# Prescribed burns set for CAL

FIRE HQ, Shamrock Ranch

Posted by CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Mendocino Unit personnel are set to conduct a prescribed burn of approximately 50 acres, at CAL FIRE Mendocino Unit Headquarters, 17501 North Highway 101, Willits. The burn was set to start Tuesday, December 9, 2025, and will continue until Monday, December 22, 2025, from approximately 9 am to approximately 4 pm.

The burn will be conducted under very tight restrictions for the personal safety of firefighters and area residents. If there are any indications that the burn cannot be conducted in a safe manner, such as high winds or local fire activity, the burn will be cancelled. CAL FIRE reminds all residents that their safety is of the utmost concern.

#### Shamrock Ranch burn

Also, CAL FIRE MEU plans to conduct a vegetation management

Read the rest of Burns

Over on Page 15

#### State advises no foraging after multiple mushroom poisonings, fatality

Posted by CA Public Health, Sacramento

December 5 –The California Department of Public Health is issuing an urgent advisory following a recent outbreak of amatoxin poisoning linked to the consumption of wild, foraged mushrooms. Confirmed cases have resulted in severe liver damage in both pediatric and adult patients, including one adult fatality.

As of December 5, 2025, 21 cases have been identified by the California Poison Control System, with significant clusters reported in the Monterey and San Francisco Bay Areas, although there is risk statewide.

"Death cap mushrooms contain potentially deadly toxins that can lead to liver failure, said Dr. Erica Pan, CDPH Director and State Public Health Officer. "Because the death cap can easily be mistaken for edible safe mushrooms, we advise the public not to forage for wild mushrooms at all during this high-risk season.

Toxic mushrooms, such as the death cap (*Amanita Phalloides*), can easily be

Read the rest of **Toxic** 

Over on Page 16







Above, from left: Santas of all sizes and shapes are available at the Senior Center Christmas Store. The inside of the great room at the Senior Center is filled with colorful holiday decorations. Mini plushies are perfect for sticking in stockings or adding to gift wrapping. Below: Holiday store volunteers smile for a photo including, from left: Joyce Stamps, Diana Mann, Dorothy Roediger, Betty Barnum, Melinda Hays, and Julian Smith. Not pictured: Sue Sawyers. "There would be no Christmas Store without Sue!"







Trees, stockings, decorations, dishes and so much more at annual holiday-themed, 5-day shopping event

CD. Volunteers Diana Mann and Betty Barnum take a quick break

from sorting ornaments to smile for the camera. This shopper

The inside of the Willits Senior Center has been transformed into a full-scale holiday shopping extravaganza during the annual Christmas Store which has been open to the public Monday through Thursday of this week, with a special kick-off day last Saturday.

"We had a record Saturday," explained Willits Senior Center Executive Director Richard Baker. "We're doing well on our weekday sales, too, and we expect to exceed last year's total of over \$10,000."

Even with the sale concluding on Thursday, December 11, the deals aren't over if you can make it into the store before they close at 4 pm: buy one, get one free specials! This will include all the amazing items inside like ornaments, garlands, tabletop decor, statues, fabric, clothing, and more.

"Sue Sawyers and Dorothy Roediger work around the year, presorting items that come into the thrift store and getting things set for the Christmas Store," continued Baker. "There would be no Christmas store without them – and it still takes about a week to set up and lots of volunteer time to help organize and display all the items."

If you miss the window to shop on Thursday, there's still lots of treasures to be found at the regular thrift store, and Christmas-wrapped See's Candies available to purchase, both which also help support the Senior Center and their vital programs for the community. More info: 707-459-6826

Senior Center is hosting their Christmas Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, December 14 from 8 to 11 am. Come on in and have breakfast with Santa!

Maureen Jennison

At left: Allegra Foley holds a fun find: a Christmas Pickle ornament. Below, left: A funny item hides in this table's assortment. Below, right: More traditional holiday decorations are also available for sale including this peaceful scene.





## MCOG hears polling

on potential transportation sales tax

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

The Mendocino Council of Governments heard the results of a new poll of likely voters in the unincorporated areas of Mendocino County showing support for a potential new transportation sales tax measure.

Consultants FM3
Research polled more than 600 likely voters living in the unincorporated areas of the county. The poll questions included an example of a potential ballot transportation sale tax measure, reading as follows:

"Mendocino County Road Maintenance, Resurfacing, and Safety Measure. To maintain and improve deteriorating roads; permanently resurface potholes; improve safety on local roads; all in the unincorporated areas of the County only, shall Mendocino County measure establishing a one-cent sales tax in those

Read the rest of MCOG

Over on Page 15

# Final special election results posted

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

The final official voting results for the November 4, 2025 special election in Mendocino County have been posted, showing Proposition 50 winning in the county, 63.55% yes to 36.45% no.

Proposition 50, as listed on the ballot, authorized "Temporary Changes to Congressional District Maps in Response to Texas' Partisan Redistricting."

The Mendocino County Elections Office has submitted its final official results for the November 4, 2025 special election to the California Secretary of State. The state elections office is required to certify the November election by December 12.

With zero ballots remaining to count, Mendocino County reported a total of 30,981 ballots for the November 4 special election were processed. That means 57.44% of the county's 53,936 registered voters came out to vote in November.

Read the rest of **Election** 

Over on Page 15







#### Willits Weekly's December 18 edition is last of the year

Willits Weekly will be publishing our last edition of 2025 on December 18, the week before Christmas. We'll be taking our Winter Break through January, and will resume publishing on Thursday, February 5, 2026.

Thank you to all our supporters – especially the display and legal advertisers who've paid the bills since our first edition in May 2013. Thanks also to all our subscribers, street subscribers, classified advertisers, donors, and readers. Thanks to all who submit events and posters for our Calendar, and public service announcements, and letters to the editor. Thanks to the institutions and individuals who put together interesting press releases about the community and about events which we are grateful to be able to run in Willits Weekly.

#### Senior Center menu for the week

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

Thursday, December 11: Sweet & Sour Pork, White Rice Friday, December 12: Chicken Casserole, Veggies, Roll Monday, December 15: Chili Cheese Baked Potato and Corn

Tuesday, December 16: Meatball Sub Sandwich, Green Salad Wednesday, December 17: Chicken Tacos, Rice, Beans Thursday, December 18: Chile con Carne, Cornbread

Friday, December 19: Pepperoni Sausage Pizza, Green Salad Senior Center Pancake Breakfast: second Sunday of every month, on December 14 this month, 8 to 11 am. Menu choices are: 1. All-vou-can-eat pancakes scrambled eggs, choice of sausage or bacon, or 2. Biscuits & gravy with scrambled eggs. Both include

coffee, tea or orange juice. \$13 adults; \$12 Senior Center members; \$8 children 8 and under. Extra sausage, bacon, eggs and juice for additional cost. This month's specials: Chile Relleno Casserole and Vegetarian

Activities; Bingo on Friday nights, 5 to 7 pm. Exercise class weekday mornings from 9 to 10 am.

Meals on Wheels: The Senior Center Meals on Wheels program delivers lunch Monday through Friday, excepting holidays. To sign up call Joliana at 459-6826, who can help fill out the application form. Call 459-6826 the day before needed to schedule home meal delivery. Delivered throughout Willits.

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

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

#### Tips from UPD on motorized e-bike and scooter safety

#### Posted by UPD

The Ukiah Police Department has recently received multiple complaints regarding groups of young children operating electric scooters and electric bicycles in an unsafe manner. Reports indicate these devices are being ridden at high speeds, failing to stop at stop signs, being operated after dark without lights, and in some instances nearly causing traffic collisions.

At UPD, we want the children in our community to have fun and eniov the many outdoor activities available. However, safety must remain our top priority. Parents and guardians should be aware that it is illegal to operate an electric scooter on a public roadway without a valid driver's license or instruction permit, and electric bicycles must follow the same laws as pedal bicycles under California law.

To help keep our youth safe, please keep the following points in mind:

 Age: Children under 16 are not permitted to operate Class 3 e-bikes on public roads. All electric scooter operators must have a valid driver's license or contact the Ukiah Police Department. learner's permit.

same rules and responsibilities as traditional bicycles.

Letters & Commentaries: Email letters to willitsweekly@gmail.com.

Third District issues, activities, events, and people. We print letters

to the editor from residents of Willits and the Third District only. To

encourage a variety of voices. Willits Weekly limits letter publication

Letters and commentaries must be submitted with a name, address

residence will be published. Deadline is end of day Monday for each Thursday edition. No letters from an anonymous source will be

published, although a request to withhold the writer's name will be

and phone number, although only the author's name and city of

Willits Weekly prints letters and commentaries about Willits and

The Rules: LETTERS

from any one writer to once every four weeks.

• Speed: Remind kids to use caution and slow down, especially when riding in neighborhoods, or through

parks where pedestrians may be present.

Harrah Senior Center

Breakfast

Sunday, December 14th, 2025

1501 Baechtel Rd. Willits, CA 95490

Sr. Center Members- \$12

Come on in and have breakfast

Breakfast Prices

Adults- \$13

with Santa!

8:00am - 11:00am

Monthly Pancake

· Helmet required: Riders under 18 must wear a properly fitted and fastened helmet – no exceptions.

• Reckless or unsafe riding is illegal: Children can be cited for operating any bicycle recklessly or for riding an electric scooter that they are not legally allowed to

 Stop signs: Remind young riders to come to a complete stop at stop signs and to ride as though drivers may not see them.

UPD encourages parents to review these laws with their children and ensure all scooters and bikes are operated safely and legally. We will continue to monitor the affected areas and work closely with families to prevent accidents and injuries. If necessary, enforcement action will be taken. Our priority is keeping children safe and avoiding a tragic outcome.

For questions or additional information, please

Editor's Note: Especially with the school holidays • Obey all bicycle laws: E-bikes are subject to the coming up, the UPD is giving good advice to every

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

#### Willits Community Thanksgiving Dinner 2025

By Bill Bruneau, Willits

As we struggle to get through difficult challenging days our Willits community thanksgiving was proof positive that we have a laudable resilience in our community Our free dinner for all comers had grown beyond any one community organization, and so many so many stepped up to help with this, bake that, etc.; preparations spread out over a half dozen organizations (at least) came together encore at the senior center dining room It was wonderful and extra delicious this year

We came at a bit of a lull in our Thanksgiving dinner and we had a ratio of one server to every two eaters that fell to maybe one in six when all tables taken Never in my life do I get table service like this Friends and neighbors, our civic leaders all serving With a few young'ns learning what serving really is They were constantly trying to serve us our salad first because the remains were quickly, constantly removed by neighbors with such good humor and expediency

There are a few times we get a true gestalt of Willits Our sharing a modest Thanksgiving together is one Absolutely free, but ironically a benefit for the hungry As usual voluntary donations exceed expectations Full Thanksgiving dinner from 8:30 to 3:00 for all From the honestly hungry happy to be there to the well off serving others, then filling a table With their whole family and friends Youngest to old, our diversity on display

All of us breaking bread together over gratitude to have found a caring home in Willits I often ask people in conversation about what their hopes and aspirations for us together about our sharing and caring for one another Nearly everyone has this intense hunger and active hope for even more community

#### Unique grant opportunity for local organizations

Submitted by Law Office of Elina N. Agnoli

Notice to all Willits and Laytonville organizations and

We are pleased to announce a unique opportunity to receive a no-strings-attached financial grant to support your charitable, artistic, cultural, scientific, or other philanthropic work in our community.

These one-time gifts will be funded through the estate of a longtime Laytonville resident who died recently, leaving the bulk of his estate for charitable purposes.

Please submit a proposal of no more than 1,000 words, describing your project or endeavor, or your organization's mission, and how additional funding would be used.

Submit proposals to:

The Law Office of Elina N. Agnoli ATTN: GRANT SUBMISSION 140 Branscomb Road

Lavtonville, CA 95454

or email to: eagnoli@gmail.com Guidelines: Submissions must be received on or

before January 31, 2026 and must be 1,000 words or less. Grantees will be notified in March. Please include the full name of your organization, your tax ID number, and your mailing address in your proposal.

Gift range: \$1,000 - \$15,000.





Above, from left: Kids of all ages can find something entertaining and amusing in the Kids

Corner. Everything in the Kids Corner is colorful, padded, and designed for maximum fun. This

hallway at the Willits Kids Corner is a sensual delight with several ways to make music or just

pharmacy. Below: Brie Adams rearranges some of the pads in the infant and toddler area. At

Flying Dog Pizza to provide a special menu of meals for parties.

noise. At left: The Willits Kids Corner occupies the familiar building that once housed the Rexall

bottom, left: After finding antiques and memorabilia during construction, the Kids Corner, created

this memory wall. At bottom, right: Kids Corner partners with the Loose Caboose, Slam Dunk and



# Willits Kids Corner

The largest indoor playground in Mendocino County is now open at the old Rexall

After two years of anticipation and curiosity, the old Rexall building has finally morphed into "the largest indoor Mathew Caine playground family fun center in

Mendocino County," according to the Willits Kids Corner website:

The Willits Kids Corner, which had a soft opening on December 7, is a space filled with bright colors, a plethora of activities and areas in which kids can express their desire to play and have a fun time. The space is clean, bright, safe, and appropriate for the Cheesecakery. They have made menus children of all ages.

The owners, Bri Adams and Carlos and Nina Swinney, wanted something to do in their retirement that would benefit the community and provide a place where kids can come to laugh and play and expend some of their childlike energy. "We're finally there." said Nina. "What we have here is an indoor playground and family fun center. We created it to be fully inclusive for all ages. There will be times when teenagers and parents can play here. There is a waiver that is required for every kid under 18 so that we are not liable for any mishaps, so every kid's parents know where they are," she explained.

The "sensory gym" at Willits Kids Corner "is catered towards the neurodiverse families in the community," Nina said, "and we also have sensory rooms underneath. There are two different themes, a lava room and a blacklight room. The lava room is lit up red with lava panels on the wall with volcanos, and we also have lava tiles on the floor, with different textures. We have sequence panels on the walls and activity panels."

In this facility, parents can either participate with their kids or sit in the cafe area, sip some coffee, and surf the internet on the free WiFi.

In the back room, there's an area where gently used clothing is available for purchase for the kids. The arcade has some exciting and colorful machines, mostly for the older children who are adept at racing cars and

shooting dinosaurs. There is a table area which can be rented for parties.

"We have an event center where companies or families or groups of any kind can have their own private party," Carlos said. "We have an 86 inch television on the wall.... You can have your company party here, and nobody has to get a babysitter. You bring your kids with you. We will always have staff available for that," he said. "We've partnered up with Loose Caboose, and Slam Dunk Pizza, and also Flying Dog and exclusively for the Willits Kids Corner," Nina

The partners have experience with neurodivergent children, the Swinneys having a grandson on the spectrum. They have designed much of the play area with sensual games and musical instruments and sensory rooms to cater to young imaginations and the needs for stimulus.

"We have experience ourselves with our grandson who was diagnosed on the spectrum when he was very young," Nina said. "He was diagnosed a little after he was 1 year old. That drew our attention to resources that were not available in the community and Mendocino as a whole.

"We wanted to branch out and make something available for all of Mendocino County," Nina said, "so those families with kids who have different types of cognitive delays can come and really take advantage of the facility. We wanted to target those families as well. That's the concept that we came up with, a sensory gym."

Kids Corner will have two basic threehour sessions per day, 10 am to 1 pm, and 2 to 5 pm. The sessions cost only \$12 for the three hours, and there are discounts for multiple children. They offer several tiers of memberships. There is a Classic Plan for \$49 per month with unlimited access

Read the rest of Play Over on page 15









Above, left: Young Dario is an ace at the Jurassic Park game, running up the high score. Above, right: The slides go - quite fast - from the top level to the lower level. Below: Owners of Willits Kids Corner, Bri Adams with Dario, and Carlos and Nina Swinney, have spent the last two years creating this space that is safe and fun.







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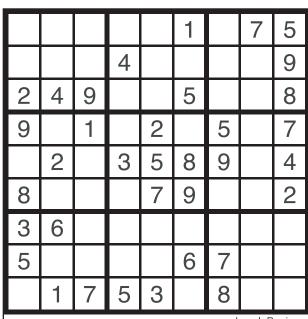
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# Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword



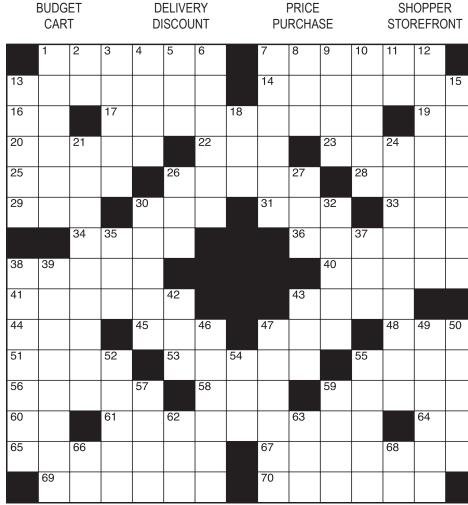
## SHOPPING WORD SEARCH T I Q U S I B O U O U S S I I I E D O C R A B C R P O V D G D D N U F E R Q E N Y N A E V S A B Q **AISLE CASHIER INVENTORY RECEIPT** BAG CHECKOUT **REFUND** MALL

**MERCHANDISE** 

ONLINE

**CLEARANCE** 

COUPON



#### **CLUES ACROSS**

BARCODE

**BOUTIQUE** 

- 1. Spiritual leaders 7. A type of solution 13. Fortified wine
- 14. Edible mollusk 16. They precede C
- 17. A way to compare 19. Government lawyer
- 20. 'Game of Thrones' actor Ciaran 22. The eighth month (abbr.)
- 23. Very willing 25. \_\_ ex Machina
- 26. Makes happy
- 28. Type of berry 29. A doctrine
- 30. Popular Dodge truck model
- 31. Dekagram 33. Naturally occurring solid
- 34. Company officer 36. Villains
- 38. Cricket frogs 40. Influential German
- psychologist 41. Endured 43. A female domestic
- 44. You can get stuck in one 45. Cigarette (slang)
- 47. Fiber optics network 48. Group of blood disorders (abbr.) 51. Employee stock

- ownership plan 53. Belonging to the
- bottom layer 55. Sound 56. MLB legend Hank
- 58. Very attractive person 59. Late beloved sportscaster
- 60. South Dakota 61. Mocking
- 64. Symbol for gold 65. Longtime Braves pitcher Julio
- 67. Humor 69. Shawl 70. Preliminary patient assessment
- **CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Animal disease
- 2. Commercial 3. Necklace material 4. Containers

8. Head injury (abbr.)

11. Opposite of yes

12. Caused to be loved

13. Spiritual leader of Islam

9. Lay about

10. Intestinal

- 5. A way to save for
- 50. Body fluid 52. One who's faking it vour future 54. Title of respect 6. Colorado Heisman winner Rashaan 55. Chilean city 7. Dipped down
  - 57. City in central Japan 59. Silk garment 62. A form of dance 63. Automobile

66. The man

68. Justice Dept.

15. Businesslike

21. Number above the

line in a fraction

24. An animal with its

own day

27. Swedish krona

30. Start over

35. Fourteen

38. Up-to-date

39. Campaigns

42. Touch lightly

property

49. Anxiety

32. Field flowers

37. A visual way to interact

with a computer

43. 'Boardwalk Empire

46. Violent seizure of

actress Gretchen

47. Supporter of the Pope

18. Not in

26. Pouch

### HOW TO SUDOKU

more numbers you name,

the easier it gets to solve

RETAIL

SALE

the puzzle!

Sudoku puzzles are 7-day period. formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The

November 24 must fill each row. column and box. Each number 5:51 am: Officers responded to a report can appear only once in of suspicious activity in the 1100 block of each row, column and South Main Street box. You can figure out the 1:50 pm: Officers initiated a theft order in which the numbers will appear by using the investigation in the 100 block of Baechtel

> 2:06 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of North Main Street and State Street and issued a citation.

**Summary of Active Investigations** 

and Arrests

8:29 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1000 block of South Main Street.

#### November 25

7:36 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 400 block of Mill Street.

10:31 am: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and East San Francisco Avenue and issued a

12:30 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a citation 3:24 pm: Officers initiated a vehicle theft

investigation in the 800 block of South Main 4:35 pm: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 1400 block of South

Main Street. 7:54 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of Barbara Lane and issued a citation.

9:45 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and 9:54 pm: Officers conducted a stop in

the 1700 block of South Main Street and a warning. issued a citation.

10:19 pm: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

#### November 26

10:40 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of

3:07 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 800 block of the 1400 block of South Main Street and South Main Street.

9:05 pm: CURTIS, Rickie Allen (52) of Willits was contacted in the 300 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol), contempt of court (disobeying a court order), and violation of probation.

#### November 27

5:41 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued

5:45 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the conduct (loitering)

# WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT **POLICE LOG**

November 24 to November 30

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police 800 block of South Main Street and issued Department reported **73 incidents** in this a warning.

> 8:44 pm: MARTIN, Jennifer Ann (60) of Ukiah was contacted in the 1600 block of Highway 20. She was arrested on felony charges of possession of a controlled substance with two or more prior

> convictions and committing a felony while released on bail, and on misdemeanor charges of driving under the influence of any drug, contempt of court (disobeying a court order), and possession of a controlled substance.

11:09 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and East Commercial Street and issued a

#### November 28

5:57 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued

2:35 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of Franklin Avenue and issued a warning.

10:11 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and Monroe Street and issued a warning.

10:40 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of Maple Street and Pine Street.

#### November 29

3:54 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued

5:29 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued

5:31 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued

7:44 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and Franklin Avenue and issued a warning.

#### November 30

2:07 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

5:11 pm: Officers conducted a stop in issued a warning.

7:21 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1500 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

10:31 pm: SIMPSON, Gerald Crandall (55) of Willits was contacted in the 1500 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on felony charges of violation of parole, and on misdemeanor charges of possession of a controlled substance with two or more prior convictions, possession of controlled substance, and disorderly

Publication Date: Every Thursday

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Monday prior to publication

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and having our printing company place the flyer or Legal ads are priced at \$8 per "legal column" inch. Please email booklet inside printed copies of the chosen edition. willitsweekly@gmail.com to get more information and specifics on the Design assistance for preparing the customer's FBN (fictitious business name) listings are \$120. Please file your printing press are also available for additional paperwork with the county and then email us a copy of the document. charges. Contact us for details.

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**ADVERTISING & INFO:** Maureen Jennison | 707-972-7047 | Jennifer Poole | 707-459-2633

SHOP LOCAL, SHOP CREATIVE, BE CREATIVE

#### Art Center's Holiday Craft Fair coming up, December 13-14

The Willits Center for the Arts Holiday Craft Fair 2025 is set for Saturday, December 13, from 10 am to 7 pm, and Sunday, December 14, 10 am to 4 pm

This will be the 38th annual WCA fair, and it is one of the few Fine Art and Craft shows in inland Mendocino County. The fair features over 30 fine artists and artisans offering unique gifts and work, including soaps, ceramics, iewelry, cutting boards. knives, herbal gifts, and so much more.

The Craft Fair coincides with the opening of the Members Small Works show in the main gallery of the Willits Center for the Arts which will run bracelet in sterling silver with a pearl. December 6 to December 24, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, featuring 25 additional artists with artwork in all media including gift cards. The Crafts Fair provides free live entertainment throughout the show, and food is available for purchase. Admission

The annual WCA Members Small Works Show reaches out to the community to display art and gift-giving diversity. There are too many talented people in our town to mention all the members participating in the show. Come by the Art Center to see the show, and find one-of-a-kind gifts for friends and loved ones.

The Small Works show opens on Saturday, December 6, from 11 am until 5 pm. A chance to meet the artists is set for December 6 from 6 to 8 pm. There will be special extended hours to coincide with the 37th Annual Craft Fair on the weekend of December 13 and 14.

Regular WCA gallery hours are Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, 11 am to 5 pm.

WCA is located at 71 East Commercial Street right next door to the Noyo Theater. Holiday Craft Fair vendors will also be at 111 East Commercial at City Hall across the street.

For more information: willitscenterforthearts.org or call 707-459-1726.

Above, left: A Chrysocolla pendant from J.B. Gems

from J.B. Gems and Minerals. At top: A Mendocino

Jade pendant from J.B. Gems and Minerals.

and Minerals. Above, right: A Libyan Tektite pendant

MARGI GOMEZ GUHDE

Margi Gomez Guhde is a painter, printmaker,

and ceramic artist, and is currently the gallery

curator at Willits Center for the Arts. She has a

broad background in the arts and in non-profit

See her high-fired ceramic sculptures and

her "altered" and collaged linoblock prints and

cards at the upcoming WCA Holiday Fair.

administration and grant writing.

"Ravens Gather"

ceramic sculpture

by Margi Gomez

WILLITS CENTER FOR THE

2025 HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR PARTICIPANTS

#### **Willits Community** Center:

• Aguirre, Gia paintings: Alvaro, Joana JewelryBacon, Honora ceramics

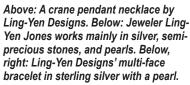
- Belt, Bonnie Ceramics · Campbell, Leslie
- ceramics · Cavallari, Emilie candles Colson, Garry Paintings
- · Cull. William silver jewelry
- · Field, Viviana gems jewelry
- Fox, Carrie Jewelry · Franklin, Charissa
- Handmade soap · Green, Kathryn Tie Dye clothing
- · Guhde, Margi Linoblock prints/ceramic
- Irwin, Gerald ceramics Israel, Norea paper art
- Jones, Ling-Yen sterling
- LeNeave, Cindy Wood
- Lindsley, Gregg Ceramics • Ludwig, Erwin
- Handmade knives McGuire, Tess Felted
- Hats Moore, Silke bath & body products
- Morgan, Rex metalwork/ sculpture
- · Pealatere, Jacki Hand scrollcut art Sotomayor, Julia stone
- jewelry · VanderHorck, Anne Fabric art/dolls
- · Yusem, Rachel Arama textile art

· White, Sophia ceramics

#### Willits Art Centerupstairs Ceratto, Tim jewelry

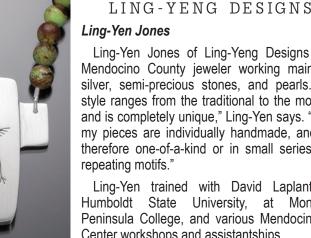
- · Button, Kimberly jewelry Thornburg, Soren & Ivy
- woven potholders Laack, Ken wood pens

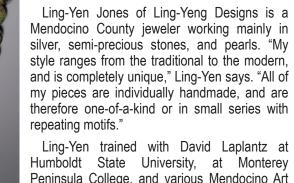






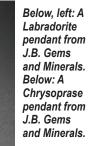






Peninsula College, and various Mendocino Art Center workshops and assistantships "I am presently working with my company Ling-Yen Designs and selling my work on Etsy," Ling-Yen said, "and other exhibition and show venues.

I am working as gallery coordinator of the Coast Highway Artist Collective in Point Arena."



At top: These Mermaizing Scents soaps

feature bright tropical scenes and decor. Above: Christmas soaps with trees, stars and bears Below: Beautifully decorated scented soaps from Mermaizing Scents.



METALS BY NATURE

#### year's shoppers and gift-seekers at Carrie Fox

the Holiday Craft Fair. "Each piece is Carrie Fox is the artist behind Metals by Nature. Fox says cut and polished with a careful eye for she was introduced to metalsmithing in college, "I loved doing detail and form, capturing the beauty it," she said, then started taking classes again 20 years later in and individual uniqueness of each 2016, and started her own business. Fox moved to Willits from mineral selected. Visit my website Chicago a couple years ago. at ibgemsandminerals.com to see





JB GEMS &

MINERALS

Julia Sotomayor of JB Gems &

Minerals will be providing an array

of handcrafted stone jewelry for this

Julia Sotomayor



"I enjoy the mystical view of nature and



# Hand ornaments created by Metals By Nature.

# 38th Annual Willits Holiday **Craft Fair** Saturday, December 13th, (10am - 7pm) Sunday, December 14th, (10am - 4pm) Willits Community Center, 111 E. Commercial St., Willits, CA Willits Center For the Arts-Upstairs Gallery-71 E. Commercial St., Willits Food Catered by Scoops, live entertainment both days, raffle to win artwork by vendors, Benefit for: Willits Center for the Arts 40 booths of fine Arts and Crafts info at: willitscenterforthearts.org

of Mermaizing Scents. "I create luxurious, small-batch pretty soaps and body products made with skinloving ingredients, rich botanical, and thoughtful scents," Franklin said, "Each item is crafted with care to bring a touch of everyday indulgence to your self-care routine.

MERMAIZING

SCENTS









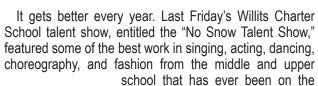




# 'No Snow' **Talent Show** Willits Charter School

students spotlight singing, acting, dancing, choreography, and fashion





WCS stage.

Mathew Caine

In addition to the stage work, Student Leadership and the art classes offered some interesting and well-crafted items for sale. Even succulents from the WCS gardens were on sale, some in ceramic containers from the art classes.

The show, as always, began with the Theatre Arts teacher, Billy "Mr. Billy" Hetherington, announcing the acts in his sometimes zany, sometimes poignant style. "This show is basically 90% student run," Hetherington told the crowd. "They are running the lights, the sound. We have backstage managers that are students. They coordinated a lot of this stuff. The students came in and decorated this place, put down all of the blue and all the seats. Without their help, things like this wouldn't be possible.

"We have a great lineup tonight," Hetherington said. "We have everything from the rock band, to theater, to dance, a fashion show. We have things from the Student Leadership, the arts, the culinary program. This is our way of showcasing what our students are doing in this

First up was Mr. B's (Tyler Balthrop) rock class rock band, the 6/7 Nation Army (6/7 being a nonsense phrase used by kids for fun). The band, consisting of students from several grades, played deftly, as the two singers hit all the notes with style. Next was a courageous a cappella rendition of Alice in Chain's Man in the Box, by Ash Fagan, who bravely sang out without the need for a microphone.

Miss Pearl (Pearl Marill) helped her students choreograph their own routines. "I'm so proud of all the students getting up here tonight," she said, "It takes so much bravery to be in front of you and be so vulnerable. This is a CTE course (Career Technical Education), and we're trying to expose them to as many real-life opportunities to get experience performing in front of a crowd, getting a sense of the theater. This is a class that has sixth through 12th graders, and what you're about to see is a combination of choreography that I created and all the stuff they made up themselves," said Marill,

Her students performed their own steps on several numbers including "Mystical Magic," an ensemble piece, "You Can't Catch Me Now" (choreographed by Marill, Aiden Parten, and Irene Almonte), "Where's My Love" (choreographed by all the dancers). The students managed to hit all the steps and make it seem liquid in their renditions.

In between the dance numbers, Iris Vinzant sang "Riptide," and Parker Smith sang "When I Come Around" by The Beastie Boys.

After intermission, the middle school students did wellprepared monologues with some standout performances. Next up were the Senior High students performing monologues that they wrote themselves, expressing their feelings of isolation, angst, and feeling different. They were raw and heartfelt and dynamic.

After the monologues, Mr. Lexington, fashion teacher, presented his students, walking the red carpet in fashions of their own design and creation. The students' interpretation of fashion was on point, and most of the clothing fit well with their personalities and expressed the teacher's desire to repurpose and upcycle materials to create a sustainable industry.

At the end of the performances, all the participating students gathered on stage for a round of appreciative applause and to bask in the light of a job well done.



At top, from left: Student Ash Fagan boldly offered an a cappella rendition of "Man in the Box" by Alice in Chains. Even after

experiencing some technical difficulties with the microphone, Iris Vinzant continued with the song "Riptide." Nefera Fisher and Penny

moving along with his witty introductions. Above, from left: Pearl Marill, dance teacher, holds up ceramic magnets, made by a friend,

Leadership. Miss Wendy, the science and garden teacher at WCS, brought a selection of succulents, some in ceramic pots from the

for sale. Carolyn Hambright, the art and ceramics instructor at WCS, shows prints and ceramics at the show to raise money for Student

school kiln. Miles Mattson performs a monologue entitled "Weirdo," about being different. Below: All of the performers joined on stage

Morgan perform a dance they choreographed to "Crazy in Love." Theatre Arts instructor Billy Hetherington kept the proceedings



to take a bow at the end of the "No Snow" Talent Show.



The entire dance

class choreographed

and performed this

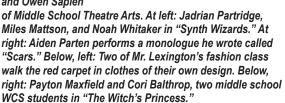
number to "Where's

Photos by Mathew Caine











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Above, from left: The Balthrop kids pose happily with Santa, who arrived at the engine house by rail car. A wagon full of toys is offered via raffle. Kids find plenty of activities to keep them occupied

# Holiday Express

Families catch a ride on an antique steam engine and visit with Santa at annual

Roots of Motive Power event

Santa seemed to have left his reindeer and sled (and Mrs. Claus) at home, although he did bring TMathew Caine two elves to assist hundreds of kids

who patiently waited in a line that circled the interior of the engine house at the Mendocino County Museum. After arriving at 11 am by train, Mr. Claus greeted all of the children who came to see him and express what they wanted for Christmas.

The Roots of Motive Power Holiday Express is a tradition that has been happening for several years, to the delight of families from all over Mendocino County, who come to meet Santa, sip hot chocolate, eat hot dogs (provided by Sober Grad), create some art, and ride the train around the track that encircles the Roots facility.

In addition to the activities going on in the engine house, the event was also a chance for families to catch a free ride on the Port of Olympia steam engine. The antique engine pulled a car with giant logs, behind which were two open-air cars trailed by the caboose. As the train made its way around the sports fields, it puffed out a thick blanket of white steam from its boiler, its whistle screaming out a hello and a warning to stay off the tracks. After two circles around the course, the train stopped to let off passengers and to take on the families who had been waiting by the station, tickets in hand to board whichever car they chose. Some enjoyed the open-air cars for their views and fresh air. Some chose the caboose, which is more enclosed, and offered a few seats in the upper section for the kids to enjoy a heightened view. After a ride on the train, many of the families headed inside to warm up with some hot

"We have hot dogs and chili and hot chocolate and chips and water, sodas," explained April Lamprich, president of Sober Grad, the organization that provides a safe and fun party on graduation night to seniors. "There are a bunch of kids in here and they are ready to give you hot chocolate. This is the last day for our fall raffle basket. We are going to draw at the end of the day. We have gift certificates from all over town. We have an Ugg blanket. We have a cutting board. We have a load of rock from Northern Aggregates that will be delivered to the winner's house. We have gift certificates for 101 Drive-in, April May's, Loose Caboose, a Stanley cup from J.D. Redhouse. A \$25 gift certificate to J.D. Redhouse," This year's lucky basket winner was Mackenzie Érickson.

Roots held its own raffle, as they do each

year. The prize was a Red Ryder wagon chock full of toys. "These are donated toys from stores in town that are part of our raffle," said Bruce Patterson. "You win the him in meeting the wagon and all the toys. It's \$1 a ticket and six tickets for \$5. The raffle drawing is at 3

> Troy James has been with Roots of Motive Power for several years and has served as president of the organization. He could be found at the train station, helping families on and off the train. "Every year, the first Saturday of December, we give rides all day, free, until 4 pm," said James "Santa gets here at 11. We delivered him. This is one of my favorite events because of all the kids. They line up around the engine house to see Santa. We've garnered interest in children that now are operators. Eddie Kimball, he's one of our newest members, not guite 21 yet. We've had him since he was 11, when his Willits grandparents dropped him off here so he could learn some things. Now he's here and he's a restorer. He restores locomotives and logging equipment for Chris Baldo. We're getting a few younger people as members

> Roots, dedicated to the restoration and display of machines from the era of steam engines and implements, is a museum, a restoration facility, and a place where steam aficionados can receive training to be able to work on and operate these behemoth machines. Classes are available a few times a year to familiarize students with the workings and rules of safety for operating the steam implements, donkeys, engines, tractors, and shovels.

"Our Steam Safety Class will be the first weekend in April. The Railroad Safety Class will be the first weekend in June. Sometime in July, we're going to ao some kind of shovel-operation training. Not with the big steamer but with the diesel and the Caterpillars. We're starting to look into giving classes on our tractors," said James.

In addition to the Holiday Express, the Roots of Motive Power offers two days of Steam Fest each year, coinciding with the Willits Frontier Days and the Fourth of July parade. Roots is a mecca for steam enthusiasts who love to relive the days of logging and steam trains. Memberships are available, which include a periodic magazine of the history of the steam era and a barbecue at Steam Fest.

Roots of Motive Power is located at 420 East Commercial Street. More information about joining can be found at https://rootsofmotivepower.com or on their Facebook page.







riders came dressed in their Christmas sweaters and hats. Above, right: Thyri, a unicorn enthusiast, insists she is a Christmas elf. At left: The steam-powered Port of Olympia engine pulls four cars around the track. Below. left: Fireman Mattie May has been on the job for about a year, and is in training to be an engineer. Below, right: So many sweet goodies are available for free in the engine

Photos by Mathew Caine







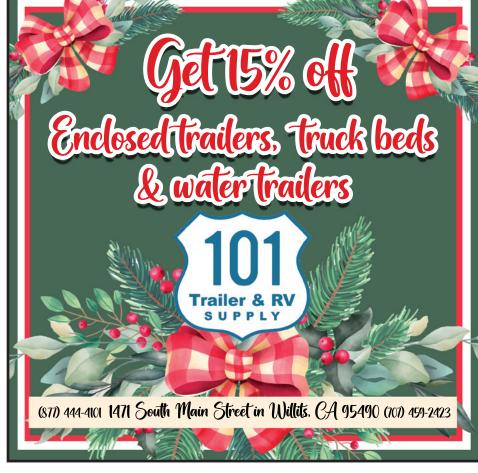
hot dogs, hot cocoa, chili, and other treats to raise money for their year-end party. Below: The Holiday Express event affords many opportunities for selfies and

Sober Grad

volunteers sell









## CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER (CFO) Benefits, Salary: \$98K - \$110K

Sherwood Valley Casino is seeking a strategic and detail-oriented Chief Financial Officer (CFO) to lead our financial operations and safeguard the integrity of our assets. This executive role is responsible for driving financial performance, maintaining robust internal controls, and ensuring full compliance with regulatory standards. The CFO will play a key role in shaping the financial future of the casino while upholding transparency, accountability, and operational excellence.

#### **GENERAL MANAGER (GM)** Benefits, Salary: \$95K-\$115K

Sherwood Valley Casino is seeking a skilled and driven General Manager to lead our gaming operations with excellence and integrity. This role is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the casino's daily activities, supervising gaming operations, and providing regular updates on business performance.

Contact the HR Dept at HR@svrcasino.com or 707-459-7335

#### Willits Weekly | December 11, 2025 **Pg. 6** Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

#### Agape **Bible Church**

290 S. Lenore Ave. Willits, CA 95490 Where love is first and the Bible is central. Sunday Services: 10:00 a.m. - Worship dult Sunday School 8:30 a.1 Info? 707-459-1905 www.agapebiblechurch.com

#### **Amazing Grace** Assembly of God Church 803 Coast Street

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

#### Church

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

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

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

#### Eckankar: The Path of Spiritual Freedo

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

#### **Grace Community** Church

Celebrating Life In Christ 25 Hazel Street, Willits **Worship Service** 10 a.m. For appointments call: (707) 459-3106

#### St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church 61 W. San Francisco Ave. Willits, CA 95490

Father Aaron Bandanadam Mass times: Wednesday-Friday 9:00 a.m. Saturday-5:30 p.m. Sunday-9:00 a.m. - English 10:30 a.m. - Spanish Confessions on Saturday 4:45 - 5:15 p.m. Or by appointmet at

707-459-2252 https://stanthonywillits.org/ saintanthonywillits@gmail.com We welcome All Walks of Faith

#### St. Francis **Episcopal Church** 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 Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.

(707) 459-2988 24 Mill Creek Drive acebook.com/stjohnswillits ALL ARE WELCOME

#### Willits Seventh-Day **Adventist Church** 707-459-5714 Friendly, open worship

Saturdays Bible Study - 9:30 a.m. Worship Service - 10:45 a.m. Zoom Transmission Available Wednesday Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m. 399 W. Mendocino Ave. All are welcome!

#### Willits United **Methodist Church** A place to find comfort

Labyrinth and Peace Garden where all are welcome Pastor Jaime Rogers-Fairchild Sunday Worship at 10:30 am 286 School St. (at Pine) 707-459-2855 wumc@outlook.com www.willitsumc.org

Facebook: facebook willits umo

If you want to be included in this column please call **April Tweddell** (707) 972-2475 april@willitsweekly.com



#### Thursday, December 11

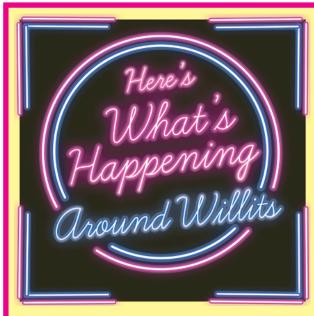
from 3 to 5:30 pm for the freshest produce available, local meat, farm fresh eggs, hot and cold food, and tasty treats from local businesses, crafts, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. The market honors EBT and WIC cards and matches benefits to double

Lego Serious Play Workshop at WCA: adult introductory workshop on exploring abstract concepts by building representations using Legos on Thursday, December 11 from 5 to 6 pm at Willits Center for the Arts. Cost is \$5. Space is limited. Register at willitscenterforthearts.org.

Trivia Night at The Munchery: 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 6 pm at 1797 South Main Street, Willits

# Friday,

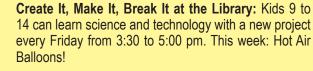
Friends of Round Valley



Willits Farmers Market at the Grange: Thursdays

# December 12

**Library Holiday Market** in Covelo: holiday gifts, jewelry, skincare products, ornament and greeting card making booth, food vendors and Farmers Market plus a Craft Supply Exchange, Friday, December 12 from noon to 6 pm in the



Library Commons, 23925 Howard Street, Covelo.

1212 String Show at the Grange: Twelve 12-String Guitars played by 12 guitarists on Friday, December 12 at 6 pm at the Little Lake Grange. Tickets \$12 and available at JD Redhouse and Flying Dog Pizza.

Art Talk with Gary Martin at WCA: presenting the rich history and aesthetics of Japanese Art, and exploring its evolution on Friday, December 12 at 6:30 pm at Willits Center for the Arts.

Mendocino Camerata A Capella Choir at WCT: fundraiser for music programs in the Willits Unified School District and Willits Charter School on Friday, December 12 at 7 pm at Willits Community Theatre. Admission by donation.

Latchkey at Shanachie: Friday, December 12 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub.

# Saturday, December 13

Willits Holiday Craft Fair at Willits Community Center and WCA: 40 booths featuring specialty foods and handmade works by local artisans, plus food catered by Scoops, live entertainment and a raffle win artwork by vendors on Saturday, December 13 from 10 am to 7 pm at 111

East Commercial Street and 71 East Commercial Street, Willits, and Sunday, December 14 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Willits Photography Club at WCA: open to all skill levels and meets on Saturday, December 13 from 10 am to noon in the classroom at Willits Center for the Arts. (Enter through back door).

Willits Truckers Light Parade & Tree-Lighting: Parade will begin at 6:30 pm on Saturday December 13 at the Evergreen Shopping Center and end at Willits City Park with a tree-lighting ceremony at 7 pm along with live music and

Hillshaker at Shanachie: Saturday, December 13 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub.

#### Sunday, December 14

Pancake Breakfast at the Senior Center: Second Sunday of the month from 8 to 11 am. Menu choices: 1) All-you-can-eat pancakes

with scrambled eggs, sausage or bacon or 2) Biscuits 5 to 6:30 pm. More info: & gravy with scrambled eggs. Includes coffee, orange uice or milk. \$13 adults; \$12 Senior Center members; \$8 children 8 and under, and benefits Nutritional, Transportation, and Outreach services for Willits seniors. 1501 Baechtel Creek Road.

Guitarist Luis Banuelos at WCT: Acoustic Flamenco Fusion on Sunday, December 14 at 2 pm at Willits Community Theatre. Cost \$20. Tickets and more info: wctperformingartscenter.org.

Craft Faire at Willits Community Center and WCA: Sunday, December 14 from 10 am to 4 pm with special performance at the Community Center by 'Musical

Christmas Fairy' Deanne 'Bunny' California at 2 pm. More info see Dec 13 listing. Christmas Chorale

LDS Church: showcasing community talent and lots cookies on Sunday, December 14 at 6 pm at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 265 Margie Drive, Willits.

#### Monday,

# December 15

Gem & Mineral Society Potluck at the Grange: Bring food ready to serve and a wrapped rock or gemrelated gift to exchange

Gem & Mineral

Society

separate a service

December lõth

7-830pm @The Little Lake Grange

server section

Crystal/Rock Gift Exchange

Free cool rock for all attendees

\$1 Crystal Raffle

Bring a snack to share!

receive a free cool rock and enter the Crystal Raffle at this monthly meeting on Monday, December 15 from 7 to 3:30 pm at Little Lake Grange Willits No alcohol or dogs.

Kids Christmas Craft Night at Buzzard's Roost: Cost is \$25 (cash preferred) and includes a kids meal and drink plus two crafts to take home on Monday, December 15 from 5 to 7 pm at 150 South Main Street.

#### Wednesday, December 17

36th Annual

Sunday December 14th

265 Margie Drive

Showcasing community talent

Refreshments 🥰

Hosted by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

Christmas Chorale

Willits Stamp Club at the Library: Bring your collection and enjoy refreshments on Wednesday, December 17 from talsofam@pacific.net

MUSEUM

History Makers

DECEMBER FAMILY PROGRAMS - JOIN US!

EVERY WEDNESDAY IN DECEMBER

DECEMBER 3: PAPER CHAIN GARLAND

DECEMBER 10: GIANT PAPER BAG SNOWFLAKES

THE MUNCHERY

SATURDAY DECEMBER 20

**DOORS OPEN AT 5PM** •

**FULL BAR • ALL AGES WELCOME** 

2 P.M.- 4:30 P.M.

**History Makers Paper** Crafts at the Museum: Make vintage ornaments and keychains at this event on Wednesday, December 17 from 2 to 4:30 pm.

#### Thursday, December 18

**Willits Farmers Market:** Thursdays from 3 to 5:30 pm at the Little Lake Grange. See Dec 11 listing for more details.

Creative Writers Workshop at the **Library**: Share your fictional works in a supportive environment, receive constructive feedback and discuss publishing. This free event is open to ages 13 and up. Thursday, December 18 from 4:30 to 6 pm.

**Burlesque Variety Show at WCT:** Madam King Presents: Season of Tease for 21 and older on Thursday, December 18 at 7:30 pm. It's a night for esthetics so dress up and bring lots of dollar bills to give out to these talented performers at Willits Community Theater.

### Friday, December

**Book Lovers Discussion** Group at the Library: Come talk about books, authors, and genres on Friday, December 19 from noon to 1 pm at the Willits Branch Library.

Food Not Bombs in Rec Grove Park: a free meal, zines and supplies every first and third Friday around 5 pm at the picnic tables. Everyone

CELEBRATING YEARS

MENDOCINO BALLET

THE NUTCRACKE

# Holiday Lights Event

Come join us for a walk in the orchard with light displays, cocoa, raffles and more!

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

Dan Essman

love the flick!!!

Saturday December 20th Sunday December 21st 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm Common Wealth Garden 90 Haehl Creek Drive

Willits, Ca 95490

Five Nights at Freddy's 2

The Story: Video game inspired movie. Horror movie.

Thriller movie. Child kidnapping and child murder movie.

Jump-scare movie. The guite shadowy and gothic Freddy's

restaurants are (apparently, though not certainly) inspired

by Chuck E Cheese pizza parlors with games aplenty, and

also ponderous bug-eyed metal robo-tronic animals that kill

people (though I'm never sure exactly why). Also, there are

propaganda.

what is generally conceived of as a plot. There is no actual

beginning. There is no actual end. It's all noisy scary middle.

There are chases and jump scares and plenty of action. There

is something like a climactic battle and chase ... but no real

climax or finality. In point of fact, the flick ends with an almost

My Thoughts: One thing about this movie of which I am sure

is that there are faithful fans of the Freddy-verse who grew up

on the video games of the same name, and they absolutely

I believe the reason this movie does not have a plot is that

the folks who love the World of Freddy don't want it to end.

sure-fire promise of a seguel which means No End at All.

smaller robotic heads that chase

and devour people (and again)

'm not sure why. Perhaps this flick

is wholesale pro-pizza anti-robot

Remarkably, this is a movie that

does not have a plot, or at least

#### **Burlesque Variety Show at WCT:** Friday, December 19 at 7:30 pm More info see Dec 18 listing. Those Guys at Shanachie: Friday, December 19 at 8 pm at Shanachie

#### Saturday, December 20

Solstice Celebration and Spiral Dance at the Grange: songs, candle lighting, drumming, and a midwinter children's story followed by a community Spiral Dance on

> Lake Grange. Suggested donation \$5 to \$10, children free. Doors open at 6 pm for tea and garland making and close promptly at 6:30 for the Ceremony.

> Saturday, December 20 at the Little

Costume Party and Open Mic at the Munchery: All ages invited on Saturday, December 20 beginning at 5 pm at the Munchery, 1797 South Main

Holiday Lights Event at Commonwealth Garden: Enjoy light displays in the orchard along with cocoa, raffles and more on Saturday, December 20 from 5:30 to 9 pm at 90 Haehl Creek Drive, Willits.

**Burlesque Variety Show at** WCT: Saturday, December 20 at 7:30 pm. More info see Dec 18 listing.

Carlos Hernandez Duo at Shanachie: Saturday, December 20 at 8 pm at

Shanachie Pub. Sunday,

December 21 **Holiday Lights Event at** 

**Commonwealth Garden:** Call or email to make an appointment: Sunday, December 21 LiteracyWillits@gmail.com or 707-456-7729. from 5:30 to 9 pm.

Mobile Showers Available in Willits: Mobile shower is in Willits every Monday and Tuesday from 2:30 to 4:30 pm, behind St. Francis Church at the corner of Main and Commercial Streets. Toiletries, towels and washcloths provided. Those with disabilities may need to bring a helper. Sack dinners are served from 4:30 to 5:30 by Willits Daily

TOWN-WIDE ONGOING

**EVENTS** 

Free Meal by Willits Daily Bread: Every

week on Monday through Thursday from

4:30 to 5:30 pm at 66 East Commercial

Willits Tennis Club: Meets every Monday

and Wednesday from 9 to 11 am at the

Willits High School Tennis Courts. All levels

**Drop-In Life Drawing Group at WCA: Every** 

Thursday from 1 to 4 pm at Willits Center for

the Arts. Cost is based on sliding scale. More

Brown Bag Lunch Program: Saturdays

at 1 pm, sack lunches are served by local

churches, community organizations, and

families at Bud Snider City Park on East

Commercial. Come at 1 pm to be assured

Willits Indivisible Democracy Vigil: Every

Friday from 5 to 6 pm at Babcock Park

on South Main Street. More info: "Willits

Lunch to Live Music at Brickhouse

Coffee: every Wednesday from noon to 2

pm featuring various artists. Corner of Main

Pickleball: Wednesdays, Fridays and

Sundays at 5 pm and Saturdays at 9 am at

the Willits High School tennis courts. Free to

Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Group:

Meets every Monday at 6 pm at the Muse in

Willits, 30 East San Francisco Street. More

Willits Drum Circle: Every second and

fourth Friday at 7 pm, at St. Francis of

the Redwoods on the corner of Main and

Commercial Streets. Info: Bill Bruneau: 459-

Literacy Volunteers of Willits: We teach

adults to read! Free personal tutoring at the

welcome. More info: 707 484-3385.

info: Margaret 707-459-9251.

Indivisible" on Facebook.

and Commercial Streets, Willits.

play and all levels welcome.

info: 707-354-1866.

a lunch!

Inland Valley Women's Chorus: Every Thursday (except holidays) from 6 to 7:30 pm to sing songs of peace, joy, social justice and healing. No audition or experience required. Carpooling available from Willits. Holy Trinity Church, Mary & Martha Room, 640 South Orchard Avenue, Ukiah. More info: Madge Strong, 707-459-1493.

#### Shanachie Pub **Ongoing Events**

Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street

Saturday Sessions at Shanachie: Every 2nd and 4th Saturday from 3 to 6 pm. Tommy G will host an open jam at Shanachie Pub. Bring any instrument and explore your

Bluegrass String Jam: An official jam for the California Bluegrass Association, every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month starting at 3 pm, with all Bluegrass musicians welcome! Wednesday Open Mic Night: Every Wednesday- Enter your name in the lottery from 3 to 7 pm to choose your 20-minute time slot, with performances beginning at 7:20.

#### Ongoing Events at the Willits Library

Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or 459-5908. Open hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10 am to 7 pm; Friday, 10 am to 6 pm; Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm; Closed Sunday and Monday.

Penny University Coffee Klatch: Wednesdays, 11 am to 1 pm, in the Willits Library meeting room to discuss various topics while enjoying a "cup of joe."

**LEGO Club:** Tuesdays from 4 to 6:30 pm. "Bring your imagination and start building." Tech Help: Saturdays from 11 am to noon, come get computer help and your technical questions answered! Spinning and Knitting: Saturdays at the

library; from 1 to 4:30 pm. All skill levels welcome! Spinning, 1 to 2 pm; Knitting, 2 to Story and Playtime: Fridays from 11 am to

noon, bring the kids for a story followed by play time in the Children's Area. ABC Art Artists Meet-Up: Work on your

personal art project, meet other artists and find inspiration Thursdays and Fridays from 1 to 3 pm. Ages 18 and up.

#### Small Works Show and Extended Hours at Willits Center for the Arts

Showcasing local artisans with items for purchase on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 11 am to 5 pm and at the Holiday Craft Faire on Saturday, December 13 and Sunday, December 14 with extended hours from 10 am to 7 pm both days, and on Christmas Eve as well, at WCA.

#### Community 'Sing for Peace' December 18 in Ukiah

All ages, voices and traditions are invited to join in singing songs of the season and of peace, hope, and light at the Solstice Sing on Thursday, December 18, at 6:00 pm in the Mary & Martha Room at Holy Trinity Church, 640 S. Orchard Ave, Ukiah. More info contact Madge Strong at 707-459-1493.

#### Hurricane Relief for Jamaica Event at the Mateel December 20

Performances by Prezident Brown & I-Sound Band, Seed n Soil, Irie Rockers and more along with a kids bounce trampoline, facepainting, food and beverages. Cost is \$20 and, along with any cash, nonperishable food, household and clothing items will be given directly to Jamaica's relief efforts. Saturday, December 12 from noon to 11 pm at the Mateel Center, 59 Rusk Lane, Redway. Tickets at eventbrite.com. More info: jerkkitchen@gmail.com

Theater



WILLITS BRANCH LIBRARY

EVERGREEN LAUNDERLAND

COLECCIÓN DE ROPA PARA

EL FRÍO

Solo Ropa Limpia y con Poco Uso

BIBLIOTECA DE WILLITS

LAVANDERÍA de CENTRO COMERCIAL

**EVERGREEN** 

fillits Daily Bread & Willits Community Services will give to those in no

Please DO NOT drop off items at the Food Bank

EGO® SERIOUS PLAY® Method

Introductory Workshop with Sacha Troina

\$5 as benefit for WCA

Open

Caption

Wednesdays

This means that, when available, every show on Wednesdays will have subtitle:

SISTRATION www.willitscen



Breakfast





UKIAH

**DECEMBER 1 - JANUARY 11** 

**HOW THE GRINCH** 

STOLE CHRISTMAS

4:15, 6:45

Sat/Sun:

1:30, 4:15, 6:45

SESSION



Hurricane Relief for Jamaica

PREZIDENT BROWN

Seed n Soil - Irie Rockers - Leaf of Life

Just One - Deaf\*Eye - Tri\*King - Abba Roots
Kids Bouncing Face Food & More Artists
Trampoline Painting Beverages TBA

Jana 🎂 🦥 🙆

**MENDOCINO** 

**CAMERATA** 

**ZOOTOPIA 2** 

Closed Monday/Tuesday Thrifty Thursday: \$8.00 tickets. Thrifty Thursday films this week in red

PG) 1hr 48m

4:00, 7:00

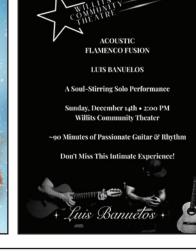
Sat/Sun:

Wed/Thur:

1:15, 4:00, 7:00

Willits Weekly | December 11, 2025







BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR AN EVENING FILLED WITH CAROLS, THE CHRISTMAS STORY, AND THE SOFT GLOW OF CANDLELIGHT AS WE HONOR THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOR.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH 7:00 PM CALVARY CHAPEL WILLITS

NORMAL SERVICE TIME: SUNDAYS @ 10AM



St. John Lutheran Church

December 24th

at 6:00 PM

**5 NIGHTS** 

AT FREDDY'S

(PG13) 1hr 44m

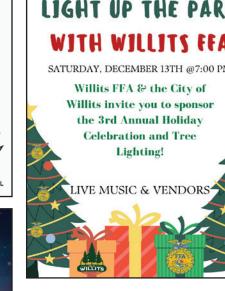
Fri:

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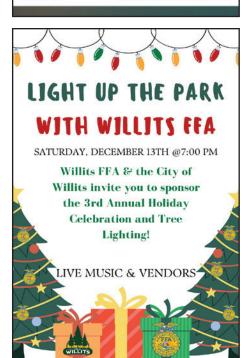
Sat/Sun:

Wed/Thur:

1:45, 4:30, 7:15







# **DECEMBER 19-21, 2025** \$30 General Admission \$18 Children under 12 & Seniors 65.

# WILLITS CENTER FOR THE











#### Matinee prices to all shows all day. **Showtimes: December 12 to December 18 Pg. 8** Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

57 East Commercial Street - Willits

707-459-6660

www.noyotheater.com

Mid week promotions: Wednesday

Willits, CA



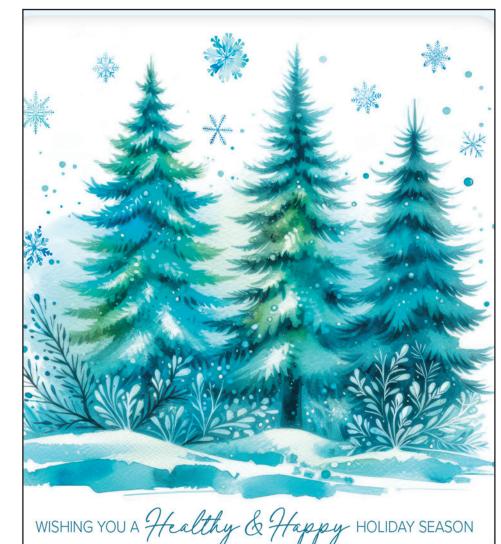


Above: Allaya Glass looks for the ref to call the pin on her opponent At right: The WHS boys wrestling team poses after a long day of battle. At far right: Emelia Velasquez-Owsiany gets the handraise after pinning her











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# Winter athletes start the season

COMMUNITY SPORTS NEWS

## with determination and a schedule packed with tournaments

have officially launched! The wrestling and basketball rosters are full of dedicated

Sheri Dockins ready to ports Reporter take on an exciting set of scheduled

competition. Schedules can be found on "wolverines.den2026" on Instagram and "Wolverines Den 2026" on Facebook.

The Willits Wolverines wrestling team is stacked this year with amazing coaches. Both the girls and boys teams are traveling every weekend to tournaments. They have made a comeback with some brand new, and returning, grapplers, all as tough as

The girls wrestling team set out on the road at 4 am this last Saturday to head to their first tournament at Albany High School. These Bay Area tournaments are as gritty as they get, and the lady wrestlers learned a lot against some very rowdy competition. The girls wrestled hard matches throughout the day, with some notable improvement in

"Each time one of our girls stepped out on the mat, they showed what Willits wrestling is all about: grit, focus, and an unstoppable drive," said Assistant Coach Jerry Punihaole-Figueroa. "These girls are tough and I can't wait to see what the season brings.

It was awe some to see their determination and performance as they gave it their all on the mat. Leaving with metals were Bella Glenn in first place and Emelia Owsiany in third place. Newcomers Sophia Punihaole-Figueroa and Allaya Glass had some impressive wins as freshman wrestlers.

"First-competition jitters kicked in this weekend at Albany. However, they all rose to the occasion, showing a lot of heart and grit. Very proud of them all!" said Head

"They competed against 20+ teams for the Northern Section and there was a lot of

Ninter sports at Willits High School learning for our wrestlers," Coach Dunaway

It is always impressive to see these young athletes have school and practice all week, then travel to go sleep on the mats, get up, and grind through several taxing matches the next day. There was some fierce competition and these boys gave it their all. Coming out with metals were Donald Glenn in first place, Vladimir Bertolino in second place, and Gavin McFadden in fourth place.

We want to congratulate our cross country team for taking the victory as CMC Champions for the 2025 season, along with Cole Lane for taking league champion once again this year! This has been one of the most impressive seasons for cross country and this is an amazing accomplishment to be proud of! Fabulous job, Cole, and cross

"I'm proud of this group," said Head Coach Kenny Smith. "They worked harder than any team I've coached before, starting in July and continuing through November. They earned every bit of that league championship."

The lady Wolverines JV and varsity basketball teams have begun the season treading waters, learning the ropes with their new coaches, and getting ready to jump deep into a successful season. The JV girls played an exciting two-day tournament in Kelseyville this last weekend. They took home a beautiful third-place trophy.

"We lost to Upper Lake Friday night in a very physical game. Because we lost, we had to play Fort Bragg at 9 am on Saturday," said Head Coach Matt Moratti. "We played really well. We got off to a big lead early and kept it throughout the game. I think everybody was anxious to have a better outing than the night before.

"Because of the way the tournament was organized," said Moratti, "we ended up having a rematch with Upper Lake The boys wrestling team loaded in the vans on Friday night to head to the annual at halftime, but the girls came out with a Doc Petersen Tournament in Orland on different attitude and started finally playing as a team. We pressured Upper Lake

> Read the rest of Sports |

Over on page 15



Mentor local youth at Willits **High School on Wednesday** evenings.

Youth in Willits need adults like YOU.









# Tag Trees

#### Willits Christmas Program urges donators to bring in their tags before the December 15 deadline

'Tis the season for tags on trees, and while organizers of the Willits Christmas Program are excited to see tags selected and taken from the trees, they're even more excited to see the tags - and their outlined requests returned by the December 15 deadline so presents can be readied in time for the upcoming holiday.

There are still lots of tags on the trees located at J.D. Redhouse, Mazahar, the Roots Restaurant at Howard Memorial, Les Schwab, 101 Trailer & RV Supply, and Coast Hardware, and there are collection bins at J.D. Redhouse, Coast Hardware, Les Schwab and Mazahar to receive the unwrapped gifts listed on the tags.

"It's important that we receive the tags, and the gifts asked for, so we can fill family's requests in time for the holidays," said WCP's Marcy Barry. "But if you changed your mind, or only were able to fill some of the requests on the tag you selected, that's totally fine, please return the tag with whatever portion you were able to contribute as soon as possible, and we will help fill the rest. We just need to know what we need to still shop for, and getting those tags back in a timely fashion gives us the most time.

Each of the 236 kids who are a part of the Willits Christmas Program this year will also be receiving a stocking from the Willits Frontier Days Juniors club, who fundraise separately to create this special addition to the program. Parents will be notified when the family's tags are complete to come pick up the gifts at the old Remco Building across from Safeway starting next week through Christmas Eve.

- Maureen Jennison

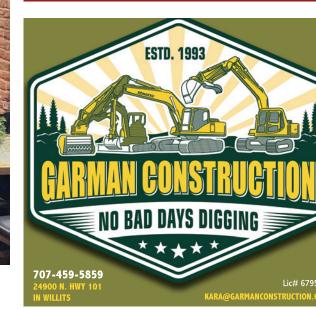


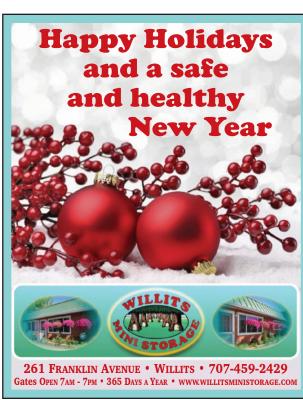
hosts art-loving youngsters

Today's December 9 visit with the 4-year-olds from Imagination Station demonstrated how quickly young children build connections across artists and ideas. Their enthusiasm for Vincent van Gogh - paired with their eager recall of last month's lesson on Picasso - shows how early exposure to art can nurture memory, curiosity, and a growing sense of creative identity.



Randall Cantua, LUTCF Cantua Insurance Agency 16 W. Valley St. Willits CA 95490 786 Redwood Drive Garberville, CA 95542 Tel 707.459.3276 Tel 707.923.2179 Fax 707.923.9550 rcantua@farmersagent.com







a fun night," said Buzzard's Roost owner, Taylor Buzzard. "We invited Annette and Mattie from Flowers by Annette to come on December 9 and hold a floral centerpiece making class." There were 24 participants who followed along with the florist's demonstration creating their own creative arrangement. The group enjoyed special appetizers and drinks which were available to purchase. Next up will be the Kids' Craft Night, which will be held on Monday, December 15. More info: 707-272-4458.



KIDS CRAFT NIGHT

Dec 15, 5 PM-7 PM

**Buzzards Roost** 



Willits, CA 95490

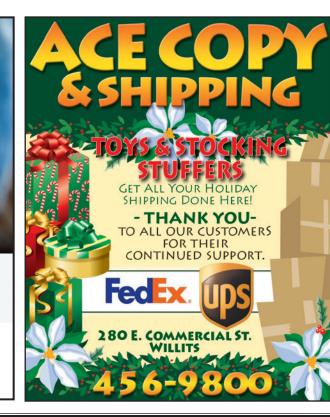




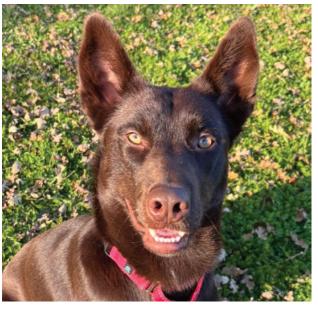


Service: 707 459-0596

Fax: 707 459-6369



# Furry Friends Hoping for a Home



## **Easygoing Frank**

Frank is the sweetest goofball, who has been patiently waiting for his forever family. This handsome boy has been around dogs of all sizes and genuinely loves making new friends. He's gentle, affectionate, and always ready for attention from anyone willing to give it. Frank has such a warm, easygoing personality that instantly makes you smile. He enjoys playtime, belly rubs, and being close to his people. If you're looking for a loyal companion with a him win you over!

The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. Feel free to visit us, no appointments needed! We are open Wednesday through Friday, 1 to 5 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 11 am to 3 pm; closed Monday and Tuesday. Check out all of our available dogs and cats on our website: www.mendohumanesociety. com, on our Facebook page, and on www.petfinder.com. Call 707-485-0123 for more information.



#### Little Turkey

At just 1.5 years old and a perfectly portable 14 pounds, Turkey is a sweet, spirited little pup who loves to bounce through life with her favorite toys in tow. She's playful, energetic, and always ready to bring a smile to your face. Turkey is a total lovebug who would thrive in a home that embraces her youthful zest. She's still got plenty of pep in her step, so she'll do best with adopters who appreciate a small dog with a big personality and an eagerness to have heart of gold, Frank is your guy. Come meet him and let fun. Shelter staff members believe she could happily share her heart (and toys!) with other small dogs and would likely do well with kids, too. If you're looking for a sweet, silly, and spirited companion, Turkey just might be the perfect fit. Come meet her – she's ready to wiggle her way into your life! The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, is open to the public from 9:30 am to 5 pm Tuesday through Friday, and 10 am to 3 pm on Saturdays (closed for lunch each day from 1 to 1:30 pm). Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www. mendoanimalshelter.com. Call 707-463-4427 for info.



#### **Devoted Baxter**

Meet Baxter! He is a sweet, loving boy who tends to bond quickly to his person. He is very playful and will need a home that is active and can provide lots of mental stimulation. He would do well in a household in a rural setting. Baxter aka Bax Street Boy, is very cuddly and affectionate once he trusts you.

He gives excellent kisses and has a very soft coat. He loves scratches and gets the zoomies frequentl - his happiness is adorable and so endearing! He would love an adult-only home that doesn't have that many visitors as he can be nervous with anyone new.

To learn more about Baxter, or to view other adoptable animals, visit www.milofoundation.org or the Milo Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions by appointment only. Please complete a pet-adoption application before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 459-



# Your mental health matters. Servicios de salud mental disponibles en español



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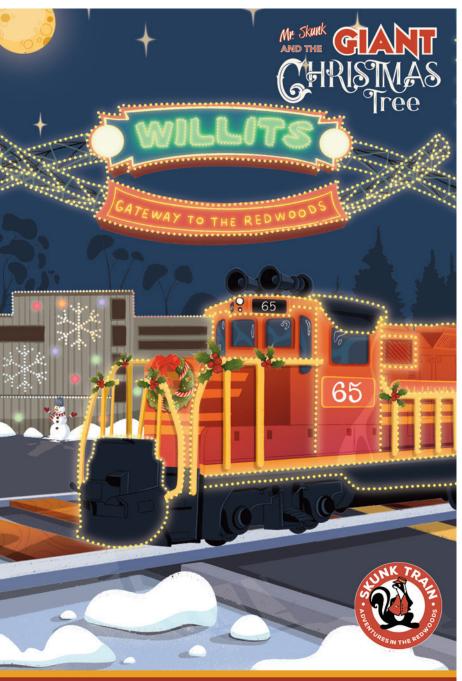
Working with a mental health professional can improve many areas of your life.

MCHC has professionals who can help. Get help today.

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# LEGAL NOTICES LEGAL NOTICES

WW 578

#### NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: SUSHANTA ASHMI LOKESH PARIKH, aka SUSHANTA PARIKH

CASE NO. 25PR00399

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate or both of: SUSHANTA ASHMI LOKESH PARIKH, aka SUSHANTA PARIKH

A Petition for Probate has been filed by AMIT LOKESH PARIKH in the Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino. The Petition for Probate requests that AMIT LOKESH PARIKH be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of

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: January 2, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in Dept. E of the Mendocino County Superior Court, located at 100 N. State Street, Ukiah, California 95482.

If you object to the 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

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

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: Alexander C. Rich, CARTER RICH PC, 305 N. Main St., Ukiah, CA 95482 Telephone: 707-462-6694

Publication Dates: November 26, December 4, 11,

WW575

CITY OF WILLITS SERVICES AND **FACILITIES DEPARTMENT** 

#### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Annual Invitation for Inclusion on the 2026 City of Willits List of Qualified Bidders

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that:

The City of Willits is soliciting applicants for its 2026 List of Qualified Bidders. Interested parties should complete the City of Willits Informal Bidding Annual Pre-Qualification Application for 2026 and submit to Brandy Sanderson at:

bsanderson@cityofwillits.org

**Brandy Sanderson** City of Willits 111 E. Commercial St. Willits, CA 95490

Re: 2026 Qualified Bidders List

Bidders are hereby advised that the previous bidders list will be replaced with the new list and no contractors will be carried over from the previous list.

Request should be received by December 31, 2026 Questions concerning this notice should be directed to Brandy Sanderson at bsanderson@cityofwillits.org.

The application can also be found on the City's website on the Engineering page; http://www.cityofwillits. org/147/Engineering.

CITY OF WILLITS: s/Delores Pedersen, City Clerk DATED: 11/20/25

Publication Dates: November 20, 26, December 4, 11, 2025

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

#### Bruce Douglas Carmichael, aka **Douglas Carmichael, Decedent**

Case No. 25PR00403

- 1. To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: BRUCE DOUGLAS CARMICHAEL, aka **DOUGLAS CARMICHAEL**
- 2. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: BARBARA DEBARRUEL in the Superior Court of California County of: Mendocino
- The Petition for Probate requests that BARBARA DEBARRUEL 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: January 9, 2026

Time: 9:00 a.m. Dept: E Address of Court: 100 North State Street, Ukiah,

7. If you object to the 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.

CA 95482

- 8. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mall 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.
- 10. Attorney for petitioner: Christopher J. Neary (#69220)/Jennifer M. O'Brien (#278821). Neary and O'Brien, 110 So. Main St., Ste C, Willits CA 95490

Telephone: 707-459-5551

Publication Dates: December 5, 11, 18, 2025



## Have something to say?

Residents of Willits, Brooktrails, Laytonville and Covelo are welcome to send in a letter to the editor about local issues. Please email us: willitsweekly@gmail. com REMEMBER: Deadline is end of day Monday for each week's Thursday edition.

# **CLASSIFIEDS**

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#### NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: ARTHUR DEE SAULTER, aka ARTHUR D. SAULTER, aka ARTHUR SAULTER

CASE NO. 25PR00402

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate or both of: ARTHUR DEE SAULTER, aka ARTHUR D. SAULTER, aka ARTHUR SAULTER

A Petition for Probate has been filed by KANDI SMITH in the Superior Court of California, County of Mendocino. The Petition for Probate requests that KANDI SMITH be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the

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: January 2, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in Dept.: E of the Mendocino County Superior Court, located at 100 N. State Street, Ukiah, California 95482.

If you object to the 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

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: Alexander C. Rich, CARTER RICH PC, 716 S. Main St., Suite A, Willits, CA 95490 Telephone: 707-456-9210

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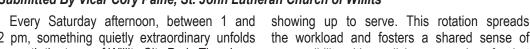
Locally raised in Willits organically fed and pasture raised Beef, Pork and Lamb

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beneath the trees of Willits City Park. There's no responsibility. It's a living example of what stage, no speeches, no spectacle – just a circle of volunteers offering brown paper bags filled with sandwiches, fruit, snacks, and water.

But for many in our community, these humble lunches are far more than food. They are hope wrapped in kindness. They are a lifeline.

This is the Brown Bag Lunch Program - a grassroots collaboration fueled by the compassion of local churches, civic groups, and the Willits Community Services and Food Bank. Week after week, it stands as a testament to what can happen when a community chooses love over indifference. Volunteers don't gather for recognition. They gather because they've seen the need – and they refuse to look away.

#### A meal, a moment, a message

One Saturday, just as the last lunches were being handed out, a man named Joe arrived. He hadn't eaten in two days. His voice shook as he said, "I didn't know where else to go. I heard someone mention the Brown Bag lunches, and I thought I'd try." That day, Joe received more than a sandwich. He received dignity. He received kindness. He received proof that someone cared.

He came back the next week - not just for food, but for fellowship. For the reminder that he mattered. Joe's story is not unique. Each week, dozens of neighbors - some unhoused, others working but still struggling - come seeking relief. They are met not with judgment, but with open arms and a simple meal that says, "You are

#### The need is real

Food insecurity is a growing concern in Mendocino County. According to Feeding America, one in six residents in rural California counties faces hunger. Children and seniors are especially vulnerable. Rising housing costs, limited job opportunities, and the lingering effects of economic downturns have left many families teetering on the edge.

Programs like Brown Bag help prevent a slide into deeper instability. They fill the gaps left by other services - especially on weekends when other services are closed. For some, it's the only meal they'll have that day.

But the Brown Bag Lunch Program offers more than calories. It offers consistency. In a world often marked by uncertainty, knowing that a meal will be waiting every Saturday provides not just nourishment, but stability. It's a dependable fixture in Willits – a beacon for those navigating the challenges of poverty, unemployment, and

#### Powered by community

What makes this program truly special is its collaborative spirit. Churches across denominations, civic groups, and individual volunteers take turns leading each week - visit them at 344 Railroad Avenue, Willits, CA preparing lunches, organizing supplies, and 95490.

Every Saturday afternoon, between 1 and showing up to serve. This rotation spreads happens when a community unites in love and

> The Willits Community Services and Food Bank, founded in 1981, plays a vital role in sustaining this effort. Their longstanding commitment to alleviating hunger has laid the foundation for initiatives like Brown Bag to thrive.

#### How you can help

If you've ever wondered how to make a difference, the Brown Bag Lunch Program offers a meaningful and manageable way to start. Whether you're part of a church group, a local business, or simply someone with a heart to help - there's a place for you. You don't need special skills - just a willingness to show up. For many recipients, the human connection is just as nourishing as the meal.

There are many ways to get involved in the Brown Bag Lunch Program and help make a meaningful impact. You can volunteer by joining a team on a Saturday or assisting with lunch preparation during the week. Donations of sandwich fixings, fruit, bottled water, and paper bags are always appreciated. Groups – whether churches, businesses, or civic organizations can sponsor a Saturday by committing to provide lunches for a week. You can also spread the word by sharing the program on social media, in newsletters, or with friends and neighbors. And by supporting Willits Community Services and Food Bank, you help sustain the broader network that makes this vital work possible

#### A living expression of love

At its core, the Brown Bag Lunch Program is a living expression of the command to "love your neighbor as yourself." In a time when division and isolation dominate headlines, this simple act of service reminds us of our shared humanity. It's easy to feel overwhelmed by the scale of need.

But change doesn't always come through grand gestures. Sometimes, it's a sandwich handed out with a smile. A bottle of water on a hot day. A conversation that says, "You're not alone." These small acts ripple outward. They build trust. They restore dignity. They create a culture of care. And they remind us that we are all connected – and that each of us has the power to make a difference.

#### Are you ready to make a difference?

Whether you're inspired to gather a group and serve together or want to support the effort with food and supplies, we'd love to help you get started. To organize a volunteer team, please contact our coordinator at St. John Lutheran Church at (707) 459-2988 or email connect@ stjohnswillits.org. If you'd like to donate food or supplies, reach out to the Willits Community Services and Food Bank at (707) 459-3333 or



At top, left: The bags are ready to be distributed after Tommy Brown adds bananas.

left: The sign denotes which of the rotating organizations is sponsoring the Brown

At top, right: A Brown Bag luncher signs in as his puppy waits for their share. Above,

Bag Lunch that Saturday. Above, right: Tommy and Louise Brown of the Seventh-day

Adventist Church group prepare the bags of healthy sandwiches and other foods to

BUD SNIDER PARK

At top: Tommy and Louise

Brown are ready to receive

brown bag food. Above,

Seventh-day Adventist

left: Tommy Brown of the

Church group and one of

the longtime organizers

of the Brown Bag Lunch

program, gives two brown

bag lunches to a recipient

and another person. Above,

right: Tommy and Louise

Brown of the Seventh-day

Adventist Church group

greet a client they have

known for a long time. At

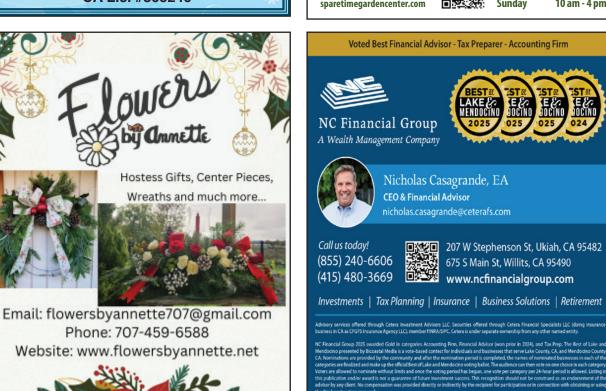
left: A Brown Bag recipient

signs in to receive her bag

Photos by Mathew Caine

to take home for herself











really well, which forced a lot of Enjoy adding color to the below images, then cut them out to decorate your house or tree, or take a photo and for families with one child. turnovers, which we capitalized email Willits Weekly a copy of your final masterpiece: willitsweekly@gmail.com by Monday, December 15. Please on. We tied the game right at the include your name and age, and we'll try to include some in next week's paper – our final edition of 2025 - before end to force overtime, we got into foul trouble, but our girls stayed



The rest of Election

From page 1

Proposition 50 was the only item on the November special election ballot. Thirty-two of the Mendocino County ballots are listed as "undervotes" and nine of the ballots are listed as "overvotes."

"In tournament play, Willits opened with a dominant 72-to-35 win over Potter Valley, fell to Cloverdale in round two, and responded with the gritty 48-43 victory over Anderson Valley," said Head Coach Trey Henson. "The Wolverines finished the weekend against powerhouse Argonaut - last year's Redwood Classic finalist. Despite the 87-54 loss, Willits held their season average of 54 points per game and walked off the floor proud of their effort, composure and growth. They finished sixth place out of 16 teams. Every challenge we've

Congratulations to Kaden Oliver for earning all-tournament honors.

faced has made us stronger."

composed, took care of it, and

pulled it out! It was really good to

see the girls come back like that."

Varsity and JV boys basketball

are off and running, looking

forward to a memorable season!

JV boys are up with one win and

"In our short season so far, we

have two returning sophomores

on the team, the majority freshman

team this year," said Head Coach

Ray. "We are a young and talented

group of boys. We opened the

season playing Fort Bragg. We

looked a little shocked at first, but

then turned around with facing

off with Upper Lake at home.

They played a much better game,

getting the win. We will start our

league play on December 9

Varsity boys basketball have

just begun their journey behind

a tough, disciplined, and rapidly

developing program. The season

began with a game against Fort

Bragg, one loss on the books,

but also one win. With most

varsity athletes also competing

in postseason football, the

Wolverines took the floor with four

freshman, two juniors, and one

senior. Despite the youth, Willits

shocked the gym by going to

halftime tied 31 to 31, showcasing

the promise of the underclassmen

who played both the JV and

varsity game that same evening.

Once the football players rejoined

the team, the Wolverines stepped

into their full identity and defeated

Upper Lake 58-42, after a strong

second-half surge, and entered

the prestigious Redwood Classic

with confidence.

one loss so far.

against Credo."

Congratulations to our football and soccer players who received all-league honors in their 2025 season. Girls soccer: Alihna Madison Winter, Kate Honorable mention: Alissa Randrup-Swinney and Lyly Herman. Boys soccer: Hector Calderon and Jessiah Vincent Honorable mention: Ivan Estrada and Edgar Chavez. Varsity football: Corey Rockey, Rickey Ramirez, Donald Glenn, Ricky Britton, Ryan Carter, Zain Marshall. Honorable mention: Porter Garman

We are proud of this epic start for all of our stellar athletes who work so hard in school and at practice. Your hard work and dedication is recognized. We will see you all in the legendary Steve Short Gymnasium to cheer on all of our WHS wrestlers and basketball players! Wolverines winter sports pride in full effect!

MCOG

As of the Friday, December 5 statewide report, 11,584,393 ballots had been processed in California, with 64.4% voting yes, and 35.6% voting no. Also as of Friday, the SOS office reports 15,600 ballots left to "cure" statewide – these are mail-in ballots that didn't have signatures on their envelopes, or other issues that could still be fixed by the registered voter before the

The new maps approved by Proposition 50 will move Willits, Covelo and Ukiah into a redrawn Assembly District at least temporarily. The new District 1 would go east to the Nevada border, including Chico and Red Bluff, and would extend south to include Healdsburg, Windsor and Santa Rosa.

Laytonville would stay in the redrawn Assembly District 2, along with Fort Bragg, and other Mendocino County coastal areas. The new Assembly District 2 would include the very top of the state from west to east, along with a much narrower strip of the coast extending all the way south to the northern end of the Golden Gate Bridge.

You can see the approved maps here: https://aelc. assembly.ca.gov/proposedcongressional-map

From page 1

million annually, with public disclosure of funds, independent annual audits, and all funds legally required to be spent locally only on Mendocino County roads, be adopted?"

who presented the polling to the MCOG board, "was that two-thirds of likely November voters said that they would support this measure. They said they would vote yes. 29% were opposed and 5% were undecided." Del Puppo said taking off those who only lean yes, results showed 61% to 62% yes.

the need for more spending on the roads: "Nearly three-quarters of voters feel there is an appreciable need for additional roads funding in the county," Del Puppo said.

Despite this level of support, the 2025 poll respondents were not happy about the direction of the county, or the county supervisors. 43% said the county is off on the wrong track; 27% say things are headed in the right direction; and about one-third said they don't know or have mixed feelings.

With that in mind, MCOG's 2002 polling showed a less pessimism, with 51% of those polled saying the county was heading in the right direction, and 22% responding we were on the wrong track, and 27% had mixed feelings or didn't know.

areas for 20 years, providing approximately \$5.5

"And what we saw," said FM3's Lucia Del Puppo,

Poll respondents also agreed strongly about

"When it came to county government," Dell Puppo said, "views were net negative with 52% unfavorable to 31% favorable. And similarly with the board of supervisors, it was 50% unfavorable to 30% favorable."

Views of the county Department of Transportation, however, were net favorable with 47% favorable to 25% unfavorable, and about one-third didn't really have an opinion of the county department"

Michael Via, a regional project coordinator for MCOG, mentioned 2002 polls conducted by MCOG, that included residents of the county's incorporated cities, as well as unincorporated county voters. That included a poll of City of Willits voters, which ended up encouraging the Willits City Council to present voters with the successful Measure K, passed in

Polls generally show incorporated city residents in Mendocino County feel more positively about their local government than county residents feel about their board of supervisors.

right company. We ordered it and finally got it built, and we're good to go." "In the play structure," Brie Adams added, "there

facility).

"Our

soft-play

Play

There is a Premium Plan for

one or two children for \$99

per month, and a plan for

families with three or more

children for \$129 per month.

All the plans have

unlimited access and

include free arcade play,

credits for party rentals.

and many perks with each

plan. Go to the website for

details. The space can also

be rented for parties, both

public (open to others) and

private (exclusive use of the

masterpiece is the giant

explained Nina Swinney

"That was our last piece to

add to the whole equation.

We searched far and wide

to get this approved and

to be completely safe and

legitimate. We found the

are swings, a log swing, a

spiral slide, a double slide, a

beautiful

structure.'

From page 3

rickety bridge. There are tunnels, punching bags, little obstacles for them to climb through, balance beam, a bunch of little Plexiglas portholes on the second level so they can look down and see what is going on on the first level." Adams said

The qualified staff are all CPR certified and have child development backgrounds. They have undergone extensive training prior to the opening.

Prior to the grand opening, the Kids Corner will operate Thursday through Sunday, with the two sessions per day. Contact the staff to reserve space, for memberships, to book parties, or to ask questions. Call 707-841-1138 or contact them on the website www. willitskidscorner.com/ or on Facebook.

From page 1 Burns

prescribed burn on the Shamrock Ranch. This prescribed burn will treat approximately 450-acres of chaparral and understory vegetation within oak woodlands and mixed conifer habitats, creating a mosaic of variously burned vegetation and islands of unburned habitat.

The Shamrock Ranch is in the northern portion of Mendocino County, east of Highway 101, and southeast of the town of Lavtonville.

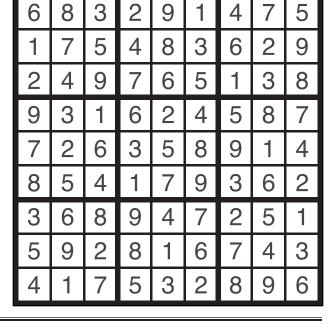
Burning is set to begin on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, and to continue intermittently as favorable weather conditions present themselves, but end no later than Monday, December 22, 2025. Burning will start at approximately 8 am and conclude at approximately 3

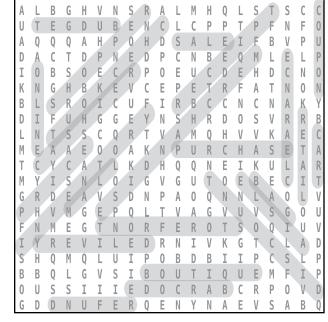
This project burn will be conducted under strictly controlled weather and fuel conditions. Smoke and aircraft may be visible in the area.

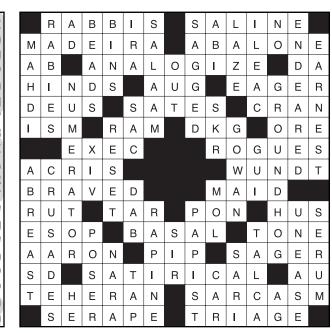
Both these projects add to significant work underway throughout the state and brings California one step closer towards meeting state fuels reduction goals directed by the California Fire Plan and the California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan. To track the progress being made, both in your community and throughout California, visit the CAL FIRE fuels reduction dashboard here www.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/naturalresource-management/

For information on how to create Defensible Space, as well as tips to prevent wildfires, visit www. ReadyForWildfire.org.

For more information about how you and your family can prepare for wildfire visit www.ReadyForWildfire.org.











joined together for the Chamber ribbon cutting at Jalos Market. Above, right: Willits Mayor Tom Allman greets the attendees at the Jalos Market grand opening on Sunday. Photos by Mathew Caine

#### Willits Chamber hosts ribbon cutting for Jalos Market

The Willits Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribboncutting and Chamber mixer to celebrate Jalos Market's official grand opening on Sunday, December 7. Jalos Market is Willits' new Hispanic grocer, owned by Maria and Jose Fierro, also owners of Taqueria Jalo and Taqueria

Dignitaries Willits Mayor Tom Allman and Willits City Council members Gerry Gonzales and Matthew Alaniz celebrated the opening of this new Willits business, several years in the making, along with friends, family and Chamber

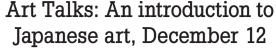
indigenous to Mexico. The market offers fresh vegetables and fruits, a selection

of festive pinatas, and also unique products that cannot be found anywhere else in town, including hot sauces, pottery, Mexican breads and coffees, remedies, sugar cane, and much more.

Jalos Market has a butcher who can custom cut beef and

pork for customers and sells certain cuts of meat that are

Visit the market at 1569 South Main Street, next to Mendo Made Salon and Barber Shop.



The Willits Center for the Arts is pleased to announce the next installment of its Art Talks series, "The Spirit of Line and Brush: An Introduction to Japanese Art," on Friday, December 12, at 6:30 pm at the Art Center

Gary Martin, M.A., will present an engaging lecture on the rich history and aesthetics of Japanese art, exploring its evolution from ancient traditions to modern expression.

This presentation will highlight the unique balance of simplicity, harmony and symbolism that defines Japanese visual culture, from early ink paintings and screens to the refined elegance of woodblock prints and contemporary works. Martin will discuss how Japanese artists have influenced global art movements and how their approach continues to inspire artists today.

This event is free and open to the public. Join us at the Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street, for an evening of insight and appreciation for one of the world's most enduring artistic traditions.

For more information, please visit willitscenterforthearts.org or call (707) 459-1726.



mistaken for safe, edible mushrooms due to their similar

appearance and taste. Consuming these mushrooms can lead to severe poisoning. Cooking, boiling, drying, or freezing these mushrooms does NOT make them safe

Healthcare providers should be aware of the potential for toxicity following wild mushroom ingestion. Initial symptoms, such as watery diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, and dehydration can occur within 6 to 24 hours following ingestion of these toxic mushrooms and usually go away within a day. However, this brief improvement can be deceptive, as patients may still develop serious to fatal liver damage within 48 to 96 hours after eating the mushrooms. Healthcare providers are advised to contact the California Poison Control System at 1-800-222-1222 for guidance on diagnosing and treating patients with suspected mushroom poisoning.

Between mid-November and early December 2025, the California Poison Control System identified 21 cases of toxic mushroom poisoning (likely death cap mushrooms (Amanita Phalloides). Several patients have required intensive care, with at least one individual potentially needing a liver transplant. One adult fatality has also been reported to date.

The California Poison Control System is closely monitoring the increase in calls related to hospitalizations of individuals who have consumed toxic foraged wild mushrooms. The California Poison Control System is also providing guidance to health care providers treating patients with toxic mushroom poisoning.

Death cap mushrooms are found in many parts of California, particularly near oaks and other hardwood trees, including pine trees. Rain events in the fall and winter months create ideal conditions for their growth. Given the grave risk posed by consuming these toxic mushrooms. CDPH strongly advises the public to avoid foraging wild mushrooms and to only consume mushrooms purchased from reputable stores or known commercial sources.

For more information, please contact the California Poison Control System at https://calpoison.org/contact

Or visit the CPPH page on poisonous mushrooms www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CCDPHP/DEODC/EHIB/ Pages/EIS/Poisonous-Mushrooms.aspx



