

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Shopping local is a win-win situation

To the Editor:

When you shop here in Willits, you're not just making a purchase – you're investing in our town's people, families, economy, and spirit. Every dollar spent locally has a multiplier effect, cycling through other local businesses, creating jobs, and supporting our schools, parks, and community programs.

Think of it this way: Instead of that dollar disappearing to a corporate headquarters miles away, it stays here, enriching the people and businesses you know. It's like planting seeds in our own garden. As local businesses grow, our town's sense of resilience and pride also increases. By choosing to shop local, you help make Willits a place that values collaboration, community, and commitment to each other's success.

This holiday season, and through the year, keep your dollars in Willits and watch them grow where we all can see.

Thanks and gratitude to this unique community!

Carlos Swinney, Willits Kids Corner; Sara Mann, Willits Enchanted Toy Shoppe and Mazahar; Tom Mann, Brickhouse Coffee

Thanks for emergency care

To the Editor:

It began with unrelenting chest pain at 1 am, Tuesday November 5. I called 911 and was put in touch with the Willits Fire Department. The ambulance was busy with a wreck north of Willits. Fire Department "command vehicles" finished with the accident, were sent to my front door. With Jeff Donaldson of Willits Fire I was given a nice ride to Howard Emergency. We chatted, which helped keep my thoughts off of the pain. At the hospital Eric Alvarez of Willits Fire helped get me situated and in the ER. Thanks guys for the help.

Thanks to all the attention and pain-reducing help at the Howard Emergency Department, aka ED. This includes Ali Pandamouz, M.D., William Gonsler M.D., and very competent nurses on duty. With an IV drip in each arm the pain level went down from a 7 to around 2. Dr. Pandamouz arranged for a transfer to Adventist Health in St. Helena. He diagnosed my heart attack as a "NSTEMI," the less serious type.

At 6:30 am, REACH helicopter from Lake County arrived for the St. Helena trip. They were working fast due to a cloud cover expected in St. Helena. With REACH was nurse August, EMT Tyler, and pilot Katie. I was quickly slid in the helicopter right next to pilot Katie who greeted me with a warm smile of confidence. IV drips still working, we were off to the hospital. Katie gave me a smooth 30 minute ride into a rising cloud cover with sunrise on the horizon. Thanks Katie, August, and Tyler.

This was not my first time at St. Helena hospital. That was 83 years ago in 1941 where I was born. My parents, migrant workers from West Virginia, were in the St. Helena area. With WWII we went back to the farm in WV.

Debra Hobbs, M.D. and staff at St. Helena gave me nonstop attention. This included an angiography and 2 stents. A very busy hospital. Thanks to everyone at SH for giving me the timely emergency medical help that I needed.

Last but not least I want to thank my daughter Kristina for her total loving support.

Bob Wilkinson, Willits

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 12, Number 578
3,500 - 4,000 copies printed by Western Web on Thursdays
P.O. Box 1698 Willits, CA 95490 / 707-459-2633; 707-972-7047
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Mendocino County honors 4th District Supervisor Dan Gjerde for 26 years of public service

Submitted by Mendocino County Executive Office

Mendocino County extends its sincere gratitude to Fourth District Supervisor Dan Gjerde, honoring his 26 years of dedicated public service, with 12 of those years devoted to serving as a county supervisor. From his start on the Fort Bragg City Council in 1998 to his current role, Gjerde's leadership has driven impactful projects in planning, fiscal stability, and community development.

During his time in Fort Bragg, Gjerde helped secure grants that transformed public spaces, built parks and trails, and strengthened financial reserves. As Fourth District county supervisor since 2012, he prioritized fire preparedness funding, climate-change readiness, library support, and pension reform, all while championing competitive wages for county employees to attract and retain talent.

In addition to his role as supervisor, Gjerde has been an active member of the Mendocino Council of Governments for over two decades, advocating for inclusive transportation planning and improvements that serve all residents. Through his efforts, Mendocino County has been able to prioritize infrastructure projects that enhance accessibility for motorists, pedestrians, cyclists, and other users, fostering safer, more connected communities.

As he prepares to transition to a new role with Caltrans (described by Gjerde in a letter to the board as a transportation planning job with the North Coast Caltrans District Office that started earlier this month), Supervisor Gjerde leaves behind a legacy of public service grounded in vision, integrity, and accountability. His enduring commitment to Mendocino County serves as an inspiration, and his influence will continue to be felt across the community.

Gjerde has expressed his full support for the incoming Fourth District Supervisor Bernie Norvell, whose experience and dedication will be invaluable as Mendocino County moves forward.

Mendocino County extends its gratitude to Supervisor Dan Gjerde for his remarkable service and wishes him all the best in his future endeavors. His leadership has established a strong foundation for the county's continued growth and prosperity.

Mendocino County Winter Holiday Department Schedules

Submitted by Mendocino County Executive Office

All County of Mendocino offices will be closed November 28 and 29, 2024, December 25, 2024, and January 1, 2025. The following offices will be closed to the public on the additional days identified below. The public is urged to call a department's office number in advance to confirm the availability of services. Please visit the county's website at www.mendocinocounty.gov/ for departmental contact information.

Agriculture, closed November 27 at noon, December 24 at noon, and December 25 to January 1, 2025

Air Quality, closed November 27 at noon and December 23 to 27

Animal Care Services, closed November 28 and 29, and December 25. Citizens looking for lost animals either leave a message at 463-4427 or go to the below website address to file a lost animal report: <https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/government/animal-care-services> Staff will be checking voice messages and receiving the lost reports via emails to see if lost animals can be reconnected with their owners over the holidays

Assessor/Clerk-Recorder, closed November 27 at noon, December 24 at noon, and December 31 at 2 pm

Auditor-Controller, closed November 27 at noon and December 23 to 27

Behavioral Health & Recovery Services, closed November 27 at noon and December 23 to 27. Open by appointment only; crisis response will continue

Cannabis, closed November 27 at noon and December 23 to 27

Child Support Services, closed December 23 to 27

County Counsel, closed November 27 at noon and December 23 to 27

Executive Office, closed November 27 at noon and December 23 to 27

Environmental Health, closed November 27 at noon, December 23 to 27, and December 31 at noon

Human Resources, closed November 27 at noon and December 23 to 27

Library, closed November 27 at 3 pm and December 24 to January 1, 2025

Museum, closed November 27 and December 23 to 27

Planning & Building Services, Ukiah, closed November 27 at noon and December 23 to 25. Open with limited staffing December 26 and 27. Inspections will still be available except for November 28 and 29 and December 25. To schedule an inspection during holiday closures, visit: <https://etrakit.mendocinocounty.org/etrakit3/> or by using our automated inspection request lines at 707-234-6650 (Ukiah). Please know your address and permit number when calling for inspections and follow all prompts. The deadline to call our automated inspection request phone line is 3 pm the day before the requested inspection

Probation, closed November 27 at noon, December 24 at noon, and December 31 at noon

Public Defender, closed December 23 to 27. Clients are still able to contact their attorneys during this time

Public Health, closed November 27 at noon and December 23 to 27. Open by appointment only; crisis response will continue

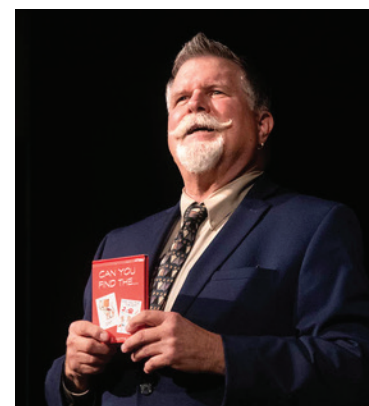
Retirement Association, closed November 27 at noon and December 23 to 27

Social Services, closed November 27 at noon and December 23 to 27. Emergency service available for Employment & Family Assistance Services. Adults and Children's Emergency Response will continue via the Hotline throughout

Sheriff-Coroner, closed November 27 at noon and December 24 at noon. All emergency services will still be provided 24 hours a day

Treasurer/Tax Collector, closed November 27 at noon and December 23 to 27

UC Cooperative Extension, closed November 27 at noon and December 24 to January 1, 2025



Above, from left: "It is amazing how much can come from nothing," said Goleman before pulling a seemingly endless string of scarves from various "empty" objects. The first part of Goleman's mentalism act utilizes pages and words from books as he recites words and phrases from the pages without looking at them. Goleman receives messages by touching Bhavvy Ducharme's forehead and seeing what has been written down and placed in the envelopes. "Close your eyes and concentrate," Goleman tells Tony Rakes as he delves into his mind. At left: Steve Hellman and Lisa Mace assist in a trick involving strings. Below: Rose, Bill and Freddie roll their colored dice as Robert Goleman shows his predictions for the results and colors. At bottom: Maria assists in one of Goleman's mentalism tricks causing people to scratch their heads and ask "how did he do that?"

Photos by Mathew Caine



'Magic and Mentalism'

Robert Goleman performs acts of wonder and amazement at sold out WCT show on Saturday

"Do You Believe in Magic?" asks the song from the Lovin' Spoonful in 1965. After last Saturday's performance by Robert Goleman at the Willits Community Theatre, there are several more people who will probably say "yes!" A full house of 74 amazed theatergoers, sat agape at the many feats of almost incomprehensible legerdemain and mentalism that Goleman performed for the grateful crowd.

Goleman began with a question: "What is magic?" His answer: "simultaneous belief and disbelief," Goleman expounded. "I explain that in my show – that contradiction between the rational and the emotional. You know it's a trick, but you allow yourself to believe. And it's fun. Some people don't like to be fooled, but most do."

The crowd at the theater was amongst the group that loves to be fooled, and the tricks were performed with such dexterity and flair that the people were left scratching their heads in wonder at how it could not be a supernatural feat occurring before their eyes.

Goleman opened the show with a couple of the expected magic tricks, three uneven lengths of rope that magically became the same measure, two strings that tied and untied themselves, and an endless string of scarves that seemed to appear out of thin air. The magic tricks were the warm up for the remainder of the two-hour show which consisted of Goleman's deftly performed and gasp-inducing feats of mentalism involving cards, pages of books, and other devices, from which he recited words, phrases and numbers that he could not see and could not have memorized, leaving everyone in the room asking, "how did he do that?"

Goleman has been practicing magic and mentalism since he was a little boy. "I've been doing magic for about 50 years, since I was about 7 years old, when I got my first magic kit," Goleman recounted. "My mom bought it for me at the emporium in San Francisco. I worked with cups and balls for a long time. The first kit that I had actually came with a little top hat which you could make a rabbit appear in, a little plastic rabbit. I forced my family to be bored for hours with my magic. I never stopped. I always dabbled in magic."

"When I moved to San Francisco, I was walking down Chestnut Street; I saw a magic shop and stepped right

Over on page 9



ROOTS OF MOTIVE POWER PRESENTS:

HOLIDAY EXPRESS

December 7th
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
FREE FAMILY EVENT!

- FREE Train Rides
- Meet Santa & Receive a FREE Small Gift
- Wagon Full of Toys Raffle at 3:30 p.m.
- FREE Admission and Crafts at the Mendocino County Museum
- Trees, Refreshments, Decorations and More!

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www.rootsofmotivepower.com



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*LIMITS AND EXCLUSIONS MAY APPLY

6 AM - 7 AM

40% OFF

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Arrive early for a chance to purchase a mystery stocking! (while supplies last)

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7 AM - 8 AM

30% OFF

8 AM - 10 AM

25% OFF

10 AM - 2 PM

20% OFF

2 PM - 5 PM

15% OFF

208 E. San Francisco Ave.
Willits, CA 95490



(707) 459-6791

A CALL TO ARTISTS

A Call to Artists: Mural Project at Recreation Grove
The City of Willits is seeking talented artists to create a mural for the back of the band shell at Recreation Grove. This exciting project consists of two metal panels, each measuring 6' by 12'. The selected artist will receive payment for their work.

We invite artists to submit their proposals for this fantastic opportunity to showcase your talent and contribute to the vibrant community of Willits.

Proposal Requirements:

- Concept drawings of your mural design
- A list of materials you will use, with an emphasis on durability and suitability
- Your fee for labor and the estimated cost of supplies

We look forward to seeing your creative ideas come to life on this prominent public art project!

Contact: Gary Martin gmi1950@gmail.com and Connor Stack cstack@cityofwillits.org
Make your mark on Willits and be part of enhancing our community's cultural landscape!

Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

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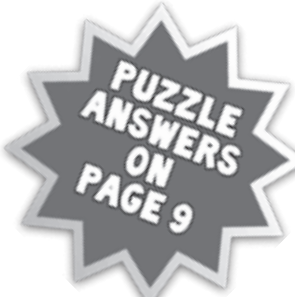
Web: www.willitsweekly.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/willitsweekly Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com

Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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

Level: Beginner



HOW TO SUDOKU

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

THANKFUL WORD SEARCH

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

ASSISTANCE	CRANBERRIES	INDIGENOUS	ROLLS
AUTUMN	DINNER	NEW WORLD	SEATING
BASTE	DRESSING	NOVEMBER	SQUASH
BLESSINGS	FEAST	OVEN	STUFFING
CARVE	FOWL	PARADE	SWEET POTATO
CASSEROLE	FRIENDS	PILGRIMS	TABLE
COLONISTS	GIBLETS	PLATE	TASTY
CORNBREAD	GRAVY	PUMPKIN PIE	THANKSGIVING
CORNUCOPIA	HARVEST	RELATIVES	TURKEY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
14				15					16					
17				18					19					
20				21		22			23					
			24	25				26						
27	28	29	30				31			32	33	34		
35			36				37			38				
39				40				41						
42				43				44						
45				46				47			48			
			49					50			51			
52	53	54						55			56	57	58	59
60					61				62		63			
64					65						66			
67					68						69			

CLUES ACROSS

- Long piece of squared timber
- Emaciation
- 'Bewitched' boss Larry
- Combining form meaning 'different'
- Current unit equal to 10 amperes
- Older
- Large, stocky lizard
- Ringworm
- Actor Pitt
- Indian hand clasp cymbals
- Data at rest
- Jeweled headdress
- Indicators of when stories were written
- Check
- Cigarette (slang)
- Arctic explorers (abbr.)
- Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
- Delivered a speech
- A place to bathe
- Postmen deliver it
- Surface in geometry
- More (Spanish)
- ___ and Venzetti
- Exclamation at the end of a prayer
- Hawaiian dish
- Aggressively proud men
- Fellow
- Mark Wahlberg comedy

CLUES DOWN

- Piece of felted material
- Ancient Greek City
- Aquatic plant
- Potentially harmful fungus (Brit. sp.)
- Body art (slang)
- One who follows the rules
- Ordinary
- Honorably retired from assigned duties and retaining one's title
- Relaxing space
- Japanese socks
- Indian city

CLUES ACROSS

- Mock
- When you expect to get somewhere
- Songs
- Pair of small hand drums
- Play
- Sword
- Evergreens and shrubs genus
- Filmed
- Italian Seaport
- Ringworm
- Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- River herring genus
- Large beer
- Deep, red-brown sea bream
- Partner to cheese
- At a deliberate pace
- Gurus
- Of each
- Angry
- Popular beverage
- Flower cluster
- Blocks
- Those who benefitted from efforts of relatives (slang)
- Polio vaccine developer
- A (usually) large and scholarly book
- Popular soap ingredient
- NBAer Bradley
- Popular movie about a pig one's title
- Musician Clapton
- Not a sure thing
- Recipe measurement (abbr.)
- Father

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE LOG

November 12 to November 17

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled **75 incidents** in this 6-day reporting period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

November 12

No incidents to report.

November 13

1:57 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

5:19 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1400 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

5:25 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and Baechtel Road and issued a citation.

5:45 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and Alder Lane and issued a warning.

6:32 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

9:25 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of Marcela Drive and issued a citation.

November 14

8:57 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of North Main Street.

6:07 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of Blosser Lane and issued a citation.

9:11 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Alameda Avenue and Central Street and issued a citation.

9:28 pm: ROMEROGRANADOS, Jose Luis (22) of Caspar was contacted in the 100 block of West Highway 20. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of violation of probation and cited.

November 15

12:41 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

7:48 am: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of East San Francisco Avenue.

8:36 am: HARDAGEVERGEER, Joshua McCord (23) of Ukiah was contacted in the 100 block of East Commercial Street. He was arrested pursuant to 594 PC (Vandalism) and on misdemeanor charges of failure to appear.

2:01 pm: JONES, Ryan Donald (27) of Willits was contacted near the intersection of Baechtel Road and Shell Lane. He was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public Intoxication) and on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol), resisting an officer, and violation of probation.

4:44 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

10:23 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

10:31 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

10:45 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Sherwood Road and North Main Street and issued a warning.

10:55 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

11:12 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Holly Street and Eva Claire Street and issued a warning.

The rest of Arrested | From page 1

to return to the Willits area during the afternoon of November 20, 2024, and they awaited his arrival. At this time, detectives believed Adams was aware that a report had been made, and he might attempt to avoid law enforcement. With the assistance of the victims' mother, Adams was located within the City of Willits.

Ultimately, Adams was placed under arrest for two counts of 288.5(a) PC (Continuous Sexual Abuse of a Minor).

Adams was subsequently booked into

2:34 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning.

11:34 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

12:55 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of East Commercial Street and South Main Street and issued a warning.

1:04 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

3:45 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 200 block of Shell Lane and issued a citation.

4:48 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

5:53 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

6:45 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1500 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

6:47 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

7:02 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning.

7:09 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1400 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

7:15 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and Monica Lane and issued a warning.

7:19 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

7:28 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

7:33 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1500 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

7:50 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

7:58 pm: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 100 block of West Van Lane.

9:43 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and West Oak Avenue and issued a warning.

November 17

6:04 am: Officers initiated a fraud investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

9:15 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 300 block of South Main Street.

12:14 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 200 block of Bonnie Lane.

2:44 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block of Franklin Avenue.

3:56 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of East San Francisco Avenue.

9:04 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

11:13 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 800 block of Coast Street.

the Mendocino County Jail where he was to be held in lieu of \$750,000 bail.

Based on the circumstances of this investigation, Investigators believe there may be additional victims of abuse perpetrated by Adams, and the investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information related to this investigation is requested to contact the Sheriff's Office Dispatch Center at 707-463-4086. Information can also be provided anonymously by calling the non-emergency tip line at 707-234-2100.

Have something to say?

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

OBITUARY |

Sue Hathaway

In Loving Memory of Sue Hathaway, aged 87, who passed away peacefully on October 29, 2024, at her home in Willits, California, surrounded by loved ones. She was a beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt, sister, and friend who

book titled "The Little Book of Cards." When meeting someone new, she wanted to know their birthday right away so she could figure out what card they were.

In her later years, her happy place was being with loved ones on the Fortunate



Porch with a square of chocolate in her hand as velvet plumes floated into the air, suggesting to her friends and family to put in their special requests on her God Phone, and asking them "what brings you joy?"

Though Sue's passing has left her family with an incredible sense of loss, they are comforted in knowing that she lived a rich and meaningful life that touched many people.

She is survived by her five children, 12 grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren. She will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege to know her. Her memory will forever live on in the hearts of those she loved.

A celebration of her life will be announced at a later date.

DID YOU KNOW?

Willits Weekly will run obituaries free of charge for residents of Willits, Brooktrails, Laytonville and Covelo. This does include a 350-word maximum, but also includes the option for a photo. Email willitsweekly@gmail.com

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SCAN FOR FULL MENU

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Obituary
Noel Herve
December 25, 1946 - November 9, 2024

Born on Christmas Day 1946 to Woodrow and Winifred Herve, Noel Francis Herve passed to eternal rest Saturday, November 9, 2024. As a child, he was an altar boy for the church and raised with a strong Christian work ethic. He delivered the San Francisco Examiner with his brother Stephen. Noel attended St. Thomas More Catholic School and was their "Chalk board control engineer."

His father was a gardener at Golden Gate Park, and his mother worked at City of Paris. Noel continued his life by being a busboy at Sai-Wu Gardens, skeet setter and cashier at Pacific Rod and Gun Club, and graduated from Sacred Heart Cathedral Prep with the class of 1965. He worked for the Sears maintenance department before joining the Navy in 1966. Noel served in the Navy abroad the USS Hornet, Bonhomme Richard, and other US Naval vessels with Helicopter Squadron-2 as an Aviation Electronics Technician 3rd class. He received the National Defense, Vietnam Campaign, and Armed Forces Expeditionary (Korea) medals.

Upon returning home, Noel graduated from San Francisco City College with an AA degree in Electrical Engineering and went to work as a supervisor for Hewlett Packard. Later, he changed to a civil service job, becoming employed by the California Department of Motor Vehicles in Daly City, Corte Madera, Redding and Ukiah, where he took the position of a travel manager, serving the outlying communities of Willits, Boonville, Covelo and Point Arena with his traveling typewriter and camera doing licensing and driver's tests. He was the first manager of the Clearlake office. "Mr. DMV" retired his clip-on tie after 32 years.

In 1980, Noel joined the National Guard and was a founding member of the 579th Engineering Battalion serving 14 years at the rank Staff Sergeant. He later served six years with the CA State Military Reserve. Noel was a square dancer, a member of the local gun club, and a lifetime member of the American Legion and VFW. He enjoyed target shooting and attending military vehicle collector gatherings.

Noel is survived by his wife, Karen, of Ukiah, his son Thomas of Cloverdale, his cousin Jon Mckee of Willits, sister-in-law Linda (Bob) of Pepperell, Massachusetts, and two nieces and two nephews. He is predeceased by his parents, brother Stephen, and son Robert Noel. Arrangements are under the direction of the Anker Lucier Mortuary.

What's Happening Around Town

Wednesday, November 27

Dave Pierce at Brickhouse Coffee:
Guitarist/Vocalist Dave Pierce performs "music for most occasions" on Wednesday, November 27, from 11:30 am to 2 pm, at Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South Main Street. "Enjoy yummy eats and delish treats, while Mr. Dave delights you with music."

Thursday, November 28 Happy Thanksgiving!

Community Thanksgiving Dinner at the Senior Center: Willits Community Services and Food Bank presents the 35th annual free Community Thanksgiving Dinner, set for Thursday, November 28 from 11 am to 3 pm at the Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Sponsored by Sherwood Valley Casino. "Come give thanks and celebrate with your community. There is no charge. Anyone may eat for free. Donations are gladly accepted and will benefit WCS and Food Bank in their continuing effort to provide essential human services in the greater Willits and north county community." Volunteers are needed; call Kim at (707) 459-3333.

Friday, November 29

Small Works opens at WCA: The Willits Center for the Arts invites the community to celebrate the holiday season with the 8th Annual Members Small Works Show. A beloved tradition, this exhibit features a diverse collection of small, handcrafted pieces by local artists, with all works available for purchase through December 24. Opening Friday, November 29, from 11 am to 5 pm at WCA, 71 East Commercial Street. More info: visit www.willitscenterforthearts.org/

Those Guys at Shanachie:

Michael Canavos and Chris Rovetti as Those Guys are "a dynamic collective that seamlessly blends rock, country, blues, and folk influences into a sound that is distinctly their own." Friday, November 29, 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

Saturday, November 30

Shop Small Saturday in Willits: The Shop Small Saturday national event, that highlights shopping local for the holiday season, is

set for Saturday, November 30. In Willits, the Chamber of Commerce will set up in the Kids Corner parking lot (aka old Rexall parking lot) downtown. "We will be serving hot coffee and freshly baked cinnamon rolls from Kemmy's Pies. We will also be giving away wrapping paper and shopping bags. Please look for us between the hours of 10 am to 12 noon." All for FREE!

Animal Tales & Crafts at the Library: Bring the little ones for a Saturday morning story and special craft once a month at the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Saturday, November 30 this month, 11 to 11:30 am.

Small Works Artists Reception at WCA: The Willits Center for the Arts invites the community to celebrate the holiday season with the 8th Annual Members Small Works Show. Artists Reception set for Saturday, November

30 from 6 to 9 pm. A beloved tradition, this exhibit features a diverse collection of small, handcrafted pieces by local artists, with all works available for purchase through December 24. More info: visit www.willitscenterforthearts.org/

Back Porch Trio at Shanachie: fun-loving sound influenced by folk, blues, classic rock, jam band, americana, and bluegrass, with unique songwriting and a blend of vocal harmonies. Rosie Wetzel (ukulele and vocals), Steve Hahm (acoustic guitar and vocals), and Jeff Taylor (bass). Saturday, November 30 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Holiday Vendors Market: A special Holiday Vendors Market is set for Sunday,

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gay rights movement in the 1970s. Craig will be on hand to host an open audience dialogue afterward. Tickets are \$20 and available online at [www.wcp performingartscenter.org.](http://www.wcp performingartscenter.org/) or at the door.

Willits Community Christmas Chorale: Hosted by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 265 Margie Drive, the Willits Community Christmas Chorale is set for Sunday, December 1, beginning at 6 pm. "Christmas is just around the corner. Come to get into the Christmas spirit by enjoying and participating in music from our community. Refreshments of cookies and apple cider will culminate the event."

Monday, December 2

WELL Year End Party at the Hub: Willits Economic Localization invites the public to their 2024 Year End Celebration on Monday, December 2 at the Hub, 630 South Main Street, from 5 to 7 pm. All are welcome. "Let's share stories of success from 2024 and envision goals for the growth of Willits in 2025." Snacks and drinks provided; good company will abound. More info: mstrong827@outlook.com

Wednesday, December 4

Twining Time at Brickhouse: John Wagenet and Anita Wagenet(Blu) perform on Wednesday, December 4 (and the first Wednesday of every month), at Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South Main Street, from 12 to 2 pm. Folk/Country/Mountain Americana Roots plus new and old favorites as well as original music, with 2 part polished vocal harmonies, acoustic guitar and keyboard. www.twiningtime.weebly.com

Friday, December 6

Leza and Donnie & Friends at Shanachie: Leza is a Brazilian psych-pop/surf rock band formed in São Paulo (Brazil) by Gustavo Athayde AKA Gusley, Donnie & Friends features our local harmonica (aka Mississippi Saxophone) player Donnie, joined by local friends and fellow musicians, playing an improvisational variety of Chicago style Blues, Rock, Funk, Latin & West African music. Friday,

December 6 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Saturday, December 7

37th annual Roots Holiday Express: Come join Roots of Motive Power for their FREE annual Holiday Express family event, Saturday, December 7, 11 am to 4 pm at the Roots yard, 420 East Commercial Street in Willits. FREE train rides; meet Santa and receive a small gift; Wagon Full of Toys Raffle at 3:30 pm; free admission and crafts at the Mendocino County Museum; Trees, Refreshments, Decorations and more. More info: www.rootsofmotivepower.com or check out the "Roots of Motive Power" page on Facebook.

Kid's Winter Craft Fair at the Library: Join us at the Willits Branch Library for the Kid's Winter Craft Fair, and help support our local young artists and artisans as they market their homemade crafts and goods on Saturday, December 7, from noon to 2 pm in the Library meeting room. More info: www.mendolibrary.org or 707-459-5908.

Sunday, December 8

Laytonville Holiday Arts & Crafts Bazaar: Find unique hand-crafted items for great gift-giving from over 40 local vendors at the Holiday Arts & Crafts Bazaar, Sunday, December 8 from 10 am to 4 pm inside the "Tin Gym," 200 Branscomb Road, Laytonville. No charge to enter. Plus See's Candies, Visit with Santa, and Snack Bar. More info: 707-984-8089.

Laytonville Holiday Arts & Crafts BAZAAR
Find unique handcrafted items for great gift-giving, from Over 40 Local Vendors!
Visit with Santa! Snack Bar!
SUNDAY DECEMBER 8TH
10am - 4pm
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WILLITS CENTER FOR THE ARTS Presents
The 37th Annual
Willits Holiday Craft Fair
40 Booths with quality, handmade crafts!
Friday, Dec. 13th, 12pm-7pm
Saturday, Dec. 14th, 10am-5pm
Live Music and Food both days.
2 Locations
City Hall, 111 E. Commercial
Willits Center for the Arts, 71 E. Commercial
willitscenterforthearts.org

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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.

Grace Community Church
Celebrating Life In Christ
25 Hazel Street, Willits, CA 95490
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 appointment at 707-459-2252
<https://santonymwillits.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
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Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church
707-459-5714
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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.
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If you want to be included in this column please call:
April Tweddell (707) 972-2475
april@willitsweekly.com

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

'Wicked'

The Story: For those who don't already know: this highly successful Broadway musical is the origin story of Elphaba (Cynthia Erivo), the infamous Wicked Witch of the West. This passionate and color-filled saga bedazzles with songs and dancing set pieces, all of which ultimately chronicle the birthing of evil in the heart of gentle Elphaba, a young woman born kind and deeply caring. She was also born with green skin. Her unfortunate (though tasteful) greenness marks her as an outsider and to be shunned.

As Fate would have it, Alpha is befriended by the beautiful Glinda (Ariana Grande), a paragon of blondness, and an endlessly self-admiring mirror-gazer and self-promoting icon of personal popularity. And yet, quite surprisingly, Glinda is genuinely kind. Her love and concern for her green friend is real. No spoilers, but more stuff happens. Then Alpha sings the popular song "Gravity" and flies away on a broom. That's where the movie pretty much ends, which is very nice. So, kudos to all concerned: to Broadway and to Hollywood.

My Thoughts: For me, the Wicked Witch of the West will always be Margaret Hamilton with her green complexion, big hook nose, screechy voice, and her unrelenting hatred for Dorothy (and her little dog, too!). I rate "Wicked" the movie: high production values! solid dance numbers! darn fine performances by Cynthia Erivo! and Ariana Grande!

And as for my much-hallowed, over the rainbow version, we already know how that ends: on a dark turret, in a dark castle, and with a deadly, desperately heaved bucket of water.

Parents: I think kids will like it. It has the solid moral message against judging a person by the color of her skin. And also: Just be kind!
Willitsian **Daniel Essman** prefers his reality attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination.

Good Farm Fund Winter Feast, December 10

The Good Farm Fund is hosting its 8th annual Winter Feast on Tuesday, December 10 at Ridgewood Ranch in Willits from 5 to 9 pm.

The Good Farm Fund was founded in 2015 with the goal of providing direct support to small farmers in Mendocino and Lake Counties and increasing local food security for underserved members of the community. The Winter Feast menu is being designed and executed by a team of local volunteer chefs led by Caroline Radice of Black Dog Farm Catering, including Tamara Adams of Emandal Farm, Jason Pluck of Caring Kitchen Project, Erica Schneider of Fogaeter Café, Caroline Rehberger of Flying Dog Pizza, Ryo Muto of Hatake Farm Kitchen, and chef Janelle Weaver, former owner of The Bewildered Pig.

The menu will feature Mulligan Gardens' pastured chicken pot pie, complemented by a vegan version from Fogaeter Café. A "potluck salad" will feature ingredients sourced from as many local farms in Lake and Mendocino counties as possible.

Guests can also enjoy a selection of appetizers, Reza's Breadery focaccia, and a dessert prepared by Emandal Farm, including ice cream made with honey from Carson and Bees. A sober event this year: Chef Bridget Harrington, former owner of Patrona Restaurant, will be creating several crafted mocktails using county favorites such as teas from the Mendocino Tea Company, kombucha from Mendocino Ferments, as well as local produce, herbs, and spices. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit goodfarmfund.org.

Agape Bible Church & Awana Treks invite you to
Christmas Arts & Crafts Vendor Faire
Date: Saturday December 14, 2024
Doors open to the public: 10am-4pm
Location: Agape Bible Church MFB
290 S. Lenore Ave. Willits
Looking for that perfect and unique gift? We will have a variety of crafty gifts from local vendors.
The Vendor Faire will have something for everyone!
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391 School St., Willits

Little Lake Grange Holiday Craft Faire seeks craft vendors

Little Lake Grange is accepting entries for craft vendors for the Holiday Craft Faire, being held at the Grange Building at 291 School Street, on December 13 and 14, 2024.

Spaces are filling up, so contact us for the paperwork as soon as possible by emailing willitsgrange@gmail.com or by text to 707-841-6297. All crafters are welcome.

Free Take & Make Fall Craft Kit

Drop by the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial and pick up your kit to create some beautiful autumn leaves. Kits will be available at the circulation desk during library open hours while supplies last.

Library closes for the Thanksgiving holiday at 3 pm on Wednesday, November 27, and reopens Saturday, November 30 at 10 am. One kit per child in a family. This craft is best suited for ages 3 and up.

A CALL TO ARTISTS
A Call to Artists: Mural Project at Recreation Grove
The City of Willits is seeking talented artists to create a mural for the back of the band shell at Recreation Grove. This exciting project consists of two mural panels, each measuring 6' by 12'. The selected artist will receive payment for their work.
We invite artists to submit their proposals for this fantastic opportunity to showcase your talent and contribute to the vibrant community of Willits.
Proposal Requirements:
• Concept drawings of your mural design.
• A list of materials you will use, with an emphasis on durability and suitability.
• Your fee for labor and the estimated cost of supplies
We look forward to seeing your creative ideas come to life on this prominent public art project.
Contact: Gary Martin gmr950@gmail.com and Connor Stack ctstack@willits.org
Make your mark on Willits and be part of enhancing our community's cultural landscape!
CLEAN ARTIST

WELL - Willits Economic Localization 2024 Year-end Celebration!
All are welcome! Let's share stories of success from 2024 and envision goals for the growth of Willits in 2025.
Snacks and drinks provided
Good company will abound!
Monday, Dec. 2nd 5-7pm
At the Hub - 630 S. Main St., Willits
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MOANA 2
(PG)
1 hr 40 mins
Fri.-Sun.: 12:15, 3:00, 5:30 & 8:00
Mon.-Thurs.: 4:45 & 7:15
Movie Times for Nov. 29 thru Dec. 5

WICKED
(PG)
1 hr 41 mins
Fri.-Sun.: 12:30, 4:00, & 7:30
Mon.-Thurs.: 4:00 & 7:30
(Wicked moves to 21+ next Friday)



Above: Sparetime CEO Andrew Hosford's family enjoys the Winter Wonderland opening: from left, Laurin, Daniel, Andrew, Tate and Wade. At right: A double rainbow leads the way to Sparetime Garden Center's Winter Wonderland. Below, left: Shopper Colleen Sichey is impressed with the 1,500-plus items for sale in the Gardener's Pantry. Below, right: Brook Woodruff enjoys helping customers.



Above: A family looks over the many items to purchase. At right: A little one decorates a Christmas ornament at the Winter Wonderland Celebration.



Photos by Mathew Caine

Gardener's Pantry

Sparetime's holiday gift shop is back and stocked full of locally made items, along with freshly cut Christmas trees

A bright double rainbow seemed to lead the way to the Winter Wonderland Celebration at the Sparetime Garden Center Gardener's Pantry last Saturday. Attendees walked through a forest of 150 trees, freshly cut and ready to take home. The rain was intermittent, allowing people to choose between perusing the multitude of gift and gardening items in the Pantry or enjoying a walk amongst the trees.

"The Winter Wonderland is our introduction to the holiday season," said Andrew Hosford, CEO of Sparetime Supply. "We just got all our Christmas trees set up and we thought it would be fun to do a little event where we had music and snacks, and we have a sale going on in the Gardener's Pantry. If you spend \$50, you get a \$10 coupon, until December 20. For every \$100 you spend, you get \$20. We're calling it Gardener's Gold.

"We have a family photo booth area, too, so people can take pictures with their family," said Hosford. "This will be open and going until the Christmas trees are gone. The photo booth will be set up all through December. The Gardener's Pantry will be open all the way up to Christmas Eve."

There are approximately 1,500 individual items available in the Gardener's Pantry, so it shouldn't be difficult to find something for everyone on the list. A good number of the items, including candles, cooking oils and balsamic vinegars, jewelry, etc. are from local artisans.

"The Garden Pantry will have a pretty awesome Black Friday sale this year," Hosford continued. "We're

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

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 - Deputy Probation Officer I & II** \$55,577 - \$74,505
 - Deputy Sheriff-Coroner** \$84,323 - \$102,460
 - Eligibility Specialist I** \$44,304 - \$53,830
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 - Environmental Health Specialist I/II** \$58,448 - \$78,332
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 - Senior Public Health Nurse** \$101,296 - \$123,136
 - Social Worker I - IV-D** \$51,729 - \$97,448
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 - Youth Corrections Officer - Extra-Help** \$26.61 - \$32.34 Hourly
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- EOE

The rest of **Turkeys** From page 1

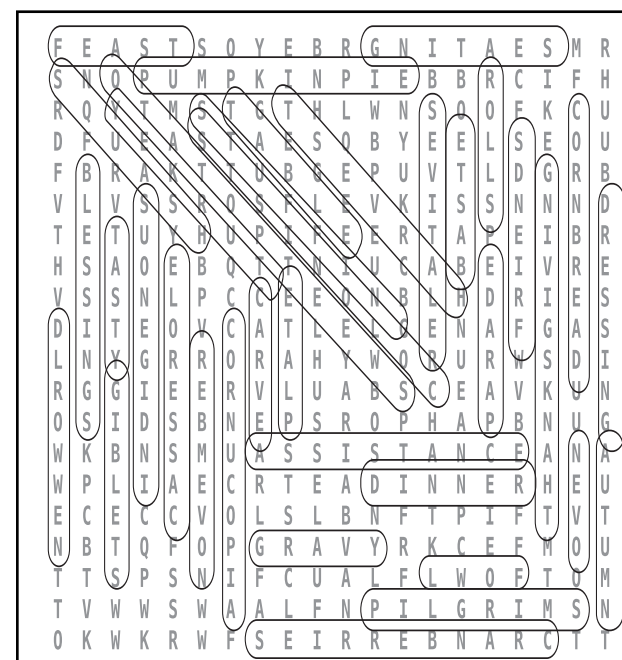
offered to help us cook the meal," explained Tippit. "Parin Fork, despite their lack of a kitchen, and along with the help of Chamberlain Creek Conservation Corp, is still going to smoke 400 pounds of turkey. They'll debone the turkeys, and hams, and they'll also make the green bean casseroles. Christy Wisdom, and the staff and some volunteers at Willits High School, are also cooking and deboning and cooking 200 pounds of turkey, and the rest of the turkeys will be cooked by Nancy Middleton, the chef at the Willits Senior Center."

Tippit went on to note that "Richard Baker, the executive director of the Willits Senior Center, came to the rescue by allowing us to use their kitchen, The Willits Food Bank employees along with volunteers are preparing the yams, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, etc. at the senior center, too.

After the dinner, there's always some delicious desserts to enjoy, and this year some of the donations of desserts came from the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and St. John's Lutheran Church. Tables will also be decorated with placemats which were created by students of the Willits Elementary Charter School and by Tippit's 3-year-old grandson, Grayson Bailey.

"He spent hours and hours making over 200 placemats with the help of his mom Alyssa Lombardo, dad Zack Bailey, aunt Amanda Lombardo, and great grandma Loretta Van Es," said Tippit.

Putting on such a meal, and running the WCS program year-round is only possible with the generosity of the community through donations and support. Helping to aid in that call this year, Sherwood Valley Casino sponsored the dinner with an \$8,500 donation, and the Willits Police Department and the Little Lake Fire Department came together to donate the 300 pounds of ham. This year, there is increased demand on the year-round efforts of WCS,



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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Willits will conduct a public hearing, on December 11, 2024 at 6:30 P.M., to discuss future applications for funding under the State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and to solicit citizen input for possible activities to be included in future CDBG applications. After discussion, the City Council shall consider adoption of a resolution approving application for funding and the execution of grant agreement and amendments thereto from the Community Development Block Grant Program. Said application (with Mendocino Community Health Clinic, Inc. acting as a subrecipient) will be for an amount not to exceed \$300,000 to support the planning of a comprehensive health center campus at 1 Madrone Street, Willits, CA 95490.

The purpose of the public hearing is to give citizens an opportunity to make their comments known regarding what types of eligible activities the City of Willits should apply for in the next available and additional future opportunities under the State CDBG program as well as comment on the proposed funding application.

The following information related to the project is available at Willits City Hall 111 E. Commercial Street between the hours of 9:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. Monday-Thursday or by emailing the contact listed below:

A. Amount of funds available and range of activities that may be undertaken.
B. Information on proposed project(s).
C. Estimated amounts of funds proposed to be used for activities benefiting persons of low- and moderate-income.
D. Plans for minimizing displacement of persons as a result of activities associated with CDBG funds and plans for providing assistance to persons displaced as a result of CDBG-funded activities.
E. Records regarding the past use of CDBG funds.

MEETING LOCATION: Council Chambers at City Hall located at 111 East Commercial Street, Willits, CA 95490.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE: Prior to the meeting, electronic copies of the project documents and agenda will be available on the City's website at <http://ca-willits.civicplus.com/AgendaCenter/CityCouncil-1>.

• Written public comments regarding the proposed project may be submitted by email to Dusty.Dulev@cityofwillits.org or the City Clerk's office, 111 East Commercial Street, Willits, California, 95490, no later than 5:30 p.m., on Tuesday, December 10th, 2024. All public comments received will be provided to the Council in advance of the meeting.

• Oral comments may be presented to the Willits City Council during the public meeting.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the public meeting, please contact the City Clerk at (707) 459-4601. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will assist staff in assuring that reasonable accommodations are made to provide accessibility to the meeting.

s/Cathy Moorhead
Assistant City Manager
Publication Dates: November 27, 2024 and December 5, 2024

and Tippit encourages all to donate if possible to keep many of the programs operating for those in need.

"While we made our goal for the first half of the year," explained Tippit. "The second half has proven more difficult with our daily food distribution going from 80 to 100 households a day to 200 to 220 households a day, twice a week. As we gear up for our winter program, we need donations to prepare for the severe weather this winter season and to help with operational expenses associated with the increased demands placed on the food bank, such as our food distribution, winter motel program, coat program, Christmas, and more."

Please send all donations to: Willits Community Services
344 Railroad Avenue, Willits, CA 95490.



CLASSIFIEDS

For Rent
Brooktrails 3 bedroom, 2 bath home for rent. Large yard. Pets possible. Available now: \$2200. (707) 380-5819.

For Rent
2 Bedroom, 2 Bath. Close to town and Howard Hospital. New, well-appointed kitchens with granite counters and large pantry. Spacious bathrooms. Laminate floors throughout and window coverings. 1200 sq. ft. \$1800.00/mo. 707-489-1080.

For Sale
Propane Fireplace-Regency Classic C34-LP10. Best Offer! Almost new, barely used with 10-foot flue, remote control. For photos and details write to: GoodStuffGoingFast@yahoo.com

Indoor Yard Sale
Giant Indoor Yard Sale - Deep Valley Christian School, 8555 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley (across from the Broiler). **Saturday, December 7-8 am to 4 pm**

John Ford Ranch Beef
John Ford Ranch still has the 50 lb. Rancher's Choice Box for \$390.00 and the 25 lb. Hamburger Box for \$170.00. Please contact Debbie Arkelian @ 459-5049. (Prices change effective 6/25/23)

RV/Trailer Space for Rent
Space for RVs and Trailers - starts at \$500 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 972-4696. See at <http://www.oakvine.net/lp>

Yard Cleanup
Yard cleanup. Fall leaves removed and pruning of roses, hedges and small trees. I'll cut back blackberries also. Mike: (707) 354-5650

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The rest of **Magic** From page 3

in. I was working at Fog City Diner at the time. At the time, it was one of the best restaurants in the city and had a year's waiting list to get in. I started doing magic for my customers, which helped my tips and made me realize that I needed to keep doing it. Most people would see me doing magic at the next table and request that I come over and do it at their table.

"When I moved back to Fort Bragg," continued Goleman, "I had been with the Gloriana Opera Company right out of high school and did a couple of Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, 'Iolanthe' and 'Pirates of Penzance.' People caught wind of my doing magic in Fort Bragg. They were doing a concert series. They asked me if I would do a show. The first half was me singing and doing a set of music and then doing a set of magic. The second half of the show was stage magic. We formed a little troupe. We called ourselves The Fabulous Blendos. Blendo is a famous magic trick, where you have a bunch of different colored silks that turn into one big silk, using those colors. We ended up making a huge two-hour stage show with a band. We had huge box illusions and it was amazing."

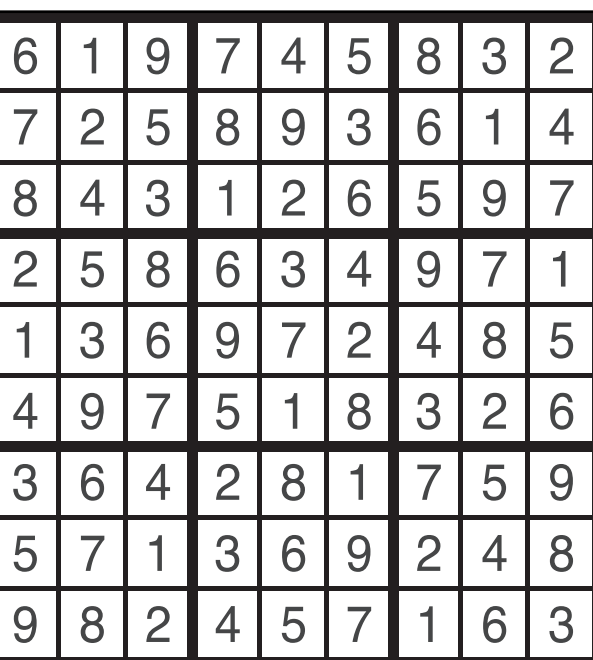
Many Willits residents will remember Goleman from the Willits Farmers Market at which he had a booth selling some tasty pastries and desserts, which he gave up to follow his dream of performing magic and mentalism.

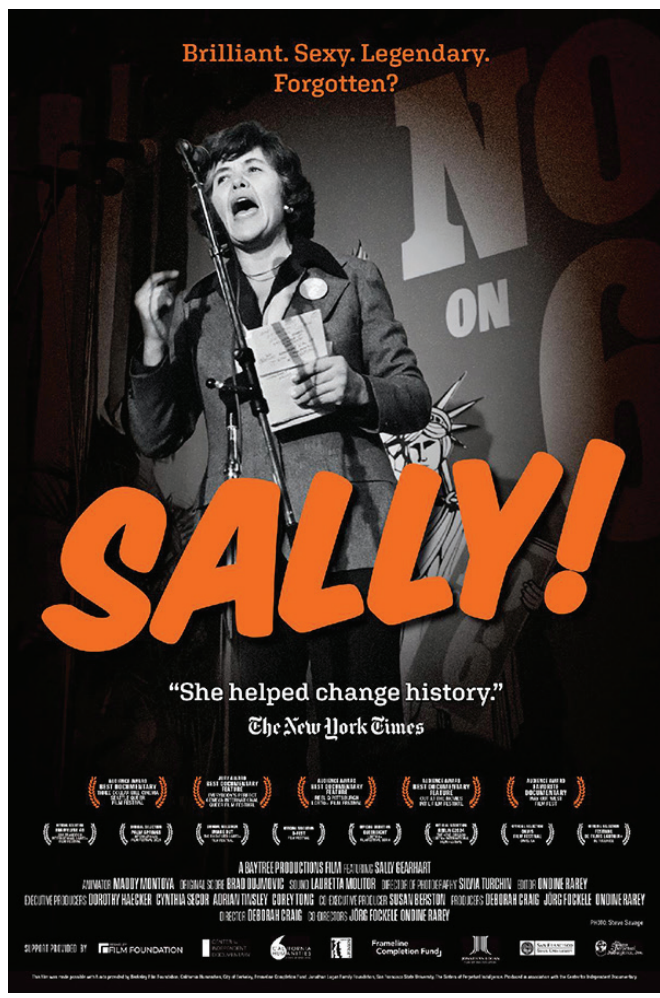
The performance was interactive, utilizing people from the audience who were not in on his act, to read passages from books, pick cards, roll dice, and several other pieces of business necessary to setting up the "mind-reading." The most eager were the youngest audience members who delighted in having their minds expanded and their disbelief suspended.

Taking the act on the road is Goleman's dream, and he has started a GoFundMe in order to purchase a backdrop that folds down small enough to transport and goes up quickly. For those wishing to contribute, go to: <https://gofund.me/e475a37a>.

Amythst Romero, director of the Willits Community Theatre and chairperson of the committee which is tasked with producing a variety of different types of shows for the theater, would like to have Goleman back, probably in the spring, and possibly for two shows, as his first foray onto the Willits stage was sold out with a waiting list. She is planning several shows over the season to entertain and inform.

"I've had people say that they're too smart for mentalism. No, it's an art form. It's like ballet and opera. I ask those people if they go to theater or to the movies. They all require suspension of disbelief," said Goleman, who received a standing ovation at the end of his amazing show.





'Sally!'

Willits Community Theatre to show documentary about political activist Sally Gearhart on Sunday

By Steve Hellman, for WCT

Famed political activist and longtime Willits resident Sally Gearhart is featured in a documentary film "Sally!" directed by Deborah Craig and showing at the Willits Community Theatre on Sunday, December 1 at 2 pm. Known for her warm wit and fierce advocacy, Gearhart became an inspiration in the women's rights and gay rights movement in the 1970s.

The film traces her early roots in Virginia to her teaching in Texas, and ultimately to her major role in Bay Area politics as a lesbian activist, teacher and writer alongside luminaries like former San Francisco Mayor Harvey Milk.



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At top: Longtime Willits resident Sally Gearhart was a key player in the women's rights and gay rights movement in the 1970s. Photo by Silvia Turchin Above: The production crew of "Sally!" smiles for a photo with the film's main subject, Sally Gearhart, center. Below: Sally Gearhart, center, stands with other activists to fight for gay rights. Photo by Daniel Nicoletta At bottom: Sally Gearhart takes the stage in 1978 to encourage voters to reject a proposition that would restrict gay rights. Photo by Steve Savage

In the mid-1970s Gearhart and several close friends bought property in Brooktrails, which eventually became a gathering place for her community. She later retired to Willits in the early '90s and became a familiar figure around town.

Director Craig says she interviewed Gearhart extensively toward the end of her life for the film, which took six years to make. "She was a charismatic and complex person, welcoming everybody she encountered," Craig says. "She wasn't someone you could easily peg. She lived in the woods and worshipped the trees and the animals, and she ate bacon and Twinkies. She embraced people who were different than her and she counted many men among her friends."

The film is presently on a festival run, with showings in San Francisco, Chicago, Winston-Salem, Pittsburgh, Albuquerque, Rochester, and internationally in Vienna, Austria and Geneva, Switzerland. The 1.5-hour film is Craig's first feature-length effort.



Craig will be on hand at the December 1, 2 pm showing at the WCT playhouse, and will host an open audience dialogue afterward. Tickets are \$20 and available online at: www.wctperformingartscenter.org or at the door. Season sponsors for Willits Community Theatre are the Community Foundation of Mendocino County, NC Financial Group, Sparetime Supply, KZYX Radio and Jerry Drew Painting.

The rest of Repair | From page 1

Attorney that the item would be considered on that Wednesday October 23, 2024 Agenda. On Tuesday, October 22, 2024, a City of Willits staff member attended the district's regular board meeting to notify the general manager of the city's next day agenda item. The city staff report advised that there was a "Brooktrails" agreed obligation to contribute 36-percent toward the cost."

Clearly, there was a breakdown in communication as there was not an occasion for the district and its engineer or staff to review the proposal that was moved forward for City Council approval as Brooktrails' review was not solicited prior to the recommended action being agendized. Neither was the item included in the last received "quarterly" wastewater report that the Willits City Manager provided to the District in January and April 2024. Therefore, there has not been an agreed obligation for Brooktrails to pay a portion of this project as stated in the city's staff report.

There is a cost share discussion that's based on relevant terms identified by Brooktrails staff in the Agreement by City of Willits for Disposal of Sewage from Brooktrails Resort Improvement District and its second through fourth amendments to the Agreement between the City of Willits and Brooktrails Township Community Services District.

The stated terms are: "City Control of Improvements and District Pre-Approval Requirement. Plan Review by District. The Board of Directors of the District, with the advice of its engineers, shall have the right to review, make suggestions and approve for their adequacy, plans, specifications and cost estimates prior to their approval by the City Council of the City, provided, however, that its approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

"The 2015 Settlement Agreement to Litigation between Brooktrails Township and the City of Willits for

The rest of Rain | From page 1

Forecast Center www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/precipForecast.php?cwa=EKA&imgNum=1&mobile=0 predicted that the Willits area would receive between 10 and 15 inches of rainfall by the end of the week. I'd say that was a pretty good estimate.

- Tim Hanna

The rest of Board | From page 1

the community population so that all voices of Willits are heard.

In a few years, the trimester-long course will be a graduation requirement, and all students must take a minimum of one trimester of Ethnic Studies during their time at Willits High School. Superintendent Mark Beebe inquires how the course has been received by students so far, and Chavez says the teachers first work on creating a safe environment because the course has been described as "self-exposing." Chavez also informs him, "The [parents] that I have heard from are excited about the fact that [their] voices are going to be heard," but there are still some parents concerned about what will be said of whiteness. Ultimately, the board will be reconvening for a group discussion based on the workshop to continue implementing this program in a way that will be effective and beneficial to students.

Shortly after this lengthy discussion, Superintendent Beebe and the trustees honored five Elementary Students of the Month to provide a pause between Chavez's two presentations. The presenter explained that Blosser Lane Elementary has chosen Olivia Sanchez, Abigail Jones, Grayson Mann, Trent O'Farrell, and Chloe White as this month's Certificate Achievement Award recipients for exhibiting the qualities of school culture: safe, respectful, responsible, and kind.

Chavez's second presentation was the Grade-Level State Testing for CAASP and ELPAC Performance Analysis. She informed the board, "Our challenges are in writing and math comprehension [essentially the procedures in the mathematical equations]." Meanwhile, "reading and listening are steadily improving [but] we need to focus on writing short-term goals." Other short-term goals are ELA and math interventions for grades 3 to 8 to see improvement in

Disposal of Wastewater into the City Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Facilities and its 2020 Amendment to the Agreement are in place, which settled the ongoing court case against the city for demanding that Brooktrails ratepayers pay unjustified capital and operational costs to treat sewage."

In regard to Replacement Costs, the Settlement Agreement states: "Thirty-six percent (36%) of the costs paid by the city for replacing plant equipment, machinery or facilities because of breakage, ordinary use and wear, or obsolescence, less any grants or revenues therefore, shall be apportioned to the district."

District staff has reviewed the proposal scope and costs after the fact and have determined that this project is a wastewater expenditure that is capital in nature and necessary. Implementing a reasonable process like providing a report to the board and approving its accompanying resolution is to ensure that the district is not billed multiple times for the same project cost in the future.

General Manager Tamara Alaniz said: "It turns out that this is a reasonable proposal. It looks like a reasonable cost estimate and it should be done."

Board President Tina Tyler-O'Shea said, "What we are looking at here is the creation of a process that really will refine and streamline these processes, so that we will have better communication in the future."

The board then voted unanimously to support the recommended action: "Move to approve the Resolution and direct staff to work with the City on submitting a payment for a total of \$6,343.12 which represents 36% of the approved \$156,508.66 cost for the City of Willits Wastewater Clarifier Capital Repair Project."

Human remains found near Piercy 12 years ago IDed

By Detective Sgt. J. Logan for MCSO

On October 30, 2012 at 7 am during the morning shift briefing, Mendocino County Sheriff's Office Dispatch advised then-Sergeant Matt Kendall that human remains had been discovered, buried in a shallow grave in the Piercy area, near the Eel River and the Mendocino / Humboldt county line

Detectives with the Mendocino County Sheriff's Investigations Bureau responded to the 83000 block of Highway 271 in Piercy, and were provided with a plastic bag containing human foot bones. Photographs taken by the reporting party were also provided to investigators at this time.

MCSO detectives utilized kayaks and paddled approximately 1/4 mile to the location, where the remains had been discovered.

Forensic anthropologists from California State University in Chico were requested for the excavation / preservation of the buried skeletal remains.

At the conclusion of the excavation, the forensic anthropology team unearthed human skeletal remains, which were absent the head. It appeared the remains located within the shallow grave had been there for an extended time, and the partial articles of clothing collected suggested 1980s styles.

Due to the surrounding circumstances this investigation was labeled as a "John Doe" homicide.

An investigation was launched, and multiple attempts to identify the remains of the buried skeletal remains were made, but were ultimately unsuccessful.

In spring 2024, the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office sent forensic evidence to Othram Technology in The Woodlands, Texas. At Othram's laboratory, scientists successfully developed a DNA extract from the forensic evidence and used Forensic-Grade Genome Sequencing® to build a comprehensive DNA profile for the unknown man. Othram's in-house forensic genetic genealogy team then used this profile to conduct genealogy research, ultimately providing new investigative leads to law enforcement. The investigative leads presented genealogical findings for a Warren David Hawkins.

After receiving this information, Investigators learned that "Warren Hawkins" had been reported missing by his sister (Paula Hawkins) to the Cowlitz County Sheriff's Office in Washington. Paula provided a DNA reference sample to the Cowlitz County Sheriff's Office, which was provided to Othram Technology and later used for his identification. An additional DNA sample was obtained from Paula in 2024 by the Gresham Police Department in Oregon.

The last reported sighting of Hawkins was in July of 1986 when his now-deceased mother dropped off 21-year-old Hawkins and another unknown male at a bus station.

Because of the hard work and dedication of the above listed agencies, the remains of Warren David Hawkins can now be returned to his family.

This is still an active and ongoing homicide investigation with the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, and anyone with information related to this case is requested to call the Sheriff's Office Dispatch Center at 707-463-4086.

The Mendocino County Sheriff's Office would like to thank the following agencies for their assistance during this investigation: Othram Technology, California State University - Chico Anthropology Department, NamUs (National Missing and Unidentified Persons System), Cowlitz County Sheriff's Office in Washington, and Gresham Police Department in Oregon.

Little Lake Valley rainfall totals						
location	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	storm total	
	Nov 19	Nov 20	Nov 21	Nov 22		
Northbrook Way	0.17	6.18	6.19	2.20	14.74	
Brooktrails Dr @ Sherwood Rd	0.04	6.62	7.04	2.19	15.89	
Valley Rd	0.01	6.01	4.50	1.78	12.30	
Canyon Rd	0.15	4.46	4.16	1.68	10.45	
Pine Mountain @ 2552 ft	0.07	3.82	3.94	1.61	9.44	
Pine Mountain @ 2096 ft	0.07	5.17	4.78	2.26	12.28	
South Main @ East Oak	0.14	5.91	5.17	2.22	13.44	
average	0.09	5.45	5.11	1.99	12.65	

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

The rest of Sparetime | From page 8

opening the Garden Center at 6 am on Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving. From 6 to 7 am, everything is 40 percent off, only in the Gardener's Pantry; 7 to 9 am, everything is 30 percent off; 9 am to 12 pm, everything is 20 percent off."

The trees usually sell out well before Christmas, so make sure to head in early. "Our trees start in the low-to-mid \$30s, up to around \$100 for the larger trees, 8-to-10 footers," explained Hosford. "We sell the most of the 10-to-12 footers. Please make sure your ceiling is tall enough. We've been doing the Christmas trees since I was a little kid. It was always one of my favorite things to do in the holidays because I got to work outside and sometimes there would be snow on the trees.

"We ship these down from Oregon," Hosford said. "They're cut and we bring them right down here, so they are very fresh. We keep them moist. The rain sort of helped this year. We cut the bottoms off, drill a hole in the bottom, and we put them on stands in a pool of water. The low temperatures and keeping them exposed to water keeps them as fresh as possible. Douglas firs and Noble firs are the two most popular types of trees we sell. We have a couple other varieties as well. We have some live trees as well, only about five or six, but those are expensive, in the couple hundred range."

Jaime Wilkes, vice-president of Sparetime, helped create the Gardener's Pantry and Winter Wonderland. "We really wanted to create a destination place for people to come and pick out the perfect Christmas tree and have some hot cocoa and enjoy a family evening," said Wilkes. "We have wonderful Christmas gifts at the Gardener's Pantry. After today, we'll have all the trees available until they're sold. We'll have hot cocoa and apple cider every night. The normal store hours are Monday through Saturday, 9 am to 5 pm. We're open on Sundays for the holidays, 10 am to 4 pm.

"We have a craft area for kids where they can make their own Christmas ornaments," Wilkes said. "We take the bottoms off of all the Christmas trees and they can be used for the kids to make their own ornaments. This will also be here until all the trees are gone. It's a free activity for the kids to do while their parents are shopping for Christmas trees. We also have a little station where they can write a letter to Santa. The parents just write their address or email on the back so we can make sure we send it to them after they leave."

Sparetime Garden Center, located at 208 East San Francisco Avenue, can be reached at 459-6791; more info available at https://sparetimegardencenters.com/.

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 ART-228B #0329 Beginning Painting II
 ART-228C #0330 Intermediate Painting I
 ART-228D #0331 Intermediate Painting II
 ART-522 #0552 Watercolors for Older Adults
 ART-542 #0542 Ceramics for Older Adults

BUSINESS
 BUS-50 #3022 Math Application in Business

CHILD DEVELOPMENT
 CDV-100 #3004 Teaching Young Children
 CDV-280 #0298 Child, Family, and Community

COMMUNICATIONS
 COM-210 #0212 Interpersonal Communication

COMPUTER SCIENCE
 CSC-520 #0501 Beginning Computer Skills I
 CSC-526 #0502 Beginning Computer Skills II

ENGLISH
 ENG-200 #0290 College Composition
 ENG-205 #0250 Critical Thinking
 ENG-210 #1081 Creative Writing
 ENG-212 #1002 Intermediate Creative Writing
 ENG-503 #0504 Writing for Older Adults
 ENG-560 #0563 Basic Reading & Writing Lab

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE
 ESL-3A #0303 ESL: Communication Skills A
 ESL-503A #0305 ESL: Communication Skills A
 ESL-3B #0351 ESL: Communication Skills B
 ESL-503B #0350 ESL: Communication Skills B

ETHNIC STUDIES
 ETH-241 #0251 Pacific Coast Indian Cultures

HEALTH
 HLH-213 #0293 Lifeguard Training

MATH
 MTH-205 #4558 Math for Liberal Arts
 MTH-220 #0222 Statistics-Fri 5:30pm

MUSIC
 MUS-230A #0224 Beginning Voice
 MUS-230B #0225 Intermediate Voice
 MUS-230C #0226 Singers' Repertoire I
 MUS-230D #0227 Singers' Repertoire II
 MUS-530 #0530 Singing for Older Adults
 MUS-281 # 0084 Concert Choir
 MUS-580 #0085 Chorale for Older Adults

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 PSY-210 #0204 Psychology of Life Span Dev.

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Furry Friends Hoping for a Home This Holiday

Jolly Johnson

Johnson is very playful with toys – but tennis balls are his ultimate favorite! Johnson knows how to walk on-leash and enjoys going out to explore, and meeting new people and other dogs. What can we say? This dude is always up for an adventure!

The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, is open to the public from noon to 5 pm Tuesday through Friday and 10 am to 3 pm (closed for lunch from 1 to 1:30 pm) on Saturdays. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendoanimalshelter.com. Call 707-467-6453 for more information.



Johnson.

dog. Her main likes include: eating, sitting in the sun, cuddling, napping, burrowing, short walks (with a collar, not harness), being carried in a sling, and being bathed weekly.

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



Judy.

Affectionate Judy

Judy has been through a lot. Despite all of her emotional and physical traumas, she's had a remarkable rehabilitative journey! From cowering and quiet to confident and communicative! Judy is a sweet, tender, and loving little girl who deserves all the love in the world. When bonded with her human, she can be incredibly trusting and affectionate. She loves to burrow and cuddle all day and all night. She very much gets along with other small dogs and mainly keeps to herself – and once comfortable can even occasionally cuddle up with other dogs.

Due to her calm and loving nature, she is generally low maintenance with very few needs. For someone who is gentle, affectionate, attentive, loving and patient – Judy can be the perfect



Arnold.

Lounging Arnold

Arnold is just a big ol' guy who wants nothing more than to lounge around all day. He loves to sunbathe, cuddle with his people or his sister Marlene (who is available to adopt as well), and get all the love there is to be had. Arnold has successfully lived with dogs and other cats and would do well in just about any indoor-only home!

Arnold's adoption fee has been generously sponsored by Amy Mickelson.

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. Feel free to visit us, no appointments needed! We are open Wednesday through Friday, 1 to 5 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 11 am to 3 pm; closed Monday and

Tuesday. Check out all of our available dogs and cats on our website: www.mendohumanesociety.com, on our Facebook page, and on www.petfinder.com.

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