Covelo victim shot while on line with 911

By Lt. Andrew Porter, for MCSO

On March 20, 2024 at approximately 5:29 am, the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office received a 911 call from a subject, later identified as Brandy Kay Mathieson, 35, of Covelo. Mathieson reported that she was a victim of domestic violence at the hands of her boyfriend, Johnathan Lee Draughan, 43, recently of Covelo.

Mathieson reported that Draughan was in the house, located in the 25600 block of Mendocino Pass Road in Covelo, and he was armed with a firearm. While on the phone, gunshots were heard by the dispatcher, and Mathieson was no longer speaking with dispatch. A short time later, Draughan spoke on the phone with the dispatcher and advised he had shot his girlfriend and he would await the arrival of deputies.

Deputies, who were responding from Willits, arrived and took Draughan custody without into Mathieson incident. was located inside the residence. and life-saving measures were attempted by the deputies and then continued by local fire Mathieson resources. showed no signs of life and

Read the rest of Murder

Over on Page 11

'Art Under Twenty' to celebrate 25 years

20 years

Submitted by WCA

"Art Under Twenty" is turning 25! Artists from Willits High School, Willits Charter School and Potter Valley High School are excited to show their work and are pleased to invite everyone to come see this 25th anniversary art show.

"Beautiful and artistic!" said a visitor to the gallery. "These high school artists are not only talented, they're creative, imaginative, innovative and great!" And it's true!

AU20 is a favorite tradition for our teenage artists and their families, and it's become a beloved community event. It's the longest-running, mostattended annual show at the Willits Center for the Arts.

This year, "Art Under Twenty" opens on April 5, 2024. However, the opening reception for the artists will be held on Friday, April 12 from 3:30 to 6:30 pm. The Willits Center for the Arts gallery, 71 East Commercial Street, is open Friday through Sunday 11 am to 5 pm.

"I appreciate my artists! They surprise and delight

Read the rest of AU20

Over on Page 4







Above, from left: Samuel helps provide a buffer for li'l sister Swayze who is more interested in snuggling the live bunnies, than the big Easter Bunny. Maggie listens with excitement to all the Easter Bunny has to tell her. Kalan and Norah with the Easter Bunny, and some snuggly live bunnies, too. Below: Grayson and Emma have big grins for the big bunny during Sunday's fundraiser.



The Big Buns

Easter Rabbit poses for photos with community for annual event

The crowd gathered at J.D. Redhouse last Sunday for the annual photo session and fundraiser event which included the Easter Bunny and his Live Furry Friends, and raised \$505 for the Soroptimist International of Willits Club. A bake sale offered treats and more to those waiting in line.

Since 2015, local photographer Maureen Jennison has been photographing the Easter Bunny at locations around town, but the addition of the live, snuggle-able bunnies, courtesy of Heidi and Keely Ahders, has made the experience extra special for the attendees.

"Thank you to everyone who attended and to everyone who helped make this year's event a success," said Jennison.

Photos are available online at https://photographress.zenfolio.com/easterbunnyphotos.



Above, from left: Colter smiles a big grin for the Easter Bunny. The Saucedo siblings cuddle with each other and the bunnies.

Natalie snuggles the littlest bunny close for her photo. Below: Members of the Soroptimist International of Willits (and their token SoroptiMISTER) smile with the Easter Bunny at the end of the day. At bottom, from left: Lindsey also wore an Easter Bunny on her shirt.

Madison, holding Miley June, smiles with sister Macy and the bunny. The D'Anis family brought the Easter Bunny a carrot as a gift.









County 'almost done'

with election count

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

"We're almost done," Assessor-Clerk-Recorder Voter Registrar Katrina Bartolomie told the board of supervisors at their Tuesday, March 26 meeting, saying she expects to have the county's March 5 primary election certified by the end of this week.

As per the latest update to the California Secretary of State's Office, on March 21, the Mendocino County Elections Office has processed and counted 22,615 ballots, with an estimated 1,172 ballots then remaining, and the next update scheduled by March 29 by 4 pm. The state deadline for local election officials to certify the county elections is April

In the Second Assembly District race, Democrat Rusty Hicks has conceded second place to Sonoma County Supervisor Chris Rogers, who is currently at 19.5% of returns. Rogers, a Democrat, and Republican Mike Greer of Del Norte County, will run against each other in November.

Read the rest of **Election**

Over on Page 11

County maintains 1,018.05 miles of roads

Jennifer Poole

Editor & Reporter

willitsweekly@amail.com

As part of the Consent Calendar at Tuesday's Mendocino County Board of Supervisors meeting, the supes voted to accept the state-mandated annual report "establishing the total mileage of county-maintained roads."

The total presented by the county Department of Transportation did not change this year – remaining at 1,018.05 miles, as of December 31, 2023.

The agenda item included two lists – 14 pages each – of all the 859 roads in Mendocino County, one in alphabetical order and the other in numerical order. The lists include the road name, the road number, the length of each road, where it begins and ends, and which of the county transportation yards attends to that road.

Did you know there were 25 different roads named "No Name Road" scattered around the county?

Read the rest of Roads

Over on Page 11

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Willits Food Bank update

To the Editor:

The food bank has successfully changed locations from the old spot on East San Francisco Street in Willits to the new at 344 Railroad Avenue. A few big and some small projects remain to be finished in order to complete the move. Our new location is wonderful and beautiful. Many thanks to Mike Griggs and family for making it possible.

Our recipient numbers remain high. We're serving four times the number of people that were being served during the pre-pandemic years, a huge increase. This increase requires more food and all of the support that goes with it, including workers and funds to keep the food bank running smoothly.

Please donate by bringing or mailing your check to 344 Railroad Avenue. Help us to keep feeding the hungry and providing winter motel nights to those without homes.

As my retirement approaches, the upcoming new director Kim Tippit is beginning to learn the job. We're teambuilding to ensure a smooth transition. Please stop in and meet her in mid-April. The office phone number remains 707-459-

It has been my honor to serve and assist the needy population of the Willits area since 2019. I'm so grateful to have had such a team that made many successes

vision of feeding hungry and food-insecure people in our

Thanks to all who continue to donate and who share our

Your kindness and compassion are deeply appreciated.

Ruthanne Volz. executive director, Willits Food Bank

'A Love Letter to Willits'

To the Editor:

I came to her in 1972.

Long ago Joni Mitchell sang: "Don't it always seem to go, that you don't know what you've got 'til it's gone...." You only have to leave Willits, even for a short time, to realize it's part of the paradise that is northern California

Part of that heavenly space is its people, and I met many before having to leave a couple of months ago after a fall

During our lifetime we meet many different people for varied reasons. First, I worked as a teacher's aide at Brookside School. It tickles me to this day to say "hello" to Dale Barlow, a grown man now and clerk at Safeway. He was a second-grade student in that class. Schools provided my first set of friends.

In 1974 Brooktrails General Manager Ray Rockefeller stopped by our house to ask if I would consider coming to work for him at the water and sewer district. There I met not only staff but many of the customers in Brooktrails. Another set of friends.

In my retirement years I met a "crazy" lady. "Crazy" in the best sense of the word. Her name was Donna Stropes. She got me interested in silent auctions for Phoenix Hospice Garden Tours, Little Lake Fire Protection District, the Howard Foundation, and eventual construction of

> Read the rest of Letters

Over on page 11

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 esidence will be published. No letters from an anonymous source will be published, although a request to withhold the writer's name



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Mendo Mill celebrating 80 years in 2024

Submitted by Mendo Mill

Celebrating 80 incredible years of growth and community, Mendo Mill & Lumber Company proudly commemorates its journey that began in the Ukiah Valley in 1944 as a humble sawmill.

Over these eight decades, we've had the privilege of not just witnessing but actively participating in shaping the landscape of Mendocino and Lake counties. From our early days as a local lumber supplier to our evolution into a go-to home improvement destination, our commitment to serving and uplifting the communities we're part of has remained unwavering.

At the core of Mendo Mill's ethos is an unyielding dedication to our customers' needs. We're not just a store; we're your partners in construction, renovation, maintenance and building dreams. Our journey has been guided by the principle that being helpful isn't just a slogan - it's the heartbeat of our company.

We take pride in providing not just quality products but also expert advice, ensuring every project, big or small, is met with success. Our belief in communitydriven initiatives has seen us collaborate and give back, reinforcing our role as not just a business but a vital thread in the fabric of the neighborhoods we

As we celebrate this momentous milestone in 2024, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our customers, partners, and the incredible communities that have embraced and supported us. Here's to 80 years of growth, trust, and the privilege of being a part of your homes and lives. Together, let's continue to build lasting relationships and stronger communities for years to come.

Editor's Note: Mendo Mill will present anniversary events throughout their 80th year, including their 80th anniversary weekend, October 5 and 6, 2024.

Senior Center menu for the week

Willits Senior Center is serving lunch in its indoor dining room, and continues to serve drive-through and walk-up lunches, too. Lunch is available Monday through Friday, from 12 to 12:45 pm, inside and outside the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Lunches are \$8; \$75 for a 10 lunch card for Senior Center members.

Thursday, March 28: Beef Stroganoff, Veggies, Roll Friday, March 29: Turkey, Cranberry, Stuffing,

Monday, April 1: Pork Chops, Mashed Potatoes,

Tuesday, April 2: Turkey Tetrazzini, Veggies, Roll

Wednesday, April 3: Jambalaya, Roll Thursday. April 4: BBQ Chicken. Baked Beans. Corn.

Friday, April 5: Hot Dog, Chili, Chips

Corn Bread

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

Pancake Breakfast: every second Sunday, 8 to 11 am.

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

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

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

Look for climate credits on your April PG&E bill

Submitted by PG&E

In April, more than 5 million Pacific Gas and Electric Company customers will automatically receive the California Climate Credit on their energy bill.

Residential households with an active electric account will automatically receive an electric credit of \$55.17, an increase from last year's credit of \$38.39. Residential households with an active gas account will automatically receive a credit of \$85.46, an increase from the \$52.78 credit in 2023. That is a total credit of \$140.63 for customers receiving both gas and electric service from PG&E.

"This credit highlights our champion environmental responsibility," said Vincent Davis, senior vice president, Customer Experience. "It encourages sustainable practices, moving our communities toward a brighter,

greener future. The California Climate Credit is part of the state's efforts to fight climate change and is distributed by PG&E to customers as directed by the California Public Utilities Commission. This credit is from the California Cap-and-Trade Program, which requires power plants, fuel providers, and large industrial facilities that emit greenhouse gases to buy carbon pollution allowances. The bill credit is designed to help utility customers during the transition

Residential customers receive biannual electric credits during April and October, while natural gas

to a low-carbon future.

in April. Eligible small business customers receive identical electric credits, distributed twice a year. Both sets of customers will receive the second electric credit in October. PG&E will also distribute over \$36 million to eligible industrial customers on behalf of the CPUC. Eligibility requirements and other details are online at https://pge-eite.

In addition to the California Climate Credit, customers are encouraged to explore other ways to save energy, reduce costs on monthly bills, and contribute to building a sustainable future.

PG&E's assistance programs

If you're having trouble with your PG&E bills, check out PG&E's assistance programs for Incomeeligible customers

California Alternate Rates for **Energy (CARE)**: offers a discount of 20% or more each month on energy

Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA): offers a monthly discount of 18% on electricity bills for households with three or more

For more information on CARE or FERA, visit www.pge.com/en/ account/billing-and-assistance/ financial-assistance/californiaalternate-rates-for-energy-program.

More help here:

Energy Savings Assistance (ESA): provides energy-saving improvements at no charge. https://www.pge.com/en/

customers receive an annual credit save-energy-and-money/energysaving-programs/energy-savingsassistance-program.html

> Relief for Energy Assistance through Community Help (REACH): offers a one-time energy credit of up to \$1,000, doubling the previous amount of up to \$500 based on past due balances. This is to help with sudden hardship and to prevent service disconnections. Visit: www. pge.com/en/account/billing-andassistance/financial-assistance/ relief-for-energy-assistancethrough-community-help.html

> Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP): a federally funded assistance program overseen by the state that offers a one-time payment to help lowincome households pay for heating or cooling in their homes, provides emergency assistance in energy crises, and home weatherization. Visit www.pge.com/en/account/ billing-and-assistance/financialassistance/low-income-homeenergy-assistance-program.html.

PG&E's Energy Efficiency DIY

Did you know you can lower energy bills and save money with PG&E's Energy Efficiency DIY tool kit? With a \$200 investment energy-efficient materials, customers can save nearly \$1,000 each year. Visit: www.pge.com/en/ save-energy-and-money/energyusage-and-tips/residential-energysavings-tips/summer-energysavings-tips.html

For more ways to manage your monthly bills, visit: www.pge.com/ en/save-energy-and-money.html

Skunk Train's first Whiskey Train, April 6

Submitted by Mendocino Railway

Get ready to raise your glasses and embark on an adventure like no other with the first-ever Skunk Train Whiskey Trains on Saturdays, April 6 and May 25, 5 to 7 pm – a spirited journey filled with laughter, fine whiskey, and jaw-dropping views along the enchanting Willits line.

As the train chugs away from Willits, get ready to be whisked over the highest point of the line, a whopping 1,740 feet above sea level! Brace yourselves as you journey through Tunnel #2 and descend into the picturesque Noyo River Canyon on this approximately 2-hour round trip of sheer delight.

But hold onto your hats, because the real star of the show isn't just the scenery - it's the whiskey! Join our charming "whiskey sommelier" on board who'll be regaling you with tales of each whiskey's journey, its unique flavors, and the secret behind its distillation

Mail: P.O. Box 1698. Willits. CA 95490

Distillery's finest boutique Premium Whiskeys, proudly crafted right here in the heart of Mendocino Countv. And guess what? You'll get to take home your very own custom Whiskey Train tasting glass as a keepsake of this unforgettable ride. Oh, and did we mention, there's a delightful charcuterie plate waiting to keep your taste buds dancing along the way.

Join us on April 6 and May 25 for a unique journey aboard the Whiskey Train departing from Willits. Tickets are priced at \$119 and include four whiskey tastings, a delightful charcuterie tray, and a souvenir tasting glass.

To book your tickets for the Whiskey Train, visit https:// www.skunktrain.com/whiskey-train/.

Take advantage of special pricing for locals by simply

entering your zip code. For more information about Mendocino Railway - The

Willits Weekly | March 28, 2024

Skunk Train and its unforgettable rail adventures, visit Indulge in four tantalizing tastings of Charbay www.skunktrain.com or call (707) 964-6371.



Farmers Convergence

Food growers and distributors of Mendocino and Lake counties discuss successful methods for producing and selling their crops

Food security is one of the top issues challenges relied on the group knowledge, in much of the world. Mendocino County, although generally

Mathew Caine green and lush vegetation, has its own set

of challenges in the production of food. Ever-increasing droughts, over-burdening regulations, the dominance of corporate farming, and challenges of distribution are some of the factors facing the family-based farms in Mendocino and Lake counties.

It is for the above reasons that the ninth annual North Coast Farmers Convergence took place at Ridgewood Ranch in the Golden Rule Dining Hall and Chapel on Tuesday, March 19, lasting all day and encompassing all aspects of local farming.

About 100 of the area's farmers, distributors, and food-service personnel gathered to meet and greet and to learn techniques for growing in a sustainable manner from other farmers who have been successful in their efforts. It was in the sharing of knowledge that the community of agriculturists joined together to create a free flowing of ideas and suggestions. Although they are, on some level, competitors, the farmers knew that their overcoming of

a sharing of techniques and methodology. According to Michael Foley, co-owner

of Green Uprising Farm and manager of Willits Farmers Market: "The purpose of this gathering is to inspire and inform local food producers and providers in Mendocino and Lake counties. We do this, mainly, through giving farmers an opportunity to speak about their own experiences and their own choices. The farmers always help each other. The farmers are the most cooperative among themselves. They check in with each other."

At the opening of the programs, one of the organizers of the event, Lucy Bartholomew of the Blue Zones Project and resident of Ridgewood Ranch, made reference to the Pomo ancestors who first inhabited and learned to live in a symbiotic relationship with the land: "I want to recognize all of the local producers who grew the food we are going to eat. Today's convergence takes place throughout the traditional territories and homelands of the Pomo people, whose history has been sullied by displacement,

Read the rest of Farmers |



Over on page 9





friends converse, eat lunch, and

of distribution. Ruthie King, Thea

Grusky-Foley of Mulligan Gardens,

Jessica Taaning of Inland Ranch. and

Grace Magruder facilitate a forum on

of the MendoLake Food Hub assists

farmers in distributing their products.

At left: Jamie Chevalier of Quail Seeds

provides information to the attendees.

. At left, below: All of the ingredients

for lunch are locally and sustainably grown, fresh and healthy, with

Below, left: Colleen Rentsch of Oak

Valley Farm, Libby Uhuru of Ukiah

Natural Foods, and Haerah Baird of

the MendoLake Food Hub attend the

Farmers Convergence at Ridgewood

Ranch. Below, right: Caroline Radice

participated in some of the forums.

At bottom, left: Pamela Lee of the

California Department of Food and

Agriculture Farm-to-School Program

takes a moment to enjoy her coffee. At

bottom, right: Michael Foley of Green

delicious breakfast before speaking at

Photos by Mathew Caine

Uprising Farm helps himself to the

the Farmers Convergence.

of Black Dog Farm & Catering

vegetarian options

"Direct Marketing Meat." Haerah Baird

compare farming methods and means



No Hormones, Pastured in Willits, California



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Easter Sunrise Service returns to Sherwood Road overlooking Willits this year! Community Sunrise Service at the Cross on

Sherwood Road Easter morning

(March 31) at 6:45 a.m.

Everyone is invited to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ with singing, prayer, and a Bible message. Bring a camp chair if you'd like to sit,

and dress warmly.

Following the service, a hot breakfast will be served in Bruce and Linda's Barn. In the event of rain, service will be held in Bruce and Linda's Barn.



Wealth Management Investments | Tax Planning | Insurance | Business Solutions | Retiremen Advisory services offered through Cetera Investment Advisers LLC. Securities offered through Cetera Financial Specialists LLC (doing insurance business in CA as CFGFS Insurance Agency LLC), member FINRA/SIPC. Cetera is under separate ownership from any

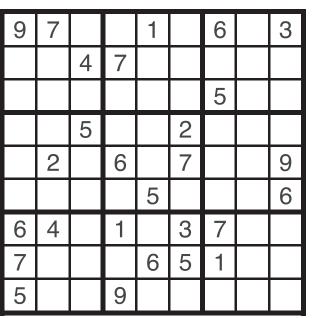
ndividuals and businesses that serve Lake County, CA, and Mendocino County, CA. dominations are provided by the community and after the nomination period is completed, the names of nominated businesses in each of the categories are finalized and nake up the official Best of Lake and Mendocino voting ballot. The audience can then vote



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Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword



ITGNIRPSDROLGEFHIJ

FAITH

FAMILY

HIDE

HOLIDAY

HOT CROSS BUNS

JELLY BEANS

JESUS

LAMB

51. Collapsible shelter

56. Lordship's jurisdictions

60. Charge in a court of law

CLUES DOWN

58. It cools your home

63. One less than one

65. Famed garden

1. Show a picture of

3. Unfortunate incident

5. Abba ___, Israeli politician

7. 'Westworld' actor Harris

2. Small sultanate

4. A way to ski

6. Observed

8. Belonging to me

9. Shoelace tube

10. Takes to civil court

13. Early multimedia

14. Produces anew

15. Horse races

22. Changes color

23. A place to stay

27. Town in Galilee

20. Of I

21. Equally

53. Commercial

59. Dismounted

64. Spoke

54. Taste property

BASKET

BONNET

CELEBRATION

CHOCOLATE

CHURCH

CROSS

DINNER

EGGS

CLUES ACROSS

1. Database management

5. Medical procedures

11. __ Clapton, musician

system

12. Defender

18. Quay

25. Ends

26. Unable

28. Gratuities

31. Sours

33. Beneficiary

39. Unworldly

40. Yemen capital

__-Cola

45. Lying down

49. __ Angeles

50. Fail to amuse

43. Type of soil

34. Baseball official

38. Confused situation

44. Beloved beverage

27. Taxi

19. Atrocities

16. Exert oneself

adult man

17. Indicates position

24. A way to address an

29. A famous train station

30. Japanese persimmon

HOW TO

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

SUDOKU

Sudoku puzzles are

March 5 8:34 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 400 block of East

7-day reporting period.

March 4

Commercial Street and issued a warning. 9:48 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

4:28 pm: Officers responded to a

disturbance in the 500 block of South Main

1:02 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 300 block of South Main

2:10 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run vehicle investigation in the 600 block of South Main Street.

2:43 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 300 block of Creekside Drive and issued a

10:20 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 100 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning.

10:38 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Alder Court.

11:03 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 200 block of Margie Drive and issued

March 6

MARSHMALLOW

MIRACLE

PASTEL

RABBIT

REJOICE

RESURRECTION

SPRINGTIME

63

65

31. They ___

32. Atomic #58

34. Loosen grip

'league"

38. Partner to Pa

29. Mathematical figure

30. Klingon character

33. Showed up extinct

35. Unpleasant smell

37. Esteemed college

40. Small American rail

44. Military figure (abbr.)

46. Paid to get out of jail

52. Scientific development

47. All of something

41. A salt or ester of

acetic acid

42. Sodium

45. Lighted

48. Ohio city

50. More abject

51. A radio band

(abbr.)

54. Monetary unit

55. Scored perfectly

57. A punch to end a fight

61. The Golden State (abbr.)

62. The Beehive State (abbr.)

36. Innermost membranes

enveloping the brain

9:48 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 200 block of School Street.

12:45 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and Muir Mill Road and issued a warning.

1:08 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1600 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

1:18 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of East San Francisco Avenue and South Main Street and issued a citation.

3:58 pm: McGEHEE, Jeffrey Allan (43) of Coos Bay, Oregon was contacted in the 100 block of East Commercial Street. He was arrested on

misdemeanor charges of possession of personal identification information with intent to defraud and possession of drug paraphernalia.

6:17 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block of East **Commercial Street**

9:03 pm: Officers responded to disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.



March 7

7:59 am: Officers responded to a report of unwanted subjects in the 300 block of South Main Street.

the 1500 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

8:37 am: Officers conducted a stop in

12:27 pm: Officers initiated a theft

From page 1

The rest of

me all the time and make everyday a great day in the WHS studio," said WHS art teacher Carolyn Bakewell. Some of the young artists have shown their work in AU20 before, but for many, this will be their gallery debut and something to be proud of. Students can add this to their resumes and include it on college and scholarship applications.

According to the Kennedy Center for the

• Art classes help teens enjoy and stay in school. Students can take the skills learned from their arts experiences such as discipline, patience, and problem-solving and apply them throughout their lives.

 Taking classes in the arts help teens graduate on time. For example, a report from the Center for Arts Education found that New York City high schools

with the most access to and support for arts education have the city's highest graduation rates.

 Arts education can be a gateway to the future. Arts-related businesses provide jobs in creative fields ranging from advertising and video game design to fashion and theater management. The creative sector needs more than just artists, too, it needs accountants, marketers, computer technicians, lawyers, and many others.

 The arts can help in applying to college. The College Board has found that students who take classes in the arts for four years in high school scored substantially higher on the SATs than students with six months or less training in the arts.

We hope everybody gets a chance to see our 25th anniversary "Art Under Twenty" show.

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT **POLICE LOG**

March 4 to March 10 By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police investigation in the 100 block of South Main Department handled 70 incidents in this Street.

2:33 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of **Summary of Active Investigations** South Main Street. and Arrests

2:51 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

3:07 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 900 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

6:45 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 400 block of East Commercial Street and

9:01 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of Alder

9:52 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Creekside Drive and issued a warning.

10:35 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 500 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning.

March 8

8:37 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 1400 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

9:07 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 400 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning.

10:59 am: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 300 block of East Commercial Street.

5:53 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism near the intersection of Franklin Avenue and Blosser Lane.

8:42 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1600 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

9:37 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Humboldt Street and Pearl Street and issued a warning.

2:47 pm: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 300 block of Robert

2:53 pm: McFADIN, Demeter Rose Gave (49) of Ukiah was contacted near the intersection of Alder Court and Alder Lane following a report of trespassing. She was arrested pursuant to 647 (F) PC (Public

Intoxication) and on misdemeanor charges of indecent exposure and public nuisance.

4:05 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

9:00 CALDWELL, Cody Walker (24) of Willits was contacted near the intersection of Blosser Lane and Robert Drive. He was arrested on felony charges of possession

of a controlled substance for sale, false impersonation, and failure to appear, and on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance.

March 10

No incidents to report.







Above, from left: Sparetime Supply reps Lina Vending, director of human resources, and Jaime Wilkes, vice-president pose for a photo between student visits. Soroptimists Kitty Norris and Vicki Ham helped to arrange the Job Fair. Officer Travis Perry and dispatcher Tiffany McPherson of the Ukiah Police Department tell the kids about job opportunities.

Below: Juniors and seniors from Willits High School, Sanhedrin, and the Willits Charter School speak with several members of an eclectic group of local employers.



Next Steps

Juniors and seniors meet with MetalFX, SHN, CAL FIRE, and other area employers at Job Fair

Young men and women approaching expected to spend a few minutes asking in the position of having to make difficult decisions concerning their next steps in life. In order to facilitate

these first steps, the Soroptimists of Willits created a Job Fair in which 11 of the area's employers,

successful businesses, services, and organizations, could meet with the juniors and seniors, explain what they have to offer new candidates, and suggest steps to take in order to be hired. The entities told of the opportunities for employment, their company history, educational and experiential requirements, and company philosophies.

MetalFX, Mendo Mill, SHN, Resource Conservation District, Dripworks, Sparetime Supply, Soroptimists, Sherwood Valley Casino, CAL FIRE, and Ukiah Police Department were all represented at tables situated around the Willits Community Center. The students were allowed a certain amount of time at each table and,

out of respect for the representatives, were

the end of their high school experience are questions and hearing about each of the

Lucy Kyne, counselor at Willits High School, bused several students to the event. She stated that the purpose was "to basically have our local vendors and businesses meet and greet our students and see what's out here in town, so if they went away and came back here to work or if they're ready to just go straight into the workforce.

"Not all of our students are going to leave town and go to college, necessarily," explained Kyne. "Some will stay here or they'll work part time and do classes at the junior college. This real-life interaction is a great opportunity that follows on the heels of the senior-portfolio interviews where they were interviewed by some of the folks who are here in this room as well. This is a natural transition from school to young adulthood. Even if they are uninterested in any of these particular businesses, they

Over on page 11 Jobs |



company SHN brought rock and core samples to interest the students

At left: Lucy Kyne, Arora Chavez, Toni Cassidy and Nicole Burke of Willits High School bussed severa juniors and seniors to the event.

At left, below: Dripworks reps Maria Camargo, marketing coordinator, and Beth Bjorklund, HR director, let the students know about the full-time seasonal work in their warehouse and call

At far left, below: Adrian Lopez, vice-president of MetalFX, speaks with two Willits Charter School students as **Education Director Erin** Vaccaro listens in. Photos by Mathew Caine



Pg. 4 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047

Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com

Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

Willits Weekly | March 28, 2024

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Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047

Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

Agape **Bible Church**

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

Amazing Grace Assembly of God Church

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

Church

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

7-8:00 p.m. The Church of **Jesus Christ of**

Wednesday Bible Study

Latter-day Saints 265 Margie Drive Willits, ČA 95490 ALL ARE WELCOME Sacrament Meeting Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Eckankar: The Patl of Spiritual Freedo • A University for Soul

•Spiritual Living Courses Spiritual Discussions ECK Light & Sound Services More information? Call 530-224-8703 www.eckankar.org

Grace Community Church

Celebrating Life In Christ 25 Hazel Street, Willits **Modified Worship Service** 10 a.m. Other ministries suspended

for now.

For appointments call:

(707) 459-3106 St. Anthony of Padu

Catholic Church 61 W. San Francisco Ave

Willits, CA 95490 Father Aaron Bandanadan Mass times: Wednesday-Friday 9:00 a.m. Saturday-5:30 p.m. Sunday-9:00 a.m. - English 10:30 a.m. - Spanish Confessions on Saturday 4:45 - 5:15 p.m. Or by appointmet at 707-459-2252

https://stanthonywillits.org/ saintanthonywillits@gmail.con We welcome All Walks of Faith

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

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

St. John **Lutheran Church**

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

Willits Seventh-Day **Adventist Church** 707-459-5714

Friendly, open worship Saturdays Bible Study - 9:30 a.m. Worship Service - 10:45 a.m Zoom Transmission Available Wednesday Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m. 399 W. Mendocino Ave.

Willits United **Methodist Church**

All are welcome!

Labyrinth and Peace Garder A place to find comfort where all are welcome Pastor Rosemary Landry Sunday Worship at 10:30 an 286 School St. (at Pine) 707-459-2855 wumc@willitsonline.com www.willitsumc.org

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

Facebook: facebook willits um

What's Happening **Around Town**

Thursday, March 28

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly farmers market is indoors for the winter season Thursday afternoons at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Thursdays, from 3 to 5:30 pm. Local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Tobin's Tales, story time at the farmers market, from 3:30 to 4 pm, with Library Assistant Tobin reading selected juvenile picture books. All are welcome.

Friday, March 29

Senior Center Easter Bake Sale: Lots of baked goodies at the annual Senior Center Easter Bake sale, Friday, March 29 from 8:30 am until sold out. Come visit us! Happy Easter! Willits Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Info: 707-459-6826

Skunk Train's Easter **Express:** The Skunk Train's Easter Express is departing

from the Willits Depot on Friday, March 29 (10:30 am, 1:30 pm), Saturday, March 30 (10:30 am, 1:30 pm, 4:30 pm), and Easter Sunday, March 31 (10:30 am, 1:30 pm). This delightful 2-hour excursion through Tunnel #2 promises a host of treats, special Easter egg surprises, and cherished moments for all ages. Tickets for this special family-friendly event are \$64.95, with infants in lap riding for free and dogs welcome for an additional fee of \$10.95. To book your tickets, visit www.skunktrain.com/easter-express/. More info about Mendocino Railway and the Skunk Train visit www.skunktrain.com or call (707) 964-

Book Lovers Discussion Group: Meets monthly at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street, on Friday March 29 this month, 12 to 1 pm. Discuss books, authors and genres, and why you love books! All adults welcome.

mendolibrary.org **BGMS** or 459-5908. Baechtel Grove Middle School

BAKE SALE Benefit- For the 8th Grade End of The

Friday March 29th 2:00pm-6:00pm

ocation- Willits Safeway parking lot, in front of the old ER energy building

BGMS Bake Sale: Baechtel Middle School and the BGMS PTO present a bake sale benefit for the 8th grade End of the Year trip. Friday, March

the Willits Safeway parking lot, in front of the old ER energy building.

ANNUAL EASTER

Clav Hawkins Duo at Shanachie: "Late Night, Boot Stomping, Road Music from the Heart" by slide guitarist and songwriter Clay Hawkins and longtime co-conspirator Andrew Robertson on the upright bass.

Friday, March 29 at 8 pm, at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

info@willits.org

707.459.7910

299 East Commerc

COMMERCIAL ST,

WILLITS, CA 95490

Food by

nnie's Street Tacos

Saturday, March 30 Skunk Train's Easter Express: The Skunk Train's Easter Express is departing from the Willits Depot today, Saturday, March 30 at 10:30 am, 1:30 pm, and 4:30 pm. This delightful 2-hour excursion through Tunnel #2 promises a

host of treats, special Easter egg surprises, and cherished moments for all ages. See Friday, March 29 listing for more CRAFTS PRESENTS

Easter Vendors Fair: Mendo Crafts presents the Easter /endors Fair, Saturday, March 30, 11 am to 5 pm. at 280 East Commercial Street, Willits. Food by Annie's Street Tacos. Cosmic Family Band at

Shanachie: A local Mendocino County jam band, "sharing original music that is a reflection of being a part of this amazing community. We're the Cosmic Family Band and so are you." Saturday, March 30 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Sunday, March 31

Easter Sunrise Service at the Sherwood Cross: Easter Sunrise Service returns to Sherwood Road overlooking Willits this year! Community Sunrise Service at the Cross on Sherwood Road Easter morning, March 31, at 6:45 am. Everyone is invited to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ with singing, prayer, and a Bible message. Bring a camp chair if you'd like to sit, and dress warmly. Following the service, a hot breakfast will be served in Bruce and Linda's Barn. In the event of rain, service will be held in Bruce and Linda's Barn.

at Flying Dog Pizza and J.D.

Wednesday, April 3 Willits Song Circle: Every first Wednesday, this month April 3, from 5 to 6:30 pm at the Willits Methodist Church, School and Pine streets. Led by Don Willis and Madge Strong, but anyone can lead (or request) a song. All genres of songs, rounds, popular songs, folk songs, simple part songs – anything that can be learned easily. Open to all. Instruments welcome. Free, donations accepted for the use of the hall, Info: dwillis@mcn.org or mstrong@willitsonline.com.

Thursday, April 4

Skunk Train's Easter Express:

The Skunk Train's Easter

Express is departing from

the Willits Depot today,

March 31 at 10:30

am, 1:30 pm, and

through Tunnel

#2 promises a

host of treats.

special Easter

moments for all

March

See

and

listing

in Willits. Live music by the Joe

Craven Trio – Joe Craven, Hattie

Craven and Jordan Feinstein,

plus the Farmers Market Band, A

Cosmic Pickle Production: "Fun

for the whole family, costumes,

flippers, snorkels, and just have

a good time." Monday, April 1 at

the Willits Grange, 291 School

Street. Doors open 5 pm; show

from 6 to 9:45 pm. \$20; kids

12 and under FREE. Sound by

Ancestor Radio. Food by Turtle

Island Tacos and the Fairall's

Farm blue food truck. Beer and

wine by Northspur Brewing and

Frey Vineyards. Advance tickets

ages.

Friday,

Easter Play Day & Egg

29

Hunt: Come join us for an RSVP-

only Egg Hunt & Play Day on Sunday, March

31, at 1 pm. Egg Hunt (K-1st grade) and Spoon

Race (all ages). Please bring a dozen dyed or

filled plastic Easter eggs. Call or text Sarah

Owsiany at 707-841-1530. "Come hop on a

horse, no experience necessary." \$20 (\$15 plus

Benefit for 'The Pond Club': A benefit to support The

Pond Club, the elders' swimming and aerobic program

\$5 donation to Friends of Sherwood School.

Monday, April 1

surprises,

cherished

Sunday,

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly farmers market is indoors for the winter season Thursday afternoons at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Thursdays, from 3 to 5:30 pm. Local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music. the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Tobin's Tales, story time at the farmers market, from 3:30 to 4 pm, with Library Assistant Tobin reading selected juvenile picture books. All are welcome.

Friday, April 5

'Art Under Twenty' opens at WCA: The 25th anniversary exhibit of student art from Willits High



Admission First Saturday Family Fun at the Museum: Join us at the Mendocino County Museum for FREE admission on First Saturday Spring Family Fun Days, starting Saturday, April 6, 1 to 3 pm, at 400 East

riendly activities inspired by our exhibit "In the Field: Exploring Botany in Mendocino County," hands-on activity stations and a Wildflower Scavenger Hunt available daily, First Saturday Family Fun Days feature a workshop on Making Throw 'n' Grow Seed Balls to grow your own wildflowers. Program and Museum attendance are ree for our First Saturday Free Admission Days. Also Saturday, May 4, and Saturday, June 1. All ages are welcome. Info www.mendocinocounty.gov/museum museum@mendocinocounty.gov, or 707-

Skunk Train's Whiskey Train: Departing from the Willits Depot, the first-ever Skunk Train Whiskey Trains are set for Saturdays, April 6 and May 25 from 5 to 7 pm. "An evening filled with laughter, fine whiskey, and jaw-dropping views along the enchanting Willits line." Featuring four tastings of Charbay Distillery's finest boutique premium whiskeys, proudly crafted right here in the heart of Mendocino County. Plus keepsake tasting glass, delicious charcuterie plate for all. Visit www.skunktrain.com/whiskey-train to buy tickets, \$119 adults only (enter your zip code for a hefty local discount).

2nd annual Spring Fling in Laytonville: Laytonville

A benefit to save Our Daily Bread,

Long Valley Lioness Club presents the 2nd annual Spring Fling benefit for Laytonville High School students, Saturday, April 6 at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue. Featuring a guitar-slinger extravaganza, with Blue Luke and the Indiana Slim Blues Band. With Wildfire Dancers, Silent Auction, Tarot by Tara. \$20. Advance tickets at Weathertop Nursery. Doors open 7 pm; show starts at 8 pm. Plus All You Can Eat Crawfish Boil, by Sho Nuff & Dylan and Amanda Eichler, \$20 extra.

Ongoing Events

at the Willits Library

Story Time: Tuesday through Friday each week, 10:30 to 11 am. "Start your morning listening to a story. Join us in the children's area of the library."

meeting room to discuss various topics while enjoying a "cup of joe". Topics will range and will be announced ahead of time.'

and start building.

Open Lab / Study Hall: Don't have a decent place to study? Come to the Willits

> Calming Coloring at the Library: Thursdays, from 5 to 6 pm at the Willits Library, An hour

of quiet with coloring pages. Supplies provided. All ages welcome. Chess for Teens: On Fridays, from 4 to 6:30

welcome. Library staff will be there to help beginners and those who want to learn. Light refreshments provided. **Tech Help:** Now every Saturday from 11 am to 12

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

Shanachie Pub

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

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

Wednesday Open Mic Night: Shanachie Pub presents its popular Open Mic Night every 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 minute time slot starting at 7:20 pm

ART UNDER 20

Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or 459-5908.

Penny University Coffee Klatch: Tuesdays, 11 am to noon. We will meet in the Willits Library

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

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

> Branch Library's meeting room every Wednesday from 3 to 5 pm for the new Open Lab / Study Hall. The library has plenty of helpful resources including public Wi-Fi, computers with internet and word processing capabilities, and databases to aid you with your research, plus friendly and helpful staff ready to point you in the right direction.

pm. Teens, ages 12-18 are invited; all skill levels

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

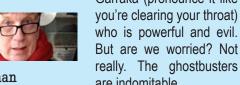
Ongoing Events

Wednesday, featuring an eclectic array of local determines order from which you pick your 20

Frozen Empire

The Story: The latest offspring of the "Ghostbusters" franchise is built around familiar tropes: a mysterious object, an ancient evil, a demonic god with a funny name, in this case "Garraka." (It's a matter of traditional Hollywood wisdom that melodramatic bad guys have a "k" in their names.)

Garraka (pronounce it like



Dan Essman

are indomitable.

My Thoughts: When hear the word ghostbusters, my automatic response is "Who ya' gonna call?" We all know it's not a question. It's programming. It's an invocation of the 1984

"Ghostbusters" masterpiece. It's a word that triggers a familiar-as-crackerjack upbeat musical intro, and is buoyant with nostalgia.

This flick gives us pretty much all the original cast members: Dan Akroyd, Bill Murray, Annie Potts, Ernie Hudson and William Atherton. All of them have small though significant roles. For this flick, there are no surprises, and see the movie knowing that there are "no surprises." Still, a

good time will be had by all. By the way, and not really a spoiler, the filmmaker admirably quotes Robert Frost's

little children might be scared. You know your own.

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

Please support our biggest fundraiser of the year!!



FRIDAY, APRIL 26TH 4-6 PM, WHS AG FARM

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT: 101 TRAILER & RV **MONKEY WRENCH** which are used to out on a

> Karen Thiel, WHS Carrie Lambert, WSG (707)671-6173 Dinner Includes:

Complete meal for 4! Marinated & Grilled Tri-Tip, Baked Potatoes, Green Salad, Emandal Bread, Cookies from Kemmy's Pies, and a Beautiful Rose Donated by Flowers by Annette.

EARTH DAY UKIAH SATURDAY, **APRIL 20TH** TODD GROVE **PARK**



Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

Ongoing Events

Wednesdays from 9 to 11 am at the Willits High

Bill Bruneau: 459-3390.

707-459-6660

Happy

Paster!

Brown Bag Lunch Program: Sack lunches served at the City Park (or across the street in case of rain) assured a lunch! Provided by various churches and community organizations.

Shuffleboard Sunday at Flying Dog Wood Fired Pizza & Vinyl: "Sign-ups start at 4 pm. Games start at 4:45 pm. \$5 sign-up fee, teams of two, winner takes the pot! We'll have the games on all day. Beer, wine, pizza, we've got everything you need!" Flying Dog Wood Pizza, 65 South Main Street.

The Redwood Empire Food Bank: Twice-monthly drive-thru food distribution in Willits, second and fourth Thursdays of the month, located in the parking lot of the soccer and baseball fields, 9:30 to 11 am. Groceries to go, senior basket (for low-income seniors 60 or older), and diapers.

Willits Boules Club, Tuesdays and Fridays at 3 pm: The outdoor boules course is located across the street from the Willits Skate Park. Info: bbruneau@

Free Kids Karate Classes at Body Works Gym: Sheriff's Youth Activities League offers free classes for kids at the Willits Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street, on Thursday evenings. "We teach Matsubayashi Shorin Ryu Karate, Kenpo Youth/ Adult Self Defense, Bully and Abduction Awareness/ Defense, and Small Child PreSkills." Little Dragons Small Child "PreSkillz" karate class, 6 to 6:30 pm, ages 3, 4, 5, 6 (7) year-olds. Beginner/intermediate class, 7/8 years and above, 6:35 pm to 8 pm. Intermediate/advanced class, all ages, 8 to 8:45 pm, There is an annual \$20 SAL insurance/registration fee (waivable). More info: call or text Sensei Mike





open for private prayer, including the Stations of the Cross,

WCA March Show: Willits Center for the Arts brings Richard Weiss of the Mendocino coast's 3-D paintings and Susie Racecar of Laytonville's every Saturday from 1 to 2 pm. Come early to be amazing art in the month of March. 71 East Commercial Street. More info: 707-459-1726, Info: www.willitscenterforthearts.org

Free Food Pop-Ups: Mendocino Food and Nutrition Program's Food Pop-Up in Willits is now offering two events per month, first and third Thursdays, at 1250 Blosser Lane, from noon to 1 pm, weather permitting. Free food for all! In March these food pop-ups will happen March 7 and 21 this month. Info: outreach@ fbfoodbank.org; 707-964-9404

'In the Field' Exhibit: Mendocino County Museum's latest exhibit, "In the Field: Exploring Botany in Mendocino County," celebrates the study of unique plants that grow in our region, reflecting on the pursuits of Mendocino County botanists from past to present, featuring sketches, illustrations, photographs, and pressed specimens. Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street, is open 11 am to 5 pm, Tuesday through Saturday.

More info: visit www.mendocinocounty.org/museum Willits Tennis Club: Meets Mondays and School courts. New members welcome. Free. Show up or call 707-484-3385

Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Group: Meets every week on Mondays, 6 pm, at the Muse in Willits, 30 East San Francisco Street. More info: 707-354-1866. Willits Drum Circle: Every second and fourth Fridays at 7 pm. At St. Francis of the Redwoods

Episcopal Church, Main and Commercial 7pm. Info: Tobin at 707-354-0565.

GODZILLA X KONG:

Movie Times for March 29 thru April 4

THE NEW EMPIRE - In 2D -(PG13) 1 hr 55 mins Fri./Sat.: 2:30pm **Sun.-Thurs.:** 1:30 — In 3D — (PG13) 1 hr 55 mins Fri./Sat.: 5:15 & 8:00pm

Sun.-Thurs.: 4:15 & 7:00pm

PANDA 4

(PG) 1 hr 34 mins Fri./Sat.: 3:15, 5:30 & 7:45pm **Sun.-Thurs.:** 2:15, 4:30 & 6:45pm

Fri./Sat.: 3:00, 5:45 & 8:30pm **Sun.-Thurs.:** 2:00, 4:45 & 7:30pm **OVER 21 CLUB -**

FROZEN EMPIRE

Tightwad Tuesday Title for April 2 is in RED. All tickets at just \$6!

(PG13) 1 hr 55 mins

Willits Weekly | March 28, 2024

School, plus Willits Charter School and Potter Valley

Saturday, April 6

Commercial Street in Willits. In addition to family-

April 21 Willits Daily Bread has been serving the hungry four days a week for over 25 years, no questions asked. The program is running low on funds due to the cancellation in recent years (thanks to COVID) of their annual Sip Some Soup fundraiser. The Cosmic Family Band will be giving an uplifting familyfriendly concert on Sunday, April 21, 3 to 5 pm, to raise funds for Our Daily Bread. St. Francis in the Redwoods Episcopal

Church, Main and Commercial streets. Admission by donation. Holy Week/Easter services at Saint Francis in the Redwoods

Submitted by Betsy Bruneau, St. Francis Episcopal Church

Our services this year at Saint Francis Episcopal Church, at the corner of Commercial and Main Streets in Willits, are listed below. Everyone is welcome and the church is completely wheelchair accessible. We have masks available for those who wish to wear them. The Sunday service is available on zoom; for instructions call 707-272-0177.

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 6 pm: We remember the last supper and Jesus's mandate to his disciples to love one another as he has loved them. Good Friday, March 29: Prayers at noon; the church will be

and meditation until 3 pm. Holy Saturday, March 30, 10 am: A short service of prayers.

The Easter Vigil, March 30, 6 pm: This service is usually held at midnight, but here in Willits where people often live out of town, we do it much earlier. It lasts about an hour and a half and includes kindling new fire and lighting a special candle, several readings, prayers, and songs, Holy Communion, and the first proclamation of Easter

Easter Sunday, March 31, 10 am: Our regular service and joyful celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus, followed by an egg hunt for children and a potluck lunch.

Holy Week at St. John's St. John's Lutheran Church of Willits

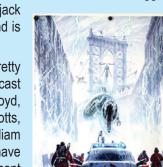
invites you to join us for our Holy Week Celebrations, as we commemorate the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We welcome the whole family to come worship with us. Good Friday: March 29 at 5 pm; and Easter Sunday with Breakfast: March 31 at 9 am and our Easter Celebration Service to follow. 24 Mill Creek

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

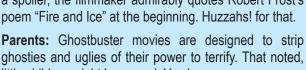
'Ghostbusters:

For reasons unknown or unfathomable, Garraka wants to destroy the world as we know it – with ice. So, there's

who is powerful and evil. But are we worried? Not really. The ghostbusters







WILLITS SOBER GRAD



Willits Sober Grad is a nonprofit organization that works each year from September through June to raise funds

Graduation Night. These schools include: Willits Charter School, Willits High School, Sanhedrin High School, LaVida Charter School. Since it's

safe, sober party for the

graduating Seniors of the

inception in 1986, no High School Senior has died on Graduation Night.

PRE-SALE ONLY

\$60 TICKET

WILLITS CENTER FOR THE

Pg. 6 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047



(Willits), Bronach Bowles (Willits), Emiliano (Fort Bragg), Julian (Fort Bragg), Max (Fort Bragg), Coach Mike Berna (in back), Winston Wethafer (Ukiah), Leonardo (Fort Bragg). Not pictured here, but participated: Rudra Knoles (Ukiah), Ry James (Ukiah, previously raced with NICA in Texas).

At right: Abigail Sherf, Bronach Bowles and Aurora Beebe smile post-race at the Mendo Comp tent.

Mendocino youth mountain-bike team competes in first race

Submitted by Crystal Schiffbauer-Bowles for NICA

The National Interscholastic Cycling Association supports youth mountainbikingf programs across 31 states, serving over 25,000 student athletes and 14,000 coaches. The Mendocino Composite was started about 10 years ago on the coast. At the start of this season, with coordination between head coach Myke Berna and Adam Sherf, the team has grown and now includes an official Inland Team composed of students from Ukiah and Willits. Additional inland coaches include Adam Winokur, Chris Beebe, Crystal Schiffbauer-Bowles, and Steven James, for a group of

10 high school and middle school athletes. On March 2, Mendo Comp participated in their first race of the season at the Fort Ord Day Camp Cycling Area. The day started with a consistent downpour that made for a muddy and difficult ride for the early high school races. As the day progressed, the rain stopped and the sun broke through the clouds, giving racers drier trails, allowing faster and more competitive riding.

The Inland Team high school athletes completed three 3.8-mile laps. Abigail Sherf had finished her race in sunshine, but the first 2.5 laps were rain soaked and mudslick, forcing her to navigate corners where several riders' bikes slid out from

under them and crashes were narrowly missed, leading to race organizers putting up caution signs.

Although these racers didn't podium, they made impressive passes and rode aggressively throughout and came away knowing what they want to work on and how they want to race next. Of these four racers, this was the first-ever race for both Sherf and Rudra Knoles.

The Inland Team DEVO riders, middleschool-aged athletes who are developing skills for racing, includes sixth graders Aurora Beebe and Bronach Bowles, who participated in their first-ever race. They both placed, with Beebe taking third on the podium and Bowles, fifth. The racers took advantage of terrain, overtaking or pulling away from riders past key turns and on straightaways, never letting up. They both had fun and were excited to get rewarded for the hard work they put in over the competitive two 2.6-mile laps on what was primarily packed dune sand.

The next race will take place in Exchequer on April 6.

Read the rest of Bikes



Above, from left: Bronach Bowles, on lap one of two, feels the pressure of the racer behind her but doesn't let her pass. Abigail Sherf crosses the finish line in the Fort Ord Race. Aurora Beebe, on lap two of two, pushes through the last corner to the finish line at a race held in Fort Ord.



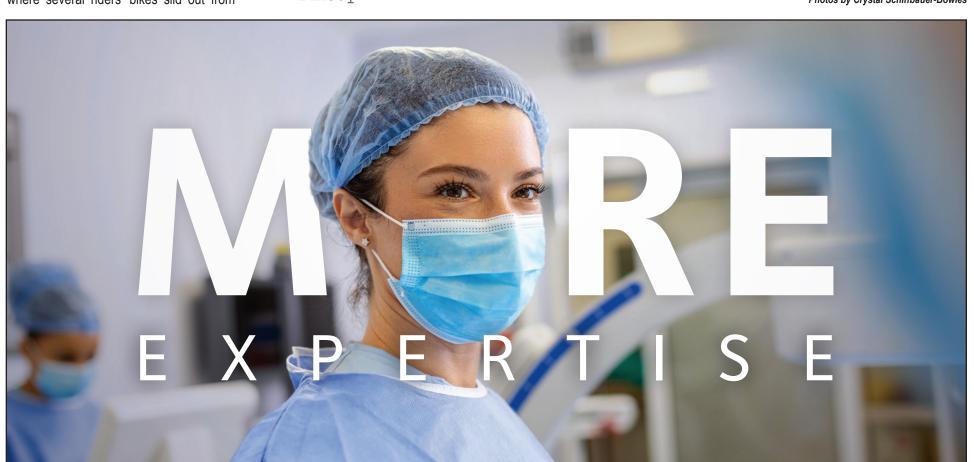






Above, from left: Aurora Beebe rides through lap one of two, looking determined, a half-minute ahead of the next racer. Bronach Bowles, on lap two of two, pushes through the last corner to the finish line at the Fort Ord Day Camp Cycling Area. Abigail Sherf is on lap two of three, navigating mud-slick on a tight downhill turn in the Fort Ord Day Camp Cycling Area.

Photos by Crystal Schiffbauer-Bowles



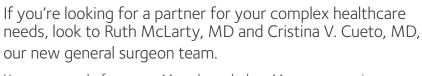


Ruth McLarty, MD General Surgery AdventistHealth.org/RMcLarty



General Surgery AdventistHealth.org/CCueto

Now welcoming new patients Adventist Health Howard Memorial 3 Marcela Drive, Willits 707-459-6115



You were made for more. More knowledge. More compassion. More expertise. That is why we're proud to introduce two new general surgeons and welcome them to our team.

Dr. McLarty, PhD, is a skilled, board-certified general surgeon, caring for ages 2 and older with such common conditions as cholecystitis, diverticulitis, bowel obstructions and hernias. Dr. McLarty also specializes in colorectal surgery.

Dr. Cueto, is a skilled, board-certified general surgeon, and speaks both English and Spanish to best care for patients ages 18 and older. Some common conditions she treats are biliary disease, hernias, benign and malignant diseases of the colon and small bowel, soft tissue conditions and diseases of the breast.

Together, this experienced general surgeon team is available and ready to serve our community.



LEGAL NOTICES

WW476

2024-F0086

Fictitious Business Name Statement

The following person or persons are doing business as Backroad Security, 7659 Hwy 29, Kelseyville, CA 95451. Mailing address: PO Box 1516, Lakeport CA 95453. Registered owners: Richard Lvnn Russell, 7659 Hwv 29, Kelseyville, CA 95451; John Keith Schiessl, 26750 N Hwy 101, Willits CA 95490; and Patrick Bruce Lawrason, 167

This business is conducted by a General Partnership.. The registrants commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A

Wall Street, Fort Bragg CA

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on February 2, 2024 /s/ John K. Schiessl Publication dates: March 7, 14, 21, 28, 2024.

2020-F050°

below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name: Backroad Security, 7659 Hwy 29. Kelsevville, CA 95451; Lake County. The FBN was filed in Mendocino County on October

5, 2020. File Number 2020-

Registered owners: Richard Lynn Russell, 7659 Hwy 29, Kelseyville, CA 95451; Randall Leslie Vann, 88910 Mina Road, Covelo CA 95428; and John Keith Schiessl, 26750 N Hwy

This business was conducted FBN Statement of Mendocino County Clerk-

Recorder on February 28, 2024. /s/ John K. Schiess 21, 28, 2024.

Statement of Abandonment of Use of **Fictitious Business Name**

The person or persons listed

101. Willits CA 95490.

by a General Partnership Abandonment was filed with the

Publication dates: March 7, 14,

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 imposed under the California Self-Service Storage Facility Act on said property pursuant to Sections 21700-21716 of the Business & Professions Code, Section 2328 of the UCC, Section 535 of the Penal Code and Provisions of the Civil

The undersigned will sell by competitive bidding online at storageauctions.com starting April 1st ,2024 @ 7 AM ending April 9th @ 10 AMthe following said property stored at Cougars Closet II Mini Storage 317 Robert Drive Willits, CA 95490 County of Mendocino State of California.

Jeffery Martin A-8; Danielle Fistoe B-33, C-29 Lori Bayard, D-35; Falon Lynch, D-29 Lorna Allen, E-7; Thomas Williams, G-5 Kelly Sinclair, G-13; Kelly Sinclair, E-28 Michelle Mann, G-17; Nila Carlsen, I-12 Katrina Deluca, F-13; Ed Vikart

The goods are described as miscellaneous household items & boxes, (contents unknown), clothes, furniture, tools and miscellaneous articles. Purchases must be paid for and picked up within 72 Hours of winning bid by credit/debit or cash.

All purchased items sold as -is where-is and must be removed within 72 hours of sale. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party. Dated this 21st Day of March 2024 and 28th day of March 2024 by Cougars Closet II Mini-Storage 707-259-0159

Publication Dates: March 21 and March 28, 2024



WW477

Mendocino County invites applications for:

Animal Protection Officer I \$38,771 - \$44,907 **Corrections Deputy** \$55,369 - \$67,308

Deputy County Counsel II/III/IV \$97,260 - \$162,718 **Deputy Probation Officer I/II** \$51,937 - \$69,617 **Deputy Sheriff-Coroner**

\$75,878 - \$93,142 **Eligibility Specialist Supervisor** \$60,840 - \$73,944 Legal Secretary I/II

\$38,563 - \$54,392 **Library Assistant - Fort Bragg** \$37,398 - \$39,270 Mental Health Clinician I/II \$60,340 - \$84,843 Program Specialist II \$56,721 - \$68,931

Screener \$40,144 - \$48,796 Staff Assistant II \$37,315 - \$41,121

Supervising Public Health Nurse \$110,822 - \$134,721 For a complete list of current job openings

and to apply: www.mendocinocounty.gov/jobs

The rest of Farmers

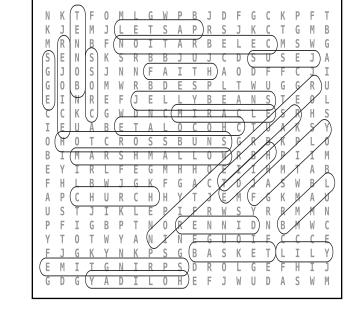
From page 3

genocide, and death at the hand of colonizers.

"We acknowledge and revere the heritage of generations of original inhabitants," said Bartholomew, "of what is now Ridgewood Ranch and their descendants' continued legacy. We strive for our work to sustain cultural resilience by seeking guidance from traditional practices and contemporary leaders. We recognize these ancestral grounds that we work, learn, and play upon and honor the strength of indigenous people.

"Mendocino County," Bartholomew continued, "has been supportive of microscale farming and growing food in living soil that has high nutritional value. This is one of the first counties to regulate pesticide usage. Now our local food system is one of the cleanest in the country. It's due to things like this, and the legacy of the 'back-to-the-land movement,' and the influence of locals who are passionate, and the continuing efforts that are demonstrated today.

After a tasty and healthy breakfast, the convergence began its program with talks by Bartholomew, Ruthie King, Foley, and MendoLake Food Hub head Haerah Baird, who introduced a panel of four local farmers: Caymin Ackerman of Big Mesa Farm, Krissy Scommegna of Boonville Barn



LEGAL NOTICES

Bikes

Although NICA started

as a mountain-bike-racing

program, the purpose has

developed into a program

for growing a community of

mountain-biking enthusiasts

by getting more kids on

bikes, building strong minds,

characters and bodies by

and having adventures with

NICA is designed to

work alongside school

extracurricular programs,

so practices and races take

place on the weekends.

The Inland Team practices

on Sundays, alternating

between rides in Ukiah,

Brooktrails and Wente in

Willits, and on the coast,

getting experience in

different kinds of terrain and

For more information

about the NICA Mendo

Comp Inland Team, team

sponsorship and support, or

child participation, contact

Adam Sherf at Willits Area

Cyclists: wactrails@gmail.

lots of climbing.

challenges

overcoming

teammates

From page 8

WW474

Order to Show Cause – **Change of Name**

I, Kylan DuFriend L. Simpson, residing at 59 Alameda Avenue, Willits, CA 95490, am proposing to change my name to Pinky Xohara Simpson. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this

court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the

name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

My court hearing date will be 4/5/24 at The Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino, 100 North State Street, Ukiah, CA 95482. Hon. Ann C. Moorman Judge, Superior Court of Mendocino County

My case number is 24CV00179.

Publication dates: March 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2024

Collective, Jessica Mihalenko of Oak Valley Farm and Seely Orchard, and Annie Courtens of Filigreen Farm, who spoke about their efforts to find their niche in the agriculture of Mendocino and Lake counties.

Haerah Baird's MendoLake Food Hub assists farmers in the distribution of their products by providing a central entity through which they can sell their products to the public. (https://mendolakefoodhub.org).

After the talks, the first round of forums began in several locations. Farmer Contracts and Strategy for Stable Scalability, Medicinal Plants, Direct Marketing Meat, and Multinational Exchange for Sustainable Agriculture by Sammy Kangethe of Nairobi, Kenya.

Lunch was a delicious mélange of locally grown vegetables and meats and soups from Dawn Wiley of Plow 2 Chow, with ingredients from many of the local growers, during which the attendees had a chance to visit various booths showing their wares and information like Jamie Chevalier of Quail Seeds, Word of Mouth Magazine, and Mendocino Land Trust amongst others. After lunch, Sacha treated some to 10-minute hand massages.

The next set of forums were Locally Adapted, Food



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John Ford

Mechanics

/ Bodywork

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2014 BMW R1200GS

F-150, F-250 diesel,

RX300, Honda Fit. Call

for details & prices.

Like New. 2020 Honda

CRF250 Rally, 400

Suzuki DR650, \$4000.

\$1700. Speakers - Bose

901, \$200. Paradigm

Studio 60 - \$400.

WANTED: Large plastic

pots. 707 972-7213

Tundra,

Highlander,

\$6000. 2009

Mirage Drive

Like new,

motorcycle.

miles,

Hobie

Kayak

Brookside Registration

and June 2, 2025.

Ranch Beef John Ford Ranch still has the 50 lb. Brookside Elementary Rancher's Choice Box TK / Kindergarten for \$390.00 and the 25 registration is now lb. Hamburger Box for open. To register go to \$170.00. Please contact www.willitsunified.com. Debbie Arkelian @ 459-Kindergarten: age 5 by 5049. (Prices change Sept. 1, 2024; TK: age effective 6/25/23) 5 between Sept. 2, 2024

Inscripción abierta en

Brookside La inscripción para TK / Kindergarten de Brookside Elementary ya está abierta. Para registrarse, vaya a www. willitsunified.com.

Firewood Sale Seasoned Firewood. You pick up in Willits. Fir: \$200 cord. Hardwood (Oak, Madrone, Bay): \$275 a cord. Call for Delivered Prices. 707 972-7213

For Rent

floors throughout and

window coverings. 1200

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\$1800.00/mo. More

information call 707-

Indoor Yard Sale

Giant Indoor Yard

Sale - Deep Valley

Christian School, 8555

Uva Drive, Redwood

Valley, (across from the

Broiler). Saturday, April

INFOWARS

Listening &

Discussion Party

Friday evenings, time

& location TBD. Alex

Jones and The War

Analysis, Citizen Action

Development League,

Lucifer's Bane: Church

of Christian Mystics <u>707-841-0149</u>

Network.

Propaganda

American

13 - 8 am to 4 pm

489-1080.

Hospital

RV/Trailer Space for Rent

Space for RV's and Bedroom, 2 Bath. Trailers \$425 per Brand New. Only 1 month, includes water & garbage. Close to apartment left. Close Safeway in Willits. Call to town and Howard Well-Tony (707) 972-4696. appointed kitchens with See at http://www. oaknvine.net/tp granite counters and large pantry. Spacious bathrooms. Laminate

> 'What is the Mystery Behind Karma & Reincarnation? Explore as we delve into

this ancient mystery of the ages. Come share or iust listen. Willits Library. 390 E. Commercial St., Saturday, April 6th, 10:30-11:30. Free books and healthy refreshments available. Questions? Call Joy (707)367-3777 Sponsored by Eckankar of California.

Willits Weekly Place your ad:



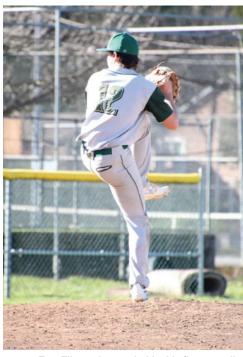
Hub Future, Building a Working Farm Team, and A Farm is What You Make of It with Tam Adams of Emandal, Mic Rueb of Mulligan Gardens, Ellen Bartholomew of Golden Rule Gardens, and Caroline Radice of Black Dog Farm & Catering. There was an additional Farmer Wellness Yoga Session from Flourish & Flow of Willits. Other forums included Feeding Laytonville with Casey O'Neill and Meadow Shere which discussed the recent closure of Laytonville's only grocery store.

One of the more popular and fun sessions was Farm-to-Seed Dating, a game where food service directors of local schools got to meet with the farmers for quick five-minute sessions in order to introduce themselves and make contacts to supply the schools with fresh, non-corporate foods. After the forums there was a Cross-Pollination Mixer where the farmers, distributors, and food-service directors could mingle and exchange ideas.

"Every year," said Bartholomew, "starting the year with a convergence is a really cool way to center momentum and share values within the farming community and develop networks, and hopefully people walk away with renewed enthusiasm and some new skills to try out for this growing season."

9 6 8 6 5 3 9 3 2 8 6 5 9 8 5 2 3 6 9 8 3 6









Above, from left: Head Coach Wayne Shull with the honorary Tom Tilton who taught him his first wrestling move 40 years ago, as he did to so many kids along the way. Kooper Dockins gets strategic with the pitch in a game against Upper Lake on March 15. Jake Grooms smiles after a base hit. Adrian Lopez slides into second base as an Upper Lake player attempts to get him out. At left: Paizley Dockins takes home the gold at a wrestling tournament held at the WHS gym.

At left, below: Iziah Folsom works for a pinning combination.

Photos by Ava Dockins

Sports Roundup

Wolverines Baseball beats Upper Lake: Grapplin Pack competes in annual Gatekeeper Tournament

Wolverines Baseball

Fans, family and friends gathered to watch Wolverines Baseball win another home game against Upper Lake on Friday, March 15, at the Dave Kline field. It was a beautiful day to play ball.

Sheri Dockins

There was a bit of nostalgia in the

air watching Captain Kooper Dockins pitch a great game, just like his Grandpa Rod Dockins did for WHS in 1971-72. He was also a phenomenal pitcher who signed out of Mendo to the minor leagues with the Phillies. One of the greatest things about watching sports here in Willits is witnessing the many generations of talented athletes throughout the years.

"Jakoby Kirby got the start on the mound and pitched three good innings, giving up only two runs," said Head Coach Tim King. "We had a 3-2 lead going into the 4th, which was too close for comfort. We brought Captain Kooper Dockins in to pitch to keep our lead. Dockins pitched 4 excellent innings, giving up only one run.

"Kooper Dockins, Jake Grooms, Logan Sanderson, Adrian Lopez, Ryan Carter and Jakoby Kirby all contributed with hits," King said. "Adrian Lopez came up clutch with a multiple RBI double to the right-center field gap to put us up 7-3. Kooper closed out the game with a 1-2-3 7th inning. Logan Sanderson played a strong game catching, giving up only 1 stolen base.

"Our outfield is inexperienced but has been working hard to improve. We saw better outfield play in this game. I'm proud of these guys. They work hard at practice, and we've seen improvement in games. Credit to Upper Lake. They're a well-coached team, and the second guy they pitched against us, their harder than anyone we have seen this season," King concluded.

Willits Grapplin Pack

Wrestlers, families and supporters all gathered in the Steve Short Gymnasium at WHS for the annual Gatekeeper Tournament. Since Willits Grapplin Pack began, there have been some amazing tournaments held here in this gym that bring extremely talented wrestlers together from miles

This has been one of the greatest feats for the kids to become involved in. It is a group of coaches and parents committed to seeing these kids thrive in the sport. Hats off to each coach, including Wayne Shull, Izzy Ramirez, Brian Agenbroad, Ray Moon, Ryan Hulsey, and Nick Bertolino. Also, to wrestling coach Matt Moratti. Nothing about this sport is easy. You each give 100 percent to these kids on and off the mat. You are preparing them for great futures in wrestling with the discipline and tools for a great future in life. It shows in each and every one of them.

"The Tournament was a huge success," said Head Coach Wayne Shull. "There were teams represented with some very tough competition. There were three state qualifiers in the girls division. There were a lot of very competitive matches today. The tournament ran very smoothly. We congratulate Petaluma Wrestling Club for winning the team

"All of Willits Grapplin Pack kids wrestled very tough and left it all on the mat. It takes a huge commitment from a lot of parents to make something like this even possible. A heartfelt thank you to Shannon Folsom for being the tournament director. To our sponsors, all the parents, community and volunteers who work hard in the concessions, and tables. They all make this event possible," said Shull,

Congratulations to these amazing kids! Placers below:

1st Place: Colter Glass, Aiden Punihaole-Figueroa, Arabella Mondo, Cailin Kelsav, Dane McFadden, Payton Shull, Vladimir Bertolino, Paizley Dockins and Travis

2nd Place: Ray Moon III, Michael Bolton, Aleah Walsh, Paxton Scott, Walthari Bertolino, Brian Bakewell, Alex Holman, Jerett Nelson, Sylas Thomson, Iziah Folsom, Allaya Knight, Sophia Whitman, Stormie Nowlin, Rickey Ramirez and Aiden Punihaole-Figueroa

3rd Place: Peyton Scott, Diego Gutierrez, Natalie Hunolt, Elijah Wilson, Gabriel Gutierrez, Caily Powers, Xander Hee, Reese Mayfield, Chey Thurman, Mckalya Johnson,

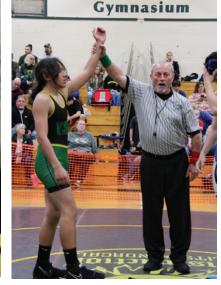
4th Place: Makiah Carter, Osvaldo Meza, Julian Gutierrez, Cameron Lindsey, Juan Gutierrez and Davin Swenson.

Mike Oglesby

707-489-0755

5th Place: Brian Bakewell





Welcome to

Steve Short

At top: Jerett Nelson works hard to take his opponent to the ground. Above, left: Arabella Mondo dominates her opponent for a pin during the annual Gatekeeper Tournament. Above, right: Sylas Tomson gets the hand raise for the win during a match in the Gatekeeper Tournament.



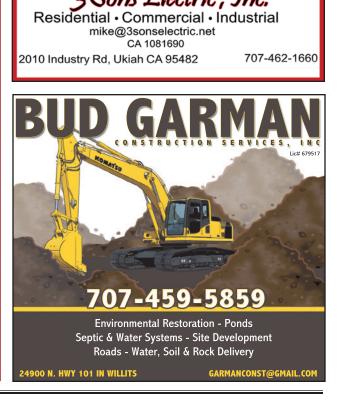




Is a food assistance program. You can be on Social Security, have money in the bank, own cars and still receive CalFresh benefits. Call the Senior Center

to schedule an appointment to see if you qualify. 707-459-6826





Murder

was declared deceased at the scene.

Mathieson and Draughan's 2-year-old child was present and was transported to an out-of-county hospital for injuries unrelated to the shooting incident.

Mendocino County Sheriff's Office detectives responded and took over the investigation. Criminalists from

California Department Justice labs in both Eureka and Santa Rosa responded to assist in processing the crime scene evidence. Draughan was subsequently transported and booked into the Mendocino County Jail on a charge of homicide.

Any persons with information related to this homicide are encouraged to contact the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office by Johnathan Lee Draughan, recently of Covelo calling Dispatch at 707-463-4086, or through the tip line at 707-234-2100.

Editor's Note: As of March 27, the Mendocino County Jail Booking Log reports that Draughan is being held on \$1,000,000

In a March 21 report on the murder, the Redheaded Blackbelt news website https:// kymkemp.com/ posted some details from a background check on Draughan, showing a 25-year history of arrests and domestic

"In November of last year," the report

The rest of From page 1 Roads

The alphabetical list goes from Abalone Street in Westport to Zinfandel Drive in

The numerical list starts out with Road 101. aka Pine Mountain Road outside

"Cypress" has the lead for most-popular road name in the county, with nine variants - and not all in Brooktrails. There are Cypress roads, a circle, a lane, a place, a drive, and even a parkway.

"Birch" and "Perch" come in next, with

Jobs

From page 5

experience and getting a lot of information. They seem extremely engaged, which I am pleasantly surprised at.'

Several CAL FIRE participants were on hand to speak with the students and offer them the ability to apply for the many opportunities available with the organization, primarily firefighter one, an entry-level position. In addition, they "have natural resource-based positions like forestry.

We also have tech services, so you can work as a carpenter or a WASPO, a water sewage plant operator," noted Salvador Palomar. For more info about a career with CAL FIRE, visit https://calcareers.ca.gov/ and click on "Create Account," email CALFIRErecruitment@fire.ca.gov, or call 916-894-9585.

Andrea Heaney, store manager for Mendo Mill in Willits said: "I'm telling the kids about the Mendo Mills' history in the community. We've been around for 80 years, having started out as a local sawmill. I'm also teaching the students that the path that you choose right out of high school may not necessarily be the path that you end up on. Visit http://www.mendomill.com/ jobs/ for more info.

"We're trying to get the kids psyched about careers in conservation," said Stephanie Garrabrant-Sierra, executive director of the Resource Conservation District of Mendocino County. "We're not looking for kids to work for us currently. We generally hire people with college educations. We're telling the students about the career and what kind of college degrees we are looking for when they do graduate from college, so they can plan their steps." Visit https://mcrcd.org/getinvolved/join-our-team for more info.

Dripworks is hiring full-time seasonal employees in the warehouse and in the Call Center. Visit https://www.dripworks. com/careers to find out more.

reads, "Draughan was charged with the use of tear gas against the deceased [Mathieson], as well as committing assault with great bodily injury. During the court proceedings, a criminal protective order

"On November 8, 2023, Draughan signed a court document stating he did not own or possess any firearms.

was issued.

20, 2023, the Mendocino County District Attorney's Office filed a motion for the case to be dismissed due insufficient evidence. Due to the dismissal of the criminal protective order was terminated.

"On December

Republican test ballots a third party vendor incorrectly caused to be sent out to all "The deceased filed for a CPO county voters in early February. on January 30, "We've sorted those out." Bartolomie 2024. Draughan said. "We had about 450 ballots that had was served with not been revoted with the replacement notice of the filing ballot, so we remade those to the proper on February 2. precincts and the proper party, so those are taken care of. Those are being scanned in

The CPO was granted on February 20, and an attempt to serve the notice to Draughan was unsuccessful on February 28.'

The Redheaded Blackbelt also reported that, according to the background check, Draughan has a history of arrests back to 1998 in North Caroline, and "at least 14 court cases between North Carolina and South Carolina." Draughan's record also includes 2022 arrests in Del Norte County for disorderly conduct under the influence of drugs and for violating a court order to prevent domestic violence.

eight variants each - and, yes, all in

Now that it's approved, the county Department of Transportation will submit the resolution to the California Department of Transportation, as it does each May.

To download the lists of county roads, go to www.mendocinocounty.gov/government/ board-of-supervisors/agendas-andminutes and find the agenda for the March 26 meeting. Under item 3m on that agenda, see links to "2023 Road List Alphabetical" and "2023 Road List Numerical."

are getting some informal interviewing Jaime Wilkes, vice-president Sparetime Supply, was glad to be able to tell the students about their employment opportunities. "Our goal today was to let them know that there is a local company here that has any kind of job that you can think of throughout our business: office jobs, marketing and graphic design, internet and computer technology, warehouse work, drivers. logistics.

> We wanted to make sure that the kids know that no matter what they want to do later in life, that they can start at Sparetime, start at the bottom, which gives them experience in something." To learn more, https://www.sparetimesupply.com/

> Sam Heath and Christina Tipp offered careers in their geological support company, SHN (https://www.shn-engr.com/ careers/careers-overview). The Sherwood Valley Casino hires people over 18, which fits most of the near-graduate students https://www.svrcasino.com/careers). The Ukiah Police Department is always looking for new hires (https://www.ukiahpolice. com/careers/).

> Adrian Lopez, vice-president operations at MetalFX, told the students of the recent successes at the company and that they are a world-class manufacturing company that enjoys training and retaining and promoting employees. Visit https:// www.metalfx.com/employment/ to find out

"The energy is very high and very

wonderful," said Soroptimist Kitty Norris. "We have listened to and spoken with a lot of wonderful students this morning. We look forward to collaborating with them in the future. We spoke with a lot of juniors who didn't realize that we give out scholarships. We also had seniors who are going to be putting their applications in for scholarships. We made some wonderful connections today."

Election

top two primary winners - no matter their

In Mendocino County's closest election,

the First District supervisor's race, the

March 21 update shows incumbent

51.82% (1,679 votes) and challenger

said, Voter Registrar Bartolomie welcomed

any of the supervisors to visit her office and

talk to her about any concerns about how

"We've put extra security measures in

to make sure, of course, that the incorrect

ballots did not get counted and the correct

ballots did," she said, referring to the all-

processed now, and that's like the end of

Provisional ballots are given, for example,

their mail-in ballot or who register to vote

Bartolomie said she had talked to the

ballot vendor ("the printer") about what

measures they – or any other future ballot

vendor - should have in place "so this

our process," she said.

on Election Day.

never happens again.

to be printed.

Jacob Brown at 48.18% (1,561 votes).

we send out a postcard to everyone who's affected," Bartolomie answered, "so every 10 years if you're in an area that's getting Greer was the first-place winner (currently redistricted, then you receive a postcard at 27.4%) in California's "top two" March saying you're now in the Third District or primary. The top two primary sends the Fourth or whatever."

Haschak asked what the voter office had political party – to the November general done to take care of the ballot redistricting issue so it doesn't happen again.

"We called in Leif Farr, who is our GIS coordinator for the county, and he helped us make sure everything was correct and Maureen Mulheren still in the lead with that we had everyone where they should be," Bartolomie said, "and then we also called in Sue Ranochak, who was our After reporting that she expected to have previous assessor, and we double-checked the March primary election certified by the it together to make sure everything was end of the week, "which is a good thing," she

> "OK." Haschak said, "so you're feeling like the procedures that we have in place are appropriate?" "Yes." Bartolomie answered. "You know, we had a very short turnaround and that's no excuse for a mistake but it was a mistake and it happened, and we got the [corrected] ballots out within 48 hours, with a letter notifying voters of the problem. and a press release that went on social media and to the press alerting voters to

Supervisor Ted Williams asked if the redistricting issue could have affected results of the 2022 election.

"We went back and looked at that. Bartolomie said. "Yes, there was the 140 ballots from the Hopland area ... but when now, along with the provisional ballots – we we looked at that, you had won by such had about 580 of those – which are being a landslide that 140 votes was not going to matter one way or the other, and John [Haschak] had won by such a landslide that the 40 votes that were up there were not to voters who show up at the polls without going to matter."

> When asked if anyone in the room wanted to comment. Sally Webster came up to speak. "I have been a temporary worker in the elections office opening ballots," she said, "it's my last hour today. And I feel very strongly about what I'm going to tell you today."

She reported the vendor had promised Webster said she witnessed the unfolding more quality control measures applied of the ballot misprint error "from the first to steps after the Elections Office had phone call that we got about the misprinted approved proofs for all the different ballots ballot all the way through to the final end of what we're doing with our processes."

Proofs were approved for this election. as usual, Bartolomie said, "but there was a step between, which was that the thirdparty vendor had to check the image to make sure the image and the ballot was going to print correctly, and what happened was [the employee] had sent the test ballot, rather than the regular ballot order, to them to be printed."

Supervisor John Haschak asked Bartolomie if the county had any control over vendor Integrated Voting Systems, or any other ballot vendor, as far as that vendor contracting out tasks to a third party

"I didn't even know there was a third party, Bartolomie answered, so that answer is 'I don't know." Haschak asked if she had confidence in Integrated Voting

"Well, whether it's this vendor or it's another vendor," Bartolomie said, "I know that we will be asking for spot checks as well, so we can make sure that our product is going to be as correct as it was when it left our office."

Supervisor Haschak then asked about the 177 voters on the edge of supervisorial districts who received ballots for their old district, after the 2021 redistricting process.

"Is there notification that's given to people when they get redistricted?" he asked. "Yes

From page 2

The rest of Letters

Willits' beautiful new firehouse. It was only for the Arts, movies at the Noyo, swinging later when I discovered she was also a watercolorist-extraordinaire, an inventive chef when not in her studio, and interior designer. She was truly a creative force, encouraged me to pick up a brush in her classes, and introduced me to another set of artistic friends.

Silent auction items were kindly donated by the generous business people of Willits. Not once was I denied a donation, and they became another set of friends

After I lost my husband, I could no longer tolerate living and maintaining a large twostory house and moved to a sweet little cottage in town with an old, wisteria-covered arbor that afforded a lovely fragrance, little birds, privacy, and a natural sunscreen. Kind, attentive, helpful neighbors were a new set of friends.

looked forward to attending live performances at Willits Community Theatre, incredible exhibits at Willits Center

marching orders, and she told us exactly what we were going to do and how we were going to handle this. "The plan included every ballot - how it was going to be handled, and how the public was going to be informed. She put

When subsequent calls came in about

Democrats receiving Republican primary

ballots, "Katrina immediately started

investigating," Webster said, and by the

next morning, "she had a plan and she had

protocols in place to see that a free and fair election took place." Webster also praised the voter office's

effort to answer the many phone calls coming in about the incorrect ballots.

"The calls were continuous, they were ceaseless," Webster said, "they could not put the phone down that they didn't have to pick it up and answer again. The stress in the office was very high, and I'm going to remind you that it was no fault of the elections office or its employees...

"Let me just say that Katrina's goal is to see that everyone has the right to vote.... We're really fortunate to have her in this office, because she is a strong leader, and I just think that she deserves commendation for the work that she's done, and I have never had more respect for her as I do right now," Webster concluded.

by the amazing Willits Library and County Museum, buying plants at the Gleaners Spring Plant Sale (what a treasure that is!), take-away salads at Mariposa Market, or shopping for a really unique gift at Cat's

Where else would I find fresh tomatoes plucked from someone's garden on my

Gail Richards, Willits

Eouestrian day camp To the Editor:

Next week, April 1 through 5, I have an equestrian (spring) day camp for school kids, 12 to 5 pm. Guaranteed ride time. Lunch included. \$65 per diem. Contact Three Cherie Ranch 707-841-1530 or threecherie@gmail.com

Sarah Owsiany, Willits

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April 1 benefit for The Pond Club

Submitted by Michelle Hutchins, Blue Zone Project

Judson Howe, president of Mendocino County Adventist Health Hospitals, and the Blue Zone Project - Mendocino County are sponsoring a benefit concert in Willits to support a local health resource at a grassroots level.

The Joe Craven Trio Band, a unique music experience for all ages, performs April 1 at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Doors open 5 pm; show starts at 6 pm. Proceeds will benefit The Pond Club in Willits.

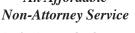
The Pond Club supports adults who are post-surgery and therapy with organized aquatic aerobics classes. The indoor pool is attached to a private residence, formerly owned by Bobbie Riccio, who bequeathed the property to The Pond Club.

Riccio opened her privately owned pool for many years to older members of the community, and organized aquatic therapy classes taught by certified instructors. Today, the pool opens three days a week with limited capacity. Proceeds from the concert will go to purchase equipment to ozonate and chlorinate the pool, allowing it to open more days a week and to expand access to more people.

The Monday, April 1 concert, a Cosmic Pickle Production, also features the Farmers Market Band. Tickets: \$20; kids 12 and under FREE. Advance tickets at Flying Dog Pizza and J.D. Redhouse. Plus food by Turtle Island Tacos and the Fairall's Farm blue food truck. Beer and wine by Northspur Brewing and Frey Vineyards.

Marc Komer

Legal Document Assistant An Affordable



(707) 459-2775

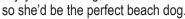
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

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



Active Lulu

Lulu loves to explore and always up for new adventures. She boundless energy and would be the perfect walking and hiking companion, and thoroughly enjoys swimming,



Lulu can have separation anxiety, but we feel that with a little consistency, Lulu can overcome her anxiety. Lulu also tends to guard along fence lines and her area, and can be food aggressive.

If you're looking for an active friend to inspire you to get out in nature, Lulu is the girl for you!

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

appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 459-

Fab-Tabby-lous Bart

Bart is a little timid at first, but we think once he is in a home with lots of love and attention, he will come out of his shell and become a wonderful feline companion. Bart came in with his sister, Lisa, so we think he would be able to live with another cat.

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

Hanky Panky

What a boy and what a story this boy has! Hank was a stray dog in Redwood Valley for months. He sat like a statue in the vineyards, stoic and calm watching the world go by,

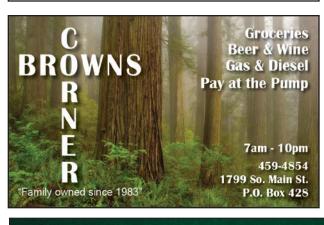


accepting food but avoiding capture. Hank was finally caught and ended up at our county shelter. Our community did not let us forget about Hank, and with dogs in danger due to lack of space, we knew his time was running up. We pulled Hank into our program and he quickly earned the nickname Hanky Panky. While we will never know what his past was like, what we do know is that this is one special dog! Hank has made friends here and slowly but surely we are opening up his world. We think his life matters and we want to help him find his place!

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.



245 South Humboldt St., Suite B, Willits

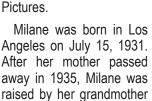




Mllane Nazarro Corr (1931-2024) peacefully passed away on February 27, 2024 in Ukiah, California at the age of 92.

Milane was the only daughter of Amille and

Ray Nazarro. Amille was a dancer in Europe and model in Los Angeles. Ray was a movie director for Pictures.



Columbia

From Fresno

(Milena L. Pilcovich) in

Milane with her cat Riley in 2021.

married Bill Eckert and they moved to San Francisco. In the early 1970s, she divorced and moved to Ashland, Oregon. Later, she met Kenneth Corr (a sculptor) in San Francisco at Project Artaud

(live/work artist studios)

College (Univ.), she earned

a B.A. in Journalism and

a Secondary Teaching

Certificate to teach in high

schools. At age 22, she

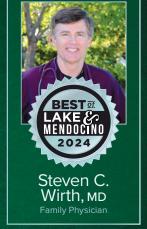
where she was active in drama. During the "back to the land" movement, they moved to Willits, and married in 1980. He passed away in

2017 after 37 years of marriage. She continued to live on Timberline Road until she was 90 before moving to Ukiah. The couple's ashes will be scattered in the area where they lived.

No memorial will be held. Her remaining relatives are from her uncle Frank Stenberg's family in Fresno and in the State Pacific Northwest (Oregon and Washington).

Joseph laccino, DC, MS









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Willits Elementary Charter School

Willits Elementary Charter School is accepting applications for the lottery to join our school in 2024-25. We will hold the public lottery on Friday, May 3. Applications for entering Kindergarten and grades 1-5 are available on our website and in the school office. All applications due by April 30. Questions: 707-459-1400

Willits Elementary Charter School está aceptando solicitudes para la lotería para unirse a nuestra escuela en 2024-25. Realizaremos la lotería pública el viernes 3 de mayo. Las solicitudes para ingresar al Kinder y a los grados 1-5 están disponibles en nuestro sitio web y en la oficina de la escuela. Todas las solicitudes deben presentarse antes del 30 de abril.

Si tiene preguntas, llame al: 707-459-1400





TK-Kindergarten Registration Now Open

To pre-register go to www.willitsunified.com Para registrar a su estudiante ve a www.willitsunified.com

Kindergarten - age 5 by September 1, 2024 Transitional Kindergarten - age 5 between Sept. 2, 2024 and June 2, 2025 Kinder - 5 años antes de Septiembre 1, 2024 Trancision de Kinder - 5 años en medio de Septiembre 2, 2024 a Junio 2, 2025

Once you have completed the online registration,

please bring the following documents to Brookside:

- Birth Certificate • Immunization records
- Certificado de nacimiento
 - Registros de inmunización (vaccunas)

If you have any questions please call the Brookside office at (707) 459-5385 or visit our Website at www.willitsunified.com/o/brookside

Si tiene alguna pregunta, llame a la oficina de Brookside al (707) 459-5385 or visite nuestro sitio web www.willitsunified.com/o/brookside