

Brooktrails board elects new president

Barbara O'Reardon Reporter willitsweekly@gmail.com

The Brooktrails Community Services District Board of Directors were all present for the final meeting of 2023 at 7 pm on December 12. "Board Reorganization" was the first order of business.

The positions of board president and vicepresident for 2024 were determined by to be call vote. President roll Rick Williams called for nominations, and Director Tina Tyler O'Shea was nominated for president by Director Ed Horrick. Tyler-O'Shea accepted the nomination. Williams was then nominated to be president again by Director Ralph Santos.

The nominations were then closed and the vote

Read the rest of Brooktrails

Sheriff's Office Update

On January 3, the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office announced that the Coroner's Division investigation into the "suspicious death" of Christine Ann Randolph, 53, from Eureka was concluded.





Above, left: Stacked "Road Flooded" signs are ready to be put up, if needed, at the intersection of South Lenore and East Commercial Streets. "Frog Pond," in the low-lying portion of Locust Street, was already past the old fence line, getting closer to the road Wednesday afternoon. Below: Drips from the roof drop into puddles filled with fallen leaves..





At left: Drops of water cling to the first paperwhite flower of the season. Below, left: This little succulent drinks up some water, happy to still be nestled into the fallen leaves. Below, right: The level of water in the "Frog Pond" will usually spill over onto Locust Street during heavy rains. Photos by

Maureen Jennison

A Soggy Start to 2024

Veterans urge BOS to stop office move

Jennifer Poole Editor & Reporter willitsweekly@gmail.com

More than a dozen Mendocino County veterans, plus other supporters, showed up at the board of supervisors meeting Tuesday to oppose the county's plan to abruptly move the Veterans Services Office in Ukiah.

Veterans made their comments during the public comment period at the January 9 meeting, as there had been no previous agenda item specifically addressing the move. Veterans said they hadn't heard about the plan until the end of December, and were not happy that stakeholders had not been consulted first.

The Veterans Services Office has been in its own offices in a "cottage" at 405 Observatory Avenue in Ukiah for 15 years. The new VSO offices are in the county Behavioral Health Services / Public Health Building on Dora Street.

Mendocino County Air Quality is moving into 405 Observatory Avenue, according to commenters, who said they were told the reason for the move was that Air Quality needed more storage.

Read the rest of Veterans

The Chief Deputy Coroner classified Randolph's death as an accident, with her cause of death being "Acute Combined Diazepam, Nordiazepam and Morphine Toxicity."

On October 8, 2023, the California Highway Patrol was notified of a reported traffic collision in the area of Sherwood Road and Birch Terrace in Brooktrails.

After the collision, the driver of one of the vehicles, a Toyota Sienna van, fled the traffic collision scene.

The driver was subsequently identified

Read the rest of Sheriff

Over on Page 11

Chamber hosts community briefing

The Willits Chamber of Commerce presents "The State of Things," a community briefing, featuring the "State of the State," with Ruth Valenzuela representing Assemblyman Jim Wood's Office; the "State of the County," with Supervisor John Haschak; and the "State of the City," with Willits Mayor Saprina Rodriguez.

The briefing is scheduled for Thursday, January 18 at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. Refreshments served. Everybody welcome!



Ring a ding ding!

It's almost time for the Soroptimist International of Willits' 2024 Willits Community Phonebook

Before the 2024 edition of the Soroptimist International of Willits Community Phonebook hits the streets on March 14, ads, corrections, and number inclusions and removals need to be addressed now.

 Maureen Jennison

 Graphics & Photographress

 willitsweekly@gmail.com

The local phonebook lists not only local business phone numbers, but also local residential numbers, something

that you are hard-pressed to find as easily online. Since the Soroptimists keep up this list on their own, there's no "new version" that comes in the mail to replace the previous years' numbers. This means that the club relies on the public – YOU – to help update the book and let them know if changes are needed.

Since it is made by the club, there's also all sorts of room to include non-traditional listings, too, like phone numbers and emails to the addresses, if desired. You just need to ask and let them know.

Deadline for these changes, and also to purchase an ad - is February 10.

Ad purchases not only support the creation of the book, paying for printing and more, but also are the Soroptimist club's largest fundraiser, gathering funds to give back to the community in the form of scholarships, awards and more.

Ads are available in four sizes and are out in the hands of readers all year – so really, that's 365 days of advertising for one price. All ads run in black and white, except for three premium, full-color locations: full page inside front cover (\$500), full-page inside back cover (\$500), and full page outside back cover (\$550) – all first-come, first-served.

Regular ads include: business card-sized ad (3.5" wide x 2" tall) is \$100; quarter-page ad (3.5" wide x 4.5" tall) is \$140; a half-page ad (7" wide x 4.5" tall) is \$200; and a full-page (7" wide x 9" tall) ad is \$350.

The Soroptimist International of Willits is a non-profit, and all monies paid to the club can be used as a deduction on taxes. Donation forms are available upon request.

For ad purchases, and any and all changes, please email willitsphonebook@gmail.com.

Little Lake Fire swears in **3 new** volunteers

Annie Evarts Reporter willitsweekly@gmail.com

Three new volunteer firefighters were sworn in at the December meeting of the board of directors for Little Lake Fire. Brian Amaral, Phillip Laurent II, and Mathew Orozco took their oath to support the constitution of the United States and the state of California, and to respect, honor, obey and enforce the laws and ordinances of the jurisdiction in which they serve.

These three new firefighters are coming off a mandatory probationary period of one year, and as part of their oath, they swore to accept their position as firefighters as long as they are true to the ethics and duties of the fire service.

Personal ethics have a great deal to do with becoming a volunteer firefighter. It is a true act of community service. Folks in Willits will likely know or at least recognize one of the new volunteers. Phillip Laurent has had a 17-yearlong career working for the post office in town.

Read the rest of **Volunteers** Over on Page 11

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

KLLG Radio Pledge Drive To the Editor

To all of our listeners, and to those that have never tuned in. KLLG-LP 97.9 FM is having what we hope is not our

last pledge drive on Saturday January 27 from 9 am to 3 pm. We will have live broadcasting for six hours with our local programmers asking for your support while we spin tunes and tales.

We will also have an online yard sale. We will post pictures of items for sale at our Facebook page: KLLG 97.9 Willits Hometown Radio. If something interests you, call us at 707-459-5554 or email us at info@kllg.org during the pledge drive.

You can pay us through PayPal on our website, KLLG.org, or bring a check or cash to the station at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street, Room 10.

We are running out of money, but not running out of enthusiasm. Unfortunately, enthusiasm doesn't pay the bills. If we are to stay on the air another two months, we need to fill our coffers. You can donate to us at KLLG.org anytime. We also welcome underwriting. For \$50/month or \$500/year we will thank you on the air at least three times a day. We can mention verifiable facts about you (what you do or sell, special promotions, contact info, etc.). We want to support the local business community.

If you want to be our angel, please call me at 707-459-2470. Thank You!

Liam UiCearbhaill, KLLG engineer, Willits

Community food pantries To the Editor:

During this inclement weather, please don't forget our two community food pantries in town. One is located in the Recreation Grove on Lenore Avenue across from the Charter School. The other is located on Coast Street just down from the Catholic Church.

I have attached a list of needed items. It is especially important to provide gloves, hats, scarves and socks. Most of these items can be purchased at the Dollar Tree. If you are donating canned goods please try and find cans that open with the pull top. Or you could donate hand can openers which also can be purchased at the Dollar Tree.

Help someone have a better day and a better year. As always, if you yourself are in need please help yourself.

The community appreciates any donations made, but there are some things that are more in demand than others: Canned/pouched meat · Protein/granola bars · Shelf-stable meal kits Dried fruit Feminine hygiene items

 Hand can openers Gloves, hats, scarves, socks If you see trash in or around the pantry, please pick it up! These pantries rely on our community help to stay running, so please be mindful of that. Barbara Holmes Willits Lions Club

Food Bank update To the Editor: The Willits Food Bank continues to serve hungry and food insecure people in the greater Willits area by providing food, toiletries, diapers, and other essentials. We also place homeless individuals into

motel rooms from one to two nights per month during the winter season. The number of those in need continues to be higher than in past years. We are seeing more families who have lost their main income, then subsequently their housing, leading to them sleeping in their vehicles.

We give out some blankets, sleeping bags, coats socks, warm clothes and shoes. We need more of all of these items, so we can help these families and other needy folks, please!

We purchase food at a discount from Redwood Empire Food Bank in Santa Rosa, yet it costs many dollars to bring enough food to the local community. Thanks to those who have generously donated to support our food purchases for the hungry. Please donate specifically for "food" to help us continue to succeed in meeting food demands.

For the fourth year, motel rooms are being provided to unhoused people who are sleeping outside in this very cold weather. Each person may get up to two nights per month. We utilize the Redwood Inn in Willits. They give us the best rates and are inclusive when assisting our folks in need of shelter.

Thanks to those who generously made this program possible by their donations. Please donate to the food bank and specify "motel rooms" on your check. Thank you!

Willits Community Services and Food Bank is moving at long last to 344 Railroad Avenue! We will provide services at our new location beginning February 1, 2024. The move will begin on Saturday, January 27 to the original Sparetime Garden Supply property, just a block from our original facility.

Previous director Jim Marill ran the food bank from the current location beginning in 1995. It has served our needs well, but we have outgrown the building and land. The new rent cost will be comparable to our existing rent.

Many thanks to Mike Griggs and his family who have helped to bring us over to their property with its many upgrades, including new paint and many other improvements. Thank you, Mike!

There have been many offers to help with the move since the first idea took shape in 2022. For those who are still willing to help us make it happen, the dates will be Saturday, January 27 through Tuesday, January 30. We will need muscles, trucks, lunches and good humor. The more, the merrier! Call 354-3960 to sign up.

I will be retiring as executive director of the food

Senior Center menu for the week

Willits Senior Center is serving lunch in its indoor dining room, and continues to serve drive-through and walk-up lunches, too. Lunch is available Monday through Friday, from 12 to 12:45 pm, inside and outside the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road. Lunches are \$8; \$75 for a 10 lunch card for Senior Center members.

Thursday, January 11: BLT w/Pickle and Chips

Friday, January 12: Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Veggies, Roll Monday, January 15: Meat Loaf, Mashed Potatoes, Veggies, Roll Tuesday, January 16: BBQ Chicken, Baked Beans, Corn Bread, Veggies

Wednesday, January 17: Carnitas Burrito Wet w/Green Sauce Thursday, January 18: Garlic Shrimp Pasta w/White Sauce, Garlic Bread

Friday, January 19: Chicken & Dumplings

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

Pancake Breakfast: every second Sunday, 8 to 11 am. \$10; \$9 center members; \$6 children under 8.

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

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

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

Applications open

for new Farm Incubator Program

Submitted by the School of Adaptive Agriculture

The School of Adaptive Agriculture announces a new Farm Incubator Program for 2024. We provide land and opportunity for aspiring farmers, homesteaders, herbal medicine makers, bee keepers, and others aspiring to carve out a living on the land.

Located on beautiful Ridgewood Ranch, outside of Willits, the SAA Incubator Farm space includes fenced land, irrigation, and shared facilities for a low monthly fee. The program is designed to get aspiring producers up and running while they develop the skills needed to launch their own farming enterprise or homestead.

Incubator farming programs across the country provide land at subsidized rates for beginning farmers while they get experience and develop their own methods and vision. Services and equipment are provided to the new farmers, again at subsidized rates. And training classes, workshops, and frequent opportunities to consult with the program director and experienced farmers fill in gaps in learning, answer questions, and help resolve problems

The Incubator Farming Program at the School of Adaptive Agriculture includes help with planning and monthly check-ins to support participants. A series of workshops on such topics as Creating a Caring Farm Community and Workplace; Record Keeping and Farm Planning; Bookkeeping, Taxes and Regulatory Requirements; Soil Management and Regenerative Organic Practices; "Lean" Farm Organization and Design; and Post-Harvest Handling and Food Safety provides training to first-year participants. A small fee for first-year classes will be part of the "On-Boarding Fee."



Above: The action is fast and furious in the non-stop indoor soccer game with no out-of-bounds. At right: Violette Ortieosa and Manny Jimenez (Professor Tarantula) produced the tournament to raise funds for their capoeira event in Ukiah with many of the top capoeiristas. Below, left: This young person out-maneuvers some of the more experienced WHS soccer team members. Below, right: A sign tells that the point of the tournament is to raise money for a batizado, a graduation or ceremony to receive belts in capoeira.



Forca das Aguas

as a fundraiser for graduation event

soccer tournament was held at the Baechtel Grove Middle School gymnasium in order to raise money for the Capoeira Forca das

Willits and Ukiah. Mathew Caine eatures Write The proceeds will willitsweekly@gmail.com fund a batizado, a ceremony where a new student receives a belt.

"The event is going to be on February 3. We're bringing capoeiristas from Los Angeles and all the way from Eureka," said Professor Tarantula, also known as Manny Jimenez, who, along with his partner, Violette Ortieosa, runs the capoeira school. "We're bringing really high-ranking capoeiristas to the area. We have masters coming from the Bay Area, which is having attack. a big movement of capoeira.'



gives us the chance to defend which is not to block, but to be able to move out of the kick. In your defense, you create your

"Capoeira is for everyone. It's not for





ssembly of God Church 803 Coast Street P.O. Box 489. Willits Worship Service - 5:00 p.m. Pastor Kris Strickland EVERYBODY IS WELCOM

Church of Christ Nhat must we do to be saved Acts 2:37 1095 S. Main St., Willits

(next to Super 8) (707) 459-5023 unday Bible Study-10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship-11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Service-6-7:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study-7-8:00 p.m.

The Church of **Jesus Christ of** Latter-day Saints 265 Margie Drive

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

Eckankar: The Path f Spiritual Freedon • A University for Soul •Spiritual Living Courses •Spiritual Discussions •ECK Light & Sound Service More information? Call 530-224-8703



Celebrating Life In Christ 25 Hazel Street, Willits Modified Worship Service 10 a.m. Other ministries suspended for now. For appointments call: (707) 459-3106

t. 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. unday-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 intanthonywillits@gmail.com

We welcome All Walks of Faith

St. Francis

Episcopal Church

l North Main Street. Willits

Above: Number 16 rushes toward the opposing goal as the defenders try to stop him from scoring. Below: This group of friends from Willits High School came as a team but had to split up and play against each other. At bottom: The two captains play cissors to decide who ages first in cho



CAPOEIRA

fundraising

for our

graduation



Capoeira school hosts soccer tournament

Over the weekend, a two-day indoor the movements which emulate dancing to mask the aggressive nature of the martial

Aguas school in

really violent martial art but now we're trying to turn it into a community thing," explained Jimenez. "Even though it's a resistance art of fight form, we do believe that community is really important. We're not taking the fighting part of the capoeira but we're going for 'comparative gain' which still involves contact but not to hurt the opponent. It

Please do NOT donate the following items: • Rusty or unlabeled cans, or leaking or bulging cans · Perishable items (please no meat, produce or dairy) Re-packaged foods

Alcoholic beverages

Trash

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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



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Ad inquiries: call 707-972-7047 or email willitsweekly@gmail.com

bank in 2024 following a rewarding journey of more than five years with many challenges as well as successes. Workers and volunteers, from board members to food handlers, have made the successes possible. Thank you to all! Please inquire regarding the new director position by calling 707-354-3960 or by email at wcsrav4@gmail.com.

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

Do you have something to say? Write a letter to the editor! Residents of Willits, Brooktrails, Laytonville and Covelo are welcome to send in a letter to the editor. Please email us:



Willits Weekly | January 11, 2024 **Pg. 2** Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

The program provides land for three years. At that point, SAA will do what it can to help participants find land of their own. Though there are no guarantees, SAA is part of a recently formed group of organizations determined to provide more land at affordable rates for farmers in Mendocino County.

In addition to Black Dog Farm, the current incumbent and the program's "anchor farm," SAA can accommodate up to five farming ventures at this time. New farmers will enjoy shared use of resources such as cold storage, tool shed, potting shed, nursery space in a large hoop house, and water and electrical hookups. Other equipment and service, including caterpillar tunnels, tractor work, and larger pieces of equipment, will be rented out at reasonable rates.

Founded in 2013 the School of Adaptive Agriculture (formerly the Grange Farm School) has been educating aspiring farmers through its Practicum Program, doing technical training for farmers, conducting workshops for a wider public, and hosting farming conferences since then.

For more information, and to apply: https:// schoolofadaptiveagriculture.org/programs/farm-incubatorprogram/. Or call Director Michael Foley at 707 216-5549.

The first day, Saturday, teams of adults men. It's not for women. It's for everybody. played in the indoor setting. Twenty adults There are so many benefits. The most each paid \$15 to participate in the games. obvious is the health, to be fit. But as it has On Sunday, about 10 youngsters (mostly music as well, it helps you to express all middle schoolers) showed up, several of your feelings in a more positive way. It of which were on the Willits High School

soccer team "Today is going to be the kids' tournament. They're going to play sets of six minutes. The winner stays on the court and then another team comes to challenge them. They stay until they lose. We're going to go for two and a half hours and we'll see who has the most wins," explained Jimenez.

there are a lot of wars and social problems, "There are differences playing indoors we need to find a common ground so we can live together and begin building and outdoors. The weather is warmer inside together. It's not only about doing the now. They get to use the walls so the ball is always live, at least on three sides unless physical movement. This is another of the benefits, trying to find a common ground it goes into the stands. We have seven players on a side. There is no referee. The where we can agree and keep building players are expected to call their own fouls community."

and rules. It's the honor system." The event for which the fundraiser has Although the tournament was played just been created, the batizado, last year attracted over 80 capoeiristas, some of for fun, the action was hot, fast, heavy, and the biggest names in California. For those non-stop as there was no out-of-bounds, interested in attending, the batizado will be the ball bouncing off the walls and back into the field of play, the sounds echoing in the at Firefly Crossfit, 511 South State Street enclosed space. Some smaller kids played in Ukiah where Jimenez and Ortieosa against the older and larger ones and held teach classes, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 pm. They also have classes at their own as if they grew up in the soccer environment. Seemingly, everyone had fun the new Flourish and Flow Yoga Studio in and the score didn't really matter. Willits, in the Evergreen Shopping Center, on Mondays and Wednesdays at 6 pm.

Capoeira is a sport, a dance, and a way of Their school is named Capoeira Forca das life. It was developed as a martial art by the Aguas (Force of Water). slaves brought into Brazil as an alternative to overt fighting sports, which they were

For more info, visit their Facebook or not allowed to learn. Instead, they created Instagram page or call 408-849-9245.

Mike Oglesby Groceries Randall Cantua, LUTCF 707-489-075 Beer & Wine Agent BROWNS FARMERS **Gas & Diesel** Cantua Insurance Agency INSURANCE Pay at the Pump 16 W. Valley St. Willits CA 95490 786 Redwood Drive N Garberville, CA 95542 Sons Electric, Inc. Tel 707.459.3276 Residential · Commercial · Industrial Tel 707.923.2179 7am - 10pm mike@3sonselectric.net Fax 707.923.9550 459-4854 R CA 1081690 rcantua@farmersagent.com 1799 So. Main St. 707-462-1660 2010 Industry Rd, Ukiah CA 95482 0C67822 Family owned since 1983' P.O. Box 428



members.

Photos by Mathew Caine

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

St. John Lutheran Church Church Service: Sunday 10:00 to 11:00



707-459-5714 Friendly, open worship Saturdays Bible Study - 9:30 a.m. Worship Service - 10:45 a.m Coom Transmission Available Wednesday Prayer Meeting - 7:00 p.m. 399 W. Mendocino Ave. All are welcome!

Willits United Methodist Church

Labyrinth and Peace Garder A place to find comfort where all are welcome Pastor Rosemary Landry Sunday Worship at 10:30 am 286 School St. (at Pine) 707-459-2855

wumc@willitsonline.com www.willitsumc.org acebook: facebook willits umo

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

is a cultural expression which helps you to

understand other cultures. "We don't say 'we fight.' Rather, we play. It's part of the trickery," said Jimenez. "You're playing with another capoerista without regard to age or sex. Our event is going to be called 'unindo corações,' which means uniting hearts. In a world where

Willits Weekly's **Puzzle Page**

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT **POLICE LOG**

November 20 to December 3

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Holly Street. He was arrested pursuant to SUDOKU Department handled 135 incidents in this 11350 (A) HS (Possession of a Controlled Sudoku puzzles are Substance), 11364 (A) HS (Possession of 14-day reporting period. ormatted as a 9x9 grid, Drug Paraphernalia), 14601.1 VC (Driving Summary of Active Investigations proken down into nine 3x3 with a Suspended License), and felony and Arrests poxes. To solve a sudoku, charges of violation of parole. he numbers 1 through 9 November 20 10:28 pm: Officers conducted a stop in nust fill each row, column the 1700 block of South Main Street and 5:09 am: Officers responded to a and box. Each number can issued a warning. disturbance in the 1400 block of Baechtel appear only once in each 11:14 pm: Officers conducted a stop Road ow, column and box. You near the intersection of Blosser Lane and 11:38 pm: Officers conducted a stop near can figure out the order

in which the numbers the intersection of South Main Street and vill appear by using the Commercial Street and issued a warning. numeric clues already November 21

provided in the boxes. The 9:56 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued

a citation

Drive.

warning

Shell Lane.

a warning.

November 23

November 24

issued a warning.

block of West Valley Street.

November 22

issued a warning.

2:40 pm: Officers conducted a stop near

the intersection of South Main Street and

West Commercial Street and issued a

3:22 pm: Officers responded to a report

of suspicious activity in the 200 block of

1:52 am: Officers initiated a hit-and-run

vehicle collision investigation in the 100

HOW TO

Franklin Avenue and issued a warning. 11:29 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning. November 28

4:11 pm: HENDERSON, Skylar Ty (24) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block 9:00 pm: Officers responded to a report of South Main Street. He was arrested of suspicious activity and issued a citation. pursuant to 11350 (A) HS (Possession of 10:21 pm: Officers responded to a a Controlled Substance), 11364 (A) HS disturbance in the 100 block of Mill Creek (Possession of Drug Paraphernalia), 23110 PC (Throwing Objects at a Vehicle), 1203.2 (Violation of Probation), and on felony charges of carrying a concealed dirk or 2:27 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and

5:53 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Monroe Street and South Main Street and issued a warning.

9:54 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Blosser Lane and Meadowbrook Drive and issued a warning. 10:12 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 500 block of East Commercial Street and issued a warning.

3:54 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and November 29 East Oak Street and issued a citation.

9:06 am: Officers initiated a theft 6:06 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the investigation in the 800 block of South Main 800 block of South Main Street and issued Street.

> 1:46 pm: Officers responded to a report of illegal camping in the 400 block of East Hill Road.

3:01 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Magnolia Avenue and Madrone Street and issued a citation.

5:27 pm: Officers conducted a stop in 2:56 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the 1600 block of South Main Street and the intersection of South Main Street and issued a warning.

West Highway 20 and issued a citation. 5:34 pm: Officers conducted a stop in 6:42 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the 1700 block of South Main Street and the intersection of Gregory Lane and South issued a warning.

Main Street and issued a citation. 6:12 pm: Officers conducted a stop near 8:27 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the the intersection of South Main Street and 100 block of East Commercial Street and West Valley Street and issued a warning. 8:54 pm: Officers responded to a report conducted a stop of suspicious activity in the 700 block of South Main Street South Main Street.



Figures and Feelings

WCA displays ceramic sculptures by Gail Harris and abstract paintings of Michael Eich this January

There was excitement in the air at the manage your livelihood, in my case with recent Willits Center of the Arts art opening remodeling, and there's the inner world, on Saturday. The show, the first of WCA's where you try to find personal expression. monthly exhibits for 2024, features the In my case, painting has always provided intimate and iconoclastic work of ceramic me with a sense of inner balance.' artist Gail Harris, and the dreamy abstracted Eich says that he tends to like working

paintings Margi Gomez Guhde of Michael Eich. illitsweeklv@amail.con

Born in be my way of channeling what's going on 1947 in Lauingen, Germany on the Danube from the inside.' River, Michael Eich married his California Eich explains that his paintings often girlfriend in 1979. "She cajoled me into begin with an attraction to a certain color. "I moving to Northern California in 1980," he let the color unfold and I become a kind of smiles. "I am still here, still married." visitor to it. The interpretation of the painting

Eich related that when he and his wife, Ellie, walked into the Willits Center for the Arts for the first time, they were impressed with the professional atmosphere of the venue. "We inquired about what it takes to have a show, and I left my card, which shows two of my paintings. Gary set up a visit to my studio in Redwood Valley."

his peers.

received a travel scholarship, later meeting Eich describes his work as "a mix of all Peter Voulkos and studying with him informally at UC Berkeley. She related the different kinds of paintings that have



Above, left: High-heeled shoes by Gail Harris. Above, right: Much of Gail Harris highly personal work derives from her unique drawings. Below: Gail Harris poses with some of her many figurative creations.

Photos by Margi Gomez Guhde





piece, "Magazine," is an homage to David Smith, one of Gail Harris' favorite artists. Below: A sociable

crowd appreciates Michael Eich's work.

Below: Painter Michael Eich and his wife, Ellie, enjoy seeing Michael's work on the walls of WCA

20								~~							10:18 pm: Officers		
23						24	25						26	27	near the intersection of		
		28			_	29					30				and Monroe Street and		
															10:39 pm: Officers re		
31	32					33		34	35	36			37		of a suspicious vehicle		
38	1			39	40			+				41			South Main Street.		
42				43						44	45				November 25		
72				-0							-5				11:57 am: Officers re		
46		47	48				49			50				•	of illegal camping in th		
51	_			52	53	54			-	55			56	57	Commercial Street and		
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 CLUES ACROSS Defensive nuclear weapon Moved back and forth One-time coach of the Cowboys Last letter Cause to become less intense Genus of tree bugs Body art Romance novelist Be filled with love for City Make vivid 				apon e	51. 1 55. L 58. F 59. F 60. I 64. 1 65. S 66. ' 67. C 68. F 69. N		13. 19. 21. 24. 25. 26. 27. 31. 32. 34. 35.	Cana Uptor What Caval Ancie Stars Rebul Billior	atin Ar da belo a Sincla a cow ry-swo nt Gree kes a year e are in down I dose	ong to air nov does ord ek war	rel galley s	4:45 pm: Officers cond the intersection of School Street and issued a warr 5:01 pm: Officers cond the intersection of Ba South Main Street and is 7:15 pm: Officers cond 800 block of South Main a warning. 7:36 pm: Officers cond the intersection of West South Main Street and is 7:59 pm: Officers could the 1200 block of South issued a warning.					
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v 29. A	/launa _ volcano Atomic #		wallan		CL	UE	S D	OW	N) eworks er Billy			the intersection of Holly Avenue and issued a wa 8:33 pm: Officers cond		
	N (1																

47. More thin

53. State of fuss

54. Uneasy

62. Very slick

48. Dog

1. Indigenous people of

2. Dietary supplement

3. Having a particular sheen

5. Academic Bill of Rights

7. When you anticipate

8. Beef or chicken intestine

Mexico

or luster

6. Automobile

arriving

9. Conspiracy

10. Blood disorder

4. Views

30. Shortly

33. Whirls

37. Six

41. Talk

42. Not off

43. Begets

(abbr.)

49. Of I

31. A type of prejudice

38. Old world, new

44. Cars need them

46. Computing architecture

39. <u>Hess</u>, oil company

issued a warning. November 30 sponded to a report 8:50 am: Officers conducted a stop in the in the 800 block of 900 block of South Main Street and issued a warning. 11:08 am: Officers responded to a report sponded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of e 100 block of East South Main Street. issued a warning. 11:43 am: Officers conducted a stop near sponded to a report the intersection of South Main Street and in the 100 block of Holly Street and issued a warning 11:02 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of South Main Street and issued a citation responded to a 00 block of South December 1 8:53 am: Officers initiated a vehicle theft nducted a stop near investigation in the 1100 block of South ol Street and Wood Main Street. rning. 8:59 am: Officers initiated a vehicle theft nducted a stop near investigation in the 200 block of Pine Street. aechtel Road and 11:39 am: Officers responded to a report issued a warning. of trespassing in the 400 block of East Hill ducted a stop in the Road in Street and issued 1:56 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 800 block of nducted a stop near South Main Street. st Valley Street and December 2 issued a warning. 10:41 am: Officers conducted a stop in onducted a stop in th Main Street and the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a citation nducted a stop near December 3 v Street and Poplar 12:15 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run arning vehicle collision investigation in the 1700 8:33 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the block of South Main Street. 100 block of East Commercial Street and 1:58 pm: Officers responded to a issued a warning. disturbance in the 100 block of Barbara 52. Habitual repetitions November 27 Lane. 1:09 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 4:00 pm: Officers initiated a theft 100 block of North Main Street and issued investigation in the 1700 block of South 56. Chemical compounds Main Street. a citation. 57. More cognizant of reality 59. A place to build 1:28 pm: Officers conducted a stop in 9:17 pm: Officers responded to a the 1700 block of South Main Street and disturbance in the 100 block of Spruce 60. Exclamation that denotes disgust issued a citation. Street 61. Supplement with difficulty 4:34 pm: KEATOR, Benjamin Patrick 9:29 pm: Officers responded to a report (42) of Willits was contacted near the of a suspicious vehicle in the 100 block of intersection of South Main Street and Spruce Street 63. Hill or rocky peak

inspired me, plus the momentary impetus that her work expresses her way of seeing that drives me to take the brush in my things

hand." He credits a beloved art teacher "I have continuously worked on my art from his high school days, who he says had from 1977 to the present," said Harris. a lasting influence on him and on many of "I bring myself to the work. I don't make stuff just to make stuff. There's got to be a

"This teacher's influence was a great gift reason to do it."

in my life. He had a very non-judgmental Harris explained that her artistic pursuit attitude, but he did not tolerate indifference grew from her need to prove that she or laziness, and demanded 100 percent could be someone who carried through of your presence. His open-ended on a discipline. "It's partly motivated by enthusiasm for creativity gave me, I think, never feeling good enough in whatever I the confidence to go ahead, without fear, do or say," confided Harris. "I sometimes with whatever was speaking to me." imagine if I looked like one of the girls in the magazines, my life would be better. It's a As a mason, carpenter, and home-

Over on page 9

from the feeling world, expressing things

that can't be said in "normal" ways. "I do

appreciate figurative art, but this seems to

happens way down the road, subject to the

Harris's ceramic art is largely figurative,

representing the many people who have

had a strong influence on her life and

personal growth. Harris graduated art

school with a bachelor of fine arts and

changes that go on in the process.'

renovation specialist, Eich views his art as fantasy, because there just would be other a balancing influence, allowing his creative problems."

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impulse to be expressed. Read the rest of "There's the outer world with how you Figures

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"Season of the Witch" by artist Sunday Spender.

'Printed & Stitched'' artwork at Grace Hudson Museum

"Printed & Stitched: Examining the Overlap between the Hand-Pulled Print and the Art Quilt," opened at Grace Hudson Museum in late October, and will be on display until March 15, 2024. This exhibition features textile and paper artworks that blend techniques from both printmaking and art quilt disciplines, exploring the overlap between the two methods.

Organized by Exhibit Envoy and with significant input from Studio Art Quilt Associates and the California Society of Printmakers, "Printed & Stitched" includes dozens of artists whose work explores personal experiences and tackles social and political issues.

The Grace Hudson Museum, 431 South Main Street in Ukiah, is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10 am to 4:30 pm, and Sunday from noon to 4:30 pm. General admission is \$5; \$12 per family; \$4 for students and seniors; free to all on the first Friday of the month; and always free to Museum members, Native Americans, and standing military personnel. More info: www.gracehudsonmuseum. org or (707) 467-2836.

Shanachie Pub **Ongoing Events** Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street

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

Bluegrass String Jam: Every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month starting at 3 pm welcomes all Bluegrass musicians! An official jam for the California Bluegrass Association, "so you never know which members from out of the area may drop in!" To see 6 minutes of the January 6 jam, visit https://www.facebook.com/ ShanachieWillits/videos/1464720050757659

Wednesday Open Mic Night: Shanachie Pub presents its popular Open Mic Night every Wednesday, featuring an eclectic array of local musicians and performers from around the world. Pub opens at 3 pm, and from opening until 7 pm, you can be entered for the lottery. Lottery determines order from which you pick your 20 minute time slot starting at 7:20 pm.

Thursday, January 11 Willits Farmers Market: The weekly farmers market is indoors for the winter season at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Thursdays, from 3 to 5:30 pm. Local fall produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Tobin's Tales, story time at the farmers market, from 3:30 to 4 pm, with Library Assistant Tobin reading selected juvenile picture books. All are welcome.

Herbal Wellness Wagon: The Mendocino County Herb Guild and the Community Wellness Collective are bringing the Herbal Wellness Wagon to the Willits Farmers Market on January 11, 18 and 25. Herbalists, nurses, doctors, and other volunteers providing free services including blood pressure checks, health consultations, free herbal remedies and (always!) a cup of herbal tea. Find us in the hallway of Little Lake Grange alongside Nuestra Alianza who has graciously offered their consultation room. More info: 707 272-3373 or MendoCWC@gmail.com

Friday, January 12

WCA Art Talk: Willits Center for the Arts presents one of its series of free Art Talks, this time, "The Story of the Northern Renaissance," Friday, January 12, at 6 pm, upstairs in the Great Room, 71 East Commercial Street.

Blue Luke at Shanachie: "Blue Luke" Andrews is a prodigy guitarist, born and raised in Dos

Main Street.

Main Street.

songwriter Black

Rios, Mendocino County "Imagine a band that takes the soul of the blues, the

groove of the funk, the grit of rock & roll and the rich harmonies of jazz to create exactly what you've net always wanted to hear. Thursday,



Saturday, January 13 Back Porch Trio at Shanachie: fun-loving sound influenced by folk, blues, classic rock, jam band, americana, and bluegrass. Rosie Wetzel

(ukulele and vocals), Steve Hahm (acoustic guitar State, with Ruth Valenzuela and vocals), and Jeff Taylor (bass).Saturday, January 13 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South



Sierra Club meets in Willits January 27

What's Happening Around Town

juvenile picture books. All are welcome.

Herbal Wellness Wagon: The Mendocino

County Herb Guild and the Community Wellness

19

Centers for Medicare

& Medicaid Services,

at the Veterans Memorial Building, 191

Saturday, January 20

Nagon to the Willits

Farmers Market on January

11, 18 and 25. See January

Friday, January

Clay Hawkins Duo at

Shanachie: "Late Night,

Boot Stomping, Road Music

from the Heart" by slide

guitarist and songwriter

11 listing for details.

Mississippi Delta blues blended into a "folktronica" Local fall produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, from 2 to 4 pm, at Long Valley Garden Club, 375 mix, while Black Suzie offers up enchanting, heartfelt melodies and lyrics reminiscent of Cat Power and Bjork. Tickets are \$20 and available online at www.wctperformingartscenter.org or at the door.

Wednesday, January 17

Ilustrations.

Museum opens its latest exhibit on Wednesday, January 17, "In the Field: Exploring Botany in Mendocino County, a celebration of the study of unique plants that grow in our region, that reflects on the pursuits of Mendocino County botanists from past to Exploring Botany in Mendocino County

present and features sketches. photographs and pressed specimens Mendocino County Museum

400 East Commercial Street, is open 11 am to 5 Clay Hawkins and longtime co-conspirator pm, Tuesday through Saturday. More info: visit Andrew Robertson on the upright bass. Friday, January 19 at 8 pm, at Shanachie Pub, 50 South www.mendocinocounty.org/museum, email Main Street.

Willits Stamp Club: Monthly meeting, third Wednesdays, Wednesday, January 17 this

month, 5 to 6:30 pm at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial

Street. Bring your ARTS collection and enjoy time perusing stamps. All are welcome. Refreshments served. 2024



"The State of Things": The

Saturday, January 20 from 1 to 4 pm

North Main Street. Veterans and their Haschak; and the State of the spouses are invited. Info on programs City, with Willits Mayor Saprina and services available from CMS Rodriguez. Thursday, January 18 at the Willits Community Center, 111 East Commercial Street. Refreshments served. Everybody welcome!

issues. Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Thursdays, from 3 to 5:30 pm



delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new Harwood Road, Laytonville. Donations needed, edition of Willits Weekly, and more. Tobin's Tales, pantry items, financial support and volunteers: story time at the farmers market, from 3:30 to 4 Call Heather at 707-354-4254. pm, with Library Assistant Tobin reading selected

Black Light Dance Party at the Grange: featuring electronic dance music, with a showing

of 5555," an animated music video goes along to Dafi Punk's "Discovery album. Win prizes in the Black Li Costume Contest pure white is great in black lights, as are some neon colors. \$5 admission includes non-toxic black light paint. Saturday, January 20 from 6 to 9 pm Little Lake Grange.

291 School Street. Snacks and refreshments for purchase. All ages event: no alcohol served

Forrest & Friends at Shanachie: Saturday, January 20, 8 pm, with Forrest & Friends, features Forrest Glyer and Malakai Schindel of Schindig, Free Ceramics Workshops joined by some of the best local musicians and with Nancy New: Master potter singer-songwriters around. Shanachie Pub, 50B South Main Street.

Sunday, January 21

4th annual Bob Colvig Invitational Wrestling Tournament: hosted by Willits Grapplin Pack, for K through 8th grade. Sunday, January 21, at Willits High School, 299 North Main Street. Preregistration only for wrestlers on TrackWrestling. All wrestlers that register before Friday, January Health Services Meeting 19 at 8 pm will have their name on the back of the for Veterans: The American Legion, Willits Post 174, hosts shirt. Wrestling starts at 9 am; door fee \$5 adults, an informational meeting with the \$1 kids. Full concession. Info: call or text Head

Coach Wayne Shull at 707-489-8562.



eeded: refrigerator, pantry items (dried legumes grains, veggie broth, canned goods, spices, etc.), dish towels sponges, natural cleaning supplies, paper napkins Monetary donations and volur Call Heather 707-354-4254 for more info

6pm - 9 pm Ages Welcon aturday jan 20, 202



monthly drive-thru food distribution in Willits, second and fourth Thursdays of the month. located in the parking lot of the soccer and baseball fields, 9:30 to 11 am. Groceries to go, senior basket (for low-income

seniors 60 or older), and diapers. Willits Boules Club, Tuesdays and Fridays at 3 pm: The outdoor boules course is located across the street from the Willits Skate Park. Info: bbruneau@ bbruneau.com

65 South Main Street.

Free Kids Karate Classes at Body Works Gym: Sheriff's Youth Activities League offers a free karate program for kids at the Willits Body Works Gym, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30 pm. for new students ages 7 and above. Use the back doors to enter. Special small child (Lil Dragons) classes only on Thursdays at 6 pm, ages 3 to 6. There is an annual \$20 SAL insurance/registration fee (waivable). For more info call or text Sensei Mike Tobin at 707-354-0565. Program is continuous year-round. Body Works Gym,1511 South Main Street.

Ongoing Events

Willits Tennis Club: Meets Mondays and

Wednesdays from 9 to 11 am at the Willits High

School courts. New members welcome. Free. Show

Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Group: Meets every

week on Mondays, 6 pm, at the Muse in Willits, 30

East San Francisco Street. More info: 707-354-1866.

Willits Drum Circle: Every second and fourth

Info: Bill Bruneau: 459-3390.

Fridays at 7 pm. At St. Francis of the Redwoods

Episcopal Church, Main and Commercial 7pm.

Brown Bag Lunch Program: Sack lunches

served at the City Park (or across the street in

case of rain) every Saturday from 1 to 2 pm.

Come early to be assured a lunch! Provided by

various churches and community organizations.

Shuffleboard Sunday at Flying Dog Wood

Fired Pizza & Vinyl: "Sign-ups start at 4 pm.

Games start at 4:45 pm. \$5 sign-up fee, teams

of two, winner takes the pot! We'll have the

games on all day. Beer, wine, pizza, we've got

everything you need!" Flying Dog Wood Pizza,

The Redwood Empire Food Bank: Twice-

up or call 707-484-3385.

Ongoing Events at the Willits Library Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or 459-5908. Library is closed Tuesday, January 16 in observance of Martin Luther King Day

Story Time: Tuesday through Friday each week, 10:30 to 11 am. "Start your morning listening to a story. Join us in the children's area of the library."

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

LEGO Club: Tuesdays, 5:30 to 6:30 pm. "It is LEGO time at the library. Bring

Willits Walk and Talk: Join the Willits Branch Library staff for a 20- to 30-minute walk around the neighborhood. Come enjoy a little bit of exercise







MENDOCINO Library

FORT BRAGG ROTARY & MENDOCINO COAST SPORTS FOUNDATION





Willits Chamber of Commerce presents "The State of Things," a community briefing,

featuring the State of the representing Assemblyman Jim Wood's Office; the State of the County, with Supervisor John



RISING

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly farmers market is indoors for the winter season at the Little



part D coverage and organizational governance; plus a Social Security representative will provide insight on SS

Laytonville Soup-In: Free community meal open to all, third Saturdays of the month, starting Saturday, January 20,



Nancy New offers free ceramics workshops, "Make a Place for Yourself at the Table," at Willits Make A Place for Yourself at the Table Center for the Arts. Build and glaze your own place setting over two sessions, Saturdays, January 20 and 27, 1 to 5 pm (materials free). Limited registration: www. villitscenterforthearts.org

Save the Date for Edie's Birthday Parade February 4

It's official ... Edie Ceccarelli of Willits is now the second oldest person in the entire world and the oldest in the U.S.! Edie will turn 116 on Monday, February 5. A drive-by parade for the community to celebrate her birthday is set for Sunday, February 4, starting at 1 pm.

To join the parade, go straight at the stop sign at Haehl Creek Drive and Grove Street. Take a left on Grove Street and continue to Edie's address of 414 Grove Street, which will be on your right-hand side. Drive through with a decorated car (signs, streamers, balloons, flags). Wave as you pass her house to wish her a happy birthday!

This event is hosted by the Holy Spirit Residential Care Home and the Frank R. Howard Foundation.

KLLG Pledge Drive Online Yard Sale January 27

KLLG Willits Hometown Radio hosts a pledge drive and online yard sale, on Saturday, January 27, from 9 am to 3 pm. Tune in to 97.9 FM. More info: FB page KLLG 97.9 Willits Hometown Radio. Or check (and donate) at KLLG.org

HEATRE

57 East Commercial Street - Willits

707-459-6660

HAPPY

NEW YEAR!

The Mendocino County Group of the Sierra Club invites you to our first public meeting of the new year, Saturday, January 27, 12 noon to 2 pm, at the Willits Environmental Center, 630 South Main Street.

Bring your ideas, comments, questions, and a bag lunch if you'd like. Are you interested in reviving hikes and outings? Protecting oldgrowth and second-growth redwoods from logging? Exploring the Eel River Watershed? Learning more about healthy firescapes and how native people have tended these natural places for thousands of years? More info: Robin Leler at (707) 459-0155.



2:00, 4:45 & 7:30:pm

Tues.-Thurs.:

4:45 & 7:30pm

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Masks Optiona

2:45, 5:30 & 8:15pm

Tues.-Thurs.:

5:30 & 8:15pm

Movie Times for Jan. 12 thru Jan. 18

Willits Weekly | January 11, 2024 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Pg. 7



Willits Senior Center Director Richard Baker smiles as Jamie Wilkes, left, and Heather Walker from Sparetime Supply drop off a \$1,000 donation.



Thanks to Sparetime Supply for Senior Center donation

I think it's important we keep the On behalf of the Willits community and community informed; in this case, it's the the many worthy organizations and causes good deeds of Sparetime Supply, which in Sparetime financially supports year and a large part is done behind-the-scenes and year out, I'd like to say, "THANK YOU." often receives no public acknowledgment.

A big shout-out to Mike Griggs, Sr. The other day Heather Walker and Jamie and Andrew Hosford. You are making a Wilkes from Sparetime Supply stopped difference in the lives of so many people by the Senior Center to deliver a much- who call Willits home. We are very fortunate needed \$1,000 donation right before the and forever grateful for all you do. Thanksgiving holiday.

- posted by Willits Senior Center



Intro to Iyengar Yoga at WCA, January 28

•	nto to Iyengar Yoga, a practice for ilience and freedom, with Kirra renerton on Sunday January 28, from 11 to 1 pm at the Willits Center for the Arts, East Commercial Street.	body and improve mental clarity, emotional stability, and circulation.No experience necessaryFor any sized body or ability	
Sign up now at www.rootwisdom.com of	•	 Kickoff for February Beginner's series 	
Discover how yoga can energize your call (206) 618-2552	Itefully accepted.	Sign up now at www.rootwisdom.com or	
	Discover how yoga can energize your	call (206) 618-2552	

Presented by the Willits Chamber of Commerce





Applications open for StartUp Mendocino 2024

Submitted by West Center

West Business Development Center ("West Center") is pleased to announce that the application window for StartUp Mendocino 2024. its innovative business accelerator program, has opened as of January 8. Now in its fourth year, StartUp Mendocino continues to energize and accelerate entrepreneurial endeavors in Mendocino County.

This no-cost program is designed to give local entrepreneurs the opportunity to participate in an intensive training program that serves as a hands-on training ground. Participants will learn to chart a course for their business, refine their strategies, hone entrepreneurial skills, and develop a plan for growth and success.

The application-based 18-week program is limited to 12 participants who, upon successful completion of the program, will each receive a \$1,000 stipend. Laura Brooks, West Center's director of Strategic Programs, says: "We have found that setting a limit on the number of participants ensures they receive an immersive and personalized experience. It also allows for the creation of cohesive cohorts for continued peer-to-peer business support." The 2023 program launched 11 early-stage entrepreneurs on their path to success.

Earl Chavez, owner of Big Earl's BBQ and one of the program graduates in June 2023, said: "Startup Mendocino connected the dots for us to take our business to the next level. The individual guidance we received from West leadership helped us fine-tune our goals and business plan. We are successful because of them."

The program begins with a kick-off reception on Thursday, February 29 from 4 to 7 pm at Medium Art Gallery, 522 East Perkins Street in Ukiah. Participants will have the opportunity to meet their peers, advisors, and cohort leaders prior to starting the course of study on Tuesday, March 5.

Participants will meet for 90-minute classes every other week via Zoom. On alternate weeks, cohorts will meet for 90 minutes and use their peer-to-peer learning to help solve current challenges for themselves and others. The program will run until June 25, 2024 and will culminate in a graduation celebration where graduates will celebrate their success with friends, family, and the community.

During the program participants will be introduced to new approaches in a series of four modules that address the Foundations of Leadership, Mastering Finance Fundamentals, Building Strong Employee and Customer Relations, and Demystifying Marketing, Creating the Perfect Pitch.

The main criteria for submitting a StartUp Mendocino application include: the business is located in Mendocino County; and the business has been operational for between one and three years. Detailed information about the program can be found can be found at www.westcenter.org/ programs/startup-mendo-2024.

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES Ferrari The Story: Dramatic biopic. Italy, 1957: Enzo Ferrari (Adam Driver) and his racing team are living legends, the toast of Italy; but his world-renowned Formula

One race car company faces bankruptcy. He can save his company if he sells more cars. and

he can sell more cars Dan Essman if he wins more races. His No. 1 competition is Maserati. The Mille Miglia (thousand mile) contest is

coming up.

For the Ferrari company, winning means survival. Then there's the fact that his manic wife. Laura (Penelope Cruz - omgoddess!!!), who owns half the company, wants to shoot him. Her fury has reasons that go well-beyond the existence of Enzo's beautiful mistress Lina (Shailene Woodley), and those reasons are heartbreaking.

My Thoughts: Formula One drivers are international stars. This is a flick about such men who risk their lives to win something as

FERRAR

peculiar as a ridiculously long-range high-speed screaming motorized scamper between two arbitrary places on a map; quietly macho men who go from point A to point B and then admire themselves, and maybe, sometimes. die. In the Mille Miglia, we cheer for them as they

race at more than 200 miles per hour for more than 1,000 miles. Grueling. Scary. And now that I'm thinking about it, pretty darn weird.

Still. I loved the movie. It's romantic and filled with Italian style. The drama is intense. The action is intense. The acting is great, and Michael Mann's directing feels more European than American. Perhaps that's because the dialogue isn't stupid.

Parents: This is a movie for grownups. There's some brief but intensely realistic violence, car crash triggers, and matter-of-fact adultery. Willitsian Daniel Essman prefers his reality attenuated

by the wisdom of the imagination.



Mendocino County invites applications for: **Administrative Assistant** \$44.324 - \$53.872 **Agricultural Commissioner/**

CLASSIFIEDS 30 words for \$15 for 2 weeks

Computer Help Need help with your computer? PC, Macintosh, Android and IOS devices. Repairs, configuration and tutoring: \$50/hr. Call Liam 459-2470 or email uicearbhaill@gmail.com	Office for Rent Comfortable furnished office space for rent in downtown Willits for psychotherapy and body work. Available three days a week M-W. Includes all utilities and massage table. Contact Ruth at 707-972-2163
Firewood for Sale Firewood and Douglas fir poles for sale. FIR \$300/cord, OAK \$400/ cord, KINDLING \$15/box (14x20). POLES:(skinned and unskinned) for tipis or building. Delivery \$45 near Willits, \$75 near Ukiah. Call (707) 456- 0270, (707) 354-2244	RV/Trailer Space for Rent Space for RV's and Trailers \$425 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 972-4696. See at http://www. oaknvine.net/tp
For Rent 4 bedroom, 2 bath, single-family home, newly refurbished, \$1650+ Deposit. Call: Lincoln Realty at 707- 459-4599.	Spiritual Wisdom on Inner Guidance Join us for an engaging discussion on Inner Guidance. Come share or just listen. Free books available. Willits Library, 390 E. Commercial
For Rent Office space, 200 sq ft, plus great room and shared waiting area, internet available, off- street parking, handicap ramp, utilities included. \$360/month. 707-354-	St., Saturday, January 13th, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Questions? Contact Joy at (707) 367-3777. Sponsored by Eckankar of Lake & Mendocino Counties.
\$360/month. 707-354- 2473 John Ford Ranch Beef John Ford Ranch still has the 50 lb. Rancher's Choice Box for \$390.00 and the 25 lb. Hamburger Box for \$170.00. Please contact Debbie Arkelian @ 459- 5049. (Prices change effective 6/25/23)	Willits Food Bank Open Willits Community Services & Food Bank continues to distribute food, to hungry families and individuals in the Willits area, with an increase in numbers served. Donations can be mailed or dropped off at the front office at 229 East San Francisco Avenue, Willits CA 95490 – knock or leave in the locked mailbox in front. Food distribution is available at the back door on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 4:30 pm. Info: 459-3333.
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WW467	WW468
Fictitious Business Name Statement	Fictitious Business Name Statement
2023-F0568	2023-F0590

Earn 500 Todays Points on any of the below dates to earn your aift: an embroidered black beanie

JANUARY 13, 14, 20 & 21, 2024





State of the State Ruth Valenzuela for Assemblyman Jim Wood's Office

State of the County Supervisor John Haschak

State of the City Mayor Saprina Rodriguez

COMMUNITY CENTER Willits City Hall Thursday, January 18th 5:30PM-8:00PM Refreshments served - everyone welcome!



The closing date to apply is January 26 at 5 pm. All applications will go before a selection committee composed of business and community leaders and stakeholders and the final 2024 applicants will be announced on February 16.

The rest of From page 5 Figures

Harris explains that her work is also about comparison. "For example, the shoes ... we all know what high heels look like. To see them in clay makes a dynamic image, which in turn makes the viewer wonder."

Harris has lived on a 120-acre ranch in a cabin outside of Covelo for many years. "My husband died when the kids were very young, and I raised them here, without much money. They went to school in Covelo.'

Reflecting on the difficulties of surviving as a single mom in a rural area, she continued, "I'm a solitary person mostly, with time to think about stuff. The work is where I'm free to do as I please."

Harris built her own gas-fired catenary arch kiln, which she uses to produce her work. In addition to her prolific ceramic sculpture, there are a number of handmade books on display throughout the exhibit, presenting many drawings upon which her work is based.

WCA Curator Gary Martin was present at the opening, and commented on the work: "Ms. Harris' work is very personal. This is a lifelong art project for her.

Speaking abo Michael's work ask questions a

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bout Eich's paintings, Martin said, "I find deeply mysterious. The paintings seem to and give answers at the same time."		
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Sealer of Weights & Measures \$125,112 - \$152,068

Assistant Agricultural Commissioner/ **Sealer of Weights & Measures**

\$88,899 - \$108,076 Community Health Worker I/II -Extra-Help \$18.53 - \$21.40 hourly **Community Services Officer -**Fort Bragg \$48,984 - \$59,529

Corrections Deputy \$54,184 - \$65,873 **Deputy Probation Officer I/II**

\$51,937 - \$69,617 **Deputy Sheriff-Coroner I/II** \$62,628 - \$87,214

Mental Health Clinician I/II \$59.737 - \$84.011 Mental Health Rehabilitation **Specialist** \$56,825 - \$69.076 Social Worker I/II/III/IV A-D \$48,942 - \$92,206

For a complete list of current job openings and to apply: www.mendocinocounty.gov/jobs

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The following person is doing The following person is doing business as Dead on the Creek business as Ron's Muffler and 26000 String Creek Road, Automotive, 850 Blosser Lane, Willits, CA 95490; (707) Willits, CA 95490 459-3015; arborwood49@ Registered owner: Loren Luedemann, 354 Coast Street, Registered owner: John Willits, CA 95490. Phillips, 26000 String Creek This business is conducted by Road, Willits, CA 95490. an individual. This business is conducted by The registrant commenced to transact business under the The registrant commenced to fictitious business name listed transact business under the above on January 1, 2019. fictitious business name listed FBN statement filed with the above on October 15, 2004. Mendocino County Clerk-FBN statement filed with the Recorder on December 20, Mendocino County Clerk-2023. Recorder on December 7, 2023 /s/ John Phillips /s/ Loren Luedemann Publication dates: January 11, Publication dates: January 11, 18, 25, and February 1, 2024. 18, 25, and February 1, 2024. **Marc Komer** Legal Document Assistant

An Affordable Non-Attorney Service

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an individual.

(707) 459-2775

245 South Humboldt St., Suite B, Willits **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY** I am not an attorney, and can only provide self-help services at your specific direction

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Charming Chopper

Meet Chopper, the lovable bull terrier mix searching for his forever home. This sweet boy craves attention and cherishes every moment spent with his humans. He loves to go for walks, hikes and loves

water! He wants to be anywhere, as long as it's with you. Chopper's playful

nature will bring joy to your life, and he absolutely adores cuddling. It's highly recommended that Chopper finds an adopter with prior experience with this breed, as they can

provide the guidance and understanding he needs. If you're ready to give this affectionate and spirited pup the loving home he deserves, Chopper is eagerly waiting to meet you! It's important to note that Chopper can be selective when it comes to other dogs and may exhibit aggression toward them. With slow introductions, he may be able to build positive relationships with some dogs.

To learn more about Chopper 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 petadoption application before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 707-459-4900.

Shy Duffy

Duffy is a transfer from Bones Rescue in Covelo. This boy had a rough start at life, which is why he's a little timid of people. But he's been hanging out in a very supportive foster home to help him grow his confidence. He's looking for someone he can bond with and be their best friend!

His foster notes are quite simple but show a lot of love: "Not a whole lot to say, other than how awesome this guy



vou're interested in meeting Duffy! The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. Feel free to come 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.

Quiet Shelby

Shelby really enjoys going for walks and playing in water She is very mellow inside, and she's house trained! Shelby can be nervous meeting new people but give her a few minutes and she warms up and lays her head in your lap. Shelby would do best in a quiet home with someone who would take her for walks, as she so

enjoys being outside. Shelby lived with

Save the Date for Edie's

Birthday Parade, February 4

It's official ... Edie Ceccarelli of Willits is now the second oldest person in the entire world and the oldest in the U.S.! Edie will turn 116 on Monday, February 5. A drive-by parade for the community to celebrate her birthday is set for Sunday, February 4, starting at 1 pm.

To join the parade, go straight at the stop sign at Haehl Creek Drive and Grove Street. Take a left on Grove Street and continue to Edie's address of 414 Grove Street, which will be on your right-hand side. Drive through with a decorated car (signs, streamers, balloons, flags). Wave as you pass her house to wish her a happy birthday!

This event is hosted by the Holy Spirit Residential Care Home and the Frank R. Howard Foundation.



Edie Ceccarelli smiles for the camera during her 115th birthday last year. Photo by Maureen Jennison

Acoustic roots music by Shovelman and Black Suzie at WCT, January 13

By Steve Hellman for WCT

An evening of acoustic roots music unfolds at Willits Community Theater on Saturday, January 13 at 7:30 pm, with performances by the madcap misfit musician Shovelman and New Orleans singer-songwriter Black Suzie.

As the one-of-a-kind Shovelman, Isaac Frankle wields his lap steel guitar, bringing forth sounds of the Mississippi Delta blues blended into an electro-psychedelic flavor. With his bluesy "folktronica" mix, Shovelman has shared the stage with the likes of Primus, Emmylou Harris, Kaki King, and Reggae Watts

For a journey into the depths, Black Suzie offers up enchanting melodies and lyrics that are both clever and heartfelt. Originally from Philadelphia, Black Suzie honed her songwriting craft in New Orleans before moving to a cabin in the redwoods of Northern California. Influenced by folk, blues, soul and punk, this indie artist invites her listeners into a sound reminiscent of Cat Power and Bjork.

Tickets for the show are \$20 and available online at: www. wctperformingartscenter.org, or at the door at 37 West Van Lane.





Come celebrate from 1-1:30 pm on Sunday, February 4 during a drive-by parade!





Museum exhibit on botany in Mendocino County

"In the Field: Exploring Botany in Mendocino County" is a celebration of the study of unique plants that grow in our region, opening Wednesday, January 17 at the Mendocino County Museum in Willits. Building on past exhibit, "Carl Purdy: A Passion for Plants," developed by Curator Dot Brovarney, "In the Field" reflects on the pursuits of Mendocino County botanists from past to present.

Featured botanists will include Jim McNamee, well known as the proprietor of the McNamee Store in Fish Rock on the Mendocino Coast; Edith Van Allen Murphy, who worked to record and illustrate Native American uses of plants for the U.S. Plant Bureau; and world-renowned "Lily Man of Jkiah," Carl Purdy.

The rest of Sierra Club meets in Willits, January 27 From page 1 Veterans The Mendocino County Group of the Sierra Club invites you to our first public meeting of Veterans suggested the new offices were too small, without 630 South Main Street adequate space to serve veterans, that sharing offices with mental health and recovery services would only add to the stigma many veterans feel, and said the county Robin Leler at (707) 459-0155. had given them very little notice to move - the move was scheduled The rest of From page 1 for January 10, the day after the Brooktrails BOS meeting. Several mentioned was quickly underway. Tyler O'Shea coalition-based attack and then, of course concerns that, given the smaller space, the unfilled veterans services received 3 votes; Williams did not vote representative position that is in the himself, and received one vote. Tyler-O'Shea then assumed the position of pass by two-thirds. budget would be cut. president and called for nominations for Vietnam veteran Don Burgess vice president. told board members: "Had there not been that little house on Director Horrick nominated Williams Observatory, I never would have for the position, and all directors voiced sought help. I felt like I was in a their votes for Williams as vice president. secure place. I was looking for Tyler-O'Shea commented that this was somebody who would listen and I the first time in Brooktrails board history found it there, and I've been going that a woman had been elected to serve back since and they've helped a as president. All of the board members for that, and we've been talking to our tremendous amount. I wouldn't go congratulated her on her election. to just any office in an administrative to come.' Tyler-O'Shea then opened a public building. I would not walk down the hearing – Resolution 2023-13 Establishing long hallway and try to find an office Rates for Redwood Waste Solutions, somewhere. The things that we feel Inc. / Solid Waste Franchise Services. and the things that my brothers and Brooktrails resident Frank Sanderson rose sisters suffered and are still suffering and noted that his trash pickup had recently from whether it's Agent Orange or been spotty, for six weeks, and he did not PTSD – we just can't share these in a normal environment or a normal think that it was fair to raise the rates if the office. In this little house I found a service was lacking. friend, I found somebody who cared, Jerry Ward, owner of Solid Waste of somebody who listened." Willits answered Sanderson's concerns. He Roger Ham from Willits, also a said, "I'm not going to make any excuses Vietnam veteran, said he understood and I apologize for any inconvenience that it was a cost-cutting measure, but you've experienced. But as we are going "having toured the new location, through the transition, selling to Redwood I question whether there will be Waste Solutions, we are losing drivers. adequate room for the full staffing Some drivers have guit and some have of personnel and an environment for chosen to take vacation before the end the sharing and documentation of of the year. All of these issues should be confidential information. ironed out as we continue to get through good news. "For 15 years," Ham said, this time of change. I think our record has, overall, been pretty darn good for the last "veterans who have availed themselves of VSO services know 50 years. We are having a hard time right where to go at least geographically now and I think things will get better soon. to receive the assistance related to If you have any other problems, please call VA benefits. The existing location is the office and ask for me, Jerry." The public quasi-separated from the hubbub of hearing was then closed. other county activities and provides Tyler-O'Shea asked if any directors had an inviting atmosphere for entering." anything to report. Director Ralph Santos Like other speakers, Ham said, "I have a fire funding update from the credited Third District Supervisor for Mendocino County Fire Chiefs Association. trving to help. "I would like to thank The new funding is called the Evergreen Supervisor Haschak for facilitating

The rest of

From page 1 Sheriff as Root Harvest Birimisa, 26, from Eureka

the new year, Saturday, January 27, 12 noon to 2 pm, at the Willits Environmental Center, Bring your ideas, comments, guestions, and a bag lunch if you'd like. Are you interested

in reviving hikes and outings? Protecting old-growth and second-growth redwoods from logging? Exploring the Eel River Watershed? Learning more about healthy firescapes and how native people have tended these natural places for thousands of years? More info:

> Fire Funding Agreement which the fire districts and the board of supervisors have started, and the revenues have been determined to be \$123,225.48 which is about \$100.000 higher than the first number that we received. They are working to get the Evergreen Agreement finalized, and when they do, hopefully the fire Supervisor John Haschak, to move forward departments will start receiving their share

we have the court attack on the potential requirement of the two-thirds having to also "That two-pronged attack on this measure is moving forward," Alaniz continued. "CSDA is excited that they will now be taking this case to the California Supreme Court, and the Supreme Court burglary. will make the determination of whether or

not this is constitutional for them to force the two-thirds vote. We've been advocating legislators about that and there will be more Alaniz then thanked Director Santos for

bringing up the Evergreen Fund Agreement because it is one agreement, whereas there have been many individual agreements that have required signatures and that, she said. "had been a rather onerous process for districts to go through."

Continuing, she said: "We've been watching our cash flow because we haven't received the full amount of payments from the county. There has been a delay in our getting our full payments. We've been working with Sara Pierce [Acting County Auditor Controller/Treasurer Tax Collector]. who has been working diligently to get everything caught up. She's assured me that we'll be caught up on our special assessments by January, and that is really

Because the Brooktrails board only met once in December the general manager had a few more items to point out: She'd attended the Association of California Water Agencies Biannual Conference meeting and gained some good, solid information that she looks forward to sharing in the future. Alaniz is a member of the ACWA

Region 1 board. The PG&E panel has been installed in the new Primrose Lift Station and is powered up. The pump tests will happen next. Everything should then be in line, so the plan is to abandon the old station soon. Clarifier 2 is installed on site, and staff is working to get it plumbed into the system.

to do with, "what you're capable of as a team. He said, "We are all there for the same reason; because we want to help our community. Former long-time Brooktrails board member Tony Orth was especially lauded as he has been working, along with

To become a volunteer firefighter for Little Lake. there is first an application process. Protentional candidates sit in front of a panel made-up of chiefs

Laurent explained a little of how it all works saying

"While most of the training is on the job during fire

calls in the community, we train two Tuesdays a

month, three or more hours each time, or whatever

it takes, in which all our duty officers, captains,

and the many years of experience between other

He said: "The main focus is on medical calls,

car accidents, and structure fires." Little Lake Fire

also requires volunteers to have an updated and

current CPR certification that they provide training

As a new volunteer firefighter, you would have

"When you see cars overturned or smashed

He was told by his captains that once he has his

volunteers train on a broad range of scenarios.'

Randolph's son. He was arrested for DUI and hitand-run resulting in property damage, due to the collision The Toyota van was towed and stored at a

Willits-area towing company. Several days after the accident, after a search warrant was obtained. Randolph's body was found in the van, "located in a section of concaved flooring which was concealed by the large number of belongings including clothing, luggage and living supplies.

Birimisa was held in the Mendocino County Jail on \$680,000 bail during the coroner's investigation, but was released to Humbold County on December 7, where he is being held on felony charges in the county jail. According to the Eureka Times-Standard, Birimisa was charged in September with committing a lewd act upon and assault of an 8-year-old child, along with alleged

The Mendocino County charges have been dropped.

Dead man found on Island Mountain IDd

On December 19, 2023, the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office announced the man found dead on Island Mountain on December 10 by searchers had been identified

The Mendocino County Sheriff's Office Coroner's Division reported they had identified the deceased body after recent dental comparisons were conducted by a Forensic Odontologist.

Dental comparisons confirmed the deceased person found during the December 10 search efforts was Scott William Graves, 63, from Piercy, who had been reported as a missing person.

The Coroner's Division and Sheriff's Office detectives are continuing investigations in an attempt to determine the manner, cause and circumstances of Graves' death.

Anyone who might have information that could assist Sheriff's Office detectives in this investigation is urged to contact the Sheriff's Office Tip-Line by calling 707-234-2100 or the WeTip Anonymous Crime Reporting Hotline by calling 800-782-7463.

The rest of From page 1 Volunteers

If you think becoming a volunteer firefighter is a young person's game, and not something you'd have time for, Laurent is a good example of how it's possible. He's a 44-year-old husband and father of six, has a full-time job, is a student at Mendocino College, and runs a small ranch with 18 head of cattle. And vet, he has managed to carve out some time to also be a first responder. Laurent said joining the fire department has

nothing to do with how old you are, and everything

another dog and enjoys the company of a mellow dog. The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, requires a reservation to view adoptable Call 707animals. 467-6453 to make



an appointment to meet our feline and canine guests. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www. mendoanimalshelter.com.



The exhibit will feature sketches illustrations, photographs, and pressed specimens, that showcase a passion for learning and observation by a variety of Mendocino County artists, students, and enthusiasts.

Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street, is open 11 am to 5 pm. Tuesday through Saturday. More info: visit www.mendocinocounty.org/museum, email museum@mendocinocounty.gov or call 707-234-6365.

the county, and that it may result in some unintended consequences.

the facility tour [last week] and

mediation discussions. I realize

that the relocation of county staff

is an internal decision, and as a

veteran I can't tell you how to run

vour railroad. I am concerned with

the lack of communication to the

veteran service organizations in

"From my perspective," Ham said, "the proposed relocation is not in the best interest of the county veterans." Commenter Alice Stenberg said she had worked for the County of Mendocino for more than 13 years, 10 of them at the Veterans Services Office. "I am ashamed of the way this county treats its veterans," she said. "It's a disgrace," citing issues with the Fort Bragg Veterans Office first. "Regarding the move," she continued, "decisions were made at higher levels without any regards to our veterans. In fact I would bet that they were not considered at all. I cannot help but think that this administration has no regard or respect for its veterans. If the main reason for this move is for the storage, as I was told by Supervisor [Maureen] Mulheren, why not just have Air Quality use the garage and put a [storage unit] next to the building in the open field?"

"I realize there is a budget crunch and a hiring freeze," Stenberg continued, "but I'm also aware there are exceptions. This would be an exception. Maybe you're unaware this office saw 1,835 veterans in person and received over 3,000 phone calls for the fiscal year 22/23. The Veterans Services Office brought in over \$3 million into Mendocino County veterans' pockets, which they spent locally. The office also brought in over \$100,000 to the county, which goes to the general fund. This money should go to a special fund to help keep the office fully staffed. Other counties are hiring additional veteran service representatives, while this county continues to let our office struggle. This action to me

strongly suggests that Mendocino County is not a veteran friendly county anymore.'

of the money. Year-to-date the revenues total \$548,225.48."

General Manager Tamara Alaniz explained: "The amount in the fund is a little bit more than twice what we originally anticipated. This is the Measure D and E money.... We originally thought we were getting around \$29,000 which is what we budgeted for. We ended up getting notified that we would be getting \$15,750, and so this number will bring that \$15,750 number up closer to the \$29,000.

Alaniz had several items to mention. She began: "We've been concerned about this initiative from the California Business Roundtable that was going to potentially attack some of the benefit assessments done by districts throughout the state, like us. We just had our fire benefit assessment pass. The big issue that's been taken on, especially by the California Special Districts Association, which has been working on our behalf and all the special districts, is that they were going to require every single vote be two-thirds, whereas

we have a property tax benefit assessment under Proposition 218 where we could do the 50% plus 1 which is what we did." The Brooktrails vote came back with 69% two-thirds plus 1 vote requirement.

Alaniz said the potential change to require a two-thirds vote of the public has been significantly challenged. "They have said that if you're going to require a twothirds vote for local governments to pass, then you better pass this same initiative by two-thirds vote in the Legislature. And, they don't think that it will pass in the Legislature.

"And the other thing is that we know that this type of Sacramento office-based dictate were Redwood Waste Solutions, Inc. takes away the flexibility of local districts to management staff, Susan Vandelinder and identify and fund their local needs. And, Bruce McCracken, as well as Solid Waste so that has been the more cogent and of Willits owner Jerry Ward.

with getting Brooktrails' second access and current volunteers for an interview, where road established. Alaniz has been working they are asked questions about themselves and to get grant funds from the state, from the why they'd like to join. California Transportation Commission. Once accepted, the volunteers start to train.

In December a final recommendation was received from the Commission staff. Initial funds totaling \$12 million have been approved for plans and studies to get the new road started, and there's potential grant and programmatic monies that will be available from the California Transportation Commission to help with the project in future. Orth said he was grateful that

Brooktrails staff has been so helpful in getting the project moving forward, and appreciative that Supervisor Haschak and Mendocino County have worked to move

ahead on the project. to assume there is an adjustment period to being Director Horrick asked, "Do we know the first to respond to accidents where people the route yet?" Alaniz said, "We have a are badly injured. Laurent said he's been on 77 tentative route." More will be revealed in engine calls during his probation. Others have the future. been on hundreds. The board then focused on the Consent

Calendar. The Accounts Payable through beyond recognition, and you think no one could November 22, 2023, of \$21,945.36, and live through that, and they are up, walking around, the December 2023 Accounts Payable that's a happy ending. There is always something in the amount of \$103,568.25 were both to be learned from each and every call," said unanimously approved. In addition, Director Laurent. Horrick thanked the Brooktrails Firefighters positive, so would have been above any Association for making a \$2,000 pledge to civilian clothes back on, he has to, "leave all that

the fire district. behind," and tell his fellow volunteers he'll "see them on the next one," as a way to ensure each Finally, "Consideration of Resolution other that they have each other's backs. 2023-13 Establishing Rates for Redwood Waste Solutions, Inc. / Solid Waste He summed up his experience so far saying: Franchise Services." In January 2024 the "In all, being a part of Little Lake Fire is an honor proposed rates will increase by 4.1% which

and privilege. I am so grateful to be surrounded by will result in a cost of \$20 more per year. the many brave and courageous men and women The rate increase received a unanimous that sacrifice countless hours for the community roll call vote of approval from the board. and put their lives on the line every day." Present for the vote of approval

for.

Little Lake Fire is not yet at a full roster of firefighters. There are about four or five open spots, though Little Lake says they are grateful and very pleased with the response efforts from all their volunteers.





Mayor, councilmembers tour Conservation Corps site on East Hill Road Posted by Willits Mayor Saprina Rodriguez

On January 3, myself as Mayor, alongside Vice Mayor Gerry Gonzalez and Councilmember Larry Stranske, toured the California Conservation Corps facility set to open late summer this year. The new facility is located at 440 East Hill Road, just west of the bypass and across from Adventist Health Howard Memorial Hospital,

There are seven dorm-style living quarters, a warehouse, recreation building, education building, and a multi-purpose building, which has indoor basketball and dining and food service. The north end of the property will have emergency vehicle staging, a photo-voltaic array, and a meandering track.

The number of Corps members will vary, with 96 beds in dorms and around 20 in the COMET (Corpsmember Orientation, Motivation, Education and Training) dorm. Staff numbers range as well but probably up to 20.

The facility brings jobs, resources, and more locals shopping at our businesses.



I'm looking forward to a strong partnership with the Conservation Corps. Stay tuned for more posts ("Saprina Rodriguez, Councilwoman" on Facebook) on what local projects the Conservation Corps has done in Mendocino County. I'll also take a dive into what a day in the life of a Corps member entails.

Thank you to our informative hosts: JP Patton, CCC Director; John Button, CCC Ukiah District Director; Dan Millsap, CCC Deputy Director; and Tony White, Broward Builders Inc. (contractor) superintendent.

Editor's Note: In a December 2022 story about the new CCC facility, Willits Weekly's Mathew Caine reported:

The California Conservation Corps was formed through legislation signed by then-governor Jerry Brown in 1976. Its purpose was to provide education, jobs and training to California youth.

"The CCC mission is to protect and enhance California's natural resources and to develop young adults through hard work and education,"

explained CCC Deputy Director Dan Millsap. "We're a youth work program

> — OBITUARY — Kathryn 'Kitty' Stephens April 8, 1959 - December 25, 2023

moving up to Willits."

to give young adults in California,

18 to 25, and military veterans up to

29, stepping stones to meaningful

"They can get scholarships while

working with us so they can afford

and pursue whatever degrees they

may be interested in," said Millsap.

"Maybe they don't want to go to

college. They can become firefighters

with CAL FIRE. This unit partners with

the Mendocino unit of CAL FIRE. We'll

be operating two fire crews, currently

staging out of Ukiah, but they'll be

careers, more education.

The family of "Kitty" Stephens is sad to announce

At top, left: The new CCC site is set to open in late summer this year. At top, right: Willits Mayor Sabrina Rodriguez, center, with Councilmember Gerry Gonzalez behind her, and Councilmember Larry Stranske, at right, pose with the hosts of their recent CCC facility tour.

Above: One of the buildings going up on the CCC site on East Hill Road.

OBITUARY |

Stanley Joseph Czyzewski, Jr.

Stanley Joseph Czyzewski, Jr., 77, formerly of Willits, passed away on December 19, in the Hartford Hospital, Hartford, Connecticut, after a long illness.

He leaves his wife of 38 years, Linda J. (Lewis) Czyzewski; his two children, Shane J. Czyzewski and his companion Zhana Ortiz of Willits, and Misty A. Czyzewski and her companion Eric Petterson of Willits; and his two grandchildren, Jace Czyzewski and Bailey Petterson.





Is a food assistance program. You can be on Social Security, have money in the bank, own cars and still receive CalFresh benefits.

Call the Senior Center to schedule an appointment to see if you qualify.

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ner passing.

Kathryn "Kitty" Elizabeth Stephens, age 64, of Daingerfield, Texas, passed away Monday morning, December 25, 2023, at Titus Regional Medical Center Kitty was born April 8, 1959, in Willits, California, a daughter of the late Virgil and Coleen Royers Carr.

Kitty was preceded in death by her son, Jonathan Carr; daughter, Kimberly Nichol Gilmore; and brother, Larry Carr.

She was a member of the First Methodist of Daingerfield. She enjoyed spending time at the Daingerfield State Park where despite her respiratory issues she would often walk the trails and spend time with her grandchildren. She also enjoyed working in her yard and taking care of her many plants.

Kitty is survived by two sons, Jason Stephens and Christopher Carr; daughter, Jaime Lewis; four grandchildren, Brian Lewis, Keelee Stephens, Tristen Stephens, and Summer Stephens; sister Sharon Short; and sister-in-law Carolynn Carr. She also leaves many other family members and friends who will sadly miss her.

Memorial services were held January 8, 2024, at Reeder-Davis Funeral Home in Hughes Springs, Texas. The family asks that in lieu of sending flowers, you plant one in her honor.



He was born in Southbridge, Massachusetts, the son of the late Stanley J. and Ida M. (Ford) Czyzewski. Stanley was a proud US Navy Veteran of the Vietnam War and was a recipient of the Bronze Star Metal.

Stanley was an entrepreneur, owning and operating a liquor store in Worcester and later two liquor stores in California. Stanley had a passion for building and went on to own

and operate Redwood Valley Construction Co. and later Silver Dollar Construction Co., retiring several years ago.

He was a true outdoorsman, enjoying fishing, trapping, walking and hiking. He also had a real soft spot for animals. For a pick and shovel man, he was a very intelligent selftaught man who loved playing the stock market and was very good at it.

To those that knew him he was a generous and kind soul. Above all he was a devoted and loving husband and father.

A funeral service for Stanley was held on January 6, in the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home in Southbridge.



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GET READY SENIORS! It's almost time for your formal senior portrait!

Schools have order forms now!



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