

EST. 2013

Donations Accepted Edition No. 655

Thursday, September 10, 2026

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

The Violet Fire was first reported around 2:26 pm as being a structure fire spreading into vegetation, with 1 fully involved structure, and 1 threatened structure. Bulldozers and aerial attack were

Court keeps logging halted on Dutch Charlie Creek

Friends of Dutch Charlie Creek, a small grassroots organization, is in litigation against CAL FIRE and Redwood Timber Company, Fort Bragg, to halt logging under the "Hot Tuna" and "Lincoln Logs" timber harvest plans situated in the Dutch Charlie Creek watershed near Branscomb. The Court of Appeal had ordered a halt to timber operations on August 17. This September 2 order by Judge Charlotte Scott comes after a well-attended hearing at the Ukiah courthouse on August 27.

Read the rest of
Halted
Over on Page 11

This delicate flower and stem on this pink Gaura bush in Laytonville bent in the heavy Thursday-morning moisture. Below, left: Rain on the windshield: a welcome sight in late summer. This Willits rain gauge measured around 2/3 of an inch on Thursday afternoon.

Photos by Maureen Jennison

Willits enjoys summer sprinkle sure making the beginning of September feel like fall, but remember, we're not there yet!



The showers that moved into the Little Lake Valley early on Tuesday, September 1 brought the first measurable precipitation since the wee hours of June 9, ending an 85-day summer drought. The system brought three days of moisture to the valley, with the most rainfall arriving on September 3. While early season precipitation forecasts often feel overly optimistic, this one hit the mark. The valley-wide average accumulation of 0.63" exceeded the prediction of 0.25" to 0.5", and brought the rain year to date total to 50.23". With just three weeks before the start of a new rain year on October 1, 2025-2026 will likely conclude with 15" less rainfall than each of the two previous rain years. High temperatures in August averaged 88.1°F, 2°F warmer than July, with nighttime lows running about 1°F warmer. The cooling trend observed at the end of the August helped temper the 13 days with average high temperatures of 90°F or greater. Don't be surprised if additional +90°F days occur in September, before the transition to more typical fall weather.

– *Tim Hanna, Willits Rain Box*

Little Lake Valley rainfall totals (inches)									rainfall since 01Oct25
location	Mon Aug 31	Tue Sep 01	Wed Sep 02	Thur Sep 03	Fri Sep 04	Sat Sep 05	Sun Sep 06	weekly total	
Northbrook Way	0.00	0.04	0.08	0.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.59	55.39
Brooktrails Dr @ Sherwood Rd	0.00	0.03	0.15	0.79	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.98	57.04
Valley Rd	0.00	0.05	0.03	0.35	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.44	39.83
Canyon Rd	0.00	0.03	0.05	0.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.45	44.08
Pine Mountain	0.00					0.00	0.00	0.00	49.24
South Main @ East Oak	0.00	0.03	0.07	0.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.67	54.70
average	0.00	0.04	0.08	0.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.63	50.23

data compiled from weatherunderground (<https://www.wunderground.com>)



The new “Welcome to Willits” signs by Harbour Quality Redwood Products are officially up and looking great. “We’re so excited to have helped create something so awesome. Something that welcomes folks to our town while celebrating the local organizations that make this community so special,” Matt Harbour posted with photos of his company’s new signs. “Built with pride by Harbour Quality Redwood Products—right here in Willits.

"The signs are a tremendous addition to Willits," chimed in Willits Mayor Tom Allman. "Hopefully the new signs increase the number of visitors who will stop and learn more about our city. The quality of the signs is tremendous."

and it is something that we should all be very proud of.”

"The City of Willits is grateful to Harbour Quality Redwood for bringing this project to life with craftsmanship and materials that reflect the character of our community," said City of Willits Community and Economic Development Director Dusty Duley. "Matthew Harbour's pride in his craftsmanship is matched by his pride in Willits. We're fortunate to have people like Matthew who are willing to give their valuable time and talents to projects that lift up our town. The new signs are a great example of that."

– Jennifer Poole

Jennifer Poole
Editor & Reporter
willitsweekly@gmail.com

The approved moratorium prohibits the processing and approval of new data center uses for at least 45 days “to allow for evaluation of the public health, environmental and fiscal impacts and the enactment of further and appropriate regulations concerning such uses.”

During this moratorium period, the approved ordinance directs the county CEO and the Department of Planning and Building Services to “study and review” a more permanent ordinance to bring back to the board for approval. This would include evaluation of the public health, environmental and fiscal impacts of a ban on data centers, and recommendations for the enactment of further and appropriate regulations concerning such uses.

Detailed instructions in the agenda report are:

A. Evaluate the potential land use, infrastructure, environmental, public health, public safety and fiscal implications of data centers and similar high-intensity computing uses within the county, including but not limited to electricity

Round Valley tribal cemetery vandalized

Posted by RVTP

On September 4, 2026, the Round Valley Tribal Police Department responded to the Round Valley Reservation Headquarters Cemetery, near Biggar Lane and Highway 162, regarding multiple gravesites that had been vandalized and disturbed.

Upon arrival, officers observed several gravesites where flowers, flags, memorial items, and other property had been damaged or scattered throughout the cemetery.

The Mendocino County Sheriff's Office was contacted and responded to assist with the incident.

The Round Valley Tribal Police Department would like to remind the community that behavior like this will not be tolerated. Cemeteries are sacred places where our loved

Read the rest of
Vandalized
Over on Page 5

Over on Page 5

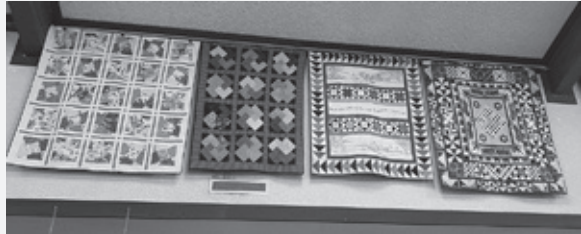
25th anniversary 2026 Patriot's Day Ceremony

Submitted by American Legion Post 174

Each year, American Legion Post 174 has conducted a "Remembrance" ceremony honoring local firefighters, law enforcement and first responders, ns commemorating the valiant efforts that occurred on 9-11-2001. This year the Post will conduct a brief 20-minute ceremony on Friday, September 11 at 12 noon, at Bud Snider Park on Commercial Street (across the street from City Hall).

Please join us as we pay tribute to those who died and those who gave so much on that "day of infamy" and the following days.

Note: Seating is not provided due to the brevity of the ceremony.



Read under a beautiful quilt at the Willits Library

Submitted by Karen Oslund

Twenty-three unique, locally made quilts are on display at the Willits Branch Library, 390 East Commercial Street, through October 23. The exhibit, "Every Quilt Tells a Story," features the work of the Grapevine Quilters Guild of Mendocino County. The quilts represent just about every style and pattern, every color combination and quilting technique. A guide to the quilts and their makers is available at the front desk.

The quilts can be viewed during the library's regular hours, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, from 10 am to 7 pm; Friday, from 10 am to 6 pm, and Saturday, from 10 am to 5 pm.

The Grapevine Quilters Guild meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Grace Lutheran Church in Ukiah at 6 pm. Visitors are welcome. The Guild makes more than 300 quilts per year for donation to local nonprofits and people in need. More information about the Guild is available at grapevinequilters.com.

The Willits Branch Library also hosts "Sit 'n Sew," a group of local quilters and other sewers and knitters who gather in the library's community room on the second Saturday of each month from 1 to 5 pm. All are welcome.



Some of the 23 unique quilts by the Grapevine Quilters Guild on display at the Willits Library.

Have something to say?

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

The Rules: LETTERS

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

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

Willits Weekly
A Strategic & Media Record of Community and Life in Willits, Brooktrails & Local Areas

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

Volume 14, Number 655
3,500 - 4,000 copies printed by Western Web on Thursdays
P.O. Box 1698 Willits, CA 95490 / 707-459-2633; 707-972-7047
willitsweekly@gmail.com / www.willitsweekly.com

Jennifer Poole, publisher and editor / willitsweekly@gmail.com / 707-459-2633
Maureen (Moore) Jennison, art director and photographer / willitsweekly@gmail.com / 707-972-7047
Mathew Caine, photographer / features writer
Barbara O'Reardon, Brooktrails reporter
Addison Alvarado, school board reporter
Danya Davis, Police Log
April Tweddell, ad sales / 707- 972-2475 / willitsweekly@gmail.com

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

California cannabis sales bring in almost \$262 million in tax revenue for second-quarter 2026

Submitted by CDTFA

Sacramento – California's legal cannabis sales generated \$261.7 million in tax revenue for the state in the second quarter of 2026. The California Department of Tax and Fee Administration reported on August 27 that, as of August 18, it has collected \$152 million in cannabis excise tax and \$109.7 million in sales tax from cannabis retailers' second-quarter returns. These figures do not include outstanding returns or those still being processed.

Reported revenue for first-quarter 2026 returns has been revised to \$249.8 million, up from \$247.9 million. This includes \$144.7 million in cannabis excise tax and \$105.1 million in sales tax. These revisions are a result of amended and late returns, as well as other tax return adjustments.

Since January 2018, cannabis sales have generated nearly \$8.4 billion in tax revenue, including almost \$4.5 billion in cannabis excise tax and almost \$3.4 billion in sales tax. This also includes \$500.6 million in cultivation tax collected through July 1, 2022, when the cultivation tax was eliminated.

Retailers must collect the cannabis excise tax from buyers based on gross receipts from sales of cannabis or cannabis products. Sales tax is applied to the price after the cannabis excise tax has been added.

Additional cannabis tax revenue data is available on the CDTFA Open Data Portal <https://cdtfa.ca.gov/dataportal/>

To learn more about cannabis taxes in general, visit the Tax Guide for Cannabis Businesses on the CDTFA website <https://cdtfa.ca.gov/industry/cannabis/>

The California Department of Tax and Fee Administration administers California's sales and use, fuel, tobacco, alcohol, and cannabis taxes, as well as other taxes and fees that fund specific state programs. CDTFA-administered programs accounted for more than \$97.8 billion in the 2024/25 fiscal year, supporting essential local services such as transportation, public safety and health, libraries, schools, social services, and natural resource management programs through the distribution of tax dollars directly to local communities.

County board hears about website launch and workforce development initiatives

Submitted by Mendocino County Executive Office

During the September 1, 2026 meeting, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors acted on several key initiatives, including the upcoming launch of the county's redesigned website, workforce development programming in Mendocino County, and efforts to support local economic and workforce growth.

The Board of Supervisors received an informational update from Information Services Department Director Tony Rakes regarding the upcoming launch of the county's redesigned website, scheduled for September 17, 2026. Director Rakes provided an overview of the new site and highlighted improvements designed to create a more streamlined, user-friendly experience for residents.

The redesigned website has been reorganized with a stronger focus on services and the needs of the public, making it easier for users to find county departments, programs, resources, and important information. The updated structure and navigation are intended to improve access to county services and provide a more intuitive online experience for the community.

The website launch represents an important step in Mendocino County's continued efforts to modernize public-facing services, improve accessibility to information, and strengthen communication with the community.

The board also accepted a presentation from North Coast Builder's Exchange regarding the expansion of the North Bay Construction Corps workforce development programming in Mendocino County.

The program connects high school seniors with hands-on construction training, industry certifications, and career opportunities in skilled trades. Students gain exposure to career pathways including carpentry, electrical, plumbing, HVAC, concrete, and heavy equipment, while also connecting with local employers and internship opportunities.

Following the success of its Sonoma County cohort, North Bay Construction Corps is now serving students across both inland and coastal Mendocino County and is working to strengthen employer partnerships and develop a sustainable local employment pipeline.

These actions reflect the board's ongoing commitment to improving public access to county services, supporting workforce development, and fostering opportunities that strengthen the Mendocino County community. For more information on this meeting and future agenda items, please visit <https://mendocino.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

THIRD DISTRICT SUPERVISOR'S UPDATE

September 2026

By Supervisor John Haschak

A moratorium on data center construction was passed unanimously by the Board on September 1. There were lots of comments in support of the moratorium with some confusion as to why only 45 days. This is the law. It will come back to the Board on October 6 for a public hearing and can be extended up to either one or two years at that point. This will allow the county time to adopt an ordinance with due consideration of how we want to regulate or even allow this industry.

The annexation plan that the City of Ukiah proposed is off the table. Although the city had good reasons for proposing annexation, the process was flawed from the county's point of view, and there were many residents in the affected areas opposed to annexation. What is clear is that infrastructure in the Ukiah Valley needs to be modernized, and sustainable economic development needs to happen.

Sheriff Kendall received \$4.5 million in Prop. 64 monies to combat illegal cannabis grows. He presented the plan to the Board. People in the Sheriff's Office and Code Enforcement division will be dedicated to going after illegal cannabis grows. There was discussion about the implementation of this program over the next five years. Of concern was a software program to expedite the ticketing and collection of fines. The sheriff committed to quarterly reports to the Board so that any unintended consequences of this program and how it interfaces with existing county policy and software can be monitored.

Monday was Labor Day. We honor those who work for a living. I appreciate the people I have worked with in Mendocino County throughout the years. Many people work to make ends meet and provide for their families, teach and help others in need, keep our communities safe and healthy, provide food for our communities, leave the world a more beautiful, better place in a variety of ways. We are blessed to live and work in Mendocino County. I am grateful that I have had work as a teacher and as county supervisor that is fulfilling in many ways.

The county received funds through the Secure Rural Schools program, a federal program for communities with U.S. forestlands. The county asked for proposals and received several options from the Mendocino County Resource Conservation District and the Fire Safe Council. All the proposals would help the firefighting capabilities in both the Covelo and Potter Valley areas. Since the RCD and FSC both do incredible work, the Board directed them to work together to prioritize the options with the existing, limited funding.

The next Talk with the Supervisor will be on Friday, September 11, from 10 to 11 am at Brickhouse Coffee. You can always contact me at haschakj@mendocinocounty.gov or call 707-972-4214.



Above, from left: Latin jazz group La Onda, whose name means vibe or wave, lit up the dance area with some highly spirited music. Haley Trejan was showing her beaded items for sale at the First Friday event on September 4. Young entrepreneur Cici brought her homemade collection of bracelets and buttons to sell at the event. Below, from left: Robin Suzanne of Soul Circus helped arrange for the four bands who played during the summer 2026 First Friday series. Third District Supervisor John Haschak, Aliyah, and her father Dusty Duley, Community and Economic Development director for the City of Willits, came to enjoy the festivities. Diane Smalley always enjoys the music with her ribbon fans, creating a colorful motion of material.



At right: Some of the folks came just to listen to the music and watch the goings-on. Mark Henriques, Michelle Havenhill, and Carolyn Ponikvar smartly brought their own chairs.



Photos by Mathew Caine

Last First Friday

Willits Chamber of Commerce's summer street music series ends with Latin jazz by La Onda

"This is the last First Friday tonight," said Gary Huddle, president of the Willits Chamber of Commerce. "We have the Harvest Moon after this. This is the first year of the First Friday events, and this is our last one this year, but they've been successful. We've been getting bigger and bigger each time. It's been nice. I think we've had 400 or 500 people. The first one was probably 300 or 400, but after that, we grew each time."

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
willitsweekly@gmail.com

It was a cool late summer evening of music, vendors, food, beer, and new and old friends, laughing on the street with a live band, La Onda, on the first block of Commercial Street, east of Main, on September 4. The Noyo Theatre served as a beautiful deco background for the event, and the Willits Center for the Arts was involved as a place to get a beer or a glass of wine. The moveable stage, donated for the evening by Granite Construction, was just big enough for the Latin jazz band to play their spirited dance music, which got some feet and bodies

moving. Excellent sound was provided through the expertise of Lincoln Andrews, who also doubled as bass player for the band.

"We've been able to have several different bands, a variety of different musical genres," said Chamber treasurer and event coordinator, Natalie Spackman. "It's brought together all different people from the town to engage in a fun family-friendly event on a Friday night where they can get together and come down and enjoy Willits, enjoy the bands, and enjoy the vendors. It brings a certain vibe to the town. The bands have been great. It's been a lot of fun. It's fun watching all the people dance and have a good time. It generates commerce. It gets people downtown. Maybe they'll go and eat dinner. Maybe they'll see a movie. They're here. Hopefully, they'll walk around and check out the merchants that are open. The hope is that we get to expand the First Fridays. We could

Read the rest of Friday Over on page 9

44TH ANNUAL STEELASMA FESTIVAL
ROOTS OF MOTIVE POWER
420 Commercial Street Willits, CA
Hours 10:00 AM- 4:00 PM both days

SEPT. 12&13 2026

FREE PASSENGER STEAM TRAIN RIDES
WITH THE BLUESTONE MINING AND SMELTING HEISLER LOCOMOTIVE AND THE PORT OF OLYMPIA #2

THE FAMOUS BBQ & AUCTION
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 12 - STARTING AROUND 4PM
REG. GRIFFIN - TICKETS ON SALE AT THE EVENT
STEAM ROLLER PRINTING
SATURDAY 11:00-3:00
BY A 1924 BUFFALO SPRINGFIELD STEAM ROLLER

See ANTIQUE EQUIPMENT IN ACTION!

- Bucyrus-Erie 50B Steam Shovel
- Caterpillar Tractors * Steam Donkeys
- Hit and Miss Engines
- Antique trucks
- Kelley Springfield Road Roller
- Seabiscuit Diamond T-truck
- Mountain Quarries 202 1913 H.K. Porter Co. 15 ton steam locomotive 0-4-0-T on display
- Washington Iron Works Estep yarder
- Keystone Well Driller demonstrations

FEATURING 100 YEARS OF CATERPILLAR®
MENDOCINO COUNTY MUSEUM
Telling Our Story

Willits Weekly
EST. 2013
A Nostalgic & Modern Record of Community and Life in Willits, Brooktrails & Local Areas
SUBSCRIPTION FORM

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

In the mail: ☐ 1 year - \$120 ☐ Additional donation included \$ _____
Home delivery: ☐ 1 year - \$75 (Home Delivery only available in Willits, Brooktrails & local areas) (call for details)

Make checks payable to Willits Weekly | No invoice sent - please just send in payment | P.O. Box 1698 in Willits, CA 95490

Locally Owned | Independent | Editions Every Thursday | Online & In Print

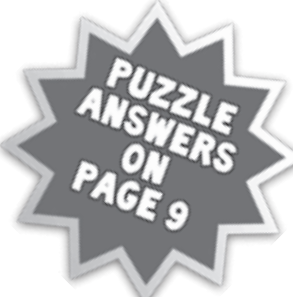
QUESTIONS: 707-459-2633 | 707-972-7047

Web: www.willitsweekly.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/willitsweekly Email: willitsweekly@gmail.com

Willits Weekly's
Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword

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



HOW TO
SUDOKU

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

TAKE A BREATH WORD SEARCH

L W R R Y V E N T I E A T X O N R H A V
I N N M B A P N L G U M O N E I A O L T T A
N F P Y I P M S I A R E U B M V I I A A O S A
W E R D B V D M A T R E H T S C D L E A D D
I A T A W L A U T T E A U H C M D I X I
A I E L G B G U A I C F A H H C L D H
P R M V P C D F N T R A P P T F E O B C
H F O O T D A Y R E I A S S S U M E R N O
R L R L H V S V P N C F A U V U U V E
A O I U A W P C A P I T L L A R I E S L S R B
G W P M G U C A P I T L L A R I E S L S R B
M H S E B U C Y Y A P W W E X O H C E I W
S S L U M R I D M A M X R D S T P T R W
G D Y H E G G A S E X C H A N G E W A H
B U G P T I H E M O G L O B I A Y M T I X
N E Y E S N B H Y P O X N E I A Y M I X
L H S B I B N V Y S G N D U L E I G R O R
C A R B O N D I O X I D E X I M I M N G
M D Y F D Y S P N E A G P A B A E N P A

AIRFLOW
ALVEOLI
APNEA
ASTHMA
BRONCHI
CAPILLARIES
CARBON DIOXIDE
CILIA

DIAPHRAGM
DYSPNEA
EMBOLISM
GAS EXCHANGE
HEMOGLOBIN
HYPERCAPNIA
HYPOXEMIA
LUNGS

OXYGEN
PERFUSION
PNEUMONIA
RESPIRATION
SPIROMETRY
TIDAL VOLUME
VENTILATION
VITAL CAPACITY

			1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		
	10	11						12					13	
	14						15						16	17
18						19				20		21		
22					23				24		25			
26				27				28		29		30		
		31	32						33		34			
35	36										37			
38					39				40					
41				42		43		44				45	46	47
48			49		50		51					52		
53				54		55						56		
57														
			58		59				60	61	62			
	63	64						65						
			66					67						

CLUES ACROSS

- Longtime Vogue editor
- Wintour
- A Spanish title of respect
- A way of looking
- Properly
- Rolled steel
- Not down
- Law degree
- Consume food
- Intermediate ecological stage
- Old world, new
- Dispense justice
- Stiff hair-like structure
- Ethiopia
- Cool
- Father
- An enthusiastic devotee of sports
- Holm oak
- Be united
- Rattling breaths
- Supermarket chain
- Provided with a quality
- Samoa monetary unit
- Swiss river
- Hill (Celtic)
- Have already done
- ATM company

CLUES DOWN

- Boxing's GOAT
 - Zero
 - Midway between north and northeast
 - Concurred
 - Added flavor
 - Amount of time
 - Eggs of parasitic insects
 - S-shaped moldings
 - Atomic #45
 - d'art: small artistic item
 - A godparent's 'kids'
 - Nocturnal burrowing
- Syngman _____, Korean president
 - Very willing
 - Arctic explorers (abbr.)
 - Food listings
 - Bachelor's place to crash
 - Big Blue
 - Sports magazine
 - Relating to a place north of south of the equator
 - Female follower of Bacchus
 - A type of laugh
 - Slovenly women
 - Large jug
- lizard
 - Hit lightly
 - Aircrafts
 - Witness
 - Alluding to something
 - Take to the limit
 - Baglike structure in a plant or animal
 - Start over
 - Administered
 - Romanian monetary unit
 - Unit of liquid capacity
 - Equips with weapons again
 - Disney town
 - Female deer
 - Title of respect
 - A place to go rafting
 - A way to conclude
 - Type of television
 - Georgia rockers
 - Leonhard _____, Swiss mathematician
 - Slang for gun
 - River in Bosnia and Herzegovina
 - Bar bill
 - Small, gray-headed crow
 - Frozen water
 - Norwegian krone
 - Commercial

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE LOG

August 17 to August 23

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department reported **60 incidents** in this 7-day period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

August 24

12:27 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of West Commercial Street and North Main Street and issued a warning.

4:24 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

7:15 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

7:39 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

10:08 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of Bush Street.

August 25

7:41 am: DEFRANCO, Alicia Falon (40) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of Pine Street. She was arrested on misdemeanor charges of domestic battery.

11:15 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

4:27 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of Franklin Avenue and issued a warning.

8:41 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 300 block of North Main Street and issued a warning.

August 26

7:35 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

4:06 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 200 block of North Main Street and issued a warning.

4:45 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

5:04 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 500 block of South Main Street.

9:08 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 1400 block of Baechtel Road.

August 27

6:16 am: MENDOZA, Natalia Ivette (18) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block

of East San Francisco Avenue. She was arrested on felony charges of resisting an officer and on misdemeanor charges of battery with great bodily injury and battery against an officer.

11:25 am: ESTES, Ashleigh Anne (41) of Garberville was contacted in the 200 block of East San Francisco Avenue. She was arrested on misdemeanor charges of being under the influence of a controlled substance and possession of a controlled substance.

3:26 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 800 block of South Main Street.

6:43 pm: KUBAS, Michael Dennis (47) of Willits was contacted in the 1700 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on felony charges of disobeying a court order.

8:37 pm: DISHMAN, Lewis Andrew (43) of Ukiah was contacted in the 200 block of North Main Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol).

August 28

12:32 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of South Main Street.

6:41 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of South Main Street.

9:03 pm: LOPES SR., Anthony Frank (56) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of North Main Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of disorderly conduct (alcohol) and violation of probation.

10:10 pm: SHAMBORGUER, Eddette Michelle (60) of Point Reyes Station was contacted in the 100 block of West Commercial Street. She was arrested on felony charges of cruelty to a child, and on misdemeanor charges of driving under the influence (any drug), resisting an officer, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

August 29

10:16 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 100 block of East Commercial Street.

August 30

8:45 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Baechtel Road and South Main Street and issued a warning.

9:01 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

9:19 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.



The rest of
Vandalized

ones are laid to rest and where families go to honor and remember them. Please respect these areas and the families of those buried there.

Respect our community. Respect our families. Respect our loved ones.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact law enforcement. Round Valley Tribal Police: 707-983-8227. Mendocino County Sheriff's Office: 707-463-4086 (option 1), or report anonymously by calling MCSO's non-emergency tip-line at 707-234-2100.



The rest of
Fire

dispatched, including Tanker 90 and Tanker 91, stationed at the Ukiah Airport. The air tankers were released at 2:57 pm.

A plume of smoke from the fire was visible from locations in Willits, and from the Ridgewood Grade 1 camera on UC San Diego's ALERTCalifornia network.

The MCSO evacuation order cited "a significant threat to life or property," for residents of 15214 to 15226 Ridgeview Road, with "immediate" urgency. "Do not delay, evacuate immediately," the order advised. "Check with your neighbors to ensure they are aware of the order if you have time. Use the safest manner possible

when evacuating. Do not block the road. Emergency crews need access. Only call 9 1 1 for emergencies. We will publish more information including evacuation zone maps and social media updates to mendoready.org as more information becomes available."

Mendocino Action News on Facebook reported, as per the emergency scanner, that forward progress was stopped on the fire at 2:53 pm with "hose around the fire at ¼ to 1 acre." At 3:02 pm they reported fire resources were planning "approximately 3-4 hours commitment time for heavy mop up."

Got fruit? The Grateful Gleaners can help harvest your home orchard!

Gleaner volunteers will bring ladders and smiles to your backyard, harvest your fruit trees, then distribute the bounty to local organizations including Willits Daily Bread, Nuestra Alianza, local schools, Willits Senior Center, Food Bank, Kids Clubs, and more!

Contact the Grateful Gleaners: 707-367-7391 or GratefulGleanersofWillits@gmailcom

The all-volunteer Willits Grateful Gleaners have harvested produce continuously since its founding 22 years ago. "The group was started to formalize the age-old custom of harvesting produce that would otherwise go to waste. The word 'gleaners' comes from a French word and refers to people who would harvest left-overs after a farmer had reaped his fields," a background story on the Gleaners in Willits Weekly explained.

The Willits Gleaners have gleaned "primarily from fruit trees of private home-owners and abandoned orchards: mostly plums, apples and pears. But over the course of the years, they've harvested cherries, raspberries, blackberries, mulberries, peaches, figs, potatoes, and walnuts, and once the group harvested an entire farmer's market garden...."

"Altogether it is a deeply rewarding process: collective gathering in fresh air and sun – amidst chatting and laughter – and then sharing nature's abundance with those who need it."



Get a free
Google Nest
smart
thermostat.

Installed in your home
at no cost.*

*CARE or FERA enrollment required

See if you qualify. Scan or call us.



1 (855) 202-2139

Se habla español
sonomacleanpower.org

Discover
SCP Rewards

Start Saving Money Each
Month on Your Energy Bill

- \$5 monthly bill credit
- Manage your home's temperature from anywhere
- Easy control from your smartphone

Sonoma
Clean Power

2026 THEME:
BOOTS, BUCKLES & BOWS

**MENDOCINO COUNTY
 FAIR & APPLE
 SHOW**

SEPT. 18TH - 20TH, 2026



OPEN 9 AM TO MIDNIGHT DAILY!

FRIDAY, 9/18:
 Free admission for children under 12
 Admission is \$8 for seniors 65 and over
Apple Bowl Soccer Games
 Girls start at 6:15 pm & boys at 6:15 pm



SATURDAY, 9/19:
 8 pm: **CCPRA Rodeo**
 9:30 pm: **Dance - Dean Titus
 & the Coyote Cowboys**



SUNDAY, 9/20:
 10 am: **Sheep Dog Trials**
 10 am: **Classic Car Show**
 Noon: **Parade**
 2 pm: **CCPRA Rodeo**
 6 pm: **Dance - Herencia De
 Reyes and Grupo Lagos**

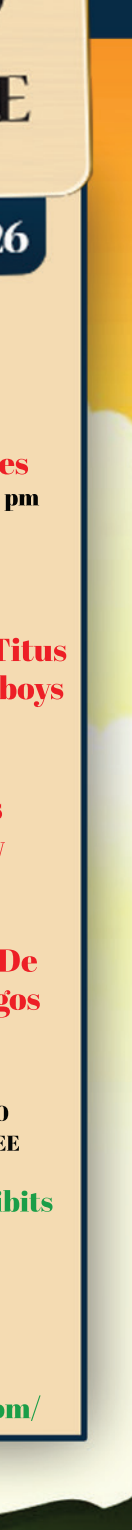


GENERAL ADMISSION:
 ADULTS \$12 | JUNIORS 13-18: \$10
 KIDS 7-12: \$8 | 6 AND UNDER: FREE

Apple Tasting | Livestock | Wool & Fiber Show | Exhibits

**BOONVILLE
 FAIRGROUNDS**

See full schedule online: <http://mendocountyfair.com/>



The opening reception will take place on Thursday, October 1 at 6 pm in the Ridgewood Ranch main building dining hall and foyer. The show is scheduled to run through November 30.

FOURTH QUARTER FORTUNES

SUNDAYS:

50 Points Per Entry after Earning 200 Points For Drawings every 15 minutes in the fourth quarter of Sunday Nights Game! Wins start at \$10 and Double each time you are drawn up to four times per Night! Win Up to \$150 in Free Play!!

SHERWOOD VALLEY CASINO
www.svrcasino.com

The Willits Chamber hosts two websites. One, <https://willits.org/> is mainly directed to its members, and <https://visitwillits.com/>, a place for visitors and for all to find out what is happening in town.

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

[illegible]

Supervisor John Haschak commented: "I think the only questions we've had are why is the moratorium only 45 days," and thanked county counsel for explaining "that's what we do with these urgency ordinances, and that we will come back in October 6 and hopefully extend it to a year or two years, so that we can do the ordinance right."

Willits Senior Center is serving lunch in its indoor dining room, Monday through Friday, from 11:45 am to 1 pm. To-go lunches are available from 12 to 12:45 pm, in front of the main desk, 1501 Baechtel Road. Due to increasing food costs, dine-in and to-go meals are now \$9.

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.

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

Thursday, September 10

Willits Farmers Market: Join your neighbors at Summer Market outdoors at City Park on Commercial Street, Thursday, September 10, from 3 to 5:30 pm, for the freshest produce available, local meat, farm fresh eggs, hot and cold food from local businesses, along with crafts, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. The market honors EBT and WIC cards and matches benefits to double your dollars.



charge for the BBQ. Directions: Take Willits Main Street and turn on East Commercial Street; you'll find Roots at 420 East Commercial Street.

7th annual Brooktrails Open Disc Golf Tournament Party: This weekend is the 7th annual Brooktrails Open Disc Golf Tournament. The Brooktrails Golf Course will be hosting a 160 player event from September

11 to 13, featuring both professional and amateur disc golfers for a highly competitive event. On Saturday, September 12, the Brooktrails Open Party starts at 5:30 pm, featuring live music by the Cosmic Family Band, Indiana Slim and the King Snakes, and headliners Blue Luke Band. Also food trucks, games (Glow in the Dark Disc Hole in One), and beverages. Free to the public.

Friday, September 11

Talk with the Supervisor at Brickhouse: Come chat with 3rd District Supervisor John Haschak at his monthly "Talk with the Supervisor." Friday, September 11, from 10 to 11 am at Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South Main Street. You can always contact Supervisor Haschak at haschakj@mendocinocounty.gov or call 707-972-4214.

25th anniversary Patriot's Day Ceremony at City Park: Each year, American Legion Post 174 has conducted a "Remembrance" ceremony honoring local firefighters, law enforcement and first responders, and commemorating the valiant efforts that occurred on 9-11-2001. Please join us as we pay tribute to those who died and those who gave so much on that "day of infamy" and the following days. The Post will conduct a 20-minute ceremony on Friday, September 11 at 12 pm, at Bud Snider Park on Commercial Street. (Across the street from City Hall). Seating is not provided due to the brevity of the ceremony.

Skunk Train Circus Runs: This September, the world-famous Skunk Train and Flynn Creek Circus are bringing together two storied forms of entertainment for a one-of-a-kind experience in Mendocino County. Starting Friday, September 11 and continuing on select dates at 12:30 pm and at 5:30 pm, through September 27, guests will board the Skunk Train in Willits and travel deep into the Noyo River Canyon for a circus performance by Flynn Creek Circus beneath the redwoods and a vintage big top tent. Concessions, beverages and exclusive merchandise will be available for purchase at the circus site. Local discounts available. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit skunktrain.com/flynn-creek-circus

Herbal Abundance Workshops at Green Uprising Farm: Green Uprising Farm in collaboration with the Mendo Community Wellness Collective is holding a series of educational herbal workshops on the 2nd and 4th Fridays, including Friday, September 11 and Friday, September 25, from 5 to 7 pm. "We will harvest, garble, share plant stories, and make tinctures and teas from the herb garden in the peak of summer abundance" at Green Uprising Farm, 2301 East Hill Road. Sliding scale: \$15 to \$40, no one turned away for lack of funds. Info: 707-234-0113, mendocwc@gmail.com

Art Talks: 'Prehistory' at WCA: "Before cities. Before writing. Before history itself. Journey into a world of magnificent cave paintings, ancient sculptures, and monumental stone circles that unveil the origins of human imagination." This month's Art Talk, Friday, September 11 at 6:30 pm is presented by Ruby Ming, M.A. Willits Art Center, 71 East Commercial Street.

Cosmic Family Band at Shanachie: Local Mendocino County jam band, sharing original music that is a reflection of being a part of this amazing community. "We're the Cosmic Family Band and so are you." Friday, September 11 at 8 pm. Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street.

Saturday, September 12

2026 Roots of Motive Power Steam-Up: 44th annual Steam Festival, Saturday, September 12 and Sunday, September 13, at the Roots facility, 420 East Commercial Street, both days from 10 am to 4 pm. Free Historic Passenger Steam Train Rides with the Bluestone Mining and Smelting Heisler Locomotive and the Port of Olympia #2 Locomotive. Enjoy the famous BBQ & Auction at the Rec Grove on Saturday, September 12 only: starts around 4 pm. Tickets on sale at the event. Also on Saturday, from 11 am to 3 pm, watch or experience Steam Roller Printing, with a 1924 Buffalo Springfield Steam Roller. You can try your hand at print-making and say you did it with an antique steam roller! See antique equipment in action both days. Also demonstrating and displaying historic engines in the Rec Grove under the oaks is the Early Day Gas Engine Society and Bill Rose's Model A Tour group. The steam-up is free and open to the public, however there is a

demonstrating and displaying historic engines in the Rec Grove under the oaks is the Early Day Gas Engine Society and Bill Rose's Model A Tour group. The steam-up is free and open to the public See Saturday, September 12 listing for more info.

Wednesday, September 16

Twining Time at Brickhouse: Live lunchtime music on Wednesdays, from noon to 2 pm, at Brickhouse Coffee, 3 South Main Street at Commercial. Wednesday, September 16: Twining Time (John Wagenet and Anita Wagenet Blu) play easy listening Folk/Country/Mountain Americana Roots plus new and old favorites as well as original music, with 2-part polished vocal harmonies, acoustic guitar and keyboard.

Thursday, September 17

Willits Farmers Market: Join your neighbors at Summer Market outdoors at City Park on Commercial Street, Thursday, September 17, from 3 to 5:30 pm, for the freshest produce available, local meat, farm fresh eggs, hot and cold food from local businesses, along with crafts, live music, the new edition of Willits Weekly, and more. The market honors EBT and WIC cards and matches benefits to double your dollars.

Friday, September 18

"Bakersfield Mist" at WCT: Willits Community Theatre presents a dark and meaningful comedy by Stephen Sachs, loosely based on the story of a woman who bought a painting at a thrift store and came to believe it was a Jackson Pollock worth millions of dollars. Directed by Jim Williams, and starring two WCT veterans: Cindi Mohr as the boozy, hard-tongued ex-bartender Maude and Steve Marston as Lionel, the efete and expert art appraiser. Opens September 18 and runs through October 4, with 7 pm shows on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 pm matinees on Sundays. 37 West Van Lane. Tickets are \$25 and available at www.wctperformingartscenter.org or at the door.

Saturday, September 19

'Talk Like a Pirate Day' at the Library: Ahoy! Weigh anchor and set sail for the Willits Branch Library to join us for an afternoon of piratical fun on Saturday, September 19 from 1 to 4 pm, as we celebrate International Talk Like a Pirate Day. Don your pirate garb and enjoy the festivities, which include games, crafts, temporary tattoos, a scavenger hunt – by following a treasure map of course – to find the loot that is rightfully yours. See you there. This event will be held throughout the Willits Branch Library. For more information, please visit www.mendolibrary.org or contact the Willits Branch Library at 707-459-5908.

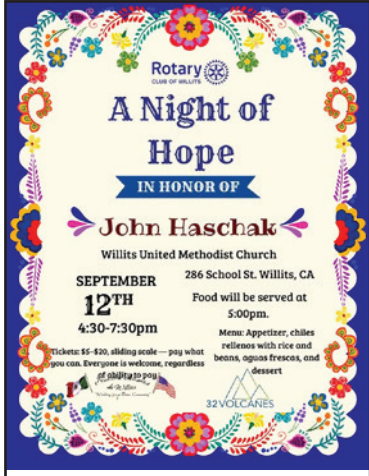
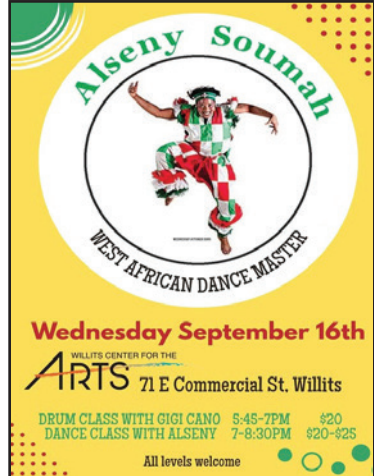
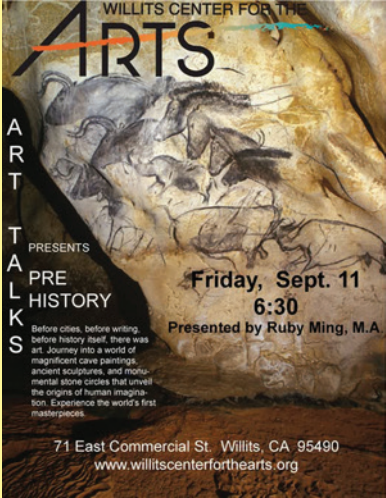
"Bakersfield Mist" at WCT: Willits Community Theatre presents a dark and meaningful comedy by Stephen Sachs, Saturday, September 19 at 7 pm. 37 West Van Lane. Tickets are \$25 and available at www.wctperformingartscenter.org or at the door. See Friday, September 18 listing for more info

Sunday, September 20

"Bakersfield Mist" at WCT: Willits Community Theatre presents a dark and meaningful comedy by Stephen Sachs, Sunday, September 20 matinee at 2 pm. 37 West Van Lane. Tickets are \$25 and available at www.wctperformingartscenter.org or at the door. See Friday, September 18 listing for more info

Local Candidates Forum at the Grange: A Candidates Forum is set for Sunday, September 20, covering local races for Mendocino County's 3rd District Supervisor, the Willits Unified School District Board, and the Willits City Council. From 2 to 4 pm at the Little Lake Grange, School and Pine Streets, in Willits. The local races featured at the Forum are:

3rd District County Supervisor – a run-off between Buffey Wright Bourassa and Eric Hart: starting just after 2 pm. Willits Unified School District board – four candidates vying for three seats on the board: Nicole Karker, Jeanne King, Paula Nunez, and Mason Neil Rescina – starting about 2:45 pm. Willits City Council – two candidates, Robin Leeler and Sherrie Ebyam, running uncontested for two seats on the Council – will introduce themselves starting about 3:35 pm. These races are on the November 3 General Election along with other important county and state races and 14 state propositions. Ballots will be mailed to voters starting October 5. Other information will be available at the Forum.



Skunk Train and Flynn Creek Circus bring one-of-a-kind experience to the redwoods in September

Submitted by Mendocino Railway

This September, the world-famous Skunk Train and Flynn Creek Circus are bringing together two storied forms of entertainment for a one-of-a-kind experience in Mendocino County. From September 11 to 27, 2026, guests will board the Skunk Train in Willits and travel deep into the Noyo River Canyon for a circus performance beneath the redwoods.

For the first time in the Skunk Train's history, the railway will transport guests to a secluded circus site accessible by train, where a vintage big top tent awaits among the towering redwoods.

Flynn Creek Circus brings together world-class acrobats and aerialists for performances blending daring physical movement, storytelling, comedy and artistry. The journey aboard the Skunk Train becomes part of the experience as guests leave Willits behind and travel through the redwood forest before arriving at Crowley for the performance.

"The Flynn Creek Circus artists are thrilled to be part of this collaboration. It brings back the spirit of the golden era of circus travel by rail in the best possible way," said Blaze Birge, owner of Flynn Creek Circus. "I can think of nothing more charming than riding the iconic Skunk Train through towering redwoods that open to reveal a vintage big top tent. It is a fairytale pairing of Mendocino County's best, promising a storybook-level magical experience."

The collaboration draws inspiration from an era when circuses traveled the country by rail, reimagining that tradition through two distinctly Mendocino County experiences: the historic Skunk Train and Flynn Creek Circus.

Concessions, beverages and exclusive merchandise will be available for purchase at the circus site.

Below, left: One of the Flynn Creek Circus performers balances his handsome hat. Below, right: The Flynn Creek Circus' vintage big top tent.

Photos courtesy Mendocino Railway



The Court of Appeal's August 17 order stated that Redwood Timber Company "shall not engage in any timber operations" except "protective actions to protect water quality and other resources."

Four days after this order, on August 21, CAL FIRE inspected the site and "observed an excavator constructing proposed road" and observed RTC continuing to yard and haul logs from the site. On August 27, RTC informed the court that it estimated it had felled 776 acres, and yarded/skidded logs from 186 acres, with 590 acres left to yard or skid. Friends of Dutch Charlie Creek claim that continuing to construct roads and yard/skid logs violated the court's order.

RTC claimed that it needs to immediately remove logs because they "represent a HUGE FIRE HAZARD." Friends of Dutch Charlie Creek consider this a specious excuse to continue commercial timber operations, claiming that the plans allow all logging slash – i.e. branches and treetops which are much more combustible than logs – to remain on site for the duration of the fire season and that RTC has nowhere indicated that it intended to remove slash from the THP sites, and that CAL FIRE's inspection report does not mention there being a fire hazard.

Friends of Dutch Charlie Creek contend that RTC raced to fell all of the trees in an apparent attempt to render the lawsuit moot before the court might order RTC to halt. Gualala Redwood Timber, which like RTC is owned by the Burch family, had done exactly this in a recent case. The Friends group claims this was a reckless action, and that yarding/skidding and hauling of logs are primary sources of the irreparable harm that the injunction is intended to prevent.

The Superior Court's September 2 order specifies what protective actions are allowed under the order, stating that "Logs may be removed at the locations in each THP which CAL FIRE has opined through such notices of inspection that Forest Practice Rules require installation of water breaks on opened tractor roads and cable roads."

Friends of Dutch Charlie Creek claim that the Dutch Charlie watershed is steep and unstable terrain with large wetlands along the middle reach of the creek where coho spawn and rear, and that these timber harvest plans include numerous exceptions to the standard Forest Practice Rules, to allow tractor logging on steep unstable slopes, and in these wetlands, use of legacy haul roads immediately adjacent to the creek, construction of new roads near the creek, and felling of unmarked trees in the buffer zones along the creek. They claim this would lead to landslides and erosion and deliver fine sediment into Dutch Charlie Creek, which would smother coho redds, fill pools, and eliminate habitat for the aquatic insects that juvenile coho rely on for food. They also claim that soil compaction and hydrologic changes from logging would increase destructive flooding during storms, and make pools shallower and warmer in the summer, eliminating coho rearing habitat.

Friends of Dutch Charlie Creek claim that these exceptions to the Rules directly contradict recommendations made by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for protection of this priority coho habitat, when a similar THP was proposed on the same harvest area and then withdrawn in 2021. The "Hot Tuna" and "Lincoln Logs" THPs were submitted in 2025. Friends of Dutch Charlie Creek say that CDFW did not respond when the group notified CDFW that the new THPs did not follow CDFW's prior recommendations. CAL FIRE approved the "Hot Tuna" and "Lincoln Logs" THPs on July 2 and 3, and RTC began logging on July 3. Friends of Dutch Charlie Creek filed their lawsuit on July 7.

Friends of Dutch Charlie Creek are suing on the grounds that the THPs fail to assess their impacts on coho salmon habitat. One of these potential impacts is the delivery of fine sediment into streams due to soil disturbance, in particular from construction and use of roads and yarding/skidding of logs. Friends of Dutch Charlie Creek and geomorphologist Dr. William Dietrich and fishery biologist Patrick Higgins submitted public comments in 2025 during review of the THP, regarding these potential impacts. Redwood Timber Company's counsel claims: "There is no evidence in the record that the logging operations will cause additional sediment delivery to the relevant stream system." The THPs state that "construction and use of forest and ranch roads" is a "major contributing factor" to "the sedimentation of watercourses." The THPs include 3 miles of new road construction including on steep slopes and near the creek, in addition to the extremely dense existing road network in the harvest area. Friends of Dutch Charlie Creek claim that the THPs do not mention or assess the potential sediment impacts from construction or use of these roads, and that this violates the California Environmental Quality Act.

While the lawsuit focuses on sediment impacts, Friends of Dutch Charlie Creek are also concerned about other impacts, including impacts to stream flows and stream temperature, soil loss, harm to the soil and aquatic habitat from toxic herbicides, loss of wildlife habitat and forest diversity from eradication of tanoak and madrone, and long-term increase to catastrophic wildfire risk. Friends claim that fire risk will increase because the largest trees which are less vulnerable to fire will be replaced by dense regrowth of smaller young trees which are highly flammable, and the landscape will become dryer and warmer due to loss of soil and greater exposure to sun and wind. All of these impacts are discussed in the public comments here: www.savethecoho.org/#comments

Editor's Note: Sources for the claims and quotes, etc., in this document can be found at www.savethecoho.org

Friends of Dutch Charlie Creek is an all-volunteer grassroots organization dedicated to protecting the Dutch Charlie Creek watershed.

ONGOING GENERAL

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

Trivia Night at Northspur Brewing Co: Put your knowledge to the test on the first and third Wednesday of the month starting at 6:30 pm at Northspur Brewing Co., 101 North Main Street.

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

Free Meal by Willits Daily Bread: Every week on Monday through Thursday from 4:30 to 5:30 pm at 66 East Commercial Street.

Willits Tennis Club: Meets every Monday and Wednesday from 9 to 11 am at the Willits High School Tennis Courts. All levels welcome. More info: 707 484-3385.

Drop-In Life Drawing Group at WCA: Every Thursday from 1 to 4 pm at Willits Center for the Arts. Cost is based on sliding scale. More info: Margaret 707-459-9251.

Brown Bag Lunch Program: Saturdays at 1 pm, sack lunches are served by local churches, community organizations, and families at Bud Snider City Park on East Commercial. Come at 1 pm to be assured a lunch!

Willits Indivisible Democracy Vigil: Every Friday from 5 to 6 pm at Babcock Park on South Main Street. More info: "Willits Indivisible" on Facebook.

Pickleball: Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays at 5:30 pm and Saturdays at 9 am at the Willits High School tennis courts. Free to play and all levels welcome.

Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Group: Meets every Monday at 6 pm at the Muse in Willits, 30 East San Francisco Street. More info: 707-354-1866.

Willits Drum Circle: Every second and fourth Friday at 7 pm, at St. Francis of the Redwoods on the corner of Main and Commercial Streets. Info: Bill Bruneau: 459-3390.

Literacy Volunteers of Willits: We teach adults to read! Free personal tutoring at the library. Call or email to make an appointment: LiteracyWillits@gmail.com or 707-456-7729.

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

SHANACHIE PUB ONGOING EVENTS Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street

Saturday Sessions at Shanachie: Every 2nd and 4th Saturday from 3 to 6 pm, one of our locals will host an open jam at Shanachie Pub. Bring any instrument and explore your creativity!

Bluegrass String Jam: An official jam for the California Bluegrass Association, every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month starting at 3 pm, with all Bluegrass musicians welcome!

Wednesday Open Mic Night: Every Wednesday– Enter your name in the lottery from 3 to 7 pm to choose your 20-minute time slot, with performances beginning at 7:20.

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

Open hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10 am to 7 pm; Friday, 10 am to 6 pm; Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm; Closed Sunday and Monday. **LEGO Club:** Tuesdays from 4 to 6:30 pm. "Bring your imagination and start building."

Penny University Coffee Klatch: Wednesdays, 2 to 4 pm, in the Willits Library meeting room to discuss various topics while enjoying a "cup of joe."

Tech Help: Saturdays from 11 am to noon, come get computer help and your technical questions answered!

Spinning and Knitting: Saturdays at the library, from 1 to 4:30 pm. All skill levels welcome!



At left, from top: The Weyerhaeuser crane runs on a spur of the track around the Roots facility on East Commercial Street during steam-up events. Chris Baldo is one of the original creators of Roots of Motive Power, begun in 1982 as a loosely organized group of friends in the timber industry who shared a love of local history and the antique machinery that shaped it. The Port of Olympia #2 engine pulls the passenger cars around the track at the 2025 Steam Festival. Above, left: Sam Munderloh decided to make an American flag in 2025 to be printed using the steam roller. Above, right: Chris Baldo and Wendy Wilmes brought boxes of these tomatoes and peppers to be auctioned during last year's event. Below: The dining is al fresco every year at the Roots of Motive Power barbecue.

Roots of Motive Power Steam-Up Saturday and Sunday

Submitted by Roots of Motive Power

Roots of Motive Power is proud to present its annual Steam Festival! This event takes place Saturday, September 12 and Sunday, September 13, both days from 10 am to 4 pm. Free Historic Passenger Steam Train Rides with the Bluestone Mining and Smelting Heisler Locomotive and the Port of Olympia #2 Locomotive.

Enjoy the famous BBQ & Auction at the Rec Grove on Saturday, September 12 only: starts around 4 pm. Tickets on sale at the event. Also on Saturday, from 11 am to 3 pm, watch or experience Steam Roller Printing, with a 1924 Buffalo Springfield Steam Roller. You can try your hand at print-making and say you did it with an antique steam roller!

See antique equipment in action both days: Bucyrus-Erie Steam Shovel, Caterpillar Tractors, Steam Donkeys, Hit and Miss Engines, Antique Trucks, Kelly Springfield Road Roller, Seabiscuit Diamond T Truck, Mountain Quarries 202 193 H.K. Porter Co. 15 ton Steam Locomotive 0-4-0-T on display, Washington Iron Works Estep Yarder, and Keystone Well Driller Demonstrations. Also demonstrating and displaying historic engines in the Rec Grove under the oaks is the Early Day Gas Engine Society and Bill Rose's Model A Tour group.

The steam-up is free and open to the public, however there is a charge for the BBQ. Directions: Take Willits Main Street and turn on East Commercial Street; you'll find Roots at 420 East Commercial Street.



It's about moments that matter.
And the care that gets you there.



At Adventist Health, our expertise exists to inspire health, wholeness, and hope

We're here for you whenever you need us. With high-quality care, innovative treatments, and cutting-edge technology. All meant to inspire wellness and support your mental, physical, and spiritual health. So you can enjoy more of the moments you were made for.



Learn more at
AdventistHealth.org/MendocinoCounty



MADE FOR MORE