Willits Weekly

Online & Print

EST. 2013

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

Donations Accepted Edition No. 663 **Thursday, November 5, 2026**

City council declines offer of Mark Walker folk art

Jennifer Poole
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Willits City Council said "no" to the county's offer to move the Mark Walker folk art sculptures to the Highway 20 park in Willits. The vote at the October 28 meeting was 5 to 0 to say "thanks for the opportunity, but we'll pass."

One suggestion that came up multiple times was that the Mendocino County Museum in Willits would be a better place to display the sculptures.

Willits folk artist Mark Walker (1892-1999) was known for using found materials to craft his charismatic and whimsical sculptures. A group of his sculptures, including his "Pioneer Ensemble" are located off Highway 101 just south of the Ridgewood Grade. Walker donated the statues to Mendocino County in 1988.

The proposal to move the statues to the park along Highway 20 just west of Willits has been discussed at the city council before. Community and Economic Development Director Dusty Duley told councilmembers the issue had also been considered by the city's art and public

Read the rest of Walker

Over on Page 9

Burn ban lifted in Mendocino County

Submitted by CAL FIRE MEU

The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Mendocino Unit has lifted the suspension of residential outdoor burn permits in the unincorporated areas of the county, as of Sunday, November 1, 2026, at 8 am.

CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit Chief Brandon Gunn is formally canceling the burn permit suspension and advises that those possessing current and valid agriculture and residential burn permits can now resume burning on permissible burn days.

Agriculture burns must be inspected by CAL FIRE prior to burning until the end of peak fire season. Inspections may be required for burns other than agriculture burns.

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

Important: CAL FIRE Burn Permits are only for residents who live in the State Responsibility Area, or where CAL FIRE has jurisdiction authority. It is the responsibility of the landowner to check with local fire agencies to

Read the rest of Lifted

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Above, from left: Joy Evans welcomes attendees at the check-in booth. Farmer Eric Reinelt sings "The Garden Song," written by American folk singer-songwriter David Mallett. Maggie smiles by the row of student-carved Jack-o-Lanterns lining the walkway to the path.

At right: Nimka Kurzfeld, Kamala Gardner, and Miles Thornby handed out popcorn balls at the end of their skit.

Photos by Maureen Jennison

In the Garden

Waldorf's Halloween night Enchanted Pumpkin Path event shares stories of kindness, sharing and community

While some enjoy jumps, spooks and scares, there's an amazing alternative for a gentler Halloween experience available for families: the Waldorf School of Mendocino County's Enchanted Pumpkin Path, which was held for the 37th time last Saturday on Halloween evening.

"The Enchanted Pumpkin Path features eight theater vignettes produced by the Waldorf community and brought to life by local volunteer actors," explained WSMC's Eliza Frey. "This beloved tradition is scare-free and family-friendly for kids of all ages. The skits are performed at sites throughout the campus, showcasing the school's amazing collection of costumes, sets and gardens. Healthy and fun treats are handed out at each skit."

Treats included fresh apples and carrots, a honey stick, homemade muffins and popcorn balls, a whimsical spoon, a Witchamaroo felt doll, and a commemorative button. Each item ties to the skit performed, all of which this year were centered around the 2026 theme "In the Garden."

Tickets to the event were sold for time slots between 4:15 and 7:15 pm, with groups of 20 or gathering to go from station to station. After the show, attendees were welcome to enjoy seasonal treats at the Smokey Cauldron Cafe, mingle in the courtyard around the bonfire, and listen to live music by Richard "Tootrees" and Yanahay.

"Thanks to all who came and shared their time and energy!" said Frey. "Happy fall to all, and please do come to the path next Halloween for community, food, music, and grassroots theater!"

The Waldorf School of Mendocino County has been educating local youth for over 50 years. With a focus on a balanced education of head, heart and hand, the school offers a rich curriculum of independent education for children pre-K to 8th grade. Students explore academics, art, music, public speaking, theater, cooking, gardening, and more. Learn more at mendocinowaldorf.org.

– Maureen Jennison









Above, from left: Ari Sunbeam and Shannon Sawyer's skit was focused on sharing and generosity, and the pair handed out carrots to the crowd. Stacy Sheldon plays the recorder as attendees come to sit for her skit with scarecrow Calvin Turnwell. The goodie basket was filled with special treats at the end of the night, including a honey stick, "Witchamaroo" doll, special metal spoon, fresh fruits and veggies, and more. Cliff Paulen was in the poultry skit which handed out mini muffins to attendees. Below, from left: It took a group of four to pull out Farmer Amanda Rosenberg's turnip, including Mike Gutierrez the bear, Lars Brunner the caterpillar, and Chloe Ford the Root Gnome. Richard Tootrees and Yanahay played for the attendees gathering by the bonfire at the end of the path. At bottom: Moira Jordan the sleeping mouse was curled up in her pumpkin dome home. The Stone Soup skit included actors Cherylyn Evans, Katrina Frey, and Nova Palley. Attendees gathered in smaller groups to move from skit to skit around the Waldorf School yard.











Hart leads supervisor's race in early results

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According to the October 3 final Election Night report, with 27.6% of the vote reported, Eric Hart is leading in the Third District Supervisor's race by 54.38% (1,414 votes) to Buffey Bourassa's 45.62% (1,186 votes). These are early results – mostly ballots that the Mendocino County Voter Office received and counted before Election Day.

"We have a lot of ballots left to count," said Registrar of Voters Katrina Bartolomie. "Our objective today [Wednesday] is to get them all scanned in, signatures checked, and sorted into precinct order so we can get a count of what we have left." Bartolomie hopes to get a press release out Thursday with that information.

"It seemed our polling places throughout the county were busy all day," Bartolomie said. "Everything went very smooth; our phones were busy all day up until about 7 pm. We all issued a lot of provisional ballots

Read the rest of Supervisor

Over on Page 9

School board results are close

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The November 3 election results for the Willits Unified School District Board of Trustees show a close race between the four candidates. The top three candidates will be seated.

As of the final Election Night Report, with 29.67% turnout so far, challenger Nicole Karkar is at 26.73% with 1,417 votes; incumbent Jeanne King is at 25.32% with 1,342 votes; Paula Nunez is at 24.07% with 1,276 votes, and Mason Rescina is at 23.88% with 1,266 votes. The three top candidates will be seated.

Most of the ballots reported so far in Willits are ballots received and counted by the voter office before Election Day.

Voter Registrar Katrina Bartolomie said her office had "a lot of ballots left to count." She hopes to get a press release out Thursday with information about how many ballots remain in the Willits school board race.

City Council results

With only two candidates running for two seats on the Willits City Council, both are winners and will be seated in December. As of the Final Election Night Report, with 26.07% turnout reported so far, Robin Leler has received 50.30% (507 votes) and Sherrie Ebyam has received 501% (501 votes).

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

A million thanks

To the Editor:

We guesstimate that over 100 people attended the fun and festive first annual Party in Pink, a Zumba Fundraiser for Breast Cancer Awareness Month, held at the Little Lake Grange on October 23, 2026.

The event's success would not have been possible without the hard work and support of our dedicated volunteers: Mo Mulheren, DJ Juice, Cici Winiger, Amy Bozzo, Tabitha Glenn, Anne Hammond, Mari Padilla, Carlos De Luna, Dakotah Mendoza, Holly Norlin, Erin Fitzpatrick, Mimi Ellis, Maureen Jennison, Julie from Adventist Health, Anya from Cancer Resource Center, Lisa Wilcox, Aimee Dawson and the Loose Caboose Staff, Lea and Miles Fainer, Bob and Donna Raibley, Bella Glenn, Kassidy Noonan, RJ from the Grange, Claudia Wenning, the Bozzo Family, Kristin Eschleman, Sharmila Bimal Patel, Dulce Antojo, Dana Kocher, Starr Marzano-Herman, Dee Bekman, Varsha Shah, Erin Corely, Crystal Facer, Franky Campos, Jennifer Lutge, Deven Mistry, Sadie Urdahl, and Maggie Young – all of whom helped with everything from setup and cleanup to the bake sale, sound, MC duties, photos, videos, decorations, speakers, dancing, creating the dedication wall, and raffles.

Special thanks go to all of our generous local sponsors: The Loose Caboose, Esthetics by Eden, Grocery Outlet, DeLuna Balloons, Monkey Wrench, Flourish & Flow Mendo, East Side Ranch, El Mex, Kids Corner, Creekside Inn & Suites, Good Guys Gym, Hidden Gem, Cozy Casita Airbnb, Ace Copy, Mariposa Market, Skunk Train, Brickhouse Coffee, Willits Weekly, The Munchery, Brown's Corner, Flowers By Annette, Cat's Meow, Chamber of Commerce, Cookies by Kathleen, Elevibration, JD Redhouse, Rise & Thrive Empowerment, Whistlestop, Toy Depot, Kemmy's Pies, Skin by K, Impressions Studio, Pampered Chef, El Chicano, Rise & Thrive with Kass, Quantum Level Health, Western Village, Adventist Health, and Long Valley Health.

We had so many volunteers. We apologize in advance if we forgot to mention anyone that helped. It was a great community effort, and we thank all of you for making this happen!

Our sincerest appreciation to all of the attendees that came out to support this event. We are deeply grateful for this community's enthusiasm and participation. Together we raised nearly

$4,000 for The Cancer Resource Centers of Mendocino County so they can continue providing valuable services to our community members, and for that, our community should be PROUD.

The Party in Pink Fundraiser Coordinators

Honoring our veterans with wreaths

To the Editor:

As the holiday season approaches, I'm reaching out with a simple request: Help us ensure that every veteran laid to rest in our community is remembered.

This year, alongside American Legion Post 174, Willits 4-H, and Willits FFA, we're working toward placing wreaths on all 500 marked veteran graves at Willits Cemetery, Little Lake Cemetery, and Sherwood Cemetery through Wreaths Across America.

When I sat down and did the math, I realized it would take about $6,000 in sponsorships to reach our goal. That's a big number for a small community, but if there's one thing I've learned, it's that Willits always shows up when it matters.

Each wreath sponsored is more than a holiday decoration. It's a personal expression of gratitude. It's a way of saying, "Your service mattered. You are remembered."

A wreath sponsorship is just $17, and through our local sponsorship group, $5 from every wreath sponsored goes toward our Pay It Forward fund, helping provide additional wreaths for veterans who might otherwise go without one. Every wreath sponsored doesn't just honor one veteran, it helps us honor even more.

Our mission is simple: Honor. Remember. Teach.

We invite the community to join us for our Wreath Laying Ceremony on December 19, 2026, at 9 am at Willits Cemetery on Highway 20. It's a moving event that reminds us of the sacrifices made by the men and women who served our nation and the importance of passing their stories on to future generations.

To sponsor a wreath:

- $17 sponsors one wreath
- Online: wreathsacrossamerica.org/CA0199
- Location: Search "Willits, CA 95490"
- Group ID: CA0199

Sponsorship forms are also available at the Willits Chamber of Commerce, 299 East Commercial Street, Willits, Tuesday through Friday from 10 am to 4 pm.

Whether you sponsor a wreath, attend the ceremony, or simply help spread the word, thank you. Together, we can ensure that every veteran in our community is honored and remembered this holiday season.

Natalie Spackman, Willits coordinator,
Wreaths Across America

Dutch Charlie Creek

To the Editor:

I would like to provide a rebuttal to the Friends of Dutch Charlie Creek's accusations to two harvest plans: Lincoln Logs and Hot Tuna. These plans are the target of one man: Phillip McGarvey, who caretakes the neighboring property: Wildlands Inc. His claims use language commonly used in harvest plans in order to demonize the loggers carrying out these operations, because of a lack of understanding of modern logging practices. I'm not here to say logging has always been easy on the land or that McGarvy's concerns aren't legitimate. I will, however, explain some of the rigorous regulations logging companies are required to follow.

In the past, logging was severely detrimental to the land and the rivers running through it. The men who harvested the old growth didn't do this maliciously, but because they were working with primitive tools and giant logs! They also didn't do it arbitrarily just to kill off every old growth tree. They logged the old growth because they were supplying a demand for lumber to build cities, and there was a vast untouched resource to meet this demand. They cut giant trees down with axes and crosscut saws and pulled them out with oxen, then steam donkeys, then bulldozers. The latter of which we still see the impacts of and most of the forest is still recovering from.

Today things are different. Logging in California is governed by the Forest Practice rules which were enacted to regulate an industry that had no regulations, and was inadvertently tearing down mountains because there was no thought of the future and the destruction of mountains due to erosion. Here's a brief history of their origin and purpose from google:

"The Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973: Passed by the Legislature, this landmark act forms the foundation of modern private forest regulation. It requires private timber harvests to be planned by a State-Registered Professional Forester (RPF) through a Timber Harvesting Plan (THP) submitted to CAL FIRE for review and approval."

"CEQA Integration (1975–1976): Courts ruled that state-approved timber harvests qualified as "projects" under the

Read the rest of Letters | Over on page 11

THIRD DISTRICT
SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

November 2026

By Supervisor John Haschak

Since the deadline for this article is before the November 3 election, I don't have any comment on it except that I hope that you all exercised your right to vote. Good luck to those elected in dealing with the many issues we have before us. Appreciation to all of those who stepped up and ran for office, helped others run for office, informed themselves and neighbors, and contributed to decent, civic dialogue about what was on the ballot.

The Board hired a CEO and County Counsel. The Board did extensive, lengthy searches for these two positions. The CEO is Sara Pierce. She has years of experience in the County and is a hard worker and even-keeled. Michael Rossi is the new County Counsel. He has 30 years of experience working in the County Counsel's office of Santa Clara. I appreciate that Kit Elliott came out of retirement to fill in as County Counsel while this search was ongoing.

The Library Advisory Board came up with a Ten-Year Plan for capital improvements for the libraries using Measure O funding. The Board approved their plan. This will provide for all the libraries in the County along with the extensive renovation of the Willits library. We are all fortunate to have dedicated people who have volunteered their time to make libraries the quality pillars they are in our communities.

The General Government Committee received a presentation by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration about the impending Super El Niño. We move so quickly from fires to floods. It is important for individuals, neighborhoods, and governmental agencies to be prepared for power outages, road closures, and lack of communication. The County Office of Emergency Services and local fire departments are preparing for flood events. For more information on preparing for floods, go to Mendoready.org.

At the most recent Board meeting, Supervisor Williams and I, acting as the housing ad hoc committee, shared information about current county and state building regulations for residential permits, the history of past amnesty programs and possible future amnesty programs, and potential areas of housing growth. The high cost of septic systems, lack of infrastructure (water and sewer), and the willingness of areas to grow were discussed. The State tells the County to allow for more housing while the options are limited and challenging.

Veterans Day is November 11. Much gratitude for all our veterans along with the American Legion Posts and other organizations and communities that support the many veterans that we have in Mendocino County. On Tuesday, we honored the 59 veterans who work for the County.

The next Talk with the Supervisor will be on Monday, November 9, from 10 to 11 am at Brickhouse Coffee. You can always contact me at haschakj@mendocinocounty.gov or call 707-972-4214.

Congressman-elect Mike McGuire's statement on win in CA-01

SANTA ROSA, CA – California State Senator Mike McGuire released the following statement on Election Night after results showed him scoring a decisive win in California's First Congressional District.

"Folks from every corner of Northern California spoke up, turned out, and delivered an overwhelming message – they're tired of the constant chaos and an economy that works against them. They want bold leadership that delivers on a promise to make life better for working families, saves healthcare for millions of Americans, and fights for an economy that works for all.

"I'm truly honored and grateful for the overwhelming support – and ready to put in the work to deliver for every community in every corner of the North State."

Editor's Note: The Associated Press has called the newly redrawn District 1 race for Mike McGuire, with 50% of the vote reported, showing Democrat McGuire with 57.03% (88,089 votes) to Republican James Gallagher at 42.97 percent (66,369 votes).

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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

Willits Weekly

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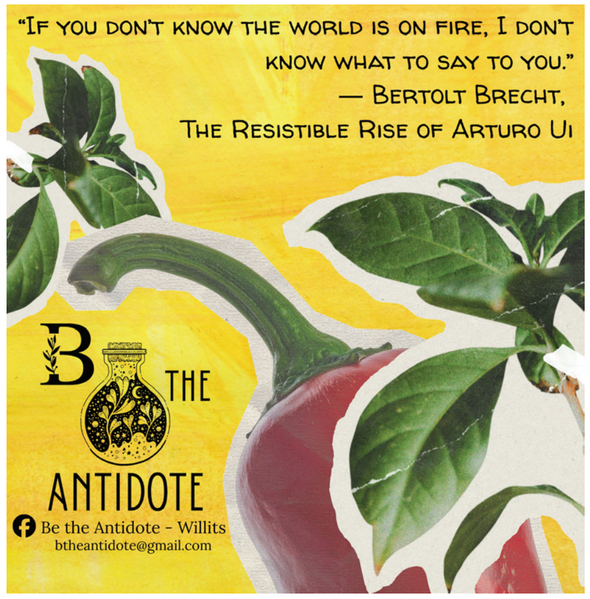


Getting out to Vote

Above, from left: Fall leaves and 'I VOTED" stickers go hand in hand in the first days of November. Battots in out-going mailboxes are collected by the United States Postal Service and delivered promptly to be counted. While some folks choose to vote in person, voting by mail and handing the ballot to the United States Post Office is an easy way to vote ahead of the big day. Below, left: Ballot drop-off stations are also a great option to get your ballot in early; the drop box outside the City of Willits accepted ballots ahead of Tuesday's official voting day.



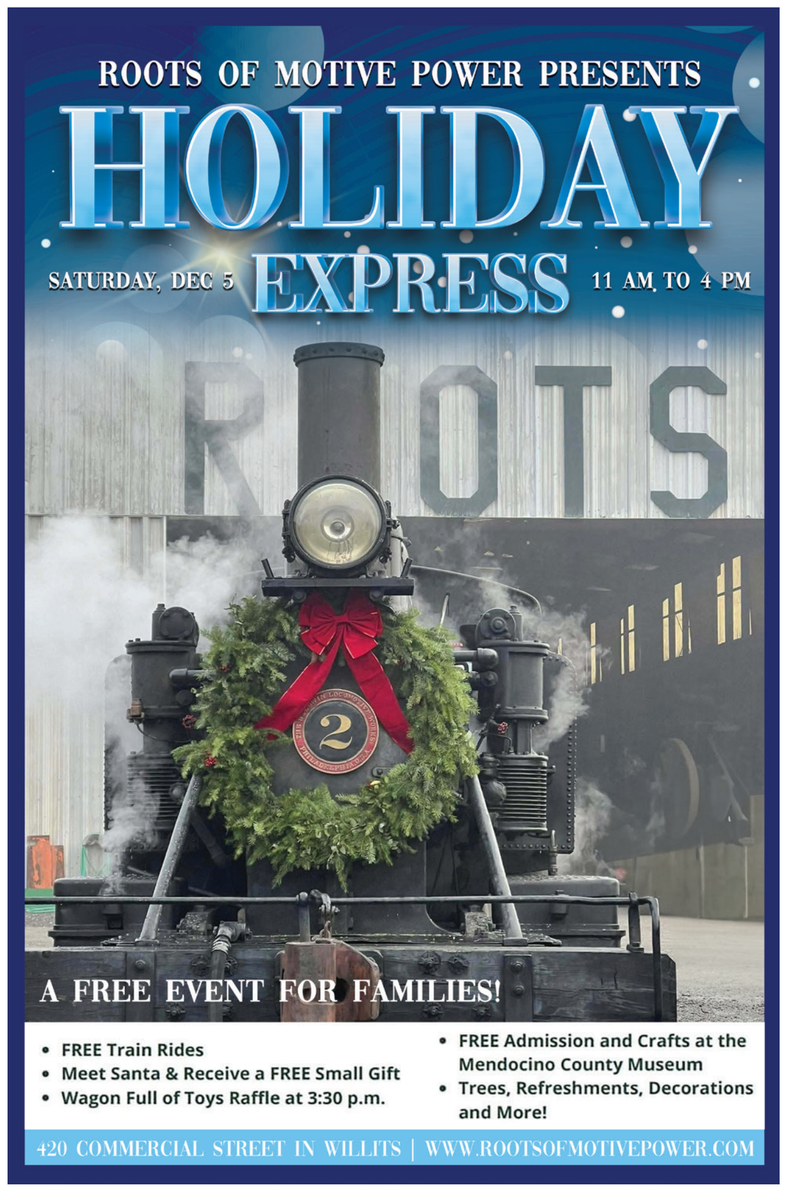
















Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PAGE 11

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

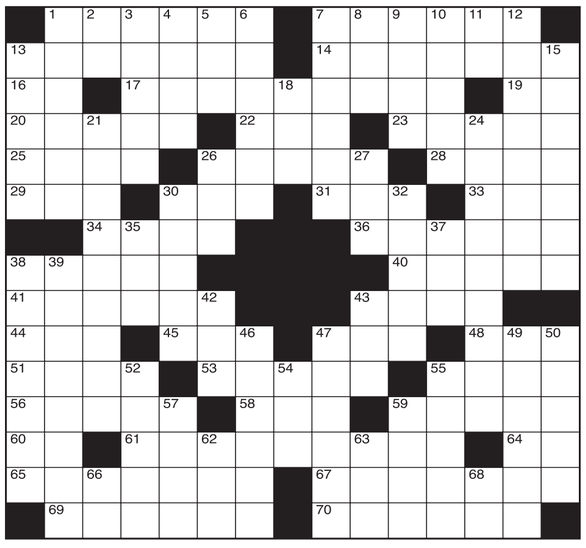
HOW TO SUDOKU

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!

FOOD GARDEN WORD SEARCH

P	Q	L	S	U	L	C	B	S	E	E	L	S	K	H	L	I	O	S	Z
R	A	N	K	E	P	K	T	C	W	S	T	H	Y	M	E	C	B	P	U
D	I	P	S	E	H	S	R	E	P	P	E	P	D	B	G	S	C	O	K
F	A	N	P	T	S	S	L	K	O	E	G	S	E	H	S	A	U	Q	S
S	A	K	I	O	O	E	I	G	Z	M	K	S	G	E	K	C	I	P	B
Z	H	I	D	H	T	R	I	D	H	I	L	O	C	K	C	R	B	Q	R
L	U	S	B	F	C	A	R	T	A	R	G	P	Y	C	L	F	T	D	B
Y	Z	M	C	R	E	C	T	U	R	C	C	H	H	L	R	C	S	M	E
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N	G	L	Q	C	G	L	N	Z	P	E	S	T	N	S	I	A	A	L	D
C	O	Y	S	O	P	A	I	N	P	S	U	Y	A	A	U	E	E	O	S
L	O	S	D	R	L	B	K	I	M	C	H	B	T	C	R	S	B	U	R
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H	E	F	S	K	K	F	F	R	E	B	Y	P	K	A	C	A	W	O	M
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AMEND
BASIL
BEANS
BROCCOLI
CARROTS
CORN
CUCUMBERS
EGGPLANTS
FRESH
HEALTHY
LETTUCE
PARSLEY
PEAS
PEPPERS
PICK
POTATOES
RADISHES
SOIL
SPINACH
SQUASHES
STRAWBERRIES
THYME
TOMATOES
ZUCCHINI



CLUES ACROSS

1. Spiritual leaders
7. Containing salt
13. Fortified wine
14. Edible mollusk
16. Blood type
17. Make a comparison
19. Government lawyer
20. 'Game of Thrones' actor Ciaran
22. 8th month of the year (abbr.)
23. Very willing
25. __ ex machina
26. Satisfies
28. New Zealand mountain
29. A doctrine
30. Popular Dodge truck model
31. Dekagram
33. Naturally occurring solid material
34. Company higher-up
36. Villains
38. Cricket frog genus
40. Influential early psychologist
41. Endured
43. Servant
44. You can get stuck in one
45. __ and feather
47. Passive optical network
48. French ballet dynasty
51. Employee stock ownership plan
53. Forming a bottom layer
55. Sound
56. Yankees slugger Judge
58. Dickens character
59. Beloved late sportscaster Craig
60. 'The Mount Rushmore State'
61. Sarcastic and critical
64. Atomic #79
65. Longtime Atlanta Braves pitcher
67. Humor
69. Shawl
70. Preliminary assessment of patients

CLUES DOWN

1. Animal disease
2. Commercial
3. Craft supplies
4. Containers
5. A way to save for your golden years
6. Common Arabic greeting
7. Bulged downward
8. Acquired brain injury
9. Lay about
10. Intestinal
11. Not yes
12. In a way, pleased
13. Messianic figure in Islam
15. Resulting from intense conviction
18. Not in
21. Number above the line in a fraction
24. Lawn pest
26. Pouch
27. Ancient language (abbr.)
30. Start anew
32. Wild flower
35. Fourteen
37. Graphical user interface
38. Facing the same way
39. Campaigns
42. Touch lightly
43. 'Boardwalk Empire' actress Gretchen
46. Violent seizure of property
47. One who supports the Pope
49. Malaise
50. Body fluid
52. Inauthentic person
54. Title of respect
55. Moth genus
57. Central Japan city
59. Silk garment
62. Draw from
63. Automobile
66. A male
68. Powerful government lawyer

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT

POLICE LOG

October 19 to October 25

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department reported **76 incidents** in this 7-day period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

October 19

12:24 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 500 block of Coast Street and issued a warning.

12:30 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of Coast Street and issued a citation.

1:03 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of East Commercial Street and South Humboldt Street and issued a warning.

1:46 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 300 block of North Main Street and issued a warning.

6:19 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of Holly Street.

October 20

12:42 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

5:20 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

5:32 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of East San Francisco Avenue.

October 21

9:34 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

10:03 am: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of West Commercial Street and School Street and issued a warning.

10:08 am: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Central Street and South Street and issued a warning.

4:40 pm: REDFEARN, Ayden Gregory (18) of Redwood Valley was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on felony charges of assault with a deadly weapon other than a firearm.

October 22

10:04 am: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and East Commercial Street and issued a warning.

10:06 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of Wood Street.

10:27 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

4:36 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

October 23

8:56 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 900 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

9:43 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 200 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

9:47 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of South Main Street.

12:07 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of Barbara Lane and issued a warning.

1:43 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of East Oak Street and South Main Street and issued a citation.

3:35 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of Coast Street and issued a warning.

3:43 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of Coast Street and issued a warning.

October 24

10:12 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 900 block of South Main Street.

12:24 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of South Main Street.

4:41 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 600 block of Central Street and issued a warning.

4:54 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

5:08 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of West Valley Street and South Main Street and issued a warning.

October 25

7:28 am: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and West Highway 20 and issued a warning.

10:32 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 200 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning.

10:41 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

1:38 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 200 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

2:34 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

5:12 pm: GOFORTH, Brady Kevin (60) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of East Commercial Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of failure to appear.

Covelo man arrested for shooting

By Sergeant J. Woida, for MCSO

On October 31, 2026 at approximately 2:50 am, Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputies were dispatched to the area of Howard Street and Main Street in Covelo, for a reported assault with a firearm.

Sheriff's deputies responded to the area, including the Covelo Resident Deputy, who located the 33-year-old male victim (name withheld) in the 29000 block of Howard Street. The victim was seated in his vehicle and had sustained a gunshot wound to his leg. The victim reported he had been in the 58000 block of Main Street retrieving a car battery when he was confronted by Tyler Vann, a 27-year-old male from Covelo, who was armed with a firearm.

Emergency medical personnel responded and began treating the victim's injury. The victim was flown to an out-of-county hospital by air ambulance. The victim's medical status is unknown as of publishing this press release on November 1.

Sheriff's deputies initiated an investigation into the shooting based on the information reported. The investigation included identifying the shooting scene, obtaining and executing a search warrant to process the scene and search Vann's residence, and conducting witness interviews.

Based on the investigation, including physical evidence located at the scene, Sheriff's deputies determined the shooting occurred during the early morning hours of October 31, 2026. Vann was alerted to the victim's presence near Main Street and Howard Street in Covelo, within proximity to Vann's residence. Vann obtained a firearm, exited his residence, and approached the male subject as he was leaving the area. Vann confronted the victim over an alleged theft and, ultimately, discharged his firearm into the victim's vehicle, striking the victim in his leg.

Based on the circumstances, physical evidence, and positioning of the parties involved, Sheriff's deputies did not find evidence indicating the victim presented an imminent threat of physical harm to Vann at the time of the shooting.

Sheriff's deputies determined there was probable cause to arrest Vann for 245(a)(2) PC – Assault with a firearm, and 12022.5(a) PC – Personal use of a firearm during the commission of a violent felony.

Vann was arrested for the above charges and transported to the Mendocino County Jail. Vann was later released from custody after posting $80,000 bail.

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.

Meet Snowflake and her kittens at HSIMC on Saturday

Join the Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County on Saturday, November 7, to meet sweet mama Snowflake and her adorable, playful kittens, Miso and Pumpkin Spice! Here is what their foster has to say about these two little ones:

Miso: An energetic kitten who loves to run and play, Miso is very curious and interested in everything. She will run right up to you when she sees you and gives the best snuggles. Pumpkin Spice: A total talker who will meow when she sees you and has a lot to say! She loves to snuggle close, her favorite spot is right on your shoulder by your neck, and she loves to play and climb up the cat scratching tower.

Come on down and find your next furry best friend!

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.

Below, from left: Mama Snowflake, Miso and Pumpkin Spice.









Above: Participants in the annual Willits Toy Run pose in the lobby of the Little Lake Grange.

Save the Date: Willits Toy Run, November 29

The Willits Wild Bunch and Frontier Days Christmas Program is gearing up for our 35th Annual Willits Toy Run, set for Sunday, November 29, 2026.

Meet & Greet at Evergreen Shopping Center. Pack ride leaves at noon, and we'll be escorted through town by Little Lake Fire Department and Brooktrails Fire Department – and a beautiful ride through Little Lake Valley to the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street.

All bikes, all riders, and all non-riders welcome! Admission: One unwrapped toy and/or $10 donation.

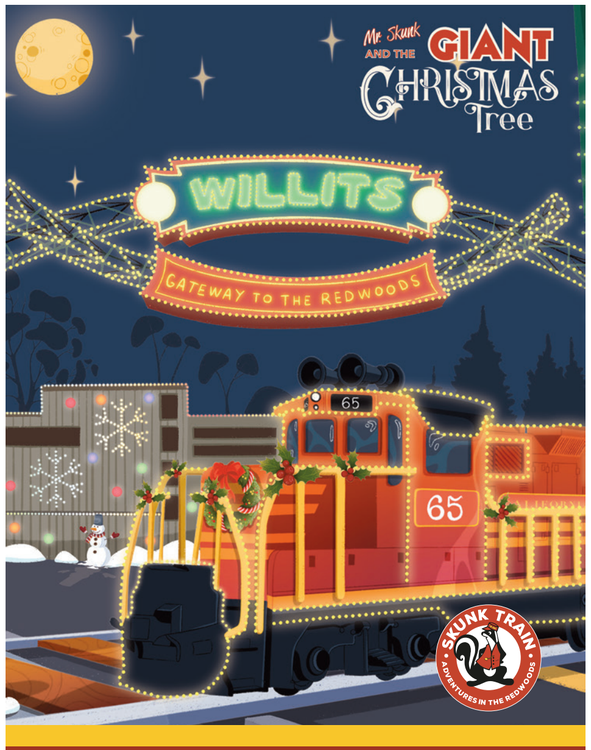
Enjoy music by DJ Mikey T with FREE lunch! – donations appreciated – 50/50 raffle, raffle prizes, and a separate Canik 9mm pistol raffle. Beverages available by donation.

You don't have to ride a motorcycle to make a difference! This is about so much more than motorcycles. It's about community coming together, giving back, and making sure our local kids experience a little extra Christmas magic! So grab your friends, spread the word, and come be part of this wonderful Willits tradition! Let's show up big for our local families in need!











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.

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- ECK Light & Sound Services

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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.
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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
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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

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Mendocino Transit Authority



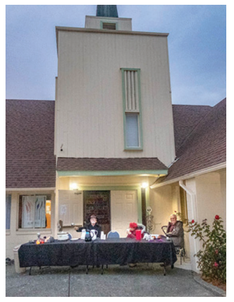












At far left: This 9-foot skeleton greeted those who dared to enter the Haunted Fire Station. At left: A scary creature from Camp Miasma found its way into the parking lot. Above, from left: The Truck or Treat in the Monkey Wrench parking lot offered a pumpkin-filled photo area. Willits Fire Chief Eric Alvarez and his two daughters Kylie and Alyssa pose with a smile, despite the ghosts behind them. Several animatronic creatures popped out at people inside the Little Lake Fire Station. Things One and Two (Gracie and Madison Bouthillier) and The Cat in the Hat (Lucy Guiardo) delighted kids with their candy at the Truck or Treat. The Willits United Methodist Church offered hot and cold drinks, cider, cocoa, and coffee to passersby. At right: Halloween is a time of excess, and this home across from the Methodist Church is a fine example.

Willits Halloween

Trick or treaters and families had plenty of scary sights and fun events in town this year

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
willitsweekly@gmail.com

It's interesting that Halloween, a celebration of the dead, makes the city come alive.

Last Saturday, the town of Willits was abuzz with spooky sights, sounds, and costumes as kids and adults dressed up as their favorite characters of TV, movies, legends, and creatures of time-worn tales by the Grimm Brothers and other literary tropes.

Halloween tradition hasn't changed much over the generations: Trick or treaters dress in costumes and pick up candy door to door or at the special events offered in their areas. Halloween is a chance to realize fantasies, to allow oneself to be scared and thrilled, to party on the streets. Willits offered many choices of places to check out in 2026, and many families could be found at almost all of them.

The Mendocino County Museum offered three days of "Spooky Fun," for the littles. "This is just a little activity for kids to come down with their families," said curator Lindsay Dick. "Sometimes, bigger, scarier kids are a little too much for young ones, so we set up a little station here at the Wonacott Room. We have a pumpkin coloring station. Our staff member Barry got us some cute little Halloween books. Some kids can get overstimulated, and this is just a nice room where they can go at their own pace. We have a trunk full of costumes that the kids can wear for our photo booth, with our pumpkin patch. We had volunteers come and decorate the pumpkins. It's a backdrop. They can dress up in some western wear, Victorian wear, get their photo taken."

The Little Lake Fire Station set up a spooktacular haunted house with two sides, one for those who really want to get scared and creeped out, and one a little less macabre for the young ones. "We have a little kid section set up, not as scary for the little ones," explained Fire Chief Eric Alvarez. "They will enter through the arch, get some candy. We have a backdrop if they want some pictures. Then, they'll go to the petting zoo." Administrative Assistant Michelle Schnitzius greeted the kids on the tamer side, while Captain Harry So made sure those who were brave enough to venture through the scary side were greeted with strange creatures and dropping bodies and plenty of jump scares.

"We were able to expand the scary experience this year," said So. "This is our third or fourth annual Haunted Firehouse. Every year, we try to make it just a little bit more intricate and a little smoother. We usually get about 200 to 300 people through the house." The fire department thanks Eric and Tatum Hart for the use of the many Halloween decorations that are usually at the Art Center.

In the parking lot between Moon Lady and Monkey Wrench, several businesses and individuals created a "Truck or Treat" event in which costumed

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

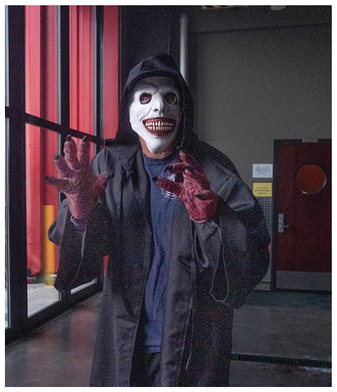
















At top, left: Fire Captain Harry So, center, with two of his friends outside the entrance to Little Lake Fire's haunted fire station. At top, right: Ursula and Ariel emerged from their home in the sea to enjoy a Halloween in Willits. Above, left: This young "fear leader" is trying to decide which treat she wants to go home with. Above, right: Marcia Kennedy is ready to offer the costumed kids a choice of candies at her well-decorated house across from the Methodist Church. At right: The well-costumed SWAT team and the Willits Police showed up to appropriate some candy from the Sheriff's Trunk or Treat. At far right: Jessica and Phoenix Clark brought most of their family to the Truck or Treat between Moon Lady and Monkey Wrench.





Above, left: One of the scary creatures that found inside the Little Lake Fire bays on Halloween. Above, right: Napolean Dynamite was ready to do some trick or treating and enjoy causing general mayhem. At left: Saint John's Lutheran Church offered free hot dogs, drinks, and healthy treats to families about to go trick or treating in the Northbrook area.

Photos by Mathew Caine



Winners of Northspur Brewing's Pumpkin Carving Contest

Posted by Northspur Brewing Co.

A huge congratulations to the winners of our 2nd Annual Northspur Pumpkin Carving Contest! We had some seriously spooky and creative entries this year, and YOU, our customers, got to decide the winners!

From left to right, category winners in the front row: Spookiest Kid Category: Ceiba; Most Creative Kid Category: Oscar; Spookiest Adult Category: Emily; Most Creative Adult Category: Myranda.

Our lucky winners are taking home gift certificates to some fantastic local businesses – The Book Juggler, The Munchery, and Flying Dog Pizza!

A massive thank you to everyone who carved a pumpkin, cast a vote, and helped make this year's contest so much fun! We love seeing our community get into the Halloween spirit, and we couldn't have done it without you!

Happy Halloween from all of us at Northspur!

At left: The array of scary, funny and cute carved pumpkins from Northspur's Halloween contest. Photo courtesy of Northspur Brewing

Eric HART
FOR MENDOCINO SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 3
THANK YOU, DISTRICT 3!
Over the past several months, I have met and listened to so many people across District 3, and learned even more about the communities we all call home. Your concerns, ideas, and commitment to our communities have stayed with me.
To everyone who volunteered, donated, endorsed, put up a sign, knocked on doors, or offered encouragement, thank you for your trust and time. And to everyone who participated in this election, no matter whom you supported, thank you.
We may not always agree, but we all have a stake in Mendocino County's future. Whatever the final vote count, I am grateful for this experience and believe our greatest strength is working together to find practical solutions.
Our future is something we build together.
With gratitude, Eric Hart
STRONGER TOGETHER
Paid for by Eric Hart for Supervisor 2026

GRINCH & SANTA PHOTOS
BY MAUREEN JENNISON
$5 DONATION PER GROUP – DIGITAL IMAGES ONLY
SEE the GRINCH
Sunday: 11/29/26:
10 am to 1 pm
at TOY DEPOT
SEE SANTA
Sunday: 12/16/26:
12- to 4 pm
at JD REDHOUSE

THANK YOU, DISTRICT 3
To everyone who voted for me, volunteered, donated, displayed a sign, or offered encouragement, thank you for standing with me.
You gave your time, energy, and resources because you care about our communities. Every door knocked, every call made, and every conversation shared helped make this campaign possible. I do not take your support for granted.
Thank you for opening your doors, sharing your concerns and ideas, and placing your trust in me. I am proud of the work we did together and deeply grateful to everyone who helped along the way.
My commitment to listening, showing up, and working for our communities continues.
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Thursday, November 5

Willits Farmers Market: Join your neighbors at Fall Market indoors for the first week at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, on Thursday, November 5 from 3 to 5 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.

Friday, November 6



Bug Guts at Shanachie: Local duo Bug Guts, featuring Rosebud and Scott Ireland, play alternative folk rock and folk punk, Friday, November 6 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Saturday, November 7

'Grassland & Meadow Gathering' in Laytonville: A forum on stewardship and restoration on Saturday, November 7 from 10 am to 6:30 pm, at Harwood Hall, with a field trip scheduled for attendees on Sunday, November 8. Community / resource tabling, panel discussions, speakers, lightning talks, free food – lunch and dinner served. Funding provided in part by CA Fish & Wildlife's Cannabis Restoration Grant program. Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville.



'The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui' at WCT: a mixed-media, sit-down reading of German playwright Bertolt Brecht's provocative warning against the rise of an authoritarian regime, the story of a strongman gangster who seizes control of the vegetable trade in Chicago and Cicero, Illinois, during the Great Depression. Directed by Mary Guibert; produced by Mike A'Dair. Saturday, November 7 at 7 pm, and Sunday, November 8 at 2 pm. Willits Community Theatre Playhouse, 37 West Van Lane, behind Shanachie Pub. Attendance at the readings is by donation.



Cosmic Family Band at Shanachie: An original psychedelic family band happy to play music and extend Peace, Love, and Positivity. They invite you to come and let your creative juices flow (dance, art, crafts, circus acts, etc.) as they embark on a musical journey through the Universe. Saturday, November 7 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Sunday, November 8

'The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui' at WCT: a mixed-media, sit-down reading of German playwright Bertolt Brecht's provocative warning against the rise of an authoritarian regime. Sunday, November 8 matinee at 2 pm. See November 7 listing for more details.

Wednesday, November 11



2nd Chance for Pets at Willits Food Bank: Helping pets in need: Free flea and tick medicine, collars, leashes, jackets, and limited amount of flea/tick meds for cats. Wednesday, November 11 from 11 am to 2 pm (or as long as supplies last), at Willits Food Bank, 344 Railroad Avenue.

Thursday, November 12

Willits Farmers Market: Join your neighbors at Fall Market indoors at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, on Thursday, November 12 from 3 to 5 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.

Friday, November 13

'Day of Vengeance': A screening of "Day of Vengeance," a movie made in Round Valley, at the Round Valley Branch Library, 23925 Howard Street, on Friday, November 13, 6:45 pm. Rated TV-14 – Western violence and bloody scenes. Winner "Best Action Film" Staten Island Film Festival, 2009.

Rising Signs at Shanachie: Northern California-style classic rock reggae and Irie original music. Friday, November 13 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Saturday, November 14

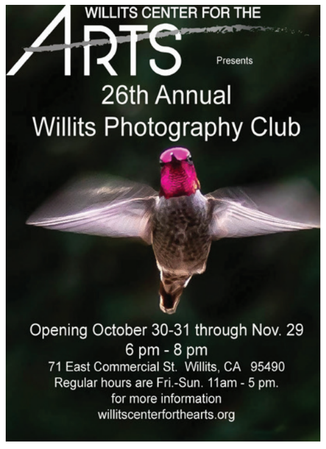


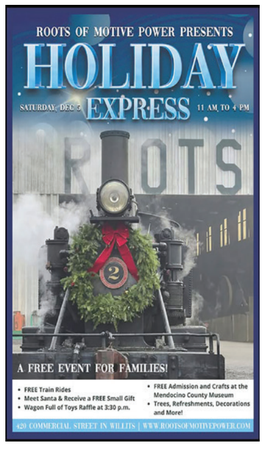
Dirty Cello at WCT: high energy blues, bluegrass and rock with a unique spin, fronted by virtuoso cellist Rebecca Roudman, returns to Willits. Saturday, November 14 at 7 pm at the Willits Community Theatre Playhouse, 37 West Van Lane. Previous four Willits shows have sold out, so early tickets are advised, available online for $25 at wctperformingartscenter.org, or at the door until sold out.

Kitty Rose at Shanachie: Kitty Rose is the musical alter ego of Americana/classic country singer-songwriter and public radio programmer Katharine Cole. Saturday, November 14 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.













Willits Photography Club at WCA through November 29

The Willits Photography Club is showing its 26th annual show of photography by its members at the Willits Center for the Arts through November 29, featuring work that captures beauty, mystery, drama, humor, and the unexpected world around us. 71 East Commercial Street. Gallery hours: Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 5 pm.

Pete Sawyer and The Left Hand Monkey Wrench Gang, November 21

Pete Sawyer and The Left Hand Monkey Wrench Gang features some of California's finest interpreters of Grateful Dead music. Pete and The Gang will play two fat sets of "all killer – no filler" Grateful Dead classics, deep cuts and unexpected gems at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, Saturday, November 21, 8 pm. $25.



The rest of Supervisor From page 1

or conditional ballots that will be processed after we've processed all the vote by mail ballots.

"We have a lot of work to do!" she concluded.

DOJ demand letter

Bartolomie was one of the county voter registrars across California that got a letter from the Department of Justice, dated October 23, stating: "Within 48 hours, we ask that you commit to working with DOJ and DHS to identify who on the accompanying list is a citizen and who is not." In Mendocino County, the letter alleges there are 23 "likely aliens" registered to vote.

Like the other California voter registrars, Bartolomie refused the demand.

"It would be illegal for my office to withhold otherwise valid ballots based only on the assertions made in your letter," Katrina Bartolomie replied that same day.

California counties started counting ballots when early voting started on October 5. Ballot envelopes are checked to verify voter registration information and signature, and then the ballots are separated to be tallied. Ballots themselves have no identifying information on them, so once separated, it would be impossible for any voter office to pull out already processed ballots to "segregate" them.

One analysis by an immigrants rights group of the names submitted to California voter registrars found 40% of names weren't on the voter rolls at all, and others did not have enough information to find the voter registration.

"Within 48 hours," the letter continued, "we ask that you commit to working with DOJ and DHS to identify who on the accompanying list is a citizen and who is not. That means sending us the nonpublic information associated with each suspected alien's registration, which includes everything in your possession from the following: a social security number, a copy of a state ID or driver's license or the information that appears on it, a copy of the voter registration application supporting the registration, and a copy or list of documents that were presented by the registrant at the time the person registered to vote or obtained their driver's license if registered as part of motor voter."

The letter concluded with a final threat: "The Department strongly urges you and your agency to work with the Department of Justice to ensure the integrity of California's federal elections before taking actions that risk significant federal scrutiny and legal exposure."

The rest of Lifted From page 1

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

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

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

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

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

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





Above, left: Mark Walker's "Pioneer Ensemble" in its current location off Highway 101. Photo from Willits City Council agenda. Above, right: Mark Walker, circa 1988, with his "Bull" sculpture. Photo courtesy Mendocino County Museum

The rest of Walker From page 1

spaces committee, which concluded that "relocating those sculptures to the highway park does serve some value to the community, does allow them to be in a location that is more visible to the traveling public as well as community members."

The committee also suggested that if the city were to add more art to the Highway 20 park, currently the home of the Pinwheel statue donated to the city by Jane Camp, that a master plan would be better instead of a piecemeal approach

The committee also recognized that the city council "would have to take on the responsibility of analyzing the liability and future costs associated with relocating the sculptures."

Mayor Tom Allman started the council discussion by noting: "That's Highway 20, Caltrans' highway, and there's no parking there. And you know, if you build it, they will come. And so now we're contemplating putting the sculptures along a park where there's zero parking spots, which will either create an illegal parking situation, with people pulling over," or impacts to surrounding areas with tourists looking for a place to park to walk to see the sculptures.

"I've gone down there and I've studied it," Allman continued, "and as much as I'd love to have more sculptures – for every reason: for culture, tourists and locals, I think we're looking at some potential problems, and we haven't identified them yet."

"I still think it's more appropriate to have that displayed at the museum than at that location," Councilmember Bruce Burton weighed in. "You know, art is a personal expression, and to me that doesn't enhance that area in my opinion. I acknowledge those other problems exist as well, but I think the county is looking for a soft landing for themselves, and I'm not all that sympathetic to that."

Councilmember Gerry Gonzalez noted that the Pinwheel sculpture currently at the park "doesn't lend itself to be jumped on when the kids are leaving Baechtel Grove and they hang around there, whereas the ox and man there might prove too tempting. I guess having been a cop for 30 years, you always figure out how people might mess with something … and now we'd be on the hook to fix it."

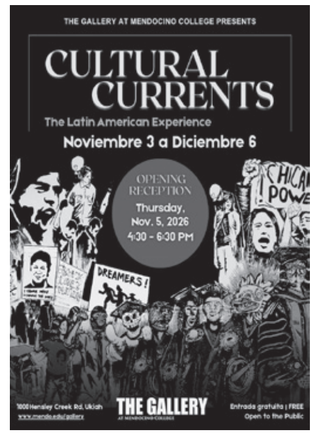
"There's a lot of unanswered questions," Mayor Allman added, "and finances are a big part of the unanswered questions. You know, we have a lot of employees that we haven't given a raise to in a long time."

Public commenter Gloria Wesby of Willits added her concerns about liability. "The city should not be liable … in case an accident happens. It should not rest on the city, because we have no money. There is no money. You can't make a rock bleed…. Art does belong in the museum and that's where it should stay."

Robin Leler, who'll be serving on Willits City Council starting in December, also suggested the Mark Walker folk art should be located at the Mendocino County Museum in Willits.

Commenter Helen Sims agreed the museum would be a better place for the Mark Walker sculptures. "There's so much of these statues is tied into local history," she said. "Part of that history already resides at the museum…. So having it there on site would continue the story, make it so that you're not having to go somewhere else to see it. And it would also be a real protection for these pieces. There is that lovely back area out there…. So, I would definitely be in favor of protecting it by putting it at the museum."





The rest of Letters From page 2

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The legislature amended CEQA to create a "functional equivalent" process, and the Resources Agency certified the THP process in 1976, allowing THPs to substitute for full Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs)."

"Cumulative Impacts and Legal Precedents (1980s): Landmark court cases – such as EPIC v. Johnson (1983) regarding Sally Bell Grove – forced state agencies to evaluate cumulative watershed and ecological impacts rather than isolated timber sales."

"Northern Spotted Owl and 1990s Reforms: In response to the federal listing of the Northern Spotted Owl and heated "timber wars" (including failed ballot initiatives in 1990), the Board of Forestry introduced specialized habitat protection rules, designated wildlife biologists, and sustained yield planning requirements (such as minimum late-seral-stage forest allocations) in 1991 to 1993."

"Modern Framework (2000s to present): The rules continue to update annually to balance timber productivity with water quality protection (under the Porter-Cologne Act), endangered species conservation, and wildfire fuel reduction exemptions. Digital access and archival rules are maintained via the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection Website."

These are rules punishable by a minimum of fines and/or mandatory remediation action, which may include jail time. Each violation or citation goes on a logger's record and they are judged accordingly by Cal Fire inspectors. Loggers and landowners, by law, cannot negatively impact the land, watersheds, and wildlife anymore. Every harvest plan has to be written by a registered professional forester who themselves have passed a strenuous exam by the state – most of whom have degrees but regardless are all subject to the same scrutiny by multiple agencies by people with education and experience in their field. Every plan is subject to a two year spotted owl calling before CDFW, CWQ, CGS and CAL FIRE all go out to the site for a pre-harvest inspection. Every detail of the logging operation is scrutinized and signed off by an array of agencies and officials.

The injunction granted by Judge Charlotte Scott undermines the very fabric of the regulations put in place by the State of California. Guidelines tailor-made for the very cause McGarvey states is his reason for concern and protest – protecting the fish – are at the forefront of the regulations, which also protect the water and the land. Let's not beat around the bush: the salmonoids aren't in danger. They are merely a vessel to gain support for his agenda: He doesn't like logging.

The halting of these plans directly affects 70 Mendocino County residents and their families. 16 truck drivers, 15 timber fallers, 22 yarder crew members, 10 equipment operators on the tractor sides, 3 dump truck drivers, 2 excavator operators, 4 supervisors, 2 mechanics, and many others employed in the businesses we support – mills, resaw mills, lumber yards, hardware stores, the restaurants, gas stations, cafes – nearly every business in the county is supported by timber dollars.

There aren't many industries in Mendocino County, so let's not recklessly destroy one because of misplaced emotions. The amount of loggers logging and the volume of logs being harvested is but a fraction of the industry in its boom years. The old growth was cut, and it's a shame, but it's done and we are here logging for the future.

At 12 I began working for an organic farmer – hoing weeds, harvesting lettuce and a multitude of other vegetables. I then moved south and worked for a nonprofit trail crew, clearing and maintaining trails in the Los Padres National Forest and a number of other open space agencies. I worked for the Mendocino National Forest on a hotshot crew. I did a season on a helitack crew in the Plumas National Forest and spent one more year on a fire engine back in the Mendocino National Forest.

For the last 17 years I fell timber for the logging industry in Mendocino County. For the last 21 years cumulatively I have run a chainsaw professionally for forest management. One could argue I am an expert in this field. I actually feel like I'm back to my roots growing a product, this time lumber rather than produce. The old growth has been logged except for in the parks that I love to visit. I'm in the business of growing the most renewable building resource in the world: trees.

We, the logging industry, are here to continue to deliver a sustainable resource, all the while, making our forest ecosystem better than it was left by the older generations. I am an avid hunter, fisherman, and forager and value the woods in which my children are growing up.

I implore everyone supporting Phillip McGarvey to actually research the logging industry before demonizing and condemning something as complex and nuanced as forest management. Friends of Dutch Charlie Creek intentionally mis-labels practices they don't understand, to deceive an uninformed audience to gain support for a single man's vendetta against an industry he ignorantly hates.

Jake "Sawyer" Lawson, Willits

"Cultural Currents" exhibit at Mendocino College, opens November 5

Posted by Mendocino College

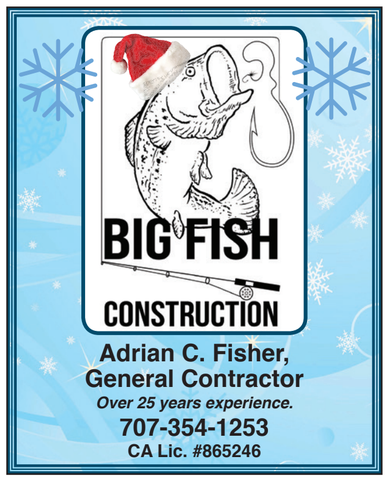
Join us for the opening reception of "Cultural Currents: The Latin American Experience" on Thursday, November 5, from 4:30 to 6:30 pm at the Mendocino College Gallery, on the Ukiah campus at 1000 Hensley Creek Road. Featuring the work of seven artists, the exhibition explores identity, heritage, memory, migration, and belonging through painting, drawing, ceramics, collage, and more.

Enjoy an evening of art, conversation, and complimentary refreshments provided by the Mendocino College Culinary Program. The event is free and open to the public.

"Cultural Currents" will be on view November 3 through December 6, 2026.

For more information about this exhibit or the Mendocino College Gallery, please visit www.mendocino.edu/gallery

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Call to WCA members for annual Small Works Show

Submitted by WCA

The Willits Center for the Arts has issued its call for the annual WCA Members Small Works Show. Get on the list with an application to submit smaller art & craft pieces for this popular holiday exhibit, which opens Saturday, December 5, with a reception from 6 to 8 pm. Please submit online before November 28, at https://willitscenterforthearts.org/event/wca-members-small-works-show/

This festive exhibit features a diverse collection of small, handcrafted pieces by area artists for the holiday enjoyment of the greater Willits' community. Artists from across Mendocino County are warmly encouraged to participate, with WCA memberships available starting at $30. The Small Works Show offers members an opportunity to share their work in a welcoming space while supporting the vibrant arts community in Willits.

The Small Works exhibit will offer extended hours (11 am to 7 pm) on Saturday, December 12, to coincide with the Willits Holiday Craft Show, along with special Christmas Eve hours on December 24. Shoppers and art lovers alike are invited to explore and take home unique handmade gifts perfect for the holiday season. Join us at the Art Center at 71 East Commercial Street, in supporting our local artists and making this holiday season one to remember!

ART CALL to MEMBERS
for the Annual Members Small Works Show!

Willits Center for the Arts is looking for member artists to exhibit smaller pieces (under 12" x 16") in all media for our Annual Small Works Show opening on December 5



Please fill out the application on our website at willitscenterforthearts.org, or fill out a hard copy application at the WCA front desk by Saturday November 28!

For questions about submissions, please contact the gallery curator at margi@mcn.org

Willits Community Services & Food Bank
37th Annual Willits Community
Thanksgiving Dinner
November 26, 2026
11:00am – 3:00pm*
*Or until we run out, whichever comes first.
Willits Senior Center Dining Room
1501 Baechtel Road, Willits



All are welcome to join us for a meal in gratitude and fellowship together with our Willits Community friends and neighbors.

*There is a free event. Donations will be accepted, but not required.
All proceeds benefit WCS & Food Bank programs.

Special thanks to the following organizations for making this event possible:
Sherwood Valley Casino, Willits Senior Center, Mendo Food Network, Chamberlain Creek CAL FIRE station, and Little Lake Grange

This community effort requires many hands to do the work. We thank all our friends, neighbors, businesses and organizations who make this event possible through their efforts! Contact Willits Food Bank for info or to help! (707) 459-3333 Together we make a difference in the lives of others

Willits Community Services and Food Bank - Serving the community since 1981.
We are an equal opportunity employer and a nonprofit 501c3 organization.

Volunteers needed for annual Free Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Submitted by WCS

Willits Community Services and Food Bank will be hosting our 37th annual Willits Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 26 from 11 am-3 pm. We need volunteers!! Various slots are available between 7:30 am to 5 pm on Thanksgiving Day.

We also need volunteers for Willits Food Bank's warehouse and pantry on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. We are located at 344 Railroad Avenue in Willits. We rely on volunteers to support our events and daily operations. It is important that you contact us first to sign up. Interested in donating time, food or funds? Contact: Wendy Copperfield at 707-459-3333 or wendy@willitsfoodbank.com to find out how you can help our food bank during this challenging time. Thank you!

Willits Community Theatre presents
in association with THE ANTIDOTE
Bertold Brecht's
The Resistable Rise of Arturo Ui
a reading
adapted & directed by
Mary Guibert



What the heck does Cauliflower have to do with Freedom?

November 7 at 7 pm
November 8 at 2 pm
Admittance by Donation

"If you don't know that the world is on fire,
I don't know what to say to you."
Berthold Brecht (Spring 1941)

Willits Community Theatre
wctperformingartscenter.org





LEGAL NOTICES

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

Willits Weekly can run legal notices including fictitious business name statements, foreclosure notices, storage unit auctions, and more. Contact us for more information at willitsweekly@gmail.com

WW629

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2026-F0366

The following person or persons are doing business as Bullseye Calibrations & Diagnostics, 934 S. Main St., Willits, CA 95490.

Registered owner: OTRA Acquisitions LLC, PO Box 1133, Willits, CA 95490.

This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on October 10, 2026.

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk Recorder on October 13, 2026.

/s/ Bryan Arnold, Managing Member

Publication Dates: October 22, 29, November 5, 12, 2026

WW630

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2026-F0367

The following person or persons are doing business as OTRA Car Rentals, On The Road Again Car Rentals, 934 S. Main St., Willits, CA 95490.

Registered owner: OTRA Acquisitions LLC, PO Box 1133, Willits, CA 95490.

This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on October 10, 2026.

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk Recorder on October 13, 2026.

/s/ Bryan Arnold, Managing Member

Publication Dates: October 22, 29, November 5, 12, 2026

WW631

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2026-F0368

The following person or persons are doing business as Redwood Collision Co., 934 S. Main St., Willits, CA 95490; 707-216-1939.

Registered owner: OTRA Acquisitions LLC, PO Box 1133, Willits, CA 95490.

This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on September 9, 2026.

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk Recorder on October 13, 2026.

/s/ Bryan Arnold, Managing Member

Publication Dates: October 22, 29, November 5, 12, 2026

WW632

Fictitious Business Name Statement

2026-F0370

The following person or persons are doing business as Dahvi's Kitchen, 349 S. Main St., Willits, CA 95490; 707-841-0968.

Registered owner: Dahvi Danielle Hooper, 349 S. Main Street, Willits, CA 95490.

This business is conducted by an individual.

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

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk Recorder on October 14, 2026.

/s/ Dahvi Hooper

Publication Dates: October 22, 29, November 5, 12, 2026

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

'Digger'

TheStory: Ecological disaster. Political satire. Comedic allegory. Previous to the beginning, at a massive oil field in Greenland, the drillers struck a monster load of methane under the ice. It's burning and can't be controlled. The fire is creating a fissure in the ice. It's expanding uncontrollably. The Ecological Advisor to the oil company owned by Digger (played by Tom Cruise) tells him to shut off the drills and put a moratorium on any more wells. This suggestion is met with absolute refusal because: money and profits. The crack gets larger! And larger!



Dan Essman
Columnist

And then: DISASTER!!! An enormous iceberg "the size of Maryland" breaks off into the Atlantic Ocean and is floating toward the west coast of Europe where it will cause inconceivable destruction and deaths. This is considered bad for the oil company's profits. Digger is cocky. He believes he can challenge his company's legal liability with talk and political moxie.

And then there's a Twist! A Big One! We the audience are shown that almost everything we see on the screen is a movie set and the trees outside the window are also on a movie set. And that everything is a movie.

My Thoughts: What does that "twist" mean in my understanding of this flick? Is it actually a "disaster thriller"? Is there actually an iceberg? Or just dialog about an iceberg. Or perhaps, the filmmaker(s) are asserting that truth and social virtue and common decency are not important when compared to profitability! Well, OK. Perhaps the filmmakers are saying that glitz and wealth and even the world itself are just illusions. Maybe. And perhaps "Digger" is a Buddhist sermon. OK. I guess I just don't know. I enjoyed it. Tom Cruise is a darn fine actor, and producer, and he has a social conscience. And truly: Hooray for that!

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

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!

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

Homemades & Alterations by Teresa

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House, Pet Sitting – Elder Care

Experienced, dependable local caregiver. Large dogs welcome! State-licensed for senior care. Offering transportation to appointments, errands, meal preparation, light cleaning, medication assistance, and companionship. Serving Willits and nearby communities. 707-367-1075.

Want 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

Rotary Club of Willits
People of Action
Serving our Community Since 1948
www.willitsrotary.org
WillitsRotaryClub@gmail.com

The rest of Halloween

From page 7

participants either set up car trunks or tables to offer tons of sweets to the families who ventured into their domain. The Bouthilliers, Gracie and Madison, who came as Thing One and Thing Two, new owners of Moon Lady, Dan Lewis of Smokey G's and Big D's BBQ, the Willits Sober Grad organization, and several more offered one more place to get candy and to gather to see everybody's costumes.

The Mendocino County Sheriff's Substation at Recreation Grove Park offered a "Trunk or Treat" that was well attended, with families arriving steadily to get whistles, pencils, and other treats. One of the trunk participants fashioned their space as a game of Twister, utilizing the game's spinner to determine a color, which would correspond to a colored bowl from which to choose the candy. Sheriff's Chaplain Davina Sentac enjoyed seeing and treating all the kids. "We're just supporting the kids with Halloween. So far, everything is off to a roaring start," she said. A cacophony of shrill high-pitched whistles, given out by the Sheriff's Substation, permeated the scene – which might have been annoying if it weren't Halloween.

The Methodist Church offered "ghoulish drinks" to those who needed a respite from trick or treating. Saint John's Lutheran Church, situated in a place to either catch families entering or leaving the Northbrook area, where many houses participated in grand style, offered free drinks and hotdogs, to fuel up the kids for the blocks and blocks of the night's events. Heather Miya of the church explained: "We are just welcoming our community and showing some love. We have restrooms and healthy snacks and candy and free hotdogs. We're just having fun."

Indeed, Halloween is a time to just have great, silly fun, to connect with friends and family, to be uninhibited in choice of costume fantasies, to enjoy the outdoors, and to do things that one would never do the rest of the year.

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. Library closed Wednesday, November 11 for Veterans 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."

Story & Playtime: Fridays, 11 am to noon. Start your morning listening to a children's story, then join us for a short playtime.

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

Spinning and Knitting: Saturdays from 1 to 4:30 pm. All skill levels welcome! Spinning Circle, 1 to 2 pm; Knitting Circle, 2 to 4:30 pm.

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 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.

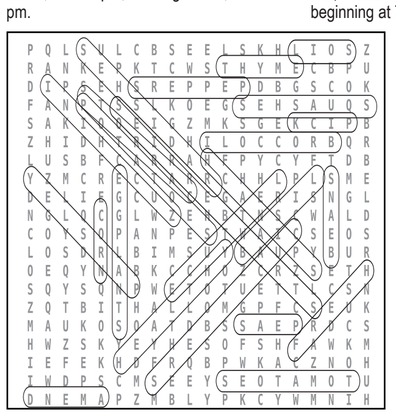
Pickleball: Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays at 5:30 pm and Saturdays at 9 am at the Willits High School tennis courts. Free to play and all levels welcome.

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.

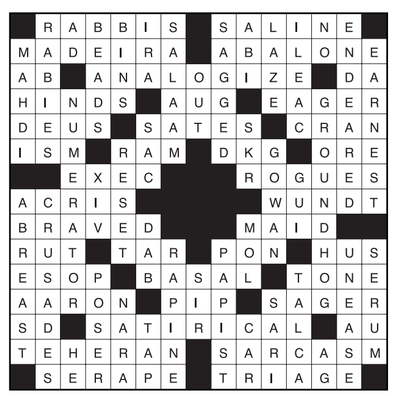
Willits Drum Circle: Every second and fourth Friday at 7 pm, at St. Francis of the Redwoods on the corner of Main and Commercial Streets. Info: Bill Bruneau: 459-3390.

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.



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‘Miles of Melody’ fundraiser for Adventist Health’s Community Care Shuttle, November 14

Submitted by Adventist Health

Imagine needing a mammogram, a follow-up appointment or care for a chronic condition, but having no reliable way to get there. For many individuals and families living in rural communities, transportation can be the difference between receiving essential medical care and going without it.

This November, the Adventist Health Ukiah Valley Foundation is inviting the community to help bridge that gap through “Miles of Melody,” a lively evening of dueling pianos, entertainment, and giving, benefiting the Adventist Health Community Care Shuttle.

The fundraising event will take place Saturday, November 14, at 6 pm at Gather Events in Ukiah, with proceeds supporting an initiative designed to make health care more accessible for patients throughout Ukiah Valley and surrounding communities, including Redwood Valley and Willits.

Removing barriers, one ride at a time

In rural communities like Mendocino County, transportation remains a significant barrier to accessing health care.

The Adventist Health Community Care Shuttle aims to address this need by providing safe, reliable, and no-cost transportation for patients with demonstrated need traveling to eligible outpatient medical appointments.

The initiative reflects Adventist Health’s commitment to caring for the whole person and addressing the needs of the communities it serves.

“Transportation should never be the reason someone goes without the medical care they need,” said Faith Hornby, director, Philanthropy. “For many of our patients, particularly those living in rural communities, getting to an appointment can be one of the biggest challenges they face. The Community Care Shuttle is about removing that barrier, connecting our neighbors with essential health care services, and helping ensure that everyone has an opportunity to receive the care they deserve.”

Through this year’s Fund-a-Need initiative, the Foundation is rallying community support to help bring the Community Care Shuttle to life.

An evening of music with a meaningful mission

While the cause behind the evening is serious, “Miles of Melody” promises a fun-filled celebration of music, community, and generosity.

Guests will enjoy an interactive dueling pianos performance, dinner, and an opportunity to support a project that will directly benefit patients and families throughout the region.

“One of the things that makes our community so special is the way people come together to care for one another,” said Hornby. “‘Miles of Melody’ is an opportunity to enjoy a wonderful evening with friends and neighbors while helping make a lasting difference. Every ticket purchased and every contribution brings us one step closer to helping patients access the care they need.”

Community members and local businesses are encouraged to participate through individual ticket purchases, event sponsorships, or direct contributions for the Community Care Shuttle.

Individual tickets are $125 and include admission and dinner at Gather Events, 4800 Burke Hill Drive in Ukiah. Sponsorship opportunities range from $1,000 to $10,000 and include reserved tables and dinner for guests.

To purchase tickets, explore sponsorship opportunities, or make a donation, call 707-463-7623 or visit https://trellis.org/ah-ukiah-valley-dueling-pianos-2026-miles-of-melody

To learn more about the Community Care Shuttle and its mission, visit www.adventisthealth.org/ukiah-valley/giving/get-involved/community-care-shuttle/.

Together, we can turn a night of music into a lasting investment in the health and well-being of our community.

Adventist Health is a faith-based, nonprofit, integrated health system serving more than 100 communities on the West Coast and Hawaii with over 440 sites of care, including 27 acute care facilities. Founded on Adventist heritage and values, Adventist Health provides care in hospitals, clinics, home care, and hospice agencies in both rural and urban communities. Our compassionate and talented team of more than 38,000 includes employees, physicians, medical staff and volunteers driven in pursuit of one mission: living God’s love by inspiring health, wholeness, and hope. We are committed to staying true to our heritage by providing patient-centered, quality care. Together, we are transforming the healthcare experience with an innovative and whole-person focus on physical, mental, spiritual and social healing to support community well-being.

Howard Memorial welcomes Family Nurse Practitioner Cecilli Gonzales

Posted by Adventist Health Howard Memorial

As part of our efforts to improve access to care, we’re excited to welcome Cecilli Gonzales, DNP, FNP-BC, to our primary care team serving Adventist Health Howard Memorial and our surrounding communities!

Cecilli is a board-certified Family Nurse Practitioner who provides wellness exams, health screenings, preventive care, and customized treatment for acute illnesses and chronic conditions. Her expertise includes medication management, patient education, and close collaboration with other providers to ensure that her patients receive cohesive care. She is passionate about empowering her patients to live their healthiest life.

We’re excited to have Cecilli caring for our community! Make an appointment today: AdventistHealth.org/CGonzales



Above: Cecilli Gonzales, board-certified Family Nurse Practitioner, is now seeing patients at Adventist Health Howard Memorial.

Photo by Maureen Jennison

