

What do YOU think?

Opinions, thoughts and thank you letters from our readers

Once in a Blues Moon concert

To the Editor:

We were sorry to see that Willits Weekly omitted coverage of the Once in a Blues Moon event held Saturday, August 16, in the beautiful setting behind the County Museum. This lovely evening was the brainchild of Marie Blancas of Moon Lady who had long wanted to bring back Tommy Castro and The Painkillers to Willits, but this time outdoors under the stars.

In fact, once the music began, it soon had everyone up and moving. A row of food vendors offered innovative and tasty dishes, desserts as well as a great bar. The gathering of about 400 people sat at tables with comfy chairs serving as the perfect backdrop for catching up with old friends, listening and dancing to a great band.

This concert also benefitted the County Museum, WELL and Roots of Power. We'll all look forward to another evening under the stars. Bravo Marie and many thanks.

Jane Camp, Sherry Collins and Norma Hanson, Willits

Senior Center menu for the week

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

Thursday, August 28: Blue Zones Inspired: Baked Cod, Brown Rice, Veggies

Friday, August 29: Turkey, Stuffing, Gravy, Cranberry Sauce, Veggies, Roll

Monday, September 1: Senior Center Closed - Happy Labor Day!

Tuesday, September 2: Turkey Curry, Brown Rice, Veggies

Wednesday, September 3: Corned Beef Hash, Scrambled Eggs, Biscuit

Thursday, September 4: Chicken Cordon Blu Casserole

Friday, September 5: Country Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Veggies

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

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

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

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



2025 Coastal Cleanup Day set for September 20

Submitted by Mendoparks

Mendoparks and State Parks are thrilled to present this year's California Coastal Cleanup Day – Saturday, September 20, 9 am to 12 pm.

First organized by the Coastal Commission, California hosted its first cleanup day in 1985. Close to 2,500 Californians participated in the initial Cleanup, and the program has been growing by leaps and bounds ever since. Since its inception, more than 1.8 million volunteers have removed over 27 million pounds of trash from beaches and inland waterways across California.

In 1993, the Guinness Book of World Records recognized the California Coastal Cleanup Day as the "largest garbage collection" ever organized. This incredible day is a way for people to get together both to pick up trash from Mendocino's coastline, but also to contribute data to science, creating awareness about the dangers of marine debris.

This year, California Coastal Cleanup Day will also become the world's largest scavenger hunt. Special "trash" items will be hidden at cleanup sites all across the state. If you find one of them, you can redeem it for valuable prizes!

The Coastal Cleanup will take place at multiple sites along the Mendocino Coast, each with its own Site Captain. For more information and to register, visit <https://www.mendoparks.org/coastal-cleanup>.

As a 501c3 non-profit organization (EIN#68-0049014), Mendoparks receives no government funding or tax dollars for operations. Since 2004, Mendoparks has donated over \$1.4 million dollars in support of State Parks in Mendocino County – all of which remains local.

Golf clubs to donate?

Posted by Willits High School

Do you have any golf clubs you would like to donate to the new Willits High School girls' golf program? If so, please contact Juliana Aguilar at julianaaguilar@willitsunified.com or kindly drop them off at Willits High School. Thank you!



At left, top, from left: Janet Reedy of Oro di Milas offers tastes of her olive oil on bread and melon. Melissa Arana and Paul Sousa of Eastside Ranch offer pork ribs and beef sliders. Grocery Manager Kevin Copperfield has been with Mariposa Market for 14 years.

At far left: Owner Mary Anne Trevey and longtime store manager Mark Adley smile for a photo. At left: Blaire AuClair brought her whole family to enjoy the festivities and to show her Covelo farm goods.

Below: Mary Burns takes the opportunity to do some shopping.

At bottom, left: Elizabeth Blecha carries out a tray of fresh fruits for people to sample.

At bottom, right: The crew of the Wellness Department of Mariposa is ready to answer any questions customers may have: from left, Kashmir Wilkerson, Runa Lynn and Willow Roland Muller.

Photos by Mathew Caine



'We're Still Here'

Mariposa Market celebrates 46th anniversary with samples galore and live music

"Well, it's been 46 years and we're still here," stated Mary Anne Trevey, owner of Mariposa Market, at the anniversary celebration. "This is a little slice of life. We have our challenges. It's like a little oasis."

Mathew Caine
Features Writer
willitsweekly@gmail.com

This year, California Coastal Cleanup Day will also become the world's largest scavenger hunt. Special "trash" items will be hidden at cleanup sites all across the state. If you find one of them, you can redeem it for valuable prizes!

Through all those years of recessions, weather, bypass, and COVID, the store has survived where other businesses have not. Loyal customers, excellent food and supplies, great staff, and good management have created a Willits landmark in which people love to shop. The interior is bright and inviting, the products are top quality and easy to find, and the deli offers fresh sandwiches, smoothies, and more at reasonable prices. Local meats and produce are mostly organic and naturally sourced.

"My philosophy is providing the best food that we can to the community, that's realistic," Trevey continued. "We try to get a lot of local produce. We have local meat. We have really nice fish, all line-caught, except for the salmon which is farmed. Everything is as fresh and organic as possible. We look at everything we sell to make sure it doesn't have ingredients that we don't want."

"People like working here because I try to treat people the way that I like to be

treated," Trevey said. "This is a little slice of life. We have our challenges. It's like a little oasis."

At the anniversary celebration last Saturday, several local vendors set up tables to offer samples of their products. Janet Reedy, with Oro di Milas olive oil, let attendees taste her internationally award-winning oil with pieces of bread. She also had people try to dip bits of melon in the oil, a taste which was surprising but very satisfying to the tongue.

"The oil is 'extra virgin' because it is grown organically," Reedy explained. "It is processed naturally, which means we crush it cold press. We don't add any talcum powders. We don't add any chemicals. We monitor the temperature so that it's processed properly and it keeps all the nutrients on it. We filter it with a specific filter for the olive oil just to remove some impurities. It's always kept fresh. It's always kept cold."

Familiar to customers of the Willits Farmers Market, is Melissa Arana, who brought ribs and beef sliders from local Eastside Ranch. "Our meat is hormone free, pasture raised, no additives, and we have happy animals," Arana said. "Lots of green grass to graze on. Lots of good clean water. We're here to support the anniversary celebration because we love Mariposa and they also carry all of our meat here."

Read the rest of Mariposa Over on page 9



Bereavement Support Group

This facilitated 8-week group provides an opportunity to learn the symptoms of grief, as well as to recognize the individual nature of its expression and duration. With a fuller understanding of the grief process and effective ways to cope, we can find meaning and move forward.

Beginning: Wednesday, Sept. 17
Time: 1:30-3:30pm
FREE OF CHARGE
To register call:
Suzanne Picetti-Johnson (707) 456-9676



Suzana Wilson and Suzanne Picetti-Johnson Group Facilitators

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Adventist Health Howard Memorial receives Five-Star CMS Rating again in 2025

Adventist Health Howard Memorial Hospital has received the Overall Hospital Quality Five-Star Rating for the second year in a row from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the highest possible rating a hospital can achieve.

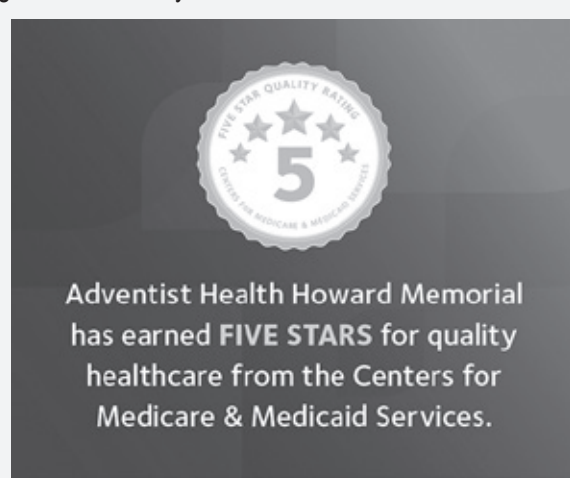
"Earning the CMS Five-Star Rating for a second year in a row is a direct reflection of the daily dedication and operational excellence our entire team brings to patient care," said Jeff Mock, Operations Executive at Adventist Health Howard Memorial. "This recognition validates the intentional work we've done to align our systems, processes, and people around one shared goal – delivering exceptional, safe, and efficient care. I'm incredibly proud of our team's commitment to excellence and the positive impact we're making in the lives of those we serve."

According to CMS, the Overall Star Rating summarizes a variety of measures across five areas of quality into a single star rating for each hospital. The measures include mortality, safety, readmission, patient experience, and timely and effective care. Each hospital has a star rating that ranges from one to five stars, with five stars signifying the highest quality.

Of the over 4,600 hospitals evaluated by CMS, Adventist

Health Howard Memorial is one of nine hospitals in the Northern California area to achieve this five-star rating. Only 10% of hospitals nationwide have earned five stars.

For more information about Adventist Health Howard Memorial, visit www.AdventistHealthHowardMemorial.org.



Adventist Health Howard Memorial has earned FIVE STARS for quality healthcare from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.



Adventist Health is a faith-based, nonprofit, integrated health system, serving more than 100 communities on the West Coast and Hawaii, with over 440 sites of care, including 27 acute care facilities. Founded on Adventist heritage and values, Adventist Health provides care in hospitals, clinics, home care, and hospice agencies in both rural and urban communities.

Our compassionate and talented team of more than 38,000 includes employees, physicians, medical staff, and volunteers driven in pursuit of one mission: living God's love by inspiring health, wholeness and hope. We are committed to staying true to our heritage by providing patient-centered, quality care. Together, we are transforming the health care experience with an innovative and whole-person focus on physical, mental, spiritual, and social healing to support community well-being.

'A republic, if you can keep it'

Submitted by Assemblymember Chris Rogers, District 2

Benjamin Franklin's warning has never felt more urgent: This country would be a republic, if we can keep it. Thursday, I voted to support California's new redistricting plan because right now, our democracy is under siege. We've watched a White House determined to trample the Constitution in search of unchecked power, while a feckless Congress and partisan Supreme Court cheer them on.

And now, instead of facing voters for turning the military on our own citizens, eliminating healthcare for millions, and disappearing community members without due process, the President is demanding that red states gerrymander Democrats out of Congress in a mid-census redraw.

We didn't start this fight – but California will not stand by while American democracy is dismantled. Until gerrymandering is eliminated nationwide, we have a responsibility to make sure Californians are represented fairly and that electoral accountability doesn't disappear from our

Read the rest of Redistricting Over on page 11

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.



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Willits Weekly's Puzzle Page

Sudoku, Word Search & Crossword



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

Level: Beginner

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!

SUN SAFETY WORD SEARCH

X R A E A A R L H X N G M V S T O P S N
 U C E R E F L E C T T A E H B U N P U R
 I N K C V L S U N G T L A S S E S R A S D
 M W H B N X P S E R U E X M U O W H U P
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 H H P D V E C N T M P L S E A D E W G T
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| CANCER
COVER UP
DERMATOLOGIST
HEAT
INDEX
INDOORS
MELANOMA
MORNING | PROTECT
RADIATION
RASH
REFLECT
SHADE
SKIN
SPOTS
SUNBLOCK | SUNBURN
SUNGLASSES
SUNLIGHT
ULTRAVIOLET
UMBRELLA
WIDE-BRIMMED |
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11							12		
13				14			15		
16							17		
18				19	20				
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			25				26		
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							29	30	31
							32	33	
							34		
							35		
36							37		
38							39		
40							41		
42							43		

CLUES ACROSS

- Gas usage measurement
- Muslim mystic
- Towards the mouth or oral region
- Monday (Spanish)
- Frame for a coffin
- Rub out
- John __, English educator 1467-1519
- Small round particle
- Chilean seaport
- News service
- Pay for dinner
- Glamorous city
- Subway rodent
- 'The Raven' author
- Buddhist festival
- Cost, insurance and freight (abbr.)
- Indigenous person of Thailand
- 'The Blonde Bombshell'

CLUES DOWN

- Series-ending episodes
- Bluish greens
- Aquatic mammal
- Unit of measurement
- Eye membranes
- Indian god of dissolution
- People of Scotland
- Leak slowly through
- Rock icon Turner
- Midway between south and southeast
- Large hat covering
- 'From what is earlier' (Latin)
- Celtic
- Retirement region
- A way to change posture
- Touches
- A small island
- Rubbish
- A citizen of Laos
- A place to dance
- 19th letter of Greek alphabet
- Mild expression of surprise
- 17th letter of Greek alphabet
- Descriptions
- Men's fashion accessory
- Thieves of the sea
- Prohibit
- Card game
- French and Belgian river
- Underling
- Downwind
- Type of medication
- German city
- Animal disease
- Martini ingredients
- Get away from
- Stuffed (French)
- Type of precipitation

WILLITS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICE LOG

August 4 to August 17

By Danya Davis, Willits Weekly

The officers of the Willits Police Department reported 117 incidents in this 14-day period.

Summary of Active Investigations and Arrests

August 4

5:09 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 100 block of South Main Street.

9:42 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of Barbara Lane.

August 5

5:59 pm: MARSHALL, William Neil (45) of Willits was contacted in the 1300 block of South Main Street. He was arrested on felony charges of smuggling controlled substances into jail or prison, and on misdemeanor charges of driving with a suspended license (revoked for DUI), possession of a controlled substance, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

August 6

3:57 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and East Commercial Street and issued a citation.

10:17 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1600 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

August 7

2:01 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1200 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

3:54 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity in the 800 block of Railroad Avenue.

9:56 pm: HILBURN, Michael Aaron (41) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of North Main Street. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of domestic battery and disorderly conduct (alcohol).

9:57 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

August 8

9:49 am: MAXFIELD, Jessica Louise (33) of Willits was contacted in the 1700 block of South Main Street. She was arrested on felony charges of dumping hazardous substances, and on misdemeanor charges of public nuisance and disorderly conduct (panhandling).

12:13 pm: Officers responded to a report of suspicious activity near the intersection of East Oak Street.

4:02 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of North Main Street and issued a warning.

4:26 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Franklin Avenue and Blosser Lane and issued a citation.

4:38 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Holly Street and Locust Street and issued a warning.

4:54 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

August 9

12:01 am: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and California Street and issued a warning.

1:04 am: FIGGHOBLYN, Amanda Irene (24) of Willits was contacted in the 1300 block of South Main Street. She was arrested on misdemeanor charges of violation of probation and failure to appear.

1:21 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

10:05 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of Railroad Avenue and issued a warning.

9:22 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1500 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

August 10

4:28 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of Railroad Avenue and issued a warning.

August 11

7:31 pm: MATTSON, Cheryl Kathleen (53) of Willits was contacted in the 800 block of South Main Street. She was arrested on felony charges of first degree burglary.

8:42 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

8:51 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 900 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

9:03 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a citation.

11:53 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Sanhedrin Circle and East Hill Road and issued a warning.

August 12

12:04 am: Officers conducted a stop in the 1600 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

7:21 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of Coast Street and issued a citation.

August 13

5:16 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 800 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

11:11 pm: Officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

11:18 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 100 block of North Main Street and issued a warning.

11:41 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Elm Lane and Muir Mill Road and issued a warning.

August 14

9:26 am: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 800 block of South Main Street.

4:27 pm: Officers conducted a stop in the 1300 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

August 15

7:40 am: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and East San Francisco Avenue and issued a warning.

8:26 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 1700 block of South Main Street and issued a warning.

4:45 pm: ALLEN, Dustin Alonzo (36) of Willits was contacted in the 100 block of Hawthorn Court. He was arrested on misdemeanor charges of being under the influence of a controlled substance.

August 16

2:49 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 800 block of South Main Street.

10:58 am: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 500 block of Raymond Lane.

8:31 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of South Main Street and Monroe Street and issued a warning.

8:36 pm: Officers initiated a theft investigation in the 200 block of South Main Street.

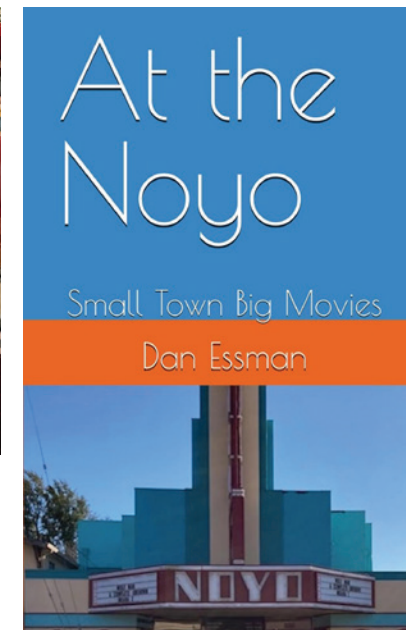
11:21 pm: Officers responded to a report of an unwanted subject in the 100 block of Marcela Drive.

August 17

6:12 pm: Officers conducted a stop near the intersection of Railroad Avenue and East Valley Street and issued a warning.



Above: Publisher Dan Barth, left, and author Dan Essman hold copies of "At the Noyo: Small Town Big Movies," at The Book Juggler, where the book can be purchased. "At the Noyo: Small Town Big Movies" can also be purchased online.



'At the Noyo: Small Town Big Movies': A collection of Dan Essman's reviews

Submitted by Secret Goldfish Press, Talmage

Dan Barth, publisher of "At the Noyo: Small Town Big Movies" said: "I read all of Dan Essman's reviews and found them insightful and funny. I thought a collection would make a good and enjoyable book. I presented the idea to Dan, and he agreed."

Dan Essman has been writing for a long time, but before writing, he was a movie watcher. When he was 9 and his brother 10, Dad brought 16 mm prints of feature films to their home in La Mirada, California where he would project the film down a long hallway. He closed all the doors for a particularly dark theater effect. The boys often invited a few friends to watch with them, and before starting the movie, Dad would talk about the actors, tell any production stories that he knew.

The magic of story on the Big Screen has preoccupied kids, young people, and adults since the beginning of movies, and Dan Essman was no exception. On weekends he would go to the cheap matinees in old downtown theaters which still held all the seduction of red velvet curtains, chandeliers, and ornate gold gilt ceilings.

Essman said, "I started liking art films in the sixties; the European flicks seemed to be truer and less phony than Hollywood stuff. I

especially liked English comedies. Hilarious and cutting dialogue filled with ironic subtleties was very cool."

In 1970 Essman was in a Method Acting Workshop and lived with two actors in a big house north of Malibu. While in the workshop he learned a different way to watch movies. The center of his focus became the actors and their performance.

In the nineties Dan Essman moved to Willits and was part of the poetry scene there, organizing readings with featured readers and marathons to benefit the Willits Library. In 2014, Dan was approached by Jeff Hoover, then owner of the Noyo, and asked if he would write movie reviews. Dan said sure, and began writing reviews for the Noyo Theatre and taped them to the window.

It was suggested he send them to Jennifer Poole, publisher at Willits Weekly. He also had a core of friends to whom he sent the reviews. Dan Barth, a longtime friend from the poetry days, read them every week and was inspired to publish a collection of the reviews.

Dan Essman believes that for children the bottom line is the Good Guys win and virtue is rewarded. Movies for children must never celebrate despair, he said. "That's child abuse."

RCRC announces winner of Rural County Photo Contest

Submitted by RCRC

The Rural County Representatives of California is pleased to announce the winner of RCRC's 9th Annual Rural County Photo Contest. First place was awarded to Andrew Lincoln for his striking image of a flock of sheep providing vegetation management in a Napa County vineyard.



Above: First-place photo, "Woolly Weeders," by Andrew Lincoln, Napa County.

The contest drew submissions from amateur and professional photographers across the state, each capturing the beauty and character of California's rural counties.

Born into a Napa Valley winegrowing family whose roots date back to the 1800s, Andrew Lincoln was first introduced to photography by his grandmother, whose influence sparked a lifelong passion for the craft. He now resides in the Los Carneros region – once known for sheep ranching and now celebrated for its vineyards – here his work centers on nature, agriculture, and pastoral beauty. Inspired by conservation photography and the evocative imagery of the wine country, Lincoln creates visual stories grounded in a deep reverence for the land – a vision captured in his winning photograph titled "Woolly Weeders."

"Congratulations to Andrew Lincoln of Napa County on earning first place in the RCRC Annual Rural County Photo Contest," said Napa County Supervisor and RCRC Board Delegate Anne Cottrell. "His image of 'woolly weeders' grazing between vineyard rows showcases the vibrant agricultural industry within our county – and beautifully captures an important land stewardship and vegetation management practice."

This year's competition received a record 320 entries. The RCRC Board of Directors selected

the top three photographs at its August 13 meeting. Second place went to Derek Ikeda for his image of the Palisade Glacier and Big Pine Lakes in Inyo County, while Eric Grimm earned third place for his photograph of the snowy Upper Owens River flowing into Crowley Lake in Mono County.

Established to promote tourism and local economic development, the RCRC Annual Rural County Photo Contest showcases the landscapes, scenery, activities, history, and charm of RCRC's 40 member counties. Lincoln's winning image will be prominently displayed during RCRC's 2025 Annual Meeting in Placer County this September and may also be featured in RCRC marketing materials and publications throughout the year.

Additional information regarding the contest, as well as the images from past winners, is available at www.rcrcnet.org/photo-contest.

The Rural County Representatives of California is a 40-member county service organization that champions policies on behalf of California's rural counties. RCRC is dedicated to representing the collective unique interests of its membership, providing legislative and regulatory representation at the state and federal levels, and providing responsible services for its members to enhance and protect the quality of life in rural California counties.



Above, left: Second-place photo, by Derek Ikeda, Inyo County.



Above, right: Third place photo, by Eric Grimm, Mono County.

SEPTEMBER 6 & 7, 2025

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- Seabiscuit Diamond T-truck
- Mountain Quarries 202 1913 H. K. Porter Co. 15 ton steam locomotive 0-4-0-T
- 1952 Allis-Chalmers HD-20 tractor

Steam Roller Printing at the Park
11 am to 3 pm
On Saturday!

The Famous BBQ & auction is happening in the Rec Grove on Saturday, September 6, starting around 4 pm. Tickets on sale at the event.

SPIRITUAL PATHWAYS

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
Adult Sunday School 8:30 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 WELCOME

Church of Christ
"What must we do to be saved?"
Acts 2:37
1095 S. Main St., Willits
(next to Super 8)
(707) 459-5023
Sunday Bible Study-10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship-11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service-6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study-7:30 p.m.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
265 Margie Drive
Willits, CA 95490
ALL ARE WELCOME
Sacrament Meeting
Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

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

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

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
61 W. San Francisco Ave.
Willits, CA 95490
Father Aaron Bandannadam
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 appointment at
707-459-2252
https://stanthonywillits.org/
sainthonywillits@gmail.com
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
Sunday Service
10:00 a.m.
(707) 459-2988
24 Mill Creek Drive
Facebook.com/stjohnswillits
ALL ARE WELCOME

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

Willits United Methodist Church
Labyrinth and Peace Garden
where all are welcome
Pastor Jaime Rogers-Fairchild
Sunday Worship at 10:30 am
286 School St. (at Pine)
707-459-2855
www.umc@outlook.com
www.willitsumc.org
Facebook: facebook/willits umc
If you want to be included in this column please call:
April Tweddell
(707) 972-2475
april@willitsweekly.com

Thursday, August 28

Willits Farmers Market: Join your neighbors on Thursdays from 3 to 5:30 pm at City Park with vendors along State Street for the freshest produce available, local meat, farm fresh eggs, hot and cold food, and tasty treats from local businesses, plus 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.

Virtual Author Talk at the Library: Learn how to master the daily grind and become shatterproof in a tumultuous world with key insights by Dr. Tasha Eurich. Register and submit your questions to the author at mendolibrary.org. August 28, from 11 am to noon at the Willits Branch Library.

Bit and a Bite at the Museum: Join us for a light lunch and two presentations: "Rainbows"--a remembrance of Judi Bari and Earth First! and "Letters"- excerpts from letters between a Korean War naval reservist and his wife. This by-donation event runs from 12:30 to 1:30 pm on August 28 at the Mendocino County Museum, 400 East Commercial Street, Willits.

Friday, August 29

Herbal Wellness Consultations and Medicine-Making Workshop: The Mendocino Community Wellness Collective presents Herbal Abundance, where we will discuss herbs and plants and make herbal medicine on August 29 from 4:30 to 6 pm. The Herbal Wellness Wagon will also be there to offer consultations and herbal remedies from 3 to 6 pm. This is free to attend, though donations are accepted. More info: mendocwco@gmail.com or 707-234-0113. Green Uprising Farm, 2301 East Hill Road, Willits.

Back Porch Trio at Shanachie: Enjoy a fun mix of folk, blues, classic rock, jam band, Americana, and bluegrass with original songs and clever concept covers. Friday, August 29 at 8 pm, Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street, Willits.

The Munchery presents Backroads and Boots: A night of Country Fusion fun with DJ Juice and Line Dancing. Cover charge is \$5 and includes line dancing lessons by Flourish and Flow. August 29 from 7:30 to 9 pm at The Munchery, 1797 South Main Street, Willits.

Skate Night at Harwood Hall: Bring your friends, enjoy the music, and glide into an evening of fun with roller skating from 6 to 8 pm on Friday, August 29 at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville.

Saturday, August 30

Martini and the Shakers at John's Bar: Come enjoy this live rock and roll show on Saturday, August 30 at 9 pm. There is no cover charge to attend but you must be 21 years or older. John's Bar, 377 South Main Street, Willits.

Latchkey at Shanachie: Mixing elements from countryified soul, 70s AM radio, punk and four-part vocal harmony, Latchkey presents an invigorating twist on the NoCal festival vibe. August 30 at 8 pm, Shanachie Pub, 50 South Main Street, Willits.

Claws for a Cause Fundraiser at Ridgewood Ranch: The Willits Rotary Club and the Seabiscuit Therapeutic Riding Center (STRC) present their annual fundraiser on Saturday, August 30 at 5:30pm on the Howard House lawn. Enjoy an evening of fine dining including Maine lobster, prime rib and dessert prepared by Black Dog Farm and Catering, auctions, and live music by The Back Porch Trio. Individual tickets (\$100) and table sponsorships are available, and can be purchased at the Willits Senior Center. More info: 707-354-0714 or email seabiscuitridingcenter@gmail.com.



SKATE NIGHT IS BACK FOR FALL!
UPCOMING SKATE NIGHT SCHEDULE
These are the days we will have Skate Night
August 29
September 5 & 26
October 3, 10 & 24 (Special Costume Skate Party on 10/24)
November 7 & 14

FRIDAYS @ HARWOOD HALL FROM 6-8 P.M.
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL (707) 984-0889
Want to have a birthday party @ Skate Night? Call to reserve



For the freshest produce available, local meat, tasty treats, crafts, the new edition of the Willits Weekly and much more. The market honors EBT and WIC cards and matches benefits to double your dollars.

Friday, September 5

Herbal Wellness Consultations and Medicine-Making Workshop: The Mendocino Community Wellness Collective presents "Herbal Abundance", a free workshop from 4:30 to 6 pm with the Herbal Wellness Wagon available from 3 to 6 pm at Green Uprising Farm. See August 29 listing for more details.

Skate Night at Harwood Hall: Bring your friends, enjoy the music, and glide into an evening of fun with

roller skating from 6 to 8 pm on Friday, September 5 at Harwood Hall, 44400 Willis Avenue, Laytonville.

Saturday, September 6

43rd Annual Steam Festival at Roots of Motive Power: A two-day heritage celebration with demonstrations of historic timber, railroad and other heavy machinery, along with free steam train rides from 11 am to 4 pm on Saturday, September 6 at Roots of Motive Power (420 East Commercial Street). Then join us at Rec Grove Park for Steam Roller Printing from 11am to 3pm, and our famous BBQ at 4 pm followed by an auction. Tickets for the BBQ may be purchased at the event. More info: rootsofmotivepower.com.

Willits P.E.O. Annual Yard Sale Fundraiser: The Philanthropic Educational Organization chapter XO will hold a yard sale to raise money for their scholarship fund for Willits students on September 6 from 8am to noon at 63 Northbrook Way, Willits.



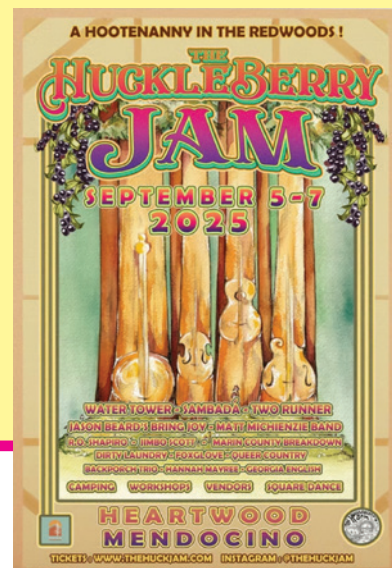
Sunday, September 7

Steam Festival at Roots of Motive Power: The second day of this event includes demonstrations and free steam train rides from 11 am to 4 pm at Roots of Motive Power, 420 East Commercial Street, Willits. See September 6 listing for more info.

Willits Community Yard Sale: Second day of Westside of Willits yard sale. See September 6 listing for more info.



Free Herbal Seasonings Class at the Grange: Join us in the Grange Kitchen where Annie Waters will talk about the benefits of herbs and teach you how to make your own dressings, seasonings and basil pesto sauce with samples to taste and take home. Sunday, September 7 from 2 to 4 pm at Little Lake Grange, 291 School Street Willits. There is limited seating so call 707-889-2449 to preregister.



NCBE and Willits Frontier Days Mixer September 11

Join us for an evening of connection, community, and celebration sponsored by the Northcoast Builders Exchange as we highlight the North Bay Construction Corps Bootcamp Project, an after-school, 3-month basic construction training program for high school seniors taught by local contractors and construction managers. We will showcase the dedicated students involved, while recognizing the generous sponsors & volunteers who make it all possible. This event is free to attend and will be held on September 11 from 5 to 7 pm at the Willits Frontier Days Rodeo Grounds, 423 East Commercial Street.



'Painted with Fire' exhibit opens

September 6 at WCA
A showcasing of ceramic sculpture and functional stoneware fired in a hand-built, traditional Anagama kiln to create natural ash glazes through a complex interaction of flame, ash and minerals, with featured artists Leslie Campbell, Jason Sovanich, and Margi Gomez. The exhibit opens September 6 with a reception from 6 to 8pm featuring an artist talk, tasty nibbles, live music, and a choice of beverages, and runs through September 28 at Willits Center for the Arts, 71 East Commercial Street, Willits.

Winesong Grand Tasting at the Mendocino Botanical Gardens September 6

Join us in supporting the Mendocino Coast Healthcare Foundation while sampling incredible wine, beer and spirits along with delicious food from over 30 restaurants, chefs and caterers amidst the beautiful backdrop of the Botanical Gardens. Enjoy music from local artists and place your bids at the Silent or Live Charity Auction. September 6, with wine tasting beginning at 11 am. More info or tickets: mchfoundation.org/winesong.

TOWN-WIDE ONGOING EVENTS

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

Flourish and Flow Yoga in the Park: Every Sunday from 10 to 11 am with rotating instructors each week. All levels welcome and children may attend if supervised and with an adult. Classes are donation based and for the month of August will benefit the Humane Society of Inland Mendocino County. Rec Grove Park, South Lenore Street, Willits.

Willits Food Bank Donations: Our Willits Food Bank is in dire need of non-perishable food and toiletries! There are donation bins (Sponsored by Willits Indivisible) at: Brickhouse Coffee, Mendo Mill, Willits Branch Library, the Senior Center and the Little Lake Grange.

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

Farmstand at the Commonwealth Garden: Fridays from 10 am to 1 pm for farm-fresh produce and treats. Get there early, some things sell out fast! Garden is located on right-hand side of Haehli Creek Drive, past Howard Memorial Hospital building complex.

For more info call 707-459-2777.

Lunch to Live Music at Brickhouse Coffee: every Wednesday from noon to 2:00 pm featuring various artists. Corner of South Main and East Commercial Streets, Willits. More info visit Brickhouse Coffee on Facebook.

Open Mic Night at Inner Earth Tea House: every Friday from 5 to 8 pm. Bring your songs, poems, stand-up comedy, instruments, etc. to this family-friendly event. Admission is \$12 and includes unlimited tea. 48 East San Francisco Street.

Summer Evenings at The Munchery: Join us most Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings at 5 to 8pm for nightly patio parties featuring cornhole, darts and ping pong and on Thursdays, Trivia Night! Some nights we are closed for private events, so check our Facebook for updates. The Munchery, 1797 South Main Street, Willits.

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

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 7 pm. 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: The mobile shower trailer will be in Willits on Mondays and Tuesdays each week from 2:30 to 4:30 pm, in the parking lot in back of St. Francis Church at the corner of Main and Commercial Streets. Toiletries, towels and washcloths are provided. One of the rooms has a ramp to the door, but there is no room inside for a wheelchair, so 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

Saturday Sessions at Shanachie: Every 2nd and 4th Saturday from 3 to 6 pm, Tommy G will host an open jam at Shanachie Pub. Bring any instrument, meet new musicians, discover new genres, and explore your creativity!

Bluegrass String Jam: Every 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month starting at 3 pm - welcomes all Bluegrass musicians! An official jam for the California Bluegrass Association, "so you neverknow which members from

out of the area may drop in!"

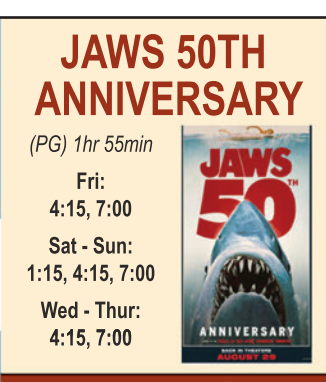
Wednesday Open Mic Night: Every Wednesday, featuring an eclectic array of local musicians and performers. Pub opens at 3 pm, and from opening until 7 pm, you can be entered into the lottery to determine the order from which you pick your 20 minute time slot starting at 7:20 pm.

Ongoing Events at the Willits Library

Willits Library, 390 East Commercial Street. Info: www.mendolibrary.org or 459-5908.
Open hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10 am to 7 pm; Friday, 10 am to 6 pm; Saturday, 10 am to 5 pm; Closed Sunday and Monday.
Penny University Coffee Klatch: Wednesdays, 11 am to 1 pm. We will meet in the Willits Library meeting room to discuss various topics while enjoying a "cup of joe."
LEGO Club: Tuesdays from 4 to 6:30 pm. "It is LEGO time at the library. Bring your imagination and start building."

Tech Help: Saturdays from 11 am to noon. Is your computer on the fritz? Can't figure out how to open your email? Want to install a new app on your system? Bring your questions here.

Spinning and Knitting: Every Saturday at the library, from 1 to 4:30 pm. All skill levels welcome! Spinning, 1 to 2 pm; Knitting, 2 to 4:30 pm.



COLUMN | AT THE MOVIES

'E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial'



Dan Essman
Columnist

The Story: A fatherless schoolboy from the suburbs named Elliot discovers an Extraterrestrial Being in the backyard. Young Elliot and the Alien gradually learn to communicate. Uncannily, Elliot and E.T. develop a potent telepathic bond. Unbeknownst to the boy and the alien, they are being hunted by a sinister government agency. Meanwhile, E.T. starts working on a "telephone type" device that will allow E.T. to contact his alien family, and, as E.T. plaintively says, "To phone home!"

My Thoughts: I had never seen 'E.T.' though I've certainly heard of it from way back in the Eighties of the previous century. When the flick was first released, the USA (and other countries as well) went berserk with joy at this great heartwarming conception of Steven Spielberg. There was a frenzy of joy around the block and waiting for hours just to get into those theaters perspicacious enough to have booked the movie. Word-of-mouth made 'E.T.' a must-see legend that commanded multiple viewings. 'E.T.' is loved.

Parents: This is a movie that loves children and is filled with wonders and joy. It is no exaggeration to note that 'E.T.' teaches the holy virtue of compassion for those in need as if it were a parable from the Bible. A movie about kindness, and for this it is deservedly much loved.
Willisian Daniel Essman prefers his reality attenuated by the wisdom of the imagination.



From far left: Friends smile for a photo including, from left: Earleen Finan, Tina Rader, Holly Madrigal, Tammy Kuny, and Danny Kuny.

Photo by Maureen Jennison

Plates are prepared by Chef Olan and crew. Long tables were filled with diners at the Pure Mendocino dinner. Maureen Jennison gives her speech at the podium.

Photos by Bobby Cochran

Testimonial speech at Pure Mendocino annual fundraiser for the Cancer Resource Centers

By Maureen Jennison

365 days ago, on the fourth Saturday in August – my fourth wedding anniversary – I had just received my first-of-six chemo treatments two days before, after a whirlwind diagnosis the month prior of serious bilateral breast cancer with lymph node activity.

Here we are again, on the fourth Saturday in August, now also my fifth wedding anniversary, now also without two breasts and without a ponytail, but also with nine out of 14 chemo treatments in round two completed just yesterday. I am excited to share my story and the full circle experience I've had with Pure Mendocino and the Cancer Resource Centers of Mendocino County.

Before everything took a hard left turn last July, I was excited to attend Pure Mendocino, just as I had for several years before, as the event photographer. I enjoyed helping spread the word about the event and CRC's amazing work through my visual representation, and writing articles for Willits Weekly, the newspaper I co-founded in 2013.

However, my attention shifted quickly after receiving the devastating news in mid-July of last year.

A few months before, I remember rolling over and telling my husband one morning that I'd had this crazy dream that my paternal grandma, Ginny, told me that I needed to get a mammogram.

While we both thought, "huh, that's crazy," life got in the way, and as I didn't really think anything was that amiss, I didn't think about dealing with it until after the 4th of July when I noticed redness on one side of my right breast.

Remembering the dream, and seeing the redness, I made a doctor's appointment, and they suggested possible scar tissue, or maybe delayed mastitis (my daughter was just 3 years old then), but sent me for my first mammogram at the age of 39.5.

The results came back quickly showing areas of definite concern, and I was sent to Dr. Persky who referred me for an alphabet of tests including ultrasounds, an MRI, biopsies and a PET scan – all of which showed cancerous cells in both breasts and in some lymph nodes, too.

When Dr. Persky told my husband and I that it was indeed a cancer diagnosis, and referred me to Dr. Wang, I

immediately called CRC, still in a total state of shock, and asked if we could come by, and begged them to help us: a gob-smacked and stunned pair of panicked humans.

The onslaught of information, decisions, mental strain, panic and planning is indescribable to anyone who hasn't experienced being told something so insane.

Luckily, CRC Patient Navigators immediately welcomed us into the living room to unload the details of our situation to their caring and empathetic faces.

Their support and understanding of a situation so incredibly difficult, was an amazing feeling in such a dumpster fire of a situation.

Books, quilts, pillows, fake eyebrows, hats, wigs, and a binder to organize all my important papers – were immediately offered to help bring a sense of comfort and support – all for free.

While I tried to keep all things in perspective, learning that losing my hair was likely, was a really big deal – especially as a long-haired person. Not wanting to wake up with clumps of 24" strands on my pillow, I called my hairdresser friend who came to my bathroom and chopped most of it off while just a few strands were coming out with each brush.

She helped to rip off the proverbial band aid of cutting my hair, and several days later, I handed my teenage stepson the same clippers I'd used many times on him and told him it was HIS turn to shave MY head.

We did so in the back yard that afternoon, and it was a bonding experience, to say the least.

The biggest help was having a CRC Patient Navigator attend doctor's appointments, take notes, and record the meetings so we could focus on listening, and not panicking about having to retain every detail.

All the information was captured in an amazing summary outline and a USB recording with all the highlights of the meeting – again, making an otherwise indigestible amount of content easier to comprehend.

CRC also offers rides, and although we didn't need them thanks to my husband's work allowing him time off to drive me to appointments, CRC provided free gas cards for us to use for out-of-town appointments, such as those at UCSF.

This was a really nice and appreciated token of assistance to receive during treatments and a really cool part of their offerings to clients and their families.

CRC also connected us with the Caring Kitchen Project which delivered, for free, 12 weeks of meals – vegetarian and meaty options, sides, soups, and desserts.

It was a nice relief to not have to also figure out the answer to one of life's most annoying questions (when dealing with cancer, or not): What's for dinner?!

This last year has been a whirlwind, and while moving in the right direction, I'm not totally out of the woods yet.

I had a double mastectomy, and removed some lymph nodes in January of 2025, after the six rounds of nasty, hair-losing, icky-tummy, blue-bag chemo administered between August 22 and December 5. The last day of the last treatment's three-week cycle fell on the day between Christmas and my 40th birthday.

Unfortunately, the pathology from the removed tissue came back still positive for some cancer, and showed a positive lymph node still present, even though they achieved clean margins.

So on February 27, I started my second round of chemo, this time totaling 14 treatments, thankfully of a far less nasty variety, but still a bummer and drag to endure. The treatments will end again on December 5, and will again conclude their three-week cycle on the day between Christmas and my 41st birthday.

After undergoing radiation also, my follow-up PET scan in late July showed a possibly questionable small light up on my left side. This prompted a trip back to the offices of Dr. Persky and Dr. Wang, who asked that I return to UCSF for additional imaging to see if they could come up with an answer.

I met with UCSF on August 6 and FINALLY had an appointment that ended in good news. I burst into happy tears.

They couldn't replicate the same findings, didn't see anything that jumped out as suspicious, and recommended just staying the course with treatments currently underway.

No needed surgery.

No needed biopsy.

No needed follow-up appointment.

As we left the office and walked to the car, I kept feeling like looking over my shoulder, seeing if there was someone to chase me down and say, "Just Kidding!" since surely it couldn't just be good news.

We made it home, good news intact.

CRC was my third call (got to tell mom and dad the good news, first, right?) to share the results, and their excitement matched ours as I shared the details of the visit.

I remember my Patient Navigator saying to me early on that it's the scariest when it's all fresh and new, but eventually, it'll become a little less crazy, and clients usually become a little less needy (my words) as the process evolves, routines appear, and a status quo becomes set.

I remember thinking that was insane and that I wanted her to be holding one hand, and my husband the other, the ENTIRE time, until I was indeed released as fully cancer-free.

But, the CRC crew was right. I can't say that it gets less panicky, or less crazy, but I do feel like I've become a little less needy. Maybe.

But, I think that's in part to the amazing groundwork and support that CRC built in those initial weeks and our knowing that they're there to step in and help at a moment's notice.

Yes, the gas cards are still rad to receive, and hopefully this whole mess can be behind us soon, and I can get back to just being behind the camera at Pure Mendocino once again.

LEGAL NOTICES

WW551 Fictitious Business Name Statement

2025-F0324
The following person or persons are doing business as T&T Salvage and Storage, 277 North Lenore Avenue, Willits, CA 95490.
Registered owner: Forest Wayne Hunt, 285 North Lenore Avenue, Willits, CA 95490.
This business is conducted by an individual.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on January 3, 2000.
FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on July 18, 2025.
/s/ Forest Wayne Hunt
Publication Dates: August 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2025

WW552 Fictitious Business Name Statement

2025-F0337
The following person or persons are doing business as The Stylist, Barnes Bookkeeping, 245 A South Humboldt Street, Willits, CA 95490.
Registered owner: Stylist of Willits, Inc., 245 A South Humboldt Street, Willits, CA 95490.
This business is conducted by a corporation.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name listed above on July 28, 2025.
FBN statement filed with the Mendocino County Clerk-Recorder on July 28, 2025.
/s/ Nicole Aguilar Barnes
Publication Dates: August 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2025

WW468

NOTICE OF SALE OF GOODS TO SATISFY SELF STORAGE FACILITY LIEN

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed under the California Self-Service Storage Facility Act on said property pursuant to Sections 21007-21716 of the Business & Professions Code, Section 2328 of the UCC, Section 535 of the Penal Code and Provisions of the Civil Code. The undersigned will sell by competitive bidding online at storageauctions.com starting **September 6th @ 7 AM ending September 14th @ 8 PM** the following said property stored at Cougars Closet II Mini Storage 317 Robert Drive Willits, CA 95490 County of Mendocino State of California.

Andrew Augustine G-12 , Michael Sikora D-15, Donald Kershaw B-4, Jim Allen B-7, Phyliss Beltran B-37, Angie Johns E-4, Erik Thomsen I-13, Ruthanne Volz F-23

The goods are described as miscellaneous household items & boxes, (contents unknown), clothes, furniture, tools and miscellaneous articles. Purchases must be paid for and picked up within 72 Hours of winning bid by credit/debit or cash

All purchased items sold as -is where-is and must be removed within 72 hours of sale. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.

Dated this 28th day of August 2025 & 4th day of September 2025 by Cougars Closet II Mini-Storage 707-259-0159

Publication Dates: August 28 and September 4, 2025

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

Personal and Commercial orders available

Contact Melissa at (707) 513-5705 | eastsideranchwillits@gmail.com



Rotary Club of Willits *People of Action*

Serving our Community Since 1948

www.willitsrotary.org
WillitsRotaryClub@gmail.com

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R	A	D	I	A	T	I	O	N	W	F	E	B	A	N	U	B	P		

The rest of Mariposa | From page 3

Also from the Willits Farmers Market, Deborah Knoles with Moonflower Tea Company brought samples of her chai tea latte from the Pu'er region of China, as well as iced peaches and cream lattes, iced chocolate raspberry lattes, and Blue Butterfly mate.

Jennifer May of Sacred Mushrooms Cacao offered two flavors of her refreshing cacao – sea salt and ginger, and cayenne (which was an eye-opener). "Every ingredient in our cacao is really a medicine," said May. "It's really good for the immune system. It's also rich in vitamins and minerals and a great source of protein and fiber. Cacao is really antioxidant rich. It's really uplifting. My goal is to enjoy your medicine."

Jesse Morris could be found grilling sample-sized chicken pesto and German sausage, which is beef and pork, both of which are sold at Mariposa. Blaire AuClair brought her whole family down from Folk Life Farm in Covelo to enjoy the afternoon. Her table had some beautiful tomatoes and eggplant. Another Farmers Market regular, Felix of Cocina Picante brought samples of his excellent salsas. Sirena Pii set up inside the store with a variety of goat milk gelato flavors – peach, blackberry, chocolate with brownie chunks, espresso, mint chocolate chip, and mango. Michelle Costa brought her Mendo Ferments, which promote gut health and detoxifying.

Mary Bernel of Flora Quest Farm can also be found at the Willits Farmers Market on Thursdays. She sells flowers to brighten up any home, as well as hydrosols. "We have lemon balm today, spearmint, and rose," Bernel explained the benefit of her hydrosols. "Similar to flower essences. There are no essential oils. It's a lot safer for children. They all have healing benefits. Most of them are great for the skin, antioxidant-rich and because we're a sustainable farm, we don't use pesticides that are harmful to put on our skin and body." They also have lavender which sells out so quickly, she didn't have any to bring.

Runa Lynn, in the store's wellness department, said "We're here to offer the products that people need to hopefully find more health and balance in their life, well-being, and self-care. We really strive to carry the most clean ingredients, no chemicals, no preservatives. We're going for holistic health. Even for all of our skincare products, we try to source the most local, the most organic, the most mindfully grown ingredients."

Store Manager Mark Adley summed up his feelings about working with Trevey, in the environment she created. "I love it here. I wouldn't go anywhere else. The owner is one of the most amazing women I've ever met. I love her concepts and ideas for healthy eating and living. This store is remarkable. She's been doing this for 46 years, which is why we're here today."

Mariposa Market is located at 500 South Main Street. For more info, visit www.mariposamarket.com or their Facebook page, or call 459-9630.



CLASSIFIEDS

Brown Bag Lunch Program

Every Saturday at 1 pm sack lunches are served by local churches, community organizations, and families at Bud Snider Park on East Commercial. Come at 1 pm to be assured a lunch!

Do you need food?

Willits Food Bank, 344 Railroad Avenue, Willits, CA 95490. Open Wednesdays & Fridays, new expanded distribution hours: 11 am to 4:30 pm. New Client Choice model where you select your own items. Bring shopping bags. Bring an I.D. Info: (707) 459-3333

Free Food for All Pop-Up

Mendocino Food Network presents food pop-ups with free food for all: Due to the impact of federal budget cuts, there will be only one monthly pop-up in Willits, on 1st Thursdays, from 10 to 11:30 am at 1250 Blosser Lane. In Laytonville, every 4th Thursday, 12 to 1 pm at 300 Cahto Drive. In Covelo, every 2nd Thursday, from 12 to 1 pm, at NEW ADDRESS: 24065 Rifle Road. In Leggett: Every 1st Tuesday from 12 to 1 pm at 65100 Drive-Thru Tree Road. Info: Rachel@mendofood.org; 707-615-6654.

John Ford Ranch Beef

John Ford Ranch still has the 50 lb. Rancher's Choice Box for \$390.00 and the 25 lb. Hamburger Box for \$170.00. Please contact Debbie Arkelian @ 459-5049.

Yard Sale

Saturday and Sunday, 8/30-8/31, from 9 am to 4 pm @ 555 Mill Street, Willits. Sale items will be Sports Cards and other Sports Memorabilia, Men's Clothing, and a lot more.

RV/Trailer Space for Rent

Space for RV's and Trailers – starts at \$500 per month, includes water & garbage. Close to Safeway in Willits. Call Tony (707) 972-4696. See at http://www.oaknvine.net/p

Tattoo Shop

Tattoo Shop in Downtown Willits! Clean, cute, and private shop with 10 years experience. Love to tattoo botanicals, cute critters, and scenery! Appointments and bookings: kikitattoos.com

HELP WANTED: Casino Controller at Sherwood Valley Casino

Benefits, Salary: \$98K - \$110K
The Casino Controller directs the cashing, vault, drop and count areas in a manner that safeguards the assets of the Sherwood Valley Casino, while establishing and maintaining acceptable accounting procedures and internal controls and assures all external and internal regulations are met. Has direct supervision of Cage/Vault, Drop, and Count Supervisors. Exercises management responsibility for all activities of the Accounting/Finance Department. Activities include direct hands-on oversight of audit, accounting, general ledger, reporting, payroll, purchasing, cashing, and count room operations. Responsible for the company's overall operating and capital budgets, internal control policies, insurance and risk management programs, and relationships with financial institutions, casino's compliance with provisions of the State Compact, NIGC, Tribal ordinances, Gaming Commission regulations, cash transactions reporting, and IRS withholding and reporting requirements. Contact the General Manager at mftzgeral@svrcasino.com or 707-459-7350.

MENDOCINO COUNTY FAIR & APPLE SHOW

SEPT. 12TH - 14TH, 2025

OPEN 9 AM TO MIDNIGHT DAILY!

FRIDAY, 9/12:
Free admission for children under 12
Admission is \$6 for seniors 65 and over
4 pm: **Apple Bowl - Soccer**

SATURDAY, 9/13:
8 pm: **CCPRA Rodeo**
9:30 pm: **Dance - Dean Titus & the Coyote Cowboys**

SUNDAY, 9/14:
10 am: **Sheep Dog Trials**
10 am: **Classic Car Show**
Noon: **Parade**
2 pm: **CCPRA Rodeo**
6 pm: **Dance - Vales Del Rancho and Herenchue Reyes**

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

Apple Tasting | Livestock | Wool & Fiber Show | Exhibits

BOONVILLE FAIRGROUNDS

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

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At right: The 6 to 9 year recipients recognized at the back to school in-service include, from left: Megan Hall, Charlene Bredder, Patrick Bryant, Ashley Rodriguez, and Vanessa Hernandez.

Far right: Also recognized by the Charter School Association, from left: Aurelie Clivaz with 16 years of service, Jeremy Miller with 15 years, and Erin Vaccaro with 22 years dedicated to Willits Charter School.

At right, below: The 10 to 14 year employees recognized by the Charter School Association of Willits include: Jane Applebee, Billy Hetherington, Ashley Sherf, Rachel Alviso, Michel Chenelle, Sarah France, Ashkan Nahreini, Joseph Madden, Katie Lacy, and Daisy Meza.

Photos by April Edwards



Charter School Association recognizes staffers for years of service

Submitted by Sally Rulison, CSAW

During the back to school in-service for Willits Elementary Charter School and Willits Charter School, the Charter School Association of Willits board took the opportunity to recognize and appreciate the staff members with from 5 to more than 20 years of dedication to the charter schools.

All together these 23 staff members have contributed 267 years to making both WECS and WCS the great schools they have the reputation of being.

The 6 to 9 year recipients at the in-service were Megan Hall, Charlene Bredder, Patrick Bryant, Ashley Rodriguez, and Vanessa Hernandez.

The 10 to 14 year employees recognized included: Jane Applebee, Billy Hetherington, Ashley Sherf, Rachel Alviso, Michel Chenelle, Sarah France, Ashkan Nahreini, Joseph Madden, Katie Lacy and Daisy Meza.

Also recognized were Aurelie Clivaz with 16 years of service, Jeremy Miller with 15 years, and Erin Vaccaro with 22 years dedicated to Willits Charter School.

Employees not pictured who were recognized for years of service include Rocio Zuniga, Rebecca Daun-Widner, Jessica Clark, Christina Balthrop, and Tyler Balthrop.

Furry Friends Hoping for a Home



Sad Red

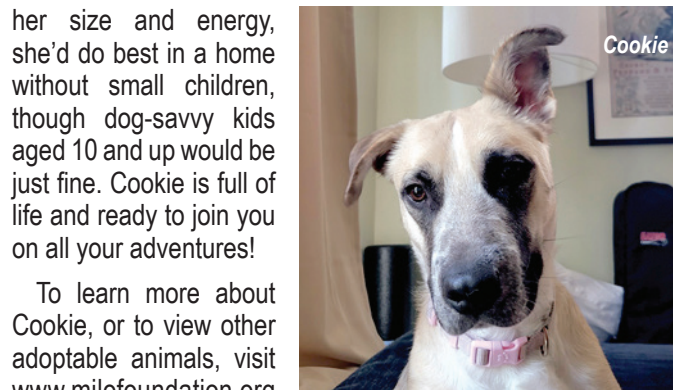
Handsome Red is a sweet dog who's been at the shelter for many months. He can appear rough around the edges due to past experiences, but his affectionate side will be apparent when he finds a loving home and guardian. In the shelter environment, Red feels comfortable in his kennel, and recently he has refused to go out for walks. A good match for Red is a home with folks who will appreciate his sweet qualities, and have experience with shy and anxious dogs. Red really is a love, but his spirit has ebbed, and he needs to get out of the shelter and into a loving home ASAP. We're not sure how Red reacts to all dogs, so he will need to meet any potential canine housemates at the shelter before being adopted.

The Mendocino County Animal Shelter, located at 298 Plant Road in Ukiah, is open to the public from 9:30 am to 5 pm Tuesday through Friday, and 10 am to 3 pm on Saturdays (closed for lunch each day from 1 to 1:30 pm). Make sure to pre-fill out the adoption application available at www.mendoanimalshelter.com. Call 707-463-4427 for more information.

Wrangler can't wait to curl up on your couch with a cozy blanket and a toy! Wrangler loves to sleep under the blankets. His adoption fee is FULLY SPONSORED by Olivia Grupp!

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.mendohumansociety.com, on our Facebook page, and on www.petfinder.com.

Cookie is smart, knows a variety of commands, is fully house-trained, and highly food motivated (which makes training a breeze!). Because of



her size and energy, she'd do best in a home without small children, though dog-savvy kids aged 10 and up would be just fine. Cookie is full of life and ready to join you on all your adventures!

To learn more about Cookie, 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 459-4900.

Wrangler loves to sleep under the blankets. His adoption fee is FULLY SPONSORED by Olivia Grupp!

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.mendohumansociety.com, on our Facebook page, and on www.petfinder.com.

Cookie is smart, knows a variety of commands, is fully house-trained, and highly food motivated (which makes training a breeze!). Because of

We will be closed Monday, Sept. 1st for Labor Day

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Agent

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The rest of Schools From page 1

Brookside Elementary School, Blosser Lane Elementary School, Sanhedrin High School, Baechtel Grove Middle School, Sherwood Elementary School, and the District Office.

The various renovations and repairs include flooring, plumbing, new construction work, fencing, playground installation, paving, and finishing. Currently, the maintenance team is still working to complete some of the renovations and repairs that were not finished over the summer at several sites across the district.

Secondly, the board trustees heard a presentation on the WUSD Security Camera Infrastructure Upgrades given by Jennifer Maples, the district's Director of Technology. Her presentation demonstrated "how the project improves student safety and staff safety" by installing a total of 247 cameras district-wide, improving video retention, eliminating the need for on-site services, switching to a cloud-based system, enables smart search of footage based on motion, person or vehicles, allows fast sharable footage, and the system includes a 10-year warranty with automatic updates.

The district's "outdated, unreliable systems" upgrade was completed over the course of 56 days, with its main goals being to enhance safety for students, staff, and the broader Willits community, replace the existing system, and centralize and standardize camera technology across the WUSD school sites.

The new system aids in limiting the many instances WUSD faced, "where sites would ask for footage and either the camera wasn't working or we just didn't have a camera in the right spot," while gaining faster incident response times. If the footage is required by a school site or local law enforcement, administrators, including the superintendent and site principals, as well as the IT department, have access to the system in accordance with state Penal Codes. Maples describes the new system and its benefits to not only the school but also the community as "pretty cool," and she is "super glad and fortunate that we were able to do this for the district, our students, our staff, and the community."

Following the informational presentations, Superintendent Baker commented on his experience adjusting to the district. In the week before, Baker had the privilege of meeting with staff members and conducting staff training to ensure teachers are equipped to do their jobs in the classroom. Baker informed the meeting, "My high focus is to be a leader," and his efforts are evident in his analysis of the schools and the district, as he expresses his desire to delve deeper into creating short-term and long-term goals. Baker's current main goal is to "build strong relationships," acknowledging that we can do some great work together."

Board Trustee Jennifer Sookne continues on a similar theme, sharing her collaboration with Superintendent Baker as she works on implementing Ethnic Studies – a program initially being funded by the state, but is now up to schools to fund and enforce – into the WUSD curriculum. Trustee David Lilker announced that he has returned to work at Willits Charter School, taking on the role of their new resource teacher. He also thanked Superintendent Baker for his consistent communication since starting his role over the summer, which was restated by each member of the board as well. Board President Jeanne Kich echoed the compliments towards Superintendent Baker and extended a warm welcome to the new staff joining the district.

The CSEA representative welcomed John Baker to the district and shared heartfelt pleasantries with the district's custodial grounds and maintenance teams, teachers, and classified employees, explaining, "Together we ensure that this year will not only be productive but filled with positive experiences for our students." WTA President Brian Bowles welcomed Superintendent Baker, expressing his appreciation for his presence. Bowles also proposed that the board broadcast WUSD's monthly board meetings live to foster community and public engagement, urging them to consider this so that more of the community can be part of the district's communication to the public.

Along with his suggestion, Bowles commented that the dropping number of teachers is troubling to him, especially the loss of the district's music program. Bowles and Superintendent Baker are collaborating to restart the music program, allowing students to utilize and access performing arts programs within the district. WTA president Bowles was very vocal on his concerns, especially the allocation of bond funds towards the security system, even though he acknowledged it was much needed. Bowles suggested a new committee be established to better determine and "that can give better advice on how to spend taxpayer dollars."

Bowles also highlighted how the budget is affecting teachers and their classrooms. Based on the budget cuts for the 2025-2026 school year, teachers are being forced to purchase classroom materials out of their own pockets due to a lag in bulk orders of classroom supplies. Expressing that "[these] are not good practices. So, I'd like to ask for more input on what kind of discretionary funds are offered to our sites so we can properly get the supplies kids need."

The board concluded the meeting with a public hearing on the Local Control and Accountability Plan and reviewed each item on the consent agenda. Superintendent Baker experienced an eventful first board meeting as the new school year started.

The rest of Redistricting From page 2

system of government. That's why we're placing the power to redistrict where it belongs, in the hands of the voters.

With checks and balances failing at the federal level, it's up to the people – and to states like California – to preserve democracy itself. This November, California voters will have the chance to punch back, to act as a counterbalance to red-state gerrymandering, and to remind the nation that power still belongs to the people. For our democracy: Assemblymember Chris Rogers, District 2, www.chrisrogersforassembly.com

Free Fishing Day set for Saturday, August 30

Posted by CDFW

The California Department of Fish & Wildlife's second Free Fishing Day of the year is this Saturday, August 30! If you are new to fishing or haven't fished in a while, it's a great opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and the thrill of a fish hitting your hook. No fishing license is needed on Free Fishing Days, however all fishing regulations, such as bag and size limits, gear restrictions, report card requirements, fishing hours, and stream closures remain in effect. Get out there and fish! Learn marabou fishing in California by clicking the "Fishing" tab at: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/>



Above, left: Mendocino County Undersheriff John Magnan administers the peace officer oath to new police academy graduates Parker Del Fiorentino and Santiago Olea Vargas. Above, right: At last week's graduation ceremony at Santa Rosa Junior College, Public Safety Training Center campus in Windsor, from left: Lieutenant Dustin Lorenzo, Captain Quincy Cromer, Parker Del Fiorentino, Santiago Olea Vargas, and Undersheriff John Magnan.

The rest of MSCO From page 1

Junior College, Public Safety Training Center campus in Windsor, California.

Please join Sheriff Kendall in congratulating Parker Del Fiorentino and Santiago Olea Vargas on their accomplishment of graduating from the police academy and their commitment to serving Mendocino County.

At right: One of 19 illegal water diversions discovered after California Department of Fish and Wildlife officers executed 17 search warrants for illegal cannabis grows in Mendocino County last week.

The rest of Busts From page 1

• 13 guns were seized.

There was also one stolen vehicle recovered on one of the cultivation sites. Wildlife officers found two suspected poached deer, one of which was a doe. Seven people were detained. The investigation continues.

CDFW staff documented 213 Fish and Game Code violations that directly and indirectly impacted the Eel River and Russian River, and tributaries. Of those violations, there were 19 water diversions, one of which was occurring on state land. During one of the search warrants, a foothill yellow-legged frog (a California Species of Special Concern) was identified by CDFW staff.

Lastly, CDFW staff found and documented an archaeological site impacted by cannabis cultivation operations at one location in the Spyrock area.

The rest of CHP From page 1

impaired drivers. Remember, if you see something, say something – call 9-1-1. Your call could save someone's life.

The mission of the CHP is to provide the highest level of Safety, Service, and Security.

Radon Detector Kits available to check out at Willits Library

Submitted by Mendocino County Library

Mendocino County Library, in partnership with the California Department of Public Health, is pleased to announce the launch of a program providing free radon detectors for checkout, enabling residents to easily test their homes for this invisible, odorless, and tasteless radioactive gas. The California Department of Public Health Indoor Radon Program and the library's goal is to increase awareness and reduce the health risks associated with radon exposure.

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that can enter any building, including homes, and is a leading cause of lung cancer. Radon can't be seen or smelled, and testing is the only way to know if your home has elevated levels.

"We are pleased to partner with the California Department of Public Health to provide this important tool to improve the health of our community," says Mellisa Hannum, County Librarian. "This program allows residents to monitor the safety of their homes by checking out the test kit and following the plug-and-play instructions."

How the program works:

- Free checkout at the library for up to 21 days. Use your library card and ask for a radon detector kit at the circulation desk.
- Plug-and-play. Simply plug it in to get real-time, daily, or weekly readings.
- Return. Once testing is complete, return the device to the library, making it available for other community members.

If a high radon level is indicated by the detector, residents should contact the California Department of Public Health Indoor Radon Program for a list of qualified providers who can conduct additional testing and recommend mitigation solutions.

For more information about radon and the state's program, please visit the California Department of Public Health Indoor Radon Program website at www.cdph.ca.gov/radon. Mendocino County Library provides much more than books. Find more information about the radon test kits and other "Library of Things" available for checkout at: www.mendolib.org/borrow/library-of-things, visit your local Willits branch at 391 East Commercial Street, or contact the Mendocino County Library at 707-234-2873.



Labor Day 2025

HOLIDAY ENFORCEMENT PERIOD

**Labor Day Free Play Hot Seats Drawings
from 4 pm to 7 pm for \$20 Free Play**

LABOR DAY

Monday, September 1



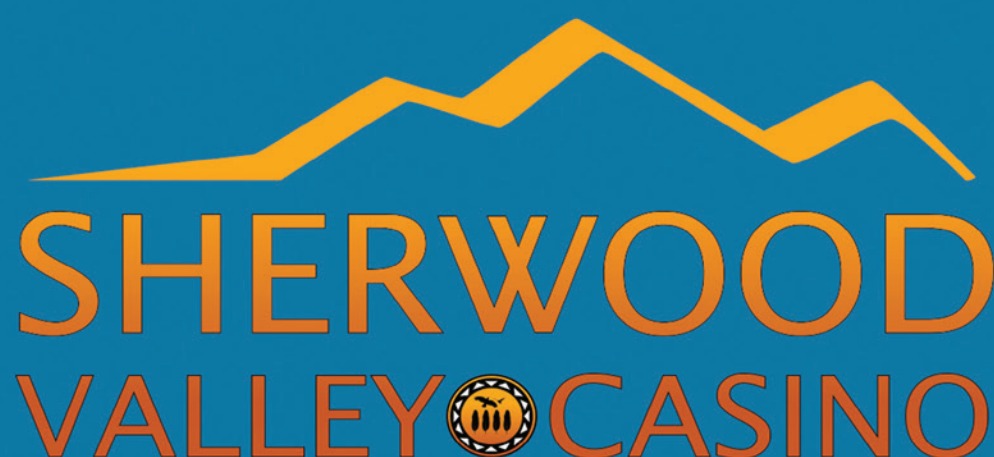
**From 10 am to 5 pm, earn 200 Points
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LABOR DAY BIG SCREEN TV DRAWING

**and receive 50% off a Labor Day
Barbecue Meal special.**

***One Hamburger or two hot dogs both served with potato salad
and baked beans. Served from 3 pm to 6 pm.***

**Grand Prize TV Drawing at 8 pm.
50 points per entry.**

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