

Willits Weekly

EST. 2013

Online & Print



**It's
Real Estate
Section
Thursday!**

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

Donations Accepted Edition No. 509

Thursday, July 13, 2023

County dog kennels are full

Submitted by Mendocino County Animal Care Services

Animal shelters and animal rescues throughout the country are experiencing unprecedented times. The majority of the animal shelters and animal rescues are filled up with animals and have very little available space for other stray animals to come into their facilities. Hundreds of animal shelters are now facing the reality to having to euthanize animals for space.

The dog kennels at Mendocino County Animal

Read the rest of **Shelter**

Over on Page 11

City pool open again

Posted by City of Willits

July 10 – The City Pool is scheduled to reopen this Wednesday, July 12 for all activities except for swim lessons. Swim lessons will resume on Monday, July 17.

Anyone that had paid for swim lessons for the weeks of July 3 or July 14 will be refunded.

We appreciate the community's understanding during last week's closure. We look forward to seeing you at the pool.

The City of Willits had posted on Facebook on July 5 that the pool would be temporarily closed until further notice due to a failure with its pumping system.

JDSF firewood permits on sale

Submitted by CAL FIRE MEU

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Mendocino Unit is pleased to announce the sale of firewood permits on Jackson Demonstration State Forest, beginning Thursday, July 13, at 1 pm. Firewood permits will be limited to two cords per household at a cost of \$20/ permit.

The CAL FIRE Fort Bragg office is located at 802 North Main Street; call 707-964-5674 for more information.

The firewood area will open, to permit holders, at 2 pm on Thursday, July 13 and is tentatively scheduled to close on October 1, or until wood supply is gone, a significant rain event, or other constraints force closure, whichever occurs first. To ensure sufficient wood supply, only 75

Read the rest of **Firewood**

Over on Page 11



Above, from left: Wonderful finds are available at the Commonwealth Garden's farm stand including onions, potatoes, garlic, artichokes and fresh flowers. Below Commonwealth Garden's Scott Selzer marks "lettuce" on the front of the fridge just before gates opened on July 7, the first farm stand for the Commonwealth Garden this summer.



Photos by Maureen Jennison

Supes support BLM efforts to acquire Folsom Ranch

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors signed on to efforts by the Bureau of Land Management and the Mendocino Land Trust to acquire the historic Folsom Ranch northeast of Willits.

The item on the July 11 BOS agenda, sponsored by Third District Supervisor John Haschak, passed via the consent calendar by unanimous vote.

Read the rest of **Ranch**

Over on Page 11

'Complete Streets' workshop set for July 21

Submitted by Blue Zones Project

The City of Willits and Blue Zones Project Mendocino County invite the public to a day-long workshop on crafting and implementing complete streets policies. These policies help communities create road networks that are safe and inviting for everyone, including bicyclists, drivers, transit operators and users, and pedestrians of all ages and abilities.

This workshop will be on Friday, July 21 at the Willits Community Center from 8 am to 4:30 pm. Programming will be interactive and adaptive to workshop participants.

Read the rest of **Streets**

Over on Page 11

Farm stand is Back

Commonwealth Garden opens up on Fridays for summer season

Whether you're impatiently watering your own struggling tomatoes, or already overrun with baseball-bat-sized zucchini or, if you can't stand to garden, but enjoy homegrown potatoes more than you want to admit – everyone is welcome to come by and shop for goodies at the Commonwealth Garden's Friday Farm Stand.

Maureen Jennison
Graphics & Photographress
maureen@willitsweekly.com

Read the rest of **Farm stand**

Over on page 9



At left: The Blue Agave Century plant (that once stood on the south side of the Willits Cafe but planted now at the Commonwealth Garden) is just about ready to bloom, shooting up a stalk some 25 feet into the air. Below, from left: Some of the Commonwealth Garden crew including, from left Chris Sissons, Mellisa Bouley, Scott Selzer and Ryan Hartman. Zucchini were a quick sell and took fast hands to grab out of the fridge before they were gone. Further below, from left: Chris Sissons' chocolate chip cookies go just as fast. Mellisa smiles with customer Heidi. The fridge offerings also included cucumbers and beets. At bottom, from left: Ryan and Mellisa try to foil gophers hiding in the lettuce patch. A giant basket of snap peas were available to purchase. The first two customers at the first Commonwealth Garden farm stand cheered just before the gates opened for the sale's return for the 2023 season.



Senior Center to benefit from Grocery Outlet Food Drive

Posted by Willits Grocery Outlet

The Willits Grocery Outlet's "Independence from Hunger" Food Drive in July has chosen the Willits Senior Center to be its "partner in addressing food insecurity."

When you donate \$5 to the drive, you get a \$5 coupon in return to be for a future purchase of \$25 or more at Grocery Outlet. Senior Center receives all the donations given in July.

"Stop in and find out how you can help end food insecurity in our community this summer!"

Grocery Outlet is located at 1714 South Main Street in the Evergreen Shopping Center. Visit "Grocery Outlet (1718 S. Main Street, Willits, CA)" on Facebook to keep up with local sales and information.

Official Calendar Sponsor

HEART OF THE REDWOODS

Willits

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Est. 1926

MAKING WILLITS A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE, WORK, AND PLAY

Serving the community since 1926

<https://willits.org/>

299 East Commercial Street
Willits, California 95490

Please feel free to visit our office for brochures, maps and additional information about the area

(707) 459-7910

Shanachie Pub
Ongoing Events

Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street

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

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

Reading of 'The Flick' at WCT
July 15 and 16

A reading of "The Flick," a 2014 Pulitzer Prize recipient for drama and winner of the 2013 Obie Award for playwriting, comes to the Willits Community Theatre on Saturday, July 15 at 7:30 pm and on Sunday, July 16 at 2 pm.

Written by Annie Baker and directed by Amythyst Romero, the play is set in a run-down movie theater, with action that dramatizes the life and times of three young people who are caught in a world where the main cultural icon of a former era – the movie theater – is dying.

Producer Mike A'Dair says of the play, "If you remember the dramas you experienced as an employee, working at an entry-level position, the heartbreaks, the secrets, and the palpable flavor of certain workplaces, you'll fully relate to this story."

"The Flick" also addresses the ever-present issues of economic instability, racial inequality, and mental health.

The reading of "The Flick" features performances by Meg Gardner, Jherek Ford, Marcus McQuarter, Jaedyn Dondoro and Mike A'Dair. Tickets are \$10 and are available online at www.wctperformingartscenter.org, and at the door.

– Submitted by WCT

Willits Center for the Arts

Help support local artists, your community and art education by helping to keep the doors open to your art gallery. We need volunteers to sit at our desk and greet people. Shifts are Friday, Saturday and Sunday; 11-2 and 2-5. Contact Lexi at wca.volunteercoordinator@gmail.com or 904-295-9481

WILLITS CENTER FOR THE ARTS Presents

2nd Annual Show of Indigenous Work

You are invited to view the Art Gallery Show featuring Indigenous Elders & youth

July 1 - 30, 2023

Location: Center for the Arts
71 E Commercial St.
Willits, CA 95490
Next to the Noyo Theatre

Hours: Friday - Sunday 11am - 5pm

Shovelman and Black Suzie at WCT
July 14

Unique indie artists Shovelman and Black Suzie offer an evening of acoustic roots music at Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane, on Friday, July 14 at 7:30 pm. Madcap misfit musician Isaac Frankle, aka Shovelman, wields his lap steel guitar, bringing forth sounds of the Mississippi Delta blues blended into an electro-psychedelic flavor. Black Suzie offers up enchanting melodies and lyrics that are both clever and heartfelt. Tickets \$20, available online at: www.wctperformingartscenter.org, or at the door.

AFRICAN DRUM & DANCE CLASS

All Levels Welcome

Willits Center for the Arts
71 E Commercial St

Thursday Nights West African Dance with Marshallena 6:30-8PM \$15

2nd Thursdays of the Month West African Drum Class with Ben Professor/Slap Isaacs 5:30-6:30 PM \$20

Both Classes \$30

www.willitscenterforthearts.org
highermovement@gmail.com

NEXT DRUM CLASS
JULY 13TH

ETHNO
ELECTRONIC WORLD MUSIC BY JEFF FRANCA OF THIEVERY CORPORATION

JULY 21 2023
BACE - WILLITS CA.

ETHNO-GLOBAL.COM

The Willits Community Theatre
Gateway to the Stage, 2023 Summer Camp presents

A Midsummer Night's Dream

written by William Shakespeare

adapted by Ken Womble directed by Tim Fischer

July 28 - August 6

Allen J. Garcia Auditorium, Willits High School

for tickets: www.wctperformingartscenter.org
FRU SAT: 7 pm; SUN: 2 pm

The WCT is grateful to the COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF MENDOCINO COUNTY for its generous support. Underwritten by: Vocolity

Jesse D. Pittman Memorial 5K Race

Saturday July 22, 2023
Willits, California
Recreation Grove Park 9am

A fun run / walk for all ages - serious runners and other not so serious
Raffle, Silent Auction, Race Awards, Kids 1K Fun Race

The Jesse Pittman Foundation offers college scholarships for Mendocino County high school students in honor of Jesse Pittman, a Navy SEAL, who died on August 6, 2011 while serving in Afghanistan

Registration: www.jessepittman.run

A Memorial Race in honor of Jesse D. Pittman 1984 - 2011
Raised in Willits, Mendocino County
California Firefighter and Navy SEAL

www.jessepittman.org

*Sign up early - prices increase after June 14th - can sign up on race day too!

NOYO THEATRE Willits, CA

57 East Commercial Street - Willits
707-459-6660
www.noyotheatre.com

Starts Friday, July 21

BARBIE

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE – Dead Reckoning Pt. 1

(Starts Wed., 7/12)
(PG13)
2 hrs 43 mins
Fri.-Thurs.: 12:30, 4:00, & 7:30pm

Movie Times for July 14 thru July 20

ELEMENTAL

(PG)
1 hr 50 mins
Fri.-Thurs.: 2:00, 4:30 & 7:00pm

Masks Optional

INDIANA JONES & THE DIAL OF DESTINY

(PG13)
2 hrs 34 mins
Fri.-Thurs.: 12:45, 4:15 & 7:45pm
OVER 21 CLUB - Luxury Recliners

Tightwad Tuesday Title for July 18 is in RED. All tickets at just \$6!

COMMUNITY YARD SALE
at Todd Grove Park
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16
8 AM-1 PM

Redwood Valley Fire Dept

BEEF BBQ

Sat, July 15, 2023
At the RVCFD firehouse

Ongoing Events at the Willits Library
*Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street.
Info: www.mendolibrary.org*

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."

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

LEGO Club: Tuesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 pm. "It is LEGO time at the library. Bring your imagination and start building."

Writer's Block Group: Wednesdays, from 11 am to noon. "Open to young-adult and adult writers to share their ideas and writings in an environment of supportive and creative suggestions and feedback." Willits Library meeting room.

Games at the Library: First and third

Fridays of the month, 4 to 5:30 pm. "Calling all board, card and tabletop role-playing game players! All ages and player levels welcome. Bring your own games to add to the fun!"

Sit-N-Sew: second Saturdays, July 8 this month, from 1 to 5 pm. Drop in – bring your sewing project and have fun.

Open Source Design, Artistic Expression, and Engineering Club: Every Saturday except the third Saturday of the month, 11 am to noon. "Open to everyone with an interest in open source and everyone who wants to develop their creative and engineering skills."

Spinning & Knitting: Every Saturday at the library from 1 to 4:30 pm. "All skill levels welcome! Spinning circle 1 to 2 pm, Knitting circle 2 to 4:30 pm."

Summer Fun at the Library!

Join us throughout the month of July at the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street, offers an abundance of Saturday activities celebrating its 2023 Summer Reading Program theme of: "Find Your Voice!"

July 22, 11 am to 1 pm, Rock art
Join us inside the library. Paints and pebbles will be provided. Take your new art home with you to beautify and to display.

July 22, 2 to 2:30 pm, Mr. Elephant Sings
Inside the branch, Mr. Elephant will be singing original, family-friendly songs.

July 29, 11 am to 1 pm, Paws and Tales
Paws and Tales story time featuring a real pup, Casey the therapy dog, plus an animal-centered craft all can make.

These events are open to everyone, and all ages are encouraged to attend. The Willits Branch Library will be providing supplies for each activity as needed. More info: www.mendolibrary.org or contact the Willits Library at 707-459-5908.

Complete Streets Workshop

Friday, July 21, 2023
8AM - 4:30PM
Willits Community Center
111 E. Commercial Street, Willits CA

Workshop Outcomes

- Understand Complete Streets policy best practices
- Learn what should be included in a Complete Streets policy and where it can be codified
- Practice applying Complete Streets principles to road improvement plans
- Discuss policy implementation

Learn to make your community more livable, walkable, and rollable.

This workshop is meant for city and county professionals and stakeholders and advocates of Complete Streets.

Workshop by Dan Burden

- Blue Zones Fellow
- Former Director of Inspiration and Innovation
- Nationally recognized complete streets expert

Complete street policies help communities create road networks that are safe and inviting for everyone, including bicyclists, drivers, transit operators and users, and pedestrians of all ages and abilities.

Hosted by **Blue Zones Project Mendocino County & City of Willits**
Please RSVP via Eventbrite: <http://go.bzpq.com/be3j5l>
Contact Tina Tyler-O'Shea (707) 972-5420 or tina.tyleroshea@sharecare.com

POWERED BY: **AdventistHealth** **WILLITS**

THE SAN FRANCISCO MIME TROUPE

BREAKDOWN
A NEW MUSICAL

Free! **Friday, July 14** **Free!**

Todd Grove Park, Ukiah
Music at 6:30 - Performance at 7:00

GRANTS ARTS sfms.org 415-285-1717 outperform - never settle!

'The Middle Ages in Northern Europe,' July 14 at WCA

Submitted by WCA

The Willits Center for the Arts is proud to present a lecture on northern Europe 700-900 CE, "The Middle Ages In Northern Europe," by Gary Martin, M.A. The event will take place on July 14, at 6:30 pm at Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street.

This lecture will provide a fascinating introduction to the history of northern Europe in the period between 700-900 CE. Attendees will learn about the changes in society, culture, and politics that took place during this time and the key players who shaped the region's history.

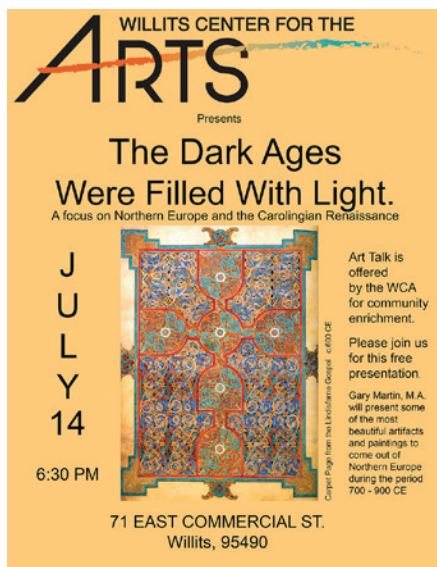
Gary Martin, M.A., is a historian and was a professor of art history at the nearby Mendocino College. He is a renowned expert

in the history of northern Europe and has published several articles on the subject.

"We're thrilled to have Gary Martin, M.A., present this lecture," said Sandy Strong, director of the Willits' Center for the Arts. "His depth of knowledge and passion for the subject will provide a unique and engaging experience for our attendees."

The event is free and open to the public. Seating is limited, so attendees are encouraged to arrive early if they wish to secure a seat.

For more information, call Willits Center for the Arts at 707-459-1726 or visit www.willitscenterforthearts.org.



At left: Representatives of local historical groups pose for a photo in the newly completed pavilion located behind the Held-Poage Memorial Home at 100 South Dora Street in Ukiah.

Proposed alliance of Mendocino County heritage groups and organizations

Submitted by Historical Society of Mendocino County

Representatives of a number of county historical groups recently met at the newly completed Historical Society of Mendocino County's pavilion located behind the Held-Poage Memorial Home at 100 South Dora Street in Ukiah. Included were representatives of Kelley House Museum, Guest House Museum, Fort Bragg-Mendocino Coast Historical Society, Grace Hudson Museum, Mendocino County Museum, Friends of the Mendocino County Museum as well as Historical Society of Mendocino County.

The Historical Society of Mendocino County and the Mendocino County Museum are proposing forming an alliance of Mendocino County heritage groups and organizations. These include, but are not limited to, museums, historic sites, historical societies, and heritage groups and organizations. We are planning to hold a meeting in the near future to form this group and we welcome any of these groups within Mendocino County to contact the Historical Society of Mendocino County (info@mendocinocountyhistory.org) to get on the list of organizations we will contact for the first meeting.

SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

Agape Bible Church

290 S. Lenore Ave.
Willits, CA 95490
Where love is first and the Bible is central.
Sunday Services:
10:00 a.m. - Worship
Adult Sunday School 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.m.
Sunday Worship-11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service-
6-7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study-
7-8:00 p.m.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

265 Margie Drive
Willits, CA 95490
ALL ARE WELCOME
Sacrament Meeting
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Eckankar: The Path of Spiritual Freedom

- Sound of Soul events
- Membership Discourses
- 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 Padua Catholic Church

61 W. San Francisco Ave.
Willits, CA 95490
Father Aaron Bandanadam
Mass times:
Confessions by appointment:
459-2252
Sunday Mass inside:
9:00 a.m. English
10:30 a.m. Spanish
Saturday Mass: 5:30 p.m.
Covid guidelines apply.
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.
All are welcome!

Willits United Methodist Church

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

If you want to be included in this column please call:

April Tweddell

(707) 972-2475

april@willitsweekly.com

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