

Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

Online & Print



A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

Donations Accepted Edition No. 522

Thursday, October 12, 2023

Partial eclipse Saturday morning

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Willits is in the observation path for the "ring of fire" solar eclipse this Saturday morning. According to NASA's eclipse map, Willits is in the 70% zone and will see a partial eclipse – that is, if the weather cooperates.

As Willits Weekly goes to press Wednesday evening, the National Weather Service forecast for Willits for Friday is: "A chance of drizzle before 11am."

The October 14 annular

Read the rest of **Eclipse**

Over on Page 9

City to host open house on East Commercial plan

Submitted by the City of Willits

The City of Willits will host two public input sessions on Wednesday, October 18 for the East Commercial Street Corridor development and outreach project. Session 1 is set for 11:30 am to 1 pm, and Session 2 is set for 5:30 to 7 pm; at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street.

The City of Willits is moving into the second phase of the East Commercial Street Corridor development and outreach project, aka ECSC. This

Read the rest of **Plan**

Over on Page 11

Caltrans grants 'Beautify Willits' \$2.7 million

Submitted by Caltrans District 1

Caltrans announced this week it awarded nearly \$115 million in Clean California grants to "underserved" cities and local agencies. One of the key projects funded in District 1, with approximately \$2.7 million, is the City of Willits' Beautify Willits project. The project "will beautify and improve public spaces, accessibility in downtown, public parks, and the Main Street and Commercial Street corridors with a focus on safety, reducing litter and illegal dumping, increasing community engagement and educational outreach."

The grants statewide are a key part of Governor

Read the rest of **Caltrans**

Over on Page 11



Above, left: Fernando Acevedo, left, and Uriah McGill check out the inside of the fire engine during the Imagination Station Preschool and Daycare Center's Wednesday morning trip to the Little Lake Fire Department. Little Lake Fire Captain Harry So smiles with Imagination Station students including Maia Ramirez. Maggie Jennison models her new fire hat. Teacher Lily gives Captain So a hug so students know that, even in a mask, firefighters aren't scary! Below: A happy, but squirmy, group of toddlers gather with the adults for a group photo at the firehouse.



Photos by Maureen Jennison

Fun at the Firehouse

Preschool students visit Little Lake Fire Department to learn about fire safety and check out the trucks

Field trip day is always a fun day, and when that field trip includes big red fire engines, well, it's even better.

On Wednesday morning, students of Imagination Station Preschool and Daycare Center were able to have just that kind of fun, as they walked over from their nearby school to the Little Lake Firehouse.

Two groups of students came, the older ones first, then a second presentation to the younger bunch after. Both presentations aimed to familiarize the students with seeing firefighters and police officers, with and without safety gear, lights and special equipment, to make sure that, if the need arises, kids aren't scared of the law enforcement or emergency personnel.

Students were shown a video about fire safety – having a plan about where to go and meet up with family, about testing the heat coming from doors before opening, the good ol' "stop, drop and roll" mantra, and about using their senses to help decide what's going on. Listen for the alarm! Feel the door! Smell for the smoke! Look for danger, or safety!

"Visits to the firehouse build a relationship for deeper

understanding of how children can contribute to keep themselves safe," explained Imagination Station Preschool and Daycare Center's owner, Saprina Rodriguez. "This can help children overcome fears relating to the gear firemen use or the uniform they wear, and allowing children to ask questions or shake a firefighter's hand can alleviate stress and build positive thoughts."

Meeting the kids is always fun for the emergency personnel, too, seeing the excitement when they receive special stickers and hats and get to see the trucks up close.

Little Lake Fire Department members included: Training Chief Jeff Donaldson, Captain Harry So, Firefighter Dena Rutledge, Firefighter Brian Amaral, and Firefighter Phillip Laurent. Willits Police Department members included: Officer Jamie Cary and Officer John Gale.

"Little Lake Fire, with assistance from the Willits Police Department, would like to thank Imagination Station for a lovely visit to Station 54 for their Fire Safety Drill," said Little Lake Fire Captain Harry So. "Have a fire-safe holiday!"

– Maureen Jennison



Above, from left: Students enjoyed seeing the firetrucks up close and getting to sit inside. Thank you cards hung in the conference room from field trips past. A sea of small children donning their very own fire hats filled the Little Lake Fire Department's main bays. Below, from left: Violet Stauffacher shows off her Sparky Fire Safe Club sticker. Students file through the station from the conference room to the truck bays. Little Lake Fire Captain Harry So models the mask and air tank, which sometimes can look scary – but they're there to help! At bottom, left: Captain So, left, stands with Imagination Station owner Saprina Rodriguez, Firefighter Dena Rutledge, and Training Chief Jeff Donaldson. At bottom, right: Two of the youngest classes at Imagination Station listen politely to Training Chief Donaldson's presentation.



Photo by Harry So



Farm to School grants could help local farmers

Annie Evarts
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Willits is a community fortunate enough to be full of farmers and gardeners. We have an exceptional farmers market downtown where you can find fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables, grass-fed and humanely raised meats from local ranches, nutritionally dense eggs from chickens that didn't spend their lives in a cage, and a variety of other locally derived goods.

Farm stands are popping up all over town. Real food matters here because a vital population is what makes Willits such a great place to live. So, with a community so adept at food production, wouldn't it only make sense that those same local farmers who are more than willing to fill your refrigerators and pantries at home, be the farmers that supply the best possible quality food to your children in our local schools?

This is the initiative of the Farm to School Network with a new \$60 million grant program through

Read the rest of **Grants**

Over on Page 11

CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit lifts burn ban

Submitted by CAL FIRE MEU

The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Mendocino Unit is lifting the suspension of residential outdoor burn permits. This suspension was lifted on Wednesday, October 11, 2023, at 12:01 am

CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit Chief Luke Kendall is formally cancelling the burn permit suspension and advises that those possessing current and valid agriculture and residential burn permits can now resume burning on permissible burn days. Agriculture burns must be inspected by CAL FIRE prior to burning until the end of the peak fire season.

Inspections may be required for burns other than agriculture burns.

Burn permits are available online from CAL FIRE at <https://burnpermit.fire.ca.gov/>.

IMPORTANT: CAL FIRE burn permits are only for residents who live in the State Responsibility Area, or where CAL FIRE has jurisdictional authority. It is the responsibility of the landowner to check with

Read the rest of **CAL FIRE**

Over on Page 11

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

10,000 lunches

To the Editor:

I've formed a group that gets together to share lunch at Jyun Kang, the Malaysian-Indo-Chinese fusion vegan restaurant at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. (We're not affiliated with the restaurant or CTB.)

We share the food and split the check equally. (Please bring cash.) If you'd like to enjoy great food and meet new people, join us! We have dates set for the rest of the year: Thursday, October 26, Thursday, November 30, and Friday, December 15.

Directions: In Ukiah, head east to the end of Talmage Road. For a campus map, go to www.drbbvolunteers.org. Click on the "Directions" tab, and then click on the Campus Map link (PDF).

Questions? Call or text me at (503) 784-9290. If you want to be added to my email list for these events, email me at eatpulses@aol.com.

Ron Elterman, Willits

Flowers at risk

To the Editor:

I received the nicest compliment the other day. I was out front, at the Church of the Nazarene, working in the flower garden. We're towards the south end of town, across the street from Brown's Corner. I noticed a truck start to go down Muir Mill Road, but turn around to come back and pull over.

The driver got my attention. He said to me: "You know, the city of Willits doesn't have much to look at, and what you've done here is the highlight of the town. It's amazing, and thank you so much." I replied, "Thank you, that's the nicest compliment yet."

Every time we're out there, which is often, at least

two to three people have made a point to specially pull over and say how much they like the flowers. The encouragement of the community has been endearing. It really makes us feel good to know that so many people appreciate the garden. It is pretty gorgeous, if I do say so myself!

We wound up having many varieties: begonias, marigolds, petunias, impatiens, canna lilies, snapdragons, moss roses, dusty miller, mini-carnations, zinnias, bachelor buttons, poppies, gladiolas, iris, sunflowers, vincas, bottlebrush, cosmos, salvia, lantana, coneflowers, African daisies, dahlias, Lewisia, hydrangea, lavender, bottlebrush, bee balm, gazanias, hollyhocks, agapanthus, and a few others I don't know the names of.

The church pays for the water bill. Myself and another person paid for all the plants ourselves. We'd buy around 60 new plants each Friday, and now have over 1,000 plants. We also pay for all the fertilizer, decorative bark, gopher control, and weed control ourselves. Cold Creek Compost and North American Organics donated all the soil for our project. Thank you so much for your kind generosity!

One day, Caltrans comes by to tell us that the flowers are on their property, and they want us to pay close to \$1,000 for an encroachment permit, or else they're going to come tear the flowers out. Like soon. We just don't have the money.

We'd love to do the same thing, and bigger, for the community next year, so if anyone wants to send a small donation to help cover the costs and the permit fee, we sure would appreciate your help. Thank you if you can send some assistance to help keep the flowers from being bulldozed over.

Please send to: Donations, c/o P.O. Box 993, Willits, CA 95490.

Christina McCluskey, Willits

Senior Center menu for the week

Willits Senior Center is serving lunch in its indoor dining room, and continues to serve drive-through and walk-up lunches, too. Lunch is available Monday through Friday, from 12 to 12:45 pm, inside and outside the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road.



Thursday, October 12: Chicken Fajitas, Rice & Beans

Friday, October 13: French Dip Loaded Mashed Potatoes

Monday, October 16: Beer Battered Cod, Rice Pilaf

Tuesday, October 17: Carnitas Burrito wet w/Green Sauce

Wednesday, October 18: Beef Stroganoff, Veggies, Roll

Thursday, October 19: Chicken & Dumplings

Friday, October 20: Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Veggies, Garlic Bread

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

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

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

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



Above, from left: Lisa Shepherd and Alisha Ives Ringstad of the Driftwood Home are vendors, along with several others, at the event. Necole Aguilar knocks out a song with her group PoV. Dusty Duley lines up a difficult shot to the green. At left: The winning foursome includes Mike Winter, Ethan Winter, Kane Herman and Scott Herman. Below, left: Manny Orozco prepares to try a putt for a birdie. Below, right: Rotarian Tara Moratti is in charge of selling raffle tickets.



Oktober Festival

Willits Rotary Club holds fun event with beer, brats, music, and golf tournament

"John [Cross] was a Rotarian for many years and had a dream of having a festival in the redwoods. John passed away last year. We are fulfilling his dream for the second year in a row. He was instrumental in planning the event last year but he passed away before he saw it come to life. We're trying to honor his memory and continue on with that tradition," said Ann Alumbaugh, organizer of the Willits Rotary Club's John Cross Golf Tournament and Oktober Festival in the Redwoods.

"We have an 18-hole golf tournament starting at 9 am," explained Alumbaugh. "So far, we have nine teams and, hopefully, we'll have 11. After that, at 1 [pm], the festival starts. It costs \$25 to get in. You get that back in drink and food tickets."

The golf tournament, organized by Jeff Yokum for the second year, began with sign-ins in the cool early morning. Nine teams of four, each team paying \$300 to enter, vying for bragging rights and first-place plaques and second-place medallions, set off at the various holes on the Brooktrails Golf Course. The format was a four-person scramble where each foursome competed against the other foursomes for the lowest score.

"Each team player hits from the tee box. Then the team members choose the best of the four shots for the next shot. All team members then play the second shot from that location and again choose the best shot," stated the printed instructions.

Mulligans (do-overs) could be purchased, two per player, eight per team. In addition, on hole nine, there was a "closest to the pin" contest on the drive. The prize, won by Todd Southwick with the distance of 24 feet and 8 inches, was a gravity chair donated by Mike Smith of Willits Furniture. The winning team was Scott Herman, Kane Herman, Mike Winter, and Ethan Winter. The second-place team was headed by Mark Kelly.

The entry fee to the golf tournament included admittance to the Oktober Festival, across Clover Road, at the Oh! Redwood Grove, where attendees could sit and listen to music while eating brats, drinking beer, and enjoying the excellent weather.

Various vendors, offering art, honey

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



Above, left: The quarter auction is one of the most entertaining parts of the Oktober Festival event. Above, right: Golf tournament organizer Jeff Yokum signs in Sarah Foley. Below: Cody Bartholomew won several prizes in the quarter auction.



Photos by Mathew Caine

In Commemoration of the 2017 Redwood Complex Fire

Submitted by the Mendocino County Executive Office and Sheriff's Office

Sunday, October 8, 2023, signifies the somber commemoration of the sixth year since the harrowing 2017 Redwood Complex Fire. The fire began on October 8, 2017, in northeastern Potter Valley before merging with another fire that began on October 9, 2017, in Redwood Valley.

The fire burned over 36,000 acres, destroyed nearly 350 residences, forced 8,000 residents to evacuate, and, most tragically, claiming the lives of nine individuals.

On this day, CEO Darcie Antle, Sheriff Matt Kendall, and the Office of Emergency Services reflect upon the tragedy of the Redwood Complex Fire, honoring the memory of its victims and acknowledging the unwavering bravery exhibited by the brave first responders who selflessly served the Redwood Valley and Potter Valley communities.

The 2017 Redwood Complex Fire left an indelible mark on Mendocino County, with its impacts enduring to the present day.

State cannabis task force releases Q3 report

Submitted by Department of Cannabis Control

Continuing to protect public safety, safeguard natural resources, and advance the integrity of the legal cannabis market, the Unified Cannabis Enforcement Taskforce seized more than \$101 million in illegal cannabis during the third quarter of 2023. During enforcement operations, UCETF seized 69 crime-linked firearms — a 363% increase compared to the previous quarter.

Among the highlights from the third quarter were seizures of almost 100,000 cannabis plants and over 61,000 pounds of illegal cannabis. These numbers were accomplished despite serving 35 percent fewer search warrants in the quarter.

"For the last three months UCETF has been focused on larger, outdoor cannabis operations that posed a significant threat to the environment and public safety," stated Bill Jones, chief of the Law Enforcement Division for Department of Cannabis Control.

"Many of these illegal cannabis operations are linked to organized crime, and in addition to threatening the environment and communities, the products these operations pose a direct threat to consumer health and the stability of the legal cannabis market."

The results of UCETF's Q3 2023 enforcement actions are listed below:

In the third quarter 2023, UCETF served 60 search warrants, and seized 61,415.75 pounds of cannabis,

with a retail value of \$101,349,657. The task force eradicated 98,054 cannabis plants in the third quarter, and seized 69 firearms and \$0 in cash.

In comparison, in the second quarter 2023, UCETF served 92 search warrants, and seized 66,315.01 pounds of cannabis, with a retail value of \$109,277,688.94. The task force eradicated 120,970 cannabis plants, and seized 18 firearms and \$223,809 in cash.

"Over the past quarter, UCETF conducted several highly coordinated operations that will disrupt the illegal supply chain and improve consumer and public safety. The task force focused on rural areas where illegal cultivators have been conducting unlicensed operations," said Nathaniel Arnold, acting chief of Enforcement for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

"These enforcement numbers represent the hard work and commitment from our multiagency teams. I applaud our officers and partner agencies who worked tirelessly to identify these clandestine operations and provide a good measure of public and consumer safety."

Since inception, UCETF has seized \$295,284,220.94 in unlicensed cannabis through the serving of 203 search warrants. The taskforce has also eradicated 277,314 plants and seized 101 firearms.

Read the rest of **Cannabis** Over on page 4

Do you have something to say? Write a letter to the editor!

Residents of Willits, Brooktrails, Laytonville and Covelo are welcome to send in a letter to the editor.

Please email us: willitsweekly@gmail.com

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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



Willits Weekly is a locally owned independent newspaper, founded in 2013, covering the greater Willits area.

Volume 11, Number 522
3,500 - 4,000 copies printed by Western Web on Thursdays
P.O. Box 1698 Willits, CA 95490 / 707-459-2633; 707-972-7047
willitsweekly@gmail.com / www.willitsweekly.com

Jennifer Poole, publisher and editor / willitsweekly@gmail.com / 707-459-2633

Maureen (Moore) Jennison, art director and photographer / willitsweekly@gmail.com / 707-972-7047

Jackie Cobbs, features editor

Mathew Caine, photographer / features writer

Forrest Glyer, reporter / features writer

Barbara O'Reardon, Brooktrails reporter

Annie Everts, reporter / features writer

Danya Davis, Police Log

Margi Gomez Guhde, features writer / reporter

April Tweddell, ad sales / 707-972-2475 / willitsweekly@gmail.com

Ad inquiries: call 707-972-7047 or email advertising@willitsweekly.com

Willits Weekly
EST. 2013
A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits
SUBSCRIPTION FORM

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

In the mail: 1 year - \$100 Additional donation included \$ _____
Home delivery: 1 year - \$75 (Home Delivery only available in Willits, Brooktrails & local areas) (call for details)

Make checks payable to Willits Weekly | No invoice sent - please just send in payment | P.O. Box 1698 in Willits, CA 95490

Locally Owned | Independent | Editions Every Thursday | Online & In Print
QUESTIONS: 707-459-2633 | 707-972-7047
Web: www.willitsweekly.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/willitsweekly Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com

Mike Oglesby
707-469-0755

3 Sons Electric, Inc.
Residential • Commercial • Industrial
mike@3sonselectric.net
CA 1081690
2010 Industry Rd, Ukiah CA 95482 707-462-1660

Do it Best WILLITS POWER & HARDWARE
HONDA • HUSQVARNA • STIHL • MQ • CARHARTT
Lawn & Garden Equipment ■ Generators
Sales, Parts & Service ■ Pick-up & Delivery

1600 S. Main St. Sales/Parts: 707 459-6420
Willits, CA 95490 Service: 707 459-0596
willitspower@gmail.com Fax: 707 459-6369

FARMERS INSURANCE
Randall Cantua, LUTCF
Agent
Cantua Insurance Agency
16 W. Valley St. Willits CA 95490
786 Redwood Drive
Garberville, CA 95542
Tel 707.459.3276
Tel 707.923.2179
Fax 707.923.9550
rcantua@farmersagent.com
0C67822

TALL TREE ENGINEERING
CIVIL & GEOTECHNICAL
(707) 841-2001 • WILLITS, CA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21
IT'S OUR 16TH ANNIVERSARY

J.D. REDHOUSE & CO.
Est. 2007

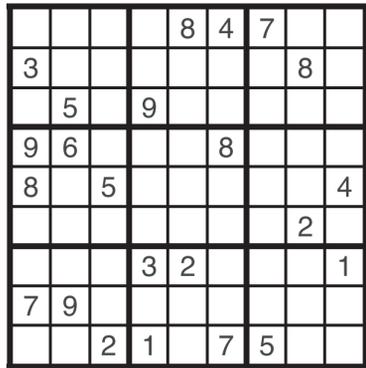
**RAFFLES & GIVEAWAYS
STORE-WIDE SALES
VENDORS**

212 S. Main Street | Downtown Willits

TALL TREE ENGINEERING
CIVIL & GEOTECHNICAL
(707) 841-2001 • WILLITS, CA

Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword



Level: Intermediate



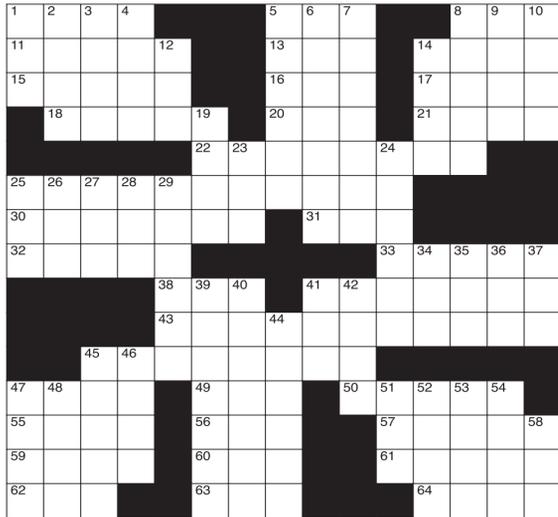
HOW TO SUDOKU

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!

BARGAIN TIME WORD SEARCH



AUCTION	DEALS	LIMITED TIME	PRICES
BARGAIN	DISCOUNT	MARKED DOWN	REDUCE
CODE	DOLLARS	NEGOTIATE	RESELL
COMPARISON	DOORBUSTER	OFFER	SAVINGS
COST	GARAGE SALE	PAYMENT	STORE
COUPON	HAGGLE	PERCENTAGE	



CLUES ACROSS

- Information
- Seaport (abbr.)
- Agricultural disease (abbr.)
- Riding horses
- Boxing's GOAT
- Hurt or discomfort
- A small sharp knife to trim vegetables
- A beaver builds one
- Horizontal passage into a mine
- Self-immolation by fire rituals
- Chain bar with lots of games (abbr.)
- Goo Goo Dolls' hit
- Agreeable
- In an early way
- In a way, struck
- It's there in the morning
- County in the S. Pacific
- Central Florida city
- Numbers cruncher
- Mexican beers
- Lawyers say you can indict one
- Capital of South Australia
- Wings

CLUES DOWN

- A way to fish
- Greek mythological figure
- Scarlett's home
- Assist
- More doleful
- Premeditated
- Dish featuring minced food
- San Diego ballplayer
- Eight
- Unwelcome picnic guests
- Human gene
- Bucket
- Resist authority (slang)
- Dirt

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE LOG

September 11 to September 17

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled **60 incidents** in this 7-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

September 11

5:47 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious vehicles near the intersection of East San Francisco Avenue and Railroad Avenue.

September 12

5:56 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of West Highway 20 and Coast Street and issued a citation.

11:13 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of East Oak Street.

September 13

12:24 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

9:06 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 1300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

11:33 am: SULLIVAN, Justice Charlo (27) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of Marcela Drive following a disturbance. He was arrested pursuant to 594 PC (Vandalism).

5:53 pm: PHILLIPS III, Rickey Wayne (31) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street following a disturbance. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of domestic battery.

September 14

5:45 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1600 block of South Main Street.

September 15

8:28 am: Officers initiated a fraud

investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

9:31 am: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 600 block of Railroad Avenue.

2:03 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

2:50 pm: PEDERSEN, Christian Royce (22) of Willits was contacted in the 300 block of Creekside Drive. He was arrested pursuant to 273.5 PC (Domestic Corporal Injury), and on misdemeanor charges of driving under the influence of alcohol with a blood alcohol content of 0.08 percent or higher, driving with a suspended license (revoked for DUI), and violation of probation.

7:27 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of East Oak Street.

September 16

1:28 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of Creekside Drive.

9:03 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

3:36 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

8:24 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1200 block of South Main Street.

September 17

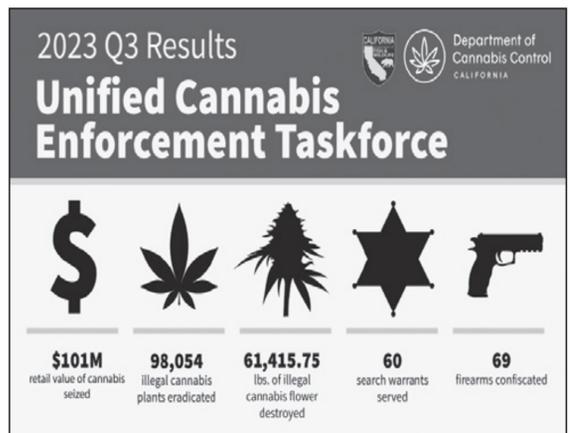
8:21 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of West Mendocino Avenue.

9:14 pm: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 1500 block of Baechtel Road.

The rest of Cannabis | From page 2

Created in 2022, the Unified Cannabis Enforcement Taskforce has been charged by the governor to better align state efforts and increase cannabis enforcement coordination between state, local and federal partners. UCETF's enforcement actions protect consumer and public safety, safeguard the environment, and deprive illegal cannabis operators and transnational criminal organizations of illicit revenue that harms consumers and undercuts the regulated cannabis market in California.

The taskforce is co-chaired by the Department of Cannabis Control and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and coordinated by the Homeland Security Division of Cal Office of Emergency Services. The taskforce includes more than two dozen local, state, and federal partners working together to disrupt the illegal cannabis market.



Looking for something to celebrate?

Learn more about these, or see a list of other celebrations and days at <https://www.listofnationalevents.com/>

October 12: National Farmer's Day, Cookbook Launch Day, Day Of Respect For Cultural Diversity, Dia De La Raza Mexico, National Savings Day, Pulled Pork Day, World Arthritis Day, National Freethought Day, National Gumbo Day

October 13: Navy Birthday, National No Bra Day, National Headband Day, International Suit Up Day, Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day, National Herpes Awareness Day, National M&M Day, National Transfer Money To Your Son Day, Silly Sayings Day, Treat Yo' Self Day, World Thrombosis Day, National Train Your Brain Day, International Skeptics Day

October 14: Be Bald And Be Free Day, National Dessert Day, National Chocolate-Covered Insect Day, National Frump Day, National I Love You Day, national lowercase day, World Standards Day

October 15: National I Love Lucy Day,

Global Handwashing Day, Adventure Day, National Chicken Cacciatore Day, National Fetch Day, National Lemon Bar Day, National Mushroom Day, National Pug Day, National, Roast Pheasant Day, National Shawarma Day, Sewing Lovers Day, World Student's Day, National Aesthetician Day, National Cheese Curd Day

October 16: BOSS'S DAY, National Learn A Word Day, World Food Day, World Spine Day, National Liqueur Day, National Dictionary Day, National Feral Cat Day, Global Cat Day,

October 17: National Mulligan Day, National Pasta Day, International Roller Skating Day, Wear Something Gaudy Day, World Trauma Day, Black Poetry Day

October 18: National Chocolate Cupcake Day, International Legging Day, World Menopause Day, National No Beard Day,

Furry Friends Hoping for a Home



Velcro Licorice

Licorice is a sweetheart who loves her people the most but also loves kids and other dogs. She will follow you wherever you go and would prefer to go with you or not to be left for too long at home. She is potty trained. She loves her treats and loves to play chase but would also be happy curled up on a bed in the sun. She is one cutie that anyone would be lucky to have.

Licorice is working on leash-training (she tends to pull). She would be happy with a canine sibling to give her confidence.

To learn more about Licorice or to view other adoptable animals, visit www.milofoundation.org or the Milo Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions by appointment only. Please complete a pet-adoption application before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 707-459-4900.

Passionate Aquaria

Introducing the shining star of our shelter, the one and only Aquaria! This adorable pup is bursting with wonderful energy that will brighten anyone's day. Despite a rough past that left her starving and alone in the wilderness of Willits, Aquaria holds no grudges and still knows how to love unconditionally.

One of Aquaria's best qualities is her incredible zest for life! She approaches every day with boundless enthusiasm and a wagging tail that never stops. Whether it's chasing after tennis balls or zooming around the play yards with her canine friends, this playful pooch knows how to make every moment count.



The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. Feel free to come visit us, no appointments needed! We are open Wednesday through Friday, 1 to 5 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 11 am to 3 pm; closed Monday and Tuesday. Check out all of our available dogs and cats on our website: www.mendocinohumanesociety.com, on our Facebook page, and on www.petfinder.com.

Cuddly Olivia



Olivia came to us with her brother, Oliver, and both have been in a foster home for the last few weeks. This is what her foster mom had to say: "I've spent a lot of extra time with them and they are playing and pouncing on each other and, of course, lots of cuddles. They are going to be great kittens, but they will need to be adopted by a family who will be patient with them and spend plenty of time with them. They are still a bit scared at first but will warm up to you with lots of scratches around the ears."

The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, requires a reservation to view adoptable animals. Call 707-467-6453 to make an appointment to meet our feline and canine guests. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendocinoshelter.com.

Vaccines might seem scary but that's nothing compared to the diseases they prevent.

It's great that most of us have no idea what measles, mumps, rubella, whooping cough, pneumonia, or meningitis can do to a child. Let's keep it that way.

We make it easy to vaccinate your child. Call us today to establish care with our Pediatrics Department. We'll help you stay on track with all your child's healthcare needs.

MCHC HEALTH CENTERS
HILLSIDE | DORAS ST | LITTLE LAKE | LAKEVIEW
(707) 468-1010 | 1-855-FOR-MCHC

IN UKIAH, WILLITS & LAKEPORT • We accept Medi-Cal, Medicare, Partnership and other insurance. • mchccinc.org

LOVE THIS PAPER?

WANT TO HELP SUPPORT WILLITS WEEKLY? Become a one-time or ongoing community supporter! Eternal gratitude and more fabulous editions offered in return!

PayPal

No PayPal account needed! Just donate like a regular online transaction! www.WillitsWeekly.com

Check

Our P.O. BOX 1698 is always happy for envelopes! Mail us any amount direct!

Cash

See us out and about? At the Farmers Market? We are happy to take any cash donations!

Willits Furniture Center

IS CLOSING AND EVERYTHING MUST GO!

From now until there is nothing left. All inventory is priced to move!

NEW ITEMS ARE ARRIVING ON THE SHOWROOM FLOOR EVERY DAY!

SAVE AT LEAST 25% TO 50% ON EVERYTHING!

Thank you for 55 great years!

50% OFF LOCAL DISCOUNT

PICK YOUR OWN PUMPKIN! RIDE TO THE PUMPKIN PATCH ABOARD THE SKUNK TRAIN'S

Pumpkin Express

DEPARTING FROM WILLITS FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, WEDNESDAYS IN OCTOBER

SKUNKTRAIN.COM
707.964.6371

Official Calendar Sponsor



HEART OF THE REDWOODS

Willits
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Est. 1926

MAKING WILLITS A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE, WORK, AND PLAY

Serving the community since 1926

<https://willits.org/>

299 East Commercial Street
Willits, California 95490

Please feel free to visit our office for brochures, maps and additional information about the area

(707) 459-7910

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

'A Haunting in Venice'

The Story: An Agatha Christie drawing room murder mystery. The designated unraveler of the fiendish Murders and barely endurable Malfaeances is the famous M. Hercule Poirot (Kenneth Branagh)! It's 1947 in Post War Venice. A brash American mystery writer Ariadne Oliver (Tina Fey) is a longtime friend of M. Poirot. She interrupts the peaceful routine at his retirement hideout in Venice. She insists Poirot accompany her to a séance. Appropriately, the situation is going to happen Halloween night, and the location is a dank mansion long-cursed by tragedy and death.

Next, we will meet a suitably Charismatic Medium (Michelle Yeoh), who is most probably a fraud; but oh boy! she sure can generate one spirited humdinger of a summoning! And from there, nothing goes smoothly. Dubious characters behave badly. Violence intrudes. People blame each other, or ghosts. There is a rational though hidden explanation for all the goings-on, Poirot is quite certain.

My Thoughts: I have partial hearing loss, a function of chainsaws and ignorant machismo in my 20s. Hearing the dialog in this flick is essential. And our Noyo Theatre has a special, generous feature: For hard-of-hearing filmgoers such as myself, the theater has headphones available that amplify the movie soundtrack and the voices of the actors.

In the grand finale, when M. Hercule Poirot unmasks the killer and cleverly explains everything – (yes, I know, a spoiler, but you should know by now that all Agatha Christie murder mysteries end this way) – having those headphones and hearing the dialog clarifies all the sinister twists and brutal byways of Ms. Christie's gothic imagination.

Parents: Not for children. WWII is referenced. Death camps are referenced. History colors the situation. This is a flick for grown-ups.

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

Noyo Theatre Willits, CA

57 East Commercial Street - Willits
707-459-6660
www.noyotheatre.com

Next Week: KILLERS OF THE FLOWER MOON

Thursday, October 12

Eclipse Viewing Kit Giveaway: Stop by the Willits Library during open hours through October 13, to pick up a free eclipse viewing kit, with eclipse glasses, information about the October 14 annular solar eclipse event (starts around 8 am with full annularity at 9:15 am), a DIY Sun Clock. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: 707-459-5908.

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly Farmers Market outdoors through October on Main Street at the old Rexall parking lot. The freshest local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Enjoy "Tobin's Tales" story time from 3:30 to 4 pm.

Friday, October 13

Backstage Tours at the Museum: The Mendocino County Museum invites the public to take a "backstage" tour of the Museum! Tours will be offered Friday, October 13 and Friday, October 27 at 11 am. Staff will provide an overview of museum spaces that most visitors do not get an opportunity to see. This is a great opportunity to learn about the care and storage of Mendocino County's cultural heritage. Tours are included with the cost of general admission. More info: www.mendocinocounty.org/museum or museum@mendocinocounty.gov or 707-234-6365.

So You Want to Go to College: One of a series of classes offered by the Willits Library to all high school students and their parents that will "help high school age people understand the terminology and process of applying for college ... and make informed decisions regarding their future education." Willits Branch Library meeting room, 390 East Commercial Street, from 4:30 to 5:30 pm; October 13. Light refreshments will be served. Info: 707-459-5908

Art Talks at WCA: "The Beginning of the Italian Renaissance". Join us for a look at the 13th - 14th centuries and the artists who brought visual arts into perspective by using mathematics. Friday, October 13 at 6:30 pm at Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. Upstairs on the big screen. Info: 707-459-1726

Funkacillin at The Munchery: old school and original funk music, live from 7 to 9 pm, at the Munchery for a Harry Potter themed night, Friday, October 13. Party starts at 5 pm, with Harry Potter costume contest, specialty cocktails, and bar bites. 1797 South Main Street. Info: "The Munchery" on Facebook or 707-941-0028.

'Dinner and a Movie Night': Baechtel Grove Middle School PTO hosts this delicious and family-friendly fundraiser at the Rec Grove Park, East Commercial Street, on Friday, October 13. With the movie "Coco" plus taco or burrito

What's Happening Around Town



dinners for \$15 a plate, \$7 for kids under 8. Dinner from 6:30 to 7:30 pm; movie starts at 7:30 pm. For tickets: Message "Baechtel Grove Middle School PTO" on Facebook or call 559 994-2371.

Jon Gonzales at Shanachie: Ukulele-strumming artist from the Bay Area, "Jon Gonzales weaves ukulele folk-hooks with lyrical psychedelic satire and paradoxical, universal subjects in his songs." Friday, October 13 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Saturday, October 14

2023 Ranch Rodeo at WFD: Willits Frontier Days presents the 12th annual Mary Burgess Memorial Ranch Rodeo, on Saturday, October 14, at the WFD Rodeo Grounds. Main rodeo event, 10 am, \$10. Other events: Calcutta at 9:30 am, bet on winners; Cornhole Tournament, 10 am; Bulls / Broncs, following rodeo; and a BBQ Lunch, 12 pm, with judging. Dummy Roping and Pumpkin Painting for the kids. Info: 1-707-272-5395. Entry forms: www.willitsfrontierdays.com

Halloween Craft Saturdays at the Library: Join us for festive, spooky fun! There will be music, games, candy, and prizes. Supplies provided; all ages welcome. Painted Ghost Rocks: October 14, 11 am to 12 pm; Superhero Capes: October 21, 11 am to 12 pm; Halloween Dance Party: October 28, 3 to 4:30 pm, outside in the east parking lot. 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or 707-459-5908.

Sit-N-Sew: Sewing group at the Willits Library on second Saturdays, October 14 this month, from 1 to 5 pm. Drop in – bring your sewing project and have fun.

Not JUST Cowboy Poetry: Emandal – A Farm on a River presents their Not JUST Cowboy Poetry event, Saturday, October 14 featuring poet, story-teller, and songster Andy Hedges from Texas, along with Sourdough Slim and Robert Armstrong, Old-Time Cowboy Poets and Musicians. Along with the concert/ readings/ storytellings, starting at 2:30 pm, there will be an Apple Pie Throwdown (bring your pies by 12:45 pm), with the chance to win an engraved rolling pin; Art in the Garden, with multiple artists showing their works, viewable from 1 pm; an Artisanal Whiskey Tasting, starts at 1 pm; and a Silent Auction to benefit Willits Senior Center. A full afternoon of fun and frolic! 16500 Hearst Post Office Road. Tickets are available online at emandal.com/cowboy-poetry, or by calling Tam at 707-459-9252, or at the event! Proceeds to various local non-profits.

Draw Til U Drop! at WCA: The Draw Til U Drop Art Marathon at the Willits Center for the Arts is a benefit event for the WCA, the Mendocino County Museum, and the Willits High Art Department. All participants commit to making ART for at least 12 hours – starting Saturday, October 14 at 10 am, and going at least until 10 pm that night or longer!

Willits Poet Dan Essman featured at Starlight Lounge

Willits poet Daniel Essman is featured at a poetry reading at the Willits Community Theatre Playhouse on Saturday October 14 at 7:30 pm. An open reading will follow.

Daniel Essman had his first featured reading in 1973. He is a California poet who for several decades joined his wife, Robin Rule, to co-host the Car Lords Poetry Series in Willits and on the coast. He also has gained a following as the film reviewer for the Noyo Theatre, as well as for his signature statement, "He likes his reality attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination." To wit, his poems are from his own imagination and hence are the honest relics of his senses.

– Steve Hellman for WCT

Good food provided, fine entertainment, and prizes. Artists must find sponsors and bring art supplies. To sign up, sponsor, or for more info: eray@RaybeeMosaics.com or 707-853-1898. Or call WCA 707-459-1726 or any participating artist.

Poet Daniel Essman at Starlight Lounge: Willits poet Daniel Essman is the featured reader at a poetry reading at the Willits Community Theatre Playhouse, 37 West Van Lane, on Saturday, October 14. Essman is a California poet who for several decades joined his wife Robin Rule to co-host the local Car Lords Poetry Series. He also has gained a following as the film reviewer for the Noyo Theatre. The reading begins at 7:30 pm, and entry is by donation. An open reading will follow.

Clay Hawkins Duo at Shanachie: "Late Night, Boot Stomping, Road Music from the Heart" by slide guitarist and songwriter Clay Hawkins and longtime co-conspirator Andrew Robertson on the upright bass. Friday, October 14 at 8 pm, at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Willits Stamp Club: Monthly meeting, Wednesday, October 18, 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: talsfam@pacfic.net

Sunday, October 15

Brazilian Dance and Drumming Workshop: with Dandha De Hora and Carmen Day. Sunday, October 15 at Willits Center for the Arts. Dance Class, 5 to 6:30 pm, free admission; Drumming Class: 3 to 4:30 pm, \$15-\$20 sliding scale. Beginners welcome! 71 East Commercial Street.

Monday, October 16

Harvest Dinner at the Grange: Join the School of Adaptive Agriculture for a celebration of our 10th Anniversary at the Little Lake Grange, on Monday, October 16. Doors open at 5 pm; dinner at 6:30 pm. Dinner features delicious seasonal ingredients from local farms and the talents of many of our farmer and chef friends, including Black Dog Farm & Catering, Golden Rule Garden, the Mendocino Grain Project, Nurturing Seed Farm, Green Uprising Farm, Emandal Farm, Happy Day Farm, Mulligan Farms, and more. Plus local wine and beverage pairings. Bring your favorite homemade dessert for a dessert potluck. \$35 suggested price, sliding scale. Reserve a table for 8 or 9 and bring family and friends! Buy tickets online at <https://schoolofadaptiveagriculture.org/product/harvest-dinner-and-anniversary-celebration/> More info: Michael Foley at office@adaptiveagriculture.org or 707-510-7473.

Bereavement Support Group

Avenues to Wellness presents this facilitated 8-week group providing an opportunity to learn the symptoms of grief, as well as to recognize the individual nature of its expression and duration. With a fuller understanding of the grief process and effective ways to cope, we can find meaning and move forward. This group will start October 19, 2 to 4 pm at Willits Senior Center. Free of charge. Limited to 8 participants. Please call Suzanne to register or for more information: 707-456-9676. Avenues to Wellness is a program of the Frank R. Howard Foundation. Visit: avenuestowellness.org

Free Photography Workshop

Photographer Sandy Strong presents "Exploring the Healing Art of Photography," October 13 and 14, 10 am to 4 pm, at the Willits Center for the Arts. Limited to 10 students. All levels welcome; must have a working knowledge of your camera or camera phone.

"The secret of art in photography is not only to produce a product, but to find your own creative potential that is limitless. We will focus on the natural wonders around us to connect in a deeper level with our own healing creativity."

Register online at www.willitscenterforthearts.org.

Ongoing Events at the Willits Library

Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street.
Info: www.mendolibrary.org

Story Time: Tuesday through Friday each week, 10:30 to 11 am. "Start your morning listening to a story. 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."

LEGO Club: Tuesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 pm. "It is LEGO time at the library. Bring your imagination and start building."

Willits Walk and Talk: Join the Willits Branch Library staff for a 20- to 30-minute walk around the neighborhood. Come enjoy a little bit of exercise as well as some pleasant conversation. All ages are welcome. Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 am; meet at the front entrance to the library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or call the Willits Branch Library at 707-459-5908.

Games at the Library: First and third Fridays of the month, 4 to 5:30 pm. "Calling all board, card and tabletop role-playing game players! All ages and player levels welcome. Bring your own games to add to the fun!"

Spinning & Knitting: Every Saturday at the library from 1 to 4:30 pm. "All skill levels welcome! Spinning circle 1 to 2 pm, Knitting circle 2 to 4:30 pm."

Wednesday, October 18

East Commercial Street Design Review: City of Willits hosts two Open House and public input sessions on the East Commercial Street Corridor development and outreach project. "This phase of the project will introduce design concepts to address many community requests along the corridor, including; park enhancement, pedestrian access, streetscape improvements, and tourism support." Wednesday, October 18; Session 1 from 11:30 am to 1 pm, and Session 2 from 5:30 to 7 pm at the Willits Community Center 111 East Commercial Street.

Harmony Keepers at Brickhouse: Duo Kate Black and Anita Blu perform at Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South Main Street, Wednesday, October 18, from 11:30 am to 1 pm, and Session 2 from 5:30 to 7 pm at the Willits Community Center 111 East Commercial Street.

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.

Willits Stamp Club: Monthly meeting, Wednesday, October 18, 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: talsfam@pacfic.net

Thursday, October 19

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly Farmers Market outdoors through October on Main Street at the old Rexall parking lot. The freshest local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Enjoy "Tobin's Tales" story time from 3:30 to 4 pm.

Friday, October 20

Blue Luke at Shanachie: "Blue Luke" Andrew is a prodigy guitarist, born and raised in Dos Rios, Mendocino County: "Imagine a band that takes the soul of the blues, the groove of the funk, the grit of rock & roll and the rich harmonies of jazz to create exactly what you've always wanted to hear." Friday, October 20 at 8 pm, Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Saturday, October 21

Hilary & Christiane at Shanachie: Folk-based country and blues and unique vocals and harmony by Sonoma County based multi-instrumental duo Hilary & Christiane – harmonica, ukulele, dobro, mandolin, and banjo. Shanachie Pub on Saturday, October 21 at 8 pm. 50 South Main Street.

J.D. Redhouse's 16th anniversary: Come by J.D. Redhouse on Saturday, October 21 for a fun event. "Join us in celebrating in 16 years in business! We're saying thank you to all of our amazing customers with store-wide savings, raffles, vendors, giveaways and more!"

Willits Poet Dan Essman featured at Starlight Lounge

Willits poet Daniel Essman is featured at a poetry reading at the Willits Community Theatre Playhouse on Saturday October 14 at 7:30 pm. An open reading will follow.

Daniel Essman had his first featured reading in 1973. He is a California poet who for several decades joined his wife, Robin Rule, to co-host the Car Lords Poetry Series in Willits and on the coast. He also has gained a following as the film reviewer for the Noyo Theatre, as well as for his signature statement, "He likes his reality attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination." To wit, his poems are from his own imagination and hence are the honest relics of his senses.

– Steve Hellman for WCT

Bereavement Support Group

Avenues to Wellness presents this facilitated 8-week group providing an opportunity to learn the symptoms of grief, as well as to recognize the individual nature of its expression and duration. With a fuller understanding of the grief process and effective ways to cope, we can find meaning and move forward. This group will start October 19, 2 to 4 pm at Willits Senior Center. Free of charge. Limited to 8 participants. Please call Suzanne to register or for more information: 707-456-9676. Avenues to Wellness is a program of the Frank R. Howard Foundation. Visit: avenuestowellness.org

Free Photography Workshop

Photographer Sandy Strong presents "Exploring the Healing Art of Photography," October 13 and 14, 10 am to 4 pm, at the Willits Center for the Arts. Limited to 10 students. All levels welcome; must have a working knowledge of your camera or camera phone.

"The secret of art in photography is not only to produce a product, but to find your own creative potential that is limitless. We will focus on the natural wonders around us to connect in a deeper level with our own healing creativity."

Register online at www.willitscenterforthearts.org.

Ongoing Events at the Willits Library

Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street.
Info: www.mendolibrary.org

Story Time: Tuesday through Friday each week, 10:30 to 11 am. "Start your morning listening to a story. 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."

LEGO Club: Tuesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 pm. "It is LEGO time at the library. Bring your imagination and start building."

Willits Walk and Talk: Join the Willits Branch Library staff for a 20- to 30-minute walk around the neighborhood. Come enjoy a little bit of exercise as well as some pleasant conversation. All ages are welcome. Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 am; meet at the front entrance to the library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or call the Willits Branch Library at 707-459-5908.

Games at the Library: First and third Fridays of the month, 4 to 5:30 pm. "Calling all board, card and tabletop role-playing game players! All ages and player levels welcome. Bring your own games to add to the fun!"

Spinning & Knitting: Every Saturday at the library from 1 to 4:30 pm. "All skill levels welcome! Spinning circle 1 to 2 pm, Knitting circle 2 to 4:30 pm."

Solar Eclipse Viewing Kit Giveaway

Wednesday, Oct. 11th - Friday, Oct. 13th

Stop by the library during open hours to pick up a free eclipse viewing kit. It will include eclipse glasses, information about the solar event, and a DIY Sun Clock.

Check out these eclipse related books at the Willits Branch Library!

Wednesday, October 18

East Commercial Street Design Review: City of Willits hosts two Open House and public input sessions on the East Commercial Street Corridor development and outreach project. "This phase of the project will introduce design concepts to address many community requests along the corridor, including; park enhancement, pedestrian access, streetscape improvements, and tourism support." Wednesday, October 18; Session 1 from 11:30 am to 1 pm, and Session 2 from 5:30 to 7 pm at the Willits Community Center 111 East Commercial Street.

Harmony Keepers at Brickhouse: Duo Kate Black and Anita Blu perform at Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South Main Street, Wednesday, October 18, from 11:30 am to 1 pm, and Session 2 from 5:30 to 7 pm at the Willits Community Center 111 East Commercial Street.

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.

Willits Stamp Club: Monthly meeting, Wednesday, October 18, 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: talsfam@pacfic.net

Thursday, October 19

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly Farmers Market outdoors through October on Main Street at the old Rexall parking lot. The freshest local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Enjoy "Tobin's Tales" story time from 3:30 to 4 pm.

Friday, October 20

Blue Luke at Shanachie: "Blue Luke" Andrew is a prodigy guitarist, born and raised in Dos Rios, Mendocino County: "Imagine a band that takes the soul of the blues, the groove of the funk, the grit of rock & roll and the rich harmonies of jazz to create exactly what you've always wanted to hear." Friday, October 20 at 8 pm, Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Saturday, October 21

Hilary & Christiane at Shanachie: Folk-based country and blues and unique vocals and harmony by Sonoma County based multi-instrumental duo Hilary & Christiane – harmonica, ukulele, dobro, mandolin, and banjo. Shanachie Pub on Saturday, October 21 at 8 pm. 50 South Main Street.

J.D. Redhouse's 16th anniversary: Come by J.D. Redhouse on Saturday, October 21 for a fun event. "Join us in celebrating in 16 years in business! We're saying thank you to all of our amazing customers with store-wide savings, raffles, vendors, giveaways and more!"

Willits Poet Dan Essman featured at Starlight Lounge

Willits poet Daniel Essman is featured at a poetry reading at the Willits Community Theatre Playhouse on Saturday October 14 at 7:30 pm. An open reading will follow.

Daniel Essman had his first featured reading in 1973. He is a California poet who for several decades joined his wife, Robin Rule, to co-host the Car Lords Poetry Series in Willits and on the coast. He also has gained a following as the film reviewer for the Noyo Theatre, as well as for his signature statement, "He likes his reality attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination." To wit, his poems are from his own imagination and hence are the honest relics of his senses.

– Steve Hellman for WCT

Bereavement Support Group

Avenues to Wellness presents this facilitated 8-week group providing an opportunity to learn the symptoms of grief, as well as to recognize the individual nature of its expression and duration. With a fuller understanding of the grief process and effective ways to cope, we can find meaning and move forward. This group will start October 19, 2 to 4 pm at Willits Senior Center. Free of charge. Limited to 8 participants. Please call Suzanne to register or for more information: 707-456-9676. Avenues to Wellness is a program of the Frank R. Howard Foundation. Visit: avenuestowellness.org

Free Photography Workshop

Photographer Sandy Strong presents "Exploring the Healing Art of Photography," October 13 and 14, 10 am to 4 pm, at the Willits Center for the Arts. Limited to 10 students. All levels welcome; must have a working knowledge of your camera or camera phone.

"The secret of art in photography is not only to produce a product, but to find your own creative potential that is limitless. We will focus on the natural wonders around us to connect in a deeper level with our own healing creativity."

Register online at www.willitscenterforthearts.org.

Ongoing Events at the Willits Library

Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street.
Info: www.mendolibrary.org

Story Time: Tuesday through Friday each week, 10:30 to 11 am. "Start your morning listening to a story. 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."

LEGO Club: Tuesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 pm. "It is LEGO time at the library. Bring your imagination and start building."

Willits Walk and Talk: Join the Willits Branch Library staff for a 20- to 30-minute walk around the neighborhood. Come enjoy a little bit of exercise as well as some pleasant conversation. All ages are welcome. Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 am; meet at the front entrance to the library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or call the Willits Branch Library at 707-459-5908.

Games at the Library: First and third Fridays of the month, 4 to 5:30 pm. "Calling all board, card and tabletop role-playing game players! All ages and player levels welcome. Bring your own games to add to the fun!"

Spinning & Knitting: Every Saturday at the library from 1 to 4:30 pm. "All skill levels welcome! Spinning circle 1 to 2 pm, Knitting circle 2 to 4:30 pm."

Solar Eclipse Viewing Kit Giveaway

Wednesday, Oct. 11th - Friday, Oct. 13th

Stop by the library during open hours to pick up a free eclipse viewing kit. It will include eclipse glasses, information about the solar event, and a DIY Sun Clock.

Check out these eclipse related books at the Willits Branch Library!

Sunday, October 22

Grange Pancake Breakfast: "Join your friends at the Grange Breakfast, Sunday, October 22, from 7 to 11 am. All you can eat pancakes; Choose our Sourdough Wholegrain, Hank's Famous Buttermilk Pancakes, or Gluten-free. With Beeler's Quality Bacon; Organic Local Farm Fresh Eggs; Real Butter; Juice; and Organic Coffee or Tea. \$10; \$9 for seniors; \$5 for children under 10. Extra sides of Organic Fruit, Amish Organic Maple Syrup, Fresh-Made Fruit Syrup, Extra Beeler's Bacon can also be purchased for \$1 or \$2. Little Lake Grange #670, 291 School Street (2 blocks south of Commercial, 1 block west of Main Street).

Carolyn Wonderland and Friends: A benefit for the Grange Building Fund. "Alligator Records Cosmic Pickle Productions presents this all ages show. Sunday, October 22, at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Doors open 5 pm; music at 6 pm. Tickets: \$30 on Eventbrite.

artist Carolyn Wonderland is on a U.S. tour, and Willits is fortunate to have her! Come out, dance, and enjoy this great blues music." Opening act is Ronnie Lee, singer/ songwriter bluesman from Mendocino County.

CRAFT SATURDAYS

At the Willits Branch Library in October

October 27th 11 AM - 12 PM
Painted Wood Cutouts

October 14th 11 AM - 12 PM
Painted Ghost Rock

October 21st 11 AM - 12 PM
Superhero Capes

October 28th 3 PM
In lieu of a craft inside, join us in the east parking lot for our Halloween Dance Party!

Supplies provided and all ages welcome!

For more information, visit a librarian or visit www.mendolibrary.org

WILLITS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Presents

ART TALKS

THE BEGINNING OF THE ITALIAN RENAISSANCE

Friday October 13 at 6:30 pm.

Join us for a look at the 13th - 14th centuries and the artists who brought visual arts into perspective by using mathematics

71 East Commercial St. Willits, CA 95490
Upstairs on the big screen
For more information www.willitscenterforthearts.org
707-459-1726

John Jeavons and Matt Drewno Present: A "4-Saturdays" Introductory Workshop on Backyard Biointensive Gardening

On Zoom: Oct. 28, Nov. 4, 11 & 18, 2023

Learn to grow healthy food and fertile soil from the author of "How to Grow More Vegetables"

growbiointensive.org/workshop.html

Call for vendors for WCA Holiday Craft Fair

The Willits Center for the Arts 36th annual Holiday Craft Fair will be on Friday, December 8, from 3 to 6 pm; on Saturday, December 9, from 10 am to 6 pm, and on Sunday, December 10, from 10 am to 4 pm.

Vendors: As usual it is important to return your application quickly to have the best chance of a booth. Please read the application and requirements at www.willitscenterforthearts.org/willitscenterforthearts carefully as they include most of the information you may need.

If you have further questions, please contact Bonnie Belt at belt.bonnie@gmail.com or call 707-459-4792.

SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

Agape Bible Church
290 S. Lenore Ave.
Willits, CA 95490
Where love is first and the Bible is central.
Sunday Services: 10:00 a.m. - Worship Adult Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Info: 707-459-1905
www.agapebiblechurch.com

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

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

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

Eckankar: The Path of Spiritual Freedom

- Sound of Soul events
- Membership Discourses
- Spiritual Discussions
- ECK Light & Sound Services

More information? Call 530-224-8703
www.eckankar.org

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

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

St. Francis Episcopal Church
1 North Main Street, Willits
707-222-0177
Sunday Service - 10 am
In-person and on Zoom
Call for information.
ALL ARE WELCOME
The Rev. Betsy Bruneau

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

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

Willits United Methodist Church
Labyrinth and Peace Garden
A place to find comfort where all are welcome
Pastor Rosemary Landry
Sunday Worship at 10:30 am
286 School St. (at Pine)
707-459-2655
www.willitsumc.com
www.willitsumc.org
Facebook: facebook/willitsumc

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



Above, from left: The price of entering the tournament includes a tri tip dinner. Poker tournament veteran Andrew Hosford runs a training session for the dealers. Some Willits Grapplin' Pack themed items are for sale at the event.

At right: The tournaments begins.

Below, from top: The 1920s theme is illustrated by these Grapplin' Pack volunteers. Andrew Hosford and Grapplin' Pack founder Wayne Shull explain the rules. At one of the four tables, the competition becomes pretty intense as the stakes grow.

Photos by Mathew Caine




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




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

Playing the Cards

Roaring '20s themed poker tournament raises money for Willits Grapplin' Pack youth wrestlers

As true with all altruistic organizations, the Willits Grapplin' Pack needs funds to be able to survive and continue to provide service to the community. With this in mind, the WGP Hold'em Poker Tournament was created to make a night of fun, spirited competition and to raise money.

The event was held Saturday, October 7, in the warehouse of Sparetime Supply and officiated by Sparetime CEO Andrew Hosford, who recited the rules of tournament poker and could be seen throughout the evening going from table to table arbitrating minor disputes, explaining rules, and generally keeping the tournament flowing.

Players paid \$100 to buy a beginning stake of \$10,000 in chips, with more rebuys of chips available until the complimentary tri tip dinner was served around 6 pm. The tournament rules included a "small blind" and a "big blind," a system by which players in certain positions from the dealers ante in ever-increasing amounts to create a pot of money and make the game more exciting and to spur higher betting.

Every 20 minutes, the blind amounts would increase per a lighted sign which counted off the minutes and stated the amount of the blinds. The four tables of competitors each had a dealer (Jack Drew, Chris Folsom, Brian Agenbroad, and Alyssa Taylor) who would move the game along and

ensure that the cards were dealt correctly. As the game continued, players began to go broke until the tables were consolidated and the last player took home that portion (30 percent) of the entry and rebuy fees, the remainder going to the Grapplin' Pack.

In addition to the entry fees and the rebuys, players could buy into the "high hand" competition with an additional \$10, which could be won with the highest hand over a full house. The winner of this contest would get to split the pot of entrants.

There was also a small silent auction with some very attractive prizes. A redwood picnic table was provided by Willits Redwood. A custom blanket, sewn by founding member Wayne Shull's mother, depicted the organization's name and logos. There was also a watercolor painting by Georgine Hultz, and an ocean fishing day, provided by Chris Glenn.

"Willits Grapplin' Pack is a youth organization, a wrestling program that is geared for kids between the ages of 5 and 18 years old," Shull explained.

"We're affiliated with USA Wrestling, the Olympic wrestling committee. We're providing kids with an

Read the rest of **Grapplin'** Over on page 11



20% off
ROSES & FRUIT TREES
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST



Monday-Saturday: 8 am - 6 pm
Sunday: Closed
208 E. San Francisco Ave • (707) 459-6791

NOT JUST COWBOY POETRY
MANDAL - A FARM ON A RIVER
SATURDAY • OCTOBER 14, 2023




Apple Pie Throwdown 1pm
Concert 2:30pm
ANDY HEDGES
ROBERT ARMSTRONG & SORDOUGH SLIM

Art in the Garden - All Afternoon
Auction!
Artisanal Whiskey Tasting
Willits, CA 95490 • emandal.com/cowboy-poetry

Advising Clients, One Step at a Time. NC Financial Group

Investments (855) 240-6606
Tax Planning 675 S. Main Street
Insurance Willits, CA 95490
Real Estate Nicholas
Retirement Casagrande, EA
Chief Executive Officer
& Financial Advisor
EA #105394, CA DRE #01854336
CA Insurance Lic. # 0H68496

www.ncfinancialgroup.com

Advisory services offered through Cetera Investment Advisors LLC. Securities offered through Cetera Financial Specialists LLC (doing insurance business in CA as CFS's Insurance Agency), member FINRA/SIPC. Cetera is under separate ownership from any other named entity.



Johnson Electric is locally owned and operated by Bradley Johnson. Johnson Electric is fully insured, licensed and bonded and looks forward to serving Mendocino County. Services include residential, commercial, new construction, remodels, upgrades and repairs.

Call today for a free estimate!
707-495-7158
C-10 Lic. #1091902
bradleyjohnsonelectric@gmail.com

LEGAL NOTICES

WW451

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2023-F0441
The following person is doing business as Craft House Baking, 5100 Muir Mill Road, Willits, CA 95490. Mailing address: P.O. Box 805, Willits, CA 95490.

Registered owner: Jaclyn Dolores Cobbs, 5100 Muir Mill Road, 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 12, 2023.

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on September 20, 2023.

/s/ Jaclyn Cobbs
Publication dates: October 5, 12, 19, 26, 2023

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



OBITUARY |

Kathy Gassen

Katharina M. Gassen, known to her dear friends as Kathy and to her loving grandchildren and great-grandchildren as Omi, went to be with her beloved Lord and Savior on the 25th of September. She would have been 92 years old this October 12.

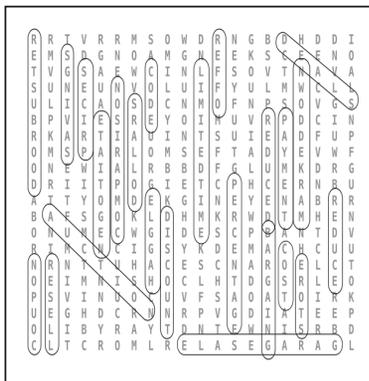
Kathy was born in Germany in 1931 and faced the many trials of being a youth during WW2. She immigrated to America in the early 1950s with her husband and young son to start a new life in New York City. The family later relocated to Glendale, California, and then finally moved to Willits in the late '80s where they lived happily into their retirement years.

She held many jobs throughout her life, but dearly loved working in fashion. In her retirement Kathy taught German as a second language to many Willits community members. She simply adored interior design, flowers, classical music, and dancing the waltz with her husband.

She was a devoted lifelong member of the Lutheran Church and loved her church home at St. John in Willits, where she spearheaded many charitable and musical events such as the Handel's Messiah Christmas Eve service.

Kathy is preceded in death by her much loved and dearly missed husband, Jacob Gassen. She is survived and will be fondly remember by her son Arno Gassen and his wife, Tammy Gassen; her daughter Connie VonHoffman and partner Bill Lewis; and her grandson Cody Miya and his wife, Heather Miya. She also leaves behind two dearly loved great-grandchildren: Alex and Sophia Miya.

Her celebration of life will be held on October 21 at 11 am at St. John Lutheran Church in Willits. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a charitable donation to the Operation Christmas Child Program at St. John Lutheran Church, a ministry that she held very close to her heart.




Mendocino County invites applications for:

Account Specialist Supervisor
\$53,352 - \$64,875

Administrative Secretary
\$48,880 - \$59,404

Assessor-Clerk-Recorder Technician I
\$40,144 - \$48,776

Auditor/Appraiser
\$67,828 - \$82,451

Cook
\$47,403 - \$57,595

Corrections Deputy
\$54,184 - \$65,873

Deputy Probation Officer I/II
\$51,937 - \$69,617

Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II
\$62,628 - \$87,214

District Attorney Investigator
\$81,390 - \$98,904

Environmental Health Specialist I/II
\$55,993 - \$75,067

Juvenile Corrections Officer
\$50,710 - \$61,630

Library Technician
\$37,211 - \$45,260

Mental Health Clinician I/II
\$59,737 - \$84,011

Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist
\$56,825 - \$69,076

Program Specialist I/II
\$50,897 - \$68,244

Registered Veterinary Technician
\$52,832 - \$64,230

Secretary
\$44,324 - \$53,872

Senior Program Manager - Family & Children's Services
\$102,876 - \$125,049

Sheriff's Services Technician
\$37,065 - \$42,889

Social Worker Assistant I/II
\$40,560 - \$54,225

Social Worker I-IV A-D
\$48,942 - \$92,206

Social Worker Supervisor I/II A-C
\$70,387 - \$99,028

Supervising Juvenile Corrections Officer
\$61,734 - \$75,046

Vocational Assistant
\$36,836 - \$44,803

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

Marc Komer
Legal Document Assistant
An Affordable Non-Attorney Service
(707) 459-2775
245 South Humboldt St., Suite B, Willits
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

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

CA Mentor is Seeking Caring Individuals
We offer a competitive stipend approx. \$1,300-\$6,000/mo.
Open your heart and home to an adult with intellectual/developmental disabilities.
We offer 24 hour support.
To learn more contact CA Mentor Cathy (707) 324-9009
— Serving Lake and Mendocino Counties —

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

CLASSIFIEDS

30 words for \$15 for 2 weeks

Bake an Apple Pie
Win an engraved Rolling Pin, Not JUST Cowboy Poetry, Apple Pie Throwdown, and Art in the Garden at Emadal, Saturday, October 14 www.emandal.com

Computer Help
Need help with your computer? PC, Macintosh, Android and IOS devices. Repairs, configuration and tutoring: \$50/hr. Call Liam 459-2470 or email uicearhail@gmail.com

Counseling / Psychotherapy
Accepting new MediCal clients, Divora Stern LCSW, sliding scale available. PHONE SESSIONS only: 707-354-9911. No need for computer / travel, just call. 22-year private practice, CBT, energy psychology, and alternative modalities.

For Rent
Willits Center for the Arts Great Room is available for rent for meetings and special events. Room holds 175 people. Contact Sasha at 707-459-1726 or manager@willitscenterforthearts.org

School board reporter?
Willits Weekly needs help reporting local news. Interested in the local school board? Meets 2nd Thursdays, 5 pm at Willits City Hall, but can be reported from video posted of the meeting, too. Other news opportunities available. Experience in news reporting a plus, but not a requirement. Pls. send letter of interest or resume to willitsweekly@gmail.com.

Spiritual Wisdom on Life After Death
Join us in gaining new perspectives as we discuss seeing heaven before you die, meeting with departed loved ones, dealing with grief, and more. FREE book on Life After Death. Come share or just listen! Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Saturday, October 14th, 10 to 11 a.m. Questions? Call April at 707-972-2475. Sponsored by Eckankar of Lake & Mendocino Counties.

For Sale
Set of twin beds, includes rarely used mattresses, sheets, pillows. \$350.00. (707) 456-9338

Indoor Yard Sale
Giant Indoor Yard Sale - Deep Valley Christian School, 8555 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley, (across from the Broiler), Saturday, October 14 from 8 am to 4 pm

Classified ads are just \$15 for 30 words for 2 weeks!

Email us: willitsweekly@gmail.com

The rest of **Eclipse** From page 1

solar eclipse begins just after 8 am, and will be at maximum around 9:18 am on Saturday.

An annular solar eclipse happens when the moon is at or near its farthest point from Earth, NASA explains. "Because the moon is farther away than it is during a total solar eclipse, the moon appears smaller and doesn't block out the entire sun when it passes in front of our star. Instead, the moon leaves a bright ring of sun visible at the eclipse's peak, creating the 'ring of fire' effect."

Just as with any eclipse, viewers must never look at the sun directly, either using an indirect viewing method, or wearing certified solar-viewing glasses.

The Willits Library is giving away free eclipse viewing kits with eclipse glasses, information about the October 14 annular solar eclipse event (starts around 8 am with full annularity at 9:15 am). Stop by 390 East Commercial Street during open hours Thursday, 10 am to 7 pm, or Friday, 10 am to 6 pm.

The NASA website will offer a livestream of the annular eclipse Saturday morning, along with interesting information and graphics: <https://science.nasa.gov/eclipses/future-eclipses/eclipse-2023/>

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



‘Stone Stories’ Cemetery tour and readings returns, November 5

Submitted by **Mendocino County Cultural Services Agency**

The Mendocino County Museum, the Willits Chamber of Commerce, and the Mendocino County Library are collaborating to present “Stone Stories,” an afternoon of dramatized readings at Little Lake Cemetery on Sunday, November 5, at 3 pm. Little Lake Cemetery is on Little Lake Cemetery Road, off East Hill Road in Willits.

Museum volunteer Carol Cox has once again dug into researching the legacies of those interred at the Little Lake Cemetery and has uncovered more fascinating stories

about the lives of its residents. Local volunteer actors will bring the stories to life with dramatized obituary readings. Librarian and Genealogist Benjamin MacBean will guide guests through the cemetery.

Willits Chamber of Commerce will host this program, and will include a business mixer for interested parties. Program attendance is free and open to all, but space is limited. If you would like to make reservations or help the Chamber with the event, please call 707-459-7910.

Get involved! There is still time to sign up as a volunteer – event-support volunteers and actors are still needed. Participants must commit to two rehearsals and participation in the final performance on Sunday, November 5, at 3 pm. Please contact the Museum at museum@mendocinocounty.gov or 707-234-6365 to sign up.



At top: Mary Burns poses at the Little Lake Cemetery during last year’s “Stone Stories.”

Volunteer actor Dave Pearce reads at the 2022 “Stone Stories” event.



Blues guitarist Carolyn Wonderland performs at the Grange, Sunday, October 22.

Carolyn Wonderland and Friends to benefit the Grange, October 22

Submitted by **Cosmic Pickle Productions**

Cosmic Pickle Productions presents An Evening with Carolyn Wonderland and Friends on Sunday, October 22, at the Little Lake Grange in Willits. The doors open at 5 pm, and the music starts 6 pm. The event is a benefit for the Grange Building Fund.

Tickets, \$30, are available at Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/carolyn-wonderland-tempting-fate-concert-at-the-little-lake-grange-tickets-713961166067>

Alligator Records artist Carolyn Wonderland is on a U.S. tour, and Willits is fortunate to have her! Come out, dance, and enjoy the great blues music of Carolyn Wonderland!

Carolyn Wonderland has been recording and touring the world with John Mayall since 2018. She has been on the top of the Blues, Americana, and Alt Country charts, and has had two nominations in The Blues Foundation’s 43rd Blues Music Awards, Contemporary Blues Female Artist, and Song of the Year.

“Mighty and joyous rock-injected blues ... luxurious vocals and fine guitar work. Her voice is as muscular as her name is evocative.” – Austin Chronicle

Opening act is Ronnie Lee, singer/ songwriter bluesman from Mendocino County.

Little Lake Grange is located at 291 School Street. This is an all-ages show. Local breweries Northspur Brewing Co. and Hare in the Forest Brewing will be pouring beers for sale.

For more information, contact Pooba at Cosmic Pickle Productions at da.grand.poobster@gmail.com or 408-656-6932.

The rest of CAL FIRE | From page 1

local fire agencies to determine any additional permits that might be required and if there are any additional burning restrictions for their area.

You must have possession of a signed permit while you are conducting a burn. If you lose your permit or it expires, you will need to obtain another permit before you start burning.

Safe residential pile burning of forest residue by landowners is a crucial tool in reducing fire hazards. State, federal, and local land management and fire agencies will also be utilizing this same window of opportunity to conduct prescribed burns aimed at improving forest health and resiliency on private and public lands.

Before you burn, call Mendocino County Air Management District at (707) 463-4391 to confirm that you have all the required burn permits and to ensure it is a permissive burn day. Burning can only be done on permissive burn days and is prohibited on non-burn days.

For additional information on how to create defensible space, on how to be prepared for wildfires, as well as tips to prevent wildfires, visit www.ReadyForWildfire.org.

The rest of Plan | From page 1

phase of the project will introduce design concepts to address many community requests along the ECSC including park enhancement, pedestrian access, streetscape improvements, and tourism support.

Visions for this three-quarter mile stretch of the ECSC will seek to create a master plan for the ECSC that recognizes the importance of parks, pedestrian access, public sites, and businesses aiming to increase tourism, promote safety, and create a link with Main Street.

You are invited to participate in either of the two public input sessions that will be held on Wednesday, October 18 at 11:30 am and 5:30 pm. Following a brief introduction, attendees will be able to browse and respond to multiple exhibits that visualize the current schematic design for the ECSC. Your insights and opinions are essential as we gather public comments on the upcoming ECSC Master Plan Design.

The public input sessions will occur in the Community Center at 111 East Commercial Street.

Willits Weekly
Online & In Print
www.WillitsWeekly.com
willitsweekly@gmail.com

The rest of Oktober | From page 3

and information were on hand in their booths. A silent auction table and over 50 quarter-auction items were available for perusal.

First up musically was PoV, headed by Willits songstress Necole Aguilar, who can often be heard at various local events. They deftly played standard tunes with an energetic flair. Later in the afternoon, attendees listened to the Flying Dog Bluegrass Band.

In between the bands, Willits Rotary President Cathie Gerhardt announced the fun and amusing quarter auction: “Everybody has questions about the quarter auction, which is going to start at 3 [pm]. If you want an all-in paddle, you pay \$30 and you’re in for all of the over 50 prizes that were donated. Or you can buy a paddle for \$3 and put a quarter to four quarters in the bucket depending on the value of the prize. You raise your paddle and if your number is drawn you’ll get that item,” explained Alumbaugh to the attendees.

Several of the players won multiple prizes and all had a good time bidding and holding up their paddles. There was an additional raffle prize to be awarded at the end of the afternoon, a basket full of wine, cheese, salami, and Reza’s Breadery bread.

“We had a lot of help from Hal Wagenet, as soundman who figured out how to get us some electricity,” said Alumbaugh gratefully. “His band people, Necole and Stephanie, helped a lot in getting it together. I couldn’t do it without Jenny Senter. A lot of Rotarians pulled together and helped. We have some great sponsors: Howard Foundation, Celtic Heritage Destinations, Sparetime Supply, Tom Herman, Willits Mini Storage, Savings Bank of Mendocino, Mariposa Market.”

The money generated by the two combined events goes to the Rotary College Debt Forgiveness Program, the Senior Center, and the Willits High School Golf Team.

It is unfortunate that John Cross was unable to attend this fun and enjoyable event in the redwoods. He would have loved to see the smiling faces of the kids who had their own section of games, the comradery of the golfers, the high-octane sounds of the energetic bands, the aroma of the beer and brats, and the shade of the beautiful grove as people came out to have an afternoon amongst nature and good friends.

The rest of Caltrans | From page 1

Gavin Newsom’s Clean California initiative, which is a sweeping \$1.2 billion, multiyear commitment led by Caltrans to clean up trash, create thousands of jobs, and help communities beautify their public spaces.

With this week’s announcement, Clean California grants have funded nearly 300 projects statewide to revitalize and beautify underserved communities, some of which are already complete and now sources of community pride. The projects will improve public spaces, tribal lands, parks, neighborhoods, transit centers, walking paths, streets, roadsides, recreation fields, community gathering spots, and places of cultural importance or historical interest in underserved communities.

The 42 Clean California local grants announced this week are in addition to the nearly \$300 million in grants Governor Newsom announced in March 2022 to more than 100 local Clean California projects statewide.

In District 1, serving Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake and Mendocino counties, seven projects were awarded approximately \$11.5 million in Clean CA grant funds in the first round. In this second round, four projects were awarded approximately \$15.3 million.

In addition to the “Beautify Willits” project, two other projects in Mendocino County were funded. Approximately \$267,000 was awarded to the Fort Bragg Art and Recycling Beautification Project, which proposes to procure and install art-covered, eye-catching multi-use waste receptacles at strategically placed locations throughout town to reduce littering and increase recycling.... In addition, the city will host two Beach Clean-Up Events during the grants performance period.

Approximately \$4.7 million was awarded to the Anderson Valley Unified School District for their Anderson Valley Track to Health and Fitness, which will provide beautification, enhancement and expansive community fitness opportunities in Boonville. The track will be a venue for safe and equitable sporting events for high-poverty youth at Anderson Valley Junior Senior High School, accessible for independent soccer league participation, a location for fitness charity/tournament events, and most importantly a place for all residents to achieve their individual wellness and recreation goals, since there are no gyms or workout facilities within a 20-mile radius.

Following the positive community response to the first round of grants, Governor Newsom and the state legislature approved \$100 million last year for a second round of local grant projects. The local grants awarded this week range from \$88,000 to \$5 million, and all benefit underserved communities. In addition, this week’s funding announcement includes \$14.5 million to support 18 projects to clean up stations and other areas around public transit systems.

Since launching Clean California in July 2021, Caltrans and local partners have removed an estimated 1.86 million cubic yards of litter from state highways – a trash pile that would be more than 370 times taller than Mount Whitney (14,505 feet, the state’s highest peak).

The program has created more than 4,000 jobs that have helped Californians overcome barriers to employment, including 357 people experiencing homelessness, and drawn more than 10,000 volunteers to events ranging from community cleanups to large debris collections for appliances, tires and mattresses.

As the Clean California effort moves forward, Caltrans and local communities will continue to draw attention to the negative impact litter has on natural resources, waterways, public safety, and public health to create a cultural shift of shared responsibility for clean and vibrant public spaces.

Caltrans is also developing a program in which communities throughout the state can earn a special Clean California Community designation by meeting criteria centered around preventing and cleaning up litter, promoting recycling and greening or beautifying neighborhoods. To find out how to volunteer with Clean California, please visit Clean California.

The rest of Grapplin | From page 8

opportunity to do something productive, get them off the streets, give them something to do that will help develop character.

“Hard work, determination, not giving up, respect. I know that is what wrestling provides for them,” said Shull. “I know this because it is what I learned from it. I want to give back and teach these young kids what my wrestling coaches taught me. Hopefully I can do that with a manner consistent with the way I was taught by my coaches.”

The Grapplin’ Pack practices at the Seventh Day Adventist School on Bray Road. “They have been really good to us,” said Shull. “We’ve been there for a few years and have developed a good partnership.”

In exchange for being able to hold their practices at the school, the Willits Grapplin’ Pack helps out with utilities and maintenance, especially during flood season.

“[The school] is in a floodplain so with the group that we have, when that flooding comes and it threatens the school, there’s a big group of people who come down and help the church staff mitigate the risk of damage from the floods. We help do grounds keeping and facility improvement.”

“We want to give back to them what they have given to us. Georgine Hultz is with the church and gives us a list of things that need to be done. We try and meet those needs,” said Shull.

In the future, the Grapplin’ Pack, according to Shull, would like to create tournaments with the Waldorf School (who has their own poker tournament at Sparetime) and other organizations.

“We’re looking at possibly creating a series of tournaments with these other groups. We’d have the individual tournaments and the top people of each would compete at a championship tournament. That should help get the numbers up for each club. Maybe it would create some consistency with dealers, having the amount we need of experienced dealers,” Shull explained.

To donate or sign up for information, visit their Facebook page or www.willitsgraplinpack.com or email WillitsGrapplinPack@gmail.com.

The rest of Grants | From page 1

the California Department of Food and Agriculture. A meeting Sunday at the Little Lake Grange hosted by WELL (Willits Economic Localization) introduced the initiative as part of their Building Community series to a small group of engaged citizens.

Pamela Lee, the Farm to School Network lead for Northern California, was the primary speaker, followed by a panel of local folks already participating in the program. The panel included Mike Adams of Nurturing Seed Farm, Mike Foley, cofounder of the School of Adaptive Agriculture and president of the Mendocino County Farmers Market Association, Katie Lacy, Food Services director and Culinary Arts instructor for Willits Charter School, Aurelie Clivas, garden director, counselor, and student coordinator for Willits Charter School, and Sarah Marshall, Food Policy and Project manager for North Coast Opportunities.

Schools working in collaboration with local farms to feed their students isn’t a recent phenomenon, but it’s fallen out of favor over the years in exchange for prepackaged, reheatable options that require less staff and kitchen equipment in school cafeterias. Basically, it’s cheaper for schools to not have to do a lot of sourcing, storage, and cooking. Last year California began paying for school breakfast and lunch for all children TK-12, regardless of income. In the past, to qualify for the free or reduced lunch program, a child’s family had to fall under a certain percentage of the federal poverty line, which could carry a lot of stigma for the children receiving free or reduced lunch.

Now with the extra revenue coming in from the state, school districts are incentivized to begin rebuilding their kitchens and staff to provide more meals and healthier meals to a much larger number of kids. This is a good thing for small, local farmers in theory, though lots of these farms are badly in need of funding to update farm equipment, processing equipment, food storage space, and staff so that they can meet the needs of the schools that want to contract with them. Farmers also need to be paid a fair market price for their goods. Lee says this is where the CDFA grant money could come in very handy.

Mike Adams of Nurturing Seed has just recently started providing produce to Willits Charter School. He said of his experience so far: “For the last few weeks we’ve been able to connect with Katie and bring our produce to them, which has been pretty awesome and easy. To make it as a farmer, it’s a lot of work. You’re growing stuff and you need to know where it’s going, which at some level slows down the whole planting process if you don’t know what you’re doing with what you’re going to produce. We’ve made a lot of donations, but it’s not a long-term sustainable business plan. The school has been great, and the idea of being able to expand our production, plan for sales, and know that there’s an avenue for revenue coming in in the future. Some of the grants might provide opportunities for infrastructure improvement. This is what we’ve needed for decades.”

Food hubs are one-way farms can better manage some of the logistic hurdles they face in increasing production. Our local Mendo Lake Food Hub connects small farms to buyers and also helps with some of the infrastructure and transportation issues smaller farms might have by providing space to store, box up, and distribute large quantities of food. Food hubs also assume costly liability insurance requirements on behalf of their producers, and provide customers with education and marketing materials.

Logistics aside, there’s several other aspects that need to come into play to make the Farm to School Network successful. The CDFA considers farm to school programs as: “schools and early care and education programs buying California grown or produced foods from California food producers for school meal programs, educational activities that connect classroom learning with cafeteria meals, and hands-on food education opportunities in school gardens, on farms, in culinary classes, in settings that celebrate traditional foodways and cultivate food sovereignty, and through other experiential learning pathways. Programs may include forest-to-school, river-to-school, and ocean-to-school.”

The education facet is one that seems to be pretty key in making the Farm to School movement work for the long term. Most of the panel agreed that there’s not much point in bringing kids all this farm-fresh food if they’re not super keen on the idea of eating it. That means food service providers and students alike will need instruction on how to make appealing, culturally relevant meals, and students will need to be participating in and engaged with where their food is actually coming from, be this a school garden, or a farm within their community.

Track 1 of the Farm to School grant program could be used to employ a garden educator in schools. During her presentation, Lee explained the need for paid positions like this to be developed saying: “There are a lot of paid garden educators out there and there are a lot of unpaid. The unpaid, there’s just not enough steam for them to keep going.”

Right now, the possibilities for the grant money seem to be pretty open. Lee says, because of the \$60 million in funding for incubator grants this year, she expects to double or triple the amount of grants that will be going out. She’s open to hearing ideas from community members on how to best use this money. She and her coworker, Meerae Park, Producer Engagement Specialist for the North Coast Region, say they’d love to come out and visit farms and are willing to support folks in any way they can.

More information on how to apply for a California Farm to School incubator grant can be found at cdfa.ca.gov. There’s an option to sign up for a newsletter to stay up to date on the upcoming application cycle for 2023. You can reach out to Lee through her email, pamela.lee@cdfa.ca.gov or through Meerae Park’s email, meerae.park@cdfa.ca.gov.



Paradise Sushi - where flavor meets sustainability.



Sonoma Clean Power 100% renewable customer since 2023



Above, left: Willits Dojo Karate Student of the Month for September was Finn Ockey. Above, right: Leatha and Wyatt Pyle of SAL's karate program in Willits received their 4th Kyu Orange Belt award in September.

Congrats

Mike Tobin and students

Congratulations to Mike Tobin of Willits, 10th Degree Black Belt and leader of the free Willits Sheriffs Activities League Karate Program at Body Works Gym. On September 19 in San Francisco, at the Golden Gate Hall of Honors event, Sensei Tobin received recognition for 49 years of charitable contribution to the Martial Arts.

On September 23 and 24, Willits SAL Karate students and Sensei Tobin attended a traditional Okinawan Karate seminar with Eihachi Ota Hanshi at the Ukiah Shorin-ryu Karate Dojo. Youth on the move!

On October 5, at the Willits Body Works Gym Dojo, Finn Ockey received "Karate Student of the Month" for September 2023, working through his disabilities to be a great example for all. Also, Leatha and Wyatt Pyle received their 4th Kyu Orange Belt Award. Congratulations!

Those interested in finding out more about the SAL Karate program – free with a \$20 (waivable) registration fee – can call or text Mike Tobin at 707-354-0565.

At top, right: Sensei Mike Tobin of Willits poses with his award for 49 years of charitable contributions to the Martial Arts, with presenters Grand Masters Cynthia Rothrock and J. St. Clair at the Golden Gate Hall of Honors event in San Francisco. Below: Willits SAL Karate students and Sensei Mike Tobin attended a traditional Okinawan Karate seminar in Ukiah at the end of September.



AVENUES TO WELLNESS
— YOUR HEALTH MATTERS —

A PROGRAM OF THE FRANK R. HOWARD FOUNDATION

REGISTER
NOW

Bereavement Support Group

This facilitated 8-week group provides an opportunity to learn the symptoms of grief, as well as to recognize the individual nature of its expression and duration. With a fuller understanding of the grief process and effective ways to cope, we can find meaning and move forward.

Beginning Thursday October 19

Time: 2-4pm

Willits Senior Center

To register call:

Suzanne Picetti-Johnson (707) 456-9676

FREE OF
CHARGE

Space is
Limited



Susana Wilson and Suzanne Picetti-Johnson
Group Facilitators



You deserve more reliable answers, faster.

That's why Adventist Health Howard Memorial features the latest tools to detect breast cancer at the earliest stages, including 3D mammography, a breakthrough in imaging and early detection. And we offer a team of experts who will get you the imaging you need quickly.

Scan the QR code to request a 3D mammogram appointment or call 707-456-3090.



AdventistHealth
Imaging at Howard Memorial