11 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm with hors d'oeuvres and a live auction. Keyboardist Frankie J will play easy-listening background music. To raise funds for sponsorships for high school students from Willits, Laytonville, Leggett, and Covelo to attend a six-week college summer session with free meals, transportation, and a \$300 scholarship for all students who are academically successful in their courses. Mendocino College's North County Center. 372 East Commercial Street.

**WCA October Art Talk:** Art historian Gary Martin gives the monthly free Art Talk on Exploring 19th Century Art, Friday, October 11 at 6:30 pm at the Willits Center for the Arts. The talk will feature "key movements and artists of the era, including the celebrated Hudson River School and the renowned painter Winslow Homer. Attendees will gain insights into how these artists shaped the artistic landscape of the time and contributed to American art history." 71 East Commercial Street, next to the Noyo Theatre. More info: willitscenterforthearts.org or 707-972-3326

**Cosmic Family Band at Shanachie:** A local Mendocino County jam band, "sharing original music that is a reflection of being a part of this amazing community. We're the Cosmic Family Band and so are you." Friday, October 11 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Saturday, October 12

**Ranch Rodeo 2024:** Willits Frontier Days 13th annual Mary Burgess Memorial Ranch Rodeo takes place on Saturday, October 12, at the WFD Rodeo Grounds on East Commercial Street. Sanctioned with the Western State Ranch Rodeo Association.

Gates open 8:30 am; Open branding and rodeo starts at 9 am. Willits FFA Fundraiser Cornhole Tournament, Calcutta start at 10 am. BBQ lunch for \$15 starts at 12 pm. Bulls, Ranch Broncs, Breakaway at 5 pm. General admission \$10; kids 5 and under free.

**Sit-N-Sew:** Second Saturdays at the Willits Library, October 12 this month, from 1 to 5 pm. Drop in - bring your sewing project and have fun. 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or 459-5908.

**Gustavo Amaral & Kyle Madrigal at Shanachie:** Starting October 12, every 2nd and 4th Saturday from 3 to 6 pm, Kyle Madrigal and/or Gustavo Amaral will host an open jam at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street. "You're invited to bring any instrument, meet new musicians, discover new genres, and explore your creativity!"

**Taco Rampage to benefit Willits Area Cyclists:** Willits Area Cyclists will be serving up fresh fish tacos, enjoying some local beer, hanging out, and watching

# What's Happening Around Town

the best riders in the world compete in a big screen showing of Red Bull Rampage on Saturday, October 12, 5 to 8 pm, at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Admission is FREE, but bring plenty of money for food, drinks, and auction items. All proceeds from this family-friendly fundraiser will go directly towards replacing tools stolen with the WAC trailer, which benefit trail building and mountain biking in Willits. Thieves suck, but this event will not! Can't make it, but want to help out? Donate here: <https://tinyurl.com/3uvhjpf7>

**Armand Brint, Poet at WCT:** Armand Brint, former and first Poet Laureate of Ukiah, will read his most recent work at Willits Community Theatre Playhouse, 37 West Van Lane, Saturday, October 12 at 7 pm. Armand is the author of seven collections of poetry and one volume on the art and

Friday, October 11, 2024  
71 E. Commercial St. Willits, CA 95490  
willitscenterforthearts.org  
This is a FREE event

craft of writing poems. His poems have appeared in anthologies, literary journals, online publications, and have been recorded for the radio. His latest collection, "Songs for the Afterlife," has just been released by Secret Goldfish Press. An open reading will follow the featured reader. Entry by donation; suggested donation \$10. However, no one will be turned away due to lack of funds.

**Those Guys at Shanachie:** Michael Canavos and Chris Rovetti as Those Guys are "a dynamic collective that seamlessly blends rock, country, blues, and folk influences into a sound that is distinctly their own." Saturday, October 12, 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

Sunday, October 13

**Senior Center Pancake Breakfast:** Every second Sunday, 8 to 11 am., Sunday, October 13 this month, at the Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Menu choices: 1. All-you-can-eat pancakes with 2 eggs, choice of sausage or bacon, and cup of coffee, milk or juice, or 2. Biscuits & gravy with side of eggs only, \$12, \$11 Senior Center members; \$8 children under 8. Extra sausage, bacon, eggs and juice for additional cost.

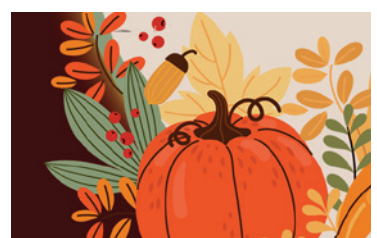
**Willits Schools Color Run: Students from Brookside,**

Blosser Lane, and Baechtel Grove schools will participate in this year's annual Color Run, on Sunday, October 13, at the Willits High School track, 299 North Main Street. Registration /check-in starts at 12 pm and goes to 1:30 pm, and the color will be thrown at 2 pm. "This event is always a fun time and helps the schools in the community with raising funds for field trips, teacher needs, and fun assemblies for the kids." Snacks and merchandise available.

**"Stone Stories" at Laytonville Cemetery:** Mendocino County Museum's "Stone Stories" program returns, with dramatized obituary readings by local volunteers, this time at the Laytonville Cemetery on Sunday, October 13, starting at 3:30 pm. This year additional stories will be shared by special guest Atta Stevenson, member of the Cahto Tribe. Also a tour through the historic portion of the cemetery, at 1325

Pumpkin Patch at J&J Pumpkins, weekends through October 27

J&J Pumpkins, at 19606 Walker Road, south of Willits, hosts its Pumpkin Patch, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through October 27. Bring the family to enjoy a Mini Corn Maze, Ring Toss, Face Painting, Petting Zoo, Mini-Roller Coaster, Jump Zone, Photo Props, Food and Treat Vendors, Giant Jenda, Corn Pit, Pumpkin Picking, Cornhole, Tic Tac Toe. Visit J&J Pumpkins on Facebook for more details.



Thursday, October 17

**Willits Farmers Market:** The weekly farmers market is outdoors through October, Thursday, October 17, at the old Rexall parking lot downtown, 90 South Main Street, 3 to 5:30 pm. Local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats and drinks, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more.

**Members Only Day at FOWL Book Sale:** Friends of the Willits Library presents the Fall Book Sale. Starts Thursday, October 17, with "members only" hours from 5 to 7 pm - sign up at the sale to join FOWL and support your local library. 390 East Commercial Street. Also, Friday, 10 am to 5 pm; Saturday, 10 am to 4 pm; and Sunday, 10 am to 3 pm, when you can bring a bag and fill it for \$3.



Branscomb Road in Laytonville. Friends of the Mendocino County Museum is hosting the program, and attendance is free and open to all, but parking is limited. More info: call the Museum at 707-234-6365.

Tuesday, October 15

**The Harmony Keepers at Brickhouse:** Duo Kate Black and Anita Blu perform at Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South Main Street, Monday, October 15, from 12 to 2 pm, and on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. Beautiful vocal harmonies, with guitar and keyboard, and some songs with dulcimer or ukulele. Music from Joni Mitchell, Carole King, James Taylor, Phoebe Snow, Laura Nyro, Leonard Cohen and more.



**WHS Volleyball:** Willits High School Wolverines play a home varsity volleyball game against Victory Christian Academy on Tuesday, October 15 at 6 pm. WHS, 299 North Main Street.

Wednesday, October 16

**History Makers at the Museum:** The Mendocino County Museum presents after-school family friendly themed crafts and activities inspired by the permanent gallery exhibits on Wednesdays in October from 2 to 4:30 pm. The Wednesday, October 16 activity is "Build a Fairy House." 400 East Commercial Street. Program attendance is included with regular Museum admission. Enjoy free admission on Wednesdays with your Mendocino County Library Card. Info: www.mendocinocounty.gov/museum, museum@mendocinocounty.gov or 707-234-6365

**Singers On Streetcorners:** Calling to the songbirds of Willits and nearby to join in peace caroling on the streets of Willits with the SOS Choir. "We'll meet in City Park, under the 3 giant sequoia trees, at 5 pm on Wednesday, October 16, practice a few songs, then head to the streets or Mariposa Market to sing for people passing by. For more info, contact Prana at 28prana@gmail.com or Theresa at Cultivatedjardin@gmail.com

**Willits Stamp Club:** The monthly meeting of the Willits Stamp Club is on third Wednesdays, Wednesday, October 16 this month, 5 to 6:30 pm at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Bring your collection and enjoy time perusing stamps. All are welcome. Refreshments served. Info: talsofam@pacific.net

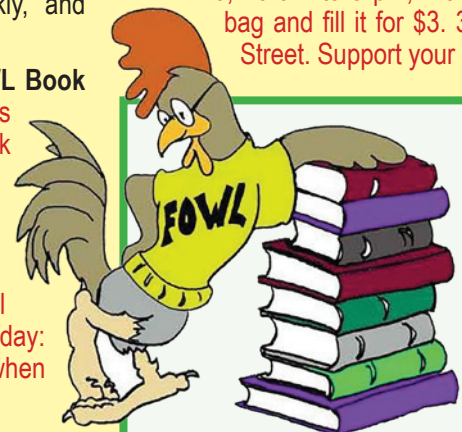
Auditions for 'Believe,' a Christmas play at WCT

The Willits Community Theatre will hold auditions for "Believe," a Christmas play for children and adults written by Faye Couch Reeves and directed by Robert Ford. Auditions will be held at the WCT playhouse, 37 W. Van Lane in Willits on Saturday, October 12, at noon; Friday, October 18, at 5pm; and Saturday, October 19 at 10am. Roles are available for 5 men and 7 women, 30 years old and up, for 2 teenage boys and 10 teenage girls, and for 5 boys and 5 girls between the ages of 5 and 12. Shows will run on weekends from December 13 through 22. For information contact Robert Ford at: enjremodeling77@yahoo.com. For a script, contact Mike A'Dair at: michaeladair69@yahoo.com

guitarist and songwriter Clay Hawkins and longtime co-conspirator Andrew Robertson on the upright bass. Saturday, October 19 at 8 pm, at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Sunday, October 20

**FOWL Book Sale \$3 Bag Day:** Friends of the Willits Library's Fall Book Sale's last day is Sunday, October 20, 10 am to 3 pm, with \$3/bag day: Bring a bag and fill it for \$3. 390 East Commercial Street. Support your local library.



ONGOING EVENTS

**Willits Community Services & Food Bank:** WCS offers food grocery distributions to families in need week on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 4:30 pm. 344 Railroad Avenue. Please bring an I.D. We are looking for volunteers for our warehouse, window, food delivery drivers, and fundraising volunteers. For information call: (707) 459-3333

**Free Food Pop-Ups:** Mendocino Food and Nutrition Program's Food Pop-Up in Willits offers two events per month, first and third Thursdays, at 1250 Blosser Lane. Info: outreach@bfwoodbank.org; 707-964-9404

**Willits Tennis Club:** Meets Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 to 11 am at the Willits High School courts. New members welcome. Free. Show up or call 707-484-3385.

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

**Willits Drum Circle:** Every second and fourth Fridays at 7 pm. At St. Francis of the Redwoods Episcopal Church, Main and Commercial 7pm. Info: Bill Bruneau: 459-3390.

**Brown Bag Lunch Program:** Sack lunches served at the City Park (or across the street in case of rain) every Saturday from 1 to 2 pm. Come early to be assured a lunch! Provided by various churches and community organizations.

**Willits Boules Club, Tuesdays and Fridays at 2 pm:** The outdoor boules course is located across the street from the Willits Skate Park. Info: tgregory@saber.net or visit Willits Boules Club on Facebook.

**Free Kids Karate Classes at Body Works Gym:** Sheriff's Youth Activities League offers free classes for kids at the Willits Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street. More info on current classes: call or text Sensei Mike Tobin at 707-354-0565.

**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

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.

**Senior Dance Hall:** Willits Library has resumed the Senior Dance Hall, Fridays from 2 to 3 pm. Seniors ages 55 and older are invited to bring your dancing shoes to enjoy jazz, pop, swing, and ballroom selections. Don't feel like dancing? Please come and enjoy the music, catch up with friends new and old, and share some light refreshments.

**Story Time:** Friday mornings each week, 10:30 to 11 am. Join us in the children's area of the library.

**Penny University Coffee Klatch:** Tuesdays, 11 am to noon. We will meet in the Willits Library meeting room to discuss various topics while enjoying a "cup of joe". Topics will range and will be announced ahead of time."

**LEGO Club:** Tuesdays, now 4 to 6:30 pm. "It is LEGO time at the library. Bring your imagination and start building."

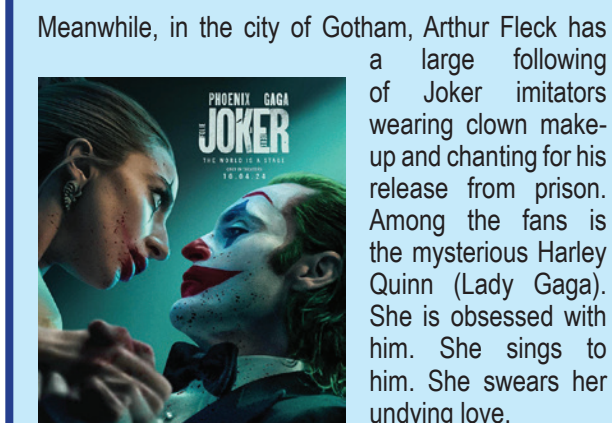
**Tech Help:** Now every Saturday from 11 am to 12 pm: Is your computer on the fritz? Want to install a new app? Bring your tech questions and get help from the library's tech savvy volunteer

**Spinning & Knitting:** Every Saturday at the library; from 1 to 4:30 pm. All skill levels welcome!

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

## 'Joker: Folie à Deux'

**The Story:** Arthur Fleck aka Joker (Joaquin Phoenix) is on trial for six separate murders. He faces the death penalty. Fleck's lawyer (Catherine Keener) pleads him "innocent by reason of insanity." She claims that Arthur has multiple personality disorder, and that his alter ego "Joker" was the actual killer. As the trial goes on, Arthur repeatedly falls into a "dream state" where he imagines himself on a stage, singing popular songs and dancing as if he were Fred Astaire.



Meanwhile, in the city of Gotham, Arthur Fleck has a large following of Joker imitators wearing clown make-up and chanting for his release from prison. Among the fans is the mysterious Harley Quinn (Lady Gaga). She is obsessed with him. She sings to him. She swears her undying love.

Poor lonely much-abused and mentally unstable Arthur Fleck is completely beguiled. Now Harley appears as a partner in his cinematic delusions that he is a famous and beloved entertainer. His love for her changes him, his inner drama and his Fate.

**My Thoughts:** In this surprisingly odd drama, all the main characters want to believe that Arthur Fleck really is The Joker. There are crowds of wannabe Jokers on the streets of Gotham celebrating him as an outrageous hero, an anti-bourgeois slap-in-the-face to all the oppressive and irritating "normies" of society. They see him and celebrate him as the savior of the Misfits."

Then, the narrative poses the question: what if Arthur finally recognizes the unreality of his fantasy world, and what if he doesn't want to be the Joker in clown make-up anymore? And then, climactically: what if he just wants to be ordinary Arthur Fleck?

**Parents:** This flick is rated "R" and quite correctly. It is a movie for adults.

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

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

**Saturday Scramble:** Every 2nd and 4th Saturday from 3 to 6 pm, hosted by Tyler B. Bring any instrument you can play and sign up to perform a 15-minute set with other local musicians. "Meet new musicians, discover new genres and explore your creativity!"

**Bluegrass String Jam:** Every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month starting at 3 pm - welcomes all Bluegrass musicians! An official jam for the California Bluegrass Association. "so you never know which members from out of the area may drop in!"

**Wednesday Open Mic Night:** Shanachie Pub presents its popular Open Mic Night every Wednesday, featuring an eclectic array of local musicians and performers from around the world. Pub opens at 3 pm, and from opening until 7 pm, you can be entered for the lottery. Lottery determines order from which you pick your 20 minute time slot starting at 7:20 pm.

MONDAY 10/21/2024  
7-8:30pm @ The Willits Grange  
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Above, left: A large offering of DVDs which included many well-loved classics are among the sale items. Above: Early birds at the Community Flea Market find some great treasures among the diverse offerings. At left: Shoppers and vendors at the Brooktrails Fire Department Community Flea Market include many friends and neighbors, happy to visit and catch up. At far left, below: Belle's Custom Crochet sells handmade crocheted dolls and other items. At left, below: Hand tools, generators, and many power tools were for sale at the Brooktrails Community Flea Market.

# Flea Market

## Used items, along with vendor wares, for sale at community event held to raise funds for Brooktrails Fire Department

It was a beautiful crisp morning with a dash of autumn last Saturday at the Brooktrails Fire Department's inaugural Community Flea Market. Numerous vendors were ready and waiting for the hometown crowd starting at 8 am, and they were not disappointed as treasure hunters from Willits and beyond showed up to support the fire department and find those special treasures. From housewares to books to clothing and tools, shoppers were delighted with the offerings that filled the parking lot at the community-wide fundraiser.

Comments from shoppers and vendors included: "... the best part is catching up with friends." "You can find almost anything here!" "I've just found what I've been searching for." "They did a great job with this!"

The sunny and mild day helped keep spirits high, as local children ran and played. Area crafters and their wares were a big attraction, with others selling a variety of household goods, no longer needed clothing, and lifelong treasures. Many shoppers came and went throughout the day to find that special something.

Brooktrails Fire Captain Steven Duran was pleased with the turnout and the overall experience at last weekend's flea market. "The event was put on by our all-volunteer Firefighters Association as a way to raise money for our department," Duran said. "We had a good number of vendors sign up to sell a big variety of goods. Even though it was a bit last-minute, lots of people showed up to shop throughout the day, and we got great weather."

All in all, the Community Flea Market was a big success, and lucky Willits flea marketers can hope for more to come in the years ahead!

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## LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF SALE OF GOODS TO SATISFY SELF STORAGE FACILITY LIEN**

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed under the California Self-Service Storage Facility Act on said property pursuant to Sections 21700-21716 of the Business & Professions Code, Section 2328 of the UCC, Section 535 of the Penal Code and provisions of the Civil Code.

The undersigned will sell at public auction by competitive bidding on the 19th day of October 2024, at the hour of 10 a.m. on the premises where said property has been stored and which is located at Willits Mini Storage, LLC, 26 Franklin Ave., Willits, CA, 95490, County of Mendocino, State of California, the following:

**Britany L Short C-02**  
**Jessica E Tomakin P-23**  
**Sergio Mendoza Olvera N-31**  
**Nicole D Flores M-38**  
**Billy Gonzalez Carvajal G-42**  
**Patrick E Garcia D-21**

The goods are described as miscellaneous household items & boxes (contents unknown), clothes, furniture, tools and miscellaneous articles. Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase in cash only. All purchased items sold as-is where-is and must be removed at the time of sale. Sales are subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.

Dated this 3rd and 10th of October 2024 by Marie Maddux Willits Mini Storage LLC, (707) 459-2529 - Bond # 62731701  
Publication Date: October 10, 2024

## LEGAL NOTICES

**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](mailto:willitsweekly@gmail.com)

**WW512 Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
2024-F0456

The following person or persons are doing business as Turtle Island Tacos, 71 Northbrook Way, Willits CA 95490.

Registered owner: Tasha Jarshaw, 71 Northbrook Way, Willits CA 95490

This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on March 1, 2019.

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on September 23, 2024.

/s/ Tasha Jarshaw  
Publication dates: October 10, 17, 24, 31, 2024

**NOTICE OF SALE OF GOODS TO SATISFY SELF STORAGE FACILITY LIEN**

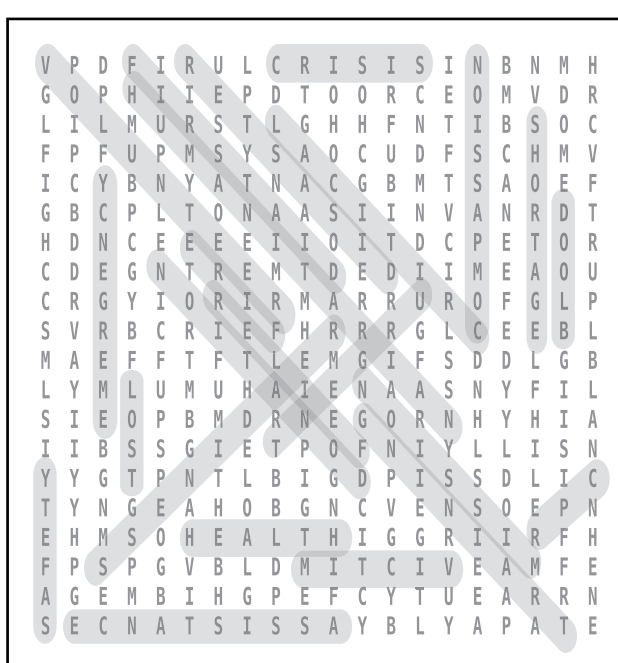
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed under the California Self-Service Storage Facility Act on said property pursuant to Sections 21700-21716 of the Business & Professions Code, Section 2328 of the UCC, Section 535 of the Penal Code and Provisions of the Civil Code. The undersigned will sell by competitive bidding online at [storageauctions.com](http://storageauctions.com) starting October 20, 2024 @ 9 AM ending October 28 @ 9 AM the following said property stored at Cougars Closet II Mini Storage 317 Robert Drive Willits, CA 95490 County of Mendocino State of California.

Danielle Fiste B-33, Rosie Nonneman B-29, William Chase B-6, Israel Muniz Agular A-4

The goods are described as miscellaneous household items & boxes, (contents unknown), clothes, furniture, tools and miscellaneous articles. Purchases must be paid for and picked up within 72 Hours of winning bid by credit/debit or cash.

All purchased items sold as-is where-is and must be removed within 72 hours of sale. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.

Dated this 10th Day of October 2024 and 17th day of October 2024 by Cougars Closet II Mini-Storage 707-259-0159



**Mendocino County invites applications for:**

**Building Maintenance Mechanic II**  
\$52,208 - \$63,460

**Corrections Deputy**  
\$58,136 - \$67,308

**County Health Officer**  
\$185,224 - \$225,139

**Deputy Probation Officer I & II**  
\$55,577 - \$74,505

**Deputy Sheriff-Coroner**  
\$84,323 - \$102,460

**Deputy Sheriff-Coroner in Training**  
\$25.33 - \$30.78 Hourly

**Mental Health Clinician I/II**  
\$62,337 - \$87,630

**Registered Veterinary Technician**  
\$54,704 - \$66,497

**Sheriff's Services Technician**  
\$37,564 - \$45,676

**Supervising Public Health Nurse**  
\$113,609 - \$138,091

**Youth Corrections Officer**  
\$55,348 - \$67,267

For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:  
[www.mendocinocounty.gov/jobs](http://www.mendocinocounty.gov/jobs)  
EOE

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

were mailed by our vendor and should be arriving in your homes within the next few days. If you do not receive your Sample Ballot by the end of the week, please call our office so we can send you one. Local candidate statements for our county can also be found on our website at: <https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/government/assessor-county-clerk-recorder-elections/elections/election-candidate-information>

Please note: Not all candidates chose to put a candidate statement in the Sample Ballot, if you have any questions, please call our office.

Voters in Mendocino County have begun receiving their State Voter Information Guides that include information on the statewide candidates and the propositions. If you would like to view the VIG online, please visit: <https://voterguide.sos.ca.gov/>

Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder Katrina Bartolome would like to remind voters who wish to vote in the November 5, 2024 election, that the last day to register to vote is October 21, 2024, to receive a regular ballot in the mail. Please call our office for a Voter Registration card or go to: <https://registertovote.ca.gov/> to register to vote online.

For additional information please contact the Election / County Clerk's Office by calling 707 234-6819.

## Annual Color Run at WHS this weekend

Willits schools host their annual Color Run this weekend, on Sunday, October 13. This year it will be Brookside, Blosser Lane, and Baechtel Grove schools all participating.

The Color Run will be held at the Willits High School track, 299 North Main Street. Registration/check-in starts at 12 pm and goes to 1:30 pm, and the color will be thrown at 2 pm.

This event is always a fun time and helps the schools in the community with raising funds for field trips, teacher needs, and fun assemblies for the kids.

DJ Joey D will be there with some awesome tunes, and the snack shack will be open and merchandise will be for sale. We go until the color runs out. Hope to see you there!

**Willits Weekly**  
Online & In Print

## CLASSIFIEDS

**Do you need food?**  
Willits Food Bank, 344 Railroad Avenue, Willits, CA 95490. Open Wednesdays & Fridays, 1-4:30 - Bring an I.D. (707) 459-3333

**For Sale**  
60 to 70 Used Boxes! XL, L, M, S. Mostly Home Depot, heavy duty and regular. For moving, storage. \$0.95 to \$1.50 each or \$65.00 for all. Send Inquiries to: GoodStuffGoingFast@yahoo.com

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Willits Rental Wanted: Good local rental history. Local management and one-story unit please. 707-354-2798, leave message.

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**RV/Trailer Space for Rent**  
Space for RV's and Trailers - starts at \$500 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 972-4698. See at <http://www.oakvine.net/tp>

**Get your ad included here next week!**  
**Classifieds are \$15 for 30 words for two weeks**

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

We really are excited about making the arts feel grassroots, instead of having all these barriers. A lot of people audition to sing or be a part of a play or be a part of a dance production. We're sidestepping that. We can all dance. We can all sing. It's a way of really connecting back into what each human being can do. A lot of our songs reflect a sort of human rights aesthetic. 'Hey, you're a person. You're a being on this planet. Let's be here.' Not just playing a role but rather existing."

"There's an aspect of this where you forget yourself and just get lost in the music and in the joy," said Prana, with a smile. "You really have to lose your ego, in a sense, to be so public, singing on the streets. It feels good. Honestly, the biggest reason I do this is just to make people smile."

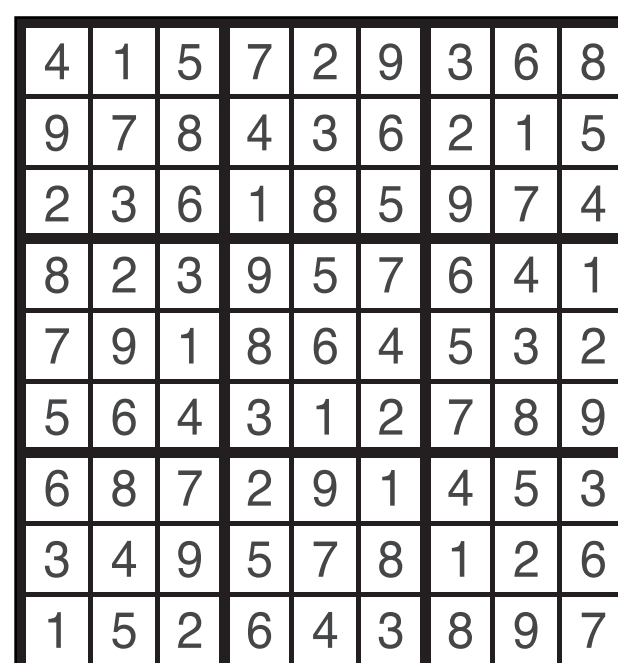
The efficacy of song in lifting one's spirits was in evidence as joy of the singers infected almost all of those who passed by, some even electing to join in with the jubilant music. The SOS Choir meets every third Wednesday at 5 pm, under the three giant redwoods on the Commercial Street side of City Park. Visit [www.facebook.com/events/868581588566840](http://www.facebook.com/events/868581588566840) for more info.

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

hay JD Redhouse helps us with the corn. Ojeda Transport helped with all the planting and field prep. Jordan Eads Photography helped us with advertising, building our website, and name tags. She's done all kinds of photo shoots out here."

"This is an extreme amount of work but it is extremely worth it," said Garcia. "There are days when I'll get a bit overwhelmed. We opened it as a business to raise funds but then seeing kids and families and people out here making memories, we actually started doing season passes this year. We had kids just wanting to come back day after day. The money we bring in goes back into maintaining and growing the pumpkin patch. The pumpkin patch eats up every bit of funds we make. We had to spend just over \$3,000 on seeds this year, which is only a small part of what goes into making and maintaining this."

For pricing and more info on J & J Pumpkins, located at 19606 Walker Road, visit <https://jipumpkins.com>, or checkout their Facebook and Instagram pages. Garcia and Gavazza can be reached at 707-354-4641 or [jipumpkinsllc@gmail.com](mailto:jipumpkinsllc@gmail.com)







Above: From left, Julie McGovern of the Mendocino College Foundation; Tim Karas, superintendent of the Mendocino-Lake Community College Board; Chuck Persico, Willits Chamber of Commerce historian; and Jim Harden of the North County Friends of Mendocino College enjoy the 2023 mixer together. At right: Keyboardist Frankie J, a Mendocino College graduate, will play background easy-listening music at the Chamber / College Mixer on Friday, October 11.

Photos by Mathew Caine

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Willits Chamber of Commerce

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Join us in Supporting Education Access in Northern Mendocino County!

Friday, October 11th, 2024  
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Fundraising Event

The Mendocino College North County Center in Willits seeks your aid in continuing to sponsor high school students from Willits, Laytonville, Leggett, and Covelo to engage in a six-week college summer session with free meals, transportation, and a \$300 scholarship for all students who are academically successful in their courses. Help us jumpstart the educational opportunities in your home community.

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But some repairs, and any new sidewalks, can run into thousands of dollars, money that some property owners cannot afford. The city is considering amendments to the sidewalk ordinance to reduce or share those costs. One proposal is for a one-time reduction of property taxes. Other proposals are for splitting the costs with property owners, although City Manager Bender pointed out that any cost-sharing from the city would have to come out of the general fund, reducing other city funding.

### The rest of Sidewalks | From page 1

but also recognizing the need to offer help to property owners, is revising its own ordinance. The city, in fact cities all across California, is also getting a nudge from its insurance provider. City Manager Brian Bender told Willits Weekly that adopting a new sidewalk ordinance is definitely "driven" by the insurance companies. But Bender pointed out, as did Councilmember Greta Kanne, that a sidewalk ordinance will benefit the entire city. Safe sidewalks are an essential part of any livable, walkable community.

A report on the proposed new sidewalk ordinance, and a review of the current ordinance, was presented to the city council at their September 25 council meeting by Leiloni Shine, contract planner for the city and owner of Shine Land Use Consulting LLC, based in Willits.

Currently, the city requires property owners to repair sidewalks when a property is sold, or when any repairs or remodeling exceed \$10,000. The city can also require property owners to repair sidewalks if anyone trips and falls, or if anyone files a complaint about a tripping hazard.

One of the proposed changes to the ordinance is the \$10,000 remodel threshold, which was written 20 years ago when \$10,000 was a major outlay. The city is proposing to increase the amount to \$100,000.

Another part of the proposed ordinance, probably the biggest and most challenging change, will require property owners to make sidewalk repairs even if there have been no injuries or complaints. The ordinance will apply to all property owners, not just ones who are selling their properties.

With so many sidewalks and so many property owners and so much cost how the city will prioritize those repairs is not yet determined. The city realizes that it cannot work on every sidewalk problem, and deal with every affected property owner, all at once. Part of the ordinance that Shine is developing is setting guidelines for how sidewalk repairs will proceed.

The city is proposing that priority be given to sidewalks that have significant pedestrian traffic, including sidewalks on the city's "Safe Routes to Schools" streets. Sidewalks with major obstacles to handicapped people and people in wheelchairs also would be prioritized.

Sidewalk survey: This past summer the city hired a company to examine and report on all of the sidewalks in Willits. The city is currently developing a program that will let property owners look up their address and read the results of the report. Willits Weekly will print an announcement of the report and how to access it when it becomes available.

New sidewalks: Another issue that the city plans to include in the sidewalk ordinance is properties that don't have a sidewalk. Should a property owner be required to put in a sidewalk when a property is sold? In the past, the city has never required property owners to build sidewalks where one has never been.

The city's Director of City Facilities Walter Kolon said that one consideration is to require a new sidewalk (when a property is sold) where there is "connectivity": the sidewalk leads to other properties or other streets; and to "sidewalk infill": streets that have sidewalks with gaps without sidewalks.

Kolon said the city probably would not require building sidewalks that lead nowhere, or are at obscure locations, or that are on streets where building a sidewalk is not feasible. Kolon also suggested that, instead of requiring a new sidewalk, the city might charge sidewalk-less property owners a fee when property is sold, to kind of share the burden.

Costs: No matter what the final ordinance will require, property owners are going to be saddled with additional costs. According to the survey of the city's sidewalks, many of the needed repairs are minor: out-of-alignment "raised lips" that can be lifted and reset or ground down at a cost the city estimates to be \$200-\$400.

At the city council meeting, the sidewalk ordinance generated enough questions and opinions from councilmembers and members of the public that staff was directed to hammer out further details and come back with a revised ordinance at a future meeting. Property owners, in fact all city residents, will have an opportunity to weigh in on the new ordinance, how it will be implemented, and how the costs will be paid.

It is an interesting commentary on modern life that something as basic as a sidewalk can be so complicated, so many issues, so much time—and so long a report like this one. But the devil is always in the details, and there sure are a lot of details.

### The rest of WAC | From page 1

and determined that the trailer was likely not driven through Willits and was possibly still in Brooktrails or further out Sherwood Road. Two weeks went by with no new information.

On October 1, WAC got a call from Brooktrails Community Service District that an employee was reading meters way out Timber Road on Eagle Court, and spotted what was possibly the WAC trailer. They took a video of the trailer, and their iPhone activated a ping from the trailer's Airtag, confirming that it was definitely the stolen trailer.

That information was relayed to CHP, and they sent an officer out to investigate that evening. That officer quickly secured the trailer. Willits Area Cyclists was called to come pick it up right then and there.

The trailer itself has some damage and vandalism that will need to be repaired. The inside of the trailer was thoroughly ransacked. Unfortunately, all of the big ticket items, along with many of the hand tools, were taken.

Willits Area Cyclists would like to send a big thank you to Brooktrails Township CSD for keeping an eye out, and to the employee who spotted the trailer and was brave enough to investigate in that sketchy area, for the quick relay of information, and for CHP quickly locating, securing, and releasing the trailer.

WAC is planning the "Taco Rampage" on Saturday October 12, from 5 to 8 pm at the Little Lake Grange in Willits. This family-friendly fundraiser is an event to raise funds to replace the stolen items, and to repair the trailer.

WAC volunteers and friends will be serving up fresh fish tacos, enjoying some local beer, hanging out, and watching the best riders in the world compete in a big-screen showing of "Redbull Rampage." Admission is FREE, but bring plenty of money for food, drinks, and auction items. All proceeds will go directly towards repairing the recently stolen trailer and replacing tools, which benefit trail building and mountain biking in Willits.

Can't make it, but want to help out? Donate here: <https://tinyurl.com/3uvhjpf7>

WILLITS AREA CYCLISTS' TACO RAMPAGE

WAC will be serving up fresh fish tacos, enjoying some local beer, hanging out, and watching the best riders in the world compete in a big-screen showing of Redbull Rampage. Admission is FREE, but bring plenty of money for food, drinks, and auction items. All proceeds from this fundraiser will go directly towards replacing our recently stolen trailer and tools, which benefit trail building and mountain biking in Willits. Thanks so much to this event!

10.12.24  
5PM - 8PM | SATURDAY | WILLITS  
LITTLE LAKE GRANGE | 291 SCHOOL ST.



At right: Chris Beebe applying decals on the WAC trailer when it was purchased.



At left: Willits Candidates Forum planning committee members, from left: Carole Press, Sherrie Ebyam, Danette Rego, Madge Strong, and Judi Berdis. Missing from the photo Janice Lombardi.

### Willits forum informed voters on local races

By Madge Strong, for WELL

The Candidates Forum held in Willits at the Little Lake Grange on Sunday, October 6 was attended by more than 100 voters. It covered three contested races: Willits City Council; District #3 Rep to the Mendocino County Office of Education board; and the Willits Unified School District board.

The five candidates vying for three seats on Willits City Council are: Matthew Alaniz, Thomas Allman, Gerardo (Gerry) Gonzalez, Robin Leler, and Saprina Rodriguez. They introduced themselves and answered questions for the first hour. A partial recording of this portion of the Candidates Forum can be found at <https://youtu.be/rCaLfxKAKsA> or at the Willits Community Television website.

Unfortunately, due to tech challenges, the initial 2-minute introduction by candidate Saprina Rodriguez was not recorded. To briefly paraphrase, she explained that she had filed on time but due to a technicality on the form, the county ruled that she would have to file as a write-in instead of being on the ballot. She noted that "As a long-time resident, business owner, and current mayor of Willits, I bring both experience and dedication to the city council. My campaign is built on fiscal responsibility and clear-cut accountability.... I listen to all voices, and I'm committed to making logical, well-researched decisions that prioritize the best interests of our community.... I stand for practical solutions that move Willits forward."

### CAL FIRE makes arson arrest in Lake County

Posted by CAL FIRE Sonoma Lake Napa Unit

CAL FIRE law enforcement arrested 41-year-old Donald Anderson of Clearlake on four felony charges of arson in relation to two recent fires in Lake County.

Anderson was arrested at noon on Friday, October 4 and booked into the Lake County Jail in Lakeport. He has been charged with two felony counts of Penal Code§ 451 (c) for arson of a structure or forest land and two counts of Penal Code§ 454 for arson during a state of emergency.

The charges are in relation to fires set on September 22 off Seigler Canyon Road west of Lower Lake, and on October 2 off New Long Valley Road in Clearlake Oaks.

The fire in Seigler Canyon burned 0.98 acres and the one off New Long Valley Road burned 0.01 acres.

Anderson has been previously arrested on arson charges by CAL FIRE. In January 2004 he received a 212-month sentence after being convicted of arson charges.

To report emergencies like fires or suspicious activity, call CAL FIRE's secure arson hotline at 1-800-468-4408. Stay alert and report suspicious behavior to help keep your community safe.

To learn more about preparing for the threat of wildfire, visit [ReadyForWildfire.org](https://ReadyForWildfire.org).

The Candidates Forum sponsors apologize for this omission and for the uneven quality of the video.

The other races covered were: two candidates - Michelle Hutchins and David Strock - for the District 3 seat on the county Board of Education; and three candidates vying for two seats on the Willits school district board: April Lamprich, David Liker, and Dianne McNeal. We were not able to provide recordings for these races.

The sponsoring groups of the forum were: League of Women Voters of Mendocino, Little Lake Grange, Mendocino Women's Political Coalition, WELL (Willits Economic Localization), and Willits Chamber of Commerce.

Special thanks to the forum planning committee: Judi Berdis, Sherrie Ebyam, Janice Lombardi, Carole Press, Danette Rego, and Madge Strong. Thanks to many other volunteers, especially Rob Smith at Little Lake Grange for AV set-up.

After the three panels, there was time for lively discussion among attendees and candidates, as well as some informative literature about statewide ballot measures and other issues. If you'd like to receive a copy of a chart of recommendations on the ballot measures (from an array of groups across the political spectrum), please email Steve Scalmanini at [sscalmanini@yahoo.com](mailto:sscalmanini@yahoo.com) or [mstrong827@outlook.com](mailto:mstrong827@outlook.com)

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October is  
**'Breast Cancer Awareness Month'**

*Submitted by Adventist Health Howard Memorial*

It's that time of year again to think about your breast health, and Adventist Health Howard Memorial is here to help you do it. With fall already here this October, in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness month, it's the time of year to remember to get your yearly mammogram.

At Howard Memorial we offer 3D mammography to provide a greater accuracy detecting breast cancer. By taking multiple pictures of each breast in just four seconds, a 3D mammogram gives radiologists clear, highly focused images of the breast's tissue, layer by layer. 3D mammography increases detection of all breast cancers by 29 percent and increases detection of invasive breast cancer by 41 percent.

We're here for our community, and early detection is key to ensuring a long, healthy life. We're here to help. Schedule your mammogram today with our imaging team at 707-456-3090, to gain peace of mind this month.



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