Willits Weekly

Online & Print

EST. 2013

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

Donations Accepted Edition No. 660

Thursday, October 15, 2026

Supes approve big increase in Willits Library remodeling/ ADA project

Submitted by Mendocino County Library

The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors voted on Tuesday, October 6 to approve the Library's 10-year Capital Investment Plan and the revised budget for the Willits Branch Refresh and ADA Upgrade Project. The project will use Measure O funds to remodel the Willits Branch Library and implement ADA upgrades that will improve accessibility, functionality, and the overall patron experience.

{Editor's note: Due to what Administrative Services Manager for the Library Kelly Hansen told supervisors was a significant expansion in the scope of this Willits Library project, the revised budget has also been increased from the estimated $600,000 budget in June to $2,682,693 now.]

"The Willits Library is an important community space serving the North County," said Library Director Mellisa Hannum. "Investing in library facilities contributes to community infrastructure, providing equitable access to information, learning opportunities, digital tools, and skill-building

Read the rest of Library Over on Page 9

Suspect arrested for attempted murder in Covelo stabbing

By Sgt. J. D'Orazio, for MCSO

October 13 – On October 10, 2026 at approximately 10:50 am, Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputies were dispatched to a report of a male subject, 31, name withheld, at the Covelo Fire Protection District with multiple suspected stab wounds.

An MCSO deputy, who was in the Covelo area, responded and spoke with the victim and a witness. The deputy was told the incident occurred at the Pine Grove Cemetery in the 22700 block of Covelo Refuse Road in Covelo.

The MCSO deputy learned the person responsible for the stabbing was Jefferey Allan Joaquin, 31, from Covelo. The deputy was familiar with Joaquin and knew him to be on California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation parole and have two felony warrants issued for his arrest through the Superior Court of Mendocino County.

One of the felony warrants for Joaquin's

Read the rest of Arrested Over on Page 9







Above, from left: The front lawn in front of the Howard House was the scene for this year's Ridgewood Ranch Harvest Festival, and even the Seabiscuit statue was in the fall spirit, wearing a necklace of dried flowers. Cody Akin and beloved dog Toby check out the "Abundance" art show on display in Ridgewood Ranch's main hall. Friendly faces welcomed attendees to the event at the ticket booth, and encouraged all to return on December 6 for the upcoming "Great Cookie Gathering." Below: Jess Pearce welcomed players to try their hand poking a pumpkin at the Pumpkin Darts Booth, one of many fun games in the Kid Zone.



Photos by Maureen Jennison

Fun in the Fall

Ridgewood Ranch holds second annual Harvest Festival on lawn of historic Howard House

It sure is finally starting to feel like fall, with the recent colder mornings, and thankfully cooler days, too, and the first noticeably cooler day also coincided with the Ridgewood Ranch Harvest Festival last Saturday.

Just south of Willits on the Ridgewood Grade, Ridgewood Ranch is the historic home of Seabiscuit, the famous racehorse, and hosted a lovely event on the lawn in front of the Howard House.

The lawn featured a Kid Zone with activities like face painting, pumpkin bowling, pumpkin darts, and squash ring toss; but also a pumpkin patch where you could purchase orange, white, peach, and green varieties, too.

There were tractor rides on hay bales being offered; you could scoop and grind grains; there were opportunities to feed pigs and sheep; patrons could purchase a meal of a hamburger and salads, as well as optional tickets to the Beer Garden out in back. Apple cider was being pressed, and watchers young and old were encouraged to dip a cup under the fresh stream of juice and try a taste. Vendors were set up on the porch, including bakers, writers, makers and more.

Tours were given of the Ridgewood Ranch Garden, and a fire engine demonstration was held, as well as Seabiscuit history tours. The main hall is also featuring the exhibit "Abundance," with local artists' work displayed inside. Live music from the Farmers Market Band and jazz guitar by Katherine Flink worked alongside DJ Matt Anderson for the event's soundtrack.

For more info, or to plan a visit to the ranch: www.ridgewoodranch.com

– Maureen Jennison





Above, from left: The Ranch Mega Mix Garden Salad was delicious and only $5. Three generations having fun with their apple cider, including grandma Ann Maglinte, mom Miranda Musgrave, and grandsons Sloan and Maverick. Below, from left: Tractor rides by Brian Bartholomew were packed and took a tour from the Howard House down towards the gardens and equestrian center. Melissa of Ravinto Bakery offered savory and sweet treats. Apples are poured into the hopper, chopping them up before going into the juicer. At bottom, from left: The menu for lunch included a cheeseburger featuring a patty of grass-fed beef from Headwaters Grazing with caramelized onions, burger sauce, and heirloom tomatoes, with two sides: a dill-filled potato salad, and Ranch Mega Mix Garden Salad, grown by Black Dog and Golden Rule. Doting grandfathers, in attendance with grandkids at the harvest fest, Jon Maglinte and Christopher Moore, thought they could escape a photo op – alas, not so. The Pumpkin Patch offered three sizes of pumpkins to take home: smalls for $6, mediums for $8, and larges for $10.













Candidates statements for uncontested Willits City Council race

Here is the transcript of the September 20, 2026 Candidates Forum for the uncontested race for two seats on the Willits City Council with two candidates running, Sherrie Ebyam and Robin Leler. As moderator Denise Jessie said at the forum: "We still wanted to give them an opportunity to let us hear from them and get to know them. Each candidate will have four minutes to give a statement." You can watch the forum on Willits Community Television's YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/@WillitsCommunityTV

Statement by Robin Leler

I just want to thank the half-dozen big organizations that put these events on. It's actually my favorite part of running for office is to be able to talk with people like you who turn out for these things.

You know the old saying

Read the rest of Council Over on Page 9

'Electioneering' ban at local polls extended to 200 feet

Submitted by Mendocino County Elections Office

On Tuesday, October 6, 2026, at the request of Mendocino County Assessor, Clerk-Recorder, Registrar of Voters Katrina Bartolomie, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution extending the area in which electioneering is prohibited, from the current 100 feet to 200 feet from the entrance of a building that contains a polling place, an elections official's office, a satellite location, or an outdoor site at which a voter may cast or drop off a ballot.

This extension applies to any regular or special election starting with the November 3, 2026 Statewide General Election through 2029.

The extension of the electioneering prohibition to 200 feet will assist in ensuring that the voters of Mendocino County can have free, fair and secure elections, that all eligible voters may be able to cast a ballot without disruption, intimidation or interference. This action was taken pursuant to Senate Bill 884, which was signed by the Governor on September 19, 2026.

California Elections Code section 319.5 defines electioneering as "the visible display or audible dissemination of information that advocates for or against any candidate or measure on the ballot."

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Elections Office at (707) 234-6819.

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Haschak endorses Hart

To the Editor

When I was contemplating whether to run for another term or not, I was looking for someone who could step up and take my place. I talked with many people. I encouraged both Buffey Wright Bourassa and Eric Hart to run. Now that they are both in the general election, a vote for one of them needs to happen. Both candidates have worked hard for the past nine months. After much consideration, I am voting for Eric Hart.

I make this decision based on what I have learned in my eight years as the 3rd District Supervisor. The District needs a person who can listen to all sides of an issue and act in the best interest of the residents. Through his involvement in the Grand Jury, Fire Safe Councils, and many other civic organizations, Eric is ready to get to work on Day 1.

Independence and integrity are key qualities. Eric Hart has earned my vote because I feel that he truly cares about all of the 3rd District and Mendocino County. Eric has called me many times asking for the history and thinking on certain topics, wanting to know how and why decisions were made. He is a policy wonk who truly cares about finding the path that best represents the people.

Please join me in voting for Eric Hart for 3rd District Supervisor.

John Haschak, 3rd District Supervisor

Thank you

To the Editor:

This old heart is still ticking and wants to give thanks to the many that have helped. The most recent was this past Sunday when I checked into Adventist Howard Memorial's ER. The Thursday before I woke with swollen feet followed by shortness of breath, after sleeping only while sitting up. With my daughter, Kris, I registered at the ER check-in. The woman was friendly with smiles and even wished me an early Happy Birthday.

Over the next three days I was treated with utmost care and attention. There were so many doctors, nurses, and staff that I don't dare to name them, as some will be slighted, as I don't know all their names. They were competent, lots of smiles, and concerned about my wellbeing.

I was diagnosed with "heart failure" and treated with Lasix in an IV. Within six hours I expelled 3.5 quarts of liquids. An echocardiogram, when compared to one from two years ago, will tell me if my heart is sliding downhill. This is very important to me because I will be interviewed in December by the Yountville Veterans Home to see if I qualify for the no-wait list for "independent living." If not, will be added to one of several waiting lists of veterans needing some kind of care.

So thanks again to the wonderful family of medical help at Adventist Howard Memorial. Willits is fortunate to have such a group of professionals.

On a different topic I would like to thank Lisa for her 15 years of serving the Willits community with Scoops Deli, Ice Cream and Catering. I filled many punch cards over the years with my favorite ice cream. I understand her wanting to spend time with her aging father, grandkids, and husband.

Bob Wilkinson, Willits

Prop 44 could hurt rural patients it claims to protect

To the Editor:

As a patient, community member, and employee of a federally qualified health center in rural Northern California, I strongly oppose Proposition 44.

Prop 44 may sound reasonable when described as requiring healthcare organizations to spend 90% of their funds on direct patient care. But that simple formula does not reflect the reality of providing healthcare in rural communities.

I receive care at a health center in Laytonville, a community of approximately 1,152 residents. Despite our small population, this health center serves more than 3,100 unique patients and provides over 23,000 patient visits annually. People travel from across Mendocino County and beyond for care, because healthcare options in this region are limited.

For many of us, our community health center is not simply the most convenient option. It may be the only realistic option.

That is why Prop 44 concerns me. Patient care is about much more than what happens inside an exam room. A patient cannot receive appropriate treatment if staff cannot access their medical records. They cannot see a specialist if someone does not process their referral. They cannot make an appointment if they have no transportation. Providers cannot safely care for patients without functioning technology, maintained facilities, accurate records, quality programs, care coordination, and the employees who keep all of those systems working.

These services are not administrative luxuries. They are part of patient care.

This is particularly important in rural communities, where patients may travel long distances for medical, dental, behavioral health, and other services. Many are seniors, people with disabilities, low-income families, and others facing significant barriers to care. Transportation assistance, case management, referrals, and care coordination can determine whether a patient actually receives treatment or goes without it.

As an employee, I see firsthand that every department contributes to caring for our patients. As a patient, I depend on that entire system working.

Read the rest of Letters | Over on page 9

Local sample ballots missing some endorsements

Submitted by Mendocino County Elections Office

Some endorsements made by the California Democratic Party were inadvertently omitted when the sample ballots for Mendocino County were printed. Therefore, the endorsement list in your sample ballot is incomplete.

An updated and complete list of endorsements from the political parties who submitted endorsements (American Independent; Democrat and Republican parties) is available on our website at: www.mendocinocounty.gov/government/assessor-county-clerk-recorder-elections/elections/election-candidate-information

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

Party:	Office:	Candidate:	Office:	Candidate:
American Independent	Governor	*No Endorsement*	Lt. Governor	Gloria Romero
	Secretary of State	Don Wagner	Controller	Malia Cohen
	Treasurer	Jennifer Hawks	Attorney General	Michael Gates
	Insurance Commissioner	Ben Allen	Member, BOE 02	John Pimentel
	CD 01	James Gallagher	CD 02	No Endorsement
	State Senate 02	Tief Gibbs	State Assembly 02	Chris Rogers
Democrat	Governor	Xavier Becerra	Lt. Governor	Fiona Ma
	Secretary of State	Shirley Weber	Attorney General	Rob Bonta
	Treasurer	Eleni Kounalakis	Controller	Malia Cohen
	Superintendent of Public Instruction	Richard Barrera	State Board of Equalization, Dist 02	Sally Lieber
	Insurance Commissioner	Ben Allen	State Assembly 02	Chris Rogers
	State Senate 02	Damon Connolly	CD 01	Mike McGuire
	CD 02	Jared Huffman		
Republican	Governor	Steve Hilton	Lt. Governor	Gloria Romero
	Attorney General	Michael Gates	Controller	Herb W. Morgan
	Secretary of State	Donald P. (Don) Wagner	Treasurer	Jennifer Hawks
	Member, BOE 02	*N/A*	CD 01	James Gallagher
	CD 02	Robbin Littau	SD 02	Tief Gibbs
	AD 02	Michael Greer		

7th annual FUN-ding Raffle to support the Senior Center

Posted by Willits Senior Center

Willits, we need you. This is much more than just buying a raffle ticket. This is a hot meal delivered, a wellness check, and social connectivity for isolated seniors. It's a safe ride to and from a doctor's appointment, that extra help carrying groceries into a seniors home. It's someone knocking on the door saying "Meals on Wheels, enjoy your lunch."

Since 1974, the William Harrah Senior Center has been helping Willits seniors. Our purpose has never changed, we provide nutrition, financial assistance, social connection , transportation, and a safe space where our seniors can gather with dignity and feel a sense of belonging.

Raffle ticket sales support drive-through lunches, indoor dining lunches, and meals delivered to homebound seniors and disabled neighbors.

Our focus is to empower and support seniors so they can live independent lives and remain living independently in their homes. Last year we provided over 9,000 door-thru-door rides , housing assistance, free medical equipment loans, free firewood, chair exercise classes, and Life Changes & Physical Challenges support groups.

This is so much more than buying a raffle ticket. You will make a positive impact in the lives of seniors in our community.

Willits Heat Box

Instead of comfortably warm days and crisp fall mornings, October began with a heat wave. This summer's longest run of consecutive days with average high temperatures of 90°F or more occurred between September 30 and October 9. Daytime highs across the Little Lake Valley during that 10-day span averaged 95.4°F, with nighttime lows averaging 49.6°F.

The heat wave ended abruptly on October 10, when daily high temperatures dropped nearly 30°F, and frosty nights ensued. While temperatures are forecast to moderate, more hot days could occur before months-end, opening the possibility that October could tie or surpass the 12 days of 90°F observed in August.

A new California rain year began on October 1. Total accumulation across the Little Lake Valley for that period in 2025-26 averaged 50.23". The 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 rain years averaged 63.8" and 67.2", respectively. Predications of a "super El Nino" winter are plentiful; however, this rain year is getting off to a slow start.

– Tim Hanna, Willits Heat Box

Little Lake Valley high temperatures (°F)

location	Mon Oct 05	Tue Oct 06	Wed Oct 07	Thur Oct 08	Fri Oct 09	Sat Oct 10	Sun Oct 11	weekly average	Aug 2026 average	Sep 2026 average
Northbrook Way	98.4	98.4	97.3	97.2	97.2	66.6	68.9	87.1	88.7	80.2
Brooktrails Dr @ Sherwood Rd	97.2	96.8	94.1	93.6	90.0	64.4	65.1	86.5	87.0	77.5
Valley Rd	100.2	99.0	99.1	98.2	93.0	67.8	69.6	88.7	89.8	81.2
Canyon Rd	96.4	96.6	94.6	95.4	92.7	66.6	67.6	87.1	88.3	79.2
Pine Mountain	99.9	98.2	99.7	103.6	97.2	73.4	74.8	86.4	86.4	73.8
South Main @ East Oak	97.7	97.7	97.7	96.6	92.1	66.7	67.8	87.8	88.8	80.0
Daily average high	**98.3**	**97.8**	**97.1**	**97.4**	**93.7**	**67.6**	**69.0**	**88.7**	**88.1**	**79.4**
Daily average low	***51.4***	***50.1***	***48.0***	***46.1***	***48.7***	***42.3***	***34.7***	***45.9***	***53.3***	***47.3***

data compiled from weatherunderground (https://www.wunderground.com)

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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

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

Volume 14, Number 660

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 photographress / willitsweekly@gmail.com / 707-972-7047
Mathew Caine, photographer / features writer
Barbara O'Reardon, Brooktrails reporter
Addison Alvarado, school board reporter
Danya Davis, Police Log
April Tweddell, ad sales / 707- 972-2475 / willitsweekly@gmail.com

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

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

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

In the mail: ☐ 1 year - $120 ☐ 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





Above: 2026 Homecoming court were crowned at Wednesday's Night Rally including, from left: Freshmen Prince and Princess: Kai Arms and Aubree Nunez; Sophomore Prince and Princess: Vladimir Bertolino and Sophia Punihaole-Figueroa; Junior Princess and Prince: Mariah Lavine and Jaden Hansen; Senior Princess and Prince Vada Morgan and Guadalupe Zuniga; Senior Princess and Prince Leah Blakely and Isaac Silva; and Senior Queen Amelia Franco and King Harbor Casselis. At right: Willits High School's varsity football player Davin Swensen #6, celebrates a touchdown during Friday's Homecoming game. At right, below: Willits Wolverines cheerleaders gather together for exciting stunts on the field during JV halftime. At right, below, far right: Varsity Wolverine Jadon Stephens #15 makes a dash down the field with the ball during warm-up.

HOCO 2026

Willits High School celebrates Homecoming with football game, rally, dance, parade, and spirit days

It was a win for varsity, but a loss for JV as the Willits Wolverines took on the Upper Lake Cougars last Friday during the Willits High School Homecoming football game. Varsity finished the game with a score of 20-12, and JV finished their game with a score of 0 to 30.

Leading up to the Friday game, the school enjoyed dressing up for spirit days including Twin Day on Monday; Dress like Candy day on Tuesday; Princess and the PJ Day on Wednesday; Dress like Royalty on Thursday; and Class Colors on Friday with freshmen in blue, sophomores in brown, juniors in pink, and seniors in green.

Wednesday also held the Night Rally, where the underclassmen princes and princesses were named, as well as the crowning of two of the six nominees for the senior class. Freshmen Prince and Princess were Aubrey Westfall and Kai Arms; Sophomore Prince and Princess were Vlad Bertolino and Sophia Punihaole-Figueroa; and Junior Prince and Princess were Jaden Hansen and Mariah Levine. Amelia Franco and Harbor Casselis were named Senior Homecoming King and Queen, with first-runners-up being Leah Blakely and Isaac Silva and second-runners-up being Vada Morgan and Lupe Zuniga.

"The Night Rally on Wednesday also had a teacher's skit, and boys dance cheer performance along with the crowning ceremony," explained Willits High School's Dina Haigounian. "We also recognized our senior fall athletes."

The court was presented around the track during halftime of the varsity game, where the class floats also joined in the parade. "Fairytales" was the 2026 theme, and the junior class won with their Princess and the Pea float. Freshmen had Alice in Wonderland; sophomores had The Gingerbread Man, and seniors had The Princess and the Frog.

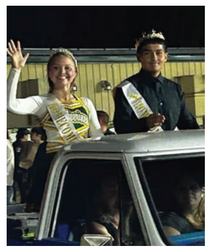
– Maureen Jennison





Football and Cheer photos by Shailyn Brewer





Above, left: Some Willits Wolverines gather on the field during the meeting of team captains to shake hands with the Upper Lake Cougars before the game and also go over a brief summary of rules and sportsmanship. Above, right: Senior Princess and Prince Vada Morgan and Guadalupe Zuniga ride in the back of the truck and wave to the crowd during varsity halftime. Below, left: The junior class of 2028 float was themed "Princess and the Pea" and won first place. Other floats included the senior class of 2027 float, themed Princess and the Frog (below, right); the sophomore class of 2029 float, themed "The Gingerbread Man" (bottom, left); and the freshman Class of 2030 float, themed "Alice in Wonderland" (bottom, right).



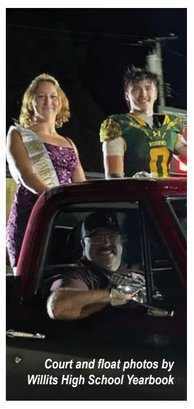






Below, from left: 2026 Homecoming Queen Amelia Franco and King Harbor Casselis smile on stage during the crowing at Wednesday's night rally. Senior Princess and Prince Leah Blakely and Isaac Silva ride around the track during the parade. Grand Marshal Josh Potter, left, stands with Athlete's Choice, Aaron Branscomb.





Court and float photos by Willits High School Yearbook



Eric HART
FOR MENDOCINO SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 3

ENDORSED BY OUR COMMUNITY

Inland Mendocino Democratic Club

Mendocino County Democratic Party

seiu 2015



John Haschak
3rd District Supervisor

JOINED BY THESE COMMUNITY MEMBERS

John Button
Hal Wagenet
Jessica Grinberg
Dr. Chana Eisenstein
Sandy Strong
Ree Slocum
Kary Foltz
Erin Sullivan
Michael Deer
Dayle Deer
A. Joy Shaw
Elina Agnoli
Helen Simms
River Broussard
Kenneth Scarberry
Marc Komer
Jody Johnston
Michealle Havenhill
Cynthia Lassotovich
Lance Parker
Tara Johnson
Virginia Moore
Mike A'Dair
Laura Bianchi Limbird
Susan Savage
Kirk Lumpkin
Torrey Douglass
Dr. Mills Matheson
Dr. Sharon Paltin
David and Ellen Drell
Brian Ferri-Taylor
Saprina Rodriguez
Dr. John Glyer
Michelle Hutchins
Noel O'Neill
Olga O'Neill
Madge Strong
Pete Swanson
Walter Kolon
Caroline Rehberger
John Sakowicz
Dr. Jillian Tatum
Suzanne Matheson
Juan Orozco
Dr. Jodi Parungao
David Strock
Dr. Ida Harris
Gary Martin
Sloan Cipa
Pat and Bruce Yoxall
Patricia Sobrero
Corey Miller
Sherri Wise
Carole Hester
Angela Herman
Stephanie Campos Osejo
Doreen Blumenfeld
Michael Gauder
Christina Tipp
Joseph Hart
Luis Hernandez
Perri Kaller
Susanna Seidensticker
Mark Henriques
Gabriel Baca Meza
Sherrie Ebyam
Kalen Heilig

1st: Fix the Foundation › 2nd: Find a Way to Yes › 3rd: Stronger Together
Each builds on the last.

EricHartForSupervisor.com | Paid for by Eric Hart for Supervisor 2026

Willits Weekly's

Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PAGE 11

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

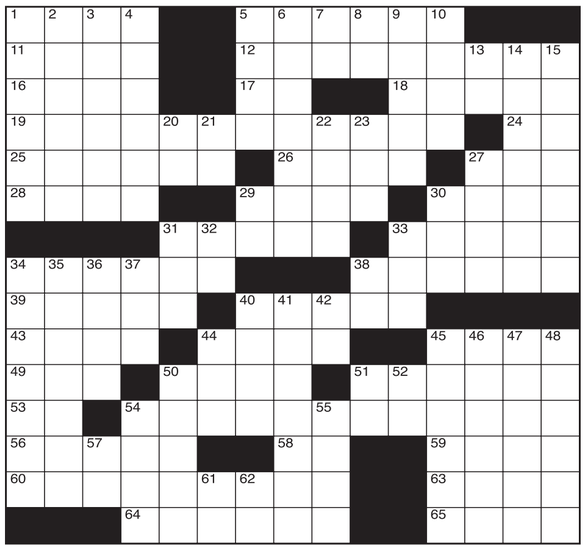
HOW TO SUDOKU

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!

HARVEST WORD SEARCH

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

AUTUMN
BUSHEL
COMMODITY
CORN
CRADLE
CROPS
CULTIVATE
EROSION
FALLOW
FARM
FEED
FLAIL
FORAGE
GRANGE
GRASS
HARVEST
HAY
HUSK
MANURE
MILL
ORCHARD
PICK
SOWING
TILLING



CLUES ACROSS

1. Nocturnal rodent
5. Requesting
11. Give temporarily
12. Frivolousness
16. Military arm
17. 'Westworld' actor Harris
18. Persian Gulf port city
19. Air hostesses
24. Partner to 'Pa'
25. Percussion instrument
26. Raincoats
27. Lower the light
28. Asian mountain range
29. Every one of two or more
30. Lack of difficulty
31. A public announcement of a proposed marriage
33. Reduces in size
34. Make an impact
38. Serviceman
39. A French river
40. Prehistoric people
43. Messenger ribonucleic acid
44. 'Layla' singer Clapton
45. Ancient Greek sophist
49. Largest English dictionary (abbr.)
50. 'Top Gun: Maverick' | actor Powell
51. A way to disentangle
53. Atomic #93
54. Manifesting approval
56. Indigo bush
58. Larry and Curly's pal
59. Off-Broadway theater award
60. Fencers
63. Masses of fish eggs
64. Passerine birds
65. Arrange systematically

CLUES DOWN

1. Colorless part of blood
2. Of a main artery
3. Photog's tool
4. Blues Traveler hit 'But __'
5. Grew older
6. Not the leader
7. __ Lang: country singer
8. A driver's license is one
9. Nests of pheasants
10. Antelopes
13. One quintillion bytes
14. Japanese lute
15. A type of cat
20. It cools your home
21. Dorm official
22. Pouches
23. German trigraph
27. Form of Persian
29. __ route
30. Upper body part
31. Bridge building degree
32. Indicates position
33. Political action committee
34. Edible nuts
35. Front part of a quadruped
36. Locate
37. Geological time
38. Of I
40. Northern Utah city
41. They work in the trenches
42. Hammer is one
44. Tall deciduous tree
45. Performers
46. Slang for mistake
47. More open
48. Most slick
50. Provokes
51. Home of the NCAA's Flyers
52. Sodium
54. Large fish of the mackerel family
55. Not one
57. __ and behold
61. Atomic #21
62. 'The Great Lakes State'

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT

POLICE LOG

September 28 to September 27

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department reported **94 incidents** in this 7-day period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

September 28

1:05 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 300 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning.

September 29

7:25 am: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of West Highway 20 and Coast Street and issued a warning.

7:58 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 300 block of North Main Street and issued a citation.

10:58 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

4:03 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 900 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

10:41 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

September 30

5:58 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 200 block of North Main Street and issued a warning.

10:56 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

11:07 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 200 block of North Main Street and issued a citation.

11:35 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 200 block of North Main Street and issued a warning.

11:47 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

11:53 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 1200 block of Blosser Lane and issued a citation.

1:24 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 200 block of North Main Street and issued a warning.

2:04 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

4:45 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1600 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

5:26 pm: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 300 block of Robert Way.

9:23 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Central Street and East Oak Street.

October 1

9:07 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Barbara Lane and Railroad Avenue and issued a warning.

October 2

8:23 am: Officers initiated a burglary investigation in the 100 block of Madden Lane.

2:51 pm: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

4:11 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of North Main Street and issued a warning.

4:17 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of North Main Street and issued a warning.

5:53 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of East Commercial Street.

8:49 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of West Highway 20 and Cropley Lane and issued a warning.

October 3

8:21 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

8:34 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 200 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

8:43 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of East Commercial Street and North Main Street.

October 4

1:42 am: GARCIA, Isaiah Samuel (21) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of Coast Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of driving under the influence of alcohol, driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.08 percent or higher, and driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.15 percent or higher.

8:31 am: SMITH, Joseph Shane (44) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of Williams Street. He was arrested on felony charges of failure to appear and on misdemeanor charges of providing false identification to an officer and failure to appear.

12:16 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 200 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

2:26 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

2:32 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

4:26 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of North Main Street and issued a citation.

5:11 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Street and Sout Main Street and issued a warning.

9:24 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

9:56 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1400 block of Baechtel Road and issued a citation.

Senior Center menu for the week of October 15 to October 23

Submitted by Willits Senior Center

Willits Senior Center is serving lunch in its indoor dining room, Monday through Friday, from 11:45 am to 1 pm. To-go lunches are available from 12 to 12:45 pm, in the lobby of the senior center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Due to increasing food costs, dine-in and to-go meals are now $9.

Thursday, October 15: Chicken Pesto Pasta

Friday, October 16: Meat Loaf W/ Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Monday, October 19: Sloppy Joe Sandwich

Tuesday, October 20: Chicken Fricassee

Wednesday, October 21: Spaghetti W/ Meat Sauce

Thursday, October 22: Country Fried Steak W/ Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Friday, October 23: Biscuit Topped Chicken Pot Pie

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

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

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

Transportation for seniors: Call 459-6826 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.

At right: The "spicy" sign was added to warn the guests that this dip was not mild! Kids found some mountains to play on, while the adults sampled the charcuterie choices. Sparetime Supply began selling pumpkins this season, along with some carving tools. Below: The mixer was held in front of the main store, all dressed up for Halloween. Below, right: Piper and Tate played a spirited game of tic-tac-toe, with creative, made-up rules. Below, far right: Colorful displays of delicacies sold at the Gardener's Pantry included Rose City Pepperheads' small-batch pepper jellies, Raspberry Habanero and Mango Madness.













Fall Mixer

Sparetime Supply hosts party with new pumpkin patch and Gardener's Pantry goodies





Photos by Mathew Caine

At far left: Sparetime's Gardener's Pantry has moved inside the main store. "We found it's better to have everything in one building," President Andrew Hosford said. At left: Jaime Wilkes, chief financial officer of Sparetime Supply, gets ready to open another bottle of wine for mixer attendees. At far left, below: Andrew Hosford, president and CEO of Sparetime Supply, thanked attendees for 43 years of support from the Willits community. At left, below: Evelyn Persico came to buy some realistic-looking artificial flowers to brighten up her home.





Sparetime Supply is prepared for the fall season, with their new pumpkin patch and more, as was evident at their recent store mixer last Friday. Some who enjoyed the event came for the mixer, and some discovered it while shopping for their garden supplies and plants.

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Upon entering the parking lot and looking towards the main store, the decor is modern spooky, with inflatable ghouls, glowing goblins, and a bunch of pumpkins, which Sparetime, for the first time, is offering its customers. The pumpkins come in various sizes and types. Some are colorful gourds, which were utilized in the Sparetime succulent decorating class on Sunday.

President and CEO of Sparetime Supply, Andrew Hosford, grilled up kielbasas and hotdogs to complement the hearty array of appetizers and munchies that were available to sample in front of the store. A variety of cheeses, with savory jellies, hot mustards, crudites, and other goodies were available, as was a variety of wines and beer.

"Today, we're doing our Fall Mixer," explained Jaime Wilkes, chief financial officer of the company. "It's a party for our fall/winter season. We're trying to do it like the Chamber of Commerce, when they pair with different companies to do mixers to support businesses. We invited all the members of the Chamber. The board members are coming, and they helped promote it. We want to say thank you to our customers and happy fall – even though it's hot and it doesn't really feel like fall."

Read the rest of Mixer Over on page 11



Mike McGuire
CONGRESS

FIGHTING FOR WORKING FAMILIES

When Donald Trump cut funding to fight wildfires, Senator Mike McGuire doubled the number of state firefighters and made our communities more wildfire safe. Mike never backs down from Trump.

McGuire: Hold ICE Accountable. Mike led the way in the State Senate to force ICE agents to take off their masks, allow Californians to take ICE agents to court, and ban ICE agents from schools and hospitals.

McGuire: Medicare for ALL. Mike is working day and night to guarantee health coverage and mental health care for everyone. When Trump defunded Planned Parenthood, Mike kept all 100 of their California health centers open.

McGuire: Make Billionaires Pay Their Fair Share. From Day One in Congress, Mike will fight to fix Trump's rigged economy and repeal MAGA Republicans' $2.2 trillion in tax cuts for billionaires.

Mike McGuire for Congress
Vote October 6 to November 3

PAID FOR BY MENDOCINO COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY
FEC# C00404145 FPPC# 82268 P.O. Box 28, Ukiah, CA 95482



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 8:30 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-
6-7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study-
7-8:00 p.m.

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

Eckankar: The Path of Spiritual Freedom
- A University for Soul
- Spiritual Living Courses
- 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
Worship Service
10 a.m.
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 appointmet 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
707-272-0177
Sunday Service - 10 a.m.
In-person and on Zoom
Call for information.
ALL ARE WELCOME
The Rev. Betsy Bruneau

St. John Lutheran Church
Sunday Service
10:00 a.m.
(707) 459-2988
24 Mill Creek Drive
Facebook.com/stjohnswillits
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 Jaime Rogers-Fairchild
Sunday Worship at 10:30 am
286 School St. (at Pine)
707-459-2855
wumc@outlook.com
www.willitsumc.org
Facebook: facebook willits umc

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



Thursday, October 15

A Bit and a Bite at the Museum: Join us for light refreshments, history and conversation. This month, Thursday, October 15, at 12:30 pm, the program will include a screening of "Reefer Madness," a 1936 public service announcement and cautionary tale addressing drug abuse. View the new exhibit: "Behind the Redwood Curtain: Cannabis in California."

FOWL Book Sale Members Preview: Friends of the Willits Library members are invited to the Thursday, October 15 preview of the Fall Book Sale, from 5 to 7 pm. The Fall Book Sale is open to the public Friday, October 16, Saturday, October 17, and Sunday, October 18. Willits Branch Library Conference Room, 390 East Commercial Street.

Avenues to Wellness Speaker Series at WCA: ATW presents "Everyone Dies: What You Need to Know About End-of-Life Planning," a presentation by Maggie Watson, Licensed Fiduciary, on Thursday, October 15, from 6 to 7 pm at Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street. FREE to the public. Wheelchair accessible. End-of-life planning is something everyone will face, either for themselves or for someone they love. From the perspective of a professional fiduciary, Maggie Watson will discuss the key issues and legal documents that support effective end-of-life planning. Avenues to Wellness, a program of the Frank R. Howard Foundation, offers a monthly speaker series on the third Thursday of the month. For more information call: 707-456-9676. Email: spicetti@howardfoundation.org. Visit: avenuestowellness.org

Friday, October 16

FOWL Fall Book Sale at the Library: Friends of the Willits Library hosts its annual Fall Book Sale at the Willits Library this weekend. Today, Friday, October 16, open to the public from 10 am to 5 pm. Willits Branch Library Conference Room, 390 East Commercial Street.



Fall Vendor Fair at Adri's Salon: Halloween themed vendor fair, Friday, October 16 from 3 to 6 pm at Adri's Salon, 1615 A South Main Street. Beaded items, 3D printed items, Resin Art, Crocheted items, and more. Grab a snowcone while you shop!

Christina's Birthday at Shanachie: Celebrate the birthday of much loved, and very much missed Cristina Balthrop who left this world, but left behind wonderful memories and people who want to celebrate the life she lived as a mother, wife, teacher, friend to many, and lover of good times and good music! With Tyler Grass & the Madmen, Tall Guy-Short Songs, Malakai Schindel, and The Sherwood Mountain Boys. Friday, October 16 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

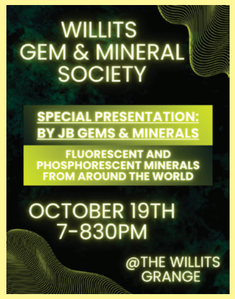
Saturday, October 17

Pumpkins on Main Street: Pumpkins, Paint and Party at Willits Kids Corner, Saturday, October 17 from 10 am to 1 pm. First, pick up your pumpkin(s) at the NC Financial Group Pumpkin Patch, South Main and Oak Street, then go to Kids Corner, 90 South Main, where there will be paint and tools for decorating, and snacks. Questions: 707-615-5963



FOWL Fall Book Sale at the Library: Friends of the Willits Library hosts its annual Fall Book Sale at the Willits Library this weekend. Today, Saturday, October 17, open to the public from 10 am to 5 pm. Willits Branch Library Conference Room, 390 East Commercial Street.

No Kings, Just Voters at Babcock Park: Join Willits Indivisible at Babcock Park, on Saturday, October 17, 11 am to 1 pm to celebrate a day of peaceful, nonpartisan voter participation. Bring your friends and your Vote Early signs, and help encourage all to vote.



Ancestor Circle at Flourish & Flow: Join Ancestral Lineage Healing practitioner and instructor, Kirra Swenerton, for 3 hours of guided ritual, altar-building, song and discussion. Learn how to safely relate with your beloved dead for mutual healing, guidance and support. $45. Saturday, October 17, from 1 to 4 pm at Flourish & Flow, 1726 Main Street. Register at www.flourishandflowmendo.com/classes1-1

Friends of the Round Valley Public Library Fundraiser: a fundraiser and appreciation dinner honoring Ed TePas, in appreciation of his commitment and service as President of the Friends of the Round Valley Public Library. Saturday, October 17 from 5 to 9 pm, at the Library Commons, 23925 Howard Street, Covelo. North Fork Style Dinner is $25 for a large plate; $15 for a small plate. Advance tickets at the Walnut Grove Cafe or online at https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/fundraiser-and-appreciation-dinner Help us continue supporting the Round Valley Public Library and the programs that helped make us "The Best Small Library" in America.

Margo & Friends at Shanachie: Margo Fleming, singer, song-writer and multi-instrumentalist, playing guitar, 12-string, bass, mandolin and octave mandolin leads a band playing covers and originals, rock, blues, R&B, reggae, country, jazz, folk: "We love it all!" Saturday, October 17 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Sunday, October 18

FOWL Fall Book Sale at the Library: Friends of the Willits Library hosts its annual Fall Book Sale at the Willits Library this weekend. Today, the final day of the sale, Sunday, October 18. is open to the public from 10 am to 5 pm. All books are $3 bag! Willits Library Conference Room, 390 East Commercial Street.

Sip and Paint at WCA: Artist Sandy Strong leads this workshop offering step-by-step watercolor instruction designed for all skills levels. Enjoy a catered Sunday brunch from Scoops with mimosas while you learn to capture the warm, vibrant tones of the season. $75 covers everything, including art supplies. Just bring yourself! Sunday, October 18 from 1 to 4 pm at Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street.

Monday, October 19

Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration at Blosser Lane: Join us at Blosser Lane Elementary School Cafeteria, Monday, October 19 from 6 to 7 pm. Including a Salsa Cookoff, Favorite Hispanic Dish Cook-Off, Face Painting, Kids' Activity Table, and Delicious Food Samples. Students, families, staff, and community members are welcome! A Willits Unified School District-sponsored event. 1275 Blosser Lane.

Willits Gem & Mineral Society at the Grange: the monthly meeting of the Willits Gem & Mineral Society is set for Monday, October 19, from 7 to 8:30 pm at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Meeting includes a special presentation by JB Gems & Minerals, on "Fluorescent and Phosphorescent Minerals from Around the World." Time for show & tell afterwards: Let's see what you have that glows!

Tuesday, October 20

Digital Skills for Everyday Life at the Library: Learn valuable online skills including e-mail correspondence, internet security, and much more. Library Chromebooks will be available for check-out. Tuesday, October 20 from 11 am to 12:30 pm, at Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street.



Wednesday, October 21

History Makers at the Museum: Crafts on Wednesdays with a Fall Harvest theme: Ideal for ages 10 and under. Wednesday, October 21: Harvest Headbands. Wednesday, October 28: Critter Pop=Pom Fund. Any time between 2 and 4 pm. Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street.

Willits Stamp Club at the Library: Monthly meeting at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Wednesday, October 21 this month, from 5 to 6 pm. Bring your collection, and enjoy an evening perusing stamps. Refreshments provided. More info: talsofam@pacific.net.

Thursday, October 22

Medicare 101 Workshop at the Library: Free Medicare workshop for community members turning 65, retiring, or simply wanting a clearer understanding of their Medicare options. Hosted by Sky Savarese. Important changes to Medicare in 2027 will also be covered. Thursday, October 22 from 2:30 to 4:30 pm at Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street.

Willits Farmers Market: Join your neighbors at Fall Market outdoors at City Park on Commercial Street, Thursday, October 22, from 3 to 4 pm, for the freshest produce available, local meat, farm fresh eggs, hot and cold food from local businesses, along with crafts, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. See October 15 Farmers Market listing for more info.



Donate Toiletry Items at the Farmers Market: Donate men's and women's toiletry items (soap, shampoo, lotion, tooth care products, deodorant etc.), feminine hygiene products, toilet paper and disposable wipes to help those in need, Thursday, October 22 from 3 to 5:30 pm at the Willits Farmer's Market and choose a coupon from a local eatery! Items will be distributed at the Willits Food Bank.

Friday, October 23

Sherwood Elementary School Fall Festival: Join Sherwood Elementary School for another fabulous Fall Festival, Friday, October 23 starting at 5 pm at 32600 Sherwood Road. Come in costume and enjoy a lasagna dinner, win prizes in our game room, take a stroll through our spooky path, and celebrate with our student performers! Raffle tickets for great prizes available from the Sherwood School family. You don't need to be present to win! For more info, please call 707-984-6769.

Party In Pink at the Grange: a Zumba Fundraiser for Breast Cancer Awareness Month at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, on Friday, October 23 from 6 to 9 pm. This is a free community event to raise money for the Cancer Resource Center of Mendocino County. The suggested donation is $10. There will be a DJ, yummy baked goods, amazing raffle prizes, breast cancer information and resources, and of course, Zumba! Wear pink and come dance with us for a great cause.

WCS Haunted House: Willits Charter School Theater Arts presents "Coma Dreams," the annual Haunted House. "Follow Dr. Oneiro into the mind of a patient trapped in a mysterious coma." Friday, October 23 and Saturday, October 24, 7 to 9 pm. Suggested donation: $5; group special: 5 people for $20. 1431 South Main Street.

Post Modern Prometheus at Shanachie: a musical journey through space and time, with psychedelic navigators; Kage on guitar, Structure on bass, and Professor Box on drums, who will accurately align your chakras and kundalini to unblock the poison fed to you on a daily basis. Friday, October 23 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Saturday, October 24

Willits Makers Meetup at the Library: Do you like making things? Woodworking, electronics, crochet, sew…. If you make it, join us to get inspired and share ideas. Saturday, October 24 from 10 am to noon. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street.

"License Plates to Dinner Plates" at City Park: 1st annual Community Give Back Fundraiser benefitting Willits Meals on Wheels and Ukiah Plowshares. A community event bringing people together to support those in need in our local community. Saturday, October 24 from 11 am to 4 pm at Willits City Park. Family-friendly event, with food vendors, craft vendors, and info booths.

Boo Bash at Willits Kids Corner: Get those costumes ready and join us for a spooktacular afternoon of family fun! Saturday, October 24, from noon to 4 pm. With Halloween carnival games, Guess the Pumpkin's Weight, Candy Corn Guessing Game, Cake & Cookie Walk, Halloween photos with Franky's Photos; Goodies, prizes & spooky surprises! $10 admission for play and activities. Willits Kids Corner, 90 South Main Street.

WCS Haunted House: Willits Charter School Theater Arts presents "Coma Dreams," the annual Haunted House, Saturday, October 24, 7 to 9 pm. See Friday, October 23 listing for more details.

Latchkey at the Pub: Mixing elements from countrified soul, '70s AM radio, and four-part vocal harmony, and putting the results through a punk rock filter, Latchkey presents an invigorating twist on the Northern California festival vibe. Saturday, October 24 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Sunday, October 25

Grange Pancake Breakfast: Join us at the Grange for a wonderful collection of comfort foods – all you can eat of our "scratch" pancakes (sourdough, wholegrain, Hank's famous buttermilk, or gluten-free) plus organic, local farm-fresh scrambled eggs, Beeler's Quality bacon, real butter, juice and organic coffee or tea for only $13! ($11 for Senior plate, $5 for kids under 10). Extra sides of organic fruit, Amish organic maple syrup, fresh fruit syrup or bacon for a small additional fee. This month's fourth-Sunday breakfast, October 25, is the last breakfast of 2026. 8 to 11 am at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Punch cards are available for purchase: $100 buys 10 months of breakfasts, a savings of $30 a year.

















COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

'Other Mommy'



Dan Essman
Columnist

The Story: Horrifying shape-shifting demonic invaders and gross hyper-realistic meat-market violence, and also plentiful blood. Oh, and also a middle-class family drama with personal family secrets being exposed involving past sexual behaviors. Aka: lurid gossip in the subdivision. (Spoiler: no on-screen sex, no cuddling, no nudity – it's all in the past).

And most importantly: a little girl named Bela (Arabella Olivia Clark) is being tormented by a grotesque monstrosity who looks like Bela's actual mother (except for the melting face). Both parts well-played by Jessica Chastain in a dual-role: Mother who loves, and Monster-double who terrifies, a Monster Double who wants to cajole little Bela into inviting her/it into our world.

My Thoughts: The premise of this flick is that sometimes Mama is not Mama, which feels both heavy handed and simultaneously: A bit vague. On the other hand, the cinematography is quite brilliant, the special body-horror effect and images are entirely realistic, and the first-rate dramatic acting is always spot-on engaging and believable. Storywise: The demonic intrusion into the life of the family is vanquished. Maybe. The good guys win, though I'm not entirely sure.

When I really think about it, (and I am!): The undisguised non-stop tormenting of Bela the little girl is "A" a cheap trick, and "B" quite reminiscent of the Marquis de Sade. I say that coldly, and with certainty, and without hyperbole.

Parents: Don't even ask. Absolutely no children.

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

Party In Pink

Please join us for a Zumba Fundraiser for Breast Cancer Awareness Month at the Little Lake Grange on Friday October 23 from 6 to 9 pm. This is a free community event to raise money for The Cancer Resource Center of Mendocino County. The suggested donation is $10. There will be a DJ, yummy baked goods, amazing raffle prizes, breast cancer information and resources, and of course, Zumba! Wear pink and come dance with us for a great cause!

In-Person Driver's Education in Willits

Skip the online course and complete Driver's Ed in person during Thanksgiving break! Roadrunner Driving School is offering a 4-day in-person Driver's Education class in Willits, November 22 to 25, 2026. Open to teens and adults. Class runs 8 am to 3 pm each day. Space is limited, so early registration is encouraged. Info: www.roadrunnerdrivingschool.com

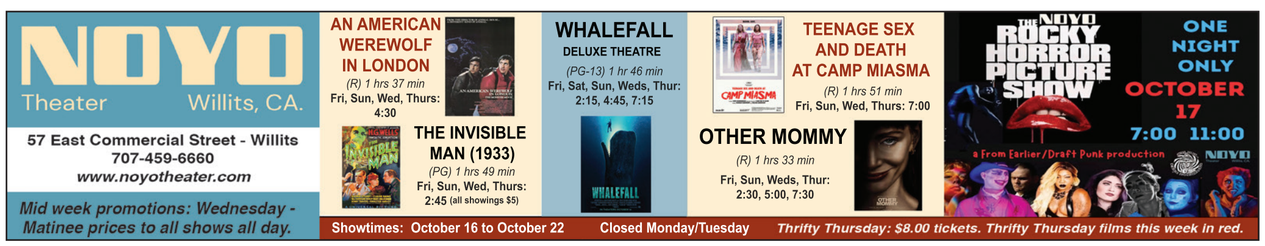
















Broken Plate Mosaic Workshop, October 23, 24

Submitted by Nori Dolan

The Willits community will have a chance to participate in another creative process, a "Broken Plate Mosaic Workshop," led by Nori Dolan, Friday, October 23 and Saturday, October 24. Nori has been leading these workshops for 26 years. She was instrumental in providing an outlet for local residents after the 2017 Redwood Complex fire through mosaic and mixed media workshops.

Held at her home on Ridgewood Ranch, the first day (7 hours) consists of instruction, design and application. With her vast array of tile and plate pieces, and your own if you wish, you will cover your base. Small table tops, picture or mirror frames, ceramic planters, stepping stones, back splash, and more can be transformed into colorful, whimsical, functional pieces of art. You may bring your own pieces, bobbles, old jewelry, small stones, or items to cover. The second day (3 hours) will be grouting your finished piece.



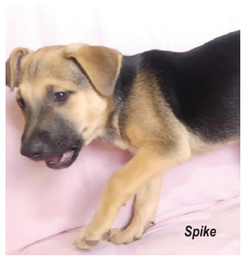
Deadline to sign up has been extended from October 16 to October 20. Workshop is $80 for first-time attendees, and $55 for repeat attendees. Contact Nori for more info and to sign up: 831-588-4817.



Furry Friends Hoping for a Home

Spike and Ms. Snoopy

Spike is a 3-month-old, 15-pound bundle of puppy fun who came to the shelter with his littermate, Ms. Snoopy. This playful little guy is social, curious, and always ready for his next adventure! Spike loves making new friends, enjoys playtime, and is eager to learn. With his happy personality and puppy enthusiasm, he's sure to bring plenty of fun and love to his future family. At just 9 pounds, Ms. Snoopy may be smaller than her littermate, Spike, but don't let her size fool you – this little girl has a huge personality! Ms. Snoopy is a playful, social, and curious puppy who loves being around people and is always ready for her next adventure. She's eager to learn, loves to explore, and has the kind of cheerful personality that can brighten anyone's day.


Spike


Ms. Snoopy

The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, is open to the public from 9:30 am to 5 pm Tuesday through Friday, and 10 am to 3 pm on Saturdays (closed for lunch each day from 1 to 1:30 pm). Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendoanimalshelter.com. Call 707-463-4427 for more information.

Simon and Alvin

Simon and his brother Alvin were originally found hanging out together high up in a tree, but these days, these handsome buff orange tabbies are perfectly happy keeping their paws safely on solid ground! Alvin is the bold little adventurer of the pair. He is always the first to eagerly greet visitors, ready to show off his confident personality and play with his toys. While Simon is just as sweet as his outgoing brother, he is a slightly more relaxed and thoughtful boy. He prefers to observe the action from a cozy bed before joining in on the fun. Once you sit down to spend time with him, Simon is quick to lean in for all the chin scratches you can offer, rewarding you with the most wonderfully heartwarming purr. Together, Alvin and Simon offer the absolute perfect balance of outgoing energy and sweet, gentle affection!


Simon


Alvin

For more info on our adoptable animals, applications to foster or adopt can be found on our website: www.mendohumanesociety.com As well as visit us anytime during open hours! Wednesday and Friday, 1 to 5 pm; and Saturday and Sunday: 11 am to 3 pm. Thursdays by appointment only, 1 to 5 pm. 9700 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley. (707) 485-0123

Library Fall Book Sale

October 15th - 18th

at the

Willits Branch Library

Conference Room

Thur Oct 15th 5 pm to 7 pm
FOWL members only

Fri Oct 16th 10 am to 5pm
Sat Oct 17th 10 am to 5 pm
Sun Oct 18th 10 am to 3 pm

Sunday all books only $3 a bag!

Willits Library
390 Commercial Street, Willits

Sponsored by
Friends of the Willits Library

Voted Best Financial Advisor - Tax Preparer - Accounting Firm

NC Financial Group
A Wealth Management Company

BEST of LAKE & MENDOCINO 2026 · BEST of LAKE & MENDOCINO 2025 · BEST of LAKE & MENDOCINO 2024



Nicholas Casagrande, EA
CEO & Financial Advisor
nicholas.casagrande@ceterafs.com

Call us today!
(855) 240-6606
(415) 480-3669

207 W Stephenson St, Ukiah, CA 95482
675 S Main St, Willits, CA 95490
www.ncfinancialgroup.com

Investments | Tax Planning | Insurance | Business Solutions | Retirement

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

NC Financial Group; awarded Gold in categories Accounting Firm 2025, 2026, Financial Advisor (2024, 2025, 2026), and Tax Prep (2025, 2026). The Best of Lake and Mendocino presented by Bicoastal Media is a vote-based contest for individuals and businesses that serve Lake County, CA, and Mendocino County, CA. Nominations are preceded by the community and after the nomination period is completed, the names of nominated businesses in each of the categories are finalized and make up the official Best of Lake and Mendocino voting ballot. The audience can then vote on one choice in each category. Voters are allowed to nominate without limits and once the voting period has begun, one vote per category per 24-hour period is allowed. Listing in this publication and/or award is not a guarantee of future investment success. This recognition should not be construed as an endorsement of the advisor by any client. No compensation was provided directly or indirectly by the recipient for participation or in connection with obtaining or using the third-party rating or award.

EA #1105394 | CA CRE #01854336 | CA Insurance Lic. # 0H68496

VOTE EARLY

NO KINGS
JUST VOTERS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17

NOKINGS.ORG

Join Willits Indivisible at Babcock Park from 11am-1pm to celebrate a day of peaceful, nonpartisan voter participation. Bring your friends and your VOTE and VOTE EARLY signs and help encourage all to vote!

A core principle behind all No Kings events is a commitment to nonviolent action and no civil disobedience. We expect all participants to seek to de-escalate any potential confrontation with those who disagree with our values, and to act lawfully at these events. Weapons of any kind, including those legally permitted, should not be brought to events. All events should be held in public spaces or on public property.



The rest of Council | From page 1

is don't talk about religion or politics. Obviously we don't believe that here, and I'm grateful for it. So thank all of you who are here.

I am a retired teacher. I've taught in Willits schools for more than 30 years. I also think of myself basically as a farm girl. We spent summers on the grandparents' farm in Nebraska. We had an aunt and uncle with another farm in Oregon. And organic gardening is a big part of my life. In the '70s. I joined Ecology Action in Palo Alto. We did recycling. We taught organic gardening. We had a research garden. Taught bicycle repair, solar design. This was all almost 60 years ago now that I think about it.

I moved up here to the Willits area, to help John Jevans start his research farm here. In 1982 we moved here, and I did that for another 10 years. Playing hostess to the farm which has welcomed small farmers from around the world, hundreds of them now. There's millions of people practicing biointensive farming. That background means that I care greatly about clean, safe water. I care about healthy forests. I care about air quality. And this is a voice that I think we need to bring to the fore in our local politics.

I'm currently on the executive committee of the Sierra Club. We're going to revive outings in this area, visit the forest, visit the waterways. We are pretty much at the headwaters of the wild and scenic Eel River, and we're only seven miles away from Jackson Demonstration State Forest where some of the best old growth are still standing.

When we were up on the farm, we listened to the city council meetings by radio. It was great. I remember the whole fight about the biomass plant. And I think Bruce Burton was my hero then for being the swing vote that said no biomass plant.

In 1992 I moved into town after 10 years on the farm off the grid. I'm familiar with that lifestyle. And the great thing about that is I actually lived in the WIllits city limits and I could go to city council meetings in person and I could vote for people in the city limits. I think this is one of the difficulties of our situation now is so many people are affected by the city council's projects and decisions but they can't vote because they don't live in the city. So I think I want to be a voice for that, also.

I've been inspired over the years by all the great women city council members we've had, in particular, I'll name two: Holly Madrigal, Karen Oslund. I mean, that was a glory time for city council…. Madge Strong. Yeah, we've had many, many good ones. Greta [Kanne]. Yes, Sabrina [Rodriguez].

I'm here this time. The issue is finances, finances, budget, economics. It's about the money, and I'm glad that Sherry's decided to run because she has the experience we need and asks the right questions. Thank you.

Statement by Sherrie Ebyam

I want to start with a thank you to the organizers who put together this forum here today. So, thank you. I would imagine that many of us in this room today were not born in Willits. We came here at different points in our lives and traveled different paths to get here.

Some have been here but a short time, while others have been here since the '70s, making that a 50-year stretch. For each of us, there is something here that speaks to us and holds us here. A place that offers an environment, a culture, a community, opportunities, and a certain sense of hope that while much of the world is going to hell in a hand basket, we can feel that we can actually impact our community, our culture, our environment, and the opportunities that


Robin Leler, left, and Sherrie Ebyam are the two candidates running in an uncontested race for two seats on the Willits City Council.

can go along with being connected to a town such as ours.

It is in this light that I look forward to offering service as a member of our city council.

Yet, I also realize that to foster what we hold dear in our community, it is so very important for community voices to be heard. If you've concerns, let your voice be heard. I welcome you to attend city council meetings and welcome your comments. To me, this is one side of the coin.

The other side is more pragmatic in that it deals with our situations in a practical and logical way. My own evolution as a professional provides me with a background from which to look at this other pragmatic, practical, and logical side of the coin.

My professional life began as a math teacher in the public schools, which I did for 18 years. As a teacher, I was automatically a member of the teachers union and joined the teachers negotiating team within that union. Being the math person, I was given the district's financial documents to look at with the hope of providing a basis to support what our union was asking for.

I found this to be really interesting and compelling. So much so that I left teaching, went into school finance, and completed my chief business official certification, which led ultimately to becoming the finance director for a few different districts.

Since retiring, I have continued to use my finance director skills to create and monitor financial plans for the Measure B mental health oversight committee, the Willits Shelter Action Group, a religious organization, and being appointed to be a member of the Measure K committee. So, three words come to mind when trying to describe this other side of the coin. They are budget, budget, budget.

What to consider when looking at a budget? Look at the big picture. Start with staffing and benefits, as they make up around 80% of the costs in our general fund budget. Look at historical trends. What revenue sources and what expenditures have changed significantly within the last three to five years? What has contributed to the city's deficit spending? Given our resources, is the money being spent with long-term planning in mind? Where's their discretion? And where are certain costs immutable?

So, I see two sides of a coin. One side focuses on staying connected to the wants and needs of our community. The other side of the coin is driven by numbers, and the picture shown by these numbers in the form of our budget. I can't stress enough, however, that knowing what information to ask for is essential.

I have many more questions than answers at this point, but I am hopeful. And to quote Mary Oliver – all who know her, love her – I know one can't live on hope alone but without hope life is a mountain that has no surface. It is a serious thing just to be alive on this fresh day in this world so I want to thank everyone for coming today. Thanks so much.

The rest of Arrested | From page 1

arrest had a $1,000,000 bail where he was suspected of stabbing another victim nine days prior. The Mendocino County Sheriff's Office was actively searching for Joaquin regarding the stabbing investigation from October 1, 2026. Joaquin's second felony arrest warrant was issued for violating the terms of CDCR Parole.

While speaking with the victim and a witness, the MCSO deputy began receiving information regarding Joaquin's whereabouts and learned he was possibly in possession of a large knife. The deputy notified other law enforcement personnel who were responding from the Willits area and proceeded to the area of Henderson Road where Joaquin was reportedly seen.

The MCSO deputy arrived in the area of Henderson Road and learned Joaquin was recently seen walking westbound along a dirt trail between Tabor Lane and Concow Boulevard. Round Valley Tribal Police officers also responded to the area of Joaquin's last reported location.

The MCSO deputy responded to the area of the 100 block of Concow Boulevard, located Joaquin, and ordered him to surrender. Joaquin placed his hand inside of his jacket and turned away from the deputy. Joaquin began walking away from the MCSO deputy, while being repeatedly told to stop and surrender. The deputy ordered Joaquin to stop or he would use his Conducted Energy Device, commonly known as a Taser.

The deputy then activated his Taser, at which time Joaquin ran away and was pursued on foot by the MCSO deputy. After a short foot pursuit, the deputy ultimately located Joaquin sitting in a ditch. Joaquin had his hands hidden and continued to ignore the lawful orders to remove his hands from his jacket pockets and surrender.

Joaquin then got up and started to run away from the MCSO deputy. At this time, the deputy deployed the Taser which incapacitated Joaquin. The MCSO deputy and Tribal Police were able to take Joaquin into custody without further incident.

Joaquin was taken to a local area hospital where he was examined by medical personnel and ultimately cleared for incarceration at the Mendocino County Jail.

Joaquin was transported to the Mendocino County Jail, where he is being held on the listed charges on a no-bail status: 664/187(a) PC – Attempted Murder; 3056 PC – Parole Violation; 69(a) PC – Resisting Arrest by Force or Violence; 148(a)(1) PC – Resist / Obstruct / Delay a Peace Officer; and Felony Arrest Warrants x 2.

The victim from this investigation was flown to an out-of-county hospital and has since been discharged after receiving emergency medical treatment for his injuries.

Anyone with information related to this incident is requested to contact the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office at 707-463-4086 (option 1). Information can also be provided anonymously by calling the non-emergency tip-line at 707-234-2100.

The rest of Letters | From page 2

A rigid spending mandate that fails to recognize these realities could force community health centers to reduce the very services and infrastructure that allow rural patients to access care. In communities like Laytonville, there is no easy replacement if those services disappear.

California should protect healthcare dollars, but it should not do so with a formula that misunderstands how healthcare is actually delivered.

Before voting on Proposition 44, I urge Californians to think about rural patients and the community health centers that serve them. Quality of patient care requires providers and nurses, but it also requires transportation, referrals, medical records, technology, facilities, care coordination, and the people who make all of those services work.

Please vote NO on Proposition 44. Rural healthcare is already difficult enough to access. We should not make it harder.

Shantil Ferguson, Laytonville

Thank you

To the Editor:

The Local Harvest Celebration on October 4 at the Little Lake Grange was a lively, inspired, well-received event! A celebration of gratitude for the season's bounty and beyond.

We offered music, free hot popcorn, all kinds of prepared foods, donated food to share freely, and literally thousands of seeds to take home for free! We also had corn husk doll making, pumpkin painting, a wool-processing demonstration, a seed-saving and processing demo, and an acorn-processing demonstration.

We also featured an impressive setup for pressing apples for fresh apple cider, and are very grateful to Mike Adams and his crew for taking on this Herculean task! He also pressed some surely delicious Chardonnay grape juice, which disappeared before I knew it; it must have been really good.

Thank you, Nuestra Alianza, for being part of this day and feeding us all with delicious food! And the Community Wellness Collective was there and shared their wonderful herbal teas freely. So much gratitude for all the amazing presenters!

We shared updates on developments in the Local Food Security Movement. We have six action groups dedicated to improving local access to food in an affordable and sustainable way. The focus has to be on networking and using the resources we have available, no matter what happens at the state or federal level.

This is very important, and the movement continues, and we invite anyone who reads this letter to inquire at WELL how they can participate in that: www.well95490.org

The six action groups are: Networking, Community Gardens, Farm to School Grants, Land Trust opportunities, Health and Wellness education, local Food Distribution and Food Collection (including the Food Banks), and the incredible work that Gleaners groups do in this area, including the Grateful Gleaners in Willits.

The presenters were: Prana, Brian Weller with the fantastic Mind Map, Mike A'Dair, Buffey Bourassa, Michael Foley, Eric Hart, Claudia Wenning, Jennifer Ludtge, and Ashley Lueders.

This event was sponsored by WELL and the Little Lake Grange, and it is vital to keep this topic alive in the community; we all need to take additional steps to secure local food availability.

I cannot thank the "dream team" enough for making this happen: The Food Security Committee of WELL created this event.

It was a beautiful, inspirational collaboration with such ease and grace: Madge Strong, Laura Toomey, who kept us all with great energy in line, Annie Waters, Prana Petru, our effortless manifester, Miriam Rigel, Lila Ryan – you were all so instrumental, engaged, and dedicated!

And we are so grateful to the many other wonderful volunteers, the presenters, and all the other groups that came to participate. I have to mention too my magnificent Grange Garden Project partners, Annie Waters, Leslie King, Donna D'Terra, and the after-event cleanup crew; they stepped in with joy and vigor. Thank you for your enthusiasm, engagement, time investment, great ideas, and such wonderful follow-through!

We are also grateful for the donations made available for this event by various local businesses: Frey Vineyards, Reza's Bakery, Mendo Mill, Grocery Outlet, and Safeway. Thank you for your support! It matters. Food matters. Community matters. With much gratitude,

Claudia Wenning, Willits


Photo courtesy SAR

Members of county Search & Rescue pose with the missing man they found northeast of Laytonville.

Search & Rescue finds missing man in Laytonville

Posted by SAR

During the evening of October 10, 2026, the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office was notified of a missing 70-year-old male in the area of Woodman Creek Road and Fox Rock Road northeast of Laytonville. Mendocino County Search & Rescue members of all types deployed in the early morning hours of October 11, 2026, eventually locating the missing person alive and well.Special thanks to CALFIRE and the Laytonville Volunteer Fire Department for their assistance! "So others may live."

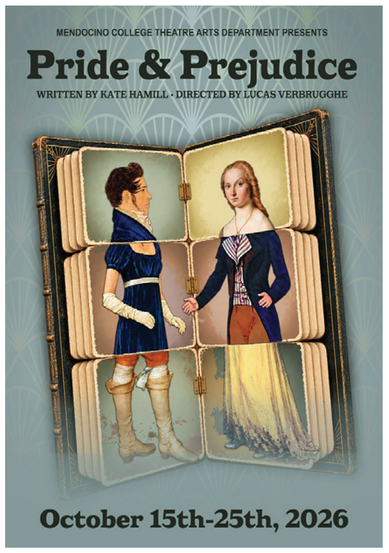
The rest of Library | From page 1

resources, ensuring that the library can continue serving as an inclusive, accessible gateway to opportunity. This upgrade will result in a branch everyone can use and will serve Mendocino County for years to come."

The Willits Branch Refresh and ADA Upgrade Project implements priority improvements identified in the Mendocino County Facilities Condition Assessment and recommended in the Library's Strategic Plan and by the Library Advisory Board. As this nearly 40-year-old facility continues to age, these improvements are essential to ensure ADA accessibility, improve the patron experience, address long-term energy and maintenance costs, and invest in the needed maintenance to extend the Willits Branch's operational life.

Tuesday's Board of Supervisors vote also expanded the project's scope and budget to include ADA-compliant parking, walkways, restrooms, and an upgraded entrance, as well as new flooring, lighting, HVAC systems, windows, interior ceiling treatments, an outdoor patio, and furnishings.

The Library looks forward to advancing this project over the next two years using proceeds from the Measure O sales tax reserved for capital investments in Library facilities. For more information, please view www.mendolibrary.org or contact the Mendocino County Library at (707) 234-2873.



Mendocino College presents a fresh adaptation of 'Pride & Prejudice'

Posted by Mendocino College

Think you know "Pride & Prejudice"? Think again.

Mendocino College Theatre presents Kate Hamill's bold, boisterous and delightfully theatrical adaptation of Jane Austen's classic novel, directed by Lucas Verbrugghe.

Lizzy Bennet is determined never to marry, despite society's expectations. Then there's Mr. Darcy: vaguely handsome, mildly amusing, and impossibly aggravating. What could possibly go wrong?

Full of wit, energy, and the absurdities of the high-stakes game of love, this fresh adaptation explores Austen's beloved story in a way that feels surprisingly modern.

"Pride & Prejudice" runs October 15 to 25, 2026, in the Mendocino College Center Theatre, with performances Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 pm, and Sundays at 2 pm. There's also a Pay-What-You-Wish Preview on Thursday, October 15, and the official Opening Night Gala on Friday, October 16. Tickets for the gala are $25, and include food and refreshments starting at 6:30 pm.

Ready to experience this beloved story in a whole new way? Get your tickets and join us at the theater!

Tickets are $20 general admission and $15 for students and seniors. Advance tickets are available online at www.ArtsMendocino.org or at Mendocino Book Company in Ukiah (cash only).

For show details and more information, visit www.mendocino.edu/events



At left: Pomo tribal elder Wanda Quitiquit from Robinson Rancheria smiles with her exquisitely painted and dyed gourds that are on exhibit at the Willits Center for the Arts in October.

'Contemporary Indigenous Art' on exhibit at Art Center in October

Posted by WCA

We enjoyed a wonderful opening last weekend for the "Contemporary Indigenous Art" exhibit, led by Melody Williams, Sherwood Valley Pomo, and Monique Sonoquie, Tongva/ Chumash/ Yaqui/ Irish, with help from Wanda Quitiquit, Eastern Pomo, Lake County.

The exhibit features a collection of upscaled contemporary wearable art by Native families and tribal youth from Mendocino and Lake counties, with Northern Pomo language, recycled materials, and traditional basket designs incorporated into the pieces. Pomo tribal elder Wanda Quitiquit from Robinson Rancheria is also exhibiting her unique painted gourds, which include geometric shapes and Pomo basket designs.



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

"Contemporary Indigenous Art" is open during regular gallery hours, 11 am to 5 pm, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, through October 26, at WCA, 71 East Commercial Street. More information online at willitscenterforthearts.org.

Above: Indigenous artists Melody Williams, at left, and Monique Sonoquie, center, who are featured in the Art Center's October show "Contemporary Indigenous Art," pose with April Jackson, Mono, Pomo, with her beautiful "Three Generations of Basket Weavers" dress.



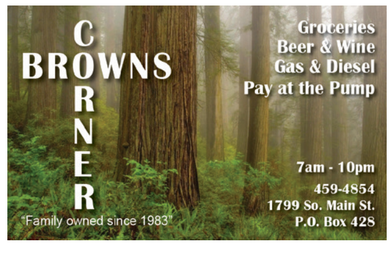




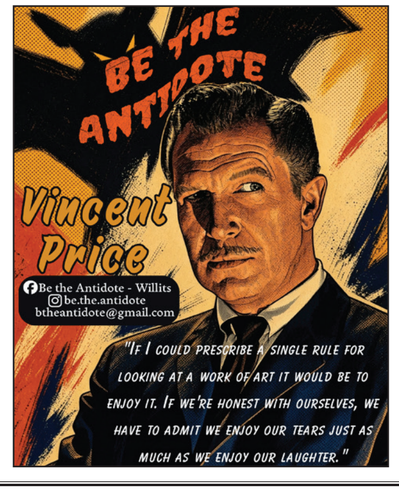














Shanachie Pub Ongoing Events

Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street

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

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

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

Ongoing Events at the Willits Library

Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or 459-5908. Open hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10 am to 7 pm; Friday, 10 am to 6 pm; Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm; Closed Sunday and Monday. Closed Tuesday, October 13 for Indigenous Peoples' Day.

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

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

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

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

Ongoing General

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Literacy Volunteers of Willits: We teach adults to read! Free personal tutoring at the library. Call or email to make an appointment: LiteracyWillits@gmail.com or 707-456-7729.

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

LEGAL NOTICES

WW628

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

GLENN P. PANELLA, AKA GLENN PANELLA, DECEDENT

Case No. 26PR00594

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: GLENN P. PANELLA, aka GLENN PANELLA

A Petition for Probate has been filed by: Patrick Panella and Danielle Kowalke in the Superior Court of California County of: Mendocino

The Petition for Probate requests that: Patrick Panella and Danielle Kowalke be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Publication Dates: October 1, 8 and 15, 2026

LEGAL NOTICES

WW615

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2026-F0345

The following person or persons are doing business as Lunas Health, 291 School St., #2, Willits, CA 95490; mailing address: 422 Larkfield Center #492, Santa Rosa CA 95403; 707-370- 8774

Registered owner: Peds2Psych NP Nursing Corporation, 422 Larkfield Center #492, Santa Rosa CA 95403.

This business is conducted by a corporation.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A.

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk Recorder on September 23, 2026.

/s/ Medie Jesena Parrott, owner

Publication Dates: October 1, 8, 15, 22, 2026

WW628

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2026-F0360

The following person or persons are doing business as Hidden Luxury, 3900 N. State St. SPC 10, Ukiah CA 95482; 707-380-9269.

Registered owner: Brisa Shepherd, 3900 N. State St. SPC 10, Ukiah CA 95482.

This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on October 2, 2026.

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk Recorder on October 2, 2026.

/s/ Brisa Shepherd

Publication Dates: October 15, 22, 29, November 5, 2026

CLASSIFIEDS

Brown Bag Lunch Program

Every Saturday at 1 pm sack lunches are served by local churches, community organizations, and families at Bud Snider Park on East Commercial. Come at 1 pm to be assured a lunch!

Do you need food?

Willits Food Bank, 344 Railroad Avenue, Willits, CA 95490. Open Wednesdays & Fridays, 11 am to 4:30 pm. New Client Choice model where you select your own items. Bring shopping bags, Bring an I.D. Info: (707) 459-3333

For Sale

Barely used Log Splitter. DeWalt 28 Ton, hydraulic 196cc. Bought Sept 2025, Home Depot. Used four days then put in storage. DeWalt 3-yr Limited Warranty. $1,200 or best. Call 707-385-9333

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

For Rent

Small 2 bed 1 bath home in downtown Willits with large back yard and small storage $1650 + Dep. Lincoln Realty: 707-459-4599.

For Rent

Fairly large commercial bay ready for your business. Available now. Rent range $1000 to $1150. Lincoln Realty: 707-459-4599.

Indoor Yard Sale

Giant Indoor Yard Sale – Deep Valley Christian School, 8555 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley, (across from the Broiler). **Saturday, October 24** from 8 am to 4 pm

RV/Trailer Space for Rent

Space for RV's and Trailers – starts at $500 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 972-4696. See at http://www.oaknvine.net/tp

The rest of Mixer | *From page 5*

The pumpkins, Wilkes said, are from Fairy Tale Farms in Bakersfield. "We brought in a few different sizes, miniatures, and gourds. It allows us to offer another thing for people to grab when they're shopping here. The fancy, Cinderella-type pumpkins we brought in will all be used for our succulent class."

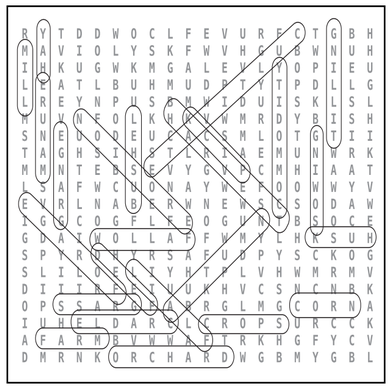
The Gardener's Pantry, the space where Sparetime sold artistic local crafts and esoteric foods, was empty. "We moved all of the Pantry into the store," Wilkes said. "We're going to use the space where the Pantry was for classes or events. We have a class on Sunday; the Pumpkin Succulent class will be inside the Pantry building. We redid most of the store so we could fit it all in. We're looking to host additional events in that space. When we open our Winter Wonderland, it will probably be utilized, when all the Christmas trees are here. We'll probably be doing more classes in there, in the spring."

"We've had a lot of changes here," Hosford added. "We're changing with the times. We've moved the Pantry back into the retail store…. We found it's better to have everything in one building. We have the Gardener's Pantry and the cooler stuff in the back, and the typical nursery and hydroponics in the main store. The commercial sizes are out in the tent. We're trying to keep current, keep offering products the public is looking for. Willits gave rise to Sparetime Supply. We haven't forgotten that, and we try to give back to the community as much as we can, and this is another opportunity to do so."

The Chamber of Commerce officers, President Gary Huddle; Treasurer / Event Coordinator Natalie Spackman; and Secretary/ Event Coordinator Johnnieann Johnstone, attended to support Sparetime. Spackman spoke about future Chamber events, "In November, we're going to have a Skunk Train mixer. December is going to be our Holiday Chamber mixer, which will probably be at our Chamber office. We have "Light Up the Park" on December 12. We're helping to support that.

"Also, Nathaniel Flores is working on his 'License Plates to Dinner Plates' event" Saturday, October 24 at City Park, which the Chamber is helping with, Spackman said. "There are quite a few people behind the scenes that are trying to help him pull it off," she said, helping to get him the venue and the insurance. "He is trying to raise money for Meals on Wheels, for both the Willits and Ukiah Senior Centers."

President Hosford greeted the guests and thanked them all for coming and for their support: "Thank you to the Willits community for all the success for Sparetime over the 43 years. Sparetime is what it is today because of the Willits community. We've never forgotten that. We always try to give back as much as we can."



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

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

ELECT

BUFFEY WRIGHT BOURASSA

MENDOCINO COUNTY SUPERVISOR • DISTRICT 3

Building Bridges. Strengthening Communities.

PROUDLY ENDORSED BY

ORGANIZATIONS

- Advanced Native Political Leadership
- Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians
- Mendocino County Farm Bureau
- North Bay Association of Realtors
- North Bay Labor Council AFL-CIO
- Operating Engineers Local 3
- Planned Parenthood Northern California Action Fund
- Round Valley Indian Tribes
- Service Employees International Union, Local 1021
- Service Employees International Union, Local 2015
- Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians

COMMUNITY LEADERS & SUPPORTERS

Tom Allman
Brandi Alvarado
Jessi Alvarado
Richard Baker
Bob Borba
Carlie Borba
Kathryn Britton
Annette Campbell
Estelle Clifton
Melanie Cogburn
Mary Jane Cummings
Marie Daghlain
Misty Davidson
Alexis England
Guthrie Evans
Gerry Gonzalez
Dereck Goodwin
Mary Guibert
Jennifer M. Sookne
Tina Sutherland
Crystal Thompson
Kathy Tobin
Michael Tobin
Tina Tyler-O'Shea
Aeolian Vincent-de Paule
Sandra Wake
Rolinda Want
Dobbe Wattenberg
Claudia Wening
Joleen J. Whipple
Lynn Williams
Rick Williams
Don Willis
Jonette Wright
Rachel Young
Mary Ziady
Derrick McCain
Jamie O'Malley
Ben O'Neill
Janet Orth
Tony Orth
Sharon Paltin
David Pierce
Breanna Pruitt
Sabrina Pruitt-Elledge
Melanie Rafanan
Monique Ramirez
Michael Reynolds
Jose Carlos Rivera Jr.
Tim Schmadeke
Jeanine Shaffer
Aimee Shaw
Sharon Smith
Patricia Sobrero
Laura Hamburg
Elizabeth Hart
Patrick Hart
Willie Hendry
Yesenia Herrera
Andrea Hickman
Brenda Hitt
Azucena Huerta
Angie Joaquin
Greg Kanne
Steve Kennedy
Jeanne King
Lyndah Kolkmann
Sky Laiwa
Robin Leler
Edwina Lincoln
DeAndre McCain

VOTE BUFFEY • NOVEMBER 3 **TeamBuffey.com**

Paid for by Elect Buffey Bourassa for District 3 Supervisor 2026 FPCC #1488011

Get a free Google Nest smart thermostat.

Installed in your home at no cost.*

*CARE or FERA enrollment required



See if you qualify. Scan or call us.

1 (855) 202-2139

Se habla español

sonomacleanpower.org

Start Saving Money Each Month on Your Energy Bill

- $5 monthly bill credit
- Manage your home's temperature from anywhere
- Easy control from your smartphone

Sonoma Clean Power