

Donations Accepted Edition No. 462 **Thursday, July 28, 2022**

**Jennifer Poole**  
Editor & Reporter  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Air resources were called in, including Tankers 90 and 91 making trips back and forth out of Ukiah.


Mendocino County Sheriff's Office issued a "situational awareness" alert on Nixle and social media around 4:40 pm: "Wildfire in the Covelo area, near Covelo Road and Fairbanks Lane. No further action needed at this time, Use caution and avoid the area."

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

***By Sgt. Wells, for MCSO***

At the location, deputies contacted and detained Brett Richard Tucker, 46, of Laytonville, and searched numerous trailers he controlled.

The fentanyl pills were hidden inside a fake Dr. Pepper can. Next to the fake Dr. Pepper can was also a digital scale. There were numerous other digital scales and packaging materials located during the search.

Read the rest of **Bust** 

*Over on page 11*



Above, center: Friends and Future Farmers of America members, Megan Nava and her lamb, Felix, left and Mariah Ochoa and her lamb, Barley, smile for the camera after taking their daily walk up and down the driveway, above, left and right. Below: The Nava and Ochoa pose with their market lambs, under the watchful eye of Neena the Great Pyrenees behind.



Friends and FFA members Megan Nava and Mariah Ochoa get ready for their first year showing lambs at the Redwood Empire Fair

**Maureen Jennison**  
Graphics & Photographress  
maureen@willitsweekly.com

"I wanted a change this time," explained Ochoa. "Barley is from my grandma's breeding stock and is a Hampshire cross lamb. He's looking really good, muscular and active, but he certainly has a mind of his own!"

Ochoa is a fourth-generation sheep raiser. Her mom

"As kids, we bred and raised our own lambs for the fair, and it's wonderful to see these kids doing the same thing," said Schmidbauer. "My sister in Idaho came to get some lambs from the family farm for showing there, and they did well there, too. We're looking forward to a great fair here with the family's breeding program."

Nava did attend the fair before, taking a goat last year along with Ochoa, but is excited to try her hand at the sheep show this year, too.

"Felix is a little dramatic," laughed Nava, "but he's

Read the rest of **Fair** | *Over on page 4*



Above: Nava, left, and Ochoa, right, will show their lambs at the Redwood Empire Fair and have them up for bid at the Saturday, August 6 Junior Livestock Auction. Below: Ochoa takes time to make sure her back-up lamb, Buddy, is slick-shorn and ready to step in if something happens to her first lamb before the fair.



**Forrest Glycer**  
Reporter  
willitsweekly@gmail.com

The Crisis Residential Treatment facility in Ukiah and the Mobile Crisis Response Team have both already been seeing a lot of productive activity, according to Miller, while the Psychiatric Hospital Facility in Ukiah is still in its developmental stage and has several years to go before it will be up and running.

## The first Mental Health

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

**Jennifer Poole**  
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The July 26 reports were entitled: “The Mendocino County Cannabis Equity Grant Program, ‘Building the Airplane While It’s Flying” and “The Mendocino Unified School District Special Education Program.”

The 2021-22 Mendocino County Grand Jury was sworn in to service in September 2021, and Kathy Wylie of Albion served as

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







Willits Weekly's  
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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

ANIMAL WELFARE WORD SEARCH

ABNORMAL

AGGRESSION

ANIMALS

BIOMEDICAL

CAGES

CARE

DECLAWING

ETHICS

FARM

FERAL

FREE RANGE

GENETICS

LIBERATION

MALNOURISHED

NEEDS

OVERBREED

PETS

PHARMING

RESEARCH

RESTRAINT

SHELTER

TESTING

VETERINARIAN

WELFARE

The rest of  
Fire

From page 1

direction from 74900 Covelo Road."

By 5:29 pm, CAL FIRE MEU reported the Bank Fire was 10 to 15 acres, and growing at a "slow to moderate rate of spread." That social media post included an aerial photo of the fire that put it clearly into context.

MCSO upgraded its alert to an Evacuation Warning at 6:08 pm, asking residents in the areas of Highway 162 / Dobie Lane and Fairbanks Lane / Wattenburg Lane to be ready to go. But at 6:50 pm, that warning was downgraded again to "situational awareness."

Air resources had been released around 6:10 pm. Ground resources stayed for traffic control, patrol, and mop up for several hours. At 10:56 pm, MCSO released an alert announcing "All road closures and advisories" for the Bank Fire "have been cancelled. No further action needed."

No information about the cause of the fire has yet been released.

Fire info resources

Readers interested in getting live information about local fires as they happen should first sign up for emergency alerts from the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office and the county Office of Emergency Services. Visit [www.mendocinocounty.org](http://www.mendocinocounty.org) and search for "Emergency Notifications and Alerts" for more information about how to sign up for Mendo Alert and Nixle notifications.

MCSO and CAL FIRE MEU have both been posting emergency information quickly on social media: Follow "Mendocino Sheriff" and "CAL FIRE MEU" pages on Facebook or Twitter.

Once you know the fire's name, #BankFire in this instance, you can search Twitter or Facebook for that tag and see everything that has been posted about it. This will include official information, as well as reports of what somebody has heard on the scanner or seen on the ground, including any posts from residents affected by the fire.

One interesting way to keep up with online information about individual fires is Watch Duty – you can follow reports on their website, WatchDuty.org, or download a phone app. Watch Duty is a non-profit

Willits Weekly

Online & In Print

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!

		1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9		
			10								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			
											62			
			60											
			63					64			65			

CLUES ACROSS

1. America's WW2 President
4. Move earth
7. Insecticide
10. Naturally occurring solid material
11. State of fuss
12. Bhutanese wine
13. Greek island
15. Taxi
16. Tanzanian ethnic group
19. Metrical foot
21. Boasted
23. Eel-like vertebrate
24. Small freshwater lakes
25. Morally base
26. Not odd
27. Where you live
30. Fixed in place
34. A very large body of water
35. Moved quickly
36. Winged horse
41. Small waterfall
45. Hoopster Gasol
46. One who mimics
47. Tropical plant
50. Used of walls

CLUES DOWN

54. A citizen of Iran
55. Christian hermit
56. She marries the groom
57. American patriotic society
59. Wine grape
60. School of Buddhism
61. A team's best pitcher
62. Consumed
63. Time zone
64. Part of a company name
65. Type of bulb
22. Wild party
27. Small European viper
28. Baseballer Gordon
29. Eccentric person
31. A way to save for your future
32. Young boy
33. Midway between northeast and east
37. Changed
38. Prominent
39. Genus of seabirds
40. Event regarded as wrong
41. Skipped in a lively way
42. Multi-function radar (abbr.)
43. A country in W. Africa
44. Burn a corpse
47. Women's \_\_ movement
48. NHL great Bobby
49. Coarse, green material
51. Treated with calcium oxide
52. When you hope to get there
53. 'Partridge' actress Susan
58. What thespians do

The rest of  
Fair

From page 1

looking good this year too, and I'm excited to take him to the fair. We're proud to be raising our animals locally and sustainably and consider ourselves to be entrepreuneuring women."

In addition to their motivation and focus on showing for the fair, the pair are also working hard in school, prepping for their future post-high school next year.

Ochoa is hoping to graduate with honors next June, is scheduled to take several AP classes, and hopes to complete them with a 4.0 GPA. Ochoa will receive her FFA state degree this year and hopes to become an esthetician for her future career.

Nava has plans to attend a four-year college, possibly Cal Poly or Santa Barbara where she will hone in on her major at a later date. She has interests in animal science and enjoys participating in cheerleading, FFA speaking, and job interview competitions, and has received her FFA state degree.

The girls both expressed their excitement to attend the in-person fair this year and look forward to seeing the community out and about.

The Redwood Empire Fair

The rest of  
Story Time

From page 3

career on the line to bring notice to racial injustice.

The final book to conclude the half hour of Story Time at the market was "Farmer's Market Day," a book about a family being at the farmers market and collecting veggies and interacting with their community.

"Today was about testing the waters," said Steiskal, "seeing how many people are interested. This is something the library wants to engage in and cooperate with the Farmers Market Association."

runs from August 4 through 7 at the Ukiah Fairgrounds with the auction starting at 10 am on Saturday.

"The fair will feature a traditional livestock auction and exhibits, as well as live entertainment and a full carnival with rides and games for guests of all ages. A wide array of fair food will also be available throughout the weekend."

Admission is \$9 for adults; \$7 for seniors 65 and over and children aged 6 to 12; and children 5 years and under are free.

The carnival will be back, and presale unlimited-ride one-day wristbands (purchased before August 4 at 2 pm) are available for \$30 at J.D. Redhouse in Willits and other locations throughout Ukiah.

The fair opens at 3 pm on Thursday, August 4 and Friday, August 5, and at noon on Saturday, August 6 and Sunday, August 7.

A complete list of events and much more information about the fair is available online at [www.redwoodempirefair.com](http://www.redwoodempirefair.com) or by contacting the fair directly at [info@redwoodempirefair.com](mailto:info@redwoodempirefair.com) or 707-462-3884.

The Willits Library has an extensive selection of children's and young adults' reading materials, everything from juvenile books, to easy reader books that are arranged by grade level, to a juvenile non-fiction collection which spans the Dewey decimal system. With the library's expanded staff, the branch manager would like to expand its education and outreach programs. Look for more fun and educational opportunities in the near future.



Above, from left: Artist Jazz-minh Moore displays a tiny watercolor set that was discovered by her young daughter, Circi. Almost any genre of art supplies, prints, and art books is available at the Yart Sale. Young Circi Grace is fascinated by the potter's wheel and other ceramic processes. Below, left: Emmy Good brought her vast collection of rubber stamps to the sale. Below, right: Destiny and Kailaya enjoy their smoothies from Scoops. Below, right, bottom: Suzanne Farris found a mostly intact art set with which to create.



Rummage for a Cause

Shoppers hunt for creative deals at Yart Sale fundraiser, in support of the Willits Center for the Arts

The Willits Center for the Arts' "Yart Sale" finally returned this weekend after a pandemic hiatus, yielding a couple thousand dollars toward helping keep the organization's doors open and a lot of great deals for the attendees.

On display and for sale were a myriad of art books which sold for only \$0.50, art supplies of every kind, rubber stamps, a matchbook collection, fine-art prints, and much more.

The ceramics department, in conjunction with the Yart Sale, had a separate, colorful sale of student- and teacher-created pottery, the receipts of which were to be used to repair an element on their kiln.

Tours of the ceramic studio were also available, fascinating the kids and providing insight into the methods of producing these age-old art forms. Attendees could see the various stages of the production, including students "throwing" pots on the wheel.

"The sale's going really well," said ceramic-studio head Nancy New. "We're having a great time. We have a lot of people who are going to come tomorrow and Sunday. I

have a class going right now. There are some great prices on the ceramics."

Top-hatted Emmy Good, as usual, brought her vast collection of artistic and whimsical rubber stamps from her now-defunct Good's Shoppe, as well as an intriguing collection of matchbooks, some dating as far back as the 1940s. Several of Good's stamps had topical messages that are very germane to the political causes of today.

"There's a complete set of all of my rubber stamps, the 5,000 rubber stamps that we produced, at the high school," stated Good. "They're all in trays by category. The teachers can borrow them and use them in their classrooms."

"Some of my stamps have come back to being politically correct again," said Good. "I have a whole set of stamps that say things like 'Abortion, keep it legal and safe,' 'Abortion: against one, don't have one.' These go back 30 years ago."

"I would love to find somebody who buys my whole matchbook collection. Many of these go

Read the rest of  
Yart Sale

Over on page 9



At far left: Jill Walton throws a pot in the ceramics class that is going on during the Friday session of the Yart Sale. At left, top: WCA Curator Gary Martin shows a couple of his Salvador Dali lithographs which he is selling for greatly reduced prices. At left: A young girl is fascinated by the colors of the ceramics. Above: An arrow points the way to the Yart Sale.

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Above: Potter Valley 4-H and FFA members smile together at Acme Rigging in Ukiah. At left: Laytonville's Johnny Whitley tells Stacey about his market hog at Donahoo, Inc.



At left, above: Johnny Whitney delivers a buyer's letter to Carly at Hertz Rentals. At left: Exhibitors want to remind the community to "Stop! Stop what you're doing and hurry to the auction!" Below: 4-H members deliver more letters, including some to Giacomini Enterprises in Ukiah.

Photos by Taylor Whitley



## Congrats and Happy 1st Birthday to Magnolia Jennison

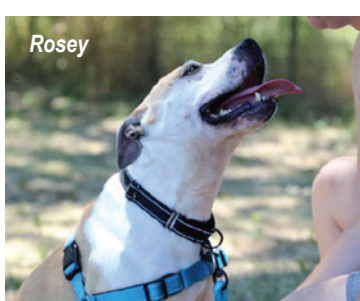
It's amazing to think it has already been a whole year with Magnolia "Maggie" Jennison in our lives, as she gets ready to celebrate her first birthday on Sunday, July 31.

She continues to be an absolute delight, a great sleeper and an excellent eater, enjoying strawberries, graham crackers and frozen green peas the most.

Her sweet spirit, amazing attitude, bright smile and (my hairdresser tells me it IS indeed) red hair; she is everything we'd hope she'd be and can't wait for what's to come as she continues to grow and learn.

We love you #TheLittlestLadyJennison - thank you for being such an amazing baby and being so good about being in that backpack!

- Love, Mama and Papa



## Rambunctious Randall

This active boy loves to run around and explore. Toys are his favorite pastime and he will play with them for hours. Randall can get a bit nippy when he gets excited so he may do best in a home with no young children. Randall would also like to be the only cat in his new home, as he gets jealous easily.

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 Randall or our other canine and feline guests. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at [www.mendonanimalsshelter.com](http://www.mendonanimalsshelter.com).

## Enthusiastic Rosey

Who is the cutest girl in the world? It's Rosey! This silver-faced gal might be

considered a senior at 9 years old, but she still has plenty of spunk left! Rosey loves to bounce around in the yards and she makes friends with every person she meets. Come meet her soon!

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.mendohumaneociety.com](http://www.mendohumaneociety.com), our Facebook page, and on [www.petfinder.com](http://www.petfinder.com).

## Easy-going Dinga

Dinga is a special girl! She is a patient, compliant, and a mellow house dog looking for a human / household that is similarly relaxed and ready to spend the rest of their lives together.

Dinga is a curious girl who really

appreciates socializing and bonding time. She is quietly affectionate. Dinga is enjoying free-reign at our Sanctuary and staying at the founder's house. She has met pigs and chickens, and is curious about them, and is making friends with lots of new canine pals. She is not a barker, has learned to use a dog door, likes riding in a car and cuddling on a couch, and is so ready to meet her people / person and perhaps a canine buddy or two, either way, she is an easy-going gal, well suited for country and rural life, as well as suburban. No cats for this gal.

To learn more about Dinga 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.

## Mendocino County Museum Community Bear Stories



July 29, 2022  
6:00 - 8:00 pm

## Students of the Willits Charter School summer program fabricate and install metal sculptures

literature.

"It's a \$1,000 grant for us to create a flower sculpture for our new gymnasium," stated Wilson. "We wrote a proposal with a whole plan and were given the funds to have Morgan here for a workshop. This is a summer drop-in program so some of the kids don't come in every day. It's casual.

"We basically have the same kids for this workshop," continued Wilson, "but occasionally a child will drop in and we have to find a project for them to work on. Sometimes, they will help the other students with the painting or cutting on their projects. We have some little personal projects for them to do and take home, like these smaller flowers. Morgan has provided us with a variety of projects besides the main project of the flowers."

When installing the flowers on the new gymnasium proved less than tenable due to the inability to find a viable location on the building, the new placement on the main school building was proposed so that the flowers could be more easily seen by more people.

The students learned several new techniques from Rex, including how to safely cut, paint and attach the petals to the glass centers. Each of the flowers were designed and crafted to each student's own specifications and each one is unique to their experiences and personalities.

"This project was a lot of fun," beamed Taylor Valente. "I liked making and shaping the petals. Mine was the polka dot one. I went with smaller petals. I looked at all the others and saw that no one else had polka dots. I like the way it stands out against the other flowers."

One of the students, Valerie Mottern, saw the project as an homage to her grandmother: "When I lived with my grandmother, she had a lot of sunflowers in the yard. My flower made me think of that."

Wilson was extremely impressed with the way the project turned out. "I'm ecstatic," she said. "It looks super good on the building. The kids had a great time. I hope we can do more with Morgan. We would love to have him come for regular Friday Academy classes to maybe teach more sculpture art.

"This is kind of what I envisioned when we began this project," added Wilson. "This project started about a month ago. This is like summer camp. We have credit recovery for the high schoolers and summer camp for the middle schoolers. They also do academics but we try to have various activities. This was a very hands-on project that they'll get to see all year. It's a long-lasting project with a good impact for the school."

It took a couple classes for the project to catch on with the students.

"In the beginning, these kids were not so motivated," said Rex. "When they began to realize what the end result was going to be, they got a little more excited about it. It's summer. They're kids. I don't know how many of them really wanted to be here but they seemed to get behind it as the project happened. But to them, for the upcoming school year, they're going to be able to go 'I did that. That's my flower.'"

"This is fun," said soon-to-be eighth-grader Lily Madison. "I really like painting. If I weren't here, I'd probably be at home watching TV. This is better. I get to make something."

## 'Community Bear Stories' at the Museum, July 29

Submitted by the Mendocino County Museum

"Community Bear Stories" with special guest Susan Snyder will be held in the Mendocino County Museum Wonacott Room and Courtyard, on Friday, July 29 from 6 to 8 pm.

Come enjoy some s'mores and an evening of bear stories with guest storytellers, including Susan Snyder, author of "Bear in Mind: The Story of the California Grizzly."

Also joining us is Laura L. Smith, who has been a Mendocino County resident for 40 years, dedicating 20 of those years as a federal park ranger at Lake Mendocino, where she has had many positive black bear encounters to share.

After our featured storytellers, community members are invited to share their own bear tales, poems, or songs. Please limit time to 10 minutes or less.

This event is free to the public, open to all ages, and is sponsored by the Friends of the Mendocino County Museum and the Mendocino County Museum.

For more information, please visit [www.mendocinocounty.org/museum](http://www.mendocinocounty.org/museum) or contact the Mendocino County Museum at [museum@mendocinocounty.org](mailto:museum@mendocinocounty.org) or 707-459-2736.

## Opening reception for new WCA exhibit to coincide with Willits Art Walk on July 30

Submitted by the Willits Center for the Arts

Willits Center for the Arts presents ceramics by Mary Marsh and works by Laura Wiecek. The show will be on view from July 30 through August 24, 2022. A reception for the artists, including a talk by Marsh and Wiecek about their artwork, will take place Saturday, July 30 between 6 and 9 pm.

Please also join the Willits Art Walk on July 30 (more info on the art walk at [www.willitscenterforthearts.org](http://www.willitscenterforthearts.org)).

The gallery is located at 71 East Commercial Street (next door to the Noyo Theatre). Gallery hours are Friday to Sunday 11 am to 5 pm.

Presents

Mary Marsh

July 30 through August 21

Laura Wiecek

Meet the Artists

Saturday, July 30, 6-9pm.

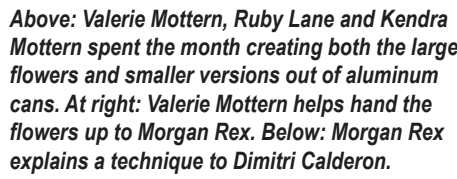
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Next to the Noyo Theatre

For more information visit: [willitscenterforthearts.org](http://willitscenterforthearts.org)  
or call 707/459-1728

Galleries are open Weekends 11 am - 5 pm.



At left, top: Valerie Mottern proudly displays the smaller project she is working on while the petals dry. At left, below: The installed flowers make a colorful addition to the front of the Willits Charter School.



Above: Valerie Mottern, Ruby Lane and Kendra Mottern spent the month creating both the large flowers and smaller versions out of aluminum cans. At right: Valerie Mottern helps hand the flowers up to Morgan Rex. Below: Morgan Rex explains a technique to Dimitri Calderon.



Photos by Mathew Caine



COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

## 'Nope'

**The Story:** Alien invasion horror movie. OJ (Daniel Kaluuya) and sister Emerald (Keke Palmer) breed and train horses for the Hollywood movie industry. Their ranch is in a dry, remote Southern California valley. OJ doesn't talk much, he just works hard. Emerald is focused on fame and on big success. And she's a talker!

When OJ sees what he thinks is a flying saucer, Emerald is convinced that if they can capture the UFO on film, they might even get on Oprah. It's their big chance! They buy a fancy remote control camera system from Angel (Brandon Perea) at Fry's Electronics. They are all set! Then things turn ugly for a whole bunch of folks.

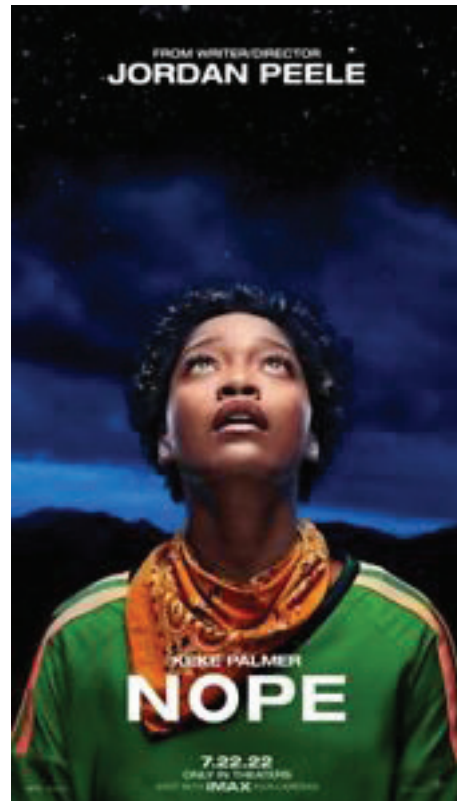
OJ and Emerald and Angel realize that the sinister saucer seems to be stalking horses, their riders, and also any random passersby. Maybe for food. It sucks 'em all right up like a giant Roomba in the sky. Much blood is involved. Shrieking too.

**My Thoughts:** It's five in the morning, I just woke up, and I'm wondering if this flick was a weird dream. I'm glad it wasn't. "Nope" was written and directed by Jordan Peele. I'm just a movie reviewer; he's a genuine auteur. This flick delivers horror chills, thriller action, uncanny visuals and pointed commentary on the pointlessness of fame. Some moments are over the top blood-spattered and terrifying, and at the same time surreal and really kinda funny. And it's never Hollywood stupid, or soaked with woke.

I have to tip my hat in admiration to the whole cast and crew. I loved the flick. It's visually brilliant and quirky, even twisted. Audiences will scream and cringe (and sometimes laugh). It's a darn good time at the moviehouse.

**Parents:** Too scary and bloody for children. Don't bring 'em.

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



## SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

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[www.agapebiblechurch.com](http://www.agapebiblechurch.com)

### Amazing Grace Assembly of God Church

803 Coast Street  
P.O. Box 489, Willits  
707-303-5456  
Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.  
Pastor Burton Jernigan  
EVERYBODY IS WELCOME

### The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

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### Grace Community Church

Celebrating Life In Christ  
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Modified Worship Service  
10 a.m.  
Other ministries suspended  
for now.  
For appointments call:  
707-459-3106

### St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church

61 W. San Francisco Ave.  
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Father Aaron Bandanadham  
Mass times:  
Confessions by appointment:  
459-2252  
Sunday Mass inside:  
9:00 a.m. English  
10:30 a.m. Spanish  
Saturday Mass: 5:30 p.m.  
Covid guidelines apply.  
We welcome All Walks of Faith

### St. Francis Episcopal Church

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

### St. John Lutheran Church

Church Service:  
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ALL ARE WELCOME

### Willits Seventh-Day Adventist Church

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Worship Service - 10:45 a.m.  
Zoom Transmission Available.  
Wednesday  
Prayer Meeting - 6:00 p.m.  
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If you want to be included in this column please call:  
April Tweddell  
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- Deputy District Attorney I/II/III
- Deputy Probation Officer I/II
- Deputy Public Defender I/II/III/IV
- Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II
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For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:

[www.governmentjobs.com/careers/mendocinoca](http://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/mendocinoca)

**EOE**

*Spartetime Supply*  
will be hosting a private event for our  
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**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10<sup>th</sup>** through  
**SATURDAY, AUGUST 13<sup>th</sup>** at the  
**RECREATION GROVE PARK**

**THIS EVENT IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC**  
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# Redwood Empire Fair

## AUGUST 4-7, 2022

### Open

**Thu & Fri: 3 pm**

**Sat & Sun: Noon**

# NIGHTLY MOTORIZED SPORTS ACTION

- THURS 6 PM: Side by Sides, Quads, Motorcycles and Monster Trucks**
- FRI 6 PM: Mudd Boggs and Monster Trucks**
- SAT 6 PM: Truck & Tractor Pulls**
- SUN 6PM: Boat Races, Junior Mudd Boggs, and Jalopies**

# EXCITING FAIR ATTRACTIONS

- A Walk on the Wild Side Exotic Animal Exhibit**
- Dinosaur Discovery**
- Nightly Entertainment on Willow Tree Stage**

# JUNIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTION

**Saturday, August 6, 2022 at 10 a.m.**

**Racine Pavillion**

# LIVE ENTERTAINMENT WILLOW TREE STAGE

- THU 6PM & 9PM: Karaoke with DJ Ken Steely**
- FRI 5PM: Ukiah Idols Finals “Little Idol & Junior Idol”**
- FRI 6PM & 9PM: Fake News**
- SAT 6PM & 9PM: Warehouse 21**
- SUN 4:30 PM: Ukiah Idols Finals “Grand Finals”**
- SUN 7PM: Banda Pacifica**

# Fair Admission

- Adults: \$9**
- Children (6-12 yrs): \$7**
- Children (5 yrs & under): FREE**
- Seniors: (65 yrs & over) \$7**
- Parking: \$10**

## Carnival

- All-day wristbands: \$35**

# RedwoodEmpireFair.com

OBITUARY |

## Steven Rubin

Steven M. Rubin was received into eternal life on June 2, 2022 after a brief illness.

He is survived by his loving wife and best friend of 38 years, Frances Proteau Rubin.

He is also survived by sisters and brothers-in-law, Rochelle Herman, Sally Taylor, Leslie and Robin Proteau, Brian and Diane Proteau, Frank and Sandy Proteau, Dennis Proteau, 10 nieces and nephews, and eight grand-nieces and grand-nephews.

Steven was preceded in death by his parents Milton and Jeanette Rubin of Los Angeles. Sadly, his brother Shelly Herman passed away one month after Steven.

Steven was born on July 17, 1945 in Los Angeles. After graduating from Fairfax High School in Los Angeles he traveled to Northern California and enrolled at San Francisco State University. He worked his way through college working for the U.S. Postal Service. He earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in chemistry with his specialty in molecular biology and oncogenes.

Steven became a licensed Clinical Laboratory Scientist returning to Los Angeles to work at UCLA Medical Center. He later returned to Northern California to work at hospitals in Marin County. Wanting to move further north, he moved to Santa Rosa, working at Central Pathology Laboratory where he met Frances in 1983. In 1990 they moved to Willits, with Steven working at Baechtel Creek Medical Clinic.

Steven went on to work for the State of California at Pleasant Valley State Prison as laboratory manager and transferred to Laboratory Field Services as a state/CLIA examiner and blood/tissue banks examiner. Having commuted for 14 years from Willits, he retired in 2008 to spend time with his beloved Frances and their sheep dogs.

Steven loved playing the piano and composing jazz. He loved riding his motorcycle, with Frances on the back, to the beautiful coast of California. He loved traveling to other countries and U.S. road trips, with Frances always by his side.

Steven will be remembered for his sense of humor, sharp wit, smile, love for life, and his love for dogs and animals.



# In Loving Memory Derek Ronald Stamps

Derek Ronald Stamps was born January 12, 1971 in Santa Rosa, CA. He spent his early childhood in Colorado where he learned to love the mountains. Derek learned to ski at 6 years old and looked forward to ski trips with his family. He caught his first fish, approximately a 7 pound rainbow trout, at Nederlands Reservoir. It was so big it would not all fit in the pan to be cooked. Derek became an avid outdoor fan. He went hiking and camping with his family regularly in the Rocky Mountains.

Derek and his family moved to Willits, CA in 1980 where his father grew up. This way the family could be closer to extended families of grandparents, cousins, aunts and uncles in Mendocino and Lake Counties.

Derek started attending school in Willits at Baechtel Grove School where he became involved with Pop Warner football. He continued his love for sports during his high school years at Willits High School through JV and Varsity Football. Derek was a lifelong Denver Broncos Fan. Derek also became involved in BMX bike racing. He competed in local events around Mendocino and Lake Counties. Derek also found a love for motorcycles. His first motorcycle was a Suzuki 150. He enjoyed riding through the local mountain areas with his friends. Derek graduated from Willits High School in 1989.

During his early twenties, he explored different types of jobs. He worked for several companies including Davey Tree, Ukiah Construction, traveled to Las Vegas to work on cooling towers, and worked as a mechanic for various trucking companies in the Willits area. Derek ultimately settled on a career with small engine repair and generator service. Derek provided generator support for many of the local agricultural community.

One of his unique business model objectives was to provide service for off-grid remote customers that would otherwise not have service and repair support. He began his business out of the back of his pickup truck utilizing a storage unit for spare parts and repair. Eventually his business grew to repair motorcycles, off road vehicles, and generators in a 5000 sq ft shop.

In October 2021 Derek was diagnosed with stage 4 T-cell Lymphoma. He had not been feeling well for a few months. Ultimately, after a fierce but unsuccessful battle, Derek decided to spend his final days at home with his immediate family.

Derek was surrounded with love and support during his final hours of July 11, 2022 as his parents, sisters, brothers-in-law, nephews, and best friend Luke and best girl Sabrina gathered around him to share memories and precious time.

Derek is survived by his parents, Charles “Ron” Stamps & Joyce Stamps. His three sisters, Tanya (Greg) Musgrave, Michelle (Michael) McCaffrey, Alicia (Gage) Stamps-Haneir, his three nephews Devin, Owen, & Cedar, his aunts and numerous cousins.

There will be a celebration of life on Saturday, August 6 at the Willits City Park at 10:30 am. All Derek’s friends and family are invited to attend. We encourage anyone who is interested in sharing more time with the family to join us at Derek’s family residence following the celebration of life. The family welcomes a potluck style gathering of appetizers and snack food to share with others who are in attendance.

707.459.5193

# JOHN FORD RANCH

RANCH RAISED NATURAL BEEF

No Hormones, Pastured in Willits, California

The rest of Projects | From page 1

Rehabilitation Specialist was hired for the team in late 2021, and Miller said that since then the unit has responded to around 440 calls from law enforcement, and also helped with other local services.

“When they’re not with law enforcement, they’re also doing other community outreach,” she said. “There are times that a community provider may call and say, ‘Hey we need someone to check on this individual,’ so that they’ll go out if they’re not involved with law enforcement.”

Miller said that the mobile team has been helping with a new program called “Heads Up,” which she described as a “combo program between Social Services and Behavioral Health,” where law enforcement and others give tips on some who may need help.

“And we’re getting a decent amount of Heads Up calls,” she added. “They’re not all behavioral health. It’s been a great program that we started.... So [the mobile crisis teams] are out whether it’s a law enforcement call or a call from the community or a call maybe from our general crisis provider.”

Mendocino County Sheriff Matt Kendall had high praise for the mobile crisis program, calling it “an extreme success for us,” at the July 25 BOS meeting.

He said that the number of emergency room referrals by sheriff’s deputies and their time spent in ERs was significantly down since the mobile teams started, as was the number of those transferred out of the county with 5150 designations – where they are deemed a danger to themselves or others and placed in a lockdown PHF.

Sheriff Kendall said the mobile teams are taking “very proactive approaches,” and meeting those in crisis “before the moment when they deteriorate and actually become 5150,” he said.

“They’re getting them into services; they’re getting their needs met prior to this actually becoming a serious emergency,” said Kendall. “And also the connections these folks are making in the communities are reducing those – what I would call a ‘super-user’ of services – because they’re actually nipping the problem in the bud before it becomes a huge problem.”

He said he hoped the availability of the mobile crisis teams would become even greater for the sheriff’s office in the future.

“Whether it be a SWAT operation or a barricaded subject or something like that, these folks are extremely valuable to us,” he added.

According to Miller, the county is planning to expand the staff and upgrade the vehicles for the mobile team, thanks to a state grant they were awarded.

Miller said that the Crisis Residential Treatment facility in Ukiah, which opened on April 25 and has been named “Phoenix House,” has served 17 people in need so far.

As described on the county’s website, “The CRT facility is an eight-bed short-term voluntary residential program with a duration of up to 30 days for adults 18 years or older experiencing a psychiatric crisis.”

It says that CRTs provide “intensive and supportive services in a home-like environment through an active social rehabilitation program.”

At the meeting Miller said that the CRT essentially functions as a “medium layer” landing place for those who are not designated 5150, but “are not really ready to go home” due to their mental state.

Redwood Community Services provides the treatment at Phoenix House, and Miller said there has been pretty much constant activity there.

“We have been getting more and more clients into that facility,” she said. “I haven’t had a day I’ve talked to them when they haven’t had a client in there.... I know that they’ve been keeping it pretty full and keeping it at capacity as much as they can and as they need.”

Miller noted that while currently the clients at Phoenix House are primarily those on MediCal and the “indigent population,” there have been ongoing discussions with health insurance providers to hopefully cover CRT costs for their customers as well.

“They have gotten some headway working with them,” she said of the discussions. “They’re hoping to see a change within the next six months.”

As for the Psychiatric Hospital Facility planned on Whitmore Lane in Ukiah, the \$19.5 million building project contracted out by the county to Nacht & Lewis is still in its early stages.

Miller said they are still working on the designs for the PHF building, and preparing for the demolition of the old structure there.

“We’ve spent a lot of time making sure the facility will meet both the county’s needs and the contractor Telecare’s needs,” she said. “And to make sure that it also meets Medicare obligations – as we’ve talked about building it as a ‘super-PHF’ so that we are able to take Medicare or private insurance there.... As soon as those designs are finalized, we definitely will get those to the board.”

General Services Agency Director Janelle Rau said that the PHF was still on pace as originally projected for being completed by fiscal year 2025/26.

Third District Supervisor John Haschak asked if there was any concern that the \$19.5 million price tag projected by Nacht & Lewis may increase due to recent high inflation.

Miller responded that the contractors had built in inflation to the original projected cost, but had acknowledged that the “worst case scenario” would be that it could come in at \$1 million higher once completed.

Other Measure B projects currently operating in the county include an aftercare program for patients when they leave mental health facilities, and the new Behavioral Health Regional Training Center in Redwood Valley.

Miller said that the aftercare program was designed to help those without MediCal with that treatment, and so far 281 clients had been served through the program.

As for the training center, Miller said there had only been about two training events per month so far there, but they were hopeful this would increase soon with more marketing and with decreases in COVID-19 related concerns.

The county website says the training center is meant to help “first responders, law enforcement, mental health professionals, and other individuals vested in mental health” to develop “skills to detect and handle mental illness more efficiently.”

Another Measure B project is the “Community Education, Awareness and Support Program” being facilitated by the National Association of Mental Illness.

The program is meant to “reduce discrimination and stigma” regarding mental health issues, and to “assist individuals and families in navigating the community resources and services,” according to the county website.

“NAMI has been out in the community really working with a lot of community partners,” said Miller, “attending a lot of events and getting material out there. Working with the Native American community to really understand their needs, what are their lack of mental health services, and how could we better serve that community.”

### Grand Jury Measure B report

The Mendocino County Grand Jury released a report regarding Measure B projects on July 19, and their overall assessment of the county’s work was positive, though there were some critiques.

“After a slow start, the funds generated under the Mendocino County Mental Health Treatment Act ... have made considerable contributions to mental health services available in Mendocino County,” their report summary reads. “The slow start actually contributed to the generation of an increased budget for new facilities and funding of pilot programs for four years.”

One of the critiques in the report was that “the voter-approved ordinance directive for specific substance abuse programs were not funded with Measure B funds.”

However, Director Miller said that at a recent Measure B Committee meeting, the Ford Street Project-Ukiah Recovery Center had come forward with such a proposal asking for \$4.1 million in funding from the tax money.

She said the committee asked that representatives from Ford Street come back to their next meeting in September to continue those discussions.

“I do believe there will be an item coming forward to the board regarding this,” said Miller.

For more details and updates on the Measure B projects, you can go to [www.mendocinocounty.org/community/mental-health-oversight-committee/projects](http://www.mendocinocounty.org/community/mental-health-oversight-committee/projects)

### Satellite contract

Earlier in the meeting an item to approve a \$351,000 one-year contract for satellite imagery services with Planet Global PBC was pulled from the consent calendar by Supervisor Haschak, who said he had heard some comments from the community about it.

“The concern is that this is the Local Jurisdiction Assistance Grant money,” he said. “And the concern expressed was that this only be used for helping out with getting people to their annual [cannabis] licenses which is the intent of the [LJAG].”

In previous meetings the board and county staff have discussed plans to use the satellite imagery program for multiple purposes, including illegal cannabis enforcement and looking at structures on properties to assess tax rates.

During public comments, Mendocino Cannabis Alliance Executive Director Michael Katz expanded on the concern spoken about by Haschak.

“The LJAG requirements are very clear in what these funds are to be used for,” said Katz. “They are to be used for specifically helping to transition existing local licensed applicants from their provisionals to their annuals. What is [also] provided is a list of ineligible costs for what funding could not be used for and one of those items is, ‘Enforcement costs related to measures to ensure compliance with local or state commercial cannabis laws or regulations.’”

Katz went on to say that the county has indicated it would use the imagery system for enforcement and other purposes, and he was concerned that could lead to the state discontinuing the grant money altogether.

“We must make sure that firewalls are put in place so that this program will only be used for the purposes as outlined,” said Katz, “as inappropriate use by code enforcement and/ or law enforcement of this tool could lead to a loss of these essential funds.”

Willits resident Ron Edwards said he was worried that the county had no real structure for using the satellite program.

“I see Mendocino County’s Cannabis Department once again putting a program in place without guidelines,” he said. “There is no manual on the use of this satellite imagery. I would really like to see before any type of use of the system that there be a strong policy manual in place, that that policy be placed on the cannabis website so that the public is aware and the department is aware of the clear guidelines.”

In response to the public comments, Cannabis Program Administrator William Riley said: “I have no problem putting a policy in place for the proper use of these satellite images. I think that actually is a good idea.”

Eventually the satellite imagery contract was approved by the board, but with an addition to “direct the cannabis department to work with the County Counsel’s Office to see if there’s a need to bring back any finetuning of the policy about the use of those funds.”

### Fire sales tax measure

Also approved on the consent calendar without any further discussion was the 1/4 cent “Essential Services Transactions and Use Tax” to go toward fire services in the county.

That final vote by the board officially sends the tax on to the ballot for county voters to decide in November.

# July Summer Art Walk this Saturday

**Submitted by Willits Center for the Arts**

The July Summer Art Walk is set for Saturday, July 30, from 5 to 8 pm. Grab a friend or your family and stroll the streets of Willits to discover local artists, new venues, and eateries right here in our own backyard.

Our downtown is brimming with talented artists and creative activity. Plan to spend the evening exploring art, history, music and dance.

The 2022 Art Walks are held on the fourth Saturday of each month through October: July 30, August 27, September 24, and October 22.

The following participants are sponsors of the Willits Summer Art Walk: Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street; Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street; Mendocino College, North County Center, 372 East Commercial Street; BACE, 109 North Main Street (next to Northspur Brewery); Kemmy’s Pies, 299 East Commercial Street; Scoops, 110 North Main Street; Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street; Art on the Plaza, 99 South Main Street; and RE Evolution, 15 West Mendocino Avenue.



The 21 firearms found behind a false wall after MCSO served a search warrant in Laytonville.

Photo courtesy MCSO

The rest of Bust | From page 1

marijuana in various stages of processing, with an estimated weight of over 200 pounds. Two other containers had approximately 20 pounds of bud marijuana packaged in 1 pound increments. Deputies further located growing marijuana plants on the property.

Deputies further located 21 firearms hidden behind a false wall in a trailer. The firearms included two AR-10 rifles and a Polymer 80 9mm handgun, all of which did not have serial numbers. These firearms are commonly known as “ghost guns.”

Deputies further located a homemade firearm suppressor (silencer).

There was also a short barrel shotgun and a stolen pistol, along with hundreds of rounds of ammunition. Deputies located numerous ballistic vests, a collapsible baton, metal knuckles, and miscellaneous firearm items.

Brett Tucker was found to be a prohibited person, who is not legally allowed to possess firearms, or ammunition.

Tucker was arrested on multiple charges including: 29800(A)(1) PC (Possess firearm by prohibited person); 30305(A)(1) PC (Possess ammunition by prohibited person); 33410 PC (Possession of a silencer); 21810 PC (Possession of metal knuckles); 11351 HS (Possession of controlled substance for sale); 11358 HS (Possession of controlled substance for sale); 11358 (C) HS (Unlawful cultivation of marijuana); 11359 (D) HS (Unlawful possession of marijuana for sale); and 22210 PC (Possession of a billy club)

Tucker was booked into the Mendocino County Jail to be held in lieu of \$25,000 bail.

The rest of Reports | From page 1

this year’s Grand Jury foreman.

“The Civil Grand Jury is Mendocino County’s only independent watchdog of government agencies and services,” a Grand Jury brochure produced by the county states. “Composed of 19 citizen volunteers, it investigates and monitors the performance of county, city, and local governing entities, including special districts [and school districts]. It has the responsibility to make recommendations to improve local government.”

As per the press release announcing this year’s jurors, “Court operations and federal or state governmental agencies are outside the scope of local Grand Jury review.”

Each year the county Grand Jury is required to perform oversight on local correctional facilities, and look at the operations of at least one county department. “Investigation topics are generated internally via committee work, or via citizen complaint,” the press release states.

A series of reports is then issued to the public, and findings and recommendations are listed in the reports. Departments investigated by the Grand Jury are required to respond to the reports.

“Each of California’s 58 counties swears a new Grand Jury in to service each year,” the press release notes. “The Mendocino County Grand Jury has existed over 100 years, and must operate under a strict code of confidentiality required by law. Under misdemeanor penalty, Grand Jury members are forbidden from divulging identities of complainants or those providing information to the grand jury, nor to name any sources in any public reports.”

This year’s full reports and summaries can be viewed at [www.mendocinocounty.org/government/county-organization/grand-jury/2021-2022-reports](http://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/county-organization/grand-jury/2021-2022-reports)



# 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.**

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



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