

# Willits Weekly

EST. 2013



Online & Print  
A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits  
Donations Accepted Edition No. 460 Thursday, July 14, 2022

## Juvenile arrested after golf cart theft, pursuit

By Sgt. S. Gray, for the Willits Police Department

Shortly before midnight on Monday, July 4, Willits Police Department Officer Basurto observed two juveniles operating golf carts on Holly Street without headlights or any roadway safety features.

The officer attempted a traffic stop on the two juveniles, but both fled in the golf carts. One was last observed westbound on Holly Street and the second attempted to evade the officer on Manzanita Avenue.

The juvenile was unsuccessful in evading the officer vehicle, causing the juvenile to jump out of the golf cart and run east towards the Burger King parking lot (1355 South Main Street). The officer engaged in a foot pursuit through the parking lot, ultimately detaining and arresting the juvenile.

The juvenile, 15 years old, displayed objective signs of intoxication and provided a breath sample as required by law, which showed a blood alcohol level of greater than .08%.

Assisting WPD officers secured the golf cart the juvenile was driving and were subsequently directed to the second stolen golf

Read the rest of **Arrest**  
Over on page 4

## Arrest after 5.5 hour standoff in Laytonville

By Sgt. Richard Van Baren for MCSO

On Saturday, July 2 at approximately 10:37 pm, Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputies were dispatched to a report of a male subject causing a disturbance in the 44400 block of Foster Avenue in Laytonville.

The subject was reportedly banging on fences and yelling he was going to kill the occupants of the residences in the area.

During their response, deputies received an additional call for service in the same area of a male subject using a knife to slash tires. The first two patrol vehicles on scene were occupied by a Sheriff's Office sergeant and a Sheriff's Office K9 handler.

They observed a male subject standing next to a truck parked on the street. The male matched the description provided by dispatch as the person they were looking for and the truck had four slashed tires.

The K9 deputy tried to make contact with the male, but he began walking briskly away and would not follow verbal statements to stop.

Read the rest of **Standoff**  
Over on page 4



Above, from left: Balloon animals, backpacks and school supplies, and physical assessments all for free at Adventist Health Howard Memorial. Below: Face painting was another big hit at the back-to-school event and included everything from colorful butterflies to superheroes. At bottom: A family affair: The Mondo and Alvarez families enjoyed the free fun at Sunday's fair.



Photos by Maureen Jennison

## Getting ready to get back to it

### Howard holds Back-to-School Fair and gives free sports physicals

By Cici Winiger for Adventist Health Howard Memorial

The Adventist Health Howard Memorial team had a great day serving the community last Sunday during their annual Free Sports Physical and Back to School Fair. Thanks to the staff and providers who all volunteered their time – they performed 210 sports physicals and gave away over 200 backpacks and hundreds of school supplies!

It's a much-needed service and much-loved tradition at Howard that everyone looks forward to in the community. Howard started this community service almost 10 years ago, after recognizing the great need, and they are proud of the team for continuing to step up. There were many grateful families, some of them who said their children would not be able to play sports without this great outreach.

As a coach and parent, Saprina Rodriguez says she was grateful for the service. That day, she brought six of her players, including her 15-year-old, and was helping spread the word to the rest of the team.

"We have been coming here for five years. Many of our families don't have a primary care doctor, don't have insurance, or can't afford to get their sports physicals. It's a huge help. We have a game in a month, and it's not only challenging to get an appointment, some of them don't even have a provider, so many of my players won't be able to play at all, if not for this event."

As Willits mayor, Rodriguez says it's a huge community benefit. "It's absolutely helpful to our families, and a great

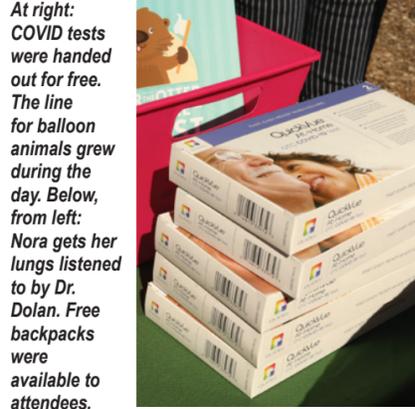
way to bring the community together. It's giving them the opportunity to participate in sports and keep our children healthy, so we're grateful."

Lucia Jara-Lopez brought her three student-athletes who are playing football this year. "I love the atmosphere, and it really helps get the kids into the swing of things of getting ready for school. For parents, trying to get three kids in to get an appointment, it's a challenge, especially for working parents. So to have this event, it's a blessing for us.

"We've been coming here for the last five years or so," Jara-Lopez continued. "It's great to see everybody come out to support children in our community. I've heard from many families who have multiple kids, that if it wasn't for this event, they wouldn't be able to afford new backpacks for their kids. It's hard enough when you have one child going back to school, but having to spend on backpacks, clothes etc., on three kids, it can add up. I love that the hospital does this for our community."

Aside from sports physicals, children also enjoyed other fun activities such as face-painting and balloon animals and received dental kits from the Little Lake Health Center, while SafeRx Mendocino provided information about alcohol and drug prevention.

Huge thanks to the Howard team – from nurses, MAs, providers and many others – who volunteered their time to help serve our community!



At right: COVID tests were handed out for free. The line for balloon animals grew during the day. Below, from left: Nora gets her lungs listened to by Dr. Dolan. Free backpacks were available to attendees.



## BOS moves forward with 1/4 cent fire sales tax

Forrest Glyer  
Reporter  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

On Tuesday the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a first vote on a 1/4 cent sales tax ordinance intended to boost funding for fire services in the county. All five supervisors indicated that they would approve the final vote on July 26, which will send the question to county voters in November.

If approved by county residents, the sales tax could produce around \$4 million annually, with 90% of the money split among the 22 county fire districts, and 10% going towards "fire prevention, resiliency and readiness."

Following a suggestion by Third District Supervisor John Haschak, the board added some specifics for what the 10% portion of money would be spent on, saying it "shall be used solely to plan, finance and operate ongoing countywide programs, including but not limited to community chipping services, defensible space assistance, and home hardening assistance."

In previous meetings the board has talked of the

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

## Public Health reports 1 COVID death, cases up

Jennifer Poole  
Editor & Reporter  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Mendocino County added another death attributed to COVID to the statistics last week.

As of July 11, Mendocino County has had 128 confirmed deaths from COVID, according to state COVID case statistics posted on the Mendocino County Public Health website. Age, vaccination status, and residence location of this most recent COVID death was not provided.

As of July 12, there were 4 COVID cases in county hospitals, with 1 in a local intensive care unit. Numbers of positive COVID residents reported by Public Health don't include all the positive cases found by home COVID tests, but as of July 11, cases countywide were up 103 cases from the day before.

Mendocino County is currently at a seven-day average of 25 cases per day per 100,000 population. March and April numbers

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

# What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

## Willits Food Bank summer update

To the Editor:

The Willits Food Bank continues to give out food and various personal necessities at 229 East San Francisco Street in Willits. We provide a nutritional variety that is sourced from USDA commodities, food purchased from Redwood Empire Food Bank, some locally donated food, and also organic produce from gardeners and gardening groups. All contributions go to feed hungry and food-insecure people in Willits and outlying areas.

We also deliver food weekly to elders who live in town, most in senior housing communities. We pay for weekly showers for local unhoused people. The showers are provided at the Redwoods RV Park.

Our winter motel season ended in April; during the off-season, we pay for one or two motel nights per month for those who are homeless and are 60 years old or older and have a medically verified disability. Thanks to those business owners who so graciously extend a helping hand to those who are experiencing extreme hardship.

Special thanks for abundant kindness and generosity from local gardeners for their beautiful organic donations; to Kim Caffrey from Redwood Empire Food Bank in Santa Rosa for her on-site guidance and support in linking us with the

food box giveaway program at the ball park and to all local area food banks; to Safeway and Mariposa for frequent generous food donations for our recipients; to Barbara Lincoln for collecting and donating tons of food during tax season; and, to the Willits Post Office for their unflinching collection and giving of food to the food bank.

Also, sincere gratitude to our staff, volunteers and board of directors who all work tirelessly to contribute to keeping our doors open to those less fortunate. Every effort brings us closer to meeting the needs of increasing numbers of hungry and needy individuals and families. The Willits community, along with many helpers, make it possible for the food bank to give out healthy food selections in substantial quantities, and to give ancillary support services to those in need.

Monetary donations are always needed and appreciated. Please send checks to 229 East San Francisco Street in Willits 95490.

**We also need: fresh organic produce, clean sleeping bags, clean blankets, shoes, clean socks and clothes for adults, youth and children, and washed recycled plastic bags.**

Thank you!

Ruthanne Volz, executive director,  
Willits Community Services and Food Bank

## THIRD DISTRICT SUPERVISOR'S REPORT July 2022 update

By Supervisor John Haschak

With the election over, I want to thank the people of the Third District for reelecting me as your supervisor on the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors. It is truly an honor to be a public servant in such a beautiful part of the world and to such great people.

As I said in the campaign, we need to work on the economy, safer communities, and a more transparent and better functioning county government. Together we can make progress on all fronts.

Before the board this week, there is discussion on a sales tax. The decision has probably already been made. Supervisor Gjerde and I proposed limiting the tax to a quarter cent which would not be an overall increase. This would be up to the voters to decide in November. Ninety percent of the revenues would go to local fire departments. The other 10 percent would go for fire prevention, resiliency, and readiness. The tax would finance programs such as community chipping services, defensible-space assistance, and home-hardening assistance.

As our three-year drought continues on, a group has been working on the regulation of private wells extracting groundwater to sell. I have been working on this with Supervisor McGourty for about a year.

Together we are proposing to protect our valuable water resources. When someone drills a well and pumps water to fill up a water truck that then hauls and sells the water to oftentimes illegal cannabis grows way out in the hills, this can leave neighbors without water for health and safety.

There need to be regulations in place in order to mitigate the immediate and long-term consequences. We have proposed an ordinance that will require oversight on these operations and compliance to ensure sustainability.

Thank you again for your confidence in me, and please reach out to me at haschakj@mendocinocounty.org or 707-972-4214.

At right: Delicious pulled pork rests in a Dutch oven before being served at Smokin G's and Big D's BBQ.

Far right: Smokin Garret and Big Dan Lewis smile on opening day of Smokin G's and Big D's BBQ.

Photos courtesy of Smokin G's and Big D's BBQ

Below: A happy customer enjoys the loaded pulled-pork nachos.



Photo by Margi Gomez Guhde



Above, left: Loaded pulled-pork nachos are one of many delectable choices on the menu.

Above, right: The "railroad smoker" was handmade with a Willits theme by Dan Lewis.

At right: Pulled pork sliders are served on grilled Hawaiian rolls with coleslaw, pickles, chips and barbecue sauce.

Photos courtesy of Smokin G's and Big D's BBQ

Below, left: Dani, Dan, and Shelley Lewis pose for a photo at their new outdoor barbecue kitchen on Main Street.

Below, right: A menu lists the offerings at Smokin G's and Big D's BBQ.

Photos by Margi Gomez Guhde

## Grill Love

Smokin G's and Big D's BBQ food trailer behind Napa Auto Parts is a family enterprise serving up lots of flavor

By Margi Gomez Guhde

If you've discovered the food trailer that is Smokin G's and Big D's BBQ behind Napa Auto Parts, you are one of the lucky ones. Delectable smells waft from the tidy attached tent as Dan, Garret, Dani and Shelley Lewis are hard at work, creating signature barbecue dishes and making a name for themselves on the Willits food scene.

Smokin G's and Big D's is a family affair and a labor of love. Dan and his son, Garret, are the owners of the new mobile barbecue eatery, with Garret's mom, Shelley, and his sister, Dani, pitching in and adding family magic to the menu.

The Lewis children, parents and grandchildren have lived in Willits for generations. Family recipes from both sides have been passed down through the generations, to become part of the ever-changing menu.

Grandmother Myrna, who passed away last year, cooked for decades at Howard Hospital, and her well-loved mustard bread is now served as a specialty at Smokin G's and Big D's.

"My dad is super creative," Garret said. "He cooks everything from Mexican to Chinese food, but his first love is smoked meats. He made tri tip for Willits High School for decades."

In addition, Dan is a master-welder who has made custom smokers for many years, using everything from 55-gallon drums to antique washing machines to create unique smokers for both individuals and businesses all around Willits.

"One of the most interesting smokers that he's made is the railroad smoker. It has a railroad spike as a handle!" said Garret, talking about the barbecue joint's signature smoker.

Dan and Garret have been crafting their menu since they started the family enterprise, offering specials like tri-tip sandwiches, potato and macaroni salads, and pulled-pork tacos, putting unique twists on dishes and gauging customers' responses. Predicting what people will like and how much to buy is an ongoing challenge.

"We need to keep testing the waters," said Garret, "learning what people want, and keeping it interesting."

The business, which opened on May 28 of this year, first set up their food trailer for the annual Willits Car Show.

"In 20 minutes we had a line going out to the street," Garret told. He says that the community response has been very positive. "We set up at the Hometown Celebration at the Rexall parking lot and we sold out in two hours. We're really happy that people enjoy what we do!"

Garret said that although they plan to stay at their current location behind Napa Auto Parts, a property owned by extended family for years, they hope to acquire a larger mobile kitchen with full stainless appliances and countertops to better serve their customers.

"We want to continue smoking and

Read the rest of **Barbecue** | Over on page 9

## 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. Price is \$7.

**Thursday, July 14:** Chicken Fajitas, Rice, Beans, Green Salad

**Friday, July 15:** Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Veggie, Roll

**Monday, July 18:** Fish Tacos, Rice, Beans

**Tuesday, July 19:** Chicken Philly, Potato Wedges, Green Salad

**Wednesday, July 20:** Carnitas Burritos, wet w/Green Sauce

**Thursday, July 21:** Baked Chicken, Au Gratin Potato, Green Salad

**Friday, July 22:** Swedish Meatballs, Noodles, Veggie, Roll

Meals on Wheels: The Senior Center Meals on Wheels program delivers lunch Monday through Friday. To sign up call Deb 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

## Sherwood Firewise wins Walmart grant for address signs

Submitted by Sherwood Firewise

Walmart Giving! has awarded Sherwood Firewise Communities a grant to help keep residents of the Sherwood corridor safer

This \$1,000 grant is set to provide CalFire approved, reflective address signs for Sherwood corridor residents who are veterans, disabled and/or income eligible.

Fire season now extends throughout the year in Mendocino County. When called for assistance, first responders have expressed concern over the difficulty finding some rural property locations in the Sherwood corridor. Rapid response is essential to keep our communities safe because localized fires, if not extinguished immediately, can quickly turn into devastating wildland fires.

To address the property location issue, the donated address signs have 4-inch-high, green, reflective numbers that are easily visible at night and superior to the most common address numbers used by property owners.

The grant also acts as seed money that can be used in future grant applications to demonstrate that Sherwood Firewise Communities is a functioning service organization with community support

Thank you, Walmart Giving!, for helping keep our communities safer!

## Sherwood Firewise meeting July 14

Please join the Sherwood Firewise Communities virtual quarterly meeting on Thursday, July 14, at 6 pm if you live along the Sherwood corridor.

On the agenda:

- Supervisor John Hatchback
- Home Hardening Inspection UPDATE
- Announcing the Walmart Giving! Grant
- Roadside fuel Reduction Progress Report
- Additional Emergency Access Routes

Join Online Zoom Meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85625036304?pwd=dVpYXpnSkwrQkxwXkdRZkd6T3E5ZD09

Meeting ID: 856 2503 6304; Password: 918795

Join by phone only: (669) 900-6833; Meeting ID: 856 2503 6304; Password: 918795

## 6th annual Rural County Photo Contest

Submitted by RCRC, Sacramento

Rural County Representatives of California is holding its Sixth Annual Rural County Photo Contest from July 1 through July 31, 2022. The contest invites individuals to submit their photographs capturing life in rural California and showcasing the beautiful scenery, activities, communities, history, and charm of RCRC's 39 member counties – including Mendocino County. Photo entries should be sent to photocontest@rcrcnet.org. All entries must be received by 11:59 pm on July 31, 2022, be the original work of the submitter, and must include:

- Location where the photo was taken, including the county in which it was taken; and
- Photographer's full name and email address.

The grand prize winner will receive a \$100 gift card, and the winning photograph will be unveiled at the September RCRC Board of Directors meeting. Full contest details are available on the RCRC website at www.rcrcnet.org/photo-contest.

The Rural County Representatives of California is a 39-member county strong service organization that champions policies on behalf of California's rural counties. RCRC is dedicated to representing the collective unique interests of its membership, providing legislative and regulatory representation at the state and federal levels, and providing responsible services for its members to enhance and protect the quality of life in rural California counties. To learn more about RCRC, visit rcrcnet.org and follow @RuralCounties on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.



The Rules: LETTERS

Letters & Commentaries: Email letters to willitsweekly@gmail.com. Letters focusing on Willits and Third District issues, activities, events and people have priority. Willits Weekly prints letters 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.

Typed letters can be sent to Willits Weekly, P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490, but email is preferred. 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. No letters from an anonymous source will be published, although a request to withhold the writer's name will be considered.



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# Willits Weekly

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WILLITS CENTER FOR THE

# ARTS

## YART SALE

Huge selection of Art and Craft Supplies and Art Work at incredibly low prices.  
Great for home, crafting, and school.

Friday, July 15, 10 - 5  
Saturday July 16, 10-5  
Sunday July 17, 11 - 2

This is a benefit for the Arts Center.

71 East Commercial Street, Willits 95490 Next to the Noyo Theater.

Yart Sale on the back patio behind the Art Center.  
Artwork on Sale upstairs in the Great Room.

## 1st Outdoor Chili Cook-Off

### CHILI COOKOFF

SPONSORED BY  
**WILLITS HARRAH SENIOR CENTER**

Friday, August 19, 2022 • 5:00 to 7:00 PM  
Rec Grove Park  
299 E. Commercial St., Willits, CA

Taste and vote for your favorite Chili.  
Fresh Baked Corn Bread Muffins - Free  
Sodas - \$2 Water - \$1  
Root Beer Floats - \$4

**Wrist Bands**  
Adults \$12 Children \$8  
Senior Center Members \$10

ENTER YOUR FAVORITE CHILI  
\$50 REGISTRATION FEE FOR HALF TABLE  
\$100 REGISTRATION FREE FOR FULL TABLE

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 459-6827

# Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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



## 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!

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

## WELLNESS WORD SEARCH

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

## CLUES ACROSS

- Absence of difficulty
5. Preserve a dead body
11. Gratitude
14. The act of coming together again
15. More cushy
18. Visionaries
19. Large, fish-eating bird
21. Indicates near
23. NY Mets legend Tommie
24. Icelandic books
28. Pop
29. Hammer is one
30. Sense of self-importance
32. Thyrotrophic hormone
33. Can't be found
35. Electronic data processing
36. Passports and licenses are two
39. Snake-like fishes
41. Air Force
42. Popular computers
44. Intermediate ecological

stage

46. Wings
47. Used in combination
49. Laid back
52. Jewelled headdress
56. Slow
58. Famous Falls
60. Reassertions
62. Periods of time
63. Hyphen

## CLUES DOWN

1. Body part
2. Mimics
3. Expel large quantities
4. Sea eagle
5. Genetically distinct varieties
6. Dialect of Chinese
7. Famous Mr. T character
8. Consumed
9. Chinese dynasty
10. Menace to yards
12. Ireland
13. Palm trees
16. Fungal disease
17. Willis and Robert are two
20. Affirmative! (slang)
22. It shows who you are
25. The First State (abbr.)
26. Get older
27. Associations
29. Woman (French)
31. Sunscreen rating
34. Brew
36. Leader
37. Plants in the legume family
38. Burn with a hot liquid
40. Junior's father
43. Scads
45. Morning
48. Length of a line (abbr.)
50. Double curve
51. Small, thin person
53. Worn by exposure to the weather
54. Mars crater
55. Humanities
57. Word element meaning ear
58. To the \_\_\_ degree
59. Residue of something burned
61. It cools your home



From far left: After years of collecting, most players have books of cards to play with, some just for investment. Shane, who was currently in second place in the tournament, poses with his tournament partner, Jeremy; both are from Kingdom Games in Lakeport. A "Basic Land" card, used in each round of the game, provides the energy required to cast spells.

Below, left: Magic: The Gathering requires skill, luck, and extreme concentration as well as a tactical mindset. Below, right: The winning team of Alex and Bob receive valuable cards and playing mats, extending Bob's score in the tournament to 15 points and putting him well into the lead.



# Strategic Entertainment

## Teams compete to win \$3,000 at the Commander Championship hosted by Gateway Games on Saturday

Twelve intrepid masters of Magic: The Gathering sat down, unfolded their mats, arranged their cards, and began to eat away at each other's life-points on Saturday. Several hours later, after dynamic strategies and fierce battles, it was over, for this day, with one team gaining four points toward the grand-tournament total and the ultimate grand-prize pool of \$3,000.

**Mathew Caine**  
Features Writer  
mathew@willitsweekly.com

"For tournaments, we do charge a \$30 buy-in," Pearce continued. "The grand-prize pool is \$3,000. Half of the entry goes to the grand-prize pool. The other half goes to door prizes for that day. If you only come to one session, you can still walk away with great prizes. If you play and win the whole shebang, then you're going to walk away with a whole lot of stuff."

To the uninitiated observer, it seemed like a group of friends, sitting down for a friendly game of cards, but to those in the know, the action was hot and heavy and internally nerve-wracking, as the strategies overtook the elements of chance.

"It's less about being good and more about being consistent," he said. "If you show up to pretty much every event, you'll place higher than someone who does really well but only shows up to a couple sessions."

One by one, the players revealed their cards, denoting realms, lands, actions, creatures, and other aspects of the game-play, prompting the indicated responses from the opposing players. The object was to eat away at the opponent's life-points, beginning at 20, until he had no life remaining.

"Magic: The Gathering is an international phenomenon. "It was released in 1993 by Wizards of the Coast," said Pearce. "It has approximately 35,000,000 players worldwide. It's one of the largest card games on the planet. There's a written storyline behind it and books and a bunch of ancillary stuff. They're even making a TV show. It's created by the same people that do Dungeons and Dragons."

The tournament, the coordinated effort of four gaming stores, is known as "the Lake and Mendo EDH [Elder Dragon Highlander] or the Commander Championship," according to Tony Pearce, owner of Gateway Games in Willits and Ukiah.

"I've been playing since I was a kid," said a veteran player named Robert. "I got my first cards in 1994 and haven't looked back. There's a lot of strategy that goes into it. Even playing with the same cards every time, every game is different. There's a lot of variants, a lot of customization. You can play a bunch of different ways and every way feels right."

"There are 12 total sessions to the tournament," explained Pearce. "It's running once a month all year. The first Saturday of each month. It's split between four stores: Kingdom Games in Lakeport, Sword & Board in Ukiah, Game Hub in Lower Lake, and Gateway Games in Willits. We have one more event in Willits, November 5."

"How the game starts," explained Robert, "is that both players shuffle their decks and

Read the rest of **Gaming** Over on page 6



Above, left: Tony Pearce of Gateway Games oversees the day's games, making sure all the rules are followed. Above, right: Karina attended to root on her brother, Alfredo. Below: The Commander Championship is played in the back room of the Gateway Games store for an intimate competition. At bottom, left: Partners Bob and Alex confer on which cards to play and in which order. At bottom, right: Teams compete against each other at the Gateway Games Commander Championship on Saturday.



Photos by Mathew Caine

## WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE LOG

July 3 to July 9

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department handled 96 incidents in this 7-day reporting period.

### Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

- July 3**  
12:36 am: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.  
9:59 am: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 800 block of South Main Street.  
1:55 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 1200 block of Locust Street.  
4:18 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 800 block of South Main Street.  
5:16 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.  
6:39 pm: JORDAN, Dustin Lee (43) of Willits was contacted in the 700 block of South Main Street. He was arrested pursuant to 11377 H&S (Possession of Methamphetamine), on felony charges of violation of parole, and on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia.  
8:34 pm: CAMPBELL, Bridgette Kaaela (30) of Willits was contacted near the intersection of Meadowbrook Drive and Crest Drive. She was arrested on misdemeanor charges of disobeying a court order and failure to appear.
- July 4**  
7:43 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street and issued a citation.  
10:37 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.  
**July 5**  
5:32 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.  
4:45 pm: GOLDSMITH, Michelle Robin

- (49) of Willits was contacted in the 200 block of East San Francisco Ave. She was arrested on felony charges of violation of probation, and on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance.  
**July 6**  
12:21 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1000 block of Poplar Avenue.  
**July 7**  
10:19 am: Officers responded to a report of trespassing in the 100 block of Highway 20.  
9:02 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.  
**July 8**  
3:02 pm: Officers responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of Williams Street.  
5:59 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 100 block of Pine Street.  
9:49 pm: RODMAN, Lisa Marie (47) of Willits was contacted in the 1300 block of South Main Street. She was arrested pursuant to 23152 VC (Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol), and on misdemeanor charges of driving with a blood alcohol content of 0.08 percent or higher and driving without a license.  
11:02 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Highway 20 and Coast Street.  
**July 9**  
2:39 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of East Commercial Street and North Marin Street.  
7:35 pm: MATHERN, Wayne Robert (43) of Eureka was contacted near the intersection of South Main Street and Hazel Street. He was arrested pursuant to 22210 PC (Possession of a Leaded Cane or Baton), 22435.2 BP (Shopping Cart Theft), 11357 (B) (2) H&S (Possession of Marijuana), 1203.2 PC (Violation of Probation), and on felony charges of violation of parole.

### The rest of Arrest

From page 1

cart found abandoned by Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputies in the roadway on Blosser Lane at Meadowbrook Drive.  
Evidence found in one of the golf carts pointed to possible ownership by Sparetime Supply. MCSO deputies assisted by responding to the Sparetime Supply yard, where additional golf carts of the same make and model were located.  
The owner of Sparetime Supply was contacted and confirmed ownership of the golf carts and that no one had permission to take or use them after business hours.  
All in One Towing towed the two golf carts to the WPD station prior to any contact with Sparetime Supply's owner.  
The juvenile, who cannot be named due to his age, was medically cleared (due to being intoxicated) prior to being transported and booked into the Mendocino County Juvenile Hall for violation of: 2800.2 VC (Felony Evading), 10851 VC (Vehicle Theft), 23152(a) VC (DUI), 23152(b) VC (DUI .08% BAC or Greater), 182 PC (Conspiracy), 496(a) PC (Possession of Stolen Property), 148(a)(1) PC (Obstructing/Resisting Arrest), and 9.84.050 WMC (Curfew Violation).  
The second juvenile's identity is still outstanding. Anyone with information as to the identity of the second juvenile suspect is encouraged to contact Officer Basurto at 707-459-6122.  
The Willits Police Department would like to thank the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office for their valuable assistance in this case.

### The rest of Standoff

From page 1

The male told the deputy he was going to kill the Sheriff's Office personnel, then entered a Ford pickup truck parked in a driveway and began to back up to leave the area.  
One of the Sheriff's Office personnel on scene saw what was about to happen and parked his patrol vehicle in the center of the driveway, directly behind the Ford pickup truck. This effectively blocked the pickup truck from leaving and avoided a pursuit.  
The pickup truck and patrol vehicle were separated by about 30 to 40 feet at this time.  
Once the male realized he was unable to get out, he made attempts to ram the patrol vehicle blocking his path.  
The male stopped short of ramming the patrol vehicle but did get close enough that Sheriff's Office personnel thought they were going to be run over, and they moved away from their vehicles to avoid being injured in case of a collision.  
The male refused to exit the pickup truck and a stand-off ensued, with the male barricading himself inside the pickup truck.  
During the standoff, the male was identified as being Shane Workman, 37 of Laytonville.  
Workman had a felony warrant for burglary, weapon charges, and violation of probation. It was also learned that Workman had prior incidents in which he was armed with a firearm.  
A 5.5-hour stand-off with Workman ensued in which members of patrol and the Mendocino County SWAT Team were utilized.  
During this time crisis negotiators were deployed, but Workman refused to communicate with them. This led to chemical agents being introduced into the pickup truck by use of a 40-millimeter projectile fired through his back windows.  
During this time, Workman positioned his vehicle to try and ram Sheriff Office vehicles and employees.  
The SWAT Citizen Rescue Vehicle – a Lenco BearCat – was utilized to pin Workman's vehicle in the driveway as a safety measure.  
The pickup truck's driver-side window was then broken out, and the door was opened.  
It was during this time Workman reached for a knife so Sheriff's K9 "Bo" was deployed, and Workman was subsequently removed from the pickup truck by deputies.  
Workman was taken into custody and placed under arrest for charges of 245(c) PC (Assault with a Deadly Weapon Upon a Peace Officer); 594(a)(b)(1) PC (Vandalism Amounting to Greater than \$400); 1203.2 PC (Felony Violation of Probation), and his out of county felony arrest warrant.  
Workman was medically cleared and thereafter booked into the Mendocino County Jail where he was to be held in lieu of \$50,000 bail.

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**KEELY and DU** by Jane Martin

## Call for Auditions

Willits Community Theatre

Directed by Mathew Caine

Saturday, July 16, 2 to 4 pm - Thursday, July 21, 7 to 9 pm

### SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

**Agape Bible Church**  
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Where love is first and the Bible is central.  
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10:00 a.m. - Worship  
Adult Sunday School 9:00 a.m.  
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www.agapebiblechurch.com

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707-303-9456  
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10:30 a.m. Spanish  
Saturday Mass: 5:30 p.m.  
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1 North Main Street, Willits  
707-272-0177  
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If you want to be included in this column please call:  
**April Tweddell**  
(707) 972-2475  
april@willitsweekly.com

## Call for Auditions

"Keely & Du" by Jane Martin, directed by Mathew Caine, plays October 7-23.

Auditions are Saturday, July 16, from 2 to 4 pm, and Thursday, July 21, from 7 to 9 pm, at Willits Community Theatre, 37 West Van Lane.

Call is for a female, 20 to 35; a female, 50 to 70; a male, 45 to 65, and a male, 25 to 35. Call Mike A'Dair at 707-200-2462 or Mathew Caine at 310-691-2559

When a young woman, Keely, is abducted from an abortion clinic by a radical religious group, she is incarcerated and handcuffed to a bed in order to force her to carry the baby to term, she must find a way to retain her right to self-determination against difficult odds, as her captors try to indoctrinate her into their mindset.

During her ordeal, she finds a way to create a friendship and understanding with her keeper, Du, a devout woman with an empathetic heart.

## Introducing 'History Makers' at the Mendocino County Museum

Submitted by Mendocino County Cultural Services Agency

Families and museum-goers of all ages are invited to join Mendocino County Museum staff during our new series program: History Makers! The program will be held from 1 to 3 pm the first Saturday of every month and repeat weekly on Wednesdays. Each month we will explore historical themes through stories and hands-on activities.

All ages are welcome to participate. Supplies may be limited and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

We are kicking off the program this July with "History Makers: Bear Tracks!" We will explore our current exhibit "Bear in Mind: The Story of the California Grizzly" and have a make and take animal track activity. Upcoming program dates are Wednesday, July 20 and Wednesday, July 27 from 1 to 3 pm.

For more information, please visit www.mendocinocounty.org/museum or contact the Mendocino County Museum at museum@mendocinocounty.org or 707-459-2736.



## Otters bring in 24 first-place finishes at June swim meet

Submitted by Willits Otters Swim Club

The Willits Otters Swim Club hosted the June Willits Otters Swim Meet. There were five teams participating in the meet, with a total of 87 swimmers. On Sunday, the fathers that were helping in the event were all treated to a tri-tip lunch in honor of Father's Day.

The Otters were represented by Winter Geremia, Gracie McIvor, Charlie Pinon, Graham Olson, Abel Rose, Charlotte Arkelian, Sophie Chavez, Clair McIvor, Kathia Mendoza, Serenitee Nowlin, Aubree Wagener, Kingston Casey, Michael Gillespie, Lucas Phillips, Alastair Rose, Stella Arkelian, Mia Chavez, Grace Orozco, Alexa Williams, Jemma Apodaca, Ava Arkelian, Leah Blakely, Estrella Mendoza, Stormie Nowlin, Evangeline Semisch, and Farrow Lockwood-Chenelle.

The Otters garnered 45 top-three finishes with 24 first-place finishes. Those with one or more first-place finishes were Graham Olson, Leah Blakely, Gracie McIvor, Winter Geremia, Serenitee Nowlin, Sophie Chavez, Kathia Mendoza, Mia Chavez, Alexa Williams, Evangeline Semisch, Stormie Nowlin, and Farrow Lockwood-Chenelle winning four first places.

In addition, Willits also won first place in the 100-yard boys freestyle relay with the team of Graham Olson, Lucas Phillips, Alastair Rose, and Michael Gillespie.

The girls won the 200-yard freestyles relay with the team of Leah Blakely, Stormie Nowlin, Mia Chavez, Farrow Lockwood-Chenelle and the 100-yard freestyle relay with the team of Clair McIvor, Serenitee Nowlin, Kathia Mendoza, and Sophie Chavez.

The Otters will finish their summer competitions with a mid-July meet in Ukiah.

Way to go Otters!

Above, left: Alexa Williams, Mia Chavez, Farrow Lockwood-Chenelle, Sophie Chavez, Leah Blakely and Kathia Mendoza wave American flags from their lanes at the June swim meet.

At left: Looking for some time in the pool? Here's the current schedule for the City of Willits Pool at Willits High School.



## This is us, Now

A show about being together and making something.

## Mother and daughter duo of Linda Posner and Pearl Marill to perform at the Willits Community Theatre on July 23 and 24

Submitted by Steve Hellman for Willits Community Theatre

The mother and daughter duo of Linda Posner and Pearl Marill will perform at the Willits Community Theatre on Saturday, July 23 and Sunday, July 24. Using dance, improvisation, poetry, music and conversation, this dynamic duo will dive into the unknown alongside the audience as they navigate the task of performing without a plan.

"This is Us, Now" unfolds in real time as Posner and Marill check in with themselves and the audience for how the show will go.

With more than 100 years of combined experience, Posner and Marill bring their love of improvisation and collaboration to the WCT stage with an invitation to the

audience to become an integral part of the inevitable excitement of this unpredictable performance.

Marill is an award-winning actress, dancer, comedian and choreographer based out of San Francisco and Los Angeles. Isadora Duncan Dance Award winner for "Outstanding Achievement in Ensemble Performance 2012," and winner of the "Shortlived 2016" short-play festival, Marill's work has been shown at venues and festivals throughout the Bay Area and Los Angeles.

Posner has been involved in theater and dance for 55 years, starting out as a chorus dancer in civic light opera productions in Los Angeles. Posner went on to become a leading dancer on the Broadway stage

in New York where she danced, acted and sang in "Hello Dolly," "A Joyful Noise," "Applause," and "Pippin."

Posner won a Tony nomination for best supporting actress for "A Joyful Noise," and won a Tony nomination for best actress in Bob Fosse's original "Pippin." Off-Broadway she starred in the rock musical, "Your Own Thing," and had leading roles in the films, "Valentino" directed by Ken Russell, and "All That Jazz" by Bob Fosse.

Tickets for the performances on Saturday at 7:30 pm and Sunday at 2 pm are \$15 and available at the WCT website: www.wctperformingartscenter.org. The performers ask that all those attending the show wear masks, regardless of their vaccination status.



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## The rest of Gaming | From page 5

draw seven cards. The game has a resource system that determines the way you can play your cards. The most common resources are your 'lands.' You play lands to play other cards. You go back and forth. Some cards will destroy other cards or creatures. Some cards will take cards directly from your opponents. Some cards will let you draw extra cards. It depends on how your deck is built and what your goal for the game is."

Magic is a deep and engrossing game to those in the know, many of whom have dedicated a good portion of their lives to mastering the strategies and amassing the best sets of cards. There are two main ways to become involved in the game, as a player or as a trader, most players are both.

"Some of the cards are worth a few hundred dollars," explained Pearce. "There's a whole secondary market for individual cards. There're different abilities, different print runs. Some cards are only made once or twice. The Dual Land has only ever been made twice. It was only made in the first and third Magic sets.

"There's something called the 'Reserve List,'" continued Pearce. "It's a list of cards that the company promises to never remake, to lock in the value of that card. The value of all the cards on the Reserve List have gone up around 20 percent per year for the last six years, better than the S&P 500.

"After an article came out on the value of Magic cards," he added, "a bunch of investors started buying up cards and shut the value way up. Five years ago that Dual Land card was about \$200 and now it's like \$425 to \$450."

The most valuable card, so far, was "Black Lotus." Signed by the artist, it sold

at auction for \$511,100.

At the end of the day's tournament play, the team of Alex and Bob won, earning them four points each and valuable game cards and a Gateway Games playing mat. Bob, who was in the lead in the overall tournament, solidified his position and now has 15 points.

"The event was a blast," recalled Pearce. "There were a couple of really close matches where a single right or wrong move decided the game. Everyone seemed to have a great time, ended up with a few prizes, and seemed satisfied."

In addition to the Willits tournament on November 5, Gateway Games hosts individual Magic competitions every Friday night at 6 pm.

To learn more about Magic: The Gathering, visit: https://magic.wizards.com. To find out about upcoming tournaments, visit Gateway Games online at https://gateway-games.com, in person at 1706 South Main Street, or call 707-680-0266.



Above: The "Black Lotus" card, sold for \$511,100.

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2:00 - 3:30 **Tom Lasbury**  
4:00 - 5:30 **Scott Forbes Band**  
6:00 - 7:30 **West Coast Turnaround**  
8:00 - 10:00 **Kingsnakes with Indiana Slim**

Sunday

11:00 - 12:00 **Chief Greenbud & Friends**  
12:30 - 1:30 **While We're Young**  
2:00 - 3:30 **Troy Connors Band**  
4:00 - 6:00 **West Coast Turnaround**

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Above, left: The Yart Sale has, in the past, offered a selection of Emmy Good's art stamps. Above, right: Joe Dowling, Steve Eberhard, Emmy Good and Bill Barksdale look through the thousands of items available at the WCA Yart Sale.

# Yart Sale

Find all kinds of art supplies and prints at the Willits Center for the Arts annual yard sale this weekend

The Annual Willits Center for the Arts "Yart Sale" is finally back after a two-year pandemic hiatus. Shoppers will find a robust array of donated art supplies and kids' art sets, perfect for home and school projects or for those who enjoy doodling at home and being visually creative.

In addition, artwork from WCA Curator Gary Martin's collections, as well as other donors, will be available at extremely reasonable prices in the upstairs Great Room, including handmade papers and paintings. Many of the works to be sold include original prints and photos.

Art by such luminaries as Rupert Jason Smith, Salvador Dali and Francesco Scavullo will be offered at rock-bottom prices. This is an excellent chance to expand one's collection, redo home décor, or simply enjoy owning new works by well-known artists at incredible savings.

The event will primarily be held in the shade, outdoors behind the Willits Center for the Arts. The ceramics studio will be open for those who may desire a tour of this creative space. There will be music to make the shopping experience more enjoyable and there just may be smoothies, according to board member Alexis Halleck.

Help the Willits Center for the Arts keep their doors open, be able to bring in the best of local Mendocino artists, and continue to offer classes in drawing, ceramics, dancing, etc., by picking up art and art materials for personal and class projects. This is so much more than just a sale, it's a fun family event.

This event takes place Friday and Saturday, July 15 and 16, from 10 am to 5 pm, and Sunday, July 17, 11 am to 2 pm at Willits Center for the Arts, located at 71 East Commercial Street. Call 459-1726 for more information. Volunteers are always needed to work the front desk and help keep the WCA open to the public.

Below, left: Curator Gary Martin looks over some very wide prints upstairs in the Great Room that will be for sale at the Yart Sale. Below, right: Joe Dowling and Janice Cinek look over prints to buy.



Photos by Mathew Caine



Above: Many of the attendees at Monday's celebration gathered for a group photo in front of the "#1 Most Socially Responsible Hospital" banner.

## Socially Responsible

Submitted by Adam Istas, for Adventist Health Howard Memorial

Adventist Health Howard Memorial was recently named the most socially responsible hospital in the country by the Lown Institute, a national non-partisan think tank. To celebrate, the Howard team held a community celebration in front of the hospital on Monday, July 11. Adventist Health CEO Kerry Heinrich traveled to Willits to personally thank the team and the community for continuing to support quality local health care.

"This award belongs to the entire community, and we're grateful to share this recognition with the people of Willits and all of Mendocino County," said Heinrich. Howard Memorial was one of only three California hospitals in the top 20, and one of only 66 hospitals in the country to receive straight 'As' on the key metrics of equity, value and outcomes.



Photos by Maureen Jennison

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**NEXT WEEK: NOPE**

**THOR: LOVE & THUNDER**  
(PG13) 1 hr 59 mins  
Fri.-Thurs:  
12:15, 3:00, 5:45 & 8:30pm

**MINIONS: THE RISE OF GRU**  
(PG) 1 hr 27 mins  
Fri.-Thurs:  
1:15, 3:20, 5:25 & 7:30pm

**ELVIS! (2022)**  
Over 21 Club/  
Luxury Recliners  
(PG13) 2 hrs 39 mins  
Fri.-Thurs:  
1:00, 4:20 & 7:45pm

Movie Times for July 15 thru July 21

Masks Optional

## Playful Creamsicle

Creamsicle is a cool, happy guy. This 8-month-old tabby enjoys playing with toys and with people, and likes to explore. This guy can get a bit nippy when he gets excited, so he would most likely do best in a home with no young children.

The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, requires a reservation to view adoptable animals. Call 707-467-6453 to make an appointment to meet Creamsicle or our other canine and feline guests. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at [www.mendocinoshelter.com](http://www.mendocinoshelter.com).



## Kid-loving Roxy

Roxy is affectionate, happy and social. She is people-oriented and, in fact, her tail wags and her eyes light up when she sees children. She is dog-social and has lived with another dog previously. Roxy will not be a good fit for a small animal / cat home.

Our pretty girl rides well in a car, knows some commands, and after some initial pulling, walks well on lead.

Roxy is an all-around lovely candidate for a moderately active (and FUN!) family with a yard. In a word, she's a gem! Come meet her!

To learn more about Roxy or view other adoptable animals, visit [www.milofoundation.org](http://www.milofoundation.org) or the Milo Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions by appointment only due to COVID-19. Please complete a pet-adoption application before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 510-900-2275.



## Clever Mini

Meet Mini! Mini is 1 year old and landed here with us a few months ago with a buddy when their home didn't work out. Mini also lived in a home with a cat. Mini's previous home states she is playful, house broken, knows how to sit, will fetch, walks on a leash, and had a training session prior to coming to us.

Since being with us, our dog team and volunteers have continued to work with this beautiful girl. Mini's friend was adopted and now it is our girl's time to shine. She wants more than life in a kennel and you can help us do just that! Come check out this sweetie and fall in love! Apply today at [www.mendohumansociety.com](http://www.mendohumansociety.com).

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. We are open Wednesday through Friday from 1 to 5 pm and Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 3 pm. Closed Mondays and Tuesdays. You may also look at our available dogs and cats on our website: [www.mendohumansociety.com](http://www.mendohumansociety.com), our Facebook page, and on [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com).



## LEGAL NOTICES

WW388  
**Fictitious Business Name Statement**  
2022-F0316  
The following LLC is doing business as Shamrock Artisan Goat Cheese, 24225 Reynolds Highway, Willits CA 95490.  
Registered owner: Summer Breeze Ranch, LLC, 24225 Reynolds Highway, Willits CA 95490.  
This business is conducted by a Limited Liability Company  
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 June 15, 2022.  
/s/ Ana Cox, manager  
Publication dates: June 23, 30, 7, 14, 2022

**Willits Weekly can run your legal notices including fictitious business name statements, foreclosure notices, storage unit auctions, and more. Contact us for more information at [willitsweekly@gmail.com](mailto:willitsweekly@gmail.com)**

## LEGAL NOTICES

WW391  
**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: EDNA ROSE KNIGHT, aka EDNA R. KNIGHT, aka EDNA KNIGHT**  
CASE NO. 22PR00102  
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate or both of EDNA ROSE KNIGHT, aka EDNA R. KNIGHT, aka EDNA KNIGHT  
A Petition for Probate has been filed by Patricia Hals and Robert S. Knight in the Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino.  
The Petition for Probate requests that Patricia Hals and Robert S. Knight be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.  
The Petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.  
The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.  
A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: Date: August 4, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. in Dept.: TM of the Mendocino County Superior Court, located at 700 S Franklin St., Fort Bragg, CA 95437.  
If you object to granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.  
If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.  
You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.  
Attorney for Petitioner: Jennifer M. O'Brien, NEARY and O'BRIEN, 110 S Main St., Ste. C, Willits, CA 95490, Telephone: (707) 459-5551.  
Publication Dates: July 14, 21, 28, 2022



## Invites applications for:

- Animal Protection Officer I
  - Business System Analyst
  - Corrections Deputy
  - Department Analyst I/II
  - Department Application Specialist
  - Deputy County Counsel II/III/IV
  - Deputy Director of Transportation – Administration and Business Services
  - Deputy District Attorney I/II/III
  - Deputy Probation Officer I/II
  - Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II
  - Facility Project Specialist I/II
  - Juvenile Corrections Officer - Extra-Help
  - Public Health Nurse
  - Real Property Appraiser Technician
  - Registered Nurse
  - Road Maintenance Worker III
  - Senior Business Systems Analyst
  - Senior Program Manager – Nursing
  - Senior Public Health Nurse
  - Senior Substance Abuse Counselor
  - Supervising Public Health Nurse
  - Supervising Staff Assistant
- For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:  
[www.governmentjobs.com/careers/mendocinoca](http://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/mendocinoca)  
EOE

The rest of **Barbecue** | From page 3

cooking our signature smoked meats," shared Garrett. "That's the heart of what we do and it's what we love to do. We also want to expand our catering business and continue covering special events around town."

Although hours will likely be expanded in the future, Smokin G's and Big D's BBQ is currently open at 1571 South Main Street on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 11 am to 5:30 pm. For special menu items, special hours, special deals, and more, visit their Facebook page.

You can also catch them and their smoked and barbecued specialties at the upcoming Festival in the Redwoods and Golf Tournament, at the Brooktrails Golf Course on July 30. Proceeds from the Rotary-sponsored festival, which includes a live and silent auction, go to scholarships for Willits High School seniors and the Willits Senior Center.

For delicious hometown barbecue with a big heart, don't miss Smokin G's and Big D's!



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willitspower@gmail.com Fax: 707 459-6369

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# ‘Thor: Love and Thunder’

**The Story:** Marvel Universe continues the fractured love story of Thor (Chris Hemsworth) and Jane Foster (Natalie Portman). And meanwhile: Gorr the God Butcher (Christian Bale) is traveling the Universe in search of gods to kill. Why does he do this? No spoilers, but he has his reasons. Of course this will bring him into deadly and inescapable conflict with Thor the God of Thunder.

**My Thoughts:** I can't get it out of my memory; it is the look on Thor's face when he recognizes the tragic costs of Love. Despite dismissive comments made about Marvel superheroes, many of the performers are fine, even invigorating actors. In this flick, all the principal actors shine. Especially Chris Hemsworth, he's first-rate. No wonder he's a star.

Director/writer Taika Waititi has an admirable moral center. He's no square, he's quirky, and his characters, even the comedic ones, search for, talk about, and find meaning. They know why they are doing what they are doing, no matter how odd their acts, or outré. Waititi can go from the Nazi comedy-drama of "Jojo Rabbit" to this flick. I doff my hat and bow respectfully. "Thor: Love and Thunder" is more than good guys versus bad guys. It's funny, it's sad, it's violent, and it's rated PG 13.

**Parents:** This flick is not child-appropriate. There are some mild sex jokes, and brief nudity, and there is the death of major characters, including a child. Also, children are kidnapped. For some children I've known, kidnapping was one of their dominant fears.

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

## Ronald Kooyers

Ronald Kooyers of Willits passed away at the age of 78, on June 24, 2022. He was born April 13, 1944 to Howard and Carol Kooyers (Brown) in Boise, Idaho. Ronald married June Kooyers (Powell) on August 28, 1965 in San Jose, California.



He was a machinist for 57 years and owner of "Mendo Tool & Machine of Willits."

Ronald enjoyed reading, flying, fishing, hunting, and camping with his grandsons. He was THE BEST PAPA EVER! Ronald built boats, airplanes, and many other items. He was a motorcycle racer and airplane pilot. He was a very talented man.

Ronald served in the U.S. Navy from 1962-1965. He is survived by his wife, June; daughters Julie Gardenhire and Sheila Hicker; son Eric Kooyers; eight grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; one sister, and three brothers.



grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; one sister, and three brothers.

## 1st Outdoor Chili Cook-Off to benefit Willits Senior Center

Willits Harrah Senior Center is still signing up contestants for the August 19 Chili Cookoff, outdoors at the Rec Grove from 5 to 7 pm.

This is a fundraiser for the Senior Center, which has been short on fundraisers the last couple of years due to COVID.

Enter your favorite chili: \$50 registration fee for half table; \$100 registration fee.



Far left: Members of the Willits Wild Bunch hold up their People's Choice Chili 2019: Tim "Superman" and Gloria "Jinx" Westby, Rich "Pops" and Kim "Sugar B" Venturi, T.J. "Chewie," Sequoia Jones, Mylinda "Bubblz" Shaal, and Todd "Bam Bam" Southard.

At left: The Willits Fire Department's pot is the 2019 winner of Hottest Chili.

Photos by Mathew Caine

## Diane Lewis

Diane Dale Lewis, beloved daughter, partner, mother, and grandmother passed away on June 19, 2022 at 69 years old. She was preceded in death by her parents, Jack and Ruby Lewis, of Willits.

After graduating from Willits High School in 1970, Diane studied court reporting in San Francisco before returning to her home town to open several businesses over the years.

Diane was always colorful and a compassionate spirit who loved doing Zumba with her friends and neighbors.

Diane is survived by her partner Ken Roberts, her two sons, Michael and Gregory Aiello, and her seven grandchildren.

A celebration of Diane's life is being planned for July 30 from 12 to 4 pm at the Willits Community Center.



The rest of Tax | From page 1

Mendocino County Fire Safe Council being one of the main groups to coordinate these county programs.

The 1/4 cent sales tax would be in place for 10 years, at which point it would need to be renewed by another public vote to continue.

The sales tax plan was actually unanimously passed with two separate votes on Tuesday – one vote for an ordinance "imposing a county essential services transactions and use tax" which would put money into the general fund if passed by voters; and another for a resolution "stating intent to use new sales tax revenue for fire protection and prevention" which details how the tax money would be distributed.

Based on discussions from previous board meetings, it seems this was largely done so that the measure would be a general fund tax and thus only need a vote of over 50% in the county, rather than the 2/3 vote required of a "special tax" where money goes directly to specific sources without first going into the general fund.

At the Tuesday meeting Fourth District Supervisor Dan Gjerde urged the board to add a provision to the sales tax resolution which would shift more money to rural fire departments who provide ambulance services in their area.

"We have, I believe, five fire departments that are providing ambulance service, and in three of the cases there's no one else providing ambulance service in the area," he said. "In a way, they're filling a gap that would be in their community if those fire departments weren't stepping in to provide ambulance service."

This idea was eventually rejected by the board after hearing from several local fire chiefs during public comments, all of who were opposed to it.

The board left the original plan in place for the 90% of the funds going to fire districts, with 40% of that money split equally among them and 60% split based on the population of each fire district.

This is the same way the county has dispersed Proposition 172 money, a state sales tax measure for public safety passed in 1993.

The county fire chiefs and others agreed that this was the right way to disperse a potential new county sales tax as well, after having discussions and meetings on the matter.

Second District Supervisor Maureen Mulheren was involved in those meetings, and defended the plan, noting the support of the fire chiefs.

"The term 'fire protection' would include those departments that serve as ambulances," she said. "And so again by the percentages and the way that they were broken down and agreed upon by all of the fire districts is a way to fund the variety of services they each provide.

"And I personally don't want to micromanage what their uses are," she said. "I think they're in a much better position to let us know each year what they're funding and report back to the community."

The sales tax "resolution of intent" which was passed does have some language in it requiring reporting for how the money is used.

"Every year ... the board intends that all revenues and expenditures will be reviewed by board of supervisors," it reads, "and will be available to review by the public through the county's budget document and website."

If the sales tax measure is approved by voters in November it would not on its own cause an increase in the current sales tax rate in the county, since a 3/8 cent Measure B tax decrease is set to take place this year.

The Citizens' Committee for the Library are also pursuing a tax measure which could effectively increase the sales tax by 1/8 cent, but the overall tax rate would remain the same if both measures passed.

Board Chair Ted Williams talked about some of the lessons the supervisors should take from the Measure B Mental Health Treatment act experience, which added a 1/2 cent sales tax in the county in 2017.

"Measure B has come back to bite this board in that the public had an understanding that there wouldn't be anybody left on the street," he said. "Everyone would be treated, we'd have compassionate care. There were big expectations about what Measure

B ... would provide.

"I want to be very clear with this proposed tax for fire [services]," Williams continued. "It'll definitely bolster fire, especially rural fire where every penny really counts. Where you have call volumes doubling in some areas over 15 years, and fewer people available to volunteer just due to communities aging out – but we're still going to see challenges.

"And the tax revenue that can be raised on a 1/4 cent won't solve the ambulance problem countywide.... We're not going to make unrealistic promises that this will provide career firefighters or ambulances in every area of the [county]."

During Supervisor Gjerde's comments he alluded to the Ukiah Valley ambulance services, saying that it was a "profit center" for the county, and that the revenue should be shared in some way with the rural fire districts who provide ambulance services.

"There should be a way of sharing those profits from the profit center with areas like Anderson Valley, with areas like Laytonville and Covelo, to make sure that there's a base level of funding to provide adequate service," said Gjerde. "Personally how I see it, if the profit sharing is being blocked by – I'll say it right out loud – Ukiah Valley, and prevented those other smaller departments from sharing that profit center money to just balance them out, then I would vote to take the money out of Ukiah Valley if that was the situation."

These statements particularly irked Ukiah Valley Fire Authority Chief Doug Hutchison, who spoke during public comments.

"I have to say I'm a little offended," Hutchison said. "UVFA have always supported both this tax and the ambulance [Joint Powers Authority], and the ability to share the 'profit center' – if you want to call it that – that Ukiah is. In fact it was the [UVFA] that actually started those conversations.

"And it was the city and UVFA that went out and did the feasibility study to show that that model would actually work in this county," Hutchison continued. "And we have always stood with our rural partners – whereas the county has not committed any resources to that. So those are the facts, and I just want to set that straight right up front."

Anderson Valley Fire Chief Andres Avila was also critical of Gjerde's idea.

"I just want to echo that we have come together for this whole tax as a unified fire approach," he said. "We've come through many meetings since 2015. Everybody's coming together as a consolidated fire approach, and if we started breaking it apart at this point, we may look disappointed. I want to make sure that we stay together and we're not making it fire vs. ambulance or fire vs. fire."

Chief Avila did say that the funding for ambulances was "in a very dismal situation in Anderson Valley," but felt that the county should find a larger revenue source specifically aimed at that problem.

"At this point this has been a unified fire tax for fire departments equally divided, and it has been a very good common approach," he stated. "I would say stick to the plan, we came at this with a unified approach and we shouldn't deviate from that. Anderson Valley Fire does support this tax as presented, and I would not like to include EMS because it will muddy the water in the future."

In their statement of intent the supervisors explained some of the goals and reasoning behind the sales tax ordinance and resolution.

"The board of supervisors believes that the voters need this information in order to make a fully informed and responsible decision but wanted to avoid statements in the [sales tax] ordinance that might mislead voters into believing that the funds would be legally restricted," it reads.

"Over the last several years, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors has begun to provide direct financial assistance to local fire protection agencies, which are struggling to keep up with the historic level of wildfires, an erosion of available resources and volunteers, increasing costs of providing emergency medical services, and other challenges.

"Needs and challenges facing Mendocino County fire protection agencies are expected to increase, but the financial assistance that Mendocino County is capable of providing will not, absent a new revenue stream."

## 'Tobin's Tales' at Willits Farmers Market

The Willits Branch Library is proud to coordinate with the Mendocino County Farmers Market Association to bring story time to the Willits Farmers Market. Tobin will be offering readings of children's books for the community at large.

"Tobin's Tales" will be outdoors at the Willits Farmers Market on West Mendocino Avenue at Main Streets, Thursdays from 3:30 to 4 pm, starting July 21 and continuing every Thursday afternoon until further notice.

"Tobin's Tales" gives children and community members of all ages an opportunity to enjoy story time with the Library while also enjoying the beautiful offerings of our community.

This event is open to everyone. For more information, please visit [www.mendolib.org](http://www.mendolib.org) or contact the Willits Branch Library at 707-459-5908.

The rest of COVID | From page 1

were considerably lower, with new cases each day in the single digits, but up to mid-20s in June and July so far.

"We're clearly seeing a wave, but this is not like it was in prior surges – and that's a good thing," Mendocino County Public Health Officer Dr. Andy Coren said during his June COVID press conference. "Our vaccinations and treatments, masking and distancing have really had a very significant effect."

Coren's next press conference – streamed live and archived on the county's Youtube.com channel – is set for Friday, July 15 at 2 pm.

Public Health also posted a June 30 press release from the Rural Association of Northern California Health Officers, responding to increasing COVID rates in Northern California in June.

The "swell of infections," the press release notes, "is largely due to the highly transmissible BA.2.12.1 Omicron variant, which is already being displaced by the new and even more transmissible BA.4 and BA.5 subvariants.... The emerging variants are proving to be highly infectious and able to infect vaccinated persons in larger numbers than previous variants.

"That said," the PR continues, "we also know that unvaccinated persons are 6 times more likely to be infected with COVID-19 and 9 times more likely to be hospitalized than vaccinated persons. Unvaccinated persons are also 11 times more likely to die from COVID-19 complications than vaccinated persons.

"Although there is some immunity provided after infection," the RANCH press release continues, "it is not sufficient to prevent spread or variant progression. What is clearly demonstrated by the science is that persons who become infected and are vaccinated or receive vaccination after infection are best protected to ward off immediate and long-lasting COVID-19 complications, including severe illness, long COVID, hospitalization, and death."

Recommendations from the Northern California health officers include:

- **Get vaccinated** and boosted if you are eligible. Infants 6 months or older and toddlers are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.
- **Test** before going to an indoors event or party or travelling on public transportation. If you have symptoms or test positive, stay home. Call your provider for effective treatments if you test positive for COVID-19.
- **Gather outdoors** to make it harder for COVID-19 to spread to others.
- **Mask indoors** in public places. Open windows to improve ventilation and upgrade HVAC filters to Merv 13 or the highest possible.

## Covelo man arrested for manufacturing 'ghost' guns

By Sgt. Mike Dygert for MCSO

On Friday, July 8, at about 11:23 pm, a Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputy conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle driven by Gonzalo Vazquez, 39, from Covelo in the 78000 block of Highway 162 in Covelo.

The deputy contacted Vazquez who was the sole occupant of the vehicle. The deputy detected the odor of alcohol emanating from Vazquez and further observed him to display objective symptoms of alcohol intoxication.

Vazquez was asked to exit the vehicle so the deputy could conduct field sobriety tests to determine if he was driving under the influence.

The deputy noticed there was ammunition in a cup holder in the center console. The deputy asked Vazquez if there were any firearms in the vehicle, and the deputy learned a firearm was in the trunk.

The deputy detained Vazquez in handcuffs and searched the vehicle for firearms before continuing with his DUI investigation.

Upon searching the vehicle the deputy located a black-colored bag in the trunk of the vehicle which contained a fully functional undetectable (no serial numbers, commonly referred to as a "ghost gun") "P80" privately made firearm pistol chambered for 9mm ammunition. The bag also contained several 9mm magazines loaded with ammunition for the pistol.

The deputy completed his DUI investigation of Vazquez and arrested him for driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs. The deputy

## Covelo woman arrested on meth, firearms charges

By Sgt. J. Elmore for MCSO

On Wednesday, July 6, at approximately 1 am, a Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputy was on routine patrol in Covelo. The deputy saw a vehicle traveling on Foothill Boulevard and observed a vehicle code violation.

The deputy conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle, and contacted a female adult who provided her name and date of birth. During the contact, the deputy was able to determine the female adult had provided him with a false name, belonging to a real person (a family member).

The deputy was able to determine that the female adult's actual identity was Keisha Hoaglin, 33, from Covelo. Hoaglin was found to have an active warrant for her arrest. The deputy observed drug paraphernalia (methamphetamine smoking pipes) in plain view within the vehicle. The deputy also observed a case commonly used to store a firearm, on the back seat of the vehicle.

Hoaglin was removed from the vehicle and placed under arrest for the warrant. The deputy conducted a probable cause search of the vehicle and located the following items:

- Two baggies containing a total of 43.8 grams of suspected methamphetamine.
- A loaded AR-15 style rifle which had several features classifying it as an assault weapon and a short barreled rifle. The rifle did not have a serial number and appeared to be a privately manufactured firearm.
- Numerous live rounds of various calibers of ammunition.
- Methamphetamine smoking pipe.

Based on the investigation, the deputy was able to determine Hoaglin possessed the suspected methamphetamine for the purpose of sales. The deputy also determined Hoaglin was currently addicted to methamphetamine, causing her to be prohibited from possessing any firearms.

Hoaglin was placed under arrest for 30605 (A) PC (Felony Possession of an Assault Weapon); 33215 PC (Felony Possession of a Short Barreled Rifle); 29800(A)(1) PC (Felon/Addict in Possession of a Firearm); 11370.1(A) HS (Felony Possession of a Controlled substance while Armed); 11378 HS (Felony Possession of a Controlled Substance for Sales); 11379 HS (Felony Transportation of a Controlled Substance); 529(A)(3) PC (Felony False Impersonation of Another); 11364(a) HS (Possession of Drug Paraphernalia); and a misdemeanor arrest warrant.

Hoaglin was subsequently booked into the Mendocino County Jail where she was to be held in lieu of \$37,500 bail.

conducted a criminal history of Vazquez and learned he is legally prohibited from possessing firearms and/or ammunition.

Vazquez was arrested for 23152 (F) CVC (Driving Under the Influence Alcohol/Drugs); 24610 PC (Manufacture/Possess Undetectable Firearm); 30305(a)(1) PC (Possession of Ammunition by Prohibited Person); and 29800(a)(1) PC (Felon Possession of a Firearm)

On Sunday, July 10, at 12:31 am, Mendocino County Sheriff's Office deputies served a search warrant at Vazquez's residence.

Deputies located an undetectable (no serial number) privately made AR-15 style semi-automatic rifle with an illegal short barrel which also met the criteria of a prohibited assault weapon in California.

The deputies further located several rounds of ammunition for the listed assault weapon, partially made parts for other firearms, tools to complete and manufacture/assemble firearm components and several ammunition magazines.

The deputies located packaging materials that indicated Vasquez was purchasing the partially completed firearm components commonly referred to as "P80" (Polymer80 firearm receivers) from out-of-state sources via the mail.

Vazquez was additionally charged with 30605(a) PC (Possession of an Assault Weapon) and was to be held in lieu of \$25,000 bail.



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Previous healthcare experience is not required.

Learn more at [AdventistHealth.org/Careers](http://AdventistHealth.org/Careers) or email [whitej@ah.org](mailto:whitej@ah.org)



# HIGH, LOW, RED, OR BLACK

**SAT JULY 16, 23 & 30**  
**7PM - 11PM**

Get 1 entry for every 50 same-day points for a chance to play the "High, Low, Red, or Black" card game and win up to \$200 Free Play.

Drawings every hour.

For complete rules and details please visit the Players Club.

## SUMMER SUNDAY COOKOUTS

**SUNDAYS JULY 17, 24, 31**  
**6PM - 10PM**



Actual model may vary.  
For complete rules and  
details please visit the  
Players Club.

Redeem 150 same-day points to get an entry to win the Weber Traveler 1 Burner Liquid Propane Portable Grill at 9pm. One winner each Sunday. Plus Hot Seats for Cash and Free Play from 6-10pm.

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