EST. 2013

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

Donations Accepted Edition No. 541

Thursday, March 14, 2024

Brooktrails

Color active active services and advertisers

Coversh

A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits

Donations Accepted Edition No. 541

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Change

Brooktrails updated on plans for broadband

Barbara O'Reardon

The Brooktrails Comm-Services District board meeting began with President Tina Tyler-O'Shea introducing the agenda item: "Tony Rakes on Fiber Optic Broadband Extension to Brooktrails." Third District Supervisor John Haschak then addressed the group and said: "At the last board meeting we talked about this broadband project and the grant that we are looking at, and fortunately we have three people here who have been deeply involved in working to get broadband project established and underway:

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

Over on Page 11

Farmers Convergence returns March 19

Submitted by NCO

March 11 - North Coast Opportunities is excited collaborate once again on the North Coast Farmers Convergence, held at Ridgewood Ranch on Tuesday, March 19. This annual event brings together food producers from Lake, Mendocino, Sonoma, and Humboldt counties (the North Coast region), along with local food retailers, chefs, food activists, and interested community members.

The North Coast Farmers Convergence is a celebration of the North Coast region's growing local food system and the vital profession of farming in Northern California. Each

Read the rest of Convergence

Over on Page 11

James Ranch receives grant for conservation

Submitted by Mendocino Land Trust

The historic James Ranch 10 miles up Sherwood Road, the former home of Edgar and Stella James, in the former town of Sherwood, has taken another step toward being conserved and protected as a working ranch, the Mendocino Land Trust announced Tuesday.

"In partnership with the landowners of the James Ranch,," the Mendocino Land Trust announced March 12, "the trust received a Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program grant. The grant will make it possible to acquire a conservation easement that will protect

Read the rest of Conservation

Over on Page 11



Above, left: Pies are available on Pi Day, and every day, at Kemmy's Pies. Diamante-studded telephone pins were handed out to the Soroptimist International of Willits members in celebration of another completed phone book. Below: Soroptimist members smile together at Kemmy's Pie shop, celebrating the release of the 2024 phone book being distributed on March 14 – or 3.14, which has been deemed "Pi Day" – including, from left: Barbara O'Reardon; Heidi Ahders, Marilyn Harden, Vicki Ham, Kitty Norris and Marie Thompson.







Pi & Phone Book Day

Celebrate 3.14 Day with a slice of pie, and the 2024 Soroptimist International of Willits' 2024 Community Directory

March 14 has been dubbed "Pi Day" as the date, 3/14, is the first three numbers (3.14) in the sequence of Pi; which is the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter.

While math is all fun and good, enjoying a slice or a whole pie on Pi Day is a way for even the non-math fans of the world to celebrate.

Kemmy's Pies is offering a discount on Pi Day for those wishing to come into their shop located at 299 East Commercial Street, open Thursday from 6 am to 6 pm.

Another fun event on this particular Pi Day, is that the 2024 Soroptimist International of Willits' annual Community Telephone Directory will be available.

3,000 copies will be distributed through today's edition of Willits Weekly, and the other 1,000 copies will be placed at businesses around town.

Grab your copy, grab a slice, and enjoy!

– Maureen Jennison

At left, above: The menu of sweet and savory pies available at Kemmy's Pies. At left: Pie Tusseys are mini versions of the large-sized pies. Below: Come in to Kemmy's for a Pi Day discount - available on March 14, 2024.



Change at the Willits Chamber

By B.B. Kamoroff

"A change is gonna come," Sam Cooke sang some 60 years ago, and it could easily be the new theme song of the Willits Chamber of Commerce, which is going through a challenging period of change and reorganization.

At the February 28 Willits City Council meeting, volunteer directors of the chamber along with parttime coordinator Susan Mahoney presented a review of 2023 and plans for 2024 – plans that suddenly will no longer include Mahoney. Only a week after the council meeting, chamber president Lisa Kavasnika announced that Mahoney has resigned.

Mahoney, hired a year ago, oversaw a busy office that during 2023 involved 1,800 volunteer hours and answering 500 phone calls. But the chamber is saddled with an old computer that does not meet the community's needs and a poorly functioning web site, and its membership program is undergoing major restructuring.

One particular problem has been coordinating community events, so the

Read the rest of **Chamber**

Over on Page 11

Election update and

and 100% snow pack

Jennifer Poole

Editor & Reporter

willitsweekly@gmail.com

Mendocino County's March 5, 2024 primary election results were updated Tuesday afternoon. As of that March 12 report, the county has processed 12,208 ballots, with 10,090 ballots left to process. Numbers have changed a bit, but candidates and issues in the lead as of the Final Election Night Report are still in the lead.

In the closest local race, incumbent Second District Supervisor Maureen Mulheren has expanded her lead, with 51.94% (1,287 votes), compared to challenger Jacob Brown who is now at 48.06% (1,191 votes).

In Mendocino County's First Supervisorial District, candidate Madeline Cline is now leading with 56.53% of the vote (1,489 votes), and in the Fourth District, candidate Bernie Norvell is now leading with 81.19% of the vote (1,559 votes).

With the latest update to state Second Assembly District returns, Sonoma County Supervisor Chris

Read the rest of **Election**

Over on Page 4

Mendocino County Fire Safe Council celebrates 20th anniversary

Submitted by MCFSC

The Mendocino County Fire Safe Council is 20 years old this year. Taking shape in 2003 and registered as a nonprofit in March 2004, MCFSC has responded to recent major wildfires with tremendous growth, activity and creative projects to promote wildfire preparedness and safety throughout Mendocino County.

In 2003, CAL FIRE was planning to close its Ukiah Air Attack Base, and a number of local residents successfully organized to change that plan. Two of these were Colin Wilson, then Anderson Valley fire chief and president of the Mendocino County Fire and active, gaining solid support from the County Chiefs Association, and Julie Rogers, who was the of Mendocino, the Community Foundation of effort's volunteer coordinator and became MCFSC's founding executive director.

"I had recently worked on the Cedar Fire and was profoundly impacted by the huge losses in both lives and property," said Wilson. "That experience made me realize that good prevention work would be of much greater value in saving lives and property than it is now an employer with a staff of 10, including its the best fire-suppression response."

Rogers added: "Many county residents were completely relying on air tankers and fire engines to save their properties from fire, instead of taking action to prepare and defend their properties. Air tankers, though wonderfully helpful, were not always immediately available, and some remote properties were nearly an hour's drive from the nearest fire station. So, after our success (with CAL FIRE's Ukiah base), I asked Chief Wilson if Mendocino County had a citizen-based wildfire preparedness affiliated Neighborhood Fire Safe Councils. effort. He responded, 'No. but I wish we did,'

"We agreed to stay in touch, went to a two-day Firewise training, at which we learned about the for Mendocino County. Our first public meeting, in members; targeted mapping projects; project-January 2004, garnered contributions of \$1,200, which was our operating budget for the next year."

With community support and involvement, the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit in March 2004.

For its first few years, MCFSC operated on a shoestring budget, funded by the Allen-Heath Memorial Foundation and other sources. Realizing that more significant grants often require a Community Wildfire Protection Plan, MCFSC created Mendocino County's first protection plan in 2005. That document was updated in 2015, and the County of Mendocino is currently planning a new update.

The Pine Mountain Fire Safe Council near Willits was Mendocino County's first Neighborhood Fire Safe Council and is now also a certified Firewise Community. They received a significant early grant for chipping, mapping, signage and educational mailings. Lauren Robinson of Pine Ridge FSC/ FWC acknowledges CAL FIRE Battalion Chief Mark Tolbert and BLM's Jeff Tunnell as particularly helpful in those days.

The Black Bart, Brooktrails (predecessor to Sherwood Firewise), and Robinson Creek Fire Safe Coucils were other early active groups. However, Robertson notes, "Before the major wildfires in this MCFSC."

In 2018, spurred by the October 2017 Redwood Complex Fire and other record-breaking wildfires sweeping through the state, the Mendocino County Resource Conservation District took MCFSC under its wing and took steps to reactivate it. Megan McClure, the Mendocino County Resource Conservation District executive director at the time, began to revive its funding and activities, and Scott Cratty was hired as MCFSC's executive director in

Since then, MCFSC has become fully independent Mendocino County, CAL FIRE, the State Coastal Conservancy, the California Fire Safe Council, PG&E, MCFSC members, and other supporters and funders. The number of its affiliated Neighborhood Fire Safe Councils has grown from 18 in 2019 to now over 70; MCFSC's annual budget is in the millions; own crew and equipment; and its programs continue to be expanded and created.

MCFSC's current programs and activities include: free community chipper days, home assessments, defensible-space assistance for income-eligible seniors and persons with disabilities; custom reflective address signs; micro-grants funding small, strategic wildfire-safety projects for Neighborhood Fire Safe Councils and fire departments: sponsorship and support of many kinds for its

MCFSC also provides abundant home-hardening and defensible-space information, including its own series of how-to videos, available on its concept of fire safe councils, and began meeting with ever-improving website, along with a list of local local fire chiefs toward creating such an organization contractors, some of whom offer discounts to MCFSC planning coordination with CAL FIRE, fire chiefs, Neighborhood Fire Safe Councils and other groups countywide; commitment to a forest-stewardship approach in its implementation projects; outreach in many forms including new or updated publications and mailings, radio interviews, a monthly newsletter, media articles, blog and Facebook posts, booths at community events; educational outreach to juniorhigh and high-school students; and more.

> Twenty years from its founding, in a fast-changing world of environmental and other crises, a revitalized MCFSC continues to grow and strive to improve. Membership and donations to MCFSC (https:// firesafemendocino.org/membership-options/) support its ongoing work in support of its mission: "To inform, empower and mobilize county residents to survive and thrive in wildfire-prone environments."

According to Nancy Armstrong-Frost, president of the board of directors, "MCFSC is committed to helping our community through whatever impacts severe weather and climate change may bring. The reinvigoration and growth of the MCFSC over the last five years has been tremendous. Leading our phenomenal staff, Executive Director Scott Cratty has been able to productively expand our programs

For more information, to donate and / or contact county began in 2017, there were other directors the Mendocino County Fire Safe Council, visit but little money or impetus for building up a strong www.firesafemendocino.org or email admin@ firesafemendocino.org.

Adventist Health Howard Memorial wins 'best in class' brand award

Submitted by Adventist Health Howard Memorial

March 5 - Adventist Health Howard Memorial has been recognized by Reputation. a global leader in reputation performance management, with its 800 Award.

A top recognition for location-level businesses with bestin-class brand reputation, Reputation's 800 Award highlights organizations that go above and beyond in delivering on brand promise by listening to and acting on feedback from

"I am proud and grateful for our team at Howard Memorial and the work they do each day for our patients. As we listen to feedback from our community, answer questions both inperson and online, and understand the needs of our patients, we follow through on our promise to provide excellent patientcentered care while in our hospital and clinic space," said Linda Givens, administrator of Adventist Health Howard Memorial.

Locations that win the 800 Award consistently collect, analyze and apply consumer feedback, utilizing it to make data-driven decisions. Howard Memorial was recognized with the 2024 800 Award.

"In a world where consumers are making purchasing decisions based on what they see and hear in their local communities and online, delivering on brand performance is more important than ever. Adventist Health Howard Memorial has demonstrated its commitment to evolving alongside its customers by prioritizing their needs and taking action based on what they are saying across online reviews, rating pages and on social media," said Liz Carter, Reputation's chief marketing officer. "On behalf of Reputation, I extend an enthusiastic congratulations to Adventist Health Howard Memorial for its commitment to understanding consumer feedback and acting on it"

To determine 800 Award honorees, Reputation pulls a list of the Reputation Scores for every business location on the Reputation platform. Those that are honored will have achieved a score of 800 or higher due to their focus on high customer satisfaction throughout the past year.

The Reputation Score is a proprietary tool that measures review sentiment, volume, spread, recency, response, and length, along with brand reach and health, social engagement, business listing accuracy, and search impressions. For more information, please visit https://reputation.com/800-award/

Open enrollment now at Willits Elementary Charter

By Christine Felton, for WECS

Enrollment for grades K-5 is open at the free public charter school Willits Elementary Charter School until April 30, 2024. Space is limited, and students will be chosen by random lottery on May 3. Those who are not offered a spot will be placed on the waiting list.

The school has been a part of the Willits education community since 2012 when parents and volunteers transformed a dirt lot on the corner of Lenore and Commercial streets into a school offering art, music, Spanish, gardening, science explorations, and field trips in addition to traditional academic subjects. An afterschool program is provided, offering homework help and a variety of hands-on enrichment activities.

Under the leadership of the current director. Charlene Bredder, staff and teachers continue to provide researchbased education and support for the social and emotional health of its students. The school's literacy program, developed by kindergarten teacher and reading specialist Ashley Sherf, is based on strategies aligned with the Science of Reading.

Last year, WECS ranked among the top three elementary schools in Mendocino County for the number of students meeting or exceeding the state standards in English and Math, according to the statewide California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress website. At the 2024 Willits Science Fair, 11 WECS student projects advanced to the county level.

Unlike some charter schools, WECS is not affiliated with a corporation; it is overseen by the Charter School Association of Willits. Although people unfamiliar with the school may assume that parents pay tuition or are required to donate time, there is no tuition and no requirement for parental volunteer hours. There, however, are many opportunities for parents and guardians to participate in their children's education, including volunteering, chaperoning, joining a planning committee, or contributing in other ways to the success of the school.

For information about enrolling, call the WECS office at 707-459-1400.

Willits Weekly

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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



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WINNER The 800 Award, 2024 Reputation The 800 Award Adventist Health

Senior Center menu for the week

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

Thursday, March 14: Grilled Chicken, Green Salad, Garlic Bread

Friday, March 15: Corned Beef & Cabbage Monday, March 18: Beer Battered Cod, Rice Pilaf, Veggies, Roll

Tuesday, March 19: Pepperoni Mushroom Olive Pizza, 2176 Green Salad

Wednesday, March 20: Corned Beef Hash, Eggs, Biscuit, Fruit Thursday, March 21: BLT, Macaroni Salad, Pickle

Friday, March 22: Hot Dog w/Chili, Macaroni Salad **Activities:** Bingo every Friday night, 5 to 7 pm. Exercise class every weekday morning from 9 to 10 am.

Pancake Breakfast: every second Sunday, 8 to 11 am. 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-

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

At right: Dog owners and enthusiasts John Haschak and Stephanie Garrabrant-Sierra confer about their animals. Three charcuterie boards from Ken Knight are offered in the silent auction. Ambria Zenitar, pub manager, attaches a sign so people on the street will know what is occurring inside. Below: The crew, volunteers, and Shanachie Pub customers pose for a group portrait at the end of the evening.







Above, left: Rupert brought in an extra \$67, by charging \$1 for the opportunity to rub his belly. Above, right: Jakob Foley of Northspur Brewing Co. and Pete Swanton of Shanachie Pub share a beer and a conversation. Below, left: Theresa King, secretary of the Humane Society Board of Directors, brought her pet, Lacey, to enjoy the festivities. Below, right: A book of animals available for adoption from the Humane Society is on hand to peruse. Below, right, bottom: Shanachie Pub Manager Ambria Zenitar brought her dog, Rupert, to help raise money.

Spring Fling

Having a good time at Shanachie Pub while fundraising for and learning about the Humane Society for Inland Mendocino County

The shelters in Mendocino County are overrun with a host of dogs and cats. They are at-capacity and were it not for a robust fostering program, the shelters would have to take drastic measures to ensure the health and well-being of the animals. With this in mind, Pete Swanton and Shanachie Pub held one of their Humane Society of Inland Mendocino County fundraisers.

™ Mathew Caine

The Spring Fling event was held on Saturday from 1 to 5 pm. It was an opportunity to share information about the facility and how to adopt or foster, to accept donations, sell branded items for sale, hold a silent auction, and to rub Rupert the dog's tummy at \$1 a session

"We come out and do events and try to make the public aware of what we do and where we're located," explained John King, president of the HSIMC board. "We're actually a rescue and adoption center out of Redwood Valley. We're basically a 'no-kill' shelter. We get about 500 each of dogs and cats per year that we rescue and adopt.

"Currently, we have something between 150 to 250 animals at the shelter. A lot of them have been fostered out so they're not currently at the shelter. Most of our dogs are fostered out, so at any given time there are approximately 18 dogs on site, but we have

"One of the things we do is come out and give presentations to various groups and talk about the Humane Society," King said. "We're presenting to Willits Rotary on the 21st of this month. We have a short 25-minute presentation. We go through our history, what we do, and how we do it, let people get familiar with us.

"If someone wants to adopt," said King, "they can go online and fill out an application or you can come down to the shelter to fill out an application. Once we get the application, we do a little vetting on it and then they can adopt. What a lot of people do is foster first to see if the animal is compatible with their home, people and lifestyle. We make sure that all the animals are spayed or neutered, have their vaccines, and they are microchipped. Once we complete all that, then we can transfer ownership of the animal."

affordable adoption fees which cover spaying and neutering, vaccinations, and chipping. They struggle to find homes for the older

years are offered for free. They still have





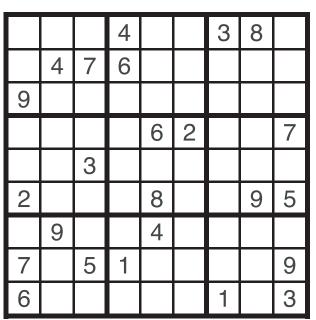
OPTABLE DOGS



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Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword



S I R I R P J F J H O J P T G J

A S P R G F U H I C D N E G E L U L E R

HARP

IRELAND

IRISH

ISLAND

JIG

LEGEND

LEPRECHAUN

LUCK

49. It's becoming more

52. Measure of illumination

prevalent

50. State in India

53. Raised platform

56. Japanese warrior

64. Advanced degree

65. Fiddler crabs

2. Czech city

4. A young pig

6. Covered with

8. Nigerian City

10. A way to shut

11. Stop playing

12 Marshy places

13. Takes apart

14. Ten cents

22. Scent

9. Midway between

63. Transitory

61. R.L. Stevenson novel

CLUES DOWN

3. __ and Andy, TV show

5. Removed surgically

7. Chest muscle (slang)

south and east

17. A gesture of assent

1. Prevent from seeing

CELEBRATION

CELTIC

CLOVER

EMERALD

ERIN

FORTUNE

GAELIC

GOLD

CLUES ACROSS

4. Political action committee

12. Olivia Colman played one

16. He had a notable lamp

18. Promotional material

19. Domesticated animal

21. The best ever

24. TV network

27. Checked for

33. Dash

30. Dry or withered

34. Fifth note of a major

35. A secret clique

healing

are two

48. District in Peru

37. Partner to cheese

41. City in ancient Syria

44. Established practice

47. Thanksgiving side dish

42. Gasteyer and de Armas

20. Larry and Curly's buddy

31. Expression of annoyance

39. __ school: where to learn

1. Helps little firms

7. Allowed

15. Open

HOW TO

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 February 12 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,

SUDOKU

Summary of Active Investigations

MAGIC

MARCH

MISCHIEF

PARADES

PATRICK

SAINT

SHAMROCK

TRADITION

23. Teletypewriter

(abbr.)

26. Taxi driver

28. Semitic Sun god

32. Traditional rhythmic

36. Fugitives are on the ___

40. Two letters, one sound

43. Having a strong, pleasant

51. River in northeastern Asia

54. Drug to treat anxiety

55. Part-time employee

56. A very large body of

57. Aboriginal people of

Japan

58. Millisecond

62. Royal Mail

59. Forearm bone

60. Subway dweller

29. Town in India

38. Type of dance

taste

44. Golf score

46. Drenched

45. Mayhem

25. Hillside

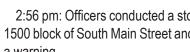
24. General's assistant

Monroe Street.

February 13

11:32 am: Officers

11:42 am: Officers



3:22 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of Baechtel Road and issued a

of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of Monroe Street. 8:20 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the

a warning. 8:24 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the

a warning. 8:56 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 12:04 am: Officers responded to a

February 14

investigation in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

2:34 pm: Officers responded to a disturbance in the 300 block of East

Rogers has increased his lead for second voter office is expected the afternoon of place a point and a half, with 21.1% of the vote districtwide (19,892 votes), compared to the updated 17.9% (16,890 votes) for Rusty Hicks. The second-place winner of this primary will face GOP candidate Michael Greer from Del Norte County in November. As of the latest update, Greer has received 27.5% of the primary vote (25,979 votes).

The Elections Office issued its first post-election update last Friday, reporting 7,418 ballots already counted in the "Final Election Night Report," but also showing that an estimated 15,258 ballots still needed processing.

To have more than 2/3s of the ballots still to process and report after Election Night is a higher amount than usual - it's been about half remaining to count after Election Night in recent elections. Looking at the state Secretary of State's unprocessed ballots report page, many other counties also had a lot more than half their local ballots to process and report after Election

Night this year. The estimated ballot count will result in an estimated turnout of roughly 23,700 votes, out of 52,602 registered voters in the county, or roughly 45%.

The next ballot update from the county

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT **POLICE LOG**

February 12 to February 18

a warning.

8:58 am: Officers conducted a stop in the

1:43 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the

1400 block of South Main Street and issued

3:41 pm: Officers initiated a theft

investigation in the 100 block of School

6:51 pm: Officers initiated a missing

1:44 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the

4:44 pm:

issued a warning.

5:37 pm:

7:54 pm:

and issued a warning.

and issued a warning.

11:48 am: Officers responded to a

disturbance in the 1700 block of South

3:45 pm: Officers responded to a report

of illegal camping near the intersection of

Blosser Lane and West Highway 20 and

7:23 pm: Officers responded to a

disturbance near the intersection of

Magnolia Avenue and Holly Street and

8:43 pm: Officers responded to a

disturbance in the 300 block of South Main

7:29 am: Officers initiated a fraud

investigation in the 100 block of East

9:49 am: Officers responded to a report

of suspicious activity in the 200 block of

11:09 am: RUMBLE. Dylan James (24)

of Willits was contacted in the 300 block of

Creekside Drive following a disturbance.

He was arrested pursuant to 243 (E) (1) PC

Main Street and issued a warning.

conducted a stop in the 1500

block of Baechtel Road and

conducted a stop in the 300

block of East Commercial

Street and issued a citation.

conducted a stop in the 800

block of South Main Street

pm:

conducted a stop in the 500

block of South Main Street

Officers

Officers

Officers

800 block of South Main Street and issued

person investigation in the 100 block of

East Commercial Street.

February 16

a warning.

February 17

issued a citation.

February 18

Main Street.

Commercial Street.

Sherwood Road.

(Domestic Battery).

From page 1

800 block of South Main Street and issued

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly The officers of the Willits Police February 15

Department handled 65 incidents in this 7-day reporting period.

and Arrests

6:55 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

9:16 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued

10:37 pm: Officers responded to a report the easier it gets to solve of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of

8:15 am: HAGLUND, Casey James (24) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of Blosser Lane. He was arrested on felony charges pursuant to 242 PC (Battery).

conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a

Casey Haglund of Willits. conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

2:56 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1500 block of South Main Street and issued

3:23 pm: Officers responded to a report

700 block of South Main Street and issued

500 block of South Main Street and issued

1500 block of South Main Street and issued disturbance in the 1700 block of South a citation.

8:52 am: Officers initiated a theft

11:55 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

Commercial Street.

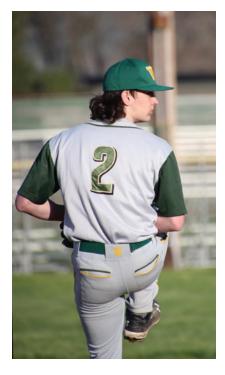
The rest of Election

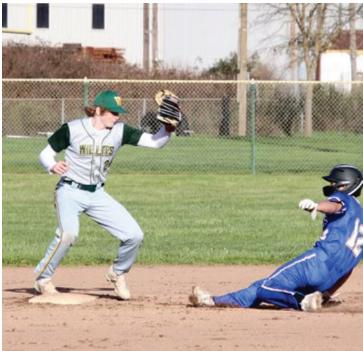
Good news on the snow pack The UC Berkeley Central Sierra Snow Lab announced Wednesday that the average snow pack statewide in California is now at 100% of the April 1 average. "100% snow water equivalent has been reached in California this season!" the lab announced on social media.

"Dry conditions are expected to persist for the next seven to 10 days," the March 13 post continued, "but it has been great to come off the heels of one massive winter and into another where our snowpack has hit average!"

Snowpack in the Northern Sierra / Trinity is at 113% of the April 1 average; a bit lower than the 117% of average normal for this date. In the Central Sierra, the snowpack is at 97% of April 1 average, compared to the 102% of average that's normal for this time of year. The Southern Sierra is at 91% of April 1 average, a bit lower than the 95% typical for this date.

"Snow water equivalent" measures the depth of water that would cover the ground if the snow pack all melted. It's important because snow melt is an important source of water for California and other mountainous states.







From far left: Wolverine Gunner Globe strategically sets up a pitch to the batter at the March 7 game.

Ryan Carter tags a Potter Valley Bearcat runner

Adrian Lopez winds up

for a pitch at the mound at last week's game against Potter Valley. Below, left: The Willits Wolverines Baseball

scoreboard at the Dave Kline Field at Willits High School. Below, right: Jakoby Kirby steps up to bat at the first home baseball game this year. At bottom: Team Captain Kooper Dockins catches

Photos by Ava Dockins

Baseball Time

WHS Wolverines win two games to start the new season

first game was held at home March 7 on the Dave Kline Field, named after the legendary head baseball coach who coached baseball at Willits High School for 27 years. A very dedicated coach and teacher, he spent Sheri Dockins many long hours maintaining the field

willitsweekly@gmail.com while helping kids keep their grades up so they could play ball. The passion for the game lives on through the name engraved

on the scoreboard above. One of Coach Kline's star players Travis Dockins also coached for many years, putting every ounce of heart into these boys, with the help of another one of his best, Stan Cooley. They both will be missed. A warm welcome to the new coaches: Head Coach Tim King and Assistant Coach Bryan Mann will be stepping up to the plate this season.

Here's Coach King's account of the March 7 game against the Potter Valley Bearcats: "In the first home game, Adrian Lopez (sophomore) got the start on the mound. After a little bit of a rocky beginning where he walked in a run in the 1st inning, he was able to settle in and get us out of

Willits Wolverines Baseball has officially a bases-loaded jam. After that, he gave us launched into a new and thrilling season! The two scoreless innings. I was proud of him for overcoming adversity in the 1st to come back and throw a good game.

"Gunner Globe (senior) came in to pitch the 4th inning and retired three consecutive batters to end the game," Coach King continued. "Team Captain Kooper Dockins (senior) caught the whole game, and called a great game from behind the plate.

"On offense, we had the bat working. The team had nine hits in four innings with Kooper Dockins (senior), Jake Grooms (senior), Adrian Lopez (sophomore), Ryan Carter (sophomore), and Jakoby Kirby (freshman) all recording hits in the game. The guys were also aggressive with eight stolen bases," King said.

"Friday [March 8], we traveled to Cloverdale for our first League game against the Eagles. We came away with a 10-4 win. Team Captain Kooper Dockins got the start on the mound, and gave us a very strong outing going 6-1/3 innings, and giving up only three runs, most of which

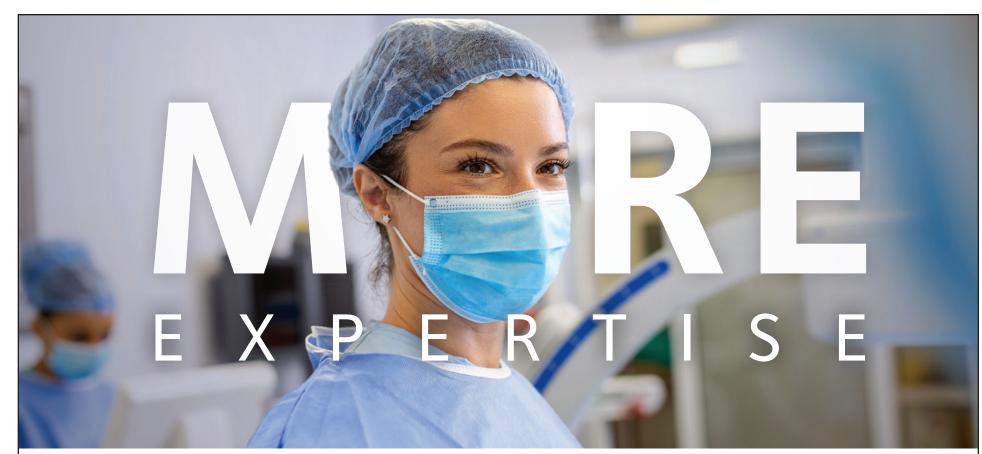
Read the rest of Baseball

Over on page 9











Ruth McLarty, MD General Surgery AdventistHealth.org/RMcLarty



Cristina V. Cueto, MD General Surgery AdventistHealth.org/CCueto

Now welcoming new patients

Adventist Health Howard Memorial 3 Marcela Drive, Willits 707-459-6115



If you're looking for a partner for your complex healthcare needs, look to Ruth McLarty, MD and Cristina V. Cueto, MD, our new general surgeon team.

You were made for more. More knowledge. More compassion. More expertise. That is why we're proud to introduce two new general surgeons and welcome them to our team.

Dr. McLarty, PhD, is a skilled, board-certified general surgeon, caring for ages 2 and older with such common conditions as cholecystitis, diverticulitis, bowel obstructions and hernias. Dr. McLarty also specializes in colorectal surgery.

Dr. Cueto, is a skilled, board-certified general surgeon, and speaks both English and Spanish to best care for patients ages 18 and older. Some common conditions she treats are biliary disease, hernias, benign and malignant diseases of the colon and small bowel, soft tissue conditions and diseases of the breast.

Together, this experienced general surgeon team is available and ready to serve our community.



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 Worship Service - 5:00 p.m Pastor Kris Strickland EVERYBODY IS WELCOM

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.n Sunday Worship-11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Service-6-7:00 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7-8:00 p.m.

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

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

Eckankar: The 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/ saintanthonywillits@gmail.co 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.n 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 an 286 School St. (at Pine) 707-459-2855 wumc@willitsonline.com www.willitsumc.org

Facebook: facebook willits um

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

Thursday, March 14

Become a Museum Volunteer: Prospective volunteers are invited to join us Thursday, March 14, from 10 to 11 am for a morning coffee break! Meet staff and current volunteers and learn about the exciting opportunities available at the Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendocinocounty.org/museum, museum@ mendocinocounty.gov or 707-234-6365.

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, 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,

March 15

Willits Block Party

at Evergreen Center:

This weekend on

from 4 to 7 pm: Local

businesses including

Esthetics by Eden,

Skin by K Aesthetics

Studio, The Mane

House, Flourish &

Flow Mendocino, and

Breakthrough Fitness

will offer discounts.

deals, raffles, prizes,

15

American Legion

ST. PATRICK'S

DAY FEAST

March 16, 2024

Corned Beef & Cabbage

191 North Main • Willits

Friday, March







chair massages, live discounted services, new permanent jewelry and more. Super Taco will be doing a dinner deal. Multiple booths including activities for kids and tons of fun! Everyone welcome.

Saturday, March 16

St. Patrick's Day Feast: The American Legion Post 174 presents the Duane Brown Memorial St. Patrick's Day Feast. Saturday, March 16 from 5 to 7 pm, at the Veterans Memorial Building, 191 North Main Street. Featuring Corned Beef & Cabbage Murphy's (Spuds), Carrots, etc. \$25 for adults; children 12 and under \$15; free for kids under 5.

Photos with the Easter Bunny

Sunday, March 24

Photos with the Easter Bunny and his Live, Furry Friends:

Come on down on Sunday, March 24 from 12 to 4 pm to

J.D. Redhouse in Willits and have your photo taken with

the Easter Bunny, and snuggle with his live, furry friends,

too! Digital images are available for \$5 each and will be

available to download from the online gallery site: https://

photographress.zenfolio.com/easterbunnyphotos. There's

no appointments, just stop by and get in line! More info:

Holy Week at St. John's

St. John's Lutheran Church of Willits invites you to join

us for our Holy Week Celebrations, as we commemorate

the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

We welcome the whole family to come worship with us.

Passion/Palm Sunday: March 24 at 10 am; Good Friday:

March 29 at 5 pm; and Easter Sunday with Breakfast:

March 31 at 9 am and our Easter Celebration Service to

Farmers Convergence at the

Ranch, March 19

9th annual Convergence at Ridgewood Ranch

brings together farmers and food producers from Lake,

Mendocino, Sonoma, and Humboldt counties, along with

local food retailers, chefs, food activists, and interested

community members. This year's focus is re-building our

Roundtables at this year's event include

topics covering marketing, seed saving

and locally adapted seeds, conversations

on land access and building working farm

teams, a breakout discussion on feeding

Laytonville, connection opportunities for

farm-to-school producers and cooks, an

advocacy training for local food policy, and a

farm demonstration of an off-grid salad-mix

For full program or to register in

advance by March 18, visit https://ncoinc.

networkforgood.com/events/66717-farmers-

convergence or register on site the day-of

the event. Your ticket includes a delicious,

farm-fresh lunch and access to the full day

of programming as well as the 4 pm mixer.

707-459-6660

Next Week:

GHOSTBUSTERS:

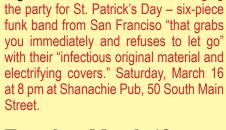
FROZEN EMPIRE

follow. 24 Mill Creek Drive.

local food web.

washing station.

707-972-7047 or email maureengetsmail@gmail.com



Night Animals at Shanachie: Bringing

Tuesday, March 19

Behind the Scenes Tour at the Museum: in March and April the Mendocino County Museum will offer special Behind the Scenes Tours, for visitors to view the Museum collections storage facility, see special exhibits and artifacts new to the collection, and view the current exhibit, "In the Field: Exploring Botany in Mendocino County." Tuesday, March 19, from 2 to 3 pm. Included with museum admission. To reserve a space, please email museum@mendocinocounty. gov or call 707-234-6365. Recommended for adults and children 8 and over. Info: www.mendocinocounty. org/museum

Wednesday, March 20

Willits Stamp Club: Monthly meeting, third Wednesdays, Wednesday, March 20 this month, 5 to 6:30 pm at the Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Bring your collection and enjoy time perusing stamps. All are welcome. Refreshments served. Info: talsofam@ pacific.net

'Seeds of Wellness' talk at Methodist Church: Avenues to Wellness third-Wednesday speaker series presents a wellness talk by licensed acupuncturist Diane Smalley of Abundant Health Acupuncture and Herbs, who has been

practicing Asian medicine for 39 years. "Is the body a complete mystery to you? Let's explore the 10 most basic elements that will help you stay well throughout the seasons of your life." Wednesday, March 20, 6 to 7 pm, at Willits Methodist Church (wheelchair accessible), 286 School Street. Free; donations appreciated ATW is a program of the Frank R. Howard Foundation. Visit: www. avenuestowellness.org for an archive of past events. More info: 456-9676 or spicetti@howardfoundation.org.



Thursday, March 21

WILLITS WINTER

Farmers 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.

707.459.7910 Local produce, local meat, farm fresh eggs, delicious meals, tasty treats, live music, the new edition of SUPPORT LOCAL FARMERS Willits Weekly, and more. Tobin's Tales, story time at the farmers market, from 3:30 to 4 pm, with

Library Assistant Tobin FARMERS MARKET reading selected juvenile picture books. All are WINTER LOCATION Little Lake Grange Hall 291 School St in Willits Women's History Month 3PM-5:30PM Lecture at the Library: Come and be inspired at the Willits Branch Library on Thursday, March 21 with Resident Historian and Branch Librarian

Denise Jessie as she presents an engaging and thought-provoking lecture on "Women and Their Struggle for Equality," a highly relevant topic for these times. Light refreshments provided; from 5:30 to 6:30 pm at the meeting room at the Willits Branch Library. 390 East Commercial Street. More info: www.mendolibrary.org or 707-459-

Saturday, March 23

2MuchFun! at Szechuan: Paul Haley and Dave Pierce of 2MuchFun! will be rocking the hits of the '60s and '70s, at Szechuan Asian Restaurant, 47 East Mendocino Avenue. Saturday, March 23, from

Dharma Talk at The Muse, March 25

Tibetan Buddhist teacher Khenpo Karma Tenkvong returns to Willits to talk about "Taming the Ego." Combining timeless wisdom with modern wit, Khenpo's insights are vital and fresh. Monday. March 25 from 6 to 7:30 pm at The Muse. 30 East San Francisco Avenue. Admission free; donations welcome. Info: 707-354-1866.

Whale Fest in Fort Bragg, March 15-17

Whale Fest is taking over Downtown Fort Bragg this weekend, March 15 through 17, bigger and better than ever. There's a Downtown Wine Walk, the Fort Bragg Beer Festival, a 10k/5k Whale Run and Walk, a craft fair, live music, food trucks, and much more. All events take place rain or shine.

Could there be a better time to visit Fort Bragg? Of course, the whales will be moving through all winter, so if this weekend doesn't work out, no worries. Come anytime through April to see the amazing migration of Fort Bragg's favorite cetaceans.



(PG13) 2 hrs 46 mins

Fri.: 7:30pm

SAT.: 4:00 & 7:30pm

Sun.: 3:00 & 6:30pm

Mon.-Thurs.: 6:30pm



HARWOOD HALL, LAYTONVILLE 707-984-8089

KUNG FU DUNE: PART 2

Masks Optional

BOB MARLEY: ONE LOVE



(PG13) 1 hr 47 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 **OVER 21 CLUB**

Luxury Recliners Tightwad Tuesday Titles for March 19 are in RED. All tickets at just \$6.

Call 707-456-9676 for more info.

Proudly sponsoring the Mills What's Happening **Around Town** Gonzales for seniors, \$5 children under 10. Also: extra sides of Organic Fruit \$2, Amish Organic Maple Syrup \$1.

Shanachie: from the Bay Area, "Jon Gonzales weaves ukulele with psychedelic

folk-hooks lyrical satire and paradoxical, universal subjects in his songs." Saturday, March 23 at 8 pm at Shanachie Pub. 50 South Main Street.

Sunday, March 24

www.Willits.org

info@willits.org

Photos with the Easter Bunny and his Live, Furry Friends: Come on down on Sunday, March 24 from 12 to 4 pm to J.D. Redhouse in Willits and have your photo taken with the Easter Bunny, and snuggle with his live, furry friends, too! Digital images are available for \$5 each and will be available to download from the online gallery site: https://photographress.zenfolio. com/easterbunnyphotos. There's no appointments. just stop by and get in line! More info: 707-972-7047

brings Richard Weiss of the Mendocino coast's

3-D paintings and Susie Racecar of Laytonville's

amazing art in the month of March. 71 East

Commercial Street. More info: 707-459-1726, Info:

Free Food Pop-Ups: Mendocino Food and Nutrition

Program's Food Pop-Up in Willits is now offering two

events per month, first and third Thursdays, at 1250

Blosser Lane, from noon to 1 pm, weather permitting.

Free food for all! In March these food pop-ups will

happen March 7 and 21 this month. Info: outreach@

'In the Field' Exhibit: Mendocino 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 pressed 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

Willits Tennis Club: Meets Mondays and

Wednesdays from 9 to 11 am at the Willits High

School courts. New members welcome. Free. Show

Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Group: Meets every

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

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

Willits Drum Circle: Every second and fourth

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

Episcopal Church, Main and Commercial 7pm. Info:

Brown Bag Lunch Program: Sack lunches served

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

www.willitscenterforthearts.org

fbfoodbank.org; 707-964-9404

up or call 707-484-3385.

Bill Bruneau: 459-3390.

or email maureengetsmail@gmail.com Grange Pancake Breakfast: Join your friends at the monthly Little Lake Grange Breakfast on Sunday, March 24, 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

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.

Shanachie Pub Ongoing **Events**

Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street

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

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

assured a lunch! Provided by various churches and

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

The 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

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@

Dog Wood Pizza, 65 South Main Street.

seniors 60 or older), and diapers.

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,

or text Sensei Mike Tobin at 707-354-0565

all ages, 8 to 8:45 pm, There is an annual \$20 SAL

insurance/registration fee (waivable). More info: call

bbruneau.com

community organizations.

Ongoing Events

WCA March Show: Willits Center for the Arts every Saturday from 1 to 2 pm. Come early to be

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

'Kung Fu Panda 4' The Story: Po, the food loving panda bear aka "Dragon

Warrior," is told by Shifu that he must work on his inner nature and become the wise and mostly sedentary voice of wisdom in the Valley of Peace. This is Po's greatest challenge, because there is nothing he loves more than mixing it up with his superior boxing skills. And then there's the fact that Po possesses the magical Staff of Wisdom which he has to pass on to a whole new "Dragon Warrior.'

At the same time, it seems that a skinny nasty selfimportant



appropriately 'The Chameleon" wants the staff for her own selfaggrandizing motive which is: to Rule the World! That's not good.

Now Po has an adversary beyond his own inability to meditate. Battles happen. New characters are introduced. Allies are cemented. Po gets to eat a lot of fancy foods.

The Chameleon is properly chastened and everything works out for the best.

My Thoughts: This is my first Kung Fu Panda movie. I am not a fan of the series, nor am I an enemy. It's more like "OK, whatever." And I do love pandas. And besides, this is a flick for kids. On Rotten Tomatoes 94% of the audience loved the flick, which is higher than all the previous Kung Fu Panda movies.

Parents: It's a silly movie. It's funny enough in a "pie in the face" kind of way. Po the panda protagonist has to struggle, but he perseveres. That's a good lesson. And there's a fox character who learns about loyalty and friendship.

That, too, is good for children to see.

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



Seeds of Wellness by Diane Smalley

Wed. March 20, 6-7pm

Is the body a complete mystery to you? Let's explore the ten most basic elements that will help you stay well throughout the seasons of your life. This talk is an opportunity to improve your health no matter where you are. Please join us as we discover the seeds of wellness. Diane Smalley, L.Ac. of Abundant Health Acupuncture and Herbs has been practicing Asian Medicine for 39 years. She finds that the more you know about your health, the better new location equipped you are to keep yourself and your family well. Diane's greatest joy is seeing the light of self-knowledge glow in your eyes!

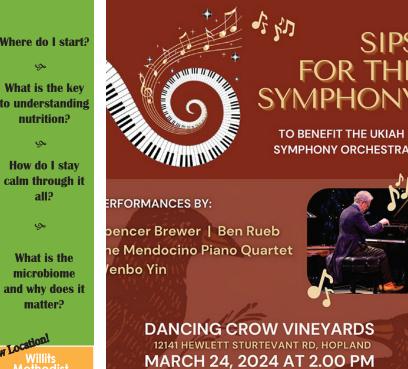


nutrition?

all?

What is the

matter?



LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE AT

UKIAHSYMPHONY.ORG





Movie Times for March 15 thru March 21

Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or 459-5908. Story Time: Tuesday through Friday each week, 10:30 to

Ongoing Events at the Willits

Library

11 am. "Start your morning listening to a story. Join us in the children's area of the library." Penny University Coffee Klatch: Tuesdays, 11 am to noon. We will meet in the Willits Library meeting room to

discuss various topics while enjoying a "cup of joe". Topics

LEGO Club: Tuesdays, now 4 to 6:30 pm. "It is LEGO time at the library. Bring your imagination and start building."

will range and will be announced ahead of time.

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 direction.

Calming Coloring at the Library: Thursdays, from 5 to 6 pm at the Willits Library, 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 provided.

Tech Help: Now every 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!

COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES





Kitchen, which provides food for cancer patients, has three plots to add to their food supply. Willie Hahn created this sign to joke about the rain

WW476

2024-F0086

Fictitious Business

Name Statement

The following person or

persons are doing business as

Backroad Security, 7659 Hwy

Mailing address: PO Box

1516, Lakeport CA 95453.

Lvnn Russell, 7659 Hwv 29,

Kelseyville, CA 95451; John

Keith Schiessl, 26750 N Hwy

101, Willits CA 95490; and

Patrick Bruce Lawrason, 167

This business is conducted

The registrants commenced

to transact business under the

fictitious business name listed

FBN statement filed with the

Recorder on February 2, 2024

Publication dates: March 7, 14,

Marc Komer

Legal Document Assistant

An Affordable

Non-Attorney Service

(707) 459-2775

245 South Humboldt St., Suite B, Willits

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

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

Mendocino County invites

applications for:

Agricultural Commissioner/

Sealer of Weights & Measures

\$125,112 - \$152,068

Assistant Agricultural Commissioner

Sealer of Weights & Measures

\$88,899 - \$108,076

Corrections Deputy

\$55,369 - \$67,308

Department Analyst I

\$59,904 - \$72,820

Deputy Probation Officer I/II

\$51,937 - \$69,617

Deputy Sheriff-Coroner

\$75,878 - \$93,142

Mental Health Rehabilitation

Specialist

\$57,387 - \$69,763

Senior Program Specialist

\$62,504 - \$75,982

For a complete list of current job openings

and to apply:

www.mendocinocounty.gov/jobs

EOE

Over on page 8

Read the rest of

doing edible food."

Garden

Halloween. I think we might do herbs

this year. I used to help my parents

with their garden. They did tomatoes,

hot house peppers, green leaf stuff,

I did a lot of weeding, not much

Mendocino County Clerk-

/s/ John K. Schiessl

above on N/A

21, 28, 2024.

Wall Street, Fort Bragg CA

by a General Partnership..

Registered owners: Richard

29, Kelseyville, CA 95451.

Below, left: Building a greenhouse is faster with the help of friends Below, right: William

inherited an already

grass-free plot.













Our mission is to provide compassionate, high-quality care for our communities. Your health matters. Call us today.



LITTLE LAKE HEALTH CENTER mchcinc.org

(707) 456-9600

Nurturing Space

Plots available at Willits Community Gardens compost, tools and companionship included

"Life is bristling with thorns, and I know no other remedy than to cultivate one's garden."

It's that time of year again, the time for Willits' gardeners to begin making their plans and strategies for what and where to plant. With the weather, hopefully, starting to turn to spring, those who wish to start planting need to find a place to sow their seeds and

Mathew Caine

planting and nurturing their gardens. Luckily there is a place to find a garden plot that comes complete with water and compost and the tools to utilize in these tasks.

help nature along by

According to Garden Manager Mike A'Dair, the Willits Community Gardens have 10 to 12 sizable plots available to rent for \$.60 per square foot. The gardens are located at the southeast corner of Recreation Grove Park, next to the sheriff's station, accessible through a gate that has a lock for protection. The lock has a code which is given to those who rent the spaces. A'Dair has done his best to create obstacles to keep the deer out of the fenced area, including placing tape along the top of the fence to increase the height and scare off the creatures.

"I believe we have 37 plots currently. They vary in size from 160 square feet (24 feet by 7 feet) down to about 60 square feet, which is about a 20-foot-by-3-foot plot," noted A'Dair. "There are some scholarships available and we can do installment payments. We are flexible. If people have questions or want to sign up for a plot, they can call me at 707-200-2462 or email michaeladair69@yahoo.com.

"We provide the bed and tools and water and compost," said A'Dair. "We ask the gardeners to compost their materials that they pull out of the garden. We get together a couple, three times a year for a meeting and maybe a meal. We don't supply seeds.

We usually get a big pile of compost in the spring from Cold Creek, and we also have our own compost that we make.

There is also a sizeable greenhouse for the use of the gardeners who wish to start their plants from seed. The gardens also offer areas to sit and enjoy the outdoors with statuettes and scenes to ponder.

"The Community Gardens are still a North Coast Opportunities project, along with the many other community gardens that they oversee under the watchful eye of Sarah Marshall," continued A'Dair. "She is also connected with the Good Farm Project that helps fund small agriculture groups."

The current gardeners are a diverse group of locals with a common love for growing their own food and being in places where this is done. Deana Bunny, along with her significant other, Garrett Moore, built a small greenhouse for their use.

"It's my first year in this garden. I was no stranger to gardening in Santa Barbara. I'm going to grow a lot of things that grow in the ground, root vegetables. Maybe I'll get some starts, but I want to branch out this year and try starting with seeds in the greenhouse," she mused.

Moore, her partner, added, "Gardening is like creation. You're working with these plants to feed yourself. You're growing something where there was nothing. Somehow, the nutrients in the soil organize themselves into edible plants. It's beautiful."

A father-son team of William and Willie Hahn are trying out a small plot for the first time. "This is our first year gardening," said the elder Hahn, "I've just done small ornamental plants in the past. We're going

Read the rest of Garden

To pre-register go to www.willitsunified.com

Kindergarten - age 5 by September 1, 2024

Kinder - 5 años antes de Septiembre 1, 2024

Once you have completed the online registration,

please bring the following documents to Brookside:

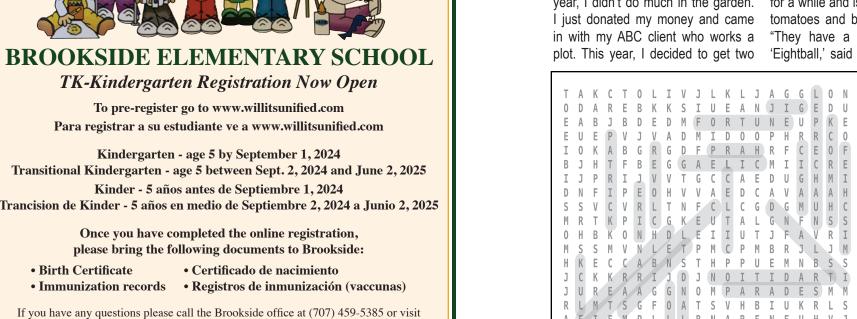
our Website at www.willitsunified.com/o/brookside

Si tiene alguna pregunta, llame a la oficina de Brookside al (707) 459-5385 or visite

nuestro sitio web www.willitsunified.com/o/brookside

• Certificado de nacimiento

Over on page 9



to do a variety of tomatoes. Willie plots for myself. We're going to try to wants to do some pumpkins for pump out a lot of tomatoes, a lot of peppers. I'm going to try and donate a lot of food this year. I'm a chef, so I'm going to try to make a lot of food for the community, donate food and give it away. I have a garden at home gardening. This will be my first run at as well, but I did this to be a part of the community. I love it here. It's all about the vibe and it's all about good

LEGAL NOTICES LEGAL NOTICES

Fictitious Business

Name Statement

The following corporation is

doing business as EURoad

Travel Guides, 1816 Buckeye

Road, Willits, CA 95490.

Mailing address: P.O. Box

Registered owner: Digital

This business is conducted by

The registrant commenced to

transact business under the

fictitious business name listed

FBN statement filed with the

Recorder on February 14, 2024

Publication dates: February 29,

HSIMC

several good years to be

"We have a couple events

coming up very soon,

continued King. "We have

a pancake breakfast at the

Redwood Valley Grange.

We've partnered with the

will be our auctioneer," said King.

to play," said Zenitar.

From page 3

above on December 2016..

Mendocino County Clerk-

/s/ Victoria Bertotti

March 7, 14, 21, 2024

loved and enjoyed.

juice, and coffee.

2127, Willits CA 95490.

Aeon Inc., P.O. Box 651,

Nyack, NY 10960.

a corporation.

2024-F0108

Statement of

Fictitious Business Name

The person or persons listed

below have abandoned the use

of the following fictitious

Security, 7659 Hwy 29.

The FBN was filed in

County

business name: Backroad

Kelsevville, CA 95451; Lake

Mendocino County on October

5, 2020. File Number 2020-

Lynn Russell, 7659 Hwy 29,

Covelo CA 95428; and John

Keith Schiessl, 26750 N Hwy

101. Willits CA 95490

FBN Statement of

/s/ John K. Schiess

21, 28, 2024,

by a General Partnership

Mendocino County Clerk-

Kelseyville, CA 95451; Randall

Leslie Vann, 88910 Mina Road,

This business was conducte

Abandonment was filed with the

Recorder on February 28, 2024.

Publication dates: March 7, 14,

Abandonment of Use of

Kenneth Brown has been a chef in energy," said Brown. New Orleans and is no stranger to the plants that people enjoy eating. "Last year, I didn't do much in the garden. I just donated my money and came in with my ABC client who works a

when I can eat it."

Mike Cortez has been gardening for a while and is going to be growing tomatoes and broccoli and zucchini. "They have a new zucchini called plot. This year, I decided to get two 'Eightball,' said Cortez. "They're like

little melons. I like gardening because it is healthy for me. I get energetic and it gives me a good feeling when I'm able to grow food and even better

The Willits Community Gardens are not just a place for people to grow food. There is an inherent comradery amongst the people who grow food. They enjoy being out in the open, nurturing, and watching their creations grow. For those who would like to secure one of the remaining plots, please call Mike A'Dair at 707-200-2462, or email him at michaeladair69@yahoo.com.

6 5 3 9 3 6 8 2 8 3 9 6 5 2 8 3 9 4 6 8 9 4 9 5 2 4 6 8 6 2 3 2 5 6

CLASSIFIEDS 30 words for \$15 for 2 weeks

Brookside Registration

WW474

Order to Show

Cause -

residing at 59 Alameda

Change of Name

I, Kylan DuFriend L. Simpson,

Avenue, Willits, CA 95490, am

proposing to change my name

THE COURT ORDERS that all

matter shall appear before this

court at the hearing indicated

below to show cause, if any

why the petition for change of

name should not be granted.

Any person objecting to the

name changes described

above must file a written

objection that includes the

reasons for the objection at

matter is scheduled to be

least two court days before the

heard and must appear at the

hearing to show cause why the

petition should not be granted.

If no written objection is timely

filed, the court may grant the

My court hearing date will be

4/5/24 at The Superior Court o

Mendocino, 100 North State

Street, Ukiah, CA 95482, Hon.

Superior Court of Mendocino

Publication dates: March 7, 14,

petition without a hearing.

California, County of

Ann C. Moorman Judge,

My case number is

24CV00179

fire department and the Grange and the Humane Society.

We're doing the first-in-a-long-time pancake breakfast for

the community. It is on Saint Patrick's Day, March 17, from

9 am to 12 noon. It's \$12 for adults, \$6 for 12 and under.

We will be serving pancakes, eggs, bacon or sausage,

"On May 4, we'll be doing our spring event, which will

be done at the Barra Winery again this year. The theme

this year is Black and White Ball. We hope everyone will

attend in their finest black and white attire. It will consist of

a dinner, a silent auction, a live auction. Machiko Shimada

and her group will entertain with some smooth jazz before

dinner, and after dinner the auctions will start. Tom Allman

Many of the attendees were dog owners, including

Shanachie Pub manager Ambria Zenitar, whose dog,

Rupert, generated an extra \$67 by letting people rub his

tummy. "Rupert found me five years ago, said Zenitar.

"He was a stray and we couldn't find his parents. About a

year later, we found who owned him. They were just really

happy to see that he was loved because he had just killed

a chicken on their property, so he had to be kenneled a

lot. He would come over to our house periodically and

disappear for a day or two. This went on for a few months

"A good dog day is a good human day, a day that we're

out in nature and just being and experiencing life together.

It reminds me to just slow down and enjoy my breath and

For those wishing to donate, volunteer, or foster / adopt,

the shelter is located at 9700 Uva Drive, Redwood Valley.

The Humane Society of Inland Mendocino County is open

Wednesday through Friday from 1 to 5 pm, and Saturday

and Sunday from 11 am to 3 pm. For more info, visit https://

mendohumanesociety.com or call 707-485-0123.

and finally we just adopted him and got him fixed.

21, and 28, 2024

to Pinky Xohara Simpson.

persons interested in this

Brookside Elementary TK / Kindergarten registration is now open. To register go to www.willitsunified.com. Kindergarten: age 5 by Sept. 1, 2024; TK: age 5 between Sept. 2, 2024 and June 2, 2025

abierta en

John Ford Ranch Beef Inscripción John Ford Ranch

Help Wanted

Join the team at the

Mendocino Food &

Nutrition Program. Open

positions - Development

Director FT. Warehouse

Supervisor FT Willits

Warehouse. Apply at

fortbraggfoodbank.org

still has the 50 lb.

RV/Trailer Space

for Rent

or on indeed.com

Brookside Rancher's Choice Box for \$390.00 and the 25 inscripción para lb. Hamburger Box for TK / Kindergarten de \$170.00. Please contact Brookside Elementary Debbie Arkelian @ 459va está abierta. Para 5049. (Prices change registrarse, vaya a www. effective 6/25/23) willitsunified.com.

Computer Help Need help with your Macintosh, Android and IOS devices. Repairs, configuration tutoring: \$50/hr. Call Liam 459-2470 or email

For Rent Brand New. Only 1 apartment left. Close to town and Howard granite counters and large pantry. Spacious bathrooms. floors throughout and window coverings. 1200

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. uicearbhaill@gmail.com oaknvine.net/tp

Bedroom, 2 Bath. appointed kitchens with Laminate sq. ft. Air conditioned. \$1800.00/mo. More

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.

The rest of Baseball

information call 707-

489-1080.

From page 3

"Jakoby Kirby came in to get the last two outs of the game," Coach King said, "giving up one run in the process. logan Sanderson got the start behind the plate at catcher. Logan caught a great game and was a wall back there. don't remember seeing any balls get past him."

"Offensively, we didn't have a ton of hits," King said about the game against Cloverdale. "However, the guys did a good job getting on the base, They were able to be aggressive on the bases, and maximize mistakes made by the Eagles. With the help of strong pitching, solid base running, and a few key hits; we were able to walk away with our first League win.

"Cloverdale has an experienced Varsity team that includes 11 seniors, and two juniors. Our starting Varsity squad is made up of five seniors, two sophomores, and two freshmen. The returning players from last season have dealt with a lot of adversity throughout that season. Several of last year's players didn't return this year, so I was proud of the guys for coming out this season.

"Due to the weather, we have only been able to practice outside on our field a handful of times. The rest of the time, we've been trying to practice what we can in the gym. The fact that we were able to hang with such an experienced team; I couldn't be more proud," concluded Head Coach

Willits Wolverines Baseball's next home game is on Friday, March 15, against Upper Lake at 4 pm. Grab a bag of sunflower seeds, and come on down to the Dave Kline Field at WHS to support our talented local high school students play ball! The Wolverines have their eye on the ball, and heart in the game! We hope to see you there!



Call for showroom hours. 1037 S. Main St. • Willits, CA

707-459-6272



Willits Weekly | March 14, 2024

A O H C R A M D E V R O V B K N E V T L

NRDHSIRIRPJFJHOJPTGJ

A S P R G F U H I C D N E G E L U L E

F M P L L B N A B E N F U H V J

Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047

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

Pg. 8 Phone: 707-459-2633, 707-972-7047 Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com

Mail: P.O. Box 1698, Willits, CA 95490

• Birth Certificate

• Immunization records

Willits Weekly | March 14, 2024

Versatile. dependable rosemary

Rosemary is an herb that has been use for the last 3,000 years, and with good reason. In our area, it is drought-resistant, deer-proof, forage for bees in several seasons, used as

Donna d'Terra

making natural cosmetics, mineral-rich, highly medicinal, easy to propagate, and is available all vear long (since it doesn't die back in

incense

Rosmarinus, its Latin name, translates to "dew of the sea," and reminds us that it is native to the Mediterranean coast where it grows on cliffs overlooking the sea. The colonists and many immigrants brought rosemary with them when they came to this country.

My Italian grandmother was one of them. She grew this and many other herbs in the garden behind the Italian restaurant she opened in Santa Rosa in 1880. Over the decades, rosemary escaped these gardens and naturalized as a perennial along the California coast where it can still be found today.

The energy of rosemary is warm-to-hot, opening and energizing. The medicinal properties are vast, so I will list just a few applications here:

- "brain tonic," increasing cerebral circulation; helps prevent the breakdown of the neurotransmitter acetylcholine (a deficiency is linked to Alzheimer's)
- a tea or compress to relieve headaches (the type of headache that is relieved by a warm compress not
- digestive aid stimulating appetite, improving absorption of nutrients by stimulating the liver and gall bladder; relieves gas
- antioxidant, mostly due to carnosic acid, found in highest levels in the newer young leaves in summer
- antibacterial, antifungal, antiseptic tea used as a wound soak and eyewash; the oil is a strong preservative
- incense and smudge as recently as WWII, in Europe, it was burned in hospitals to disinfect. (Rosemary can be added to a pot of water on your heater or wood stove.)
- antiseptic gargle for sore throat, gum problems, canker

Note: In pregnancy, avoid use other than culinary. Since it can increase blood pressure, moderate to heavy doses should be avoided in individuals with high blood pressure.

Rosemary also shines as an ingredient in natural body care. A few examples:

- an infusion of needles and flowers as a hair rinse to improve circulation to the scalp
- as a massage oil, to increase circulation and relieve
- as a facial steam, to cleanse and to increase circulation

Rosemary as a culinary herb is used in soups, meat and fish dishes, with rice, winter squash, beans, and baked in bread. The flowers are edible. The branches have been used as skewers or under the meat on a BBQ. To encourage regular use of rosemary in your kitchen, plant some near your outside door so it is readily available.

The forms of use for rosemary are as versatile as the herb itself:

- infusion of dried or fresh herb and flowers (steep, covered, 10-15 minutes, do not simmer or boil)
- tincture of fresh herb (used in very small doses)
- · compress, steam, oil for massage or bath • essential oil (highly concentrated, must be diluted
- before using!)
- herbal vinegars, elixirs and flavored wines
- smudge or incense

Hopefully you are inspired to grow this plant where you live. There are two main types of rosemary: the upright plants that will grow to a height of 3 to 5 feet, and the prostrate type, which are 1 to 2 feet in height and are perfect as a ground cover or for cascading over walls.

Rosemary prefers light, well-draining soils and lots of sun. Lack of sun, temperatures below 20 degrees, or over-watering are the conditions that can damage or kill rosemary.

An easy way to propagate it is to take cuttings. Cut a 6 to 8 inch tip of a stem and strip the needles off of the bottom half. Then dip the bare end into a cloning solution (or willow water), and put several stems into a 1 gallon pot that is filled with 1/2 sand and 1/2 potting soil, and keep

After 8 to 10 weeks, carefully remove each stem and replant each one that has made roots into its own pot of potting soil, and grow it out another month or two. Look for new growth at the top before planting it into the garden.

I have been using this method for many years, and now have several hundred rosemary plants all over the land where I live. They are preventing soil erosion, feeding the bees, providing food and medicine for people, etc. They are one of the few cultivated plants that are truly deer-proof (daffodils are another). After a year or two of watering, the plants are on their own and do fine with perhaps an occasional watering in the heat of summer.

Most people think of rosemary as a culinary plant, period. Reviewing its many uses we can see why this remarkable, versatile, dependable herb was once considered "a Great Cure All" – and in many ways, it still is.

Donna d'Terra is an herbalist and herbal educator.

Willits Senior Center FUN-DING RAFFLE

Submitted by Richard Baker, for the Willits Senior Center

The Willits Senior Center recently mailed FUN-DING Raffle envelopes to all businesses, residents, and P.O. Boxes in Willits and Laytonville, It was just brought to my attention that not everyone received raffle envelopes.

If you did not receive a raffle envelope or would like to purchase additional raffle tickets please stop by the senior center, 1501 Baechtel Road, or call us at 707-459-6826. We will gladly mail you a raffle envelope. We can also accept credit card/debit card payments by phone and fill out your raffle tickets for you and place them in our raffle barrel.

Hurry and get your tickets now – the drawing for the great prizes listed below will be on Friday,

Since 1974, or for more than 50 years, the senior center has been an invaluable community resource. As a 501 © (3) non-profit organization we are dependent upon donations to keep our doors open. Funds raised support essential programs and services including, but not limited to: Meals on Wheels, "door through door" Senior Transportation, free medical equipment loan program, free firewood program, community outreach, securing Section 8 housing. We also offer a Financial Representative Payee Service to protect seniors from financial abuse. Our Outreach worker is

available to sign up eligible individuals and families to CalFresh benefits, help people with high heating bills by signing them up for Heating, Energy Assistance Program (HEAP). Funds raised keep the senior center's doors open so seniors have a safe place to socialize, attend exercise classes, computer lab, or a place to drop in and eat lunch.

50% of the raffle proceeds will fund the aforementioned programs and services, and 50% will be directed to The Endowment for Willits Seniors Inc.

The endowment provides critical financial support to the senior center. Their steadfast financial support over the years has enabled us to purchase and enlarge our thrift store, recover our badly leaking roof, and most recently enlarge our driveway, repave our parking lot, and add ADA compliant parking spaces.

To date the endowment has given the senior center over \$500,000. It is critical for the long-term financial well-being of the senior and the solvency of the endowment that we secure yearly donations for both entities.

If you would like to donate directly to the endowment, EIN # 13-4257501, please mail your check to: The Endowment for Willits Seniors Inc., 3 Marcela Dr Suite A. Willits, CA 95490.

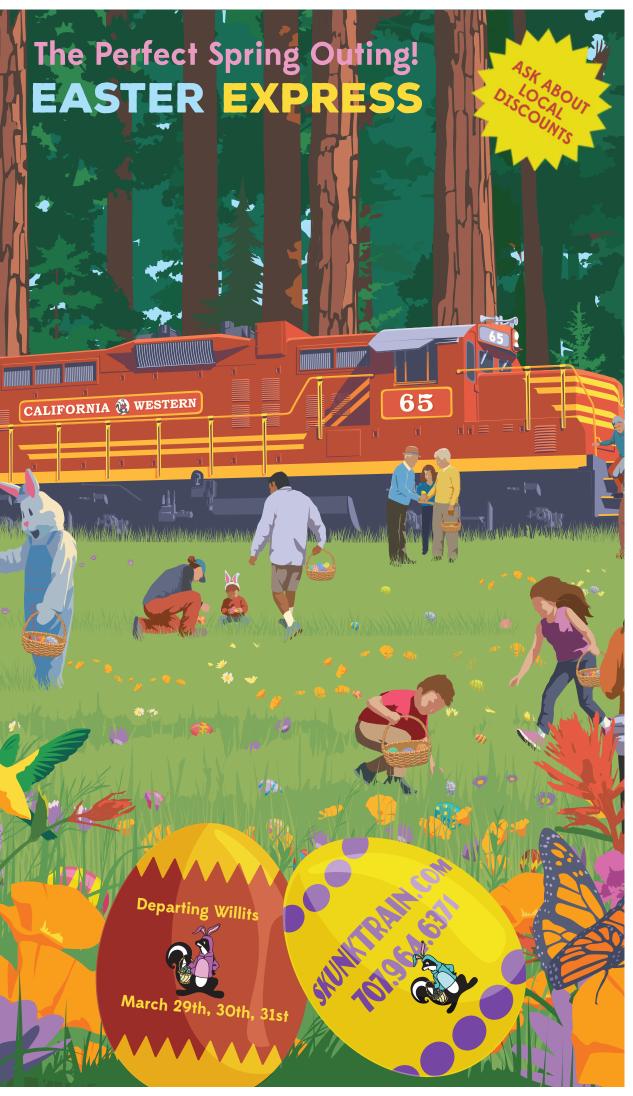
Get your chance to win these great prizes:

A load of drain/base rock (23 tons) from Northern Aggregates La-Z-Boy Recliner a \$1,089 Value from Willits Furniture (5) \$50 Gift Certificates for Casual Dining at The Munchery - Full Bar Restaurant 2 Nights stay in Beehive House, Mendocino's best kept secret - Sleeps 8

Breadery: (4) \$50.00 Gift Certificate; **Botanical Gardens:** (2) Tickets; John Ford Ranch: 25lbs Grass Fed Ground Beef (no hormones); Smokey's BBQ: \$50.00 Gift Certificate; Safeway: \$50.00 Gift Card; Kelly's Diner: \$50.00 Gift Certificate; Yokum's Body Shop: Car Detail \$39.95 Value; Willits Furniture: Copper Fan \$125 Value; Buster's Burgers & Brew: \$50.00 Gift Certificate; Scoops: (2) \$25.00 Gift Certificates; Rio's Fish n Chips: (3) \$25.00 Gift Certificates; **Taqueria Maria**: \$25.00 Gift Certificate; **Taqueria Jalos**: \$25.00 Gift Certificate; **Taco Bravo:** (3) \$30.00 Gift Certificates; **101 Drive In**: (2) \$25

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

Book Juggler: (2) \$25.00 Gift Certificates; Reza's Gift Certificates; Benbow Inn: One Night Stay Queen Bed Room for 2; El Mexicano Restaurant: \$25.00 Gift Certificate; First Nails: \$25.00 Gift Certificate; Kemmy's Pies: (4) Gift Certificates Good for 1 Pie; Loose Caboose Cafe: (2) \$20 Gift Certificates; Little River Inn: 18 Hole Golf for 2 w/Cart/15% Discount Lodging; **Skunk Train**: (2) Round Trip Tickets; Papa Murphy's: (3) Gift Certificates for 2 Large Pizza of Choice; **Emandal – A Farm on the River**: A Case (12 Jars) of Homemade Jam; Unique Boutique: \$25.00 Gift Certificate; Salon 7: 1 Hair Cut; Napa Auto Parts: Craftsman 23" Tool Box



"That's been the problem," council member

Gerry Gonzales pointed out. "It never fails:

several events at the same time. In the

past the chamber was the place to go to be

sure, if you're going to schedule your event

you wouldn't do it on a day that somebody

else booked, so everything could be well-

attended." Mahoney had high hopes that a

planned new computer system will solve that

Mahoney also had hopes for improvement

to the chamber's web site and social media.

"Our web site is struggling. Its an old web

site, its not very interactive." The web site

cannot be updated according to Mahoney,

"due to proprietary issues with the contractor

who set up the web site. We are writing a

grant for funds to build a new web site, and

also to find someone who is professional to

Another issue, especially for retail

promote our social media.

helping businesses succeed."

our consultant on broadband issues.' Supervisor Williams spoke first and said: "We've been working on this for quite some time, and when the county did the detailed mapping, down to the house, we initially determined that the project would cost \$770 million. That was a while ago. Now we project that the cost would be about \$1 billion for the entire county.

"The project will involve establishing fiber optics which will replace land lines," Supervisor Williams said, "and will be more reliable, operate at a much higher speed, a gigabit per second, which will be very efficient. The goal is to go underground as much as possible, and Brooktrails would be the most connected community in Mendocino County."

Vice President Rick Williams asked, "How much would this cost just for Brooktrails? Supervisor Williams responded: "There's a \$57 million allocation for Mendocino County exclusively under SB156, and we have a number of projects included in our preliminary design; one on the south coast and the other greater Brooktrails."

businesses, is what the chamber is planning in order to promote the Christmas season. the most important time of the year for many businesses. Mayor Sabrina Rodriquez. who owns a local toy store, was particularly concerned: "Is there a plan to help support retail businesses for the fourth quarter, the holiday season, which is so crucial? We all want to see shops in our downtown area thrive. There's a perception that the chamber of way set." of commerce is a big part of that success in

Mahoney had little to report: "I don't think that we have a specific plan at this point. However, I know that we are discussing going hand in hand in supporting in a stronger way 'shop small, shop local' around Thanksgiving time and ramp up through that."

Lisa Kvasnicka, the chamber's volunteer president and owner of Scoops, is heading a committee that Mahoney said is developing a timeline for that promotion.

"We have reorganized the way the chamber functions," Mahoney concluded, with a "relaunch" scheduled for January 2025. Mahoney's departure hopefully won't delay the chamber's ambitious plans. Kavasnika told Willits Weekly that the chamber board is already looking for a replacement.

Energy bills

"I'm hoping I can debunk some confusion around energy bills," said Felicia Smith, a senior program manager with Sonoma Clean Power, who came to the February 28 city council meeting to talk about SCP customers who misunderstand, and are angry about, the increase in their electric bills. The customers are switching their accounts from Sonoma Clean Power to PG&E, and according to Smith, "inadvertently increasing their bills"

"There has been a little bit of a rash of optouts from Willits residents in particular," Smith lamented. Smith hoped her presentation will "tamp down" the misunderstandings. "Wish

As background, Sonoma Clean Power is an energy broker based in Santa Rosa supplied by SCP comes from non-polluting our grant application or low-polluting sources.

the exact same electricity. The more SCP customers that are in the mix, the more

The main reason for confusion over energy bills, according to Smith, is because PG&E charges Sonoma Clean Power's customers a fee to deliver electricity. SCP does not own, operate or maintain any power lines. All of the power lines belong to PG&E.

Sonoma Clean Power bills show the delivery charge separately from the cost of generating electricity. PG&E customers' bills are designed differently. They combine the two charges (generation and delivery) as one item. "So I completely understand," Smith commented, "why people called in and said this feels like an extra charge, I want to opt out."

Smith explained how to decipher an admittedly complicated bill, and encouraged customers to give it a try. "It's a good arithmetic activity.

The bottom line – that is, the costs

will be quite clear, according to Smith: "Sonoma Clean Power's total electricity bills are anywhere from 5% to 7% lower than PG&E's." Smith also wanted people to know that there are several bill-assistance programs available to low-income people from the State of California and the federal

It was a challenging presentation. Hopefully it accomplished its goal.

Brooktrails

public can see what's happening in Willits Tony Rakes, deputy CEO of Mendocino County, and, most importantly, so organizations and in charge of Information Services: Supervisor planning events can check to see if there are Ted Williams from the Fifth District. whose residence is in Mendocino; and Jeff Durrell who is

County Deputy CEO Rakes, who was delayed arriving to the meeting, appeared and provided printouts of maps, etc. regarding the project. He began the overview of the project, stating, "One of the hurdles we have with this and part of the reason we have for being here before you is what we call 'hot locations' regarding getting four huts built that will provide electric power supply at strategic locations that we will have to have right

Continuing Rakes said: "When we gave our presentation to the board in August 2023, we covered the overview, specific key points, that we wanted to focus on the 'state owned middle mile.' Mendocino County is fairly unique in the state, as they are looking to build almost from scratch. We don't have the infrastructure already

"The middle mile looks to extend from our county's southern border with Sonoma County, up the 101, all the way to Humboldt County's southern line and extending into Humboldt County and up Highway 1. It doesn't reconnect back in. It ends just a little bit north of Clio, and the middle mile then connects to Highway 20 all the way from the coast to the Lake County line, which is where the initial buildout of the middle mile is happening. That's currently underway, right around the Potter Valley turnoff. Then the 128 connects back around

Director Joanne Cavallari asked, "Can you help me with the term 'middle mile'"? Rakes explained: "The middle mile network is the major arteries of the fiber network. When we refer to the last mile, it's everything that comes off, that branches off of that major segment that serves the homes."

Durrell said, "The middle mile is the highways and roads, and the last mile is the road to your

Rakes said: the "Brooktrails project area represents about 2,000 service locations. The whole project is contingent upon an application that the county applied for with Golden State Connect Authority which is a part of RCRC (Rural County Representative of California) and it's an FFA grant application (Federal Funding Account) and Mendocino County's allocation of funds was about \$57 million for broadband buildout.

"We're not the only ones that applied," Rakes continued. "There were applications from AT&T - officially called a Community Choice and Comcast for their own projects as well as Aggregator - that purchases electricity on the cities of Ukiah and Fort Bragg. The grant the open market and adds it to the electricity applications will be awarded in June. We will find that PG&E delivers. Most of the electricity out then if we will be awarded the full amount of

"Much of our work is preliminary and planning," Everyone in Willits, whether they are Rakes explained, "so that when we are awarded SCP customers or PG&E customers, gets the grant funds we will be moving forward and not lose momentum. To supplement that effort we have a LATA Grant (Local Agency Technical electricity from clean energy production is in Assistance) that we were awarded with Golden State Connect Authority to do high-level planning. Important to note is our proposed project areas are Brooktrails, some areas of the south coast, and into Highway 128 to around Navarro. We would work with Golden State Connect Authority to build in those areas.

> "The whole project is contingent upon funding," Rakes continued, "and Golden State Connect Authority is looking for more funding to aid in the buildout and preparation for what is called 'the BEAD funding' (Broadband Equity and Deployment) that would furnish additional dollars to build out more infrastructure. The FFA is the big pot of funds and, for the BEAD Grant California, expects to receive about \$1.8 billion for additional broadband infrastructure. It's a focus to build out broadband to underserved and unserved

Brooktrails resident Kennedy Cooper asked the question, "What's the national average value of a home that has fiber optic installed to it? How much would the value increase?" Consultant Durrell said, "Arguably it adds about \$15,000 to each house." That is a ballpark estimate.

Board president Tyler-O'Shea thanked those attending for prioritizing Brooktrails. "We are very grateful for the work that you do. We appreciate Supervisor Haschak being here tonight as well to be part of this presentation.

As he was departing Durrell said, "The federal government insists that the money needs to be spent before January 1, 2027."

Convergence

COVID), the Farmers Convergence has brought together over 150 local farmers, ranchers, retailers, and advocates for a day of networking, education, and inspiration.

This year's focus is re-building our local food web. An issue that "became sort of urgent" said Michael Foley, chair of the board and director of the School of Adaptive Agriculture, with the closing of the sole full-service grocery store in Laytonville, Geiger's Long Valley Market. Without a strong local food web to step up and fill the hole left by the store's closing, residents have faced difficulty sourcing groceries in

A local food web describes the links between local food producers, retailers, and consumers. Historically, the North Coast region has had a rich and diverse food web. Todav. it faces the challenges of a decline in local production. While wheat, peas, potatoes and more have historically been key crops in Mendocino and Lake counties, their production now represents only a fraction of their rich

Today, a local food web still exists, but it is a shadow of its former strength. This is a reality that will become increasingly problematic as climate change and fossil fuel scarcity continue to take a toll on global food distribution networks. "We are going to be more and more reliant on our local food web"

The Farmers' Convergence provides an opportunity to foster the connections and relationships that a local food web is built on. And it is a way for those that participate in the local food web to discuss and tackle the barriers and challenges that face the community.

"We often hear from farmers that farming can feel very solitary." NCO Food Policy and Promotions Manager Sarah Marshall said. "This event is a chance for attendees to share inspiration, share common woes, and really feel supported by our local

boasts an impressive lineup of experts and innovators in the agricultural the CDFA Farm to School Regional community who will lead roundtables

Conservation

almost 1,300 acres of working ranch land west of Willits. Conservation conserve land."

MLT Executive Director Conrad Kramer says that both he and the landowners are "overjoyed" with the grant and "extremely grateful" to the California's Strategic Growth Council and the SALC team.

In December 2023, the Strategic Growth Council approved more than \$116 million in grants to protect 50,500 acres of agricultural land through its SALC program. The investments are part of the ninth round of the SALC program's efforts to protect agricultural lands, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and strengthen rural

Included in this grant are the funds to conserve the unique and picturesque James Ranch through acquisition of a conservation easement which allows the landowners to continue to own and manage the ranch.

Director Kramer says this is the first SALC acquisition grant for the land trust. "We look forward to working with the landowners and the SALC team to protect this important and historic

The conservation easement will protect the working agricultural lands in perpetuity and help accelerate progress towards California's Natural and Working Lands goal to conserve 30 percent of California's lands and coastal waters by 2030.

The Strategic Growth Council's SALC program is part of California Climate

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

vear since 2013 (with a short break for on a variety of topics requested by our local producer network.

> Roundtables at this year's event include topics covering marketing, seed saving and locally adapted seeds, conversations on land access and building working farm teams. a breakout discussion on feeding Laytonville, connection opportunities for farm-to-school producers and cooks, an advocacy training for local food policy, and a farm demonstration of an off-grid salad-mix washing station.

> In celebration of the Spring Equinox. the schedule will feature wellness sessions including a yoga meditation hour from Flourish & Flow studio and hand reflexology sessions. Attendees are invited to join a mixer to connect with fellow farmers, buyers, school food service directors, and supporters. Producers are encouraged to bring samples of their products to share with potential buyers, and seeds to swap with other growers.

Tickets for the event are on a sliding scale, set your own price. Your generosity is appreciated. See more details, and register online by March 18 at https://ncoinc.networkforgood.com/ events/66717-farmers-convergence or register on site the day-of the event Your ticket includes a delicious, farmfresh lunch and access to the full day of programming as well as the mixer.

Program schedule March 19

- 8 am: Check in, coffee and breakfast available
- 8:45 am: Welcoming address
- 9:30 am: Panel: "Finding the Sweet Spot: Choosing the Right Mix of Wholesale, Retail, CSA, Restaurant, or School Sales for My Farm"
- 10:45 am: Roundtable Session
- 12 pm: Locally sourced lunch
- 1:45 pm: Roundtable Session II 2:45 pm: Roundtable Session III
- 4 pm: Mixer

The 9th Annual North Coast Farmers Convergence is a collaboration between North Coast Opportunities This year's Farmers Convergence the School of Adaptive Agriculture, Blue Zones Project- Mendocino County. and

From page 1

Investments, a statewide initiative that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade easements are a voluntary tool used to dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment - particularly in disadvantaged communities.

> SALC complements investments made in urban areas with the purchase of agricultural conservation easements, development of agricultural land strategy plans, and other mechanisms that result in GHG reductions and a more resilient agricultural sector. The Department of Conservation works in cooperation with the Natural Resources Agency the Strategic Group Council to implement the program.

> The James Ranch has been in commercial agricultural production since the 1800s. The ranch is comprised of mixed Douglas fir and redwood forests, oak woodlands, annual grassland, and mixed chaparral. The ranch was also once the location of Sherwood, a small town along the railway. Sherwood boasted a hardware store and general store.

> Much of the history of this ranch is known through the stories told by the late Stella (Steen) James, an independent frontier-woman who owned and worked the ranch for decades alongside her husband, Edgar. This SALC grant is an opportunity for Stella's great-nephew Kevin and his wife, Judy to realize Stella's goal of conserving the ranch.

You can read more about Stella's fascinating history on MLT's website: https://www.mendocnolandtrust.org/

OBITUARY |



Gene Roediger

Gene Roediger passed peacefully at home on March 5, living 77 adventurous years. He lived in Southern California, married Dorothy in 1966, worked in tool and die, subsistence farmed in Missouri, moved back to California and worked at Flying Tigers, moved to Willits in 1974, worked at Woodruff Chevrolet then in the woods as a gyppo logger, then at Pacific Coast Timber.

Gene was a charter member of Roots of Motive Power. He and Dorothy sailed

the Pacific Coast, Alaska in the summer, and Mexico in the winter; they also, boated the Erie and Canadian Canals and the Hudson River and Manhattan Island.

They worked as wagon masters and led RV caravans to Copper Canyon, Mexico, Belize, and the Canadian Maritimes. Gene built two of their homes. They toured Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Panama, the Amazon River, and China.

Gene leaves Dorothy, son Chris, daughter Mary (Troy) James, sister Judy (Michael) McDonald, brothers Henry (Cheryl), John (Sharon), and Tim (deceased). six grandkids, and 11 great grandkids.

Presents

Duane Brown Memorial

ST. PATRICK'S

DAY FEAST

March 16, 2024

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Corned Beef & Cabbage

Murphy's (Spuds), Carrots, Etc...

Veteran's Memorial Building

191 North Main • Willits

*Children 12 & under. Children under 5 eat free

*Children

\$12.00

The folks in Missouri used to say, "That Gene, he can weld anything but a moonbeam"!

The family suggests memorial donations to the Willits Senior Center or Roots of Motive Power. Celebration of his life is planned for this summer.

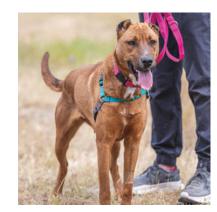
St. Patrick's Day Feast, March 16

American Legion-Willits Post #174 presents the Duane Brown Memorial St. Patrick's Day, Corned Beef & Cabbage Feast, Saturday, March 16 from 5 to 7 pm.

Enjoy Corned Beef & Cabbage, Murphy's (Spuds), Carrots, etc. plus dessert, at the Veterans Memorial Building, 191 North Main Street in Willits.

Tickets are \$25 per adult, \$12 per child under 12, and free for kids under 5. Tickets may be purchased at the door.





Enthusiastic Aquaria

Introducing the shining star of our shelter, the one and only Aquaria! This adorable girl is bursting with wonderful energy that will brighten anyone's day. Despite a rough past that left her starving and alone in the wilderness of Willits, Aquaria holds no grudges and still knows how to love unconditionally.

One of Aquaria's best qualities is her incredible zest for life! She approaches every day with boundless enthusiasm

and a wagging tail that never stops. Whether it's chasing after tennis balls or zooming around the play yards with her canine friends, this playful pooch knows how to make every moment count.

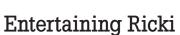
The Humane Society for Inland Mendocino is located at 9700 Uva Drive in Redwood Valley. Feel free to visit us, no appointments needed! We are open Wednesday through Friday, 1 to 5 pm; Saturday and Sunday, 11 am to 3 pm; closed Monday and Tuesday. Check out all of our available dogs and cats on our website: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

Family-man Kimber

Kimber is your typical playful young cat! He is also sweet and enjoys affection. Like all new pets when introduced to a new home / environment, Kimber may need some time to adjust, but we think he would make a great family cat!

The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, is open to the public from noon to 5 pm Tuesday through Friday and 10 am to 3 pm (closed for lunch from

1 to 1:30 pm) on Saturdays. Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendoanimalshelter.com. Call 707-467-6453 for more information.



Ricki is a compact little cattle dog with enthusiastic energy that says, "let's go do stuff ... together!" Ricki loves people and gets along with other dogs. She is playful but not hyper. She is a dream on-leash, staying right by your side, never pulling. She wants to be with you, staying with you, following you from room to room, and would love to sleep on the bed. She is house-trained.



All that said, Ricki would be best as the only dog in a household. She gets along with other dogs, but when left alone with canine friends, has gotten herself into mischief from time to time. She needs a family who will provide lots of exercise and stimulation for her to keep her happy.

Ricki is loaded with personality and really would love to be your special girl. She will shower her family with love, loyalty and entertainment.

To learn more about Ricki, or to view other adoptable animals, visit www.milofoundation.org or the Milo

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

Is a food assistance program.

You can be on Social Security,

have money in the bank,

own cars and still receive

CalFresh benefits.

Call the Senior Center

to schedule an appointment

to see if you qualify.





Adults

\$25.00

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





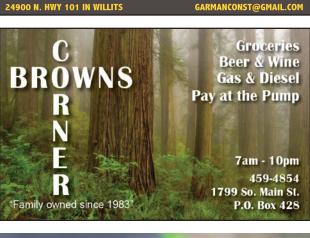
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