

Retired auditor's role key in move to dismiss Cubbison case

By Mike Geniella, ava.com

December 10 - To what degree former Mendocino County Auditor Lloyd Weer fits in with a felony criminal case filed by District Attorney David Eyster against Weer's successor been unclear for has months.

On January 6, however, it will be the sharp focus of a crucial court hearing on defense moves to dismiss charges of misappropriation of public funds against suspended Auditor Chamise Cubbison and former county Payroll Manager Paula June Kennedy. The court hearing on the dismissal request had been scheduled for Tuesday, December 10, but the dismissal hearing was delayed because of a last-minute request for continuance by Kennedy's new lawyer.

During the hearing on Tuesday, Superior Court Moorman Judge Ann ordered Weer and investigative Sgt. Andrew Porter to appear at the January 6 hearing, where

Read the rest of Cubbison

Over on Page 15





Above, from left: Special Christmas dishes and serving ware are available at the Willits Senior Center Christmas Store. This cute snowman figurine is looking for a new home. This faux-stained glass star and circle will surely illuminate the sky. Below: Several of the Christmas Store helpers and volunteers gather for a photo, including, from left: Sherry Bixler, Nancy Fales Stipe, Sue Sawyers, Diana Mann, Dorothy Roediger and Joanne Moore.



Holiday Store Success Annual themed pop-up shop sells holiday goods by the tableful to happy purchasers raising \$10,000 for Senior Center

Today's the last day for the Willits Senior Center's Christmas Store to be open in the main hall at the Baechtel Road center, and shoppers will get a 'buy-one, get-onefree' sale all day Thursday.

Starting Friday, December 13, all the goods left will be sent over to the center's main Thrift Store where they still will be available for sale for extra-last-minute shoppers.

"The sale was great this year," said Richard Baker, executive director of the Willits Senior Center. "We feel confident that it is on track to see the same \$10,000 net profit which helps to fund our essential programs and services here at the center. Thank you to all the shoppers, and all the volunteers who helped make it happen."

Baker gave a special shout out to Dorothy Roediger and Sue Sawyers who "work all year to collect, sort and store all the Christmas items that come in as donations. and they're the ones who transform our dining room into the magical Christmas store. They're then helped by a long list of volunteers who help stock the tables, price the items, run the registers and more including Charlie, Joyce, Tam, Jules, Terry, Nancy, Melinda, Mona, Norman, Diana, Stephanie, Devora, Katie, Helen, Ann, Pat, Susie, Cathie, Amy, Linda, Allyn, and Greg."

Maureen Jennison

New partnership at the Mendocino County **Museum**

Submitted by the Mendocino County Museum

The County of Mendocino and the Mendocino County Museum in Willits are delighted to announce a new partnership that affirms the museum as a valuable cultural asset for all Mendocino County citizens and paves the way for a robust future.

The partnership allows the Friends of the Mendocino County Museum to assume operation of the Museum Gift Shop and the admissions operations. "This is a tremendous step forward for the museum and the county as a whole - for anyone who lives and works here, and who has pride in our incredible county and its rich history," says Museum Administrator Karen Mattson.

With this first step in the transition, county staff will continue to oversee the museum's collections, exhibitions, and field trips. The non-profit Friends of the Museum will oversee the gift shop and admissions lobby.

"The FOTMCM looks

Read the rest of Museum

Over on Page 15

KMUD News awarded prestigious journalism grant Submitted by KMUD Radio

December 4 - KMUD-Redwood Community Radio is excited to announce that our newsroom was named a recipient of the Press Forward grant, part of an inaugural, historic cohort of more than 200 local newsrooms across the country committed to filling critical information gaps and serving our communities.

Since the early 1980s, KMUD out of Redway in Humboldt County, has been at the forefront of independent, communitydriven journalism, providing essential news coverage and amplifying the voices of our region. A review panel of national journalism leaders saw how our work is making a difference here at home.

We were selected from a pool of 931 applicants, with only 205 newsrooms Among chosen. the selected, 25% of the awards were directed to rural communities, and 7% went to radio stations like ours.

Read the rest of KMUD Over on Page 4













Photos by Maureen Jennison

This project burn will be conducted under strictly controlled weather and fuel conditions. Smoke and

Read the rest of Shamrock Over on Page 4

Shamrock Ranch burn scheduled this week

Submitted by CAL FIRE MEU

Mendocino County - The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Mendocino Unit will be conducting a vegetation management prescribed burn on the Shamrock Ranch. This prescribed burn will treat approximately 600-acres of grasslands, chaparral, and understory vegetation within oak woodlands and mixed conifer habitats, creating a mosaic of variously burned vegetation and islands of unburned habitat.

The Shamrock Ranch is in the northern portion of Mendocino County, east of Highway 101, and southeast of the town of Laytonville.

Burning will begin on Monday, December 9, 2024, and continue intermittently as favorable weather conditions present themselves, but end no later than Friday, December 27, 2024. Burning will start at approximately 8 am and conclude at approximately 3 pm daily.

Raw Farm dairy products recalled after detection of bird flu virus

Submitted by Mendocino County Public Health

December 5 – California Department of Public Health reports a recall of all Raw Farm, LLC dairy products after the detection of H5N1 bird flu virus in several batches. Raw Farm is located in Fresno County, California.

The recall, which was initiated following multiple bird flu virus detections in Raw Farm LLC's milk and dairy products, includes all sizes of Raw Farm milk and cream produced between November 9 and November 27, 2024. The affected lot numbers range from 20241109 to 20241127, including previously recalled lots from November 24 and November 27. Consumers who have purchased these products should immediately return them to masking around symptomatic individuals helps the point of purchase.

The Division of Environmental Health has notified all affected businesses in Mendocino County and is providing guidance for the proper disposal of the recalled products. DEH is working closely with CDPH to monitor the situation and ensure the safe removal of the products from circulation in Mendocino County.

Submitted by SBMC

to coast.

information.

Mendocino County Public Health urges anyone who consumed the recalled milk and cream to be alert for the signs and symptoms of H5N1 infection, including red eyes, sinus congestion, and fatigue. Anyone who falls ill within 10 days of last drinking the recalled product should contact their doctor or Public Health

The recall only affects milk and cream. However, CDPH also urges consumers to avoid products of any size from Raw Farm LLC, including milk. cheese, cream, and kefir, as well as raw milk pet food topper and pet food kefir.

There are still no known cases of H5N1 Bird Flu in Mendocino County, Usual handwashing and reduce spread of all flu viruses, including H5N1.

The Mendocino County Department of Public Health continues to work with CDPH and local healthcare providers to monitor for emerging diseases, including H5N1. Contact your doctor in you or your child develop red eyes or fall ill within 10 days of working with or handling sick birds, cows, or any other animals who can be infected by H5N1.

Fraudsters impersonating Senior Center menu financial institutions locally for the week and nationwide Willits Senior Center is serving lunch in its indoor dining room, Monday through Friday, from 11:45 am to 1 pm. Drive-through Savings Bank of Mendocino County is alerting the lunches are available from 12 to 12:45 pm, community about scam phone calls from fraudsters outside the Senior Center, 1501 impersonating bank employees. The fraudsters are Thursday, December 12: Salmon Bowl w/ "spoofing" the bank's phone number, in other words, Rice, Veggies, Poke Sauce the scammers are using deceptive technology that makes it seem like those calls are coming from the Friday, December 13: Pork Tacos, Rice & bank by deliberately falsifying the Caller ID to disguise Beans their identity. This scam is targeting customers of Monday, December 16: Cranberry Glazed many different financial institutions locally and coast "We cannot emphasize enough how important it is to NOT give out your personal identifying information over the phone, by text, or email," said Stacy Starkey, Savings Bank president and CEO. "The bank will Rice, Beans never contact you to ask you for that information." In recent attempts, the fraudsters are informing the Dumplings person that they are calling because their account has been the target of fraud and asks them to verify Sandwich, Chips, Pickle their debit card number, PIN, and requests them to verify personal information. The fraudster will use that information to contact the bank to attempt to impersonate the customer and attempt to gain access from 9 to 10 am. to the customer's accounts to initiate large debit card transactions. Remember, the Savings Bank and other banks will never contact our customers and ask

Pork Chops, Rice, Veggies, Roll Tuesday, December 17: Spinach Lasagna, Garlic Bread. Green Salad Wednesday, December 18: Shrimp Tacos, Thursday, December 19: Chicken & Friday, December 20: Ortega Roast Beef Activities: Bingo every Friday night, 5 to 7 pm. Exercise class every weekday morning Meals on Wheels: The Senior Center Meals on Wheels program delivers lunch Monday through Friday. To sign up call Joliana at 459-6826, who can help fill out the application form. Call 459-6826 the day before needed to schedule home meal delivery. Delivered throughout Willits Transportation for seniors: Call 459-5556 to schedule. Pick up and drop off for grocery

What do **YOU think?**

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Homeless Motel Rooms program

To the Editor:

WELL (Willits Economic Localization) is grateful to be able to offer our fiscal sponsorship to the Homeless Motel Rooms program formerly managed by Willits Community Services/Food Bank - this vear being administered by Ruthanne Volz and other volunteers.

WELL is a non-profit organization working for the past 20 years to help make Willits more sustainable, through education, action, and partnering with other groups and individuals. Our mission includes issues from water and energy conservation to local food, emergency preparedness, and community wellness and housing. As a 501c3 organization, we have often helped sponsor programs through taxdeductible fundraising and for event insurance, recently including the School of Adaptive Agriculture, Willits Wellness Collective, and the Willits Shelter Action Group.

WSAG was formed from WELL's "Building Community" gatherings in 2023 and is actively seeking to establish ongoing support and shelter for the unhoused in our community. Unfortunately it's too late for them to reach the goal of overnight housing this winter. (It's a long and complicated project!)

Ruthanne Volz, who previously was director of the Food Bank and initiated the motel room program, is stepping up to provide this emergency respite program to offer one or two nights a month safe shelter per individual or family to our unhoused population. We also thank the Redwood Inn for providing rooms.

To help, please send a tax-deductible donation designated for the Homeless Motel Rooms Program (minimum \$100 please) to WELL, P.O. Box 42, Willits CA 95490. Funds raised will be ear-marked and used exclusively for the cost of this program.

If you'd like to support WELL with a membership, send a separate check (any amount over \$25) or use the PayPal link at www. well95490.org/join-donate. Or contact us at office@well95490.org.

> Madge Strong and the WELL Coordinating Committee, Willits

Support the Willits Motel Rooms Program To the Editor:

I am writing to inform the Willits community of a change in the usual procedure for serving the homeless in our community during the cold winter months, specifically the winter shelter motel rooms, aka the Homeless Motel Rooms Program. The food bank has chosen not to provide motel rooms for the homeless during this winter of 2024-2025.

I understand that there is lack of funding which prevents the agency from moving ahead. I started and raised funding for this essential service for five years as the executive director of Willits Community Services.

I am disappointed yet understand that funding sources and community generosity may have diminished. I wish the food bank well and appreciate all that they do to feed hungry people. I am relieved to report that Willits Economic Localization, aka WELL, is now handling donations that are beginning to come in, and WELL will facilitate payments to the Redwood Inn for this season.

Rooms will be offered to those in need who are without homes. Each

Holiday Express

Roots of Motive Power invites families to ride antioue train and visit with Santa in the engine house

Santa arrived just in time on his little yellow speeder car, waving at the kids and families waiting in line to board the Roots of Motive Power Holiday Express for their

Mathew Caine twice-around-the-circle trips, which many took prior to proceeding inside the engine willitsweekly@gmail.com house to sip some hot chocolate, eat some

hot dogs and cookies, and sit on Santa's lap. Outside on the train, families, and some furry friends, took in the cool air, listened to the shrill whistle, and watched the steam billow from the old, restored engine.

Some may have noticed a car, new to the Holiday Express. Some huge logs were suspended between two "bunks" making a dynamic addition to the conveyance. "We had to do some work on this car," explained Chris Baldo, one of the founders of Roots. "The center bolster was too low. It didn't want to go around curves very well. These are actually spruce logs. There's no market for spruce, so they had a bunch of these logs and just gave them to Roots because they couldn't sell them. They usually call these skeleton cars when there's just two bunks connected by one center beam. It's an old Milwaukee Road car."

For those attendees who are curious about the equipment found and running at Roots, there is no shortage of knowledgeable volunteers who are more than happy to explain, in detail, every aspect of the machinery and the history of these, mostly logging, pieces of equipment. There are also classes for members.

"We have the Steam Engineering Safety Class coming up the first weekend in April," said Troy James, board member and past president. "The first weekend in June, we have the Railroad Safety Class. The new Dipper Stick Shovel Class, July 20 and 21."

According to the Roots website. https://rootsofmotivepower. com: "The weekend includes about half of a day in a classroom session plus hands-on training for the other one and a half days. The training includes the following subjects: construction and theory of digging with a dipper stick, safety, machine design, lubrication, maintenance, and operation. Please wear boots, heavy aloves and long sleeves. The beginning class will be focused on the Buycrus Erie diesel-powered 22B and the advanced class will be on the Bucyrus Erie steam-powered 50 B (Steam Safety Class is a prerequisite for this class).

One of Roots' most ambitious projects, the restoration of a huge steam tractor is nearing fruition as they expect a newly custombuilt boiler to arrive within a couple of months, and they hope to have the tractor ready for the next July 4 Frontier Days Parade.

Even a trip around the perimeter track can be educational as

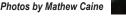






Above, left: The annual Roots Holiday Express shows its holiday spirit with a giant wreath. Above, right, top: Roots volunteer David Gilbertson explains much of the history of cabooses to the riders. Above, right: Two young girls sit on Santa's lap and let him know their wishes for Christmas. Above: Kids crowd around Santa as parents take photos. At right: Santa's holiday tree is festooned with railroad-themed ornaments. At far right: Piper happily munches on fresh popcorn while she waits to visit with Santa. At bottom, left: Engineer Shane Grupp brought his family to ride the train and speak with Santa. At bottom, right: Families and extended families love to show off their tickets and ride the train around the .75 mile track.







Your financial security is our top priority. To further protect our customers, Savings Bank has placed increased restrictions on debit card transactions. To reduce your risk, we strongly urge our customers to insert their chip card at the checkout terminal when making purchases.

them to verify a debit card number, PIN, or account

Savings Bank is advising that if you do receive an

unsolicited phone call, text message, or email from

someone claiming to be from your bank, hang up and

call your bank immediately using the phone number

on your bank statement, not from the call's Caller ID.

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



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Ad inquiries: call 707-972-7047

or email willitsweekly@gmail.com

shopping, banking, doctors' appointments. Senior Center Thrift Shop: 459-2176

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

person will get two nights per month during December through April. There is presently a substantial amount pledged toward this vital service. However, more is needed to reach the \$27,000 required. Your donation will help the homeless to be able to get a brief respite and to be warm, safe, get clean, fix meals, and rest well for two nights each month. Please send donations to Willits Economic Localization, WELL, designated for the Homeless Motel Rooms Program, at PO Box 28, Willits CA 95490. Thank you!

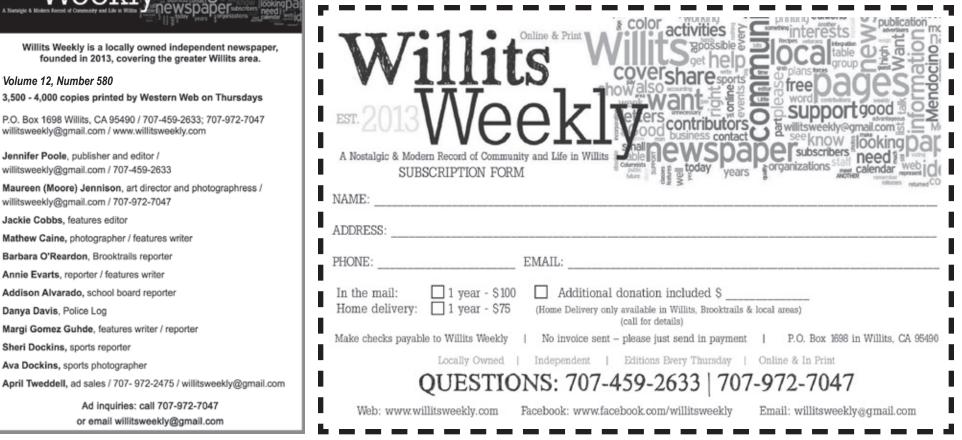
> Ruthanne Volz, Willits Homeless Motel Rooms Program coordinator

'Hot Winter's Night' silent auction, December 12

Season's Greetings to WHS students, families and friends! The Class of 2026 is holding a Silent Auction Fundraiser at the WHS "Hot Winter's Night" performance tomorrow, on Thursday, December 12 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in the main hall at Willits High School.

We are fundraising for this year's prom and hoping for your support. You can support the Class of 2026 by bidding at the auction or by donating items to sell. Please drop off any gently used donations at the WHS front office any time before 6 pm tomorrow, December 12. Please contact Lucy Kyne in the Counseling Office for more information. Thank you and see you at the show!

– WHS Class of 2026



Willits Weekly's **Puzzle Page**

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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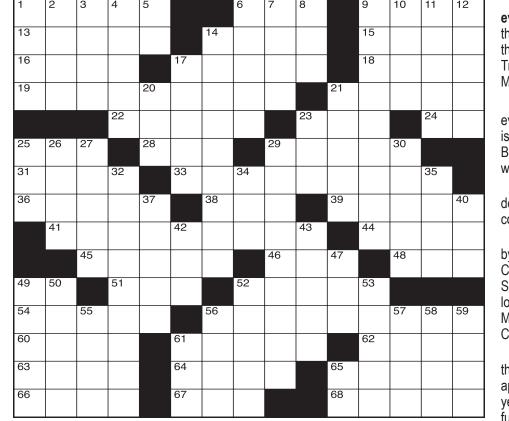
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November 25 to December 1

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

2:21 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle collision investigation near the intersection of South Street and Central

November 29

10:23 am: Officer responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle near the intersection of East San Francisco Avenue and Railroad

4:32 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block of Franklin

5:20 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

5:37 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the op in the 300 block of North Main Street and 700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

> 6:03 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of Holly Street and issued a citation

(25) of Willits was contacted in the 700 10:05 pm: Officers conducted a stop block of Central Street. He was arrested on near the intersection of Franklin Avenue felony charges of violation of probation and and Blosser Lane and issued a warning. on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance and possession of 10:57 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 400 block of Grove

disturbance near the intersection of Margie November 30

Street.

11:23 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

disturbance in the 21000 block of Locust December 1

12:26 am: Officers conducted a stop in 11:13 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a citation. issued a warning. 12:10 pm: Officers conducted a stop 7:25 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the

in the 300 block of Creekside Drive and 800 block of South Main Street and issued issued a warning. a citation.

The rest of From page 1 KMUD

This year, we've worked hard to serve Youth Journalism Training: KMUD our community by: will continue providing journalism training

for young reporters in local schools and Reporting on important community expand these programs, creating new events like the Wailaki people celebrating opportunities for students to participate in the return of a traditional redwood canoe to broadcasting and media production the Eel River after 170 years and the Wivot Tribe Seeing its Largest Land Return in Journalism Training for Native

Reporters: KMUD News is partnering with Native media makers, including the founder of KIDE in Hoopa, to train Native journalists. issued for Humboldt County during the This collaboration with tribally owned and Bomb Cyclone turned Atmospheric River operated community radio stations will increase coverage of the region's First







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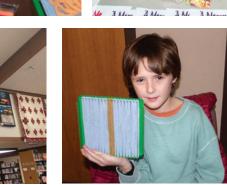
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Above, from left: A prospective customer peruses some of Madison Maciel's cookies and other goods. Young Ivy Frederick displays one of the paper star ornaments that she and her brother Soren are selling. Dalen Richardson and Silesa Leon brought some yummy baked goods and homemade Christmas cards. Photos by Mathew Caine

Kids' Winter Craft Fair

Willits Library hosts young vendors showing off their crafts and wares

"This is a Kids' Winter Craft Fair," explained Willits Branch Librarian Denise Jessie. "Someone approached me and said, 'why don't we have a kids' craft fair like they do in Ukiah?' Shannon helped me,

Mathew Caine and she found some of the vendors. eatures Writer "We have five vendors," Jessie litsweeklv@amail.com

continued, "and they've made a variety of things. We have hot pads. Somebody made iewelry. I think it's a good avenue for young people to learn a trade and do a craft and sell it and feel good about making their own money. I hope that people show up to support them and let them know that we appreciate their crafting."

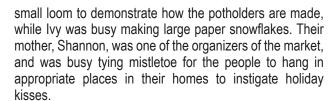
There were seven vendors signed up for the mini craft fair, but unfortunately two could not make it, but the five that were in attendance offered a variety of entrepreneurial choices. Seemingly, the most popular vendor was the "Charm Bar," which had a plethora of charms from which to choose. The charms would then be attached to either a bracelet or a necklace, creating a custom design which was perfect for gifting or for the customer to keep for themselves.

This booth was the creation of Aria Evans, who, along with her mother, Carolina Evans, worked tirelessly to fill the orders of the attendees. "You choose whatever charms you would like, whatever fits your personality, and then we make a necklace or a bracelet out of it. This is Aria's first show. We'd like to get into the upcoming show at the Art Center," said Carolina Evans.

One of the vendors had two booths to show off their wares. Ivy Frederick and her brother Soren manufacture potholders which are also being exhibited in the Willits Center for the Arts Small Works Show. Soren brought their

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BLUE ZONES PROJECT



Ivy explained her craft to Willits Weekly: "We're also going to be at the Grange Craft Show. We make the snowflakes with scissors, paper, and tape. It's really easy. You cut out a square and then you fold it to a triangle and then fold it one more time into a smaller triangle, and then you cut diagonally, and then you fold it over. You make six of them and then put them together. Then you put a string on it, and it's a Christmas ornament."

Also vending were Silesa Leon and Dalen Richardson, who brought a variety of sweets, including some tasty pumpkin cupcakes with a cream cheese icing and Rice Krispie treats. They had hand-made Grinch holiday cards as well. Madison Maciel had mitten and stocking cookies, candles, cups, soap, wax melts, whipped sugar scrubs, amongst her other goods. Haley Hood and Emily Reyn brought bracelets which sold for \$5 or \$10.

The Willits Library is more than just books. As Librarian Jessie sees it, the library should be a place for the community to have a space that is utilized for creative pursuits as well as a place to find books, videos, DVDs, CDs. and much more.

"I came in this morning," Jessie said, "and I looked out, and there were three families with kids wandering around and there was an adult doing a puzzle, somebody else was sitting at a table reading, there were a couple people at the back table playing a card game, and obviously people browsing for books.

"I looked at them and I said, 'this is exactly what we want this library to be,' a quiet community center - not so quiet that the kids couldn't giggle when they found an elf," she said. Jessie also explained about the current scavenger hunt going on at the Willits branch.

"We have about 1 inch baby elves, and they each have on a different outfit so they're 100% unique," said Jessie. "There are 18 of them hidden throughout the library, and the kids enjoyed it so much last year, so we had to do it again this year. They're the same elves who have come back to visit, but they're in different locations.

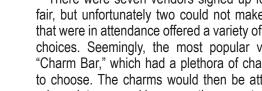
"We have a laminated sheet with pictures of all the elves which can be checked off with a dry erase marker when the kids find them. If they find all the elves, the kids will get a candy cane and a bookmark with winter-themed animals on it that they can take home and color. We like it because kids are exploring parts of the library that they normally don't see.'

Currently, the Willits Library is displaying several quilts that are hanging around the main room, created by the oncea-month Sit & Sew group. A rather sizeable quilt created by the participants is available by a raffle, the proceeds of which will go back to the library to purchase new chairs for the meeting room. The old ones are uncomfortable and have been there since the library was built.

The Willits Library is home to many fun and educational activities, books and reference materials, and entertaining ways to occupy young and grown-up minds.

The Willits Library is located at 390 East Commercial Street. It is open Tuesday through Thursday, 10 am to 7 pm, Friday, 10 am to 6 pm, and Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm. More info: www.mendolibrary.org/visit/willits or 707-459-5908





CLUES ACROSS 1. Thou ____ do it 6. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.) 9. Brainstem part 13. Town in New York state 14. Little (Spanish) 15. Continent 16. Retch 17. Short-billed rails 18. Small period of time (abbr.) 19. Confused 21. A team needs one 22. Woman in ancient times 23. Republican Party 24. Spanish be 25. 'The Godfather' character Johnny 28. Not around 29. City in Zambia 31. A type of beginning 33. Numb 36. Gurus 38. Small, gray-headed crow 39. Vehicle type 41. Disorders 44. One point east of southeast 45. Indian soldier 46. Tree type 48. Midway between 14. Having more than one south and southeast husband at a time

49. It cools your home 51. Corn comes on it 20. Energy 52. Ship's deck 54. A way to bake 56. Improvised 60. Butterfly genus 61. Baseball fields have them 62. Designated space 63. Discharge 30. Mountain range 64. Two of something 65. Once more 66. Part of your face 34. Supervises flying 67. Tax collector 35. Talks 68. Cassia tree 37. Persian male given name **CLUES DOWN** 40. Born of 42. Forcibly take one's 1. One-time Aaron Rodgers target 43. Discounts 2. Wings 47. Knockouts 3. Overly studious person 49. Posh Colorado 4. They protect your valuables 50. Form of therapy 5. The Volunteer State 52. British rock band 6. Non-hydraulic cement 53. Type of virus (abbr.) 7. Horse mackerel 8. Jackson and Diddley are two 9. Splendid displays 57. Middle Eastern nation 10. Mountain in NE Greece 58. Sinn __, Irish 11. A daughter or your brother or sister 59. Ethiopian lake 12. German surname 61. Bits per inch (abbr.)

Modern History. Covering emergencies like the evacuation orders & warnings that were which brought record-breaking rainfall **Investigating** the Ferndale horse racing deaths and homeless campfires that ignited concerns among Redway residents Kept local government accountable by covering the Humboldt County Planning Commission, Humboldt County Board of Supervisors meetings, and interviewing local representatives like Natalie Arroyo, Michelle Bushnell, Steve Madrone, and Congressman Huffman. This grant is an opportunity to continue that work. KMUD is set to receive approximately \$100,000 over a twoyear period in unrestricted funds. These funds can be used for general operating 17. Romanian city expenses such as wages, equipment, and leadership support, but we also aim to use them as a powerful tool to grow. We plan 21. Makes less hot to leverage these monies to attract more 23. Gas diffusion electrode funding through matching grants, ensuring 25. Former CIA we can serve Northern California for years 26. Set an example for others to come 27. Support of a particular

The Press Forward grant will allow KMUD to expand its engagement and journalistic 29. One from the Big Apple impact by enhancing local reporting, particularly in rural areas, and supporting 32. Violate the sanctity the next generation of local reporters. Here's how we plan to use the funds:

person

of something

possessions

destination

organization

65. Equally

The rest of Shamrock

aircraft may be visible in the area.

This project adds to significant work underway throughout the state and brings California one step closer towards meeting state fuels reduction goals directed by the California Fire Plan and the California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan at https://wildfiretaskforce. org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/californiawildfireandforestresilienceactionplan.pdf

To track the progress being made, both in your community and throughout California, visit the CAL FIRE fuels reduction dashboard at www.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/naturalresource-management/fuels-reduction

Have something to say? Residents of Willits, Brooktrails, Laytonville and Covelo are welcome to send in a letter to the editor. Please email us: willitsweekly@gmail.com REMEMBER: Deadline is end of day Monday for each week's Thursday edition.

reporters to reach rural and underserved areas that have been difficult to cover due to high costs. Digital Access and Archiving: KMUD plans to enhance digital accessibility by creating a searchable archive of past broadcasts. We will partner with the Library of Congress to preserve and ensure longterm access to these valuable stories. Sustaining Operations and Expanding Partnerships: In the face of economic challenges, the grant will

help sustain newsroom operations by funding staff, reporters, and community news programs. KMUD will also explore new opportunities for fundraising and underwriting, expanding partnerships with businesses and organizations that serve

Peoples and their sovereign nations.

• Travel Support: Additional funding

will help cover travel expenses, enabling

diverse communities. While this is a moment to celebrate, we also need local support to ensure longterm sustainability. Support our newsroom here: https://kmud.org/donate/one_time_ donation/

From page 1

55. The U. of Miami mascot is one 56. Volcanic crater

Because of you **MENDOCINO COUNTY IS A** HAPPIER AND HEALTHIER PLACE **TO LIVE**

0

🚔 The Whistle Stop

Cerra Jewel Hunting

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Food Review



...

The Whistle sausage

panini was bomb! New

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December 12, 2024 | Willits Weekly **Pg. 4** Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490











Above, left, top: Willits Frontier Days Juniors members help stuff stockings for the Willits Christmas Program. Above, left: the Grapevine Quilters of Mendocino County donated quilts to the program this year. Above, center: The inside of 349 South Main Street has been converted to Tag Tree Headquarters where elves help wrap presents and stuff stockings for the 2024 season. Above, right: Tags for boys and girls hang on trees around town, bearing the wishes and wants of children this holiday. At left: A pile of colorful art supplies and toys were donated by J.D. Redhouse for the Willits Christmas Program. At left, below: The haul of donated items from the Willits Wild Bunch's Toy Run will help fill many of the requests for this year's children. Below: This tag requests make up and outdoor sports items.

Tag Tree Update

Return those tags by December 15 to help wrap up 2024 Willits Christmas Program

It's getting down to the last few days for the Willits Christmas Program, with elves shopping, wrapping, and distributing gifts to kids and families in need this season - but there's still time if you want to help. This year, Willits Frontier Days has taken over the program and are excited to continue to offer gifts, and continue their Willits Frontier Days Juniors Christmas stocking program again this year. too.

"If you haven't gotten a tag yet, go to J.D. Redhouse, they took the overflow of what was left of the tags, and there's still a lot there to select," says Willits Frontier Days Head Elf Marcy Barry. "If you have a tag, we would love to have them turned in by December 15 so we can get presents to the kids. Thank you for all the donations - we have such a great community that comes together to make this program so successful."

If you fill one, or all, or if you change your mind and fill none, of the requests on the tag, it's all fine – the tags just need to come back to the group so they can complete them by Christmas. Drop-off barrels are located at the Willits Chamber of Commerce office, J.D. Redhouse & Co., Willits Les Schwab, and Coast Hardware.

You can also check in with the elves at their 2024 headquarters at 349 South Main Street (the former Dahvi's Kitchen) or call Marcy Barry at 707-272-5395 for more information.

Maureen Jennison



New City Lights

Holiday decorations along Main Street feature new designs, LED bulbs

The citizens of Willits may have noticed something different in the holiday decorations on Main Street this year. The old lights - presents on icicles, a snowflake and wreath, a bell, and a tree - have been retired. In their place, new efficient LED substitutions – a multi-colored Christmas tree and a blue-and-white snowflake star and swirl – have been installed on the light Mathew Caine poles, at least the ones with available AC power. eatures Writer

illitsweekly@gmail.com According to Willits City Manager Brian Bender: "The City

Council approved the purchase of new seasonal decorations as part of the city's American Rescue Plan Act budget. A total of \$15,000 was allocated to replace the aging decorations, which had been in use for decades and were literally held together with duct tape.

"Following the council's approval," Bender wrote: "Staff explored various options to find suitable replacements that would also fit the existing light pole brackets. The final selection was a collaborative staff effort, with Assistant City Manager Cathy Moorhead working closely with the vendor to secure the best possible price, ensuring the purchase stayed within budget.'

The new lights have several advantages over the old ones. "It's something we all agreed on as a team, at the city," explained Kenan O'Shea, superintendent of Streets and Parks. "We wanted to upgrade to something newer and more energyefficient and more efficient with the staff time. The old ones were really starting to fall apart. It would usually take a couple people almost two days to switch out all the bulbs and test everything, just to prep them to put them up.

"We wanted to get something a little stouter, a little more modern, to go with the times." O'Shea said. "These new ones have LED bulbs, so they're not going to use as much power, which is always a good thing. And they're part of a set, so they match. The armatures are all the same, whereas the old ones were kind of a menagerie of different decorations that had been acquired over the years."

According to O'Shea, the old holiday lights are available to interested non-profits that may have use and the facilities for them. "We're trying to find a home for the old decorations," said O'Shea. "If there is an organization out there in the area that would be willing to come and look at them, I'd be happy to provide pictures. We'd like to see them go to a 501 [c]3 or someone who is going to utilize them or somebody who doesn't have the ability to purchase them for themselves.

"They do require 110-volt power so it's just a plug for each one. O'Shea said. "If someone would like to inquire about obtaining the old lights, they can contact me at my email koshea@cityofwillits.org. I can send them pictures. I think I may have some extra bulbs. I'd like to see them go to a school or a non-profit. I think we have about 25 that are in decent shape.'

The holiday decorations end at Safeway, in front of the Willits Arch, due to the lack of outlets on the poles located south of that point.





Above, left: Christmas trees are a familiar symbol of the holiday season. Above, right: A closer photo of the blue-and-white star and swirl holiday light. Below: The lights have been installed on streetlight poles along Main Street where there is an outlet.

Photos by Mathew Caine





5

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0:10

See Guest Services for details. Gambling a problem? Call 1-800-GAMBLER

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COUGARS CLOSET

Thursday, December 12

Closing Day Senior Center Christmas Store: "Come see some of the fabulous finds in our Christmas Store - a wide variety of great Christmas items to choose from. Don't forget, See's Candies sold here." Last day is Thursday, December 12, 9 am to 4 pm. Harrah Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. All proceeds to benefit the Senior Center.

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly farmers market is create exactly what you've always wanted indoors for the season, at Little Lake Grange, 391 School Street. Thursday, December 12, 3 to 5:30 pm. Local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats and hot drinks, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and Saturday, December 14 more.

WHS Hot Winter's Night: Willits High School's Visual & Performing Arts Department presents an evening of Art, Music and Poetry by Willits youth. Thursday, December 12 from 7 to 8:30 pm at the Allen Garcia Auditorium, Willits High School, 299 North Main Street, Introducing Baechtel Grove Middle School musicians and artists. Soup dinner in the Wolverine Cafe from 5:30 to 6:30 pm before the show.

Sherwood Firewise Online Meeting: Sherwood Firewise Community's general meeting on Zoom, Thursday,

December 12 from 7 to 9 pm. Reviewing the many accomplishments during 2024 and presenting plans for new programs in 2025. To join by Zoom or phone go to sherwoodfirewise. org for information

Matt Michienzie Band at Shanachie: Special Thursday night show. December 12 at 7 pm. Rippin' Southern California bluegrass on a Northern California tour with this countrified, bluesified, and grassified band.. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Friday, December 13

WCA Willits Holiday Craft Fair: Shop local shop creative at the Willits Center for the Arts 37th annual fair, with 40 booths featuring fine artists and artisans offering unique gifts and work including soaps, ceramics, jewelry, cutting boards, knives, herbal gifts and more. Friday, December 13, 12 to 7 pm; and Saturday,

December 14, 10 am to 5 pm. WCA, 71 East Commercial Street and also at Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. Free admission; free music, and food



with the whole family,

meet local artisans and crafters, learn about crafted herbal and flower remedies, and see hand-knitted warm cozy gifts at a good price.." Friday, December 13 from 11 am to 5 pm, and Saturday, December 14 from 12 to 5 pm. 291 School Street. Plus Aztec chocolate and Chinese food (to go available). All donations and income from this event will go to the Grange Roof Fund.

Blue Luke at Shanachie: "Blue Luke" Andrews is a prodigy guitarist, born and raised in Dos Rios, Mendocino County: "Imagine a band that takes the soul of the blues, the groove of the funk, the grit of rock & roll and the rich harmonies of jazz to

to hear." Friday, December 13 at 8 pm, Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Christmas Arts & Crafts Vendor Faire: Agape Bible Church and Awana Treks invite the public to the Christmas Arts & Crafts Fair, Saturday, December 14 from 10 am to 4 pm. Agape Bible Church, 290 South Lenore Avenue. "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!" More info: call Kelly Thrift at 707-621-3965



December 13 listing for more details. Holiday Crafts Fair at the Little Lake NORTHERN Grange: "Visit with the whole family, CALIFORNI browse, get presents, meet local PPIN' BLUEGRASS FROM SOCA 12 Shanachie Pub Willits, CA artisans and crafters, learn about crafted 3 Anderson Valley Brewing Boonville, C herbal and flower remedies, and see 5 The Independent San Francisco, CA hand-knitted warm cozy gifts at a good

> price." Saturday, December 14 from 12 to 5 pm. See Friday, December 13 listing for more details.

Sit-N-Sew: Second Saturdays at the Willits Library, December 14 this month, from 1 to 5 pm. Drop in - bring your sewing project and have fun. 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or 459-5908.

Saturday Sessions at Shanachie: every 2nd and 4th Saturday from 3 to 6 pm, including Saturday, December 14,

Kyle Madrigal and/or Gustavo Amaral will host an open jam at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main street. "You're invited to bring any instrument,

discover new genres, and explore your creativity!" browse, get presents,

Holiday Lights: Come enjoy holiday cheer and holiday lights in the orchard at Howard Hospital's Commonwealth Garden, hosted by the garden and the Howard



Foundation. Family fun, holiday lights, Agape Bible Church & Awana Treks bonfire, cookies, cocoa, Santa, and ors Arts & Crafts more. Saturday, December 14 and Sunday, December 15, from 5 to 8 pm. **Vendor Faire** Commonwealth Garden is located at 90 Haehl Creek Drive, just across the road Date: Saturday December 14, 2024 Doors open to the public: 10am-4pm

from the hospital. A free event; donations Location: Agape Bible Church MPB 290 S. Lenore Ave. Willts accepted at entrance. More info, call Community Theatre on Sunday, December the Howard Foundation at: (707) 459-2777.

Looking for that perfect and unique gif? We will have a variet of crafty gifts from local vendor The Vendor Faire will have Something for everyone! Willits Truckers Light Parade: the parade starts at o be a vendor, or for more info call Kelly Thrift (707) 621-3965 Evergreen Shopping Center on Saturday, December 14 at 6 pm. Parade will Theke

proceed to Willits City Fundraiser Park with tree-lighting and festivities after. To sign up for the parade, email 101TrailerandRV2@

Light Up the Park: hosted by Willits FFA at Bud Snider City Park, Saturday, December 14 at 7 pm. "Join us at for a magical evening

filled with Christmas Carolers, Vendors, Food Trucks, and fun. Vote for your favorite tree decorated by local businesses." Willits FFA is an Agriscience and Ag Mechanics program at Willits High School.

a feel-good Christmas play with traditional music, opens at Willits Community Theatre on Saturday, December 14 at 7 pm; plays Sunday, December 15 at 2 pm and at 7 pm, and runs through Sunday, December 22. A play for the whole family, "Believe!" tells the story of Alex, a teenage boy disillusioned with Christmas until his family and community help restore his faith in the meaning of the holiday. Tickets are \$20; available online at: www wctperformingartscenter.org and at the door

Friends Anonymous at Shanachie: a Punk Rock band from Northern California - they like to plug in, go loud

and proud, and put on a good time. Their Proudly spons music is fun but also full of complex emotion. Saturday, December 14, at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50

South Main Street.

Sunday, December 15

Museum Gift Shop Grand Reopening: Friends of the Mendocino Museum assuming operations of the www.Willits.org Museum's gift shop, with a grand reopening

celebration on Sunday

December 15, from 12 to 4 pm, 400 East Commercial Street, Book signing and author talk MENDOCINO by Karen Rifkin, author of "The COUNTYMUSEUM GIFT SHOP History of Ukiah's Palace Hotel,' GRAND from 1 to 3 pm. Crescent Moon **RE-OPENING** Craft from 2:30 to 3:30 pm. Managed by the Friends of the Mendocino Special Gift Store items. Fairv

County Museum House Scavenger, and more. (FOTMCM) SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024 12:00-4:00 More info: visit www.mendocinocounty. org/museum or contact museum@ DON'T MISS IT! mendocinocounty.gov or 707-234-6365. 'Believe!' Christmas play at WCT: "Believe!," a feel-good Christmas play with traditional music, continues at Willits

> 1 5 at 2 pm and at 7 pm, and Refer Charles runs through Sunday, December 22. See Saturday, December 14 listing for more details.

WILLITS TRUCKERS Special Makers Friends of Mendocino Museum DECEMBER 14TH PARADE START TIME 6:00 PM a special December 15 program WILLITS EVERGREEN SHOPPING CENTER TO THE WILLITS from 2 to 3:30 pm, CITY PARK. TREE LIGHTING AND FESTIVIES AFTER!

"Crescent Moon Craft." TO SIGN UP EMAIL 400 East Commercial 101TRAILERANDRV2@GMAIL.COM Street. **OR CALL 101 TRAILER & RV SUPPLY** attendance is included 707-459-2423 with regular Museum admission. Info: www. mendocinocounty.gov/

museum, museum@mendocinocounty.gov or 707-234-6365

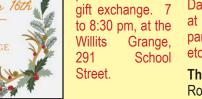
Commonwealth Garden Holiday Lights: Come see the holiday lights at Howard Hospital's Commonwealth Garden this holiday season. Sunday, December 15, from 5 to 8 pm. See Saturday, December 14 listing for more details.

Tuesday, December 17

LIGHT PARADE

PARADE ROUTE:

Willits Gem & Mineral Society Meeting: Join the Willits Gem & Mineral Society for a free monthly meeting, on December WILLITS GEM this month. Come & MINERAL SOCIETY hang out with local rockhounds, COME HANG OUT WITH OCAL ROCKHOUNDS, LAPIDARY ARTISTS, WELERS AND FELLOW lapidary artists, jewelers, OCK ENTHUSIASTS fellow enthusiasts. BRING A WRAPPED PRESENT FOR THE GIFT EXCHANGE! Bring a wrapped present for the Monday, December 16th 7PM-8:30PM @ THE WILLITS GRANGE



Monday,

16

Wednesday, December 18 The Harmony Keepers at

Brickhouse: Duo Kate Black and Anita Blu perform at Brickhouse Coffee. 3 South Main Street, Wednesday, December 18, from 12 to 2 pm, and on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. Beautiful vocal harmonies, with guitar and keyboard, and some songs with dulcimer or ukulele. Music from Joni Mitchell, Carole King, James Taylor, Phoebe Snow, Laura Nyro, Leonard Cohen

and more Willits Stamp Club: The monthly

meeting of the Willits Stamp Club is on second Wednesday this month, Wednesday, December 18, 5 to 6:30 pm at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Bring your collection and enjoy time perusing stamps. All are welcome. Refreshments served. Info: talsofam@pacific.net

Thursday, December 19

Craft 2:30-3:30

History Willits Farmers Market: The last farmers market before **Program:** Christmas, Thursday, December 19 at Little Lake Grange, the 391 School Street. 3 to 5:30 pm. Local produce, local meat, County farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats and hot drinks, present live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly (also the last Sunday. Willits Weekly edition of 2024), and more.

Friday, December 20

Book Lovers Discussion Group at the Library: This group Program meets monthly to discuss books, authors and genres, this month: Friday, December 20, 12 to 1 pm. Come talk about why you love books! All adults welcome. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or 459-5908.



Winter Solstice Celebration and Spiral Dance at the Grange: Come join in the circle to celebrate the return of the light! Friday, December 20 at the Little Lake Grange, and 291 School Street. Ceremony includes a story suitable for rock children and includes children, songs, candle lighting, and drums. Doors open at 6 pm; ceremony begins at 6:30 pm, when doors will close. Followed by a community Spiral Dance. Rehearsals on December 15 and December 18 at 5 pm at the Grange for children and adults wanting to participate in the story and/or ceremony, singing in the choir, etc. Suggested donation: \$5 to \$10, children are free.

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, December 20, 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

Saturday, December 21

Nectar at Shanachie: featuring vocalist Necole Aguillar. Saturday, December 21, 8 pm. With Jeffrey Brooks, guitar; Andrew Robertson, bass, Aaron Luedeman, and Paul Scott Haley. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.









Holiday Craft Fair at the

meet new musicians, Little Lake Grange: "Visit

Commonwealth Garden



OF KUTHERK

info@willits.org

707.459.7910

invite you to

amail.com or call 101 Trailer at 707-459-2423

'Believe!' Christmas play at WCT: "Believe!,"



Irwin Pottery, above and below:

Gerald and Linda Irwin have been

making ceramic functional ware

since 1996 in Mendocino County.

For over 15 years we participated

in the Mendocino College Ceramics

Department as students and leaders

in the College Ceramics Club. We sold

our work in both the annual Holiday

Sale and the Spring Plant Sale at the

college. This will be the first time that

our work will be for sale at the Willits

event. Linda's work is known for the

painted floral decorations."

37th annual WCA Holiday Craft Fair, December 13 and 14

Shop local, shop creative, be creative at the 37th annual Willits Center for the Arts Holiday Craft Fair. This is one of the few Fine Art and Craft shows in inland Mendocino County, with 40 booths featuring fine artists and artisans offering unique gifts and work, including soaps, ceramics, jewelry, cutting boards, knives, herbal gifts and so much more.

The WCA Holiday Craft Fair is set for Friday, December 13, 12 to 7 pm, and Saturday, December 14 from 10 am to 5 pm, at two locations. WCA at 71 East Commercial Street, and the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. Admission is free. There will be free live entertainment throughout the show, and food available for purchase.

The Craft Fair coincides with the "Small Works" show in the main gallery of the Willits Center for the Arts showing through December 24 on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, featuring 25 additional artists with artwork for purchase in all media, including gift cards. For more information: willitscenterforthearts.org or call 707-459-1726.

– Willits Center for the Arts

CHARBER.



Anne Vander Horck is offering her handmade dolls, quilted table runners, beverage coasters, baby bibs, and other beautiful useful delights and again this year at the

Anne Vander Horck.

below: Fabric artist

Willits Center for the Arts Craft Fair







8



gift-worthy mugs, garlic holders, and small and large sculptures on display again this year. I hope everyone will brave the rain and visit all the wonderful craft booths that will be at our annual Art Center sponsored fair."

WCA hosts 8th Annual Members Small Works Show

Submitted by WCA

The Willits Center for the Arts invites the community to celebrate the holiday season with the 8th Annual Members Small Works Show, running through December 24 at WCA, 71 East Commercial Street. A beloved tradition, this exhibit features a diverse collection of small, handcrafted pieces by local artists, with all works available for purchase. "Small Works" features extended hours on Friday, December 13, to coincide with the Willits Holiday Craft Show (11 am to 7 pm). Regular gallery hours are Friday, Saturday and Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm. Shoppers and art lovers alike are invited to explore and take home unique, handmade gifts perfect for the holiday season. Join us in supporting our local artists and making this holiday season one to remember!

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. Willits Library closes for Winter Break December 14; reopens Thursday, January 2

Dance Hall: Willits Library now welcomes all adults to the weekly Dance Hall, Fridays, now 3 to 4 pm. Bring your dancing shoes to enjoy jazz, pop, swing, and ballroom selections. Don't feel like dancing? Please come and enjoy the music, catch up with friends new and old, and share some light refreshments.

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

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

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

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

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

Shanachie Pub Ongoing Events

Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street

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

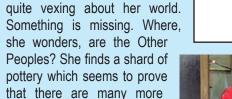
Bluegrass String Jam: Every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month starting at 3 pm - welcomes all Bluegrass musicians! An official jam for the California Bluegrass Association, "so you never know which members from out of the area may drop in!'

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

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES **'Moana 2'**

The Story: Moana is a Polynesian beauty. She's young. She's courageous. On her home

island, Moana is revered for her quite amazing magical power to control ocean waters with her Will. She is a happy woman, but there is something strange and



people in her ocean-bound Dan Essman paradise: But where are they?

She receives a mystical visitation that tells her to set out on a dangerous voyage of discovery which would possibly end with her finding more human tribes. Or on the other hand, she could die on her quest. But our daring, darling, quite plucky Moana believes in herself and her vision. She sets out in a sailboat over a friendly sea, accompanied by a brave though occasionally quite silly crew of characters. And a little pig. And a cockeyed chicken.

As one would expect: Things do not go smoothly!!! Of course as we all know: adventures are dangerous, and worthwhile discoveries come with a cost. Still, this is Moana, and Moana always wins the day. And then, the movie ends as we knew it would: With Happy Songs and Happy Dances.

My Thoughts: I was at Tom's coffee house talking to two excited little girls and their mother (who was somewhat more composed). I asked if they were going to see "Moana 2" and was answered with a tidal wave of enthusiastic "yes, yes, yes-es!" And that reaction is all one needs to know. Also, as an important aside: it seems that the HollywoodLand moviemakers are already planning more Moana flicks. Okay, fine. How about a few Minions, or several? **Parents:** Bring the kids. They love Ms. Moana. Plus, she's

a good role model. Willitsian Daniel Essman prefers his reality attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination.

Holiday Shopping?

Try Willits Farmers Market

- Stocking stuffers
- Gourmet foods
- Holiday treats and dinner makings
- Gift ideas

Thursdays, 3 to 5:30

at Little Lake Grange



FOWL Winter Pop-up Book Sale, through December 19

The Friends of the Willits Library are hosting a pop-up book sale at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Sale started December 3 and runs through Thursday, December 19. Stop in to find some great deals and support your local library. All books \$1. The Willits Library is located at 390 East Commercial Street, and is open Tuesday through Thursday, 10 am to 7 pm, Friday, 10 am to 6 pm, and Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm. More info: www.mendolibrary.org/visit/ willits or 707-459-5908.

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. One kit per child in a family. This craft is best suited for ages 3 and up.

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Willits Weekly | December 12, 2024 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 **Pg. 9**



Can You Help A Laytonville Child Experience A Merry & Bright Christmas? Pam and Susan's North Pole Toy Express, Laytonville's Toy Drive for over 35 years, is asking for your support. Donations are being requested to help make Laytonville kids' Christmas Holiday a little more merry & *** bright, Last year, we wrapped presents for over 120 kids. Santa's Wishlist **Board** games Arts/crafts supplies (coloring books, crayons, markers, craft kits, etc.) Basketballs, footballs, soccer balls, volleyballs, etc. Kids/teen books ift cards to local stores such as Gravier's Chevron, Pour Girls, 101 Grill,etc. so teens can get snacks/lunch (\$20 or more) ards to stores like Ross, Kohl's, WalMart, so teens can buy clothing (\$25 or more oys for all ages, such as Barbies, Legos, RC Cars, building blocks, etc. Stuffed animals, Squishmallows, cuddly things Packs of socks for teens (adult sizes) any color, style Narm hats/beanies, scarves, gloves for teens (adult sizes) any color, style Any new toy or game or outdoor activity Monetary donations can also be made, and we will shop for you! nade to "Harwood Memorial Park-FRC" with NPTE in memo line of cash can be dropped off at Laytonville Healthy Start. Thank you! Donations can be dropped off at Laytonville Healthy Start next to Harwood Hall) by December 13 ore information, please call (707)



Pick a gift tag off the "Giving Tree" & purchase 📾 the item listed

Trees are located at: inas Bank-Lautonville branch, 101 BBQ & Grill & Healthy Start

Laytonville 44400 Willis Avenue Healthy Start (next to Harwood Hal Drop off toys (unwrapped) by Friday, December 13 For more info call (707) 984-8089



Office: (707) 462-4514 Mobile: (707) 367-3786



Above: The full cast of "Believe!", a powerful up-beat Christmas show written by Faye Couch Reeves and directed by Robert Ford, which opens Saturday, December 14 at 7 pm at the Willits Community Theatre. Photo by Sonja Burgal

'Believe!', a Christmas play with traditional music, runs December 14 to 22 at WCT

By Steve Hellman, for WCT

This holiday season, don't miss "Believe!", a feel-good Christmas show with traditional music, written by Fave Couch Reeves and directed by Robert Ford.

A play for the whole family, "Believe!" tells the story of Alex Norton, a teenage boy who has become disillusioned about the meaning of Christmas. To Alex, Christmas has become overcommercialized, so much so that he thinks most people have forgotten "the reason for the season." As the play unfolds, various things happen to Alex which lead him to change his mind and to "light a candle rather than curse the darkness." Director Ford says: "The play

is about hope, about the boy's family helping him as he's going through a hard time – instead of criticizing him. The real message is that what we do means something. When we're helping people, we're bringing hope into their lives."

The play has a full complement of teens and children playing Alex's friends, as well as angels, sheep, and shepherds in the local church's Christmas pageant.

Main actors in "Believe!" are William Hahn playing Alex, Desa Holt playing his sister Emma, Rebecca King playing Mom, Corey Gaus playing Dad, and Finn Shipp playing Alex's brother Sid. Pastor Jim Semisch plays a character in the play named Pastor Jim, and Soren Thornburg plays Alex as a child. "Believe!" opens on

Saturday, December 14 at 7 pm at the Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane, in downtown Willits. On Sunday December 15, there are shows at 2 pm and at 7 pm. The following Friday and Saturday, "Believe!" plays at 7 pm, and the Christmas play closes on Sunday, December 22 with a show at

2 pm. Tickets are \$20 and available online at: www. wctperformingartscenter.org and at the door.

"Believe!" is a Willits Community Theatre-Gateway to the Stage production and is sponsored by ENJ Construction and Landscaping and by Calvary Chapel of Willits. Season sponsors for WCT are Community Foundation of Mendocino County, Sparetime Supply, NC Financial, KZYX Radio, and Jerry Drew Painting.



lo Appointments

Needed!

Packages Starting At

CAMERA 260 S. School Street CAMERA Ukiah 707-462-3163

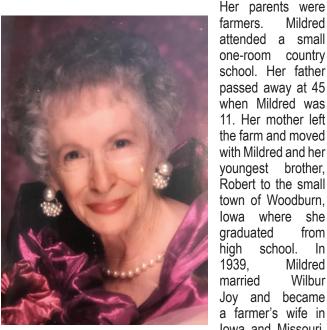
\$7.00



Mildred Lee Joy

Mildred "Milly" Lee Joy passed away on November 14, 2024 at 104 years old at home in Baechtel Creek Village in Willits, where she lived for the past 34 years.

Mildred was born September 13, 1920 near Humeston, lowa to Elmer and Linda (Warrick) Lee. She was the fourth of five children. Predeceased by parents Elmer and Linda Lee, sisters Vera and Lena and brothers Kenneth and Robert. Her parents were



Iowa and Missouri. They were blessed with two children, Karen and Michael.

They moved to Riverside, California where they lived a long time. Mildred worked at various types of employment; dental receptionist, real estate secretary, newspaper proofreader, and photographer assistant. She enjoyed them all and changed her work, as she desired, always anticipating learning something new and interesting. Mildred's two children graduated from high school in Riverside. Karen married and had a daughter, Serena. Michael went to college in Northern

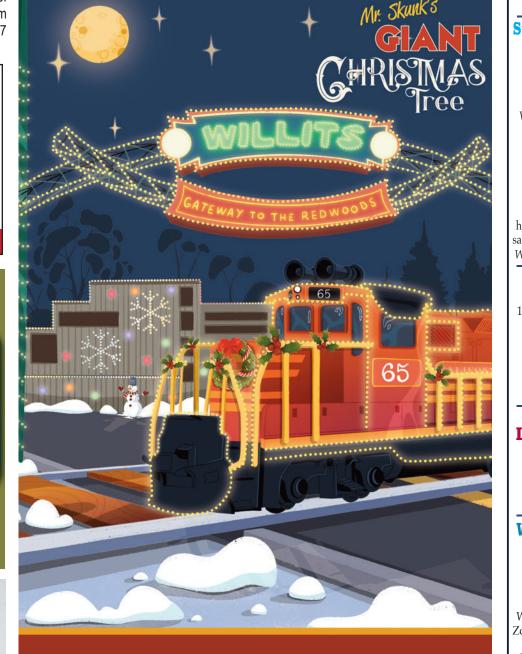
Mildred and Wilbur divorced, and she moved to Willits. Mildred loved the Baechtel Creek Village and had many wonderful friends.

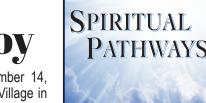
Mildred aged gracefully and was fortunate to have the best caregiver in the world, Kathy Thomas. Mildred loved and appreciated all that Kathy did for her all those years. Michael was a good son and was extremely helpful, visiting Milly often and caring for her needs.

Karen and Serena were too far away to be with her often and Mildred loved and appreciated them.

Mildred is survived by her son, precious granddaughter, many nieces and nephews, and her many friends, who will not forget the many times they laughed together.

A Celebration of Life for Milly: Sunday, January 12, 2025 at Baechtel Creek Village Community Room from 2 to 4 pm. All are welcome.





Bible Church 290 S. Lenore Ave. Willits, CA 95490 Where love is first farmers. Mildred and the Bible is central. attended a small Sunday Services: one-room country 10:00 a.m. - Worship school. Her father ult Sunday School 9:00 a.m Info? 707-459-1905 passed away at 45 ww.agapebiblechurch.com when Mildred was

Agape

Amazing Grace ssembly 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 at must we do to be saved Acts 2:37 1095 S. Main St., Willits (next to Super 8) (707) 459-5023 unday 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



Mildred

Wilbur

Spiritual Freedo A University for Soul Spiritual Living Courses oiritual Discussions ECK Light & Sound Service More information? Call 530-224-8703

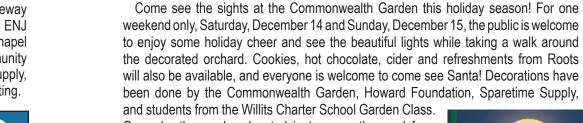
> **Grace Community** Church Celebrating Life In Christ 25 Hazel Street, Willits

www.eckankar.org

Worship Service 10 a.m. For appointments call: (707) 459-3106



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. - Spanis Confessions on Saturday 4:45 - 5:15 p.m. Or by appointmet at 707-459-2252 https://stanthonywillits.org/ aintanthonywillits@gmail.con We welcome All Walks of Faith



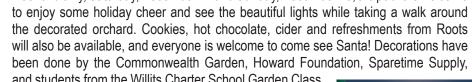
Come by the garden, located just across the road from Howard Hospital, from 5 to 8 pm. More info: (707) 459-2777

JOIN US FOR LUNCH

10 Wood Street / Willits, CA

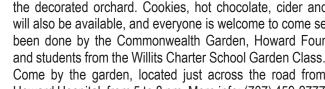
MONDAY - SATURDAY

CABOOSE



HMH's Commonwealth Garden features holiday

lights in the orchard for upcoming event





December 12, 2024 | Willits Weekly **Pg. 10** Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

10 AM - 3 PM (707)459-1434 SCAN FOR FULL MENU













Kids Ride Free! Book tickets for our December 17, 18, and 19

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Willits Weekly | December 12, 2024 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Pg. 11

DEPARTING WILLITS ONLY For the Whole Family NOV. 23-DEC. 31

Trains leave from downtown Willits located just off Highway 101.

departures by December 15 and your kids ride free (ages 13 and under) with the purchase of a full price ticket!

St. Francis **Episcopal Church** 1 North Main Street, Willits

707-272-0177 Sunday Service - 10 a.m. In-person and on Zoom Call for information. ALL ARE WELCOME The Rev. Betsy Bruneau

St. John utheran Church

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

Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church

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

Willits United Methodist Church Labyrinth and Peace Garder

A place to find comfort where all are welcome astor 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 umo f you want to be included ii

this column please call: April Tweddell (707) 972-2475 april@willitsweekly.com





Above: The WHS Wrestling Team poses for a photo: from left, top row, Tabitha Glenn, Head Coach Brian Bowles, Ely Bowles, Dana Karkar, Brian Bowles, Donald Glenn, Jayden Finley, Delia Siderakis, Alison Southard, Ava Dockins-Kline, Stormie Nowlin, William Burcell, Zain Marshall, Aiden Punihaole-Figueroa, Coach Will Dunaway, Emma Hulsey, Bella Glenn, Yumalay Meza, Emelia Owsiany, Serenity McCartney and Ashlyn Alvarez; bottom row, Athena Marino-Defrates, Naya Post, Ember Hetherington, Roe Weidaw, Vada Morgan, Chey Thurman and Kassidy Noonan



Above, left: Grady Cooley goes for a lavup at the last second. Above, right. Lyly Herman gets some air as she shoots At right: Ava Dockins-Kline gets a hand raise at her first-place match. Below: Donald Glenn works tediously fo the pin





COMMUNITY SPORTS NEWS

WHS Wolverine basketball and wrestling teams are eager to begin winter season

Willits High School Wolverines winter sports have officially begun! Another set of trailblazing game / tournament schedules have been released that will keep this community of athletes, coaches and

families buzzing through the Sheri Dockins holidays, and into the New klv@amail.com

There will be a plethora of JV / varsity girls and boys games. There will also be two duals and the CMC League Championship Fournament for Willits Wolverines Wrestling, All held here in our iconic Steve Short Gymnasium.

These talented young athletes thrive on the support from our community. Schedules are posted at the school, and on the "Wolverines Den" page on Facebook. See you there! Let's GO Wolverines! Varsity basketball new head coach eager to take on new season

These are exciting times for the Willits Wolverines Basketball team! They are kicking off the season with energy and determination under the leadership of new head coach Trey Henson. In his debut season, Henson is fostering a culture of resilience, teamwork and growth that has already been evident in these early match-ups.

"Last Wednesday the Wolverines beat the Laytonville Warriors with a commanding 57-24 victory, setting a high standard for what this team is capable of achieving," said Henson. "While they faced challenges in the following games, including a tough 61-23 loss to Pinewood, a high-caliber Bay Area team, and a nail-biting 60-57 tournament game against Anderson Valley, the team has shown remarkable grit and potential.

"Notably, the Wolverines played both games without their big man, Jayden Schlegel, who was unavailable," Henson said. "Despite his absence, the team stepped up and gave everything they had in two very different, but competitive, matches. I praised my players for their effort and heart. It was one heck of a game! The way these guys responded without Jayden in both games shows the heart, and determination this team has. I couldn't be prouder of how they battled!" said Henson.

"The good news for Willits fans? Schlegel will be back and ready to make an impact in the Wolverine's first home game against Credo on Tuesday night December 10, 2024," assured Henson. "This marks a key moment in the season as the team looks to make a statement on their home court."

Coach Henson and the varsity basketball team are calling on the community to pack the stands and cheer them on to fuel them with a supportive energy as they grow. The next home game will be January 7 against Calistoga.

JV basketball determined to make it happen in new season

JV basketball boys hit the court running in the high school tournament this last weekend. They won 1-3 games and learned some of what this team is made of for the season ahead. Jaden Stephens played solidly the entire tournament, and was the highest scoring player. Ricky Valencia had a couple of impressive three-pointers, and was the second-

and community.' The JV basketball team's next game is Tuesday, January 7 against Calistoga.

> JV girls basketball strives for a passionate beginning

The JV girls basketball team is positively putting in effort on another fantastic season. Their record so far is 3-3.

"WHS JV girls played in a tough tournament this weekend with some high-level teams," said Coach Amanda Pierson. "It was a great way to get ready for league. The girls have quiet chemistry and are very passionate about their sport.

"The team this year is hungry and never gives up," said Coach Gary Williams. "We have some great team leaders. I'm very proud of our team. We rebound well and play solid defense. We have learned a lot and are ready for league play!"

Varsity girls basketball sets out to believe and achieve in the new season

"I am so excited to be back on the court this season with this incredible group of ladies!" said Coach Dawn McClelland. "We have two captains

this season that are beginning their third season on varsity. We are lucky to be led by senior Mia Chavez and junior Cecily Potter. Also returning for their second seasons are sophomores Chloe Wright and Leah Blakely. We gained five members from last year's NCL 1 JV championship team: juniors Jazmarie Henson, Lyly Herman, Ava Holmen, Arion Martin and Kate Winter. Rounding out this year's team are senior Jocelyn Galvan and junior Estrella Mendoza. These girls have a fighting spirit and are learning to play together. I see a very successful

season coming their way! My motto for this season is: one team, one mission - believe and achieve! Let's go Lady Wolverines!"

Basketball is an extremely cardio-driven sport. These kids go hard and give it all they got out there on the court. Their spirit is infectious! They also practice hard while maintaining good grades to participate in the sport they are passionate about. You have to hand it to all of these amazing kids for the exertion and dedication put in.

Wolverines Wrestling – hard work pays off from start to finish

Willits Wolverines' dynamic wrestling team has an intensely riveting schedule for both the girls and boys this season, including two home duals on January 15 and 22. Also, the CMC League Championship on February 14.

There is a big team this year: 20 boy wrestlers, and an impressive boom of 24 lady wrestlers. They commenced the start of their season by packing two vans to head to Middletown for the CMC Novice Tournament on December 6, then returned and directly packed four vans of grapplers to travel back over to Orland and attend the Doc Petersen Tournament at the Glenn County Fairgrounds the following day. Twenty schools traveled from all over to attend this event.

"Our wrestling teams had a fantastic debut performance at the Middletown Novice and Doc

Petersen Invitational," said Coach Brian Bowles.

"I'm proud of their individual matches. They were fun



Mendocino County invites applications for: **Administrative Secretary** \$50,585 - \$61,505 **Chief Deputy Treasurer-Tax Collector** \$84,572 - \$102,772 **Corrections Deputy** \$58,136 - \$67,308 **County Health Officer** \$185,224 - \$225,139 **Deputy Director – Social Services** (Family & Children's Services) \$120,411 - \$146,390 **Deputy Probation Officer I & II** \$55,577 - \$74,505 **Deputy Sheriff-Coroner** \$84,323 - \$102,460 **Deputy Sheriff-Coroner in Training** \$25.33 – \$30.78 Hourly **Director of Nursing – Public Health** \$127,753 - \$155,292 Eligibility Specialist \$44.304 - \$53.830 Mental Health Clinician I/II \$62,337 - \$87,630 **Public Health Nurse** \$92,040 - \$111,883 **Public Safety Dispatcher** \$53,643 - \$65,187 **Registered Nurse** \$78.977 - \$95.971 **Senior Public Health Nurse** \$101,296 - \$123,136 Sheriff's Services Technician \$37,564 - \$45.676 Social Worker I – IV-D \$51,729 - \$97,448 **Supervising Animal Protection** Officer \$57,470 - \$69,846 **Supervising Health Program** Coordinator \$75,920 - \$92,268 Supervising Public Health Nurse \$113,609 - \$138,091 Youth Corrections Officer -Extra-Help \$26.61 - \$32.34 Hourly For a complete list of current job openings and to apply

Above: Ely Bowles works hard to take down his Durham opponent Photo by Ava Dockins-Kline The rest of From page 12 Sports These devoted athletes Zain Marshall never cease to amaze with Third place- 144, their resilience as they Brian Bowles practice hard, maintain Third place- 152 grades, good travel Nikolai Ritchley endlessly, sleep on mats, Third place- 120 and wrestle strenuous Eli Rosado matches for 10-to-12-hour Fourth place- 120 tournaments. Wrestling is Will Burcell not only a team sport, it is an astounding individual Placers at Doc journey of growth, both Petersen: physically and mentally. First place- 170, The pride in the wins and Ava Dockins-Kline the learning from the losses Second place- 115, are monumental to the Lucy Vargas nature of a person, and to Second place- 175, life. Donald Glenn There is a famous quote Third place- 215, for wrestling: "once you've Ely Bowles wrestled, everything else in life is easy." The sheer Fourth place- 144 strength, willpower and Brian Bowles endurance of each one of Fourth place- 110 these athletes is nothing Vada Morgan short of remarkable. Fourth place- 120, "Great opening weekend Makiah Carter

for Wolverines Wrestling!" Fourth place- 155 said Coach Will Dunaway. "They all wrestled tough! Fifth place- 130, We have a lot of work to do on the daily. It's gonna be a

First place- 157,

First place-132,

Aiden Punihaole-Figueroa

Second place- 215.

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245 South Humboldt St., Suite B, Willits

Jordon Shull

Emma Hulsey

Stormie Nowlin

Fifth place- 155,

Chey Thurman

Fifth place- 157,

Jordon Shull

Sixth place- 126,

Pancrazio Bertolino

WHS winter sports athletes

on a great start! You are

a bright light to this small

community that continues

to watch and support with

admiration and love. We

can't wait to hear about

your accomplishments.

Wolverines pride for life!

Congratulations to the

CLASSIFIEDS

For Rent **RV/Trailer Space** for Rent 1100 square foot office space available. 1115A Space for RV's and Trailers – starts at \$500 Main Street in Willits per month, includes Call 707-459-4078. ask water & garbage. Close for Diane. to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 972-4696. See at http://www. John Ford oaknvine.net/tp Ranch Beef Ford Ranch John still has the 50 lb. Yard Cleanup Rancher's Choice Box Yard cleanup, Fall for \$390.00 and the 25 leaves removed and Ib. Hamburger Box for pruning of roses, hedges \$170.00. Please contact and small trees. I'll cut Debbie Arkelian @ 459back blackberries also. 5049. (Prices change Mike: (707) 354-5650 effective 6/25/23)

\$15 for 30 words for 2 weeks Email us your ad copy to include a classified ad here next week: willitsweekly@gmail.com

LEGAL NOTICES

WW525 **CITY OF WILLITS** SERVICES AND FACILITIES DEPARTMENT **NOTICE TO BIDDERS** Annual Invitation for Inclusion on the 2025 City of Willits List of Qualified Bidders NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that: The City of Willits is soliciting applicants for its 2025 List of Qualified Bidders. Interested parties should complete the City of Willits Informal Bidding Annual Pre-Qualification Application for 2025 and submit to Brandy Sanderson at: bsanderson@cityofwillits.org Brandy Sanderson City of Willits 111 E. Commercial St. Willits, CA 95490 Re: 2025 Qualified Bidders List Bidders are hereby advised that the previous bidders list will be replaced with the new list and no contractors will be carried over from the previous list. Request should be received by December 31, 2025. Questions concerning this notice should be directed to Brandy Sanderson at bsanderson@cityofwillits.org. The application can also be found on the City's website on the Engineering page; http://www.cityofwillits.org/147/Engineering. CITY OF WILLITS: s/Delores Pedersen, City Clerk DATED: 12/5/24 Publication Dates: December 5, 12 and 19, 2024 WW524

NOTICE OF SALE OF GOODS TO SATISFY SELF STORAGE FACILITY LIEN NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien posed on said property pursuant to Sections 21700-2171

of the Business & Professions Code, Section 2328 of UCC,

The undersigned will sell at public sale by competitive

CA 95490, County of Mendocino, State of California the

The goods are described as: Tools, furniture, auto parts,

Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase in cash only. All purchased items sold as is, where is, and must be

removed at the time of the sale. Sale subject to cancellation

n the event of settlement between owner and the obliged

following:

Mandy Arms 567

Angela Bean 464

Jubal Chilson 211

eigha Jones 413

Erica Meza 203

Karen Morales 131

Melissa Pitkin 303

Richard Pool 157 James Shields 320

Jorge Toste 227

party.

Glen Green

Bond-#70784656

John Wallace 455

camping gear, misc totes/boxes.

arissa Malnerich 511

Andrew Augustine 206

Andrew Augustine 472

Andrew Augustine 540

Section 535 of the Penal Code and provision of the Civil Code.

bidding on the 14th day of December, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. or

immediately following the GLENMARK SOUTH auction, on the

premises where said property has been stored and which are

located at GLENMARK NORTH 395 North Main Street, Willits,

highest scoring player. All the boys fought hard and showed their fierce determination for this game.

"I'm very proud of the boys and how they played this weekend," said Coach Guy Vacarro. "It was very exciting to see them come together and execute what Coach Ray and myself have been working on with them. We are looking forward to seeing what we can accomplish as a team for our high school

Read the rest of





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45 HAZEL STREET., WILLITS

to watch! I love seeing them apply what they learn in practice to their matches. Both teams have a great deal of potential. It's going to be a fun season!"

> Over on page 13 Sports

great season!" NOTICE OF SALE OF GOODS TO SATISFY SELF STORAGE FACILITY LIEN Coach Dana Karkar

www.mendocinocounty.gov/jobs

EOE

LEGAL NOTICES

agreed: "We started the NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends to season out strong. I'm sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien excited for the season imposed on said property pursuant to Sections 21700-21716 of the Business & Professions Code, Section 2328 of UCC, ahead.' Section 535 of the Penal Code and provision of the Civil Code. Both girls and boys The undersigned will sell at public sale by competitive teams placed fourth at the bidding on the 14th day of December, 2024 at 10:00 a.m., on Doc Petersen Tournament. the premises where said property has been stored and which Placers at CMC Novice:

are located at GLENMARK SOUTH 1788 South Main Street, Willits, CA 95490, County of Mendocino, State of California the following: Aleesha Balson C94

Israel Elizonda F07 Miranda Rico Dalbesio D22 Davian Steffen B05

The goods are described as: Surfboards, furniture, camping gear, misc totes.

Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase in cash only. All purchased items sold as is, where is, and must be removed at the time of the sale. Sale subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and the obliged partv

Glen Green Bond-#70784656

WW523

(707) 459-4628

Publication Dates: December 5 and 12, 2024

CIQCASMYLUI QUAL (BUSINE YHXXY) (IMPROV E P E A T) CNEIRE LMGQV

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3

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Passionate Aquaria

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

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

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. Feel free to 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.

Little Anna

Anna is your typical, playful kitten! We think Anna would make a great addition to any family.

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 December 22.

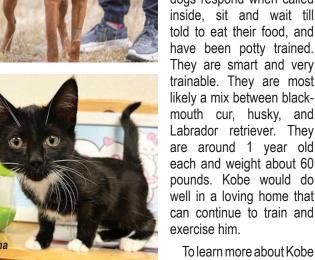
more information.

visit

Young Kobe

Fun, sweet Kobe and













Above: Mendo Mill in Willits is offering this raffle basket as a fundraiser for the Milo Foundation Sanctuary. Tickets, \$2 each, six for \$10, are available at Mendo Mill through

> Merry Christmas to our inland Mendocino County

Mendocino County's animal shelters have had from euthanasia by a kind foster who is not able to another difficult year, with too many abandoned and unhoused pets filling up their facilities. Mendocino keep them. These sweet dogs respond when called County Animal Care shelter in Ukiah. the Humane inside, sit and wait till Society for Inland Mendocino County's facility in told to eat their food, and Redwood Valley, and the Milo Foundation Sanctuary have been potty trained. west of Willits could all use a little extra help this They are smart and very holiday season. A special thank you goes out to all trainable. They are most the dedicated shelter volunteers!

Raffle for the Milo Foundation Labrador retriever. They

are around 1 year old Mendo Mill in Willits, is offering a lovely raffle each and weight about 60 basket to raise funds for the animals at the Milo pounds. Kobe would do Foundation Sanctuary, west of Willits. "It's a great well in a loving home that gift for dog lovers! Stop in, 305 East Commercial can continue to train and Street, and buy a raffle ticket for \$2, or six tickets for exercise him \$10. The animals thank you," the Milo Foundation

To learn more about Kobe through December 22, and the raffle drawing will be or his brother, or to view held December 23. other adoptable animals,

The Milo Sanctuary is located on acreage in www.milofoundation. Mendocino County, east of Willits, offering lots of org or the Milo Foundation room for rescued animals to run and play, and great Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently places to walk dogs! Creeks, ponds, meadows, hills

appointment only. Please The Sanctuary houses over 150 dogs and complete a pet-adoption cats, some that need more time for training and before socialization with humans and other animals, and application requesting an appointment. Read the rest of You can reach the Milo

Over on page 15 Shelters

	Little Lake Valley rainfall totals (inches)											
location	Mon Dec 02	Tue Dec 03	Wed Dec 04	Thur Dec 05	Fri Dec 06	Sat Dec 07	Sun Dec 08	weekly total				
Northbrook Way	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.05				
Brooktrails Dr @ Sherwood Rd	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00				
Valley Rd	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.05				
Canyon Rd	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.03				
Pine Mountain	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00				
South Main @ East Oak	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.04				
average	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03				

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

			California	Nevada R	iver Forec	ast Center	-	
s	ix day precipitation forecast	Mon Dec 09	Tue Dec 10	Wed Dec 11	Thur Dec 12	Fri Dec 13	Sat Dec 14	Rain
	for the Willits area	0.0	0.0	0.1 – 0.25	0.01 - 0.1	1 – 1.5		Rox

https://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/precipForecast.php?cwa=EKA&imgNum=1&mobile=0

The rest of From page 1 Cubbison

period during the Covid pandemic.

in late 2023.

investigators.

profile public dispute with the DA about his she is expected to rule on the relevance of the conversation, but believed the use of missing county emails that defense own office's spending when Eyster filed of the 470 code was the result of that the charge. Cubbison has entered a not attorneys suggest might have untangled conversation," according to Andrian's latest quilty plea, contending that the extra pay who was responsible for Kennedy collecting sworn declaration. stemmed from a deal between Weer and about \$68,000 in extra pay over a three-year Andrian also contends that "there are also Kennedy while he was still in charge of the notes kept by Ms. Kennedy which indicate Auditor's Office. In October 2023, District Attorney David the payments were 'per Lloyd.' Ms. Kennedy Kennedy initially claimed she never Eyster accused Auditor Cubbison and even stated that Ms. Cubbison told her it discussed her need for extra pay with Weer, was Mr. Weer who would sign off on such Kennedy of using an obscure pay code to but the retired auditor subsequently admitted enable the disputed payments. Eyster's move pavments.' to criminal investigators that in fact they had. led to Cubbison's immediate suspension by Weer, who has not been charged, the county Board of Supervisors, who in Andrian argued, however, in a new court turn are now engaged in civil litigation for filing on Wednesday that the lack of email denying the elected auditor "due process." documentation among Weer, Kennedy and Cubbison is critical because in fact Prosecutor Traci Carrillo, a Sonoma Cubbison was "not a party to the [extra pay] County attorney hired by Eyster to pursue agreement" between Weer and Kennedy. felony charges against the two veteran

Further, he argues, law enforcement investigators, who once had access to the missing emails for review but did not preserve any for evidence, ignored Weer's role because they decided "he had no

Last Friday Kennedy's new lawyer, Public involvement in the payments and was in no Defender FredRicco McCurry, served way responsible. the court with his intent to file a motion to

dismiss on her behalf, joining Cubbison's In short, argues Andrian, they took "no steps to preserve emails that would have attorney Chris Andrian who originally cited the missing emails and Weer's alleged been relevant and very likely exculpatory. deeper involvement than initially reported by Andrian said that for her part, Cubbison contends that "she had a conversation with Mr. Weer regarding finding a way to Prosecutor Carrillo argues the two defense

Learn more about HSIMC, see

Ukiah Shelter's Canned Food Drive

"Ho! Ho! Ho! It's the time of the year

lawyers are unable to demonstrate that the supervisor." missing county emails are of "significant materiality." and that there is no evidence Additionally, Andrian declared: "Ms. Cubbison also stated that Mr. Weer spoke

of "bad faith" by county IT officials and law to HR [the county's Human Resources enforcement investigators who initially failed to preserve documents for evidence that Department] regarding finding a way to pay were recovered after an internal archival

Judge Moorman wrote: "Whether or not more" while he was still the office supervisor. other emails existed and/or may have been

Thanks to Tim Hanna of Willits for providing the Rain Box.

The rest of From page 1 Museum forward to building a very strong

WW

Box

connection with the community, so that we all come together to support this terrific institution as a social hub and a point of pride – we envision supporting an invigorating slate of events - lectures, programs, and related activities going forward," says Brent Walker, chair of the Friends of the Museum group.

has ducked any public comment despite repeated requests since the criminal case was filed in October 2023. There was no response from him Sunday to the latest request seeking a response to the defense contentions.

In a related but separate court filing on Wednesday, the same day of Andrian's, Judge Moorman submitted a statement about a report from a court-appointed referee who had reviewed approximately 10,000 emails among Cubbison, Weer and Kennedy that were eventually recovered by IT technicians. They covered the crucial time beginning January 1, 2018.

There were no specific conclusions released by Moorman, but the judge wrote: "The court does not represent, nor has it ever represented that the emails now in pay Ms. Kennedy more, when he was the its possession represent all emails ever generated during this time frame between or among Weer, Cubbison and/or Kennedy [using their county email boxes] after application of exclusion criteria.



The museum has been a beloved

part of the Mendocino County cultural

landscape since its opening in 1972.

The collection contains over 60,000

objects chronicling and celebrating

the peoples, communities, culture

and history of our county. Collections

include photographs, fine art, baskets

tools, archives, textiles, and a variety

their support and enable our wonderful county museum to continue to serve and thrive." Among upcoming events is a grand re-opening of the Museum Gift Shop slated for Sunday, December 15, 12

to 4 pm, presented by the FOTMCM.

The FOTMCM is pleased to host Guest

Karen Rifkin, author of the "The History

of Ukiah's Palace Hotel" from 1 to 3 pm.





pet shelters

his brother were rescued

- Jennifer Poole

county employees, is opposing dismissal of the high-profile controversial case that rocked the county's political establishment

says. Raffle tickets are being sold at Mendo Mill

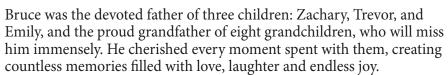
doing pet adoptions by and forests to explore.

Foundation at 459-4900.

Bennett

December 15, 1966 -November 27, 2024

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Bruce Bennett, who departed this life on November 27, 2024, at the age of 57. Born on December 15, 1966, Bruce was a beloved father, grandfather, son, brother, and friend who left an unforgettable mark on the hearts of all who knew and loved him.



He was the cherished son of Bob and Della Bennett and a caring brother to his sister, Christina Rivera.. Bruce's constant companion, his loyal dog Gypsy, was by his side for life's many adventures, embodying the special bond between them.

Bruce proudly served his country as a member of the United States military, demonstrating his commitment to protecting the freedoms and values he held so dear. His time in service was a testament to his strength, discipline, and dedication to something greater than himself.

Bruce was a man of deep faith, devoted to God, and driven by a passion for serving others. Whether praying for those in need or finding ways to uplift those around him, Bruce lived a life that reflected his heart for people and his unwavering belief in God's purpose.

Known for his adventurous spirit and vibrant personality, Bruce brought energy and joy into every room he entered. His presence was magnetic, and his kindness and compassion left a lasting impact on everyone he encountered.

While his passing leaves a profound void, Bruce's legacy of love, faith, service, and selflessness lives on in the lives he touched. His family finds comfort in knowing he is now at peace in the presence of his Maker.

Services honoring Bruce will be held Saturday, December 14 at 9:30 am at Goble's Mortuary, 560 12th Street, Fortuna, California. followed by a graveside service at Sunrise Cemetery, 3315 Newburg Road, in Fortuna.

Bruce Bennett's memory will forever remain in the hearts of his loved ones, a testament to a life well-lived and deeply cherished.





The Frein States



All proceeds benefit the lifesaving work at HSIMC!



system collapsed "She [Cubbison] stated that she believed Cubbison, a veteran county finance Mr. Weer had followed up with Ms. Kennedy officer, at the time was embroiled in a high- about the request, did not know the results

The rest of From page 14 Shelters

some that are more than ready to roll into

Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 3 pm. loving homes! Learn more about the Milo Foundation's adoptable animals, get information about Sanctuary, how to visit, adopt, volunteer volunteering, become a member, or make or donate at www.milofoundation.org/oura donation at https://mendohumanesociety. sanctuary/ com/.

Humane Society wreaths and calendars

As during every holiday season, the when Mendocino County Animal Care's wonderful helpers, aka Elves, at Humane Ukiah Shelter asks for our community's Society for Inland Mendocino County help! We are almost out of canned food for handcraft beautiful wreaths and swags our wonderful cats and dogs. Now through to bring festive cheer and support to the December 31, if you are able to donate animals at HSIMC. high-quality dog and cat canned food, and/

"Join us in celebrating the season and or treats, our guests will woof and meow supporting our mission by purchasing a with joy." Drop supplies off at the shelter, gorgeous wreath or swag to display in your 298 Plant Road, in Ukiah, or at these home. Or buy them as gift for a friend or other drop-off points in Ukiah: Rainbow family member. Each wreath is made with Ag, 235 East Perkins Street; Savings love and comes with an HSIMC tag to Bank of Mendocino County Main Branch, show your shelter support. Thank you for 200 North School Street, or South Ukiah making the season bright for the animals!" Branch, 1100 Airport Boulevard; or Radiant Swags ae \$30 and wreaths are \$50. Yoga, 545 North State Street. The last day to order is Wednesday, "Thank you! Making a difference for December 18. Order online at https:// homeless pets in Mendocino County, one mendohumanesociety.com/events Or call dav at a time!" in your order at 707-485-0123

Shelter Volunteer Orientation The HSIMC's 2025 Calendars are now available at HSIMC. A perfect stocking stuffer, the Calendars feature heartwarming photos of adorable shelter animals, while supporting a fantastic cause. Stop by HSIMC during open hours to pick yours up! Supplies are limited, so grab one (or a few) before they're gone. Every purchase helps us care for animals in need. The Humane Society facility is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood

second-Saturday volunteer orientation of 2024 on December 14 at 9 am at the shelter.. "If you love dogs and cats, and you've been thinking about volunteering,

head down to 298 Plant Road in Ukiah. Make sure to wear close-toed shoes and long pants. Dog walking training will be held after orientation. For information visit mendoanimal shelter.

Valley, and open hours are: Wednesday com

The rest of through Friday, from 1 to 5 pm, and

2024.'

anywhere.

by Roots members.

the doting parents.

valuable basket of goodies.

Roots

Back in the engine house, which is

connected to the Mendocino County Museum,

there were between 50 and 100 people in a

line around the interior of the building, which

overflowed out the door. Children waited for

their chance to sit on the lap of or next to

Santa, to tell him their desires for holiday gifts,

and to receive a small stuffed animal, donated

Santa spent the day listening to and

encouraging the kids to be good and to

remember to leave out some cookies and

milk to help out on his arduous journey.

Elves Michael Hammang and Alexis England

helped by distributing the stuffed animals and

destroyed is the subject of the motion to

dismiss filed by Cubbison on September 24,

The Friends of the Museum group plans From page 3 to have updated merchandise, and look forward to greeting the public in the for this," continued Gilbertson. "They've got front lobby. a lot invested in this. We are all appreciative,

The museum will host a variety of all of us who come from all over the place to activities to complement the event. If be here, because you don't get opportunities you don't have time to participate, but to work with steam equipment like this almost you want to be a part of this big "group hug," stop by and see the new gift store!

> "As we transition into this new partnership, we'll be looking for folks to become ambassadors - to get excited. become engaged in what we're doing and help us envision what the future might hold. What does that mean on a practical level? If you're interested in helping us run the gift shop or staff admissions, we'd love to have you. There are many other ways to get involved, from leading tours or helping with special projects as well. Let us know if you can spare a few hours a month by contacting the Friends at: fotmcm@yahoo.com" said Neeka Aguirre FOTMCM board member

assisting in taking the multitude of photos for This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Mendocino County Museum. More info: www. Sober Grad distributed hot dogs and hot mendocinocounty.org/museum 0 chocolate for donations to the organization museum@mendocinocounty.gov or and also offered raffle tickets to their annual 707-234-6365.

"We have an iPad, donations from Nor Crawl, J.D. Redhouse, Monkey Wrench, gift The county Shelter will hold its last certificates to restaurants in town, a load of rock from Northern Aggregates that will be delivered to your house, Windi Kvasnicka from Pampered Chef, and much more," said Sober Grad President April Lamprich.

The Holiday Express event is a chance for the members of Roots of Motive Power to give back to the Willits community by providing a fun and educational experience for families, a tradition that will hopefully continue for many years to come.



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Letters to Santa

Drop off with Mrs. Claus at Imagination Station's Educational Toy Depot or mail them straight to Santa at the Willits Post Office

Dear Sanka,
This Christmas, I am
This year. I have been

___ years old.

This year, I have been	good all of the time
	good some of the time
	naughty (but nice!)

What I would like most this Christmas is ...

					and		
And	Ι	promise	ŁO	leqve	out.	 for	you!





Above: Saprina "Mrs. Claus" Rodriguez will be accepting Letters to Santa on Saturday, December 14.

Imagination Station Toy Depot

Mrs. Claus, above, will be receiving Letters for Santa on Saturday, December 14 from noon to 6 pm. Your child may bring a handwritten one, or have Mrs. Claus help your child write one! Be sure you have a return address on it.

U.S. Post Office -Willits branch

Now through December 20. the official Santa Mailbox will be ready to accept letters to the man in red at the Willits Post Office.



Above: The box in the lobby at the USPS Willits branch is ready to accept Santa letters through December 20.

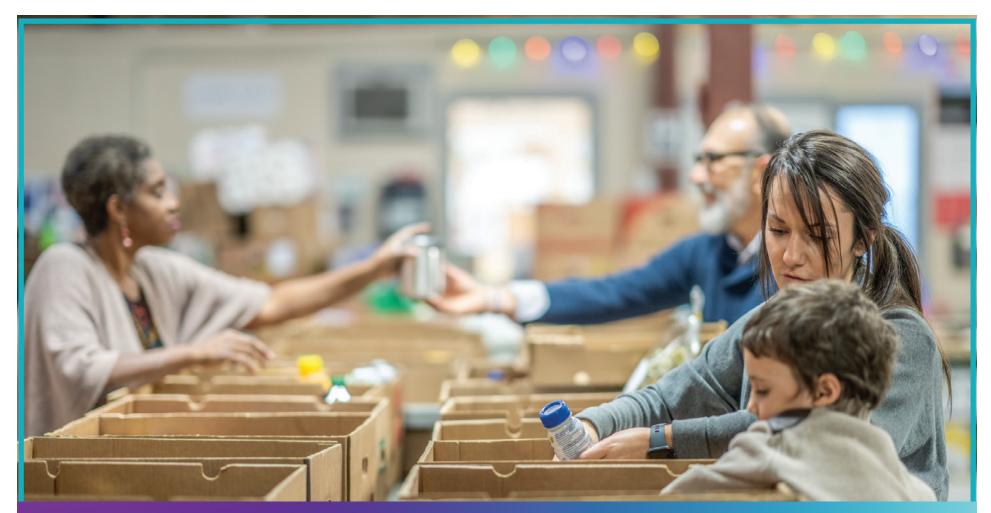
The mailbox is set up by the desk clerks, inside the interior lobby of the main building located at 315 South Main Street, therefore, kids of all ages are welcome to bring their letters for delivery to the North Pole during business hours.

While mail left in standard business or residential outgoing boxes, or dropped off at the blue collection boxes around town, does require a postage stamp, letters for Santa that are brought to the special mailbox at the post office do not need a stamp to be delivered.

Senders are welcome to cut out the letter, at left, and bring it to the post office. Letter forms are also available inside the post office from the desk clerks, too. Of course, custom-made, unique letters are always welcome also.

Regardless of the type of letter, Santa's elves at the post office urge parents and adults to remember to please include the child's return address so that Santa can reply!

– Maureen Jennison



Powering the Season of Joy & Giving

As we celebrate ten years of powering our communities, Sonoma Clean Power invites you to join in the holiday spirit.

Donate & Celebrate

Visit **sonomacleanpower.org** to donate to your favorite local food bank or to learn more about SCP's holiday programs.



