

Little Lake Fire board starts budget review

Annie Evarts
Reporter
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The May meeting of the Board of Directors for the Little Lake Fire and Protection District began with its annual preliminary budget review. The preliminary budget for the firehouse is formally adopted each June. Staff and board members discussed notable changes in spending, including another round of increases for equipment and commercial insurance, as well as a significant \$20,000 increase in Little Lake's workers compensation insurance from last year to this year – bringing the total to roughly \$81,000 annually to cover all staff and volunteers.

Little Lake's Administrative Assistant Michelle Schnitzius, who manages the department's accounting, emphasized, "Our broker is constantly shopping for better rates, but because of our zip code, we're told it is what it is."

Following budget discussions, the meeting moved on to more encouraging reports. All the yearly, state-mandated Life Safety inspections

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New CHP recruits include Willits man

Submitted by CHP

Gabriel Madrigal of Willits has successfully completed cadet training at the California Highway Patrol Academy. He is assigned to duty at the CHP's Ukiah Area office.

Officer Madrigal graduated from Ukiah High School in 2020 before attending Mendocino Community College, where he received his Associate of Science Degree in Allied Health. Prior to attending the CHP Academy, Officer Madrigal was a Corrections Deputy for the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office.

Two other new CHP recruits announced by CHP who will be serving on the North Coast include Joseph Mario Astorga-Rodriguez of Ukiah, who is assigned to duty at the CHP's Santa Rosa Area office, and John Michael James of Visalia, who is assigned to duty at the CHP's Garberville Area office.

At the CHP Academy, cadet training starts with nobility in policing, leadership, professionalism and ethics, and cultural diversity. Training also includes mental illness response and crisis

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The Willits High School Class of 2025.
Photos by Maureen Jennison



At left: Valedictorian Ely Bowles.
At left, below: Salutatorian Annie Thompson.



Ready for their futures

Willits seniors and members of the Class of 2025 celebrated at Thursday Commencement at Maize Field

After 12 long years, members of the Willits High School and Sanhedrin High School Class of 2025 are finally ready to hang up their backpacks, turn in their Chromebooks, return their textbooks, and get ready for life after K-12.

The public is welcome to come cheer on these grads during the annual commencement ceremony to be held on Thursday, June 5 at 5 pm at Willits High School's football field, Maize Field.

WHS seniors have spent the last two weeks having fun, making memories, and finalizing their time at WHS. Prom kicked off the countdown on May 10, then May 12 to 16 held a Spirit Week, then on May 16 was the ASB Spring Carnival and ASB Convention and Academic Recognition,

then on Thursday, May 29, they watched the historian's video, received their cap and gown, took their class photo (above) in front of the school, and received their yearbooks.

On Friday, May 30 the class went to the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk for their class trip; they held the Senior Awards night Tuesday, June 3; and did their Inspirational Senior Walk for elementary students on Wednesday June 4. A Senior Breakfast will be held on Thursday morning before the ceremony that evening.

Photos from the graduation ceremony will be available to view and purchase here: <https://photographress.zenfolio.com/graduation>

– Maureen Jennison



At top: WHS seniors at their "Senior Sunset" to commemorate the last sunset as seniors. Above, from left: WHS and Sanhedrin classmates enjoy their dinner on the terrace at the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk. Ayden Thrillkill and Leadership teacher Dina Haigounian play a round of giant Jenga. Students, including, from left: Kayden Paullus, Lucero Vargas, Alex Miya, Shiloh Moyer, and Krystina Ojeda pose for a photo after a great day at the Boardwalk. At left: Students posing for their picture standing in line at the "Loggers Revenge," including, from left: Ava Dockins-Kline, Amy Mendoza, Ely Bowles, Chaperone Sheri Dockins, and Alison Southard. Below: Class of 2025 takes a group photo at the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk.

Photos by Ava Dockins-Kline



Receivership threat spurs Van Hotel work

By Mike A'Dair, Special to Willits Weekly

Recent work on the Van Hotel has been a definite improvement, but, according to City of Willits Community Development Director Dusty Duley, there's a lot more work to be done.

In recent weeks, employees of Full Spectrum Painting have been seen power-washing the building, priming and painting the trim. The appearance of the 100-year-old hotel has improved.

According to city officials, the recent improvements are the result of an abatement notice that the city sent to former Van Hotel owner Ted Papantoniadis in March 2024. The notice stated that the building was in violation of numerous standards in the city's health and safety code. Also, the letter threatened legal action if Papantoniadis did not comply with city demands. This was the big hammer which city officials had been threatening to drop for years. In March 2024, the city finally dropped it.

During a recent interview with Willits Weekly, the city's Code Enforcement Officer Davey Bowles

Read the rest of **Van**
Over on Page 10

Brooktrails board has shortest meeting on record

Barbara O'Reardon
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The Brooktrails Township Community Services District board meeting on May 27 was the most brief meeting on record, lasting only a few seconds over 7 minutes. But, there were significant, noteworthy business items that occurred.

Board Vice-President Rick Williams asked, "Is there anything to report on the status of opening the new Brooktrails business office?" General Manager Tamara Alaniz responded, saying: "I did a walkthrough today. Things are moving along really well. All of the work will be completed soon, and we will move in in July."

President Tina Tyler-O'Shea announced that there was one item on the Consent Calendar: Review and Approval of the Accounts Payable Report and Authorization to Issue Checks on or about May 28, 2025.

Director Ed Horrick stated: "I move to approve

Read the rest of **Brooktrails**
Over on Page 4

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Burns pollute the environment

To the Editor:

Willits Weekly printed CAL FIRE's press release, "Evening prescribed burns to start June 2 along Hwy 101," in the May 15 edition, announcing a prescribed burn to take place along Highway 101 between Ukiah and Willits through July 2, 2025, for approximately 400 acres of grass.

These burns that are taking place are polluting the environment! When we burn we are introducing contaminants into the natural environment that causes harm. Pollution sources, such as the prescribed burns that are taking place along Highway 101 has widespread consequences on human and environmental health. These particulates are released into the atmosphere. This burn that is taking place is a danger to the population and to the earth.

The two most widely-cited estimates attribute around 7 million deaths per year to air pollution.

Gino N Zalunardo, Willits

Senior Center menu for the week

Willits Senior Center is serving lunch in its indoor dining room, Monday through Friday, from 11:45 am to 1 pm. Drive-through lunches are available from 12 to 12:45 pm, outside the Senior Center, 1501

Thursday, June 5: BBQ Chicken, Baked Beans, Veggies, Cornbread.

Friday, June 6: Spinach Lasagna, Veggies, Garlic Bread

Monday, June 9: Asian Chicken Wrap, Coleslaw

Tuesday, June 10: Ham & Cheese Deli Sub, Pasta Salad

Wednesday, June 11: Ground Beef Stroganoff, Roll, Green Salad

Thursday, June 12: Chicken Cacciatore, Garlic Bread, Green Salad

Friday, June 13: Pepperoni Pizza, Green Salad

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

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.

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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

Willits Weekly

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THIRD DISTRICT SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

June 2025 update

By Supervisor John Haschak

June is time to celebrate those graduating and their families. Best wishes in this next adventure in life. June is also budget month for the County. We have to have a balanced budget by the end of the month. This year we are having two days (June 3-4) dedicated to the budget. There will be presentations from 11 different departments and offices.

The cuts haven't been easy, and department heads and elected officials will be making their cases about what they can and can't do without. It looks like we will need to use \$2 million of one-time only money to prevent more drastic cuts.

The Inland Water & Power Commission had an all boards meeting on May 29. Since the IWPC is composed of different boards, this was an opportunity for all the boards to hear the same update.

My takeaways are: PG&E is going to take down the dams. A coalition has formed to build a New Eel Russian Facility, aka NERF, that will divert water during high

water times from the Eel River to the Russian River. The current projection is that the NERF will cost \$40 million to build and \$10 million annually to operate.

The process will take years, and people/ groups in both basins have agreed to this plan. Storage of water on the Russian River side is critical to making it all work, and a feasibility study by(United States Army Corps of Engineers is beginning to study the raising of Coyote Dam, and that will be a very expensive and long process. There has been a lot of work done by very dedicated people, coalitions have been formed from entities from both basins, and continuing to work through the issues is the only realistic path forward to keep water flowing in both directions.

I have a couple of new committee assignments that are making the Talk with the Supervisor dates bounce around. This month, it will be on Monday, June 9 at 11 am at the Brickhouse. As always, you can email haschakj@mendocinocounty.gov or call 707-972-4214.

Court extends deadline to apply for 2025/2026 Civil Grand Jury

Submitted by Mendocino County Superior Court

The Honorable Ann Moorman has extended the deadline to submit applications to serve on the 2025/2026 Grand Jury to June 23, 2025.

Service on the Civil Grand Jury is an excellent opportunity to learn about the inner workings of government while providing a valuable service to the community. The 19 members of the Civil Grand Jury serve for one year and are empowered to investigate the operations of county and city governments, school districts, and special districts.

The Grant Jury submits reports and recommendations to improve efficiency and public service for consideration by local government departments and agencies. The Civil Grand Jury sets its own agenda and meeting schedule. Much of the work is performed in small committees allowing for considerable flexibility in the work schedule and meeting locations.

To attract more residents from the geographically distant regions of Mendocino County, the Civil Grand Jury is making it possible for interested members of the public to participate remotely. The Civil Grand Jury has implemented remote meeting protocols to maximize participation while reducing the demand for travel.

Grand Jurors are compensated \$25 per full panel meeting, \$10 per committee meeting and committee attendance at public meetings. Mileage is reimbursed at the current County of Mendocino rate. There is free

onsite parking. Prior to being nominated, each qualifying applicant is interviewed by a judge. Training for Grand Jurors will be provided in July 2025, either remotely or in the County offices.

To serve as a Civil Grand Juror, the following requirements must be met:

- At least 18 years of age
- United States citizen
- Resident of Mendocino County for at least one year
- Sufficiently fluent in written and spoken English.
- Not currently serving on any other governmental board or commission during the term
- Not presently holding a public office
- Not personally active in any campaign of a candidate for elective office
- Computer skills highly desirable

Applications and related information are available on the Court's website at: Grand Jury (ca.gov). The application may also be obtained in person at the Superior Court, 100 North State Street, Rm. 303, Ukiah or by calling the Grand Jury at (707) 463-4320.

For more information contact: Chelsea Leher, Administrative Technician, Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino, 100 N. State Street, Room 303, Ukiah, CA 954825; (707) 468-2056.

To those trying to do the right thing

Submitted by Teresa King, president, HSMC

To our compassionate community: All of us in the animal rescue world share a common goal: doing what's best for the animals. Every day, many of you reach out after finding stray, feral, or injured animals – in your yards, along roadsides, or suffering from neglect. You step in because you care; so do we.

At the Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County, we work tirelessly to help as many animals as we can responsibly care for. When we are unable to take in an animal, it's not because we don't want to, it's because we must ensure that every animal we accept receives the quality of care it deserves. When we can't provide that care directly, we strive to offer alternative resources and guidance.

We understand how frustrating it can be when you're trying to do the right thing and the help you hoped for isn't available. Please know – we feel that frustration too.

Right now, the animal rescue community is facing a severe veterinary care shortage. By law, we cannot adopt out unaltered animals, yet spay and neuter appointments are often booked 4 to 6 months in advance. This delays adoptions, increases costs, and limits our ability to take in more animals – especially those that are unaltered or in urgent need of medical attention.

We are also facing staffing shortages. Every animal

in our shelter deserves more than just a roof over their head – they deserve nutritious food, grooming, behavioral support, exercise, medical attention, and love. Our team is deeply committed to ensuring each animal's life improves the moment they come through our doors. But with limited staff, we must also limit the number of animals in our care.

Please remember, our staff is made up of people just like you – people who care deeply and are doing their absolute best, often under immense pressure. They work long hours, including weekends and holidays, responding to calls for help.

We currently receive 10 to 20 surrender requests every single day. For those who need to rehome a pet, we offer a courtesy listing on our website. We understand that life changes – illness, loss, housing insecurity – can make it impossible to keep a pet. That's why we also provide food, supplies, and information about additional resources whenever we can.

So, we ask: please continue doing the right thing. Spay and neuter your pets to help reduce the number of unwanted animals. Be kind to shelter staff who are on the front lines of this crisis. Support your local shelter however you can. HSMC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. We receive no government funding; everything we do is made possible by donations, grants, fundraising efforts, and the support of compassionate community members like you.

From all of us at HSMC: thank you for caring. Thank you for trying. And thank you for standing with us as we work together for the animals.

Collective Creativity

Artisans, herbalists, farmers and more set up at Mendocino Producers Guild's new market location in Laytonville

Traci Pellar has a dream, and a plan to connect her dream to a reality for herself and all of the creative people who live off the grid, in the woods, in the small rural towns of Mendocino County, the people who enjoy the simple, slow-paced life amongst the beauty and quiet of this county.

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
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The Mendocino Producers Guild, which she founded, brings together various artisans, herbalists, farmers, therapists, and more to use their collective power and creativity in support of each other and to present a united front in the economic health of the county.

On Saturday, May 31, the guild, in their new home at the MPG Hall, 43401 Highway 101, just south of Laytonville, opened their doors and their grounds to a variety of vendors, mostly local artisans with a couple of food entrepreneurs. Together, they created a market that was both eclectic and filled with friendly and communicative sellers. Warm and informative conversations were in abundance as one wandered from booth to booth, both inside the hall and on the grounds. The artisans loved to speak about their products and methods as they showed their wares.

Pellar and the guild, fresh off producing the Mendo Cup at the Little Lake Grange, where the cannabis producers showed off their products and vied for recognition, now have an office in the MPG Hall, which Pellar was proud to show off to Willits Weekly.

"This is my new office and a place where, hopefully, I will be writing out a bunch of new grants, making lots of money for us," said Pellar. "I was realizing as I was coming here today that most of these people, the crafters, are homesteaders and homemakers and having something local is so important because we don't drive much. We have to create rural economic development here, within our own town. So, going from a resource-based economy to a tourist-based economy is new for all of us because, usually we're like, we don't want to see anyone, we don't want anyone coming here, but now we're like, please come and buy all our stuff."

Pellar spoke about the artists and manufacturers of the county banding together to create a market. "Why not have our own," Pellar mused. "We can become so much more. I think we need to brand ourselves as 'producers who care.' We're into the quality. We're not into the quantity. If you want the best of the best, you'll come to Mendo. You'll enjoy our wildlife. You'll come to our culture, which is a homesteading micro culture. We've been fighting all this for so long, holding on to the last threads of it. They think we're too small."

"We have a lot to offer the world," said Pellar. "It's great to see how all the producers just chipped in and we're doing this together. The Mendocino Producers Guild is county-wide, county-wide promotions, 501(c)(3) and we're also trying to work on e-commerce. All of that takes money and that is one thing we don't have. You can go to the website and donate: <https://mendocinoproducersguild.org/>. This is, hopefully, a rural economic development revolution."

Alfredo Vionnet, one of the vendors, is a wood turner, making beautiful bowls and other objects out of various types of wood. "I like to work with spalted wood which is pre-rotten wood. When the wood begins to decompose, the fungus builds inside, and it begins to deteriorate. If you catch it in time, then you can stabilize it and turn it," said Vionnet, who was once president of the Mendocino Coast Wood Turners Guild.

Shane Grogg of Mendocheeto made some stunning faux classic era throwback posters with Grateful Dead and others. Bud Johnson also makes bowls and wooden objects from wood given him by his lumberjack son-in-law and from PG&E felled trees on his properties. Dorothy Asbury of the Willits Photography Club brought some of her stunning prints.

Sheila Duffy hung some colorful and intricate batiks in the hall. "I draw something on white rayon, and I get hot wax and I follow each of those drawing lines with hot wax. The wax masks the colors and keeps them from jumping into one another. The dyes are like watercolor. You can let them run together if you want. Then, you throw them into boiling hot water and the wax melts away," explained Duffy.

Mallory Brown and Tina Tedeschi represented the Herbal Wellness Clinic to offer consultations. Natalie Goodman, a baker with IncrEDIBLE Art brought cheesecake bites. Kelly Viss of Barefoot Forest Homestead brought her tinctures and salves and more. Ron Tucker blows glass to create pipes and ornaments and marbles and pendants, as well as cremation art made from the ashes of loved ones.

Crystal Facer, a massage therapist with many different modalities, set up a massage chair in the hall and did short but relaxing body work. She works both in Laytonville and at Flourish and Flow in Willits under her Crystal Vision Therapy banner.

This group of local Mendocino County vendors joined together to create an afternoon of lovely goods, food, knowledge and fun.

"We live in the woods," said Pellar. "When you live in the woods long enough, you develop your own special culture. We like that slow pace. We like keeping it slow and simple. This is our last stand right here. We're going to try and make this building work for us so we can have sales and help develop our micro-farmers and micro-crafters."

At top, left: Shane Grogg of Mendocheeto hangs some of his faux vintage 70s rock posters. At top, right: Ron Tucker displays his blown glass works, including his cremation art created from ashes of loved ones. Above, left: Amanda Wierman of The Crafty Dragon makes several creative pieces of jewelry, including these "gearings." Above, right: Vanena from Argentina creates whimsical "420 Women" art. At left: The newly acquired Mendocino Producers Guild building houses several artisans. Below, left: One of several jewelry makers showing at the Mendocino Producers Guild show. Below, right: Natalie Goodman and her son, Mikey, offer IncrEDIBLE Art cheesecake bites at the show.

Above, left: Tina Tedeschi and Mallory Brown represent the Herbal Wellness Clinic and the Herb Guild. Above, right: Bud Johnson shows one of the bowls he crafted from wood donated by his daughter's logger husband. At right: A plate of tacos from Red Dwarf Farms and Paco's Tacos are offered to attendees. Below, from left: Alfredo Vionnet displays one of the bowls he turned from spalted wood. Traci Pellar's dream is to create a vibrant producers guild in Mendocino County. Sheila Duffy has a colorful display of labor intensive batiks.

Photos by Mathew Caine

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Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

	1		8			5	
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Level: Advanced

PUZZLE
ANSWERS
ON
PAGE 9

HOW TO
SUDOKU

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

MAKE THE GRADE WORD SEARCH

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AVERAGE	GOALS	MEMORIZE	REPORT
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CLUES ACROSS

- Marsh plant
- Southern constellation ("The Peacock")
- Fogginess
- Home to Fools' Day
- Absence of the sense of pain
- Popular November holiday
- Consume food
- Buddy
- Long-haired goat-antelope
- Japanese honorific
- Actor Malek
- One point south of southeast
- Illegal acts
- As fast as can be done
- Prevents harm to young
- Exclamation of satisfaction
- African nation
- Slow-moving animal
- Oh, goodness!
- A team's best pitcher
- Cleanser
- Radioactivity units
- Expectorated matter
- Cover a wide range
- The central area of a church
- California capital (abbr.)

- Dutch painter Klaver
- 007's creator
- Impression of dishonesty
- Northeastern sports rivalry
- Cloths
- Stalin's police chief
- Hostilities
- Bitterly regret
- Anwar ___, Egyptian statesman

CLUES DOWN

- Satisfy
- European health advocate
- Expression of annoyance
- Strong liquor
- Large red deer
- Holder of less common religious beliefs
- West Indian shrub
- Family of proteins
- Wealthy, influential business leader
- Low spirits
- Approves food
- Monetary unit of Iran and Oman
- Mary ___, cosmetics
- Expressed in pithy maxims
- Relaxing spaces
- The NFL's big game

- Proof of payment (abbr.)
- Starchy preparation of dried orchid tubers
- Indicates near
- Minneapolis suburb
- Herring-like fish
- Doctors' group
- Pouches
- Bread dipping in sauce
- Commercials
- A reminder of past events
- Affected by injury
- Geological time
- Stationary part of a motor
- Brings together
- Of sound mind
- Personal computer
- Without (French)
- A bank might give you one
- Agricultural testing organization
- A small island
- Type of gene
- Murres
- Card game
- A measure of human health
- Australian airline (abbr.)
- One point south of due west
- Affirmative

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT

POLICE LOG

May 19 to May 25

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department reported 55 incidents in this 7-day period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

May 19

8:20 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

May 20

11:37 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance near the intersection of Manor Way and South Main Street.

May 21

3:06 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of North Main Street.

3:15 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of Walnut Street.

5:30 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 600 block of Coast Street and issued a warning.

May 22

8:09 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1500 block of South Main Street.

9:03 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1400 block of South Main Street.

10:14 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 800 block of South Main Street.

2:52 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1200 block of South Main Street.

11:12 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity and issued a warning.

May 23

9:45 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1200 block of Locust Street.

11:06 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of Elm Lane and issued a warning.

5:04 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 500 block of South Main Street and issued

a citation.

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

8:32 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

9:07 pm: VILLEGASMEZA, Alejandro (27) of Willits was contacted in the 1600 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of driving under the influence of alcohol and leaving the scene of an accident resulting in property damage.

May 24

12:43 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of Margie Drive.

5:17 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

5:49 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1200 block of South Main Street.

May 25

2:05 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 200 block of Margie Drive.

11:57 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 700 block of Railroad Avenue and issued a warning.

2:28 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Barbara Lane.

5:03 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1200 block of Locust Street.

5:54 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of Gregory Lane.

7:03 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 800 block of South Main Street.

10:28 pm: SMITH, Erik Norton (59) of Ukiah was contacted in the 1700 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on felony charges of forging or altering vehicle registration and violation of probation, and on misdemeanor charges of driving with a suspended license.

The rest of
Brooktrails | From page 1

the Consent Calendar and Accounts Payable and Authorization to Issue Checks for a total of \$49,315.73. Tyler-O'Shea said, "There's been an amendment to that amount." Horrick checked the figures and apologized, saying, "Excuse me, I'm way off. I hadn't had a chance to review this!" He immediately retracted his motion and a new motion was quickly formed. The board then voted unanimously to approve the revised amount of \$549,315.73.

Director Susan Mahoney said, "Can we ask a question?" To which Alaniz replied, "I can't wait!" Continuing she said: "I am very pleased to let the board and counsel and the public know that the City of Willits has finally billed us for our debt service for the sewer for this fiscal year as well as last fiscal year. You may recall we took that money out of our operating cash and put it into the investment account, and we ended up making \$15,000 in interest on that debt sinking fund where we'd set that money aside. The reason the bill finally came was because things are coming together nicely for the city and there's good management in place. We received that bill and are very pleased to pay it. We also, on our last Accounts Payable, paid our 36% share of the waste clarifier. As of now, we are all on the same page and the proper page financially. We don't owe the City of Willits anything, and they don't owe us any bills."

There were smiles all around, and the board rounded with, "Good job!" Tyler-O'Shea then announced that the meeting was adjourned.

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

‘Karate Kid: Legends’

The Story: Teenager Li Fong (Ben Wang) and his mother leave Beijing for New York City. She is a doctor, and she gets a well-paying position at a City Hospital. Young Li Fong has been practicing kung fu his whole short life. Though Li is quite skilled, his mother tells him to avoid conflicts. But that's not what the world around him seems to want.



Dan Essman
Columnist

There are mean pushy thugs around every corner. Li is forced to protect himself, and especially others. He kicks some bully butts. He makes some friends. Unfortunately, Li catches the attention of a mean tough low-class, but quite skilled karate champion named Connor Day (Aramis Knight).

Connor is a crumb-bum bully without honor. And wouldn't you know it, Connor is the ex-boyfriend of Li's pretty new girlfriend Mia (Sadie Stanley). Not good! Who knows what's going to happen?

And then, wouldn't you know it, nice boy Li Fong and smirking and smug Connor are going to face-off in the annual Five Boroughs Karate Competition. Oh my! What a surprise! Note: Li Fong gets the invaluable help of kung fu master Mr. Han (Jackie Chan).

My Thoughts: I enjoyed the flick. Just because it's so predictable, don't let that ruin your enjoyment of the movie. And spoiler/no spoiler: Li Fong wins. Everything! He gets to hug his mother who disapproves of fighting. He gets Mia, the Girl. Everybody in New York applauds him. This is a flick for boys and young men, maybe some young women.

Parents: Virtue triumphs. As the prequels have proved: Kids love it when the Good Guy beats up the Bad Bully. Maybe even be inspired to study martial arts which are: the Art of Protecting Yourself and Avoiding Fights!

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



The teams pose with each other, showing that sportsmanship goes a long way.

COMMUNITY SPORTS NEWS

New Flag Football Camp an instant success; WHS Football begins training for fall

Flag Football Camp fires up Willits youth

In a small town like Willits, it's important to keep our kids involved in positive activities as much as possible. A local dad and former Willits Youth Football athlete, Travis Evans, started a flag football camp at Beachtel Grove Middle School to give kids a fun and safe introduction to tackle football. Flag football is the fastest growing sport in America, and this season showed just how much local interest there is as nearly 100 kids signed up.

The teams all meet up every Sunday from 10 am to 2:30 pm. The camp emphasizes team work, physical fitness, and basic football fundamentals, all while keeping things light-hearted and engaging of all experience levels. They practice, break into groups, and play games. It is a pretty cool scene.

Volunteers, families, friends and community members all bring their chairs down to surround the kids on the field in support of their practice and games. A coach splits up with each team, teaching the fundamentals of flag football. Then they break into games against each other. These kids are all smiles, pumped with energy and enthusiasm to learn. They play hard and aggressively, strategically ripping each flag without too much contact. This is no easy task, and you can see the tactics in each furrowed brow to achieve their goals. The girls team is a powerful little group who seem ready to take over every game, and they have done just that as they are the undefeated team!

What a fabulous idea to engage our youth. Hopefully this becomes a small town tradition to carry on for years to come.

"I know how much it meant to me being able to go to football camps as a young athlete, and it's been a lot of fun bringing that type of experience to our small town," said Evans. "The overwhelmingly positive feedback from parents has helped solidify the camp as a new community favorite. Beyond the players, the camp benefited tremendously from the time and dedication of its volunteers.

"We've had an incredible group of people step up to coach and support," said Evans. "I'm so grateful for Chris Duran, Dustin Westfall, Sam Glass, Jordan Laughlin, Brian Agenbroad, Mike Blair, Thom Barbitta, Dakota Williams and Danny Gutierrez. None of this would've been possible without them, or without the constant support of my wife, Carolina."

WHS Wolverines Football ignites motivation for season with spring and summer football

Willits Wolverines are absolutely pumped about the upcoming season! Especially after such a successful run the last one. Returning varsity coaches Brandon Norbury, Bill Norbury, Matt Moratti, Colby Forrester and Gary Cavender have been eager to get the new and returning athletes together to see what they are made of.

There will be brand new coaches joining the team to coach JV this year – Rich Bolton, Reece Christensen and Thom Barbitta. Looking out on Maize Field, there have been a ton of athletes looking ready to get in shape and work together to create yet another dynamic set of teams. You could hear the kids cheering each other on, and running into high-fives, grouping around their other players who were trying new positions, such as kicking for field goals.

The support and positivity has been an infectious inspiration to see amongst our teenage youth. This is only the start. The coaches, athletes and community can't wait for the official season to begin.

"We had a great showing for spring ball these last couple weeks," said Head Coach Brandon Norbury. "Over 30 players, a majority of them being varsity. We are led by a senior-heavy team. Returning is one of the best quarterbacks Willits has ever seen, Corey Rockey, and a bigger, faster, stronger Porter Garman! We have added some young coaches to our staff and we're all extremely excited for football this season. Coaches have been meeting for the past two months. We will be prepared, disciplined, and in shape! Ready to play for four quarters. We start the summer off fast with seven on seven's versus Analy and Healdsburg high schools. Go Wolverines!"

REDWOOD MEADOWS

Senior Apartment Community

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Photos by Maureen Jennison

LEGAL NOTICES

WW541

**Fictitious Business
Name Statement**

2025-F0261

The following person or persons are doing business as Peridot Electric, 1761 South Main Street, Willits, CA 95490. Mailing address: P.O. Box 116, Willits, CA 95490.

Registered owner: Nathan Coleman, 1761 South Main Street, Willits, CA 95490.

This business is conducted by an individual.

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

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on May 29, 2025.

/s/ Nathan Coleman

Publication Dates: June 5, 12, 19, 26, 2025

WW536

**Fictitious Business
Name Statement**

2025-F0218

The following person or persons are doing business as
Esthetics by Eden, 23 South
Main Street, Willits CA 95490.

Registered owner: Eden
Hinkler Type, 24900 North
Highway 101, Willits CA
95490.

This business is conducted by
an individual.

The registrant commenced to
transact business under the
fictitious business name listed
above on May 5, 2025.

FBN statement filed with the
Mendocino County Clerk-
Recorder on May 5, 2025.

/s/ Eden Hinkler Type
Publication Dates: May 15, 22,
29, June 5, 2025.

WW537

**Fictitious Business
Name Statement**

2025-F0227

The following person or persons are doing business as RC Transit, 31101 N. Highway 101, Willits, CA 95490.

Registered owner: Richard James Comer, 31101 N. Highway 101, Willits, CA 95490.

This business is conducted by an individual.

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

FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on May 9, 2025.

/s/ Richard Comer

Publication Dates: May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 2025

LEGAL NOTICES

Publication Date: June 5, 2025

Publication Dates: May 22, 29, June 5, 2025

Publication Dates: May 29, June 5 and 12, 2025



We would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to the individuals and businesses who support sober grad and make our grad night party possible. Thank you!

EMAIL: WILLITSHIGH85@GMAIL.COM
HOSTED BY WILLITS HIGH CLASS OF 1985

Scan the QR code with your phone or log on to: <https://photographresszenfolio.com/graduation>

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2025!!!



707-459-4599

[illegible]

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The Van Hotel at the corner of Main Street and Commercial after some exterior work was done. Painters and workers could be seen over the past weeks on the fire escapes, in bucket trucks, on scaffolding, and on the roof gaining access from various angles to complete their tasks.



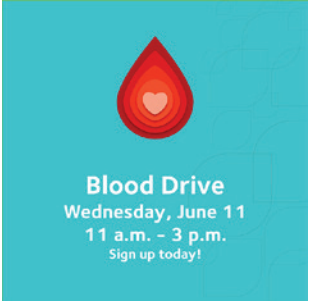
Blood Drive at Howard Hospital, June 11

Submitted by Adventist Health Howard Memorial

Adventist Health Howard Memorial, in partnership with the Frank R. Howard Foundation, is hosting a Vitalant Blood Drive on Wednesday, June 11, from 11 am to 3 pm. The event will be held in the front parking lot of Adventist Health Howard Memorial, where the Vitalant Blood Donation Bus will be on-site, ready to accept blood donations.

Blood donations are a critical lifeline for patients in need, and your contribution can make a life-changing difference. Whether you're a first-time donor or a seasoned giver, every donation is invaluable.

To make donating as convenient as possible, individuals are encouraged to sign up for a time slot ahead of the event by visiting ahlink.org/4WLUUL or call 877-258-4825 to schedule by phone.



The rest of Van From page 1

teamed up with Duley to discuss conditions inside the building.

"The roof is old and leaking. There is water damage throughout the building. The building has rat infestation. Sections of the ceiling in the various rooms and hallways have rotted out and collapsed. There are plumbing and electrical issues. The building has broken windows in many rooms upstairs, especially on the south side. There are mold issues in many rooms," Bowles said.

The abatement notice listed several options to enable the city to force compliance, including a threat to petition the courts to put the building into receivership.

Under the receivership process, the city would nominate a person or company to be appointed as a receiver. If the court deems receivership the appropriate course of action, and approves the nominee, the receiver would then receive the building. They would take control of the building and would be charged with repairing and renovating the building, to the point where it is in compliance with health and safety codes.

When that level of restoration has been achieved, the receiver will then sell the building. At this point, the former owner has an opportunity to buy the building back. If the previous owner elects to not buy the building, a sale will go forward with another buyer. From the profits from the sale, the receiver will repay him or herself. Then the city will be repaid for legal and administrative costs associated with the receivership process. Any residual funds left over from these pay-offs will revert to the previous owners of the building.

According to Bowles, the city has filed a petition with the courts to be granted receivership of the building. However, that is just the first step in the legal process. "We haven't requested a hearing date yet. That would be the next step. We haven't done that yet," Bowles said.

Duley said the attitude of the city council and city staff is to work with the Joan Papantoniadis Trust, which took over ownership of the building after the September 2024 death of longtime property owner Ted Papantoniadis.

"We would love it if the property owner would take the responsibility for repairing and restoring the building," said Duley. "But if they don't, we would move forward with the receivership process. We have had this cycle

of neglect going back for 30 years. We've had issues with vermin. We've had issues there with fire danger. It is a liability for the community. Plus, it is not fair to the people of Willits to have a building that large, and that central, become such a blight on the community."

According to Bowles, whether and when to ask the courts for a receivership hearing date is a judgment call. "We have been talking to them regularly over the past year," Bowles said. "The intent is to work with the owner and allow them to make these repairs. But the problem is, we have to judge if the work is substantial enough and if it is timely. Are they moving forward fast enough? If they aren't, then we will take that next step. They city will not go to court until we have a strong hand," Bowles said.

Duley said the work to clean up the outside of the building is a good start, but doesn't address the serious health and safety issues that are so extensive in the interior of the building. "They've pulled a permit and are doing some work," Duley said. "But this is a drop in the bucket compared to what needs to be done. A few weeks ago, they pulled a permit to start the work on the roof. But they haven't started on that work yet."

The Van Hotel was built by hotel owner Gustav van Cleemput in 1924. Cleemput was the owner of The Hotel Willits, a large, wood-framed hotel which formerly stood where the vacant dirt lot now sprawls on the northwest corner of Main and Commercial streets. According to Willits historian Kim Bancroft, Cleemput built the Van Hotel to accommodate the lively tourist trade which Willits was enjoying after the First World War.

Shops were opened on the Van's ground floor in 1926. In 1929, Winston Churchill, while traveling between Canada and San Francisco, spent the night in the Van Hotel. Ownership passed to various hands in the intervening century. Tavern-keeper Al Greenberg purchased the hotel in the middle of the 20th century, and moved his bar, Al's Redwood Room, from The Hotel Willits into the northeast corner of the ground floor of the Van Hotel. Al's daughter Joanne married Ted Papantoniadis, and he took over practical management of the building. But, over time, numerous motels were built in Willits, which cut into the Van's business. Conditions in the Van began to deteriorate. According to Bowles, the last tenants of the Van Hotel were evicted in 1997. The upper floors of the Van have been empty and unused for the past 28 years. A manicure and pedicure shop, 1st Nails Spa, currently operates out of the ground floor of the building.

'Level Up' Summer Reading and more at the Library

Submitted by Mendocino County Library

Mendocino County Library has "rolled a natural 20" and is celebrating a summer-long campaign during the Summer Reading Program, "Level Up at Your Library."

"Our branches are excited to explore the adventure of reading by offering books to build personal libraries, both at the Library and in the community," said Mellisa Hannum, Mendocino County Librarian. "Having a personal collection of books has been shown to support literacy development in children and teens."

The learning opportunities include more than books, with professional entertainers and programs focused on science, technology, engineering, art, and math. Plus, there will be free lunches during Lunch at the Library, a summer meal program funded by the California Summer Meal Coalition and the California Library Association in partnership with the USDA summer meal program.

"Anyone who has worked with kids knows that if they're hungry, it's impossible to learn," said Hannum. "Mendocino County Library is pleased to coordinate with community partners once again to offer access to free lunches and library activities to youth 18 and under."

For the third year in a row, Coast Community Library will have lunches available in its Community Room, and for the first time, the Willits Library will also offer lunches in the branch. Both locations have lunch and enrichment opportunities every Tuesday through Friday at noon. These are the same balanced, nutritious meals offered through the school districts. Hannum said she was grateful for the new and ongoing partnerships with the schools. Look for lunches from June 10 to August 8 in Willits and from June 17 to August 9 in Point Arena.

Additionally, for the third year running, Ukiah Branch Library will be providing a weekly pop-up event at Todd Grove Park in Ukiah every Tuesday from 10 am to 1 pm, from June 17 to August 5. Summer lunches will be served with books and activities provided. Fort Bragg and Round Valley Libraries will continue participating in Lunch at the Library pop-up events in their communities. Round Valley will offer events in collaboration with the Tis Bil Education Center every Wednesday in July from 1 to 3 p.m.

The Summer Reading Program always kicks off with fun performers. Join us for the Bri Crabtree Silly Circus Show on June 21 at Round Valley, Willits, and Ukiah Branches. In August, the libraries will be presenting Conservation Ambassadors' Wild Things on August 1 at the Ukiah, Willits, and Round Valley branches. Gabe will discuss the diversity of life on Earth and tell the stories of the amazing animals in his care. These events are free and open to the public.

Stay that final boss of boredom! There are plenty of literacy activities in store this summer when you "Level Up at Your Library."

For more information, please view www.mendolib.org or contact the Mendocino County Library at (707) 234-2873.

Have an idea? Want us to know?
Email us! willitsweekly@gmail.com

The rest of LFLD From page 1

for the city's hotels and motels are complete, as are all the Life Safety inspections for Willits' schools. Little Lake's inspection team – consisting of just four staff members, primarily Fire Chief Eric Alvarez and Training Officer and Engineer Captain Harry So – has also completed about 25 percent of the inspections required for the district's apartment complexes.

Little Lake reviews these specific public and privately owned buildings looking not just for the presence of fire extinguishers, but to ensure that, as the State of California's Fire Inspection Checklist states: "Extinguishers shall be manually inspected at least monthly by the building owner or occupant or electronically monitored."

That is to say, the checklist is lengthy, and includes several categories, so it's notable that Little Lake has, this year, the most completed inspections in the county to date – while also handling fire safety inspections for new businesses.

Spring and summer kick off a lot of educational work for the Little Lake Fire staff. The team briefed the board on a variety of training programs the district is currently engaged in. EMT training is always in rotation, and volunteer firefighters are undergoing mandatory "Red Card" training.

Red Card, or Incident Qualifications Card, training places specific demands on trainees to ensure they are ready to respond when their department goes out on strike – meaning deployed to a wildfire emergency. Captain Harry So described some of the components of Red Card training for the board. Volunteers study wildland fire behavior and are tested on their competency, they perform physical fitness tests, and

take refresher courses to keep their Red Card current.

Captain So is also deeply involved in the fire district's educational programs within the city's schools. Along with help from Little Lake's volunteers, he conducts weekly, comprehensive fire safety training for all grade levels.

Students learn how to extinguish a simulated fire using a fire extinguisher while also having the opportunity to engage with firefighters and their equipment. Older students participate in more advanced training. Captain So is working to introduce instruction on mass casualty scenarios and large-scale emergency simulations at the high school level. He said he "thinks he has it worked out," but acknowledged that the subject must be approached thoughtfully and with sensitivity.

Captain So also wants the community to know that anyone curious about volunteering as a firefighter, no commitment necessary, is welcome, and he'll gladly "show you the ropes and all the gear."

Fire Chief Eric Alvarez closed out the May meeting with the Chief's Report. Alvarez told the board about a recent call the firehouse received that wasn't unusual in terms of an emergency, but notable for its difficult location.

An unhoused individual, residing in an encampment along the railroad tracks behind Adventist Health Howard Memorial Hospital, was experiencing a medical emergency. City police, the ambulance service, and Little Lake Fire all responded, but the only vehicle able to reach the individual was the firehouse's ATV, which traveled along the tracks, transported emergency crews to and from the scene, and carried the individual to the emergency room – highlighting the importance of an integrated and well-equipped emergency response system in our community.

CLASSIFIEDS

Do you need food?

Willits Food Bank, 344 Railroad Avenue, Willits, CA 95490. Open Wednesdays & Fridays, new expanded distribution hours: 10 am to 4:30 pm. New Client Choice model where you select your own items. Bring shopping bags. Bring an I.D. Info: (707) 459-3333

Firewood for Sale

Firewood for sale - Fir: 1/2 cord, \$175.00 Delivered. Call 707- 354-4394.

For Rent

Clean Studio Apartment for rent, upstairs unit, close to downtown area. Washer & Dryer facility on hand, garbage paid. \$800 per month & Sec. Dep. Amco 707-354-0048.

For Sale

Office items. Costco chair, 2-drawer, mahogany letter size file cabinet, new file boxes with lids, desk items, and more. Selling separately or all together. Best offer. Call (707) 385-9333

Free Food for All Pop-Up

Mendocino Food Network presents food pop-ups with free food for all! Due to the impact of federal budget cuts, there will be only one monthly popup in Willits, on 1st Thursdays, from 10 to 11:30 am at 1250 Blosser Lane. In Laytonville, every 4th Thursday, 12 to 1 pm at 300 Cahto Drive. In Covelo, every 2nd Thursday, from 12 to 1 pm, at NEW ADDRESS: 24065 Rifle Road. In Leggett: Every 1st Tuesday from 12 to 1 pm at 65100 Drive-Thru Tree Road. Info: Rachelle@mendofood.org; 707-615-6654.

Giant Estate Sale

Saturday June 7th, 9 am to 4 pm, and Sunday, June 8th, 12 to 4 pm. Come get your treasures! Everything must go. 84 School Street.

Help Wanted

Willits Center for the Arts is looking for a personable & detail-oriented art-lover to work 9+ hours on weekends, engaging visitors & organizing volunteers. Please respond with resume to manager@willitscenterofthearts.org

John Ford Ranch Beef

John Ford Ranch still has the 50 lb. Rancher's Choice Box for \$390.00 and the 25 lb. Hamburger Box for \$170.00. Please contact Debbie Arkelian @ 459-5049.

M & M Collectors

Now at Coast Hardware in Willits. A variety of M & M Collectable items ready for a new home. There are holiday decor trains, clocks, jackets and much more. Come take a look.

RV/Trailer Space for Rent

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

Weedeating Services

Weedeating in the Willits, Laytonville, Redwood Valley areas. Call Mike at (707) 354-5650

Congrats to new WPD Officer Shively

Posted by Willits Police Department

May 24 – Yesterday, at the Santa Rosa Police Academy, we had the pleasure of attending the graduation of our latest Willits Police Department recruit, Officer Donovan Shively. Officer Shively grew up in Laytonville and has previously served on the Little Lake Fire Protection District and Brooktrails Fire Department as a volunteer firefighter.

Officer Shively was sworn in by Interim Chief Parish following his graduation ceremony with Officer Gale, Officer Angell, and Shively's family and friends in attendance. Officer Shively will begin his field training program with the Willits Police Department next week.

At right, above: WPD Officer Angell, left, Officer Shively, Interim Chief Parish, and Officer Gale, right, at the Santa Rosa Police Academy graduation on May 23. At right: New Willits Police Department recruit Donovan Shively, right, is sworn in by Interim Chief Parish after Shively's graduation from the Santa Rosa Police Academy on May 23.



Above, from left: New CHP Officer Gabriel Madrigal of Willits will serve at the Ukiah office. New CHP Officer Joseph Mario Astorga-Rodriguez of Ukiah is assigned to duty at the CHP's Santa Rosa Area office. New CHP Officer John Michael James of Visalia is assigned to duty at the CHP's Garberville Area office.

intervention techniques. Cadet instruction covers patrol operations, crash investigation, first aid, and the arrest of suspected violators, including those who drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

The cadets also receive training in traffic control, report writing, recovery of stolen vehicles, assisting the motoring public, issuing citations, emergency scene management, and knowledge of various codes including the Vehicle Code, Penal Code, and Health and Safety Code.

The mission of the California Highway Patrol is to provide the highest level of Safety, Service, and Security.

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PICTURE IT!

JOIN US FOR A COMMUNITY PUBLICITY EVENT AT THE MENDOCINO COUNTY MUSEUM!

Tuesday, June 24, 2025 5-7 P.M.

2MuchFun!

ENJOY THE BACKDROP OF THE MUSEUM GROUNDS, AND PHOTOGRAPH YOUR ORGANIZATION, STAFF, OR FAMILY!

- WILLITS IN BUSINESS
- TURTLE ISLAND TACO (NO HOST DINNER)
- YARD GAMES

Mendocino County Museum "Where Our Story"

406 E. COMMERCIAL ST. WILLITS, CA 95490 | (707) 234-4595
WWW.MENDOCINOCOUNTYMUSEUM.ORG
WEDNESDAY - SATURDAY 11 A.M. - 5 P.M. SUNDAY 12-4 P.M.

NOYO Theater Willits, CA.

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

Mid week promotions: Wednesday - Matinee prices to all shows all day.

COMING NEXT WEEK

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON

Showtimes: June 6 - June 12

LILO & STITCH

(PG) 1hr 48min

Fri: 4:30 & 7:15
Sat, Sun: 1:45, 4:30 & 7:15
Wed-Thur: 4:30, 7:15

Closed Monday/Tuesday

KARATE KID: LEGENDS

(PG-13) 2hr 49min

Fri: 4:45 & 7:30
Sat, Sun: 2:00, 4:45 & 7:30
Wed-Thur: 7:30

Thrifty Thursday: \$8.00 tickets. Thrifty Thursday films this week in red.

THE LAST RODEO

(PG) 1hr 58min

Fri: 4:15, 7:00
Sat, Sun: 1:30, 4:15, 7:00
Wed-Thur: 4:15



Above: Michelle Roberts, executive director of Project Sanctuary, at left, and Deputy Director Makayla Chacon show off cosmetic kits for their clients donated by the Willits Rotary Club, represented by Rotarians Jenny Senter, and Kristine Gonzalez. At right: Willits Rotary members get the club's cosmetic bag assembly project going.

Willits Rotarians donate cosmetic bags to Project Sanctuary

Submitted by Rotary Club of Willits

The Rotary Club of Willits recently presented 135 cosmetic bags, 10 for men, and 125 for women, filled with personal supplies, to Mendocino County's Project Sanctuary, a local non-profit serving survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in Mendocino County since 1977.

The Rotary Club of Willits received \$750 from Rotary District 5130 Governor's Seven Areas of Focus Grant. The Rotary Club of Willits board voted to match the funds from the grant to make more of an impact on victims of domestic violence.

Of the seven Rotary International Areas of Focus, our project was best aligned with the focus of Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention because without safety, peace is impossible.

Michelle Roberts, Executive Director of Project Sanctuary Inc., said: "Often individuals come to us in crisis with nothing but the clothes on their backs. It is these small, personal items that are very much appreciated and help them feel some normalcy."

The Rotary Club of Willits would like to express deep appreciation to the following people and businesses who donated to make this project more successful. Willits Family Dentistry, Denny Shah of Creekside Inn and Suites in Willits, Elizabeth Basterrechea, DPT, Willits Physical Therapy: Yolanda Basterrechea, Director of VIP Services, and The Peppermill Resort & Casino, Reno.

Willits Rotarians involved with this project were: Kristine Gonzalez, Tamara Alaniz, Tara Taylor, Ann Alumbaugh, Rick Williams, Alexander Rich, Richard Baker, John Glycer, Helen Simms, and Jenny Senter. Mary Bowers also volunteered her time.

A special thanks to those in our community who continually support all of Rotary Club of Willits' fundraisers which make these gifts to our community possible.



Art Talk, June 13, 'The Life and Art of Frida Kahlo'

Submitted by WCA

The Willits Center for the Arts is pleased to announce the next installment of its Art Talks lecture series, featuring an illuminating presentation on "Frida Kahlo, the Life Behind the Canvas," on Friday, June 13 at 6:30 pm. Admission is free and open to the public.

Frida Kahlo (1907–1954) remains one of the most compelling and iconic figures in 20th century art. Her vivid, emotionally charged paintings explore identity, post-colonialism, gender, class, and cultural heritage, rooted deeply in Mexican folk traditions and personal experience. Through both her artwork and her defiant persona, Kahlo has become a symbol of resilience and creative expression.

This Art Talk will delve into the major themes of Kahlo's work, the influence of her tumultuous personal life on her art, and her lasting impact on global artistic discourse. Attendees will gain insight into her symbolic language, her political affiliations, and the ways in which she subverted artistic norms of her time.

The presentation will be led by Gary Martin, M.A., a noted art educator and art historian, who brings depth and clarity to his public lectures. As part of the ongoing Art Talks series, this event continues the center's commitment to providing high-quality cultural programming to the Willits community and beyond.

Join us for an engaging evening at the Art Center, 71 East Commercial Street, celebrating the power and passion of one of art history's most unforgettable voices.



Maureen & Christopher Moore, 1986ish



Jennifer Poole, father Herb and brother Herbie, 1965

Father's Day 'Foto Call'

Submit to our Father's Day Community Collage

The day to celebrate our dads is just around the corner, falling this year on Sunday, June 15. Willits Weekly would like to encourage the community to not only try and track down that no-fail golf tie, or ... erm, concho bolero tie in these here parts, but also to submit a photo of you and your dad for our upcoming June 12 edition.

Because really, what would be a better Father's Day gift than having your smiling faces published in the hometown newspaper for all to see and be something to be clipped and hung on the fridge for weeks to come?

Photos can be sent to willitsweekly@gmail.com or if you only have a print copy, head in to Ace Copy and Shipping and they can help scan your image and send it to us.

We need all submissions – with a caption for the photo, too, please!! – in by end of day Monday, June 9. We will print as many as we can in our June 12 edition and look forward to helping create a happy Father's Day for all.

SUNDAY, JUNE 15

Big Screen TV Raffle Drawing after 9 PM

100 Todays Points per entry.

Hot Seats 11 AM To 11 PM for \$25 Free Play

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Now 'til July 5th

CROSSTREK TO ADVENTURE

5 Lucky Winners will have the chance to Unlock Adventure and Drive away in a brand new 2025 CROSSTREK SPORT or choose to take \$10,000 CASH!

500 points per ticket entry after earning 500 Todays Points.

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Class Of 2025

Photos by Maureen Jennison

• CONGRATULATIONS •

SANHEDRIN HIGH SCHOOL

Senior Graduates



Hailey Aadland Breen



Tristan Bennett



Blake Bowman



Kolbe Bufardeci



Ricardo Comins



Cheyenne Crabtree



Nicholas Davis



Luke Duarte



Cassie Esquivel



Riley Faust



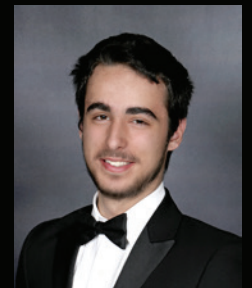
Jeremy Foster



Jeremiah Foster



Kyla Framke



Grayson Gera



Hailey Guillen Rubio



Savana Hoaglen-Cogburn



Roanin Lawrence



Giovanny Lopez Chavez



Ryzyn Lowman



Jayna MacDonald



Audrina Mendoza



Tula Meshekey



Christian Moog



Crescencia Nieto



Dacian O'Malley



Kevin Rountree



JaVaun Sanders



Adrian Senteno



Scout Smith



Jason Tafolla Orutia



Chase Tonne



Asher Vinson



Michael Wheeler



Alex Whitehurst



Angel Whipple

Not pictured: Lucas Matthew Bozzo, Gabriel Fernandes, Hilary Melendez, David Angle Mendoza, Diego Nunez, Francesca Rodrigues, Diego Roman Cardona, and Cassandra Topete

BAECHTEL GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Promoting from 8th Grade



Baechtel Grove Middle School students promoting out of 8th grade: Ashley Aadland Breen, Aliyah Allshouse, Aiden Alvarez, Stella Arkellian, Alfonso Ayala, Gage Bailey, Jackson Barbitta, Macy Barnes, Carter Bennett, Vladimir Bertolino, Jeremiah Bozzo, Tanner Brewer, Sophia Brito, Emmalee Burcell, Carlissa Caddell, Hector Calderon, Payton Carey, Devin Colyar, Zoey Cook, Aidan-Jacob Cornell, Ximena Corona, Hazel Cory, Gracie Crook, David Crossley, Mason Doyle, Iliana Evans, Emily Ferrer Lopez, Michael Galindo, Allaya Glass, Lilly Glass, Fernanda Gonzalez-Eriksen, Courtney Grooms, Juan Gutierrez, Maycie Harbourn, Halle Hartley, Alexander Hee, Abigail Hoggatt, Miles Hulsey, Aidan Hult, Mason Hurst, McKayla Johnson, Aiden Jones, Jayden Jones, Caden Kelsay, Madison Lawrence, Lily Lease, Donovan Leshar, Cameron Lindsey, Kaydance Lopez, Joseph Ludwig, Corbin Mann, Asher Mansfield, Noemi Martinez-Nunez, Bayleigh Maughs, Reese Mayfield, Dane McFadden, Aidan McKinnon, Jordan McLean, Kathia Mendoza, Adrian Mora, Jerett Nelson, Autumn Nix, Leslin Nohelia, Rory Page, Gattlin Plaza, Sophia Punihaole-Figueroa, Xandra Ramirez, Xavier Ramirez, Alissa Randrup, Swinney, Ella Randrup Swinney, Meghan Redenius, Ruby Retzlloff, Alexis Revueltas, Isaiah Reyes, Pablo Reyes Gonzalez, Michael Roat II, Victoria Roberts Flores, Careli Rodriguez Ramos, Emma Rogers, Cole Simpson, Cameron Smith, Kearra Smith, Jade Sneed, Desmond Spiker, Davin Swensen, Syllas Thomson, Daniel Tinoco, Carina Trujillo Senteno, Presley Tuttle, Agustín Valenzuela, Rocelia Vicente, Logan Walsh, Chayton Whitehurst, Travis Wolfe-Hodgin, and Kylie Yokum.

WILLITS HIGH SCHOOL

Senior Graduates



Noe Alfaro Erostico



Ashlyn Alvarez



Jewel Beshara



Ethan Blum



Colin Bourdlaies



Madison Bouthillier



Ely Bowles



Hunter Britton



Hayden Bullington



Cristian Camargo Nunez



Marelly Carrillo-Olmedo



Makiah Carter



Mara Castaneda



Claudia Cazares



Mia Chavez



Maia Collins-Ramirez



Clayton Cooley



Ava Dockins-Kline



Kason Dondero



Rylee Doyle



Thaddius Elliott



Jessica Erwin



Danielle Estrada



Jayden Finley



Bodhi Fischbach



Zachary Fisher



Torin Fraser



Jocelyn Galvan



Ariana Gamez



Noemi Garcia Luna



Kyler Hall-Jimenez



Erick Haro Sierra



Quincy Hawley



Landon Honeycutt



Samantha Lazaro



Giovanni Leon



Jmy Leon



Chase Lindsey



Zahyr Lopez



Calvin Loupy



Caleb Luna



Nora Martin



Mariana Mendoza



Amy Mendoza Paniagua



Alexander Miya



Leo Moratti



Shiloh Moyer



Brian Oeth



Krystina Ojeda



Griffin O'Rear



Jayden Osajo



Kayden Paullus



Sofia Perez



Aaron Perez Reyes



Soren Pinelli



Rogelio Rodriguez



Esperanza Sanchez Orozco



Kyle Soqui



Alison Southard



Ethan Storey



Alexandra Suarez



Annie Thomen



Ayden Thrillkill



Enzo Vaccaro



Mason Valente



Lucero Vargas



Jacqueline Vieyra



Jose Villegas



Kaleb Whitehurst



Cameron Wiggins



Aleli Zuniga



Ashlyn Zynda

Not
pictured:
Natasha
Steel



pho•tog•ra•phress

[fuh-tog-ruh-friss]

noun: Maureen Jennison: a person who creates fabulous photo moments

Graduation Ceremony Photos Available to Purchase

Scan the QR code with your phone or log on to: <https://photographress.zenfolio.com/graduation>



WILLITS CHARTER

Photos by Maureen Jennison

Senior Graduates



Triniti Alvarez



Ana Espinoza Medina



Daisy Flores Bermudez



Julian Griffin



Evan Kotila



Clarah Lacy



Vincent Taylor



Aud Young

Promoting from 8th Grade



Phoenix Agenbroad



Sophia Ahearn



Hux Dukeshier



Sawyer Early



Luna France



Mila Franck



Kobi Hall-Jimenez



Baylie Hunt



Quinn Jensen



Rowdy King



Zoey Lacy



Cassius Lane



Noah Martin



Christian Oglesby



Donavin (Leo) Parlagreco



Lilliana Schneider-Elliott



Noah Smith



Joselyn Svendsen



Sebastian Villalobos Farias

LA VIDA CHARTER



Senior Graduates

Not pictured:
Aralia Hanssen,
Melissa Jackson,
Marina Torres,
and Dylan Wegesser



Valerie Smith

Promoting from 8th Grade

Photographed at their ceremony on May 28, from left: Brandon Fischer, Wyatt Escobedo, Aaron Madison, and Kalleah Campbell.

Not pictured: Talisua Niko and Jose Reynoso-Fierro