Grant may fund

# Brooktrails fiber optic buildout

Barbara O'Reardon
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

All directors were present for the meeting of the Brooktrails Community Services District board on February 13. It began with President Tina Tyler-O'Shea introducing Paul Fuller, representative of CalMutuals Joint Powers Risk and Insurance Management, who was in attendance via zoom and was there to provide a special report regarding insurance options for the

Fuller said: "JPRIMA is comparable to your present insurer, SDRMA [Special Districts Risk Management Authority]. We specialize in water and sewer authorities. Our portfolio represents about 900 water and sewer districts throughout the state, and across the country we represent about 4,000. SDRMA is very reputable. JPRIMA offers a very solid proposal and a consistent rate, but where we fall short as it relates to SDRMA is the wildfire coverage. You, Brooktrails, are in a very high wildfire area and the most wildfire capacity or coverage we can offer the district is \$5 million. SDRMA does not have a limit on wildfire as it relates to damage and reimbursement to the district and is, technically, offering a billion dollars of coverage."

Fuller suggested that it would be prudent for the board to get an insurance renewal quote from SDRMA. The board expressed their

Read the rest of Brooktrails

Over on Page 11

#### Work on new Potter Valley diversion plan continues

Posted by Mendocino County Inland Water & Power Commission

February 14 – PG&E recently made announcement regarding the Potter Valley Project decommissioning, that shocked some people as they assumed it was the end for the new Eel/Russian diversion and fisheries plan. But that is totally incorrect ... everything is moving forward, just in a slightly different way.

As we had reported previously, Mendocino County Inland Water & Power Commission has been working on a way for PG&E to transfer certain PVP assets and the water rights to the Eel Russian Project Authority. A joint proposal was sent from IWPC, Sonoma Water Agency, Round Valley

Read the rest of Diversion

Over on Page 4

CHILI COOK-OFF 2024 PEOPLES CHOICE





Above, left, top: The "People's Choice" award will be awarded to the chili which receives the most votes from the public, who will vote by buying a taster ticket for the event. Above, left: The "Judges Choice" award will be given to the team who, well, in keeping with tradition, bribes the judges into giving them their vote! Above, right: The William F. Harrah Senior Center's new digital sign on Baechtel Road gives the details of purchasing taster tickets for the upcoming Chili Cook-Off: \$10 each, available Monday through Friday from 8 am to 4 pm at the center's main office. They will also be available for purchase at the door.



Come decide on (or maybe be!) ...

# The Champions of Chili

For the first time since COVID, the William F. Harrah Senior Center will welcome cookers, tasters, and official judges back into the main dining room for their annual Chili Cook-Off.

This year, the event will be held on Friday, February 23 from 5 to 7 pm, and taster tickets are available to the public – presale or at the door – for \$10 each. Tickets entitle the holder to taste all the chili entries, vote for their favorite, and enjoy warm combread alongside.

Maureen Jennison
Graphics & Photographress
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Thus far, 11 competitors have signed up, including Harry So of "Kitchen 54 and Little Lake Fire," Cindy Savage

of "Willits Daily Bread," Stephanie Sierra of "Willits Rotary Club," Westby of "TG Custom Designs," Susan Mahoney of "Willits Chamber of Commerce," Lou and Adam Celaya, Cathy Gernhardt of "Rotary," Bill and Lori Barker, Amy Fox of "Community Crossroads," John Gale of "Willits Police Officers Association," and Mike Tobin of the "Sheriffs Activity League."

All cooks will vie for the chance to win the three awards available: People's Choice, Judges Choice and Best Decor. The first award will be given by votes cast by those who purchased taster tickets; and the second two will be awarded by the judges.

"We have two of the three judges confirmed already," said Senior Center Executive Director Richard Baker. "Willits City Mayor Saprina Rodriguez and Chris Dendy, and while we are still looking for our third, I just may end up being the last one by default ... and I WILL absolutely sell out to the biggest briber, I won't care WHAT the chili tastes like!"

It's become tradition for the bribery of the judges to help teams win the award; over the years, sneaky and right-out blatant exchanges of cash money have swayed judges to indeed write down the name of the top-paying team.

While "Best Decor" also is given by the judges, it's less common for finances, as opposed to aesthetics, to dictate this win – however it never hurts to try.

Monies collected from the bribery efforts, as well as the cost of the taster tickets, and chili entry fees, do indeed go back to the Senior Center to help fund their efforts helping seniors, the aging, and the elderly in our community.

This is the first official back in-house cook-off since 2019; an event was held in 2022, utilizing the Rec Grove Park as the COVID-appropriate outdoor venue, but coordinators are excited to get back to the normal plan, with tables for each team laid out around the senior center dining room, and banks of tables set for eating and mingling, too.

There's still time to sign up to cook chili, too – contact Senior Center Volunteer Coordinator Joliana Rosado ASAP for forms, and to remit the \$30 entry fee, at 459-6826

Above: Senior Center Executive Director Richard Baker and Volunteer Coordinator Joliana Rosado welcome the public to come to the cook-off and vote for their favorite. Below: Three trophies are up for grabs: Judges Choice, People's Choice, and Best Decor (also awarded by the judges).



# SENIOR GENTER 1501 Baechtel Road Willits, CA Chili Cook Off TO REGISTER A CHILI ENTREE CONTACT JOLIANA 707-459-6826 ENTREE FEE PER CHILI \$30 Friday \$10 ADMISSION FEE INCUDES CHILI TASTING

CORNBREAD

AND VOTING FOR

Your favorite Chili

# Fire board hears updates

Annie Evarts
Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

Last Tuesday's board of directors meeting for Little Lake Fire Protection District opened with Administrative Assistant Michelle Schnitzius delivering the budget report for January. The report included \$2,500 that was allocated for the education and training of five firefighters who attended a swift water course.

Swift water training is one of the more demanding trainings first responders go through. Firefighters learn how to safely assess water conditions and they learn to

 $\begin{bmatrix} \text{Read the rest of} \\ \textbf{Updates} \end{bmatrix}$ 

Over on Page 11

# Auditor Cubbison files not guilty plea

By Mike Geniella, www.mendofever.com

Paula June Kennedy, the former payroll manager for the County of Mendocino, unexpectedly moved Wednesday, February 14 to disqualify presiding Superior Court Judge Keith Faulder from overseeing the criminal case District Attorney David Eyster has filed against herself and suspended Auditor Chamise Cubbison.

The bid to recuse Faulder came in the form of a peremptory challenge afforded criminal defendants.

In a formal filing, Kennedy attorney Mary LeClair, a public defender, declared that she believes Faulder is "biased against the defendant or the defendant's interest such that I believe that the defendant cannot have a fair as interest attack."

fair or impartial hearing."

Faulder, who has

Read the rest of  $\mathbf{Plea}^{\top}$ 

Over on Page 11

# Correct primary ballots

mailed February 16

Submitted by Voter Registrar Katrina Bartolomie

February 16 – Correct 2024 Presidential primary ballots were mailed to all Mendocino County voters on February 16, 2024.

Mendocino County is committed to making sure every vote counts. You should have received your corrected ballot or will receive it soon. If you have any questions or concerns about your corrected ballot, please call (707) 234-6819.

# What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

#### It's the final countdown

To the Editor: As a thank you to the Willits community for

nearly 56 great years in business. Willits Furniture is pledging 15% of our sales to several Willits area service organizations. Everything we sell starting Thursday, February 22 through Saturday, March 2 will be included.

The clubs and nonprofits that will benefit include: Willits Rotary Club, Willits Soroptimists, Willits Lions Club, Willits American Legion, and the Willits Food Bank. Proceeds will be divided equally amongst the organizations listed. We have selected these organizations because their purpose is to serve our community.

Please stop by the store and visit.

Mike and Margie Smith, Willits **Furniture Center** 

#### Medicine on the land

To the Editor:

It's time to get real about climate change. I do not believe that switching to electric cars, which leave their own damaging footprint, will solve the consequences of our poor relationship to the land - the trees, the rivers, the soil, meadows and grasslands, redwoods, oaks and old growth Douglas fir forest, condors and beavers, salmon and

Ever since the Gold Rush of 1849 the forests and watersheds of Northern California have been dying, as we failed to recognize the healthy living systems that had been shaped and nurtured for thousands of years by humans who understand the natural world as an interconnected whole.

We have an amazing opportunity in the upcoming primary for Assembly District 2 to vote for a candidate that thinks in harmony with the ecosystem. Frankie Myers, vice chair of the Yurok Tribe, and the Yurok community have already accomplished a lot towards bringing back the health of our small region of the planet.

The Yurok are already using intergenerational knowledge to restore salmon runs on the Klamath River. And they are applying knowledge of healthy forests, and using fire as medicine to prevent "catastrophic" wildfires, the result of 100 years of fire suppression, destructive logging and carving up the landscape with

We need these new voices of ancient wisdom in our state legislature. Please vote for Frankie Myers to represent us and aid the work of healing the land that sustains

The Rules: LETTERS

Willits

Volume 11, Number 538

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Danya Davis, Police Log

Sheri Dockins, sports reporter Ava Dockins, sports photographe

from any one writer to once every four weeks.

Weekly

Robin Leler, Willits

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

Letters and commentaries must be submitted with a name, address

residence will be published. No letters from an anonymous source

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

Willits Weekly is a locally owned independent newspaper, founded in 2013, covering the greater Willits area.

3,500 - 4,000 copies printed by Western Web on Thursdays

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or email willitsweekly@gmail.com

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

Willits Weekly

#### **Katie Porter** for Senate

To the Editor

September 2023, longtime California Senator Dianne Feinstein died in office at the age of 89, and for the first time since 1992 her name will not appear on the ballot in the upcoming

California primary election on March 5,

While there is no shortage of vanity candidates vying for this open seat (27 to be exact), only four have realistic ambitions: Democratic Congresswoman Barbara Lee, Democratic Congresswoman Katie Porter, Democratic Congressman Adam Schiff, and Republican former professional baseball player Steve Garvey.

In California we have what is called a "jungle primary" in which the top two vote getters regardless of party face off against each other in the November general election. The most recent polling indicates that Adam Schiff has a commanding lead and that Katie Porter and Steve Garvey are in a virtual tie for second place.

In my view, Katie Porter is by far and away the best candidate in this field. In her three terms as a U.S. Congresswoman, Porter has been a staunch advocate for middleclass Americans and a fierce opponent of corporate greed and power. Her famous white-board take-downs of corrupt corporate executives at Congressional nearings are the stuff of legend.

And perhaps most important of all, Porter takes no campaign contributions from corporate Political Action Committees, choosing instead to fund her campaign entirely from small dollar donations made by regular folks like us. That's how you know she's going to work for us, not for the corporate elites. None of the other three major candidates can say this, including front-runner Adam Schiff.

For Katie Porter to beat out corporate Republican Steve Garvey for second place so she can face off against corporate Democrat Adam Schiff in November, she needs the vote of every Californian who wants to be represented by a U.S. senator who works for the people. For the first time in 32 years, we Californians have the opportunity to fill this Senate seat with a true champion of the people. Make sure your voice is heard on March 5; vote Katie Porter for U.S. Senate.

Jon Spitz, Laytonville

# Do you have

Write a letter to the editor! Residents of Willits, Brooktrails Laytonville and Covelo are

Please email us:

#### A Proclamation of the Willits City Council In honor of Black History Month

Posted by the Willits City Council

WHEREAS, during Black History Month, the City of Willits is proud to acknowledge and celebrate the achievements made by African Americans to our community, state and

WHEREAS, African Americans have played significant roles in the history of California's economic, cultural, spiritual, and political development while working tirelessly to maintain and promote their culture and history; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, Black History Month was formally adopted to honor and affirm the importance of Black History throughout our American experience, which dates thousands of years and includes some of the greatest, most advanced and innovative societies that we can all draw inspiration from; and

WHEREAS, since 1976, American president has designated February as Black History Month and endorsed a specific theme; and

WHEREAS, the theme for Black History Month 2024 focuses on the invaluable contributions of African, Caribbean, and Black American influences on the visual and performing

WHEREAS, African Americans have and currently enriched all forms of artistic expressions including literature, fashion, folklore, language, film, music, architecture, culinary and other forms of cultural representations; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Saprina Rodriguez, Mayor of the City of Willits, along with Vice Mayor Gerardo Gonzalez and Council Members Madge Strong, Larry Stranske, and Greta Kanne, do hereby proclaim February 2024 as Black History Month in Willits.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the Seal of the CITY OF WILLITS to be affixed this 14th day of February 2024.

Attest: Saprina Rodriguez, Mayor, City

#### Senior Center menu for the week

in its indoor dining room, and continues morning from 9 to 10 am. 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, February 22: Philly Cheese Steak, Chips

Friday, February 23: Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Cranberry Sauce, Veggies,

Monday, February 26: Mushroom Burger, Pickle, Chips

Tuesday, February 27: Turkey Tetrazzini

Wednesday, February 28: Country

Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes Thursday, February 29: Muenster Chicken w/Mushrooms & Noodles

Friday, March 1: Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce, Garlic Bread

Willits Senior Center is serving lunch to 7 pm. Exercise class every weekday

Pancake Breakfast every second Sunday, on March 10 next month, 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

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 Activities: Bingo every Friday night, 5 more about volunteering: 459-6826.

#### Chainsaw workshop for women

Posted by Mendocino County Fire Safe Council

Join us on Saturday, March 9 from 9 am to 5 pm for a workshop designed to provide a safe and welcoming learning environment for women who want to learn the art of using a chainsaw. Whether you are a beginner or have some experience, this workshop is your chance to gain confidence in using this powerful tool.

In this course, you'll learn the fundamentals of chainsaw safety, handling, and maintenance. Don't worry if vou've never held a chainsaw before - our friendly instructors will teach you everything you need to know.

Located in the beautiful Tan Oak Park in Laytonville, our workshop provides the perfect setting to immerse yourself in nature while acquiring new skills. While we encourage students to bring any equipment they may have (such as chainsaws, safety goggles, gloves, ear protection, hard hat, and chaps) so they can get comfortable with their own tools, we can provide loaner tools and personal protective equipment. Lunch and a light breakfast will be

This workshop is intended for women-identifying individuals. We will strive to foster a safe and supportive learning environment and will ask that all participants respect that. Spaces are limited, so make sure to secure your spot

Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to connect with like-minded women and empower yourself in the world of chainsaws. If spots are full, sign up to join the waitlist as we may run this workshop again in the future. So, grab your work gloves, put on your safety goggles, and get ready to unleash your inner sawyer!

Register here: https://Womens-Chainsaw-Workshop.eventbrite.com

## something to say?

welcome to send in a letter to the editor.

willitsweekly@gmail.com





past are on display at Date Night at the







Bart story. This illustration of a Black Bart hold-up is from a magazine called Frontier Times Magazine Companion to True West. Curator Lindsey Dick offers lovely snacks like homemade dark chocolates and Italian sodas. Art-lover Meg Gardner creates floral drawings at the museum's behind-the-scenes art station.

Above, from left: Museum volunteer Scott Ferelman interprets the Black



# **Date Night**

Behind-the-scenes tours at the Mendocino County Museum

It was a festive scene at the Mendocino County Museum as singles, couples and families came together to explore rarely seen collections and special items and stories at the Behind-the-Scenes Date Night on February 10. Vintage Valentine's Day cards, love letters, marriage certificates, and more were on display, featuring some of the most wellknown historical figures in Mendocino County.

A lovely hand-sewn dress from a long-ago wedding between Eva MacKerricher of the coastal town of Cleone was one of the many mementos of courtship and marriage of

Margi Gomez Guhde

days gone by. Eva, or Evelyn, was one of the daughters of Duncan and Jessie MacKerricher, the namesakes of MacKerricher State Park in Cleone, who had a large dairy and sold butter in Mendocino County and San Francisco.

Valentine's Day refreshments were served, including sparkling Italian sodas flavored with rose and elderberry essences, and delicious handmade chocolate treats, presented by the Friends of the Museum.

Crafting stations for Valentine's Day card-making drew visitors who were happy to come

away with a decorated message for that special someone. A drawing station was set up in the Wonacott Room of the museum, with roses and daffodils for inspiration. A number of residents created lovely cards and floral drawings, and a popular photo booth with changeable backgrounds gave museum guests some fun memories of the evening. Museum staff prepared for the behind-the-scenes viewing of the extensive collections

by doing a deep dive into popular subject matter, such as the outlaw Black Bart, the voyage of the historically important steamer the Frolic, a display of vintage photographs by wellknown photographer H.M. Wonacott, and more. Special exhibits were set up for museum guests to peruse behind doors that are normally closed to visitors, with knowledgeable volunteers telling stories and answering questions throughout the night. Scott Ferelman was in the collections area as docent / interpreter of a specially

prepared Black Bart exhibit, which featured items like Black Bart matchboxes, magazine illustrations, photographs of historic reenactments, and even a Black Bart liquor bottle. Ferelman said that the famous outlaw held up 28 Wells Fargo stagecoaches between 1875 and 1883, at least six of which began their journeys in Mendocino County.

"One of the unique things about Black Bart is that he never robbed the passengers," said Ferelman. "Bart had a personal vendetta with Wells Fargo. He owned property in Calaveras County that bordered on land that Wells Fargo owned. They cut off the water supply that Bart used for sluicing while panning for gold, and he never forgot Read the rest of

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this." Black Bart was finally brought to

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Museum

Over on page 9



visitors enjoy seeing the normally off-limits museum collections area. Below, left: The MacKerricher-Cotton wedding certificate from 1899 is on display at the Mendocino County Museum's Date Night. Below, right: A calendar which used to hang in the grocery store belonging to Edie Ceccarelli's family is on display.

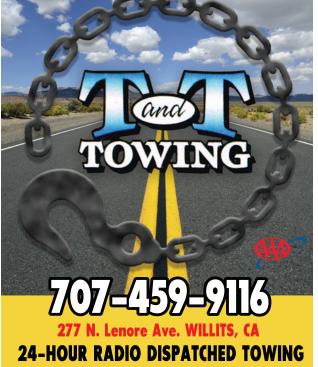








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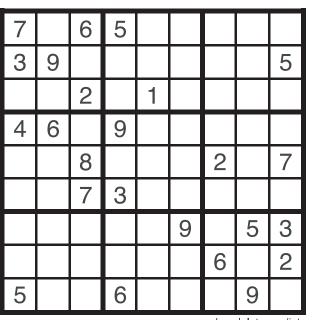






## Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku. Word Search & Crossword



T D Y R M L L W F A R J V S A K F N

T H C N B U O Y O J N E J W H M T O P H

**INGREDIENTS** 

KITCHEN

LADLE

**NONSTICK** 

POT

ROAST

**SAVORY** 

32

46

58

### SUDOKU

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

SEASONINGS

SIMMERING

**SLOW COOKER** 

SOUP

STEW

**TEMPERATURE** 

**TIMER** 

#### January 15

7-day reporting period.

5:39 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1300 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

Department handled 73 incidents in this

**Summary of Active Investigations** 

and Arrests

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT

**POLICE LOG** 

January 15 to January 21 By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

7:10 pm: Officers conducted a stop

near the intersection of Blosser Lane and

9:00 pm: Officers initiated a missing

12:35 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run

2:03 pm: Officers conducted a stop in

5:01 pm: Officers responded to a report

5:35 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 1100 block of

6:41 pm: Officers conducted a stop near

7:11 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1400 block of South Main Street and

8:38 pm: Officers conducted a stop in

9:22 pm: Officers initiated a hit-and-run

vehicle collision investigation in the 100

11:01 pm: Officers responded to a report

3:29 pm: Officers initiated a fraud

5:06 pm: Officers conducted a stop near

7:20 pm: ALBRIGHT, Bjorn (42) of

Forestville was contacted in the 100 block

of North Main Street. He was arrested

pursuant to 23152 (A) VC (Driving Under

the Influence of Alcohol, 23152 (F) VC

148 (A) (1) PC (Resisting Arrest), 71 (A)

PC (Threatening a Public Official), 273 (A)

PC (Child Endangerment), and on felony

charges of willful cruelty to a child and

6:49 am: Officers conducted a stop in the

5:14 pm: Officers initiated a missing person investigation in the 100 block of

5:37 pm: Officers conducted a stop near

the intersection of Alameda Avenue and

South Main Street and issued a warning. 10:28 pm: Officers responded to a report

200 block of South Main Street and issued

resisting or threatening an officer.

January 21

a warning.

investigation in the 1700 block of South

the intersection of South Main Street and

East Oak Street and issued a citation.

of suspicious activity in the 1500 block of

block of Franklin Avenue.

South Main Street.

January 20

the intersection of South Main Street and

Monica Lane and issued a warning

of suspicious activity in the 300 block of

the 1700 block of South Main Street and

vehicle collision investigation in the 800

person investigation in the 1100 block of

Franklin Avenue and issued a citation

Magnolia Avenue.

issued a citation.

Magnolia Avenue.

block of South Main Street.

West Mendocino Avenue.

January 19

The officers of the Willits Police issued a warning.

#### January 16

8:01 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 1200 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

#### January 17

6:08 am: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle near the intersection of Locust Street and Hazel Street.

3:34 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1200 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

4:28 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of South Main Street and issued

4:34 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1000 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

5:05 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the 100 block of Barbara Lane and issued the intersection of Coast Street and West a citation. Highway 20 and issued a warning.

9:39 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 200 block of Spruce

6:36 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main

12:03 pm: Officers initiated a vehicle theft investigation in the 1600 block of Main Street. South Main Street.

1:31 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 300 block of South Lenore Avenue.

2:25 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1500 block of South Main Street and issued a warning

2:31 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1500 block of South Main Street and (Driving Under the Influence of Drugs), issued a warning.

3:06 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Baechtel Road and South Main Street and issued a citation. 3:12 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the

800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning. 3:19 pm: Officers conducted a stop in

the 1500 block of South Main Street and issued a warning. 3:29 pm: Officers conducted a stop in

the 1600 block of South Main Street and East Commercial Street issued a warning. 4:01 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1400 block of South Main Street and

5:42 pm: Officers conducted a stop in of an unwanted subject in the 1800 block of the 1700 block of South Main Street and South Main Street.

Tribes, CA Department of Fish and Wildlife,

Trout Unlimited, Cal Trout and Humboldt

Basically, it stated that we would take

over certain physical assets from PG&E

and find a way to divert water in such a way

as to allow water to flow to the Russian

River and yet maintain flows and improve

To do that, we formed the Eel Russian

Project Authority, consisting of Sonoma

https://www.eelrussianauthority.org/events.

ERPA would request a non-power

license from the Federal Energy Regulatory

Commission, as part of the regulatory

process. Once FERC and state permitting

were complete, we would work in concert

with PG&E as they removed their facilities

and at the same time, we would be building

our facilities. PG&E accepted the proposal

for further evaluation in November 2023.

#### The rest of Diversion

County to PG&E.

fisheries in the Eel River.

From page 1

#### 47. Written works CLUES ACROSS 49. Monetary unit of Serbia 1. Home of Iowa State

- 50. Midway between east University and southeast 5. \_\_\_-fi (slang) 51. Peninsula of
- 8. Mottled green and yellow southwestern Asia 56. Widely used multiuser 12. Capable of thinking and

59. Hindu queen

60. Time units, abbr.

60

expressing oneself 57. Aggressive dog clearly 58. Varnished

BUSY

**CROCK** 

**DESSERT** 

DIGITAL

**ENJOY** 

**FONDUE** 

**HOURS** 

14. Sports broadcaster Eagle 15. Midday

59

- 16. Kinsmen
- 61. Farm animals 18. Cable network 62. Capital of Latvia 19. Simpleton
- 63. Where golfers begin 20. Brunch beverage 64. Takes to civil court
- 21. Fed
- 22. European capital 23. Native inhabitants
- 26. Mechanical device
- 30. Rare geese native to Hawaii 31. Bedroom furnishing
- 32. The products of human creativity 33. Mass transit option
- 34. Made a mistake 39. Sacred sound symbol
- 42. Large N. American reindeer 44. Dull and flat

46. Partner to huffing

- **CLUES DOWN** 1. One who graduated 2. An inspired holy person
  - 3. Electronic countercountermeasures 4. A place to store things 5. Indian instrument
  - 6. Spanish saloon 7. Whole number 8. Not fastened
  - 9. Gives a boost 10. Lounges about

11. Interested in

- - 53. Type of cheese organization

- 13. Remove salt 17. Type of sword 24. Naturally occurring solid
- material 25. Gets involved without being invited 26. Feline
- 27. Bobby \_\_\_, NHL champ
- 28. Kill Bill actress Thurman 29. Hawaiian dish 35. Moroccan coastal region
- County Water, Sonoma County, and IWPC, 36. Baseball statistic 37. Long period of time with the Round Valley Indian Tribe also having a vote on the board. ERPA met for 38. Moved earth the first time on January 31, 2024. You can 40. Central Netherlands city watch the video of the meeting at this link:
- 41. Take stock of 42. Central processing unit 43. Distinctive qualities one generates
- 44. Getting stuck 45. Loss of bodily movements 47. Veranda
- 48. Abrupt 49. What cats do 52. Expresses pleasure
- 54. Professional STEM 55. Automatic data
- However, later in February, PG&E told the group that there were aspects of our proposal that did not align with their timelines the time it might take to obtain a FERC nonprocessing systems

power license and therefore they were not going to include our "complete" proposal in their decommissioning plan to FERC. However, they were still willing to include parts of it and work with us in many ways

that will support the efforts of ERPA.

So instead, PG&E will work independently on FERC permitting, but we will work in parallel with PG&E to accomplish the various state permitting requirements. Once all permitting is complete, as PG&E removes their facilities, we will be building our facilities at the same time.

So, long story short, this is just another stage in our continued and "parallel" progress forward.... It's just a little different path, but the work will definitely continue, and the goals are the same. We are now in a period where we are trying to evaluate the best permitting strategy to make sure there is no daylight between PG&E's removal of the dam and our construction of the new facility and diversion. There are a lot of things we can work with PG&E on, so we will continue to meet and work with them.

More news coming soon...

To learn more, or to subscribe to updates from the Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission, visit the "Get for dam removal. The main concern was Involved" page at https://mendoiwpc.com/ iwpc-pvp-updates/get-involved/









# Food Bank Pop-Up

Mendocino Food & Nutrition Program supplies groceries to those in need on first

and third Thursdays According to the USDA, in 2022, 12.8 percent of U.S. households were food insecure at least some time during the year, meaning they had difficulty

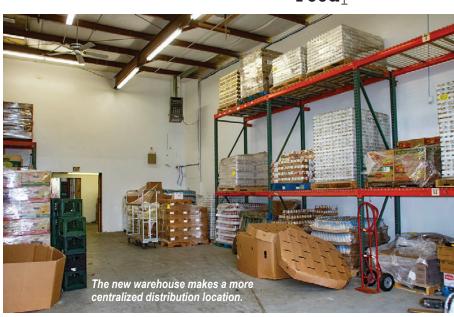
Mathew Caine providing enough food for all their members because of a lack of resources. In Mendocino County, the percentage is similar, with approximately 11,710 people who are experiencing food insecurity, meaning they are hard-pressed to provide healthy, nutritious meals for themselves and

their families. Due to the diligent and heartfelt efforts of several national and local organizations, much of this hunger can be alleviated, when people know where and when to receive certain amounts of commodities, staples, and other forms of comestibles. Thanks to programs like CalFresh, nutrition can be more affordable for low-income households. Other programs

give food away to anyone in need The Redwood Food Bank runs a food pop-up every second and fourth Thursday in the parking lot in front of the athletic fields on East Commercial in the early morning hours, with hundreds of cars lined up to bring the commodities home to their families. The Willits Food Bank distributes food 1 to 4:30 pm on Wednesdays and Fridays. Recently, the Mendocino Food & Nutrition Program has expanded their food pop-ups to twice monthly in Willits, on the first and third Thursdays, 12 to 1 pm, at their warehouse, located at 1250

Although there are income guidelines for receiving the foods, no one will be turned away from the Mendocino Food & Nutrition pop-up distribution center. This is a labor of love for the staff and volunteers who love to

give food away to those in need. Each Read the rest of car receives a sticker that states the





Above, from left: Watermelons are enjoyed by almost everyone; these were grown in Honduras where they're in season now. These identifications from the twice-monthly Redwood Food Bank distribution are accepted at the Mendocino Food & Nutrition pop-up. For those with toasters or toaster ovens, Eggos can be a welcome morning treat. At left: Rachelle Sutherland and Christin Hawk work efficiently to check the vehicles in and determine the number of recipients. Below: Maddox, Mark Taggart, and Dylan Olson bring bags and boxes of food to awaiting vehicles. At bottom: The food distribution team smiles for a photo: Mark Taggart, Outreach Coordinator Rachelle Sutherland, Outreach Assistant Dylan Olson, Christin Hawk, Native Food Program worker Christian Bennett and Maddox.











See Guest Services for details. Gambling a problem? Call 1-800-GAMBLER

#### Agape **Bible Church**

290 S. Lenore Ave. Willits, CA 95490 Where love is first and the Bible is central. Sunday Services: 10:00 a.m. - Worship dult Sunday School 9:00 a.m Info? 707-459-1905 www.agapebiblechurch.com

#### **Amazing Grace**

Assembly of God Church 803 Coast Street P.O. Box 489, Willits adults welcome. Friday, Worship Service - 5:00 p.m Pastor Kris Strickland EVERYBODY IS WELCOME

#### Church of Christ 'What must we do to be saved?

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

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

7-8:00 p.m.

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

#### Eckankar: The Patl of Spiritual Freedo

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

#### **Grace Community** Church

Celebrating Life In Christ 25 Hazel Street, Willits **Modified Worship Service** 10 a.m. Other ministries suspended

for now. For appointments call: (707) 459-3106

#### St. Anthony of Padu Catholic Church

61 W. San Francisco Ave Willits, CA 95490 Father Aaron Bandanadam Mass times: Wednesday-Friday 9:00 a.m. Saturday-5:30 p.m. Sunday-9:00 a.m. - English 10:30 a.m. - Spanish Confessions on Saturday 4:45 - 5:15 p.m.

Or by appointmet at 707-459-2252 https://stanthonywillits.org/ aintanthonywillits@gmail.cor We welcome All Walks of Faith

#### St. Francis **Episcopal Church**

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

#### St. John **Lutheran Church**

Church Service: Sunday 10:00 to 11:00 (707) 459-2988 24 Mill Creek Drive ALL ARE WELCOME

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

Bible Study - 9:30 a.m. Worship Service - 10:45 a.m Zoom Transmission Availabl 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 ar 286 School St. (at Pine) 707-459-2855 wumc@willitsonline.com www.willitsumc.org

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

Facebook: facebook willits un

#### Thursday, February 22

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly farmers market is indoors for the winter season Thursday afternoons mansion of Dr. Frank-Nat the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Thursdays, from 3 to 5:30 pm. Local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, the Herbal Wellness Wagon, 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.

#### Friday, February 23

**Book Lovers Discussion** Group: Meeting monthly at the Willits Library to discuss books, authors and genres. Come talk about why you love books! All February 23, from 1 to 2

pm. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or 459-5908.

Movie Afternoon at the Willits Library: Join us for a film in celebration of African American history month, Friday, February 23, from 2:30 to 6 pm. Adult supervision is required. 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or 459-5908.

Sober Grad Enchilada Fundraiser: A new fundraiser by Willits Sober Grad to support the Class of 2024's and sober graduation event: a sate heat & serve Enchilada

Dinner for 2. Drivethru pickup is set for February 23, from 4 to 6 pm, at the Willits High School loop. Tickets, \$25 for chicken enchiladas and \$20 for cheese enchiladas are available at 101 Trailer & RV Supply, Monkey Wrench

Men & Women's Wear, and Nor Crawl.

Senior Center Chili Cookoff: Chili Cookoff fundraiser, set for Friday, February 23 from 5 to 7 pm. "Anyone who has attended this event will tell you how much

fun it is." There was still room for a couple more teams earlier this week. Trophies will be awarded for: Peoples Favorite; Judges Choice (bribes accepted); and Best Décor. If you're interested in entering a chili, call Joliana at 459-6826, stop by the Senior Center, 1501 Baechtel Road, to pick up a registration form, or check online for a form

SOBER

4-5pm and more info at www. willitsseniorcenter.com Those interested in tasting rather than competing,

Safety & Compassion:

Saturday Feb. 24

can buy "Taster Tickets" at the Senior Center, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm. \$10 includes chili tasting, cornbread, and voting

'The Rocky Horror Show' at WCT: The cult classic, Richard O'Brien's The Rocky Horror Show, which opened its February run with a sold-out show and a standing ovation by the audience, plays at the Willits Community Theatre through February 25. In this

Senior Center Thrift

Store back open on

Saturdays

**Starting March 2** 

The Thrift Store at the Willits Senior

Center will once again be open for

2 pm on Saturdays, in addition to their

regular Monday through Friday hours:

10 am to 4 pm. The store remains

closed on Sundays. Visit the Senior

Road, or contact them by calling 459-

comic musical from 1974, sweethearts Brad and Janet end up in the eerie Furter, faced with a cast of wild characters, including a rocking biker, creepy butler, and the mad doctor's latest creation: a muscular man named "Rocky." The intimate production features live music, dance, and comic horror

> intended to immerse the audience into a silly and comic romp. Performances on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 pm and

Sunday matinees at 2 pm. Tickets are \$20 and available online at: www.wctperformingartscenter. org, or at the door (if not sold out). WCT Playhouse, 37 West Van Lane

Cosmic Family Band at Shanachie: A local Mendocino County jam band, "sharing original music that is a reflection of being a part of this amazing community. We're the Cosmic Family Band and so are you." Friday, February 23 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

#### Saturday, February 24

Sierra Club meets in Willits: The Mendocino County Group of the Sierra Club meets Saturday, February 24, 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. More info: Robin Leler at (707) 459-0155.

Friends of the Museum Gathering: Friends of the Mendocino County Museum invites all interested people to a "Community Friendship Gathering" and Membership Drive, Saturday, February 24 at 2 pm at the museum, 400 East Commercial Street. "Join us for an outstanding program about our County history by local author Kim Bancroft, food and drink, a raffle of Friends merchandise, behind the scenes tours, and an update on the Museum and the Friends."

ATW Speaker Series at the Methodist Church: Avenues to Wellness kicks off their 2024 speaker series in a new location, the Willits Methodist Church, 286 School Street, on Saturday, February 24 from 4 to 5 pm. This month's program by Helen Falandes, M.Ed., is on "Safety & Compassion: People Living Homeless in the Willits Community." "This talk offers a compassionate and realistic approach to the problem, addressing core factors and

suggesting real-life solutions. Please join us to learn what is being done locally, what are the next steps, and how you can help.' Willits Methodist Church, 286 School Street. ATW talks are always FREE to the public, donations appreciated. Visit www. avenuestowellness.org or call: 707-456-

'The Rocky Horror Show' at WCT: 7:30 pm on Saturday, February 24; see February 23 listing for

Clay Hawkins Duo at Shanachie: "Late Night, Boot Stomping, Road Music from the Heart" by slide guitarist and songwriter Clay Hawkins and longtime co-conspirator Andrew Robertson on the upright bass. Saturday, February 24 at 8 pm, at Shanachie Pub, 50

#### Sunday, February 25

What's

Happening

Around

Town

Grange Pancake Breakfast: Join 299 East Commercial your friends at the monthly Little Lake Grange Breakfast on Sunday, February 25, from 8 to 11 am. "Our tasty breakfast is a wonderful combination of comfort foods: All you can eat pancakes (choose our Sourdough Wholegrain, Hank's Famous Buttermilk Pancakes or Gluten-free) Beeler's Quality Bacon, Organic Local Farm Fresh Eggs, Real Butter, Juice, Organic Coffee or Tea." \$10, \$9 for seniors, \$5 children under 10. Also: extra sides of Organic Fruit \$2, Amish Organic Maple Syrup \$1, Fresh-made fruit syrup \$1, Extra Beelers Bacon \$1.

Little Lake Grange #670, 291 School Street (2 blocks

south of Commercial, 1 block west of Main Street.

CHAMBER OF BUILDING

info@willits.org

707.459.7910

Co-Sponsored by the Mendo-Lake Pomona & Little Lake Grange

February 25, 2024

Little Lake Grange - Willits

10am - 2pm

1st: Enjoy our Monthly Pancake Breakfast 8am - 11am

2nd: Check out the Selection of Seeds

3rd: Enjoy your weekend!

Our mission is to conserve & promote

www.Willits.org

Seed Sharing at the Grange: "Keeping heirloom seeds in our gardens and on our tables." Free seeds and seed sharing event on Sunday, February 25 from 10 am to 2 pm, at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street Participate by taking home some seeds you want to plant this year, or just show up and bring any of last year's seeds you are not going to plant out, and give them to someone else. There will also be grapevines and plant starts and herbal remedies for sale. Come for the Grange Pancake Breakfast (see listing above), and check out the seed even too. Co-sponsored by your local Grange and the Mendo-Lake

Pomona Grange,

'The Rocky Horror Show' at WCT: Closing performance on Sunday, February 25; 2 pm matinee; see February 23 listing for details.

#### Wednesday, February 28

Dave Pierce at Brickhouse: Join writer/ guitarist/ vocalist Dave Pierce at Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South Main Street, Wednesday, February 28, from 11:30 am to 2 pm, for an afternoon of originals and cover songs in a variety of styles – light jazz, Americana, '60s and '60s pop-rock, blues, folk. Requests and Singalongs

#### Thursday, February 29

Willits Farmers Market: The weekly farmers market is indoors for the winter season Thursday afternoons at the Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street. Thursdays, from 3 to 5:30 pm. Local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, the Herbal Wellness Wagon, and more. Tobin's Tales, story time at the

Free 'Learn

How to Repair

Your Credit'

online seminar,

March 5

presents a no-cost

West

Development

Business

Center

attend

Family

County Museum's latest exhibit, "In the Field: Exploring Botany in Mendocino County," celebrates the study of unique plants that grow in our region, reflecting on the pursuits of Mendocino County botanists from past to present, featuring sketches, illustrations, photographs, and specimens. Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street, is open 11 am to 5 pm, Tuesday through Saturday. More info: visit www.mendocinocounty. org/museum

'Convergence of hours: 11 am to 5 pm, Fridays

Street. More info: 707-354-1866.

Willits Drum Circle: Every second and fourth Fridays at 7 pm. At St.

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, 65 South Main Street

Redwood Empire Food Bank: Twice-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

Free Kids Karate Classes at Body Works Gym: Sheriff's Youth Activities League offers free classes for kids at the Willits Body Works Gym, 1511 South Main Street, on Thursday evenings. "We teach Matsubayashi Shorin Ryu Karate, Kenpo Youth/Adult Self Defense, Bully and Abduction Awareness/Defense, and Small Child PreSkills." Little Dragons Small Child "PreSkillz" karate class, 6 to 6:30 pm, ages 3, 4, 5, 6 (7) year-olds. Beginner/intermediate class, 7/8 years and above, 6:35 pm to 8 pm. Intermediate/advanced class, all ages, 8 to 8:45 pm, There is an annual \$20 SAL insurance/ registration fee (waivable). More info: call or text Sensei Mike Tobin at 707-354-0565.

#### farmers market, from 3:30 to 4 pm, a series of family programs from March through May, along with the "In the Field: Exploring Botany at Mendocino County" exhibit, including hands-on activity picture books. All are stations and a Wildflower Scavenger Hunt, available daily. On first Saturdays, starting March 2, from 1 to 3 pm, make DIY Throw 'n' Grow Seed Balls to grow your own wildflowers. Program and Museum attendance are free for our First Saturday Free Admission Day. All ages are welcome. 400 East Commercial Street. More info: www.mendocinocounty.gov/museum; museum@

WCA March Show: Willits Center for the Arts brings Richard Weiss of the Mendocino coast's 3-D paintings and Susie Racecar of Laytonville's amazing art. Opens Saturday, March 2, with a Meet the Artists reception between 6 and 9 pm. 71 East Commercial Street

mendocinocounty.gov; or 707-234-6365.

WILLITS CENTER FOR THE

Meet the Artists

Saturday, March 2 6-9 PN

RTS

More info: 707-459-1726 www.willitscenterforthearts org or email Gary Martin curator, at gtm1950@gmail

First Saturday back open for the Senior Center Thrift Store: The Thrift Store at the Willits Senior Center will once again be open for shoppers on Saturdays, starting March 2. The store will be open from 10 am to 2 pm on Saturdays, in addition to their regular Monday through Friday hours: 10 am

to 4 pm. The store remains closed on Sundays. Visit the Senior Center Thrift Shop at 1501 Baechtel Road, or contact them by calling 459-6826



growbiointensive.org/workshop.html

Dan Essman

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

'Madame Web'

The Story: Marvel Universe superhero origin

story of Madame Web, aka Cassandra Webb

(Dakota Johnson), plus three feckless and

resentful teenage girls who apparently will

Pregnant arachnologist (spider expert) Susan

Webb is in the Peruvian Amazon searching for a

legendary arachnid (spider) whose venom-filled

(maybe) fortunate recipients clairvoyance, and

many other – not listed in the movie – uncanny

Then there's the inevitable Bad Guy (Tahar

Rahim) named Ezekiel Sims. (Giving antagonists

Old Testament Bible Names is cheaper, quicker,

talents, which are probably really cool.

and induces more stinky spittle-and-

Spoiler: don't worry, she will.

bite (apparently)

has the power to

WOW! Plus, the

miraculous spider

venom gives its

become superheroes after the movie ends.

#### Ongoing Events at the Willits Library

Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or 459-5908.

story. Join us in the children's area of the library."

Story Time: Tuesday through Friday each week, 10:30 to 11 am. "Start your morning listening to a

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

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

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 as well as some pleasant conversation. All ages are welcome. Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 am; meet at the front entrance to the library, 390 East Commercia

Open Lab / Study Hall: Don't have a decent place to study? Come to the Willits Branch Library's meeting room every Wednesday from 3 to 5 pm for the new Open Lab / Study Hall. The library has plenty of helpful resources including public Wi-Fi, computers with internet and word processing capabilities, and databases to aid you with your research, plus friendly and helpful staff ready to point you in the right

Calming Coloring at the Library: Thursdays, starting Thursday, February 15, from 5 to 6 pm at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. An hour of quiet with coloring pages. Supplies provided. All ages welcome.

Chess for Teens: On Fridays, from 4 to 6:30 pm. Teens, ages 12-18 are invited; all skill levels welcome. Library staff will be there to help beginners and those who want to learn. Light refreshments will be provided. Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street.

Games at the Library: Every 1st and 3rd Friday of the month we will be bringing out the cards and board games. All ages & player levels welcome. Bring your own games to add to the fun!

Tech Help: Every first and third Saturday from 11 am to 12 pm: Is your computer on the fritz? Want to install a new app? Bring your tech questions and get help from the library's tech savvy volunteer

Spinning & Knitting: Every Saturday at the library; from 1 to

4:30 pm. "All skill levels welcome!

Shanachie Pub

Ongoing Events Shanachie Pub,

50 South Main Street

Wednesday Open Mic Night!

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!" Wednesday Open Mic Night: Shanachie Pub presents its

popular Open Mic every Wednesday,

sick gravitas than any mere series of FEBRUARY

him. Also she has to bond with the resentful and quite pretty teenagers. My Thoughts: I like and admire Dakota Johnson. Gosh, she's awful pretty. I liked the teenage actresses, too. Tahar Rahim is cringe-worthy bad, cold spit-and-gravitas bad. liked him, too. This flick has gotten a metric ton (1,000 kilos) of terrible reviews, but screw 'em!

Call me a fem-besotted simpleton, but I loved the movie. Maybe (no, make that certainly), I love women more than run-in-a-pack Marvel fanboys. But whatever, we love what we love. Parents: I don't think little kids should see this

really scary, sickie bad - dead soul bad. Willitsian Daniel Essman prefers his reality

## reprehensible actions.) So Ezekiel attempts to kill the three feckless and resentful teenage girls (he has his reasons). Cassandra has to stop

flick. Ezekiel murders his girlfriend (in bed). He's attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination.

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

# 57 East Commercial Street - Willits

#### **BOB MARLEY:** ONE LOVE (PG13) 1 hr 44 mins

Fri.: 6:00 & 8:30pm Sat.: 3:30, 6:00 & 8:30pm Sun.: 2:30, 5:00 & 7:30pm Mon.-Thurs: 5:00 & 7:30 pm

Movie Times for Feb. 23 thru Feb. 29

#### **MADAME WEB** (PG13) 1 hr 46 mins

Fri.: 5:15 & 8:00pm **Sat.:** 2:30, 5:15 & 8:00pm Sun.: 1:30, 4:15 & 7:00pm Mon.-Thurs.: 4:15 & 7:00pm



Sat.: 2:15, 5:15 & 8:15pm Sun.: 1:15, 4:15 & 7:15pm Mon.-Thurs.: 4:15 & 7:15pm OVER 21 CLUB -

(PG13) 2 hrs 15 mins

Fri.: 5:15 & 8:15pm

**ARGYLLE** 

Tightwad Tuesday Title for Feb. 27 is in RED. All tickets at just \$6

#### Organic Seed Summit, February 23-25 in Ukiah

California Organic Seed Summit: California seed growers, seed keepers, seed companies, and allies are invited to join us February 23 to 25, 2024, either in person in Ukiah, CA or virtually. The Seed Summit will be held at Yokayo Ranch, 800 Hensley Creek Road in Ukiah. The summit is being offered as a pay-what-you can event, with a suggested ticket price of \$75, which includes food, lodging, and participation in the Summit. Visit https://seedalliance. org/events/california-organic-seedsummit-2024/ to see more details about the program, to register, or to register for the virtual event.

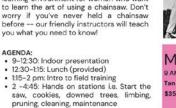
> - submitted by Organic Seed Alliance





#### WOMEN'S CHAINSAV WORKSHOP

UNLEASH YOUR INNER SAWYER! Join us for an immersive workshop designed to provide a safe and welcoming earning environment for women who want



pruning, cleaning, maintenance Willits Block Party at

> Evergreen Center, March 15

Mark your calendars for our Willits Block Party, at the Evergreen Shopping Center. Local businesses including Esthetics by Eden, Skin by K Aesthetics The Mane Studio, House, Flourish & Flow Mendocino, and Breakthrough Fitness will offer discounts, deals, raffles, prizes, and so much more! Super Taco will be doing a dinner deal. Multiple booths including activities for

kids! Everyone welcome!

Friday, March 15, from 4

Willits Weekly | February 22, 2024

to 7 pm.



Zoom seminar by Small Business Development Center advisor and business finance expert Joe Rodola, Tuesday, March 5, 12 to 1 pm. "Learn how to use your credit report and start repairing your credit." Repairing your credit is always a good idea, but even more so if you might need a loan any time soon. Whether you are looking to expand your business, or add some extra cash flow, having

a good credit score is an important step in the

funding process." For more info, and to register:



with Library Assistant Tobin

welcome.

Mark

reading selected juvenile

birthday:

County folk

who

artist

born on Leap Day

Saturday,

March 2

Music Equipment Gear

Swap and Demo at

BACE: Used music gear,

pro audio. Instruments,

Saturday, March 2 from

11 am to 4 pm at BACE

"collaborative music &

art space in the heart of

Mendocino County," 109

North Main Street, Willits.

\$25 to sell/swap; free to

County Museum presents

First Saturday

Fun at the

Mendocino

demo equipment.

Walker

1892. View art works from

1999)

his collection, learn about his long

industrious life in Mendocino County, and

enjoy birthday cake provided by the Friends

of the Mendocino County Museum. Event

attendance is included with standard Museum

admission: \$7 adults, \$2.75 children 6 through

13: children 5 or vounger are free: For more

information, including other discounts, visit

www.mendocinocounty.gov/museum, email

museum@mendocinocounty.gov or call 707-

Keeping Heirloom Seeds in Our Gardens & on Our Tables

Celebrate folk artist

us on Thursday,

February 29, 3:30

to 4:30 pm, at

the Mendocino

County Museum

as we celebrate

Mark

was

(1892-

Walker's

**Ongoing Events** "In the Field" Exhibit: Mendocino every Saturday from 1 to 2 pm.

**Journeys**': the February show at the Willits Center for the Arts features autobiographies and artworks of two distinct yet equally compelling Willits artists, whose works have Western themes and landscapes, Shari Fischer and Natalie Campbell. Willits Art Center, 71 East Commercial Street. Gallery

through Sundays. Willits Tennis Club: Meets Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 to 11 am at the Willits High School courts. New members welcome. Free. Show up or call 707-484-

Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Group: Meets every week on Mondays, 6 pm, at the Muse in Willits, 30 East San Francisco

Francis of the Redwoods Episcopal Church, Main and Commercial 7pm. Info: Bill Bruneau: 459-3390. Brown Bag Lunch Program: Sack

lunches served at the City Park (or across the street in case of rain)

707-459-6660 Next Week: **DUNE - PART 2** 

Willits Weekly | February 22, 2024 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

**Masks Optional** 





Above, left: Rickey Ramirez stands with a proud Coach Dunaway after the awards ceremony. Above, right: Bella Glenn, fourth from left, receives a second-place medal.. Below: Emelia Owsianv, second from left, receives a sixth-place medal on the podium. At right, below: Bella Glenn is headed to State







YOU ARE INVITED TO A MEMBER/ PROSPECTIVE MEMBER AFTERNOON OF FUN!

Friends of the Mendocino County Museum invites ALL interested people to our "Community Friendship Gathering"

> Saturday, February 24th at 2 p.m. at the **Mendocino County Museum**

Join us for an outstanding program about our County history, food and drink, a raffle of Friends merchandise, behind the scenes tours and an update on the Museum and the Friends.

This project is funded by:



# **Strong Finish**

Wolverine Wrestlers end season on a high note, with Bella Glenn and Rickey Ramirez placing at North Coast Sections

The Lady Wolverines are proud to announce another North Coast Sections placer / State Qualifier! Congratulations to Bella Glenn for placing second at the 2024 North Coast Sections Wrestling Championships held at Albany High School this

Sheri Dockins

CIFNCS

CIFNC

NA

Back in 2009, before a qualifier was needed, Coach Dana Karkar began a trailblazing path by heading to State herself as a WHS wrestler. Since then, she, along with the other WHS Coaches Bowles, Dunaway and Glenn, have coached six girls who have placed at NCS to qualify for the CIF State Girls Wrestling Championships on the streets of Bakersfield

This is a huge accomplishment for these ladies in the powerful and dynamic world of girls wrestling that is only continuing to bust out of the seams.

Listed below are the years and names of each dynamic girl wrestler who has made history for Willits High School:

2015 - Gabby Agenbroad, NCS Champion / CIF State Qualifier, sixth at CIF State in the 189 weight class

2016 – Gabby Agenbroad, NCS Champion / CIF State Qualifier in the 189 weight class. Nicole Karkar NCS third place / CIF State Qualifier in the 131 weight class

2018 - Nicole Karkar, NCS fourth place / CIF State Qualifier in the 143 weight class

Isabelle Nunez, NCS third place / CIF State Qualifier in the 170 weight class

2023 - Ava Dockins-Kline, NCS fourth place / CIF State Qualifier in the 160 weight class

CIFNCS

Maryann Bertolino, NCS fourth Photo by Tabitha Glenn place / CIF State Qualifier in the 116 weight class #CIFNC:

2024 - Bella Glenn, NCS second place / CIF State Qualifier in the 235

Another congratulations to Liz Meyer and Emelia Owsiany who also placed this weekend! Nevaeh Jones, Liz Meyer and Emelia Owsiany advanced into some gritty matches. Liz and Emelia went on to place sixth in their weight classes of 140 and 145! What a pleasure it is to witness girls and young women taking on this intensely tough sport with such fierce tenacity. All the girl wrestlers fought hard with great determination and awesome matches. Well done ladies! Now, let's

Read the rest of

Wrestling Over on page 11



#### **LEGAL NOTICES**

#### Statement of Abandonment of Use of **Fictitious Business Name** File No: 2021-F0220

The person or persons listed below have abandoned the use of the following fictitious business name: Loet Vanderveen Legacy Editions 12 Maple Street, Willits, CA 95490, Mendocino County. The FBN was filed in Mendocino County on April 21 2021. File Number 2021. Mas Art, LLC, 12 Maple Street,

This business was conducted by a Limited Liability

Company This FBN Statement of Abandonment was filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on February 2, 2024 /s/ Martha Ann Seifert Publication dates: February 15,

22. 29. March 7. 2024

**Fictitious Business** Name Statement

The following person or persons are doing business as Revival Transportation, 521 Capps Lane, Ukiah, CA Registered owner: Ashley

Elliott, 521 Capps Lane, Ukiah, CA 95482. This business is conducted by an individual.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on N/A FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-

Recorder on January 25, 2024

/s/ Ashley Elliott Publication dates: February 1, 8, 15, 22, 2024.

#### **Marc Komer** Legal Document Assistant

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am not an attorney, and can only provide self-help services at your specific direction.

Museum

From page 3

justice with evidence of a handkerchief he left behind while

Steve Prochter, a museum volunteer for over 10 years was on hand to interpret a special mini-exhibit of the ocean-going vessel the Frolic. The now-famous wreck of the Frolic is credited with the beginning of the logging boom in Mendocino County, and Prochter himself built the beautiful model of the Frolic on display at the behind the

A special calendar from the Dusty Whitney Collection was also on exhibit between the stacks of artifacts. Museum Curator Lindsey Dick explained that the object originated with the family of Willits' own super centenarian Edie Ceccarelli. The ornate 1929 calendar came from the family grocery store, which was at 303 Main Street, at the approximate site of the current Willits post office With Ceccarelli's 116th birthday just having just past, Dick says that the calendar caught the attention of a New York Times reporter and photographer who recently visited the

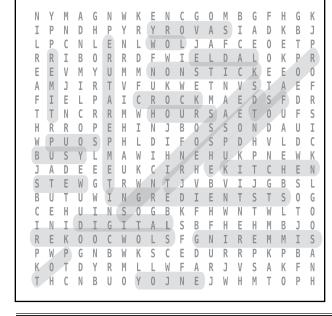
Museum staff was on hand to guide people through the current exhibit, "In the Fields," an exploration of botanical pursuits in Mendocino County. The exhibit spans extensive Native American knowledge, research and documentation by author and botanist Carl Purdy, and the many uses of botanicals in the present day. Sketches, illustrations, photographs, and pressed specimens showcase the interest and passion that Mendocino County residents have for our many unique local plants.

Museum administrator Karen Mattson said that she believes it's important to offer the public the opportunity to see what the museum cares for beyond the main viewing area. "We want the community to get a sense of the scale of our institution and our extraordinary collection, much of which is literally 'behind the scenes.' Each time the museum offers these tours, the community's understanding of how unique and precious our collections are grows, and staff connects with the community in new ways."

Mattson adds that her favorite part of the tours is hearing all the history that the community has to share, concluding, "Our community is the best resource of all!"

Behind-the-scenes tours, giving visitors a chance to tour areas rarely open to the public, will continue through the spring, with tours available on February 20, March 9, March 19, April 13, and April 16, from 2 to 3 pm. View collections storage areas, see recently acquired objects, and learn about collections care from knowledgeable docents.

Tours are included with regular admission, but space is limited, so be sure to call ahead and make a reservation early. Please note: this program is recommended for adults and children ages 8 and over. For more information, please contact the Mendocino County Museum at museum@ mendocinocounty.gov or 707-234-6365.





**Mendocino County invites** applications for:

**Agricultural Commissioner/ Sealer of Weights & Measures** \$125,112 - \$152,068

**Animal Protection Officer I** 

\$38.771 - \$44.907 **Assistant Agricultural Commissioner/ Sealer of Weights & Measures** 

> \$88,899 - \$108,076 **Auditor/Appraiser** \$68,515 - \$83,283

Community Health Worker I/II \$38,937 - \$47,195

**Community Services Officer** \$48,984 - \$59.529

Cook \$47,881 - \$58,177 **Corrections Deputy** 

\$55,369 - \$67,308 **Department Application Specialist** \$50,377 - \$61,235

**Deputy Probation Officer I/II** \$51,937 - \$69,617 **Deputy Sheriff-Coroner** 

\$75,878 - \$93,142 **Deputy Sheriff-Coroner in Training** 

\$25.08 - \$29.03 Hourly **Human Resources Analyst I/II** \$61,318 - \$86,340

**Sheriff's Services Technician** \$37,440 - \$43,326

Social Worker Assistant I/II \$40,976-\$54,766

**Supervising Juvenile Corrections Officer** \$61,734 - \$75,046 **Victim/Witness Advocate** 

\$45,260 - \$54,995 For a complete list of current job openings and to apply:

www.mendocinocounty.gov/jobs

**EOE** 

The rest of From page 5 Food

number of people and how much food each receives, via Thursday is Laytonville." an account that can be set up at the entrance.

"Accounts are very easy to set up, and on top of that, we figure how many folks are in their family, and that will the past, we've worked out of the Fort Bragg Food Bank have an effect on how much they end up receiving," said Assistant Outreach Coordinator Dylan Olson. "We just find out the basics of their name, where they live, contact information. We don't currently ask for income levels. We just display our income guidelines.

"Theoretically, if someone were to have like seven people in their family, we would call that a 'double order,' with an increased allotment," said Olson. "These accounts let us keep track of just who's in our program, let the state and county know that these are real people, and the numbers inform our funding. The more folks that we get, the more funding we eventually have access to, which is a beautiful thing. The clients can set up an account right here from their cars. After we've seen somebody and they're signed up, it's as easy as just referencing their name.

"I love doing this," Olson beamed. "I get paid but it's more of a stipend. I tell people, if I was doing this for the money, I'd get a job at McDonalds for the pay raise."

Rachelle Sutherland is the outreach coordinator of the program and instigator of the pop-ups. "We started these pop-ups last March. Initially, I started them with my husband, Robert Traceski, who's a volunteer. It was just us and a truck of food. We originally started and we had about sometimes 20, maybe 30 clients. Over the course of the year, we've grown immensely.

"Next month, for the Willits community, we will begin doing two pop-ups a month, the first and third Thursdays, explained Sutherland. "The first Tuesday, we go to Leggett. The first Thursday is Willits. The second Thursday is Covelo. The third Thursday is Willits again, and the fourth

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M A T T E P U F F I N G

H R S

E S E A R A B I A

A B O R I G I N E S

A T E O S L O

Recently, the Mendocino Food & Nutrition Program obtained a warehouse, where they do the distributions. "In warehouse," continued Sutherland. "We found that we needed more space and also a more centralized location to accommodate our larger trucks to be able to come when they can't go over Highway 20. This warehouse supplies the pop-ups at the athletic fields but also supplies every food bank and soup kitchen in Mendocino County. Willits is the largest. We're up to 120 people.

"We give them a produce bag, a commodities box, we do kids bags for families with children. Then, we have a various assortment of different things. Today, we have Eggos, Veggieful Pocket Pies, watermelon, cheese, potato products that are frozen, enchilada sauce. It varies on what we can get," said Sutherland.

One of the clients, Victoria Titus, has been utilizing the service to supplement her family's needs and picks up food for other people who can't get to the pop-up. "I've been coming here since May of 2023. This is very welcome. For Christmas, we got a four-pound ham. I've gotten salmon here, a whole fillet, in May and in June. In August, we got individually wrapped strips of salmon, five in a bag."

Jannie Longcrier works with Shannon Demuth on her unhoused outreach, Community Crossroads, picks up food for herself as well as four other unhoused or housebound clients. She also attends the food pop-up at the ball fields on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month and finds the giveaways valuable to the food security of the people and families who might need some extra help.

"This is my third time coming to this," said Lisa Pyle. "I find this very helpful to our family budget." She will be back.

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

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Liam 459-2470 or email

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configuration

Handyman Service

information call 707-

489-1080.

handyman service. I live in Willits. I am qualified for many tasks Carpentry etc. Call me. Let's talk. 707-841-1991

Help Wanted

Food Bank warehouse associate part-time position. Able to lift up to 40 pounds; patient, tolerant of those less fortunate. Inquire at 344 Railroad Avenue, Willits, Must be Covid vaccinated and substance free

**Indoor Yard Sale**  Deep Valley Christian School, 8555 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley, (across from the Broiler). Saturday, March 9 - 8 am to 4 pm

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newspaper by becoming "street subscriber" You send in an annual donation, and pick up the edition on the stree each week! We love our regular subscribers too \$75 for home delivery in the Willits area; \$100 for a year's subscription in the U.S. mail. Visit www willitsweekly.com for a

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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)

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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

Willits Food Bank at new location

Community Services & Food Bank continues to distribute food, pantry staples hygienic products, and more, to hungry families and individuals in the Willits area, at their new location at 344 Railroad Avenue. Food distribution is available on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 4:30 pm. Info: 459-3333.

Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Willits Weekly | February 22, 2024 **Pg. 8** Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047

RANI

RIGA

U N C L E S

M I M O S A

S H E E P

UGLI

N O O N

D O L T

## Furry Friends Hoping for a Home

#### Lively Astro

Astro is an action-packed, fun dog who would do best in an active home with folks who are familiar with working breeds. This 10-monthold knows how to walk on leash and enjoys going out to explore. meet new people and other dogs, and learn about new and different surroundings. Astro will need introductions to any potential canine housemates, as he can be barky when meeting a new dog.

The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, requires a reservation to view adoptable animals. Call 707-467-6453 to make an appointment

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



#### Loveable Butters

is an all-around in with you for a movie.

He's looking for his forever home (with or without a resident dog) where he can go hiking, running and continue his training, as well as having plenty of time for snuggles!

www.milofoundation.org or the Milo Foundation Sanctuary Facebook page. The sanctuary is currently doing pet adoptions by appointment only. Please complete a pet-adoption application before requesting an appointment. You can reach the Milo Foundation at 459-4900.

#### **Engaging Hobo**

Meet our handsome new transfer, Hobo! Hobo was lost in Covelo in the pouring rain and avoided capture for weeks by our local Animal Control. Once they were able to catch him, a whole new dog emerged! Hobo is an engaging, sweet guy who knows some things like "sit" and "shake." Hobo has also done well in our onsite

Come help us give him a new lease on life by fostering or adopting! Apply to foster or adopt at mendohumanesociety.com

playgroups with a couple dogs here.

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

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Beginning March 2ND

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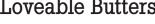
and furniture

available.

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sweetheart. He loves people and other dogs. He learns very quickly! This boy is super smart. After being in foster care for only a few days, he is potty trained and will tap the door to be let outside. Butters loves to be groomed; he feels pampered and will just lie at your feet. Butters is very eager to please. He loves his treats and belly rubs and will cuddle

To learn more about Butters or to view other adoptable animals, visit

# Free Art Workshops

Below, left: Mathew Caine's Photojournalism class is small but the attendees enjoy the material and engage in hearty

discussions. Below, right: The participants in Donna d'Terra's Earth Art Assemblage class decide which materials will

#### Willits Center for the Arts continues grant program of classes open to the public at no charge

to create a grant through which several of Willits' resident artists (of which there are many) could public a chance to learn and

Mathew Caine

go into their compositions

and have fun in the process. As manager of the Willits Center for the Arts, Thomas considered it her duty to tell artists about the grant opportunity and to

help them apply when she first heard about it.

partake in their knowledge

"We actually did help three people," said Thomas. "The applications were from the Upstate California" Creative Corps Grant from the California Arts Council. They got money right after COVID that they lobbied really hard for. The Nevada City Arts Council received the role to be the administrator of the grant. They put out calls for applications. Nobody was really applying. They started having listening sessions and they had one here.

"We felt like our role was to get artists to apply. I actually went to Medium Gallery in Ukiah,

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Sasha Thomas had an idea. Her concept was which was the other larger recipient and told them they should apply. When it was a few weeks before the application was due, I realized that actually be paid to do what they love and to offer the people weren't applying because they felt that the application was too complicated.

At left: Dondha Da Hora and Carmen Day provide a workshop in

Photos by Willits Center for the Arts

Brazilian dance and drumming. Above: Donna d'Terra answers

a question from one of the students. Below: Sofia Alaoui's

Ornament Painting class is extremely popular leading up to

"At the last minute, I had this idea," she said. "I was going to write this grant for these artists. call it Mendocino Artists Corps Artstravaganza Project 23. We also call it Willits Center for the Arts California Creative Corps grant. It's really Upstate California Creative Corps. With support from the Upstate California Creative Corps, Willits Center for the Arts will implement and pay artists to teach youth and seniors in the WCA program schedules. including dance, art, art history lectures, summer camp, dance, and visual art

The workshops, which have been going on for the past few months, have been a source of enlightenment, instruction and enjoyment for a cadre of residents, some of whom have been waiting to be able to express themselves through dance, drumming, art and journalism for quite a

Ceramics instructor Sofia Alaoui created an











Brooktrails

have been established.

submitting that in March."

report the harassment.

42 inches of rain as of February 13.

30 years. He stated that his trek, located

100 yards away from their home, is on trails

located on Weasel and Bear. He is going to

be in contact with the police department to

Third District Supervisor John Haschak

spoke to the board, and especially wanted

to announce two upcoming hearings the

California Public Utilities Commission is

holding in Ukiah to hear the concerns of the

people on AT&T's proposal to discontinue

landline phone service. The hearings are

scheduled for Thursday, February 22 at 2

and 6 pm. Supervisor Haschak said he'd

received many calls from citizens who are

justifiably very upset about the proposed

Haschak also spoke about an upcoming

meeting regarding enforcement of the

the ordinance needs to be strengthened

so that it can be more effectively enforced.

He said, "I've been working with Sherwood

Firewise that has grant money, \$280,000,

from CAL FIRE to try to repurpose and

use it to make the vegetation ordinance

have some teeth." He noted that there

are property owners that have been

unresponsive to notices that have been

sent out. He said, "We want to determine

what can be done, since many of these

property owners are not paying their taxes.

Haschak continued. "I've also been

contacted by our point person regarding

grants for fiber optic broadband, saying

that they wanted Brooktrails board of

directors to be informed that the county is

looking to start fiber buildout in Brooktrails

and the community is a No. 1 candidate for

and we will know more about it in June, but

it's really looking like it's moving forward.

It's all part of the broadband money that

the state is putting forward. We are working

with Golden State Connect Authority which

is part of the Rural County Representative

Association of CA," Haschak said.

gratitude to him for outlining the available

Director Ralph Santos had a report from

the Mendocino County Association of Fire

Districts that announced the 2022-2023

disbursements of Measure D, Measure

P and Proposition 172 funds which total

Transient Occupancy Tax funding allocation

of \$24,495.95. A Proposition 172 quarterly

payment of \$5,902.87 has also been set.

The Measure D distribution of \$8,845.08

Santos said: "We will be receiving these

and a Measure P distribution of \$48,482.47

\$653,225.05. Brooktrails will receive a

it was filed on October 13, has the opportunity to review the bid to disqualify him from Kennedy's case, and in effect both defendants, for "timeliness." Other than that, a criminal defendant's right to file a peremptory challenge against a judge is guaranteed under California Civil Code 170.6. The code allows a defendant one opportunity to recuse a judge they fear "may be biased."

Attorney LeClair, who made the move on behalf of Kennedy, declined Wednesday to discuss specifics behind the challenge of Faulder on behalf of her client.

"Every party has the right to disqualify with no questions asked," said LeClair.

To be disqualified means a judge is removed from a court case, and an alternate judge is assigned to the

Cubbison lawyer Chris Andrian of Santa Rosa declined to comment on LeClair's move to disqualify

Cubbison appeared before Judge Victoria Shanahan at the February 14 hearing, who accepted a not guilty plea from the elected county auditor as expected. Codefendant Kennedy in December entered a not guilty plea to the single felony charge of misappropriation of public funds that Eyster filed against the two women. Shanahan set April 15 as the date of a preliminary hearing for both veteran county employees.

Preliminary hearings offer the opportunity for the public to learn the core evidence against defendants, but the real challenge for prosecutors, if a case goes to trial, is proving criminal allegations beyond a reasonable doubt.

Andrian said after Wednesday's hearing that, "What I have seen during the discovery process so far provides no hard evidence of any criminal wrongdoing on the part of my client."

Andrian in January sought to have Eyster removed as prosecutor from the case, citing the DA's long-running conflicts with Cubbison over the auditor questioning his office's spending habits. Eyster's move was seen as retaliatory and in concert with the county Board of Supervisors, who have sought the blame the Auditor's Office for the current state of county finances. The state Attorney General's Office sided with Eyster, contending that the DA's past troubles with Cubbison, a fellow elected public official, did not prevent her from receiving

Faulder presided over that hearing, and in the end, he ruled that there was insufficient evidence to remove the DA from criminally prosecuting Cubbison.

Eyster in a court document filed in December outlined his case against Cubbison and Kennedy, contending that they used an "obscure earnings code" on regular payroll reports that allowed Kennedy to collect "unauthorized monies" totaling about \$68,000 over a three-year period. Eyster claims that Cubbison told Kennedy to keep the code-authorized amounts under \$1,000 so they wouldn't be flagged by the County Executive Office.

Cubbison claims the extra pay to Kennedy was authorized by former Auditor Lloyd Weer during the COVID pandemic, and that records show it was for work actually done. The extra payments started when Weer was still in office, and before Cubbison, his assistant, was elected to take over a combined Auditor/Controller and Treasurer/Tax Collector office that the county Board of Supervisors forced through.

Cubbison has filed a civil lawsuit against the Board of Supervisors for denying her due process. The board the program. We've applied for this grant, acted within days of Eyster filing the criminal case. without granting Cubbison, an elected official, an opportunity for a hearing to defend herself before they voted to suspend her without pay or benefits.

(Mike Geniella is a veteran North Coast journalist and former DA spokesman who worked part-time under contract until he terminated the arrangement in November 2021.)

understand how water moves. They're trained in

a variety of scenarios that involve anything from

practicing how to tie basic knots to more innovative

and advanced swift water rescue skills.

The rest of

Updates

Fire would "ensure exits aren't blocked, there's no open flame inside the tent, [inspect] what kind of heating is being used...." He told the board, "It's

Included in Schnitzius' updates at the February 13 meeting were news on the anticipated Assistance for Firefighters grant. The application Deputy Chief John Thomen expanded on details process for the grant has rolled over into 2024, but about the January 25 barn fire on Eastside Road. Schnitzius says the paperwork is in and is being

Fire Marshal Eric Alvarez explained to the board some of his recent challenges in trying to formulate a new fee schedule for the department. California Health and Safety Code states that, "The governing body of any county or city, including a charter city, or fire protection district, may prescribe fees to defray the costs of enforcement required by this part to be carried out by local enforcement agencies, and shall not be levied for general revenue purposes."

Alvarez said: "We're still working on the formula for the amount of fees to raise them a little bit. With times changing and things going up, our fees too will go up, so we're working on that now." Alvarez is comparing Little Lake's fee schedule to the fees of neighboring fire departments as a way to evaluate power." where changes need to be made.

He gave to the board, as an example, the possibility of adding other operational and construction permits to the schedule. He elaborated on what an operational permit could require, saying "The carnival coming to town, or some of the tents that pop up around town, if they're over an excess area of 400 square feet, that tent would require an operational permit."

Alvarez said inspecting something like a tent for a wedding or a carnival would mean Little Lake

an opportunity to get out there and ensure the safety of our citizens, while recouping the fee of the inspection by charging the operational permit."

Thomen said an engine was sent from Ridgewood Ranch Fire. Brooktrails Fire also sent a water tender, and CAL FIRE sent an engine with a chief officer. Thomen said, "Once I got eyes on the fire, knew we'd need more help.' Thomen continued: "I requested two additional engines; we ended up getting an engine from Laytonville Fire and Redwood Valley. Shortly after

that, our problem was keeping the water supply in with the two tenders we had. I put in a request for an additional water tender and Redwood Valley He continued: "The mutual aid system is huge when we have big fires, and you can make that call early and get resources coming. We had a

lot of resources there, and we needed the person is to place in the top 4. Congratulations The barn was used to store things like vehicles, ATVs, and RVs. Thomen said they were able to save some of the items in the barn including

a travel trailer. The fire call came into Little Lake around 7:30 pm and the crew finished up around sophomore is pretty special. I'm super 3:30 in the morning. The meeting concluded with Thomen telling the board he intends to hand out flyers at the

next chiefs meeting regarding the sale of a 4,000 gallon water tender and Engine 5482. He's hopeful another department will be interested

"There will be four above-ground huts in Brooktrails that will be for the electric power supply and they will need to have some right of way set. It's in the planning stage, not into execution yet, but this will connect upwards of 3,500 households. and the federal funding that we will be seeking will be \$57 million. They are looking at connection speeds of a minimum of 1 gigabit per second. This will be really

"If the board would like for them to come and present the proposed plan, they will be happy to come and make the presentation."

beneficial in emergency events.

Director Ed Horrick said, "This is huge!" The whole board resoundingly agreed with that statement

funds from the county. I also spoke with Fire Next on the evening's agenda was the Chief Noyer about a \$10,000 microgrant 2022-23 Audit Report from JJACPA, Inc., application from the Mendocino Fire Safe District Auditor. Director Joanne Cavallari Council that is for fuels reduction, and he is asked why there was no representative from the auditing firm present and the General Manager Tamara Alaniz board agreed that someone from the firm reported that Brooktrails has received over should be present. The general manager agreed and said that they would be asked to come before the board to go over the Brooktrails resident Rob Franklin went audit at an upcoming meeting in February to the podium and addressed the board

regarding how he has been aggressively The board unanimously approved challenged on his daily walks by Brooktrails the Accounts Payable in the amount of residents he named who live next to the \$108,715.08 Greenbelt where he has walked for over

> The board then approved a letter addressed to the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors requesting prioritization of the hazardous road conditions on Peacock Drive regarding the sinkhole that needs to be repaired.

Finally, Tyler-O'Shea President announced the last item on the agenda: "Consideration of the Contract with Climatec, (parent company Bosch) The Finance Committee – Recommended Responder to the Request for Proposals for the Infrastructure Renewal and Resiliency Program." This project will review and furnish recommendations for improvements at the primary site, the water treatment plant, and throughout the district, to incorporate energy efficiencies, energy generating and reduce energy costs as

vegetation abatement ordinance. He said Director Horrick asked, "Do we know the fiscal impact of engaging Climatec?" General Manager Alaniz responded, saying, "The way Climatec would make money off of the project is by Brooktrails' realized energy savings, and they would get a 5% portion of those savings paid to

Climatec representative Bernadette Carter, who had traveled from Valleio, said. "There's a slight correction to that, because that could actually be zero as well. A part of our offering is to bring funding to the table, whether through grant writing support or working with your municipal advisor to bring other solutions forward. So, we would not be taking a portion of the savings. All of the savings would go to the district."

The board agreed when the general manager said, "That's the best case scenario!" Board Vice-President Rick Williams made the motion to approve the selection of engaging Climatec Energy Services in the proposal and Director Santos seconded the motion. The board then voted unanimously to approve the

The rest of Wrestling From page 8

go Bella! Best of luck at State!

The boys attended their NCS Championships at James Logan High School in Newark. This is one of the toughest competitions for boys. There were two days of exceptional and strenuous matches. They all wrestled extremely well at this event.

Corey Rockey and Donald Glenn both advanced as sophomores. Rickey Ramirez went on to place eighth in his weight class of 150 as a sophomore. He went 3-3. He had some hard-fought battles, including a couple of losses and an exciting pin with just 30 seconds left in the first period.

After advancing to the next day, he entered the "blood round," where if he lost, he would be out, and if won, he would place in the top eight. He was determined to make it out on top and won by a very close 4-2 score. Rickey's goal this year was to place. His goal next year Rickey!

"Rickey wrestled his heart out this weekend. Placing at Sections anytime in your wrestling career is a big accomplishment, but to do it as a proud of him and our entire team for all the work they put in this season," said Coach Will Dunaway.

Another epic Wolverine Wrestling season has come to an end. Until next year, wrestlers! We are proud of you!

Workshops

From page 10 ornament-painting workshop as a potluck happening, which

was attended by a number

of people wanting to have

ornaments for their Christmas

trees and an afternoon of fun

Willits Center for the Arts

other ceramics instructor.

Nancy New, will be providing

the "Make Yourself a Place at

the Table" ceramics workshop.

An updated schedule of

available classes can be found

at www.willitscenterforthearts.

org. Please check often

for upcoming classes and

"Carmen Day offered a

Brazilian Dance Workshop

with Dandha Da Hora. We had

an opportunity for Dandha to

tell this community who she

is and actually that is just a

small part of what she does

She is a performer and all of

us learned that Dandha is

actually a culture bearer who

was trained by this high-level

school in Brazil. We got to

offer that for free to the public.

So, so many people came. It

reignited interest in Carmen's

Brazilian Dance Class. Guys

who don't usually come to

dance classes came. It was

quite extraordinary," recounted

Mathew Caine, photo-

iournalist with Willits Weekly.

offered a two-Saturday

seminar on "Photojournalism

to Raise Awareness in the

Community," which created

some dynamic and interesting

discussions with the motivated

Ecstatic Dance, a popular

series which has been

missing from the Willits

scene since COVID, was

reinvigorated through the

efforts of Deviyana Uvneh and

Chantal Simonpietri and was

extremely well attended with

about 140 people enjoying the

music and the ability to move

without restraint. Gary Martin,

curator and board member at

WCA, was able to continue his

monthly series of fascinating

art lectures, and was finally

able to be compensated for

Sandy Strong longtime

board member and photo

artist, facilitated new and

experienced photographers

in learning about "Capturing

Nature in Photography" and

took a group outside to enjoy

what nature has to offer to the

artist. Jaynene "Mama Jay" Johnson created "Family"

and "Illumination Family

Dance" sessions, which both

benefitted the attendees

and helped her heal from a

Expert herbalist and natural

artist Donna d'Terra brought

many found objects from

Motherland, her enclave in

String Creek, to treat the

attendees with her stories of

wanderings on her property

and to facilitate them in

creating art from objects that

present themselves in nature.

the efforts of WCA Manager

Thomas, were able to express

their art to the masses, enjoy

imparting knowledge and

artistic opportunities, and

importantly, be paid to do so.

Upcoming seminars and

events from artists, including

Jazz-minh Moore (painter, art

instructor), Salvador Andrade

(Mexican mural painting),

Mariangela Le Thanh (block

printing), Caroline Hambright

(painter and teacher),

Laura Corben (art / nature

journaling), Buffie Schmidt

(Pomo basket weaving), Eli

Laughton (art practice for

mental health), and Simone

River NDoye (jewelry making)

can be found on the Willits

Center for the Arts website:

www.willitscenterforthearts.

In all, 19 local artists, due to

personal tragedy.

his work.

and professional attendees

Thomas.

with like-minded friends.

Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 Willits Weekly | February 22, 2024 Willits Weekly | February 22, 2024 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490 **Pg. 10** Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047

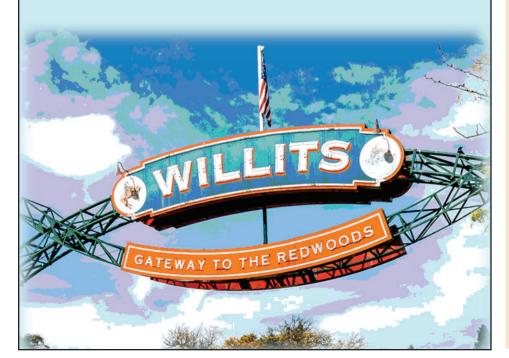


#### Starting today! From February 22nd until March 2nd

**Willits Furniture Center** will be contributing 15% of proceeds from our sales to service organizations which support our community!

#### Beneficiaries will include:

The Rotary Club of Willits, Soroptimist International of Willits, The Willits Lions Club, Willits American Legion Post 174, Willits Food Bank





## **Dinner for Two**

#### Tickets still available for enchilada dinner fundraiser supporting Sober Grad

Get tickets now, or get them at the door for the Sober Grad Enchilada fundraiser happening Friday, February 23. Tickets cost \$20 for four cheese enchiladas, and \$25 for four chicken enchiladas, and both come with a side of beans and rice. Meals are ready to heat and serve and should feed two people each. Pick up dinners between 4 and 6 pm by driving through the Willits High School main front loop. Tickets are available at NorCrawl, MonkeyWrench, 101 Trailer and RV, the Willits Unified School District office, or by calling April Lamprich at 707-354-4268.



Heat and serve dinner for two.

Dinner includes four enchiladas, rice & beans. Choose chicken or cheese enchiladas.

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT: 101 Trailer & RV Supply

Monkey Wrench

Thank you to Smokin G's and Big D's BBQ, Marisela Lamprich, and Christy Wisdom for all your help!





#### You're made for living a happy, fulfilling life.

That's why we have top experts for all your healthcare needs, no matter your age or stage of life. We're proud to offer you more choices, expanded access and higher quality care in Mendocino County, as demonstrated by our Planetree Gold Certification for excellence in patient-centered care. We're not just here to put more years in your life, we're here to put more life in your years.

#### Services provided by Adventist Health Howard Memorial:

- Addiction Medicine
- Pharmacy
- General Surgery
- Physical Therapy

Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com

- Orthopedics
- · Primary Care

Pediatrics

Learn more at AdventistHealthHowardMemorial.org

